

# Sentinelle Medical Enters North American Distribution Agreement with GE Healthcare

Toronto, Canada: April 13, 2008 – Today, Sentinelle Medical Inc. and GE Healthcare announced a North American Distribution Agreement for Sentinelle's Vanguard Breast MR Auxiliary Table®. Under this agreement, GE Healthcare will sell the Vanguard table through their direct sales channels. Worldwide distribution is anticipated within the next year.

Breast MR has become the leading growth sector in MR today. There are approximately 2000 sites in North America and 2600 across the world currently performing a significant number of breast MRI procedures. This number has been growing at a rate of 30% per year (60% in the US market) and the number of procedures performed has doubled year to year since 1999. In two years, it is expected that the combined market will be approximately 5000 sites.

"GE is a recognized leader in Medical Imaging, and specifically MRI. GE's detachable table configuration has allowed Sentinelle to design a system that significantly improves MR workflow, making the breast MR much more cost effective than in the past." said Cameron Piron, Sentinelle's President and CEO. "We see a great fit with GE's strong sales channel and dedication to customer satisfaction. Sentinelle is proud to be able to work with GE to bring a better solution for breast imaging to the broader market."

Jim Davis, VP and General Manager of GE Healthcare's Global MR Business noted, "At GE Healthcare, our focus is delivering technologies and products globally that help our customers provide the best patient care possible. We continually look externally for game-changing technologies that we believe can compliment our own R&D and positively impact the marketplace and the Sentinelle Vanguard system is one of them."

The impact this technology is having on patient care is significant:

### Enabling Better Image Quality

Critical to the success in detecting lesions in the breast is the quality of the image produced by the MRI. Many factors affect the quality, including the ability of the patient to stay still, and the ability of the machine to closely image the breast. The Sentinelle system addresses both these challenges with great outcomes.

The Sentinelle Vanguard system uses a unique Variable Coil Geometry (VCG). The design provides for prone access utilizing a memory foam concept, positioning "wings" and a very comfortable sternum rest. A more comfortable patient equals less patient motion, often a challenge with current MRI tables. This reduced motion provides better image quality. The VCG piece, however, is even more successful in providing proximity to image the breast. Breast sizes differ from one patient to the other and also from one breast to another. Until the Sentinelle Vanguard, there was no way to manage these variables. The VCG allows close proximity of the breast resulting in higher signal to noise ratio and better image quality. The VCG also allows for enhanced axilla coverage, which results in detecting lesions that may not be seen in conventional MRI tabletop coils. Better patient and disease management is the result of VCG.

#### Intervention Made Easier

The Sentinelle Vanguard system utilizes a revolutionary prone biopsy system, allowing the radiologist 360-degree independent access to each breast. This allows for biopsy access with the least needle travel required, which can change patient outcome, as it delivers lower cases of breast trauma. These two advances are having a profound impact on the way clinicians manage detection and diagnosis of breast cancer.

Sentinelle Vanguard Table is already well established in luminary customer sites including Sunnybrook, the Mayo Clinic, Johns Hopkins University, Sloan Kettering, UCSF and Massachusetts General Hospital, McGill, University Health Network, University of Pennsylvania, Scripts and McMaster.

# About GE Healthcare

GE Healthcare provides transformational medical technologies and services that are shaping a new age of patient care. Their expertise in medical imaging and information technologies, medical diagnostics, patient monitoring systems, performance improvement, drug discovery, and biopharmaceutical manufacturing technologies is helping clinicians around the world re-imagine new ways to predict, diagnose, inform and treat disease, so their patients can live their lives to the fullest. GE Healthcare's vision for the future is to enable a new "early health" model of care focused on earlier diagnosis, pre-symptomatic disease detection and disease prevention.

Headquartered in the United Kingdom, GE Healthcare is a \$17 billion unit of General Electric Company (NYSE: GE). Worldwide, GE Healthcare employs more than 46,000 people committed to serving healthcare professionals and their patients in more than 100 countries. For more information about GE Healthcare, visit www.gehealthcare.com.

## About Sentinelle Medical Inc.

Sentinelle Medical researches, develops, manufactures, sells, and supports leading edge Magnetic Resonance (MR) technologies. The groundbreaking breast MR product is the Sentinelle Vanguard Breast MR Auxiliary Table®. It provides excellent quality breast MR images, complete and open access for interventin and award winning design that improves patient comfort and workflow. Sentinelle products are used in leading breast cancer luminary sites across North America. For more information, visit www.sentinelle-medical.com.

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