Flexibility promotes confidence

Philips MultiDiagnost Eleva with Urology package

Urologists at Lakeshore General Hospital in Quebec, Canada, find a clear advantage with advanced radiographic functionality and dedicated urology tools.

“When we can determine exactly where we are going, it’s very beneficial for the patients,” suggests Dr. Vladimir Kurgansky, urologist at Lakeshore General Hospital. “When we have a system that helps us perform more effectively, it boosts our confidence.”

As one of four Lakeshore urologists, Dr. Kurgansky and his team perform a variety of urological procedures including:
• Retrograde urethrocystogram
• Ureteroscopy
• Cystoscopy
• Percutaneous nephrolithotomy
• And all trans-urethral procedures

When their primary X-ray imaging system broke down, another had to be quickly found. “Lucky for everybody,” Kurgansky says, “we were able to acquire this new system with an extraordinary urology table from Philips.”

**Making the right selection**

Lakeshore General Hospital is the primary healthcare facility on the west island of Montreal in the municipality of Pointe-Claire, Quebec.

Serving a population of more than 350,000 people, this community hospital has 257 beds and an ER that is one of the busiest for distress cases in Montreal with over 72,000 visits annually. “We see probably five to six ER consultations per day for ureteral stones,” notes Dr. Kurgansky. “Many of these stones pass by themselves, but we do perform six to ten ureteroscopies per week.”

Lakeshore General needed a versatile, multipurpose urology X-ray system to maintain a focus on quality, patient-centric care. They chose the Philips MultiDiagnost Eleva with urology clinical package for smooth, efficient interventions. Says Kurgansky, “The new MultiDiagnost Eleva is used as our general urology table where we do all our trans-urethral procedures including ureteroscopy and all intra-renals such as pelvic tumors, ureteric carcinomas or stones.”
Allowing the image intensifier to be easily manipulated to any projection angle.

MultiDiagnost Eleva’s customizable exam- and patient related presets help enhance efficiencies throughout the procedure. Using the detachable control panel in the examination room, Lakeshore General radiologic technologists can image rapidly from the kidney to the bladder with just the push of a button. “The system moves easily from an AP to PA position. From one of those positions you can also go to a lateral position or any position in between,” says Dr. Kurgansky, “which I find very beneficial for larger patients or any time I have questions about particular anatomy.”

“The radiation X-ray dose per patient and staff is further decreased.”

“With good image quality,” he continues, “I’m able to define the anatomy well. When I combine that with an endoscopic view, procedures become smoother with less chance for complication.”

Dr. Kurgansky is learning first hand how to achieve desirable results, “I can use less X-ray because I can bring the detector down very close to the patient therefore minimizing the radiation. And by using pulsed fluoroscopy, the radiation X-ray dose per patient and staff is further decreased.”

Designed for success
As a multipurpose interventional system, the Philips MultiDiagnost Eleva offers clear advantage for clinicians and patients, with the 180 degrees rotation flexibility and the unique scanning concept where the C-arc moves around the patient so that they can remain stationary. Combine it with a set of dedicated urology tools and it assures urologists comfortable access to regions of interest and high projection flexibility for superb anatomical insight.

The urology clinical package adds an isocentric split table top which allows easy access during ureteroscopies and other examinations. Add a drain bag holder, uro mattress and leg stirrups to this unique extendable table and nearly all possible urology examinations can be conducted.

Procedural flexibility
The MultiDiagnost Eleva is designed to give specialists like Dr. Kurgansky room to work on a stationary patient while the C-arm of the X-ray system moves easily around the patient to obtain exceptional visibility of the anatomy from various angles. As he explains, “It’s very nice to be able to adjust the table to exactly the position I want.”

“The patient is positioned in the lithotomy position which means legs up in the stirrups. It’s very nice to be able to adjust the table to exactly the position I want. I can move it up, down and tilt it. The whole table is attached at one point only, at the head of the patient, giving it great freedom of movement and allowing the image intensifier to be easily manipulated to any projection angle.”

Before we had the MultiDiagnost Eleva we use to rely a lot more on intuition to find our way. Now we are quite comfortable working inside the kidney.”

Dr. Vladimir Kurgansky
Seeing clearly is critical

In practice, Dr. Kurgansky uses fluoroscopic imaging to help guide him into areas not clearly seen using endoscopy alone. “Moving up the urethra to the bladder is done using the endoscope,” he says. “However, once we’re into the bladder we introduce the contrast dye, acquire the image and we can see the whole ureter to determine if there is any narrowing or any stones. I find that when I am trying to bypass an obstruction with a guidewire, visualization with our new MultiDiagnost Eleva is much better then I have ever experienced before.”

“Visualization with the new MultiDiagnost Eleva is much better then I have ever experienced before.”

Acquiring images across multiple projections gives Dr. Kurgansky the confirmation he needs to make confident procedural decisions. “When I’m inside the kidneys it’s important to see where I am. If I’m looking for a stone inside a calyx, I might miss it completely based on a single PA projection. Now, when I have a question, I can quickly turn the C-arc to get a new angle of the calyx, and with the special foot switch I can easily do that myself.”

Whether an AP, lateral or oblique projection is required, patients can remain comfortably in place throughout the procedure.

Clinical experiences

Left hydronephrosis 2 to UPJ calculus
Right upper ureteroscopy

Right retrograde pyelogram
Ureteroscopy for left upper pole TCC
Quality imaging today and tomorrow

“With the MultiDiagnost Eleva,” suggests Kurgansky, “I can safely get into places which if I’d tried before I might have felt uncomfortable and ended the procedure. We urologists need high quality imaging to be sure we’re always looking in the right place. I get that with the MultiDiagnost Eleva system.”

Hospital anesthesiologists recognize the versatility of the system and are interested in broadening the role of the urology room by developing a pain management program.

With the new Philips system in place, Lakeshore General has been able to achieve the desired control and success for urology procedures that its patients and professional staff require. And future plans for the system will assure its continued relevance.

“I suspect,” concludes Dr. Kurgansky, “that the MultiDiagnost Eleva’s capabilities will continue to find broad application here at Lakeshore.”