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Agfa installs two top-of-the-line X-ray rooms at Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust's Hove Polyclinic

DR 600 systems are significantly reducing patient wait times, while supporting the potential for lower patient radiation dose and improved image quality

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- The two fully automated DR 600 X-ray rooms have increased throughput and enhanced the experience of both patients and caregivers.
- Smooth operation with almost zero effort in movements and an intuitive workstation improve radiographer workflow.

Agfa announces today that it has installed two DR 600 direct radiography X-ray rooms at Hove Polyclinic, part of Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals (BSUH) NHS Trust, in the south east of England. Chosen for the excellent imaging quality, ease of use and potential dose reduction¹, the DR 600 rooms are also supporting increased patient throughput and wait times.

Improved workflow in a busy environment

The 840-bed BSUH employs 8200 staff; its facilities treat over 50,000 day-case patients and carry out more than 55,000 planned and almost 15,000 unplanned procedures per year.

Within the BSUH NHS Trust, Hove Polyclinic provides both general and specialist examinations and treatments for outpatients. It offers convenient healthcare services, while reducing the pressure on the acute healthcare facilities.

To support its busy facilities, BSUH decided to procure a new DR X-ray room at Hove Polyclinic. After a competitive tendering process – with site visits, the Trust signed its first contract with Agfa in February 2017. During implementation of the first DR 600 X-ray room, the Trust decided to expand the contract by adding a

second DR 600, in June 2017. The polyclinic's new X-ray service was officially opened at the end of 2017.

'Zero effort' for manual movements

Fully automated, the DR 600 streamlines workflow, increases throughput and enhances the experience of patients and operators alike, even when the Hove Polyclinic is at its busiest. The ceiling-suspended tube crane is operated through a touch screen control panel – which features a preview image – and integrated soft console on the MUSICA workstation monitor. The ZeroForce Technology enables quick, easy, almost 'zero effort' manual movement of the tube head in all directions.

Dose reduction potential and excellent image quality

The DR 600 comes with either Cesium Iodide (CsI) or Gadolinium Oxy-Sulphide (GOS) detector technology. Both provide excellent image quality, while CsI also delivers the potential for dose reduction¹. The gold-standard MUSICA image processing software further supports efforts to deliver the lowest patient radiation dose reasonably achievable (ALARA), while offering excellent image quality and a smooth, efficient workflow.

“This is our first contract with BSUH, and we look forward to supporting their patient care quality and service goals,” comments Kevin McQuillan, Key Account Manager South East UK, for Agfa. “We are proud that the benefits of the DR 600 were so apparent that the Trust chose to install a second X-ray room, even before the first was completed. These two X-ray rooms are already showing their value to the Trust's caregivers and patients.”

“When the first DR 600 room went live, we saw an increase in patient throughput and whilst patient wait times can vary depending on various factors, the new equipment has helped,” describes Robert Szymanski, Imaging Services Manager for BSUH. “We are keeping the rooms very busy-, with up to 120 patients a day. This enables us to provide a faster service for patients, whilst image quality supports the delivery of excellent care and diagnostic confidence.”

¹ Testing with board-certified radiologists has determined that Cesium Bromide (CR) and Cesium Iodide (DR) Detectors, when used with MUSICA image processing, can provide dose reductions of 50 to 60%, compared to traditional Barium Fluoro Bromide CR systems. Contact Agfa HealthCare for more details.

For an image, courtesy of Agfa, [click here](#).

About Agfa

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