

News Release

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New data presented at the annual meeting of the American Brachytherapy Society demonstrates the value of RAPID Strand™ as a treatment for localized prostate cancer

Philadelphia (May 25, 2004) — ONCURA™, the global leader in minimally invasive prostate cancer treatment, welcomes the recent publication of clinical data comparing RAPID Strand with loose Palladium-103 seeds. The data reports on the delivery of therapeutic radiation (dosimetry) and concludes that a significant advantage is seen if RAPID Strand is used instead of Palladium-103. The data was presented by Dr. Humberto Fagundes (Missouri Baptist Medical Center) at the annual meeting of the American Brachytherapy Society (ABS), held this year in Barcelona and in conjunction with the European Society of Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ESTRO) meeting on brachytherapy.

“This is exciting news for men who choose brachytherapy as a treatment for prostate cancer,” said Andrew Bright, Vice President of Strategic Marketing. He added, “In this study RAPID Strand has been shown to offer a dosimetric advantage over loose Palladium-103 seeds; according to some published studies good dosimetry is an indicator of quality treatment.”

Men treated with loose Palladium-103 seeds or RAPID Strand were assessed for the level of radiation delivered to the prostate as well as to areas around the prostate. One of the main objectives of prostate brachytherapy is to deliver therapeutic radiation to the target area while avoiding nearby healthy tissue, hence the importance of the precise radiation delivery offered by RAPID Strand. These data also showed that the use of RAPID Strand led to a lower need for urinary catheterization - less than 3% versus almost 10% in the patients treated with Palladium-103.

"The majority of prostate brachytherapy is performed with Iodine-125, the isotope in RAPID Strand; Palladium-103 is another isotope that is sometimes used," said James McGlone, ONCURA's President and CEO. He added, "This publication is consistent with our belief in

the long-term data that supports ONCURA's proprietary Iodine-125 prostate brachytherapy products, especially RAPID Strand."

ONCURA, a business of Amersham plc, was created through the merger of Amersham's brachytherapy business with Galil Medical Ltd's urology business. Headquartered in the United States, ONCURA operates as an independent business of Amersham plc, with Galil holding a minority position of 25 percent. ONCURA has a major presence in the treatment of prostate cancer. On April 8, 2004, General Electric (GE) completed its previously announced acquisition of Amersham.

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