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HYPMED EU Project To Develop Hybrid PET/MRI



A new EU-funded project –HYPMED- is developing a new hybrid PET/MRI system to more accurately detect breast cancer and provide a more personalised understanding of response to therapy.

The project Digital Hybrid Breast PET/MRI for Enhanced Diagnosis of Breast Cancer or HYPMED, will develop a hybrid PET/MRI system. A consortium of nine partners from universities, research organisations and industry has recently started their research initiative.

Prof. Christiane Kuhl from University Hospital Aachen and Scientific Coordinator of the project said: “The HYPMED project combines visionary clinical expertise with excellence in physical and engineering sciences and the developed technology will greatly help us to choose an appropriate treatment that is exactly right for a given cancer in a given woman.”

The innovative project aims to develop a radiofrequency coil that can be connected to any regular clinical MR scanner and transform the device into a high-resolution PET/MRI hybrid system. Another important innovation is that the radiation dose, unlike other PET-MRI exams, will compare to the dose received in the usual digital mammogram.

The HYPMED researchers are hopeful that this approach able to be used for other clinical applications for common diseases, such as prostate cancer detection and hybrid cardiac imaging.

The HYPMED project receives funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 667211, and started on 1 January 2016. The consortium includes the European Institute for Biomedical Imaging Research, AT (Project Coordinator); University Hospital Aachen, DE (Scientific Coordinator), Forschungszentrum Jülich, DE; Medical University of Vienna, AT; Technical University Delft, NL; University Hospital Münster, DE; NORAS MRI Products GmbH, DE; Futura Composites, NL; INTRASENSE, FR; Philips Electronics, NL.

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