

ASX Announcements

17 November 1999

Optiscan Enters US Trials

Optiscan Imaging Limited today announced the successful installation of its unique optical fibre and laser technology equipment at the prestigious US medical imaging and microscopy centre, the Centre for Biologic Imaging at the University of Pittsburgh.

The installation is a significant step in Optiscan's aim to gain US regulatory approval by September next year.

"Optiscan's instrument is truly visionary," said Professor Simon Watkins, the director of the Centre and a leader in the application of advanced imaging technologies to the study and management of disease. "It takes the well established field of confocal imaging and moves it towards acceptance as a multi-dimensional clinically useful tool."

The Centre will be a focus in the USA of multiple collaborations trialing the use of the system in the diagnosis, monitoring and therapeutic management of cancer, particularly in the key target areas of melanoma, colon cancer and cervical cancer.

"By combining our expertise in fluorescence technologies, immunology and gene therapy with Optiscan's hand held probe, I imagine a situation where we [the Centre] will be able to design and implement individualised diagnostic and therapeutic strategies for cancer in the immediate future," said Professor Watkins. Peter Delaney, Managing Director of Optiscan, who oversaw the recent installation in Pittsburgh, said: "Every researcher at the Centre for Biologic Imaging is incredibly enthused by the potential this instrument offers. The installation is also strategically very important to Optiscan. It will not only advance clinical applications for Optiscan's technology for the diagnosis and management of cancer but, more importantly, it is a substantial addition to Optiscan's ongoing clinical program directly aimed at USA regulatory approval by the target date of September 2000.

" An added bonus for Optiscan is the heightened awareness of its technology

that has been generated by the unit's installation. Its presence in the USA has provided a means of direct access and demonstration of the technology to potential USA and other international strategic allies and distribution partners.

For further information

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