



## spotlight on health

### Imaging Centers Cater To Patient Needs

(NAPSA)—When it comes to certain exams, patients would prefer not to go to the hospital. Hospitals may best perform scans like CT (also called computed tomography or CAT scan), MRI, X-ray and Ultrasound for emergency patients. However, when these tests can be planned, many people now prefer to go to diagnostic imaging centers.

Part of the reason for this shift is that imaging centers can focus on comfort and convenience without compromising diagnostic excellence.

As a result, many patients are asking to be sent to imaging centers, where they can benefit from:

- flexible staffing hours
- quick results
- extras like complimentary copies of films for themselves
- a focus on the special needs of children, people of size (especially for MRI scans), anxious patients or seniors.

Emphasizing comfort is good medicine. Less anxious patients are more likely to successfully complete imaging procedures. As a result, imaging centers focus on getting the most patient-friendly technologies.

For example, open MRI systems, like Toshiba's Opart, eliminate the closed-in feeling associated with these exams that can result in MRIs being modified, postponed or cancelled.

A quiet MRI reduces the noise level experienced by the patient, which can be as loud as a jumbo jet at takeoff. For example, the



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world's quietest MRI system, Toshiba's Excelart, reduces exam noise by 90 percent.

A new technology called multi-slice makes CT exams shorter and more accurate than ever before.

These systems provide more mini "slice" pictures of the body's interior.

Older CTs were not fast enough to scan the lungs or a beating heart, but by spinning around the body in 20 seconds, or the time of a normal breath-hold, multi-slice CT systems like Toshiba's Aquilion make both possible.

Toshiba's multi-slice CT systems also obtain images to be used in calcium scoring to help identify who's at risk for a coronary event and to conduct bone mineral analysis for osteoporosis screening.

To learn more, visit the Web site [www.medical.toshiba.com](http://www.medical.toshiba.com).