

# News Release

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### **Long-term data utilizing ONCURA's OncoSeed™ reinforces the value of Iodine-125 prostate brachytherapy**

Philadelphia (May 11, 2004) — As the global leader in minimally invasive prostate cancer treatment ONCURA™ continues to support the publication of long-term data that demonstrates the value of prostate brachytherapy. Data describing the side effects associated with brachytherapy were presented by Dr. Nelson Stone (Professor of Urology and Radiation Oncology, Mount Sinai Medical School, New York) at the annual meeting of the American Urological Association in San Francisco (May 8 – 13).

“It's clear that Iodine-125 brachytherapy using ONCURA's OncoSeed offers patients an excellent chance for long-term cure,” said Dr. Stone. He added, “Our morbidity data demonstrates that side effects are well tolerated, and that previously suspected adverse pre-treatment factors may not be a major issue”.

The data presented by Dr. Stone substantiates the preservation of urinary and sexual quality of life scores when patients treated with Iodine-125 brachytherapy have long-term follow-up, in this instance after a minimum of four years. Factors such as age, a large prostate, symptoms of urinary bother and hormonal therapy did not increase the risk of side effects.

“The presentation of Dr. Stone's data showing the preservation of key quality of life parameters is excellent news for prostate cancer patients who choose brachytherapy with Iodine-125, the isotope in ONCURA's OncoSeed and RAPID Strand™,” said Andrew Bright, ONCURA's Vice President of Strategic Marketing “His data comes from one of the numerous clinical studies that highlight long-term survival and quality of life that were carried using our products alone”.

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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#### Notes to Editor

Brachytherapy involves the placement of small radioactive seeds in the prostate, sparing patients from the more invasive radical prostatectomy surgery.