

Scottish hospital to reduce patient examination times with Avanto system

New MRI to deliver fast image acquisition and increase workflow efficiencies

Crosshouse Hospital in Kilmarnock, part of NHS Ayrshire & Arran, has installed a MAGNETOM® Avanto 1.5 Tesla from Siemens Healthcare. This follows a reorganisation of its Radiography Department. The system will enable the hospital to streamline its MRI examinations by reducing scanning times due to fast, high quality image acquisition.

The Avanto will be used for routine MRI scanning and also includes the Tim (Total imaging Matrix) App Suite to assist with specialist work in the fields of oncology, gynaecology, breast imaging and paediatrics. The hospital has found this particularly useful when conducting whole spine scans as patients do not have to be repositioned and coils do not need to be changed. Tim technology provides flexibility, accuracy and speed. Crosshouse Hospital has already seen a decrease in individual scanning times by up to three minutes per patient.

To further assist with breast imaging, the Avanto installation includes *syngo*® BreVis. This software application powers quick pre-processing and precise motion correction to enable efficient breast image reading and reporting.

“We have already seen a reduction in patient examination times. For example, whole spine examination times have decreased by almost 60 per cent and we hope that routine work will also see scan time reductions, although probably not as dramatic,” said Shona Wilson, Superintendent Radiographer at Crosshouse Hospital. “The Avanto is not only easy-to-operate but is patient friendly. It gives us the flexibility, accuracy and speed to make our workflow more productive. We anticipate

that it will allow us to develop the range of services that we offer, giving us greater flexibility to respond to future changes.”

“Following the installation, Crosshouse Hospital has already started to gain workflow efficiencies,” said James Weir, Scottish Sales Manager at Siemens Healthcare. “The superb image quality and scan speeds will enable the hospital to enhance the care provided to patients and future proof MRI services.”

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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 offers its 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 optimizing clinical workflows for the most common diseases, Siemens also makes healthcare faster, better and more cost-effective. Siemens Healthcare employs some 48,000 employees worldwide and operates around the world. In fiscal year 2010 (to September 30), the Sector posted revenue of 12.4 billion euros and profit of around 750 million euros. For further information please visit: www.siemens.com/healthcare.

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Picture caption: Crosshouse Hospital in Kilmarnock, part of NHS Ayrshire & Arran, has installed a MAGNETOM® Avanto 1.5 Tesla from Siemens Healthcare to streamline its MRI examinations and reduce scanning times. (Left to right) James Weir, Scottish Sales Manager at Siemens Healthcare; Shona Wilson, Superintendent Radiographer; Dr David Rawlings, Consultant Radiologist; Jacqui Kelly, Senior Specialist Radiographer; and Dr Shahid Rasul, Consultant Radiologist.

