



## Private Practice Radiology Groups:

### Considerations when purchasing a PACS as a unified worklist

Most private practices have recognized their need for a unified worklist. The old way of building a unified worklist was to purchase a PACS and have all of the hospitals and imaging centers send their images to that PACS via DICOM transfer.

Clario offers a new approach. Clario's zVision is a unified worklist that is independent from any PACS. zVision maximizes flexibility and performance while minimizing risk. It is the latest design and is gaining in popularity.

If you are still considering the old approach, it is important to take the following considerations into account.

### Image transfer to and from the hospital

Often, it makes more sense to use the hospital PACS viewer when reading at the hospital. A workflow that requires a DICOM transfer from the modality to the hospital PACS, then another transfer to the radiology group PACS, then remote reading at the hospital by the radiologist can be extremely inefficient, slow, and can consume quite a bit of bandwidth. **zVision can cut bandwidth consumption by over 60%!**

### Hospital workstation restrictions

Some hospitals do not want a second PACS viewer installed on their workstations. Even if this is possible with your current customers, as your practice grows, it is impossible to know if future sites will allow your PACS viewer to be installed on their workstations. **zVision will launch whichever viewers are permitted at each site, maximizing load sharing.**

### Viewing an exam using a different PACS viewer than the hospital staff

Hospital staff will likely continue to use their PACS to view images. Depending upon many circumstances, this can cause communication breakdown with the hospital. **Remain in sync with the radiologists in your practice AND the hospitals you read for by using the zVision worklist.**

### Annotations

PACS often have proprietary ways to handle annotated images. The annotations you create on your PACS might be difficult to export back into the hospital PACS. Even if your PACS is flexible in its export formats, the receiving hospital PACS might not accept them. **Differentiate your practice by solving problems, not introducing them. zVision helps you do that.**

### Prior exams

To make prior exams available in your PACS, a DICOM query of all priors might introduce significant bandwidth requirements. Even if bandwidth is not an issue, prior exams that are not automatically deemed relevant might not be transferred to your PACS, forcing a phone call to have those exams manually transferred. **Another reason to choose zVision and use the best viewer for each exam.**

## Cost of expansion of your practice

Practices can double in size in a short time after getting a contract. Using a PACS to create a unified worklist without the freedom to choose to use the hospital owned PACS for some of your reading forces expansion (sometimes costly expansion) of your PACS. Your PACS will need to continue to grow indefinitely. If you decide to reduce the size of your practice, you are stuck with a big solution you do not need. **zVision is priced so that you can increase the number of sites you read for, without a change in license cost or product support cost.**

## Down time

Routing all exams to a single PACS system creates a single point of failure for your practice. **zVision drives existing systems, so one PACS can go down but your practice can continue to read. Even if zVision were to go down, you could continue to read on the PACS. zVision will sync back up if it is brought off line.**

## Cost of data migration

Many PACS store data (and reports) in a proprietary format. When it is time for you to change, the cost can be significant to export into a new system. **zVision stores your report data in SQL. All of your data is accessible with off the shelf tools.**

## Focus

Your private practice deserves investment in the right technology. You are not responsible for the archiving of image data. Creating the infrastructure to support ALL of your sites with a single PACS can be a huge undertaking.

**zVision provides the best set of business intelligence and a database of the information important to your practice.**

## A more rational approach

Clario believes that the best solution is to implement a unified worklist that can launch your PACS viewer AND the PACS viewer at one or more hospitals. We appreciate that owning your own PACS can be indispensable for your practice (especially for teleradiology services), but recommend designing the implementation correctly for your practice.

zVision is a unified worklist that drives your workflow. It is not a PACS, and does not have a viewer. Instead, it separates the worklist from the PACS, allowing you to use the right PACS viewer for the given reading conditions (at hospital, home, in your command center). zVision even supports launching any 3<sup>rd</sup> party clinical application if certain exams need 3D or advanced processing.

zVision allows you to purchase the right PACS for your needs (if any), and integrate it seamlessly with hospital PACS the way you want. The combination of a right sized PACS and zVision will often result in much lower cost than purchasing a PACS and all the plug-in components needed to replicate zVision's functions.

In the hospital setting, PACS need a RIS. In the private practice setting, PACS perform best with zVision. Please contact us for an on-line demo of zVision at [sales@clariomedical.com](mailto:sales@clariomedical.com)