



EVANGELISCHE
DIAKONISSENANSTALT
AUGSBURG

Report

Established innovation

Installation of Suitestensa cardio software at MVZ Evangelische Diakonissenanstalt Augsburg, Germany

In hardly any other field has knowledge – and therefore the information available to us – come so far in the past few years as it has in cardiology. But information technology has seemingly been unable to cope with this progress. The established IT systems here had not yet been able to reflect the interaction of data from various modalities, specialist fields and systems, which is so important for diagnosis and treatment. The Evangelical Hospital Clinic's MVZ in Augsburg is one of Germany's first cardiology units to strike out in a new direction and deploy Suitestensa by Esaote to provide a solution that can reflect the entire spectrum of cardiology in just one system.

Cologne, 25 August 2015

One of the most widely-known cardiology software solutions

makes its first move in Germany: leading system in Italy, the manufacturer's home country, Suitestensa is completely new in Germany. This installation at the Diako MVZ, which provides cardiology, angiology and electrophysiology treatment in Augsburg, represents the system's arrival on the German market. "Suitestensa is indeed an established system, but for us it was a real innovation because, for the first time, it gave us the possibility of consolidating data from what had been three separate systems into a single system," explains Dr Norbert Seidel, the cardiologist responsible at the Augsburg MVZ.

Improving workflow efficiency and diagnosis reliability

Since the data has been consolidated, workflows in the Augsburg centre have become significantly more efficient. On the one hand, this is because patient data need only be entered in one system, saving time and reducing the risk of error. In addition, all of the data belonging to a given patient and examination can be linked directly to each other. For example, ultrasound images, cardiac catheterisation videos and cardiac catheter reports, including material consumption and X-ray exposure, can all be accessed at the press of a button. "This also simplifies report creation tremendously because a lot of information is transferred in standardised form from the system during the examination. One particularly helpful feature is the ability to create screenshots from cardiac catheterisation videos, which can then be simply copied to the report using drag and drop. The images can be inserted directly into the text at any postprocessing level – which is a real boon!" enthuses the cardiologist. In addition, whereas certain systems could previously only be accessed from specific workstations, now all data can be accessed from every workstation, obviating the need to move from one location to another.

The examination procedure itself was also improved with the software, as the high level of interoperability enables a direct connection to existing modalities – regardless of the manufacturer. This allows the creation of "worklist brokers", which send an examination request directly from the system to the relevant modality. Following the examination, the data, images and videos created are automatically loaded back to the system for the patient in question. This also relieves the burden on non-medical personnel, who previously had to enter the entire dataset for a patient onto the equipment (ultrasound, angiogram, etc.) manually.

"Suitestensa is extremely flexible and can easily be incorporated into existing structures. The integration of DICOM-compliant devices is seamless, which was one of the reasons to opt for Esaote. What is so special about it is that the data doesn't just get fed into Suitestensa; the software is so highly functional that it is perfectly able to manage all the various devices and completely replace the full functionality of the

three previous systems – the Carddas cardiology information system, the ITZ PACS and the Quick quality management software," explains Heiner Kruss, CEO of Global Med Con GmbH, which advises medical establishments on their IT infrastructure.

One example of this is the easy and convenient stenosis measurement via a highly integrated CAD solution. "The system enables us to measure images from the angiogram or ultrasound again at the workstation, for example when creating the report. Even if this isn't a frequent requirement, it is still a useful, time-saving option," adds Norbert Seidel.

Always up to date

Time-savings are always key when using the material management system as practice manager Ronald Frey explains: "Procedures in the cardiac catheterisation lab are largely standardised, and therefore so are the materials used, and we are able to replicate this at Suitestensa. We have stored various material sets that we only need to select during an investigation. For non-medical staff who document the procedure, this makes things much easier," he concludes.

And the Diako MVZ wants to take it one step further. The idea is that in future all consumables will be able to be discharged in via a barcode and transferred to Suitestensa. The system will then be able to automatically trigger an order with the manufacturer and prevent material shortages. According to those responsible, this structure should be able to be implemented this year.

An equal partnership

The development of these material logistics is a good example of a smooth, close collaboration between the user and provider. The adaptation to the individual requirements of the Augsburg centre and its implementation was straightforward and, above all, fast. Ronald Frey, who oversaw the technical implementation of Suitestensa with a great deal of dedication, explains: "The service is really excellent and response times are fast. In a project like this, not everything always goes to plan immediately – what matters is that solutions that are suitable for our purposes are found quickly. And that is exactly what happened."

The teams from Augsburg and Genoa also collaborated on integrating the electrophysiology module into the system. Until now, this had been offered as a separate system, but cardiologists at the Diako MVZ wanted to combine it into a single system in order to consolidate the saved data. "For us, this collaboration with the Evangelical Hospital Clinic's MVZ has been extremely valuable. Thanks to the drive

and personal dedication of the doctors and technicians, we have learnt a lot and are able to adapt. What was particularly striking was the capability and willingness to innovate with which the entire team drove the project forward. "Without that we wouldn't have been able to introduce these groundbreaking innovations", explains the Esaote's Business Manager for Healthcare IT, based in Germany.

For Ronald Frey, responsible for IT at the centre, there are further reasons why working with Esaote was so successful: "The modular design means we got precisely the system we needed for our requirements – nothing more and nothing less. And we can add further modules at any time, as the structures and timings in our MVZ allow. Such flexibility is not to be taken for granted and is certainly also the result of the excellent consultancy and support services provided by Esaote in Germany and Italy."

About the MVZ Evangelische Diakonissenanstalt Augsburg

The concept of the MVZ (Medizinischen Versorgungszentrum im Herzen) has three focuses: outpatient care (practice), inpatient care (doctors affiliated to the municipal clinic) and invasive procedures (cardiac catheterisation department). All three facilities are located next to each other on the premises of the Augsburg Evangelical Hospital Clinic. A special feature of the Diako MVZ is that patients are also treated by the doctors they are familiar from the practice if they attend the clinic or, if necessary, the cardiac catheterisation lab. Such comprehensive care establishes a special level of trust between the patient and the doctor and enables optimum aftercare after they leave the hospital.

In addition to the site in Augsburg, the Diako MVZ also has a facility in Pfaffendorf.

About Suitestensa and Esaote

SUITESTENSA is a CVIS platform for imaging and information management software developed by EBIT S.r.l. Esaote Group, the Esaote company that concerns itself with diagnostic processes for IT in healthcare.

By combining all cardiological applications in a single platform, SUITESTENSA considerably improves workflows - from patient admission and examinations through to results, administration and the sharing of relevant information across different departments or between different institutions.

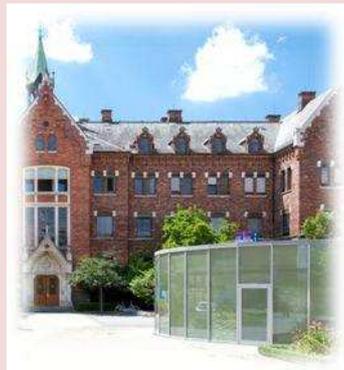
Esaote is one of the world's leading manufacturers of medical diagnostic systems and a recognised market-leader in the field of dedicated magnetic resonance imaging. The Esaote Group is also one of the most important companies in the field of health-information technology.



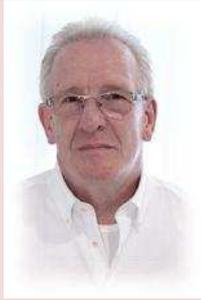
**FOR RONALD FREY (LEFT)
AND DR NORBERT SEIDEL,
SUITESTENSA HAS
ENORMOUSLY SIMPLIFIED
PROCESSES DURING
CATHETER PROCEDURES.**



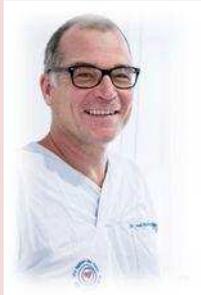
**DURING THE ACTUAL
INTERVENTION, RELEVANT
INFORMATION ON THE
SURGERY AND ON MATERIAL
CONSUMPTION IS
AUTOMATICALLY
TRANSFERRED TO THE
SYSTEM AND DOCUMENTED.**



**EVANGELICAL HOSPITAL
CLINIC, AUGSBURG**



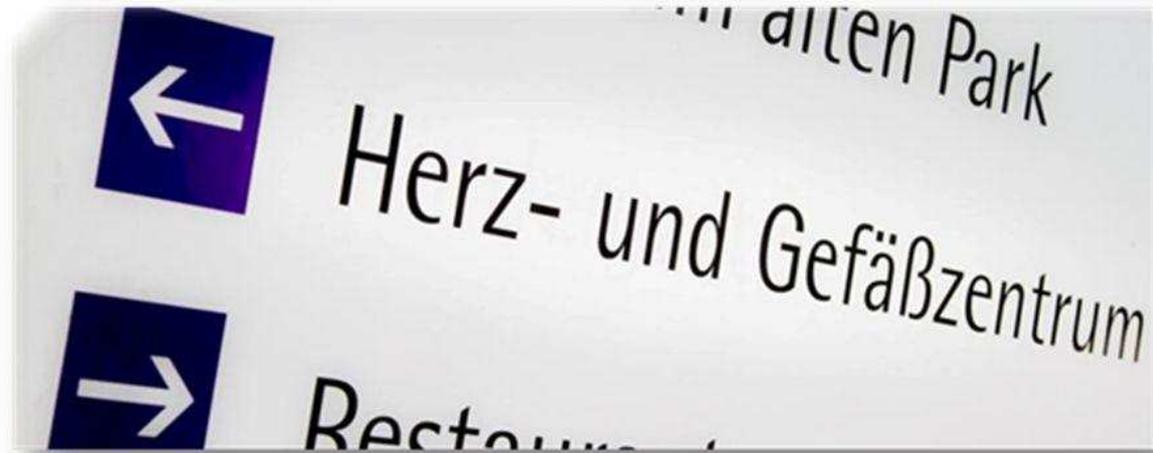
HEINER KRUSS, CEO OF GLOBAL MED CON GMBH, ADVISED THE MVZ AT THE EVANGELICAL HOSPITAL CLINIC AUGSBURG ON THE SELECTION OF A SUITABLE IT SYSTEM.



DR NORBERT SEIDEL, CARDIOLOGIST AT THE EVANGELICAL HOSPITAL CLINIC'S MVZ



RONALD FREY, PRACTICE MANAGER FOR THE EVANGELICAL HOSPITAL CLINIC'S MVZ



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