

ECR 2014: Can iPads Be Used to Read CT Angiography Exams?



The latest generation of iPads performed well when radiologists read CT angiography exams on them, according to Dr. Lorenzo Faggioni from Pisa, Italy who presented a study that looked at the potential for primary reading of radiological images on an iPad at the European Congress of Radiology on Thursday.

Now increasingly large data sets from several imaging modalities can be displayed on handheld devices without the need for dedicated workstations.

This study therefore evaluated the effectiveness of iPad with retina display™ as a mobile device for 2D reading of CT angiography examinations of patients with suspected acute gastrointestinal bleeding.

Their study found that it was shorter to read using an iPad than a workstation. In addition inter-reader agreement was good. The iPad had better sensitivity and significantly higher specificity for arterial blush detection.

Further research is needed, said Faggioni, but potential applications could be remote CT angiography image viewing by on-call interventional radiologists for immediate decisions on percutaneous embolisation

Asked why reading was faster on the iPad Faggioni speculated that this may be because reading is more concentrated on a small screen. On a radiological workstation the radiologist needs to move the mouse and the screen is higher.

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