

News update

Latest developments on products and services from the industry. To have your news included contact Patricia McDonnell on patricia@oncologynews.biz or Tel/Fax: + 44 (0)288 289 7023.

Varian Medical Systems Introduces Revolutionary New TrueBeam™

Varian Medical Systems have announced the introduction of a new line of "super" accelerators designed to advance the treatment of lung, breast, prostate, head and neck, and other types of cancer. The TrueBeam™ platform for image-guided radiotherapy and radiosurgery is the first fully-integrated system designed from the ground up to treat a moving target with unprecedented speed and accuracy.



"We took everything clinicians told us they wanted to enable next-generation treatments, and we challenged ourselves to engineer a completely new treatment platform," said Tim Guertin, president and CEO of Varian Medical Systems. "TrueBeam is the culmination of those efforts."

A TrueBeam system uses a completely re-engineered control system and a multitude of technical innovations to dynamically synchronize imaging, patient positioning, motion management, and treatment delivery. Designed to be a versatile platform, a

TrueBeam system can be used for all forms of advanced external-beam radiotherapy including image-guided radiotherapy and radiosurgery, intensity-modulated radiotherapy, stereotactic body radiotherapy and RapidArc® radiotherapy. The product line includes TrueBeam STx, specially configured for advanced radiosurgery.

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Nikon introduces new colour camera to Digital Sight series

Nikon has added the high speed DS-Vi1 colour camera to its market-leading range of Digital Sight cameras for microscopic imaging. The DS-Vi1 offers high frame rates and increased sensitivity for both multiple live image and sharp still image capture, making it ideal for high end biological research, clinical analysis and documentation as well as medical teaching use.

The DS-Vi1 features a 2-megapixel colour CCD with outstanding SXGA video display rates of up to 27 frames per second possible and effortless fast focusing. In addition, the DS-Vi1 offers high sensitivity and a wide dynamic range of more than 600:1, enabling the capture of clear, sharp images.

Offering all of the convenience and features of the DS series, the DS-Vi1 can be combined, via a USB 2.0 interface, with either the stand-alone Nikon DS-L2 control unit or the DS-U2 PC control-based unit. The DS-L2 features a large 8.4 inch high-definition LCD monitor and allows live



observation, camera control and image capture via simple on-screen menus without connection to a PC.

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Thermo Fisher Scientific Revolutionizes Lab Safety with New Three Minute Cold Disinfection



Thermo Fisher Scientific announces its revolutionary new cold disinfection feature for laboratory equipment. The patented cold disinfection technology is now standard with the Thermo Scientific Microm HM550 Cryostat series. Technicians in pathology laboratories constantly work with live cells and their equipment is exposed to many infectious tissues, resulting in significant risk to users. Thermo Scientific cold disinfection instantly disinfects the entire cold cryo-chamber in just three minutes, dramatically reducing any risk to laboratory staff.

Unlike other solutions which require at least a two hour warm-up period followed by a 30 minute disinfection process, or UV light which takes at least 30 minutes, cold disinfection is certified to work against aerobic bacteria and fungi in just three minutes. Other benefits of cold disinfection include speed and a more streamlined, uninterrupted workflow. The new disinfection process is 100 times faster than existing methods and the Microm HM550 Cryostat can be used immediately after the disinfection cycle is complete, resulting in significantly higher throughput.

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W: www.thermo.com/pathology

Introducing a new user-friendly cleanroom trigger spray

Ecolab's centre of excellence for contamination control, Shield Medicare, is proud to announce a new development to its patented SteriShield Delivery System.

10 years ago, the SteriShield Delivery System pioneered the use of a closed trigger spray system, whereby air cannot enter the bottle and the contents remain sterile throughout use. Since then the system has remained the benchmark for protected systems.

The latest development incorporates a new trigger that has been designed following comprehensive research with customers to produce a more user-friendly system. This trigger includes the popular features of a variable nozzle, a broad spray pattern,

a rapid-return trigger and a more ergonomic, easy-to-clean shroud.

Additionally, the SteriShield Delivery System is the most extensively validated protected trigger spray system on the market. As the system is dependent on every component, the new combination of components has undergone full in-depth validation.

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Brand new trigger from Shield Medicare for the SteriShield Delivery System.

Varian RapidArc® Treatment for Base of Tongue Tumour Patient

One of the first hospitals in England to introduce intensity modulated radiotherapy (IMRT) treatments has now carried out its first procedure using fast and efficient RapidArc® image-guided IMRT from Varian Medical Systems. Ipswich Hospital carried out the pioneering treatment on a 66-year-old male tongue cancer patient from Suffolk, delivering the treatment many times faster than would have been possible using conventional treatments.

"The procedure went extremely well and the patient has commented on the speed of delivery compared to the IMRT plan he started his treatment with," says Ros Perry, senior on-treatment radiographer. "He certainly noticed how much less time he needed to lie on the couch."

Instead of the nine-field IMRT procedure originally delivered, the patient received his RapidArc radiotherapy treatment in two rotations of the treatment machine, taking just over two minutes. Previous treatments had taken four times as long.

"RapidArc will hugely improve the



treatment experience for head and neck cancer patients because of this significant reduction in delivery time." adds Hayley James, operational head of radiotherapy physics.

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Blue Faery Bestows Award To Fight Liver Cancer

Blue Faery: The Adrienne Wilson Liver Cancer Association is proud to announce the second annual Blue Faery Award (BFA) for Excellence in Liver Cancer Research. Primary liver cancer, also known as hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), is the third leading cause of cancer deaths worldwide. Blue Faery created the award to recognize medical professionals who develop innovative research in the fight against HCC.



This year's recipient of the Blue Faery Award is Dr. Jorge Marrero, Director of the Multidisciplinary Liver Tumor Clinic at the University of Michigan. The board selected Dr. Marrero for his outstanding achievements in liver cancer research. Currently, he is involved in studies that examine new therapies for HCC, the most exciting of which inhibits blood vessel growth in tumors. In addition, Dr. Marrero evaluates new strategies for the early detection of liver cancer.

Andrea Wilson started Blue Faery in honor of her sister, Adrienne, who died of HCC only 145 days after her diagnosis at the age of 15. Blue Faery announces the recipient of the BFA on Adrienne's birthday. She would have been 24 years old this year.

For more information visit:
www.bluefaery.org or
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University Hospital Zürich First in the World to Treat Patients with New TrueBeam™

The University Hospital of Zürich has become the first medical center in the world to commence treating cancer patients with the revolutionary TrueBeam™ system from Varian Medical Systems, a new platform for image-guided radiotherapy and radiosurgery that was designed from the ground up to treat a moving target with unprecedented speed and precision.

One of two of the world's premier cancer centers to install a TrueBeam system in advance of its formal introduction to the world last week, the University of Zürich began using the system clinically in March of this year. Since then, doctors there have delivered treatments for prostate and lung cancer, as well as schwannomas (benign nerve sheath



tumors), brain, and spinal metastases.

"We are finding the system technically wonderful, giving us dose distributions that are slightly superior to IMRT from a conventional system, with lower doses to surrounding healthy tissues," said Professor Urs M. Lütolf, M.D., clinical director and chairman of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Zürich University Hospital. "I have been astonished and excited to see the degree to which the image isocenter matches the beam isocenter, at a level of precision I have never seen before."

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SOMATOM Definition AS installed at Queen Mary's Hospital Sidcup

South London Healthcare NHS Trust is now benefiting from advanced diagnostic CT with the installation of a SOMATOM® Definition AS from Siemens Healthcare at Queen Mary's Hospital Sidcup. The 64-slice CT is highly adaptable to the patient, the clinician and the task at hand. It is being used at the hospital for a range of general scanning needs, particularly oncology.

The installation replaced a 4-slice system, also from Siemens, as the sole CT facility on site. The adaptable nature of the Definition AS makes it ideal for general scans performed on a daily basis and also for the wide variety of patients undergoing scans. It has a high temporal resolution of up to 165ms, combined with extremely fast coverage at 64 slices per rotation, delivering crystal-clear images, free of movement artifacts and showing the finest anatomical details for all examinations.

"The main benefits of the Definition AS are its speed and ease-of-use. Training has also been straightforward as staff are already comfortable with Siemens' systems," said Bradley Smith, Services Manager, Radiology at Queen Mary's Hospital Sidcup.

For further information visit: www.siemens.co.uk/healthcare



The SOMATOM® Definition AS from Siemens Healthcare at Queen Mary's Hospital Sidcup. (L to R): Clive West, Regional Sales and Corporate Business Manager at Siemens Healthcare; Rosamund Floyd, CT Secretary; Lesley Fowler, CT Superintendent; Bradley Smith, Radiology Manager, Dr. Sumantra Kumar, Consultant Radiologist.

Patients in Kent Gain Access to Advanced RapidArc®

Cancer patients in Kent will gain access to advanced radiotherapy treatments with the decision by the Kent Oncology Centre to acquire two fully-equipped treatment machines from Varian Medical Systems. The machines, due to be delivered to oncology departments in Maidstone and Canterbury in the spring, will mean these departments are among the first in the country to offer fast and efficient RapidArc® radiotherapy treatments.

"This is exciting news for the Kent Oncology Centre as it will be the first time image-guided and intensity-modulated radiotherapy can be offered to the nearly two million people served by the Kent Oncology Centre," says Dr. Stewart Coltart, clinical director. "These new machines will

ensure we have sufficient capacity to waiting times at the current levels, while offering patients faster and more efficient treatments. Our consultants are especially excited about starting RapidArc treatments, which we feel will be a terrific additional tool in our armory."

The two oncology departments comprising the Kent Oncology Centre, which between them deliver 63,000 individual treatments to 6,500 new cancer patients each year, represent the only radiotherapy facilities to the south-east of London.

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