



Corporate Backgrounder

Founded in 2002, Dune Medical Devices is a private, venture-funded company engaged in the development and commercialization of hand-held devices that employ patent-protected radio frequency (RF) spectroscopy to characterize tissue malignancy on-contact and in real-time. Dune's devices, currently available for investigational use only in the USA, are designed to address the need for real-time assessment of surgical margins.

Dune's platform technology for real-time identification and localization of sub-millimeter cancer cell clusters has the potential to serve unmet surgical oncology needs in multiple, large categories. The company's devices are designed to provide surgeons with a simple, immediate indication of the presence of cancer at the measurement site.

Dune's first product, the MarginProbe™, is intended to serve the breast cancer market for use during breast-conserving surgeries (also known as lumpectomies or partial mastectomies). The hand-held probe is directed at a 7mm wide, coin-shaped slice of tissue against which a sensor, at its tip, is pressed. If cancerous clusters are detected, the system console will flag the user with both an audible and visual signal. Otherwise, the system will indicate "clear." The MarginProbe™ is currently in clinical trials in the United States and CE mark was received in June 2006.

The problems that Dune's technology is designed to address are significant in clinical, economic and human terms. If, following further investigational clinical studies, surgeons and endoscopists will be able to obtain relatively accurate pathological tissue status in real-time, then clinical outcomes could be improved, and the incidence of repeat procedures could be reduced, along with their associated risks, emotional trauma and costs.

Dune's goal is to become a leader in tissue characterization devices for minimally invasive as well as for open surgeries in the field of surgical oncology. The company is pursuing this goal by offering products that enhance surgery with real-time data and improve patient outcome.

Current investors in Dune Medical include Apex Partners and Meditech Advisors. The company is headquartered in Caesarea, Israel.