

First Use Of Seracam® In Image Guided Surgery

London, UK and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 6 June 2024. Serac Imaging Systems Limited (“Serac Imaging Systems” or “the Company”), the medtech company developing a portable hybrid gamma-optical camera for medical imaging, and the University of Malaya Medical Centre, today announce the start of clinical testing using Seracam® for image guided surgery in sentinel lymph node biopsy procedures in patients with breast cancer.

The study aims to evaluate the correlation between Seracam and standard gamma probe detection of sentinel lymph nodes. The study is being led by Dr Ng Aik Hao, clinical medical physicist and senior lecturer at the University of Malaya and Professor See Mee Hoong, lecturer and consultant oncoplastic breast surgeon from the University of Malaya Medical Centre, where the study will take place.

Twenty patients will be recruited and images will be acquired using Seracam prior to and during surgery in addition to the normal standard of care imaging before surgery. The study will compare the performance of the camera with the gamma probe used during surgery in terms of overall sentinel node detection rate.

Radioguided sentinel lymph node biopsy is a minimally invasive surgical technique which determines the spread of cancer from a primary tumour through the lymphatic system, leading to widespread metastatic disease. Use of this procedure leads to a substantial reduction in patient morbidity and improved outcomes. It is a major prognostic factor in patients and is important in managing patient treatment.

The standard protocol for the sentinel lymph node biopsy procedure in breast cancer uses a radiotracer to identify the location of the sentinel node. A conventional gamma camera situated in a nuclear medicine department is used to image the distribution of the tracer prior to surgery. However, these conventional gamma cameras are very large instruments that cannot be moved, so during surgery the surgeons rely upon a non-imaging gamma probe to localise the uptake of the radiotracer in the node via an audible signal. The small form factor of Seracam enables it to be used for imaging of the nodes during surgery, while the unique hybrid gamma-optical imaging allows the surgeon to map the tracer uptake to physical anatomy in real time during the procedure.

Dr Ng Aik Hao, clinical medical physicist and senior lecturer at the University of Malaya said:

“We are excited to be the first clinic to use Seracam in surgery as we believe imaging using this highly innovative camera could have many practical benefits for sentinel lymph node biopsy procedures. The real-time high resolution fused optical gamma images have the potential to allow the surgeon to make a better assessment of radioisotope localisation in the operating room.”

Mark Rosser, Chief Executive of Serac Imaging Systems, added:

“Seracam delivers game-changing molecular imaging technology at the patient bedside. As well as the fused image overlay, features such as its compact design, light-weight portability and excellent performance in spatial resolution make it ideally suited to image guided surgery. We look forward to working with our esteemed colleagues in Malaysia as the study progresses to evaluate Seracam’s potential to improve patient care in this new clinical setting.”

Sentinel lymph node biopsy is a standard practice in many medical centres worldwide, including Malaysia, in managing early-stage breast cancer patients.

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Notes to Editors

About Serac Imaging Systems and Seracam®

Serac Imaging Systems Ltd is a medtech company developing a portable hybrid gamma-optical camera for medical imaging. Our lead product is Seracam® which is in development to bring the benefits of high-resolution molecular imaging to a patient's bedside, instead of being confined for use in a hospital's nuclear medicine imaging department. A further unique feature of this technological approach is the overlay of a gamma image with an optical image of the same anatomical location under examination. Such portable and enhanced imaging technology has the potential to help clinicians make better, more informed and more timely treatment decisions. Seracam® is a UK and EU registered trademark.

Seracam® is for investigational use only and has not been cleared or approved by the FDA or UK and European regulatory authorities.

Serac Imaging Systems Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Serac Life Sciences Limited.

For further details, please see www.seracimagingsystems.com

About molecular imaging

Molecular imaging is a type of medical imaging that provides unique insights into what is happening inside the body at the cellular and molecular level helping physicians to deliver personalised medicine by delivering the right treatment to the right patient at the right time. Unlike other medical imaging technologies such as x-rays, computed tomography (CT) and ultrasound (US) which provide structural images, molecular imaging allows physicians to see how cells, tissues and organs are functioning and to measure chemical and biological processes without having to resort to biopsy or surgery.