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# INVOLVED

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## The Brooklyn Hospital Center Before and After INFINITT PACS

The Brooklyn Hospital Center opened its doors in 1845, and has a long-standing tradition of excellence in patient care and the education of physicians. Today, the Hospital Center has over 400 beds, is an acute care provider, teaching institution, and a member of The New York- Presbyterian Healthcare System. The Brooklyn Hospital Center offers advanced medical and surgical procedures, serving more than 500,000 patients per year.

In February 2007 The Brooklyn Hospital Center implemented the INFINITT PACS, and has been impressed with the impact it has had on radiology and other hospital departments. Michael Miller, Systems Administrator at The Brooklyn Hospital Center, says the system has improved image and report turnaround times and essentially eliminated the problems caused by lost films. The radiologists have been especially pleased with web access to imaging studies and the ability to interact with CT and MRI images using a full set of diagnostic tools.

*"I have access [to patients' images] not only in my office and the file room, but also in the operating room. I can access images when I'm on call, when I'm outside the hospital, when I'm outside of the state. I've actually accessed the PACS system when I've been outside of the country."*

— Anders Cohen, M.D., Chief of Neurosurgery



## DRA Pushes Imaging Centers Toward Greater Operating Efficiency

A great deal has been written about the DRA's (Deficit Reduction Act of 2005) impact on the medical imaging industry. The DRA took effect in January 2007, implementing severe reductions in Medicare reimbursements for many imaging procedures in the physician office and independent imaging facility. Another round of cuts could take effect this summer.

With increased financial pressure, healthcare providers in the non-hospital setting have had to become more efficient to stay in the black. INFINITT offers the following strategies to help sustain profit margins in an environment where many imaging centers are barely breaking even.

- ✦ Filmless (PACS) and paperless (RIS and document imaging) operations will enable you to reduce supply costs (film, chemicals, etc.) and ancillary expenses such as processor maintenance, courier service, and rental space for storing film and file folders.
- ✦ Solving workflow problems with a single database RIS/PACS and integration with your EMR or practice management system will improve billing and enable you to streamline staff, even if only by attrition or cross-training.
- ✦ Solidify your referral base and attract new business by offering real-time service to referring physicians – images and reports available within minutes of the radiologist's reading and accessible from any Internet-connected PC.
- ✦ Increase volumes with improved patient throughput; better room and equipment utilization will help address scheduling backlogs.
- ✦ Make smart investment decisions. Consider pay-per-procedure financing to conserve capital and look for a solution that can grow with your facility.

With an aging population and new uses for

diagnostic imaging equipment, many imaging centers hope to make up in volume what they are losing on a per unit basis. Greater operating efficiency and increased volumes combined should help offset the Medicare reimbursement cuts.



### St. Joseph Imaging Center: PACS Before RIS

St. Joseph Imaging Center (SJIC), located in St. Joseph, MO, implemented the INFINITT RIS in the first quarter of '08, several years after their first PACS implementation.

SJIC is the only multi-modality outpatient radiology center between Kansas City, Missouri, and Omaha, Nebraska. They provide full-service medical imaging services, with an imaging volume of 12,000 studies per year. Exam volumes, however, are growing at 30% a year, and annual volumes are expected to reach 16,000 by 2009.

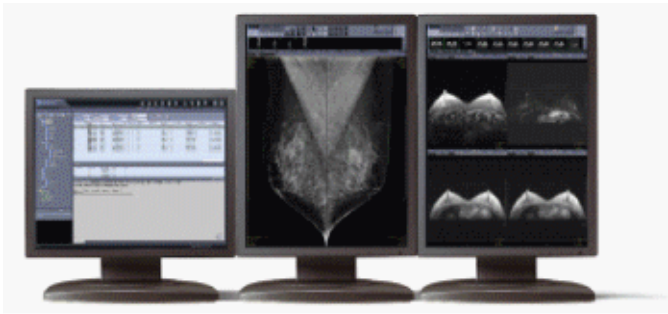
Lasha Dalakishvili, Executive Director of SJIC, said they like the INFINITT RIS because it streamlines their workflow. The PACS had enabled them to provide physicians with easy access to completed exams and get away from using film, but there were still redundancies and inefficiencies associated with paperwork. With the integrated RIS, they will be saving about \$50,000 a year on personnel and supplies, and have shortened report turnaround times from 24 hours to less than six hours. They are able to prioritize exams now and can generate final stat reports in under 30 minutes.

*“Some of the greatest benefits have resulted from remote physician scheduling. It has reduced paperwork and drastically reduced phone calls between the imaging center and referring physicians’ offices, allowing both our staff and physician’s staff to put more time into patient care.”*

— Lasha Dalakishvili, Executive Director  
SJIC

## INFINITT Announces Release of Mammo PACS

In early May, INFINITT North America



announced the availability of INFINITT Mammo PACS, a web-based, multi-modality PACS solution designed to streamline the way digital breast images are displayed, read, archived and distributed.

Most mammograms today are still acquired with traditional film systems, but digital mammography is reaching higher levels of adoption and Ultrasound and MRI are increasingly being used in the detection of early stage breast cancer. The new INFINITT Mammo PACS enables users to view and read digital mammograms, US, MRI and general radiography images on a single workstation, and to transmit, process, print and store digital mammography images.

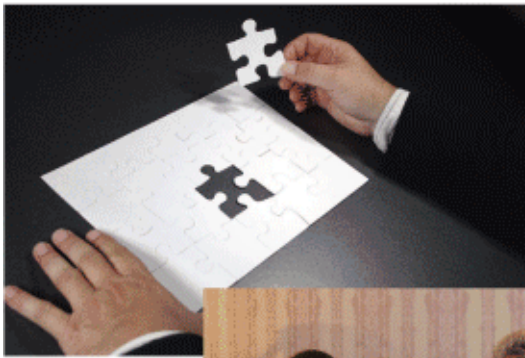
This is a significant advancement because it enables breast imaging centers and hospitals to optimize workflow and reduce operating costs by transitioning to “filmless” and paperless operations. The INFINITT Mammo PACS includes features such as access to digitized priors, comparative review, automated display presets and advanced hanging protocols that can be customized for user and modality preferences.

The INFINITT Mammo PACS can be integrated with digital mammography, RIS, EMR and practice management systems from most manufacturers. Integration with the INFINITT RIS allows access to MQSA reporting, while the PACS provides a full set of diagnostic tools such as magnification, line and area measurement, mirrored functions, justification and autosizing, and CLAHE (contrast limited adaptive histogram equalization) to enhance image clarity, all from a single workstation configured with 5 mega pixel diagnostic monitors.

INFINITT Mammo PACS also supports digital mammography computer aided detection (CAD) and an “on-call” function that downloads the large mammography datasets into local computer storage for faster viewing.

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**2008 MRMS Conference**



## In Review

Infinitt featured its single database RIS/PACS solution at the 17th Annual Magnetic Resonance Managers Society (MRMS) educational conference in Clearwater Beach Florida, from April 26 through 30th, 2008

The conference was attended by professional MRI managers and administrators from imaging centers in 35 states. Educational sessions focused on regulatory issues facing MRI centers and business/financial issues including a session on how to survive reimbursement cuts resulting from the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA).

Becky Daniel, Infinitt North America's Executive Account Representative in the southeastern US, said MRI managers and administrators were particularly impressed with Infinitt's single database RIS/PACS solution, which offers integrated reporting, scheduling, 3D imaging, speech recognition, CD/DVD burning and paperless capabilities in addition to image and information management.



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