

Press Release

**Theraclion, the therapeutic HiFu specialist,
raises 3.5 Million Euros from Truffle Venture.**

Paris, may 2, 2005.

High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HiFu) is certainly the most promising technology within the fastest growing segment in medical technology, the non invasive therapy segment. Hifu's capacity to generate in-depth precise tissue necrosis using an external applicator, with no effect on the surrounding structures, is unique. Theraclion S.A.S., company affiliated to Genopole® Evry, a spin-off of Inserm and the HiFu international leader EDAP-Techomed, has put together an aggressive international technical and clinical development plan. Theraclion was able to raise 3.5 Million Euros from Truffle Venture for a majority of its shares, and will benefit from Truffle's international network.

The HiFu principle consists in emitting a beam of converging high intensity ultrasounds from an external applicator. At focus point, the temperature quickly rises (80°C+), generating necrosis in a very precise volume of tissue (size of a rice grain). The entire therapeutic target is treated by moving the applicator on its robotic arm in order to juxtapose multiple shots, according to a protocol designed by an MD. A diagnostic ultrasound probe, integrated into the applicator, allows designing the protocol and conducting follow-up treatment in real time. One HiFu session lasts for 20 to 30 minutes, is ambulatory and does not require anesthesia.

The first HiFu machine (Ablatherm) by Edap-Technomed was launched in Europe in 2001, bringing a first medical validation of the technology based on fundamental research by Inserm.

Founded in August 2004, Theraclion obtained an exclusive international license on all patents for "head & neck" applications from Inserm and Edap.

The first clinical trials for the treatment of thyroid nodules are in progress in Paris with promising results. In 2006, Theraclion plans to launch a multi-centric international study including U.S. sites where the demand for non-invasive treatment of thyroid nodules is even higher than in the EC or Japan.

At the same time and in close collaboration with Inserm, Theraclion is developing a second application of Hifu, and has filed its own patent on conservative HiFu treatment of varicose veins.

Preliminary studies for a third application are in progress.

Theraclion

the sound therapy

Truffle Venture (FCPR Truffle Venture and FCPI Europe Innovation) is a leading European venture fund in the high-tech spin-off segment. Its investment will allow Theraclion to develop a final machine, obtain its CE marking and launch the multi-centric study, with the objective of filing a PMA in the US. and advancing the development of the two other applications.

"Theraclion's founders are experienced entrepreneurs in the Med-Tech industry," explains Philippe Pouletty, MD, President of Truffle Venture. "François Lacoste, VP for R&D in leading Med-Tech companies has been directing HiFu development for 16 years, and Jérôme Lebon is an expert in the international development of innovative projects and start-up companies. They convinced us that this emerging technology has an attractive future. Their close collaboration with top-notch clinicians and Inserm assured us that they've put together all of the right ingredients for a future succes."

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