

Frimley, UK
August 13, 2013

North Durham enhances interventional procedures with low dose imaging system

University Hospital of North Durham (UHND), part of County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, has recently installed an Artis zee™ Multi-purpose (MP) interventional imaging system from Siemens Healthcare. The system is located within the Radiology Department and is being used for detailed imaging in diagnostic and interventional procedures.

The fluoroscopy unit will be used by up to 30 patients a week requiring a range of procedures such as diagnostic studies in the urinary tract, gastrointestinal tract and musculoskeletal system to more complex interventional procedures including unblocking bile ducts, draining abscesses and placing feeding tubes in the stomach amongst many other uses.

The Artis zee MP provides rapid image acquisition, flexibility and advanced post-processing via a range of clinical applications including DSA (Digital Subtraction Angiography) functionality for enhanced workflow. Dose-saving applications are delivered as standard with Artis zee systems, including CARE (Combined Applications to Reduce Exposure) and CLEAR (advanced image post-processing), enabling the department to conduct procedures at a much lower dose than was previously possible.

“The new fluoroscopy unit is outstanding, it really does make a big difference to the work we do. The images we get are much more detailed, helping to optimise clinical workflow. For example, if a patient has a blocked bile duct we can quickly image the liver, make a diagnosis and accurately place a stent to unblock any obstruction,” states Dr Stuart Marsden, Consultant Interventional Radiologist at University Hospital of North Durham. “The technology also uses much less dose - up to a third

of the old equipment, which makes it safer for both patients and staff.”

“We are delighted that UHND has not only seen a significant reduction in dose but improvements in image quality from the state-of-the-art Artis zee MP,” states Neil Lincoln, Northern Sales Manager at Siemens Healthcare. “The system’s flexibility and variety of applications makes it suitable for fluoroscopy and angiography examinations and it is pleasing to see the hospital is already employing the system for such a wide range of procedures.”

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County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust is one of the largest integrated care providers in England, serving a population of around 600,000 people across County Durham, Darlington, North Yorkshire, the Tees Valley and South Tyneside. The Trust brings together hospital, community services and health and wellbeing services to provide high quality and seamless care for patients.

**Picture caption:**

University Hospital of North Durham has recently installed an Artis zee™ Multi-purpose interventional imaging system from Siemens Healthcare. Left to right: Dr Julie Cox; Paul Cumiskey, Senior Radiologist; Alison Young, Staff Nurse and Angela Jackson, Advanced Practitioner at the University Hospital of North Durham.

**Picture caption:**

Left to right: Emma Alderson, Student Nurse; Alison Young, Staff Nurse; Paul Cumiskey, Senior Radiologist and Dr Julie Cox at the University Hospital of North Durham demonstrate the recently installed Artis zee™ Multi-purpose interventional imaging system from Siemens Healthcare