## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### Form 10-K

✓ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014

Commission file number: 1-33818

## ENTEROMEDICS INC.

Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter

Delaware

Act). Yes \( \subseteq \text{No } \subseteq \)

48-1293684

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

2800 Patton Road, St. Paul, Minnesota 55113 (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(651) 634-3003

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Class	Name of Exchange on which Registered		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value per share	The NASDAQ Capital Market		
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:			
None	<u></u>		
Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer Act. Yes ☐ No ☑	, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities		
Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pur Act. Yes ☐ No ☑	rsuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange		
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports re Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the pas	n shorter period that the registrant was required to file		
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronical Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 40 the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was re	95 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during		
Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Iter will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive provin Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.			
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "a Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.			
Large accelerated filer   Non-accelerated filer   (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Accelerated filer   Smaller Reporting Company   □		
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as de-	fined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange		

As of February 27, 2015, 73,789,178 shares of the registrant's Common Stock were outstanding.

registrant's common stock as reported by the NASDAQ Capital Market on that date was \$84,881,411.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

value of the registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant, based upon the closing price of a share of the

At June 30, 2014, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market

Specified portions of the registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement, which will be filed with the Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A in connection with the registrant's 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, to be held May 6, 2015 (the Proxy Statement), are incorporated by reference into Part III of this report. Except with respect to information specifically incorporated by reference in this report, the Proxy Statement is not deemed to be filed as a part hereof.

#### ENTEROMEDICS INC.

#### **FORM 10-K**

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Registered Trademarks and Trademark Applications: In the United States we have registered trademarks for VBLOC®, ENTEROMEDICS® and MAESTRO®, each registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and trademark applications for VBLOC POWER TO CHOOSE and VBLOC POWER TO CHOOSE AND DESIGN. In addition, some or all of the marks VBLOC, ENTEROMEDICS, MAESTRO, MAESTRO SYSTEM ORCHESTRATING OBESITY SOLUTIONS, VBLOC POWER TO CHOOSE and VBLOC POWER TO CHOOSE AND DESIGN are the subject of either a trademark registration or application for registration in Australia, Brazil, China, the European Community, India, Kuwait, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates. This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains other trade names and trademarks and service marks of EnteroMedics and of other companies.

#### PART I.

#### ITEM 1. BUSINESS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations about our business and industry. In some cases, these statements may be identified by terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "expects," "could," "intends," "might," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," "potential," or "continue," or the negative of such terms and other comparable terminology. These statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause our results, levels of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Factors that may cause or contribute to such differences include, among others, those discussed in this report in Item 1A "Risk Factors." Except as may be required by law, we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events after the date of this report.

#### Overview

We are a medical device company with approvals to commercially launch our product, the Maestro Rechargeable System, in the United States, Australia, the European Economic Area and other countries that recognize the European CE Mark. We are focused on the design and development of devices that use neuroblocking technology to treat obesity, metabolic diseases and other gastrointestinal disorders. Our proprietary neuroblocking technology, which we refer to as VBLOC therapy, is designed to intermittently block the vagus nerve using high frequency, low energy, electrical impulses.

The Maestro Rechargeable System, our initial product, uses VBLOC therapy to limit the expansion of the stomach, help control hunger sensations between meals, reduce the frequency and intensity of stomach contractions and produce a feeling of early and prolonged fullness. We believe the Maestro Rechargeable System will offer obese patients a minimally-invasive treatment that can result in significant, durable and sustained weight loss. We believe that our Maestro Rechargeable System allows bariatric surgeons to offer a new option to obese patients who are concerned about the risks and complications associated with currently available anatomy-altering, restrictive or malabsorptive surgical procedures.

We received U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval on January 14, 2015 for VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, for the treatment of adult patients with obesity who have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of at least 40 to 45 kg/m2, or a BMI of at least 35 to 39.9 kg/m2 with a related health condition such as high blood pressure or high cholesterol levels, and who have tried to lose weight in a supervised weight management program and failed within the past five years. We have begun a controlled commercial launch at select bariatric centers of excellence in the United States and anticipate having the first commercial sale within the United States in 2015. We hired a Chief Commercial Officer in November 2014 to oversee the commercialization process and have started to build a sales force in the United States that will call directly on key opinion leaders and bariatric surgeons at commercially-driven bariatric centers of excellence that meet our certification criteria. The direct sales force will be supported by field technical managers who provide training, technical and other support services to our customers. To date, we have relied on, and anticipate that we will continue to rely on, third-party manufacturers and suppliers for the production of our Maestro Rechargeable System.

Data from our ReCharge trial was used to support the premarket approval (PMA) application for the Maestro Rechargeable System, submitted to the FDA in June 2013. The ReCharge trial is a randomized, double-blind, sham-controlled, multicenter pivotal clinical trial testing the effectiveness and safety of VBLOC therapy utilizing our Maestro Rechargeable System. All patients in the trial received an implanted device and were randomized in a 2:1 allocation to treatment or sham control groups. The sham control group received a non-functional device during the trial period. All patients were expected to participate in a standard weight management counseling program. The primary endpoints of efficacy and safety were evaluated at 12 months. As

announced, the ReCharge trial met its primary safety endpoint with a 3.7% serious adverse event rate. The safety profile at 12 months was further supported by positive cardiovascular signals including a 5.5 mmHg drop in systolic blood pressure, a 2.8 mmHg drop in diastolic blood pressure and a 3.6 bpm drop in average heart rate.

Although the trial did not meet its predefined co-primary efficacy endpoints, it did demonstrate in the intent to treat (ITT) population (n=239) a clinically meaningful and statistically significant excess weight loss (EWL) of 24.4% (approximately 10% total body weight loss (TBL)) for VBLOC therapy-treated patients, with 52.5% of patients achieving at least 20% EWL. In the per protocol population, the trial demonstrated an EWL of 26.3% for VBLOC therapy-treated patients, with 56.8% of patients achieving at least 20% EWL.

In the ReCharge trial, two-thirds of VBLOC therapy-treated patients achieved at least 5% TBL at 12 months. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 5% TBL can have significant health benefits on obesity related risk factors, or comorbidities, including reduction in blood pressure, improvements in Type 2 diabetes and reductions in triglycerides and cholesterol. Further analysis of our data at 12 months showed a meaningful impact on these comorbidities as noted in the below table showing the improvements seen at 10% TBL, the average weight loss in VBLOC therapy-treated patients.

Risk Factor	10% TBL
Systolic BP (mmHg)	-9
Diastolic BP (mmHg)	-6
Heart Rate (bpm)	-6
Total Cholesterol (mg/dL)	-15
LDL (mg/dL)	-9
Triglycerides (mg/dL)	-41
HDL (mg/dL)	3
Waist Circumference (inches)	-7
HbA1c (%)	-0.5

We subsequently announced that VBLOC therapy-treated patients were maintaining their weight loss at 18 months and 24 months with an EWL of 23.5% and 21.1%, respectively. The trial's positive safety profile also continued throughout this reported time period.

An Advisory Panel meeting was held on June 17, 2014 to review this data and our entire PMA application for approval of the Maestro Rechargeable System. The Advisory Panel voted 8 to 1 "in favor" that the Maestro Rechargeable System is safe when used as designed and voted 4 to 5 "against" on the issue of a reasonable assurance of efficacy. The final vote, on whether the relative benefits outweighed the relative risk, was 6 to 2 "in favor," with 1 abstention. On January 14, 2015, the FDA agreed with the Advisory Panel that the benefits of VBLOC therapy outweigh the risks when it approved VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, for the treatment of obesity as indicated.

We obtained European CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System in 2011 for the treatment of obesity. The CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System was expanded in 2014 to also include use for the management of Type 2 diabetes in obese patients. In January 2012, the final Maestro Rechargeable System components were listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). We continue to explore select international markets to commercialize the Maestro Rechargeable System, including Australia, Europe and the Middle East. Outside the United States, we intend to use direct, dealer and distributor sales models as the targeted geography best dictates.

We continue to evaluate the Maestro System in human clinical trials in the United States, Australia and Mexico. To date, we have not observed any mortality related to our device or any unanticipated adverse device effects in these clinical trials. We have also not observed any long-term problematic clinical side effects in any patients. In addition, data from our VBLOC-DM2 ENABLE trial outside the United States demonstrate that VBLOC therapy may hold promise in improving obesity-related comorbidities such as diabetes and hypertension. We are conducting, or plan to conduct, further studies in each of these comorbidities to assess VBLOC therapy's potential in addressing multiple indications.

#### The Obesity and Metabolic Disease Epidemic

Obesity is a disease that has been increasing at an alarming rate with significant medical repercussions and associated economic costs. Since 1980, the worldwide obesity rate has more than doubled, with about 13% of the world's adult population now being obese. The World Health Organization (WHO) currently estimates that as many as 600 million people worldwide are estimated to be obese and more than 1.9 billion adults are estimated to be overweight. Being overweight or obese is also the fifth leading risk for global deaths, with approximately 3.4 million adults dying each year as a result.

According to the WHO, there are over 70 progressive obesity-related diseases and disorders associated with obesity, which are also known as comorbidities, including Type 2 diabetes, hypertension, infertility and certain cancers. Worldwide, 44% of the diabetes burden, 23% of the heart disease burden and between 7% and 41% of certain cancer burdens are attributable to overweight and obesity.

Obesity has been identified by the U.S. Surgeon General as the fastest growing cause of disease and death in the United States. Currently, the CDC estimates that 35.7% of U.S. adults are obese, having a BMI of 30 or higher. BMI is calculated by dividing a person's weight in kilograms by the square of their height in meters. It is estimated that if obesity rates stay consistent, 51% of the U.S. population will be obese by 2030. According to data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, almost 80% of adults with a BMI above 30 have a co-morbidity, and almost 40% have two or more of these comorbidities. According to The Obesity Society and the CDC, obesity is associated with many significant weight-related comorbidities including Type 2 diabetes, high blood-pressure, sleep apnea, certain cancers, high cholesterol, coronary artery disease, osteoarthritis and stroke. According to the American Cancer Society, 572,000 Americans die of cancer each year, about one-third of which are linked to excess body weight, poor nutrition and/or physical inactivity. Over 75% of hypertension cases are directly linked to obesity, and approximately two-thirds of U.S. adults with Type 2 diabetes are overweight or have obesity. Currently, medical costs associated with obesity in the U.S. are estimated to be up to \$210 billion per year and nearly 21% of medical costs in the U.S. can be attributed to obesity. Researchers estimate that if obesity trends continue, obesity related medical costs could rise by another \$44-\$66 billion each year in the U.S. by 2030. The medical costs paid by third-party payors for people who are obese were \$2,741 per year, or 42% higher than those of people who are normal weight.

We believe that this epidemic will continue to grow worldwide given dietary trends in developed nations that favor highly processed sugars, larger meals and fattier foods, as well as increasingly sedentary lifestyles. Despite the growing obesity rate, increasing public interest in the obesity epidemic and significant medical repercussions and economic costs associated with obesity, there continues to be a significant unmet need for effective treatments. We believe existing options for the treatment of obesity have seen limited adoption to date due to patient concerns and potential side effects including morbidity. The principal treatment alternatives available today for obesity include:

**Behavioral modification.** Behavioral modification, which includes diet and exercise, is an important component in the treatment of obesity; however, most obese patients find it difficult to achieve and maintain significant weight loss with a regimen of diet and exercise alone.

**Pharmaceutical therapy**. Pharmaceutical therapies often represent a first option in the treatment of obese patients but carry significant safety risks and may present troublesome side effects and compliance issues.

**Bariatric surgery**. In more severe cases of obesity, patients may pursue more aggressive surgical treatment options such as gastric banding, sleeve gastrectomy and gastric bypass. These procedures promote weight loss by surgically restricting the stomach's capacity and outlet size. While largely effective, these procedures generally result in major lifestyle changes including dietary restrictions and food intolerances and they may present substantial side effects and carry short- and long-term safety and side effect risks that have limited their adoption.

Given the limitations of behavioral modification, pharmaceutical therapy and bariatric surgical approaches, we believe there is a substantial need for a patient-friendly, safer, effective and durable solution that:

- preserves normal anatomy;
- is "non-punitive" in that it supports continued ingestion and digestion of foods and micronutrients such as vitamins and minerals found in a typical, healthy diet while allowing the user to modify his or her eating behavior appropriately without inducing punitive physical restrictions that physically force a limitation of food intake;
- enables non-invasive adjustability while reducing the need for frequent clinic visits;
- minimizes undesirable side-effects;
- minimizes the risks of re-operations, malnutrition and mortality; and
- reduces the natural hunger drive of patients.

#### **EnteroMedics' Solution**

The vagus nerve regulates many activities in the human body, including those affecting digestion, energy metabolism, blood pressure regulation and activities of the stomach, intestine and pancreas, and provides direct two-way communication between the brain and body. By intermittently blocking, or interrupting, naturally occurring neural impulses on the vagus nerve, our therapy reduces hunger feelings between meals, limits the expansion of the stomach during eating and reduces the frequency and intensity of stomach contractions. In addition, VBLOC therapy reduces the absorption of calories by decreasing the secretion of digestive enzymes. The resulting physiologic effects of VBLOC therapy produce a feeling of early and prolonged fullness following smaller meal portions and, by intermittently blocking the vagus nerve and allowing it to return to full function between therapeutic episodes, we have limited the body's natural tendency to circumvent the therapy, all of which results in long-term weight loss.

We have designed our Maestro Rechargeable System to address a significant market opportunity that we believe exists for a patient-friendly, safe, effective, less-invasive and durable therapy that is intended to address the underlying causes of hunger and obesity. Our Maestro Rechargeable System offers each of the following benefits, which we believe will lead to the adoption of VBLOC therapy as the surgical therapy of choice for obesity and its comorbidities:

- preserves normal anatomy;
- allows continued ingestion and digestion of most foods;
- may be implanted on an outpatient basis and adjusted non-invasively;
- offers a favorable safety profile; and
- targets multiple factors that contribute to hunger and obesity.

#### The Vagus Nerve and the Digestive System

Beginning in the brain, the vagus nerve travels down alongside the esophagus to the stomach and other gastrointestinal organs and is primarily responsible for autonomic regulation involved in heart, lung and

gastrointestinal function. The vagus nerve regulates many activities in the human body, affecting digestion, energy metabolism, blood pressure regulation and activities of the stomach, intestine and pancreas, providing direct two-way communication between the brain and body. Vagus nerve function has been shown to play a role in enabling multiple gastrointestinal and metabolic mechanisms, including:

- expansion of the stomach as food enters;
- stomach contractions that break food into smaller particles;
- release of gastric acid to continue food processing;
- emptying of the stomach contents into the small intestine;
- secretion of digestive pancreatic enzymes that enable absorption of calories;
- control of natural production of glucose within the body (endogenous or hepatic gluconeogenesis); and
- sensations of hunger, satisfaction and fullness.

#### **VBLOC** Therapy

Several studies of the vagus nerve and its effect on the digestive system have focused on the effects of surgical vagotomy, the permanent severing of the vagus nerve at the level of the junction between the esophagus and the stomach. Given the role of the vagus nerve in regulating the release of gastric acid, early researchers originally used vagotomy as a treatment for peptic ulcers. They discovered that their patients often experienced weight loss or, at a minimum, failure to gain weight following vagotomy. However, weight loss after vagotomy alone, particularly over the long-term, likely dissipates as the body compensates for, or circumvents, the anatomical disruption by partial restoration of nervous system function.

VBLOC therapy is designed to block the gastrointestinal effects of the vagus nerve by replicating a vagotomy using high-frequency, low-energy electrical impulses to intermittently interrupt naturally occurring neural impulses on the vagus nerve between the brain and the digestive system. Our therapy controls hunger sensations between meals, limits the expansion of the stomach and reduces the frequency and intensity of stomach contractions, leading to earlier fullness. In addition, VBLOC therapy reduces the absorption of calories by decreasing the secretion of digestive enzymes. The resulting physiologic effects of VBLOC therapy produce a feeling of early and prolonged fullness following smaller meal portions. By intermittently blocking the vagus nerve and allowing it to return to full function between therapeutic episodes, we have limited the body's natural tendency to circumvent the therapy, which can result in long-term weight loss.

We have designed our Maestro Rechargeable System to address a significant market opportunity that we believe exists for a patient-friendly, safe, effective, less-invasive and durable therapy that is intended to address the underlying causes of hunger and obesity. Our Maestro Rechargeable System offers each of the following benefits, which we believe could lead to the adoption of VBLOC therapy as the surgical therapy of choice for obesity and its comorbidities:

- Preserves Normal Anatomy. The Maestro Rechargeable System is designed to deliver therapy that
  blocks the neural signals that influence a patient's hunger and sense of fullness without altering
  digestive system anatomy. Accordingly, patients should experience fewer and less severe side effects
  compared to treatments that incorporate anatomical alterations.
- Allows Continued Ingestion and Digestion of Foods Found in a Typical, Healthy Diet. Because our therapy leaves the digestive anatomy unaltered, patients are able to maintain a more consistent nutritional balance compared to existing surgical approaches, thus allowing them to effect positive changes in their eating behavior in a non-forced and potentially more consistent way.
- *May be Implanted on an Outpatient Basis and Adjusted Non-Invasively.* The Maestro Rechargeable System is designed to be laparoscopically implanted within a 60-90 minute procedure, allowing

patients to leave the hospital or clinic on the same day. The implantable system is designed to be turned off and left in place for patients who reach their target weight. When desired, the follow-up physician can simply and non-invasively turn the therapy back on. Alternatively, the implantable system can be removed in a laparoscopic procedure.

- Offers Favorable Safety Profile. We have designed our ReCharge and EMPOWER clinical trials to demonstrate the safety of the Maestro Rechargeable System. In our clinical trials to date, including the ReCharge and EMPOWER trials, we have not observed any mortality related to our device or any unanticipated adverse device effects. We have also not observed any long-term problematic clinical side effects in any patients, including in those patients who have been using the Maestro System for more than one year.
- Targets Multiple Factors that Contribute to Hunger and Obesity. We designed VBLOC therapy to target the multiple digestive, metabolic and information transmission functions of the vagus nerve and to affect the perception of hunger and fullness, which together contribute to obesity and its metabolic consequences.

VBLOC therapy, delivered via our Maestro Rechargeable System, is intended to offer patients an effective, safe, outpatient solution that minimizes complications. It enables patients to lose weight and maintain long-term weight loss while enjoying a normal, healthy diet. We also believe that the Maestro Rechargeable System will appeal to physicians based on the inherent physiological approach of VBLOC therapy and its favorable safety profile.

#### **Our Strategy**

Our goal is to establish VBLOC therapy, delivered via our Maestro Rechargeable System, as the leading obesity management solution. The key business strategies by which we intend to achieve these objectives include:

Commercialize Our Products using a Direct Sales and Marketing Effort within the United States. We received FDA approval on January 14, 2015 for VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, and have begun a controlled commercial launch at select bariatric centers of excellence in the United States. We hired a Chief Commercial Officer in November 2014 to oversee the commercialization process and have started to build a sales force in the United States that will call directly on key opinion leaders and bariatric surgeons at commercially-driven bariatric centers of excellence that meet our certification criteria. The direct sales force will be supported by field technical managers who provide training, technical and other support services to our customers. We expect that our direct sales force will target outcome-focused, aftercare-based centers in key self-pay markets and will promote the Maestro Rechargeable System to physicians and patients who have concerns with current bariatric surgical procedures. We also plan to call on physicians, weight-management specialists, nurses and others involved in the obesity management process who influence patient adoption.

Identify Appropriate Coding, Obtain Coverage and Payment for the Maestro Rechargeable

System. While payors are not our direct customers, their coverage and reimbursement policies influence patient and physician selection of obesity treatment. We plan to employ a focused campaign to obtain payor support for VBLOC therapy. We plan to seek specific and appropriate coding, coverage and payment for our Maestro Rechargeable System from the Australia Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) and the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and from private insurers. We have applied for and received six unique CPT Category III codes with the American Medical Association's CPT Advisory Committee for a Vagus Nerve Blocking Therapy procedure. The approved CPT Category III codes were listed in the July 2012 edition of the CPT billing codes. We intend to use the approved codes to build evidence for an application for a CPT Category I Code at a later date.

Drive the Adoption and Endorsement of VBLOC Therapy Through Obesity Therapy Experts and Patient Ambassadors. Our clinical development strategy is to collaborate closely with regulatory bodies, obesity therapy experts and others involved in the obesity management process, patients and their advocates and scientific experts. We have established credible and open relationships with obesity therapy experts and have identified VBLOC therapy patient ambassadors and we believe these individuals will be important in promoting patient awareness and gaining widespread adoption of the Maestro Rechargeable System.

Commercialize Our Products using a Distribution Network outside the United States. We obtained European CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System in 2011 for the treatment of obesity. The CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System was expanded in 2014 to also include use for the management of Type 2 diabetes in obese patients. In January 2012, the final Maestro Rechargeable System components were listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). We have entered into exclusive, multi-year agreements with Device Technologies Australia Pty Limited and Bader Sultan & Brothers Co. W.L.L., for commercialization and distribution of the Maestro Rechargeable System in Australia and the Gulf Coast Countries of the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, respectively.

We plan to utilize specialized third-party medical device distributors in Australia, the Middle East and other non-U.S. markets to call directly on key opinion leaders and bariatric surgeons, which we believe will enable us to target them effectively. We expect that our distributor's sales force will promote the Maestro Rechargeable System to physicians, work with our surgeon partners, provide training and maintain regulatory required records. They may also work with patients who have concerns with current bariatric surgical procedures. We also plan to call on physicians, weight-management specialists, nurses and others involved in the obesity management process who influence patient adoption. We also plan to continue exploring additional select international markets to commercialize the Maestro Rechargeable System, including Europe.

**Expand and Protect Our Intellectual Property Position.** We believe that our issued patents and our patent applications encompass a broad platform of neuromodulation therapies, including vagal blocking and combination therapy focused on obesity, diabetes, hypertension and other gastrointestinal disorders. We intend to continue to pursue further intellectual property protection through U.S. and foreign patent applications.

Leverage our VBLOC Technology for Other Disease States. We intend to continue to conduct research and development for other potential applications for our VBLOC therapy and believe we have a broad technology platform that will support the development of additional clinical applications and therapies for other metabolic and gastrointestinal disorders in addition to obesity.

#### The Maestro Rechargeable System, Implantation Procedure and Usage

**The Maestro Rechargeable System.** Our Maestro Rechargeable System delivers VBLOC therapy via two small electrodes that are laparoscopically implanted and placed in contact with the trunks of the vagus nerve just above the junction between the esophagus and the stomach, near the diaphragm. The Maestro Rechargeable System (shown below) is powered by an internal rechargeable battery.



The major components of the Maestro Rechargeable System include:

- *Neuroregulator*. The neuroregulator, a pacemaker-like device, is an implanted device that controls the delivery of VBLOC therapy to the vagus nerve. It is surgically implanted just below, and parallel to, the skin, typically on the side of the body over the ribs.
- *Lead System.* Proprietary leads are powered by the neuroregulator and deliver electrical pulses to the vagus nerve via the electrodes. The leads and electrodes are similar to those used in traditional cardiac rhythm management products.
- *Mobile Charger*. The mobile charger is an electronic device worn by the patient externally while recharging the device. It connects to the transmit coil and provides information on the battery status of the neuroregulator and the mobile charger.
- *Transmit Coil.* The transmit coil is positioned for short periods of time over the implanted neuroregulator to deliver radiofrequency battery charging and therapy programming information across the skin into the device.
- Clinician Programmer. The clinician programmer connects to the mobile charger to enable clinicians to customize therapy settings as necessary and retrieve reports stored in system components. The reports include patient use and system performance information used to manage therapy. The clinician programmer incorporates our proprietary software and is operated with a commercially available laptop computer.

Our first generation Maestro System used a Radio Frequency (RF) energy configuration. The Maestro RF System was used in early feasibility trials and the EMPOWER trial. The Maestro RF System and the Maestro Rechargeable System differ in the following ways:

- The neuroregulator within the Maestro RF System is powered by a battery in the externally-worn controller, which is connected to the external transmit coil. The transmit coil needs to be properly positioned over the approximately 20 cubic centimeter neuroregulator and worn daily during the patient's waking hours to deliver therapy. The controller is recharged nightly using AC wall power.
- The neuroregulator in the Maestro Rechargeable System is powered by an internal rechargeable battery. The rechargeable neuroregulator is approximately 80 cubic centimeters in volume to

accommodate its internal battery. An external mobile charger is connected to the external transmit coil to recharge the battery. The mobile charger is recharged using AC wall power.

Implantation Procedure. The Maestro Rechargeable System is implanted by a bariatric surgeon using a procedure that is typically performed within 60-90 minutes. During the procedure, the surgeon laparoscopically implants the electrodes in contact with the vagal nerve trunks and then connects the lead wires to the neuroregulator, which is subcutaneously implanted. The implantation procedure and usage of the Maestro Rechargeable System carry some risks, such as the risks generally associated with laparoscopic procedures as well as the possibility of device malfunction. Adverse events related to the therapy, device or procedure may include, but are not limited to: transient pain at the implant site, heartburn, constipation, nausea, depression, diarrhea, infection, organ or nerve damage, surgical explant or revision, device movement, device malfunction and allergic reaction to the implant.

Usage of the Maestro Rechargeable System. The physician activates the Maestro Rechargeable System after implantation. VBLOC therapy is then delivered intermittently each day as scheduled (recommended during the patient's waking hours) through the neuroregulator. The scheduled delivery of the intermittent pulses blocking the vagus nerve is customized for each patient's weight loss and overall treatment objectives.

The physician is able to download reports to monitor patient use and system performance information. This information is particularly useful to physicians to ensure that patients are properly using the system. Although usage of our Maestro Rechargeable System generally proceeds without complications, as part of the therapy or intentional weight loss, patients in our clinical trials have observed side-effects such as transient pain at the implant site, heartburn, bloating, dysphagia, eructation, cramps, diarrhea, nausea, constipation, and excessive feelings of fullness, especially after meals. In addition, patient noncompliance with properly charging the Maestro Rechargeable System may render VBLOC therapy less effective in achieving long-term weight loss.

#### **Clinical Experience**

We began evaluating VBLOC therapy with our initial Maestro System, the RF1 system, in a clinical trial in February 2006. The first generation RF2 system is distinguished from the RF1 system by an improved user interface, improvements in the energy management within the neuroregulator and a more robust transmission link for delivering energy from the coil to the neuroregulator in the RF2 system. The second generation system, the Rechargeable system, has a fully implanted battery and requires the user to charge it less frequently than with the RF system. Our early clinical experience has shown that VBLOC therapy using the Maestro System offers physicians a programmable method to selectively and reversibly block the vagus nerve and results in clinically and statistically significant EWL. Excess weight represents the difference between a patient's actual weight and the patient's weight assuming a BMI of 25, which is considered healthy. EWL is reported as the percentage of excess weight that is lost by the patient.

We have not observed any mortality related to our device or any unanticipated adverse device effects in any of our completed or ongoing studies. Reported events include those associated with laparoscopic surgery or any implantable electronic device. The effects of VBLOC therapy include changes in appetite, and, in some patients, effects that may be expected with decreased intra-abdominal vagus nerve activity, such as temporary abdominal discomfort and short episodes of belching, bloating, cramping or nausea.

Findings from our clinical trials have resulted in publication in numerous peer-reviewed journals including The Journal of the American Medical Association, Journal of Obesity, Obesity Surgery, Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases, Surgery and Journal of Neural Engineering, and data have been presented at several scientific sessions including the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, International Federation for Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders, the Obesity Surgery Society of Australia & New Zealand and The Obesity Society.

Below is a summary of our ongoing clinical studies.

#### ReCharge Trial

In October 2010, we received an unconditional Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) Supplement approval from the FDA to conduct a randomized, double-blind, sham-controlled, multicenter pivotal clinical trial, called the ReCharge trial, testing the effectiveness and safety of VBLOC therapy utilizing our second generation Maestro Rechargeable System. Enrollment and implantation in the ReCharge trial was completed in December 2011 in 239 randomized patients (233 implanted) at 10 centers. All patients in the trial received an implanted device and were randomized in a 2:1 allocation to treatment or control groups. The control group received a non-functional device during the trial period. All patients were expected to participate in a standard weight management counseling program. The primary endpoints of efficacy and safety were evaluated at 12 months. As announced, the ReCharge trial met its primary safety endpoint with a 3.7% serious adverse event rate, significantly lower than the threshold of 15% (p<0.0001). The safety profile at 12 months was further supported by positive cardiovascular signals including a 5.5 mmHg drop in systolic blood pressure, a 2.8 mmHg drop in diastolic blood pressure and a 3.6 bpm drop in average heart rate.

Although the trial did not meet its predefined co-primary efficacy endpoints, it did demonstrate in the ITT population (n=239) a clinically meaningful and statistically significant EWL of 24.4% (approximately 10% TBL) for VBLOC therapy-treated patients, with 52.5% of patients achieving at least 20% EWL. In the per protocol population, the trial demonstrated an EWL of 26.3% for VBLOC therapy-treated patients, with 56.8% of patients achieving at least 20% EWL. As a result of the positive safety and efficacy profile of VBLOC therapy, we used the data from the ReCharge trial to support a PMA application for the Maestro Rechargeable System, which we announced was submitted to the FDA in June 2013 and was accepted for review and filing in July 2013. An Advisory Panel meeting was held on June 17, 2014 to review our PMA application for approval of the Maestro Rechargeable System. The Advisory Panel voted 8 to 1 "in favor" that the Maestro Rechargeable System is safe when used as designed and voted 4 to 5 "against" on the issue of a reasonable assurance of efficacy. The final vote, on whether the relative benefits outweighed the relative risk, was 6 to 2 "in favor," with 1 abstention. We received FDA approval on January 14, 2015 for VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, for the treatment of adult patients with obesity who have a BMI of at least 40 to 45 kg/m2, or a BMI of at least 35 to 39.9 kg/m2 with a related health condition such as high blood pressure or high cholesterol levels, and who have tried to lose weight in a supervised weight management program and failed within the past five years.

Further analysis of the 12 month data show that in the primary analysis (ITT) population (n=239), VBLOC therapy-treated patients achieved a 24.4% average EWL (approximately 10% TBL) compared to 15.9% for sham control patients. This 8.5% difference demonstrated statistical superiority over sham control (p=0.002), but not super-superiority at the pre-specified 10% margin (p=0.705). In total, 52.5% of VBLOC therapy-treated patients had 20% or more EWL compared to 32.5% in the control group (p=0.004), and 38.3% of VBLOC therapy-treated patients had 25% or more EWL compared to 23.4% in the sham control group (p=0.02). While the respective coprimary endpoint targets of 55% and 45% were not met, the endpoint targets were within the 95% confidence intervals for the observed rates and therefore the observed rates were not significantly lower than these prespecified rates. These efficacy data demonstrate VBLOC therapy's positive effect on weight loss.

In the per protocol group, which included only those patients who received therapy per the trial design (n=211), the VBLOC therapy-treated patients had a 26.3% average EWL (approximately 10% TBL) compared to 17.3% for the sham control group (p=0.003). In total, 56.8% of VBLOC therapy-treated patients achieved at least 20% EWL, which was above the predefined threshold of 55% compared to 35.4% in the sham control group (p=0.004). 41.8% of VBLOC therapy-treated patients also achieved at least 25% EWL in this population, which is slightly less than the predefined threshold of 45%, compared to 26.2% in the sham control group (p=0.03).

Additionally, two-thirds of VBLOC therapy-treated patients achieved at least 5% TBL at 12 months. According to the CDC, 5% TBL can have significant health benefits on obesity related risk factors, or comorbidities,

including reduction in blood pressure, improvements in Type 2 diabetes and reductions in triglycerides and cholesterol. Further analysis of our data at 12 months showed a meaningful impact on these comorbidities as noted in the below table showing the improvements seen at 10% TBL, the average weight loss in VBLOC therapy-treated patients.

Risk Factor	10% TBL
Systolic BP (mmHg)	-9
Diastolic BP (mmHg)	-6
Heart Rate (bpm)	-6
Total Cholesterol (mg/dL)	-15
LDL (mg/dL)	-9
Triglycerides (mg/dL)	-41
HDL (mg/dL)	3
Waist Circumference (inches)	-7
HbA1c (%)	-0.5

Approximately 93% of patients reached the 12 month assessment in the trial, consistent with a rigorously executed trial. We subsequently announced that VBLOC therapy-treated patients were maintaining their weight loss at 18 months and 24 months with an EWL of 23.5% and 21.1%, respectively. The trial's positive safety profile also continued throughout this reported time period.

#### VBLOC-DM2 ENABLE Trial

Enrollment of the VBLOC-DM2 ENABLE trial began in the second quarter of 2008. The VBLOC-DM2 ENABLE trial is designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of VBLOC therapy on obese subjects as well as its effect on glucose regulation in approximately 30 patients who are using the Maestro Rechargeable System. The trial is an international, open-label, prospective, multi-center study. We plan to evaluate the efficacy of VBLOC therapy by measuring average percentage EWL, HbA1c (blood sugar), FPG (fasting plasma glucose), blood pressure, calorie intake, appetite and other endpoints at one week, one month, three, six, 12 and 18 months and longer. To date, no deaths related to our device or unanticipated adverse device effects have been reported during the VBLOC-DM2 ENABLE trial and the safety profile is similar to that seen in the other VBLOC trials. As previously announced the following results were reported at 12 month intervals.

• Percent EWL (from implant, Company updated interim data):

Visit (post-device activation)	% EWL	N
12 Months	-24.5	26
24 Months	-22.7	22
36 Months	-24.3	18

HbA1c change in percentage points (Baseline HbA1c = 7.8 + 0.2%) (Company updated interim data):

Visit (post-device activation)	% HbA1c change	N
12 Months	-1.0	26
24 Months	-0.5	24
36 Months	-0.6	17

Fasting Plasma Glucose change (Baseline 151.4 + 6.5 mg/dl average) (Company updated interim data):

Visit (post-device activation)	change (mg/dl)	N
12 Months	-27.6	25
24 Months	-20.3	24
36 Months	-24.0	17

• Change in mean arterial pressure (MAP) in hypertensive patients (baseline 99.5 mmHg) (Company updated interim data):

MAD

Visit (post-device activation)	change (mmHg)	N
12 Months	-7.8	14
24 Months	-7.5	12
36 Months	-7.3	10

Caloric Intake Sub-study: A sub-study, conducted as part of the VBLOC-DM2 ENABLE trial, evaluated 12-month satiety and calorie intake in 10 patients with Type 2 diabetes mellitus enrolled in the trial. Follow-up measures among patients enrolled in the sub-study included EWL, 7-day diet records assessed by a nutritionist, calorie calculations and visual analogue scale (VAS) questions to assess satiety by 7-day or 24-hour recall at the following time periods: baseline, 4 and 12 weeks and 6 and 12 months post device initiation. A validated program, Food Works<sup>TM</sup>, was used to determine calorie and nutrition content. Results include:

- Mean EWL for the sub-study was 33+5% (p<0.001) at 12 months;
- Calorie intake decreased by 45% (p<0.001), 48% (p<0.001), 38% (p<0.001) and 30% (p=0.02), at 4 and 12 weeks, 6 months and 12 months, respectively, from a baseline of 2,062 kcal/day; and
- VAS recall data, using a repeated measures analysis, documented fullness at the beginning of meals (p=0.005), less food consumption (p=0.02) and less hunger at the beginning of meal (p=0.03) corroborating the reduction in caloric intake.

#### EMPOWER Trial

The EMPOWER trial is a randomized, double-blind, controlled pivotal study in 294 patients designed to evaluate the safety and efficacy of our first-generation Maestro RF System in the treatment of obesity. The purpose of the EMPOWER trial was to measure the safety and efficacy of our Maestro RF System in obese patients after 12 months of VBLOC therapy. After all patients completed 12 months of follow up, the trial was unblinded and all patients, including those in the control group, had the option to receive ongoing VBLOC therapy. Patients will continue to be followed out to 60 months as part of the trial and we will continue to monitor average percentage EWL and safety during this extended period. At 12 months from implant, patients in the treated group who used the system for greater than or equal to 12 hours a day saw an average EWL of nearly 30%. The trial produced the following safety results:

- No deaths, a one-year surgical revision rate of 4.8% and serious adverse event rate related to the device or implant/revision procedure of 3%;
- No therapy-related serious adverse events in the entire study population through 12 months; and
- No changes in intra-cardiac conduction, ventricular repolarization or ventricular arrhythmias were seen in either study group.

We have also released 36 month EMPOWER EWL, which was approximately 20% in 45 subjects to reach that time point and had greater than or equal to 9 hours of therapy delivered per day. In addition, a subgroup analysis of EMPOWER trial patients was conducted to determine if

VBLOC therapy would improve blood pressure prior to significant weight loss in obese subjects with hypertension, as defined by elevated blood pressure at baseline by JNC-7 guidelines (n=37, Group A) or history of hypertension (n=58, Group B) at baseline. The analysis was performed in a subset of subjects who had greater than or equal to 9 hours of therapy delivered per day to 12 months.

Change in systolic blood pressure (SBP) and diastolic blood pressure (DBP) from baseline:

	Baseline	Week 2	Week 4	12 Months
Group A (subjects with elevated blood pressure) (p<0.001)				
SBP (mmHg)	145+/-2	-17+/-3	-17+/-3	-18+/-3
DBP (mmHg)	89+/-2	-9+/-2	-8+/-2	-10+/-2
% EWL		9+/-2	12+/-1	21+/-4
Group B (subjects with history of hypertension) (p<0.001)				
SBP (mmHg)	134+/-2	-10+/-2	-9+/-2	-13+/-2
DBP (mmHg)	84+/-1	-6+/-1	-6+/-1	-7+/-1
% EWL	NA	9+/-1	13+/-1	23+/-3

#### **Research and Development**

We have an experienced research and development team, including clinical, regulatory affairs and quality assurance, comprised of scientists, electrical engineers, software engineers and mechanical engineers with significant clinical knowledge and expertise. Our research and development efforts are focused in the following major areas:

- supporting the current Maestro Rechargeable System;
- developing the next-generation Maestro Rechargeable System;
- identifying the effect of vagal blocking on nerve and organ function; and
- investigating the Maestro platform for the treatment of gastrointestinal disorders and comorbidities in addition to obesity.

We have spent a significant portion of our capital resources on research and development. Our research and development expenses were \$11.0 million in 2014, \$11.1 million in 2013 and \$10.7 million in 2012. Our annual research and development expenditures have remained consistent since 2012 as we worked through the unblinding of the ReCharge trial, PMA submission, Advisory Panel meeting and FDA approval process.

#### Other Diseases and Disorders

We believe that our VBLOC therapy may have the potential, if validated through appropriate clinical studies, to treat a number of additional gastrointestinal disorders or comorbidities frequently associated with obesity, including the following:

- Type 2 Diabetes. Type 2 diabetes is an escalating global health epidemic often related to obesity that affects nearly 200 million people worldwide, 50 million in the United States alone. Those with diabetes are susceptible to cardiovascular morbidity and mortality, and up to two out of three people with diabetes have high blood pressure. We believe that VBLOC therapy has significant potential in treating metabolic syndrome (diabetes with high blood pressure). We have launched an international feasibility trial, VBLOC-DM2 ENABLE, to further explore the efficacy of VBLOC therapy in this patient population and have reported preliminary findings in the "Clinical Development" section above.
- *Hypertension*. Blood pressure normally rises and falls throughout the day. When it consistently stays too high for too long, it is called hypertension. Globally, nearly one billion people have high blood pressure (hypertension); of these, two-thirds are in developing countries. About one in three American adults has high blood pressure or hypertension. Hypertension is one of the most important causes of

premature death worldwide and the problem is growing; in 2025, an estimated 1.56 billion adults will be living with hypertension. Hypertension kills nearly 8 million people every year worldwide. We believe that VBLOC therapy may improve mean systolic and diastolic blood pressure in hypertensive patients. We completed a subgroup analysis of EMPOWER trial patients and have included an evaluation of the blood pressure effects of VBLOC therapy in our international feasibility trial, VBLOC-DM2 ENABLE, to further explore the efficacy of VBLOC therapy in this patient population and have reported preliminary findings in the "Clinical Development" section above.

- Pancreatitis. Primary and recurrent cases of acute pancreatitis are estimated to number from 150,000 to 200,000 annually, resulting in approximately 80,000 hospital admissions each year in the United States. In animal studies, we have shown that VBLOC therapy suppresses pancreatic exocrine secretion, suggesting its potential efficacy in treating pancreatitis.
- *Other Gastrointestinal Disorders.* We believe that VBLOC therapy may have potential in a number of other gastrointestinal disorders, including irritable bowel syndrome and inflammatory bowel disease.

None of the above conditions were included in our PMA application that was approved by the FDA on January 14, 2015, nor are they approved for sale internationally. Additional approvals will be required to market the Maestro Rechargeable System for these indications in the United States or internationally.

#### Mayo Clinic Relationship

Our research and development team has worked with clinicians from Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota pursuant to exclusive know-how, license, and consulting agreements from 2005 through 2014. Mayo Clinic clinicians with multiple specialties such as bariatric surgery, gastroenterology and laparoscopic surgery consulted with our research and development team on an exclusive basis to advise us as we developed our devices for vagal blocking therapy to treat obesity. Specifically, Mayo Clinic clinicians, along with other of our consultants, have offered their expertise to advise us with regard to our clinical trials and surgical techniques for our implantation procedure and participate on our medical advisory board and therapeutic algorithm panel. The agreements with Mayo Clinic also included a similar collaboration for the development of products to address a wide variety of disorders susceptible to treatment by electrically blocking neural impulses on the vagus nerve. We retain the exclusive rights to obesity-related device inventions developed through this collaboration. We have also licensed-in three issued obesity-related patents from Mayo Clinic, which are unrelated to our VBLOC technology.

#### **Medical Advisors**

In addition to our collaboration with Mayo Clinic, we also have medical advisors who provide strategic guidance to our development programs, consult with us on clinical investigational plans and individual study protocols, and advise on clinical investigational site selection. Members of our medical advisory group also:

- serve on our Data Safety Monitoring Board and Clinical Events Committee;
- meet with governmental regulatory authorities;
- provide consultation on professional meeting presentations and journal manuscript submissions; and
- develop and participate in clinical site training programs, including study surgical technique training and study subject follow-up training.

#### Sales and Marketing

#### **United States**

We received FDA approval on January 14, 2015 for VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, and have begun a controlled commercial launch at select bariatric centers of excellence in

the United States. We hired a Chief Commercial Officer in November 2014 to oversee the commercialization process and have started to build a sales force in the United States that will call directly on key opinion leaders and bariatric surgeons at commercially-driven bariatric centers of excellence that meet our certification criteria. We expect the commercial organization to include personnel responsible for sales and marketing, customer service, reimbursement and technical service. Thus far we have four Regional Sales Directors and a Marketing Director in place and also have personnel, internally or contracted, who are working with third party payors on the reimbursement of our device. We plan to grow the sales and marketing organization as necessary to support future growth.

We expect that our direct sales force will initially target outcome-focused, aftercare-based centers in key self-pay markets and will promote the Maestro Rechargeable System to physicians and patients who have concerns with current bariatric surgical procedures. We also plan to call on physicians, weight-management specialists, nurses and others involved in the obesity management process who influence patient adoption. As part of this launch, our sales representatives will work with up to 10 of our existing centers to identify and actively pursue potential patients. In addition, we plan to identify 10-15 new outcome-focused, aftercare-based centers in key self-pay markets to activate and train throughout 2015.

We expect that account management and patient registration processes used during the clinical trial will be transitioned to a commercial registration structure. Centers responsible for implanting our product will be expanded, and trained to perform the patient selection, implant and manage appropriate follow-up procedures.

We plan to support our sales representatives with field clinical experts who will be responsible for training, technical and other support services at various implant centers. We also expect that our sales representatives will spend time implementing consumer marketing programs and providing surgical centers and implanting surgeons with educational patient materials. We also intend to market to potential referral source clinicians such as general practitioners, internists, endocrinologists and nurses in order to build awareness.

To achieve commercial success for any product that receives regulatory approval, we must either develop a sales organization or enter into arrangements with others to sell our products. Developing a direct sales force can be expensive and time consuming and can delay the success of any product launch. Any sales force we develop will likely be competing against the experienced and well-funded sales and marketing operations of our competitors.

#### Outside of the United States

Outside of the United States, we may sell and support our products either through direct sales or medical device distributors. We plan to target countries with reasonable regulatory and reimbursement barriers and a population interested in managing their obesity. Each country we target will require specific regulatory approval from the local government or agency. In some situations, we may be able to rely on FDA approval, European CE Mark or ISO quality certificates to satisfy local regulatory requirements.

We obtained European CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System in 2011 for the treatment of obesity. The CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System was expanded in 2014 to also include use for the management of Type 2 diabetes in obese patients. In January 2012, the final Maestro Rechargeable System components were listed on the ARTG by the Australian TGA. We have entered into exclusive, multi-year agreements with Device Technologies Australia Pty Limited and Bader Sultan & Brothers Co. W.L.L., for commercialization and distribution of the Maestro Rechargeable System in Australia and the Gulf Coast Countries of the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, respectively. We continue to explore additional select international markets to commercialize the Maestro Rechargeable System, including Europe.

#### Competition

We compete primarily in the market for obesity treatment with surgical obesity procedures and various devices used to implement neurostimulation and gastric stimulation systems. These current surgical procedures

are performed in approximately less than 1% of all eligible obese patients today. We also compete with pharmaceutical therapies. The market for obesity treatments is competitive, subject to technological change and significantly affected by new product development. Although we expect to compete in the market for gastric stimulation systems and other neurotechnology devices that treat obesity, there are currently no FDA-approved neuromodulation or neuroblocking therapies for the treatment of obesity. We believe we are the first company pursuing neuroblocking therapy for the treatment of obesity.

We also compete against the manufacturers of pharmaceuticals that are directed at treating obesity. We are aware of a number of drugs that are approved for long-term treatment of obesity in the United States: Orlistat, marketed by Roche as Xenical and GlaxoSmithKline as Alli, Belviq marketed by Arena Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Qsymia, marketed by VIVUS, Inc. and Contrave, marketed by Orexigen Therapeutics, Inc.

We compete with several private early-stage companies developing neurostimulation devices for application to the gastric region and related nerves for the treatment of obesity. These companies may prove to be significant competitors, particularly through collaborative arrangements with large and established companies. They also compete with us in recruiting and retaining qualified scientific and management personnel, establishing clinical trial sites and subject registration for clinical trials, as well as in acquiring technologies and technology licenses complementary to our programs or advantageous to our business.

In addition, there are many larger potential competitors experimenting in the field of neurostimulation to treat various diseases and disorders. For example, Medtronic, which develops deep brain stimulators and spinal cord stimulators, acquired TransNeuronix, which sought to treat obesity by stimulating the smooth muscle of the stomach wall and nearby tissue. St. Jude Medical, through its acquisition of Advanced Neuromodulation Systems, is developing spinal cord stimulators. Cyberonics is developing vagus nerve stimulators to modulate epileptic seizures and other neurological disorders. Boston Scientific, through its Advanced Bionics division, is developing neurostimulation devices such as spinal cord stimulators and cochlear implants. Ethicon-Endo Surgery acquired Cyberonics' patents and patent applications pertaining to vagus nerve stimulation for the treatment of obesity and two related comorbidities, diabetes and hypertension, in overweight patients.

In addition to competition from developers of neurostimulation and gastric modulation systems, we expect our Maestro Rechargeable System will also compete with surgical obesity procedures, including gastric bypass, gastric banding, sleeve gastrectomy, vertical-banded gastroplasty and biliopancreatic diversion. Current manufacturers of approved gastric banding products include Apollo Endosurgery (Lap-Band) and Johnson & Johnson (Realize Adjustable Gastric Band). We are also aware that GI Dynamics has received approvals in various international countries to sell its EndoBarrier Gastrointestinal Liner and in 2011 began trading on the Australian Securities Exchange.

We believe that the principal competitive factors in our market include:

- acceptance by healthcare professionals, patients and payors;
- published rates of safety and efficacy;
- reliability and high quality performance;
- effectiveness at controlling comorbidities such as diabetes and hypertension;
- invasiveness and the inherent reversibility of the procedure or device;
- cost and average selling price of products and relative rates of reimbursement;
- effective marketing, education, sales and distribution;
- regulatory and reimbursement expertise;
- technological leadership and superiority; and
- speed of product innovation and time to market.

Many of our competitors are either publicly-traded or are divisions of publicly-traded companies, and they enjoy several competitive advantages over us, including:

- significantly greater name recognition;
- established relations with healthcare professionals, customers and third-party payors;
- established distribution networks;
- greater experience in research and development, manufacturing, preclinical testing, clinical trials, obtaining regulatory approvals, obtaining reimbursement and marketing approved products; and
- greater financial and human resources.

As a result, we cannot assure you that we will be able to compete effectively against these companies or their products.

#### Third-party Coverage and Reimbursement

We plan to set a market price for the Maestro Rechargeable System in the United States that is comparable to other high-end, active implantable devices such as implantable cardioverter defibrillators, neurostimulation devices for chronic pain and depression, and cochlear implant systems. We expect that most procedures will be performed in the outpatient setting.

We believe that establishing appropriate third-party coverage for the therapy should be achievable as important structural elements are already in place. Physician claims for payment use Current Procedural Terminology, Fourth Edition (CPT) billing codes to describe procedures and services performed. Currently, there are established CPT codes for the implantation of cranial nerve pulse generators and related leads, and we expect providers may seek payment for our therapy based on these codes. In 2012, we applied for and received six unique CPT Category III codes with the American Medical Association's CPT Advisory Committee for a Vagus Nerve Blocking Therapy procedure. The approved CPT Category III codes were listed in the July 2012 edition of the CPT billing codes. We intend to use the approved CPT Category III codes to build evidence to support individual prior authorization requests for coverage and denial appeals to gain coverage and payment for VBLOC therapy treatment through various private insurance plans. We intend to continue to use the CPT Category III codes as we consider the timing and strategic benefit to the Company and surgeons and patients of possible conversion to CPT Category I codes in the future. With respect to possible usage of our product in the hospital inpatient setting, hospital inpatient billing is referenced by International Classifications of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) procedure codes. There is an existing ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for morbid obesity and our studies are intended to provide the necessary outcomes data to link appropriate billing codes with the ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for morbid obesity. Under a recent Act of Congress, health plans and providers must replace the ICD-9-CM system and begin using the newer ICD-10-CM system for billing hospital inpatient procedures by October 1 2015. The ICD-10-CM system is not anticipated to impact coverage decisions, but could impact reimbursement for various procedures. Our clinical trial data substantiating VBLOC therapy will also be used to seek coverage of VBLOC therapy for patients with morbid obesity and appropriate reimbursement for surgeons and hospitals under the codes already in place.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the federal agency that administers the Medicare program, issued a national coverage determination for several specific types of bariatric surgery in 2006, which we view as positive, potential precedent and guidance to factors that CMS might use in deciding to cover our therapy. That policy indicated that Medicare will cover these bariatric surgical procedures when they are performed in an approved Bariatric Center of Excellence by a bariatric surgeon who also meets established requirements. Subjects with a BMI greater than or equal to 35, at least one obesity-related disease or disorder and who were previously unsuccessful with medical treatment for obesity are considered eligible. However, the policy reiterates that treatments for obesity alone are not covered, because such treatments are not considered

reasonable and necessary. Although Medicare policies are often emulated or adopted by other third-party payors, other governmental and private insurance coverage currently varies by carrier and geographic location. We have begun to actively work with major insurance carriers, local coverage entities and self-insured plans, as well as CMS, beginning the process to obtain coverage for procedures using our product.

Other manufacturers of neuromodulation devices for a variety of indications have been successful in securing third-party coverage and reimbursement for use of their devices after early commercialization. We will actively pursue all similar opportunities to secure appropriate payment for our device.

The Australian reimbursement landscape for medical devices is comprised of a number of different payers and payment schemes. There are informal funding pathways and formal reimbursement systems. There are three major payers: private health insurers; the Federal government; and State and Territory governments. Private health insurers pay for private hospital services, surgically implanted prostheses and defined health appliances. The Federal government pays for professional medical services including diagnostic investigations and the majority of the cost of services in public hospitals. State and Territory governments pay for some of the cost of services in public hospitals. In addition, various ad hoc Federal and State government grants and programs exist to provide funding for new technologies. The Medical Services Advisory Committee advises the Australian Minister for Health and Ageing on evidence relating to the safety, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of new medical technologies and procedures. This advice informs Australian Government decisions about public funding for new, and in some cases existing, medical procedures. Evaluation of evidence associated with medical services has been an integral part of the process for the listing of new medical technologies and services on the Medicare Benefits Schedule. In Australia, we plan to seek specific and appropriate coding, coverage and payment for our Maestro Rechargeable System from the MSAC.

#### **Intellectual Property**

Our success will depend in part on our ability to obtain and defend patent protection for our products and processes, to preserve our trade secrets and to operate without infringing or violating the proprietary rights of third parties. To date, we have 34 issued U.S. patents, 29 of which pertain to treating gastrointestinal disorders and we believe provide us with broad intellectual property protection covering electrically-induced vagal blocking and methods for treating obesity. Assuming timely payment of maintenance fees as they become due, most of these patents will expire in 2023. We have five granted European patents and nine granted Australian patents. We also have nine U.S. patent applications (including one provisional application), one pending PCT application, and 32 national stage patent applications, including applications in Australia, China, India, Europe and Japan, one granted application in China and one granted application in Japan. These applications primarily pertain to our vagal blocking technology and its application to obesity as well as other gastrointestinal disorders. In addition to our patents and applications, we have a license agreement with the Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research for three issued U.S. patents, which are unrelated to our VBLOC therapy.

We also register the trademarks and trade names through which we conduct our business. To date, in the United States we have registered trademarks for VBLOC®, ENTEROMEDICS® and MAESTRO®, each registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and trademark applications for VBLOC POWER TO CHOOSE and VBLOC POWER TO CHOOSE AND DESIGN. In addition, some or all of the marks VBLOC, ENTEROMEDICS, MAESTRO, MAESTRO SYSTEM ORCHESTRATING OBESITY SOLUTIONS, VBLOC POWER TO CHOOSE and VBLOC POWER TO CHOOSE AND DESIGN are the subject of either a trademark registration or application for registration in Australia, Brazil, China, the European Community, India, Kuwait, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates.

In addition to our patents, we rely on confidentiality and proprietary information agreements to protect our trade secrets and proprietary knowledge. These confidentiality and proprietary information agreements generally provide that all confidential information developed or made known to individuals by us during the course of their relationship with us is to be kept confidential and not disclosed to third parties, except in specific circumstances.

The agreements also provide for ownership of inventions conceived during the course of such agreements. If our proprietary information is shared or our confidentiality agreements are breached, we may not have adequate remedies, or our trade secrets may otherwise become known to or independently developed by competitors.

#### **Manufacturers and Suppliers**

We have designed and developed all of the elements of our Maestro Rechargeable System, except for the clinician programmer hardware, which uses a commercially available laptop computer. To date, all of the materials and components of the system are procured from qualified suppliers and contract manufacturers in accordance with our proprietary specifications. We use third parties to manufacture our Maestro Rechargeable System to minimize our capital investment, help control costs and take advantage of the expertise these third parties have in the large-scale production of medical devices. We do not currently plan to manufacture our Maestro Rechargeable System ourselves. All of our key manufacturers and suppliers have experience working with commercial implantable device systems, are ISO certified and are regularly audited by us. Our key manufacturers and suppliers have a demonstrated record of compliance with international regulatory requirements.

We received FDA approval on January 14, 2015, and commenced commercialization of the Maestro Rechargeable System in the United States shortly thereafter. We expect to increase our production volume slowly as we bring the Maestro Rechargeable System to the United States and select international markets through a controlled commercial launch. Given that we rely primarily on third-party manufacturers and suppliers for the production of our products, our ability to increase production will depend upon the experience, certification levels and large scale production capabilities of our suppliers and manufacturers. Qualified suppliers and contract manufacturers have been and will continue to be selected to supply products on a commercial scale according to our proprietary specifications. We also intend to increase our inventory levels to support commercial forecasts as we expand our implanting centers. Our FDA approval process required us to name and obtain approval for the suppliers of key components of our Maestro Rechargeable System.

Many of our parts are custom designed and as a result, we may not be able to quickly qualify and establish additional or replacement suppliers for the components of our Maestro Rechargeable System. Any new approvals of vendors required by the FDA or other regulatory agencies in other international markets for our Maestro Rechargeable System as a result of the need to qualify or obtain alternate vendors for any of our components would delay our ability to sell and market the Maestro Rechargeable System and could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We believe that our current manufacturing and supply arrangements will be adequate to continue our controlled commercial launch and our ongoing and planned clinical trials. In order to produce the Maestro Rechargeable System in the quantities we anticipate to meet future market demand, we will need our manufacturers and suppliers to increase, or scale up, manufacturing production and supply arrangements by a significant factor over the current level of production. There are technical challenges to scaling up manufacturing capacity and developing commercial-scale manufacturing facilities that may require the investment of substantial additional funds by our manufacturers and suppliers and hiring and retaining additional management and technical personnel who have the necessary experience. If our manufacturers or suppliers are unable to do so, we may not be able to meet the requirements for the launch of the product in the United States or internationally or to meet future demand, if at all. We may also represent only a small portion of our suppliers' or manufacturers' business and if they become capacity constrained they may choose to allocate their available resources to other customers that represent a larger portion of their business. We currently anticipate that we will continue to rely on third-party manufacturers and suppliers for the production of the Maestro Rechargeable System following commercialization. If we are unable to obtain a sufficient supply of our product, our revenue, business and financial prospects would be adversely affected.

#### **Government Regulations**

#### **United States**

Our Maestro Rechargeable System is regulated by the FDA as a medical device under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) and the regulations promulgated under the FFDCA. Pursuant to the FFDCA, the FDA regulates the research, design, testing, manufacture, safety, labeling, storage, record keeping, advertising, sales and distribution, post-market adverse event reporting, production and advertising and promotion of medical devices in the United States. Noncompliance with applicable requirements can result in warning letters, fines, injunctions, civil penalties, recall or seizure of products, total or partial suspension of production, failure of the government to grant premarket approval for devices and criminal prosecution.

Medical devices in the United States are classified into one of three classes, Class I, II or III, on the basis of the amount of risk and the controls deemed by the FDA to be necessary to reasonably ensure their safety and effectiveness. Class I, low risk, devices are subject to general controls (e.g., labeling and adherence to good manufacturing practices). Class II, intermediate risk, devices are subject to general controls and to special controls (e.g., performance standards, and premarket notification). Generally, Class III devices are those which must receive premarket approval by the FDA to ensure their safety and effectiveness (e.g., life-sustaining, lifesupporting and implantable devices, or new devices which have not been found substantially equivalent to legally marketed devices), and require clinical testing to ensure safety and effectiveness and FDA approval prior to marketing and distribution. The FDA also has the authority to require clinical testing of Class II devices. In both the United States and certain international markets, there have been a number of legislative and regulatory initiatives and changes, such as the Modernization Act, which could and have altered the healthcare system in ways that could impact our ability to sell our medical devices profitably. Recent, widely-publicized events concerning the safety of certain drug, food and medical device products have raised concerns among members of Congress, medical professionals, and the public regarding the FDA's handling of these events and its perceived lack of oversight over regulated products. The increased attention to safety and oversight issues has resulted in a more cautious approach by the FDA to device clearances and approvals, as well as post-market compliance, which could prevent, delay clearance or approval of new products or product modifications, or require us to expend additional resources on post-market studies and controls.

The FFDCA provides two basic review procedures for medical devices. Certain products may qualify for a submission authorized by Section 510(k) of the FFDCA, where the manufacturer submits to the FDA a premarket notification of the manufacturer's intention to commence marketing the product. The manufacturer must, among other things, establish that the product to be marketed is substantially equivalent to another legally marketed product. Marketing may commence when the FDA issues a letter finding substantial equivalence. If a medical device does not qualify for the 510(k) procedure, the manufacturer must file a PMA application with the FDA. This procedure requires more extensive pre-filing clinical and preclinical testing than the 510(k) procedure and involves a significantly longer FDA review process.

#### Premarket Approval

Our Maestro Rechargeable System is an implanted device that required premarket approval from the FDA to market in the United States. The FDA approved the Maestro Rechargeable System on January 14, 2015 with post-approval conditions intended to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the device. Failure to comply with the conditions of approval can result in material adverse enforcement action, including the loss or withdrawal of the approval. Even after approval of the PMA, new PMAs or supplemental PMAs will be required for significant modifications to the manufacturing process, labeling, use and design of a device that is approved through the premarket approval process. Premarket approval supplements often require submission of the same type of information as a PMA except that the supplement is limited to information needed to support any changes from the device covered by the original PMA. In addition, holders of an approved PMA are required to submit annual reports to the FDA that include relevant information on the continued use of the device.

#### Clinical Trials

A clinical trial is almost always required to support a PMA. Clinical trials for a "significant risk" device such as ours require submission to the FDA of an application for an IDE for clinical studies to be conducted within the United States. The IDE application must be supported by appropriate data, such as animal and laboratory testing results, showing that it is safe to test the device in humans and that the testing protocol is scientifically sound. Clinical trials for a significant risk device in the United States may begin once the IDE application is approved by the FDA and by the Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) overseeing the clinical trial at the various investigational sites.

Clinical trials require extensive recordkeeping and detailed reporting requirements. Our clinical trials must be conducted under the oversight of an IRB at each participating clinical trial site and in accordance with applicable regulations and policies including, but not limited to, the FDA's good clinical practice requirements. We, the trial Data Safety Monitoring Board, the FDA or the IRB at each site at which a clinical trial is being performed may suspend a clinical trial at any time for various reasons, including a belief that the risks to study subjects outweigh the anticipated benefits.

#### Pervasive and Continuing FDA Regulation

Both before and after FDA approval, numerous regulatory requirements apply. These include:

- Quality System Regulation, which requires manufacturers to follow design, testing, control, documentation, complaint handling and other quality assurance procedures during the design and manufacturing processes;
- regulations which govern product labels and labeling, prohibit the promotion of products for unapproved or "off-label" uses and impose other restrictions on labeling and promotional activities;
- medical device reporting regulations, which require that manufacturers report to the FDA if their device may have caused or contributed to a death or serious injury or malfunctioned in a way that would likely cause or contribute to a death or serious injury if it were to recur; and
- notices of correction or removal and recall regulations.

Advertising and promotion of medical devices are also regulated by the Federal Trade Commission and by state regulatory and enforcement authorities. Recently, some promotional activities for FDA-regulated products have resulted in enforcement actions brought under healthcare reimbursement laws and consumer protection statutes. In addition, under the federal Lanham Act, competitors and others can initiate litigation relating to advertising claims.

Compliance with regulatory requirements is enforced through periodic facility inspections by the FDA, which may be unannounced. Because we rely on contract manufacturing sites and service providers, these additional sites are also subject to these FDA inspections. Failure to comply with applicable regulatory requirements can result in enforcement action by the FDA, which may include any of the following sanctions:

- warning letters or untitled letters;
- fines, injunction and civil penalties;
- recall or seizure of our products;
- customer notification, or orders for repair, replacement or refund;
- operating restrictions, partial suspension or total shutdown of production or clinical trials;
- refusing our request for premarket approval of new products;
- withdrawing premarket approvals that are already granted; and
- criminal prosecution.

#### International

#### Australia

The Company's Maestro Rechargeable System, which is listed on the ARTG by the TGA, is regulated as a medical device under the Therapeutic Goods Act (TG Act), which regulates the research, design, testing, manufacture, safety, labeling, storage, record keeping, advertising, sales and distribution, post-market adverse event reporting, production and advertising and promotion of medical devices in Australia. The TG Act requires medical devices to be included on the ARTG before they can be supplied in Australia. The TGA's requirements in relation to the inclusion process depend on the classification of devices based on risk level and other factors. All implantable components of the Maestro Rechargeable System, and most of the external components, required a full conformity assessment prior to inclusion on the ARTG to satisfy the TGA that the device and its manufacturer comply with the "Essential Principles" under the TG Act relating to the safety and performance characteristics of medical devices. Accordingly, among other things, the TGA reviewed data demonstrating the safety and performance of the device including data obtained through clinical trials. TGA regulations continue to apply to a device after inclusion on the ARTG. For example, the sponsor will be required to submit annual reports to the TGA, and when applicable, report certain adverse events to the TGA, and if a recall is required, it will need to comply with TGA requirements. Even after the device is included, the TGA may conduct audits from time to time in relation to the product to ensure ongoing compliance. In addition, advertising material to consumers relating to the device is regulated by the TG Act and the Therapeutic Goods Advertising Code. Advertising material in general is also subject to trade practices legislation, the regulatory agency for which is the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

#### Other Countries

International sales of medical devices are subject to foreign government regulations, which vary substantially from country to country. The time required to obtain approval by a foreign country may be longer or shorter than that required for FDA approval, and the requirements may differ. The primary regulatory environment in Europe is that of the European Economic Community (EEC), which consists of 27 European Union (EU) member states encompassing nearly all the major countries in Europe. Additional countries that are not part of the EU, but are part of the European Economic Area (EEA), and other countries, such as Switzerland, have voluntarily adopted laws and regulations that mirror those of the EEC with respect to medical devices. The EEC has adopted Directive 90/385/EEC as amended by 2007/47/EC for active implantable medical devices and numerous standards that govern and harmonize the national laws and standards regulating the design, manufacture, clinical trials, labeling and adverse event reporting for medical devices that are marketed in member states. Medical devices that comply with the requirements of the national law of the member state in which their Notified Body is located will be entitled to bear CE marking, indicating that the device conforms to applicable regulatory requirements, and, accordingly, can be commercially marketed within the EEA and other countries that recognize this mark for regulatory purposes.

We obtained European CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System in 2011 for the treatment of obesity. The CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System was expanded in 2014 to also include use for the management of Type 2 diabetes in obese patients. The method of assessing conformity with applicable regulatory requirements varies depending on the class of the device, but for our Maestro Rechargeable System (which is considered an Active Implantable Medical Device (AIMD) in Australia and the EEA, and falls into Class III within the United States), the method involved a combination of self-assessment and issuance of declaration of conformity by the manufacturer of the safety and performance of the device, and a third-party assessment by a Notified Body of the design of the device and of our quality system. A Notified Body is a private commercial entity that is designated by the national government of a member state as being competent to make independent judgments about whether a product complies with applicable regulatory requirements. The assessment included, among other things, a clinical evaluation of the conformity of the device with applicable regulatory requirements. We use DEKRA Certification B.V. (formerly known as KEMA Quality) in the Netherlands as the Notified Body for our CE marking approval process.

Continued compliance with CE marking requirements is enforced through periodic facility inspections by the Notified Body, which may be unannounced. Because we rely on contract manufacturing sites and service providers, these additional sites may also be subject to these Notified Body inspections.

#### Patient Privacy Laws

United States and various international laws have been evolving to protect the confidentiality of certain patient health information, including patient medical records. These laws restrict the use and disclosure of certain patient health information. Enforcement actions, including financial penalties, related to patient privacy issues are globally increasing. The management of patient data may have an impact on certain clinical research activities and product design considerations.

#### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2014, we had a total of 28 employees. All of these employees are located in the United States.

From time to time we also employ independent contractors, consultants and temporary employees to support our operations. None of our employees are subject to collective bargaining agreements. We have never experienced a work stoppage and believe that our relations with our employees are good.

#### **Executive Officers**

The following table sets forth information regarding our executive officers, including their ages, as of February 28, 2015:

Name	Age	Position
Mark B. Knudson, Ph.D	66	President, Chief Executive Officer, Chairman and Director
Greg S. Lea	62	Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer
Adrianus (Jos) Donders	61	Senior Vice President of Research and Advanced Development
Katherine S. Tweden	54	Vice President, Clinical and Regulatory

Mark B. Knudson, Ph.D. has served as our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board since December 2002. Dr. Knudson also served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Venturi Group, LLC and Venturi Development, Inc., positions he held from 1999 and 2001 until their dissolutions in 2008 and 2009, respectively. Dr. Knudson served as Chairman of the Board of Restore Medical, Inc., a publicly-held medical device company focused on the treatment of sleep disordered breathing, from 1999 through July 2008 when it was acquired by Medtronic, Inc. Dr. Knudson was also a member of the audit committee of Restore Medical. Dr. Knudson received a Bachelor of Science in biology from Pacific Lutheran University and a Ph.D. in physiology from Washington State University.

Greg S. Lea has served as our Chief Financial Officer since May 21, 2007 and was appointed Chief Operating Officer on February 15, 2013. Mr. Lea also held the title of "Senior Vice President" from May 21, 2007 until December 11, 2014, at which point the title was dropped in order to clarify his position in our executive leadership as a reporting officer for our senior vice presidents. Prior to joining us, Mr. Lea served as Chief Financial Officer of Pemstar Inc. from July 2002 through January 2007 when it was acquired by Benchmark Electronics, Inc. Mr. Lea also served as a director of Pemstar from April 2001 through January 2007 and held the position of Corporate Controller from April 2002 through July 2002. From 1993 to April 2002, Mr. Lea served as a corporate Vice President for Jostens Corporation, a commemorative and affiliation products manufacturer, serving most recently as corporate Vice President-Business Ventures. Prior to that, Mr. Lea held several financial management and administrative positions at IBM Corporation from 1974 to 1993 and was President and a director of Ability Building Center, Inc. from 1981 to 1993. Mr. Lea holds a B.S. in Accounting/Business Management from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Adrianus (Jos) Donders has served as our Senior Vice President of Research and Advanced Development since April 2005. From September 2003 to April 2005, Mr. Donders was Director Communication Systems Engineering for Medtronic USA. From June 2000 to August 2003, Mr. Donders served as Director Clinical Study Management and Research and Development Europe for Medtronic Europe. Mr. Donders received a degree equivalent to a Master's of Electrical Engineering from the Institute of Technology Eindhoven Netherlands.

*Katherine S. Tweden, Ph.D.* has served as our Vice President of Clinical and Regulatory since May 2011. Prior to that Dr. Tweden served as our Vice President of Research and Clinical from September 2008 to May 2011 and our Vice President of Research from January 2003 to September 2008. From November 2002 to January 2003, Dr. Tweden was a consultant to Venturi Group, a medical device incubator company. From January 2003 through August 2004, Dr. Tweden worked for Venturi Development Inc. as a consultant to us. From July 1997 to October 2002, Dr. Tweden held positions including Director of Research and Vice President of Research for HeartStent Corporation. From September 1990 to June 1997, Dr. Tweden held the positions of Senior Research Scientist and Principal Research Scientist at St. Jude Medical, Inc. Dr. Tweden received a Bachelor of Arts in chemistry from Gustavus Adolphus College and a Master's degree and Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from Iowa State University.

#### **Our Corporate Information**

We were incorporated in Minnesota in December 2002 as two separate legal entities, Alpha Medical, Inc. and Beta Medical, Inc., both of which were owned 100% by a common stockholder. In October 2003, the two entities were combined and we changed our name to EnteroMedics Inc. In 2004 we reincorporated in Delaware. We file reports and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) including annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and proxy or information statements. Those reports and statements as well as all amendments to those documents filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (1) are available at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20549, (2) may be obtained by sending an electronic message to the SEC at *publicinfo@sec.gov* or by sending a fax to the SEC at 1-202-777-1027, (3) are available at the SEC's internet site (http://www.sec.gov), which contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC and (4) are available free of charge through our website as soon as reasonably practicable after electronic filing with, or furnishing to, the SEC. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330.

Our principal executive offices are located at 2800 Patton Road, St. Paul, Minnesota 55113, and our telephone number is (651) 634-3003. Our website address is *www.enteromedics.com*. The information on, or that may be accessed through, our website is not incorporated by reference into this Annual Report on Form 10-K and should not be considered a part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

#### Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

We are a medical device company with a limited history of operations, no history of sales in the United States and a limited history of sales in countries outside of the United States, and we cannot assure you that we will ever generate substantial revenue or be profitable.

We are a medical device company with a limited operating history upon which you can evaluate our business. We received FDA approval to sell our product in the United States on January 14, 2015. We have also completed the regulatory process required to sell our product in Australia, the European Economic Area and other countries that recognize the European CE Mark, but did not recognize any revenue from commercial sales of our product in 2014 or 2013. We completed the first commercial sale of our product outside of the United States in 2012, and expect to have a commercial sale within the United States in 2015. We have been engaged in research and development and clinical trials since our inception in 2002 and have invested substantially all of our time and resources in developing our VBLOC therapy, which we intend to commercialize initially in the form of our Maestro Rechargeable System. The success of our business will depend on our ability to establish a sales force, make sales and control costs, as well as our ability to obtain additional regulatory approvals needed to market new versions of our Maestro Rechargeable System and any other products we may develop in the future, all of which we may be unable to do. If we are unable to successfully market our Maestro Rechargeable System for its indicated use, we may never generate revenue or be profitable and we may have to cease operations. Our lack of a significant operating history also limits your ability to make a comparative evaluation of us, our products and our prospects.

## We have incurred losses since inception and we anticipate that we will continue to incur losses for the foreseeable future.

We have incurred losses in each year since our formation in 2002. Our net loss applicable to common stockholders for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$26.1 million, \$25.8 million and \$23.5 million, respectively. We have funded our operations to date principally from the sale of securities and the issuance of indebtedness. Development of a new medical device, including conducting clinical trials and seeking regulatory approvals, is a long, expensive and uncertain process. Although we recently received the regulatory approval required to sell our Maestro Rechargeable System in the United States and have the approvals required for sales in Australia, the European Economic Area and other countries that recognize the European CE Mark, we have not generated revenue from commercial sales since 2012 and have only done so on a limited basis in Australia and the Middle East. We expect to incur significant sales and marketing expenses prior to recording sufficient revenue to offset these expenses. We expect our general and administrative expenses to increase as we continue to add the infrastructure necessary to support our initial commercial sales, operate as a public company and develop our intellectual property portfolio. For these reasons, we expect to continue to incur significant operating losses for the next several years. These losses, among other things, have had and will continue to have an adverse effect on our stockholders' equity and working capital. Because of the numerous risks and uncertainties associated with developing new medical devices, we are unable to predict the extent of any future losses or when we will become profitable, if ever.

# We will need substantial additional funding and may be unable to raise capital when needed, which would force us to delay, reduce or eliminate our product development programs or liquidate some or all of our assets.

Our operations have consumed substantial amounts of cash since inception. We expect to continue to spend substantial amounts on the commercialization of our product and on research and development, including conducting current and future clinical trials for our Maestro System. Cash used in operations was \$19.4 million, \$18.4 million and \$22.5 million for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. We expect that our cash used in operations will continue to be significant in the upcoming years, and that we will need to raise additional capital to commercialize our Maestro Rechargeable System in the United States,

Australia, the European Economic Area, other countries that recognize the European CE Mark and other international markets, to explore other indications for our product, to continue our research and development programs, and to fund our ongoing operations.

Our future funding requirements will depend on many factors, including:

- the cost and timing of establishing sales, marketing and distribution capabilities;
- the cost of establishing clinical and commercial supplies of our Maestro Rechargeable System and any products that we may develop;
- the rate of market acceptance of our Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy and any other product candidates;
- the cost of filing and prosecuting patent applications and defending and enforcing our patent and other intellectual property rights;
- the cost of defending, in litigation or otherwise, any claims that we infringe third-party patent or other intellectual property rights;
- the effect of competing products and market developments;
- the cost of explanting clinical devices;
- the terms and timing of any collaborative, licensing or other arrangements that we may establish;
- any revenue generated by sales of our Maestro Rechargeable System or our future products;
- the scope, rate of progress, results and cost of any clinical trials and other research and development activities;
- the cost and timing of obtaining any further required regulatory approvals; and
- the extent to which we invest in products and technologies, although we currently have no commitments or agreements relating to these types of transactions.

Until the time, if ever, when we can generate a sufficient amount of product revenue, we expect to finance our future cash needs through public or private equity offerings, debt financings or corporate collaboration, licensing arrangements and grants, as well as through interest income earned on cash balances.

Additional capital may not be available on terms favorable to us, or at all. If we raise additional funds by issuing equity securities, our stockholders may experience dilution. Debt financing, if available, may involve restrictive covenants or additional security interests in our assets. Any additional debt or equity financing that we complete may contain terms that are not favorable to us or our stockholders. If we raise additional funds through collaboration and licensing arrangements with third parties, it may be necessary to relinquish some rights to our technologies or products, or grant licenses on terms that are not favorable to us. If we are unable to raise adequate funds, we may have to delay, reduce the scope of, or eliminate some or all of, our development programs or liquidate some or all of our assets.

## We incur significant costs as a result of operating as a public company, and our management is required to devote substantial time to compliance initiatives.

As a public company, we incur significant legal, accounting and other expenses. In addition, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the Sarbanes-Oxley Act), as well as rules subsequently implemented by the SEC and NASDAQ have imposed various requirements on public companies, including establishment and maintenance of effective disclosure and financial controls and changes in corporate governance practices. Our management and other personnel devote a substantial amount of time to these compliance initiatives. Moreover, these rules and regulations result in increased legal and financial compliance costs and will make some activities more time-consuming and costly.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act requires, among other things, that we maintain effective internal controls for financial reporting and disclosure. In particular, we are required to perform system and process evaluation and testing of our internal controls over financial reporting to allow management to report on the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting, as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Our testing may reveal deficiencies in our internal controls over financial reporting that are deemed to be material weaknesses. We have incurred and continue to expect to incur significant expense and devote substantial management effort toward ensuring compliance with Section 404. Moreover, if we do not comply with the requirements of Section 404, or if we identify deficiencies in our internal controls that are deemed to be material weaknesses, the market price of our stock could decline and we could be subject to sanctions or investigations by NASDAQ, the SEC or other regulatory authorities, which would entail expenditure of additional financial and management resources.

#### We face significant uncertainty in the industry due to government healthcare reform.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended, (the Affordable Care Act) as well as other healthcare reform may have a significant impact on our business. The impact of the Affordable Care Act on the health care industry is extensive and includes, among other things, the federal government assuming a larger role in the health care system, expanding healthcare coverage of United States citizens and mandating basic healthcare benefits. The Affordable Care Act contains many provisions designed to generate the revenues necessary to fund the coverage expansions and to reduce costs of Medicare and Medicaid, including imposing a 2.3% excise tax on domestic sales of many medical devices by manufacturers that began in 2013, which may adversely affect our sales and the cost of goods sold. In addition, any healthcare reforms enacted in the future may, like the Affordable Care Act, be phased in over a number of years but, if enacted, could reduce our revenue, increase our costs, or require us to revise the ways in which we conduct business or put us at risk for loss of business. In addition, our results of operations, financial position and cash flows could be materially adversely affected by changes under the Affordable Care Act and changes under any federal or state legislation adopted in the future.

We are subject, directly or indirectly, to United States federal and state healthcare fraud and abuse and false claims laws and regulations. Prosecutions under such laws have increased in recent years and we may become subject to such litigation. If we are unable to, or have not fully complied with such laws, we could face substantial penalties.

Our operations are directly, or indirectly through customers, subject to various state and federal fraud and abuse laws, including, without limitation, the federal Anti-Kickback Statute and federal False Claims Act. These laws may impact, among other things, our sales, marketing and education programs.

The federal Anti-Kickback Statute prohibits persons from knowingly and willfully soliciting, offering, receiving or providing remuneration, directly or indirectly, in exchange for or to induce either the referral of an individual, or the furnishing or arranging for a good or service, for which payment may be made under a federal healthcare program such as the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Several courts have interpreted the statute's intent requirement to mean that if any one purpose of an arrangement involving remuneration is to induce referrals of federal healthcare covered business, the statute has been violated. The Anti-Kickback Statute is broad and, despite a series of narrow safe harbors, prohibits many arrangements and practices that are lawful in businesses outside of the healthcare industry. Penalties for violations of the federal Anti-Kickback Statute include criminal penalties and civil sanctions such as fines, imprisonment and possible exclusion from Medicare, Medicaid and other federal healthcare programs. Many states have also adopted laws similar to the federal Anti-Kickback Statute, some of which apply to the referral of patients for healthcare items or services reimbursed by any source, not only the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

The federal False Claims Act prohibits persons from knowingly filing, or causing to be filed, a false claim to, or the knowing use of false statements to obtain payment from the federal government. Suits filed under the False Claims Act, known as "qui tam" actions, can be brought by any individual on behalf of the government and

such individuals, commonly known as "whistleblowers," may share in any amounts paid by the entity to the government in fines or settlement. The frequency of filing qui tam actions has increased significantly in recent years, causing greater numbers of medical device, pharmaceutical and healthcare companies to have to defend a False Claim Act action. When an entity is determined to have violated the federal False Claims Act, it may be required to pay up to three times the actual damages sustained by the government, plus civil penalties for each separate false claim. Various states have also enacted laws modeled after the federal False Claims Act.

We are unable to predict whether we could be subject to actions under any of these laws, or the impact of such actions. If we are found to be in violation of any of the laws described above and other applicable state and federal fraud and abuse laws, we may be subject to penalties, including civil and criminal penalties, damages, fines, exclusion from government healthcare reimbursement programs and the curtailment or restructuring of our operations.

# We operate in a highly competitive industry that is subject to rapid change. If our competitors are able to develop and market products that are safer or more effective than our products, our commercial opportunities will be reduced or eliminated.

The health care industry is highly competitive, subject to rapid change and significantly affected by new product introductions and other market activities of industry participants. The obesity treatment market in which we operate has grown significantly in recent years and is expected to continue to expand as technology continues to evolve and awareness of the need to treat the obesity epidemic grows. Although we are not aware of any competitors in the neuroblocking market, we face potential competition from pharmaceutical and surgical obesity treatments. Many of our competitors in the obesity treatment field have significantly greater financial resources and expertise in research and development, manufacturing, preclinical testing, clinical trials, obtaining regulatory approvals and marketing approved products than we do. Smaller or early-stage companies may also prove to be significant competitors, particularly if they pursue competing solutions through collaborative arrangements with large and established companies, such as Allergan, Apollo Endosurgery, Boston Scientific, Cyberonics, Johnson & Johnson, Medtronic or St. Jude Medical. Our competitors may develop and patent processes or products earlier than us, obtain regulatory approvals for competing products more rapidly than we are able to and develop more effective, safer and less expensive products or technologies that would render our products non-competitive or obsolete.

## We are subject to risks associated with currency fluctuations, and changes in foreign currency exchange rates could impact our results of operations.

We intend to sell our products in markets outside of the United States, including Australia, the European Economic Area and other countries that recognize the European CE Mark and, as a result, we could generate revenue and incur expenses denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. As a result, changes in the exchange rates between such foreign currencies and the U.S. dollar could materially impact our reported results of operations and distort period to period comparisons. Fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates also could impact the reporting of our receivables and payables in non-U.S. currencies. As a result of such foreign currency fluctuations, it could be more difficult to detect underlying trends in our business and results of operations. In addition, to the extent that fluctuations in currency exchange rates cause our results of operations to differ from our expectations or the expectations of our investors, the trading price of our common stock could be adversely affected.

In the future, we may engage in exchange rate hedging activities in an effort to mitigate the impact of exchange rate fluctuations. If our hedging activities are not effective, changes in currency exchange rates may have a more significant impact on our results of operations.

Failure to protect our information technology infrastructure against cyber-based attacks, network security breaches, service interruptions, or data corruption could significantly disrupt our operations and adversely affect our business and operating results.

We currently rely on information technology and telephone networks and systems, including the Internet, to process and transmit sensitive electronic information and will rely on such systems to manage or support a variety of business processes and activities, including sales, billing, customer service, procurement and supply chain, manufacturing, and distribution. We use enterprise information technology systems to record, process, and summarize financial information and results of operations for internal reporting purposes and to comply with regulatory financial reporting, legal, and tax requirements.

Our information technology systems, some of which are managed by third-parties, may be susceptible to damage, disruptions or shutdowns due to computer viruses, attacks by computer hackers, failures during the process of upgrading or replacing software, databases or components thereof, power outages, hardware failures, telecommunication failures, user errors or catastrophic events. We are not aware of any breaches of our information technology infrastructure. Despite the precautionary measures we have taken to prevent breakdowns in our information technology and telephone systems, if our systems suffer severe damage, disruption or shutdown and we are unable to effectively resolve the issues in a timely manner, our business and operating results may suffer.

#### Risks Associated with Development and Commercialization of the Maestro Rechargeable System

Our efforts to commercialize our Maestro Rechargeable System may not succeed or may encounter delays which could significantly harm our ability to generate revenue.

Our ability to generate revenue will depend upon the successful commercialization of our Maestro Rechargeable System. Our efforts to commercialize this product may not succeed for a number of reasons, including:

- our Maestro Rechargeable System may not be accepted in the marketplace by physicians, patients and third-party payors;
- the price of our Maestro Rechargeable System, associated costs of the surgical procedure and treatment and the availability of sufficient third-party reimbursement for the system implantation and follow-up procedures;
- appropriate reimbursement and/or coding options may not exist to enable billing for the system implantation and follow-up procedures;
- we may not be able to sell our Maestro Rechargeable System at a price that allows us to meet the revenue targets necessary to generate enough revenue for profitability;
- the frequency and severity of any side effects of our VBLOC therapy;
- physicians and potential patients may not be aware of the perceived effectiveness and sustainability of the results of VBLOC therapy provided by our Maestro Rechargeable System;
- we, or the investigators of our product, may not be able to have information on the outcome of the trials published in medical journals;
- the availability and perceived advantages and disadvantages of alternative treatments;
- any rapid technological change may make our product obsolete;
- we may not be able to have our Maestro Rechargeable System manufactured in commercial quantities or at an acceptable cost;
- we may not have adequate financial or other resources to complete the development and commercialization of our Maestro Rechargeable System or to develop sales and marketing capabilities for our Maestro Rechargeable System; and

 we may be sued for infringement of intellectual property rights and could be enjoined from manufacturing or selling our products.

Besides requiring physician adoption, market acceptance of our Maestro Rechargeable System will depend on successfully communicating the benefits of our VBLOC therapy to three additional constituencies involved in deciding whether to treat a particular patient using such therapy: (1) the potential patients themselves; (2) institutions such as hospitals, where the procedure would be performed and opinion leaders in these institutions; and (3) third-party payors, such as private healthcare insurers and governmental payors, such as Medicare and Medicaid in the United States, and Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) in Australia, which would ultimately bear most of the costs of the various providers and equipment involved in our VBLOC therapy. Marketing to each of these constituencies requires a different marketing approach, and we must convince each of these groups of the efficacy and utility of our VBLOC therapy to be successful.

If our VBLOC therapy, or any other neuroblocking therapy for other gastrointestinal diseases and disorders that we may develop, does not achieve an adequate level of acceptance by the relevant constituencies, we may not generate significant product revenue and may not become profitable.

We commercial sales of our Maestro Rechargeable System in Australia and the Middle East in 2012, but did not recognize any revenue in 2013 or 2014 as we focused our resources on the U.S. regulatory approval process. After we received FDA approval on January 14, 2015, we began the commercialization process for our Maestro Rechargeable System in the United States, and expect to have a commercial sale within the United States in 2015. If we are not successful in the commercialization of our Maestro Rechargeable System for the treatment of obesity we may never generate any revenue and may be forced to cease operations.

We have not received, and may never receive, approval from the regulatory bodies of any foreign country other than the Australian TGA or the European Economic Area to market our Maestro Rechargeable System for the treatment of obesity.

We do not have the necessary regulatory approvals to market our Maestro Rechargeable System in any foreign market other than Australia for which the final components of the Maestro Rechargeable System were listed on the ARTG in January 2012, the European Economic Area for which we received CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System in March 2011 for the treatment of obesity and other countries which accept these regulatory approvals. The CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System was expanded in 2014 to also include use for the management of Type 2 diabetes in obese patients. We commenced commercialization of our product in Australia and the Middle East in 2012.

In order to market our Maestro Rechargeable System outside of the United States, we will need to establish and comply with the numerous and varying regulatory requirements of other countries regarding safety and efficacy. Approval procedures vary among countries and can involve additional product testing and additional administrative review periods. The time required to obtain approval in other countries may differ from that required to obtain FDA approval. The regulatory approval process in other countries may also include all of the risks detailed below.

Regulatory approval in one country does not ensure regulatory approval in another, but a failure or delay in obtaining regulatory approval in one country may negatively impact the regulatory process in others. While the Maestro Rechargeable System has been listed on the ARTG and has received European CE Marking and we commenced commercial sales in Australia and the Middle East in 2012, we cannot assure you when, or if, we will be able to commence sales in the European Economic Area or other countries that recognize the CE Mark or obtain approval to market our Maestro Rechargeable System in other countries outside the United States.

Because VBLOC therapy represents a novel way to effect weight loss in the treatment of obesity, and because there is a large population of obese patients who might be eligible for treatment, it is possible that other regulatory bodies will review an application for approval of our Maestro Rechargeable System with greater

scrutiny, which could cause that process to be lengthier and more involved than that for products without such characteristics. Such regulatory bodies can delay, limit or deny approval of our Maestro Rechargeable System for many reasons, including our inability to demonstrate safety or effectiveness to their satisfaction, insufficient or inadequate data from our clinical trials, the facilities of our third-party manufacturers or suppliers may not meet applicable requirements; and changes in the regulatory bodies' approval policies, expectations with regard to the type or amount of scientific data required or adoption of new regulations may require additional data or additional clinical studies.

We have limited data and experience regarding the safety and efficacy of the Maestro Rechargeable System. Any long-term data that is generated may not be positive or consistent with our limited short-term data, which would affect market acceptance of these products.

Because our technology is relatively new in the treatment of obesity, we have performed clinical trials only with limited patient populations. The long-term effects of using the Maestro Rechargeable System in a large number of patients have not been studied and the results of short-term clinical use of the Maestro Rechargeable System do not necessarily predict long-term clinical benefits or reveal long-term adverse effects.

Clinical trials conducted with the Maestro Rechargeable System have involved procedures performed by physicians who are very technically proficient. Consequently, both short and long-term results reported in these studies may be significantly more favorable than typical results achieved by physicians, which could negatively impact market acceptance of the Maestro Rechargeable System and materially harm our business.

We may be unable to complete any additional clinical trials, or we may experience significant delays in completing those clinical trials, which could impact market acceptance of our Maestro Rechargeable System and impair our financial position.

We continue to evaluate the Maestro System in human clinical trials, including the EMPOWER trial and ReCharge trial. Both of these clinical trials require patients to be followed out to 60 months. Conducting a clinical trial, which involves screening, assessing, testing, treating and monitoring patients at several sites across the country and possibly internationally, and coordinating with patients and clinical institutions, is a complex and uncertain process.

The completion of our ongoing and future clinical trials, could be delayed, suspended or terminated for several reasons, including:

- ongoing discussions with regulatory authorities regarding the scope or design of our preclinical results
  or clinical trial or requests for supplemental information with respect to our preclinical results or
  clinical trial results;
- our failure or inability to conduct the clinical trials in accordance with regulatory requirements;
- sites currently participating in the trial may drop out of the trial, which may require us to engage new
  sites or petition the FDA for an expansion of the number of sites that are permitted to be involved in
  the trial;
- patients may not remain in or complete, clinical trials at the rates we expect;
- patients may experience serious adverse events or side effects during the trial, which, whether or not
  related to our product, could cause the FDA or other regulatory authorities to place the clinical trial on
  hold;
- clinical investigators may not perform our clinical trials on our anticipated schedule or consistent with the clinical trial protocol and good clinical practices; and
- we may be unable to obtain a sufficient supply of our Maestro Rechargeable System necessary for the timely conduct of the clinical trials.

Although we believe that we have adequate personnel and procedures in place to manage the clinical trial process, the complexity of managing this process while also commercializing our Maestro Rechargeable System and fulfilling our disclosure and other obligations to our stockholders, lenders, regulators and other constituents could result in our inadvertently taking actions outside the clinical trial process, which could adversely impact the trial. As is always the case, if the FDA ultimately determined that such actions materially violated the protocol for the trial, the FDA could suspend, terminate or reject the results of the clinical trial and require us to repeat the process.

If our clinical trials are delayed, it will take us longer to ultimately commercialize a product and generate revenue or the delay could result in our being unable to do so. Moreover, our development costs will increase if we have material delays in our clinical trials or if we need to perform more or larger clinical trials than planned.

We depend on clinical investigators and clinical sites to enroll patients in our clinical trials, and on other third parties to manage the trials and to perform related data collection and analysis, and, as a result, we may face costs and delays that are outside of our control.

We rely on clinical investigators and clinical sites to enroll patients in our clinical trials and other third parties to manage the trials and to perform related data collection and analysis. However, we may not be able to control the amount and timing of resources that clinical sites may devote to our clinical trials. If these clinical investigators and clinical sites fail to enroll a sufficient number of patients in our clinical trials, ensure compliance by patients with clinical protocols or comply with regulatory requirements, we will be unable to complete these trials, which could prevent us from obtaining or maintaining regulatory approvals for our product. Our agreements with clinical investigators and clinical trial sites for clinical testing place substantial responsibilities on these parties and, if these parties fail to perform as expected, our trials could be delayed or terminated. If these clinical investigators, clinical sites or other third parties do not carry out their contractual duties or obligations or fail to meet expected deadlines, or if the quality or accuracy of the clinical data they obtain is compromised due to their failure to adhere to our clinical protocols, regulatory requirements or for other reasons, our clinical trials may be extended, delayed or terminated, or the clinical data may be rejected by the FDA, adversely affecting our ability to successfully commercialize our product.

## Modifications to the Maestro Rechargeable System may require additional approval from regulatory authorities, which may not be obtained or may delay our commercialization efforts.

The FDA, TGA and European Notified Body require medical device companies to initially make and document a determination of whether or not a modification requires a new approval, supplement or clearance; however, some of these regulatory authorities can review a company's decision. Any modifications to an approved device that could significantly affect its safety or efficacy, or that would constitute a major change in its intended use could require additional clinical studies and separate regulatory applications. Product changes or revisions will require all the regulatory steps and associated risks discussed above possibly including testing, regulatory filings and clinical study. We may not be able to obtain approval of supplemental regulatory approvals for product modifications, new indications for our product or new products. Delays in obtaining future clearances would adversely affect our ability to introduce new or enhanced products in a timely manner, which in turn would harm our commercialization efforts and future growth.

Our neuroblocking therapy for the treatment of obesity is a unique form of treatment. Physicians may not widely adopt our Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy unless they determine, based on experience, long-term clinical data and published peer reviewed journal articles, that VBLOC therapy provides a safe and effective alternative to other existing treatments for obesity.

We believe we are the first and only company currently pursuing neuroblocking therapy for the treatment of obesity. Physicians tend to be slow to change their medical treatment practices because of the time and skill required to learn a new procedure, the perceived liability risks arising from the use of new products and procedures, and the uncertainty of third-party coverage and reimbursement. Physicians may not widely adopt our

Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy unless they determine, based on experience, long-term clinical data and published peer reviewed journal articles, that the use of our VBLOC therapy provides a safe and effective alternative to other existing treatments for obesity, including pharmaceutical solutions and bariatric surgical procedures.

We cannot provide any assurance that the data collected from our current and planned clinical trials will be sufficient to demonstrate that our VBLOC therapy is an attractive alternative to other obesity treatment procedures. We rely on experienced and highly trained surgeons to perform the procedures in our clinical trials and both short-and long-term results reported in our clinical trials may be significantly more favorable than typical results of practicing physicians, which could negatively impact rates of adoption of our Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy. We believe that published peer-reviewed journal articles and recommendations and support by influential physicians regarding our Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy will be important for market acceptance and adoption, and we cannot assure you that we will receive these recommendations and support, or that supportive articles will be published.

If we fail to obtain adequate coding, coverage or payment levels for our product by governmental healthcare programs and other third-party payors, there may be no commercially viable markets for our Maestro Rechargeable System or other products we may develop or our target markets may be much smaller than expected.

Healthcare providers generally rely on third-party payors, including governmental payors, such as Medicare and Medicaid in the United States, and MSAC in Australia, as well as private healthcare insurers, to adequately cover and reimburse the cost of medical devices. Importantly, third-party payors are increasingly challenging the price of medical products and services and instituting cost containment measures to control or significantly influence the purchase of medical products and services. We expect that third-party payors will continue to attempt to contain or reduce the costs of healthcare by challenging the prices charged for healthcare products and services. If reimbursement for our Maestro Rechargeable System and the related surgery and facility costs is unavailable or limited in scope or amount, or if pricing is set at unsatisfactory levels, market acceptance of our Maestro Rechargeable System will be impaired and our future revenue, if any, would be adversely affected. As such, even though we have obtained FDA approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System and expect to begin to market it in 2015, the availability and level of third-party coverage and reimbursement could substantially affect our ability to commercialize our Maestro Rechargeable System and other products we may develop.

The efficacy, safety, ease of use and cost-effectiveness of our Maestro Rechargeable System and of any competing products will, in part, determine the availability and level of coverage and payment. In particular, we expect that securing coding, coverage and payment for our Maestro Rechargeable System will be more difficult if healthcare providers and obese individuals do not consider the percentage of EWL from a pre-implementation baseline that our clinical trials have demonstrated to be clinically meaningful, whether or not regulatory agencies consider the improvement of patients treated in clinical trials to have been clinically meaningful.

In some international markets, pricing of medical devices is subject to government control. In the United States and international markets, we expect that both government and third-party payors will continue to attempt to contain or reduce the costs of healthcare by challenging the prices charged for healthcare products and services. If payment for our Maestro Rechargeable System and the related surgery and facility costs is unavailable or limited in scope or amount, or if pricing is set at unsatisfactory levels, market acceptance of our Maestro Rechargeable System will be impaired and our future revenue, if any, would be adversely affected.

We cannot predict the likelihood or pace of any significant regulatory or legislative action in any of these areas, nor can we predict whether or in what form healthcare legislation being formulated by various governments will be passed. We also cannot predict with precision what effect such governmental measures would have if they were ultimately enacted into law. However, in general, we believe that such legislative activity will likely continue. If adopted, such measures can be expected to have an impact on our business.

If we or our suppliers fail to comply with ongoing regulatory requirements, or if we experience unanticipated product problems, our Maestro Rechargeable System could be subject to restrictions or withdrawal from the market.

Completion of our clinical trials and commercialization of our Maestro Rechargeable System will require access to manufacturing facilities that meet applicable regulatory standards to manufacture a sufficient supply of our product. We rely solely on third parties to manufacture and assemble our Maestro Rechargeable System, and do not currently plan to manufacture or assemble our Maestro Rechargeable System ourselves in the future.

Any product for which we obtain marketing approval, along with the manufacturing processes, postapproval clinical data and promotional activities for such product, will be subject to continual review and periodic inspections by our European Notified Body and the FDA and other regulatory bodies. In particular we and our manufacturers and suppliers are required to comply with ISO requirements, Good Manufacturing Practices, which for medical devices is called the Quality System Regulation (QSR), and other regulations which cover the methods and documentation of the design, testing, production, control, quality assurance, labeling, packaging, storage and shipping of any product for which we obtain marketing approval. The FDA enforces the QSR through inspections, which may be unannounced, and the CE system enforces its certification through inspections and audits as well. Our quality system has received certification of compliance to the requirements of ISO 13485:2003 and will have to continue to successfully complete such inspections to maintain regulatory approvals for sales outside of the United States. Failure by us or one of our manufacturers or suppliers to comply with statutes and regulations administered by the FDA, CE authorities and other regulatory bodies, or failure to adequately respond to any observations, could result in enforcement actions against us or our manufacturers or suppliers, including, restrictions on our product or manufacturing processes, withdrawal of the product from the market, voluntary or mandatory recall, fines, suspension of regulatory approvals, product seizures, injunctions or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

If any of these actions were to occur it would harm our reputation and cause our product sales to suffer. Furthermore, our key component suppliers may not currently be or may not continue to be in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements. If the FDA or any other regulatory body finds their compliance status to be unsatisfactory, our commercialization efforts could be delayed, which would harm our business and our results of operations.

Additionally, if the FDA determines that our promotional materials, training or other activities constitute promotion of an unapproved use, we could be subject to significant liability, the FDA could request that we cease, correct or modify our training or promotional materials or subject us to regulatory enforcement actions. It is also possible that other federal, state or foreign enforcement authorities might take action if they consider our training or other promotional materials to constitute promotion of an unapproved use, which could result in significant fines or penalties under other statutory authorities, such as laws prohibiting false claims for reimbursement.

We are subject to medical device reporting regulations that require us to report to the FDA, TGA, Competent Authorities or other governmental authorities in other countries if our products cause or contribute to a death or serious injury or malfunction in a way that would be reasonably likely to contribute to death or serious injury if the malfunction were to recur. The FDA, TGA and similar governmental authorities in other countries have the authority to require the recall of our products in the event of material deficiencies or defects in design or manufacturing. A government mandated, or voluntary, recall by us could occur as a result of component failures, manufacturing errors or design defects, including defects in labeling. Any recall would divert managerial and financial resources and could harm our reputation with customers. There can be no assurance that there will not be product recalls in the future or that such recalls would not have a material adverse effect on our business. Once the product is approved and implanted in a large number of patients, infrequently occurring adverse events may appear that were not observed in the clinical trials. This could cause health authorities in countries where the product is available to take regulatory action, including marketing suspension and recall.

# We may not be successful in our efforts to utilize our VBLOC therapy to treat comorbidities associated with obesity and other gastrointestinal diseases and disorders.

As part of our long-term business strategy, we plan to research the application of our VBLOC therapy to treat comorbidities associated with obesity and other gastrointestinal diseases and disorders. Research to identify new target applications requires substantial technical, financial and human resources, whether or not any new applications for our VBLOC therapy are ultimately identified. We may be unable to identify or pursue other applications of our technology. Even if we identify potential new applications for our VBLOC therapy, investigating the safety and efficacy of our therapy requires extensive clinical testing, which is expensive and time-consuming. If we terminate a clinical trial in which we have invested significant resources, our prospects will suffer, as we will have expended resources on a program that will not provide a return on our investment and missed the opportunity to allocate those resources to potentially more productive uses. We will also need to obtain regulatory approval for these new applications, as well as achieve market acceptance and an acceptable level of reimbursement.

# We depend on a limited number of manufacturers and suppliers of various critical components for our Maestro Rechargeable System. The loss of any of these manufacturer or supplier relationships could prevent or delay commercialization of our Maestro Rechargeable System.

We rely entirely on third parties to manufacture our Maestro Rechargeable System and to supply us with all of the critical components of our Maestro Rechargeable System, including our leads, implantable batteries, neuroregulators, transmit coils and controllers. If any of our existing suppliers were unable or unwilling to meet our demand for product components, or if the components or finished products that they supply do not meet quality and other specifications, completion of our clinical trials or commercialization of our product could be delayed. Alternatively, if we have to switch to a replacement manufacturer or replacement supplier for any of our product components, we may face additional regulatory delays, and the manufacture and delivery of our Maestro Rechargeable System could be interrupted for an extended period of time, which could delay completion of our clinical trials or commercialization of our Maestro Rechargeable System.

# If our device manufacturers or our suppliers are unable to provide an adequate supply of our product following the commencement of commercialization, our growth could be limited and our business could be harmed.

In order to produce our Maestro Rechargeable System in the quantities that we anticipate will be required to meet anticipated market demand, we will need our manufacturers to increase, or scale-up, the production process by a significant factor over our current level of production. There are technical challenges to scaling-up manufacturing capacity and developing commercial-scale manufacturing facilities that may require the investment of substantial additional funds by our manufacturers and hiring and retaining additional management and technical personnel who have the necessary manufacturing experience. If our manufacturers are unable to do so, we may not be able to meet the requirements for the initial commercial launch of the product or to meet future demand, if any. We may also represent only a small portion of our supplier's or manufacturer's business and if they become capacity constrained they may choose to allocate their available resources to other customers that represent a larger portion of their business. We currently anticipate that we will continue to rely on third-party manufacturers and suppliers for the production of the Maestro Rechargeable System. If we are unable to obtain a sufficient supply of our product, our revenue, business and financial prospects would be adversely affected.

# If we are unable to establish sales and marketing capabilities or enter into and maintain arrangements with third parties to market and sell our Maestro Rechargeable System, our business may be harmed.

We have no experience as a company in sales, marketing and distribution of our product and are just beginning the process of developing a sales and marketing organization. We intend to market our products in the United States through a direct sales force supported by field technical managers who provide training, technical and other support services to our customers. Outside the United States, we intend to use direct, dealer and distributor sales models as the targeted geography best dictates. We have entered into an agreement with Device

Technologies, a third-party distributor in Australia, to commence the commercial sale of our product in Australia and we have entered into an agreement with Bader Sultan & Brothers, a third-party distributor in Kuwait, to commence the commercial sale of our product in the Middle East. To generate sales and launch the commercialization of our product in other geographic regions we may need to identify and enter into other thirdparty distributor agreements. There is no assurance that we can do so on economically acceptable terms or that if we do so, that a third-party distributor will be successful in selling our product. We will also need to develop a sales and marketing infrastructure or contract with third parties to perform that function before launching the commercialization of our product. Developing a sales force is expensive and time consuming and could delay or limit the success of any product launch. We may be unable to develop an effective sales and marketing organization on a timely basis, if at all. If we develop our own sales and marketing capabilities, our sales force will be competing with the experienced and well-funded marketing and sales organizations of our more established competitors. If we are unable to establish our own sales and marketing capabilities, we will need to contract with third parties to market and sell our product. In this event, our profit margins would likely be lower than if we performed these functions ourselves. In addition, we would necessarily be relying on the skills and efforts of others for the successful marketing of our product. If we are unable to establish and maintain effective sales and marketing capabilities, independently or with others, we may not be able to generate product revenue and may not become profitable.

# The commercialization of our product in countries outside the United States will expose our business to certain risks associated with international operations.

We have commercialization of our product internationally, in Australia and the Middle East, and intend to commercialize our product in the European Economic Area and other international markets in which we obtain necessary regulatory approvals. Conducting international operations will subject us to unique risks, including:

- unfamiliar legal requirements with which we would need to comply;
- fluctuations in currency exchange rates;
- potentially adverse tax consequences, including the complexities of foreign value added tax systems and restrictions on the repatriation of earnings;
- increased financial accounting and reporting burdens and complexities; and
- reduced or varied protection for intellectual property rights in some countries.

The occurrence of any one of these risks could negatively affect our business and results of operations generally. Additionally, operating in international markets requires significant management attention. We cannot be certain that investments required to establish operations in other countries will produce desired levels of revenues or profitability.

#### We may be unable to attract and retain management and other personnel we need to succeed.

Our success depends on the services of our senior management and other key employees. The loss of the services of one or more of our officers or key employees could delay or prevent the successful completion of our clinical trials and the commercialization of our Maestro Rechargeable System. Now that we have received regulatory approval for our product in the United States, we have begun a controlled expansion of our operations. Our continued growth will require hiring a number of qualified clinical, scientific, commercial and administrative personnel. Accordingly, recruiting and retaining such personnel in the future will be critical to our success. There is intense competition from other companies and research and academic institutions for qualified personnel in the areas of our activities. If we fail to identify, attract, retain and motivate these highly skilled personnel, we may be unable to continue our development and commercialization activities.

#### We may be unable to manage our growth effectively.

Our business strategy entails significant future growth. For example, we will have to expand existing operations in order to conduct additional clinical trials, increase our contract manufacturing capabilities, hire and train new personnel to handle the marketing and sales of our product, assist patients and healthcare providers in obtaining reimbursement for the use of our product and create and develop new applications for our technology. This growth may place significant strain on our management and financial and operational resources. Successful growth is also dependent upon our ability to implement appropriate financial and management controls, systems and procedures. Our ability to effectively manage growth depends on our success in attracting and retaining highly qualified personnel, for which the competition may be intense. If we fail to manage these challenges effectively, our business could be harmed.

# We face the risk of product liability claims that could be expensive, divert management's attention and harm our reputation and business. We may not be able to obtain adequate product liability insurance.

Our business exposes us to a risk of product liability claims that is inherent in the testing, manufacturing and marketing of medical devices. The medical device industry has historically been subject to extensive litigation over product liability claims. We may be subject to product liability claims if our Maestro Rechargeable System, or any other products we may sell, causes, or appears to have caused, an injury. Claims may be made by consumers, healthcare providers, third-party strategic collaborators or others selling our products.

We have product liability insurance, which covers the use of our Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy in our clinical trials and any commercial sales, in an amount we believe is appropriate. Our current product liability insurance may not continue to be available to us on acceptable terms, if at all, and, if available, the coverage may not be adequate to protect us against any future product liability claims. If we are unable to obtain insurance at an acceptable cost and on acceptable terms for an adequate coverage amount, or otherwise to protect against potential product liability claims, we could be exposed to significant liabilities, which may harm our business. A product liability claim, recall or other claim with respect to uninsured liabilities or for amounts in excess of insured liabilities could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. These liabilities could prevent or interfere with our product commercialization efforts. Defending a suit, regardless of merit, could be costly, could divert management attention and might result in adverse publicity, which could result in the withdrawal of, or inability to recruit, clinical trial volunteers or result in reduced acceptance of our Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy in the market.

We may be subject to product liability claims even if it appears that the claimed injury is due to the actions of others. For example, we rely on the expertise of surgeons and other associated medical personnel to perform the medical procedure to implant and remove our Maestro Rechargeable System and to perform the related VBLOC therapy. If these medical personnel are not properly trained or are negligent, the therapeutic effect of our Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy may be diminished or the patient may suffer critical injury, which may subject us to liability. In addition, an injury that is caused by the negligence of one of our suppliers in supplying us with a defective component that injures a patient could be the basis for a claim against us. A product liability claim, regardless of its merit or eventual outcome, could result in decreased demand for our products; injury to our reputation; diversion of management's attention; withdrawal of clinical trial participants; significant costs of related litigation; substantial monetary awards to patients; product recalls or market withdrawals; loss of revenue; and the inability to commercialize our products under development.

#### **Risks Related to Intellectual Property**

If we are unable to obtain or maintain intellectual property rights relating to our technology and neuroblocking therapy, the commercial value of our technology and any future products will be adversely affected and our competitive position will be harmed.

Our commercial success depends in part on our ability to obtain protection in the United States and other countries for our Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy by establishing and maintaining intellectual property rights relating to or incorporated into our technology and products. To date, we have 34 issued U.S. patents, 29 of which pertain to treating gastrointestinal disorders, and nine U.S. patent applications. We have five granted European patents and nine granted Australian patents. We also have 32 national stage patent applications, including applications in Australia, China, India, Europe and Japan, one granted Chinese application and one granted application in Japan. In addition, we are the exclusive licensee to three U.S. patents owned by the Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, which are unrelated to our VBLOC therapy. Our pending and future patent applications may not issue as patents or, if issued, may not issue in a form that will provide us any competitive advantage. We expect to incur substantial costs in obtaining patents and, if necessary, defending our proprietary rights. The patent positions of medical device companies, including ours, can be highly uncertain and involve complex and evolving legal and factual questions. We do not know whether we will obtain the patent protection we seek, or that the protection we do obtain will be found valid and enforceable if challenged. If we fail to obtain adequate protection of our intellectual property, or if any protection we obtain is reduced or eliminated, others could use our intellectual property without compensating us, resulting in harm to our business. We may also determine that it is in our best interests to voluntarily challenge a third-party's products or patents in litigation or administrative proceedings, including patent interferences or re-examinations. In the event that we seek to enforce any of our owned or exclusively licensed patents against an infringing party, it is likely that the party defending the claim will seek to invalidate the patents we assert, which, if successful could result in the loss of the entire patent or the relevant portion of our patent, which would not be limited to any particular party. Any litigation to enforce or defend our patent rights, even if we were to prevail, could be costly and time-consuming and could divert the attention of our management and key personnel from our business operations. Even if we were to prevail in any litigation, we cannot assure you that we can obtain an injunction that prevents our competitors from practicing our patented technology. Our competitors may independently develop similar or alternative technologies or products without infringing any of our patent or other intellectual property rights, or may design around our proprietary technologies.

We cannot assure you that we will obtain any patent protection that we seek, that any protection we do obtain will be found valid and enforceable if challenged or that it will confer any significant commercial advantage. U.S. patents and patent applications may also be subject to interference proceedings and U.S. patents may be subject to re-examination proceedings in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and foreign patents may be subject to opposition or comparable proceedings in the corresponding foreign patent offices, which proceedings could result in either loss of the patent or denial of the patent application, or loss or reduction in the scope of one or more of the claims of, the patent or patent application. In addition, such interference, re-examination and opposition proceedings may be costly. Moreover, the U.S. patent laws may change, possibly making it easier to challenge patents. Some of our technology was, and continues to be, developed in conjunction with third parties, and thus there is a risk that such third parties may claim rights in our intellectual property. Thus, any patents that we own or license from others may provide limited or no protection against competitors. Our pending patent applications, those we may file in the future, or those we may license from third parties, may not result in patents being issued. If issued, they may not provide us with proprietary protection or competitive advantages against competitors with similar technology.

Non-payment or delay in payment of patent fees or annuities, whether intentional or unintentional, may result in loss of patents or patent rights important to our business. Many countries, including certain countries in Europe, have compulsory licensing laws under which a patent owner may be compelled to grant licenses to third parties. In addition, many countries limit the enforceability of patents against third parties, including government agencies or government contractors. In these countries, the patent owner may have limited remedies, which could

materially diminish the value of the patent. In addition, the laws of some foreign countries do not protect intellectual property rights to the same extent as do the laws of the United States, particularly in the field of medical products and procedures.

Many of our competitors have significant resources and incentives to apply for and obtain intellectual property rights that could limit or prevent our ability to commercialize our current or future products in the United States or abroad.

Many of our competitors who have significant resources and have made substantial investments in competing technologies may seek to apply for and obtain patents that will prevent, limit or interfere with our ability to make, use or sell our products either in the United States or in international markets. Our current or future U.S. or foreign patents may be challenged, circumvented by competitors or others or may be found to be invalid, unenforceable or insufficient. Since patent applications are confidential until patents are issued in the United States, or in most cases, until after 18 months from filing of the application, or corresponding applications are published in other countries, and since publication of discoveries in the scientific or patent literature often lags behind actual discoveries, we cannot be certain that we were the first to make the inventions covered by each of our pending patent applications, or that we were the first to file patent applications for such inventions.

# If we are unable to protect the confidentiality of our proprietary information and know-how, the value of our technology and products could be adversely affected.

In addition to patented technology, we rely on our unpatented proprietary technology, trade secrets, processes and know-how. We generally seek to protect this information by confidentiality agreements with our employees, consultants, scientific advisors and third parties. These agreements may be breached, and we may not have adequate remedies for any such breach. In addition, our trade secrets may otherwise become known or be independently developed by competitors. To the extent that our employees, consultants or contractors use intellectual property owned by others in their work for us, disputes may arise as to the rights in related or resulting know-how and inventions.

# Intellectual property litigation is a common tactic in the medical device industry to gain competitive advantage. If we become subject to a lawsuit, we may be required to expend significant financial and other resources and our management's attention may be diverted from our business.

There has been a history of frequent and extensive litigation regarding patent and other intellectual property rights in the medical device industry, and companies in the medical device industry have employed intellectual property litigation to gain a competitive advantage. Accordingly, we may become subject to patent infringement claims or litigation in a court of law, or interference proceedings declared by the USPTO to determine the priority of inventions or an opposition to a patent grant in a foreign jurisdiction. We may also become subject to claims or litigation seeking payment of royalties based on sales of our product in connection with licensing or similar joint development arrangements with third parties or in connection with claims of patent infringement. The defense and prosecution of intellectual property suits, USPTO interference or opposition proceedings and related legal and administrative proceedings, are both costly and time consuming and could result in substantial uncertainty to us. Litigation or regulatory proceedings may also be necessary to enforce patent or other intellectual property rights of ours or to determine the scope and validity of other parties' proprietary rights. Any litigation, opposition or interference proceedings, with or without merit, may result in substantial expense to us, cause significant strain on our financial resources, divert the attention of our technical and management personnel and harm our reputation. We may not have the financial resources to defend our patents from infringement or claims of invalidity. An adverse determination in any litigation could subject us to significant liabilities to third parties, require us to seek licenses from or pay royalties to third parties or prevent us from manufacturing, selling or using our proposed products, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business and prospects. We are not currently a party to any patent or other litigation.

Our VBLOC therapy or Maestro Rechargeable System may infringe or be claimed to infringe patents that we do not own or license, including patents that may issue in the future based on patent applications of which we are currently aware, as well as applications of which we are unaware. For example, we are aware of other companies that are investigating neurostimulation, including neuroblocking, and of patents and published patent applications held by companies in those fields. While we believe that none of such patents and patent applications are applicable to our products and technologies under development, third parties who own or control these patents and patent applications in the United States and abroad could bring claims against us that would cause us to incur substantial expenses and, if such claims are successfully asserted against us, they could cause us to pay substantial damages, could result in an injunction preventing us from selling, manufacturing or using our proposed products and would divert management's attention. Because patent applications in many countries such as the United States are maintained under conditions of confidentiality and can take many years to issue, there may be applications now pending of which we are unaware and which may later result in issued patents that our products infringe. If a patent infringement suit were brought against us, we could be forced to stop our ongoing or planned clinical trials, or delay or abandon commercialization of the product that is subject of the suit.

As a result of patent infringement claims, or to avoid potential claims, we may choose or be required to seek a license from a third-party and be required to pay license fees or royalties, or both. A license may not be available at all or on commercially reasonable terms, and we may not be able to redesign our products to avoid infringement. Modification of our products or development of new products could require us to conduct additional clinical trials and to revise our filings with the FDA and other regulatory bodies, which would be time-consuming and expensive. Even if we were able to obtain a license, the rights may be nonexclusive, which could result in our competitors gaining access to the same intellectual property. Ultimately, we could be forced to cease some aspect of our business operations if, as a result of actual or threatened patent infringement claims, we are unable to enter into licenses on acceptable terms. This could harm our business significantly.

#### Risks Relating to Ownership of Our Common Stock

#### The trading price of our common stock has been volatile and is likely to be volatile in the future.

The trading price of our common stock has been highly volatile. Further, our common stock has a limited trading history. Since our public offering in November 2007 through February 27, 2015 our stock price has fluctuated from a low of \$0.81 to a high of \$64.62, as adjusted for the 1-for-6 reverse split of our common stock that was effected on July 9, 2010. The market price for our common stock will be affected by a number of factors, including:

- the denial or delay of regulatory clearances or approvals of our product or receipt of regulatory approval of competing products;
- our ability to accomplish clinical, regulatory and other product development milestones and to do so in accordance with the timing estimates we have publicly announced;
- changes in policies affecting third-party coverage and reimbursement in the United States and other countries;
- changes in government regulations and standards affecting the medical device industry and our product;
- ability of our product to achieve market success;
- the performance of third-party contract manufacturers and component suppliers;
- our ability to develop sales and marketing capabilities;
- actual or anticipated variations in our results of operations or those of our competitors;
- announcements of new products, technological innovations or product advancements by us or our competitors;
- developments with respect to patents and other intellectual property rights;

- sales of common stock or other securities by us or our stockholders in the future;
- additions or departures of key scientific or management personnel;
- disputes or other developments relating to proprietary rights, including patents, litigation matters and our ability to obtain patent protection for our technologies;
- trading volume of our common stock;
- changes in earnings estimates or recommendations by securities analysts, failure to obtain or maintain analyst coverage of our common stock or our failure to achieve analyst earnings estimates;
- public statements by analysts or clinicians regarding their perceptions of our clinical results or the effectiveness of our products;
- decreases in market valuations of medical device companies; and
- general market conditions and other factors unrelated to our operating performance or the operating performance of our competitors.

The stock prices of many companies in the medical device industry have experienced wide fluctuations that have often been unrelated to the operating performance of these companies. Following periods of volatility in the market price of a company's securities, securities class action litigation often has been initiated against a company. If class action litigation is initiated against us, we may incur substantial costs and our management's attention may be diverted from our operations, which could significantly harm our business.

# Our inability to comply with the listing requirements of the NASDAQ Capital Market could result in our common stock being delisted, which could affect its market price and liquidity and reduce our ability to raise capital.

We are required to meet certain qualitative and financial tests (including a minimum closing bid price of \$1.00 per share for our common stock) to maintain the listing of our common stock on the NASDAQ Capital Market. If we do not maintain compliance with the continued listing requirements for the NASDAQ Capital Market within specified periods and subject to permitted extensions, our common stock may be recommended for delisting (subject to any appeal we would file). If our common stock were delisted, it could be more difficult to buy or sell our common stock and to obtain accurate quotations, and the price of our stock could suffer a material decline. Delisting would also impair our ability to raise capital.

# Our directors and executive officers hold a significant amount of our outstanding stock and could limit your ability to influence the outcome of key transactions, including changes in control.

Our executive officers and directors and entities affiliated with them beneficially own, in the aggregate (including options and warrants exercisable currently or within 60 days of December 31, 2014), approximately 20.4% of our outstanding common stock. Our executive officers, directors and affiliated entities, if acting together, could be able to influence significantly all matters requiring approval by our stockholders, including the election of directors and the approval of mergers or other significant corporate transactions. The concentration of ownership of our common stock may have the effect of delaying, preventing or deterring a change in control of our company, could deprive our stockholders of an opportunity to receive a premium for their common stock as part of a sale of our company and may affect the market price of our common stock. This concentration of stock ownership may adversely affect the trading price of our common stock due to investors' perception that conflicts of interest may exist or arise.

# Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market by existing stockholders, or the perception that they may occur, could cause our stock price to decline.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock by us or by our stockholders, announcements of the proposed sales of substantial amounts of our common stock or the perception that substantial sales may be made, could cause the market price of our common stock to decline. We may issue additional shares of our common

stock in follow-on offerings to raise additional capital or in connection with acquisitions or corporate alliances and we plan to issue additional shares to our employees, directors or consultants in connection with their services to us. All of the currently outstanding shares of our common stock are freely tradable under federal and state securities laws, except for shares held by our directors, officers and certain greater than five percent stockholders, which may be subject to volume limitations. Due to these factors, sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market could occur at any time and could reduce the market price of our common stock.

In addition, certain of our stockholders and warrantholders have rights, subject to some conditions, to require us to file registration statements covering their shares or to include their shares in registration statements that we may file for ourselves or other stockholders. If we were to include in a company-initiated registration statement shares held by those holders pursuant to the exercise of their registration rights, the sale of those shares could impair our ability to raise needed capital by depressing the price at which we could sell our common stock.

# Our organizational documents and Delaware law make a takeover of our company more difficult, which may prevent certain changes in control and limit the market price of our common stock.

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws and Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law contain provisions that may have the effect of deterring or delaying attempts by our stockholders to remove or replace management, engage in proxy contests and effect changes in control. These provisions include:

- the ability of our board of directors to create and issue preferred stock without stockholder approval, which could be used to implement anti-takeover devices;
- the authority for our board of directors to issue without stockholder approval up to the number of shares of common stock authorized in our certificate of incorporation, that, if issued, would dilute the ownership of our stockholders;
- the advance notice requirement for director nominations or for proposals that can be acted upon at stockholder meetings;
- a classified and staggered board of directors, which may make it more difficult for a person who
  acquires control of a majority of our outstanding voting stock to replace all or a majority of our
  directors;
- the prohibition on actions by written consent of our stockholders;
- the limitation on who may call a special meeting of stockholders;
- the prohibition on stockholders accumulating their votes for the election of directors; and
- the ability of stockholders to amend our bylaws only upon receiving a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of all outstanding shares then entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, voting together as a single class.

In addition, as a Delaware corporation, we are subject to Delaware law, including Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. In general, Section 203 prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years following the date that the stockholder became an interested stockholder unless certain specific requirements are met as set forth in Section 203. These provisions, alone or together, could have the effect of deterring or delaying changes in incumbent management, proxy contests or changes in control.

These provisions also could discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for you and other stockholders to elect directors and take other corporate actions. The existence of these provisions could limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock. Some provisions in our certificate of incorporation and bylaws may deter third parties from acquiring us, which may limit the market price of our common stock.

We have not paid dividends in the past and do not expect to pay dividends in the future, and any return on investment may be limited to the value of our common stock.

We have never paid dividends on our common stock and do not anticipate paying dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. The payment of dividends on our common stock will depend on our earnings, financial condition and other business and economic factors affecting us at such time as our board of directors may consider relevant. Our credit agreement also restricts our ability to pay dividends. If we do not pay dividends, our common stock may be less valuable because a return on your investment will only occur if our stock price appreciates.

#### ITEM1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

Not applicable.

#### ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

We lease approximately 28,388 square feet of lab and office space in St. Paul, Minnesota. The lease agreement began October 1, 2008 and ends September 30, 2015.

#### ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are not currently a party to any litigation and we are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation against us that could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results or financial condition. The medical device industry in which we operate is characterized by frequent claims and litigation, including claims regarding patent and other intellectual property rights as well as improper hiring practices. As a result, we may be involved in various legal proceedings from time to time.

#### ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

#### PART II.

# ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

#### **Market For Our Common Stock**

Our common stock has been traded on the NASDAQ Stock Market under the symbol "ETRM" since our initial public offering (IPO) on November 15, 2007. Prior to that date, there was no public market for our common stock. Our stock was traded on the NASDAQ Global Market from its initial listing at the time of our IPO until January 21, 2010. Subsequently, in anticipation of not curing our deficiencies with the continued listing requirements of the NASDAQ Global Market, we requested and were approved to transfer to the NASDAQ Capital Market, effective January 22, 2010.

As of February 27, 2015, there were approximately 50 holders of record of our common stock and 73,789,178 shares of common stock outstanding. No dividends have been paid on our common stock to date, and we do not anticipate paying any dividends in the foreseeable future.

The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices of our common stock as quoted on the NASDAQ Stock Market for the periods indicated.

#### **Price Range of Common Stock**

	Price	Range
	High	Low
Fiscal 2013		
First Quarter	\$3.23	\$0.81
Second Quarter	\$1.47	\$0.81
Third Quarter	\$1.37	\$1.00
Fourth Quarter	\$2.24	\$1.11
Fiscal 2014		
First Quarter	\$2.66	\$1.68
Second Quarter	\$2.17	\$1.41
Third Quarter	\$1.65	\$1.10
Fourth Quarter	\$1.47	\$0.99

The closing price for our common stock as reported by the NASDAQ Capital Market on February 27, 2015 was \$1.06 per share.

#### Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans

The information required by this Item regarding equity compensation plans is incorporated by reference to the information set forth in Part III, Item 12 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### **Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities**

None.

#### **Uses of Proceeds from Sale of Registered Securities**

None.

# **Dividend Policy**

We have never paid cash dividends on our common stock. The board of directors presently intends to retain all earnings for use in our business and does not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We do not have a dividend reinvestment plan or a direct stock purchase plan.

# **Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

None.

#### **Stock Performance Graph**

The following performance graph and related information shall not be deemed "soliciting material" or to be "filed" with the SEC, nor shall such information be incorporated by reference into any future filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or Securities Exchange Act of 1934, each as amended, except to the extent that we specifically incorporate it by reference into such filing.

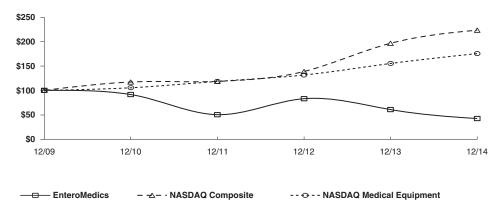
The following graph shows a comparison of cumulative total return for our common stock, the NASDAQ Composite Index and the NASDAQ Medical Equipment Index. Such returns are based on historical results and are not intended to suggest future performance. The graph assumes \$100 was invested in our common stock and in each of the indexes on December 31, 2009.

Data for the NASDAQ Composite Index and the NASDAQ Medical Equipment Index assume reinvestment of dividends. We have never paid dividends on our common stock and have no present plans to do so.

The stockholder return shown on the graph below is not necessarily indicative of future performance, and we do not make or endorse any predictions as to future stockholder returns.

#### **COMPARISON OF 5 YEAR CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN\***

Among EnteroMedics, the NASDAQ Composite Index and the NASDAQ Medical Equipment Index



\* \$100 invested on 12/31/09 in stock or index, including reinvestment of dividends. No dividends have been declared or paid on our common stock. Stock performance shown in the above chart for the common stock is historical and should not be considered indicative of future price performance. The graph was prepared by Research Data Group, Inc.

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2010	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2012	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2014
EnteroMedics Inc	\$100.00	\$ 91.67	\$ 50.60	\$ 83.33	\$ 60.71	\$ 42.26
NASDAQ Composite	100.00	117.61	118.70	139.00	196.83	223.74
NASDAQ Medical						
Equipment	100.00	105.75	118.61	131.64	155.38	175.37

#### ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following table sets forth certain financial data with respect to our business. The information set forth below is not necessarily indicative of results of future operations and should be read in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in Item 7 and the consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

	Fiscal Years				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010(1)
		(In thousan	ds, except per	share data)	
Sales	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 311	\$ —	\$ —
Operations:					
Loss from operations	(25,593)	(24,734)	(22,549)	(25,257)	(16,177)
Net loss	(26,129)	(25,781)	(23,460)	(25,997)	(17,347)
Basic and diluted net loss per share	(0.39)	(0.47)	(0.59)	(0.86)	(2.06)
Shares used to compute basic and diluted net					
loss per share	67,866	55,010	39,537	30,205	8,420
Financial Position:					
Cash, cash equivalents, restricted cash and					
short-term investments	11,619	23,297	22,509	29,693	37,368
Working capital (current assets less current					
liabilities)	5,303	16,150	16,866	22,003	33,807
Total assets	14,386	26,388	26,096	32,486	38,687
Long-term debt, net of current portion and					
discounts		2,868	6,684	2,881	4,983
Accumulated deficit	(252,082)	(225,953)	(200,172)	(176,712)	(150,715)
Total stockholders' equity	6,664	14,679	11,875	20,041	29,707

<sup>(1)</sup> Basic and diluted net loss per share and shares used to compute basic and diluted net loss per share include the impact of converting 3,394,309 shares of convertible preferred stock into common stock immediately following the closing of our public offering on December 14, 2010.

# ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Except for the historical information contained herein, the matters discussed in this "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and elsewhere in this Form 10-K are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. The factors listed in Item 1A "Risk Factors," as well as any cautionary language in this Form 10-K, provide examples of risks, uncertainties and events that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected. Except as may be required by law, we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events after the date of this report.

#### Overview

We are a medical device company with approvals to commercially launch our product, the Maestro Rechargeable System, in the United States, Australia, the European Economic Area and other countries that recognize the European CE Mark. We are focused on the design and development of devices that use neuroblocking technology to treat obesity, metabolic diseases and other gastrointestinal disorders. Our proprietary neuroblocking technology, which we refer to as VBLOC therapy, is designed to intermittently block the vagus nerve using high frequency, low energy, electrical impulses. We have a limited operating history and only recently received U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval to sell our product in the United States. In addition, we have regulatory approval to sell our product in Australia, the European Economic Area and other countries that recognize the European CE Mark and do not have any other source of revenue. We were incorporated in Minnesota on December 19, 2002 and later reincorporated in Delaware on July 22, 2004. We have devoted substantially all of our resources to the development and commercialization of our Maestro Rechargeable System.

The Maestro Rechargeable System, our initial product, uses VBLOC therapy to limit the expansion of the stomach, help control hunger sensations between meals, reduce the frequency and intensity of stomach contractions and produce a feeling of early and prolonged fullness. We believe the Maestro Rechargeable System will offer obese patients a minimally-invasive treatment that can result in significant, durable and sustained weight loss. We believe that our Maestro Rechargeable System allows bariatric surgeons to offer a new option to obese patients who are concerned about the risks and complications associated with currently available anatomy-altering, restrictive or malabsorptive surgical procedures.

We received U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval on January 14, 2015 for VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, for the treatment of adult patients with obesity who have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of at least 40 to 45 kg/m2, or a BMI of at least 35 to 39.9 kg/m2 with a related health condition such as high blood pressure or high cholesterol levels, and who have tried to lose weight in a supervised weight management program and failed within the past five years. We have begun a controlled commercial launch at select bariatric centers of excellence in the United States and anticipate having the first commercial sale within the United States in 2015. We hired a Chief Commercial Officer in November 2014 to oversee the commercialization process and have started to build a sales force in the United States that will call directly on key opinion leaders and bariatric surgeons at commercially-driven bariatric centers of excellence that meet our certification criteria. The direct sales force will be supported by field technical managers who provide training, technical and other support services to our customers. To date, we have relied on, and anticipate that we will continue to rely on, third-party manufacturers and suppliers for the production of our Maestro Rechargeable System.

Data from our ReCharge trial was used to support the premarket approval (PMA) application for the Maestro Rechargeable System, submitted to the FDA in June 2013. The ReCharge trial is a randomized, double-blind, sham-controlled, multicenter pivotal clinical trial testing the effectiveness and safety of VBLOC therapy utilizing our Maestro Rechargeable System. All patients in the trial received an implanted device and were randomized in a 2:1 allocation to treatment or sham control groups. The sham control group received a non-functional device during the trial period. All patients were expected to participate in a standard weight management counseling program. The primary endpoints of efficacy and safety were evaluated at 12 months. As

announced, the ReCharge trial met its primary safety endpoint with a 3.7% serious adverse event rate. The safety profile at 12 months was further supported by positive cardiovascular signals including a 5.5 mmHg drop in systolic blood pressure, a 2.8 mmHg drop in diastolic blood pressure and a 3.6 bpm drop in average heart rate.

Although the trial did not meet its predefined co-primary efficacy endpoints, it did demonstrate in the intent to treat (ITT) population (n=239) a clinically meaningful and statistically significant excess weight loss (EWL) of 24.4% (approximately 10% total body weight loss (TBL)) for VBLOC therapy-treated patients, with 52.5% of patients achieving at least 20% EWL. In the per protocol population, the trial demonstrated an EWL of 26.3% for VBLOC therapy-treated patients, with 56.8% of patients achieving at least 20% EWL.

In the ReCharge trial, two-thirds of VBLOC therapy-treated patients achieved at least 5% TBL at 12 months. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 5% TBL can have significant health benefits on obesity related risk factors, or comorbidities, including reduction in blood pressure, improvements in Type 2 diabetes and reductions in triglycerides and cholesterol. Further analysis of our data at 12 months showed a meaningful impact on these comorbidities as noted in the below table showing the improvements seen at 10% TBL, the average weight loss in VBLOC therapy-treated patients.

Risk Factor	10% TBL
Systolic BP (mmHg)	-9
Diastolic BP (mmHg)	-6
Heart Rate (bpm)	-6
Total Cholesterol (mg/dL)	-15
LDL (mg/dL)	-9
Triglycerides (mg/dL)	-41
HDL (mg/dL)	3
Waist Circumference (inches)	-7
HbA1c (%)	-0.5

We subsequently announced that VBLOC therapy-treated patients were maintaining their weight loss at 18 months and 24 months with an EWL of 23.5% and 21.1%, respectively. The trial's positive safety profile also continued throughout this reported time period.

An Advisory Panel meeting was held on June 17, 2014 to review this data and our entire PMA application for approval of the Maestro Rechargeable System. The Advisory Panel voted 8 to 1 "in favor" that the Maestro Rechargeable System is safe when used as designed and voted 4 to 5 "against" on the issue of a reasonable assurance of efficacy. The final vote, on whether the relative benefits outweighed the relative risk, was 6 to 2 "in favor," with 1 abstention. On January 14, 2015, the FDA agreed with the Advisory Panel that the benefits of VBLOC therapy outweigh the risks when it approved VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, for the treatment of obesity as indicated.

We obtained European CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System in 2011 for the treatment of obesity. The CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System was expanded in 2014 to also include use for the management of Type 2 diabetes in obese patients. In January 2012, the final Maestro Rechargeable System components were listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). We continue to explore select international markets to commercialize the Maestro Rechargeable System, including Australia, Europe and the Middle East. Outside the United States, we intend to use direct, dealer and distributor sales models as the targeted geography best dictates.

We continue to evaluate the Maestro System in human clinical trials in the United States, Australia and Mexico. To date, we have not observed any mortality related to our device or any unanticipated adverse device effects in these clinical trials. We have also not observed any long-term problematic clinical side effects in any patients. In addition, data from our VBLOC-DM2 ENABLE trial outside the United States demonstrate that VBLOC therapy may hold promise in improving obesity-related comorbidities such as diabetes and hypertension. We are conducting, or plan to conduct, further studies in each of these comorbidities to assess VBLOC therapy's potential in addressing multiple indications.

Thus far, we have only generated revenue from the sale of products in 2012 because we focused our resources on the U.S. regulatory approval process, and expect to incur significant sales and marketing expenses prior to recording sufficient revenue to offset these expenses. Having recently received FDA approval, we expect our general and administrative expenses to increase as we continue to add the infrastructure necessary to support our initial commercial sales, operate as a public company and develop our intellectual property portfolio. For these reasons, we expect to continue to incur significant and increasing operating losses for the next several years. We have financed our operations to date principally through the sale of equity securities, debt financing and interest earned on investments.

#### Critical Accounting Policies and Significant Judgments and Estimates

Our management's discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based on our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements as well as the reported expenses during the reporting periods. We evaluate our estimates and judgments on an ongoing basis. Actual results may differ materially from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

While our significant accounting policies are more fully described in Note 2 to our consolidated financial statements included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we believe that the following accounting policies and estimates are most critical to a full understanding and evaluation of our reported financial results.

#### Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, title or risk of loss has passed, the selling price is fixed or determinable and collection is reasonably assured. Products are sold internationally through distributors and revenue is recognized upon sale to the distributor as these sales are considered to be final and no right of return or price protection exists. Terms of sales to international distributors are generally EXW, reflecting that goods are shipped "ex works," in which risk of loss is assumed by the distributor at the shipping point. We do not provide for rights of return to customers on product sales and therefore do not record a provision for returns.

#### **Inventory**

From inception, inventory related purchases had been used for research and development related activities and had accordingly been expensed as incurred. In December 2011, we began receiving ARTG listings for components of the Maestro Rechargeable System from the Australian TGA, with the final components being listed on the ARTG in January 2012. As a result, we determined certain assets were recoverable as inventory beginning in December 2011 and have recorded a current inventory balance of approximately \$981,000 and \$1.1 million as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively. We account for inventory at the lower of cost or market and record any long-term inventory as other assets in the consolidated balance sheets. There was approximately \$825,000 and \$794,000 of long-term inventory as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

#### Stock-Based Compensation

We account for share-based payments using the fair value method, which requires compensation expense to be recognized using a fair-value-based method for costs related to all share-based payments including stock options. Companies are required to estimate the fair value of share-based payment awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model. Calculating stock-based compensation expense requires the input of highly subjective assumptions, which represent our best estimates and involve inherent uncertainties and the application of management's judgment. Estimates of stock-based compensation expenses are significant to our consolidated financial statements, but these expenses are based on the Black-Scholes pricing model and will never result in the payment of cash by us. All option grants are expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

The application of share-based payment principles may be subject to further interpretation and refinement over time. There are significant differences among option valuation models, and this may result in a lack of comparability with other companies that use different models, methods and assumptions. If factors change and we employ different assumptions in the application of share-based payment accounting in future periods, or if we decide to use a different valuation model, the compensation expense that we record in the future may differ significantly from what we have recorded in the current period and could materially affect our operating loss, net loss and net loss per share.

The fair value method is applied to all share-based payment awards issued to employees and where appropriate, nonemployees, unless another source of literature applies. When determining the measurement date of a nonemployee's share-based payment award, the Company measures the stock options at fair value and remeasures such stock options to the current fair value until the performance date has been reached. For stock options granted to nonemployees, the fair value of the stock options is estimated using the Black-Scholes valuation model. This model utilizes the estimated fair value of common stock and requires that, at the date of grant and each subsequent reporting period until the services are completed or a significant disincentive for nonperformance occurs, we make assumptions with respect to the expected term of the option, the volatility of the fair value of our common stock, risk free interest rates and expected dividend yields of our common stock. Different estimates of volatility and expected life of the option could materially change the value of an option and the resulting expense.

#### Net Operating Losses and Tax Credit Carryforwards

At December 31, 2014, we had federal net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$91.9 million. Of this amount, approximately \$44.0 million is available after the application of Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 382 limitations, discussed below. These net operating loss carryforwards will expire in varying amounts from 2022 through 2034, if not utilized. The IRC imposes restrictions on the utilization of various carryforward tax attributes in the event of a change in ownership of the Company, as defined by IRC Section 382. In addition, IRC Section 382 may limit the Company's built-in items of deduction, including capitalized start-up costs and research and development costs. During 2011, we completed an IRC Section 382 review and the results of this review indicate ownership changes have occurred which would cause a limitation on the utilization of carryforward attributes. The Company's gross net operating loss carryforwards, start-up costs and research and development credits are all subject to limitation. Under these tax provisions, the limitation is applied first to any built-in losses, then to any net operating losses and then to any general business credits. The Section 382 limitation and accompanying recognized built-in loss limitation is currently estimated to result in the expiration of \$48.1 million of our gross federal net operating loss carryforward, as well as a write-off of \$5.9 million of capitalized start-up costs, \$5.5 million of capitalized research and development costs, \$1.5 million of property and equipment and \$2.4 million of research and development credits. Any ownership changes since we completed our IRC Section 382 review in 2011 could result in further limitations on the utilization of carryforward attributes. A valuation allowance has been established to reserve for the potential benefits of the remaining carryforwards and tax credits in our consolidated financial statements to reflect the uncertainty of future taxable income required to utilize available tax loss carryforwards and other deferred tax assets.

#### **Financial Overview**

#### Revenue

We received FDA approval on January 14, 2015 for VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, and have begun a controlled commercial launch at select bariatric centers of excellence in the United States and anticipate having the first commercial sale within the United States in 2015.

We obtained European CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System in 2011 for the treatment of obesity, which enables commercialization in the European Economic Area and other countries that recognize the European CE Mark. The CE Mark approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System was expanded in 2014 to also include use for the management of Type 2 diabetes in obese patients. In January 2012, the final Maestro Rechargeable System components were listed on the ARTG by the Australian TGA. We have entered into exclusive, multi-year agreements with Device Technologies Australia Pty Limited and Bader Sultan & Brothers Co. W.L.L., for commercialization and distribution of the Maestro Rechargeable System in Australia and the Gulf Coast Countries of the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, respectively. We made our first commercial shipments to Device Technologies Australia Pty Limited and Bader Sultan & Brothers Co. W.L.L. during the year ended December 31, 2012 and recognized \$311,000 in revenue. We did not recognize any revenue for the years ended December 31, 2013 and 2014, primarily due to focusing our resources on the U.S. regulatory approval process.

Any revenue from initial sales of a new product in the United States or internationally is difficult to predict and in any event will only modestly reduce our continued losses resulting from our research and development and other activities.

#### Research and Development Expenses

Our research and development expenses primarily consist of engineering, product development, quality assurance and clinical and regulatory expenses, incurred in the development of our Maestro Rechargeable System. Research and development expenses also include employee compensation, including stock-based compensation, consulting services, outside services, materials, clinical trial expenses, including supplies, devices, explants and revisions, depreciation and travel. We expense research and development costs as they are incurred.

#### Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Our selling, general and administrative expenses consist primarily of compensation for executive, finance, market development and administrative personnel, including stock-based compensation. Other significant expenses include costs associated with attending medical conferences, professional fees for legal services, including legal services associated with our efforts to obtain and maintain broad protection for the intellectual property related to our products, and accounting services, cash management fees, consulting fees and travel expenses.

## **Results of Operations**

#### Comparison of the Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

*Sales*. There were no sales for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, which was primarily the result of focusing our resources on the U.S. regulatory approval process.

Cost of Goods Sold. There were no cost of goods sold for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Research and Development Expenses. Research and development expenses were \$11.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to \$11.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. The decrease of \$44,000, or 0.4%, was primarily due to decreases of \$1.1 million in professional services offset by increases of

\$458,000, \$202,000, \$180,000 and \$136,000 in payroll-related expenses, device costs, travel costs and employee stock-based compensation expense, respectively. The decrease in professional services was primarily related to costs associated with the 2013 unblinding of the ReCharge trial and the use of engineering consultants in 2013 during the PMA submission process that were not required in 2014. The increase in payroll-related expenses was primarily the result of a special one-time bonus in recognition of the Advisory Panel vote regarding the safety, efficacy and benefit/risk profile of our Maestro Rechargeable System that occurred on June 17, 2014 (the Special Bonus). The increase in device costs was primarily related to conversions to active devices, on-going clinical trial support, inventory valuation adjustments and commercialization process development and validation efforts. The increase in travel costs was primarily related to preparation for the Advisory Panel meeting. The increase in employee stock-based compensation was primarily the result of stock option grants made to management on May 31, 2013.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$14.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to \$13.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2013. The increase of \$903,000, or 6.6%, was primarily due to increases of \$586,000, \$214,000 and \$49,000 in payroll-related expenses, employee stock-based compensation and travel costs, respectively. The increase in payroll-related expenses was primarily the result of the Special Bonus. The increase in employee stock-based compensation was primarily the result of stock option grants made to management on May 31, 2013 and new hires in 2014. The increase in travel costs was primarily related to preparation for the Advisory Panel meeting.

*Interest Expense*. Interest expense was \$530,000 for the year ended December 31, 2014, compared to \$932,000 for the year ended December 31, 2013. The decrease of \$402,000, or 43.1%, was the result of a reduction in the loan principal balance through monthly principal and interest loan payments beginning April 1, 2013.

#### Comparison of the Years Ended December 31, 2013 and 2012

Sales. There were no sales for the year ended December 31, 2013, which was primarily the result of focusing our resources on the U.S. regulatory approval process, compared to \$311,000 for the year ended December 31, 2012. The \$311,000 of sales for the year ended December 31, 2012 was the result of beginning a controlled commercial launch of the Maestro Rechargeable System in Australia and the Gulf Coast Countries of the Middle East with our first commercial shipments occurring in the first quarter of 2012.

Cost of Goods Sold. There were no cost of goods sold for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$232,000 for the year ended December 31, 2012. Gross margin was 25.7% for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Research and Development Expenses. Research and development expenses were \$11.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$10.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. The increase of \$407,000, or 3.8%, was primarily due to increases of \$925,000, \$448,000 and \$234,000 in professional services, employee stock-based compensation and device costs, respectively, offset by decreases of \$852,000 and \$247,000 in payroll-related expenses and travel costs, respectively. The increase in professional services was primarily related to costs associated with the unblinding of the ReCharge trial and the resulting work around our PMA application for the Maestro Rechargeable System, which was submitted to the FDA in June 2013 and the increased utilization of consultants in place of permanent employees lost to attrition. The increase in employee stock-based compensation was the result of stock option grants made to management on July 10, 2012 and May 31, 2013. The increase in device costs was primarily the result of ReCharge sham control patients beginning to convert to active devices. The increased use of consultants also resulted in the decreases to payroll-related expenses and travel.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$13.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$12.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2012. The increase of \$1.7 million, or 14.2%, was primarily due to increases of \$1.2 million and \$527,000 in

employee stock-based compensation and professional services, respectively. The increase in employee stock-based compensation was the result of stock option grants made to management on July 10, 2012 and May 31, 2013. The increase in professional services was primarily related to costs associated with the unblinding of the ReCharge trial and ongoing international commercialization efforts.

*Interest Expense*. Interest expense was \$932,000 for the year ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$902,000 for the year ended December 31, 2012. The increase of \$31,000, or 3.4%, was the result of a loan modification which occurred in April 2012 increasing the principal balance from \$4.7 million to \$10.0 million and increasing the interest rate from 6.25% to 8.00% with interest only payments through March 31, 2013.

#### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

As of December 31, 2014, we had \$11.6 million in cash and cash equivalents. Of this amount \$10.0 million was invested in short-term money market funds that are not considered to be bank deposits and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Company or other government agency. These money market funds seek to preserve the value of the investment at \$1.00 per share; however, it is possible to lose money investing in these funds. Cash in excess of immediate requirements is invested in accordance with our investment policy, primarily with a view to liquidity and capital preservation. At times, such deposits may be in excess of insured limits. We have not experienced any losses on our deposits of cash and cash equivalents.

We have financed our operations to date principally through the sale of equity securities, debt financing and interest earned on investments. As of December 31, 2014, we had \$11.6 million of cash and cash equivalents to fund our anticipated operations for 2015 and also have an "at-the-market" equity offering program (ATM) under which we can raise additional funds by instructing Cowen and Company, LLC (Cowen), our sales agent, to sell shares of our common stock having aggregate gross sales proceeds of up to \$25.0 million (the Cowen ATM), of which \$17.6 million remains available as of March 13, 2015 (further described below). These anticipated operations include plans that consider the controlled commercial launch of VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, which was approved by the FDA on January 14, 2015. In order to finance these anticipated operations, including the increase in internal expenditures resulting from the controlled commercial launch noted above, we have raised \$6.4 million in gross proceeds before deducting offering expenses from the Cowen ATM subsequent to December 31, 2014 through March 13, 2015. In addition, we believe that we have the ability to raise additional capital through (i) the sale of additional equity securities, including, but not limited to, the use of the Cowen ATM and the exercise of outstanding warrants; (ii) the sale of debt securities; or (iii) establishing a credit facility, and we have the flexibility to manage the growth of our expenditures and expand operations. In order to fund on-going operating cash requirements or to further accelerate and execute our business plan, including commercialization of the Maestro Rechargeable System, we will need to raise additional funds. See further discussion in the below section titled "Operating Capital and Capital Expenditure Requirements."

On April 16, 2012, we entered into a Loan and Security Agreement (the Loan Agreement) with Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) pursuant to which SVB agreed to make term loans in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$20.0 million (\$10.0 million of which is not available as we did not meet the predefined primary efficacy measures of the ReCharge trial and did not meet certain financial objectives for 2012), on the terms and conditions set forth in the Loan Agreement.

Pursuant to the Loan Agreement, a term loan was funded in the aggregate principal amount of \$10.0 million on April 23, 2012, a portion of which was used to repay in full outstanding debt of approximately \$4.7 million. The term loan required interest only payments monthly through March 31, 2013 followed by 30 equal payments of principal in the amount of \$333,333 plus accrued interest beginning on April 1, 2013 and ending on September 1, 2015, payable monthly. Amounts borrowed under the Loan Agreement bear interest at a fixed annual rate equal to 8.0%. A 5.0% final payment fee will be due on September 1, 2015. We may voluntarily prepay the term loan in full, but not in part, and any voluntary or mandatory prepayment is subject to applicable prepayment premiums and will also include the final payment fee. We were required to comply with certain financial covenants that required us to generate certain minimum amounts of revenue from the sale of our

Maestro Rechargeable System and to implant certain minimum numbers of Maestro Rechargeable Systems during cumulative quarterly measurement periods beginning with the period ended March 31, 2013 and ending with the period ending June 30, 2015. We did not meet the financial covenants for the period ended March 31, 2013 and therefore entered into a First Amendment (the First Amendment) to the Loan Agreement on May 9, 2013 pursuant to which we agreed to new financial covenants.

The First Amendment eliminated the financial covenants that required us to generate certain minimum amounts of revenue from the sale of our Maestro Rechargeable System and to implant certain minimum numbers of Maestro Rechargeable Systems during cumulative quarterly measurement periods beginning with the period ended March 31, 2013 and ending with the period ending June 30, 2015. It also removed SVB's ability to require us to maintain a restricted cash balance of \$7.5 million in an SVB account as a result of not meeting the predefined primary efficacy measures of the ReCharge trial.

The First Amendment added two new financial covenants, one of which required us to receive cumulative aggregate proceeds of at least \$5.0 million by November 15, 2013 and \$10.0 million by April 15, 2014 from new capital transactions both of which have been fulfilled through the use of the equity distribution agreement with Canaccord Genuity Inc. (see discussion below). The second financial covenant required us to maintain a liquidity ratio (unrestricted cash divided by outstanding debt) of at least 1.25:1.00 until we received FDA approval for the Maestro Rechargeable System on January 14, 2015, at which point it was reduced to 0.75:1.00. The First Amendment did not change the interest rate or the amortization structure. We are required to pay SVB a \$187,000 success fee as a result of receiving FDA approval for the Maestro Rechargeable System on January 14, 2015.

On July 31, 2013, we entered into an equity distribution agreement with Canaccord Genuity Inc. (Canaccord) to sell shares of our common stock having aggregate gross sales proceeds of up to \$20.0 million, from time to time, through an ATM under which Canaccord acted as our sales agent (the Canaccord ATM). We determined, at our sole discretion, the timing and number of shares sold under the Canaccord ATM. We paid Canaccord a commission for its services in acting as agent in the sale of common stock equal to 2.0% of the gross sales price per share of all shares sold through it as agent under the equity distribution agreement. During 2013 we sold 7,917,755 shares under the Canaccord ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$1.39 per share for gross proceeds of \$11.0 million before deducting offering expenses. During 2014 we sold an additional 4,006,222 shares under the Canaccord ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$2.22 per share for gross proceeds of \$8.9 million before deducting offering expenses. The equity distribution agreement with Canaccord was terminated effective June 10, 2014. As of the termination date, we had sold a total of 11,923,977 shares under the Canaccord ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$1.67 per share for gross proceeds of \$19.9 million before deducting offering expenses.

On June 13, 2014, we entered into a sales agreement with Cowen and Company, LLC (Cowen) to sell shares of our common stock having aggregate gross sales proceeds of up to \$25.0 million, from time to time, through an ATM under which Cowen will act as our sales agent (the Cowen ATM). We will determine, at our sole discretion, the timing and number of shares to be sold under the Cowen ATM. We will pay Cowen a commission for its services in acting as agent in the sale of common stock equal to 3.0% of the gross sales price per share of all shares sold through it as agent under the sales agreement. As of December 31, 2014, we have sold 684,602 shares under the Cowen ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$1.35 per share for gross proceeds of \$927,000 before deducting offering expenses. Subsequent to December 31, 2014 through March 13, 2015, we have sold 4,627,934 shares under the Cowen ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$1.39 per share for gross proceeds of \$6.4 million before deducting offering expenses.

#### Net Cash Used in Operating Activities

Net cash used in operating activities was \$19.4 million, \$18.4 million and \$22.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Net cash used in operating activities primarily reflects the net loss for those periods, less noncash expenses for stock-based compensation, depreciation and amortization, and partially offset by changes in operating assets and liabilities.

#### Net Cash (Used in) Provided by Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities was \$89,000 and \$216,000 for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, compared to net cash provided by investing activities of \$924,000 for the year ended December 31, 2012. Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended December 31, 2014 was related to the purchase of property and equipment.

For the year ended December 31, 2013, net cash used in investing activities was primarily related to the purchase of \$416,000 in property and equipment offset by a decrease in restricted cash of \$200,000 due to the expiration of the requirement in our lease agreement with Roseville Properties Management Company to maintain an irrevocable, unconditional, standby letter of credit until October 1, 2013.

For the year ended December 31, 2012, net cash provided by investing activities was primarily related to \$1.0 million in maturities of short-term investments available for sale, offset by the purchase of \$76,000 in property and equipment.

#### Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities

Net cash provided by financing activities was \$7.8 million, \$19.6 million and \$15.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. For the year ended December 31, 2014, net cash provided by financing activities was primarily the result of gross proceeds from ATM draws of \$9.8 million and proceeds of \$2.2 million from the exercise of common stock warrants. These increases were offset by \$285,000 in financing costs and \$4.0 million in principal repayments on our long-term debt.

For the year ended December 31, 2013, net cash provided by financing activities was primarily the result of a public offering that resulted in gross proceeds of \$13.1 million for the issuance of common stock and common stock warrants and gross proceeds from ATM draws of \$11.0 million, offset by \$1.4 million in financing costs and principal repayments of \$3.0 million on our long-term debt.

For the year ended December 31, 2012, net cash provided by financing activities was primarily the result of \$5.3 million in net proceeds from the initial term loan funded pursuant to the new loan agreement entered into on April 16, 2012 with SVB, net proceeds of \$4.7 million from the April 16, 2012 registered direct offering and \$6.1 million from the exercise of common stock warrants. These increases were partially offset by principal repayments of \$753,000 on our long-term debt.

#### Operating Capital and Capital Expenditure Requirements

We have only generated revenue from the sale of products in 2012 because we continued to focus our resources on the U.S. regulatory approval process. In January 2015 the FDA granted us approval and we have begun to commercialize the Maestro Rechargeable System in a controlled commercial launch at select bariatric centers of excellence in the United States. We anticipate that we will continue to incur substantial net losses for the next several years as we develop our products, commercialize our Maestro Rechargeable System, develop the corporate infrastructure required to sell our products, operate as a publicly-traded company and pursue additional applications for our technology platform.

We have financed our operations to date principally through the sale of equity securities, debt financing and interest earned on investments. As of December 31, 2014, we had \$11.6 million of cash and cash equivalents to fund our anticipated operations for 2015 and also have the Cowen ATM under which we can raise additional funds by selling shares of our common stock. These anticipated operations include plans that consider the controlled commercial launch of VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, which was approved by the FDA on January 14, 2015. In order to finance these anticipated operations, including the increase in internal expenditures resulting from the controlled commercial launch noted above, we have raised

\$6.4 million in gross proceeds before deducting offering expenses from the Cowen ATM subsequent to December 31, 2014 through March 13, 2015. In addition, we believe that we have the ability to raise additional capital through (i) the sale of additional equity securities, including, but not limited to, the use of the Cowen ATM and the exercise of outstanding warrants; (ii) the sale of debt securities; or (iii) establishing a credit facility, and we have the flexibility to manage the growth of our expenditures and expand operations. In order to fund ongoing operating cash requirements or to further accelerate and execute our business plan, including commercialization of the Maestro Rechargeable System, we will need to raise additional funds. Obtaining funds through the Cowen ATM or through the sale of additional equity and debt securities may result in dilution to our stockholders. If we raise additional funds through the issuance of debt securities, these securities could have rights senior to those of our common stock and could contain covenants that would restrict our operations. We may require additional capital beyond our currently forecasted amounts. Any such required additional capital may not be available on reasonable terms, if at all. If we are unable to obtain additional financing, we may be required to reduce the scope of, delay, or eliminate some or all of, our planned research, development and commercialization activities, which could materially harm our business. In addition, if we raise additional funds through collaboration, licensing or other similar arrangements, it may be necessary to relinquish valuable rights to products or proprietary technologies, or grant licenses on terms that are not favorable.

Our forecast of the period of time through which our financial resources will be adequate to support our operations, the costs to complete development of products and the cost to commercialize our products are forward-looking statements and involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results could vary materially and negatively as a result of a number of factors, including the factors discussed in Part I, Item 1A, *Risk Factors*, of our Annual Report on Form 10-K. We have based these estimates on assumptions that may prove to be wrong, and we could utilize our available capital resources sooner than we currently expect.

Because of the numerous risks and uncertainties associated with the development of medical devices, such as our Maestro Rechargeable System, we are unable to estimate the exact amounts of capital outlays and operating expenditures necessary to complete the development of the products and successfully deliver a commercial product to the market. Our future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including, but not limited to, the following:

- the cost and timing of establishing sales, marketing and distribution capabilities;
- the cost of establishing clinical and commercial supplies of our Maestro Rechargeable System and any products that we may develop;
- the rate of market acceptance of our Maestro Rechargeable System and VBLOC therapy and any other product candidates;
- the cost of filing and prosecuting patent applications and defending and enforcing our patent and other intellectual property rights;
- the cost of defending, in litigation or otherwise, any claims that we infringe third-party patent or other intellectual property rights;
- the effect of competing products and market developments;
- the cost of explanting clinical devices;
- the terms and timing of any collaborative, licensing or other arrangements that we may establish;
- any revenue generated by sales of our Maestro Rechargeable System or our future products;
- the scope, rate of progress, results and cost of our clinical trials and other research and development activities;
- the cost and timing of obtaining any further required regulatory approvals;
- the cost of any recalls or other field actions required either by us or by regulatory bodies in those countries in which we market our products; and

• the extent to which we invest in products and technologies, although we currently have no commitments or agreements relating to any of these types of transactions.

#### **Contractual Obligations**

The following table summarizes our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2014 and the effect those obligations are expected to have on our financial condition and liquidity position in future periods:

	Payments Due By Period						
Contractual Obligations	Total	Less Than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 Years		
Operating lease	\$ 221,789	\$ 221,789	\$ <i>-</i>	\$ —	\$ —		
Long-term debt, including interest	3,601,185	3,601,185					
Total contractual cash obligations	\$3,822,974	\$3,822,974	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>		

The table above reflects only payment obligations that are fixed and determinable based on our current agreements and does not reflect the potential accelerated debt payments in the event of a default. The table above also does not reflect the \$187,000 success fee owed to SVB as a result of receiving FDA approval for our Maestro Rechargeable System on January 14, 2015. Our operating lease commitments relate to our corporate headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota.

#### **Off-balance-sheet Arrangements**

Since our inception, we have not engaged in any off-balance-sheet arrangements, including the use of structured finance, special purpose entities or variable interest entities as defined by rules enacted by the SEC and Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), and accordingly, no such arrangements are likely to have a current or future effect on our financial position, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In June 2014, FASB issued *Development Stage Entities, Topic 915* (*Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-10* (*ASU 2014-10*)), which eliminates certain financial reporting requirements, with the objective of improving financial reporting by reducing the cost and complexity associated with the incremental reporting requirements for development stage entities. This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2014; however, early application is permitted for any annual reporting period or interim period for which an entity's financial statements have not yet been issued. We elected to adopt ASU 2014-10 effective with the quarter ending June 30, 2014. Therefore, the accompanying consolidated financial statements no longer present or disclose any information previously required by Topic 915.

In May 2014, FASB issued *Revenue from Contracts with Customers, Topic 606 (Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09 (ASU 2014-09))*, which provides a framework for the recognition of revenue, with the objective that recognized revenues properly reflect amounts an entity is entitled to receive in exchange for goods and services. This guidance will be effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. We are currently evaluating the impact of adopting ASU 2014-09 on our consolidated financial statements.

Various other accounting standards and interpretations have been issued with 2014 effective dates and effective dates subsequent to December 31, 2014. We have evaluated the recently issued accounting pronouncements that are currently effective or will be effective in 2015 and believe that none of them have had or will have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

## ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURE ABOUT MARKET RISK

Our exposure to market risk is confined to our cash and cash equivalents. As of December 31, 2014, we had \$11.6 million in cash and cash equivalents. The goals of our investment policy are preservation of capital, fulfillment of liquidity needs and fiduciary control of cash and investments. We also seek to maximize income from our investments without assuming significant risk. To achieve our goals, we may maintain a portfolio of cash equivalents and investments in a variety of securities of high credit quality. The securities in our investment portfolio, if any, are not leveraged, are classified as either available for sale or held-to-maturity and are, due to their very short-term nature, subject to minimal interest rate risk. We currently do not hedge interest rate exposure. Because of the short-term maturities of our cash equivalents, we do not believe that an increase in market rates would have any material negative impact on the value of our investment portfolio. We have no investments denominated in foreign currencies and therefore our investments are not subject to foreign currency exchange risk.

# ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

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#### Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of EnteroMedics Inc.
St. Paul, Minnesota

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of EnteroMedics Inc. and subsidiary (the "Company") as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive loss, stockholders' equity (deficit), and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company at December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated March 13, 2015 expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Minneapolis, Minnesota March 13, 2015

# **Consolidated Balance Sheets**

	December 31,			31,
		2014		2013
ASSETS				
Current assets:  Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable Inventory Prepaid expenses and other current assets	\$	11,619,167 2,812 980,519 421,673	\$	23,297,479 17,742 1,127,941 546,744
Total current assets  Property and equipment, net  Other assets		13,024,171 481,522 879,905	_	24,989,906 577,095 820,767
Total assets	\$	14,385,598	\$	26,387,768
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY  Current liabilities:  Current portion of notes payable (net of discounts of \$23,836 at December 31, 2014)  Accounts payable  Accrued expenses  Accrued interest payable  Total current liabilities  Notes payable, less current portion (net of discounts of \$131,670 at	\$	2,976,164 399,336 3,830,766 514,937 7,721,203	\$	4,000,000 127,329 4,186,060 526,672 8,840,061
December 31, 2013)	_		_	2,868,330
Total liabilities  Commitments and contingencies (Note 15)  Stockholders' equity:  Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 200,000,000 and 125,000,000 shares authorized at December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively; 69,570,444 and 63,551,350 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2014		7,721,203	_	11,708,391
and 2013, respectively		695,704		635,514
Additional paid-in capital		258,050,482		239,996,934
Accumulated deficit	_(:	252,081,791)	_('.	225,953,071)
Total stockholders' equity	_	6,664,395	_	14,679,377
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	14,385,598	\$	26,387,768

# **Consolidated Statements of Operations**

	Years ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012		
Sales	\$ 	\$	\$ 311,493 231,520		
Gross profit			79,973		
Operating expenses:  Research and development	11,031,619 14,561,656	11,075,493 13,658,824	10,668,044 11,960,893		
Total operating loss	25,593,275	24,734,317	22,628,937		
Operating loss Other income (expense): Interest income Interest expense Other, net	(25,593,275) 3,331 (530,222) (8,554)	5,717 (932,364) (119,695)			
Net loss	\$(26,128,720)	\$(25,780,659)	\$(23,460,103)		
Net loss per share—basic and diluted	\$ (0.39)	\$ (0.47)	\$ (0.59)		
Shares used to compute basic and diluted net loss per share	67,866,427	55,009,916	39,536,500		

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## ENTEROMEDICS INC.

# **Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss**

	Years ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012		
Net loss	\$(26,128,720)	\$(25,780,659)	\$(23,460,103)		
investments			(692)		
Comprehensive loss	\$(26,128,720)	\$(25,780,659)	\$(23,460,795)		

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

# Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)

	Common	Stock Amount	Additional Paid-in Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Accumulated Deficit	Total Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)
<b>Balance</b> , <b>December 31</b> , <b>2011</b>	36,752,746	\$367,527	\$196,384,995	\$ 692	\$(176,712,309)	\$ 20,040,905
Net loss		_	_	_	(23,460,103)	(23,460,103)
Change in unrealized gain (loss) on available for						
sale investments	_	_		(692)	_	(692)
Employee stock-based compensation expense	_	_	4,173,132		_	4,173,132
Nonemployee stock-based compensation expense			52,190			52,190
Issuance of common stock in registered direct	_	_	32,190	_	_	32,190
offering in April 2012 for cash at \$2.22 per	2 271 705	22 717	4 (50 412			4 (92 120
share, net of financing costs of \$367,871	2,2/1,/05	22,717	4,659,412		_	4,682,129
Warrants issued for the purchase of 106,746 shares of common stock in April 2012 valued						
at \$2.22 per warrant for debt funding			237,349			237,349
Exercise of 5,219 common stock options in 2012			237,317			237,319
for cash from \$1.90 to \$2.58 per share	5,219	53	12,613		_	12,666
Exercise of 2,813,600 warrants in 2012 for cash	,		,			,
from \$1.90 to \$2.19 per share		28,136	6,108,959			6,137,095
<b>Balance</b> , <b>December 31</b> , <b>2012</b>		\$418,433	\$211,628,650	\$ —	\$(200,172,412)	
Net loss		_		_	(25,780,659)	(25,780,659)
Employee stock-based compensation expense	_	_	5,788,249		_	5,788,249
Nonemployee stock-based compensation expense			166,679			166,679
Issuance of common stock and warrants to	_	_	100,077	_	_	100,077
purchase approximately 5,508,000 shares of						
common stock in registered public offering in						
February 2013 for cash at an aggregate price						
of \$0.95 per share and corresponding warrant,						
net of financing costs of \$1,066,200	13,770,000	137,700	11,877,600		_	12,015,300
Issuance of common stock through "at-the-						
market" equity offerings beginning in						
September 2013 for cash from \$1.10 to \$2.10						
per share, net of financing costs of \$381,981	7 017 755	79,178	10,507,939			10,587,117
Exercise of 20,325 warrants in 2013 for cash	1,911,133	79,176	10,307,939	<del></del>	<del></del>	10,367,117
from \$1.14 to \$1.90 per share	20,325	203	27,817			28,020
<b>Balance</b> , <b>December 31</b> , 2013	63,551,350	\$635,514	\$239,996,934	\$ —	\$(225,953,071)	\$ 14,679,377
Net loss					(26,128,720)	(26,128,720)
Employee stock-based compensation expense	_	_	6,138,384	_	_	6,138,384
Nonemployee stock-based compensation			101.222			101.222
expense	_	_	181,323		_	181,323
Issuance of common stock through "at-the- market" equity offerings in 2014 for cash from						
\$1.10 to \$2.54 per share, net of financing costs						
of \$284,698	4,690,824	46,908	9,504,858		_	9,551,766
Exercise of 1,328,270 warrants in 2014 for cash	.,,	. 5,7 00	-,-0.,000			-,1,,-0
from \$1.14 to \$2.19 per share	1,328,270	13,282	2,228,983	_	_	2,242,265
Balance, December 31, 2014	69,570,444	\$695.704		<del>\$</del> —	\$(252,081,791)	\$ 6,664.395
		=====		<del>-</del>		

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

# **Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

	Year	rs ended December	31,
	2014	2013	2012
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net loss	\$(26,128,720)	\$(25,780,659)	\$(23,460,103)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating			
activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	188,904	174,629	226,990
Loss on sale of equipment	_	_	767
Stock-based compensation	6,319,707	5,954,928	4,225,322
original issue discount	123,068	199,592	207,310
Amortization of short-term investment premium or discount	_	_	4,719
Other, net	_	8,030	_
Accounts receivable	14,930	26,634	(52,406)
Inventory	147,422	143,266	(202,584)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	125,071	24,910	233,145
Other assets	(74,372)	246,764	(813,063)
Accounts payable	267,356	60,732	(224,562)
Accrued expenses	(355,294)	512,451	(2,699,761)
Accrued interest payable	(11,735)	2,994	74,857
Net cash used in operating activities	(19,383,663)	(18,425,729)	(22,479,369)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Decrease in restricted cash	_	200,000	_
Maturities of short-term investments available for sale	_	_	1,000,000
Purchases of property and equipment	(88,680)	(416,010)	(76,394)
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(88,680)	(216,010)	923,606
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from stock options exercised	_	_	12,666
Proceeds from warrants exercised	2,242,265	28,020	6,137,095
common stock	9,836,464	24,050,598	5,050,000
Common stock financing costs	(284,698)	(1,448,181)	(367,871)
Proceeds from notes payable and convertible notes payable	_	_	5,347,807
Repayments on notes payable	(4,000,000)	(3,000,000)	(752,841)
Debt issuance costs			(50,000)
Net cash provided by financing activities	7,794,031	19,630,437	15,376,856
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(11,678,312)	988,698	(6,178,907)
Cash and cash equivalents:	22 207 470	22 200 701	20 407 600
Beginning of period	23,297,479	22,308,781	28,487,688
End of period	\$ 11,619,167	\$ 23,297,479	\$ 22,308,781
Supplemental disclosure:			
Interest paid	\$ 418,889	\$ 729,778	\$ 619,668
Noncash investing and financing activities:  Value of warrants issued with debt and for debt commitment	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 237,349

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

#### (1) Formation and Business of the Company

EnteroMedics Inc. (EnteroMedics or the Company) is developing implantable systems to treat obesity, metabolic diseases and other gastrointestinal disorders. The Company was incorporated in the state of Minnesota on December 19, 2002, originally as two separate legal entities, Alpha Medical, Inc. and Beta Medical, Inc., both of which were owned 100% by a common stockholder. Effective October 1, 2003, the two entities were combined and the combined entity changed its name to EnteroMedics Inc. The Company reincorporated in Delaware on July 22, 2004. The Company has devoted substantially all of its resources to recruiting personnel, developing its product technology, obtaining patents to protect its intellectual property and raising capital, and thus far has only derived revenues from its primary business activity in 2012. The Company is headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota.

EnteroMedics Europe Sárl (EnteroMedics Europe), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, was formed in January 2006. EnteroMedics Europe is a Swiss entity established as a means to conduct clinical trials in Switzerland. Upon establishment there were 20 shares of EnteroMedics Europe issued and outstanding with a par value of 1,000 Swiss Francs. EnteroMedics purchased 100% of the shares and then issued one share to a fiduciary agent. The one share is the property of EnteroMedics and is held by the fiduciary in a fiduciary capacity under terms of the Fiduciary Agreement. The functional currency of EnteroMedics Europe has been determined to be the U.S. Dollar.

EnteroMedics has incurred losses through December 31, 2014 and has not generated positive cash flows from operations. The Company expects such losses to continue into the foreseeable future as it continues to develop and commercialize its technologies. The Company may need to obtain additional financing and there can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in obtaining additional financing on favorable terms, or at all. If adequate funds are not available, the Company may have to delay development or commercialization of products or license to third parties the rights to commercialize products or technologies that the Company would otherwise seek to commercialize.

#### (2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Basis of Presentation

The Company has prepared the accompanying consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Company's fiscal year ends on December 31.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiary. All intercompany transactions and accounts have been eliminated in consolidation.

#### Concentration of Credit Risk and Other Risks and Uncertainties

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to significant concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents. Cash and cash equivalents are primarily deposited in demand and money market accounts. At times, such deposits may be in excess of insured limits. Investments in money market

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

funds are not considered to be bank deposits and are not insured or guaranteed by the federal deposit insurance company or other government agency. These money market funds seek to preserve the value of the investment at \$1.00 per share; however, it is possible to lose money investing in these funds. The Company has not experienced any losses on its deposits of cash and cash equivalents.

Most of the products developed by the Company require approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or corresponding foreign regulatory agencies prior to commercial sales. The Company received FDA approval on January 14, 2015 for VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, and has begun a controlled commercial launch at select bariatric centers of excellence in the United States. The Maestro Rechargeable System has also received CE Mark and is listed on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

The medical device industry is characterized by frequent and extensive litigation and administrative proceedings over patent and other intellectual property rights. Whether a product infringes a patent involves complex legal and factual issues, the determination of which is often difficult to predict, and the outcome may be uncertain until the court has entered final judgment and all appeals are exhausted. The Company's competitors may assert that its products or the use of the Company's products are covered by U.S. or foreign patents held by them.

The Company's activities are subject to significant risk and uncertainties, including the ability to obtain additional financing and there can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in obtaining additional financing on favorable terms, or at all. If adequate funds are not available, the Company may have to delay development or commercialization of products or license to third parties the rights to commercialize products or technologies that the Company would otherwise seek to commercialize.

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Carrying amounts of certain of the Company's financial instruments, including cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, accounts receivable, prepaid expenses and other current assets, accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate fair value due to their short maturities. The fair values of investments in debt and equity securities, if any, are disclosed in Note 4. The fair value of the Company's debt is approximately \$3.4 million as of December 31, 2014 based on the present value of estimated future cash flows using a discount rate commensurate with borrowing rates available to the Company. If measured at fair value in the consolidated financial statements, long-term debt (including the current portion) would be classified as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers highly liquid investments generally with maturities of 90 days or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are stated at cost, which approximates market value. The Company's cash equivalents are primarily in money market funds and certificates of deposit. The Company deposits its cash and cash equivalents in high-quality credit institutions. Under terms of the Company's notes payable agreements (see Note 8), in the event of default, the lender has the right to enforce account control agreements and restrict the Company's access to their cash and investment accounts.

#### Restricted Cash

The Company had \$200,000 in a cash collateral money market account as of December 31, 2012. Pursuant to the Lease Agreement the Company entered into with Roseville Properties Management Company in July

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

2008, the Company was required to deliver to Roseville Properties an irrevocable, unconditional, standby letter of credit in the amount of \$200,000 on the second anniversary of the commencement of lease payments. The irrevocable standby letter of credit was issued by Silicon Valley Bank, who required the Company to set up a restricted cash collateral money market account to fully secure the standby letter of credit. The fully secured standby letter of credit was maintained through October 1, 2013, per the terms of the lease agreement.

#### **Short-Term Investments**

The Company considers all investments with maturities greater than three months and less than one year at the time of purchase as short-term investments and classifies them as either available for sale or held to maturity. The Company also considers certain investments with maturities greater than one year but which are also held for liquidity purposes and are available for sale as short-term investments.

Available-for-sale securities are carried at fair value based on quoted market prices, with the unrealized gains and losses included in other comprehensive income within stockholders' equity (deficit) in the consolidated balance sheets. Realized gains and losses and declines in value judged to be other than temporary on available-for-sale securities are included in interest and other income. Interest and dividends on securities classified as available for sale are included in interest income. The cost of securities sold is based on the specific identification method.

Short-term investments in debt securities which the Company has the positive intent and ability to hold to maturity are reported at cost, adjusted for premiums and discounts that are recognized in interest income, using the interest method, over the period to maturity. Unrealized losses on held-to-maturity securities reflecting a decline in value determined to be other than temporary are charged to income.

#### Inventory

The Company accounts for inventory at the lower of cost or market and records any long-term inventory as other assets in the consolidated balance sheets.

## Property and Equipment, Net

Property and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation of property and equipment is computed using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives of five to seven years for furniture and equipment and three to five years for computer hardware and software. Leasehold improvements are amortized on a straight-line basis over the lesser of their useful life or the term of the lease. Upon retirement or sale, the cost and related accumulated depreciation or amortization are removed from the consolidated balance sheets and the resulting gain or loss is reflected in the consolidated statements of operations. Repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

## Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Company evaluates its long-lived assets for impairment by comparison of the carrying amounts to future net undiscounted cash flows expected to be generated by such assets when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Should an impairment exist, the impairment loss would be measured based on the excess carrying value of the asset over the asset's fair value or estimates of future discounted cash flows. The Company has not identified any such impairment losses to date.

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

#### Income Taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. A valuation allowance for deferred income tax assets is recorded when it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred income tax assets will not be realized. The Company has provided a full valuation allowance against the gross deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 (see Note 11). The Company's policy is to classify interest and penalties related to income taxes as income tax expense in the consolidated statements of operations.

#### Comprehensive Loss

Comprehensive loss is defined as the change in equity of a company during a period from transactions and other events and circumstances excluding transactions resulting from investment owners and distributions to owners. There was no difference from reported net loss for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013. The difference from reported net loss for the year ended December 31, 2012 related entirely to changes in unrealized gains (losses) on available-for-sale investments.

#### Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, title or risk of loss has passed, the selling price is fixed or determinable and collection is reasonably assured. Products are sold internationally through distributors and revenue is recognized upon sale to the distributor as these sales are considered to be final and no right of return or price protection exists. Terms of sales to international distributors are generally EXW, reflecting that goods are shipped "ex works," in which risk of loss is assumed by the distributor at the shipping point. We do not provide for rights of return to customers on product sales and therefore do not record a provision for returns.

## Research and Development Expenses

Research and development expenses are charged to expense as incurred. Research and development expenses include, but are not limited to, product development, clinical trial expenses, including supplies, devices, explants and revisions, quality assurance, regulatory expenses, payroll and other personnel expenses, materials and consulting costs.

#### Patent Costs

Costs associated with the submission of a patent application are expensed as incurred given the uncertainty of the patents resulting in probable future economic benefits to the Company. Patent-related legal expenses included in general and administrative costs were \$338,055, \$296,575 and \$278,987 for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

#### **Derivative Instruments**

The Company accounts for outstanding warrants that are not indexed to the Company's stock or warrants issued when the Company has insufficient authorized and unissued stock available to share settle the outstanding

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

warrants as derivative instruments, which require that the warrants be classified as a liability and measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognized currently in earnings and recorded separately in the consolidated statements of operations. The Company did not have any such instruments during the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012.

#### Stock-Based Compensation

The fair value method is applied to all share-based payment awards issued to employees and where appropriate, nonemployees, unless another source of literature applies. When determining the measurement date of a nonemployee's share-based payment award, the Company measures the stock options at fair value and remeasures such stock options to the current fair value until the performance date has been reached. All option grants are expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

#### Net Loss Per Share

Basic net loss per share is computed by dividing net loss by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net loss per share is based on the weighted-average common shares outstanding during the period plus dilutive potential common shares calculated using the treasury stock method. Such potentially dilutive shares are excluded when the effect would be to reduce a net loss per share. The Company's potential dilutive shares, which include outstanding common stock options and warrants, have not been included in the computation of diluted net loss per share for all periods as the result would be anti-dilutive.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net loss per share for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012:

	Years ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Numerator:			
Net loss	<u>\$(26,128,720)</u>	<u>\$(25,780,659)</u>	\$(23,460,103)
Denominator for basic and diluted net loss per share:			
Weighted-average common shares outstanding	67,866,427	55,009,916	39,536,500
Net loss per share—basic and diluted	\$ (0.39)	\$ (0.47)	\$ (0.59)

The following table sets forth the potential shares of common stock that are not included in the calculation of diluted net loss per share because to do so would be anti-dilutive as of the end of each period presented:

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Stock options outstanding	12,655,792	11,687,300	7,835,533
Warrants to purchase common stock	24,199,705	25,550,625	21,216,447

# Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In June 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued *Development Stage Entities, Topic* 915 (Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-10 (ASU 2014-10)), which eliminates certain financial reporting requirements, with the objective of improving financial reporting by reducing the cost and complexity associated with the incremental reporting requirements for development stage entities. This guidance is effective for interim

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2014; however, early application is permitted for any annual reporting period or interim period for which an entity's financial statements have not yet been issued. The Company elected to adopt ASU 2014-10 effective with the quarter ending June 30, 2014. Therefore, the accompanying consolidated financial statements no longer present or disclose any information previously required by Topic 915.

In May 2014, FASB issued *Revenue from Contracts with Customers, Topic 606 (Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09 (ASU 2014-09))*, which provides a framework for the recognition of revenue, with the objective that recognized revenues properly reflect amounts an entity is entitled to receive in exchange for goods and services. This guidance will be effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of adopting ASU 2014-09 on its consolidated financial statements.

Various other accounting standards and interpretations have been issued with 2014 effective dates and effective dates subsequent to December 31, 2014. We have evaluated the recently issued accounting pronouncements that are currently effective or will be effective in 2015 and believe that none of them have had or will have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

#### (3) Liquidity and Management's Plans

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared assuming the Company will continue as a going concern. The Company has financed its operations to date principally through the sale of equity securities, debt financing and interest earned on investments. As of December 31, 2014, the Company had \$11.6 million of cash and cash equivalents to fund its anticipated operations for 2015 and also has an "at-themarket" equity offering program (ATM) under which it can raise additional funds by instructing Cowen and Company, LLC (Cowen), the Company's sales agent, to sell shares of the Company's common stock having aggregate gross sales proceeds of up to \$25.0 million (the Cowen ATM), of which \$17.6 million remains available as of March 13, 2015 (further described in Note 10). These anticipated operations include plans that consider the controlled commercial launch of VBLOC therapy, delivered via the Maestro Rechargeable System, which was approved by the FDA on January 14, 2015. In order to finance these anticipated operations, including the increase in internal expenditures resulting from the controlled commercial launch noted above, the Company has raised \$6.4 million in gross proceeds before deducting offering expenses from the Cowen ATM subsequent to December 31, 2014 through March 13, 2015. In addition, the Company believes that it has the ability to raise additional capital through (i) the sale of additional equity securities, including, but not limited to, the use of the Cowen ATM and the exercise of outstanding warrants; (ii) the sale of debt securities; or (iii) establishing a credit facility, and has the flexibility to manage the growth of its expenditures and expand operations.

# (4) Short-term Investments and Fair Value Measurements

Fair value of financial assets and liabilities is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. A fair value hierarchy has been established that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

• Level 1—Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities.

# **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

- Level 2—Quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active or model-derived valuations for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3—Prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both significant to the fair value measurement and unobservable.

The Company's assets that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis are classified within Level 1 or Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. The Company does not hold any assets that are measured at fair value using Level 3 inputs. The types of instruments the Company invests in that are valued based on quoted market prices in active markets include U.S. treasury securities. Such instruments are classified by the company within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. U.S. treasuries are valued using unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets in active markets that the Company can access.

The types of instruments the Company invests in that are valued based on quoted prices in less active markets, broker or dealer quotations, or alternative pricing sources with reasonable levels of price transparency include the Company's U.S. agency securities, commercial paper, U.S. corporate bonds and municipal obligations. Such instruments are classified by the Company within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. The Company values these types of assets using consensus pricing or a weighted average price, which is based on multiple pricing sources received from a variety of industry standard data providers (e.g. Bloomberg), security master files from large financial institutions, and other third-party sources. The multiple prices obtained are then used as inputs into a distribution-curve-based algorithm to determine the daily market price.

The Company did not hold any short-term investments classified as available for sale or held to maturity as of December 31, 2014 and 2013.

# (5) Inventory

From inception, inventory related purchases had been used for research and development related activities and had accordingly been expensed as incurred. In December 2011, the Company began receiving Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG) listings for components of the Maestro Rechargeable System from the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), with the final components being listed on the ARTG in January 2012. As a result, the Company determined certain assets were recoverable as inventory beginning in December 2011. The Company accounts for inventory at the lower of cost or market and records any long-term inventory as other assets in the consolidated balance sheets. There was approximately \$825,000 and \$794,000 of long-term inventory, primarily consisting of raw materials, as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively.

Current inventory consists of the following as of:

December 31,	
2014	2013
\$322,157	\$ 385,565
632,615	624,530
25,747	117,846
\$980,519	\$1,127,941
	2014 \$322,157 632,615 25,747

# **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

#### (6) Property and Equipment

Property and equipment consists of the following as of:

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	
Furniture and equipment	\$ 2,295,433	\$ 2,274,633	
Computer hardware and software	556,556	499,922	
Leasehold improvements	62,651	46,754	
	2,914,640	2,821,309	
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(2,433,118)	(2,244,214)	
Property and equipment, net	\$ 481,522	\$ 577,095	

# (7) Accrued Expenses

Accrued expenses consists of the following as of:

	December 31,	
	2014	2013
Professional service related expenses	\$2,107,712	\$2,650,163
Payroll related expenses	1,267,141	1,043,028
Other expenses	455,913	492,869
Accrued expenses	\$3,830,766	\$4,186,060

# (8) Notes Payable

Notes payable consists of the following as of:

	December 31,		
	2014	2013	
Growth capital loan dated April 16, 2012 (net of discounts of			
\$23,836 and \$131,670 at December 31, 2014 and 2013,			
respectively)	\$ 2,976,164	\$ 6,868,330	
Less current portion	(2,976,164)	(4,000,000)	
Total long-term debt	<u> </u>	\$ 2,868,330	

On April 16, 2012, the Company entered into a Loan and Security Agreement (the Loan Agreement) with Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) pursuant to which SVB agreed to make term loans in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$20.0 million (\$10.0 million of which is not available as the Company did not meet the predefined primary efficacy measures of the ReCharge trial and did not meet certain financial objectives for 2012), on the terms and conditions set forth in the Loan Agreement.

Pursuant to the Loan Agreement, a term loan was funded in the aggregate principal amount of \$10.0 million on April 23, 2012, a portion of which was used to repay in full outstanding debt of approximately \$4.7 million. The term loan required interest only payments monthly through March 31, 2013 followed by 30 equal payments of principal in the amount of \$333,333 plus accrued interest beginning on April 1, 2013 and ending on

# **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

September 1, 2015, payable monthly. Amounts borrowed under the Loan Agreement bear interest at a fixed annual rate equal to 8.0%. A 5.0% final payment fee will be due on September 1, 2015. The Company may voluntarily prepay the term loan in full, but not in part, and any voluntary or mandatory prepayment is subject to applicable prepayment premiums and will also include the final payment fee. The Company was required to comply with certain financial covenants that required the Company to generate certain minimum amounts of revenue from the sale of its Maestro Rechargeable System and to implant certain minimum numbers of Maestro Rechargeable Systems during cumulative quarterly measurement periods beginning with the period ended March 31, 2013 and ending with the period ending June 30, 2015. The Company did not meet the financial covenants for the period ended March 31, 2013 and therefore entered into a First Amendment (the First Amendment) to the Loan Agreement on May 9, 2013 pursuant to which the Company and SVB agreed to new financial covenants.

The First Amendment eliminated the financial covenants that required the Company to generate certain minimum amounts of revenue from the sale of its Maestro Rechargeable System and to implant certain minimum numbers of Maestro Rechargeable Systems during cumulative quarterly measurement periods beginning with the period ended March 31, 2013 and ending with the period ending June 30, 2015. It also removed SVB's ability to require the Company to maintain a restricted cash balance of \$7.5 million in an SVB account as a result of the Company not meeting the predefined primary efficacy measures of the ReCharge trial.

The First Amendment added two new financial covenants, one of which required the Company to receive cumulative aggregate net proceeds of at least \$5.0 million by November 15, 2013 and \$10.0 million by April 15, 2014 from new capital transactions, both of which have been fulfilled through the use of the equity distribution agreement with Canaccord Genuity Inc. (see Note 10). The second financial covenant required the Company to maintain a liquidity ratio (unrestricted cash divided by outstanding debt) of at least 1.25:1.00 until it received FDA approval for the Maestro Rechargeable System on January 14, 2015, at which point it was reduced to 0.75:1.00. The First Amendment did not change the interest rate or the amortization structure. The Company is required to pay SVB a \$187,000 success fee as a result of receiving FDA approval for the Maestro Rechargeable System on January 14, 2015.

The Company has granted SVB a security interest in all of the Company's assets, excluding intellectual property except with respect to all license, royalty fees and other revenues and income arising out of or relating to any of the intellectual property and all proceeds of the intellectual property. The Company also has entered into a negative pledge arrangement with SVB pursuant to which it has agreed not to encumber any of its intellectual property without SVB's prior written consent.

Pursuant to the Loan Agreement, on April 16, 2012, the Company issued SVB a warrant to purchase 106,746 shares of common stock, exercisable for ten years from the date of grant, at an exercise price of \$2.34 per share.

Scheduled debt principal payments are as follows as of December 31, 2014:

Year ending December 31:	
2015	\$3,000,000
Less original issue discount	(23,836)
Notes payable, net	\$2,976,164

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

#### (9) Preferred Stock

The Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation currently authorizes 5,000,000 shares of \$0.01 par value preferred stock. As of December 31, 2014 and 2013, there were no shares of preferred stock issued or outstanding.

#### (10) Stock Sales

#### Registered Direct Offering—April 2012

On April 16, 2012, the Company entered into a securities purchase agreement with a current investor for the sale of 2,271,705 shares of its common stock in a registered direct offering, at a purchase price of \$2.22 per share. On April 20, 2012, the offering closed and the Company received gross proceeds of \$5.0 million before deducting offering expenses.

#### Public Offering—February 2013

On February 27, 2013, the Company closed a public offering, selling 13,770,000 shares of common stock, together with warrants to purchase approximately 5,508,000 shares of common stock at an aggregate price of \$0.95 per share and corresponding warrant, for gross proceeds of \$13.1 million before deducting offering expenses. Certain directors of the Company participated in the public offering (see Note 14).

The warrants have an exercise price of \$1.14 per share of common stock and are exercisable for a period of five years from February 27, 2013. Holders of the warrants are not permitted to exercise those warrants for an amount of common stock that would result in the holder owning more than 19.99% of the Company's common stock.

#### Equity Distribution Agreement—July 2013

On July 31, 2013, the Company entered into an equity distribution agreement with Canaccord Genuity Inc. (Canaccord) to sell shares of the Company's common stock having aggregate gross sales proceeds of up to \$20.0 million, from time to time, through an ATM under which Canaccord acted as the Company's sales agent (the Canaccord ATM). The Company determined, at its sole discretion, the timing and number of shares sold under the Canaccord ATM. The Company paid Canaccord a commission for its services in acting as agent in the sale of common stock equal to 2.0% of the gross sales price per share of all shares sold through it as agent under the equity distribution agreement. During 2013 the Company sold 7,917,755 shares under the Canaccord ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$1.39 per share for gross proceeds of \$11.0 million before deducting offering expenses. During 2014 the Company sold an additional 4,006,222 shares under the Canaccord ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$2.22 per share for gross proceeds of \$8.9 million before deducting offering expenses. The equity distribution agreement with Canaccord was terminated effective June 10, 2014. As of the termination date, the Company had sold a total of 11,923,977 shares under the Canaccord ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$1.67 per share for gross proceeds of \$19.9 million before deducting offering expenses.

# Sales Agreement—June 2014

On June 13, 2014, the Company entered into a sales agreement with Cowen and Company, LLC (Cowen) to sell shares of the Company's common stock having aggregate gross sales proceeds of up to \$25.0 million, from time to time, through an ATM under which Cowen will act as the Company's sales agent (the Cowen ATM). The Company will determine, at its sole discretion, the timing and number of shares to be sold under the Cowen ATM. The Company will pay Cowen a commission for its services in acting as agent in the sale of common

# **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

stock equal to 3.0% of the gross sales price per share of all shares sold through it as agent under the sales agreement. As of December 31, 2014, the Company had sold 684,602 shares under the Cowen ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$1.35 per share for gross proceeds of \$927,000 before deducting offering expenses. Subsequent to December 31, 2014 through March 13, 2015, the Company has sold 4,627,934 shares under the Cowen ATM at a weighted-average selling price of \$1.39 per share for gross proceeds of \$6.4 million before deducting offering expenses.

#### (11) Income Taxes

The Company has incurred net operating losses (NOLs) since inception. The Company has not reflected any benefit of such net operating loss carryforwards in the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

The income tax expense benefit differed from the amount computed by applying the U.S. federal income tax rate of 34% to income before income taxes as a result of the following:

	2014	2013	2012
Computed 'expected' tax benefit	34.0%	34.0%	34.0%
Other permanent adjustments	-2.3%	-2.3%	-2.2%
Research and development credit	0.3%	3.5%	0.0%
Federal valuation allowance	-32.0%	-35.2%	-31.8%
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

The tax effect of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets as of December 31 is presented below:

	2014	2013
Deferred tax assets (liabilities):		
Start-up costs	\$ 8,739,000	\$ 8,851,000
Capitalized research and development costs	30,276,000	24,844,000
Reserves and accruals	6,052,000	4,530,000
Property and equipment	94,000	105,000
Research and development credit	1,636,000	1,508,000
Net operating loss carryforwards	16,656,000	12,198,000
Total gross deferred tax assets	63,453,000	52,036,000
Valuation allowance	(63,453,000)	(52,036,000)
Net deferred tax assets	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

In assessing the realization of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income during periods in which those temporary differences become deductible. In addition, certain limitations imposed under the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) could further limit the Company's realization of these deferred tax assets in the event of changes in ownership of the Company (as described below).

Based on the level of historical taxable losses and projections of future taxable income (losses) over the periods in which the deferred tax assets can be realized, management currently believes that it is more likely than not that the Company will not realize the benefits of these deductible differences. Accordingly, the Company has provided a valuation allowance against the gross deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2014 and 2013.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

As of December 31, 2014, the Company has generated U.S. federal net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$91.9 million. Of this amount, approximately \$44.0 million is available after the application of Section 382 limitations described below. Of the total federal net operating loss, \$221,000 would result in tax benefits recorded to additional paid-in capital. The federal net operating loss carryforwards expire in the years 2022 through 2034.

The IRC imposes restrictions on the utilization of various carryforward tax attributes in the event of a change in ownership of the Company, as defined by IRC Section 382. In addition, IRC Section 382 may limit the Company's built-in items of deduction, including capitalized start-up costs and research and development costs. During 2011, the Company completed an IRC Section 382 review and the results of this review indicate ownership changes have occurred which would cause a limitation on the utilization of carryforward attributes. The Company's gross net operating loss carryforwards, start-up costs and research and development credits are all subject to limitation. Under these tax provisions, the limitation is applied first to any built-in losses, then to any net operating losses and then to any general business credits. The Section 382 limitation and accompanying recognized built-in loss limitation is currently estimated to result in the expiration of \$48.1 million of the Company's gross federal net operating loss carryforward, as well as a write-off of \$5.9 million of capitalized start-up costs, \$5.5 million of capitalized research and development costs, \$1.5 million of property and equipment and \$2.4 million of research and development credits. Any ownership changes since we completed the IRC Section 382 review in 2011 could result in further limitations on the utilization of carryforward attributes.

As of December 31, 2014 and 2013, there were no unrecognized tax benefits. Accordingly, a tabular reconciliation from beginning to ending periods is not provided. The Company will classify any future interest and penalties as a component of income tax expense if incurred. To date, there have been no interest or penalties charged or accrued in relation to unrecognized tax benefits.

The Company does not anticipate that the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits will change significantly in the next twelve months.

The Company is subject to U.S. federal examinations for the years 2011 forward. With limited exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal, state or local examinations by tax authorities for years prior to 2011. There are no U.S. federal tax examinations currently in progress.

The Company's Minnesota Corporation Franchise Tax returns for tax years ending December 31, 2010 through December 31, 2013, are currently under review.

#### (12) Stock Options

The Company has adopted the Amended and Restated 2003 Stock Incentive Plan (the Plan) that includes both incentive stock options and nonqualified stock options to be granted to employees, officers, consultants, independent contractors, directors and affiliates of the Company. At December 31, 2014 and 2013, according to the Plan, 19,800,000 and 12,300,000 shares, respectively have been authorized and reserved. The board of directors establishes the terms and conditions of all stock option grants, subject to the Plan and applicable provisions of the IRC. Incentive stock options must be granted at an exercise price not less than the fair market value of the common stock on the grant date. The options granted to participants owning more than 10% of the Company's outstanding voting stock must be granted at an exercise price not less than 110% of fair market value of the common stock on the grant date. The options expire on the date determined by the board of directors, but may not extend more than 10 years from the grant date, while incentive stock options granted to participants owning more than 10% of the Company's outstanding voting stock expire five years from the grant date. The vesting period for employees is generally over four years. The vesting period for nonemployees is determined based on the services being provided.

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

On May 7, 2014, the annual meeting of stockholders was held and the stockholders approved the Amended and Restated 2003 Stock Incentive Plan which authorized an additional 7,500,000 shares for issuance under the Plan.

Stock option activity is as follows:

	Shares	Outstan	Aggregate	
	Available For Grant	Number of Shares	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Intrinsic Value
<b>Balance, December 31, 2011</b>	763,829	3,470,908	\$3.17	
Shares reserved	8,000,000	_	_	
Options granted	(4,462,873)	4,462,873	3.35	
Options exercised	_	(5,219)	2.43	
Options cancelled	93,029	(93,029)	2.79	
Balance, December 31, 2012	4,393,985	7,835,533	3.28	
Shares reserved	_	_	_	
Options granted	(4,346,000)	4,346,000	1.32	
Options exercised	_	_	_	
Options cancelled	494,233	(494,233)	3.00	-
Balance, December 31, 2013	542,218	11,687,300	2.56	\$3,284,696
Shares reserved	7,500,000	_	_	
Options granted	(1,257,500)	1,257,500	1.63	
Options exercised	_	_	_	
Options cancelled	289,008	(289,008)	2.41	
Balance, December 31, 2014	7,073,726	12,655,792	\$2.47	\$ 519,622

The options outstanding, vested and currently exercisable by exercise price at December 31, 2014:

	<b>Outstanding Options and Expected to Vest</b>		Optio	ested		
Exercise Price	Number of Shares Outstanding	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life (Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value	Number of Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
\$0.01 to \$2.00	6,310,699	8.0	\$519,622	2,766,588	\$ 1.52	\$216,439
\$2.01 to \$3.00	2,146,297	5.9	_	1,963,787	2.63	_
\$3.01 to \$5.00	4,085,480	7.4	_	2,529,663	3.41	_
\$5.01 to \$10.00	4,166	4.1	_	4,166	8.40	_
> \$10.00	109,150	3.3		109,150	23.54	
	12,655,792		\$519,622	7,373,354	\$ 2.79	\$216,439

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

#### Stock-Based Compensation for Nonemployees

Stock-based compensation expenses related to stock options granted to nonemployees is recognized as the stock options are earned. The Company believes that the fair value of the stock options is more reliably measurable than the fair value of the services received. The fair value of the stock options granted is calculated at each reporting date, using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, until the award vests or there is a substantial disincentive for the nonemployee not to perform the required services. The fair value for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was calculated using the following assumptions, defined below:

	Years Ended December 31,			
	2014	2013	2012	
Risk-free interest rates	0.08% - 2.63%	0.26% - 2.98%	0.24% - 2.05%	
Expected life	0.50 years-9.51 years	1.50 years-9.76 years	2.00 years-9.25 years	
Expected dividends	0%	0%	0%	
Expected volatility	56.54%-139.65%	80.00%-143.00%	63.48%-142.25%	

Stock-based compensation expense charged to operations on options granted to nonemployees for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$181,323, \$166,679 and \$52,190, respectively.

#### Employee Stock-Based Awards

Compensation cost for employee stock-based awards is based on the estimated grant-date fair value and is recognized over the vesting period of the applicable award on a straight-line basis. The weighted average estimated fair value of the employee stock options granted for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$1.42, \$1.22 and \$3.19 per share, respectively.

The Company uses the Black-Scholes pricing model to determine the fair value of stock options. The determination of the fair value of stock-based payment awards on the date of grant is affected by the Company's stock price as well as assumptions regarding a number of complex and subjective variables. These variables include the Company's expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards, actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors, risk-free interest rates and expected dividends. The estimated grant-date fair values of the employee stock options were calculated using the Black-Scholes valuation model, based on the following assumptions for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Risk-free interest rates	1.73%-1.96%	0.94%-1.33%	0.90%-1.09%
Expected life	6.00 years-6.25 years	6.00 years-6.25 years	6.00 years-6.25 years
Expected dividends	0%	0%	0%
Expected volatility	118.64%-120.70%	148.00%-149.00%	137.58%-143.98%

*Expected Life.* The expected life is based on the "simplified" method described in the SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin, Topic 14: *Share-Based Payment*.

Volatility. Since the Company was a private entity for most of 2007 and a limited amount of historical data regarding the volatility of its common stock was available, the expected volatility used for 2012 was based on both the volatility of similar entities, referred to as "guideline" companies, and the Company's historical volatility. In evaluating similarity, the Company considered factors such as industry, stage of life cycle and size. Effective with the year ended December 31, 2013, the expected volatility was based solely on the Company's historical volatility.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

*Risk-Free Interest Rate.* The risk-free rate is based on the daily yield curve rate from the U.S. Treasury with remaining terms similar to the expected term on the options.

*Dividend Yield.* The Company has never declared or paid any cash dividends and does not plan to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future, and, therefore, used an expected dividend yield of zero in the valuation model.

Forfeitures. The Company is required to estimate forfeitures at the time of grant, and revise those estimates in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. The Company uses historical data to estimate pre-vesting option forfeitures and record stock-based compensation expense only for those awards that are expected to vest. All stock-based payment awards are amortized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service periods of the awards, which are generally the vesting periods. If the Company's actual forfeiture rate is materially different from its estimate, the stock-based compensation expense could be significantly different from what the Company has recorded in the current period.

As of December 31, 2014 there was approximately \$9.2 million of total unrecognized compensation costs, net of estimated forfeitures, related to employee unvested stock option awards, which are expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.00 years.

There were no stock option exercises for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013. The aggregate intrinsic value of stock options (the amount by which the market price of the stock on the date of exercise exceeded the exercise price of the option) exercised during the year ended December 31, 2012, was \$3,044.

#### (13) Warrants

Stock warrant activity is as follows:

	Common Shares	Price(1)
Balance, December 31, 2011	23,923,301	\$ 2.55
Granted(2)	106,746	2.34
Exercised	(2,813,600)	2.18
Cancelled		
Balance, December 31, 2012	21,216,447	2.60
Granted(2)	5,508,000	1.14
Exercised	(20,325)	1.38
Cancelled	(1,153,497)	9.14
Balance, December 31, 2013	25,550,625	1.99
Granted		
Exercised	(1,328,270)	1.69
Cancelled	(22,650)	48.56
<b>Balance, December 31, 2014</b>	24,199,705	\$ 1.96

<sup>(1)</sup> Represents weighted-average exercise price per share.

At December 31, 2014 and 2013, the weighted-average remaining contractual life of outstanding warrants was 1.85 and 2.87 years, respectively. All of the warrants outstanding are currently exercisable at the option of the holder into the equivalent number of shares of common stock.

<sup>(2)</sup> See Notes 8 and 10 for discussions relating to the issuance of warrants in 2013 and 2012.

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

#### (14) Related Party Transactions

#### **Public Offerings**

As discussed in Note 10, on February 27, 2013, the Company closed a public offering, selling 13,770,000 shares of common stock, together with warrants to purchase approximately 5,508,000 shares of common stock at an aggregate price of \$0.95 per share and corresponding warrant. The following principal stockholder purchased shares of common stock and warrants at a price of \$0.95 per share and corresponding warrant. The shares purchased, together with the proceeds, before expenses, to the Company, are shown in the table below:

Beneficial Owner	Purchased	Purchased	expenses, to the Company
Anthony Jansz	150,000	60,000	\$142,500

Anthony Jansz is a director of the Company.

#### Consulting Agreement—Anthony Jansz

Effective June 1, 2011, the Company entered into a four year consulting agreement with Anthony Jansz, who is a member of the board of directors. Pursuant to the agreement, in exchange for consulting services provided, Mr. Jansz was entitled to receive a consulting fee of \$96,000 AUD (approximately \$79,000 USD as of December 31, 2014) per year and the reimbursement of reasonable expenses. Mr. Jansz also received an option to purchase 50,000 shares of common stock at \$2.76 per share that vests in 48 equal monthly installments beginning on July 1, 2011. The full grant date fair value of the option grant was approximately \$108,000.

On December 20, 2012, the Company entered into an amendment, effective October 1, 2012, to the consulting agreement with Mr. Jansz. Pursuant to the amendment, during the period from October 1, 2012 until June 30, 2013, Mr. Jansz agreed to commit additional time to performing consulting services for the Company. In exchange for these additional services, Mr. Jansz was entitled to receive a consulting fee of \$12,000 AUD (approximately \$10,000 USD as of December 31, 2014) per month from October 1, 2012 until June 30, 2013. Mr. Jansz also received an option to purchase 75,000 shares of the Company's common stock on January 22, 2013 at \$2.65 per share, which vests as follows: (A) 16,667 of such 75,000 shares vested on January 22, 2013, the date of grant; (B) 16,667 of such 75,000 shares vested on January 22, 2014; (C) 16,666 of such 75,000 shares vested on January 22, 2015; and (D) the remaining 25,000 of such 75,000 shares would have vested upon the occurrence of both (i) the Company successfully obtaining full Australian reimbursement approval for both surgeon's fees and hospital fees for VBLOC therapy and the Maestro Rechargeable System from the Australian Medical Services Advisory Committee prior to June 30, 2014 and (ii) the Company successfully obtaining device listing for the Maestro Rechargeable System on the Australian Prostheses List prior to June 30, 2014. The full grant date fair value of the option grant was approximately \$153,000. The Company did not successfully obtain full Australian reimbursement approval for both surgeon's fees and hospital fees for VBLOC therapy and the Maestro Rechargeable System from the Australian Medical Services Advisory Committee prior to June 30, 2014 nor a device listing for the Maestro Rechargeable System on the Australian Prostheses List prior to June 30, 2014 resulting in 25,000 shares not vesting.

The Company continued to pay Mr. Jansz a consulting fee of \$12,000 AUD per month subsequent to June 30, 2013 as a result of the additional time he continued to spend providing consulting services to the Company. Mr. Jansz also received an additional option to purchase 100,000 shares of the Company's common stock on May 31, 2013 at \$1.31 per share, which vests as follows: (A) 16,667 of such 100,000 shares vested on May 31, 2013, the date of the grant; (B) 16,667 of such 100,000 shares vested on May 31, 2014; (C) 16,666 of such 100,000 shares will vest on May 31, 2015; (D) 25,000 of such 100,000 shares would have vested upon the

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

implementation of the Australian Specialty Clinic Commercial Validation Project as evidenced by the implantation of 10 or more Maestro Rechargeable Systems in an Australian Clinic prior to December 31, 2013; and (E) the remaining 25,000 of such 100,000 shares would have vested upon the Company successfully obtaining an Item Listing for Maestro Rechargeable System implantation by December 31, 2014. The Australian Specialty Clinic Commercial Validation Project was not implemented prior to December 31, 2013 resulting in 25,000 shares not vesting and the Company did not obtain an Item Listing for Maestro Rechargeable System implantation by December 31, 2014 resulting in an additional 25,000 shares not vesting. The full grant date fair value of the option grant was approximately \$103,000.

On September 25, 2014, the Company entered into Amendment No. 2, effective September 1, 2014, to the consulting agreement with Mr. Jansz. Pursuant to the amendment, during the period from October 1, 2012 until April 30, 2015, Mr. Jansz agreed to commit additional time to performing consulting services for the Company. In exchange for these additional services, Mr. Jansz is entitled to receive a consulting fee of \$12,000 AUD (approximately \$10,000 USD as of December 31, 2014) a month for consulting services during the period beginning on October 1, 2012 and ending on April 30, 2015. Mr. Jansz also received an additional option to purchase 25,000 shares of the Company's common stock on October 6, 2014 at \$1.14 per share, which vested upon the occurrence of both the development of a reimbursement-focused clinical trial protocol in Australia and a recommendation to the Company's management regarding Australian commercialization. The full grant date fair value of the option grant was approximately \$16,000.

Total stock-based compensation expense recorded was approximately \$40,000, \$126,000 and \$23,000 for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively. In addition to the option grant, the Company paid Mr. Jansz approximately \$196,000, \$154,000 and \$195,000 in fees and expenses for consulting services provided during the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

#### Other

The Company entered into an agreement with an advisory firm to provide various consulting services. The advisory firm is partially owned by a company with whom a member of our board of directors is a partner. The Company recognized \$253,000 and \$146,000 in selling, general and administrative expense for the year ended December 31, 2014 and 2013, respectively, for consulting services provided by the advisory firm.

## (15) Commitments and Contingencies

Effective October 1, 2008 the Company entered into a seven-year non-cancelable operating lease agreement for office/warehouse space. The lease expires on September 30, 2015 with monthly base rent ranging from \$19,570 to \$24,643. Total rent expense recognized for each of the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 was \$270,872. Facility related expenses are included as general and administrative costs on the consolidated statements of operations.

The following is a schedule of total future minimum lease payments due as of December 31, 2014:

Year ending December 31:	
2015	\$221,789

The Company is exposed to product liability claims that are inherent in the testing, production, marketing and sale of medical devices. Management believes any losses that may occur from these matters are adequately covered by insurance, and the ultimate outcome of these matters will not have a material effect on the

# **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

Company's financial position or results of operations. The Company is not currently a party to any litigation and is not aware of any pending or threatened litigation that could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, operating results or financial condition.

The Company is evaluating the Maestro System in human clinical trials, including the EMPOWER trial and ReCharge trial. Both of these clinical trials require patients to be followed out to 60 months. The Company is required to pay for patient follow up visits only to the extent they occur. In the event a patient does not attend a follow up visit, the Company has no financial obligation. The Company is also required to pay for explants or revisions, including potential conversions of ReCharge control devices to active devices, should a patient request or be required to have one during the course of the clinical trials. The Company has no financial obligation unless an explant, revision or conversion is requested or required. Clinical trial costs are expensed as incurred.

In 2005, EnteroMedics entered into an exclusive collaborative obesity device research and development agreement with the Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research (Mayo Foundation), Rochester, Minnesota. Through this agreement, EnteroMedics collaborated with a group of physicians and researchers at Mayo Clinic in the field of obesity. Under the terms of this five-year agreement, EnteroMedics and this group of Mayo specialists collectively worked toward the development of new and innovative medical devices for the treatment of obesity. The agreement also includes a similar collaboration for the development of products to address a wide variety of disorders susceptible to treatment by electrically blocking neural impulses on the vagus nerve.

The Mayo Foundation received an annual \$250,000 retainer fee which commenced in 2005 and continued through January 2009.

On March 11, 2010, the Company entered into Amendment No. 1 to the agreement with the Mayo Foundation extending the Company's collaboration with the Mayo Foundation for a period of two years. Pursuant to the amendment, the Mayo Foundation granted the Company certain royalty-bearing, worldwide exclusive and non-exclusive licenses and committed to the joint collaboration between the Company and a designated group of physicians and researchers at the Mayo Clinic for the development and testing of products for the treatment of obesity, including devices that use electrical signaling to block the vagal nerve, and for the treatment of other gastrointestinal diseases, solely using devices that use electrical signaling to block the vagal nerve. The Mayo Foundation received an annual retainer of \$100,000 in 2010 and 2011. The agreement was further amended on January 15, 2011 with Amendment No. 2. Under the terms of Amendment No. 2, the annual retainer the Mayo Foundation received for 2011 was reduced to \$75,000. The agreement was further amended on February 3, 2012 with Amendment No. 3. Under the terms of Amendment No. 3, beginning in 2012 the Mayo Foundation will be reimbursed for services provided at an hourly rate only. Amendment No. 3 does not provide for additional annual retainer payments. No other terms were changed by Amendment Nos. 2 or 3. The agreement was further amended on February 3, 2013 and on February 3, 2014 with Amendment Nos. 4 and 5, respectively, extending the joint collaboration between the company and a designated group of physicians and researchers at the Mayo Clinic. No other terms were changed by Amendment Nos. 4 or 5.

The Company may also be obligated to pay the Mayo Foundation, contingent upon the occurrence of certain future events, earned royalty payments, including a minimum annual royalty as defined by the agreement, as amended, for the commercial sale of products developed and patented by the Mayo Foundation, jointly patented by the Company and the Mayo Foundation, or a product where the Mayo Foundation provided know-how as defined by the agreement, as amended. If no products are patented, the minimum royalty is not due.

# **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

#### (16) Retirement Plan

The Company has a 401(k) profit-sharing plan that provides retirement benefits to employees. Eligible employees may contribute a percentage of their annual compensation, subject to Internal Revenue Service limitations. The Company's matching is at the discretion of the Company's board of directors. For the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, the Company did not provide any matching of employees' contributions.

#### (17) Quarterly Data (unaudited)

The following table represents certain unaudited quarterly information for each of the eight quarters in the period ended December 31, 2014. In management's opinion, this information has been prepared on the same basis as the audited consolidated financial statements and includes all the adjustments necessary to fairly state the unaudited quarterly results of operations (in thousands, except per share data).

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
2014:				
Net loss	\$(6,732)	\$(7,501)	\$(5,714)	\$(6,181)
Basic and diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.10)	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.09)
2013:				
Net loss				
Basic and diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.14)	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.11)

# ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None.

#### ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

#### **Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

We have evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)), as of the end of the period covered by this report (the Evaluation Date). Our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, supervised and participated in the evaluation. Based on the evaluation, we concluded that, as of the Evaluation Date, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective in providing reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's forms and rules, and the material information relating to the Company is accumulated and communicated to management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Control systems, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that control objectives are met. Because of inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within a company will be detected. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by individuals, by collusion of two or more people or by management override. Over time, controls can become inadequate because of changes in conditions or the degree of compliance may deteriorate. Further, the design of any system of controls is based in part upon assumptions about the likelihood of future events. There can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all future conditions. Because of the inherent limitations in any cost-effective control system, misstatements due to errors or fraud may occur and not be detected.

# **Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act) that occurred during the quarter ended December 31, 2014 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

#### Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting for the Company as defined in Rules 13a-15(c) and 15d-15(c) of the Exchange Act. Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the Company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal

control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management has evaluated the design and operating effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014 utilizing the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework (2013)*. Based upon the evaluation, management has concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2014.

Deloitte & Touche LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, has audited the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and, as part of its audit, has issued an attestation report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. The attestation report can be found on the following page as part of this Item 9A.

### Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of EnteroMedics Inc. St. Paul, Minnesota

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of EnteroMedics Inc. and subsidiary (the "Company") as of December 31, 2014, based on criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company's board of directors, management, and other personnel to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2014, based on the criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balances sheets as of December 31, 2014 and 2013, and the related statements of operations, comprehensive loss, stockholders' equity (deficit), and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2014 of the Company and our report dated March 13, 2015 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/ DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP

Minneapolis, Minnesota March 13, 2015

# ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

#### PART III.

Certain information required by Part III is omitted from this report, and is incorporated by reference to our Definitive Proxy Statement to be filed with the SEC pursuant to Regulation 14A (the Proxy Statement) in connection with our 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

#### ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The information required by this Item concerning our directors and executive officers is hereby incorporated by reference to the sections of our Proxy Statement under the headings "Nominees," "Executive Officers," "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" and "Board Meetings and Committees—Audit Committee."

We have adopted a code of business conduct and ethics, which applies to all directors and employees, including executive officers, including, without limitation, our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer and persons performing similar functions. A copy of this code of business conduct and ethics is available on our website at *www.enteromedics.com* (under "Investors," "Corporate Governance") and we intend to satisfy the disclosure requirement under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K regarding any waivers from or amendments to any provision of the code of business conduct and ethics by disclosing such information on the same website.

In addition, we intend to promptly disclose (1) the nature of any amendment to our code of business conduct and ethics that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions and (2) the nature of any waiver, including an implicit waiver, from a provision of our code of business conduct and ethics that is granted to one of these specified officers, the name of such person who is granted the waiver and the date of the waiver on our website in the future.

#### ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this Item is hereby incorporated by reference to the sections of our Proxy Statement entitled "Director Compensation," "Executive Compensation," "Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation" and "Compensation Committee Report."

# ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

# (a) Equity Compensation Plans

The following table sets forth information as of December 31, 2014 with respect to our equity compensation plans:

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Weighted- Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Second Column)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	12,655,792(1)	\$2.47	7,073,726(2)
holders	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	7,073,726
10tai	=======================================	Ψ2. Τ /	7,073,720

<sup>(1)</sup> Consists of options awarded under the Amended and Restated 2003 Stock Incentive Plan.

# (b) Security Ownership

The information required by this Item is hereby incorporated by reference to the section of our Proxy Statement entitled "Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management."

# ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The information required by this Item is hereby incorporated by reference to the section of our Proxy Statement entitled "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence."

## ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this Item is hereby incorporated by reference to the section of our Proxy Statement entitled "Principal Accountant Fees and Services" and "Administration of Engagement of Independent Auditor."

<sup>(2)</sup> Represents the maximum number of shares of common stock available to be awarded as of December 31, 2014.

# PART IV.

# ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

- (a) *Financial Statements and Schedules:* Consolidated Financial Statements for the three years ended December 31, 2014 are included in Part II, Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. All schedules are omitted because they are not applicable or the required information is shown in the consolidated financial statements or notes thereto.
- (b) *Exhibits:* The list of exhibits on the Exhibit Index on page 94 of this report is incorporated herein by reference.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

#### ENTEROMEDICS INC.

By: /s/ MARK B. KNUDSON, Ph.D.

Mark B. Knudson, Ph.D.

President and Chief Executive Officer

Dated: March 13, 2015

#### **POWERS OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Mark B. Knudson and Greg S. Lea, and each of them, as his true and lawful attorney-infact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this report, and to file the same, with exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them or their substitutes may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	<u>Date</u>
/s/ MARK B. KNUDSON, PH.D.  Mark B. Knudson, Ph.D.	President, Chief Executive Officer, Chairman and Director (principal executive officer)	March 13, 2015
/s/ Greg S. Lea Greg S. Lea	Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer (principal financial and accounting officer)	March 13, 2015
/s/ Luke Evnin, Ph.D.	Director	March 13, 2015
Luke Evnin, Ph.D.	_	
/s/ Catherine Friedman	Director	March 13, 2015
Catherine Friedman  /s/ CARL GOLDFISCHER, M.D.  Carl Goldfischer, M.D.	Director	March 13, 2015
/s/ Bobby I. Griffin	Director	March 13, 2015
Bobby I. Griffin  /s/ ANTHONY P. JANSZ  Anthony P. Jansz	Director	March 13, 2015
/s/ NICHOLAS L. TETI, JR. Nicholas L. Teti, Jr.	Director	March 13, 2015
/s/ JON T. TREMMEL  Jon T. Tremmel	Director	March 13, 2015

# **EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit Number	Description of Document
3.1	Fifth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company and all amendments thereto. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed on May 9, 2014 (File No. 333-195855)).
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company, as currently in effect. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.4 to Amendment No. 1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on July 6, 2007 (File No. 333-143265)).
10.1	Form of Warrant to purchase stock under Loan and Security Agreement, dated November 18, 2008, between the Company and Silicon Valley Bank, Compass Horizon Funding Company LLC, and Venture Lending & Leasing V, Inc. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.20 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 12, 2009 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.2	Loan and Security Agreement, dated April 16, 2012, between the Company and Silicon Valley Bank. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q/A filed on August 3, 2012 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.3	Form of Warrant to purchase stock under Loan and Security Agreement, dated April 16, 2012, between the Company and Silicon Valley Bank. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on May 10, 2012 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.4	First Amendment to Loan and Security Agreement, dated as of May 9, 2013, by and between Silicon Valley Bank and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on May 10, 2013 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.5	Securities Purchase Agreement, dated as of October 2, 2009. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on October 5, 2009 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.6	Securities Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 14, 2010. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 15, 2010 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.7	Securities Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 29, 2010. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on October 5, 2010 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.8	Form of Up Front Warrant, dated September 29, 2010, by and between the Company and several accredited investors. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on October 5, 2010 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.9	Form of Conversion Warrant. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on October 5, 2010 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.10	Form of Common Stock Warrant, dated as of December 14, 2010, by and between the Company and several accredited investors. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to Amendment No. 1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on December 6, 2010 (File No. 333-170503)).
10.11	Form of Underwriter Warrant, dated as of December 14, 2010, by and between the Company and Craig-Hallum Capital Group LLC. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 14, 2010 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.12	Securities Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 23, 2011, by and between Craig-Hallum Capital Group LLC and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 23, 2011 (File No. 1-33818)).

Exhibit Number	Description of Document
10.13	Form of Common Stock Warrant, dated as of September 23, 2011, by and between the Company and several accredited investors. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 23, 2011 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.14	Securities Purchase Agreement, dated as of February 22, 2013, by and between Craig-Hallum Capital Group LLC and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 22, 2013 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.15	Form of Common Stock Warrant, dated as of February 22, 2013, by and between the Company and several accredited investors. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 22, 2013 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.16	Equity Distribution Agreement, dated as of July 31, 2013, by and between Canaccord Genuity Inc. and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 31, 2013 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.17	Sales Agreement, dated as of June 13, 2014, by and between Cowen and Company, LLC and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 13, 2014 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.18†	Amended and Restated 2003 Stock Incentive Plan. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed on June 10, 2014 (File No. 333-196646)).
10.19†	Standard form of Incentive Stock Option Agreement pursuant to the Amended and Restated 2003 Stock Incentive Plan. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.13 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on May 25, 2007 (File No. 333-143265)).
10.20†	Standard form of Non-Incentive Stock Option Agreement pursuant to the Amended and Restated 2003 Stock Incentive Plan. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.14 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on May 25, 2007 (File No. 333-143265)).
10.21†	Form of Non-Incentive Stock Option Agreement for the new options granted October 29, 2010 pursuant to the option exchange program. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on November 8, 2010 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.22†	Form of 2012 Senior Management Non-Incentive Stock Option Agreement pursuant to the Amended and Restated 2003 Stock Incentive Plan. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 13, 2012 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.23†	Standard form of Restricted Stock Agreement. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.15 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on May 25, 2007 (File No. 333-143265)).
10.24	Form of Indemnification Agreement entered into by and between the Company and each of its executive officers and directors. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.17 to Amendment No. 1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on July 6, 2007 (File No. 333-143265)).
10.25†	Consulting Agreement, effective June 1, 2011, by and between Anthony Jansz and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 8, 2011 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.26†	Amendment to Consulting Agreement, effective October 1, 2012, by and between Anthony Jansz and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 24, 2013 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.27†	Amendment No. 2 to Consulting Agreement, effective September 1, 2014, by and between Anthony Jansz and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on October 1, 2014 (File No. 1-33818)).

Exhibit Number	Description of Document
10.28†	Amended and Restated Executive Employment Agreement, dated May 4, 2009, by and between the Company and Mark B. Knudson. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on May 7, 2009 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.29†	Executive Employment Agreement, dated May 21, 2007, by and between the Company and Greg S. Lea. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on May 25, 2007 (File No. 333-143265)).
10.30†	Amendment No. 1 to Executive Employment Agreement dated May 21, 2007, by and between the Company and Greg S. Lea. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on April 19, 2010 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.31†	Executive Employment Agreement, dated February 9, 2007, by and between the Company and Adrianus Donders. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on May 25, 2007 (File No. 333-143265)).
10.32†	Executive Employment Agreement, dated August 5, 2008, by and between the Company and Katherine S. Tweden. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on May 7, 2009 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.33†	Management Incentive Plan. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 12, 2008 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.34†	Amendments to the Management Incentive Plan described in Item 5.02(e). (Incorporated herein by reference to Item 5.02(e) of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 13, 2014 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.35	Licensing Agreement, by and between Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research and the Company, dated February 3, 2005. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Amendment No. 2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on August 14, 2007 (File No. 333-143265)).
10.36	Amendment No. 1, effective as of February 3, 2010, to License Agreement between Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on March 17, 2010 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.37	Amendment No. 2, effective as of January 4, 2011, to License Agreement between Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.34 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 7, 2011 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.38	Amendment No. 3, effective as of February 3, 2012, to License Agreement between Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on August 8, 2012 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.39	Amendment No. 4, effective as of February 3, 2013, to License Agreement between Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.44 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 27, 2014 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.40	Amendment No. 5, effective as of February 3, 2014, to License Agreement between Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.45 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 27, 2014 (File No. 1-33818)).

Exhibit Number	Description of Document
10.41	Lease Agreement, effective October 1, 2008, by and between the Company and Roseville Properties Management Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.23 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 12, 2009 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.42	Distribution Agreement, dated as of March 28, 2011, by and between Device Technologies Australia Pty Limited and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on May 6, 2011 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.43	Amendment No. 1, effective as of July 10, 2012, to Distribution Agreement by and between Device Technologies Australia Pty Limited and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on August 8, 2012 (File No. 1-33818)).
10.44	Distribution Agreement, dated as of February 21, 2012, by and between Bader Sultan & Brothers Co. W.L.L. and the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on May 10, 2012 (File No. 1-33818)).
14.1	Code of Conduct and Ethics of the Company. (Incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 14.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-1 filed on May 25, 2007 (File No. 333-143265)).
23.1*	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
24.1*	Power of Attorney (included on signature page to this Form 10-K).
31.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101*	Financial statements from the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2014, formatted in Extensible Business Reporting Language: (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Operations, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (Deficit); (v) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and (vi) the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

<sup>\*</sup> Filed herewith.

<sup>†</sup> Indicates management contract or compensation plan or agreement.

#### **CERTIFICATIONS**

- I, Mark B. Knudson, certify that:
  - 1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of EnteroMedics Inc.;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the consolidated financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
- a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
- b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
- d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
- a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
- b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/	MARK B. KNUDSON, Ph.D.
	Mark B. Knudson, Ph.D.
Pres	ident and Chief Executive Officer

Date: March 13, 2015

#### **CERTIFICATIONS**

- I, Greg S. Lea, certify that:
  - 1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of EnteroMedics Inc.;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the consolidated financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
- a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
- b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
- d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
- a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
- b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/ Greg S. Lea
Greg S. Lea
Chief Financial Officer
and Chief Operating Officer

Date: March 13, 2015

# CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. §1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Annual Report of EnteroMedics Inc. (the Company) on Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2014 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the Report), I, Mark B. Knudson, Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- 1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- 2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ MARK B. KNUDSON, Ph.D.

Mark B. Knudson, Ph.D.

President and Chief Executive Officer

March 13, 2015

# CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. §1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Annual Report of EnteroMedics Inc. (the Company) on Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2014 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the Report), I, Greg S. Lea, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- 1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- 2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ GREG S. LEA

Greg S. Lea
Chief Financial Officer
and Chief Operating Officer

March 13, 2015