

A clearer picture of your health

New system improves image storage and access

Senic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC) is committed to providing comprehensive patient care to our community. Our newly installed picture archiving and communication system (PACS) represents a \$900,000 investment to enhance our advanced diagnostic imaging system.

PACS provides our radiologists with immediate electronic access to medical imaging exams, enabling faster and more efficient distribution of radiology reports and images to referring physicians and patients. Images are organized, connected and available in sharp detail.

ENHANCED QUALITY AND ACCESS

“The quality is unsurpassed,” says radiology director Vivian Gordon. “Physicians no longer have to wait for images to be processed or lost studies to be found because information can quickly be retrieved from the PACS archive. Report turnaround time is also reduced, resulting in improved health care as decisions for treatment are made much quicker.”



John Lang, M.D.
Board-Certified
General Surgeon

“If a patient comes to my office and asks about a recent ultrasound, MRI, CT or X-ray, I no longer need to search for the files,” says general surgeon John Lang, M.D. “I simply log on to a Web site and quickly view images and study notes or reports made by the radiologist or specialist.” This seamless system allows the physician to sit with the patient in front of a computer and review images and information together while discussing treatment and care.

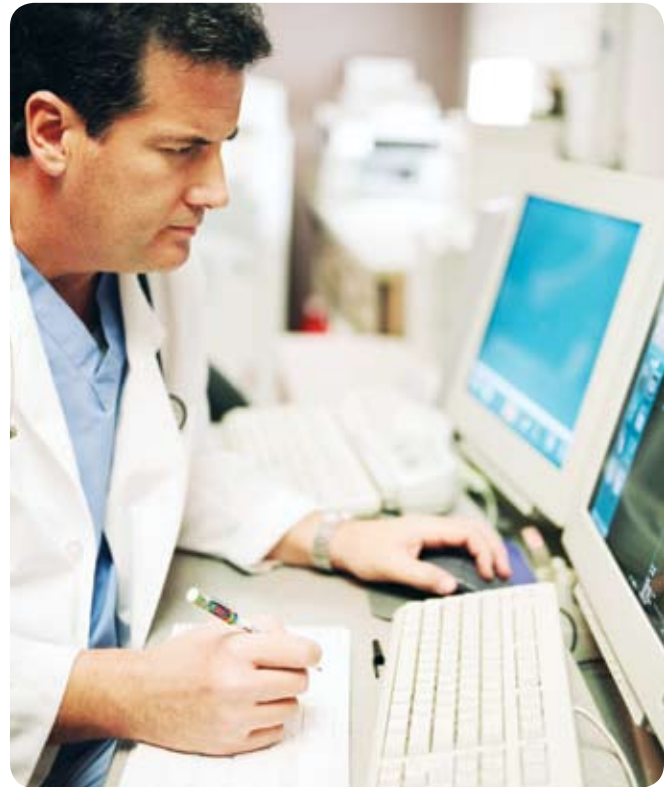
PACS is also a significant help when patient images and information need to be sent to another specialist. The physician or hospital can send the data on a CD, so the patient doesn't have to transport large X-ray packages.

PACS also makes consultations easier. “Our medical team is thrilled by the variety of PACS uses,” says Dr. Lang. “For example, a team of physicians can look at the CT image and reports together and fine-tune a diagnosis.”

SAFE AND SECURE

The system is secure, password-protected and has strong transmission security systems. “It's much safer than when patients had to carry a file from one location to another,” says Gordon.

Currently, all images are stored in PACS with the exception of mammography, but SMMC hopes to have digital mammography available later this year. The diagnostic imaging department at SMMC is committed to staying at the forefront of technology and clinical applications in today's changing field of medical imaging.



What you need is here!

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