

Remote Reading (Phil's technical notes):

I dictated some CTs remotely today without significant technical problems. Following are some notes which may be superfluous.

I use Spectrum cable internet ("Extreme", one step above "Basic"), with 60-70 Mbps down by speedtest.net. Network performance for Synapse was fine over both ethernet and WiFi, even while my kids were both videoconferencing for school.

I am using an old (2014) Win10 desktop computer with two 24" 1920x1200 16:10 Dell monitors for Synapse, and my USC Win7 Latitude E7450 laptop for Powerscribe (Synapse and Powerscribe are installed on both machines, see below for installation notes if needed). Although I could connect the laptop to two monitors to have a unified 3-screen system, I do use the desktop machine separately, and I am reluctant to plug/unplug cables or deal with a KVM switch. You can log into the myapps VPN on only one machine at a time, but only Powerscribe requires a VPN connection, Synapse does not. In a 2 system setup you need to either manually enter accession #'s in Powerscribe, or launch from a separate Synapse instance on the Powerscribe machine (easier). One potential advantage of 2 systems is that you can use the Powermic's mouse control to independently control the cursor in Powerscribe while using a mouse to control Synapse - but this will take getting used to.

Two dedicated monitors for Synapse are clearly more comfortable than one (unless you have a large high-res monitor like the Barco). For a single phase CT or US with comparison, one monitor is probably sufficient. But multiphase CT or MR studies with comparisons are annoying to read on one monitor, it will feel like tumor board. I did try reading a couple CXR's, but zooming is required on my monitors to see the full resolution.

VPN login this morning led to a screen that said "Internal Server

Error." This made it seem like the VPN was down, but I was still able to launch Powerscribe, so VPN was in fact connected (see below about enabling a VPN status icon).

For Cerner apps, if you're on the VPN, Keckportal apps don't always load when you click on them; try going through cerner.usc.edu (VPN required).

Installation notes:

Synapse: use Internet Explorer to navigate to <https://keckimaging.usc.edu> and follow prompts.

Powerscribe: connect to VPN (<https://myapps.med.usc.edu>), then connect to <http://calv-psapp/PS360ReportingClient> and follow prompts, multiple reboots required.

Obliquus (MPR for Synapse) works fine in Windows 10, if you can get IT to install it. Installing yourself is doable but a bit of a pain and requires installing both the 32-bit and 64-bit versions and a couple reboots.

After connecting to VPN, the browser window/tab doesn't need to stay open, since the VPN is maintained by a Citrix application outside the browser. You can enable a VPN status (lock) icon to appear in your tray, but this needs to be set up before you connect to VPN, and you likely need admin access. The icon itself doesn't change, you need to hover the cursor over the icon to get VPN status info (lame).

Following are instructions from Citrix.

To show the NetScaler Gateway plug-in icon, edit the following registry values:

Run: HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Citrix\Secure
Access Client

Name: DisableIconHide

Type: REG_DWORD

Data: 1

I have noticed that this value sometimes gets reset. If you export the registry key to a .reg file, you can restore the key value by double clicking it. The file should contain the following lines:

[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Citrix\Secure Access
Client]

"DisableIconHide"=dword:00000001

- Phil