

e.soft express, Siemens' software-only solution for reviewing processed SPECT, TruePoint™ SPECT-CT, PET, and PET/CT studies remotely, has proven to be invaluable to busy nuclear medicine physicians. The low-cost software solution offers a wide variety of processing functionalities, including cardiac SPECT and PET data postprocessing using any of the numerous quantitative optional cardiac packages. Some of the cardiac packages offer automatic report generation, which combines speed with ease of use.

Michael Kipper, M.D., associate professor of Radiology at the University of California in San Diego, is an enthusiastic supporter of the Siemens software solution. "I have found the e.soft express software to be the ideal solution to my needs as a remote reader for nuclear medicine studies. While most of the studies are cardiac SPECT, standard studies are also readily transmitted and analyzed."

Benefits for Patients and Cardiologists

As the director of imaging and medical director for Pacific Imaging and Treatment Center, Kipper explains that many of the remote features he utilizes are for cardiac cases. He further explained that with Siemens' help, he was able to develop a template that can easily transmit his reports via e-mail. "I found that I am saving most of the time that I would otherwise spend dictating reports. In addition to time saving, I have eliminated dictation costs and am able to provide same-day reporting for virtually all studies. The reports generated by template can be proofed by me immediately and electronically signed. The major benefactors of this remarkable technology are the patients and the referring cardiologists. For one of my referral offices, Siemens was able to design a template incorporating their logo and site-specific requirements."

Since the introduction of e.soft express, hundreds of the software licenses have been sold to hospitals and individual practices. This flexible reading tool gives additional freedom and mobility to physicians, allowing them to work in their offices, homes, or practically

anywhere. Facilities that use mobile PET systems to provide an additional high-quality imaging resource to their physicians improve workflow and cost efficiencies by offering physicians remote reading capabilities with e.soft express.

The flexible displays on e.soft express support 3D slices, cine, text, curves, and fusion slices, and allow for defining regions of interest (ROIs) to calculate statistics. Images can be saved in universal formats, such as .jpg and .emf, or they can be captured as movies in .avi format, providing users with a highly effective presentation tool. e.soft express can be loaded onto a wide variety of computer types, including desktop and tower PCs, laptops, and tablet computers, thereby facilitating remote viewing of studies.



MICHAEL KIPPER, M.D., is associate professor of Radiology at the University of California in San Diego.

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