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UC San Diego Health System Utilizes Platform Capabilities of MRI Interventions' ClearPoint System to Conduct Three Back-to-Back Procedures on a Single Patient

IRVINE, Calif., Aug. 19, 2014 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- MRI Interventions, Inc. (OTCQB:MRIC) today announced that neurosurgeons at UC San Diego Health System have utilized the ClearPoint® system's platform capabilities to facilitate three same-setting MRI-guided neurosurgical procedures for a single patient. The team, led by Clark C. Chen, MD, PhD, vice-chairman of Academic Affairs for the Division of Neurosurgery at UC San Diego School of Medicine, biopsied a patient's brain tumor, aspirated a fluid-filled section of the tumor, and ablated the tumor, all under real-time MRI guidance enabled by the ClearPoint system in the hospital's diagnostic MRI suite.

Utilizing conventional techniques, the three surgeries likely would have been split between two or three different settings and required the patient to be moved between the neuro OR and diagnostic MRI suite. The ClearPoint system, however, enables placement of multiple devices along the same trajectory, as well as facilitates intraoperative adjustments with real-time visual verification to accommodate multiple trajectories as necessary, all within a hospital's standard diagnostic MRI scanner.

MRI Interventions Business Development Manager and clinical engineer Geoffrey Bates attended the surgery. "We were very happy to see the ClearPoint system's platform capabilities being utilized in a single case," said Bates. "UC San Diego took a set of procedures that would ordinarily be performed over multiple days and multiple rooms and condensed them into the same setting. That means fewer hospital visits for the patient and more efficient scheduling and workflow for the surgical team."

Using the ClearPoint system for the biopsy, Dr. Chen was able to see and select the tumor at its location within the brain, establish the desired trajectory to the tumor with MRI Interventions' SmartFrame® targeting device, and visualize the biopsy needle as it was inserted into the desired region of the tumor, confirming with real-time MRI that the sample was removed from the targeted location. Next, Dr. Chen was able to adjust the trajectory in order to aspirate a fluid-filled section of the tumor, monitoring the tumor's changing size and shape under MRI guidance as the fluid was removed. Dr. Chen then utilized the ClearPoint system to target the reduced tumor, visualize the placement of a laser catheter as he

inserted it into the tumor, and confirm placement of the catheter at the desired location for ablation. Finally, when intraprocedural MRI showed that a portion of the tumor was irregularly shaped, he was able to once more adjust the SmartFrame targeting device to reposition the catheter so that he could ablate the final segment of the tumor.

The ClearPoint system is the only technology to enable minimally-invasive neurosurgery under continuous MRI guidance. In addition to brain biopsy and the placement of shunts and laser ablation catheters, the ClearPoint system is also being utilized to place electrodes in the brain.

About the ClearPoint system

The ClearPoint system is a navigation platform designed to allow real-time, direct visualization during minimally-invasive neurosurgical procedures. It is intended to provide stereotactic guidance for the placement and operation of instruments or devices during planning and operation of neurosurgical procedures within the MRI environment and in conjunction with MR imaging. The ClearPoint system is intended as an integral part of procedures that have traditionally used stereotactic methodology, which procedures include biopsies and catheter and electrode insertions. The ClearPoint system software works with MRI to assist surgeons in planning a target and trajectory, and the SmartFrame® targeting device enables the MRI-guided alignment and insertion of surgical instruments.

About MRI Interventions, Inc.

Building on the imaging power of MRI, MRI Interventions is creating innovative platforms for performing the next generation of minimally invasive surgical procedures in the brain and heart. The company's ClearPoint® system, which has received 510(k) clearance and is CE marked, utilizes a hospital's existing diagnostic or intraoperative MRI suite to enable a range of minimally invasive procedures in the brain. In partnership with Siemens Healthcare, MRI Interventions is developing the ClearTrace® system to enable MRI-guided catheter ablations to treat cardiac arrhythmias, including atrial fibrillation. For more information, please visit www.mriinterventions.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain matters in this press release may constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements often can be identified by words such as "anticipates," "believes," "could," "estimates," "expects," "intends," "may," "plans," "potential," "predicts," "projects," "should," "will," "would," or the negative of these words or other words of similar meaning. Forward-looking statements by their nature address matters that, to different degrees, are uncertain and involve risk. Uncertainties and risks may cause MRI Interventions' actual results and the timing of events to differ materially from those expressed in or implied by MRI Interventions' forward-looking statements. Detailed information on factors that could affect MRI Interventions' actual results are described in MRI Interventions' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including, without limitation, the quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed on August 11, 2014. Except as required by law, MRI Interventions undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements contained in this press release to reflect any change in MRI

Interventions' expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statements are based.

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