

SONAS™:

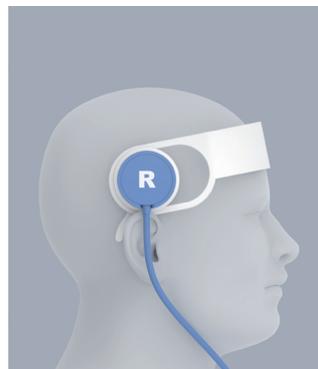
Prehospital Stroke Diagnosis Using Ultrasound

SONAS™ is a portable, battery-powered ultrasound device developed by San Diego based BURL Concepts, Inc. for detecting strokes in a prehospital environment, such as emergency vehicles (eg. ambulances, helicopters).

To date, there is no diagnostic device which allows the detection of a stroke at the place where the patient is afflicted. Every minute the patient is kept from treatment, 2,000,000 brain cells die irreversibly. "Time is Brain !"



It is critical to have immediate information whether a patient might suffer from a major stroke or not. Neuro-interventional procedures, for example, which are recommended by the American Heart & Stroke Association for major, embolic strokes, can only be performed in specialized centers. Hence, to gain knowledge whether a patient might suffer from a major stroke at the earliest time point possible is of great importance.



ULTRASOUND TECHNOLOGY

In comparison to commercially available diagnostic ultrasound systems the SONAS™ device is a low energy device. Different from conventional diagnostic ultrasound, SONAS™ is not an imaging system.

MICROBUBBLES

It works in combination with commercially available FDA approved ultrasound imaging contrast agents, so called 'Microbubbles', which are administered intravenously.

Microbubbles are not FDA approved for its use with SONAS™ for the purpose of stroke detection.

HARMONIC FREQUENCIES

low energy ultrasound pulses are transmitted non-invasively through the skull causing the circulating microbubbles to respond with the emission of certain frequencies, so called 'Harmonic Frequencies'.

ADVANCED SIGNAL PROCESSING

Utilizing advanced transducer and analog receiver designs, combined with patent pending advanced signal detection capabilities, the SONAS™ device reliably detects if a patient has experienced a stroke or not.

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