

Case Study



About Lahey Clinic

Lahey Clinic, a physician-led, nonprofit group practice, is world-renowned for innovative technology, pioneering medical treatment, and leading-edge research. A teaching hospital affiliated with Tufts University School of Medicine, the clinic provides quality healthcare in virtually every specialty and subspecialty, from primary care to cancer diagnosis and treatment to kidney and liver transplantation.

In September 2003, Alda F. Cossi, MD, of the Diagnostic Radiology department at the Lahey Clinic in Boston replaced its ultrasound equipment with six GE LOGIQ 9 systems. Dr. Cossi has been director of the ultrasound and vascular lab for more than 10 years. The department handles more than 30,000 cases annually and needed equipment capable of high patient throughput and seamless connectivity solution to the clinic's PACS system.

"I was skeptical at first," Dr. Cossi recalls. "Changing providers is a serious thing for us, since we cannot afford any downtime. We were transitioning to PACS and needed to ensure that our future ultrasound systems could support that. GE offered a side-by-side demonstration. Besides superb image quality and a full line of application features, they were ready with a plug-and-play connectivity solution to PACS. That convinced me. We transitioned to LOGIQ 9 over a period of two weeks, with no downtime. GE walked in with a crew of IT and applications people, and everything went seamlessly."

The LOGIQ 9, based on TruScan Architecture, offers advanced scanning technology for demanding applications, plus high flexibility in acquiring, optimizing, distributing and storing studies. In demonstrations, Dr. Cossi observed innovations such as CrossBeam technology, Speckle Reduction Imaging (SRI), and VoiceScan voice-activated control.

"The sonographers love the new systems," she says. "The ease of use and the ergonomic functionality make it easy to switch between applications. We kept some of our old systems, but if all the LOGIQ 9s are in use, our sonographers prefer to wait for them to free up, rather than using the old systems."

"Speckle reduction Imaging (SRI) and the sensitive B-flow applications are very useful in our musculoskeletal and breast studies. The edge enhancements, B-flow sensitivity, and side-by-side image display help us better identify such problems as plaque in the carotid arteries and pathology in the breast."

"We have experienced a big productivity improvement. Our time studies on the old systems showed that sonographers spent only 40 percent of their time doing ultrasound exams and 60 percent doing other work. Today, with the LOGIQ 9, they spend 70 percent of their time doing exams – an incredible 30 percent increase in productivity. "Other vendors continue to use the same platform we saw three or four years ago, and the connectivity solutions clearly didn't meet our needs. GE showed that it is positioned for the future. The digital platform on the LOGIQ systems, the extensive applications, the plug-and-play PACS connectivity, and the commitment to annual breakthroughs clearly demonstrate that."



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