



PENN MEDICINE'S DEPARTMENT OF RADIATION ONCOLOGY, ONCOLINK AND IBA LAUNCH THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE PROTON THERAPY CLINICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Radiotherapy practitioners and new proton therapy centers can now benefit from comprehensive proton therapy clinical training

Philadelphia, United States; Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, September 24th, 2013 – Penn Medicine's Department of Radiation Oncology, Roberts Proton Therapy Center, OncoLink and IBA (Ion Beam Applications SA) announces that they have launched the first comprehensive Proton Therapy Clinical Education program. This program enables proton therapy practitioners from different specialties to be prepared from day one to perform their most important mission: looking after patients and carrying out safe and effective treatments.

The Proton Therapy Clinical Education Program is made up of a wide array of educational modules, ranging from an introduction to proton therapy to very specific clinical topics such as the treatment of non-small cell lung cancer or head and neck cancers with pencil beam scanning. By participating in this program, proton therapy centers can train their staff members to safely and effectively start proton therapy treatment in their facilities. It will also help to accelerate the ramp-up of patient treatment and increase the variety of cases treated.

Specific modules have been developed for each specialty that plays an active role on the proton therapy clinical team. These modules are comprised of comprehensive training from Penn Medicine's Department of Radiation Oncology and Roberts Proton Therapy Center.

Professor James Metz, MD, Vice Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania commented: *"When we started proton therapy and pencil beam scanning at Penn, we took great care to develop protocols and applications step by step, to safely bring Proton Therapy to our patients. It is this experience, developed as a team over more than 20 years, that we are now able to pass on to and share with the medical community. I believe that this program will be a true success thanks to the involved partners and the help and expertise of OncoLink and IBA."*

Associate Professor Neha Vapiwala, MD, Vice Chair of Education and Chief of Genitourinary Service in Penn Medicine's Department of Radiation Oncology added, *"Our experience in web-based teaching and providing comprehensive oncology education is what has set OncoLink apart dating back to almost the inception of the Internet as a resource for information. We are thrilled to*



apply our know-how to develop a more efficient way of teaching Proton Therapy, and to make a difference in centers that will adopt this advanced technique.”

Olivier Legrain, Chief Executive Officer of IBA concluded *“When Penn Medicine’s OncoLink and the Roberts Proton Therapy Center and IBA came together to discuss this project, it made immediate sense. Having been in the field of proton therapy for over 20 years, and with the technology becoming ever more available and desired, we have seen an increasing need for qualified clinical staff. This need will continue to increase everyday especially when you see the compact systems coming to the market. The educational program fits perfectly with IBA’s mission to make Proton Therapy Available to more patients around the world whilst reducing both clinical and financial risks to care givers.”*

Disclosure: Penn Medicine has received an unrestricted educational grant from IBA to develop this proton therapy training content.

Notes to Editors

About the Penn Medicine’s Department of Radiation Oncology

The Penn Medicine Department of Radiation Oncology is dedicated to providing the highest quality, patient-centered, cancer care, developing new therapies for cancer patients through research, and educating the next generation of outstanding physicians, physicists, and researchers. The Department’s Vision and Strategy is to be a global leader in radiation oncology education and research, to set and report national radiation oncology quality and outcomes benchmarks, and to use our network members to increase access to Penn Medicine care closer to patients’ homes.

The Department of Radiation Oncology provides patient care at the Ruth and Raymond Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine and eight community-based network sites delivering more than 66,000 radiation treatments per year. The Department of Radiation Oncology delivers a broad range of radiation therapy services to its patients, including proton therapy. The Roberts Proton Therapy Center is completely integrated with the Department’s conventional radiation therapy services.

Penn Radiation Oncology is not only committed to delivering top-flight radiation therapy, but also to enhancing and improving upon the patient experience by providing a full range of clinical services. An integral component of the Abramson Cancer Center at the University of Pennsylvania, Penn Radiation Oncology can draw upon the center’s full resources to deliver the best possible overall care.

Penn Radiation Oncology has a robust research program featuring 11 laboratory investigators and a broad range of clinical and translational research activities. Penn is committed to generating evidence for the use of proton therapy through clinical trials and through developing new biological and physical approaches for improving radiation therapy and bringing these advances to the clinic to benefit patients directly.

The Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania is a world leader in cancer research, patient care, and education. The pre-eminent position of the Cancer Center is reflected in its continuous designation as a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute since 1973, one of 41 such Centers in the United States.

<http://www.pennmedicine.org/radiation-oncology/patient-care/treatments/proton-therapy/>



About OncoLink

OncoLink was founded in 1994 by Penn cancer specialists with a mission to help cancer patients, families, health care professionals and the general public get accurate cancer-related information at no charge.

Through OncoLink you can get comprehensive information about specific types of cancer, updates on cancer treatments and news about research advances. We update the information everyday and provide information at various levels, from introductory to in-depth. If you are interested in learning about cancer, you will benefit from visiting OncoLink.

www.oncolink.org

About IBA

IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A.) is a cancer diagnostics and treatment equipment company and the worldwide technology leader in the field of proton therapy.

The Company's primary expertise lies in the development of next generation proton therapy technologies, providing oncology care providers with premium quality services and equipment. IBA's proton therapy solutions are scalable and adaptable, offering universal full scale proton therapy centers as well as next generation compact, single room systems. IBA also focuses on the development and supply of dosimetry solutions for Quality Assurance as well as particle accelerators for medical and industrial applications.

IBA employs more than 1,200 people worldwide and is listed on Euronext Brussels, (IBA: Reuters IBAB.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB), more information can be found at: www.iba-worldwide.com

About Proton Therapy

Proton Therapy is considered the most advanced and targeted cancer treatment due to its superior dose distribution and reduced side effects. Protons deposit the majority of their effective energy within a precisely controlled range within a tumor, sparing healthy surrounding tissue. Higher doses can be delivered to the tumor without increasing the risk of side effects and long-term complications, improving patient outcomes and quality of life.

Today, more than half of proton therapy clinical facilities worldwide utilize IBA systems. This includes 15 proton therapy centers in operation and 11 centers under development. Over 25 000 patients have been treated on IBA equipment – more than all competitor installations combined.

IBA is listed on the pan-European stock exchange EURONEXT. (IBA: Reuters IBAB.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB) and more information can be found at: www.iba-protontherapy.com

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