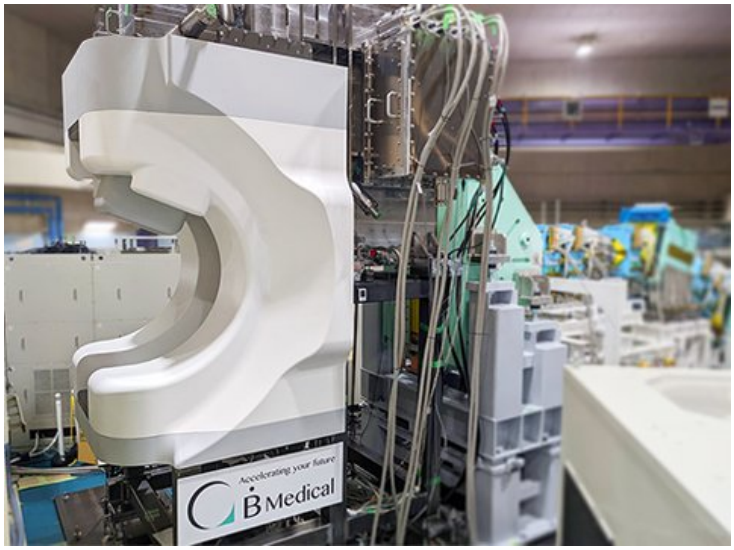
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ASIA EDITION

B dot Medical responds to growing needs for urban-type proton therapy in Thailand

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Japan's B dot Medical to install ultra-compact proton therapy system at Thammasat University in Thailand



Japanese firm B dot Medical Inc. and Thammasat University, a leading national university in Thailand, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to install the ultra-compact proton therapy system developed by B dot Medical.

The agreement encourages installing the advanced cancer treatment system in Thailand, where the population profile is ageing at the fastest pace among major ASEAN countries. The agreement provides B dot Medical an opportunity to expand proton therapy further in the global market.

The MoU was realised through a sales alliance with Olba Healthcare Holdings, Inc., a leading medical device distributor in Japan. Olba Healthcare established a subsidiary in Thailand, THAI OLBA Healthcare Co. in 2023 in anticipation of the growing healthcare industry in that region.

The space needed for a conventional large-scale proton therapy system is an issue due to the high population density of Bangkok, as approximately 1/5 of the country's total population is concentrated in that area. Therefore, there is only one facility for proton therapy in Thailand as of 2023. B dot Medical's ultra-compact proton therapy system, one of the smallest in the world, is suitable for placement in such urban areas. This breakthrough prompted Thammasat University to go forward with proton therapy.

Thammasat University will be celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2024. A new hospital ward in the university is planned to mark the milestone, with the therapy project also highlighted. The clinical trial required for the sale of a proton therapy system in Thailand will be led by Thammasat University. The three-party collaboration will allow the partners to work closely together for the success of the project, marking this as the starting point for the advancement of proton therapy in the global market.