

Esaote Medical continues to invest in therapy and interventional radiology

ECHOLASER, the first hybrid system for ultrasound-guided laser ablation, used by the American Hospital of Paris for the treatment of benign thyroid nodules

Today, one of the major challenges in medicine is the fight against cancer. Esaote has invested many years in this exciting field. The treatment of benign tumors is also a priority and the advent of alternative techniques to surgery is very popular. In 2013, the **American Hospital of Paris**, with the help of Dr. **Monpeysen**, is the first hospital in France to adopt the ECHOLASER technique. The first procedure was performed on Friday, October 4th, 2013. Laser ablation is performed in several countries on benign thyroid nodules, primary liver cancer and adenoma of the prostate, and it is still under evaluation for many other diseases.

ECHOLASER is the first and unique integrated system dedicated to ultrasound diagnosis and therapy for laser thermoablation. During the diagnostic phase, the ultrasound is used to characterize the nodule, and guide the needle puncture (benign cytology is required in the current indication). During the treatment phase, ultrasound guidance is used to precisely position the fiber to deliver the energy in situ, far away from sensitive structures, and control the thermal effect caused by the laser. Thanks to dedicated software ultrasound and specific ancillary equipment, ECHOLASER allows for this act precisely and safely.

The technique of laser ablation guided by ultrasound is revolutionary in many aspects. From the clinical point of view, it can handle without risk of complications and with minimal contraindications some mostly solid abnormal structures. Every each illumination, a single laser fiber is capable of necrotic cells in a predictable and adjustable volume between 0.7 and 2.6 cm³, which opens access to critical sites located in pathologies. "The use of small gauge needle (21 gauge) for the introduction of the fibers prevents scarring. From a practical point of view, it is a short procedure, outpatient, which requires conscious sedation with the presence of an anesthesiologist." says Dr. **Hervé Monpeysen**, endocrinologist at the Imaging and Nuclear Medicine Service of the **American Hospital of Paris** (Neuilly -sur- Seine 92).

Due to the hospital overload and current economic constraints and incentives in health authorities, medical professionals are seeking to optimize the care of patients. The scientific community is continuously evaluating new diagnostic techniques and treatment of benign and malignant pathologies. Significant efforts are being made in the areas of medical imaging and innovative technologies that provide an alternative to conventional treatments. In this context, ECHOLASER represents a concrete answer.

ECHOLASER with the advanced eHD TECHNOLOGY will be presented at the next "**Journées Françaises de Radiologie**" (JFR) to be held on October 18th-22nd at the Palais des Congrès in Paris at ESAOTE Medical Booth number 1T05, Hall Ternes, Level 1.

With about 325 millions euro consolidated sales (70% of which coming from the international markets) the Esaote Group is leader in the sector of biomedical equipment (in particular, ultrasound, dedicated magnetic resonance and software to manage the diagnostic process). Today Esaote gives work to over 1360 employees, 20% of which employed in the R&D activities. Esaote is present with its industrial and research units in Italy (Genoa, Florence, Naples) in the Netherlands (Maastricht) and in China (Shenzhen). Esaote is internationally recognized to be one of the "Top Ten" world's leading diagnostic imaging companies. Esaote S.p.A. is owned by Ares (39, 8%), IMI Investimenti of Intesa San Paolo Group (19,2%), Equinox (13,2%), MP Venture (13,2%), Carige (8,2%) and by 100 managers and directors of the Group (6,4%).

Information concerning Esaote and its products are available on the Internet site at the address: <http://www.esaote.fr>

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