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## OPTISCAN COMMENCES CLINICAL TRIAL IN ROBOTIC PROSTATECTOMY SURGERY

Optiscan is pleased to announce the commencement of a new trial using endomicroscopy during minimally invasive robot assisted surgery for prostate cancer. Patient recruitment is now underway at Westlake Medical Center, Austin, Texas, USA after receiving approval for the study from the Austin Multi-Institutional Review Board (AMIRB).

Prostate cancer is the most common solid tumour in men, with 1 in 11 men at risk of developing prostate cancer in their lifetime. Approximately 40% of patients undergo radical prostatectomy to remove the prostate gland as part of their treatment. Robot assisted prostatectomy provides surgeons with superior visualization of nerves and allows extremely precise dissection of tissues surrounding the prostate. However, due to the complex nature of the surgical procedure and anatomical structures involved, nerve damage during prostatectomy is possible, and can result in undesirable complications such as erectile dysfunction and urinary incontinence. The need remains for further improvements to tissue identification during surgery, to lower the risk of undesirable post-operative outcomes.

Confocal endomicroscopy allows real-time microscopy to be performed on living tissue in vivo. It provides high resolution, cellular and subcellular imaging and is already in clinical use in gastrointestinal endoscopy. The potential for confocal endomicroscopy to enhance microscopic nerve identification during robot assisted prostatectomy will be evaluated in the 30 patient feasibility study. The minimally invasive surgery will be performed by Dr. Randy Fagin using the Da Vinci surgical robot system. The study is scheduled for completion in 2009.

In keeping with World Health Organization guidelines, the trial has been registered with an appropriate clinical trial registry. Details can thus be found at [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov) (ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:NCT00792961).

### Background

Optiscan is a global leader in microscopic imaging technologies for medical markets. Optiscan's unique and patented technologies enable high-powered microscopes to be miniaturised and used inside the body. The technology enables microscopic imaging of up to 1000 times magnification to be achieved. Doctors can use the technology to instantly see cellular level details of tissue without the requirement to surgically remove tissue (biopsy).

Further information:

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