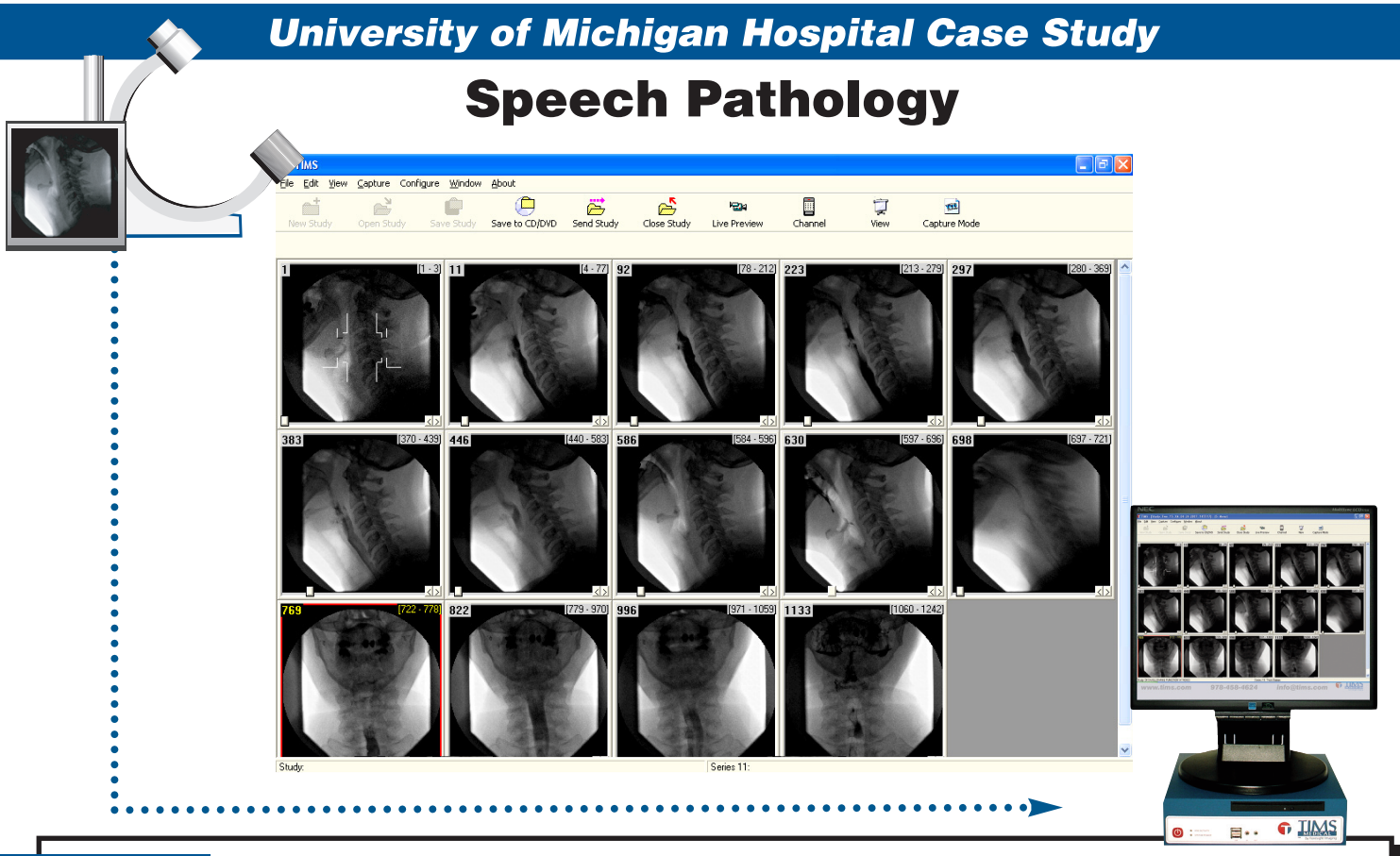
University of Michigan Hospital Case Study

Speech Pathology



PROBLEM:

The University of Michigan Hospital (Ann Arbor, MI) had recently purchased a new Siemens Luminos fluoroscopy system and planned to use it frequently for modified barium swallow studies for speech pathology. Their new fluoroscopy system was DICOM enabled; however, it did not store the long format fluoro runs that speech pathologists require in these studies. The fluoroscopy system only stored spot images and short acquisition mode runs locally and sent those to PACS. These short runs were not adequate for the speech pathologists. Previously, the speech pathologists had been using video tape which was of very low quality. They wanted to review the studies digitally on their computers and be able to time certain swallowing events in the study.

SOLUTION:

The Siemens Luminos system was connected directly to the TIMS DICOM System allowing TIMS to acquire the motion video streams automatically as they were output by the fluoroscopy system. Once the high resolution study was on the TIMS DICOM System, the radiological technologist was able to edit the study and convert it to DICOM. The resulting study could then be sent to PACS or recorded to CD/DVD by the TIMS DICOM System. The speech pathologists were then able to review the studies on any PC using the DICOM CD/DVD (with a Viewer included) or on PACS. More importantly, the speech pathologists and radiological technologists at University of Michigan Hospital requested an improved video editing model as well as a stop watch timer function to be able to time events. The Foresight Imaging team took this feedback and incorporated it into the very next software release for deployment at the hospital. “The TIMS DICOM System is doing an excellent job with our speech pathology studies. The team at Foresight Imaging listened to our product suggestions and specifically addressed them with a new editing model and a new timer feature to make our speech pathologists’ jobs more productive,” said James Good, PACS Administrator at University of Michigan Hospital.

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