

## Young researchers recognised at Magstim TMS Summer School 2008

Magstim has announced the winners of both the Magstim Young Investigator Award 2008 and the Summer School Poster Session during the first day of the Magstim Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) Summer School 2008, held in London on 30th – 31st May. Both awards recognise the scientific research of those working with magnetic stimulation within the fields of Neuroscience and Neurology.

Dr Marco Davare, University College London (UCL), Institute of Neurology, Sobell Dept of Motor Neuroscience and Movement Disorders has been awarded the Magstim

Young Investigator Award 2008 for his work studying how the brain controls skilled hand movements.

PhD student Niamh Kennedy, Queen's University Belfast, School of Psychology was awarded the Poster Prize for her Poster on the effect of simultaneous contractions of ipsilateral muscles on changes in corticospinal excitability induced by paired associative stimulation (PAS).

*For more information contact:*  
Catherine Stormont,  
Tel. +44 (0)1489 557672,  
Email. catherines@alto-marketing.com



From left to right: Magstim Young Investigator Award winner Dr Marco Davare with Professor Vince Walsh, Dr Heidi Johansen-Berg, and Poster Prize winner Niamh Kennedy.

## News Review

### ReQuip XL® - a new once daily formulation for the treatment of Parkinson's disease

GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) have launched a new treatment for Parkinson's disease (PD) in the UK. ReQuip XL® (ropinirole prolonged-release tablets) is the UK's first and only once-daily non-ergot oral dopamine agonist available for the treatment of PD, providing continuous delivery of ropinirole from a single daily dose.

Ropinirole prolonged-release is approved for the treatment of idiopathic Parkinson's disease (Monotherapy and Adjunct Therapy) in patients already taking ropinirole immediate release tablets and in whom adequate symptomatic control has been established.

Although a number of therapies are available for the treatment of PD, interim results from a recent pan-European survey of 1,026 people conducted by the European Parkinson's Disease Association (EPDA) suggest that there is still a significant unmet need for the treatment of PD.

The clinical trials programme has demonstrated that ropinirole prolonged-release tablets are an effective agent, generally well-tolerated in the treatment of both early- and advanced stage PD.

GSK has developed the ReQuip Patient



Support Service (RPSS) to offer patients free guidance and support should they decide with their healthcare professional to switch from ropinirole 3x-daily to ropinirole prolonged-release. The RPSS is designed to complement the care provided by their NHS health professionals. The service comprises proactive telephone calls over a three-month period from trained health professionals (including nurses) to patients starting ropinirole prolonged-release tablets, to help ensure a smooth transition from ropinirole 3x-daily to ropinirole prolonged-release.

*For further information contact*  
GlaxoSmithKline UK on  
Tel. 020 8990 2144.

### The new A1 series from Nikon

Even the most rapid biological processes can now be captured at ultra high resolution as a result of the launch of a new range of confocal laser scanner systems by Nikon Instruments. Two models are available; the fully automated A1 and the high specification A1R. The A1 utilises conventional paired galvanometers producing high resolution images (up to 4096 x 4096 pixels), whilst the A1R incorporates a unique hybrid scanner system (offering frame rates of 30fps, 512 x 512 pixels). This facilitates ultra-high-speed imaging with unsurpassed image quality. Furthermore, the hybrid scanner enables simultaneous photo-activation and imaging, critical for unveiling cell dynamics and interactions.



The new systems are a natural complement to the recently launched Ti inverted microscope, particularly when coupled with Nikon's patented Perfect Focus System, essential for eliminating focus drift. Together they set a new standard for advanced time-lapse studies of rapid cellular interactions to literally bring biological imaging to life.

*For more information please contact*  
Nikon Instruments Europe, Tel. 0208 247 1718,  
Email. info@nikoninstruments.eu  
Web. www.nikoninstruments.eu

### Best practice recommendations for young people with cerebral palsy in transition

The experience of young disabled people with cerebral palsy and other long-term neurological conditions, moving from children's to adult health services can often be traumatic, and in many health settings there is a gap in service provision. To address this 'gap', best practice recommendations entitled 'Young People with Cerebral Palsy in Transition from Paediatric to Adult Health Services: Best Practice Recommendations' have been launched this month aimed at all health professionals who are involved in the transition of care of the young person with cerebral palsy.

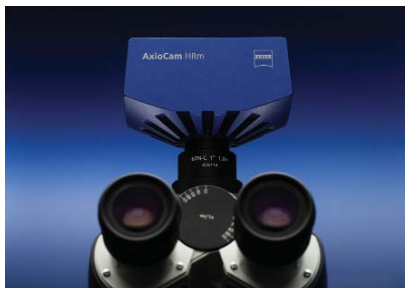


Mr Richard Parnell, Head of Research at the national disability organisation, Scope said: "Transfer of care and support from the paediatric service to the adult health service is a major step in these young people's lives and it needs to be holistic, taking into consideration all transition issues, not just health. Scope welcomes this document and hopes that health professionals will review transition service provision in their own hospitals".

*Further information contact:* Ipsen Ltd,  
Tel. 01753 627609  
Email. access.coordinator@ipsen.com

## Zeiss launches 13-megapixel monochrome camera

Carl Zeiss has launched a high resolution, monochrome digital camera optimised to meet the demands of fluorescence microscopy and live cell imaging. The 13-megapixel AxioCam HRm R3 will capture up to 48 images per second.



dynamic range enable users to take multidimensional images of even the weakest fluorescence signals emerging from dynamic events.

The AxioCam HRm also offers automated recording of high-resolution colour images via RGB filters mount-

The new camera produces high resolution images up to 4,164 x 3,120 pixels. The new design features high sensitivity and low noise with a dynamic range of 2,500 resolvable grey scales and 14-bit digitisation. A special NIR mode ensures increased sensitivity in the near infrared.

Two switchable read-out speeds of 12.5 and 25 MHz satisfy the contrasting requirements of very high resolution and high speed with up to 12 images per second at maximum sensor resolution available at 25 MHz. Together with systems comprising Zeiss microscopes and AxioVision software, the sensitivity and high

in the turret of the microscope in combination with the multi-channel fluorescence module. A colour version of the camera with up to 39 megapixel resolution is also available.

FireWire connection enables compressionless storage of images direct to the computer hard drive. Fast sequences are captured using the digital high-speed recorder module of the Zeiss AxioVision software, which also permits 3D visualisation of image stacks and sequences as well as qualitative and quantitative analyses.

For more information Tel. 01707 871 200, Email. [micro@zeiss.co.uk](mailto:micro@zeiss.co.uk)

## Meiji Techno new range of digital cameras



Meiji Techno has announced the latest in CMOS digital camera technology: With scientific grade, defect free sensors, these high quality cameras are designed to be a cost-effective versatile solution for documentation of microscopy imaging where high resolution is required. The DK Series cameras have great sensitivity and very low noise figures. The included software features include auto and manual white balance, full exposure control and ROI (region-of-interest). The DK Series delivers outstanding image quality for a wide variety of production or scientific applications.

The cameras offer an extended range of user-convenient benefits including a high Speed USB2.0 interface that eliminates having to install cards or other hardware. They use low noise image sensors that deliver crisp colour quality for the most demanding bright-field and darkfield microscopy applications.

Full color sub-windowing allows for rapid focus and scanning of samples. The cameras have Selectable 8 & 10 bit pixel Data modes. Each pixel contains 30 bits of color image information resulting in 1024 intensity values per colour.

The industry standard TWAIN interface results in rapid image capture for archiving and documentation, high throughput applications, demanding research environments and teaching facilities. Drivers and plugins allow support for MatLab R2006, LabView and Image Pro platforms. The DK Series requires no power supply. The camera takes its power from the USB bus, meaning with a laptop, images can be generated in the field.

Visit [www.meijitechno.com](http://www.meijitechno.com) for more information.

## Olympus sponsors neurotechniques collection

Olympus Microscopy has partnered with the Nature Publishing Group to present the Neurotechniques Collection. This compilation of articles will draw together some of the groundbreaking research that has recently been published in Nature Reviews Neuroscience and Nature Methods. Sponsored by Olympus, this collection will be available free in print and online.



late the nervous system in unprecedented ways. The Neurotechniques Collection brings together both original research and relevant, timely reviews that have been published in Nature Reviews Neuroscience and Nature Methods in the last two years. There is also a compilation of Research Highlights written by the editors describing some of the most important advances in this primary research area.

Freely available in a printed supplement, the Neurotechniques Collection will also be accessible as a Web Focus at

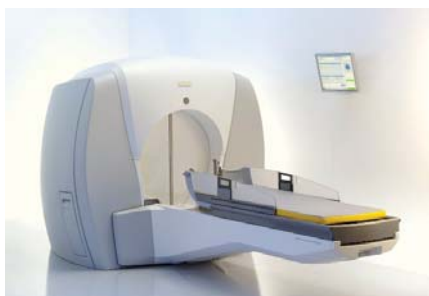
[www.nature.com/focus/neurotechniques](http://www.nature.com/focus/neurotechniques) and on the Nature Reviews Neuroscience homepage - [www.nature.com/nrn/index.html](http://www.nature.com/nrn/index.html).

For a free copy, please contact Olympus, Email. [microscopy@olympus-europa.com](mailto:microscopy@olympus-europa.com)

Olympus has a long track record of working with the scientific community. As a proven innovator, Olympus enables scientists to advance their research. Advances in genetics and molecular and cellular biology, together with the development of increasingly sophisticated imaging techniques such as those from Olympus, have allowed neuroscientists to view and manipu-

## Leksell Gamma Knife® Perfexion™ receives regulatory approval in Japan

The Japanese Ministry for Health, Labor and Welfare, MHLW, has given approval for Leksell Gamma Knife® Perfexion™, the world-leading clinical solution for non-invasive radiosurgical treatments of tumours, vascular malformations and other brain disorders. Elekta, the international medical technology group and developer of Gamma Knife® surgery, will now be able to deliver and install this advanced technology at new and existing customer sites in Japan. Gamma Knife surgery has become the world's



most widely used radiosurgery treatment due to its extraordinary accuracy, reduction of excess radiation dose to the body, extensive history and clinical documentation. Unlike other systems, invoking compromises in order to be able to treat the whole body, Leksell Gamma Knife is specifically designed to optimise treatment to the head and neck area – a fact appreciated by neurosurgeons and patients alike.

For further information contact Peter Ejemyr, Email. [peter.ejemyr@elekta.com](mailto:peter.ejemyr@elekta.com)

## Alder Hey Hospital installs Artis Zee

The Royal Liverpool Children's NHS Trust, Alder Hey, has installed a biplane flat detector angiocardiology system from Siemens. The Artis zee will carry out general interventional radiology, cardiac and neurological investigations and therapy, supporting the work at one of the largest and busiest children's hospitals in Europe. The Artis zee is flexible in design, ideal for interventional procedures. Its versatile functionality means that vital neurological work can now be carried out at the hospital. Before the installation, patients had to be transferred to The Walton Centre for Neurology and Neurosurgery in Liverpool.

The adaptable system permits examinations at any gantry position whilst ensuring that images are always angled for the best possible visibility. Floor mounted and ceiling



Left to right: Dr. Andrew Healey, Consultant Paediatric Interventional Radiologist, Nurses; Lesley Spellman, Sergey Bratukhin and Margaret Gleave; Irene Abbott, Operating Department Assistant, Lilian Taylor, Radiographer.

mounted C-arms give the radiographer the optimum level of freedom in which to work, including a second isocentric working position that permits free head access to the patient or anaesthesia equipment. The large flat detector provides high contrast resolution to improve accuracy in image-guided procedures at a significantly reduced radiation dose. The system installed at Alder Hey Hospital has been equipped with syngo DynaCT, an application that will be used at Alder Hey for neurological interventions. This will provide CT-like imaging of the head, neck and spine through the Artis system in order to enhance diagnosis and treatment.

For more information contact Mike Bell, Tel. 01276 696317, Email. [mike.bell@siemens.com](mailto:mike.bell@siemens.com)

## New guidance for paediatric physiotherapists on the use of botulinum toxin

Evidence-based guidance has been produced for paediatric physiotherapists involved in the management of children with neurological conditions, where botulinum toxin may be an adjunctive treatment.

Entitled 'Evidence-based guidance for physiotherapists: the use of botulinum toxin in children with neurological conditions' the guidance has been developed by a UK Working Party of Physiotherapists, with the support of the Association of Paediatric Chartered Physiotherapists (APCP)\*. The document addresses the need for specific advice on physiotherapy intervention following botulinum toxin treatment.

Commenting on the launch of the guidance, Lesley Katchburian, Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist at Great Ormond Street Hospital, London and Chair of the Working Party said, "Although the use of Botulinum Toxin A in paediatrics has become more widespread over the



last ten years, there is no physiotherapy specific standardised pathway or consensus of practice for providing botulinum toxin injection services for children. The provision of services and practice varies widely throughout the UK. Paediatric physiotherapists have expressed a need for APCP guidance regarding their role in this area of spasticity management".

The guidance reviews current practice and makes recommendations in terms of patient selection, assessment, goal setting and outcome measures, the implementation of a post-injection management programme, communication and audit.

APCP members can request a copy of the guidance on the organisation's website [www.apcp.org.uk](http://www.apcp.org.uk). Non-members can request a copy of the publication at a cost of £5.00 plus postage and packaging by emailing Sharon Dyer (APCP Administrator) at Email. [electrodoc@btinternet.com](mailto:electrodoc@btinternet.com)

## Carl Zeiss launches next-generation Confocal Microscope

Carl Zeiss has launched the LSM 710 system. The new microscope boasts a more than doubling in sensitivity and unequalled signal-to-noise performance that will enable users to examine fluorescently-labelled biological systems, including thick living tissue samples, in more detail than ever before.

The performance is due to the LSM 710's new illumination and detection systems. Zeiss' unique QUASAR filter-free spectral detection unit is more sensitive and flexible than any detector previously released on the market and may be configured with 2, 3 or 34 channels. The 34 channel QUASAR allows rapid simultaneous spectral collection of images with a resolution of 9nm over the entire wavelength range. In addition, there is a sequential acquisition mode available that increases spectral resolution to 3nm (available on 2, 3 and 34 channel systems). Significantly, a



spectral recycling loop increases the efficiency of the spectral splitting of the fluorescence emissions to almost 100%

The definite focus module maintains a constant focal plane throughout experiments to ensure that images are always in focus. The new microscope also incorporates PTC (pig-tailed chain) laser capability, enabling plug-and-play use of to 8 lasers. In addition, the innovative main beam splitter, TwinGate, supports up to 50 laser line combinations, features individually exchangeable filters and offers unparalleled suppression of the excitation laser light for brilliant, high-contrast images. Up to 10 different fluorescent dyes

may be resolved and imaged simultaneously, opening up new possibilities for researching multi-labelled cell systems.

For more information Tel. 01707 871 200, Email. [micro@zeiss.co.uk](mailto:micro@zeiss.co.uk)

To include your news item in this section contact Rachael Hansford on [Rachael@acnr.co.uk](mailto:Rachael@acnr.co.uk)