

Cardiology solutions presented by Siemens Healthcare at ESC 2013

Siemens Healthcare has demonstrated a number of new cardiology solutions as part of its “Agenda 2013” sector initiative at this year’s European Society of Cardiology (ESC) congress in Amsterdam. To support patients and clinicians, Siemens has developed products and solutions especially tailored to the diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular diseases. These include a new cardiac catheter, clinical IT, applications for CT and MR imaging and a new system for cardiac molecular imaging.

New intra-cardiac catheter for echocardiography

Siemens is the first to offer real-time volumetric intra-cardiac echocardiography (ICE) with the ACUSON AcuNav™ V ultrasound catheter. Real-time ICE delivers high-quality, dose-free imaging during interventional procedures, and the ACUSON AcuNav V catheter is particularly useful during Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI) surgery. By using the volumetric ICE catheter, clinicians can perform TAVI procedures while the patient is under conscious sedation rather than general anesthesia. The catheter is also useful during electrophysiology (EP) ablation procedures.

New release of ACUSON SC2000 system with HD transducers

Siemens’ high-end ACUSON SC2000™ ultrasound system enables new abdominal vascular imaging capabilities. The Abdominal Vascular Release of the echocardiography platform is equipped for the first time with a high-density curved array probe – the 6C1 HD. This new feature combines the benefits of HD transducers and IN Focus coherent imaging technology to provide high-quality images with enhanced detail resolution and ease of use in abdominal vascular imaging. Furthermore, new workflow enhancement features are available on the latest version of the ACUSON SC2000 including the Trace Assist Tool to easily trace spectral waveforms for quick vascular measurements. Also presented at ESC was the

improved 4V1c transducer, featuring a significantly smaller contact area than the previous model for easier access to rib spaces and faster examinations on difficult-to-image patients.

Full cardiac MR exam possible in less than 30 minutes

Forming part of Siemens Healthcare's cardiac MR solutions, the Cardiac Dot® Engine enables clinicians to examine the heart thoroughly in a very short period with protocols suited to each individual patient. The AutoAlign Heart expansion in the new version of the Cardiac Dot Engine plans diagnostically relevant sectional planes through the longitudinal axis of the heart automatically. To enable efficient diagnosis of vascular diseases based on MR angiography datasets, *syngo.via* offers the new application *syngo.MR Vascular Analysis*. It enables clinicians to identify vascular diseases such as stenoses, automatically quantify the vascular changes and diagnose them swiftly and efficiently.

CT software improves accuracy for TAVI procedures

CT systems provide support for minimally invasive Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI). Siemens Healthcare has developed new software that helps physicians determine the right valve size for the patient and establish the precise angle at which the new valve must be inserted even before the intervention in the cardiac catheterisation laboratory. This saves time and reduces the dose of contrast agent required for the patient during intervention. To select an appropriate artificial heart valve, clinicians must determine the precise dimensions of the aortic annulus. The *syngo* CT Cardiac Function – Valve Pilot application, in combination with 3-D CT imaging, automatically detects the annulus plane and determines the precise measurements of the annulus as the case is opened.

New cardiology information system for faster workflow

A new version of the *syngo* Dynamics cardiology information system supports clinicians in streamlining workflow and making improvements in clinical use. Whereas a report previously had to be fully completed before another user could access it, *syngo* Dynamics now allows numerous users to call up the documentation on a single study simultaneously. This means that clinicians, medical staff and technicians can work more effectively together. *syngo* Dynamics also permits clinicians to better monitor dose and the new "Automatic Study List" feature helps draw up reports more quickly.

New system for molecular imaging

Siemens' new PET-CT system, the Biograph™ mCT Flow, comes with two features to support cardiovascular care. HD•Cardiac enables clinicians – for the first time ever – to correct for both respiratory and cardiac motion in the heart using single-trigger dual gating. The feature One-Click phase-matched gating provides automatic accurate phase registration and quantification of PET and CT cardiac phases, aligning and synchronising PET and CT images with a single click.

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Agenda 2013 – Definition:

Agenda 2013 is a **global initiative** to further **strengthen** Healthcare Sector's **innovative power and competitiveness**. Four fields of action have been defined: **Innovation, Competitiveness, Regional Footprint, and People Development**, with specific measures to be implemented over the next year.

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 optimising clinical workflows for the most common diseases, Siemens also makes healthcare faster, better and more cost-effective. Siemens Healthcare employs some 51,000 employees worldwide and operates around the world. For further information please visit:

<http://www.siemens.co.uk/healthcare>.

Picture caption:

Siemens is the first to offer real-time volumetric intra-cardiac echocardiography (ICE) with the ACUSON AcuNav™ V ultrasound catheter.

