Latest developments on products and services from the industry. To have your news included contact Patricia McDonnell at Oncology News on T/F: +44 (0)288 289 7023, E: patricia@oncologynews.biz

episil® liquid – a barrier to oral mucositis pain

episil® oral liquid is an innovative treatment for intraoral pain associated with oral mucositis. Oral mucositis, a painful side effect of cancer treatments, has a large pharmacoeconomic impact and affects cancer patients' quality of life.

episil® oral liquid has been clinically proven to provide rapid, effective, and long-lasting pain relief by creating a bioadhesive, barrier-forming lipid membrane that coats the oral cavity. Without producing a numbing effect, the product soothes inflammation and painful ulcerations, thereby helping patients to maintain their quality of life while undergoing cancer treatment.

With episil® liquid there is no need for mixing or measuring of medications before use as it comes in a ready-to-use, pocket-sized, pump device, and can conveniently be applied right before meals.

The product doesn't cause systemic side effects and won't interfere with other medications.

episil® oral liquid is a registered medical device, Class I, listed on Drug Tariff, and can be prescribed on an FP10.

episil® liquid – effective relief of oral mucositis pain, within five minutes and for up to eight hours.

For further information visit: www.camurus.com

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals completes patient accrual for PH-10 Phase 2 Clinical Study of cellular and immunologic changes in the skin

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. announced recently that it has completed patient accrual for its phase 2 study of the cellular and immunologic changes in the skin of patients receiving PH-10, an investigational topical treatment for atopic dermatitis and psoriasis.

This phase 2 trial is a multicenter study of subjects with mild to moderate psoriasis. Subjects apply PH-10 vehicle daily for 28 consecutive days followed by active PH-10 daily for 28 consecutive days to their plaque psoriasis areas on the trunk or extremities (excluding palms, soles, scalp, facial and intertriginous sites). Biopsies of one target plaque are collected at baseline (at least seven days prior to first study treatment on day one) and at days 29 and 64, with a seven-day interval between biopsy at day 29 and commencement of application of active PH-10 on day 36. Study data from each subject will serve as an internal control (i.e., assessment at baseline and at the end of application of PH-10 vehicle) for assessment of clinical and cellular response to active investigational agent.

Further information is available at https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/record/NCT02322086.

PROVECTUS BIOPHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Varian Medical Systems publishes 2015 Sustainability Report

Varian Medical Systems have announced the publication of its annual corporate social responsibility report, detailing the company's policies and achievements in extending access to cancer care, protecting resources, and helping to save lives.

The Varian 2015 Sustainability Report has been produced as part of a wider company effort to continually improve sustainability performance and transparency. As a result, Varian is increasingly recognised as a leader in the field and was rated among the greenest companies in the U.S. by the Newsweek Green Rankings for 2014. In January 2015, Varian was the highest ranked medical device company in the Corporate Knights Global 100 listing of the most sustainable corporations in the world.

"It comes naturally to Varian to want to contribute not only to saving lives by providing affordable access to advanced cancer care but to improving lives through good corporate citizenship," said Dow Wilson, chief executive officer of Varian Medical Systems. "We strive to maximise the positive effects of our activity by weaving sustainability into every aspect of business, meeting climate change and other environmental challenges, delivering safe and effective products, and measuring our social impact in meaningful ways."

Varian's 2015 Sustainability Report is available to download at: www.varian.com/about-varian/citizenship

Chasing zero hair loss during chemotherapy

UK based Paxman – pioneers in scalp cooling – recently unveiled their commitment to 'chase zero hair loss during chemotherapy' at the 2015 European Cancer Congress, in Vienna, Austria.

A global leader in scalp cooling, Paxman continues to heavily invest in new R&D, funding multi-disciplinary research groups and conducting clinical trials to help improve the efficiency of scalp cooling and ultimately raise the success rate of 'zero hair loss' from 50/50 to 80/20 by the year 2020.

As part of this commitment, Paxman have founded an international multi-disciplinary special interest group (SIG) to look into chemotherapy-induced alopecia (CIA) and scalp cooling. Research will include reduced post infusion cooling times, further in-vitro modelling to better understand the mechanisms of scalp cooling, understanding the role in temperature with different chemotherapy regimens and measuring patient comfort.

As well as this patient focussed research,

Paxman is also undertaking a series of clinical trials in the UK, the US, Japan, Australia, Germany and Austria and is also developing a third-generation of the cooling cap to ensure it fits people's heads more efficiently.

Richard Paxman Managing Director of Paxman, said: "We know scalp cooling works so our aim is to raise the success rate for all patients undergoing chemotherapy so no one ever has to lose their hair as a side effect of cancer."

For more information visit www.paxmanscalpcooling.com

ONCOblot® expands international distribution

Cancer confirmation test now available in united kingdom

Developed by Mor-NuCo in West Lafayette, Indiana, the ONCOblot® Test detects a specific protein shed into the circulation from malignant cancer cells only. For the first time since its inception, ONCOblot® is now available in the United Kingdom through distribution by RCLIN, Geneva, Switzerland.

"Our test being available in the UK means we are one step closer to the very inherent goal of this test," says Nick Miner, VP of Business Development for, Mor-NuCo, LLC, "to change the way we address and fight cancer around the world," he continued.

The test works by detecting ENOX2 proteins unique to malignant cancer. ONCOblot® can reveal 26 primary cancers from 20 different organ sites as early as Stage 0.

The ONCOblot® Test is a key component to treating cancer because it gives patients and physicians the insights for successful cancer management. Never before has one test been able to detect cancer on such a microscopic level and provide so much knowledge for early intervention and on-going management.

If you'd like more information about the ONCOblot® Test, please visit www.oncoblotlabs.com or E: info@oncoblotlabs.com

ONCOblot®
Cancer Testing with Confidence
The answer is in the blot.

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals announces initiation of Phase 1b/2 Clinical Trial to study PV-10 in combination with iImmune check point inhibitor pembrolizumab

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. announced recently that it has completed development of the protocol for Phase1b/2 testing of its investigational cancer drug PV-10 in combination with pembrolizumab in patients with Stage IV melanoma. Pembrolizumab (also known as Keytruda®, a product of Merck and Co. Inc.) is an immune checkpoint inhibitor approved for treatment of patients with advanced or unresectable melanoma. PV-10 is Provectus's novel investigational drug for cancer that is injected into solid tumours (intralesional administration); it is currently undergoing Phase 3 clinical testing in patients with Stage III melanoma. Clinical testing under the new Phase 1b/2 protocol is expected to commence before the end of the year.

The combination protocol enables initial clinical testing of concepts at the center of a patent held by Provectus, U.S. Patent number 9,107,887, which Pfizer, Inc. (PFE) jointly owns. Specifically, the patent covers the use of PV-10 in combination with systemic inhibitors of immune system down-regulation, such as anti-CTLA-4, PD-1 and PD-L1 immune checkpoint inhibiting antibodies. Pembrolizumab is an anti-PD-1 antibody. Pre-clinical testing of PV-10 used in combination with these important classes of drugs demonstrated potential importance for treatment of advanced cancers.

The FDA granted accelerated approval to pembrolizumab in September 2014, making it the first FDA-approved anti-PD-1 immune checkpoint inhibitor. Because pembrolizumab is already FDA-approved, Provectus can commence this study with or without assistance of a partner.

For further details on the protocol visit https://www.clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02557321

PROVECTUS
BIOPHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Oncotype DX® test predicts chemotherapy benefit in early-stage breast cancer

Genomic Health have announced the presentation of the first results from the Trial Assigning IndividuaLised Options for Treatment (Rx), or TAILORx, a large, prospectively conducted trial. Presented at the 2015 European Cancer Congress (ECC2015), results from a group of 1,626 patients with a Recurrence Score result between 0 and 10 demonstrated that 99.3 percent of patients with node-negative, oestrogen receptor-positive, HER2-negative breast cancer who met accepted guidelines for recommending chemotherapy in addition to hormone therapy had no distant recurrence at five years after treatment with hormone therapy alone. Outcomes were excellent irrespective of patient age, tumour size, and tumour grade.

'The Oncotype DX test allows for a better understanding of individual tumour biology and gives greater confidence in recommending a treatment plan best suited for an individual patient.' said Nigel Bundred, Professor in Surgical Oncology, University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust

For more information, please visit, www.GenomicHealth.co.uk or www.OncotypeDX.com

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals reports publication of review paper on PV-10 tumour ablation and immune stimulation

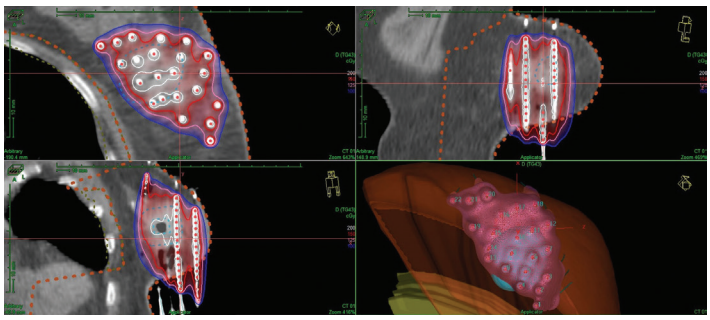
Provectus Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. reported that the Journal of Clinical and Cellular Immunology has published a paper titled, "The Potential of Intralesional Rose Bengal to Stimulate T-Cell Mediated Anti-Tumour Responses." The paper can be found online at http://www.omicsonline.org/open-access/the-potential-of-intralesional-rose-bengal-to-stimulate-tcell-mediated-antitumour-responses-2155-9899-1000343.php?aid=59072

Authors Ajay V Maker, Bellur Prabhakar, and Krunal Pardiwala state that their "article serves to evaluate the potential of intralesional rose bengal [RB] to stimulate T-cell mediated anti-tumour responses in in-vitro, pre-clinical, and clinical studies." The review covers findings in both animal models and human clinical trials covering the use of intralesional RB in the treatment of: melanoma, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, gastric cancer and sarcoma.

They conclude, "Our current research is establishing the role of RB in generating anti-tumour immune responses in gastrointestinal cancer and liver metastases. Decrease in tumour burden and stimulation of an immune response with PV-10 has been demonstrated in animal models of metastasis, and correlations of these responses in clinical studies is consistent with such results. That PV-10 treatment can potentially increase circulating cytotoxic T-cells, even in patients who were previously treated with immune-activating checkpoint blockade, supports the possibility that RB induced cytotoxicity may activate T-cells that are responsible for the bystander effect on untreated lesions. As such, intralesional therapy with RB may be a promising new mode of therapy to stimulate T-cell mediated anti-tumour immune responses."

For further information visit: www.pvct.com

APBI breast cancer treatment shortens therapy time from weeks to days



New data demonstrate that accelerated partial breast irradiation (APBI) with brachytherapy is clinically equivalent to whole breast irradiation in treating early stage breast cancer.

The Groupe Européen de Curiethérapie of the European Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (GEC-ESTRO) revealed results from a randomised controlled, multicenter, phase III study comparing APBI with interstitial multi-catheter brachytherapy to whole breast irradiation (WBI).

Ben Pais, Vice President Medical Affairs at Elekta says: "APBI with brachytherapy has several potential benefits in the treatment of patients with early stage breast cancer. It can reduce the course of radiation therapy from between five to seven weeks down to only four or five days. And since it is delivered to a specific region of the breast, it reduces the total radiation exposure by four-fold to healthy surrounding tissue and nearby structures including the chest wall, heart, lungs or skin."

"The GEC-ESTRO study is the most comprehensive clinical study to date evaluating the efficacy of multi-catheter APBI brachytherapy alone versus traditional external whole breast irradiation," said Prof. Vratislav Strnad, chair of the GEC-ESTRO Breast Cancer Working Group.

For further information email: andre.silveira@elekta.com

Varian Stages RapidArc SRS Seminar at Clatterbridge

Radiotherapy professionals from eight leading UK cancer centres attended a seminar recently to learn more about the use of Varian's RapidArc system for stereotactic treatments of multiple metastases.

The 60 attendees came from hospitals that either already deliver stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) or stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT) treatments or who are about to commence such treatments via the NHS England commissioning process. They travelled to Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology in the Wirral to hear from global SRS experts.

Doctors from leading centers in the UK, Amsterdam and Milan spoke about their experiences delivering advanced stereotactic treatments with RapidArc for multiple metastases in the brain and spinal cord.

"Only 13 sites in the UK have been allocated permission to deliver SRS treatments and well over half of these were represented at this seminar," said Adele Lyons, regional sales manager with Varian Medical Systems.

Leading cancer centres attending the event included those in Plymouth, Ipswich, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Guildford, Newcastle and London (University College Hospital and Guy's & St. Thomas'), as well as several attendees from the host hospital, Clatterbridge.

For further information contact:
Neil Madle, T: +44 7786 526068,
E: neil.madle@varian.com
W: www.varian.com

Dad who inspired unique fundraiser passes away

Steve Lloyd, with wife Angela and footballer Carl Jenkinson at the Brain Tumour Research fundraiser.

A father-of-two whose brain tumour battle inspired a unique cycling event to raise funds for research has passed away.

Steve Lloyd, 39, from Essex, was diagnosed with an aggressive glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) in 2008. His death, on 27th September, came just three days after the achievements of dozens of cyclists who pedalled the length of the District underground line were recognised at the opening of a new brain tumour research centre.

The District Line Cycle Challenge, which took place in August, raised more than £25,000 for the charity Brain Tumour Research with friends and colleagues at Transport for London cycling 74 miles along the District line. Steve was a life-long West Ham fan and the event was supported by Hammers' full-back Carl Jenkinson.

The cyclists' efforts were commemorated with a unique tile on a "Wall of Hope" at the new Centre of Excellence in partnership with Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust. Each tile is dedicated to patients, their families, friends and corporate supporters and represents the £2,740 it costs to fund a day of research.

For further information visit: www.braintumourresearch.orgorg/work-for-us

Thousands raised in memory of Stephen McKiernan

Thousands of pounds have been raised for Macmillan Cancer Support in memory of SDLP press officer Stephen McKiernan, who died recently.

Stephen's close friend Ciaran McElholm and Frank McDonnell cycled almost 50 miles from Trillick to Derry via Dromore in his memory, raising £4,415 in the process.

SDLP Foyle MLA Pat Ramsey met the men on their arrival in Derry said: "Stephen was highly respected and loved by all the SDLP parliamentary team and all staff in parliament buildings in Stormont and Westminster.

"He was a very proud member of the SDLP staff team but a dedicated and unselfish senior press officer who took great pride in all the work he did. We will miss him badly.

"Stephen's bravery in the face of all his challenges was inspirational. It's fitting that his friends continue to inspire others in his name. Ciaran and Frank deserve huge credit for their arduous cycle and the significant fundraising effort they've made."

Frank McDonnell and Ciaran McElholm.

Mr Ramsey also paid tribute to Macmillan Cancer Support.

He said: "Macmillan Cancer Support is doing amazing work every day with those dealing with cancer and their families.

"Stephen had previously run the Belfast Marathon to raise funds to support this excellent work and I'm sure he'd be so proud of his friends for carrying on in his memory."

Ariane Medical Systems welcome news from NICE of use of Low energy contact Xray brachytherapy for early stage rectal cancer

The pioneering non-surgical treatment for early-stage rectal cancer has now been formally approved by The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE).

The low energy, high dose Papillon technique is an alternative to surgery and was introduced to the UK in 1993 at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre by Prof Arthur Sun Myint. Since 2006 Prof Myint has treated over 600 patients using Ariane Medical systems Ltd Papillon50 treatment system; with another 11 centres around Europe.

Professor Myint, commented: "The NICE approval will be of great benefit to patients who may not be fit enough for the surgical treatment and younger patients who would otherwise need a stoma to treat their rectal cancer. It is very good to know that more patients in the UK will be able to get the benefits of the Papillon technique especially in the treatment of early diagnosed rectal cancer."

R to L - Head Radiographer CCC Kate Perkins, Prof Sun Myint, PAPS Macmillan patient support head Sue Davies, Papillon patient Mark Davies (Photo copyright (Adam Slama), courtesy of Macmillan Cancer Support).

For further information visit: www.arianemedicalsystems.com