



PHILIPS

MobileDiagnost
wDR SkyFlow

Mobile digital radiography

Save Time and enjoy great image quality

SkyFlow* in use at St. Lucas Andreas Hospital, Amsterdam

Who/where

Radiology Department
Sint Lucas Andreas Hospital, Amsterdam, Holland
Ciska Louwerse, Radiologic technologist
Biano Gemmel, Radiologic technologist
John Coret, Executive Manager

Challenge

How can technologists improve workflow and maintain image quality during mobile X-ray exams?

Solution

Using SkyFlow, as part of Philips MobileDiagnost wDR premium digital radiography system, technologists have been able to shorten exam times without sacrificing image quality. They experience 'grid-like' image contrast without the hassle of a grid.

When making a decision for their mobile X-ray systems, the radiology team at Sint Lucas Andreas Hospital in Amsterdam decided to take full advantage of current technological advances.

After careful consideration, they selected two fully featured Philips MobileDiagnost wDR SkyFlow X-ray systems.

Impressed with the many cutting-edge features, the team was most excited about using SkyFlow technology to help improve their workflow. This outstanding innovation gives users the option to X-ray without the use of an anti-scatter grid, yet maintains excellent grid-like contrast. For technologists at Sint Lucas Andreas, this translates into substantial time savings.



With 550 beds and 2,200 staff members, Sint Lucas Andreas Hospital provides high-level care to Amsterdam residents. To sustain that level of care, a decision was made to move from mobile X-ray systems using CR cassettes to mobile direct digital radiography. The expectation was to benefit from on-the-spot image viewing, improved workflow, and reduced exam time.

A visit to the Hamburg, Germany production facility, for a demonstration of the capabilities of MobileDiagnost wDR, confirmed to the Sint Lucas Andreas team that this system was the one to meet their needs. By selecting MobileDiagnost wDR SkyFlow, they now have Philips latest in premium X-ray technology.

MobileDiagnost wDR SkyFlow packs the superb quality and full efficiency of Philips premium DR rooms into a flexible, mobile system. Two groundbreaking features set MobileDiagnost wDR apart from competition –

lightweight SkyPlate wireless portable detectors and SkyFlow, an innovation that combines the ease of a gridless acquisition workflow with the contrast of a grid-like image.

Smooth workflow

Moving through a busy hospital to keep pace with a demanding imaging schedule means technologists must work efficiently. But attaching, aligning, and detaching the grid for a bedside chest exam is time consuming and can introduce the potential for retakes due to grid cut-off or misalignment. All this can be alleviated with SkyFlow.

SkyFlow produces images with grid-like contrast by reducing the effect of scattered radiation. It identifies scatter signal and immediately applies fully automatic image contrast enhancement. Technologists, who choose to image without a grid, benefit from a fast and smooth gridless workflow.

Experience fast and smooth gridless workflow



X-ray technologist, Bianco Gemmel confirms the ease-of-use benefits, “We save a lot of time because we don’t have to change grids anymore. By eliminating the use of a grid we don’t need to worry about re-takes due to misalignment.” Exams are quick and positioning easy when the inconvenience of an anti-scatter grid is removed.

Excellent image quality

Use of SkyFlow does not compromise image quality. SkyFlow delivers equivalent contrast enhancement as compared to a grid. It compensates for the effect of scattered radiation by an estimation of the scatter signal. Subsequent partial subtraction then automatically adjusts contrast, based on the amount of scatter for each individual patient. SkyFlow therefore is suitable for a wide variety of patient types from pediatric to bariatric.



“In the past we used a grid for every chest image, Now we make all these images without a grid. Without a grid, the detector is much lighter which makes positioning at the patient’s bedside a lot easier.”

Ciska Louwerse,
X-Ray technologist at Sint Lucas
Andreas.

The team at Sint Lucas Andreas agrees. “Image quality with SkyFlow is comparable to the images that we used to make with a grid,” says Bianco Gemmel. They have found that SkyFlow offers a true alternative to the traditional use of anti-scatter grids for enhanced image contrast.

Time to focus on the patient

When the process of image acquisition is simplified, more attention can be paid to the patient. SkyFlow supports outstanding patient focus with automatic operation, short exam times, and comfortable positioning.

The patient enjoys a:

- Enhanced care
- Fast exam
- Reduced chance for retakes

With less hardware to handle, technologists are freer to engage in conversation. “Since I don’t need to align the grid anymore,” says Ciska Louwerse, “I have more time for my patient.” And when more attention is paid, patient satisfaction is enhanced.

The statements by Philips’ customers described herein are based on results that were achieved in the customer’s unique setting. Since there is no “typical” hospital and many variables exist, there can be no guarantee that other facilities will achieve the same result.

Part of an integrated solution

Image contrast similar to grid images is paramount for radiologists at Sint Lucas Andreas. They must spot important information in a portable chest image to provide an effective interpretation. SkyFlow gives them the detail they require. It provides contrast enhancement that automatically adapts to the patient, resulting in an image impression almost indiscernible from an image acquired with a grid.

The MobileDiagnost wDR SkyFlow mobile X-ray system puts Sint Lucas Andrea Hospital at the forefront of mobile digital radiography and helps them achieve advancements in workflow and patient care.

MobileDiagnost wDR becomes part of a portfolio of Philips imaging solutions at work in the Sint Lucas Andreas radiology department, joining CT, MRI, and fixed X-ray rooms. “We purchased the MobileDiagnost wDR systems because Philips is a trusted partner for our department,” says John Coret, Radiology Department Manager, “and we expect that the combination of the two mobile systems and our fixed DR rooms will really increase the logistical opportunities of our department.”

* SkyFlow is based on patented technology.

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