



## Elekta and Philips establish research consortium to leverage a breakthrough in cancer care with integration of a linear accelerator and MR Imaging

The combination of radiotherapy delivery and simultaneous magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is the next-generation innovation for treatment of cancer patients using radiotherapy

Stockholm, SWEDEN and Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS October 25, 2012 – Elekta AB (NSE: EKTAb) and Royal Philips Electronics (NYSE: PHG, AEX: PHIA) today announced that they will expand a joint program to develop a breakthrough in cancer care with an imaging-treatment platform that merges radiation therapy and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology in a single treatment system. The program for development will include a research consortium of leading radiation oncology centers and clinicians, which today includes the University Medical Center Utrecht (the Netherlands).

The establishment of the consortium marks the next step in the collaboration between Elekta, a pioneer in neurosurgery and radiation therapy systems and Philips, a leader in medical imaging systems. The consortium's mission will be to merge precision radiation delivery with MRI in a single MRI-guided radiation therapy system\*. This will enable doctors to achieve exceptional soft tissue imaging during radiation therapy and to adapt treatment delivery in real-time for extremely precise cancer treatments.

"Bringing the superior soft tissue imaging of MRI and precise radiotherapy together in one device could potentially revolutionize cancer care," says Tomas Puusepp, President and CEO of Elekta AB. "The need to maximize therapeutic radiation on the target, while minimizing the exposure of healthy tissue is entirely driven by the best interests of the patient – they deserve the best chance for a cure and an improved quality of life. Elekta and Philips are leaders in the global healthcare community with a complete spectrum of expertise to fulfill this vision."

"Cancer is a major global disease that we hope to control with more targeted treatments," says Gene Saragnese, CEO Imaging Systems at Philips Healthcare. "MRI is emerging in oncology applications because of its excellent real-time 3D visualization of soft tissue. Together with our partners, all leaders in radiation therapy delivery, we are convinced that the integrated MRI-guided radiation therapy system has the potential to become a game changer in cancer care on a global scale."

Working with University Medical Center Utrecht, the medical device companies have built and tested a prototype system that integrates a linear accelerator and a 1.5 Tesla MRI system. The success of early tests has enabled the project to move to the next phase of development and testing by a select group of consortium partners.

"We are proud and excited about this project," adds Prof. Jan Lagendijk, Department of Radiotherapy, University Medical Center Utrecht. "Elekta, Philips and my department





have strived for over a decade to make this possible. Through real-time imaging of both tumors and organs at risk, an integrated MR-guided radiation therapy system would enable us to see more precisely than ever what we treat, and irradiate just the tumor as it moves in the body during treatment. This could potentially bring significant benefits to patients and overall healthcare economics."

Radiotherapy is one of the primary modalities used to treat cancer, either as a standalone treatment or used with other modalities such as chemotherapy. The technique involves identifying cancerous tissue and irradiating it with high energy radiation beams in a way that maximizes sparing of healthy tissue near the tumor. Radiation therapy delivered by linear accelerators and medical imaging already play an essential role in treatment planning, delivery and after care and is a proven cost-effective and safe method for treating patients with cancer.

\*The integrated MRI-guided radiation therapy system is in development and not available for sale.

## For further information, please contact:

Johan Andersson Melbi Director, Investor Relations, Elekta AB

Tel: +46 702 100 451

E-mail: <u>iohan.anderssonmelbi@elekta.com</u> Time zone: CET: Central European Time

Michelle Joiner

Director, Global Public Relations and Brand Management, Elekta

Tel: +1 770-670-2447

E-mail: michelle.joiner@elekta.com
Time zone: ET: Eastern Time

Steve Klink

Philips Corporate Communications

Tel.: +31 20 5977415

E-mail: steve.klink@philips.com

The above information is such that Elekta AB (publ) shall make public in accordance with the Securities Market Act and/or the Financial Instruments Trading Act. The information was published at 07:30 CET on October 25, 2012.

## **About Elekta**

Elekta is a human care company pioneering significant innovations and clinical solutions for treating cancer and brain disorders. The company develops sophisticated, state-of-the-art tools and treatment planning systems for radiation therapy, radiosurgery and brachytherapy, as well as workflow enhancing software systems across the spectrum of cancer care. Stretching the boundaries of science and technology, providing intelligent and resource-efficient solutions that offer confidence to both healthcare providers and patients, Elekta aims to improve, prolong and even save patient lives.





Today, Elekta solutions in oncology and neurosurgery are used in over 6,000 hospitals worldwide. Elekta employs around 3,400 employees globally. The corporate headquarters is located in Stockholm, Sweden, and the company is listed on the Nordic Exchange under the ticker EKTAb. Website: <a href="https://www.elekta.com">www.elekta.com</a>.

## **About Royal Philips Electronics**

Royal Philips Electronics (NYSE: PHG, AEX: PHI) is a diversified health and well-being company, focused on improving people's lives through meaningful innovation in the areas of Healthcare, Consumer Lifestyle and Lighting. Headquartered in the Netherlands, Philips posted 2011 sales of EUR 22.6 billion and employs approximately 122,000 employees with sales and services in more than 100 countries. The company is a leader in cardiac care, acute care and home healthcare, energy efficient lighting solutions and new lighting applications, as well as male shaving and grooming, home and portable entertainment and oral healthcare. News from Philips is located at <a href="https://www.philips.com/newscenter">www.philips.com/newscenter</a>