

Ultrasound scans with enhanced clarity for patients at Royal Blackburn Hospital

ACUSON S2000 system with clarify technology offers improved vascular images

Royal Blackburn Hospital, part of the East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, is providing clear and detailed musculoskeletal and vascular scans since the installation of two ACUSON S2000™ ultrasound systems. A third S2000 has also been ordered to join an ACUSON X300™ in the antenatal department for obstetric and gynaecological work. The third machine features the Spatio-Temporal Imaging Correlation (STIC) package to improve fetal heart imaging within the department.

The two S2000 systems have been installed into the general ultrasound department for abdominal, musculoskeletal, vascular, thyroid, small parts and paediatric work. The systems include Clarify™ Vascular Enhancement (VE) technology, an exclusive algorithm that enhances vascular lumen definition, eliminates reverberation artefact and reduces slice thickness partial volume effects to assist with obtaining clear vascular images. The systems also have musculoskeletal transducers for obtaining clear images of soft tissue.

“The systems have significantly assisted us in providing swifter patient diagnosis and throughput in our very busy department,” said Julie White, Superintendent Radiographer in Ultrasound at Royal Blackburn Hospital. “The Clarify VE technology and musculoskeletal transducers have enabled us to obtain exceptionally clear, detailed images, improving the quality of scans for a quick and accurate diagnosis.”

“The S2000 is a highly flexible system that can be used for scanning a wide range of patients,” said Bernadette Leonard, Regional Sales Manager for Ultrasound Products at Siemens Healthcare. “There are various packages available to complement the system and aid with scanning specific areas. The

Clarify VE technology significantly enhances image quality when looking at blood vessels, enabling clinical staff to obtain highly detailed and accurate scans.”

The S2000 ultrasound system is optimised for high-frequency imaging and delivers 2D, 3D, Colour and Pulse-wave Doppler and 4D images of superior quality to provide exceptional levels of diagnostic confidence for the best possible outcomes. The system provides real-time 3D speckle reduction for enhanced anatomic borders and contrast resolution, delivering unprecedented image quality for virtually any patient. It also includes knowledge-based workflow applications drawing on an expert database of real clinical cases to recognise anatomical patterns and perform automatic measurements. This aids diagnosis, speeds up examinations and helps keep patient appointments on schedule.

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About Siemens Healthcare

The **Siemens Healthcare Sector** is one of the world's largest suppliers to the healthcare industry and a trendsetter in medical imaging, laboratory diagnostics, medical information technology and hearing aids. Siemens is the only company to offer customers products and solutions for the entire range of patient care from a single source – from prevention and early detection to diagnosis and on to treatment and aftercare. By optimising clinical workflows for the most common diseases, Siemens also makes healthcare faster, better and more cost-effective. Siemens Healthcare employs some 49,000 employees worldwide and operates in over 130 countries. In fiscal year 2008 (to September 30), the Sector posted revenue of 11.2 billion euros and profit of 1.2 billion euros. For further information please visit: www.siemens.com/healthcare.

Approximately 374 words

20 October 2009

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Picture caption: Staff at Royal Blackburn Hospital welcome the ACUSON S2000™ ultrasound system with Clarify™ Vascular Enhancement technology. From left to right: Philippa Staines, Deputy Superintendent Sonographer; Kumar Subramanion, Consultant Radiologist; Nicola Towers, Clinical Applications Specialist at Siemens Healthcare; Rachel Stephenson, Sonographer; Bernadette Leonard, Regional Sales Manager for Ultrasound Products at Siemens Healthcare; Robert Barker, Consultant Radiologist; John Taylor, Consultant Radiologist; Yacoob Nakhuda, Clinical Operation Director and Consultant Radiologist; Stuart Mellor, Consultant Radiologist; Julie White, Superintendent Radiographer in Ultrasound.

