



## Biopsy equipment in regular use since installation at King's College

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has celebrated the first anniversary of the arrival of its Hologic MultiCare Platinum prone stereotactic biopsy equipment.

Clinical specialist in the breast radiology department Viv Milnes said: "Due to the system's ability to deal with small microcalcifications, the MultiCare unit is used most days. Our mammography staff find the equipment reliable and easy to use. Patients find that the additional Maximum Comfort Package, with a collection of ergonomically designed cushions, enables a difficult examination to be accomplished with the minimum amount of discomfort. Cushions

provide targeted pressure point support for all body types."

The system offers pinpoint accuracy, precision guidance technology and 360 degree accessibility due to the C-arm's positioning angle capability.

Hologic's breast health sales specialist John McMahon commented: "The equipment replaced an ageing prone table and the department wanted to install equipment on a like-for-like basis. We were delighted they selected the MultiCare unit which, along with a number of other pieces of Hologic mammography equipment, is maintained by our dedicated service team."

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**Clinical specialist Viv Milnes, Hologic breast health sales specialist John McMahon, mammographers Eden Manuel and Susana Leonardo, trainee mammographer Brooke Herbert and breast care nurse Janet Sedgewick.**

## Simple adjustment to MRI could sharpen images of cancers

Researchers at The Institute of Cancer Research, London, have found it is possible to compensate for the movement of tumours caused by a patient's breathing during scans taken by MRI.

The team analysed MRI data using the median organ position, which excludes extreme positions outside typical organ movement, instead of the mean position that is calculated by current systems. They found that changes in the collection and processing of images made the final image sharper and more accurate, potentially improving the quality of the information provided to doctors, without requiring new equipment. The technique could even shorten scanning time.

Published in *Physics in Medicine and Biology*, the study was funded by Cancer Research UK, with support from the EPSRC Cancer Imaging Centre, the NIHR Biomedical Research Centre and Clinical Research Facility at The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust and the ICR, and Siemens.

ICR scientists scanned 10 healthy subjects with diffusion-weighted MRI and recorded a series of images of their abdomens over a period of 10 minutes, measuring respiratory motion in three directions. Observations from two experienced observers consistently rated the median-calculated images as visually sharper than those produced using the mean. The median calculated images decreased blurring of physiological features within tissue, while making no difference to images of non-moving structures such as the spine.

Calculating median organ position requires storing each MRI measurement separately, but needs minimal extra data storage, so it should be possible to improve MRI image quality using standard equipment with no added hardware.

ICR MR lead professor Martin Leach said: "While other image optimisation techniques exist for MRI, using the median is a simple way to improve image quality, with none of the drawbacks of other options."

## Teleradiology service keeps accreditation

Teleradiology reporting company 4Ways Healthcare has achieved ISAS re-accreditation and says it is the only teleradiology company in the UK to have achieved such accreditation. ISAS was jointly developed by the Royal College of Radiologists and the College of Radiographers.

RCR president Dr Giles Maskell said: "On behalf of the RCR and the CoR, we would like to congratulate 4Ways Healthcare on re-accreditation of its imaging service. We recognise that it is no mean feat to retain this status."

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**INQUIRY REF 479013**



**Dr Alice Leahy with the Esaote MyLab Gamma.**

## Steroid injections in young patients are more effective with ultrasound guidance

Southampton General Hospital has acquired an Esaote MyLab Gamma portable ultrasound scanner to take imaging facilities into the community for paediatric patients in the region.

In 2011 the first paediatric rheumatology outreach clinic was set up to offer the same level of specialised care as available at Southampton General Hospital. The hospital has become the regional centre for paediatric rheumatology and now runs outreach clinics in Basingstoke, Winchester, Poole, Salisbury, Dorchester, Chichester and Worthing, with three more to open in the next 12 months.

"The Esaote MyLab Gamma offers the best greyscale resolution and Doppler," said consultant paediatric rheumatologist Dr Alice Leahy. "We need the Doppler sensitivity of a high end diagnostic machine. With the other systems we evaluated when we used Doppler we lost greyscale resolution while with the MyLab Gamma it was consistent."

The portable machine will allow the number of outreach clinics to double and will offer young people the same access to treatment by paediatric rheumatologists as at Southampton General Hospital. One of the key treatments is steroid injections and performing these under ultrasound guidance is much more effective than performing them blind, potentially leading to effectiveness being improved from three to six months up to one or two years.

**INQUIRY REF 479032**

## IOCM profile adds to XDS functionality of updated PACS

Fujifilm has launched a new generation Synapse PACS solution, providing XDS consumer functionality and support of the Imaging Object Change Management (IOCM) profile as standard.

Version 4.3.220 was released in December and incorporates the IOCM IHE profile, adding to the XDS consumer functionality already inherent in Synapse PACS.

IOCM is an IHE integration profile for managing and synchronising Dicom objects across data repositories. Generally known as an image lifecycle management profile, IOCM specifies how one actor communicates local changes applied on existing imaging objects to other actors that manage copies of the modified imaging objects in their own local systems. The supported changes include the deletion of images, series or an entire study from PACS.

Product manager Opey Olorunlero said: "Fujifilm has once again demonstrated why it is renowned as a market leader in product innovation. It adopts a standards-based approach to product development across its imaging informatics portfolio, enabling interoperability with other hospital systems."

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