

PRESS RELEASE

Esaote

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Derriford Hospital in Plymouth invest in Esaote Extremity MR scanner to reduce their patient waiting lists

Plymouth Hospitals Trust recently took delivery of an Esaote MRI scanner, after thorough research, including testing it in situ. The aim, said Lee Arkins, Contracts Manager – Capital, Estates and Facilities, was to improve services for patients, as well as help the trust meet its targets and objectives. “The main focus for our Radiologists, and for us, was image quality. We had to be sure that the scanner would do the job we needed it to do so we had a scanner delivered to us on trial, and we also linked up with a hospital in the north west of England to make sure that the Radiologists were completely happy with the images from the scanner. The Radiologists were very happy with it.”

The new scanner complements the trust’s existing large MRI machines as by diverting extremity scanning, it frees up whole-body scanners for those who really need them, cutting waiting times and improving access. Fewer visits to hospital, faster diagnosis and commencement with treatment, and improved resilience if one or more of the trust’s three existing scanners go down are also expected benefits. An added advantage is expected to be saved bed days – because inpatient waiting times for scans will also reduce, making the new scanner an efficient choice.

“By releasing capacity in the main Derriford MRI scanners we will be able to release up to 134 scans per month to be allocated to inpatient MRI,’ explains Mr Arkins. ‘This will significantly reduce the length of wait for an inpatient scan, and potentially save bed days across the trust.” The Radiologists have already taken the scanner to their hearts, he says, and it also helps the trust comply with Any Qualified Provider requirements.

For the Radiologists at Derriford Hospital the key consideration for purchasing the Esaote extremity MR scanner was the image quality – and for some, seeing has meant believing.

Consultant Radiologist’s Dr. A. Gafoor (Service Line Director Imaging), Consultant Radiologist; and Dr. Priya Suresh said “the Esaote Extremity MR is a very useful addition to our department; it is easy to use with many good features and has a dedicated sequence for cartilage and dedicated coils for the extremities.

Our patients appreciate the quieter, less claustrophobic scanner, which provides us with good image quality and with only a slightly longer scan times”.

Radiographers Tim Relf and Ian Gow said “Esaote have provided us with excellent technical support. The extremity scanner has enabled us to get waiting lists for MSK scans down and free up time on our two main scanners for more complex examinations.”

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For further information, please contact:

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Notes to editors

1. Photograph Attached
2. **Esaote is one of the world’s leading producers of medical diagnostic systems and internationally acknowledged to be the world leader in dedicated MRI. The Esaote Group is also one of the main players in the sector of Information Technology for healthcare. For further information visit www.esaote.com**