



## MEDIA RELEASE

16 SEPTEMBER 2021

### **Cutting-edge Medical Resonance Imaging (MRI) Technology Greatly Reduces Cancer Treatment Sessions and Improves Patient Experience**

- *A streamlined smart delivery of state-of-the-art MRI-guided adaptive radiation therapy can greatly reduce cancer treatment sessions by 70%, with minimal side effects*
- *MRI technology provides better soft tissue imaging compared to a CT scan, allowing continuous imaging and treating areas difficult to visualise previously*
- *The pioneering use of the MR-linear accelerator machine (MR-LINAC) is successfully established in the Australian setting with the first 6-month operations findings to be released at the RANZCR ASM 2021*

A streamlined smart delivery of MRI-guided adaptive radiation therapy can greatly reduce cancer treatment sessions and side effects, according to a keynote presentation by Professor Ben Slotman from Netherlands today at the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR).

The state-of-the-art technology can shorten the treatment plan, potentially with only 3 to 5 sessions of about 45 minutes each, while the conventional techniques usually require a 6-to-8-week treatment plan that has daily treatments averaging 15 minute each session.

As a leader at the forefront of this cutting-edge technology, Professor Ben Slotman will unveil the latest developments of MR-LINAC system, sharing his extensive clinical experiences and shedding light on patient health outcomes at the opening plenary session of the RANZCR Annual Scientific Meeting 2021.

Professor Ben Slotman said: "MRI technology provides better soft tissue imaging compared to CT scan, allowing continuous imaging while the radiation beam is on, with an option for tracking tumours and avoiding critical structures. This means a significantly improved patient experience with minimal side effects and a very low toxicity rate."

The world's most advanced technology has been recently introduced to Australia. At the RANZCR ASM 2021, Michael Jameson, MR Linac Global Lead Physicist, GenesisCare will present his experience and findings from the first six months of operation and concludes that the technology is successfully established in an Australian setting. Currently there are only three MR-linear accelerator machines (MR-LINAC) in Australia: one in Queensland (in use about late 2019), one in Sydney (in use in around 2020), and one in Melbourne.

Dr Jameson commented: "This new technology enables us to treat areas that were previously difficult to visualise, allowing personalised, tailored, precise treatments that may lead to better patient outcomes. It is exciting to share our first-hand experience on how this technological breakthrough delivers benefits to Australian cancer patients at the ASM."

Dr Lance Lawler, RANZCR President, said: "We take pride in the fact that RANZCR provides a platform to showcase the world's leading technologies in cancer treatment in Australia."

To learn more about the RANZCR Annual Scientific Meeting 2021 and a full conference program, please visit: <https://www.ranzcr2021.com/>. To follow updates from the RANZCR ASM on social media by searching or using #RANZCRASM21

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## **About RANZCR**

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) is committed to improving health outcomes for all, by educating and supporting clinical radiologists and radiation oncologists. RANZCR is dedicated to setting standards, professional training, assessment and accreditation, and advocating access to quality care in both professions to create healthier communities.

RANZCR creates a positive impact by driving change, focusing on the professional development of its members and advancing best practice health policy and advocacy, to enable better patient outcomes.

RANZCR members are critical to health services: radiation oncology is a vital component in the treatment of cancer; clinical radiology is central to the diagnosis and treatment of disease and injury.

For more information, go to [www.ranzcr.com](http://www.ranzcr.com) and follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).