Focused Ultrasound Therapy

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Focused Ultrasound Foundation



Focused Ultrasound Foundation

Unique medical research, education, advocacy organization

- Founded 2006, Charlottesville, Va: Global impact
- Tax exempt non-profit
- Entrepreneurial, high impact, market driven, action and results oriented

Catalyst to accelerate the development and adoption of focused ultrasound



What is Focused Ultrasound?

- Revolutionary, noninvasive, therapeutic technology
- Disruptive alternative/complement to surgery, radiation, drug delivery, immunotherapy
- *Potential* to transform treatment, transform patient lives



Noninvasive therapeutic technology

- Outpatient
- No incisions, less pain: limited/no need for post-procedure pain meds
- Decreased complications: infection, hemorrhage, tissue damage
- Rapid recovery
- Improved outcomes, lower cost



Current use of Focused Ultrasound









Nine focused ultrasound applications are FDA cleared:

- Benign prostatic hyperplasia
- Bone metastases
- Essential tremor
- Liver tumors
- Osteoid osteoma

- Parkinson's dyskinesia
- Parkinson's tremor
- Prostate cancer
- Uterine fibroids

How does it work?

Multiple intersecting beams of ultrasound

- Focused accurately (submillimeter)
- Target in body
- Individual beams pass harmlessly through adjacent tissue
- Profound effect at point of convergence





FUS gives Essential Tremor patients new hope







Awake, no anesthesia No incisions No burr holes No electrodes No infection No blood clots No brain damage



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FUS shows promise for hard-to-treat cancers like Pancreatic Cancer



Baseline

Post treatment

22 Months



Potential for systemic response to FUS cancer treatment

2 Days



Baseline





FUS treatment is precise and accurate

Liver





Brain



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FUS can produce 20+ different biological effects at targets in the body

Platform technology 20+ Biomechanisms



Variety of effects, variety of disorders



FUS can destroy diseased tissue



Thermal Ablation 130°F (56°C) for 1 second = 100% cell death Histotripsy Mechanical disruption of cells



FUS can enable localized drug delivery

Precisely where needed

Higher concentrations

Lower systemic toxicity

Agents

- Drugs
- Genes
- Growth factors
- Stem cells





Lipid microbubbles





10 microns

Lipid microbubbles

Chemotherapeutic agents, genes, growth factors





Microbubbles injected





Distribution of microbubbles





Drugs released at focal point





FUS can temporarily open blood-brain barrier





Expert Rev Neurother. 2015 May ; 15(5): 477–491.

FUS can temporarily open blood-brain barrier



Post-treatment



FUS can induce anti-tumor immune response

Tumors are camouflaged from the immune system

FUS destroys camouflage

Disrupts tumor cells: exposes antigens, releases proteins

Immune system recognizes and attacks tumors

Enhances effectiveness of immunotherapy drugs





More than 170+ clinical applications in development

Liver fibrosis

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Macular degeneration

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UVA Focused Ultrasound Center is global leader

- Established in September 2009 public-private partnership
- Pioneers in FUS research and advancing new patient treatments:
 - First in the world essential tremor, Parkinson's tremor, FUS + immunotherapy combination approach (metastatic breast cancer)
 - Cancer (brain, breast, bone, melanoma, pancreas), epilepsy, neuropathic pain, uterine fibroids
- Sustained Commonwealth investment since 2009 has enabled:
 - Hundreds of patients treated
 - Hundreds of jobs created
 - More than \$40 million in additional public/private funding



Foundation and UVA established FUS Cancer Immunotherapy Center in June 2022

Combined investment from UVA, Foundation and Commonwealth of Virginia

- Purchase state-of-the-art focused ultrasound devices
- Hire faculty and staff
- Fund clinical trials and laboratory research studies

Goals

- Optimize the antitumor immunologic effects of focused ultrasound
- Develop new focused ultrasound technologies
- Improve quality of life, longevity, access, and cost of care for patients with a variety of cancers by augmenting the effectiveness of cancer immunotherapy with focused ultrasound

Pioneering new FUS + immunotherapeutic treatments

• Metastatic breast cancer, early-stage breast cancer, glioblastoma, melanoma, pancreatic cancer



Virginia Tech FUS Research Program is growing rapidly

- Multi-disciplinary, large geographic footprint:
 - Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at Virginia Tech Carilion (Roanoke)
 - Carilion Clinic (Roanoke)
 - Biomedical Engineering, Immunology, Veterinary Teaching Hospital (Blacksburg)
 - Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine's, Animal Cancer Care and Research Center (Roanoke)
 - Children's National Hospital collaboration (Washington, DC)
- Primary focus areas:
 - Brain Parkinson's, essential tremor, brain tumors, chronic pain, addiction
 - Pediatric brain tumors
 - Hard to treat cancers immunotherapy combination approach, comparative oncology
 - Veterinary care
- Recent large gifts from private foundations to support brain and cancer research



Advancing focused ultrasound research in Virginia by sustaining the \$4.1 million for UVA in each year of the biennium, and \$1 million per year for Virginia Tech.

The funding supports activities and research at these institutions as designated by the Focused Ultrasound Foundation (FUSF), including coordinated activities between both UVA and Virginia Tech.

