

## US ELASTICITY BIOMARKER DEVELOPMENT: PROCESS & UTILITY

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## GOALS

- Establish the Need for Quantitative Imaging
- Introduce the RSNA Quantitative Imaging Biomarker Alliance (QIBA)
- Review the Steps in the QIBA Process for Qualifying the US Elasticity Quantitative Biomarker
- Discuss the Challenge of Verification of Profile Compliance
- Profile Applications and Future Biomarkers

## WHY QUANTITATIVE IMAGING?

- Objective Quantifiable Results Enhance the Value of Diagnostic Imaging
- Evidence Based Medicine Uses Objective vs. Subjective Data
- Computerized Decision Support Tools Use Quantitative Input
- Quantitative Measures More Easily Adapted to Personalized Molecular Diagnosis and Treatment



## BASIC RSNA PREMISE

Extracting objective, quantitative results from imaging studies will improve the value of imaging in clinical practice.

## Why Must Imaging Become More Quantitative?

- Molecular medicine (personalized medicine) requires quantitative test results.
- Evidence-based medicine & QA Programs depend on objective data.
- Decision-support tools (CADx, CDSS) need quantitative input.

## Quantitative Imaging Biomarkers Alliance (QIBA)



- First meeting: May, 2008
- Mission: Improve value and practicality of quantitative imaging biomarkers by reducing variability across devices, patients, and time.
  - Convert “measuring devices” into “imaging devices”.
  - Industrialize/Commercialize imaging biomarkers

## CURRENT QIBA STRUCTURE

- **Steering Committee**
  - Four Modality Coordinating Committees
    - Computed Tomography
    - Magnetic Resonance Imaging
    - Nuclear Medicine
    - Ultrasound
  - Six Biomarker Committees – One for Each Specific Biomarker
    - WORKING GROUPS: FOR EACH MAJOR TASK I.e. Profile Writing; Phantom Development; Instrumentation/Software

## IMAGING BIOMARKER EXAMPLES

Biomarker	Test	Metric
COPD: Air-tissue ratio	CT scan densitometry	MLD (mean lung density)
Cancer: Tumor burden	CT & MR scan volumetry	Volume
Cancer: Glucose avidity	FDG-PET scan	SUV (standardized uptake value)
Cancer: Vascular permeability	DCE-MRI scan	$K_{trans}$ ; IAUC
Brain surgery risk: Proximity to eloquent cortex	fMRI scan brain-mapping	Center and magnitude of cortical activation
Liver Mechanical Stiffness	US Elastography Using ARFI	US Shear Wave Speed
Organ Perfusion	US Color Doppler	Volume Blood Flow (mL/min.)
Liver Lesion Blood Flow Patterns	Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound	Wash-in and wash-out times; intensity change

## US SWS BIOMARKER COMMITTEE

- Organized Into Phantom/System Dependencies, and Clinical Working Groups
- Process



## QIBA PROFILE COMPONENTS I

- Listing of Open and Closed Issues
- Executive Summary
- Profile Context and Claims
  - Context: Description of Proposed Intended Uses

### CLINICAL CONTEXT

“Elastography used as a biomarker for the identification of moderate fibrosis grade defined as  $\geq$  F2 fibrosis in the METAVIR system of staging liver fibrosis. This might be used to monitor progression of fibrosis during anti-fibrosis therapy or to monitor regression of fibrosis.”

## QIBA PROFILE COMPONENTS II

- Profile Context & Claims
  - Claims:
    - Biomarker measurement and specific intended clinical application.
      - Example: Shear Wave Speed in patients with suspected liver fibrosis / cirrhosis
    - A Claim for Bias and Precision of the Measurement
      - Example: “SWS will be within  $\pm$  5% of the true SWS...and the 95% CI is  $Y \pm (1.96 * Y * 0.05)$  where  $CV = 5\%$ ”
    - Statement of the Range of Values over which the Claim Holds
  - Optional Discussion of the Diagnostic Use of the Values

## QIBA PROFILE COMPONENTS III

- Profile Activities Section
  - Each Process / Procedure (“Activity”) is Listed with the Device or Person Responsible (“Actor”) for that Step in the Biomarker Acquisition.
  - The Activities for Each “Actor” are Tabulated and Organized Into Groups of Parameters for Which Required Specifications are Given
  - Example:

ACTOR	ACTIVITY	PARAMETER	SPECIFICATION
Sonographer/Radiologist	Image Acquisition	Transducer Position	Perpendicular to Skin

### QIBA PROFILE COMPONENTS IV

- Assessment Procedures (QA) To Check Conformance to Profile
- Procedures for Conformance Still Under Discussion
  - Self Attestation
  - Actor Testing
  - Review of on-site Equipment Tests
  - External Observers Watch Acquisition under Profile
  - Combination Approach
- Remediation for Non-Conformant Sites??

### PROFILE CONFORMANCE FOR SWS

- SWS Draft Conformance Plan Uses External Audit
  - Checklists Used During Acquisition
  - Review of Biomarker Values
- Conformance Checklists Are Adapted Versions of the Profile Execution Checklists
  - Transparent: Auditors and Site Know Exactly What Will be Reviewed
- Scoring on Point System with ~ 80% Passing

### AIUM Accreditation Checklist

- A Similar Checklist— Possibly One Per Actor?
- Modified Version With Weighted Scoring for Auditors
- Pass/Fail Score May Initially be Arbitrary But Later Use Score Metrics to Redefine

#### Diagnostic MSK Imaging Checklists

SHOULDER		ELBOW	
Labeled images of the following:		Labeled images of the following:	
<b>BICEPS:</b>		<b>ANTERIOR:</b>	
1. Long axis views of long head of biceps tendon	2. Short axis views of long head of biceps tendon	1. Long axis views of humeral head joint	2. Short axis views of humeral head joint
<b>ROTATOR CUFF EXAMINATION:</b>		<b>LATERAL:</b>	
3. Long axis views of supraspinatus tendon	4. Short axis views of supraspinatus tendon	1. Long axis views of coronoid process	2. Short axis views of coronoid process
5. Long axis views of infraspinatus tendon	6. Short axis views of infraspinatus tendon	3. Views of radiocapitulum joint	4. Views of radial collateral ligament
7. Long axis views of subscapularis tendon	8. Short axis views of subscapularis tendon	5. Anteroposterior views (dynamic views)	
9. Long axis views of biceps minor tendon	10. Short axis views of biceps minor tendon	<b>MEDIAL:</b>	
11. Views of supraspinatus muscle (can be decomposed with the machine)	12. Views of infraspinatus muscle (can be decomposed with the machine)	1. Long axis views of ulnar collateral ligament	2. Short axis views of ulnar collateral ligament
13. Views of subdeltoid bursa	14. Views of acromioclavicular joint	3. Views of lateral nerve	4. Anteroposterior views (dynamic views)
15. Views of posterior glenohumeral joint		<b>POSTERIOR:</b>	
<b>ADDITIONAL VIEWS:</b>		1. Views of posterior joint space	2. Views of olecranon bursa
16. Views of olecranon bursa	17. Views of olecranon bursa	3. Views of olecranon bursa	4. Views of olecranon bursa
18. As indicated, dynamic views			

### QIBA PROFILE COMPONENTS V

- Appendices
  - Acknowledgements
  - Background Information
  - Specific Acquisition Protocols (for SWS machine specific)
    - UPICT Protocols are Typically Used as a Model
  - Specific Equipment Tests for Equipment Performance Monitoring
  - Checklists and Other Aids

### On-SITE EQUIPMENT QA

- Phantom Tests – A Logical Choice
- Existing Phantoms Used to Develop Profile
  - Homogeneous Zerdine Elastic Phantoms
  - Homogeneous Zerdine Based Visco Elastic Phantoms
- New Types of Phantoms
  - New Non-Proprietary Materials
  - Heterogeneous to Better Mimic Tissue
  - Heterogeneous With Inclusions for Focal Lesions

### FDA PHANTOM EFFORTS NEW MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

- Tunable Polyvinyl Chloride Plastisol
  - Adjustable Acoustic and Stiffness Properties
  - Ingredients:
    - Polyvinyl Chloride Resin
    - Plasticizers : Benzyl Butyl Phthalate (BBP); diethylhexyl adipate (DEHA)
    - Glass Beads for Backscattering

## MATERIAL FOR A BREAST PHANTOM

Breast tissue type simulated	BBP(v/v)	DEHA (v/v)	PVC (m/m)	Beads(mg/mL)
FATTY	42%	58%	8.4%	10 (38-63 $\mu$ m)
GLANDULAR	87%	13%	8.6%	30 (63-75 $\mu$ m)
BREAST LESION	87%	13%	13%	10 (38-63 $\mu$ m)

Lesion has the same speed of sound as Glandular tissue, a backscatter coefficient as Fatty tissue, and higher attenuation (about 20% higher than glandular)

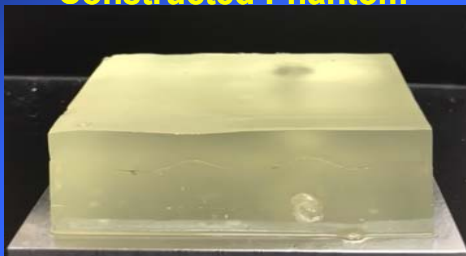
19

## YOUNG'S MODULUS OF MATERIAL

Tissue type	Pf (kPa)	Pg (kPa)	Lesion (kPa)
Young's modulus	6.4	9.4	32.6

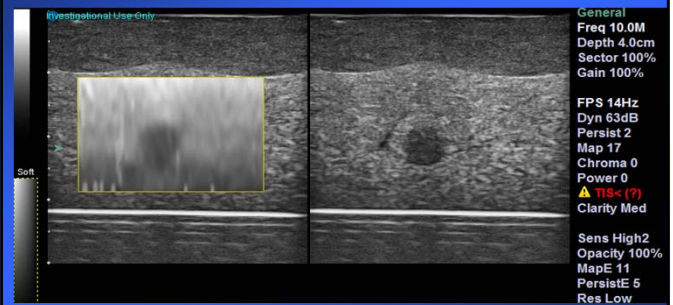
Young's modulus values were set to match published work by Krouskop et al, 1998

## Constructed Phantom



21

## ELASTOGRAM + B-MODE IMAGES



## PHANTOM POTENTIAL

- Material is Simple to Make
- Relatively Stable Acoustic and Mechanical Properties Over Many Months So Far
- Properties Verified by Acoustic & Mechanical Testing
- Tunability
- Potentially 3D Printable for Complex Phantom Production
- Visco-Elastic Properties Under Development

## DIGITAL PHANTOMS & SIM DATA

- For Rapid Testing of Software Algorithms
- Allows for Rapid Prototyping of Software and Quick Iterative Software Modifications
- Stable and Reproducible
- Initial Versions for Homogeneous Phantoms Available From QIBA SWS
- Modeling of Complex Physical Phantom – testing of software AND hardware

## AFTER THE DRAFT PROFILE

- Public Comment Period: 4-6 Weeks
- Further Revision Based on Comments
- Study to Achieve “Technically Confirmed” Status

## TECHNICAL CONFIRMATION

- Verification that the Steps Outlined in Profile can Actually be Accomplished in a Clinic
- Verification that Claimed Performance Can be Achieved in Clinic Following the Profile
- No Profile Has Reached This Stage Yet

## TECHNICAL CONFIRMATION STUDY

- One or Two Clinical Sites
- At Least Two Clinical Acquisition Systems
- Practice Runs Through Acquisition Procedure for Training and Optimization
- ? Other Details of Design?
- For SWS a Two Site Technical Confirmation Study is Planned
  - Additional Study of Effects of Profile Deviations

## CLINICALLY CONFIRMED PROFILE

- Profile Meets Claims When Used Over A Broad Range of Clinical Environments and Patient Populations
- May Include Study to Verify Clinical Diagnostic Criteria Based on the Biomarker
- Envisioned to Require Some Sort of Multicenter Trial
- Not Within the Scope of QIBA

## PROFILE EVOLUTION

- New Biomarkers
  - US Blood Volume Flow
  - CEUS Evaluation of Liver Lesions
- Extensions of Existing Biomarkers
  - Stiffness in Focal Lesions
  - Stiffness Heterogeneity
  - Stiffness Anisotropy
- Better Compliance Tests for Equipment & Personnel
- Adaptation to QA Programs, Accreditation Programs
- Internationalization of QIBA and Profiles

## SUMMARY

- Extraction of Quantitative Values From Imaging Systems is Rapidly Increasing
- Major Efforts Such the QIBA Biomarker Profile Development are Underway to Improve & Verify the Quality of Quantitative Data
- These Efforts Will Result in More Consistent Medical Diagnosis and Treatment Monitoring

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31

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