Assessing dose from CT Scan Projection Radiographs using a PDC device

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SPR dose

- Although considered to contribute only a small fraction of the total dose from a CT examination, it may sometimes be necessary to assess that contribution.
 - Leg length studies may only use a scanogram
 - An incident may occur early in the scan



Methodology

- Patient Dose Calibrator (PDC, Radcal) used.
- PDC placed onto the CT gantry to measure a dose-area product for the scan.
- Effective dose can then be estimated using standard techniques, e.g. PCXMC.



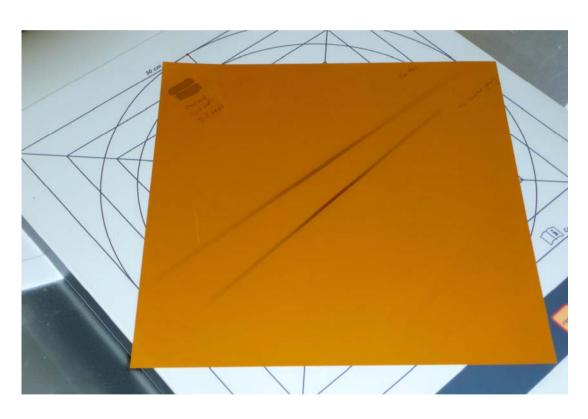
Set-up



- Measurements made with varying
 - mA
 - Length
 - kV



Beam Size



- Assessed with Gafchromic film
- On PDC surface
- On gantry
- Just about within the detection area of PDC – for this scanner at least...



Results

- Readings linear with mA and scan length
- Little difference with scan protocol selected

		mGy.cm² / mA / mm			
Scanner	min mA	80 kV	100 kV	120 kV	140 kV
Siemens Def AS 64	20	0.009	0.019	0.034	
Siemens Sens 16	40	0.005	0.010	0.017	0.024
GE Lightspeed 16	10	0.017	0.032	0.054	0.073
GE VCT 64	10	0.018	0.034	0.054	



Estimated effective dose

- PCXMC software
- Modelled using manufacturer data for FID and total filtration
 - Siemens Definition AS 64
 - Focus-isocentre distance 60 cm
 - Total filtration 6.8 mm Al
 - Focus-skin distance 50 cm, estimated
 - Default scan factors 120 kV, 35 mA

Region	Length (mm)	AP (mSv)	PA (mSv)
Chest	256	0.07	0.04
Abdo-Pelvis	512	0.1	0.06

Med. Phys. 40, (8) 084301-1 Siemens Definition Flash

0.3 - 0.4

0.2



Work to do.....

- Philips and Toshiba scanners
- Measure HVL/filtration
- More simulations

