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I N T E R N A T I O N A L

## Bone Strength Measured in a 10-Second Scan

New bone densitometers rapidly and precisely measure the two primary diagnostic indicators of osteoporosis – bone mineral density and vertebral fractures.

In the United States, more women die from the effects of osteoporosis than from breast, uterine, and cervical cancer combined. However, 80% of women who need osteoporosis screening have not been tested and 30% of patients that are tested are

*cont'd on page 3*

## Kidney Function Panel Developed for Imaging Applications

A new kidney check panel has been designed specifically for imaging and radiology centers to determine the level of renal insufficiency prior to the injection of contrast agents for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) procedures.

Abaxis, Inc. (Union City, CA, USA; [www.abaxis.com](http://www.abaxis.com)), a manufacturer of point-of-care (POC) blood chemistry analysis systems, has developed the Kidney

Check Panel to be used in conjunction with the Piccolo xpress point-of-care analyzer. This panel contains creatinine (CRE) and urea nitrogen (BUN). As a result of prior U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) clearance on these two analytes, the panel is released as a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) waived panel.

\*Many contrast mediums currently

*cont'd on page 3*

## Alzheimer's Thought To Be a Third Form of Diabetes

A new discovery has raised the possibility that the memory loss in individuals suffering from Alzheimer's disease could indicate that it might be a novel third form of diabetes.

Researchers at Northwestern University (Chicago, IL, USA; [www.northwestern.edu](http://www.northwestern.edu)) studied synapses implicated in learning and memory mechanisms, using mature cultures of hippocampal neurons, both before and after a toxic protein called amyloid  $\beta$ -derived diffusile ligands (ADDLs) – found in the brains of individuals with Alzheimer's disease – were introduced. The researchers discovered that the toxic protein causes a rapid

*cont'd on page 3*



## Portable Digital Device Could Transform Bedside Patient Management

A digital mobile clinical assistant (MCA) system provides the missing link in hospital technology, allowing nurses and doctors to document a patient's condition, reducing their workload and increasing the quality of bedside care. The CliniScope was introduced by Philips Medical Systems at the recent World of Health IT annual congress, held in Vienna, Austria in October 2007.

The new system is based on a medical-grade and easy-to-clean handheld digital device that integrates a wide range of features into unique mobile

## New Technology for Safer, More Accurate Mammograms

A new ultra-high resolution mammography system that detects cancerous tumors with higher-quality images, more efficient radiation exposures, and lower cost has been developed by a team of U.S. and German scientists.

Radiography is the oldest and most frequently used method for detecting internal masses in medical imaging. It allows doctors to save lives by discovering cancerous tumors or irregularities early. "Better imaging technology is crucial in lowering deaths and increasing early diagnosis and prevention," said Dr. Jacqueline Johnson, a materials scientist in the nuclear engineering division at

*cont'd on page 3*

**INSIDE**

PAG. 24

## PRODUCT NEWS

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### MEDICAL LIGHTING SYSTEM Acem

The OT-Starled features high performance illumination, variable color temperature, and shadow reduction in the surgical field. Other key benefits include clear and sharp brightness at 160,000 lux, IR-free light without heat, and steady color rendering over time.

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### GASTRO WORKSTATION Bowa

The ARC 200 and the ARC Plus work together to create precision power output and proven argon plasma coagulation in flexible endoscopy. The two products offer a wide variety of applications in gastroenterology.

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### STEAM STERILIZERS KSG

Models available include the 116, the 118, and the flash sterilizer. All units are available in left or right execution, with a one-hand safety closure, and built-in steam generator. Six standard automatic programs are included, as well as many monitoring functions.

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### COLPOSCOPE Optomic

The OP-C2 features an inclined stereoscopic binocular head, a coaxial illumination system, and a halogen lamp with cooling system. Other key features include wide-field eyepieces, magnifications with objective, five-wheeled floor stand with brakes, and optional accessories.

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