

# Press

Joint Press Release

by Siemens Healthineers and MD Anderson Cancer Center

Houston, TX and Malvern, Pa,

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## Siemens Healthineers and MD Anderson collaborating to enable consistent clinical implementation of quantitative MRI

Strategic alliance initially focused on knowledge dissemination, protocol standardization and remote monitoring approaches to enable personalized medicine for patients

Siemens Healthineers and [The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center](#) today announced the collaborative development of a global education program focused on enabling the implementation of consistent, high-quality magnetic resonance (MR) imaging in radiation oncology. The program will provide courses for both clinical and administrative groups with the aim of facilitating safe adoption and broader clinical implementation of MR to improve outcomes for patients.

The effort is part of an ongoing strategic alliance, established in 2019, which strives to advance the integration of quantitative imaging across the patient journey and strengthen coordination of consistent imaging across diagnostic imaging and radiation oncology to guide cancer therapy.

In addition to the educational program, MD Anderson and Siemens Healthineers are collaborating to develop standardized MR protocols that will improve quantitative response assessment. The teams also are working to establish remote monitoring operations that will enable greater reach of advanced imaging studies at remote locations while maintaining consistent, high-quality image acquisition across all sites.

“Magnetic resonance holds great potential for characterizing tumors and tissues for personalized cancer treatment, including biological targeting for radiotherapy. However, a key step toward implementing precision medicine for every patient is ensuring consistent, quantitative measurement to meaningfully guide treatment decisions,” said [Caroline Chung, M.D.](#), associate professor of Radiation Oncology and Diagnostic Radiology at MD Anderson. “Through our alliance with Siemens Healthineers, we aim to promote and support standardization across fields and disseminate knowledge with a portfolio of evidence-based materials and courses to improve the quality of imaging and resulting care delivery across institutions.”



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Educational courses will be tailored to meet the needs of specific clinical and administrative audiences, designed to address varied levels of expertise. Course materials will be developed by MD Anderson experts from Radiation Oncology, Diagnostic Imaging, the [School of Health Professions](#), and the Teaching Interprofessional and Simulation (TIPS) Education Center together with the team at Siemens Healthineers.

Training for clinical teams will include topics such as basic principles of image formation, functional imaging, protocol optimization and MR safety. Administrator training will center on financial considerations as well as optimizing teams and workflows for success. This educational offering will be available starting later this fall.

The training programs also will work to enhance education on remote operations. Siemens Healthineers and MD Anderson are implementing and expanding remote MRI scanning procedures across MD Anderson's locations in the Greater Houston area. Remote procedures, utilizing Siemens Healthineers' Virtual Cockpit software, will allow experts to monitor and manage scans occurring at other locations and to intervene when needed.

"Siemens Healthineers and MD Anderson have a long-standing relationship of working together on innovation," said David Pacitti, president and head of the Americas at Siemens Healthineers. "With this strategic alliance, we hope to continue building upon those efforts to enable providers globally to utilize MR safely and effectively for patients with cancer."

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**Disclosure**

Dr. Chung serves as a member of the scientific advisory board for Siemens, and this relationship has been disclosed to MD Anderson in accordance with its COI policy.

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**Siemens Healthineers AG** (listed in Frankfurt, Germany: SHL) is shaping the future of healthcare. As a leading medical technology company headquartered in Erlangen, Germany, Siemens Healthineers enables healthcare providers worldwide through its regional companies to increase value by empowering them on their journey towards expanding precision medicine, transforming care delivery, improving the patient experience and digitalizing healthcare. Siemens Healthineers is continuously developing its product and service portfolio, with AI-supported applications and digital offerings that play an increasingly important role in the next generation of medical technology. These new applications will enhance the company's foundation in in-vitro diagnostics, image-guided therapy, in-vivo diagnostics, and innovative cancer care. Siemens Healthineers also provides a range of services and solutions to enhance healthcare providers' ability to provide high-quality, efficient care to patients. In fiscal 2020, which ended on September 30, 2020, Siemens Healthineers generated revenue of €14.5 billion and adjusted EBIT of €2.2 billion. Following the acquisition of Varian Medical Systems, Inc. the company employs approximately 66,000 employees worldwide. Further Information is available at [www.siemens-healthineers.com](http://www.siemens-healthineers.com).

#### About MD Anderson

[The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center](#) in Houston ranks as one of the world's most respected centers focused on cancer patient care, research, education and prevention. The institution's sole mission is to end cancer for patients and their families around the world. MD Anderson is one of only 51 comprehensive cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI). MD Anderson is No. 1 for cancer in U.S. News & World Report's "Best Hospitals" rankings. It has been named one of the nation's top two hospitals for cancer since the rankings began in 1990. MD Anderson receives a cancer center support grant from the NCI of the National Institutes of Health (P30 CA016672).