

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

**A Canadian First
Benign prostatic hyperplasia: Innovation at the CHUM**

Updated version

Montreal, April 13, 2011—The Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM) recently became the first health institution in Canada to use the more powerful Greenlight laser for the surgical relief of lower urinary tract symptoms related to benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH).

Unveiled for the first time to the Canadian media this morning, American Medical Systems' GreenLight XPS™ 180 W is the latest generation of GreenLight laser therapy technology to treat BPH, the most common prostate problem in men over 50, affecting over half of them. By age 80, 80% of men are affected. It is a pathology in which aging prostate tissue enlarges, causing numerous problems. The enlarged prostate presses against the urethra and blocks the passage of urine from the bladder, preventing it from emptying completely. The typical symptoms of BPH include an urgent need to urinate, frequent urination, particularly at night, and a feeling that the bladder never completely empties.

GreenLight XPS™ 180 W laser therapy may help reduce the risks and complications associated with traditional surgery for BPH. The GreenLight technology has been in use in Canada and in Montreal since 2005, and the new 180 W generation of laser facilitates treatment with a stronger power. The main advantages of GreenLight laser surgery is that it can be performed as an outpatient procedure, and it helps reduce the risk of haemorrhage and other complications. Patients can also recover much more quickly than after traditional surgery. Over 500,000 men around the world have been treated with GreenLight™ laser therapy.

While outcomes will be monitored for patients treated with Greenlight laser surgery, transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP, or traditional open surgery) remains the gold standard treatment for BPH, which is readily available throughout Quebec and Canada. Further long-time research is required to assess fully the durability of GreenLight laser technology in BPH care.

"With this laser technology, the CHUM can provide a more minimally invasive prostate surgery to many older men, some on anticoagulant therapy, and others who suffer from multiple comorbidities—patients who would never have been able to benefit it otherwise," states Dr. Kevin Zorn, CHUM urologist and assistant professor of surgery at the Université de Montréal's Faculty of medicine.

Other types of laser technologies exist to treat BPH, with the GreenLight laser using a very precisely focused beam of high-powered energy to vaporize enlarged prostate tissue, which results in an open channel for urine to flow through.

"Finally, I can lead a normal life again, without pain or discomfort, and I sleep better as well," adds Mr. Said Sbeiti, the patient who benefited from surgery with the newest version of the 180W Greenlight XPS for the first time in Canada.

The CHUM's acquisition of the GreenLight XPS™ 180 W laser system was made possible through a financial contribution by the Fondation du CHUM and the urology service of the CHUM.

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About the CHUM: chumtl.qc.ca

About American Medical Systems: americanmedicalsystems.com

About GreenLight XPS™ 180 W: greenlighthps.com

About Université de Montréal: umontreal.ca

For Information and to obtain a video showing the use the laser :

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