

News Release

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CONTACT: Andrew Bright
+ 1 (484) 530 3922
andrew.bright@oncura.com
www.oncura.com

ONCURA™ Introduces the IceRod™, a New Minimally Invasive 17 Gauge Cryoneedle with Increased Therapeutic Coverage.

Philadelphia (Sept 28, 2004) — As a global leader in minimally invasive prostate cancer treatment ONCURA has an extensive brachytherapy and cryotherapy product development program dedicated to improving quality of life for the many men who require treatment each year. The launch of the IceRod will increase the utility of ONCURA's patented 17 gauge cryoneedle technology. The IceRod allows physicians to utilize a minimally invasive option that offers a larger therapeutic ice ball.

"More procedures are performed with our 17 gauge technology every day," said Jim McGlone, President and CEO of ONCURA. He added, "With the introduction of our IceRod and its larger therapeutic ice ball we are able to reduce procedure time, as a result the patient and physician spend less time in the operating room."

The introduction of the IceRod is a logical development of ONCURA's approach; treatment with minimal impact on the patient. ONCURA's patented 17 gauge technology reduces the invasiveness of cryotherapy when compared to older and larger cryoprobe technologies, and the ability of the IceRod to treat a larger volume with each needle will reduce the time taken in many instances.

"The new IceRod cryoneedle can be used as easily as the traditional 17 gauge cryoneedle but, because of the increased length and width of its ice ball, larger prostate glands may be treated more rapidly," said Dr Neal Shore, Urologist at Grand Strand Urology in Myrtle Beach, SC. He added, "My first two cases were each completed in only 45 minutes and both prostates were approximately 40cc in volume."

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