

During an artificial insemination procedure as part of a breeding programme at Jersey Zoo, cardiological tests were carried out on a pair of gorillas by staff from Jersey General Hospital. "It was not easy," admitted cardiologist Andrew Mitchell.

Cardiology review plus an update on medical imaging recording and PACS

### rad review of cardiovascular and interventional radiology

Jersey consultant concedes:

# 'Cardiology tests on a pair of gorillas are not easy....'

A range of cardiological tests have been carried out on a silverback gorilla with an Acuson Cypress Plus from Siemens Medical Solutions during an artificial insemination procedure.

The Cypress was loaned to Jersey zoo to scan the male and female gorillas while they were under anaesthetic. The operation was part of a breeding programme by the zoo, known as the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, which was timed to extract a semen sample from the male gorilla and inseminate the female.

While the animals were anaesthetised, staff took the opportunity to examine them and take measurements as well as clay prints of hands and feet.

The echocardiogram was carried out because Jambo, the centre's previous alpha male gorilla, died from aortic vascular disease.

"Access to the chest of the gorilla was not easy but the Cypress Plus gave clear enough images to confirm that all was well," said Andrew Mitchell, consultant cardiologist at Jersey General Hospital, adding: "We had experience working with Siemens before at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford through the use of AcuNav and Cypress."

The Cypress Plus has a new user interface, large tiltable monitor and ergonomic cart which have been designed to make it easier to use and to reduce the risk of repetitive strain injury.

Ian Carter, cardiac ultrasound manager at Siemens, commented: "It doesn't matter whether the subject is



Staff at Jersey Hospital prepare to examine Ya Kwanza, the male gorilla.

human or gorilla and it was an excellent indication of how good our equipment is."

INQUIRY REF 383033

*Artificial insemination was the aim, but as the zoo's previous alpha male, Jambo, died of aortic vascular disease the opportunity to carry out cardiology tests on the anaesthetised animals was too good to miss*