

Rotterdam Eye Hospital and Preceyes collaboration to boost clinical development of the eye surgery robot

Rotterdam, June 19, 2017 - The Rotterdam Eye Hospital and Preceyes B.V. have entered into a strategic collaboration for the clinical development of Preceyes' robot for ophthalmic surgery. The goal is to assist and enhance surgeons' ability during demanding retinal surgery by improving precision and safety.

Retinal surgeries are manually performed by a small group of highly specialized ophthalmologists. The PRECEYES Surgical System is a robot that assists in performing these surgeries, targeting to improve precision and safety. The Rotterdam Eye Hospital and the Rotterdam Ophthalmic Institute have bought the robot to evaluate it in a multi-year collaboration with Preceyes, with a financial contribution of the Coolsingel Foundation. Focus is on demonstrating the clinical benefit of robotic assistance for the most demanding tasks in retinal surgery, including the development of new treatments. The parties aim to start using the robot by the end of 2017.

Ophthalmologist in Chief of the Rotterdam Eye Hospital Prof. Jan van Meurs MD PhD: "The eye is a small and complex organ, which implies delicate, complex surgery. With the help of a surgical robot, we will be able to perform new treatments that are either very difficult or even impossible at this moment. For example, the robot enables the administration of drugs in very small blood vessels at the back of the eye. This and other treatments are expected to prevent patients from losing sight."

Nico Klay, CEO of the Rotterdam Eye Hospital indicated: "As a highly specialized eye institute, it is very important for us to work on groundbreaking innovations. The robot will allow us to improve the eye care we provide to our patients."

Koorosh Faridpooya MD, senior retinal surgeon at the Rotterdam Eye Hospital, will lead the project as head clinical researcher. He has been working together with the Preceyes team on the development of the robot for almost five years. Together with a team of experienced retinal surgeons in the Rotterdam Eye Hospital he guarantees, among other things, that there will be compliance with the regulations and interest of the patient.

Preceyes is also excited with the strategic collaboration. Prof. Marc de Smet MDCM, PhD, Chief Medical Officer says: "Together we will demonstrate the importance of our platform in the daily surgical care of patients. We are convinced that the robot can play an important supporting role in improving both existing and new surgical procedures. Our PRECEYES Surgical System will integrate precision into eye surgery where it is required, at a surgeon's discretion. Such developments are only possible with forward thinking and skilled surgeons as in the Rotterdam Eye Hospital."

Perry van Rijsingen, CEO at Preceyes, adds: "Through this collaboration, both the Rotterdam Eye Hospital and Preceyes B.V. establish, each in our own field, a leading position within the ophthalmic world. The insights from this research, including those on the clinical benefits made possible with our robot, will be used in the development of the next generation robots."

For the editors

For more information, please contact the marketing and communications department of the Rotterdam Eye Hospital and/or Perry van Rijsingen, CEO at Preceyes.

- Robert Spiering, 0031(0)623753275, r.spiering@oogziekenhuis.nl
- Perry van Rijsingen, 0031(0)402474789 perryvanrijsingen@preceyes.nl

About the Rotterdam Eye Hospital

The Rotterdam Eye Hospital serves as a top institute for ophthalmic care. Every year, more than 12,500 surgeries are performed in the hospital and 139,000 outpatient clinic visits take place. The Rotterdam Eye Hospital is founder and member of the World Association of Eye Hospitals, a worldwide association of specialist ophthalmic centers.

www.oogziekenhuis.nl



About Preceyes

Preceyes B.V. is a medical robotics company focused on ocular surgery in the eye care market. The company develops, builds and commercializes innovative robotic solutions to assist eye surgeons in performing the most demanding surgical tasks. The company's first target is vitreoretinal surgery. The robot supports the surgeon in improving existing surgery and enables the development of new, high-precision treatments. Preceyes is a spin-out of the Eindhoven University of Technology and is located at the TU/e Science Park in Eindhoven, the Netherlands. Preceyes leverages the mechatronics capability of the Dutch Brainport region. www.preceyes.nl



About the Coolsingel Foundation

The Coolsingel Foundation has made a financial contribution to enable this project. The foundation finances projects that lead to improvement of healthcare in the Rotterdam region. These include projects that promote the effectiveness, efficiency and quality of healthcare and projects that develop a non-existent care application. www.stichtingcoolsingel.nl

