

# Kenya Hospital Extends Quality CT Imaging to More Residents



Sub millimeter slice of the ear



3D Volume Rendering Lumbar Spine

“Brivo CT325 helps us extend healthcare to more people who would otherwise not have access to it.”

– Dr. Peter Umara

Nestled near the Indian Ocean is the Island of Mombasa, home to Kenya’s second largest city and its largest port. A diverse city, Mombasa traces its culture to Portuguese, Arab, and British settlers, as well as the native Swahili people.

The Nyali Bridge connects Mombasa Island to the northern mainland. It is in this North Coast area where residents can find quality, personalized healthcare at Jocham Hospital that is “mwananchi” friendly—it bridges the gap between high- and low-cost hospitals, yet offers a wide variety of services, including X-ray, ultrasound, and CT imaging.

“We provide affordable medical care to people who cannot pay for the care from the high cost institutions,” says Peter Umara, MD, Lead Radiologist of Jocham Hospital. Yet, providing lower cost services doesn’t translate to a lack of services or quality care. In November 2004, the hospital delivered the tiniest surviving baby in Kenya, a 1.4 lb, 5.9 inches boy born with complications at 28 weeks gestation.

## Fulfilling a need

Providing access to advanced imaging equipment is half the challenge at Jocham Hospital. Having a reliable, modern system is the other.

At Jocham, CT imaging needs center around routine studies for several reasons. First, the cost to purchase, install, and maintain today’s most advanced multi-slice CT scanners is prohibitive in a market such as Mombasa. Second, the aim is to provide access to imaging services for as many residents as possible—basic healthcare is in greater demand than specialty services. Third, the cost of technology directly impacts the cost that Jocham charges for medical services.

So when Dr. Umara and his colleagues wanted to replace an old CT scanner that was often not working more than it was running, they knew the choice had to be a reliable, lower cost scanner. However, they did not want to purchase an older, used system that may compromise image quality and functionality.

Enter the Brivo<sup>®</sup> CT325<sup>§</sup>. Designed to extend quality care to more people, the Brivo CT325 is a new, ultra-compact CT system with a simple interface, new table, and gantry that help streamline CT exam workflow and increase patient throughput. With advanced GE Healthcare technologies inside, the system has the ability to provide excellent image quality at low dose.

“Brivo CT325 helps us extend healthcare to more people who would otherwise not have access to it,” says Dr. Umara. “Our patients are not too well off financially, yet the physicians need our services and diagnosis to provide better treatment.” With the Brivo CT325, Jocham Hospital now has capability to do both.

Lowering cost. Increasing access. These are two pillars of the healthymagination initiative from GE Healthcare. While Brivo CT325 was expected to deliver both to facilities worldwide, it has also resulted in helping Jocham increase the breadth of CT imaging services.

<sup>§</sup>Brivo CT325 is not for sale in the United States. Not cleared by the US FDA.



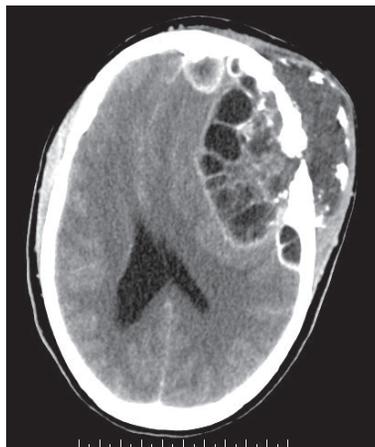
Dr. Peter Umara

Dr. Peter Umara Marenya is the Lead Radiologist at Jocham Hospital, Mombasa, Kenya. His qualifications include MBChB, MMED Radiology University of Nairobi. Dr. Umara has completed FRCR Part 1 and is to enroll for Part 2.

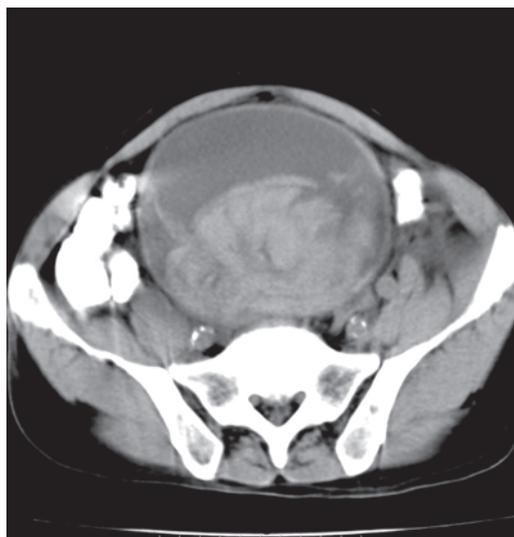


#### About the facility

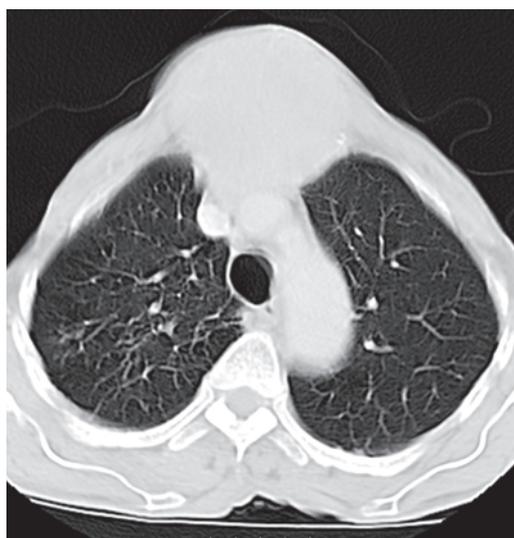
Jocham Hospital is located on the North Coast of Mombasa Island. Since opening its doors on May 5, 1999, Jocham Hospital has served patients in a "mwananchi" friendly way by bridging the gap between higher cost hospitals and basic health facilities with quality, personalized healthcare at an affordable rate for the local residents. The hospital offers a range of services, from outpatient care to surgical suites to advanced imaging services such as X-ray, ultrasound, and the Brivo CT325 system.



Brain study



Abdomen study



Chest image

"We are getting new requests for different exams, especially CT studies of the neck," adds Dr. Umara. He has also seen a general increase in patient volume, with many patients returning and selecting Jocham Hospital as their preferred healthcare provider.

The Brivo CT325 delivers on two important aspects, Dr. Umara explains. "The system's main strengths are the image clarity in routine exams and durability," he says. "We often conduct 15 scans each day and the machine continues to operate well without any issue."

He also notes the system is user-friendly and has helped create a more efficient workflow. Their busy days aren't compounded by technical or operational issues with the new CT system.

"This is the ideal system for clinics where general scanning is the primary imaging order each day," Dr. Umara says. "It is affordable and has a very small footprint—for other facilities like ours, it is the type of CT scanner they should go for." ■

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