

Oncology Imaging Systems installs kVue Couch Tops in Ireland

Oncology Imaging Systems has just embarked on two exciting couch upgrade projects in Ireland, at St. Vincent's Private Hospital in Dublin and The Mid-Western Cancer Centre located in Limerick.

Both centres have chosen kVue couch tops, which offer modular patient positioning inserts that become the patient surface of the couch top, eliminating additional attenuation or dose build-up caused by the couch top itself. Made with carbon fibre composites the kVue is equipped with Stealth Beams that can be positioned independently to avoid the radiation fields. Each centre will have kVues installed on their linear accelerators and CT simulator to provide consistency and increase the accuracy of treatment planning dosimetric calculations.

An additional advance in kVue technology, the Dosemax insert will further help to optimise IGRT patient treatments, whilst reducing potential skin dose. This insert provides the rigidity of a solid panel insert, with attenuation and electron generation properties, comparable to a traditional carbon fibre grid.

As part of the upgrade, each centre has also re-assessed their head and neck immobilisation and chose the Cantilever Board extension with patented "bear-claw" technology. This technology facilitates depression of the patient's shoulders into a reproducible indexed position and allows for 360-degree treatment with minimal attenuation, making it ideal for IMRT and IGRT treatments. The introduction of this system will mean that both departments can move over to the use of Aquaplast and Fibreplast thermoplastics, which will allow a faster and more efficient through-put of patients.

All of the inserts chosen will provide the departments with greater flexibility in patient planning and treatment due to the presence of kVue Virtual Indexing, a new positioning technology that provides a means to index patients in imaging space. By placing a strategically designed set of discreet markers in the couch top, a reference frame is developed that can be used in IGRT and adaptive radiotherapy plans.

Overall, these upgrades will help optimise patient immobilisation and treatment and aid the progression of IMRT and IGRT treatments in both departments, while providing the versatility required to cater for a wide range of patients and techniques.

For more information on kVue Couch Tops and all other patient positioning and immobilisation devices, please contact Oncology Imaging Systems Ltd., tel. 01825 744 063 fax. 01825 749 557 sales@oncologyimaging.com www.oncologyimaging.com