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BodyTom

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**Dr Paul Licina**  
Spine Surgeon

# BRISBANE PRIVATE HOSPITAL SETS THE BENCHMARK IN SURGICAL IMAGING

In an Australian first, patients at Brisbane Private Hospital will no longer need to be transported out of the operating theatre for surgeons to do vital imaging crucial to the outcome of their surgery.

Made possible through a unique fully portable CT scanner installed by LifeHealthcare known as BodyTom, the battery operated, mobile intra-operative 32-slice CT scanner provides surgeons with new capabilities during procedures.

BodyTom allows imaging to be performed in the operating room, reducing the need to transport patients to and from traditional fixed CT scanners.

Images of bone, soft tissue and tumours are acquired in the exact operative position and are used for critical decision making during surgery.

Brisbane Private Hospital general manager, Mairi McNeill said it was an important piece of technology that will set the standard of care in Australia.

"The BodyTom is at the forefront of imaging technology and has already lifted the standard of care in the USA," she said.

"At Brisbane Private Hospital, we have invested a lot of time and more than

\$1.4 million ensuring that we are able to offer this state-of-the-art technology to our patients and are very proud to be setting the benchmark in surgery in Australia and the southern hemisphere.

"We have been working in partnership with LifeHealthcare to bring the BodyTom to our hospital because we can see how beneficial it is for both doctors and patients.

"It has taken a lot of time and hard work to get it here but the results are incredible and our doctors and patients will benefit immensely."

Leading spinal surgeon from Brisbane Private Hospital, Dr Paul Licina, said the BodyTom is revolutionary in its simplicity by being able to obtain higher quality images without moving the patient from the operating theatre.

"The key to a successful surgery is accuracy," Dr Licina said.

"The BodyTom captures a real picture of the patient that is clear and detailed, therefore greatly aiding the precision of surgery as well as the navigation process resulting in smaller wounds, quicker operating times and better outcomes for the patient.

“The quality of the image is diagnostic and as a surgeon I have a clear idea of what has been achieved in surgery before the patient returns to the ward.”



“Navigation has become an integral part of my surgery where pedicle screws and other implants are used.

“Compared with our previous system, the images obtained with the BodyTom are of much higher quality.

“We can also image more of the spine which is useful where more than one or two levels are to be instrumented.

“If there are already screws in situ, the image quality is excellent whereas before, metal artefact would mean that we would usually remove the implants before acquiring the images.”

Dr Licina said one of the most important advantages is the ability to obtain a high quality scan at the conclusion of the surgery while the patient is still on the operating table.

“The quality of the image is diagnostic and as a surgeon I have a clear idea of what has been achieved in surgery before the patient returns to the ward,” he said.

“By having the capability to take additional scans during surgery, and prior to closure, surgeons are able to confirm removal of the pathology or placement of devices to exclude complications.

“Additionally, this last scan can mean the patient doesn’t have to come back for a check CT and avoids need for any re-operation.

“BodyTom has great potential to vastly improve the outcome of spinal surgery and is an exciting piece of technology that can only mean good things for the patients and doctors of Brisbane Private Hospital.”

CEO of LifeHealthcare, Daren McKenney said the introduction of this equipment by Brisbane Private Hospital demonstrates a commitment by them to bring state-of-the-art technology to help address a range of complicated diseases and provide a better outcome for patients.

“BodyTom’s ground-breaking technology will mean patients have access to the highest quality of care by enhancing patient safety and improving surgical outcomes and as such the widespread use of this equipment will become the norm rather than the exception.”

*BodyTom is now available to all spinal surgeons and patients of Brisbane Private Hospital.*