

Daniel Shasha, M.D. Attending Physician Department of Radiation Oncology

Mount Sinai Beth Israel Phillips Ambulatory Care Center 10 Union Square East, Suite 4G New York, NY 10003 T (212) 844-8088 F (212) 844-6556

November 25, 2015

Manny R Subramanian, PhD Director, R&D Best Medical International, Inc 7643 Fullerton Road Springfield, Virginia 22153 USA

Dear Manny,

I have been using Iodine-125 seeds (model 2301) and other products from Best Medical over the last twelve years. I have been extremely happy with the quality of the Iodine seeds and other products received from Best Medical. The customer service provided by Best Medical has been excellent. I will continue to use Best Medical seeds and strands. I am in the process of analyzing the clinical data obtained with Best iodine seeds in several thousands of patients, and the results have been excellent in terms of outcome and quality.

Best Medical has been a supporter of brachytherapy for a long period of time. I am confident that Best Medical will continue to provide seeds, needles, and other products to the radiation therapy community for years to come.

Sincerely,

Daniel Shasha, MD

Director Genitourinary Oncology, and

Director Brachytherapy Fellowship Program,

Department of Radiation Oncology

Beth Israel Medical Center;

Assistant Professor Radiation Oncology,

Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Phone: 212-844-8088 Fax: 212-844-6556

COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTERS

November 23, 2015

Dear Krish and Manny:

With this letter I would like to acknowledge the excellent service that you and your employees at the Best International are providing to the field of radiation therapy, particularly for Brachytherapy procedures. I have been benefiting from your service for many years. Actually, I got to know about brachytherapy through your company since I joined this field on 1984 and have benefited from your service through several different institutions that I worked. In addition, I was involved in several AAPM task group projects, which were directly or indirectly involved with your products. In all cases, your customer service personnel very kindly and patiently provided me the information that I needed for either clinical or research procedures. I do not recall a single case where I called and your customer service did not have a satisfactory result for me. It is interesting that despite my frequent calls, they always provide me with the "Best" service that I needed, despite their enormous amount of work. I personally know that you put a lot of effort toward the advancement of this field by either developing the equipment or supporting the scientists who are working in the field.

I also want to complement the excellent quality of the Brachytherapy seeds. Whenever I needed to received a shipment of iodine-125 seeds from Best, I had absolutely no difficulty in that. Having dealt with Best for a long period of time, this is not a surprise to me. I can truly call your company the "Best" company and I wish you the best. Whenever I come to the AAPM or ASTRO meeting, I am looking forward to visit some of your customer service personnel and present my acknowledgment directly for the great work they are doing.

Should there be any questions on this matter please feel free to contact me at 702-343-8020 (cell), e-mail: ali.meigooni@usoncology.com.

Sincerely yours,

Áli S. Meigooni, Ph.D., DABR, FAAPM

Chief Medical Physicist/RSO

Comprehensive Cancer Center of Nevada

Adjunct Professor of University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV)

3730 S. Eastern Ave., Radiation Therapy Section

B. IleigoDn.

Las Vegas, Nevada

Mobile: 702-343-8020



Dept of Radiation Medicine 800 Rose Street Lexington KY 40536-0293 (859)323-6486

October 22, 2007

Dear Krish and Manny:

With this letter I would like to acknowledge the service that you and the Best employees are providing to the field of radiation therapy, particularly for brachytherapy procedures. I have been in this field since 1984 and have benefited from your service through various institutions at which I worked. In addition, I was involved in several AAPM task group projects, which were directly or indirectly involved with your products. In all cases, your customer service personnel kindly provided me the information that I needed for either clinical or research procedures. I do not recall a single case where I called your customer service and did not have a satisfactory result. It is interesting that despite my frequent calls and their enormous amount of work, they always provide me with the "Best" service that I need. I personally know that you put a lot of effort toward the advancement of this field by either developing the equipment or supporting the scientists who are working in the field.

I also want to complement the excellent quality of the brachytherapy seeds. Recently, we received a shipment of iodine-125 seeds from Best. When we analyzed the activity of 10 seeds, all the seeds were exactly the same activity. One of my associates initially felt that this might have been a mistake. Further investigations revealed that indeed all the seeds were of the same activity. Having dealt with Best for a long period of time, this was not a surprise to me.

I can truly call your company the "Best" company and I wish you the best. I would like to visit some of your customer personnel during the meeting and present my acknowledgment directly for the great work they are doing.

Sincerely,

Ali S. Meigooni

Director of the Brachytherapy Section

Al-S. Meigosui



Manny R. Subramanian, Ph.D. Director
Best Medical International
7643 Fullerton Road
Springfield, VA
22153

18 May 2007

Manny,

Greetings to you. I am writing to tell you that we have just implanted our 200<sup>th</sup> patient with the BEST I 125 seed, model 2301.

We are continually impressed with the service and the innovation provided by BEST Medical and look forward to working with you in the future. We especially like one of the latest improvements, the customizable strand and variable loading. The customizable strand allows for any loading pattern and the variable loading is allowing our physicians to choose which needles have strands and which are loose. Our measurements of seed strength over the 200 cases continues to be excellent; averaging a 1.0017 ratio of ordered:received strength with a standard deviation of 0.0165. With the help of your seeds we are surpassing the national benchmarks in PSA relapse-free survival.

This combination of service, product excellence, flexibility, and reliability are what make you our prostate seed vendor of choice.

Best Regards,

Jeff Limmer, MS Ed, MSc, DABR Chief Medical Physicist



Best Medical International, Inc. Attn: Dr. Manny Subramanian 7643 Fullerton Road Springfield, VA 22153 USA

Response from our German Consumers

Dear Manny,

Thanks a lot for the very intensive and fruitful collaboration we had in the starting phase to introduce Best Iodine-125 Seeds in Germany. Your support and help was outstanding. I also want to thank all your colleagues at Best who made our start a great success.

After the first 100 patients were treated with Best Seeds, we received positive feedback about your product from all our consumers.

Mainly all LDR Seed implanters in Germany work in real time online-technique with Ultrasound and X-ray. The visibility in both modalities is outstanding. All users reported a much better outcome of the treatment.

Dosimetry of your Best Seeds is also excellent. The superior anisotropy of Best 2301 Seeds allows us to reduce urethral dose and also provide full dose coverage of the prostate.

Also the Best seed placement in the prostate is much easier and more controllable than other Seeds.

Overall, it was an excellent and good decision to work with your product and your team.

We are looking forward to adding new customers and to continued fruitful collaboration with Best Medical International. Regards,

Anton Wagner (managing Director)

Ihre Nachricht vom

Ihre Zeichen

Unsere Zeichen

Ihr Gesprächspartner Anton Wagner Direkte Rufnummer 0173-6558969 Datum 12. April 2007

URORAD Services-NUKURA GmbH

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Mail nuk.wagner@tonline.de

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HRB 8243 Amtsgericht Wü

Keeping Local Health Care Strong

03 May 2004

Manny R. Subramanian, Ph.D.
Director, Research and Development
Best Medical International
7643 Fullerton Road
Springfield, VA 22153

#### Manny:

We have been implanting prostates with seeds for over eight years. During this time period we have considered implanting with strands of seeds. We have not done this for several reasons:

- Needing to cut the standard strands to fit our non-standard needle loading patterns.
- Chance of accidentally cutting a seed.
- Uncertainty in the spacing of seeds in needles with cut strands.
- Difficulty in auto-radiographing needles after cutting strands in a sterile environment.
- Longer exposure times while cutting the strands as opposed to loading the needles or using pre-loaded needles.
- Higher cost.
- Increased chance of trauma to the urethra from a strand perforation.

We have completed several prostate seed implants using your new pre-loaded, customized strand option. We have noticed many improvements in our prostate seed program:

- The ability to order unique seed-strand loading patterns per needle.
- Eliminating the need for cutting.
- · Accurate seed position in non-standard loadings.
- Pre auto-radiographed needles.
- Improved post implant seed distributions with the strands due to reduced migration.
- Reduction of the chance for urethra perforation with the use of pre-loaded "loose" seeds and spacers in needles surrounding the urethra.
- Unique loading of stranded seeds at the same cost as standard strand loading.
- Lower total occupational exposure with the pre-loaded and pre-sterilized needles.

Thank you for offering this innovation,

Jeff Limmer, MS Ed, MSc, DABR Chief Medical Physicist UW Cancer Centers Wausau and Wisconsin Rapids, WI



December 22, 2003

Mr. Krishnan Sunthanthiran, President BEST Medical International 7643-B Fullerton Road Springfield, VA 22153

Dear Mr. Sunthanthiran:

Ref: Quality of Services Provided By Best Medical International

I write this letter to confirm with you that my colleagues and I have been very pleased with the quality of services provided by the staff at Best Medical International.

The technical support provided by Mr. S. Ramaswamy has been excellent. He is very knowledgeable about the company products and has been accessible for consultations. In many instances, he has been instrumental in assisting us in the selection of equipment and/or fabricating of customized templates for the brachytherapy needs in our institution.

We also have found that the equipment from Best Medical International are very reliable. The integrity of the different catheters, different needles, and templates are very good. The accessibility of these instruments has made the practice brachytherapy easy for us. As such, we have continued to use equipment and instruments from Best Medical for many years. Today, we want to express to you our confidence in Best Medical products.

Whenever Ir-192 seeds are ordered, these sources have been delivered promptly to our institution. Furthermore, our institutional assay of Best Medical Ir-192 seeds show that the seed strengths are close to the stated values. In our opinion, Best Medical has an excellent quality control program.

You should congratulate your staff at Best Medical for a job well done.

Sincerely,

Cheng B Saw, Ph.D.

Deputy Director

Division of Medical Physics

Department of Radiation Oncology



Department of Radiation Oncology 1516 Jefferson Highway New Orleans, Louisiana 70121 Ph 504 842 3440 Fax 504 842 2037

September 25, 2002

Sankara I. Ramaswamy Director, Operations and Reg. Affairs Best Medical International 7643 Fullerton Road Virginia 22153

Dear Mr. Ramaswamy,

We have been using Palladium 103 seeds from Best Medical International for the prostate implant program here at Ochsner Clinic Foundation for about six months now. We are very pleased with the quality of your product and excellent calibration consistency. I am sending you a copy of a radiograph taken of one of our implants done here, which demonstrates visualization superiority of the Best Medical Pd-103 seeds compared to other vendors that we have tried here before.

This department has been using Best Medical supplies for our LDR and HDR programs for over fifteen years and the partnership has been very rewarding. Thanks again for excellent support over the years.

Best Regards,

Raj K. Mitra, M.S., DABMP Chief Medical Physicist

20 May 2002

Keeping Local Health Care Strong

Manny R. Subramanian, PhD Director of Research and Development BEST Medical International 7643 Fullerton Rd. Springfield, VA 22153

#### Manny:

After using the BEST 2301 Iodine-125 source exclusively for 18 months in our pre-loaded prostate seed delivery program, I would like to thank you for the consistent quality observed in our last 71 cases. I have found that the BEST seeds and company had a(n):

- 1. Average 0.6% difference from my measured S<sub>k</sub> vs. the manufacturers S<sub>k</sub>.
- 2. Intra-seed shipment variance of <5% (10 seeds or 10%, whichever is higher).
- 3. 100% seed count accuracy.
- 4. Delivery of the specific  $S_k$  for any given date, delivered on the date requested prior to the procedure.
- 5. Low price
- 6. Extremely high level of flexibility, e.g. seed date changes, activity changes, etc.
- 7. Prompt and courteous customer service.
- 8. Large average radial dose function and higher average anisotropy factor, allowing placement further from the rectum and the urethra.
- 9. Direct communication with the manufacturer without the "middleman" this allows input from the customer, which is often immediately implemented.
- 10. Easily identifiable attenuation on verification radiographs and CTs.
- 11. Free NIST-traceable calibration seeds.
- 12. 5.0mm length with free 5.0mm spacers for positioning accuracy.
- 13. No exclusivity agreements required.
- 14. Knowledge of the brachytherapy business honed over several decades of service.

I have also recently tried the preloaded - sterile needle option. This allows delivery of NIST-traceable-verified, auto-radiographed, pre-loaded needles specified to any loading pattern; using any needle of the customer's choice. This is an exciting option that has many advantages, including lower dose to the person loading the needle, better control of the radioactive material (e.g. during sterilization) for procedural safety, and time savings for brachytherapy personnel.

Cordially,

Jeff Limmer, MS Ed, MSc, DABR Radiation Oncology Physicist UW Cancer Center – Wausau WI

622 N203rd Court • Shoreline • WA 98133 • (206)610-4933 (page) • (206)713-2022 (cell)

July 15, 2001

To: Krishnan Suthanthiran Manny Subramanian, Ph.D. Sankara Ramaswamy Best Medical International 7643 Fullerton Road Springfield, VA 22153

Dear Krish, Manny and Rama,

I am writing to commend you all on the quality of the Palladium seeds that you have provided. I have used Best Pd-103 seeds for one implant case thus far, and I really like the construction and the physical look of the seeds. Physically, Best seeds have a different "glow" and are longer in length, making them quite distinct from other Palladium vendors. Radiographically, Best seeds also register better on x-ray and fluoroscopy than sources from other Palladium vendors.

I would like to sum up the "Best" Advantage with the following highlights:

- Best seeds are of superior design as they show up more distinctly on transverse ultrasound and fluoroscopic images. The improved visualization on ultrasound may prove to be very useful in providing post-implant quality assessment through real-time dosimetry.
- The 5mm seed and spacer design has allowed me a greater flexibility in optimizing prostate pre-plans. I frequently design special loaded needles with various seed to seed combinations to better conform to the shape of the prostate and to reduce the number of needles used. The seed and spacer lengths match the 5mm stepping intervals used in volume study; with various seed to seed combinations and extra spacers in the needles, the concern about seeds not positioned in the right plane is, therefore, greatly minimized.
- On the physics side, the calibration value (Best 0.444 uGy m<sup>2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> per pA) is very similar to that of Mentor (0.446 uGy m<sup>2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup> per pA), which assures me that Best Palladium seeds are manufactured according to industry standards and that comparable isodose distribution can be obtained with essentially the same amount of source activity. The added advantage is that no re-planning may be necessary if seeds are not immediately available from one vendor.
- The source strengths of Best Palladium seeds are well within the  $\pm$  6% criterion.
- The source container design is of superior quality. The glass vial fits comfortably into the broader base of the container and the whole assembly (minus the white cap) can be autoclaved without great fear of tipping over or damage to the container label. With other

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vendor's container, autoclaving can cause the paint and the label to become brittle, thus leading to peeling.

You have done a great job and I would continue using Best Palladium seeds. I will be delighted to be your source of reference should such a need arise.

Best Regards,

Khai Lai, MSNE, CNE, CMP

President

Kreitton Oncology Services, LLC

622 N203rd Court • Shoreline • WA 98133 • (206)546-3352 • (206)713-2022 (cell)

March 8, 2001

To: Krishnan and Ramaswamy Best Medical International 7643 Fullerton Road Springfield, VA 22153

Dear Krish and Rama,

I am writing to commend you all on the quality of the seeds that you have provided. I have been using Best I-125 seeds, model 2301, for several months, and I really like the construction and the physical look of the seeds. Physically and radiographically, they are quite distinct from other source vendors. I remembered I had three implant cases in one day in which I had Best I-125 seeds, Mentor Pd-103 and I-125 seeds. During sterilization (with a sterilization tray), one of the Best seeds jumped to the Mentor well and I was able to pick out that seed just by physical inspection.

I would like to sum up the "Best" Advantage with the following highlights:

- Best seeds are of superior design as they show up more distinctly on transverse ultrasound and fluoroscopic images. The improved visualization on ultrasound may prove to be very useful in providing post-implant quality assessment through real-time dosimetry.
- The 5mm seed and spacer design has allowed me a greater flexibility in optimizing prostate pre-plans. I frequently design special loaded needles with various seed to seed combinations to better conform to the shape of the prostate and to reduce the number of needles used. The seed and spacer lengths match the 5mm stepping intervals used in volume study; with various seed to seed combinations and extra spacers in the needles, the concern about seeds not positioned in the right plane is, therefore, greatly minimized.
- I encounter fewer problems loading Best seeds into the Mick magazines as the seeds fit snugly into them. When the seed is shorter, there is more free space between both tips of the seed and the side edges of the magazine, thus leading to greater chances of seed misalignment or seed engagement in the side groove.
- On the physics side, the calibration value is very similar to that of Mentor and Amersham, which facilitates pre-planning as higher activity seeds are not needed to obtain comparable isodose distribution. As with SourceTech and Imagyn seeds, higher activity seeds (about 10-20% higher) may have to be used to obtain dose-comparable plans.
- The source strengths of Best seeds are also more uniformly distributed. I usually assay about 30% of the seeds and the values always fall within the  $\pm$  3% criterion.

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- The accuracy of delivered source strength that falls within 2% of the ordered source strength, at least in my personal experience, gives testimony to the quality work that Best provides.
- The source container design is of superior quality. The glass vial fits snugly into the broader base of the container and the whole assembly (minus the black cap) can be autoclaved without great fear of tipping over or damage to the container label. With other vendor's container, autoclaving can cause the white paint and the label to become brittle, thus leading to peeling.

You have done a great job and I would continue using Best seeds. I will be delighted to be your source of reference should such a need arise.

Best Regards,

Khai Lai, MSNE, CNE

Medical Physicist and President

Kreitton Oncology Services, LLC

14 December 2000

Keeping Local Health Care Strong

Manny R. Subramanian, PhD Director of Research and Development BEST Medical International 7643 Fullerton Rd. Springfield, VA 221453

#### Manny:

I have good news and bad news. The bad news is that I had to meet with my previous radioactive seed representative and tell him I had to change seeds. I was given a charge to find the optimum seed at the lowest cost; with the increasing number of I 125 and Pd 103 distributors it was not a task that I looked forward to.

After looking at all of the leading seeds I have come to one conclusion, this is the good news, BEST had the best. Here are the criteria I used:

- 1. How did the dose delivery at distance vary along an "axial" cut due to the seed's construction, etc.?
- 2. How did the average anisotropy vary along a "coronal" dose distribution due to its construction, etc.?
- 3. How well is the seed visualized on a radiograph or CT image for verification, pre-planning, and post-planning?
- 4. How well did the seed lend itself to accurate placement with unequal combinations of spacers and seeds?
- 5. Can I order any activity for any implant date, or do I have to tailor my planning to what bin sizes are available from the manufacturer?
- 6. Does the company do a "batch calibration" or measure all seeds individually for apparent activity?
- 7. Is the company stable or likely to fold?
- 8. What is the customer service level?
- 9. Who has the lowest price?

What I found is that BEST came on top in so many categories that there was no doubt who we needed to order seeds from:

- The dose rate constant (cGy/Hr\*U) of the BEST seed and the higher than average radial dose function g(r) allows me to place seeds further away from the rectum and the urethra; I still get a uniform, prescribed dose and limit some of the unwanted effects.
- 2. More importantly, the higher average anisotropy factor  $\Phi_{an}$  also allows me to place BEST seeds further away from the rectum and the urethra. Seeds do rotate inside the patient; it is good to know that the dose distribution changes that could occur, as a result, are limited.
- 3. The BEST seeds were very easy to verify on radiograph and CT images, this is not the case with some of the other seeds.
- 4. A unique aspect of the BEST seed is its 5mm length. They also provide 5mm laser-cut spacers, which do not have flared edges. These are supplied at no extra cost. Typically the other seeds are 4.5mm and the spacers are 5.5mm. With the BEST seed / spacer combination we can be more confident of accurate seed placement – especially when a needle load calls for an unequal number of seeds and spacers.
- 5. I can order any Air Kerma Strength or I 125 apparent activity on any implant date and BEST will send me seeds that match that strength, typically +/-3%. Other companies do not do this.
- 6. BEST does a seed by seed apparent activity measurement, not a batch or a random sampling, of a seed order. Other companies do not do this.
- 7. BEST has been in the radioactive materials business for quite awhile. They are not new players to this game as some others are.
- 8. BEST has taken its time, it appears, from the evidence above to think about what the customer will want in a seed. Personal service, sending a free NIST-traceable seed for calibration, and engineering a really nifty seed holding device are additional examples of this. There was also no pressure to sign an exclusivity agreement.
- 9. All of this is done with a price per seed that is toward the bottom of the list. This is probably due to the elimination of the "middle-man".

Manny, thank you for this product. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Jeff Limmer, MS Ed, MSc Radiation Oncology Physicist

UW Cancer Center - Wausau WI

## FOX CHASE CANCER CENTER

Department of Radiation Oncology 7701 Burholme Avenue Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111 215 728 2581

October 17, 2000

Krishnan Suthanthiran, Meng President Best Medical International 7643 Fullterton Rd Springfield, VA 22153

Dear Krish,

As per our conversation earlier last week, I just completed a review of our implants using the Best Model 2301 Iodine-125 seeds done recently at our institution. We have done eight permanent prostate implants in the last few weeks using Best Model 2301 Iodine-125 seeds and the results have been very good. The policy of our institution is to assay 5% of all radioactive seeds and the assay of approximately 900 seeds used recently shows a deviation of less than 2% from the activity stated on the calibration certificate.

We have also used the new spacers from Best Industries for the last couple of implants. We use the SeedVac loading system from Standard Imaging and the quality of the spacers becomes an important factor. The manufacturing quality of your spacers is very impressive and the ease of loading the needles is greatly improved. I am enclosing a couple of radiographs showing the high quality of prostate implant achieved using the products from Best Industries.

I hope this provides you with some feedback on your recently introduced products. If there are any questions, please contact me directly.

Best Regards,

Raj K. Mitra, M.S., DABMP

### The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family

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#### RADIATION ONCOLOGY

Y.S. Ram Rao, M.D.
Diplomate American Board of Radiology
Associate Clinical Professor at
University of California, Irvine

Ellen E. Bellairs, M.D.

Diplomate American Board of Radiology

Pauling Chang, M.D.

Diplomate American Board of Radiology

Bouchaib Rabbani, Ph.D.
Diplomate American Board of Radiology
Diplomate American Board of Medical Physics
Clinical Professor Emeritus at
University of California, Irvine

Quan Nguyen, M.S.
Diplomate American Board of Radiology

Dale M. Payne, R.T. (R) (T)
American Registry of Radiologic Technology

September 11, 2000

Sankara I. Ramaswamy, M.Sc. Best Medical International 7643 Fullerton Road Springfield, VA 22153

Re: Best lodine 125 Seeds

Dear Rama:

I am sending you a copy of the post-op CT for a patient we did recently. What I can say is that Best seeds are nicely delineated in the CT with minimal metal interference, as you can appreciate from the images. We usually do not do MR scans on our seed patients but if you need it, I will be glad to arrange for it to be done for one patient.

The service you provide to us is excellent and we thank you for that, and please keep up the good work. If we can do any thing to help you, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Bouchaib Rabbani, Ph.D. Chief Medical Physicist

# FOX CHASE CANCER CENTER

Department of Radiation Oncology 7701 Burholme Avenue Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111 215 728 2885

August 25, 2000

Krishnan Suthanthiran President Best Medical International 7643 Fullerton Road Springfield, VA 22153

Dear Krish,

As per our conversation earlier, I am sending you some films of our last implant using the Best Model 2301 seed. We are seeing largely improved images using the 2301 seed compared to the other models used previously here – for Ultrasound, CT as well as MRI.

I am enclosing a AP Radiograph taken in the O.R immediately after the implant, as well as CT and MRI fused images taken at different levels through the prostate. There is a remarkable reduction in the artifacts from the seeds, enabling improved visualization of the prostate after the implant, on a CT scan. On the MRI images also, there is a remarkable improvement in identifying the spatial locations of the seeds, as you can see from the images enclosed.

I have enclosed some of the CT and MR high resolution images on a CDR. You can reproduce these images if you need to. If there are any questions, please contact me directly.

Best Regards,

Raj K. Mitra, M.S.

Show to

Department of Radiation Oncology

Fox Chase Cancer Center

R mitra@fccc.edu