

Report from the opening of a new PET-CT-NMR centre in Cracow, Poland, June 10, 2011

A new centre, which was opened in June 2011 within the area of the military clinical hospital in Cracow, is the first PET-CT centre in Malopolskie Province and also the first unit in Poland that combines positron emission tomography with magnetic resonance. The centre is equipped with the most modern PET-CT scanner and 3.0T. NMR. Both PET and NMR studies can be performed on one patient with no necessity of transferring the patient to another bed. The software allows for fusion of PET-CT-NMR tests, and molecular-anatomical-functional scans to be performed.

The modern out-patient department, in which the diagnostic centre is located, hardly resembles the old mouldy military utility building. Spacious rooms, glass, wood, stone, friendly colours, and pleasant interiors are abundant in the impressive building, which was renovated under the supervision of a monument restorer. This provides a great background for modern diagnostics and at the same time ensures a comfortable stay for the patients.

The investment was implemented by the Voxel Company with the support of a European Union grant within the Innovative Economy Operational Programme. The project also involves plans to install a cyclotron and open a centre of radiopharmaceutical production as well as a radiochemical laboratory.



Artur Stępień is explaining the rules of conducting PET-CT tests to Bogdan Klich, Defence Minister. Photo: Voxel

The head of the centre is Artur Stępień, MD, PhD — a specialist in nuclear medicine, who performs PET-CT tests, among others, under contract with the National Health Fund.

Eugeniusz Dziuk