

Smith & Nephew signs exclusive worldwide distribution agreement for the revolutionary MolecuLight i:X™ imaging device



Smith & Nephew (S&N) has signed a worldwide distribution agreement with MolecuLight, a developer of innovative imaging technology for the clinical assessment of wounds.

The MolecuLight i:X is a handheld point-of-care imaging device that uses fluorescence imaging to display potentially harmful concentrations of bacteria that fluoresce in violet light on screen, in real-time. Clinicians can capture and view still images and video, as well as measure the surface area of a wound and then save and add those images to the patient's electronic health record.

We interviewed Dr Ralph DaCosta (RDC), University Health Network and founder and chief scientific officer, and Craig Kennedy (CK), CEO, both of MolecuLight.

You have been working on the MolecuLight device for 11 years. How does it feel to see it finally materialised?

RDC: It feels like it's been 111 years! It is mind-blowing to come up with a concept and see the end product after so many years.

How did you come up with the idea for this device?

RDC: All of us realise how powerful a cellphone is. The Eureka moment was knowing that bacteria in wounds produce



From left: Paul McKenna, senior director AWM, EUCAN, S&N; Rob Steel, franchise marketing manager (Europe & Canada), S&N; Dr Ralph DaCosta; Craig Kennedy, MolecuLight

a signal that a consumer phone camera can detect. It struck me that if we could deliver something new in an area underrepresented by technology innovation, such as wound care, there could be new opportunities to deliver critical information for clinicians to use at the point of care.

What effect will this device generate in the wound care field?

RDC: It is going to have a massive impact. Partnering with Smith & Nephew will multiply that effect.

How did the S&N partnership occur?

CK: We targeted someone with a good reputation and product line. S&N was our number one partner from the beginning. It was all about the right fit.

The MolecuLight i:X™ is available in Canada and the European Union, with regulatory clearance in the US pending.