

Neuro-Radiology  
Department  
**Cerrahpasa**  
**Faculty of Medicine**  
Istanbul University



**Kodak**



## Cerrahpasa Faculty of Medicine

The prestigious Neuroradiology Department, part of the Cerrahpasa Faculty of Medicine at Istanbul University, moved to a new building on campus at the beginning of 2005. The latest web-enabled Kodak Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS) was chosen to support CT, MR and DSA applications and provide efficient, reliable digital image management and distribution.



▲ Professor Naci Koçer



▲ Consultation using Kodak Diagnostic Workstation with 3D enhancements

**“As the facilities were state-of-the-art and brand new, it made sense to set up electronic image management from the outset,”** explained Professor of Radiology and Neurology, Dr Civan Islak. “The installation of PACS offered the opportunity to significantly reduce health care costs and also provide a reliable archive at the same time. We previously filed hard copy images but that required a great deal of space and carried the risk of files being lost. Also, when our specialists consulted with other units films had to be sent to each department, sometimes tripling time costs.”

“Costs of archiving images were a significant factor in our decision to move to PACS. We calculated that if we installed PACS and eliminated hard copy printing for 1,000 patients per month, the system would be viable within one year. That’s a very efficient and impressive investment.”

Once the decision to move to PACS was made, Professor Islak and his team set about evaluating potential vendors. “The Kodak system comprehensively matched our needs for reliability, archiving and security and most importantly for us, the speed of image transfer. The software is incredible, so powerful and really superior to anything else we saw.”

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Installation of the Kodak DirectView System 5 PACS platform began in February 2005. The Workflow Manager lies at the heart of the system, automating workflow and data management with 1.2 Tb of on-line storage for six months. A second 2 Tb server offers off-line long term archiving on digital tape. Completing the configuration are three high-resolution diagnostic workstations interfaced to CT, MR and DSA modalities offering a host of benefits including customised presentations and advanced 3D functionality for faster diagnosis and improved patient care.

Prior to installation, Kodak configured the equipment at their Technology and Innovation Centre in Genoa, Italy and then shipped it to Turkey where the IT networks had been prepared in advance. “Kodak technicians virtually just had to plug in and were ready to go – the whole process only took a couple of days. Installation of the modalities took place at the same time providing the opportunity for discussions between manufacturers to ensure smooth connectivity and the opportunity to easily solve any issues from the beginning.

“Initially we had planned for dedicated workstations for our Angiography and CT systems, but once we fully understood the capacity of the Kodak workstation and the software capabilities we realised that we only needed Kodak. This solution has saved a great deal of space within the interpretation room.”

The Neuroradiology Department’s new digital workflow is much more efficient than previously. Clinicians within Neurology, Neurosurgery and Radiology are now fully trained and find the system both easy to use and intuitive. “We are extremely happy and are determined to take full advantage of the benefits. Stored images are simple to access via the web to authorised users and consultation between specialists in other areas of the hospital is so much easier. Reading is faster and more reliable and we have much more control with the ability to 3D render, level and measure – the manipulation tool set is impressive. The PACS also helps wider reading sessions between say ten doctors. A video projector is connected to the PACS to enable all the audience to view the images and promote clinical discussion.”

The benefits of PACS within the Neuroradiology Department are abundantly clear and the hospital is currently considering implementation of digital archiving for the wider Radiology Department where the potential savings on film costs are huge. Next step for the Neuroradiology Department is to integrate a Radiology Information System (RIS) into the Hospital Information System to interface with patient demographics and provide increased workflow efficiency.

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