



New Swedish clinic treats first cancer patients with proton therapy

Cancer patients now benefit from the most precise and advanced form of radiation treatment at
Nordic region's first proton therapy center

Uppsala, Sweden, October 15, 2015 – IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A., EURONEXT) announces that the newly opened Skandion clinic (Skandionkliniken), Uppsala, Sweden, treated its first cancer patients using a recently installed proton therapy system. Most of the patients treated so far have been irradiated for slow-growing brain tumors.

The clinic is first in the Nordics to offer proton therapy and is currently among the few such facilities worldwide with this cancer treatment modality. The clinic opted for a two-room *Proteus[®] PLUS* proton therapy system, each suite equipped with a 360° gantry and a pencil beam scanning (PBS) dedicated nozzle. A third 360° gantry room is maintained for future use and a research room with fixed PBS nozzle completes the setup.

Prior to initiating treatments, Skandion clinicians received a comprehensive clinical education program at Penn Medicine. Penn Medicine's rich clinical experience in proton therapy significantly prepared the Skandion clinical team's implementation of proton therapy in Sweden, accelerating the commissioning.

Only one of the rooms is currently used treating nine patients per day, most of which have brain tumors. Expectations are the second room, which features an additional cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) installation, will receive patients before the end of October this year. When both 360° gantry rooms are fully operational, Skandion's treatment capacity will be around 15,000 fractions a year. Skandion patients enjoy the fastest irradiation time worldwide, while energy consumption is limited to the lowest possible level.

The Skandion project is a unique public health joint venture of all seven Swedish County Councils that have university hospitals: Uppsala, Östergötland, Skåne, Stockholm, Västerbotten, Västra Götaland and Örebro. The clinic itself is built adjacent to the University Hospital of Uppsala. Diagnostics and initial treatment planning are done by clinicians from seven different university hospitals: Göteborg, Linköping, Skåne, Örebro, Stockholm, Umeå and Uppsala. Patients are then referred to the Skandionkliniken for the actual treatment procedure. An 86-room hotel is included in the building to accommodate travelling patients.

Dr. Håkan Nyström, Chief Physicist at Skandionkliniken, commented: "We are delighted to have reached our goal of making proton therapy available to Swedish cancer patients, offering them the well-known benefits of radiation therapy while reducing the risk of harmful side effects inherent to conventional radiation modalities. In other words, improving their chances to successfully conquer cancer."

Olivier Legrain, IBA's CEO, comments: "To know that yet another country's citizens will have access to proton therapy is a true joy. Swedish cancer patients can rest assured that their treatment center features state-of-the-art equipment, offering them the most refined modalities to date. IBA will continue to work with Skandion to ensure cancer loses ground in Sweden."



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About Proton Therapy

Proton Therapy is considered the most advanced and targeted cancer radiotherapy treatment due to its superior dose distribution and fewer side effects. Protons deposit the majority of their effective energy within a precisely controlled range, directly within the tumor, sparing healthy surrounding tissue. Higher doses can be delivered to the tumor without increasing the risk of side effects and long term complications, thereby improving patient outcomes and quality of life. Today, more than half of all proton therapy clinical facilities worldwide are equipped with IBA systems. This includes 18 proton therapy centers currently in operation and 16 additional centers under development.

While proton therapy today represents less than 1% of radiotherapy treatments, studies estimate that more than 17% of patients treated by radiotherapy would benefit from being treated by this technique.

About IBA

IBA (Ion Beam Applications S.A.) is a global medical technology company focused on bringing integrated and innovative solutions for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. The company is the worldwide technology leader in the field of proton therapy, the most advanced form of radiation therapy available today. IBA's proton therapy solutions are flexible and adaptable, allowing customers to choose from universal full-scale proton therapy centers as well as compact, single room systems. In addition, IBA also has a radiation dosimetry business and develops particle accelerators for the medical world and industry.

Headquartered in Belgium and employing about 1100 people worldwide, IBA has installed systems across the world, from Europe and the US to emerging markets. IBA is listed on the panEuropean stock exchange EURONEXT. (IBA: Reuters IBAB.BR and Bloomberg IBAB.BB). More information can be found at: www.iba-worldwide.com

About Skandionkliniken

The Skandionkliniken is the first clinic for proton therapy in Scandinavia, located in Uppsala. It is a national project, established in collaboration between the seven Swedish County Councils that have university hospitals. In 2006, the County Councils formed the Joint Authority of County Councils for Advanced Radiotherapy. The Joint Authority has the duty to build and operate the clinic, create conditions for optimal treatment and develop and evaluate the clinical activities. Construction was initiated in June 2011 and the first patient is expected to be treated in 2015. The clinic is designed at present for treatment of 1,000 patients per year, but with the option for future expansion.



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