



# MARIA<sup>®</sup>

## UPDATE



Vol 6

### *Micrima enters into distribution agreement with Hologic for its novel breast imaging system MARIA<sup>®</sup>*

Micrima Ltd is pleased to announce that it has signed a distribution agreement with Hologic Inc., a global leader in women's health, for the Company's new radio-wave breast imaging system, MARIA<sup>®</sup>. Under the terms of the agreement, Hologic will act as the sales and distribution partner for Micrima in Germany, Austria and Switzerland (DACH).

The first installations of MARIA<sup>®</sup>, which received CE mark approval in 2015, are expected to take place in Germany in the coming months.

Micrima has been working to develop a breast imaging system that can be used frequently from a young age to reduce the number of deaths from breast cancer. MARIA<sup>®</sup> uses harmless radio-waves, does not require breast compression and is cost effective to use. Trials to date have proven that, as an adjunct to X-ray mammography, it is effective at locating cancers, particularly in the dense tissue associated with younger women. The Company plans to introduce tissue differentiation within the MARIA<sup>®</sup> scan as it rolls out higher levels of functionality over time.

Roy Johnson, Micrima's Executive Chairman, said: *"This is an exciting step for Micrima as we transition from the product development phase into the market. We are pleased to be working with one of the best recognised global companies in breast imaging and look forward to launching MARIA<sup>®</sup> into further new territories."*

Heinz Gerhards, Managing Director of Hologic DACH said: "We are excited to be working alongside Micrima in the introduction of this new technology to the wider market."

### *Hologic showcase the MARIA<sup>®</sup> system for the first time.*

Hologic chose the 100<sup>th</sup> German Röntgen Congress for their first unveiling of the MARIA<sup>®</sup> system to their customers. The congress, which took place in Leipzig Germany, ran from May 28<sup>th</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. As you will see from the image below the MARIA<sup>®</sup> system was given a prominent position on the Hologic exhibition stand and generated a lot of interest from the delegates at the event.



Hologic booth at Roko- Leipzig

Staff from both Hologic and Micrima attended the meeting as well as delegates from around the world. As well as demonstrating the technology to general delegates, the exhibition stand was also visited by representatives from the sites who will be receiving the first units to be supplied by Hologic through the new distribution agreement.

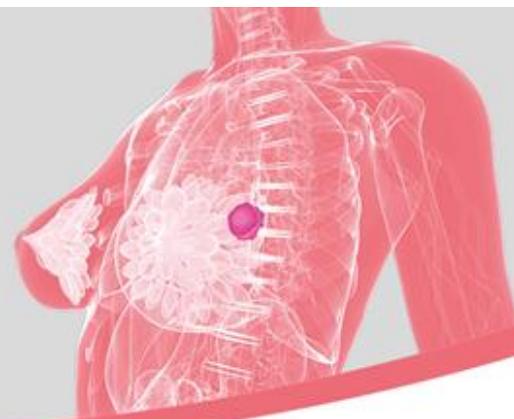
The first system to be supplied to the German market is already built and is currently undergoing final testing and validation at the Micrima offices in Bristol, prior to its transportation to our first German customer. We will keep you updated on clinical results from these centres.



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# MARIA® UPDATE



## *Micrima expands into additional premises in preparation for increased production.*

2019 has seen Micrima expand our facilities in Bristol city centre to accommodate for the commercial release of the MARIA® system. In addition to the existing office space occupied at One Glass Wharf the company now also has a second unit at 2 Glass Wharf that will primarily be used for equipment development and testing. The additional space better positions the company to allow for the fast turnaround of development projects as the functionality of the system is improved.

## *UK Clinical trials extended.*

The main clinical trial of the MARIA® technology is being run by the Royal Marsden Hospital in Chelsea and continues to supply strong clinical data. The system at the Royal Marsden has now imaged over 200 patients all of who were attending symptomatic breast clinics at the hospital. The ladies that were imaged also had imaging done with other modalities such as Ultrasound, Mammography and MRI with some also going on for biopsy. The data is not only valuable in confirming the technologies current performance but can also be used to teach and verify the Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms that will be used to characterise the findings of system. Interim results are expected shortly.

At the Thirlestaine breast unit in Cheltenham a new study has commenced to look at the repeatability of the MARIA® system, as well as look at the specific dielectric properties of cyst fluid. This is work that has never been done before. Many of the team at Cheltenham have been involved with the development of the MARIA® technology since its inception so have a good grasp of its potential to improve clinical workflow.

Prof Iain Lyburn, Consultant Radiologist, Cheltenham General Hospital, said: “We have been involved in the evaluation of the MARIA® system for some time now and whilst it is currently offered as an adjunct to other imaging

modalities, particularly where dense tissue is involved, the technique promises the exciting future ability to distinguish between tissue types. Any imaging modality that can readily give this sort of functional information has the potential to influence many points in the diagnostic and treatment pathways – there could be less need for biopsies and possibly a reduction in over treatment.”

## *News that the MARIA® system could soon be in clinical use in Germany gets local media attention.*

Since signing the agreement with Hologic for the distribution of units in the DACH region their local press has been quick to pick up the information. Several articles have been published in the German press explaining how the technology works and the advantages it could provide. An article published in ‘Management & Krankenhaus’ (a popular hospital management magazine) focused on how the additional installations will generate more clinical data for the advancement of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms that are currently being developed to categorise the findings from MARIA®. As with all AI applications the greater the volume of known data that can be used to teach the algorithm the better and more accurate, they become. As we continuously expand the database with information through the support of our clinical partners, we expect to be able to stratify further lesions and possibly even different types of cancer. The goal of Micrima is to effectively support radiologists in making accurate diagnoses. Both Micrima and Hologic have been clear that the initial installations are continuing to add to the database of evidence. However, it is good to know that there is significant public interest and we hope that the technology will be available to the wider community once the results of the clinical trials have been delivered.

Previous issues of MARIA® update can be found at:

<https://micrima.com/micrima-newsletters/>



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