

## Dual Source CT to Expand Procedures at North Tees



The University Hospital of North Tees, part of the North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust, has ordered a SOMATOM® Definition Flash from Siemens Healthcare. The Dual Source CT system is due to be installed in the main X-ray department alongside an existing Definition AS CT system later this year. In addition to assisting with existing procedures such as Computed Tomography urography, the system is due to increase the department's capacity and expand its services to include cardiac, bariatric and paediatric procedures.

The Definition Flash is a Dual Source CT system with Spiral Dual Energy where two X-ray sources run simultaneously at different energies for easy classification of the scanned tissue at the right dose. Rapid imaging ensures a more comfortable patient experience, with breath holding and motion no longer a challenge, and no need for sedation in paediatric imaging. Cardiac procedures also benefit from a high temporal resolution of 75 milliseconds, available in all cardiac scan modes, capturing any cardiac motion irrespective of heart rate.

"With the Definition Flash CT system from Siemens Healthcare, we plan to expand our services to meet an increased need for cardiac, bariatric and paediatric procedures. Additionally, we will be able to alleviate workload from other departments such as the catheterisation laboratory," states Gail Griffiths, CT Lead Radiographer at The University Hospital of North Tees. "We hope to increase patient throughput with the new system and benefit from the virtual non-contrast, optimising workflow and removing the need for additional unenhanced scans."

"We are very excited about the arrival of this new type of scanner which will give us the ability to detect heart disease early using the world's most advanced equipment," says Dr Justin Carter, Consultant Cardiologist at North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust. "For many patients we will, for the first time, be able to see coronary narrowing without invasive procedures with excellent accuracy and very low doses. Many feel the NHS is slow to provide such advanced technology so we are especially pleased to have been able to secure such a service for people living in Teesside and the surrounding area."

"The Definition Flash is designed to produce excellent image quality at the right dose," states Neil Lincoln, Northern Sales Manager at Siemens Healthcare. "The system's Stellar Detectors help to generate thin slices with very high spatial resolution but are also designed for low-signal imaging, well suited to the hospital's planned expansion of bariatric and paediatric CT services."

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