Dear Colleague,

NEW ULTRASOUND AND CT TECHNOLOGY AT LAKE IMAGING

Lake Imaging is pleased to inform you of a significant investment in new Ultrasound and CT technology throughout our practices.

Ultrasound

Over the next few months the current ultrasound fleet will be completely replaced with the Siemens Acuson Antares system. This represents the most advanced ultrasound platform currently available and provides for exciting new applications including:

- **Elastography**

  A revolutionary new technology that measures the relative stiffness or hardness of different tissues. This greatly increases the confidence with which benign and malignant breast lesions may be differentiated and should reduce the number of biopsies performed on benign disease with a concomitant reduction in patient anxiety. At present, approximately 80% of all breast biopsies result in a benign diagnosis.

  In the clinical setting, the role of Elastography will be as an additional examination to characterise breast lesions assessed as indeterminate on standard diagnostic mammography and ultrasound work up.

  **Referral:** Ultrasound referral for “Elastography”
  **Fee:** Standard fee. Pensioner and Health Care Card concessions apply.

- **FourSight 4D Ultrasound**

  Provides three dimensional (3D) imaging of the foetus in real time to expectant parents in their third trimester. Whilst the study does not provide diagnostic information in a traditional sense, and will not alter the normal management of your obstetric patients, some Obstetricians believe it may benefit emotional bonding.

  **Referral:** Required
  **Fee:** $190 payable on the day if no Medicare accepted indication

- **DVD Burning**

  Available on all new ultrasound machines for a donation to a local charity. Money raised in excess of costs is donated to a local charity.
CT

We are very excited to commission the world’s fastest CT scanner, the Siemens Somatom Definition CT, at our East Court facility, in Ryrie Street, Geelong. Utilizing two x-ray sources the machine can acquire data at twice the speed of a 64 slice machine in submillimeter detail.

- **Cardiac CT**

  Coronary CT angiography is a highly reliable, convenient and cost-effective means of excluding significant coronary artery disease in a patient whom you consider to be at intermediate clinical risk of coronary artery stenosis. Short of catheter angiography it represents the only means of visualizing the coronary circulation, and is non-invasive. The inherent speed of the Definition CT eliminates the need for premedication with beta blockers, a considerable advance over current 64 slice CT systems. The patient experience is essentially no different to a standard contrast enhanced CT examination of the chest.

  Coronary artery calcium scoring is performed as part of the examination and quantifies the amount of calcified atheroma within the coronary circulation. This correlates with an individual patient’s risk of a cardiac event, and is both independent of standard risk factors such as diabetes and hypertension, but also stratifies risk within these groups. In the patient population with an intermediate clinical likelihood of coronary artery disease this may guide further management and provide a powerful and tangible motivational tool for patient risk factor modification.

Referral: Required. Please contact 5273 1200 for appointments.
Fee: $700 payable on the day. No Medicare Rebate available.

If you would like further information on these, or any of our services, please do not hesitate to contact any of our practices, or myself on 0408 788 229.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Alex Meakin