The Clinical Imaging Revolution





From Physics Experiment to Lifesaving Technologies







Clinical imaging has revolutionized healthcare,

enabling clinicians to improve patient care, deliver better outcomes and improve the patient experience. But how did we get here... and where is the future headed?

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The revolution begins...



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Experimenting with a new technology using ionizing radiation, physicist Wilhelm Röntgen imaged the bones—and wedding

ring—in his wife's

hand.1

1896



The **clinical** potential is realized

as radiographs show:

- A glass splinter lodged in the finger of a 4-year-old²
- A Colles fracture in a student at Dartmouth College³

At the same time, numerous reports of radiation-linked injuries begin appearing in the scientific and lay literature.⁴



World

War I



Marie Curie drives a truck with **portable** x-ray equipment

into the battlefields of France. X-rays also help doctors:

- Visualize and treat shattered bones
- Record the effects of gas gangrene
- View tuberculosis and other lung lesions
- Perform barium studies of the gastrointestinal tract







Film replaces glass **plates** for visualizing radiographic images⁵



Implementation of radiation **safety** procedures like lead aprons and lead gloves⁶

1930s

"X-ray" becomes a commercial advertising catchphrase⁷



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1940s

"Atomic cocktails"

help visualize the thyroid and other organs⁸

The long-term risks of radiation

exposure begin to be quantified⁹

1950s

The use of ultrasound

to diagnose gynecological patients begins¹⁰

The first fiber-optic semi-flexible endoscope is patented¹¹

1960s

The first endoscope is used to **examine a** patient's stomach¹²



1970s



- Inventors of computed tomography (CT) imaging receive Nobel Prize¹³
- The first positron emission tomography (PET) camera is developed¹⁴
- The first MRI body scan is performed on a human¹⁵
- Professor Heinz
 Lemke is the first
 to describe the
 concept of PACS¹⁶



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Use of **electron beam tomography** begins¹⁷

1980s



Commercial CT scanners deliver 64 slices per rotation¹⁸

 Prenatal ultrasounds become routine¹⁹



2000s

Digital sensors begin replacing

film in most clinical settings²⁰







Today

CT, MRI and ultrasound enable detailed visualization that **almost duplicates an actual organ**²¹









Medical imaging today... complex, siloed, non-standardized.



Imaging modalities are performed more frequently, with increasing detail, using more advanced technologies.







Why?







More imaging standards, practices, guidelines, regulations²⁴

- Health Information Privacy and Accountability Act of 1996
- Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act 2009
- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
- Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, Section 510(k)
- Mammography Quality Standards Act
- American College of Radiology technical standards and practice guidelines
- Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) 1993
- Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE)

Multiple non-standard data formats

- DICOM
- PDF
- JPG
- MPEG
- PNG







Lack of standard imaging workflows



















How to make imaging simpler?

"It is essential to enable an ordinary confluence of data towards centralized repositories; such Big data should be enriched with proper clinical annotations and released with full awareness of the patient, who should be placed at the center of the diagnostic workflow."²⁸



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No signs of slowing...





The technology medical imaging outlook:

What we're watching on the imaging horizon...²⁹

- Al and ML: Enabling new treatment paradigms that have the potential to transform the way healthcare is conducted
- **Blockchain:** Giving patients access to and control of their data via secure distributed storage outside healthcare institutions
- **3-D visualization, virtual reality and imageguided intervention:** "Seeing" patients with greater precision for more effective treatments and better clinical outcomes

Read the White Paper









Logicalis helps healthcare organizations improve clinical workflows and better achieve patient-centered goals. NetApp delivers hybrid cloud storage and data management solutions for your enterprise imaging strategy.

Schedule an Imaging Workshop

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