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Introducing the new hospital CT scanner at OCMMC

OCMMC has recently completed a major upgrade of the CT scanner in our hospital radiology department. Our newly installed GE 750HD CT scanner offers 64 row multi-slice technology and rapid scanning at substantially less radiation dose. With several months of planning and renovation, our commitment to providing excellence in imaging has really paid off.

Using 64 slice technology, scans of the body can be completed in just a few seconds, allowing less IV contrast dose requirement for certain tests, especially CT angiograms. Patients can also be scanned at multiple time intervals of IV contrast enhancement (arterial, venous, etc). This can be very beneficial in characterizing abdominal organ lesions, namely of the liver and pancreas, or in the follow-up of several tumors. All this is accomplished with 30-40% improved image resolution.

Our new scanner also offers one of the fastest gantry rotation speeds on the market providing outstanding temporal resolution. This capability affords clearer images of moving structures such as

the heart and lungs. There are fewer requirements for breath hold which is more comfortable for short-of-breath patients, while still providing diagnostic information. “Stop motion” imaging of the heart is invaluable in cardiac applications such as coronary artery CTA and ascending aortic dissection evaluation.

Our new CT scanner also improves patient care by reducing radiation exposure while continuing to provide images of the highest diagnostic quality. Improvements in the x-ray detector and the introduction of Adaptive Statistical Iterative Reconstruction (ASIR) technology of our new scanner offer dramatic dose reduction by up to 50% overall. In practice at OCMC, we have achieved even more reduction for many types of studies. Risk is reduced for every patient, but the radiation reduction is particularly important for our young patients or those patients receiving frequent scans (chronically ill or oncologic follow-up).

As always, if you have any questions about the new CT scanner or any other inquiry pertaining to radiology services at OCMC, please do not hesitate to call Dr Wasley at 378-7520.