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HEALTH CARE / By Chris Rauber

## Therative scores \$9M round to push acne treatment

Therative Inc., which unveiled its ThermaClear acne treatment device in February, has closed a \$9 million round of private financing. New investor Bessemer Venture Partners led the Series C round; existing investors Foundation Capital, RWI Ventures and Band of Angels also participated.

The Livermore medical-device company, which has marketing and related operations in San Francisco, plans to use the funds to enhance its marketing and sales infrastructure. Founded in 2005, it's



Scocimara

raised a total of \$14 million since its inception.

Privately held Therative has fewer than 20 employees, says CEO Peter Scocimara, and outsources manufacturing and customer-service operations.

ThermaClear, its first consumer product, is a handheld device for treatment of mild to moderate acne. It uses "pulse technology," similar to laser treatments used by dermatologists to treat the skin ailment, delivering a controlled burst of heat to neutralize underlying bacteria, the company said.

The device is sold online to consumers for about \$150. Therative says an FDA-reviewed clinical study proved that pimples treated with the device cleared up four times faster than in a control group.

ThermaClear got clearance from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in

October 2006, and has attracted "increasing interest in the marketplace," said Scocimara. He declined to provide specifics citing competitive reasons.