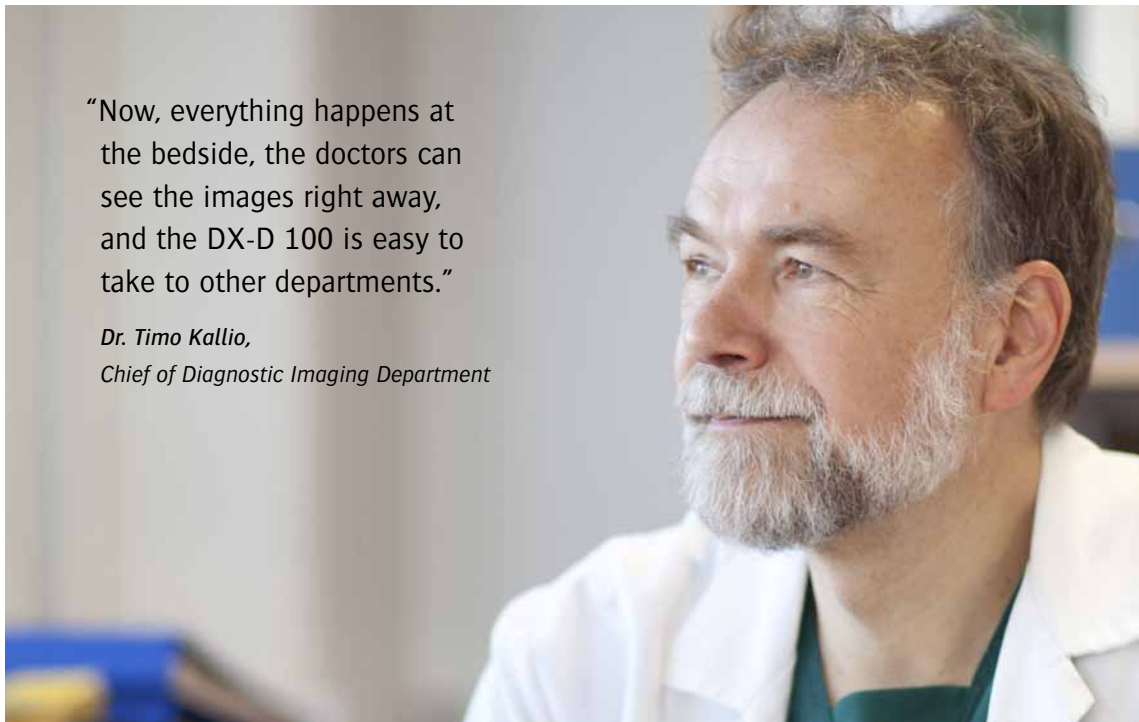


CUSTOMER CASE

"Now, everything happens at the bedside, the doctors can see the images right away, and the DX-D 100 is easy to take to other departments."

*Dr. Timo Kallio,
Chief of Diagnostic Imaging Department*



Kymenlaakso Central Hospital, Kotka, Finland

Faster diagnoses with new mobile DR solution

Immediate access to high-quality images at patients' bedside helps physicians diagnose conditions and commence treatment plans more quickly



Kymenlaakso Central Hospital faces many of the same challenges as other hospitals in Finland, and around the world: providing top-quality care while adhering to staff and budget constraints. With the introduction of the DX-D 100 mobile DR solution, the hospital is meeting the bedside imaging needs of patients within the intensive care unit, the cardiac care unit and emergency, and also gaining valuable staff time.

Kymenlaakso Central Hospital is a 260-bed district hospital in the city of Kotka, serving a regional population of about 175,000. In the hospital there are approximately 770 employees. Finland operates a three-level system of healthcare, where more specialized care is provided at secondary level facilities such as Kymenlaakso Central Hospital. The hospital's diagnostic imaging department performs some 75,000 exams per year, including X-ray, ultrasound, CT, MR, and angiography (excluding coronary angiography), and has six radiologists, 31 technologists, three assisting staff and five office personnel.

Agfa HealthCare's contribution

- Understanding of full range of hospitals' imaging needs, from bedside solutions to dedicated exam rooms
- In-depth image processing knowledge for consistently high image quality
- Integrative expertise to provide seamless networking of different components and systems

Need for a "good and fast" solution for mobile imaging

One of the biggest issues for the hospital is one shared by many healthcare providers: not enough staff for the existing workload. "Our standards are quite high," says Dr. Timo Kallio, Chief of the Diagnostic Imaging Department. "So the costs of examinations and operations are going up all the time. As a result we have to be more efficient throughout the system. In this case, we needed a good and fast solution for mobile imaging."

The hospital's choice for a bedside imaging solution was the DX-D 100 mobile DR solution from Agfa HealthCare. The DX-D 100 is a compact, mobile unit designed to be operated by a single person, and to address a variety of imaging tasks.



Agfa HealthCare's solutions

DX-D 100 mobile DR solution

- Incorporates NX acquisition workstation touch screen
- Uses MUSICA² image processing, for excellent contrast detail
- Full integration with RIS/PACS
- Fully motorized for one-person operation; large wheels make maneuvering easy

DX-M digitizer

- Used for digital mammography
- Needle-based detectors deliver excellent image quality
- Integrated MUSICA² image processing technology

IMPAX 5.2

- Scalable, web-deployable image and information management solution

RIS

- Electronically manages radiology operations, and helps streamline workflow

Better patient care combined with cost savings

Improving the experience of hospital patients is another focus for Kymenlaakso. Agfa HealthCare's DX-D 100 DR solution also contributes to this goal. "With this kind of system we can provide better care for patients, and achieve cost savings too," says Dr. Kallio.

Kymenlaakso Hospital uses mobile imaging in the intensive care unit, emergency department, and the cardiac care unit. The system that they used before had serious limitations.

"With our old system, we could do exams at the bedside, but had to return to the X-ray department for processing. If something was wrong, for instance the position of the patient, it took a long time to realize. Now, everything happens at the bedside, the doctors can see the images right away, and the DX-D 100 is easy to take to other departments," says Dr. Kallio.

Full integration with IMPAX for more workflow gains

The hospital has worked with Agfa HealthCare for many years, and uses Agfa HealthCare's RIS/PACS solutions to manage diagnostic images and information, as well as Agfa HealthCare's computed radiography solution. The DX-D 100's connectivity with IMPAX makes it possible to wirelessly transfer the X-ray images.

The relationship with Agfa HealthCare extends to other hospitals nearby. Six facilities in the area, including two central hospitals, also use Agfa HealthCare's IMPAX PACS and RIS.

"We have a connection to the university hospital as well, which is very handy, so we can send images to other hospitals," says Dr. Kallio.

“It is now much easier to handle the work inside the department.”

*Dr. Timo Kallio,
Chief of Diagnostic
Imaging Department*



Did you know ...

- The city of Kotka, in the Kymenlaakso region, is located on the coast of the Gulf of Finland at the mouth of the Kymi River.
- Kotka is a key port for Finland, serving Finland and Russia.

Main difference is speed

For Dr. Timo Kallio, and for Kymenlaakso Central Hospital, the benefits of the technology from Agfa HealthCare, and specifically the DX-D 100 mobile DR solution, come down to efficiency.

“It’s the speed of the work; you have the image immediately, that’s the main difference,” says Dr. Kallio. “But for staff, it’s more efficient as well. It is now much easier to handle the work inside the department.” •

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