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Flávia Nogueira Falcone, Education Manager at IPmed

“Spread knowledge and conduce to the development of scientific research and education by becoming one of the country’s leading institutes in the field of diagnostic imaging,” that is the vision of Brazil’s Institute for Research and Education in Diagnostic Medicine (IPmed). Established in November 2011, the Institute comprises three specialist schools and Digital Education Laboratories (LEDs) where medical professionals receive theoretical and hands-on training in radiology. In line with its lofty objectives, IPmed chose the most advanced PACS and visualization technology available on the market: the first LED features 25 Barco medical display systems.

IPmed, Brazil
Taking diagnostic skills to the next level
The Brazilian Institute for Research and Education in Diagnostic Medicine (IPmed) was set up by Brazil’s Foundation Institute for Research and Study for Diagnostic Imaging (FIDI). It was borne from FIDI’s conclusion that Brazil’s medical professionals really needed to upgrade their diagnostic imaging skills. “Only by intense, in-depth training can we prepare Brazilian doctors for the high-pressure demands of modern medicine,” said Flávia Nogueira Falcone, IPmed’s Education Manager.

The three dedicated IPmed schools (Medical, Technical and Nursing) run about 27 courses, and provide training and education based on cutting-edge radiological services. “Our goal is to provide medical professionals - doctors, nurses, biomedical scientists, technologists and technicians, already active in the field - with a unique educational environment,” explained Dr. Nitamar Abdala, President Director of IPmed. “In our schools they have the opportunity to review and update the theoretical and practical concepts of their specialty, study in practice and review catalogued cases on dedicated PACS workstations. In this way, they can enhance their diagnostic reading, reporting, interpreting, etc. skills.”

To deepen and crystallize the knowledge gained in the classrooms, IPmed created the concept of the Digital Education Laboratory (LED) – a facility where students can experience the latest developments in diagnostic hardware and software.

Great courses, first-class technologies

“Of course, advanced technologies, like PACS workstations equipped with high-level medical display systems, are a must in that LED environment,” Dr. Abdala continued. Together with FIDI, IPmed searched for a high-quality, visualization solution to view the most diverse diagnostic images, such as Musculoskeletal, Thoracic, Neuro, CT, MRA, Abdominal and Pediatrics. After a thorough examination, IPmed chose Barco’s MDRC-2120 20-inch clinical review displays.

Reliable images, long-term consistency

“The Barco displays are ideal for our educational teaching environment. The images are clear and uniform from all viewing angles, making group consultation with colleagues easy. The consistent image quality across the screen, even at the corners, is vital for displaying, for example, chest images,” said Flávia Nogueira Falcone. “We are confident this supports better outcomes.”

Barco’s MDRC-2120 is a 2MP display for hospital-wide viewing of clinical data and images. It brings reliable, DICOM-compliant images to a broad palette of imaging applications. Advanced Backlight Output Stabilization (BLOS) technology ensures a fast power-up and continuous LCD backlight stability, resulting in long-term image consistency. Barco promises image quality should be as good in three years’ time as it is today.

High expectations for the future

IPmed will continue to invest in the training and development of medical professionals, through science, technology and innovation. “Our goal is to make IPmed one of the country’s leading institutes in the field of diagnostic imaging,” Dr. André Yui Aihara, Technical Director, concluded. “In the coming years, we want to expand the number of LEDs, so additional medical display systems will be needed. As we are delighted with the current displays and our cooperation with Barco, we won’t hesitate, even for a moment, to contact Barco for additional systems.”