

Prime X X-ray Stretcher: ClearView Technology Enables Superior¹ Image Quality

Situation:

With increasing demands on today's healthcare industry, caregivers are continuously asked to do more with less. Portable imaging, a necessary process at times, may put additional strain on caregivers and radiologists. Lifting patients, positioning cassettes, and transferring to X-ray tables are a few of the challenges they are faced with daily. When a clear image is needed for diagnosis, and seconds count, caregivers and radiologists do what it takes, often putting their own bodies at risk for the sake of their patients. Current hospital stretchers are not standing up to the growing demands needed for portable imaging.

Solution:

With over 70 years of innovation, Stryker Medical designs stretchers to meet the needs of the hospital environment. With the introduction of the Prime X X-ray Stretcher, Stryker married innovative stretcher solutions with a new radiolucent surface, ClearView Technology. Prime X offers a 318 kg. weight capacity with the advanced mobility of Big Wheel and Zoom Motorized Drive, as well as the hallmark features found on Prime Series Stretchers, such as Glideaway Siderails and a litter-mounted O2 bottle holder. The patient surface with ClearView Technology turns a standard stretcher into a radiolucent platform for virtually any patient, providing one solution that can meet the demands of caregivers, while enabling superior image quality for radiologists.

Results:

Low Attenuation: ClearView Technology, unique to the Prime X X-ray Stretcher, consists of structural foam encased by two layers of ABS composite, and is specially crafted to minimize attenuation. Most mobile x-ray stretchers utilize a fibre resin deck. In a comparative test, the fiber resin deck supported an aluminum attenuation equivalency of 0.9mm. In contrast, ClearView Technology enabled an **aluminum attenuation equivalency of 0.5mm**, which is more comparable to that of a stationary x-ray table (typically 0.3-0.5mm). Therefore, Prime X helps deliver similar image quality to that of an X-ray table, now on a mobile platform.

Minimal Magnification: Prime X offers an open architecture design that fits virtually all known cassettes, including portable digital detectors. The cassette platform has a bevelled edge with visual alignment guides to help reduce magnification and clipping.



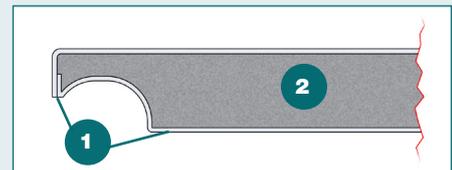
The bevelled edge brings the cassette closer to the patient platform, minimizing the gap between the two platforms.

Image taken on the Prime X X-Ray Stretcher at Borgess Medical Center Radiology Lab in Kalamazoo, MI. X-rays of a simulated pelvis phantom were captured with a CR ceiling mounted x-ray source onto a 14X17 inch CR cassette. Cassettes were read by a FCR5000 reader.

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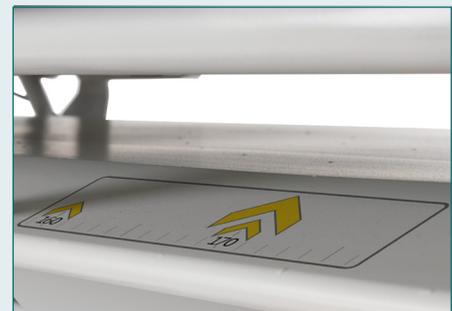


Prime X X-ray Stretcher with ClearView Technology.



Cross-section of ClearView Technology Patient Platform.

1. ABS Composite
2. Structural Foam



Bevelled edge and visual alignment guides.

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¹ Claims based on findings in results section



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