After decades of perfecting technology developed by the U.S. Military, Convergent launched the T-1470 ProTouch giving physicians a single laser with the ability to perform multiple urological procedures. At the SUFU 2014 Winter Meeting, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital Department of Urology presented research demonstrating the safety and efficacy of the ProTouch for lower urinary tract procedures (prostates of 35 men, ages 55-84, were enucleated), urethral sphincterotomies and laser fulguration of the bladder.1

“The Pulsed 1470nm wavelength of the ProTouch is optimally positioned between the holmium and the KTP. Its multiple absorption coefficients provide exceptional hemostasis with minimal adjacent tissue destruction better than either of those lasers. We found the “on-contact” properties to be unmatched by any other laser at this point.” said Akhil K. Das, M.D., SUFU presenter and Assistant Professor at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. Dr. Das has performed enucleation techniques for 15 years and published extensively on the topic.

“It’s like a “Bovie” on a tip of a laser fiber,” said Paul Arnold, M.D., F.A.C.S., Chief of Staff at Florida Hospital North Pinellas, “only it coagulates better with less unwanted collateral tissue damage.” Dr. Arnold is one of the first four urologists to participate in ProTouch clinical trials. “The huge advantage of this laser is that it allows urologists to perform surgery without bleeding—enabling a clear field and controlled operation.”

Ability to Perform Multiple Procedures with a Single Laser
The ProTouch is changing the paradigm for urologic laser therapy—using one device, urologists can now perform both ablation and enucleation procedures, as
well as Convergent’s simplified combination Modified Enucleation with Lateral Lobe Ablation (MELA) procedure.

James E. Rotolo, M.D., F.A.C.S., Georgetown-trained and currently Chief of Urology at Ocean Medical Center shared his experience treating symptomatic BPH with the ProTouch. “The shallow depth of penetration of the ProTouch prevents injury to the nerve endings and very reliably preserves sexual potency. It enucleates tissue circumferentially in a very comfortable fashion and allows thorough opening of the prostatic urethra. The end result has been as good as a suprapubic prostatectomy.”

The ProTouch also offers SuperPulse technology, which provides lower average power settings, maximized off-times with short high peak power pulses and temperature control. Dr. Das, who has done urethral sphincterotomies on neurologically impaired patients, said “the advantages of using this laser with urethral sphincterotomies, is that there is a SuperPulse mode which allows tissue to cool between pulses to control and minimize collateral tissue damage [Theory of Selective Photothermolysis] and is ideal for urethral management. This is clearly observed without bleeding. Patients did not require transfusion or irrigation afterwards—offering a huge advantage for patients, too.”

Reduced Operating Costs
The initial investment cost of the ProTouch laser is less expensive than competitors and, based on his clinical experience performing ProTouch procedures, Dr. Das said that training costs appear lower, too. “It’s easy to learn how to use the ProTouch.”

The ProTouch runs on any standard 110V wall plug and can be used in an office-based, surgery center, as well as hospital-based operating environments for soft tissue procedures such as T-LAP, T-LEP, MELA, Partial Nephrectomies and more… “The system is light weight and mobile. There’s no need for special equipment, such as special glasses or lens, and ProTouch laser fibers are inexpensive.” Dr. Arnold said.

Improved Patient Outcomes—and Patient Satisfaction
Post-operatively, patients treated with the ProTouch experience less irritative symptoms, re-bleeding, dysuria, and burning—common side effects reported with photovaporization of the prostate.

“I have used the ProTouch on glands exceeding 100 grams and have been very satisfied with the end result. My patients are uniformly pleased.” Dr. Rotolo noted.

“The end firing probe of the ProTouch results in a better quality recovery period for patients.” Dr. Das said.

For more information about the T-1470 ProTouch laser, please call Convergent at 1-800-848-8200, or visit www.convergentlaser.com.

References: