

Innovative surgical education based on groundbreaking technology

Europe premiere at SGU congress 2010 in Lausanne



„For more than 50 years now, we are training surgeons and have seen many different training methods come and go. The TURPSim™ developed by VirtaMed AG beats all existing training tools with regards to realism and a broad selection of exercises.

We are confident that the development of virtual reality simulators will revolutionize medical education.“

Andreas Anklin
Managing Director Anklin AG

The new training simulator for transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP) developed by VirtaMed AG has been presented for the first time at SGU congress 2010 in Lausanne. In collaboration with Anklin AG, the Swiss company is committed to offering the best training methods available in surgical education. In virtual reality, young surgeons can learn all necessary skills and conduct complete TURP procedures. Didactic tutorials, videos of expert interventions as well as objective feedback after each training prepare surgeons perfectly for their first time in the OR.

The TURPSim™ is the latest member of the product family for endoscopic training. Just recently launched by the young Swiss Start-up VirtaMed AG, the simulator is a breakthrough in the field of training TURP interventions, which is seen as the gold standard in treating benign prostate hyperplasia.

The prototype has been presented at the meeting of the American Urological Association (AUA) in San Francisco. Now, the Europe premiere followed at SGU congress in Lausanne from September 1 – 3, 2010.

„In our collaboration with Anklin AG, both companies pursue a common goal: Enhance patient safety and improve the quality of health care.

It is our philosophy to take clinical performance to the next level. Therefore, it is impressive to see how Anklin AG stands up for optimal surgical education.“

Dr. Stefan Tuchs Schmid
CEO VirtaMed AG

Direct comparison between virtual simulation and reality

Left:
Simulation on TURPSim™

Right:
Real picture from the OR

Groundbreaking quality for first class medical education

In addition to detailed didactic material, instructive videos and objective feedback after each procedure, the hands-on training on the TURPSim™ is especially valuable. The simulator offers a realistic platform to train basic skills such as correct visualization of the critical anatomic landmarks (verumontanum, bladder neck and ureteral orifices) or coagulation of bleedings. At the same time, it provides a wide range of anatomic features and pathologies, e.g. small and large prostates with hyperplasia of the median lobe or the two side lobes. And special challenges such as difficult entry can also be trained.

Practical training facilitates the step from virtual reality into the OR

Doctors-in-training gain security and the necessary skills to perform complete TURP procedures on the simulator. As they use original tools such as resectoscope and foot pedals, they are able to translate their knowledge 100% into OR competence. Operative complications like strong bleedings or fluid overload are part of the training. That way, young surgeons obtain both the theoretical and practical skills to be able to achieve best possible results when they perform on live patients.



VirtaMed AG – Realistic Simulators for medical education

VirtaMed is a Swiss company with an interdisciplinary background in medicine and engineering. Our mission is to develop state-of-the-art training tools for endoscopic surgery of highest possible realism, all with the ultimate goal to improve the quality of patient care. VirtaMed's virtual reality simulators provide instructional teaching and training of different diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopic interventions. The first simulator has been developed at the ETH Zurich and other Swiss universities as part of a large research effort involving 16 PhD students for a combined 24 years of research. Today, many teaching institutions and medical device companies use VirtaMed's simulators globally for education and hands-on training.

Anklin AG – Competence due to experience and personal commitment

Endoscopic equipment needs consulting and service which rely on high competence and expertise as well as confidence. Anklin AG is specialized in the field of medical devices for endoscopy since 1954 and is today one of the leading companies in Switzerland. The long-time experience and personal commitment of the two brothers Andreas and Thomas Anklin and their reliable team of about 35 employees offer an ideal support with extended service benefits. Right from the start, Anklin AG had a partnership with KARL STORZ GmbH & Co. KG, the global leader in rigid endoscopy, which guarantees continuous enhancements and up-to-date technology.