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Boston, Massachusetts, USA

**Through the generous support of the Bacca Foundation and the Omidyar Network, Massachusetts General Hospital's Center for Global Health is pleased to announce "[Worldwide Innovative Healthcare's Inc. \(WiCare\): Wound-Pump](#)" as the recipient of an Innovation Award from the Consortium for Affordable Medical Technologies (CAMTech).**

The Wound-Pump proposal is led by **Danielle Zurovcik**, MSc, PhD, CEO of WiCare, in collaboration with implementation partners Central Hospital University of Kigali (CHUK) and Rwinkwavu Hospital in Rwanda. The recipients will receive \$100,000 to further their field testing and commercialization efforts in Rwanda, and working with CAMTech, WiCare will also expand its reach into Uganda and India.

The CAMTech Technology Review Committee, including experts in engineering, global health, and business, selected the WiCare proposal from over 80 proposals for its innovative technology, potential for widespread public health impact and clear path to commercial success. "WiCare's proposal impressed us across all of our evaluation criteria and aligns strongly with CAMTech's mission – to expand access to affordable, quality healthcare in resource-constrained settings. In particular, we believe that WiCare's emphasis on co-creation with local partners will not only yield a better medical product but also help to accelerate adoption in low- and middle-income countries," said **Elizabeth Bailey**, CAMTech's Director.

Negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) is the application of low vacuum pressure to open wounds. Currently, NPWT is limited to high-end treatment in US hospitals. Many factors limit the widespread use of NPWT technologies, including: cost (approximately \$15-20K/device or \$100/day for a typical treatment period of four weeks to four months); power (upwards of 70 Watts of electrical power); complex training for computer interfaces; and size (bulky size (~1000 in3) and about 10 lbs). WiCare developed a patent-pending device, the Wound-Pump, which costs less than \$2 to manufacture; requires no electricity; is simple to use; and is very portable. Smaller than a can of soda and weighing less than a pound, the Wound-Pump was deployed during the earthquake relief effort in Haiti in 2010 and tested in a phase I clinical trial in Rwanda in 2011-2012, which verified its viability, including: safety, proper device functionality, the ease of clinical training and local manufacturing options.



"WiCare is excited to collaborate with CAMTech, as our missions are well-aligned," said Dr. Zurovcik. "Working with the consortium will enhance our resources and mentorship and will allow us to broaden our global reach in providing affordable negative pressure wound therapy. Equal health access is a huge issue to take-on, and the CAMTech network will broaden WiCare's global scope in healthcare, policy and business. The Innovation Award will support product design initiatives for commercialization, manufacturing, field trials in Rwanda and product validation for regulatory approvals. WiCare will not sacrifice quality in its mission and will meet the high FDA standards."

Based at the Mass General Center for Global Health, CAMTech is a global consortium of academic, clinical, corporate and implementation partners working to expedite and improve affordable medical technology development for low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Founding consortium members include Mass General, Harvard Medical School, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Mbarara University of Science and Technology (Uganda), the Lata Medical Research Foundation (India) and the Vellore Institute of Technology (India). CAMTech's mission is to co-create, test and deploy innovative, high-quality and affordable health technologies to improve health outcomes in the poorest regions of the world.

The CAMTech Innovation Award program is a competitive request-for-proposals to develop innovative health technologies targeting pressing global health challenges. The awards look not only for innovative technical solutions, but also for solutions that will be sustainable and scalable in LMICs in the long term. Awards are available on a quarterly basis to a range of recipients, including academic researchers, clinicians, engineers and business students, as well as for-profit institutions and NGOs. With a strong emphasis on co-creation, CAMTech gives preference to proposals that include one of our LMIC partners, thereby enhancing the CAMTech network and helping to build capacity at our international sites. The next award will be announced in early 2013.

For questions about CAMTech and the Innovation Awards program, please contact Aya Caldwell, Program Manager ([acaldwell1@partners.org](mailto:acaldwell1@partners.org)).

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