

Swedish test bed for innovative radiotherapy

A gateway to clinical multicenter studies

| now under development through collaboration between health care and industry

Health care and industry establish national test bed for more effective and safer radiation therapy of cancer

All Swedish university hospitals and six leading specialized companies are currently establishing a national test bed to jointly drive development of radiation therapy for cancer treatment, a field where Sweden can become a world leader.

Health care and industry have joined forces in a consortium and the collaboration will result in a highly specialized national test bed for innovative radiation therapy. As radiation therapy becomes increasingly effective, the demand for quality assurance also increases. New diagnostic and treatment methods will ensure that cancer patients throughout Sweden can receive the best – and safest – care.

“We envision a creative interface between the hospital world and medical technology companies. In health care we have ideas about how to improve and ensure the quality of radiation therapy. Now we have a platform to transform them into reality,” says Sven Hertzman, lead medical physicist at the department of radiation therapy, Sahlgrenska University Hospital.

The collaboration between health care and industry also enables faster implementation of new innovations into health care, so they can truly benefit the patient.

“The great value for industry is to come closer to the clinical setting and patients. An advanced technological innovation is useless if it does not fit into the healthcare delivery process. The test bed also shortens time to market because we can more easily see if the product actually meets the needs of the healthcare setting,” says Jonas Gårding, Research Director at Elekta.

The test bed paves the way for clinical multicenter studies in radiation therapy at all Swedish university hospitals – larger patient populations, different user environments and cutting edge expertise.

Parties Karolinska University Hospital, Regional Cancer Center Stockholm Gotland, Uppsala University Hospital, Norrland University Hospital, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Skåne University Hospital, University Hospital in Linköping, Örebro University Hospital, Elekta Instrument AB, Siemens AB, Naslund Medical AB, ScandiDos AB, Cureos AB, Micropos Medical AB. Financed in part by VINNOVA (Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems) and coordinated by the Innovation Center at Karolinska University Hospital.

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Sweden's university hospitals and leading specialized companies are collaborating to develop a national test bed for radiation therapy and quality assurance.

The test bed offers

- a gateway to all Swedish university hospitals
- clinical multicenter studies – larger patient population, different test environments, leading experts
- a creative interface between health care and industry that captures and improves upon good ideas.

Goals

Facilitating clinical trials in Sweden creates

- better, safer and more effective radiation therapy
- equal access to care for cancer patients throughout Sweden
- faster implementation of innovations in health care
- reduced time to market for innovative companies
- increased opportunities for research
- new marketing opportunities – for industry, health care and research
- stronger role for Sweden globally in the field of radiation therapy for cancer treatment

Timetable

The National test bed for innovative radiation therapy will be established by 2015 and ready to receive innovators – from both industry and health care – with an eye toward the national or international market.

More information

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