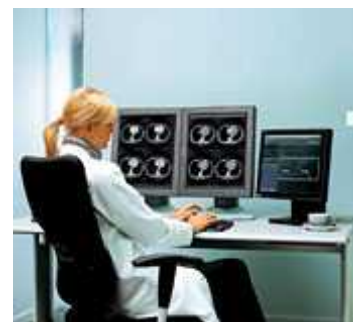


Press Release: September 2006

Teleradiology System for Hamilton Radiology

A Teleradiology /PACS system sends X-Ray and Ultrasound Scan images electronically to base for reporting and eliminates the need to transport patients' films.

- **Teleradiology now links all Hamilton Radiology branches**
- **Immediate reporting for urgent cases from any branch**
- **Same-day reporting for routine cases.**
- **Next-day reports for evening or overnight cases**
- **Patients have their films to take away immediately**
- **Significant reduction in patient delays**



All Hamilton Radiology branches are now linked by a teleradiology system that sends digital copies of patient's X-Ray and Ultrasound images to our central city branches for reading by our Radiologists on one of three workstations.

Since there is no requirement for X-Ray and scan films to be physically sent to our main branch, the films are available for the patient to take with them immediately their study is complete.

This has already noticeably reduced patient delays and waiting times, as well as eliminating the requirement for many patients to travel to central Hamilton for their X-Ray or ultrasound scan.

It also means referring practitioners have the final verified result of any urgent scan or X-Ray on their practice computer within minutes of the study being performed, since urgent cases are tagged to be reported first. Routine (non-urgent) results also benefit significantly from this much more rapid reporting.

Patients can now go from their doctor's office to their local Hamilton Radiology branch, have their X-Ray taken, and return to their doctor with the film in hand. The report is available to their doctor via HealthLink (secure Email) as soon as it is reported and verified.

A new benefit is that the referring doctor (with the film in front of them) is able to discuss any X-Ray or scan directly by phone with the radiologist (who can view the digital copy). X-Ray pictures and scans are kept on the PACS (Picture Archive System) at Hamilton Radiology for the subsequent 12 months.

Clinically urgent cases are tagged to receive top priority reporting.





**For Ultrasound scans
please call our central number
(07-8394909 or 0800 HAMRAD)
to make an appointment at our
closest branch**

Teleradiology/PACS now allows us to decentralise Ultrasound services outside the main branches. We have recently opened our latest Ultrasound branch at Hamilton East Medical Centre. Other branches will follow shortly. Ultrasound services are also available at Anglesea Women's Health and Anglesea Specialists, as well as at the main Collingwood Street Branch. As always, please phone our central number (07-8394909 or 0800 HAMRAD) to make an appointment at our closest branch.

Our central city branches including Collingwood Street, are developing into more specialised imaging centres. As part of this we will shortly offer multislice CT scanning (including non-invasive CT coronary artery angiograms) on our new General Electric 64-slice VCT scanner, being installed in September. Specialist Ultrasound and fluoroscopy is offered from Collingwood Street.

Our data network links all of our branches into a single fully-integrated but geographically distributed virtual office.

It is an exciting time for us, and we look forward to this new technology providing a much faster and more efficient Radiology service than a single centralised hospital-style practice can ever provide.

This change significantly improves the Radiology Service we provide to all referring practitioners and their patients.



Film scanner at each branch



Ultrasound images



Images sent electronically to Radiologists reporting PACS Workstations