

Ease of Use: Improve Diagnostic Efficiency and Patient Care



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Practical approaches to establishing and maintaining a busy regional analgesia and anesthesia practice must center around safety and efficiency. These tenets are paramount for improved patient satisfaction, which is a direct result of delivering comprehensive care that addresses the patient's needs and improves recovery.

A focus on a variety of measures in recent years has seen attention paid more to minimizing opioid use and facilitating earlier discharge from the hospital. At the same time, patient volumes are shifting from hospital-based treatments and surgery to the ambulatory or outpatient setting.

To accomplish perhaps more complex patient care in the ambulatory setting, for example, there has been an increase in the frequency and utilization of ultrasound-guided procedures. Office-based musculoskeletal (MSK) injections and aspirations are now commonplace. Patients with increasingly complex medical histories and more significant comorbid conditions are being treated in outpatient surgery centers as well. Improved technology providing more powerful and portable ultrasound equipment, along with cost stabilization, has propelled ultrasound to the forefront of must-have technology.

To achieve the needs of a fast-paced, high-volume center, the aforesaid efficiency can be reached by simplifying processes, including the intersection of technology with patient care. One technological introduction to foster this simplification is Konica Minolta's SONIMAGE® HS2 and SONIMAGE® MX1 Platinum Portable Ultrasound Systems. Decade old machines are great for budgetary purposes, however increasing patient acuity and habitus, and the need to reduce exam times mandates considerations for updating technology.

Busy anesthesiologists need this type of modern technology. An ultrasound system that is ready to scan in less than 30 seconds from stand-by mode, has a minimal learning curve, and requires little orientation to the available market-leading features makes MSK and regional anesthesia procedures easier to perform.

A streamlined user interface on the Konica Minolta's SONIMAGE® HS2 and SONIMAGE MX1 Platinum simplifies clinical use. Another key point of simplification is the probe design. One linear probe has a frequency range of 3-18 MHz for superficial and deep tissue scanning, which reduces the number of probes for many applications.

A single linear probe and a single curvilinear probe are all that the anesthesiologist will need in most settings and applications. The image quality is already top of its class and fine adjustments can be made by the end user with ease to suit individual preferences.

Another simplification brought forth in the SONIMAGE HS2 and SONIMAGE MX1 Platinum systems is the user interface. There are only eight buttons for the SONIMAGE HS2 and five buttons for the SONIMAGE MX1, and many of these are customizable to individual preferences for frequently adjusted settings or frequently used functions. The remainder of the adjustable settings are accessed through icons in a touch screen format analogous to a tablet with pinch to zoom, click and drag, and tap functions, among others.

Most physicians are familiar with the touch screen paradigm and when coupled with a scratch resistant screen that is responsive and durable, Konica Minolta's SONIMAGE HS2 and SONIMAGE MX1 Platinum is the perfect blend of technological savviness and ease-of-use.

The novice or the experienced physician can easily incorporate either of these two systems into their typical everyday practice in virtually any setting with confidence. The imaging software is intuitive and can be customized to physician preferences, demonstrating the versatility of Konica Minolta's SONIMAGE HS2 and SONIMAGE MX1 Platinum Ultrasound Systems.



SONIMAGE MX1 Platinum Compact Ultrasound System



SONIMAGE HS2 Point-of-Care Ultrasound System

Customizable touchscreen facilitates superior workflow and improves efficiency.