

ESTEVE and MEDTRONIC are collaborating to address cancer pain patients' needs

November 23rd, 2022 – ESTEVE and MEDTRONIC have started an initiative to improve the pathway of patients with refractory cancer pain across Europe. Although most cancer sufferers respond well to conventional analgesic pharmacotherapy, between 22% and 26% of cancer sufferers do not obtain adequate analgesia and/or experience intolerable adverse reactions with systemic drugs, especially opioids. (1)

Cancer patients suffering from refractory severe pain, as our focus

Refractory pain is highly devastating for all patients, but especially for those, who are going through a cancer condition. As global health companies, it is our aim and responsibility to advance towards giving patients, families and caregivers a better life relieving suffering. For that, it is essential to improve interdisciplinary collaboration between oncology services and pain specialty units to improve pain management care.

The cancer sufferer pathway is complex. Real practice often shows that most of who suffers oncological pain are referred too late to the pain specialist units or palliative care (2). Time is specifically challenging to ensure they could benefit from recognized therapies that have demonstrated outcomes in cancer pain analgesia (3).

This new partnership of Medtronic and ESTEVE aims to increase awareness of cancer pain as well as aiming to optimize the timely use of intrathecal drug delivery (IDD) therapy for patients suffering from complex and refractory pain induced by cancer or cancer treatment. To change the paradigm on cancer pain, the two companies will involve European experts, with the goal of reaching a consensus on cancer pain management.

“This agreement shows that we are continuing to work towards our goal of improving patients’ life, and in this particular case, of improving the quality of life of cancer patients. We are proud of this alliance with Medtronic as working in collaboration with leading companies helps us leverage synergies to cover health unmet needs”, says Jordi Muntañola, ESTEVE’s Chief Commercial Officer.

“Cancer diseases are complex and challenging conditions requiring a multi-disciplinary approach and collaboration. To change the paradigm and expand the cancer pain IDD therapy we have found in ESTEVE a trusted and committed partner. We will work closely together to build a new workforce to change how cancer pain is treated and inspire hope”, says Bart Stulens, Senior Director, Neuromodulation Western Europe at Medtronic.

About ESTEVE

"Improve people's lives". That is our purpose since our establishment in 1929. We are a global pharmaceutical company, headquartered in Barcelona, with more than 1500 people from affiliates in Spain, Germany, France, UK and Portugal, and with state-of-the-art industrial sites in Mexico and China to deliver our treatments worldwide.

As an innovative company we invest in the development of new treatments for patients and we closely collaborate with many relevant companies to advance in health together. We are focused on serving the medical needs of our patients with passion and commitment.

Our broad therapeutic portfolio treats diseases in the field of neurosciences, pain, oncology, ophthalmology, but also in OTC and other therapeutic areas.

We take pride in our values and reflect them in everything we do. It is our responsibility to ensure sustainability, transparency and accountability across all our business activities.

As a healthcare company, we are committed to advancing health focusing on people but also on planet wellness.

www.esteve.com

About Medtronic

Bold thinking. Bolder actions. We are Medtronic. Medtronic plc, headquartered in Dublin, Ireland, is the leading global healthcare technology company that boldly attacks the most challenging health problems facing humanity by searching out and finding solutions. Our Mission — to alleviate pain, restore health, and extend life — unites a global team of 90,000+ passionate people across 150 countries. Our technologies and therapies treat 70 health conditions and include cardiac devices, surgical robotics, insulin pumps, surgical tools, patient monitoring systems, and more. Powered by our diverse knowledge, insatiable curiosity, and desire to help all those who need it, we deliver innovative technologies that transform the lives of two people every second, every hour, every day. Expect more from us as we empower insight-driven care, experiences that put people first, and better outcomes for our world. In everything we do, we are engineering the extraordinary.

References:

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- (2) Breivik H. et al. Cancer-related pain: a pan-European survey of prevalence, treatment, and patient attitudes. *Annals of Oncology* 2009;20(8): 1420-33
- (3) Perruchoud C., Dupoirion D., Papi B., Calabrese A., Brogan S.E. 2021. Management of cancer-related pain with intrathecal drug delivery: a systematic review and meta-analysis of clinical studies. *Neuromodulation* 2021; 1-11.