PHILIPS

Ultrasound

Customer story

Rheumatology practice, Clinique de Meudon, Meudon-la-Forêt, France

Who?
Dr Vincent Dehaine
Rheumatologist

Where?
Private practice, Meudon-la-Forêt
- Specialist rheumatology practice
- Extensive experience in diagnosing and treating musculoskeletal conditions
- Focus on sports injuries, mechanical and inflammatory pathologies
- Expert knowledge of MSK ultrasound imaging
- Around 30 patients and 12 scans a day

Challenge?
- Gain high-quality ultrasound images
- Make confident diagnostic and therapeutic decisions
- Support smooth, efficient workflows

Solution?
Philips Affiniti

Exceptional image quality leads to confidence

As a specialist in rheumatology and sports medicine, Dr Vincent Dehaine is used to handling complex cases. The patients who come to his practice on the outskirts of Paris have a range of conditions, from acute injuries, to inflammatory diseases, to mechanical joint problems resulting from wear and tear. To help him gain a better picture of these pathologies, Dr Dehaine uses ultrasound technology.

His Philips Affinti ultrasound system gives him the insight and high image quality he needs to make diagnostic and therapy decisions. “I am extremely interested in ultrasound and have researched it extensively. Philips Affiniti gives me a level of confidence that just wasn’t possible previously,” he says.

Definitive answers fast

Rapid insight

Over the last ten years, Dr Dehaine has developed a strong interest in ultrasound imaging in his field of medicine. “I am a member of the Société d’Imagerie Musculo-Squelettique (SIMS) and European Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology,” he explains. “I have researched extensively and built up a wealth of knowledge on using ultrasound in rheumatology applications.”

In the past, Dr Dehaine would have to refer patients to external radiologists for ultrasound scans, which meant waiting for the results and then arranging a follow-up consultation to discuss them. Now, he has his own ultrasound system, a Philips Affiniti, and can perform exams there which saves vital time. “If I am examining a knee, for example, and I suspect an effusion, an injury to the articular disk or a case of chondrocalcinosis, I pick up my transducer and can confirm my diagnosis. Within a few seconds, I have a definitive answer, it’s so fast and simple,” he says.

Versatile and robust imaging

Philips Affiniti is an easy-to-use, mobile and flexible ultrasound solution that supports a number of transducers and applications designed for MSK imaging. The system’s precision beamforming delivers superb spatial and contrast resolution, outstanding tissue uniformity, few artifacts, and reduced image clutter.

But it was Affiniti’s exceptional image quality that really caught Dr Dehaine’s eye and convinced him to switch from his previous vendor to Philips. “I saw many machines on show at a conference and noticed that Affinti had great image definition – which is why I chose it.”

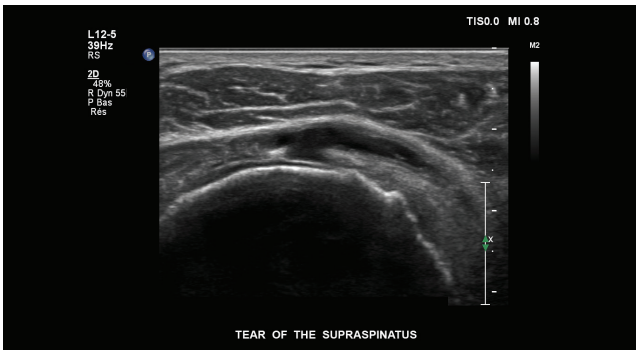
Enhancing the role of ultrasound

Since Dr Dehaine has rapid insight, he has less need to resort to more costly imaging modalities such as MRI. “Now, I would not send a patient for an MRI scan as a first step, becauseI can already get a good view of what’s happening on my Affiniti system. I would only request an MRI if there is no improvement over time. So by moving more towards ultrasound, we’re cutting health expenses, too.”

Elevating the standard of care

Ultrasound is also playing a bigger role in therapeutic decisions at Dr Dehaine’s practice. “When I do hip injections or punctures for shoulder calcifications, I almost always use ultrasound to guide me. There’s a great level of accuracy. In the past, I’d say ‘we’ve probably reached the right spot.’ Now, I know we have – I can see it on my screen. This means, we can provide better care, and that is what matters.”

In addition, Affiniti means Dr Dehaine can offer a wider range of services. He now receives referrals from surgeons for specific procedures, such as disk cyst punctures. “I couldn’t have provided that in the past. So having Affiniti has helped me grow my referrals and develop in a business sense, too,” he explains.



“With Affiniti, I see a real difference. I can follow small nerve branches, see tendons and spot tiny nerves. That’s what I like about it. That’s why I switched to Philips Affiniti. I changed vendors because of image quality.”

Dr Vincent Dehaine, Rheumatologist

A pleasure to use

Efficient workflows
Not only does Philips Affiniti help Dr Dehaine answer complex clinical questions, but it also helps streamline his workflow. Thanks to pre-defined settings, running certain standard tests is quick and simple. “I have made lots of annotations and saved many preferences so the machine is set up in line with the way I work. Since I combine my clinical and my ultrasound work, I need to work efficiently and keep my consultations to 20 minutes. Affiniti lets me scan quickly, and rapidly switch between images and cross-sections so I save time,” he explains.

Space in Dr Dehaine’s examination room is limited, but when he’s performing an intervention that does not require ultrasound, he simply moves his Affiniti to one side. “The system is mobile,” he remarks, “so it’s easy to handle and fits in well with my workflows.”

Happy doctor, happy patients
For Dr Dehaine, using Affiniti not only helps him make clinical decisions, it also adds value and enjoyment to his working day. “I have invested lots of time and energy into learning about ultrasound and I really enjoy having it as part of my consultations. It is never a chore. When something improves things so much, you experience it as a pleasant change to your work,” he explains.

His enthusiasm and positivity makes a difference to patient care, too: “Affiniti gives me great images and helps me confirm diagnosis and therapy – which is something that definitely benefits my patients.”

“Ultrasound machines are constantly improving, as is the case with Philips Affiniti. We’re getting a better view of patient anatomies in MSK and helping to overcome many of the challenges associated with this field of imaging.”

Dr Vincent Dehaine,
Rheumatologist

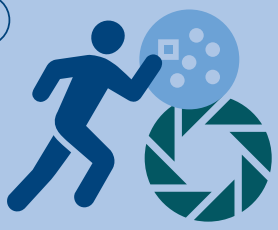
Why ultrasound for MSK?

As Dr Dehaine can testify ultrasound is widely available, easy to use, and more cost-effective than other imaging methods. In addition, it can give a clear picture of soft tissues that do not show up well on X-ray images.

1

Provides real-time imaging, making it an ideal tool to guide minimally invasive procedures such as needle biopsies and fluid aspiration

2

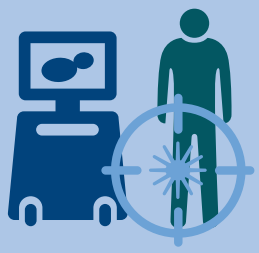


Allows for a dynamic examination that can show the movement of soft tissue structures

3

Offers an excellent companion to MRI by providing a cost-effective first look

4



Supports a wide range of MSK anatomies thanks to specially designed transducers

A strong team

Dr Dehaine values the quality of images and the efficiency that Philips Affiniti brings to his clinical practice. But a strong partnership is important to him, too. “I chose Philips because I liked the equipment, but I also really enjoy working with the team, and I value my exchanges with my contacts there,” he says.

The doctor is also looking to the future and thinking of potential ways to further enhance image quality. “There are many things you can do. It’s all about achieving the best quality you can. For example, I think that fusion of US and MRI imaging in MSK will bring greater diagnostic confidence and reduce associated costs. There are many interesting options and I will consider which ones could work for me.”

“Philips Affiniti makes a nice change and a big difference to my clinical routine. It makes consultations more enjoyable and brings something new. It delivers the exceptional image quality I need to treat my patients.”

Want to learn more about how Affiniti can help redefine your clinical expectations in MSK?

Discover how Philips Affiniti understands your everyday – and can help you gain the clarity you need to make confident decisions when treating MSK patients. Contact a Philips representative today.

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