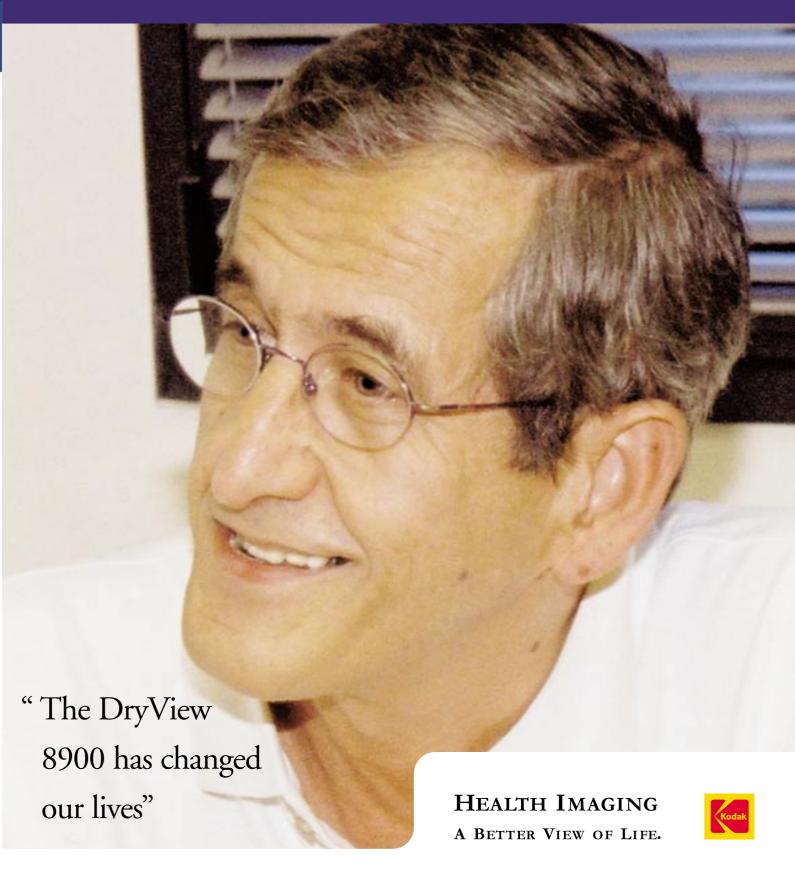
KODAK DRYVIEW 8900 - MONTSOURIS PARIS



KODAK DRYVIEW 8900, AT LAST AN IMAGER

3 months ago the medical imaging department headed by Dr. Palau at the Institut Mutualiste Montsouris in Paris was successfully equipped with the new Kodak DryView 8900 laser imager. According to Dr. Palau who has been in charge of the department for 17 years, the new equipment was given a warm welcome.

With 42,000 patients a year and 411 beds (350 of which are dedicated to major surgery), his team must constantly deal with a substantial workflow in a highly surgical environment. Thanks to the reliability and remarkable technical performances of the machine, Dr. Palau's department is now "winning the race against time".

Q. What made you opt for the Kodak DryView 8900 imager?

A. Firstly, the entire department is digital which includes a scanner, MRI and the two vascular rooms. In view of the amount of digital production, there was no way we could carry on working as we had done in the past. We use 3 "lasers" -2 DryView 8700 and one small-format DryView 8300 to print out ultrasound scans and lungs- but I must admit that even that was sometimes not enough. So we decided to try the new, much faster Kodak laser imager that offers several formats on line. For three months now the three lasers have practically been replaced by the 8900.

Q. How easy was it to set up the new equipment?



A. To be perfectly honest, it was child's play. With a network connection and a power socket we manage very well! It's totally seamless. The only difference we really notice is how efficient the machine is.

Q. How does the medical team feel about it?

A. With improved productivity, life in the department has been completely transformed and we no longer wait for films. Most of the radiologists are very happy



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"For three months now the three lasers have practically been replaced by the 8900"

with the new machine. I could even say that the printing has become seamless with the 8900! Apart from changing the film trays we don't even touch the imager.

Q. What difference does the faster printing speed (95 sec. for the first print-out then every 20 sec.) make?

A. To us it makes a huge difference. Let me give you an example. I cannot remember one problem-free orthopaedic consultation despite our 3 "lasers". With an average 60 patients in just one morning, it was never quick enough for the orthopaedists. They used to call us up or come to see about their patients, and it was a real pain. With the 8900, that is no longer the case as there are no more queues and printing is done non-stop. The 8900 is totally seamless, so much so that we don't even realise it's there. Now, the only waiting still remaining is caused by the actual examinations, not the printing. And that's the first reaction we got from the nurses and radiologists. The DryView 8900 has changed our lives and taken the pressure off both patients and clinicians.

Q. What about the possibility of loading up to 375 films in trays in the 3 drawers that support 5 different film sizes without any reconfiguration?

A. Oh yes, that's really smart too. For example, some days we mainly do just thorax examinations and we can do 80 lungs in one day. Other days are more orthopaedic based, with 3 or 4 different surgeons consulting, so we load more 36 x 43. We always have the film size most suited to the specific requirements of the different fields of medicine. Having several types of film on line is a great advantage.

"The DryView 8900 has changed our lives"

Q. With its 650 dpi laser resolution, the DryView 8900 can print up to 16 CR images on one film. Does this have advantages for you in terms of workflow?

A. Yes, of course it has advantages. But with the way we currently use the film with the usual diagnosis formats, the advantages are somewhat restricted. However, if we were planning to archive film, then there would really be an advantage using what we call summary plates on which we can put the 80 relevant images of a scanner for example. What's more, another advantage would be if we did digital mammography, as we could match the laser resolution to the acquisition.

Q. Overall, has the DryView 8900 improved printing functionality?

A. The purpose of acquiring the DryView 8900 was to save time and space, by cutting down on the number of laser imagers and external interfaces. Now, everything is integrated so we have effectively gained space. And the functionality is improved because there is no longer any intermediate connection and the machine is directly linked to the modalities via the DICOM network.







Q. To finish with, did Kodak's expertise and experience in medical imaging influence your choice?

A. Definitely. I don't think I could have equipped an entire department like this one through a firm that didn't meet all the criteria we require. And we don't regret being the first ones to put the new Kodak machines through their paces, as we have often done. We know that if we encounter the slightest problem, they are on hand. That is a true partnership and I wouldn't expect any less from a firm like Kodak.



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