The world’s first ultra high frequency (UHF) ultrasound system designed for clinical applications – the Vevo MD – has been approved for clinical use in Europe.

- Cloud-based RIS/PACS systems providing rapid reporting and image delivery
- Occupational burnout among radiographers, sonographers and radiologists in Australia and New Zealand: findings from a national survey
- Reduction in Contrast Induced Nephropathy from Coronary Invasive Procedures Using Ultra-Low Contrast Delivery Technique Based on Automatic Injector
- Software for reliable breast density measurements
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MRI LINKS STRUCTURAL BRAIN CHANGES AND COGNITIVE DECLINE IN PARKINSON’S
Reliable breast density measurements

For over 100 years, Punxsutawney Area Hospital in Pennsylvania, USA has been committed to providing the best care for patients in the three-county area of western Pennsylvania. The 49-bed rural hospital sees about 17,000 patients per year with its radiologists reading approximately 225 mammograms each month. Being in the state of Pennsylvania, the hospital is legally obliged to inform patients of their breast density status but recognized that the breast density measurement method they used previously was not providing consistent, reproducible results, so they decide to adopt the iReveal system from iCAD.

Punxsutawney Area Hospital first implemented a volumetric breast density solution over three years ago to help standardize the assessment of reporting breast density. Although breast density can change as a woman ages, the hospital realized that the method they were using at the time was providing inconsistent results on patients whose tissue appeared unchanged.

“We had instances where a patient would have a mammogram screening and receive a breast density value from our previous vendor software only to come back for a follow up and receive a completely different number,” said Jason Stiver, radiology department manager at PAH. Not only was this technology costing the hospital valuable dollars each month, more importantly, it was not assisting PAH’s radiologist in providing top of the line care – its sole intended purpose,” Stiver recalls.

In the state of Pennsylvania, hospitals are required by law to inform patients of their breast density values. However, they are actually not required to have a software program for calculating breast density. Despite the issues with its former technology, PAH still recognized the value in having a breast density software solution in conjunction with its radiologist’s expert opinion to ensure legal compliance.

Therefore, the hospital and its radiologist soon went on a search to find the most accurate solution possible. In October 2015, PAH implemented iCAD’s iReveal at its facility.

With “literally no learning curve” according to Stiver, PAH was up and running on iReveal within a day. “There was no user training required. It’s all very point blank and automated and gives you all the data you need,” he said.

In addition to the seamless integration, PAH’s radiologist was also able to quickly provide his patients with a more accurate diagnoses and better quality care with iReveal’s “appearance-based” approach.

“I am extremely pleased with iReveal, as the solution’s clinical support decision scorecard is extremely accurate and helps me make more informed decisions,” said PAH’s radiologist, Dr. Omar Khalaf Al-Tawil. “For example, if a patient’s scan comes back in between two possible categories and I have to make an executive decision on whether to report the density as one or the other, I can refer to the plus/minus scale on the iReveal reveal score and get a clearer picture on which way the result is leaning.”

Now, after implementing iReveal, PAH has already seen great benefits. It is confident that its health IT investment is generating a positive ROI and can consistently provide first time and follow up patients with accurate breast density results. Further, when marketing itself to referring providers in the community, the hospital always mentions that in conjunction with its 3-D mammography it is also utilizing the most accurate breast technology on the market.

When reflecting back on the impact that iReveal has made on PAH, Stiver recalls, “iReveal takes all the guess work out of determining breast density. If any other facility wants the most accurate and reliable software for its patients, look no further than iReveal.”

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