

## Managing Point of Care Ultrasound Images with Apollo arcc®

Greater flexibility in working with point of care ultrasound images is of paramount importance, especially in emergency room settings when time is of the essence. What's more, there is growing need for point of care ultrasound (POCUS) due to COVID-19. The ubiquity of POCUS usage can also be attributed to technological developments to make portable ultrasound equipment more mobile at lower cost.



The team at Apollo has developed **arcc®**, to enable more flexible image acquisition workflows – so you don't have to change the way you work in the ER, or stop what you're doing in patient care to create an order and then take the images.

### When Time Is Short, Medical Professionals Need to Use Ultrasound Without an Order

A patient presenting in the emergency department where the doctor recognizes the need for POCUS as soon as possible falls into an encounter-based workflow, which obviously works well in critical situations. POCUS procedures in this situation do not have a pre-written physician order that typically is used to start the imaging workflow. Work is done on the fly. The ultrasound technician completes the scan and then the images are associated with the patient there at the point of care.

### Encounter-Based Workflows for POCUS

Once deployed in your enterprise, Apollo's **arcc** enables encounter-based workflows for POCUS, streamlining emergency room and other point of care workflows. While traditional ultrasound imaging is conducted in an orders-based system, emergency departments work under different criteria and cannot afford to wait.

In your hospital, emergency department or physician's office, setting up a point of care image acquisition environment requires encounters-based POCUS.

The main requirements in this setting include the ability to identify all images tied to a patient care encounter and then to associate these images with the encounter through a patient schedule or list. Ideally, the data will integrate with the provider's electronic health record or EHR software system.

These are examples of use cases for POCUS:

#### Inpatient Environment:

- acute kidney/bladder injury
- code management (sinus tach PEA arrest)
- hypotensive patient
- short of breath
- volume status/fluid responsiveness

#### Outpatient Environment:

- abdominal aorta screen
- upper respiratory infection/cough/sinus complaints
- deep venous thrombosis
- palpable mass
- urinary difficulties/retention
- COVID-19

### Bridging the Gap with Apollo

Apollo bridges the gap between orders- and encounters-based workflows, which gives you a new strategy to manage POCUS imaging in a clinic, the emergency department, in a physician's office or at the hospital bedside.

### Improving the Flow of Revenue

You can expect better flow of revenue when you integrate **arcc** in your organization. Correct imaging documentation with Apollo's solution enables a new revenue stream, allowing you to bill for encounter-based images. Without proper imaging documentation, health systems cannot request reimbursement for these POCUS procedures from payors.

Using the POCUS process (with **arcc**) streamlines not only the patient care process, but also patient outcomes. There is no need to wait for an order – imaging can occur immediately during care. This can save hours of physician time, reduces steps during care process, providing efficiency gains for the staff. That's time that can be put to better use such as treating more patients and providing more comprehensive care to each one you see.

Calculating an accurate return on investment with a new POCUS encounter-based workflow will depend on educating the staff about the impact of the Apollo solution in your hospital, clinic or doctors' offices.

Keep in mind that emergency room physicians are typically the largest cohort that uses point of care ultrasound during examinations but does not chart the results. Proper documentation and accurately connecting the new radiology images with the patient record are key to your organization being properly reimbursed for all services, in a timely manner. **arcc** ensures the images are captured and quickly and appropriately stored in the patient record.

At Apollo, we are dedicated to assisting healthcare providers in making the most out of each patient encounter with the help of our clinical applications. If you are interested in learning more about using Apollo **arcc** as part of your solution for managing point of care ultrasound images, a free consultation with one of our enterprise image experts is in order. To get started, [click here](#) to contact us today.