



## NEW ELMENDORF RADIOLOGY - FY99

**Background-** MDIS was declared operational in the 3rd Medical Group Hospital, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska on 26 August 1997. The decision was made to install the system in the old facility for two main reasons. The staff will be fully trained by the time they move to the new facility, and a patient image database can be built early, eliminating the need to digitize what would otherwise be historical images.

Only plain film been converted to CR. The other modalities were brought on line in the new facility in January 1999. The radiology department is operating virtually from the new hospital even though they are still located in the old facility. The move to the new hospital will occur in May 1999. Ft Richardson, a spoke of Elmendorf is not operational due to the fact that the T-1 line is not yet installed.

An additional feature that is being installed at Elmendorf is "Access - Take Home Radiology", an application that makes images available to clients at home via the telephone network. This is especially useful for radiologists who are on call during bad weather conditions.

Images are also "pushed" to a networked server so that physicians can display images on their desktop PC's using a free Netscape plug-in. Unfortunately, the PC's and the LAN in the old hospital are not robust enough to facilitate this feature. The new hospital will be fully capable of supporting the web technology.

The installation at Elmendorf is unique in that the hospital in part of the Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership (AFHCP) consisting of DOD, Coast Guard, Indian Health Service and the Veterans Administration. There is considerable sharing of resources. The VA hospital for example has installed CR at its hospital but archiving all the images on the Elmendorf system. The FY 98 plan included the installation of digitizers at two Coast Guard clinics in Kodiak and Ketchikan. Their images will be read and archived at Elmendorf. At present, only Kodiak is operational. Ketchikan will be operational as soon as CHCS is enabled and the communications infrastructure improved by the Coast Guard.

### 1. Organization

COL Roger U. Bisson, - Commander, 3<sup>rd</sup> Medical Group  
LtCol Dave Vanderburgh - Functional Project Officer, Department of Radiology  
Mr. Jim Francoise, Project Manager, Akamai Project Office

1. **Mission Statement** – Move Digital Radiology operations from the old to the new hospital.

### 2. Goals and Objectives

**Objectives** – Complete the modality installations in the New Elmendorf Hospital.

- n Establish Elmendorf as one of the hubs in the Alaska Virtual Radiology Environment.
- n Establish Ft Richardson as a remote Teleradiology site.
- n Establish Ketchikan Coast Guard Clinic as Teleradiology site.

**Goals:** Plan the transition to the new facility.

Transition PACS operation to the new facility with zero downtime.  
Complete Acceptance Testing in April 1999..

Begin clinical operations in the new facility in May 1999.

## **6 Current Status**

### **a) Primary Accomplishments -**

1. Conducted systems training during November - December 1998.
2. Declared IOC by December 1998.
3. Conducting AT through April 1999.
4. Start warranty period 1 February 1999.

### **Project Timelines-**

1. Complete system turn-over by May 1999
2. Sign MOA by May 1999

## **6. Strategic Direction**

PACS installation is complete, except for the finalization of the Acceptance Test.

Elmendorf AFB hospital is a large hub in the Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership (AFHCP). As such, it will become central in the research effort to explore the networking of federal facilities in the AFHCP. Further networking can be accomplished by connecting with facilities in the lower 48 states, namely Madigan AMC and Tripler AMC. Central archiving or data warehousing is also an issue that will be studied because it is a central part of the eventual "virtual radiology" department. Elmendorf will also be a critical player in the implementation of Telemedicine in the Alaska region.

## **7. Budget/Financial Status and Information**

## **8. Business Associations**

Corporate Partnerships:

GE Medical Systems Integrated Imaging Solutions Group  
Dejarnette  
Fuji Medical Systems U.S.A., INC.  
Imation (3M)  
MIS-LABS  
MedWeb

Government Partnerships

Information Technology Program Office (ITPO), FT Detrick  
AKAMAI Project Office

## **9. Project Security**

System Security- The system is doubly protected through usernames and passwords. The list of authorized users is maintained by the systems administrator.

Standards compliance measures : Standards published or enforced by the Security Manager, Information Management Office are complied with.

As of: 06/17/99

## 10. **Summary**

Plain film CR was installed at the old Elmendorf hospital. The system was declared operational on 25 August 1997 and clinical use began on 26 August 1997. Installation of the new PACS in the new facility was completed in February 1999. All modalities except digital mammography will be converted to CR. The complete system will be operational by 10 May 1999, when the facility begins seeing patients.