

Guernsey invests in onsite scanning facilities from Siemens

Princess Elizabeth Hospital, Guernsey, has installed the SOMATOM Sensation 64 and MAGNETOM Avanto 1.5 scanner from Siemens Medical Solutions in its newly built scanning department. The installations will add permanent MR and CT capabilities to its in-house services and enhance its imaging, clinical and diagnostic capabilities.

To date patients have had to travel to Jersey or Southampton for their scans; in 2006 approximately 882 people were referred to off-island hospitals. With demand increasing, Princess Elizabeth Hospital needed to provide on-site scanning, imaging, clinical and diagnostic capabilities. The new unit gives permanent access to state-of-the-art MRI and CT scanning equipment.

The combined products have the advantage of providing better imaging and staging processes. The high end MAGNETOM Avanto uses Total image matrix (TIM) technology, providing significant advantages in imaging, allowing a greater range in examinations. The scanner will be used to look at detailed images and the high resolution technology



Pictured beside the new MAGNETOM Avanto with the wall backdrop created by Karl Taylor are: (L to R) Laura Slimm, MRI Deputy Superintendent, Roy McGregor, CEO for Credit Suisse and Deputy Peter Roffey, Health Minister for Guernsey.

offers a new level of clarity. This allows early detection of abnormalities and decreases time to treatment.

It improves patient comfort and care, with the AudioComfort technology reducing noise encountered by patients by 97%. The high speed technology shortens the time to complete the scan and its innovative design gives the patient more room to relax.

For more information
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New Ti series – a central resource for live cell imaging

Nikon launched the Ti Series recently. Available in three distinct models, the Ti range combines rapid system speed with a flexible design incorporating capabilities including: confocal, TIRF, fluorescence and Nikon's patented Perfect Focus System (PFS) into one powerful integrated unit set to expand and advance current live cell imaging research.

Offering faster acquisition times and unparalleled levels of accuracy, the Ti platform has been designed in close collaboration with the industry's leading cell biologists and presents the field with a versatile new tool. The Ti-E is now the first microscope system to incorporate optimised syn-



chronised switching improving total system performance. All component parts are integrated within a central hub and intelligently controlled through Nikon's NIS elements software. This enhances speed of operation, minimises component movement and improves experimental accuracy.

Complementing the range, the Ti-S and Ti-U derivatives are ideal for researchers requiring

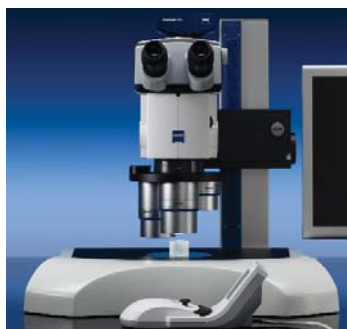
less advanced systems with a lower level of integration, and are specifically indicated for use in more routine laboratory work.

For more information see
www.nikoninstruments.eu

Zeiss sets new standard for zoom, magnification and resolution in stereomicroscopy

Carl Zeiss has added a flagship stereomicroscope to its range with the launch of the SteREO Discovery.V20. The 20x zoom is the highest zoom factor and final magnification of any stereomicroscope available on the market. Thanks to the newly computed PlanApo S 2.3x objective, the SteREO Discovery.V20 also delivers the highest resolution in stereomicroscopy with 1000 LP/mm, with a maximum magnification of 345x (eyepieces 10x).

"The new microscope owes much of its exceptional optical performance to the CMO (common main objective) imaging system pioneered by Zeiss", says Aubrey Lambert, Marketing Manager at Carl Zeiss UK. "The 20x zoom range enables users to move seamlessly from a panoramic overview of an object to examining extremely small details without any time-consuming change of objectives. This is a significant benefit in automated workflow environments. Furthermore, the high



final magnification of the SteREO Discovery.V20 permits three-dimensional observation of objects that, until now, could only be examined two-dimensionally with a traditional light microscope."

The advanced design guarantees safe object manipulation, combining high magnification with generous working distances. Ergonomically, every microscope function can be controlled through SyCoP, which integrates the entire System Control Panel into a mouse-like controller. This allows intuitive control of the motorised zoom and focus, the illumination, and the real-time display of total magnification, object field, resolution, depth of field and Z position. A range of high-performance CMO lenses enables fine details to be visualised with outstanding contrast and in three dimensions.

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Study shows Topamax® provides sustained reduction in monthly migraine days for up to one year

A new long-term study into migraine prevention published in *The Lancet Neurology* shows that patients who continued with Topamax® (topiramate) for migraine prophylaxis for up to a year experienced a sustained reduction in the number of migraine days per month, with significant associated benefits on quality of life measures.¹ The study also found that there was a significant increase in the number of monthly migraine days following discontinuation of topiramate, however, the number did not return to pre-treatment levels.¹

The PROMPT (PROlonged Migraine Prevention with Topiramate) study was a 12-month, multicentre, double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled study conducted to investigate the continued effectiveness of topiramate in reducing the number of migraine days beyond six months, compared with the impact of stopping treatment at six months. All patients received open-label Topamax for the first 6 months, and then were randomised to either continue Topamax or take placebo for the second 6 months in a double-blind design.

After 6 months of open-label topiramate treatment, the mean number of monthly migraine days fell significantly from 8.93 to 5.83, a reduction of 3¹ migraine days per month ($p < 0.0001$). After 12 months, the reduction in the mean number of monthly migraine days seen during the first six months was maintained and remained almost unchanged in the group that continued on topiramate.

For more information T. 01494 567567.

Reference

1 Diener HC, Agosti R, Allais G. et al. Cessation versus continuation of 6-month migraine preventive therapy with topiramate (PROMPT): a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *The Lancet Neurology*, 2007;6:1054-62.

