

# PRESS RELEASE

## **New Medical Technology**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Florida Institute For Advanced Diagnostic Imaging Installs World's Most Advanced CT System to Deliver Faster, Easier and More Accurate Diagnostic Studies for Patients and Physicians

Port Richey, Florida – **Florida Institute For Advanced Diagnostic Imaging** (FIFADI) has joined an elite handful of U.S. hospitals by installing the world's fastest, most powerful computed tomography (CT) system- the Aquilion™ 16 from Toshiba America Medical Systems.

The speed and clinical accuracy of this technology offers significant benefits to patients by enabling physicians to more clearly visualize internal injuries and disease with faster and new advanced studies. For example, FIFADI has reduced the time required to complete a CT angiogram that scans from the abdomen to the feet (2 mm slice thickness) from 60 seconds to only 15 seconds.

“Tampa Bay area residents do not need to leave our community to have access to the best CT system available today. This is one of the most exciting technological break-throughs of this century and will literally change the face of diagnostic imaging by replacing many currently invasive diagnostic procedures,” comments Dr. Steven Strobbe, Administrative Physician of **Florida Institute For Advanced Diagnostic Imaging**. “For example, it has the capability of scanning large anatomical areas and fast moving organs, such as the heart and could therefore, in many cases, replace an invasive and painful coronary angiography.”

Radiation dose exposure is a major concern among physicians, especially when doing CT procedures on pediatric patients. However, the unique design of Toshiba's Aquilion 16 is able to sustain high image quality with minimal dose due to the use of highly efficient ceramic materials for its detector. These materials allow for the lowest noise and highest dose efficiency available on the market, which is reflected in the outstanding low-contrast performance of the system.

While CT uses X-ray technology, it is distinguished from other imaging tools like traditional X-ray and MRI by its ability to display a combination of soft tissue (like muscles, tissue, organs and fat), bones and blood vessels all in a single image. Radiologists perform CT scans to diagnose kidney, lung, liver, spine, and blood diseases, cancer, tumors, and cysts, as well as blood clots, hemorrhages and infections.

During a CT exam, a patient lies on a table and is slowly moved into the large opening of the scanner. Once inside, a series of X-ray beams create hundreds of cross-sectional pictures that represent slices of the patient's body. Seconds later, the system's computer assembles the slices into three-dimensional images that are interpreted by a radiologist.

The Aquilion-16 can acquire more of those anatomical slices than any other system, thanks to a new technology called multislice imaging. In fact, the Aquilion-16 is so fast that it can rotate around a patient's body in only half a second or less. At that speed, this CT creates a gravitational force of 13 Gs-four times the force of the Space Shuttle during lift off.

As a result, Toshiba's multislice technology is among the first that is quick enough to capture images of the body's rapidly moving organs like the heart and lungs, which appear blurry when scanned by traditional CTs. Multislice imaging also is especially useful for examining patients who are unable to hold their breath, like trauma victims, acutely ill patients and young children.

**Florida Institute For Advanced Diagnostic Imaging** is an official Toshiba Show Site. This prestigious honor is given to only three medical facilities in the country and places FIFADI on the forefront of new technological advancements.

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