Spire Healthcare, UK, Provides On-Demand Imaging Viewer To Referring Physicians To Access Multiple PACS

Spire Consultants Gain Convenient On-Demand Access To Imaging Data And Patient Information Anytime, Anywhere.

Spire Healthcare, the UK's second largest provider of private healthcare, has implemented Carestream's Vue Motion zero-footprint viewer to enable its clinicians to view patient images on Apple iPad and other tablet devices. As this independent viewer is PACS-agnostic, clinicians across Spire can securely view PACS images from all of Spire's 37 locations, where twenty-seven sites have CARESTREAM Vue RIS/PACS and ten sites use AGFA PACS. This ability to access images across multiple platforms is bringing increased flexibility to Spire consultants and timely results to patients.

Three professional views on CARESTREAM Vue Motion at Spire Healthcare

Stephen Hayward, IT Director Spire Healthcare

"In private healthcare the consultant largely decides where he takes his patients. In order to grow Spire's business we need to differentiate our services from those of our competitors so that our consultants want to bring their patients to us and consequently grow our revenues. We constantly look at how we can use technology to make Spire Healthcare superior and provide a better service to both patients and consultants. Carestream's Vue Motion fulfils that criteria.

Our present contingent of 37 hospitals came from two major network acquisitions, that of BUPA and Classic hospitals. BUPA operated Carestream's RIS PACS and the Classic hospitals Agfa RIS/PACS. They continue to be on separate platforms and as the CARESTREAM Vue Motion is PACS-agnostic it works equally well with both.

Reaction from our consultants has been hugely positive. They are very impressed with the quality of the images for display and find it a great convenience in their work. It is a fantastic product, intuitive to use and the image resolution is excellent. Obviously our competitors will catch up and take the system at some stage, but for now it has given Spire a boost and enhanced our reputation.

There is certainly a huge future in mobile health. Having access to care records and reports on a mobile device at the clinician's finger tips will be a great boon going forward and Carestream is really leading the way with this application."

Testimonial | Spire Healthcare, UK
Dr Qaiser Malik, Consultant Radiologist, Spire Healthcare

“Vue Motion has made a vast difference to my image reporting. I no longer have to physically go to the hospital to log in at one of the workstations to view images and previous reports. Although not diagnostic quality, Vue Motion allows me to perform a preliminary report which can make a massive difference to patient management. I can log in at weekends wherever I am which is of great advantage. It is an absolutely fabulous tool and advances patient care by providing clinicians with timely reports and a head-start on treatment options.

The system also allows onsite clinicians to discuss my findings with me in real time — I can log in wherever I may be and they can log in at the hospital. We can then both look at the imaging together and discuss any issues.

Another advantage is patient interaction. I can show a patient their imaging at the bedside and we can discuss their treatment. This makes a tremendous difference if the patient can actually see what the problem is and understand what treatment is planned for them.

Remote working has huge benefits. If I can report in my own time, I can schedule my day accordingly. I can report a scan immediately without having to visit the hospital, which in turn allows the hospital workstations to be utilised by other staff members. It provides flexibility to be able to issue a formal authorised report later on, dictated and typed on the system and accessible at that moment by the referring clinician.”

Andrew Milne, Imaging Manager at Spire Hartswood Hospital

“Before we had Vue Motion my staff would usually fax reports to the consultants’ secretaries and then the consultants would read them later on. One of the benefits of Vue Motion is that they can log on to our image database and print and download reports directly without reference to us, which is excellent. The fact that it works across different platforms is a great advantage. Some of our consultants work at multi sites and the Vue Motion system allows them to access images from any Spire hospital. That means greater flexibility for them and greater flexibility for the patients if they are seen at, for example, another Spire hospital in the region.

We have a number of users who have found it extremely useful to access the imaging database directly. We had a situation recently where one of our surgeons was consulting in a competitor hospital and he was able to log on to our network and consult with his patient very effectively to discuss the images and possible treatment. This is extremely exciting and a powerful tool.

From the patients’ perspective the fact that we can provide these images and reports very quickly is important as people come to the private sector because they want a prompt service and using this new technology we can provide that.

From a management perspective I think the most important element of this new system is the rapid distribution of images and results. Our consultants can access the system remotely and download and print directly without any interaction with my staff. This reduces the traffic into the Imaging Department and so makes our service much more efficient by leaving staff free to deal with other matters directly involving patient care.”

Andrew Milne discusses patient images with a colleague.

CARESTREAM Vue Motion
Advantages at a glance

- No local installation or download required.
- Uses a single intuitive user interface — no training required.
- Accessible from almost any device running a web-browser with virtually any operating platform utilizing HTML5.
- PACS and Archive-agnostic — able to display DICOM or Non-DICOM data stored in the Carestream PACS or Archive, or in 3rd party PACS or DICOM archives.