Trends & Technology

Aniography System

The industrial robot technology integrated in the Artis seego system allows the physician to move the C-arm to almost any position around the patient, thereby making it easier to visualise) internal organs from various aspects. The flat detector of this system rotates around the patient at such high velocity and precision that CT-like images are created. In addition, the physician can perform complex C-arm movements, e.g. for peripheral acquisitions of the patient with the table in a tilted position. The system is superior to conventional angiography systems used during neurological interventions as it can provide larger views of the skull, neck and spine. Furthermore, the position of the isocentre can be adapted to the height of the operating physician. When the system is not in use, it can be stored in a park position requiring only minimal space; alternatively the C-arm can be moved to the ceiling.

SIEMENS HEALTH CARE Erlangen, **

Visualisation tool for anesthetists

The S-Nerve visualisation tool is designed to support the specific needs of the anaesthetist. By using just two dials, anaesthetists can acquire optimal images of hard-to-reach nerve structures and can perform ultrasound-guided nerve block procedures and central line placements, anywhere in the hospital. The new device can be hand-carried to the point of patient care or mounted on walls or ceilings. It boots up within seconds, weighs less than four kilograms (including an on-board docking station) and is battery operable. Its sealed interface is easy to clean and sanitise.

Pain relief TENS units

Based on a 'constant current' design, recognised as the ideal design for TENS machines, the iTouch stimulators combine comfort and ease of use. Upon start-up, the push of a one-touch Memory Start button returns to the last settings used and gently increases to half of the last strength level. Proprietary Comfort strength control monitors both skin and pad condition to ensure that the stimulation remains constant. Should the pad or lead condition be poor, the output is limited and a warning is given. The units come with a single plug for two output channels with adjustable lead divider for easier lead management. A total of eight medically-proven stimulation settings, including Han stimulation, are pre-programmed and complemented by a wide range of manually selectable customised settings, which may be memory-stored and, tamper-protected. Additionally, the TENS units come complete with an integrated digital clock with up to three settable medication alarms per day.

Vein locator for neonates

The Venoscope Transilluminators are designed to safely and effectively locate hard-to-find veins in adult, paediatric and neonatal patients. The portable systems use high-intensity LED lights of different wavelengths to assist clinicians in locating peripheral veins for IV therapy and for IT. collecting blood samples as well as for sclerotherapy and ambulatory phlebotomy. The small is size of the neonatal model NTOI allows the clinician to use it in tight spaces to transilluminate the baby's arm or leg from the posterior side, thus presenting the veins from the top as dark lines within the illuminated area. It can also be used for detecting pneumothoracic and hydrocephalic conditions. The adult and paediatric model VTO3 is used by placing it on the top sur-face of the patient's hand, arm or leg to create a large area of illumination beneath the skin. The vein, which absorbs light, presents as a dark line between the light beams. The clinician can determine the direction of travel, relative depth and size of the vein as well as its patency. Both devices use AA alkaline batteries and may be cleaned with alcohol wipes or bleach wipes.

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