

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust upgrades orthopaedic services with new C-arm

Siemens ARCADIS Varic offers superb image quality via dual TFT monitors

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust has upgraded its service offerings for orthopaedic patients following the installation of an ARCADIS® Varic C-arm from Siemens Healthcare. The Varic is helping staff to speed up surgical procedures due to its ease of manoeuvrability and *syngo*® user interface for intuitive operation.

The Varic is a lightweight system with a mobile C-arm that is counterbalanced so it does not need to be locked into place. This offers clinicians easy patient access and positioning flexibility, while also saving on space. It is being used at the Trust primarily for orthopaedic procedures as well as general, all purpose scanning. The system's lightweight and compact trolley features vertically and horizontally adjustable large 19" dual TFT monitors for good image visualisation.

"We use the Varic all day every day and the image quality is fantastic," said Barbara Bell, Lead Radiographer at South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust. "As the Varic is Windows based it is much faster and easier to use than our old system. Overall the transition has been smooth and applications training has gone very well."

The Varic's *syngo* user interface enables fast, intuitive system operation and image post processing. The system is equipped with fully digital 1024k x 1024k high resolution and contrast imaging capabilities throughout the entire imaging chain from acquisition to viewing and archiving. This means it automatically transfers 2D images in optimal resolution for surgical navigation purposes. The Varic also offers clinicians the capability to load images of other modalities such as CT or MRI and view

them directly on-screen. Dose reduction features include an integrated laser light localiser, radiation free collimator and multi-level dose control.

“Successfully transferring from old to new equipment can sometimes be daunting for NHS Trusts worried about service interruptions, but the installation of the new Varic into South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust has been a smooth project,” said Neil Lincoln, Northern Sales Manager at Siemens Healthcare. “The system’s superb image quality and ergonomic design means the Trust can offer frequent and high quality scanning services to the local community.”

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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: South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust has upgraded its service offerings for orthopaedic patients following the installation of an ARCADIS® Varic C-arm from Siemens Healthcare.

