

PRESS INFO

biolitec AG

Untere Viaduktgasse 6/9
A-1030 Wien

Bladder cancer: prevention, diagnosis and new perspectives with innovative the TULA laser therapy

Bladder cancer awareness month in May finds increasingly attention internationally – Bladder cancer is the 4th most common kind of cancer in men – biolitec's new TULA laser therapy of makes tumor removal also possible for high-risk patients – Ambulatorily treatable during the urinary bladder endoscopy – No anesthesia necessary – Urologist Dr. Tauber from Hamburg: "That's usually possible regardless of pre-existing conditions or medication of the patients."

Jena, 02nd June 2022 – This May was international Bladder Cancer Awareness Month once again. For "Bladder cancer awareness month", campaigns for education, prevention and support of those affected started again this year in numerous countries worldwide, both live and online. Thousands of people gather and take to the streets together for a walk or participate in campaigns such as "Bubbles for Bladder Cancer," which, in addition to raising awareness, focus on fun with bubbles for young and old. But what should we know about bladder cancer and what actually makes it so insidious? Smokers and people who work with special varnishes and paints are particularly susceptible. In addition, men are much more likely to develop bladder tumors, although the trend has been increasing in women for several years, while it has been decreasing in men. Most sufferers develop the disease in their 70s, and by that time many people have pre-existing conditions and/or are dependent on medications such as blood thinners. Now, early-stage bladder cancer is very treatable, but tends to recur frequently. Multiple operations under anesthesia are often not an option for patients with pre-existing conditions, and medication also frequently stands in the way of removing the tumors. But with TULA laser therapy, biolitec has now developed a treatment method that can be used regardless.

TULA, which stands for Transurethral Laser Ablation, refers to an outpatient therapy in which the bladder tumor is removed with particularly little pain using laser light. The treatment can even be performed without anesthesia in a specialist's office or day clinic and is suitable for recurrent bladder tumors and those that are not fused with the bladder muscle (about 75% of all bladder tumors). In the urological practice "AMCURO" in Hamburg, the new TULA laser therapy has been offered since 2021. Dr. Tauber, urologist at AMCURO: "As with any tumor, the earlier it is discovered the better. In the early stage, the chance of curing bladder cancer is still more than 80%. If a tumor is discovered during a cystoscopy that has not yet grown together with the bladder muscle, it can be removed with a laser during the examination after tissue removal. This usually works regardless of the patient's pre-existing conditions or medication." That's because when the ulcer is cut out, the laser light immediately stops the bleeding. Symptoms of bladder cancer

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are often misinterpreted as bladder or urinary tract infections. Since, in addition to blood in the urine and bladder spasms, the symptoms also include an increased urge to urinate with only a small amount of urine being passed, men also often assume that they have prostate problems. The doctor usually performs several examinations for these symptoms. The urine is analyzed and an ultrasound is performed, but most important is the urinary cystoscopy. In this procedure, the doctor inserts a cystoscope with a camera into the bladder via the urethra. If he discovers a tumor there, he can reach the tumor directly with the laser fiber via the flexible cystoscope and remove it within a few minutes.

Comprehensive patient information on bladder cancer can be found by patients and their relatives on the website of the European Association of Urology on [https://patients.uroweb.org/cancers/bladder-cancer/#Follow-up bladder cancer](https://patients.uroweb.org/cancers/bladder-cancer/#Follow-up%20bladder%20cancer).

About the company:

biolitec® is one of the world's leading medical technology companies in the field of minimally invasive laser applications and is offering in the field of photodynamic therapy (PDT) the laser-assisted treatment of cancer with the drug Foscan®, registered in the EU. Since 1999, biolitec® is focused on the development of minimally invasive, gentle laser procedures. The unique **LEONARDO® diode laser** from biolitec® is the first universally applicable medical laser with a combination of two wavelengths, 980 nm and 1470 nm, which can be used in all disciplines. ELVeS® Radial® (ELVeS® = Endo Laser Vein System) is the world's most common laser system for treating venous insufficiency. In proctology, biolitec® offers a maximum sphincter-sparing therapy for anal fistulas as well as treatment options for hemorrhoids and pilonidal cysts. In urology, the range of therapies has expanded from benign prostate hyperplasia (BPH) to bladder tumors. The LEONARDO® Mini laser, which weighs only 900 g, has been specially developed for mobile applications. Gentle laser applications in the fields of gynecology, ENT, thoracic surgery and pneumology, esthetics, and orthopedics are also part of biolitec®'s business field. Further information is available at www.biolitec.com.

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