

For immediate release, 20 Nov 07



Rapid Quantification of Osteoarthritis With a Novel, Office-Based, High-Resolution Digital Imaging Device

CHEADLE, England, BURLINGTON, Massachusetts and ORLEANS, France, November 20 /PRNewswire/ -- Optasia Medical Ltd., a maker of model-based vision software for musculoskeletal radiography, and D3A Medical Systems SAS, a developer of High Resolution Digital Radiology for osteoarticular imaging, including qualitative and quantitative analysis of joint and bone tissues, announced today the integration of Optasia Medical's KneeAnalyzer(TM) analysis software into D3A's BMA(TM) High-Resolution Digital X-Ray imaging system. D3A's Skeletal Ultra Analysis technology enables rapid high resolution imaging of the knee for diagnosis and management of patients with osteoarthritis (OA) with a very low dose office-based system. The BMA design provides user-friendly patient positioning to enable rapid imaging for Joint Space Width (JSW) measurement utilizing a Posterior-anterior (PA) x-ray image of the knee with a proprietary positioning device for highly reproducible image acquisition.

The BMA image has a resolution of 8 lp/mm, which is 2-3 times better resolution than a standard x-ray image. The integrated high-resolution monitor allows the operator or physician to view the image immediately after acquisition for a real-time diagnosis. The KneeAnalyzer(TM) software is completely integrated into the BMA system, allowing instantaneous analysis of the resulting image. KneeAnalyzer(TM) utilizes Optasia's proprietary model-based vision technology to assess Minimum Joint Space Width (mJSW), Joint Space Profile, and Fractal Signature Analysis of the sub-chondral bone. Also supported is the integrated comparison between baseline and follow-up visits.

Time from acquisition of image to complete KneeAnalyzer analysis report is less than 2 minutes, empowering the physician to review objective, quantitative analysis data during the office visit. Reduced operator dependency provided by KneeAnalyzer(TM), combined with high resolution images delivered by BMA concur to an enhanced precision in the assessment of the osteoarthritis disease. Expected benefits include improved monitoring of the disease evolution and faster evaluation of therapeutic actions.

The release of the BMA High-Resolution Digital X-Ray unit with Optasia Medical's KneeAnalyzer software is a result of an on-going collaboration between D3A and Optasia Medical. The next release of the BMA system will include Optasia's HandAnalyzer software for the management of rheumatoid arthritis and psoriatic arthritis

About D3A™ Medical Systems

D3A Medical Systems designs, manufactures and markets the BMA unit, a highly specialized high-resolution X Ray imaging device suited for the qualitative and quantitative analysis of joints and bone tissues. BMA provides a unique tool for the measurement of bone microarchitecture destruction by Fractal Texture Analysis. Thanks to its characteristics, BMA is used for diagnosis and treatment monitoring in osteoporosis, rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis.

About Optasia Medical

Optasia Medical makes software that facilitates the reading of x-rays for the management of patients with musculoskeletal disease. Optasia's software applications - KneeAnalyzer(TM) for osteoarthritis, HandAnalyzer(TM) for rheumatoid arthritis and SpineAnalyzer for osteoporosis - are all based on the Optasia(R) Platform which employs model-based vision technology to detect, measure, classify and compare 2-dimensional medical images. Optasia's software applications are used in clinical trials and by physicians to identify and monitor patients who will benefit from treatment.

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