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## **Enhanced breast imaging benefits patients/doctors**

*CADstream™ enhanced breast MRI now available at Canada Diagnostic Centres*

**Vancouver, BC** – Canadian women and their doctors facing difficult decisions about breast cancer diagnosis and treatment options now have the benefit of the most advanced imaging technology, Computer Aided Detection (CAD) enhanced breast MRI, available at Canada Diagnostic Centres (CDC) in Vancouver.

“By using the latest CAD technology in combination with breast MRI, we are able to determine and analyze more information about breast cancer than ever before,” said Dr. Ian Gardiner, a radiologist with CDC and director of Breast Imaging Education in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia. “The diagnosis is already traumatic – now we can help empower these women to make a more informed and very personal decision about the treatment options being recommended by their surgeons, such as whether to choose lumpectomy or mastectomy.”

Breast MRI is a specialized problem-solving tool that provides additional information about a known cancer or a suspicious area detected on a physical exam, mammogram or ultrasound. When used in conjunction with conventional techniques, breast MRI can provide valuable information for the detection and characterization of breast disease.

Breast MRI combined with CADstream™, a software program for breast cancer analysis, helps radiologists, surgeons and patients answer essential questions about diagnosis and treatment. CADstream™ software creates 3D images and detailed reports of a woman’s breasts for a clearer picture of what the cancer looks like, the precise location of the cancer, how big it is, whether there are other tumours, and whether there are unsuspected cancers in the other breast. CADstream™ is being showcased by its developer Confirma, Inc. at the Society of Breast Imaging 7<sup>th</sup> Postgraduate Course in booth 604 at the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre in Vancouver, May 25 to 28.

Breast cancer is a frequently diagnosed cancer in Canadian women. In 2005, an estimated 21,500 Canadian women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 5,300 will die of it. Every year, about 2,500 women in BC are diagnosed with breast cancer.

According to Dr. Bruce Forster, CDC's medical director, director of MRI at UBC Hospital and director of UBC's Comprehensive MRI Fellowship program, CADstream™ enhanced breast MRI does not replace breast cancer screening and diagnosis by mammography, ultrasound, or clinical examinations.

“As with all cancers, early detection remains our best defense,” said Dr. Forster. “For example, the best tool we have for early detection breast cancer for the woman at average risk is screening mammography.”

“But once a diagnosis of breast cancer has been made, CADstream™ enhanced MRI is the best tool for helping us find the precise site of the cancer's origin, understanding the characteristics of the tumour, and whether the cancer is in one or both breasts.”

Founded in 1993, Canada Diagnostic Centres ([www.canadadiagnostic.com](http://www.canadadiagnostic.com)) is a private medical imaging centre, that provides MRI and CT scans to the general public and third parties in Vancouver and other locations across Canada. Canada Diagnostic Centres provides quick access to the highest standard of quality for preventative and diagnostic scanning, while maintaining excellent customer service and patient care. Canada Diagnostic Centres uses the most scientifically advanced equipment, optimizing patient comfort and ensuring accuracy of image interpretation.