



BioProducts

New products in the marketplace.



Migraine Headband

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved Cefaly, a battery-powered plastic headband worn across the forehead and atop the ears with a self-adhesive electrode intended to prevent the throbbing pain associated with migraines that can be prescribed in the U.S. for patients 18 and older. The device, which is designed to be worn for 20 minutes or less per day, applies an electric current to the skin and underlying body tissues to stimulate branches of the trigeminal nerve, which has been associated with migraine headaches. The user may feel a tingling or massaging sensation where the electrode is applied.

Cefaly was approved based on a clinical study of 67 migraine sufferers conducted in Belgium. Those who used the device experienced “significant fewer” migraines than those who used a placebo, and they used less medication to treat the migraines when they got them. However, the device didn’t eliminate migraines altogether, nor did it make them less severe. In another study, 53 percent of participants were satisfied enough with Cefaly that they would purchase it for future use, while others complained they didn’t like the feeling while wearing it, felt sleepy or experienced headache after treatment. No serious side effects were reported. **Cefaly Technology, (514) 326-7780, www.cefaly.ca**

CDC Vaccine Schedules app

The CDC Vaccine Schedules app for clinicians and other immunization providers visually mimics the printed recommended immunization schedules and footnotes, which are reviewed and published annually. The free tool provides the most current version of the child and adolescent schedules with immunization recommendations from birth through age 18; the catch-up schedule for children 4 months through 18 years; the adult schedule, including recommended vaccines for adults by age group and by medical condition; and a contraindications and precautions table, with all footnotes that apply to schedules. Any changes in the schedules will be released through app updates. Features of the app include color coding coordinates with printed schedules, a hyperlinked vaccine name that opens as a pop-up with dose specifics, a catch-up schedule for children that shows minimum dosing intervals, and related vaccine resources and websites. The app requires iOS 5.0 or later, it is compatible with the iPhone, iPad and iPod touch, and it is optimized for the iPhone 5.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (800) 232-4636, www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/schedule-app.html#download



Melanoma Scanner

MelaFind is designed for dermatologists to use in their efforts to detect melanoma at the most curable stage. It is a handheld tool approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for multispectral analysis of tissue morphology. The MelaFind optical scanner is not for definitive diagnosis but rather to provide additional information a doctor can use in determining whether to order a biopsy. The goal is to reduce the number of patients left with unnecessary biopsy scars, with the added benefit of eliminating the cost of unnecessary procedures. The MelaFind technology uses missile navigation technologies originally paid for by the Department of Defense to optically scan the surface of a suspicious lesion at 10 electromagnetic wavelengths. The collected signals are processed using heavy-duty algorithms and matched against a registry of 10,000 digital images of melanoma and skin disease.

Mela Sciences, (855) 635-2345, www.melafind.com