

US patent move a major injection for Medigard

MEDICAL products developer Medigard has scored a major win in the US market after securing a patent for its blood-collection device for the next 15 years.

The news is a major fillip for the listed Main Beach-based company which has developed a range of products, including a retractable syringe.

"This is the big patent we were after," said Medigard chief executive Peter Emery.

"The USA is our first and most significant market for the blood-collection device and all of our products.

"To get our patent through gives us the protection we

need to confidently market the blood-collection device and, of course, is validation of the product and our efforts."

About 700 million blood-collection devices are used in the US alone each year, a market which accounts for half the world's usage.

Medigard said clinical evaluations of its device had been encouraging and it was in talks with potential partners to manufacture and market its products.

The company is awaiting patent approvals in Canada, Europe and Japan.

Medigard shares rose 0.3c to 8c yesterday.