



Digital cameras bring telemedicine to sick babies and children.



Variety, the children’s charity, has made a donation of Konica digital cameras to hospitals in NSW treating critically ill babies and children. The purpose of these cameras is that hospitals take clinical photographs of the child (or images of their x-rays) and then send them electronically to experts advising on care of the baby or child. A present, doctors faced with such a problem normally telephone the hotline at ‘NETS’, the emergency service moving intensive care for kids, and have a discussion with NETS and key clinicians in hospitals. The images can be used to improve the information available to make critical decisions.

Hospitals which do have a camera or who already acquire their x-rays digitally can take advantage of the NETS process for clinical review of images. This process does not replace or compete with existing systems for reporting of images by radiologists.

For some hospitals, the lack of a suitable camera is a barrier to this process. Hospitals seeking to take advantage of this contribution to children by Variety and Konica should return this form to info@nets.org.au or fax to 1300 36 2498 or mail to POB 563 Wentworthville NSW 2145.

The **requirements** are (please check each which apply):

- The hospital treats seriously sick or injured babies, infants or children.
- A personal computer is available in or close to the relevant clinical area 24 hours a day with:
 - USB port for direct cable connection
 - Windows (2000 or more recent) or Macintosh
 - Older version of Windows (requires software to be loaded onto the PC)
- Clinician is able to email attached images of size 200k to 3mB to: medicaladvice@nets.org.au
- Camera can be adequately secured (viz. secure storage) and maintained (eg. battery charged).
- Internet access is available to the clinician (preferably) to reach NETS website.
- Prepared to be ‘tested’ by periodic request to send sample images to ensure ‘system’ works.
- There is a ‘champion’ or key contact person who will take responsibility for this process within your hospital. This person would lead the process by helping to identify and rectify any barriers to making the process work. They might show staff how to use the camera to take photographs and how to send images. Please provide the contact details for that person.

Name: _____ Email: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 Hospital: _____
 Department: _____

If there are other issues or barriers encountered, please let us know so that they can be addressed.