



AGFA
RADIOLOGY
SOLUTIONS

Quality makes the difference for X-ray service

at Aleris Aalborg hospital in Denmark

While the image quality from its new VALORY™ digital radiography room brings increased referrals to Aleris Aalborg, the ease of use and speed of imaging help the hospital meet the increased demand.

Case study

Interview with Charlotte Rytter Simoni, Radiography Leader of BDC, Diagnostic Imaging, at Aleris Aalborg

When Aleris Aalborg implemented the VALORY™ digital radiography (DR) room, it found that the enhanced image quality not only improved diagnostic confidence and the delivery of patient care, it also brought in even more patients. The ease of use of VALORY, plus the image quality improvements, made it possible for the hospital to handle the increase in patients, while further enhancing the hospital's reputation among hospitals and physicians alike.

Aleris Denmark is the largest supplier of private healthcare in Denmark and part of the Aleris Group, which is amongst Scandinavia's leading private healthcare companies. Aleris Aalborg is one of Aleris' six hospitals in the country. In addition to offering healthcare and diagnostic services directly to its own patients, Aleris also supports the country's public hospitals, including with diagnostics imaging. "If the waiting time for a patient to receive imaging at a public hospital is more than 30 days, the hospital can refer the patient to us, to ensure timely diagnosis and treatment," explains Charlotte Rytter Simoni, Radiography Leader of BDC, Diagnostic Imaging at Aleris Aalborg.



From left to right: Preben Lass, Charlotte Rytter Simoni, Hanne Brink, Kristina Sørensen

A reputation for quality imaging

This dual role means the imaging workload at a private hospital tends to be variable, she describes. However, since Aleris Aalborg installed the ceiling-suspended VALORY DR room, the number of radiography exams has gone up, up, up. “The public hospitals are under a lot of pressure right now; and overall, our diagnostic imaging exam numbers have increased by around 20%. But our X-rays alone have gone up about 7-fold! I believe this is because the public hospitals have seen the improved image quality since we implemented VALORY, and are confident they can rely on us for the high-quality images they need.”



“True value”: diagnostic confidence, patient safety and cost-effectiveness

The VALORY DR room was installed by Agfa partner DuMed in January 2021. “Our computed radiography (CR) unit had reached its end of life, and no longer delivered imaging quality that met the mission and patient care commitment of Aleris Hospitals, and of our doctors,” says Charlotte Simoni. “We needed a cost-effective solution that would deliver top-quality images. It also had to meet some other, specific requirements: for example, low X-ray dose, and patient and radiographer safety, including no cables on the floor, etc. But we didn’t need a system with lots of ‘extra’ functionalities.”

“VALORY is easy and smooth to work with, and delivers good quality images. It really does deliver ‘first time right’ imaging!”

Charlotte Rytter Simoni
Radiography Leader of BDC,
Diagnostic Imaging, at Aleris Aalborg



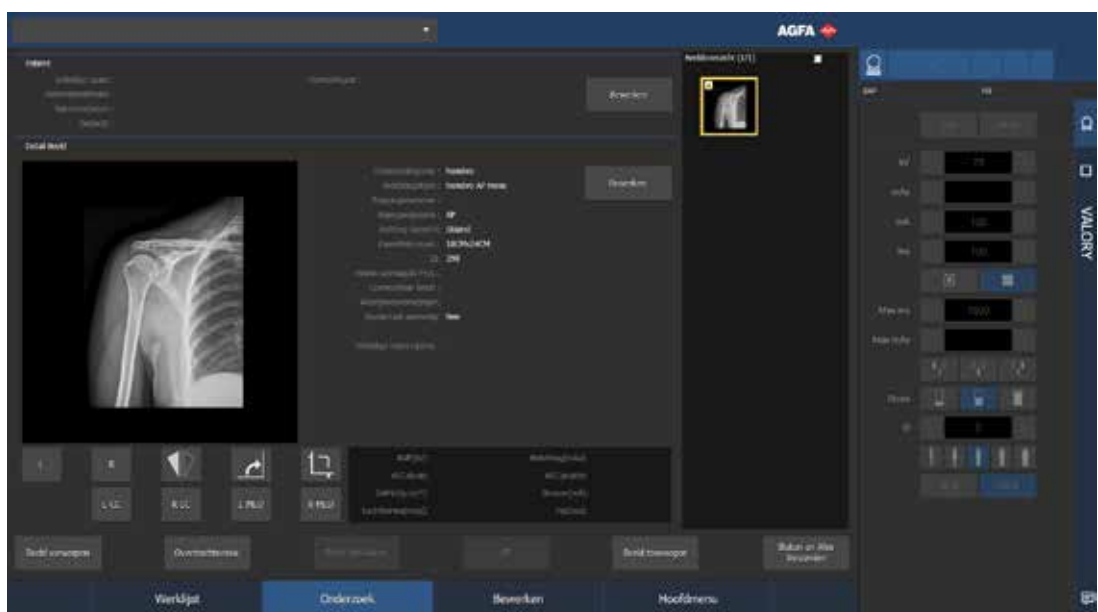
“Our X-rays have gone up about 7-fold! I believe this is because the public hospitals have seen the improved image quality since we implemented VALORY, and are confident they can rely on us for the high-quality images they need.”

Charlotte Rytter Simoni

More image detail means more informed diagnosis

VALORY fit the bill – and more. “First of all, the image quality is very good, and at the end of the day, that is the number one criterion. The radiologists are very pleased with both the image quality and consistency from VALORY.”

But VALORY went beyond the hospital’s quality expectations, she adds: “We were pleased to discover that VALORY offers a balanced presentation of both soft tissue and overlapping bone structure, which means we get more detail from the X-rays. For example, if we have a patient with a foot infection, we need to see the soft tissue. Before VALORY, this would require an MRI or ultrasound to get those details.”



‘First-time right’ images, for a smoother workflow

Charlotte Simoni continues, “The solution really does deliver ‘first time right’ imaging, which means fewer retakes. This both speeds up the patient’s imaging and reduces their dose exposure, which helps improve the patient’s safety and experience.” But it also supports the diagnostic imaging department to keep workflow and patient throughput smooth. “Faster imaging allows us to avoid bottlenecks while increasing the number of patients we can see.”

This is especially important now, because while the improved image quality has created new opportunities for the hospital – it has created new challenges as well. “Since we installed VALORY, our X-ray numbers have risen dramatically! This increased demand puts more pressure on us, but VALORY helps us to handle the patient flow efficiently,” she describes.



DID YOU KNOW

- The majority of healthcare services in Denmark are financed by general taxes and mainly provided free of charge. Public hospitals in Denmark are operated by the five regional councils. The five regions are responsible for hospital care, including emergency care, psychiatry, and for healthcare services provided by general practitioners (GPs) and specialists in private practice.
- There are also a number of private hospitals in Denmark, such as the Aleris Hospitals.

Easy to learn and use

The ease of use of the solution is also a key advantage, explains Charlotte Simoni. “Even if you haven’t used an Agfa solution before, VALORY is very easy to learn and to use. For us, this is particularly important as, in addition to myself, we have radiography ‘consultants’ who come in from the public hospitals to help out. Some may work here only once a week or once every two weeks. But they have no problem using VALORY: the system is very intuitive, so even when you don’t know how to do something, you can figure it out quite quickly.”

Fast, ‘plug-and-go’ installation

VALORY was installed in January 2021, and the implementation by Agfa’s partner in DuMed was fast and trouble-free. “It was very important that VALORY be up and running quickly, because we only have one X-ray system, which meant we were unable to provide X-ray service while the old system was being replaced. Furthermore, there was limited space available. VALORY fit right into the same space as the previous system, and was ready to be used immediately.”

Reliable, transparent service

While VALORY has proven to be an ideal fit for Aleris Aalborg, Charlotte Rytter Simoni believes that it will be a good solution in any hospital imaging environment. “VALORY is easy and smooth to work with, and delivers good quality images. It really does deliver ‘first time right’ imaging! Furthermore, the service from DuMed is excellent: they are always very helpful and responsive.



“It was very important that VALORY be up and running quickly, because we only have one X-ray system... VALORY fit right into the same space as the previous system, and was ready to be used immediately.”

Charlotte Rytter Simoni

Agfa's solution



VALORY digital radiography rooms, delivering 'Excellence. Pure and Simple.':



A simple design with **functionality** that goes far beyond the 'basics'



Choice of **ceiling-suspended and floor-mounted X-ray room**



Maximum configuration flexibility, which adapts to the X-ray room layout and workflow demands



MUSICA® workstation workflow that provides **quicker previews**, **reducing time** between exposures and speeding up patient throughput



An intuitive interface that shortens application training time by up to 20%¹



MUSICA image quality that supports confident diagnosis



Wireless Dura-line™ Cesium Iodide detectors that deliver robust reliability, cost-effectiveness and potential for **significant patient dose reduction**²



Features such as **autotracking and auto-centering** that keep exams moving quickly

¹ Compared to the DR 600

² Testing with board-certified radiologists has determined that Cesium Bromide (CR) and Cesium Iodide (DR) detectors, when used with MUSICA image processing, can provide dose reductions of 50 to 60%, compared to traditional Barium Fluoro Bromide CR systems. Contact Agfa for more details.

AGFA RADIOLOGX SOLUTIONS

Follow us:



[agfa.com](https://www.agfa.com) » Septestraat 27 - 2640 Mortsel - Belgium

Agfa, the Agfa rhombus, Dura-line, MUSICA and VALORY are trademarks of Agfa-Gevaert NV, Belgium or its affiliates. All rights reserved. All information contained herein is intended for guidance purposes only, and characteristics of the products and services described in this publication can be changed at any time without notice. Products and services may not be available for your local area. Please contact your local sales representative for availability information. Agfa-Gevaert NV diligently strives to provide as accurate information as possible, but shall not be responsible for any typographical error.

© 2022 Agfa NV - All rights reserved - Published by Agfa NV

EN202211