Record Status
This is a bibliographic record of a published health technology assessment from a member of INAHTA. No evaluation of the quality of this assessment has been made for the HTA database.

Citation

Authors' objectives
Historically, VA has played a major role in the dissemination of information technology into medicine as part of its coordinated efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its health care delivery system. To support these efforts, the Office of Research & Development of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) requested that the Management Decision and Research Center (MDRC) define significant issues and frame potential future research questions related to the use of picture archiving and communication systems (PACS) in clinical settings. This document will also clarify for VA decision makers what is known, and not known, about the impact of PACS when used in a clinical setting.

Authors' conclusions
The evidence published to date is insufficient to provide definitive answers to the critical questions posed about the use of PACS in a clinical setting. Although data do suggest that the technology is improving, it has not yet been clearly demonstrated that PACS workstation imaging is equivalent to conventional film for the accurate primary diagnosis of all of the types of illnesses that present in the veteran population. Limited available data do suggest that some work processes are performed more rapidly in a PACS environment. It remains to be demonstrated that overall clinical and production processes are more efficient, or that those efficiencies translate into improved quality, increased access, or reduced cost of care. High quality studies of effectiveness, outcomes, and cost benefit are still needed.

Project page URL

URL for DARE abstract
http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/CRDWeb/ShowRecord.asp?ID=11998008590

INAHTA brief and checklist

Indexing Status
Subject indexing assigned by CRD

MeSH
Radiology /methods; Radiology Information Systems

Language Published
English
Country of organisation
United States

Address for correspondence
Liz Adams, VA Technology Assessment Program, Office of Patient Care Services (11T), VA Boston Healthcare
System Room 4D-142, 150 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130 USA Tel: +1 617 278 4469; Fax: +1 617 264
6587; Email: elizabeth.adams@med.va.gov

AccessionNumber
31998008922

Date bibliographic record published
03/09/1998

Date abstract record published
03/09/1998