

## Philips SmartPath transforms MRI technology at Hospital Nuestra Señora del Rosario

MRI system lifespan is a globally relevant topic. In some countries system lifetimes are creeping up towards 14 years<sup>1</sup> while COCIR is recommending that no more than 10% of MRI systems be older than 10 years old<sup>1</sup>. Today, approximately 28% of European MRI systems are older than 10 years<sup>2</sup>. Hospital Nuestra Senora del Rosario in Madrid found itself in this situation, with an aging system that was limiting further optimization of efficiency and patient care. A Philips SmartPath upgrade allowed them to improve image quality and scanning speed without full system replacement – a sustainable, cost-effective alternative to buying a new system. See how strategic upgrades helped them tackle financial and operational hurdles to deliver quality care.

### **Challenge and customer situation**

At Hospital Nuestra Senora del Rosario, (Madrid, Spain) Dr. Eliseo Vano was facing the problem of an aging MRI system that was difficult to replace due to budget cuts. His 12-year-old Ingenia 3.0T MRI system was no longer offering the latest hardware or software, increasingly in need of servicing and limiting patient flow and care efficiency. The hospital's growing waiting list necessitated reliable technology to address and maintain service quality.

"We had a really old scanner that was good when installed but now causes downtime, which is a real problem given our long waiting list," Dr. Vano remarked, emphasizing the urgency of the situation."

Dr. Eliseo Vañó, Hospital Nuestra señora del Rosario, Madrid, Spain

#### The Solution – SmartPath to MR 7700

"Stronger gradients allow us to make the earliest diagnosis possible; it's a time opportunity for the patient. We diagnose more precisely with more confidence and of course faster, both with all the advantages for diffusion images and for more spatial resolution. We have everything together.

Dr. Eliseo Vañó, Hospital Nuestra señora del Rosario, Madrid, Spain



Philips' SmartPath, an innovative upgrade program, allows to improve image quality and scanning speed without replacing the entire MRI system, rather than investing in costly new equipment.

Evaluating all potential options to enhance their MRI operations going forward, Dr. Vano and his team concluded that a Philips SmartPath upgrade made the most sense. Upgrading the system had important advantages over a completely new system, particularly reducing downtime with a quicker installation, which means shorter wait times for patients. "The downtime was really minimal—just one week compared to one month for a brand-new scanner. It was clearly the best option".

Dr. Eliseo Vañó, Hospital Nuestra Senora del Rosario, Madrid, Spain



# Cost-effective approach

One major advantage of upgrading a system instead of purchasing an entirely new scanner is the financial savings it can create. SmartPath provided cutting-edge technology without the expense of acquiring an entirely new system, saving precious financial resources and allowing the hospital to optimize budget allocations. "We needed a cost-effective solution that would simultaneously meet our needs and expectations."

Dr. Eliseo Vañó, Hospital Nuestra Señora del Rosario, Madrid, Spain



Upgrading a system with SmartSpeed brings substantial improvements in image quality and speed. In this case, the integration of SmartSpeed dramatically enhanced diagnostic capabilities, for instance by enabling faster and more accurate 3D imaging sequences allowing for high quality multiplanar reformatting and improved confidence in diagnoses. "Using SmartSpeed brought us the capability to perform more 3D sequences, which is really important for confident diagnosis and study planning."

Dr. Eliseo Vañó, Hospital Nuestra Señora del Rosario, Madrid, Spain



### **Toward a sustainable solution**

Finally, system upgrades offer an environmentally friendly option to modernizing your imaging department. By extending the lifespan of existing equipment, SmartPath upgrades promote sustainability by decreasing the environmental impact associated with manufacturing new devices. This not only benefitted the hospital's operations but also contributed to broader ecological conservation efforts. "An additional reason for choosing SmartPath was sustainability. Extending the lifetime of our scanner is efficient and sustainable".

Dr. Eliseo Vañó, Hospital Nuestra Señora del Rosario, Madrid, Spain

# SmartPath to elevate MRI while meeting financial and environmental goals.

Philips' SmartPath upgrade allowed Hospital Nuestra Senora del Rosario to modernize its MRI capabilities while aligning with financial and environmental goals. This strategic enhancement empowered Dr. Eliseo Vano and his team to maintain high-quality patient care amid budgetary constraints and technological challenges. Philips continues to redefine healthcare through such innovative solutions, paving the way for sustainable practices and superior health outcomes globally.

https://www.oncologysystems.com/blog/medical-equipment-continues-to-age-in-the-united-states/
https://www.cocir.org/latest-news/publications/article/cocir-medical-imaging-equipment-age-profile-density-2023-edition
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