NEWTOWN, Pa., Oct. 02, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Helius Medical Technologies, Inc. (TSX:HSM) (OTCQB:HSDT) ("Helius" or the "Company") is pleased to announce that a study by Galea M.P., et al. entitled Cranial Nerve Non-invasive Neuromodulation Improves Gait and Balance in Stroke Survivors: A Pilot Randomised Controlled Trial, utilizing investigational PoNS™ medical devices is being published in the journal “Brain Stimulation” (2017). The research performed at the Royal Melbourne Hospital in Melbourne Australia is available online at http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.brs.2017.08.011.

“We are gratified to witness the continued positive clinical development of the PoNS™ Therapy in additional disease models. It is of particular interest to observe the comparison between our optimized form of physical therapy alone versus the same physical therapy plus our PoNS™ technology,” said Dr. Jonathan Sackier, Chief Medical Officer of Helius.

Additionally, recent research performed at the Northwell Neuromonitoring Laboratory and the Feinstein Institute of Medical Research at Northwell Health in New York demonstrated that stimulation of the trigeminal nerve, which is one of the cranial nerves targeted by PoNS™ technology, ameliorates the effects of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) (Neuroprotective Effects of Trigeminal Nerve Stimulation in Severe Traumatic Brain Injury. Chiluwal A, et al. Scientific Reports, 7, 2017 available online http://www.readcube.com/articles/10.1038/s41598-017-07219-3).

Professor Raj Narayan, Chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery at Northwell, a co-author of the study, and a member of the Helius Scientific Advisory Board, stated, “Our independent work with trigeminal nerve stimulation in an experimental laboratory model has demonstrated very encouraging results with neuromodulation as a potential therapy for TBI. Should these benefits be realized in people who have suffered a TBI, it would be a significant step forward in developing a novel therapeutic approach to a disease in which pharmacological treatments have so far failed to show a significant benefit.”

**About PoNS™ Investigational Therapy**

The Portable Neuromodulation Stimulator (PoNS™) is an investigational non-invasive device designed to deliver neurostimulation through the tongue. PoNS™ Therapy combines the use of the device with physical therapy and is currently being evaluated by Helius in a multicenter clinical trial for the treatment of balance disorder for subjects with mild to moderate TBI.

**About Helius Medical Technologies, Inc.**

Helius Medical Technologies is a medical technology company focused on neurological wellness. Helius seeks to develop, license and acquire unique and non-invasive platform technologies that amplify the brain’s ability to heal itself. Helius intends to seek FDA clearance for commercial distribution for the PoNS™ device for the treatment of balance disorder due to mild to moderate TBI. For more information, please visit www.heliusmedical.com.
The Toronto Securities Exchange has not reviewed and does not accept responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of the content of this news release.

Cautionary Disclaimer Statement:

Certain statements in this news release are not based on historical facts and constitute forward-looking statements or forward-looking information within the meaning of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and Canadian securities laws (“forward-looking statements”).

All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this news release are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Such forward-looking statements include, among others, statements regarding ongoing or planned clinical research, expected future development timelines, regulatory submissions and approvals or other business initiatives and objectives.

Forward-looking statements are often identified by terms such as “estimate” “intend” and similar expressions.

There can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate and actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the Company’s expectations include the failure of the Company to achieve its business objectives and other risks detailed from time to time in the filings made by the Company with securities regulators.

The reader is cautioned that assumptions used in the preparation of any forward-looking statements may prove to be incorrect. Events or circumstances may cause actual results to differ materially from those predicted, as a result of numerous known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors, many of which are beyond the control of the Company. The reader is cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statement. Such information, although considered reasonable by management at the time of preparation, may prove to be incorrect and actual results may differ materially from those anticipated. Forward-looking statements contained in this news release are expressly qualified by this cautionary statement. Risks and uncertainties about the Company’s business are more fully discussed in the Company’s disclosure materials, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K and other filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and the Canadian securities regulators and which can be obtained from either at www.sec.gov or www.sedar.com.

The forward-looking statements contained in this news release are made as of the date of this news release and the Company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement or to update the reasons why actual results could differ from such statements except to the extent required by law.

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Helius Medical Technologies Highlights Publication of Stroke Study From The Royal Melbourne Hospital in Australia Using Investigational PoNS™ Device

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