

15th Annual National Interdisciplinary Breast Center Conference

Abstract: "A Model for the Planning and Delivery of Real-Time Digital Mammography and Computer-Aided Detection (CAD) in Rural and Underserved Communities"

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Brief Program Description:

Women living in rural and other underserved communities continue to face the challenges of accessing quality mammography and breast diagnostic services. Most rural hospitals and clinics do not have mammography equipment nor Radiologists with expertise in mammography. Women must travel long distances to obtain screening services. The patient must travel once again should the result reveal the need for diagnostic views. The Swedish Comprehensive Breast Center in Seattle has designed and implemented the Swedish Breast Care Express, a mobile mammography coach that enables mammography images taken in remote areas to be read in real-time by highly specialized Radiologists at the hospital in Seattle. Communication between the Express and the hospital is instantaneous allowing diagnostic views and/or ultrasound to be obtained before the patient leaves the coach.

This presentation will give audience participants the opportunity to read about this model project and to learn the steps involved and crucial decisions leading to this successful program.

Objectives:

Participants reviewing this exhibit will be able to:

- 1) Understand the key steps in planning a digital mammography mobile unit.
- 2) Understand the key decisions needed throughout the planning, manufacture, and implementation of a digital mammography mobile unit.
- 2) Appreciate the advanced technologies available to enhance the delivery of mobile mammography.

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