

BOOSTER CLUB

CEO'S CORNER



2015 was indeed a “very good year” as Grammy Award winning Frank Sinatra recording would have it, not only for the “small-town girls... on the village green” but more specifically for AccuBoost users. In 2015, year-over-year patient treatment volumes for the same practices increased by at least 25%. There were many reasons for the higher volume including: maturity of data supporting the procedure for both boost and (increasingly for) APBI, availability of new and improved applicators that can reach tumor beds near the chest wall and, above all, word of mouth. Ultimately these factors create patient awareness and demand, where patients are willing to travel in order to receive the AccuBoost procedure. The higher volume trend is expected to continue and accelerate in 2016.

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ACCUBOOST EXPANDS TO NEW SITES



AccuBoost Welcomes Heather Jones and Virginia Oncology Associates to the AccuBoost Family - From Left to right - Kelly Gargiulo RTT(R), Heather Jones, MD, Ray Bricault, COO AccuBoost, Donald Sutton, Physicist



If other users like the AccuBoost procedure, Heather Jones, MD. loves it – for the simple fact that she has spent more time than most exploring the benefits and side effects of the all-important boost component of whole breast radiation. Dr. Jones is leading the AccuBoost effort at the **Lake Wright Radiation Oncology** facility in Norfolk, VA, one of the recent additions to the group of AccuBoost users. Lake Wright is a joint venture between the Sentara Group and the US Oncology Network, a part of McKesson Specialty Health.

The AccuBoost offering at Lake Wright was launched in March. The launch schedule, which was initially arranged for two patients to receive AccuBoost prior to receiving the whole breast irradiation (WBI) had to be modified. When word spread among the patients in the waiting room, others that were nearing the completion of WBI showed interest and started asking if they could also qualify for the new treatment modality. As a result two additional women, a total of four, were treated during the launch. “I was pleased by the positive embrace of AccuBoost by patients and pleasantly surprised how well my post-WBI patient tolerated the procedure” Heather Jones states.

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ACCUBOOST CONFORMAL DOSE REDUCES FIBROSIS

“In a close scrutiny of the European Boost Study, I have learned that the longer that patients were followed, the higher the percentage of fibrosis. The meta-analysis of data shows that moderate to severe fibrosis complications get worse, with time”, observes Heather Jones. She adds “I am convinced that a conformal dose will go a long way to reduce the risk of fibrosis.”

Jones spent a year analyzing and reporting on the European (EORTC 22881) Boost Study



Heather Jones, MD
Radiation Oncologist
Virginia Oncology
Associates at Lake Wright
in Norfolk, VA

ACCUBOOST BOOSTS HDR SOURCE UTILIZATION

Renee Shank, Manager of Radiation Oncology at Mary Washington Hospital states “With the launch of AccuBoost we have seen a significant increase in HDR source utilization.” She adds “AccuBoost has made a day and night difference in revitalizing our brachytherapy offering.”



Renee Shank, BS RTT
Manager of Radiation
Oncology
Mary Washington Hospital,
Fredericksburg, VA

NEW SITES (CONT.)



Dr. Michael Kerley is a familiar name when it comes to AccuBoost. As a former Medical Director at Texas Oncology, he was one of the earliest AccuBoost adopters, having offered the procedure while at Paris, TX prior to his new arrival at **Cancer Centers of Southwest Oklahoma**.



In his assessment of the technology at the time of the launch of AccuBoost at CCSWOK, Dr. Kerley observed that, “I am impressed with the improvements that AccuBoost has made.” He adds, “The procedure is much more refined and I welcome the shorter treatment times. I especially find the BioZorb tumor bed markers helpful, when used in tandem with AccuBoost, as they remove any doubt about the partial breast target.”



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Providing a compassionate, comprehensive approach to individual treatment needs in the community.

Cancer Specialists of North Florida (CSNF) is the most recent addition to the list of AccuBoost users. This group is the largest cancer care provider in Jacksonville, with an integrated approach for every aspect of cancer care. CSNF operates a dozen facilities in the greater Jacksonville area.



The effort at this site is headed by Dr. Waseet Vance, radiation oncology medical director. In delivering the AccuBoost service, Dr. Vance is assisted by other radiation oncologists: Jessica Bahari-Kashani (who is an AccuBoost veteran), Christine Bo Bang and Emily Tanzler.

Visit us at the World Congress of Brachytherapy, June 27 – 29, 2016 in San Francisco.

Ask about the results of clinical trials for hypofractionated APBI or attend the oral presentation “Initial Experience Of Five Fraction Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation (APBI) Using Non-invasive Image-guided Breast Brachytherapy” by Dr. Jarek Hepel to hear more.

AccuBoost®
for image guided breast irradiation

THERAGENICS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

BY JOHN ROESLER, VP OF SALES AND MARKETING



John Roesler

We feel privileged to have had the opportunity to meet each and every AccuBoost user. We have visited many sites multiple times, and now have a better understanding of the challenges they face and how our organization can contribute to the success of AccuBoost treatments for their practice and their patients.

One of the early lessons that we have learned is that there are differences between the approach to screen, evaluate and treat patients. We have learned that patient eligibility criteria varies widely from practice to practice. In many instances, patients who are considered good candidates for AccuBoost at one practice are not considered good candidates by others.

As so much variation exists between practices, we have sponsored regional user group meetings to get the practitioners together to share ideas and gain insight from highly experienced clinical thought leaders. These by-invitation-only all day meetings are exclusively for the benefit of current AccuBoost users. We wish to provide every radiation oncologist who uses AccuBoost the opportunity to ask questions, hear the most up-to-date clinical results and build relationships that will give them the opportunity to receive information moving forward that will assist in improving their practice. To keep the meetings small, and allow for a very interactive session, two such workshops have been conducted: the first meeting was on April 8, 2016 at Lynn Cancer Institute at Boca Raton, FL. The second was on April 22 at UCSD in San Diego.

David Wazer, Chair of the AccuBoost Medical Advisory Board and Jarek Hepel, Principal Investigator for the FAST NIBB protocol (Non Invasive Breast Brachytherapy), the generic designation for AccuBoost, attended and presented at both meetings. However, the meetings also featured local experts including Rashmi Benda, MD and Catherine Yashar, MD. Dr. Benda was on the faculty of the Boca Raton meeting. She is the author of the landmark boost targeting article “Are We Missing the Target?” Dr. Yashar, a well-known and published breast brachytherapist was on the faculty for the San Diego meeting. For physics questions, Zoubir Ouhib (Lynn Cancer Center) participated in the Boca Raton meeting and Dan Scanderbeg, PhD, participated at the San Diego meeting.

We are pleased and excited to sponsor and conduct these meetings and we look forward to sharing the information gleaned as we call on AccuBoost users in our travels.



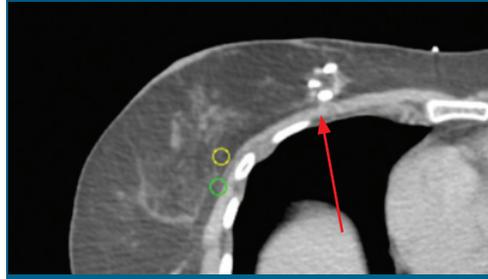
Q & A ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF BIOZORB TO CHALLENGING ACCUBOOST CASES

With David Wazer, M.D., Medical Advisory Board Chair

There has been speculation about the relative utility of the BioZorb marker as an aid in AccuBoost targeting. A few specific cases in recent months have provided evidence that in challenging and hard to reach locations, BioZorb markers unambiguously define the target. Though surgical clips remain very effective, the BioZorb device simplifies communication between the surgeon and radiation oncologist as to target location. The contribution of BioZorb for AccuBoost target delineation is posed to David Wazer:

Q: Do you find the BioZorb markers beneficial for targeting the AccuBoost dose?

A: In routine cases identifying the target for AccuBoost, with or without fiducial markers, is rather trivial. There can be no question that the 3-dimensional BioZorb markers are a step in the right direction to better pinpoint the tumor bed. The question that I have pondered is the relative benefits of the product compared to surgical clips. Until recently, I was not necessarily convinced. In recent months I have seen cases that if BioZorb



CT View of the BioZorb marker in extreme medial location: a challenging position to target the AccuBoost dose.

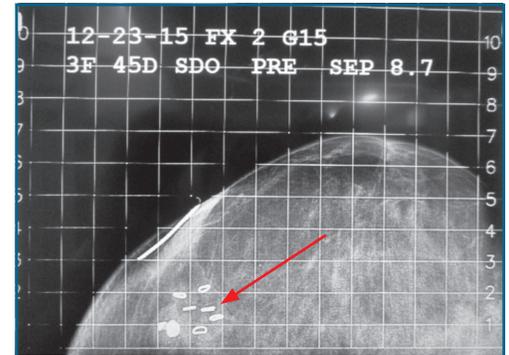
markers were not sutured in place, it may have been difficult to correctly identify the target and would have caused excluding the patient for treatment.

Q: Can you describe one of these cases?

A: There was a case, where the tumor bed was in the extreme medial portion of the breast. Usually this location presents a challenge to target with AccuBoost. I suspect that many AccuBoost users wouldn't even make the effort to treat such a patient. Fortunately the surgeon had placed a BioZorb marker in the patient.

Q: Can you illustrate some of the specifics?

A: The location of BioZorb as seen on the planning CT (on left) shows the proximity of the marker to the chest wall - a challenging location for AccuBoost. To my pleasant surprise, when the patient was placed in the mammography system, the BioZorb marker readily separated from the chest wall. The marker was easily imaged on both axes and we were confident to proceed with the AccuBoost treatment. A consequence of this observation, I am revising my view that extreme medial location of a tumor bed is no longer, necessarily, a difficult anatomical location for targeting AccuBoost.



C-C image of the same patient with AccuBoost targeting coordinates identified and applicator marked.

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