

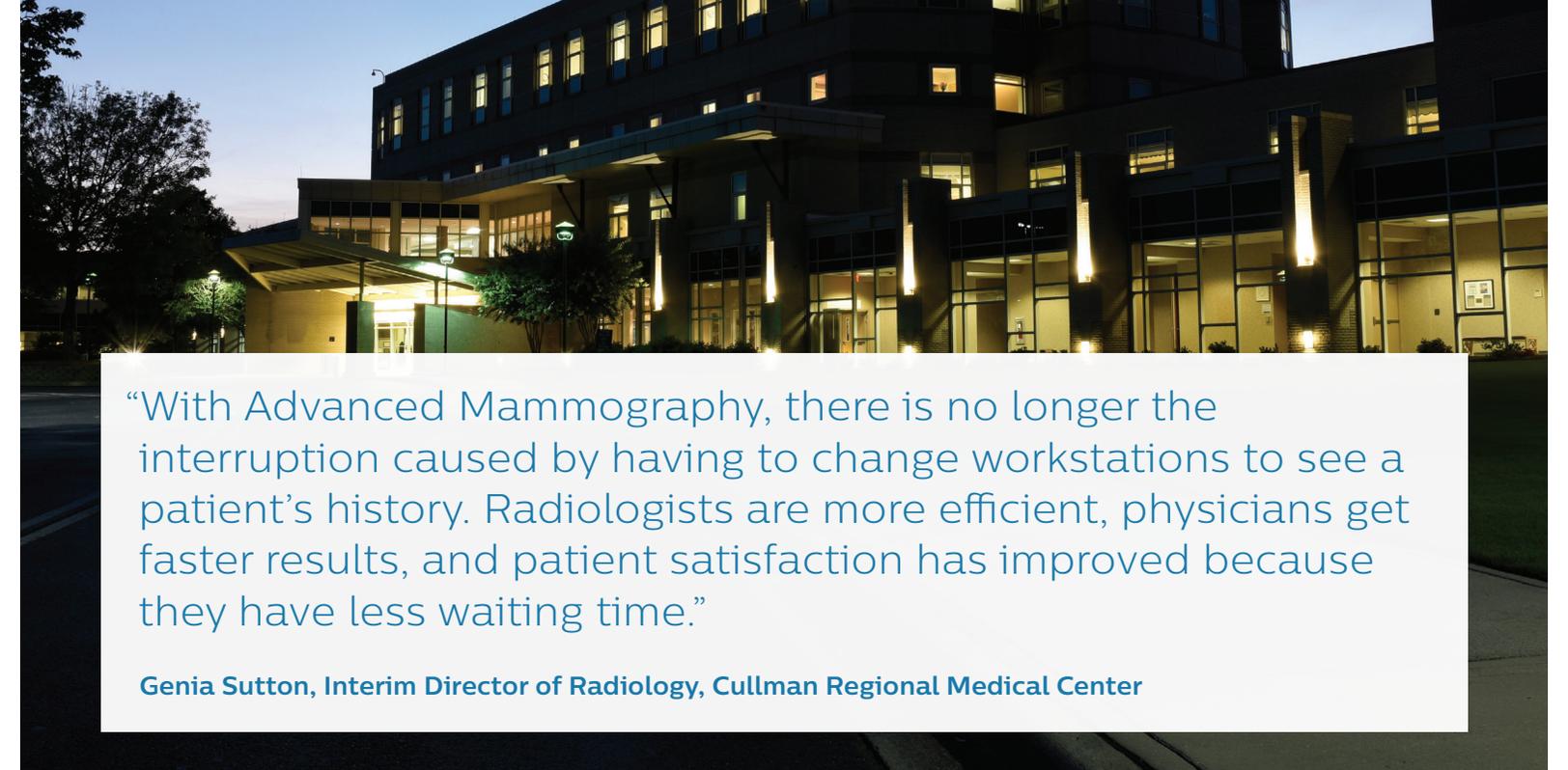
**PHILIPS**

IntelliSpace PACS Radiology

Advanced Mammography

# An advanced mammography story

How one medical center saved time, space and money — and improved patient satisfaction



“With Advanced Mammography, there is no longer the interruption caused by having to change workstations to see a patient’s history. Radiologists are more efficient, physicians get faster results, and patient satisfaction has improved because they have less waiting time.”

**Genia Sutton, Interim Director of Radiology, Cullman Regional Medical Center**

#### Who/Where

Cullman Regional Medical Center in Alabama

#### Challenges:

- Separate workstations for reading meant extra time for radiologists and patients
- Interruptions in radiologists’ workflow interfered with focus

#### Solution:

- Philips IntelliSpace PACS Radiology with the Advanced Mammography package enables radiologists to read 3D mammograms and provides a single point of access for a holistic view of your patient’s medical history

#### Results:

- Time savings for radiologists and technologists
- Cost and space efficiencies
- Higher patient satisfaction

#### Patient history at your fingertips

When Cullman Regional Medical Center in Alabama decided to switch from 2D to 3D mammography, they knew they needed to update their PACS system to support the change. The solution they found did far more than simply enable their radiologists to read 3D images, though. By opting to add the capabilities of the Advanced Mammography package to Philips IntelliSpace PACS Radiology, Cullman radiologists now have a holistic view of a patient’s history at a single workstation.\*

The impact is notable: the Advanced Mammography package improved workflow, saved precious time for radiologists, technologists, and patients, and created both cost and space efficiencies. “Before Advanced Mammography, our radiologists were constantly moving from the PACS reading workstation to the dedicated mammography reading workstation,” says Genia Sutton, Cullman Consultant and acting Director of Radiology.

The interruptions in workflow affected patients as well as radiologists and technologists, often increasing their waiting time in what can be a stressful situation. “The problem is compounded when you have a diagnostic exam which requires a patient hold. The radiologist has to stop what he or she is doing, get up, and walk over to another workstation to review the images. Meanwhile, the technologist is on standby and the patient waits a bit longer. With Advanced Mammography, radiologists can easily adjust their reading to breast imaging within one system,” Sutton says. “Because there is no longer the interruption caused by moving workstations, radiologists are more efficient, physicians get faster results, and patient satisfaction has improved because they have less waiting time.”

\*Along with IntelliSpace PACS Radiology with the Advanced Mammography package, customers must use an FDA-approved monitor that offers at least 5 megapixel resolution and meets other technical specifications as outlined in our Client Specifications.

## Saving time for radiologists and patients

The Advanced Mammography package has made a big difference for Dr. Jonathon Davis, a general radiologist at Cullman. “In the past, if I was concerned about a finding on a mammogram and wanted to compare it to the patient’s previous studies from a sonogram or other modality, I would have to get up, walk across two different hallways to go to a separate workstation to access the patient’s history. Then I’d have to walk back to the main reading room, try to remember what I saw, pull up the data from the PACS system and try to match it,” he says.

With the Advanced Mammography package, the patient’s history is just a click away and, with dedicated hanging protocols that automate the display to his preferences,

Dr. Davis is easily able to compare past studies using a single platform. “That lets me focus better. I can read images in a smoother fashion and a less harried pace. When reading images takes less time, patients have less waiting and less worry. That matters a great deal,” Dr. Davis says. Sutton, too, has seen the benefit to patients. “Five minutes is a lot of time if you are thinking you may have breast cancer,” she says. “Now, technologists aren’t as rushed. They can give a more personal touch because they can spend more time with their patients.”

The time saving and a reduction in the duplicate reading environments has proven valuable. “The time the radiologist spent moving from the PACS system to a mammography reading workstation really adds up,” Sutton says. “Having all the mammography reading tools in

PACS removes this burden and makes the radiologists more productive. We would probably be able to add on one to two diagnostic mammograms per day from the time savings.” With eight to ten scans a day, that could add up to an hour saved. There are space savings as well. Without the need for a dedicated mammography reading workstation, organizations can make room for additional workstations. “We have used 3D mammography as a marketing tool. We did mailers and billboards. We saw a spike in the number of patients we were seeing, which led to about 10% year-over-year growth.”

Cullman is working with Philips to use these efficiencies as an important tool for growth. This is just one way that Cullman is partnering with Philips and benefiting from this long-term relationship.

## Savings open up new possibilities



The **time-saving** potential



The **space-saving** potential



The **revenue** potential

If you do 12 exams a day and save 5 minutes on each, you would save an hour a day. How many additional exams could you schedule in that extra hour?

With the extra space saved from not needing a separate dedicated mammography reading station, how many additional workstations could you add to support business growth?

With more workstations and more mammograms scheduled each a day, what could that mean for your facilities?



“When reading images takes less time, patients have less waiting and less worry. That matters a great deal.”

Dr. Jonathon Davis, general radiologist,  
Cullman Regional Medical Center

### **Fewer interruptions mean better focus**

For Dr. Davis, the benefits of the Advanced Mammography package go beyond saving time and steps. “When you are interpreting images, you use a different part of your brain than is used for reading reports. Switching between the two can get you out of your search pattern,” he explains. “You want

to stay in the part of your brain that interprets images as long as you can with each patient. The great thing about the Advanced Mammography package is that I never have to look down at the keyboard or take my eyes off of the images to look at the patient file. I can navigate the format and access contrast and magnifications so my eyes never move away from the screen. The

interaction with images is very natural and easy to work with. The interface is smooth and exceptionally robust, and its reliability is key.” The integrated system also allows Dr. Davis to go straight from reading a CT scan or MRI to a mammogram using the same monitor without any delay or change in his reading patterns.

## Advanced Mammography, improved workflow.

Advanced Mammography reading from your IntelliSpace PACS Radiology workstation provides a single point of access for a holistic view of your patient’s medical history. The Advanced Mammography package improves workflow when reading Digital Breast Tomosynthesis (DBT) with tools including:

- Bidirectional localizer for synthetic 2D to 3D and 3D to synthetic 2D
- DBT slice indicator displays slice position and anatomical scroll direction
- DBT Slab tool allows the creation of slab displays
- Projections of Measurements and Annotations from 3D to 2D
- Mammography Tomosynthesis variable slab thickness

## A seamless launch

Before using the Advanced Mammography package features, Philips professional services spent time with the Cullman radiologists to understand their workflow and help them create hanging protocols specific to their needs. Philips application consultants also came to the

medical center to train the team before the new solution went live. When new employees come in now, they have to learn only one system instead of two.

Best of all, the launch was the smoothest Sutton has ever experienced. “I don’t know of any healthcare system I’ve implemented that did not have

one hiccup. With Advanced Mammography, I never heard a complaint from one radiologist or anyone else,” she says. “I have put in a lot of systems and having zero issues is just unheard of. That to me was the best thing about this — not hearing any complaints is win-win. It was seamless.”

## How the Advanced Mammography package can boost your bottom line

Switching to a single workstation can lead to short-term savings and long-term growth.

### Separate mammography workstation

Re-occurring cost for service contracts and upgrades



Additional contracts and vendor relationships



Increased cost as workstations are added



Takes up extra space and power, and other resources, and requires radiologists to move between PACS



Higher network volumes, network traffic, and prefetching limitations



### IntelliSpace PACS Radiology with the Advanced Mammography package

Transparent contract that includes the cost of the Advanced Mammography package

Same vendor, simple contract

Predictable costs as you grow

Single workstation for all imaging

Least cost image retrieval

## Streamline Mammography Reading

Streamline the review of your diagnostic mammography studies with IntelliSpace PACS Radiology with the Advanced Mammography package. Fast, automated image presentation and manipulation improves reading efficiency and enhances clinical decision-making.

Learn more at: <https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/product/HC714071/intellispace-pacs-mammography-workstation>

