

VITALS

HOSPITAL

In June, 1994, Griffin Hospital opened the first patient care building in the country designed and constructed to accommodate the Planetree patient-centered care philosophy. Planetree is an international, non-profit, consumer health organization whose vision is to humanize and demystify the healthcare experience.

Griffin has received many honors including the 1995 Design Award from The Center for Health Design, the American Hospital Association and American Society for Healthcare Engineering 1996 VISTA Award for new construction; and the New England Hospital Assembly 1996 top design award sponsored by the Boston Society of Architects.

The physicians, staff, and volunteers at Griffin Hospital are dedicated to providing care which encompasses the mind, body, and spirit; promoting health education and wellness; and providing leadership to improve the health of the community.

MR DEPARTMENT

Griffin's network of health services continues to grow with the addition of a new, 50,000 sq. ft. Center for Cancer Care, an expanded Emergency Department, and new Laboratory at our main campus. In addition, Griffin has extended its award winning design and patient care model to our latest service offering, the Griffin Imaging & Diagnostics Center at Ivy Brook, a new outpatient facility located in a medical arts building in neighboring Shelton, CT.



Why did you choose Hitachi's High-Field Oasis?

When we made the decision to expand our imaging and diagnostics services to an off-site facility, our marketing analysis indicated there were 'patient groups' that were underserved in our area, most notably bariatric patients.

With several other low-field open MRIs in our area, and so-called open, closed-bore magnets, we found Oasis to be the answer to our needs. A truly open magnet design to accommodate obese body habitus, with high-field technology to provide exceptional imaging of larger patients.

We have had great success in this area, imaging patients upwards of 550 lbs., with very impressive results. In fact, many of the bariatric patients we are currently serving have either had to forego diagnostic imaging in the past – because existing MRI equipment in our area couldn't accommodate their size – or could not obtain diagnostic images because of other magnets' low-field strength.



How is Oasis impacting your MR department?

Oasis has been a tremendous addition to our imaging service offerings, providing patients with access and choice. This has been especially advantageous to both claustrophobic patients and anxious patients (pediatric or geriatric) who would like or need someone to accommodate them during the scan.

Our new center, which is based on the Planetree Model of Patient Care, provides a comfortable and non-threatening environment, which Oasis complements perfectly. With its open architecture and the added benefit of having two large windows in our MRI suite, our patients enjoy an unparalleled level of both comfort and clinical excellence. Our radiologists and referring physician staff are all very pleased with the diagnostic results. It's clear we made the right MRI choice with Hitachi as a partner in clinical excellence.

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**Dr. Frank Mele,
Radiologist and
Medical Director**

The image quality Oasis is providing has exceeded our expectations, which were very high to begin with. Our specialized capabilities have enabled us to serve a number of patients who could not be imaged previously due to claustrophobia, their size, or other considerations.

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**Christine Cooper,
Director of Radiology and
Cardiology**

We researched which latest MRI technology would afford us the best clinical advantage, while providing our patients with the best possible imaging and diagnostic results from a truly open, high-field magnet. When we previewed the Oasis at RSNA and then at St. Mary Hospital in Pennsylvania, where we met the staff and radiologists using this new technology, the choice was clear. Now our new Imaging & Diagnostics Center is a state-of-the-art, leading edge imaging facility, and Oasis certainly supports that claim.

Oasis True Stories is a series highlighting how Oasis High-Field Bore-less MR is transforming MR imaging services across the country. For complete testimonials, including online interviews, visit www.hitachimed.com.