

“I would definitely recommend Fujifilm Synapse as a product, it represents excellent value for money.”

Eric Hughes, Diagnostic Divisional Manager

Fujifilm PACS system has a positive impact all round at RJAHS

The Imaging Department at Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RJAHS) has always prided itself on its imaging quality, which is why they took a comprehensive approach when looking at the Imaging Informatics systems that were available on the market when they decided to upgrade their LSP PACS and RIS system.

Eric Hughes, Diagnostic Divisional Manager at RJAHS explains how their series of independent tests revealed that Fujifilm needed to be explored as a suitable contender, as their Synapse PACS system provided some of the best results for Reporting Workflow efficiency.

He said: “We invited the main UK PACS vendors in to demonstrate their solution to our Radiologists and Fujifilm’s PACS offering was rated as one of the best for ease of use, workflow flexibility and interfacing with other clinical systems. We were also aware that Fujifilm is a global business and a trusted brand, and were winners of the All Wales PACS and VNA contract, so we knew they are an innovative company who develop products that are suited for the UK Health and Social Care sector, and a company that could be relied on.”

He continued: “Fujifilm undertake at least two major releases of their PACS software each year, which interested us because that meant that the system was going to develop over the life of the contract.” The Synapse PACS system was selected by RJAHS because it was easy to use and navigate, and they felt it was intuitive for the end user, making training a lot more straightforward. Eric Hughes added: “On Go Live week, our medical team were able to get on with using the new PACS without much guidance or hand holding, thanks to the intuitive design of Synapse and a well-structured end user training program.”

Eric explained that during the project they received excellent support from the Fujifilm team, which was also followed through the Go Live period and beyond. “The project team were dedicated, professional and experienced in the use of the system. We had the flexibility to move from the older system to the new system in a much more controlled way, which meant that the transition from old to new did not impact negatively on the delivery of care.”

The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is a leading Orthopaedic Centre of Excellence based in Oswestry, Shropshire.

The Orthopaedic hospital has been in existence as an independent hospital since 1900.

It was taken into the NHS in 1948 and achieved NHS Trust status in 1994.

More recently, the hospital was awarded NHS Foundation Trust status in order to better shape healthcare services around local needs and priorities, as well as the needs of commissioners of healthcare.

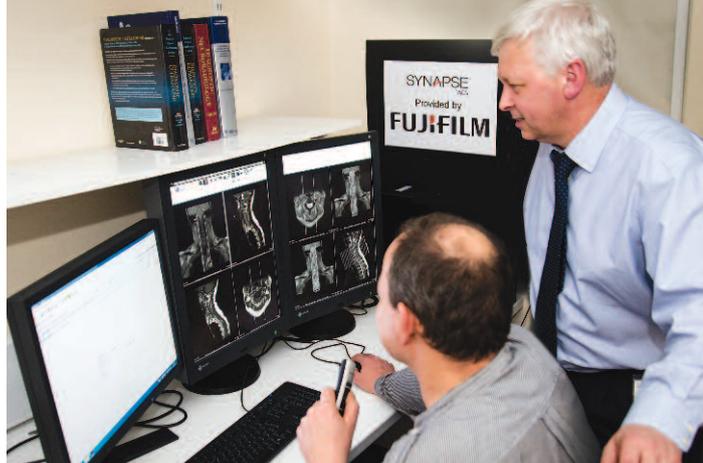
A specialist hospital with a reputation for innovation, it provides a comprehensive range of musculoskeletal, medical and rehabilitation services; locally, regionally and nationally.

The single site hospital serves the people of England and Wales, and is also a national healthcare provider hosting some local services which support the communities in and around Oswestry.

▲ Positive impact...

The Fujifilm PACS system has been live since September 2013 and has impacted positively on the workflow of the imaging department. "I believe it certainly helped us to absorb the increased demand we've encountered in that period of time. One of the major features is the fact that all the users have the same software, so the same functionality is available to every user within the hospital, and that includes the MPR and 3D functions within the system."

"Another important factor for us was the quarantine feature. This enables imaging from outside hospitals to be imported into the system without having to be entered into the full PACS system, so we can decide at a later stage whether we want to keep those images or not" Eric stated.



▲ Full access...

Eric explained that feedback from users had been very sparse. "We've had very little feedback from the users and to be honest, this is a good thing as it means they have got on with the business of using the software without needing refresher training and having to come back and ask us how to use the system again."

"We also purchased Synapse Mobility as a system, which allows users from outside the hospital to access our PACS system. This is incredibly important, as we do not provide acute services at RJAH. Also, the image manipulation and advanced visualisation tools that Synapse provides have been quite popular, and recently the spinal surgeons have requested the 3D tools are added to all the PCs that they use" he said.



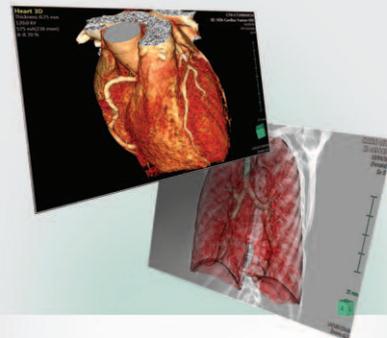
▲ Key recommendations...

Eric had some key recommendations when considering a new PACS system. "There are some key features you need to consider when transitioning to a new PACS system. Early planning and defining the scope of the project at an early stage are key. One of the hardest elements we faced was deciding what the PACS system should look like at the end of the project, before we began. You also need to choose a contractor that has the resource to complete the project on time and understands the hospital resource as well. Start the migration early as it will take longer than you think, and make sure that you secure transitional assistance from the outgoing PACS vendor, this is particularly important. Our experience of transitioning to Synapse PACS was, I think, better than most have been."

Eric concluded: "I would definitely recommend Fujifilm Synapse as a product. It represents excellent value for money. It's important when you choose a PACS supplier, that you choose someone who will listen, and tailor the system to your hospital's requirements. Fujifilm have proven to be innovative and adaptable. In short, it's important to partner with a global healthcare IT supplier who will respond to the local needs. For us, that supplier was Fujifilm."



Fujifilm is a pioneer in diagnostic imaging and information systems for healthcare, with a range of constantly evolving, clinically proven, products and technologies designed to assist medical professionals perform efficiently and effectively. Their medical imaging and information management system, SYNAPSE allows the archiving and distribution of vast amounts of image information from all modalities, managing it all with a single system. With the first comprehensive PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System) with next-generation Web technology, SYNAPSE utilises the latest Wavelet compression technology for on-demand compression and access of large files quickly and easily regardless of location. SYNAPSE has revolutionised the management of radiology imaging services, supporting image diagnosis with high-quality images, numerous image processing features and easy operation, affording exciting new possibilities in this rapidly evolving medical field.



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