Nanosonics Announces The Commercial Availability of The trophon®2 High Level Disinfection System in the United Kingdom

New Device Reduces Risk of Ultrasound Probe Cross-Infection and is Safe for Environment

SYDNEY, Oct. 3, 2018 – Nanosonics (ASX: NAN), a leader in infection prevention solutions, announced the commercial availability of its trophon®2 high level disinfection system for ultrasound probe decontamination in Europe. The new device offers medical professionals a smart solution that helps ensure compliance with the latest guidelines for reprocessing of surface and endocavity ultrasound probes. The system is also equipped with an automatic traceability solution that creates audit-ready digital records of each high level disinfection cycle with the option for IT integration.

Initial feedback from customers in the United Kingdom implementing trophon2 as standard-of-care for high level disinfection probe reprocessing is resoundingly positive. Nanosonics showcased the new device and its suite of high level disinfection products at the 11th annual Infection Prevention Conference (30 September-2 October) organised by the Infection Prevention Society and held in Glasgow, Scotland.

“As momentum continues to build for our innovative trophon technology the United Kingdom, we are excited to offer our second-generation system to hospitals, clinics and medical offices as a complete high level disinfection solution that addresses the risks presented by improper ultrasound probe reprocessing while significantly improving workflow,” said Bryn Tudor-Owen, Country Manager for the United Kingdom. “Early interest in trophon2 reflects its importance and ability to deliver superior decontamination while safeguarding medical staff, patients and our environment from toxic side effects of traditional disinfection.

“In addition, trophon2 ensures that our customers are audit-ready and able to meet disinfection and traceability requirements using the electronic track and trace features offered with AcuTrace™ and AcuTrace™ PLUS, thereby simplifying and improving workflow in hospitals and clinics considerably,” he added.

Nanosonics’ trophon technology is installed in seven Scottish Health Boards and in Wales the system has been adopted by all National Health Service Trusts. In addition, some of England’s largest health trusts including St Bartholomew’s in London, have switched to trophon. In total, trophon can be found in 100 United Kingdom health care settings and currently in seven of the top 20 hospitals (England and Wales based on staff size).

Ultrasound imaging is one of the fastest growing medical procedures due in part to its expanded use across multiple medical specialties[1]. While ultrasound is safe, there are risks of cross contamination if probe reprocessing is not performed correctly. Scottish, Welsh and Irish guidelines and global guidelines now recommend high level disinfection between patients for ultrasound probes used in semi-critical procedures, including intracavity procedures, and for surface ultrasound procedures on non-intact or broken skin, to effectively reduce the risk of infection for patients and staff.

A first study of its kind study conducted by Health Protection Scotland and NHS Scotland and released in 2017, revealed an increased risk of infection and antibiotic prescriptions following semi-invasive ultrasound probe procedures.[2] This groundbreaking epidemiological study which has global implications concerning the methods used to reprocess transvaginal and transrectal ultrasound probes, showed the following results:

- Thirty days after a transvaginal ultrasound scan, patients were 41% (HR=1.41) more likely to have positive bacterial cultures and 26% (HR=1.26) more likely to be prescribed antibiotics than similar patients who underwent gynaecological procedures without ultrasound ($p<0.001$).
- For transrectal scans, patients were 3.4 times (HR=3.4) more likely to have positive bacterial cultures and 75% (HR=1.75) more likely to be prescribed antibiotics ($p<0.001$).

Further evidence of incorrect ultrasound reprocessing was highlighted recently by a survey published in the *American Journal of Infection Control*. The survey revealed that there are a large number of procedures where high level disinfection is not being performed between patients. Improper infection prevention practice associated with ultrasound probe use has been linked to increased infection risk, outbreaks and death.[3]

The automated trophon2 generates a sonically activated, supercharged hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) mist that kills drug-resistant bacteria, fungi and viruses. The device is validated for use with over 1,000 different probes across all major ultrasound companies, and offers an effective traceability solution with AcuTrace, capturing required information to create audit-ready digital disinfection records.

The platform also offers the option for hospitals to integrate trophon2 into their IT systems with AcuTrace™ PLUS, thereby centrally storing disinfection records for easy access by the entire IT system and linking information directly to patients' electronic medical records.

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About Nanosonics

Nanosonics (ASX:NAN) is a leading medical technology company headquartered in Sydney, Australia, with its United Kingdom operations based in Huddersfield. Founded in 2001, the company is one of Australia's largest medical technology companies and a recognised leader in its sector of the global infection control market. Nanosonics develops infection prevention solutions including the trophon® EPR system, the first major innovation in high level disinfection for ultrasound probes in more than 20 years.

The company is launching its second-generation trophon2 system in the United Kingdom offering innovative functionality to further optimise ultrasound probe decontamination. More information can be found at: www.nanosonics.co.uk.

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1. https://www.healthimaging.com/topics/healthcare-economics-policy/8-global-ultrasound-markets-poised-strong-2018
2. Health Protection Scotland, NHS National Services Scotland. NHSScotland Risk Based Recommendations for the Decontamination of Semi-Invasive Ultrasound Probes: Risk of infection following semi-invasive ultrasound procedures in Scotland, 2010 to 2016. Version 1.0. October 2017. Accessible at: http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/pubs/detail.aspx?id=3366.
3. GOV.UK Medical Safety Alert; Reusable transesophageal echocardiography, transvaginal and transrectal ultrasound probes (transducer) – failure to appropriately decontaminate. (https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/medical-device-alert-reusable-transoesophageal-echocardiography-transvaginal-and-transrectal-ultrasound-probes-transducers-failure-to-appropriately-decontaminate)

*US News and World Report