



Brain Cancer Treatment Without a Scalpel

Cyberknife Provides Extremely Precise Treatments, Without Cutting



Cyberknife – Brain Cancer Treatment Without a Scalpel

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April 2015. In recognition of Brain Cancer Awareness Month this May, Accuray Inc. (Nasdaq: ARAY) is raising awareness about the availability of a non-invasive alternative to brain cancer surgery, the Cyberknife Robotic Radio-surgery System. This leading edge system has been proven to deliver radiation to the skull with sub-millimeter precision while avoiding surrounding healthy brain tissue, resulting in fewer side effects and a better quality of life for the patient.

The recent Accuray / TNS EMNID survey revealed that 40 percent of patients believe they do not have enough information to have a personal opinion on treatments. Overall, the survey indicates more education may be needed to enable people to make an informed decision if faced with a cancer diagnosis.

“We want people who are diagnosed with brain cancer to know that there are options that may help them to minimize the impact of the tumor on their daily lives. In partnership with their physician, patients should discuss which treatment is right for them,” said Lionel Hadjadjeba, senior vice president international business and general manager of Accuray International. “The Cyberknife System is a radiosurgery option that may offer hope to patients who have inoperable or surgically complex tumors, or who may prefer a clinically effective, non-surgical option.”

Cyberknife treatments are available in ten centers all over Germany. “We are very proud to have this technology in our center since 2005. It gives hope to patients that have no other options or decide against surgery”, said Prof. Alexander Muacevic, Neurosurgeon at the European Cyberknife Center Munich-Grosshadern in Munich.

No Pain – minimal side effects

Cancer treatments are usually known to be very aggressive and to have a dramatic impact on quality of life during the treatment. Cyberknife brain cancer treatments are typically performed on an outpatient basis over a period of one to five days, requiring no overnight hospital stays. Most patients experience minimal to no side effects with a quick recovery time.

“My brain is where I am”, said Natasha Hacin McDowell. “I wanted a safe, effective treatment without suffering from the side-effects of an invasive surgery”, said Mrs. Natasha Hacin McDowell, a 67 year old woman treated in April with the Cyberknife System for a brain meningioma in one single session at the European Cyberknife Center. “I was able to leave the center immediately after my treatment to enjoy some sightseeing in Munich.”

Cyberknife: precise as a scalpel without an incision

The Cyberknife System offers patients a non-invasive alternative to brain cancer surgery, and can be used for brain tumors that are considered inoperable because of their location in the head, for those patients who cannot undergo brain cancer surgery due to their poor medical condition, or who refuse surgery. The Cyberknife System also can treat benign, or non-cancerous, tumors and other conditions, such as trigeminal neuralgia and arterial venous malformations (AVMs).

The Cyberknife System is a frameless radiation delivery system. With other technologies, immobilization devices such as a frame bolted to the patients' skull are used to prevent movement. The Cyberknife System is designed to automatically track, detect and adjust the radiation beam for tumor movement and therefore does not require a frame.

About the European Cyberknife Center Munich-Grosshadern

The first Cyberknife center in Germany was opened in cooperation with the Munich University Hospital (LMU) on July 1, 2005. The Cyberknife system used in Munich features a compact linear accelerator mounted on a robotic arm. It is the only system that automatically adjusts the beam delivery to motion during treatment in real-time. This precision is essential to deliver high doses to the target area while simultaneously minimizing radiation exposure to surrounding healthy tissue and organs. Meanwhile, about 5,500 patients have been treated with this painless, outpatient and generally applicable method in Munich. In the field of brain tumor treatment, the Munich radiosurgeons are leading.

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