Press release |

Breast cancer patient first to benefit from Cone Beam CT-supported setup for Proteus®ONE treatment session

The only FDA-approved CBCT imaging modality for compact proton therapy system ensures accurate patient positioning at Willis-Knighton Cancer Center

Shreveport, Louisiana, USA, October 19, 2015 – IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A., EURONEXT), the world's leading provider of proton therapy solutions for the treatment of cancer, announces that the very first FDA-approved Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) imaging modality for a compact proton therapy solution has been successfully deployed for the treatment of a breast cancer patient with Willis-Knighton Cancer Center's Proteus®ONE.

Rather than scheduling one CT image on a weekly basis, the volumetric imaging modality CBCT offers the possibility to make qualitative images on a more frequent basis before or after the actual treatment, putting proton therapy on the threshold of adaptive treatment. Furthermore, it enhances the patient positioning precision, improving the global treatment quality. IBA has made the CBCT imaging modality available for different configurations and is the first and only company to have obtained FDA approval on a CBCT solution for a compact treatment system. The CBCT solution is fully integrated with IBA's imaging platform adaPTinsight to offer fast 6D corrections of patient positioning.

Clinical staff at the Willis-Knighton Cancer Center selected a breast cancer patient to be the first for this newly-commissioned imaging modality. It allowed for a very fluent patient setup, adding no more than a couple of minutes to the time spent by the patient in the treatment room. Willis-Knighton clinicians believe that this superior verification tool will be an asset to improve and expand proton therapy treatment for head and neck, pancreatic and breast cancer patients in particular.

Dr. Lane Rosen, Medical Director of Radiation Oncology at the Willis-Knighton Cancer Center, commented: "Nobody doubts proton therapy's potential for ultimate precision and healthy tissue sparing, but on the spot verification remained a liability to fully leverage this accuracy. Now that our Proteus®ONE installation features CBCT imaging, we can further enhance and expand proton therapy treatment for indications demanding the utmost precision."

Greg Sonnenfeld, Willis-Knighton's Cancer Center Administrator, commented: "From the moment we decided on the purchase of our Proteus®ONE, it was indisputable that CBCT facilities would be added to our proton therapy solution. IBA did a wonderful job with the image quality and workflow so we are still able to maintain patient care and throughput while having superior imaging."

Yves Jongen, IBA's Chief Research Officer and Managing Director, said: "Developing and finetuning imaging modalities to support the accuracy of the proton beam is one of our key focus points. We are very proud to have a high-performing CBCT solution available for our compact Proteus®ONE configuration. It gets us one step closer to achieving the full potential of proton therapy."

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About Proton Therapy
Proton Therapy is considered the most advanced and targeted cancer radiotherapy treatment due to its superior dose distribution and fewer side effects. Protons deposit the majority of their effective energy within a precisely controlled range, directly within the tumor, sparing healthy surrounding tissue. Higher doses can be delivered to the tumor without increasing the risk of side effects and long term complications, thereby improving patient outcomes and quality of life. Today, more than half of all proton therapy clinical facilities worldwide are equipped with IBA systems. This includes 18 proton therapy centers currently in operation and 16 additional centers under development.

While proton therapy today represents less than 1% of radiotherapy treatments, studies estimate that more than 17% of patients treated by radiotherapy would benefit from being treated by this technique.

About Proteus®ONE
Proteus®ONE is the compact intensity modulated proton therapy (IMPT) solution from IBA. It benefits from the latest technologies developed with renowned clinical institutions. Proteus®ONE is smaller, more affordable, easier to install and to operate. It is ultimately easier to finance, making this advanced radiation therapy modality available to more institutions and patients worldwide. Proteus®ONE makes Proton Therapy easy.

* Proteus®ONE is the brand name of a new configuration of the Proteus® 235

About IBA
IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A.) is a global medical technology company focused on bringing integrated and innovative solutions for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. The company is the worldwide technology leader in the field of proton therapy, the most advanced form of radiation therapy available today. IBA's proton therapy solutions are flexible and adaptable, allowing customers to choose from universal full-scale proton therapy centers as well as compact, single room systems. In addition, IBA also has a radiation dosimetry business and develops particle accelerators for the medical world and industry.

Headquartered in Belgium and employing about 1100 people worldwide, IBA has installed systems across the world, from Europe and the US to emerging markets. IBA is listed on the panEuropean stock exchange EURONEXT. (IBA: Reuters IBAB.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB). More information can be found at: www.iba-worldwide.com

About the Willis-Knighton Cancer Center
The Willis-Knighton Cancer Center, Louisiana's premier cancer treatment facility, based at one of the United States largest community hospitals, has been a national and international leader in advanced radiation technologies and serves as a tertiary referral center for the surrounding region.

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