Rigshospitalet enters into collaboration with Preceyes to research benefits of robotic assistance for training, learning curves and performance of eye surgeons

Eindhoven, 4 September 2017 – Rigshospitalet (Copenhagen, DK) and Preceyes B.V. (Eindhoven, NL) have entered into a collaboration to research the benefits of robotic assistance for training, learning curves and performance of eye surgeons. Such benefits might result in increased patient safety and health outcomes, while decreasing cost of ophthalmic care. Rigshopitalet will lease the PRECEYES Surgical System and research its benefits by combining it with an EyeSi virtual-reality training system (VRmagic, Holding AG, Germany). They will focus on vitreoretinal procedures, among the most complex in eye surgery.

The Department of Ophthalmology at Rigshospitalet has a research program focused on effective training of eye surgeons, employing virtual-reality modalities to evaluate performance and skill. Their highly-regarded research group has been the first in the world to provide evidence that virtual-reality training improves novice surgeons in their performance of cataract surgery. The current research is aimed at applying these results to vitreoretinal procedures.

Preceyes' high-precision robotic system targets ocular surgery, with vitreoretinal surgical procedures as the initial target market. The technology promises to improve the delivery of existing ocular surgery and enables the development of new treatments such as high-precision drug delivery. The PRECEYES Surgical System has been successfully used in the world's first robot-assisted eye surgery in University Hospital Oxford in 2016 and is currently under development for application in various vitreoretinal procedures.

Prof. Morton Dornonville de la Cour, Head of the Department of Ophthalmology at Rigshospitalet said: "Delivering safe surgery to patients is paramount to what we do as eye surgeons. By using objective measures to compare traditional surgery with robot-assisted surgery we can understand how to give better care. It is also vital that surgical training improves in tandem with the advances in surgical technology. We believe that both patients and surgeons stand to benefit from this research."

Prof. Marc de Smet, CMO of Preceyes said: "Surgical skill is the cumulation of accumen and practice. Through this collaboration, we will better understand the hurdles, requirements, and time needed to skillfully and safely use our robotic platform as well as demonstrate the benefits that the platform provides. I cannot think of a better team to work with in achieving this goal."

Further information

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About Rigshospitalet

Rigshospitalet is Denmark's most specialized hospital - a flagship within the Danish healthcare system. With 153,300 clinic visits and 17,800 surgeries the Department of Ophthalmology at Rigshospitalet is the largest in the country. At Rigshospitalet, research is highly prioritized and results are achieved through national and international collaborations. www.rigshospitalet.dk
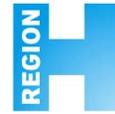
About Preceyes

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. Preceyes' robotic technologies support the surgeon in improving existing surgery and they enable the development of new, high-precision treatments. Preceyes is a spin-out of 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