

Affiliates Radiologists Ramp Up for New CT System

The new 32-slice CT from GE Healthcare at Sonora Regional Medical Center (SRMC) is now online, with Affiliates radiologists fully trained on the advanced imaging technology. Sonora acquired and installed the GE Optima CT660 compact CT system earlier this year, with subsequent testing, quality control and protocol review conducted in advance of final device accreditation to bring the equipment into service.

Optima CT660 applications include cardiovascular, oncology, neurology and CT angiography. The system incorporates fluoroscopy for assistance in guidance with biopsy procedures and is upgradeable to 128 slice. The new equipment also includes the Medrad® Stellant D® system – a dedicated, dual-syringe CT injector for both contrast and saline.

“Enhanced automation and saline flush capability is a big plus for our radiology team,” said David B. Weinreb, M.D. “With better automation, we’re seeing reduced setup times and shortened scan times, and the use of saline flush gives us the ability to noticeably enhance image quality.”

Jerry Kurtz, director of diagnostic imaging at Sonora Regional Medical Center, said the Optima system will also be included in the SRMC dose reduction program.

“This system has great capabilities when it comes to managing and delivering less contrast and lower overall radiation doses,” said Kurtz. “The Optima combines automated dose-optimization technology, ‘Dose Check’ dose management for clinicians and adaptive gating, all of which serve to reduce radiation dose compared to traditional helical scan technology.”

Through our valued partnership with SRMC, Affiliates is proud to provide around-the-clock, high-quality reads, including outpatient CT and MRI, with quick turnaround and direct access to radiologists available for consultation. ▲



In this issue

Signa MRI upgrade adds breast MRI, MRI-guided breast biopsy capabilities

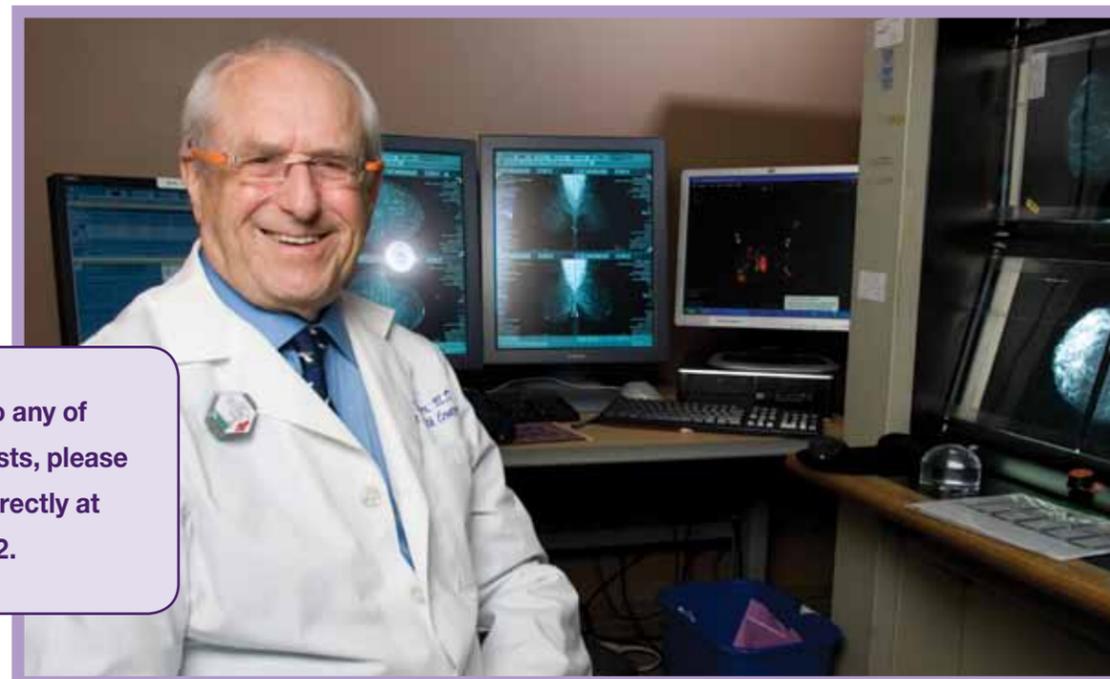
Also in this issue

32-slice CT with dual injection comes online

Project HOPE golf tourney returns to Saddle Creek Resort



Physician Spotlight on Affiliates team member Kathryn Klima, M.D



For access to any of our radiologists, please contact us directly at 209-536-3452.



Affiliates Sponsor Annual Golf Classic

Affiliates in Imaging participated as a corporate sponsor of this year's annual Sonora Regional Medical Center charity golf tournament. Sonora's 18th Annual Golf Classic was held on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, at Saddle Creek Resort in Copperopolis. All proceeds from the tournament benefit Sonora Regional Medical Center's Project HOPE (Health, Outreach, Prevention and Education), a twice-a-week, free mobile health clinic serving those in the community with no health insurance or high deductibles.

Sonora Regional Medical Center Foundation Executive Director Gail Witzlsteiner said the 2014 event might be one of the best tournaments yet.

"Many sponsors stepped up early to lend their support to Project HOPE," said Witzlsteiner. "This is a very popular event, as players are guaranteed a great day for a great cause. It looks like we had strong turnout again this year."

The 2013 event had a great turnout, with 75 sponsors and more than more than 150 golfers helping to raise more than \$63,000 for Project HOPE. Returning to this year's event was the "Closest to the Hole" Helicopter Ball Drop on the 18th hole following the end of tournament play. Totals for the 2014 event will be announced in the next few weeks.

In addition to the annual golf event, Affiliates radiologists support Project HOPE in partnership with Sonora Regional Medical Center by providing screening mammography reads. Businesses and individuals who would like information on volunteering for or donating to Project Hope should call the Sonora Regional Medical Center's Foundation Office at 209-536-5029.

For more information, visit www.sonoramedicalcenter.org/services-and-programs/project-hope.

Project HOPE is one of several events through which the Sonora Regional Medical Center foundation raises funds for community health programs to benefit the uninsured, underinsured, and those who are undergoing treatment for cancer and others in need. ▲



SRMC Adds Signa MRI

We previously reported on an important MRI upgrade in progress at Sonora Regional Medical Center (SRMC). We're happy to report that our Affiliates radiology team is now performing studies on the GE Signa 1.5T 16-channel MRI at SRMC.

Signa MRI clinical applications include full-scale orthopedic and vascular imaging studies along with the ability to perform breast MRI and MRI-guided breast biopsies. The GE Signa features a dedicated bilateral breast coil that enables simultaneous bilateral imaging for diagnostic purposes in a single patient visit. This enhances workflow for the clinical team, shorter patient visits and increased patient comfort.

Affiliates in Imaging continues to work cooperatively with SRMC to broaden our radiology capabilities, expertise and productivity, thereby delivering better value to our referring physicians and their patients. ▲



Highlighted Signa MRI features include:

- Homogeneous 1.5T magnet with full 48cm field of view
- 16-channel RF coils
- Streamlined user interface for automated scanning with minimal technologist retraining
- High definition (HD) gradients engineered for high accuracy and faster scanning
- HD reconstruction engineered for real-time, high-performance image generation
- HD applications to help deliver premium quality images
- High-Density coils optimized for the anatomy and exam

Physician Spotlight: Kathryn Klima, M.D.

Kathryn Klima, M.D., has been a valuable new asset for the Affiliates in Imaging radiology team. Specializing in diagnostic radiology, she was welcomed to the group in September 2012.

Dr. Klima graduated from Duke University in Durham, N.C., in biomedical engineering, and she received her medical degree from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in San Antonio, Texas. She completed her diagnostic radiology residency at Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine. She subsequently earned her nuclear radiology fellowship at Duke University Hospital.

Dr. Klima has extensive experience in diagnostic radiology and holds a medical license in California. She is certified by the American Board of Radiology and the American Board of Nuclear Medicine.

Dr. Klima has a special interest in medical service work and has volunteered as a radiologist in Moshi, Tanzania, at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center.

Dr. Klima enjoys spending time with family and friends and cheering on her beloved Duke basketball team. She is an avid runner and has completed multiple half marathons. She also loves to travel, both domestically and internationally. ▲



Kathryn Klima, M.D.