



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **FiLaC® Laser Treatment of Anal Fistulas: innovative medical technology „Made in Germany“**

**Cologne-based proctologist Dr. Arne Wilhelm devises ambulant and painless anal fistula treatment deploying innovative laser technology – LEONARDO® laser made by biolitec® presented at 40<sup>th</sup> German Congress for Coloproctologists in Munich**

Jena, April 14, 2014 – Anal fistulas were a most unpleasant issue for those suffering from them for a long time. The surgical treatment and convalescence period were extremely painful while the chances for successful curing were hard to evaluate.

The deployment of medical LEONARDO® laser and an innovative laser probe produced by biolitec® now facilitates the fistula tissue's gentle decomposing and sealing. The need to elaborately remove this tissue within the scope of surgery is thus obviated. Slowly retracting the probe serves to seal the anal fistula like being zipped up. The laser treatment itself requires only a few minutes and allows for completely sparing the fistula's enucleation from healthy surrounding tissue.

Cologne-based German proctologist Dr. Arne Wilhelm devised the groundbreaking FiLaC® concept. Why not just use the circular radiating laser light he already knew from treating varicose veins, ELVeS Radial™, developed by biolitec®? The specifically designed laser probe is highly flexible and can be deployed irrespective of the length of the fistula tract. The laser light's limited penetration depth perfectly conserves the muscles while being efficient enough to seal the fistula.

Dr. Arne Wilhelm explains: "The advantage of the FiLaC® treatment is that it doesn't affect the sphincter. This leads to extremely high primary recovery rates without patients suffering from fecal incontinence. Moreover, the patients feel relieved about comparatively small wounds and reduced post-surgical pain".



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Since FiLaC® laser treatment has been introduced Dr. Wilhelm has instructed those who apply it all over the world and has regularly been offering advanced training domestically and abroad. Additionally, he has been treating numerous patients from all over the globe - especially from the Near and Far East - at his practice. Dr. Wilhelm says: "For the patient, FiLaC® is the first almost painless and sophisticated alternative to traditional surgery ever".

At this years German Congress for Coloproctologists (Deutscher Koloproktologen-Kongress), biolitec presented the new and innovative LEONARDO® laser, which is the most versatile and universal medical laser in the market today. With results showing a very good primary success rate of 70% and a secondary success rate of 91% this facilitates a new tool for surgeons seeking for a technique providing no sphincter damage paired with improved patient comfort.

## About biolitec:

biolitec AG is one of the leading companies worldwide in the field of medical laser treatments and the only provider that possesses all relevant core competencies – photosensitizers, laser devices and optical fibers – in the field of photodynamic therapy (PDT). Besides laser-based treatment of cancer with the drug Foscan®, biolitec AG primarily researches on minimally-invasive and gentle laser treatments and markets them. ELVeS Radial™ (Endo Laser Vein System) is the most often used laser system worldwide for the treatment of varicose veins. In combination with the Ceralas® HPD laser, the innovative contact fiber XCAVATOR™ enables a gentle treatment of e.g. benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) in urology. The new LEONARDO® diode laser by biolitec® is the first universally applicable medical laser which features a combination of two wavelengths, 980nm and 1470nm, and is suitable for interdisciplinary use. Gentle laser treatments in the fields of proctology, ENT, gynecology, thoracic surgery as well as pneumology also belong to the business field of biolitec AG. Further information at [www.biolitec.com](http://www.biolitec.com).

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