

## Press release

### ***Humedics LiMAx test: Inter-disciplinary expert panel defines indicators and recommendations for clinical application of the LiMAx liver function test***

Berlin, August 18, 2019 – Since a few years, the LiMAx liver function test has increasingly been utilized as a standard liver diagnostic test for non-invasive real-time assessment of metabolic liver function in numerous German, Austrian, and Swiss clinics.

Despite its increased application, the needs of surgeons, hepatologists and gastroenterologists differ regarding when and how to use the LiMAx test.

Consequently, and at the initiative of Humedics and a number of clinical users of the LiMAx test, an international Expert Group recently convened in Frankfurt for a one-day workshop in order to formulate guidelines and indications for the application of the LiMAx test in different clinical situations, now and in future.

In addition, to defining the clinical application of the LiMAx test, the Expert Group also developed a framework on how to measure the utility and cost-effectiveness of the LiMAx test, a prerequisite for discussions on cost reimbursement with representatives of German and other health insurance providers.

The Expert Group was headed by Professor Herbert Rebscher, Managing Director of the Institute of Health Economics and Health Care Coverage Research and former DAK CEO, and Professor Andreas Beivers, Dean of the Fresenius College of Health Economics in Munich.

In addition, over 15 renowned surgeons, hepatologists and gastroenterologists participated.

Among the participants were Professor Ali Canbay (Magdeburg), Professor Peter Galle (Mainz), Professor Guido Gerken (Essen), Professor Thomas Grünberger (Vienna), Professor Christian Oberkofler (Zurich), Professor Markus Peck (Klagenfurt), Professor Aristoteles Perrakis (Magdeburg), Professor Martin Stockmann (Wittenberg) and Professor Hans Schlitt (Regensburg).

After several hours of in-dept discussions on the relevant application of the LiMAx test in specialist and interdisciplinary sessions, the Expert Group agreed unanimously that the LiMAx test has clear benefits for both physicians and patients during large liver resections

and interventional liver operations, treatment of fatty liver and liver cirrhosis, as well as from a health economics point-of-view.

The findings of the Expert Group are now being prepared for publication in a scientific journal. The publishing of which will serve as a basis for dialogue with medical associations, public health policymakers, and health insurance representatives.

“The fact that surgeons and internists have agreed so quickly on indicators and modes of application for a relatively new medical test can be regarded as a historical event”, commented Professor Guido Gerken, one of the initiators of the Expert Group meeting.

Humedics’ CEO Karsten Damgaard-Iversen added: “And the fact that this international Expert Group emphasized the cost-effectiveness of the LiMAx-test underlines and supports the premise that health insurance companies would benefit from covering the cost of applying the LiMAx-test and gain substantial cost savings in the treatment and management of patients suffering from a variety of acute and chronic liver diseases”.

For more details, please go to: [www.humedics.eu](http://www.humedics.eu)

### **About Humedics GmbH**

Based in Berlin, Germany, **Humedics GmbH** is specialised in rapid and accurate liver function measurement using LiMAx<sup>®</sup>, an innovative technology for analysing exhaled air. The LiMAx<sup>®</sup> test provides physicians with a method for quantitatively assessing an individual patient’s liver function capacity within minutes. This enables physicians to select treatment strategies and follow disease progression based on up-to-date knowledge of the functional health of the liver. Current applications, which have already been published in prestigious medical journals, include liver function diagnosis before and after liver transplantation, surgical planning for liver surgery (such as assessing how much liver tissue can be removed without increasing the risk of acute liver failure), and assessment of liver diseases such as fibrosis and cirrhosis. At present, more than 20 studies regarding new indications are being conducted. These include diagnosing and staging of chronic liver diseases such as non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH), as well as selecting, monitoring and managing different oncology treatment options. These studies, initiated by

researchers, have already provided evidence of further potential for the LiMAX<sup>®</sup> tests. The LiMAX<sup>®</sup> test is in routine clinical use at more than 30 leading university hospitals in Europe. So far, more than 20,000 LiMAX<sup>®</sup> tests have been performed. The LiMAX<sup>®</sup> test is commercially available in Germany, Austria and the UK.

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