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HIFU For Prostate Cancer In Niagara Falls

Posted by:

USHIFU, LLC

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USHIFU has opened its newest Prostate Cancer clinic in Niagara Falls Canada, 15 miles outside of Buffalo, New York.

Niagara HIFU performed the first HIFU procedures at the new center June 1, 2007. This is the third facility in Ontario Canada to offer the non invasive prostate cancer treatment.

The physicians offering HIFU in the center are Ian Brown, MD FRCS(C); Jim Lee, MD FRCS(C); Hagop Mazmanian, MD FRCS(C); and Dianne Heritz, MD FRCS(C). All these physicians have completed training in other International HIFU Centers and are excited about offering HIFU as a prostate cancer treatment alternative in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada.

"Niagara HIFU is proud to offer High Intensity Focused Ultrasound, an innovative choice for the treatment of prostate cancer. This option provides a less invasive treatment with fewer side effects for patients in the battle against prostate cancer," Brown said. "We look forward to providing state of the art care at our new HIFU centre in Niagara Falls."

USHIFU is rapidly expanding and opening new centers throughout the Americas. "This latest Niagara Falls transaction is consistent with our strategy to identify and partner with top urologists in a given market. These prestigious urologists can offer HIFU to the increasing number of men seeking non invasive treatment options," said Stephen Puckett, Jr, Chief Executive Officer of USHIFU. "Additionally these physicians will gain valuable experience with the technology and ultimately become proctors for their peer clinicians."

The Sonablate 500 is approved for use in Canada since June 2005. The Sonablate 500 HIFU is being used in clinical trials in the United States and has not been approved for U.S. marketing by the FDA. An application to obtain marketing approval in the U.S. will be submitted to the FDA at the conclusion of these clinical trials.

HIFU, which stands for High Intensity Focused Ultrasound, utilizes focused sound waves to rapidly heat and destroy the tissue within the prostate. The Sonablate 500, the HIFU device, utilizes a transrectal probe to apply ultrasound energy directly to the prostate without causing damage to areas outside the gland.

Traditional treatments for prostate cancer such as surgery, radiation, or cryotherapy (freezing) can lead to undesirable side effects such as impotence

and incontinence. International studies have shown that HIFU with the Sonablate 500 minimizes the side effects associated with other treatment modalities and helps to preserve quality of life. In Canada, where HIFU is available, the treatment is a one-time, outpatient procedure. It has also been used in Canada as a salvage therapy for patients who have had other treatments and have not been satisfied with the outcome.

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