



Fluid Stills® Digital Art TransLumen Technologies, LLC and Advocate Condell Medical Center

Using Fluid Stills® Digital Art and Music in a Hospital Setting to Improve Patient Experience and Room Décor

Patients and families often spend long days and many hours in the patient rooms and other areas of the hospital where options to fill idle time are somewhat limited. It was noted that active TV was not an alternative that all could enjoy and at times this also created more stimulation than was desired. As the patient population age increases, there were also limited alternatives for patients who were confused or less likely to follow a television program for extended periods of time. Television options traditionally included active television, educational programming, or “off” which meant looking at the blank screen. It was also noted that many activities provided by staff within the room require the room lights on which often disturbs the patients and families in the room during rest and sleep times. Opportunities to improve pleasantness of room décor were identified for patients and families that spend the majority of time in one room during hospitalization.

Advocate Condell Medical Center (Advocate Condell) and TransLumen Technologies, LLC (TransLumen) launched a joint project to implement Fluid Stills® digital art in patient rooms of two nursing units at Advocate Condell. While TransLumen had provided digital art for commercial settings, to our knowledge this was the first time Fluid Stills® had been implemented as an improvement project in a healthcare setting. The goal was to increase the pleasantness of the patient experience and room décor by providing digital art through the television for relaxation and ambient low level lighting.

Implementation of Fluid Stills® technology at Advocate Condell began in July 2015. Education was provided to the nursing staff including talking points for introducing the concept of digital art as well as patient and staff benefits. The benefits were summarized as:

o Patient benefits:

- Offers relaxing alternative to active TV programming or a blank screen.
- Provides restful combination of visual and auditory content.
- Produces opportunity for low level lighting that can take the place of overhead/harsh room lights at night or during rest periods.
- Assists with minimizing hallway and unit noise.
- Creates calm background environment for patient and family/visitor time .
- Establishes a restful environment enhancing traditional pain management medications and techniques.

o Staff benefits:

- Provides low level lighting that may be an alternative to bright overhead lighting for some tasks.
- Allows staff to offer another alternative for supporting a soothing ambiance for patients (and families) who need additional relaxation options.
- Aids and supports “Quiet” initiatives for patient care areas that may be implementing additional actions as a result of patient satisfaction surveys.



In addition to patient rooms, the technology was also promoted in waiting areas throughout the hospital. Informational cards were placed in the waiting areas and next to the televisions to inform those waiting of Fluid Stills® availability and channel location.

A tool was developed for feedback from patients and nurses. One surprising patient population where use of Fluid Stills® was observed to be effective has been with confused patients. For evaluation purposes with this population we have relied on clinical nurse feedback of these situations. Nurses have told us that use with confused patients has provided a calmer environment where the patient has viewed the art, providing a distraction without the stimulation sometimes created by active television programming. Other perceptions and comments collected from nurses through the feedback tool included:

- The channel is very appropriate for patient at nighttime. It is very relaxing for them and promotes rest.
- I especially like this channel as an alternative light source.
- Used it with an agitated patient and the patient provided positive feedback.
- I use it often for my patients. It promotes rest and relaxation and helps the patient rest. It drowns out "hallway communication" on nights and my patients sleep better. For night shift it works great.
- I have used it with older patients who could not really watch TV. It helped give them some calming background noise and they liked it.
- Used it for a confused patient and the patient fell asleep.
- Music accompanying the art is very therapeutic for patients.
- Many tasks can be provided with the low light. Music is soft and comforting and the pictures give patients something to view.

The initial implementation has been very well received and positive for Advocate Condell. Benefits have been appreciated and enjoyed by patients, families, and members of the healthcare team.

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