

RIS/PACS Increases Workflow and Streamlines Patient Care



Quirón Group in Spain Moves to Paperless Environment, Reduces Administration Time and Number of Repeat Exams

'We are using Carestream Health solutions in more than 80% of our projects, which is a huge advantage for our radiology team and for the clinics of the hospital'

Dr. Vicente Martínez de Vega, head of the Image Diagnostics Unit, Quirón Hospital Madrid



Objective

The Quirón Group of Hospitals needed to set up a digital radiology department in the newly-constructed centre in Madrid to give medical staff immediate access to historical and current patient records, images and reports, follow the development of injuries and make a better diagnosis. To meet the objective a RIS/PACS (*Radiology Information System/Picture Archiving and Communication System*) solution was implemented to integrate with the other information systems across the Quirón Group.

Profile

The Quiron Group of private hospitals consists of five general hospitals located in Barcelona, Madrid, San Sebastián, Valencia and Saragossa. In 2009, two further centres will be opened in Bilbao and Málaga. A day hospital in Saragossa also forms part of the Quiron Group together with an assisted reproduction centre in Bilbao. Overall the Group employs over 2,000 staff and 1,500 associated doctors.

The Quirón hospital in Madrid was built in 2006 and is the largest private centre in Madrid. Thanks to an investment of €24 million, the centre boasts cutting-edge equipment and progressive techniques for diagnosis and treatment. The Quirón hospital in Madrid specialises in 35 different surgical and medical practices, specifically radiology, handling over 100,000 studies a year.

Challenges

The Quirón Group needed to increase workflow and streamline patient care.

The Carestream Health RIS/PACS system enabled online access to historical and current patient

records, images and reports relating to patient exams. Furthermore, the RIS/PACS integration reduced administrative time spent on producing reports and minimised errors.

The Quirón Group also needed to reduce the number of repeat exams. The high-quality digital radiological exams and better storage management capabilities enabled by the Carestream Health solution led to a huge reduction in repeat exams.

Another significant challenge was the hospital's need to make the administrative process, such as booking appointments and medical examination procedures paperless. This was overcome by integration with the Hospital Information System (HIS), from a local provider, which serves all the hospitals within the group and enhanced capabilities for diagnostic reporting, such as voice recognition software.





'Working with Carestream Health RIS/PACS solutions means that the work carried is of an excellent quality. Thanks to Carestream Health we have managed to reduce diagnostic errors and avoid doing unnecessary or repeat exams'

Dr. Vicente Martínez de Vega, head of the Diagnostic Imaging Department, Quirón Hospital Madrid

Benefits to the Quirón Group of Hospitals

The Quirón Hospital in Madrid benefits from:

- A reduction in the number of diagnostic errors and increased reliability, therefore avoiding unnecessary exams being carried out or repeated
- Better collaboration between clinical staff and the Image Diagnostics Department
- Improved quality and efficiency in the exams carried out on patients
- Reduction of time that each patient spends at the hospital thanks to the immediate access to images and reports
- The automation of workflows in the Image Diagnosis Department, results in improvements in efficacy and efficiency
- Increased diagnostic reliability by making available to the Radiologist special tools for displaying images and for advanced postprocessing, as well as information associated with the Patient's Clinical History
- Immediate and secure access to the results of the radiological investigation (images and diagnostic report) by the specialist referring clinician and/or simultaneously, access by any other authorised clinician
- Elimination of the chemicals (developer and fixer) which are used in a non-digitised environment for developing X-ray plates, reducing environmental impact
- Reduction of the dose administered to the patient as a result of minimising the need to repeat investigations on account of under- or over-exposure
- Reduction in administrative processes for the preparation of diagnostic reports, since the equipment incorporates, for example, voice recognition systems that streamline procedures
- Integration of the PACS system with other manufacturers' equipment, enabling the Quirón Group to work with a range of modalities supplied by different equipment providers

'By using our solutions, we are helping Quirón Hospital Madrid become one of the best private hospitals in Spain. We are therefore contributing to the achievement of their main business objectives'

Santos Lopez, sales director of Carestream Health for Spain and Portugal

Collaboration between Carestream Health and the Quirón Group of Hospitals

The implementation of Carestream Health solutions began in March 2007 at the Quirón hospital in Madrid, culminating with the Saragossa site in November 2008. The project has been similar across the four hospitals in the Quirón Group. The number of annual radiology studies carried out at each centre are: Madrid (100,000), Valencia (over 90,000), Saragossa (70,000) and San Sebastián (20,000). **Total: approximately 280,000.**



The team in charge of the implementation consisted of professionals from the Quirón Group of Hospitals and Carestream Health. Following integration, Carestream Health offered remote services for problem solving and proactive remote monitoring in order to anticipate possible incidents, as well as training.

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