

RITA Medical Systems Announces First Quarter Results Release and Conference Call Date

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif., April 17 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- RITA Medical Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq: RITA), a medical device company that develops, manufactures and markets minimally invasive products to treat patients with solid cancerous or benign tumors, today announced plans to release its 2002 first quarter financial results on Tuesday, April 23, 2002, at 7:30 a.m. (Eastern), and to host a conference call to be broadcast live on the Internet at 11:30 a.m. (Eastern) that same day.

Those interested in listening to the broadcast of the RITA conference call may access the webcast via a link provided at the Company's website at www.ritamedical.com or at www.viavid.com. Web participants are encouraged to go to the web site at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the call to register, download and install any necessary audio software. An online webcast replay of the call will also be available for 10 days following the broadcast by accessing the same links.

About RITA Medical Systems

RITA Medical Systems develops, manufactures and markets innovative products for patients with solid cancerous or benign tumors. The proprietary RITA system uses radiofrequency energy to heat tissue to a high enough temperature to ablate it or cause cell death. While the Company's current focus is on liver cancer, the Company believes that its minimally invasive technology may in the future be applied to other types of tumors, including tumors of the lung, bone, breast, uterus, prostate and kidney. The Company has received regulatory clearance in major markets worldwide, including the United States. In March 2000, RITA became the first radiofrequency ablation company to receive specific FDA clearance for unresectable liver lesions in addition to its previous general FDA clearance for the ablation of soft tissue. The Company has sold over 35,000 of its disposable devices throughout the world.

For further information, please contact Don Stewart, Chief Financial Officer of RITA Medical Systems, Inc., +1-650-314-3400, dstewart@ritamed.com; or investors, Matt Clawson, matt@allencaron.com, or media, Len Hall, len@allencaron.com, both of Allen & Caron Inc, +1-949-474-4300, for RITA Medical Systems, Inc.

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