PRESS RELEASE

biolitec biomedical technology GmbH
Otto-Schott-Strasse 15
07745 Jena
www.biolitec.de

New laser therapy SiLaC® by biolitec®: Greek study shows over 90% cure rate for pilonidal fistulas

New study in Greece confirms excellent healing rates of over 90% in biolitec® SiLaC® laser therapy – Effective destruction of epithelialized tissue with maximum protection of surrounding areas – Significantly shortened treatment and convalescence – Only small wound areas and lower risk of recurrence

Jena, July 5th, 2018 – The treatment of pilonidal fistulas with the new, particularly gentle minimally invasive method **SiLaC®** (Sinus Laser ablation of the cyst) using the high-power diode laser **LEONARDO®** and a specially developed laser fiber from the laser pioneer biolitec biomedical technology GmbH has already achieved a cure rate of over 90% after the first treatment. This was the result of a study* conducted on 237 patients at the Gastroenterology Department of the University Hospital Ioannina, Greece, and published in June 2018.

The study was led by Dimitrios K. Christodoulou, Professor at the Gastroenterology Department of Internal Medicine of the University Hospital Ioannina, and Alkiviades F. Pappas, Surgeon at the Proctoclinic Proctology Special Center in Heraklion, Athens. The aim of the study was to evaluate the safety, efficacy and clinical outcome of biolitec®'s SiLaC® laser procedure for the treatment of Sinus Pilonidalis.

Of the 237 patients treated, 183 were male and the average age was 24 years. In 90.3% of patients, the pilonidal fistula healed completely after the first treatment within an average healing time of 47 days. Patients in whom the first treatment was unsuccessful were treated once again with the SiLaC® method, which finally led to healing in 78.3% of patients. The duration of treatment was between 20 and 30 minutes. In total, only 7.2% of patients showed a limited clinical picture (wound infections) after treatment.

The SiLaC® laser procedure of biolitec® is applied under local anesthesia and careful cleaning of the fistula tract. A 360° radially radiating fiber connected to a diode laser with a wavelength of 1470 nm is then introduced into the fistula tracts, which are then continuously irradiated with the laser energy.

Due to the optimal wavelength of 1470 nm and the unique radial radiation of the laser fiber, only little healthy surrounding tissue is destroyed. The epithelialized tissue is removed in a controlled manner and the fistula tract collapses to a very high degree. The 360° emission of the laser probe

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ensures a homogeneous photothermal destruction of the fistula duct. This procedure significantly shortens treatment and convalescence compared to conventional methods. In addition, only a small wound area is created and the risk of relapse is reduced. Any flap technique can be used before or after laser treatment.

Further information about the LEONARDO® laser and the special fibers of biolitec® can be found on the website www.biolitec.com. Interested patients can inform themselves under www.pilonidal-cysts.com.

* A. F. Pappas / D. K. Christodoulou: „A new minimally invasive treatment of pilonidal sinus disease with the use of a diode laser: a prospective large series of patients“, in: Colorectal Disease, June 2018.
Summary:https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/codi.14285

To the company:
biolitec® is one of the world's leading medical technology companies in the field of laser applications and the only supplier with all relevant core competencies - photosensitizers, lasers and optical fibers - in the field of photodynamic therapy (PDT). In addition to the laser-assisted treatment of cancer with the drug Foscan®, biolitec® researches and markets above all minimally invasive, gentle laser procedures. ELVeS® Radial® (Endo Laser Vein System) is the world's most widely used laser system for the treatment of venous insufficiency. The new LEONARDO® diode laser from biolitec® is the first universally applicable medical laser with a combination of two wavelengths, 980nm and 1470nm, which can be used in a variety of applications. In urology, the innovative XCAVATOR® contact fiber in combination with the LEONARDO® DUAL 200 watt laser enables gentle treatment of benign prostate hyperplasia (BPH), for example. The LEONARDO® Mini-Laser, which weighs only 900 g, was specially developed for mobile applications on site. Gentle laser applications in the fields of proctology, ENT, gynaecology, orthopaedics, thoracic surgery and pneumology are also part of biolitec®'s business field. Further information is available at www.biolitec.de.

press contact
biolitec biomedical technology GmbH
Jörn Gleisner
Phone: +49 (0) 3641 / 5195336
Fax: +49 (0) 6172/27159-69
E-mail: joern.gleisner@biolitec.com