Philips CVIS makes cardiology more coherent

At the annual conference of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) in Munich, Philips unveiled its latest advancement in coronary angiography. The Philips CVIS is an integrated information management system designed to provide clinicians with access to the complete and detailed records of all patients across the complete cardiovascular care cycle in the hospital. The system also provides hospital administrators and managers with essential patient scheduling, departmental productivity, and patient outcome information. Key components include a wide range of detailed clinical modules as well as interfaces to other systems, both within the cardiac departments and across the enterprise, as appropriate.

“For a clinician, cardiology comprises a lot more than just ECG, cath lab, echo lab, etc.,”

Peter Duke, Sales Director Cardiology Informatics

Earlier this year, Philips announced the acquisition of TOMCAT, a leading international provider of IT solutions for cardiology. TOMCAT’s product has now been integrated with the Philips Cardio Portfolio and gives customers even greater benefits.

“For a clinician, cardiology comprises a lot more than just ECG, cath lab, echo lab, etc.,” said Peter Duke, Sales Director Cardiology Informatics. “Rather, it is an entire care cycle that encompasses the different diagnostic modalities, as well as cardiac surgery, chest pain clinics, inpatient care and even cardiac rehabilitation.”

Philips CVIS provides complete integration of patients’ cardiovascular information into a single, relational database and allows immediate access to this data from any standard workstation across the healthcare enterprise. “The beauty of it is that, apart from being a portal for the cardiovascular department, the software also enables users to measure outcome and, based on that, to change clinical pathways if necessary,” said former TOMCAT CEO Stephen Gunning and now General Manager BL CVIS.

Peter Duke underlined that the Philips CVIS is compatible with solutions from most major technology providers in cardiology, and also with the relevant hospital information systems. “It is clear, though, that we will be able to ensure optimal interfacing with our own products, so that customers will have an additional benefit from having the CVIS in a Philips environment.”

Dual-axis rotational coronary angiography reduces X-ray dosage and use of contrast agent

At the annual conference of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) in Munich, Philips unveiled its latest advancement in coronary angiography. In a recent study XperSwing allowed a reduction in the number of X-ray runs, total radiation exposure and contrast dose.

“What XperSwing does is to project the full coronary artery in just one swing, so the cardiologist needs only one contrast injection and one X-ray dosage per artery,” said Frans Venker, Director Global Product Marketing Cardiovascular for Philips Healthcare. This is possible because a ‘C’ arm with XperSwing functionality rotates with curved trajectories around the patient, which allows different anatomical views to be imaged in a single run. In standard coronary angiography solutions, rotations are made around a single axis in a single plane.

A recent study with 26 patients at Toyohashi Heart Center in Japan evaluated the new technique. On average, 3.5 runs of the ‘C’ arm were needed for a diagnostic coronary angiography in those 13 patients who were diagnosed using the XperSwing system.

By contrast, on average 9.1 runs were needed for those 13 patients who underwent standard angiography.

Using the XperSwing system not only cut the X-ray dosage in half, but also led to a 18% reduction in the amount of contrast agent needed. Patients with impaired renal function in particular will benefit from the use of less contrast agent. XperSwing was developed in close collaboration with specialists of the University of Colorado’s Department of Cardiology and with experts at the Centre Cardiologique du Nord in Paris.