New procedure for the treatment of neuroendocrine tumours at the Clinical Center of the UP

The incidence of neuroendocrine tumours is rapidly increasing worldwide. Neuroendocrine tumours of gastrointestinal-pancreatic origin account for about 75% of all neuroendocrine tumours. Such tumours can produce large amounts of endocrine disrupting substances, which cause patients to suffer from so-called "carcinoid seizures". Lutathera, a treatment for patients with this disease, has been registered as a treatment for advanced, inoperable, metastatic neuroendocrine tumours.

This treatment was not previously available in our country, patients requiring this therapy could receive treatment in centres abroad, mainly in Switzerland and Germany.

"It is a gratifying step forward that thanks to the cooperation of several disciplines, such as nuclear medicine, oncology and endocrinology, and with the active participation of the Clinical Center of the UP, public health insurance funding for this treatment has become available in Hungary," said Dr. Andor Sebestyén, President of the Clinical Center of the UP.

Dr. Emese Mezősi, Head of the Department, added: "In collaboration with the Department of Nuclear Medicine, the first Lutathera radiation isotope treatment was performed on 18th August 2022 on a 71 year old patient at the Department of Internal Medicine I of the Clinical Center of the UP, without complications.

In the future, this treatment could offer many patients nationwide the chance of a longer life and a better quality of life," she said.