



# Longbow Company Profile



Sky Medical has developed platform OnPulse™ technology for the prevention of Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT). The technology has several additional applications across medical and consumer markets

## Background

Sky Medical's electro-stimulation technology was developed at St Bart's Hospital for the treatment of DVT. Longbow invested £1.2m in 2009 to complete product development and launch in hospitals in the UK.

DVT is a blood clot, or thrombosis, which forms in the deep vein system of the lower leg, usually between the ankle and the upper calf. The condition can result in a potentially fatal Pulmonary Embolism ("PE"), where the clot travels through the blood stream and lodges itself in the lungs, or travel through the left side of the heart into the brain and cause a stroke. People are at an increased risk of developing a DVT when they are in a state of prolonged immobility, such as during or after surgery, stroke or sitting on a long-haul airline flight.

Further clinical studies show that OnPulse™ increases the ejection fraction of the heart, improves blood circulation and reduces recovery times for elite athletes.

## Technology

The crucial clinical breakthrough was to discover that the popliteal nerve that runs down the back of the leg, when stimulated, causes equal and opposite contractions of the calf, shin and foot muscles. This action causes blood to flow back towards the heart at a volume 50-70% to that of walking, without noticeable muscle or leg twitching nor discomfort.

Clinical studies have clearly shown the product to move over four times the volume of blood in the lower body than the leading medical devices currently on the market. Increasing blood flow reduces 'stasis' which is one of three major contributors to DVT.



## Market

Current market treatments include anti-coagulant drugs, pneumatic compression devices, and compression hosiery; however, no current treatment meets market demands for high performance, comfort and ease of use.

The anti-thrombotic drug market was over \$13.5 billion in 2004, with market estimates of the device market at over \$1.6 billion (North America, EU, Japan). Over 600,000 people suffer from DVT in the United States alone annually, resulting in up to 200,000 deaths annually from Pulmonary Embolism. Thrombosis is the largest preventable cause of death in hospitals

[www.longbow.co.uk](http://www.longbow.co.uk)



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