



## **News Release**

# **Connecticut Hospital Association and Bayer Form Alliance on First Statewide Radiation Dose Management Repository**

Use of Bayer's Radimetrics<sup>™</sup> Enterprise Platform will allow physicians and patients to benchmark radiation exposure across certain medical procedures

INDIANOLA, P.A., and WALLINGFORD, C.T., March 30, 2017 – The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) and Bayer today announced an alliance to establish the United States' first-ever statewide radiation dose management repository for patients undergoing certain radiological procedures. The repository will use Radimetrics<sup>TM</sup>, a radiation and contrast dose management and analytics tool which provides clinicians with data needed for them to help ensure their patients receive the lowest radiation dosage necessary. The goal is for clinicians to be able to share the data in order to benchmark radiation exposure.

Patients often undergo multiple diagnostic imaging procedures involving radiation — frequently in different provider locations — making it difficult to know the cumulative dose they have received. While the amount of radiation to which each person is exposed depends on his or her specific medical condition, rare circumstances of prolonged, high-dose exposure to radiation could have adverse effects on patients. These risks include skin erythema (reddening), skin tissue injury and birth defects following in-utero exposure. Additionally, radiation can potentially increase the risk of longer term effects such as cancer. Keeping track of radiation dosage across procedures may help identify these risks and allow physicians to take steps to reduce patient exposure. By benchmarking radiation dosage throughout the CHA network of hospitals and the state of Connecticut, CHA and Bayer hope patients in the future will be empowered to track their own radiation exposure.

"Connecticut hospitals are national leaders in implementing innovative solutions to achieve patient safety," said Jennifer Jackson, CEO, CHA. "This alliance with Bayer is

another example of that leadership. We are very proud to be the first state in the nation to adopt a project that will allow patients and their doctors to measure and closely manage the levels of radiation required for effective imaging and diagnosis."

Giving the lowest appropriate dose of radiation to make a diagnosis is important for patient safety. The repository will provide clinicians with a tool to assist in evaluating the optimal radiation dosage for patients.

"We are honored to be working with CHA to establish this unique repository, and hope this alliance will yield noticeable results for both clinicians and patients being treated in Connecticut," said Dennis Durmis, Head of Commercial Operations, Radiology Americas at Bayer. "Bayer is committed to ensuring patients and physicians alike have access to the most innovative tools to facilitate an accurate diagnosis. We look forward to continuing to partner with the radiology community to help patients throughout the state benefit from this repository."

In the coming months, hospitals in Connecticut will use Bayer's Radimetrics Enterprise Platform to collect and analyze data at the statewide level. This information will allow providers to benchmark radiation dosage, pursue quality improvements and develop standard clinical practices.

"Connecticut hospitals are committed to improving patient safety, which includes promoting patients' rights to understand their own medical records," said Mary Cooper, MD, JD, Senior Vice President of Clinical Services, CHA. "The alliance with Bayer will empower patients."

Utilizing data from certain imaging studies, the repository will maintain radiation dose information when patients visit participating CHA member institutions for diagnostic procedures.

#### **Bayer: Science For A Better Life**

Bayer is a global enterprise with core competencies in the Life Science fields of health care and agriculture. Its products and services are designed to benefit people and improve their quality of life. At the same time, the Group aims to create value through innovation, growth and high earning power. Bayer is committed to the principles of sustainable development and to its social and ethical responsibilities as a corporate

citizen. In fiscal 2016, the Group employed around 115,200 people and had sales of EUR 46.8 billion. Capital expenditures amounted to EUR 2.6 billion, R&D expenses to EUR 4.7 billion. These figures include those for the high-tech polymers business, which was floated on the stock market as an independent company named Covestro on October 6, 2015. For more information, go to <a href="https://www.bayer.us">www.bayer.us</a>.

#### **About Connecticut Hospital Association**

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, health equity, and hospital reimbursement.

#### **Contact Bayer US:**

Steven Immergut, phone +1 202 572-8613

Email: steven.immergut@bayer.com

### **Contact Connecticut Hospital Association:**

Beth Hamilton, phone +1 203 294-7216

Email: hamilton@chime.org

For more information, go to www.bayer.us and www.chime.org.

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This release may contain forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Bayer management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and the estimates given here. These factors include those discussed in Bayer's public reports which are available on the Bayer website at <a href="https://www.bayer.com">www.bayer.com</a>. The company assumes no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to conform them to future events or developments.

EmittingProducts/RadiationEmittingProductsandProcedures/MedicalImaging/MedicalX-Rays/ucm115329.htm. Updated February 27, 2017. Accessed March 27, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> U.S. Food & Drug Administration. What are the Radiation Risks from CT? Available at: http://www.fda.gov/Radiation-

World Health Organization. Ionizing radiation, health effects and protective measures. Available at: <a href="http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs371/en/">http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs371/en/</a>. Updated April 2016. Accessed March 27, 2017.