



Latest Trends in Diagnostic Imaging



Novation, the leading hospital and health care supply chain expertise, analytics and contracting company for the members of VHA Inc., UHC, Children's Hospital Association, and Provista LLC, has released its 2013 Diagnostic Imaging Watch. The report, peer-reviewed by the medical doctors, clinicians and engineers who are members of Novation's Diagnostic Imaging Council, highlights the latest trends and technologies in diagnostic imaging to help guide purchasing.

Among the trends highlighted in this year's watch:

- **Use of Portable Mobile Tablets:** Though there has been debate about investing in tablets because of the risk of them being dropped, lost or taken, tablets could increase efficiency by reducing consultation wait time. They could also enhance consultations with patients and other clinicians.
- **Mobile Apps in Radiology:** In order for tablets to be used to their best advantage, they need the right apps. The market for mobile health applications was expected to grow by nearly \$600 million in 2012, which will include apps allowing radiologists to review images on their tablets and other mobile devices. While many still use their workstations, more and more are relying on mobile apps for their job.
- **Cloud Imaging:** The cloud computing market for medical imaging in the United States is expected to grow at a compounded annual rate of 27 percent through 2018. Using the cloud has a number of benefits, from being able to share images across providers to mitigating maintenance costs and improving collaboration. Despite concerns about data security and regulatory compliance, more and more providers are seeing the benefits of using the cloud.

"With uncertainty around health care reform and reduced reimbursement rates, as well as rapidly changing technology, hospitals are mindful of how they invest in new imaging equipment," said Mike Clemens, Vice President, Sourcing Operations, Capital, Construction and Imaging for Novation. "Novation is committed to helping the members it serves with the latest information needed to make smart, informed decisions."

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