

Expanded cardiac service at Torbay Hospital meets an increase in demand for specialist procedures

- **New MR service addressing sizeable demand in cardiac, prostate and liver imaging**
- **Patients no longer have to travel long distances for specialist and complex imaging services**

Torbay Hospital, part of Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, is now delivering a dedicated cardiac MR service to local patients with the help of MR technology from Siemens Healthcare. The MAGNETOM® Aera MR system with syngo®.via is enabling the hospital to meet an increase in demand for specialist and complex procedures. As well as Cardiac MR, these include dynamic prostate imaging, liver MR and small bowel imaging, and with its wide bore design the new system is alleviating patient concerns when undergoing MR scans.

“Being able to deliver a cardiac MR service was identified as a top priority and was core to our selection of the MAGNETOM Aera from Siemens Healthcare. With cardiology patients previously referred for MR being sent to Exeter, there were instances where patients in the region were experiencing long waits for cardiac MR and needing to travel long distances,” states Simon Smith, Superintendent Radiographer at Torbay Hospital. “The MAGNETOM Aera was identified as the best solution for the delivery of this service and in particular, its wide bore design. We have noticed a decrease in the number of patient abandonments for MR scans since this new system was installed, with the wide bore directly addressing issues of claustrophobia and servicing the needs of bariatric patients in particular.”

The MAGNETOM Aera is currently being used by radiographers at the hospital up to seven days a week, supporting a busy MRI department that sees on average 30/35 patients a day. The system from Siemens Healthcare has significantly enhanced the scope of procedures that the hospital is able to deliver and is responding to increasing patient imaging uptake.

Simon Smith adds, “We are experiencing sizeable demand for dynamic prostate imaging – a complex examination that is labour-intensive – as well as for liver MR to ensure that targets for initial liver scans are effectively being met. The installation of the system has provided us with the capability to deliver more specialist, complex procedures in a timely manner.”

The MAGNETOM Aera provides comprehensive application coverage and the versatility to expand MRI services to meet increasing clinical healthcare demands. Supported by *syngo*[®].via, an imaging solution that helps to process, read and share images faster for both routine and advanced MR interpretation, the MAGNETOM Aera’s core focus is on the delivery of patient-centred care through exceptional quality and speed in MR.

Vince Golledge, Head of Corporate Sales at Siemens Healthcare, comments, “Torbay Hospital is now able to effectively respond to heightened demands and address a clear regional need through the provision of a cardiac MR service, with the MAGNETOM Aera being instrumental to the delivery of a range of complex procedures. Siemens Healthcare will continue to work closely alongside the hospital as it expands its clinical scope.”

Siemens Healthcare is one of the world’s largest suppliers to the healthcare industry and a trendsetter in medical imaging, laboratory diagnostics and medical information technology. 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 optimising clinical workflows for the most common diseases, Siemens also makes healthcare faster, better and more cost-effective. Siemens Healthcare employs some 43,000 employees worldwide and operates around the world www.siemens.co.uk/healthcare.

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Picture caption: Torbay Hospital has been able to deliver a dedicated cardiac MR service to local patients following the installation of a MAGNETOM® Aera MR system from Siemens Healthcare. [Left to right] Simon Smith, Superintendent Radiographer at Torbay Hospital; Vince Golledge, Head of Corporate Sales at Siemens Healthcare; Jim Green, MRI Radiographer; Dr Richard Perriss, Consultant Radiologist; Jo Ward, MRI Radiographer; and Silvia Silva, Radiography Student at Torbay Hospital.

**About Siemens**

Siemens AG (Berlin and Munich) is a global technology powerhouse that has stood for engineering excellence, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality for more than 165 years. The company is active in more than 200 countries, focusing on the areas of electrification, automation and digitalization. One of the world's largest producers of energy-efficient, resource-saving technologies, Siemens is No. 1 in offshore wind turbine construction, a leading supplier of combined cycle turbines for power generation, a major provider of power transmission solutions and a pioneer in infrastructure solutions as well as automation, drive and software solutions for industry. The company is also a leading provider of medical imaging equipment – such as computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging systems – and a leader in laboratory diagnostics as well as clinical IT. In fiscal 2014, which ended on September 30, 2014, Siemens generated revenue from continuing operations of €71.9 billion and net income of €5.5 billion. At the end of September 2014, the company had around 357,000 employees worldwide. Further information is available on the Internet at www.siemens.com.