

New Flat Panel Vascular System Provides Highest Quality Images



Redmond patients greatly benefit from the Flat Panel with a wider array of less invasive procedures, providing better efficiency and results.

Redmond's fully digital Flat Panel Vascular System, the GE Innova 4100, provides the highest quality diagnostic images available with today's technology, allowing physicians to perform procedures never before possible. At the same time, the level of care provided to patients is greatly improved.

"Our ability to see a patient's anatomy while guiding catheters, stents and other medical devices during minimally invasive procedures is critical," said Dr. Joseph Magnant,

vascular surgeon. "The Flat Panel allows us to perform those types of procedures more efficiently and with better results."

The detail with the Flat Panel is so fine that doctors are now able to see capillaries, the tiniest of the human body's blood vessels. This was not possible before. Because the Flat Panel provides doctors with increased knowledge and more accurate diagnostic ability, they can see problems before they are manifested.

"An example of the increased capabilities is that before the Flat Panel we were not able to see problems in an older person's hands or feet where the tissue is ischaemic or dying," Magnant said. "Even this is now possible with the Flat Panel."

The digital system also opens up new opportunities for a wide range of mini-

minally invasive procedures, because it produces clearer fluoroscopic images with a larger field of view. These less invasive procedures are always preferred over surgery. When compared to traditional surgery, there are many benefits to using the minimally invasive techniques associated with the flat panel vascular system. Those benefits include reduced risk, less pain, shorter patient recovery times and lower procedure expenses.

"Because the images generated on the new system are more detailed than those of conventional systems, our staff also has a higher level of confidence during procedures such as balloon angioplasty and vascular interventions," said Curt Layton, Redmond interim director of radiology. "We have a much clearer picture of the patient's status."

The flat panel vascular system provides physicians exceptional image clarity with ten times the dynamic range and a 37 percent larger field of view. Another advantage is physicians can image more anatomy in a single series. A complete image study can be done with fewer X-ray images, less radiation exposure and fewer injections of contrast dye.

"The addition of the Flat Panel is just one more indication of our commitment to endovascular surgery and superior patient care at Redmond," said Jamie Thomas, Redmond CEO.

Redmond's 16-Slice CT Scanner Improves Patient Diagnosis

Redmond Regional Medical Center's new 16-slice CT scanner provides highly detailed images of the human body, particularly of the spine, head, abdomen and chest.

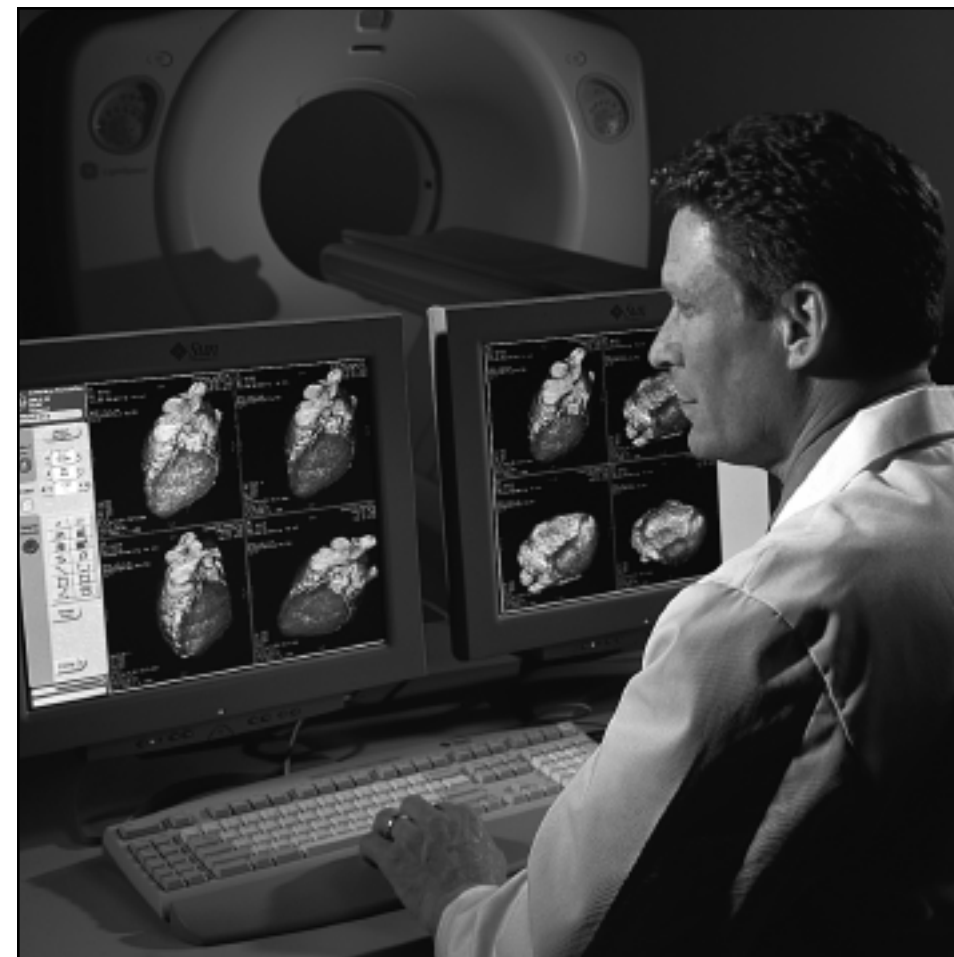
This specialized scanner, a GE Medical Systems LightSpeed® computer tomography system, allows doctors to simultaneously capture multiple wafer-thin images of a patient's anatomy within seconds. Physicians are able to make more accurate diagnoses because of the system's exceptionally high-resolution images.

"Our patients are receiving a more accurate diagnosis and a shorter exam time. They also experience the benefits of a non-invasive procedure with this new scanner, said Jamie Thomas, Redmond CEO.

CT exams are used when people are ill or injured or when a physician suspects a medical problem that is not easily found through a normal physical examination. A variety of areas can be viewed via a CT scan.

"This leading edge technology puts the very best tools in the hands of our physicians," said Dr. Max Hulse, Redmond's lead radiologist. "Patients from all walks of life will benefit from this powerful addition."

At Redmond, physicians are able to make a more accurate patient diagnosis with the high-tech 16-slice CT scanner.



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