MRI fusion biopsy in people with suspected prostate cancer (DAP 64)



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In response to the DAR consultation responses collated by NICE and sent to the EAG on 22/11/2022, the EAG provide the following erratum to the report. These amendments do not change the overall conclusions of the report.

1. Section 2.3.6: In response to comment #3, the EAG added information on micro-ultrasound page 40 from:

"The ExactVu device includes a FusionVu feature that enables software fusion biopsy."

To:

"The ExactVu device includes a micro-ultrasound (high-resolution ultrasound at >20MHz) and a FusionVu feature that enables software fusion biopsy."

The updated page 40 is reproduced below.

through a magnetic tracker, which is attached to the probe during freehand biopsies. The system can automatically adjust for patient movement, or the user can manually adjust the contours when a patient moves.

The BiopSee records all positions of the needle and shows the coverage of the prostate. Image measurements such as prostate and lesion volumes are also possible. The data is stored locally and can be connected to a PACS for import and export of images.

1.1.1 bkFusion (BK Medical UK Ltd and MIM Software Inc)

BK Medical UK Ltd offers three versions of bkFusion software: one for transrectal, one for freehand transperineal and one for stabilised transperineal biopsies. The software can be integrated into either the bk3000 or bk5000 ultrasounds. The bkFusion system uses rigid estimation to account for prostate deformation. Predictive Fusion software re-orientates the MRI image before the biopsy. The transrectal and freehand transperineal fusion systems comprises a magnetic field generator and sensor to track the probe position.

Image measurements such as prostate volume are possible. A detailed report of the biopsy can be saved locally, or transferred to a PACS.

1.1.2 Fusion Bx 2.0 (Focal Healthcare)

The Fusion Bx 2.0 is a biopsy device that includes a counter-balanced, semi-robotic arm that is mounted to a mobile cart. The Fusion Bx 2.0 comprises Fusion MR software which is compatible with third party ultrasounds. The system uses both elastic and rigid estimation to account for prostate deformation, and supports both transrectal and transperineal biopsies. Patient movements are tracked with sensors inside the semi-robotic arm.

The software allows image measurements such as prostate volume and distances can be calculated. Data on the biopsied samples and the regions of interest are recorded on a 3D image of the prostate. The system can connect to PACS using a wired Ethernet or Wi-Fi connection.

1.1.3 FusionVu (ExactImaging)

The ExactVu device includes a micro-ultrasound (high-resolution ultrasound at >20MHz) and a FusionVu feature that enables software fusion biopsy. A stabiliser arm or stepper is available for stabilised biopsies, and freehand biopsies are also possible. The system uses rigid estimation followed by real-time visualisation of the lesions using micro-ultrasound, and supports both transperineal and transrectal biopsies. The system tracks and adjusts for patient movement using data from a movement sensor together with the live ultrasound images.

2. Appendix 11: In response to comment #6, the EAG added information on the number of uses ("24") and the source ("Exact Imaging response to EAG RFI") for the FusionVu guide to Table 100 (page 348).

The updated page 348 is reproduced below.

BiopSee	Urologists/radiologists	Not described	3 hours	
	Nurses		1 hour	
Fusion Bx 2.0	Urologists, nurses and/ or sonographers	Video training	1 hour	
		Hands-on training with phantom prostate	0.5-0.75 hours	
		Support to clinical cases	10-20 casers over 2-3 days	

CNS, clinical nurse specialist; IT, Information Technology; ODP, Operating Department Practitioner; OPD, Outpatient department.

Table 1 Additional time of software fusion vs. cognitive fusion biopsy according to the companies

Fusion system	MRI contouring	Connect fusion system to ultrasound	Contouring ultrasound	
bkFusion	3 – 5 minutes	NR	*	
FusionVu	1 minutes	NR	10 seconds	
KOELIS Trinity	5 minutes	NR	5 minutes	
BiopSee	1-2 minutes	NR	<1 minute	
Fusion Bx 2.0	8 -10 minutes	30 seconds	5 – 10 minutes	

^{*}Company states that bkFusion does not require ultrasound contouring; NR, not reported

Table 2 Summary of information on the costs of transperineal needle positioning freehand devices in a previous DAR and from the companies' responses to RFIs

Device	Manufacturer	Compatible with	Cost of device	Number of uses	Reprocessing	Co- axial needle	Source
PrecisionPoint	BXTAccelyon	KOELIS Trinity, BiopSee, Fusion Bx 2.0	£206.16	1	-	-	Southampton DAR ¹²⁶ ; Inflated to 2020/2021 price year ¹⁶³
			£250.00	NR	NR	NR	KOELIS and Kebomed response to NICE and/or EAG RFI
			£350.00	NR	NR	NR	Focal Healthcare response to NICE and/or EAG RFI
			£150-£250	NR	NR	NR	Medcom response to NICE and/or EAG RFI
FusionVu guide	Exact Imaging	FusionVu	£1,333	24	-	-	Exact Imaging response to EAG RFI
EZU-PA3	Hitachi	?	£1971.66**	100***	£5.15	£22.06	Southampton DAR ¹²⁶ ; Inflated to 2020/2021 price year ¹⁶³