

Binley's NHS Guide
Winter-Spring 2010

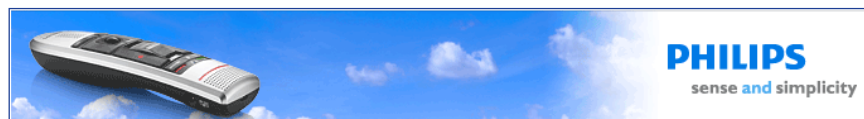


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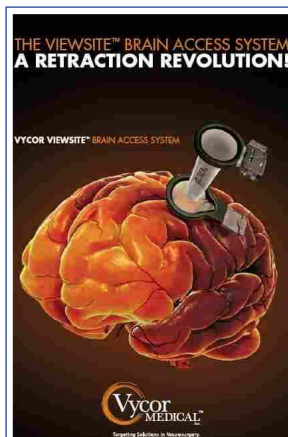
Company unveils the first major innovation in neurosurgical retraction equipment in the past 80 years

INNOVATION in the healthcare equipment sector continues, with news this week of one of the biggest redesigns of neurosurgical retraction equipment to happen in a century.

Vycor Medical has launched its new ViewSite Brain Access System (VBAS), which has been designed to enhance performance, quality of life and surgical results, impacting hundreds of thousands of patients every year.

A Vycor spokesman told *HES*: "Most people are shocked to learn that neurosurgical retraction technology has not significantly changed in nearly a century. Where other forms of diagnostic and operative procedures have evolved in leaps and bounds, this crucial area of surgery has remained virtually unchanged, to the detriment of patients, physicians and surgical facilities alike. We have single-handedly changed that with a solution which we believe is nothing short of a biotech breakthrough.

"VBAS is the first significant neurosurgery retraction device redesign in more than 80 years and offers a less-invasive way to access surgical locations and perform critical procedures with minimal damage to surrounding brain tissue, thus minimising collateral trauma and accelerating post-operative recovery. Given the estimated 600,000 brain surgeries conducted annually around the globe, this is a very significant and sizeable problem that VBAS is directly and aggressively addressing."



VBAS marks one of the first major innovations in the sector for nearly a century

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The device has already won the backing of neurosurgeons, having been tested in around 800 procedures.

One of those to have used it is Ezriel E Kornel of the Westchester Medical Center in New York. He said: "Reaching deep-seated gliomas was simplified with this system. Not only was I able to reach them with great accuracy when melded with the frameless guidance system, but access was rapid and there was excellent visibility of the pathology. The corticotomy was minimised and the amount of cortical retraction was

also reduced, with the retraction pressure being distributed evenly around the entire corticotomy margin. Once the retractor was removed the cortex looked remarkably healthy and there was little need to change the amount of retraction or reposition. I look forward to utilising the system for all my sub-cortical and deep-seated cranial lesions in the future."

Konstantin Slavin, from the University of Illinois in Chicago, added that, while the system was originally designed for the removal of deep sub-cortical tumours, he had also used it to access and evacuate intracerebral haematomas.

He said: "I and my team of residents were pleased to discover the ease of use and unique visualisation and illumination of the surgical field the system delivers. The tubular nature of the retractor allows one to rotate it and change the angle of the approach without putting extra pressure on the brain tissue that inevitably occurs when using malleable or any other ribbon-type retractors."

[Vycor Medical](#)

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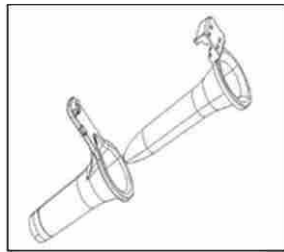
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*VBAS has been tested and welcomed
by some of the top neurosurgeons in the
world*

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