Science In Our Lives

Moving Imaging Into The Fourth Dimension

(NAPSA)—Here's news of a sound scientific idea that could lead to increased diagnostic accuracy: New "4D" technology acquires images in real time to help physicians visualize inside a patient, in three dimensions, with real-time motion.

Called *four*Sight™ technology, it was developed by research and development teams at medical imaging think-tanks. These engineers brought together their knowledge of three dimensional (3D) imaging in ultrasound, as well as magnetic resonance and computed tomography, to create technology that will allow physicians to see in a whole new dimension.

With this *four*Sight 4D imaging technology, physicians—and prospective parents—will be able to see the fetus in live motion 3D, moving in the womb, kicking its legs, shifting positions, even sucking its thumb. In addition, this highly detailed imaging feature may help the doctor determine if the child has a problem such as spina bifida or a cleft palate. The device also can help detect other abnormalities and can give doctors a better understanding of multiple pregnancies.

In addition to use in obstetrics and gynecology, *four*Sight imaging might prove to be valuable in abdominal and vascular imaging, providing doctors with an extra dimension that may have been difficult to acquire in the past.

Oh Baby: a new kind of "4D" ultrasound works in real time, revealing moving images such as this thumb-sucking infant-to-be.

This technology, designed by the Siemens Medical Solutions Ultrasound Division and Siemens Corporate Research specifically for the Siemens SONOLINE Antares™ ultrasound system, is expected to be easy for medical personnel to learn and use, with a unique user interface and operating software that will facilitate training. To learn more, visit www.SiemensMedical.com.