

BREAKTHROUGH PAINLESS THERAPY CAN SPARE 20 MILLION AMERICAN WOMEN FROM HUMILIATING LOSS OF BOWEL CONTROL

UGCSF's Dr. Heidi Wittenberg Among New Therapy's Earliest Advocates

SAN FRANCISCO, CA. Feb 17, 2017 – Pelvalon's new Eclipse™ system offers women the first “highly-effective”¹ non-pharmaceutical, non-surgical treatment for Accidental Bowel Leakage (ABL).

- ABL robs more than 20 million American women of control over their bowels.
- It leaves women unable to enjoy daily life, fearing the next humiliating accident.
- Embarrassed sufferers often hesitate to discuss the issue with their physicians.
- Until recently, doctors had few treatments to offer, short of invasive surgeries.

The Eclipse changes that. It's a vaginal insert that patients manually inflate. The pressure from the pumped-up Eclipse occludes the bowel passage, immediately relieving ABL symptoms. A clinical study found 98% of women who used the Eclipse would recommend it to a friend.²

2017 Bay Area Top Doctor Heidi Wittenberg, of the Urogynecology Center of San Francisco, was happy to prescribe the Eclipse to her patient, Marilyn.

At 72 years old, Marilyn chafed at how ABL disrupted her active life. She couldn't sit through a play. She could never walk past a bathroom without thinking “Oh, I better just go.” And worse – there were accidents, and painful prolapses of her rectum.

But Marilyn regained her confidence shortly after Dr. Wittenberg fitted her with an Eclipse. The accidents stopped. And even better – she hardly noticed the insert. “*It was like nothing,*” she said, “*like putting in a tampon and forgetting it's there.*”

Now Marilyn can hike all day and volunteer in a museum like she used to. She's even planning a trip to London with her 11 year-old grandson. That's the gift The Eclipse offers: she's not afraid of losing control anymore.

ABOUT ECLIPSE & PELVALON: The Eclipse's innovative technology came from Stanford University's Biodesign program, a joint effort between the Schools of Medicine and Engineering. Pelvalon is a privately-held company, founded in 2010 with the mission to empower women to take control of their health.

ABOUT DR. WITTENBERG & UGCSF: Dr. Wittenberg's practice, Urogynecology Center of San Francisco, specializes in minimally invasive treatment for urogynecological issues. She is one of the most experienced female robotic surgeons in the country, and San Francisco Magazine named her a 2017 Bay Area Top Doctor.

For more information, please contact:
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¹ Richter, Holle E. PhD, MD; Matthews, Catherine A. MD; A Vaginal Bowel-Control System for the Treatment of Fecal Incontinence. *Obstetrics & Gynecology*: March 2015 – Volume 125 – Issue 3 – p 540-547

² *ibid.*