

**Press release**  
**9 December, 2021**

## **Phase II study demonstrates prognostic value of uPAR-PET in head and neck cancer patients**

**Results from an investigator-initiated phase II study performed by researchers at Rigshospitalet and using the uTRACE® technology have now been published online ahead of print in the prestigious Journal of Nuclear Medicine. The abstract of the article is freely available [here](#).**

### **The phase II study**

The phase II trial (NCT02965001) aimed to evaluate the prognostic value of uPAR-PET with <sup>68</sup>Ga-NOTA-AE105 (uTRACE®) in head and neck cancer and compare it to FDG-PET. A total of 57 patients referred to radiotherapy were included and followed for a median of 34 months. The main finding was that patients with high uptake on uPAR-PET compared to those with a low uptake had an 8.5-fold poorer prognosis regarding relapse-free survival. Also, when compared with commonly used prognostic markers (FDG-PET, TNM stage and p16 status) in a multivariate analysis, only uPAR-PET remained significant. The conclusion of the authors is that uPAR-PET could potentially become valuable regarding planning of therapy and follow-up in head and neck cancer patients.

### **About head and neck cancer**

Head and neck squamous cell carcinoma is the 6<sup>th</sup> most common cancer worldwide with 890,000 new cases and 450,000 deaths in 2018. The incidence is anticipated to increase over the coming years.

### **About the Journal of Nuclear Medicine**

The Journal of Nuclear Medicine is the official publication of the Society for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging and the highest-ranked journal within nuclear medicine based on the number of citations (impact factor).

*“We are excited about the positive data from the phase II study in head and neck cancer using the uTRACE® technology that has been published by researcher from Rigshospitalet. First and foremost, the results underscore that uPAR-PET is a platform technology that can be used across several cancer types. Furthermore, we do not only expect uTRACE® to be valuable for planning of therapy and follow-up, but it may also become a companion diagnostic for use of uTREAT® in head and neck cancer. Curasight will now take the published information into consideration when updating our strategy over the next months. However, with head and neck cancer being a common cancer type, the market potential of moving into this indication is obviously very large.”* says CEO Ulrich Krasilnikoff.

### **For more information regarding Curasight, please contact:**

Ulrich Krasilnikoff, CEO  
Phone: +45 22 83 01 60  
E-mail: [uk@curasight.com](mailto:uk@curasight.com)  
[www.curasight.com](http://www.curasight.com)

---

**Curasight** is a clinical development company based in Copenhagen, Denmark. The company is a pioneer in the field of exploiting a novel Positron Emissions Tomography (PET) imaging platform targeting the urokinase-type plasminogen activator receptor (“uPAR”). The technology is expected to improve diagnosis and risk stratification in multiple cancer types.