> **" I would certainly say 'go digital'. The DX-D 10 has been an excellent investment for us, and it definitely yields more each month than the cost. "**
>
> Dr. Peter Vandekerckhove
> Veterinarian, Diplomate ECVS , Malpertuus veterinary center, Heusden, Belgium

DX-D 10 digital detector plate:

- Easy and intuitive to use, right from the start.
- With increased speed, vets can take all the images they need.
- Image processing tools help surgery preparation and follow-up.
- Vets and owners can see images immediately on the monitor.
- Excellent image quality supports the veterinary center's role and reputation as a reference center.

Using DR imaging to take top-quality animal care even further

With the DX-D 10, a flourishing full-service vet practice finds the image quality, speed and simplicity it has been searching for.

Malpertuus is a large-scale, full-service veterinary center that aims to take imaging and surgery for animal healthcare ever further. Surgery specialist Dr. Peter Vandekerckhove was convinced that direct radiography (DR) would best support the center's ambitions. Now the DX-D 10, combining excellent image quality with speed and ease of use, has given the center the DR technology it needs to support its flourishing practice.

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> "The digital detector is something we can no longer do without, not only for me as a surgeon, but also for my colleagues who are more involved in cardiovascular imaging."
>
> *Dr. Peter Vandekerckhove*

Did you know …

- The name 'Malpertuus' comes from a classic tale in Flemish medieval literature. In the story, Malpertuus is the home of the family of Reynaerd the Fox, and is a caring haven for the fox cubs.
- The premises of the Malpertuus veterinary center, designed by the award-winning Belgian architectural team De Vylder-Vinck-Taillieu, received the first prize at Batibouw 2010 (Belgium's largest construction fair) in the non-residential building category.

Ensuring the quality needed for crucial images

Malpertuus was started up in January 2010 by long-time collaborators Dr. Vandekerckhove, Dr. Johanna Van de Vijver and Dr. Hugo Vinck. Since then, they have been joined by a fourth partner, Dr. Ilona Schwarzkopf, plus three additional vets, three assistants and a secretary. In their purpose-built premises, this team makes full use of a broad range of dedicated equipment, including an X-ray room with the DX-D 10 digital detector plate, a CT scanner room, an ultrasound room and two operating rooms.

For a top-line veterinary center, Dr. Vandekerckhove was convinced that DR was the path to the future, but he needed to find the right solution. His local distributor, X-Ray Verachtert, introduced him to the DX-D 10, with MUSICA[2] image processing software. "Sure enough, it was the solution I had been looking for," he comments. "It was very simple to learn to use and intuitive: all the vets could start working with it right away."

But ease of use was not the only advantage of the new system. "We make 10-20 images every day with the DX-D 10; there is little parameterization necessary, and over- or under-exposures are rare. We get a very good quality image in a few seconds, so the time savings are huge. Take as an example a situation where I want to do a full complement of images for a dog: five to eight images, of hip, knee, elbow and shoulder. Previously, this could take one and a half hour. With digital imaging, it takes me only 10 minutes."

Dr. Vandekerckhove finds the image processing tools especially handy for surgery. He uses the MUSICA[2] software extensively for surgery preparation and follow-up, and can make measurements, simulations, annotations and more. All the images are stored on a central server. From their own offices and computers, the center's vets can view images and initiate X-ray exams. The patient data is transferred to the worklist on the NX workstation in the X-ray room.

Dr. Vandekerckhove concludes, "I would certainly recommend to other vet practices to 'go digital', but pay close attention to the image processing software delivered with the system. In my opinion, the quality of the software is even more important than the quality of the detector plate."

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