

## Laser TIRF 3 Imaging System

With the introduction of the Laser TIRF 3 microscope system, Carl Zeiss enhances the capability of scientists to visualise near-cell membrane dynamic processes while maintaining optimum specimen incubation conditions and single molecule dynamic processes in cell-free systems. In combination with other techniques, such as Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM), it provides a complete solution for users in the life sciences, biochemistry, molecular biology and biophysics arenas.

The Laser TIRF 3 maintains Carl Zeiss' long-standing commitment to system flexibility. A range of incubation options maintain viable conditions for live cell experiments. Together with the Definite Focus module, users can be assured of accurate quantitative data over long time periods. The new laser module may be equipped with up to four solid-state lasers, is AOTF-controlled (Acousto-Optical Tuneable Filter) and may be operated entirely from the AxioVision software interface.

The TIRF slider is available in two versions; either manual or fully-motorised and software controllable. The motorised version permits a given illumination angle to be set with significantly greater accuracy and speed than other current systems and the reproducible angle setting results in reproducible penetration depths for the light beam. Together with the corrected beam-path and special filter sets, the apochromatically-corrected optics of the TIRF slider guarantee maximum image quality.

AOTF control and angle setting are integrated into the 'Fast Image Acquisition' module of the AxioVision software, enabling significantly more high resolution images to be acquired within any given timeframe.

For more information E. [micro@zeiss.co.uk](mailto:micro@zeiss.co.uk)



## S-Nerve™ ultrasound tool a real boon for paediatric anaesthesia

Sheffield Children's Hospital was the first facility in the UK to acquire a SonoSite S-Nerve™ tool, SonoSite's point-of-care ultrasound tool designed specifically for anaesthesia. Dr Nigel Pereira, consultant paediatric anaesthetist, is now routinely using the streamlined system for needle guidance in a range of nerve blocks.

"We use our S-Nerves in theatre, where we perform almost the full range of paediatric specialty surgeries. I think it is an excellent instrument, and the whole team has been very pleased with it. The S-Nerve offers the specific features we want with the same impressive resolution as SonoSite's other ultrasound systems."

"We have a MicroMaxx® system in the ICU, where the portability is a real benefit. In theatre it is more practical to keep the S-Nerve tools mounted on their stands. I am a relative novice in ultrasound, but I find the S-Nerve very intuitive



and straightforward, and the large screen and minimal controls are an advantage. Always having it available is a great boon."

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## Residents at Glenside complete sponsored walk for charity

Despite undergoing continuing rehabilitation for various brain injuries and neurological conditions, 10 residents at Glenside Manor tested themselves as they walked varying distances to raise money for charities of their choice on 30th September last year. Some managed a few hundred metres and others completed 3 laps of the Glenside site in South Newton, Wiltshire – raising in the region of £600 in the process for 4 charities; Headway, Barnardo's, Anna's Room and Pets as Therapy. Ray Barnes, who is determined not to use his wheelchair for short distances, was the catalyst for the event and was successful in getting 9 others to join the walk. Previously a successful Civil Engineer, Ray sustained a brain injury during a woodland mountain bike ride 2001. He has undergone rehabilitation in Southampton, Winchester and now Glenside where he has progressed so much that he lives in one of the 10 bungalows, specifically designed to provide 'supported independent living' where nursing and care staff are on hand round the clock. The walkers are all undergo-



ing their own rehabilitation programmes (with Physiotherapy, Psychology, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy, all provided by the therapy teams on-site).

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## Azilect® slows the clinical progression of Parkinson's disease

Preliminary results of the ADAGIO trial were presented at the European Federation of Neurological Societies (EFNS) 12th Congress, Madrid, Spain, on 26th August 2008. The ADAGIO trial showed that Azilect® (rasagiline) slows the clinical progression of patients with Parkinson's disease. In the trial, newly-diagnosed patients with Parkinson's disease (PD) showed sustained clinical benefits at 18 months compared to patients in whom treatment had been delayed by 9 months.

These results could have a significant impact

for patients newly diagnosed with Parkinson's disease as the trial suggests that early treatment with Azilect® has a significant and sustained clinical benefit in the longer-term.

"We are excited by the preliminary results of the ADAGIO trial. The data show that early treatment in PD can result in a slowing of clinical progression. These data are also consistent with an earlier trial with rasagiline which showed a similar outcome. This may offer real benefit to patients who are treated promptly after diagnosis," said Professor

David Burn, Professor in Movement Disorder Neurology & Honorary Consultant, Newcastle University and UK ADAGIO study investigator.

Azilect® has been available on prescription to patients in the UK since July 2005. Previous studies have shown that Azilect® benefits the symptoms of PD in both the early and later stages of PD and that it is well tolerated.

For further information contact Teva on  
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If you would your news to feature in ACNR, please contact Rachael Hansford, T. 01747 860168, E. [rachael@acnr.co.uk](mailto:rachael@acnr.co.uk)

## First Twin-Scanner Multiphoton Microscope

Zeiss has overcome the challenges of imaging deep inside living tissues with the launch of the LSM 7 MP, a purpose-built multiphoton laser scanning microscope that, for the first time, incorporates two separate scanners. The twin scanners mean that the system's two excitation lasers can be set to different wavelengths and used either simultaneously or sequentially for specimen imaging and manipulation.

Because the LSM 7 MP uses longer-wavelength, femtosecond lasers and the scan modules are optimised for excitation light up to 1100 nm, efficient fluorescence excitation deep inside tissue samples is possible without the phototoxic damage associated with high intensity light. The LSM 7 MP can be used with up to five, sensitive non-descanned detectors in reflection or transmission mode or both. Simultaneous use of two detectors in the transmission and reflection modes delivers a high-



er signal yield than with a single detector and allows the excitation laser intensity to be minimised. Used with either the non-descanned detectors or the special GaAsP non-descanned detector taken directly from the recently-introduced LSM 710 NLO, the LSM 7 MP is ideal for the observation of structural changes in whole, live animals.

Other application fields include high resolution 3D imaging in long-term observations of development processes and functional imaging in conjunction with simultaneous photo-manipulation. A wide range of detectors, filters and other accessories allow every user to configure a personalised and application-specific system and the entire system is quick to set-up and easy to use thanks to the intuitive ZEN imaging and control software.

*For further information  
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## Neuromodulation News winter issue



The latest issue of Neuromodulation News is now available. Neuromodulation News is pleased to feature in this issue articles by Dr Walter Paulus on tDCS and interviews with Dr Marco Davare and Niamh Kennedy, the winners of Magstim's Young Investigators Awards 2008. Dr Heidi Johansen-Berg reports on the Magstim TMS Summer School 2008, and the date for the Magstim TMS Summer School 2009 is confirmed as the 29th – 30th May 2009. In addition, there is a round-up of news stories covering aspects of neuromodulation and brain stimulation, as well as an events diary for those working in the fields of Neuroscience and Neurology.

Neuromodulation News provides an overview of new or interesting developments in the fields of neuromodulation and brain stimulation, with articles written by scientists and researchers involved in these sectors. If you would like to suggest an article or content for the next issue of Neuromodulation News please contact the editor.

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## The Ring Chromosome 20 Foundation

After years of testing, misdiagnosis, and a difficult journey to find medical treatment, the Ford family was told that the reason their young daughter Cara was having frequent and severe seizures was because of ring chromosome 20 epilepsy syndrome. With so much uncertainty and little information about the syndrome available, Cara's father, Stewart Ford, decided to establish a Foundation to fund medical research and other projects so that families and doctors can better understand this condition and its treatment.

The purpose of the Ring Chromosome 20 Foundation is to promote awareness of the syn-



drome and the importance of chromosomal testing in children with refractory epilepsy. The Foundation is based in London and in New York City and is currently funding genetic and clinical research. Initial results were presented at the American Epilepsy Society (AES) meeting in Seattle 5-9 December, 2008.

However, there is still an urgent need for more patients to be identified through medical professionals around the world.

*To register a patient and take part in current research, or find out more information about this syndrome please visit [www.ring20.org](http://www.ring20.org).*

## Nikon expands advanced imaging solutions to include SEM

Nikon Instruments Europe and JEOL have announced an agreement that appoints Nikon as the official European distributor of the innovative NeoScope benchtop SEM (scanning electron microscope).

Whether used by trained electron microscopists as a compact screening instrument, or by lab technicians seeking a higher resolution alternative to the light microscope, the NeoScope will help accelerate the pace of research in all fields. Offering simplicity and affordability along with benchtop convenience, the NeoScope is ideal for use in the areas of sampling inspection, failure analysis of manufacturing materials, materials research, metallurgical laboratories, medical devices, forensics, bioscience research, pathology and environmental laboratories



Welcoming the new agreement, Bill Clement, Industrial Sales Manager at Nikon Instruments commented, "The NeoScope is a fresh new approach offering a powerful yet affordable benchtop SEM. By offering the NeoScope togeth-

er with Nikon's microscopes and digital cameras, we are able to offer a comprehensive range of imaging and inspection solutions from nano- to micro- to macro-features."

An entirely new advanced imaging tool, the NeoScope makes it straight forward to obtain images of high magnification, high resolution and large depth of field using a microscope that is as simple to operate as a digital camera, with the powerful electron optics of an SEM. A wide range of samples and materials can be loaded and imaged quickly and conveniently.

*For more information please contact Nikon Instruments Europe, T. 0208 247 1718, E. [info@nikoninstruments.eu](mailto:info@nikoninstruments.eu) W. [www.nikoninstruments.eu/neoscope](http://www.nikoninstruments.eu/neoscope)*