

Medical center officials laud new radiology facility

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The Delray Beach Medical Center recently opened a new Interventional Radiology Room that is being used for a variety of procedures.

Dr. Stephen Leighton, medical director of radiology, said the facility will help with the treatment of enlarged vessels and bleeding and will also be useful in dialysis cases.

"Basically, we can do any vascular procedure except that those that involve the brain," Leighton said. "We can do all that right here in this room."

Imaging procedures such as barium swallows can also be done in the Interventional Radiology Room. Leighton is able to get a 360-degree, three-dimensional view of the patient's body.

The device in the room is made by Philips and contains a moveable controlling module and remote control that Leighton can use to manipulate an imaging arm that moves around the table while the patient remains stationary.

"The amount we have to move the patient is minimal," he said. "The patient is really never moving; everything else does."

According to Jeffrey Welch, chief operating officer of the Delray Medical Center, the Interventional Radiology Room cost \$859,000 to build.

The new machine records images using a multipurpose digital X-ray system.

"The machine is used for examinations, dedicated vascular and nonvascular diagnostics and interventional procedures," Welch explained in an e-mail. "[It] provides excellent

image quality."

Welch noted that the new technology will make for faster diagnoses, shorter hospital visits and lower costs for patients and insurance companies.

"The Philips unique scanning concept with a moving C-arm and a fixed tabletop allows for no patient movement," Welch explained. "This increases patient safety, increases patient comfort, [and] has a sterile design."

For more information, call Delray Medical Center at 561-498-4440 or visit <http://www.delraymedicalctr.com>.

http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2011-03-30/news/fl-drf-radiology-0330-20110330_1_patient-imaging-procedures-leighton