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vRad Breast Imaging Team FDA-Certified and Accredited to Read and Interpret Digital Tomosynthesis

Fellowship-trained Breast Imaging Specialists to Expand 3D Mammogram Services in 2016, Following Successful Pilot Client Program

MINNEAPOLIS, MN—(October 21, 2015) vRad (Virtual Radiologic), an affiliate of MEDNAX, Inc. (NYSE: MD) and the nation's leading telemedicine company and radiology practice, announced that its team of fellowship-trained breast imaging specialists are now FDA-certified and accredited to read and interpret 3D mammograms. Also known as digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT), these reading services will be accessible to all clients in early 2016, following the completion of a successful client pilot program, including Medical Center Hospital based in Odessa, Texas.

"Early detection is the best defense we have today against breast cancer, and tomosynthesis makes certain abnormalities easier to see and classify with greater accuracy," said Carol Evans, Director of Radiology, Medical Center Hospital. "Having on-demand access to a vRad team of 3D-certified mammographers benefits our patients and our practice. vRad continues to be an innovative partner, now providing state-of-the-art breast imaging services that enhance our quality of care and relevance to our referring physicians and hospital relationships."

With traditional 2D mammography, images of breast tissue can be hazy, making it difficult to see early cancers. 3D mammography converts digital breast images into a stack of "slices"—building a 3-dimensional image (i.e., similar to CT scans), allowing radiologists to look at breast tissue in greater detail. Such detail provided can help find smaller, more lethal and invasive cancers in dense breast tissue that may go unseen with traditional methods.

"DBT is an important advance because it can potentially reduce false positives that lead to callbacks (i.e., when there is an abnormal or suspicious finding)," said Melissa D. Fana, MD, a fellowship-trained breast surgical oncologist at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital and Medical Center in Patchogue New York. "Additional testing and biopsies can be stressful, so any screening method that can reduce additional invasive procedures is good for women's health and the healthcare system."

"3D mammography is the best advancement I have seen in breast imaging in over 20 years of focusing on women's health," said Arlene Sussman, MD, Medical Director and the director of vRad's Breast Imaging Program. "As a radiologist, I am encouraged by the clinical benefits I see in my daily interpretations. Details previously hidden are now more visible, allowing physicians to detect more with greater ease. As a woman and a prospective patient, I am also encouraged by how digital tomosynthesis is less stressful and more women-friendly as a screening procedure. That's why my future mammograms will only be done using digital tomosynthesis."

Dr. Sussman is a highly regarded breast imaging specialist and leading voice on breast cancer and breast health issues. She lectures frequently about breast imaging within oncology and DBT. A graduate of Cornell University Medical College, Dr. Sussman has trained at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital and New York University Hospital. She previously served as director of the Department of Radiology, Outpatient Division at Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and as director of Women's Imaging at Winthrop University Hospital.

A sampling of published studies outlining 3D mammography benefits include:

- a 2014 study in *JAMA*, which concluded that "The addition of tomosynthesis to digital mammography was associated with a decrease in recall rate and an increase in cancer detection rate."
- a 2013 study in *Radiology*, which concluded that "The use of mammography plus tomosynthesis in a screening environment resulted in a significantly higher cancer detection rate and enabled the detection of more invasive cancers."
- a 2014 study in *American Journal of Roentgenology*, which concluded that "In community-based radiology practice, mammography screening with 3D DBT yielded lower recall rates, an increased CDR (cancer detection rate) for cancer overall, and an increased CDR for invasive cancer compared with 2D DM."

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About vRad

vRad (Virtual Radiologic) is a leading outsourced radiology physician services and telemedicine company with over 350 U.S. board-certified and eligible physicians, 75% of whom are subspecialty trained. It is an affiliate of MEDNAX, Inc. (NYSE: MD), a national medical group specializing in neonatal, anesthesia, maternal-fetal, pediatric cardiology and other pediatric physicians services.

The company interprets nearly 6 million patient studies annually—and processes over 1.5 billion images on the world's biggest and most advanced teleradiology PACS—for its 2,100+ client hospital, health system and radiology group facilities. A winner of Frost & Sullivan's Visionary Innovation Award for Medical Imaging Analytics (North America) and a leader in imaging analytics, vRad provides access to the only radiology patient care benchmarking platform (vRad RPC^{SM} Index) with 33.7 million+ normalized imaging studies. vRad's clinical expertise and evidence-based insight help clients make better decisions for the health of their patients and their imaging services. For more information about the company, please visit www.vrad.com. Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

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