Kirt Kimball MD Team Orthopedic Surgeon - Brigham Young University

Our Smart-C experience:

The Smart-C is a 16lb. battery powered totally wireless static and fluoroscopic X-ray unit that projects images to a tablet computer instantly. The image quality is spectacular. Our BYU experience with a prototype device has been incredible and clearly added to our ability to quickly make sideline and training room decisions about extremity injuries. The device is now FDA approved.

Ease of use, portability and lack of need for even an extension cord is an obvious fit in the busy Training Room especially in the "heat of the battle" of competition. The ability to add X-ray and fluoroscopic imaging in diagnosing fractures and instabilities can make the difference between Return to Play with a sore hand or sidelined with a fracture. Expert clinical diagnosis provided by experienced Certified Athletic Trainers, Sports Medicine Physicians and Orthopedic Surgeons is immediately augmented by objective imagining information.

Smart-C has enabled me as Team Orthopedic surgeon to have a greater degree of confidence in making key player safety decisions that impact Return to Play decisions.

When catastrophe strikes, we have been able to make definitive surgical treatment plans before we even get on the plane to go home thus preparing our subspecialty surgeons to, in a more timely fashion, be ready to start the repair and recovery. In high demand, highly competitive environments getting your player ready days soon can be significant.

During this past football season, we had opportunity to use the Smart-C virtually every game both at home and on the road. The following are a few examples of how the Smart-C facilitated the care of my athletes during this recent season.

- Simple injections as an AC joint is made easy even in a 300lb. lineman.
- Turf Toe injection is accurate and simple.
- Stress fluoroscopic images on a "game keepers" thumb injury easily defines the severity of the injury.
- A possible Lisfranc injury is made more accurate with immediate stress fluoroscopic exam in the locker room.
- Shoulder dislocation and reduction can be easily managed with the Smart-C
- An otherwise difficult IP or PIP joint dislocation reduction is easily controlled.
- Diagnosing a Bennett's fracture enabled rapid, accurate diagnosis and planning of timely surgical treatment. It also enabled me to definitively explain to an overachieving player just exactly why he cannot return to play.
- The question of an ankle sprain, more serious instability or fracture is easily diagnosed thus having better return to play information.

When a more serious injury is identified, definitive surgical intervention can be planned and prepared even before we get on the plane to return home. Timely surgical repair can make the difference in ultimate return to play timing.

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