

# PRESS RELEASE



## **SPL Medical is pointing out a powerful publication in Investigative Radiology elaborating a new reading algorithm for nano-MRI with Ferrotran® (Ferumoxtran) for the detection of even very small lymph nodes in head & neck cancer patients.**

**Nijmegen, The Netherlands, 07.07.2022** – SPL Medical announced today the publication and online availability of the full paper in Investigative Radiology about the use of Ferrotran® for the detection of even very small lymph nodes in patients with head & neck cancer. A new reading algorithm has been developed which is applicable to routine MRI instruments available in a big installed base in the market.

### **Conclusions by the authors**

Radiological analysis revealed that metastatic lymph nodes showed equal or higher MRI signal intensity when compared with lipid tissue on T2\*-weighted MGRE sequence (15/16 lymph nodes; 94%), whereas healthy lymph nodes showed lower (17/19 lymph nodes; 89%) or complete attenuation of signal intensity (273/279; 98%) when compared with lipid tissue on T2\*-weighted MGRE. Histopathology of all resected specimens identified 392 lymph nodes.

### **Outlook**

With this new application, Nano-MRT with Ferrotran® is entering an additional indication market. It can fulfil the hitherto unmet need of reliable detection of small lymph node metastases in patients with head & neck cancer. Such a reliable detection is pivotal for patient treatment decisions.

Ferrotran® is available already now to patients within the running phase III trial PROSTAPROGRESS, but as well in a named-patient-use program in Nijmegen, Netherlands and in a compassionate use programme in Zurich, Switzerland.

“On top of the well-known use of Nano-MRI with Ferrotran® to detect even very small lymph node metastases in prostate cancer patients, this new indication can now enable access to another growing market segment in oncology”, stated Dr. Jürgen Feuerstein, Chief Executive Officer of SPL medical.

### **About Ferrotran®:**

Ferrotran® belongs to the group of USPIO's (Ultrasmall Superparamagnetic Particles of Iron Oxide). Ferrotran® can be applied in MRI as a safe bloodpool agent for angiography and for functional diagnostics in detection of even the smallest lymph node metastases in various cancers.

Ferrotran® is based on iron and therefore metabolized naturally in the body. Currently discussed potential issues by Gadolinium deposits by contrast agents based on this heavy metal are thus eliminated by the use of Ferrotran®.

### **About SPL Medical:**

SPL medical is a spin-off of the Radboud university medical center and is funded additionally by Oost NL, a Dutch regional venture capital company, and b.e.imaging GmbH, a German company specialized in the development and commercialization of contrast agents.

### **For more information about Ferrotran®, the clinical trials or SPL Medical:**

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