

Navicent Health rapidly grows nationwide image sharing network.

Mammography results reported in 38% less time
with PowerShare Image Sharing

Challenge

- Difficulties setting up prior image sharing network
- Lack of vendor support
- Patients from facilities throughout the country
- Delays providing mammography results

Solution

- PowerShare™
- PowerScribe® 360 Reporting

Results

- Grew network to 36 facilities in just over 6 months
- Reduced average time to provide mammography results by more than 10 hours
- Expedited patient care
- Reduced unnecessary patient transfers
- Reduced rescans and unnecessary radiation exposure

Located in Macon, Georgia, The Medical Center, Navicent Health (MCNH), is a designated Level I Trauma Center certified by the Georgia Trauma Commission and nationally verified by the American College of Surgeons (ACS). MCNH is a three-time Magnet-designated hospital for nursing excellence and is recognized as one of the premier teaching hospitals in the United States. MCNH, like many other healthcare facilities, originally relied upon CDs to receive patient images from outside facilities. The inherent unreliability of CDs and the associated delays, however, became an issue.



NavicentHealth

“PowerShare makes it easier and faster to communicate with facilities in the region as well as more distant facilities.”

Kenan Hodges, R.T. (R) (CT), CSSBB
PACS Specialist, Navicent Health

Navicent Health faces challenges using other vendor’s solution

In early 2015, another vendor provided Navicent Health with a product that had image sharing capabilities. However, staff experienced numerous challenges setting up the system and received no vendor support for establishing their network.

Nuance supports rapid growth of network

Navicent Health looked for an alternative, learned about Nuance PowerShare and quickly realized it was a superior solution. Navicent Health went live with PowerShare at the end of April 2016 and is pleased to say they grew their network to 36 facilities in just over 6 months. This far exceeded the 8 to 10 facilities they were able to get on their previous image sharing network after more than a year. Kenan Hodges, R.T. (R) (CT), CSSBB, PACS Specialist, largely attributes this exceptional growth to the assistance Nuance provided, saying, “The support we receive from Nuance makes a big difference. Before, we were on our own. With Nuance, we have someone who tackles the job with us.” Hodges added, “When questions or issues arise, the response from Nuance is almost immediate.” Nuance and PowerShare name recognition has also helped accelerate adoption by other facilities. Navicent has shared as many as 2,000 studies in a single month.

Images plus reports easily shared

Twillia Hulett, R.T. (R) (M), Director of Radiology, appreciates the ability to send and receive radiology reports along with the images. Because The Medical Center was already using PowerScribe 360 Reporting, she says the setup was extremely quick and easy.

Target time for providing mammography results surpassed

In addition to saving time and money, PowerShare has provided many patient care benefits, including preventing rescans, and has been a significant factor in Breast Center, Navicent Health’s “Know in 24” initiative, where the goal is to provide screening mammography results to patients within 24 hours. Before PowerShare, it was difficult to get prior mammograms to support that 24-hour goal.

Now staff can get priors right away. As a result of this initiative, which includes the use of PowerShare, MCNH succeeded in reducing average turnaround time for results from 26.9 hours to 16.6 hours.

Interventional radiology patients benefit

Interventional radiologists at The Medical Center are using PowerShare to improve patient care. Prior to scheduling a patient for a biopsy, PowerShare helps radiologists confirm the patient is a good candidate for the procedure by first allowing them to confirm the presence of the lesion, then that they will be able to access the lesion with a needle. By using PowerShare to review images prior to patient arrival, patients can be scheduled and treated more efficiently. PowerShare is also being used in a similar manner for other kinds of procedures such as kyphoplasties. In this case, PowerShare allows the interventional radiologists to confirm the patient is a good candidate for this type of spinal procedure, which is used to restore the original shape and configuration of the vertebrae.

PowerShare successfully used in stroke program

MCNH sends stroke patients who require complex interventions to their partner facility, Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta. In order to confirm these patients are indeed good candidates for these interventions, they use PowerShare to send images to Grady, where the consulting physician confirms the patient is a good candidate and should in fact be transferred. If not a good candidate, the patient isn’t transferred, thereby minimizing unnecessary transfers.

PowerShare benefits expected to increase

Hulett concluded by acknowledging they are still in the early stages with PowerShare. As they improve their internal processes they will expand the ways in which they will benefit from its use. Nonetheless, Hulett says, “We are already seeing tremendous benefits from our investment in PowerShare. We are excited about continuing to grow our network and further expanding the ways in which we use PowerShare to quickly and easily share images.”

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