

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](mailto:patricia@oncologynews.biz)

## Varian Medical Systems publishes 2014 Sustainability Report



Varian Medical Systems, a world leader in radiotherapy and X-ray imaging technology, is announcing 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 2014 Sustainability Report has been produced as part of a wider company effort to continually improve sustainability performance and transparency.

"Companies such as ours have a responsibility to achieve our business goals in a socially and environmentally responsible manner," said Dow Wilson, chief executive officer of Varian Medical Systems. "This is a company that utilizes its resources and talent to help people everywhere in the world. Sustainability for us is extending access to quality healthcare, delivering safe and effective

products, and having a beneficial impact on the communities where we operate."

In 2010, Varian commenced a company-wide undertaking to examine sustainability performance and identify challenges and opportunities to be addressed over time. "We have made a commitment to produce annual updates so we could measure our achievements against defined sustainability goals," adds Wilson. "This effort involves the close participation of senior leaders from all divisions, key geographies, and core functions."

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## Provectus Biopharmaceuticals Appoints Christopher Kaplan to Its Strategic Advisory Board

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals, Inc., a development-stage oncology and dermatology biopharmaceutical company ("Provectus"), announced today that it has appointed Christopher Kaplan to its Strategic Advisory Board effective immediately.

Mr Kaplan is currently President of Cajetan, LLC, an independent healthcare consulting firm working with companies to deliver better value for patients, fuel innovation, enhance the impact and execution of marketing and sales initiatives, and reduce the cost and



complexity of operating systems.

Mr Kaplan started his pharmaceutical career at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company. He moved quickly through various roles in US sales and sales management and then in US marketing. He began his international experience in Paris

as the CV Marketing Director for Europe and then progressed to his last role at Bristol-Myers Squibb as Marketing and Sales Director in Rome, Italy.

Mr Kaplan said, "I am very pleased to be joining the Provectus Strategic Advisory Board at this exciting time in the Company's development. I am impressed with the science that stands behind PV-10 as well as its prospects for regulatory approval."

*For further information visit:* [www.pvct.com](http://www.pvct.com)

## Work toward clinical MRI-guided radiation therapy system marches on

Elekta and its research partners are moving toward the day when the world's first high field MRI-guided radiation therapy system enters clinical service. To date, seven centers have joined the Elekta MR Linac Research Consortium. The latest milestone toward realization of this modality was the installation of the first system at University Medical Center Utrecht.

This summer, the research system entered a phase of non-clinical testing, which includes the performance evaluation of MRI sequences, testing of different adaptive delivery methods, establishing QA techniques and defining workflow. It is a rigorous process, but a necessary one to ensure radiation oncologists in the future will be able to exploit the full benefits of simultaneous real-time MR imaging and beam delivery.

"Bringing the superior soft tissue imaging of MRI and precise radiotherapy together could revolutionize cancer care," says Kevin Brown, Elekta's Global Vice President Scientific Research. "Doctors would be able to deliver radiation precisely where they planned in a way that was not possible. Through real-time imaging, the radiation beam could follow the movements of organs and targets inside the patient's body. This means radiation delivery will be directed virtually exclusively to the tumor target, minimizing radiation exposure to surrounding healthy tissues."

In the coming months, Elekta expects to add additional consortium members.

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## Hope for Tomorrow's Chemotherapy in the Community

A national charity which supplies Mobile Chemotherapy Units to NHS Trusts across seven rural counties, is looking to the future. Hope for Tomorrow's Chemotherapy in the Community week in December aims to raise funds to cover the £12,000 annual running costs of each MCU – and supply more of the units to more Trusts. Each MCU costs the charity £260,000 to build and maintain for three years. Hope for Tomorrow also supplies each Trust with a car so chemo nurses can travel between the Oncology Centre and the MCU's rural locations.

The charity launched the world's first Mobile Chemotherapy Unit in 2007 to reduce the stress of travelling and

waiting times for thousands of cancer patients living in rural areas. Each MCU travels throughout the week around each county, treating up to 20 patients a day, delivering up to 2,000 treatments a year. There are currently MCUs in Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire, Hampshire, East Kent, Berkshire, Lincolnshire and parts of Dorset – with more to come.

Consultant Cancer Specialist Dr Sean Elyan describes the MCUs as a "truly transformational innovation in cancer care."

For further information visit:  
[www.hopefortomorrow.org.uk](http://www.hopefortomorrow.org.uk)



**Hope for Tomorrow**  
Bringing cancer treatment closer to home



## Provectus Biopharmaceuticals data presented at ESMO 2014 Congress show ablative, bystander effects of PV-10

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals, Inc have announced that data on its investigational agent PV-10 for intralesional treatment of locally advanced cutaneous melanoma was featured in a poster presentation during the European Society For Medical Oncology 2014 Congress in Madrid, Spain. The presentation showed that PV-10 elicits a high rate of response in injected tumours through its ablative effect, and additionally, that the durability of response as well as the bystander response in uninjected tumours implicate an additional immunologic mechanism secondary to ablation.

The highlighted poster, presented by Sanjiv S Agarwala, MD, of St Luke's University Hospital and Professor of Medicine at Temple University, based upon abstract #1120P, was entitled, "Subgroup Efficacy in Patients Receiving Intralesional Rose Bengal to All

Existing Melanoma in Phase II Study PV-10-MM-02." The poster can be accessed via the following link: [www.pvct.com/publications/Provectus-ESMO-2014-09-28.pdf](http://www.pvct.com/publications/Provectus-ESMO-2014-09-28.pdf)

Dr Agarwala and co-authors studied the safety and efficacy of PV-10 over 12 months in an 80 patient single arm phase 2 trial. Best overall response in cutaneous study lesions was assessed by direct measurement every 4 weeks during the treatment phase and then every 12 weeks. Patients had a progression event if either the melanoma tumors in the skin worsened or visceral progression was detected on radiologic assessment.

For further information visit: [www.pvct.com](http://www.pvct.com)



## Provectus' intralesional PV-10 and co-inhibitory blockade data to be presented at SITC 29th Annual Meeting

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals, Inc have announced that Shari Pilon-Thomas, PhD, from the Moffitt Cancer Center will present the abstract titled "Efficacy of Intralesional Injection with PV-10 in Combination with Co-Inhibitory Blockade in a Murine Model of Melanoma," at the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer [SITC] 29th Annual Meeting in two time slots on Saturday, November 8: 12:30-2:00pm and 6:00-7:30 pm.

Dr Craig Dees, PhD, CEO of Provectus, said, "Dr Pilon-Thomas and her team at Moffitt have been doing very interesting work assessing the potential combinations of PV-10 with immune checkpoint inhibitors for

melanoma. Their work may be an important step forward as part of our corporate strategy for addressing unmet need in late stage melanoma patients and in other uses of PV-10."

The SITC 29th Annual Meeting in National Harbor, Maryland, runs from November 6-9, 2014. The abstracts are expected to post online November 6.

For further information contact:  
[www.pvct.com](http://www.pvct.com)



## A milestone in brain tumour research: the UK's first national networked brain tumour tissue archive



Charities and hospitals have announced a new tissue banking initiative, called the Brain Tumour Archive Network, that will unlock thousands of previously hard to access brain tumour samples for researchers throughout the UK. Creation of the network was led by braintrust and supported by other brain tumour charities including Brain Tumour Research.

Operating at the University of Southampton, BRAIN UK will link existing archives of brain tumour tissue in a virtual network so that researchers can gain access to unprecedented levels of tissue to support their much needed research into better treatments and a cure for brain cancer. 27 hospitals are already participating in the network.

A review of current NHS archive holdings, dating back to the 1970s, revealed that a networked approach will make in excess of 400,000 stored samples potentially available to research. Researchers will now have easy access to tissue, in sufficiently large numbers with appropriate ethical approval already in place.

For more information about the the Brain Tumour Archive Network please contact Claire Mitchell at BRAIN UK, University of Southampton on T: +44 (0)23 81205240 or E: [cem1e13@soton.ac.uk](mailto:cem1e13@soton.ac.uk)



## 4th Annual South West 200 cycle

The South West 200 is now regarded as one of the toughest events on the Northern Ireland cycling calendar. The latest cycle took place in early October 2014 attracting over one hundred participants to make the long trek from Omagh to Sligo and back, taking in Counties Fermanagh, Leitrim, Sligo, Donegal and finally back to Tyrone on the Sunday afternoon. Not only is this one of the toughest it is also one of the final events of the year.

The annual cycle is organised by Omagh Wheelers and the John McGirr Fund, it's aim it to raise money to support Prostate Cancer research. To date the Fund has raised over £70,000 to support this worthy cause and there are already a number of events planned for 2015.

Speaking at the end of the cycle, Oonagh McGirr, representing the John McGirr Fund thanked all of those who took part. "Taking on a challenge like this is not easy" said Oonagh, "I saw at first-hand the effort that that everyone puts in and I appreciate that their main focus is on raising much needed funds to carry out critical research into prostate cancer. I would like to thank everyone who took part, the stewards and people who organised food & water stops. Without Omagh Wheelers and the large number of helpers this would not be possible so I would particularly like to thank them for their involvement. Finally, I hope we



can all come back again next year and make it an even bigger event," concluded Oonagh.

For further information visit: [www.facebook.com/southwest200](http://www.facebook.com/southwest200)

## Audit to Encompass Regulatory Documents for PH-10 and PV-10

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. recently announced that it has retained INC Research, a leading, global Phase I to IV contract research organization, to conduct an FDA due diligence audit of its regulatory documents for PH-10 and PV-10.

The audit will be conducted in two phases, both of which are expected to be completed by early November 2014. In the first phase, INC Research Quality and Compliance Consulting will undertake a regulatory document inventory and evaluation of the contents of Provectus' information management system (the Smart Room). The results of this phase will generate a document request list, and the second phase of the audit will involve further evaluation of the requested documents. This will entail onsite verification of the regulatory documents and a final analysis of diligence issues identified in the audit.

Dr Craig Dees, PhD, CEO of Provectus, said, "Provectus is pleased to be working with INC Research Quality and Compliance Consulting in conducting this audit. By retaining their services, we are endeavoring to ensure that the upcoming phase 3 trial for PV-10 as a treatment for melanoma as well as the future tests of both PV-10 for other indications and for PH-10 to treat dermatological diseases proceed with all possible speed. Making sure that all the paperwork is available and in good order will smooth out the process."

For further information contact:  
W: [www.pvct.com](http://www.pvct.com)



## Castle Hill Hospital first in UK to implement latest PET·CT technology from Siemens



Castle Hill Hospital, part of Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust, has recently opened The Jack Brignall Scanning Centre. The facility is the first in the UK to be fitted with a Biograph mCT Flow Edge™ PET·CT system from Siemens Healthcare which has been funded by Hull-based charity, The Daisy Appeal. Opened by former Secretary of State for Health, Baroness Virginia Bottomley, the system is being used to conduct mostly oncological work in addition to infection scanning, vasculitis and clinical research.

Since implementation of the new technology, Castle Hill hospital has seen a rapid increase in referrals for

PET·CT examinations. Replacing a mobile scanner that would visit the Trust three days a week, the new system is in action five days a week and currently imaging up to 50 patients within that time. The Biograph mCT Flow Edge will be used as an essential tool in radiation treatment planning and it is anticipated its use will be extended to dementia and cardiac imaging, two of the most prevalent disease areas in the UK.

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## UK's NHS Supply Chain Selects 10 TrueBeam Treatment Machines

NHS Supply Chain has placed an order for a further 10 TrueBeam™ machines from Varian Medical Systems as part of an ongoing program to replace older machines and roll out modern radiotherapy and radiosurgery treatments for patients in the UK's public hospitals. The order, placed in September, comes just a year after the NHS Supply Chain ordered 20 TrueBeam systems from Varian.

"The commitment by NHS Supply Chain to order a further 10 TrueBeam systems demonstrates great confidence in this advanced radiotherapy and radiosurgery system, as well as a close alignment between Varian and the UK government's stated goal of saving many more lives each year," said David Scott, Varian's regional sales director. "This shows the unprecedented demand for TrueBeam



medical linear accelerators among the UK's oncology departments."

Under the deal, NHS hospitals across the country will take delivery of TrueBeam systems through the NHS Supply Chain.

"This is another important step in enabling the NHS to modernize its base of linear accelerators to provide technologically advanced cancer treatments, as well as shorten treatment times," says Andy Brown, managing director of business solutions at NHS Supply Chain.

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## Provectus' Intravesical PV-10 Clinical Data to Be Presented to the 2014 SMR International Congress

Provectus Biopharmaceuticals, Inc ("Provectus"), have announced that Sanjiv S. Agarwala, MD, of St. Luke's University Hospital and Professor of Medicine at Temple University will present data on its investigational new drug PV-10 for the treatment of melanoma at the 11th International Congress of the Society for Melanoma Research (SMR) in Zurich, Switzerland in November.

Dr. Agarwala's presentation will take place as a Satellite Symposium sponsored by Amgen and is titled "Oncolytic immunotherapy –



engaging the immune system to target melanoma."

Dr. Agarwala said, "I am very happy to be presenting our IL PV-10 data at the 2014 International Congress of the SMR. The Society's stated mission is to increase communication among melanoma

researchers. I agree that the exchange of knowledge and ideas is critical for the field, and my participation at the Congress is just one way in which we at St. Luke's are working to improve the information flow among researchers, physicians and patients." PV-10, a 10% solution of Rose Bengal that is currently being examined as a novel cancer therapeutic, is designed for injection into solid tumors, minimizing potential for systemic side effects.

*For further information visit: [www.pvct.com](http://www.pvct.com)*

## Readers' Comments Invited



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