

## **Monteris Medical Reaches Milestone of 2,000 Patients with NeuroBlate® System**

*One of Several Concurrent Milestones for the Minimally Invasive Option for Neurological Conditions*

PLYMOUTH, Minn. – October 1, 2018 – [Monteris Medical](#), the leader in image-guided thermal therapy, today announced that it has reached a significant milestone: 125 leading surgeons at 60 hospitals across the U.S. and Canada have used the company's NeuroBlate® System on more than 2,000 patients since market release in 2013. Nearly all those patients have had epilepsy, glioblastomas, or recurrent brain metastases.

Neurosurgeon Dr. Eric C. Leuthardt at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO, often uses the laser ablation system for patients with glioblastomas whose tumors are inoperable or have recurred following initial treatment. Dr. Leuthardt said, "We're not able to cure these types of really nefarious tumors, but laser ablation can give people an option. If you've only got four to nine months left, time matters. Having a therapy that patients can tolerate relatively well so they can go home after the procedure means a lot to them."

The NeuroBlate System is a minimally invasive, robotically controlled laser thermotherapy that uses MRI-guided laser light to ablate unwanted tissue in the brain where the lesion, or abnormal tissue, originates. Unlike traditional brain surgery, a procedure with the NeuroBlate System does not require a large opening in the skull. Instead, doctors create a small hole in the skull, about the diameter of a pencil. While the patient is in the MRI machine, the doctor guides a small laser device (probe) through the hole into the lesion. The probe delivers laser light energy that heats and destroys the affected tissue. Because the NeuroBlate System is MRI-guided, the neurosurgeon can visualize the specific area of the brain to be ablated. The precise nature of the procedure helps to lessen the likelihood of harm to nearby healthy brain tissue. The NeuroBlate System is commonly used in neurosurgical procedures for minimally invasive ablation of brain tumors, epileptic foci, or radiation necrosis.

"Because NeuroBlate requires only a small opening in the skull instead of a large incision, patients typically experience a shorter recovery time than resection surgery and may only require a couple of stitches," said Dr. Patrick Landazuri, Epileptologist at The University of Kansas Health System in Kansas City, KS. "Our epilepsy program offers this minimally invasive tool as a treatment option for our drug-refractory epilepsy patients."

Martin J. Emerson, president and chief executive officer of Monteris Medical said, "The 2,000-patient milestone is a major point of pride for Monteris, and we are grateful to all our employees, collaborators and partners for their dedication to improving the lives of those affected by brain tumors and lesions. We are committed to providing cutting-edge technologies for surgeons to enable the use of safe and minimally invasive brain surgery procedures for smaller incisions, shorter recovery time and clinically-proven results."

Additionally, the first data from the LAANTERN<sup>1</sup> prospective, multi-center registry were published. *World Neurosurgery* published "Patterns of Clinical Utilization of Stereotactic Laser Ablation (SLA): An Analysis of the Multi-Center Prospective Registry," authored by Drs. Robert Rennert, Usman Khan, et al.<sup>2</sup> Results from the first 100 patients enrolled were examined to discover how stereotactic laser ablation (also known as laser interstitial thermal therapy or LITT) is currently being used and to determine how it is changing the landscape of options for neurosurgical patients. The resulting data indicates that minimally invasive robotic laser thermotherapy is having an increasing impact in neurosurgery and is being used earlier in the patient care pathway, and that SLA is considered by many treating neurosurgeons as a preferred option for difficult to access intracranial lesions. The article is available at [www.monteris.com/LAANTERN1](http://www.monteris.com/LAANTERN1).

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<sup>1</sup> Laser Ablation of Abnormal Neurological Tissue using Robotic NeuroBlate System

<sup>2</sup> *World Neurosurg.* (2018) 116:e566-e570. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wneu.2018.05.039>

For more information about Monteris and full prescribing information for the NeuroBlate System, please visit [www.monteris.com](http://www.monteris.com).

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### **About Monteris® and the NeuroBlate® System**

Monteris Medical is a privately held company that develops and markets innovative MRI-guided, laser-based systems for the ablation of brain lesions. Current investors include Versant Ventures, SightLine Partners, Birchview Capital and BDC Capital. The Monteris NeuroBlate® System, including the Mini-Bolt, is the only minimally invasive cranial access system that enables a robotic interface for the precise and safe delivery of laser energy. The NeuroBlate® System is a tool (as opposed to a “treatment”) and is not intended to treat any specific disease. Physicians should use their clinical judgment and experience when deciding whether to use NeuroBlate®.

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