



## Surface Imaging to Inform Statistical Quality Control for SRS Treatments

Michael J Tallhamer M.Sc. DABR  
 Chief of Radiation Physics – Centura Health  
[Michael.Tallhamer@Centura.org](mailto:Michael.Tallhamer@Centura.org)  
 Quality Improvement and Safety Applications of Surface Imaging  
 AAPM 2018

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---



## Disclosures

I have provided Physics Consultation Services to

- Varian and Vision RT

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---



## Some Concepts you can take Home

**Characterization of SGRT systems for high precision SRS Treatments**

SGRT Commissioning and ongoing Performance Evaluation

**How to use you SGRT system to inform your Quality Assurance goals**

Statistical Methods for system characterization and the differences between those and simple tolerances

---

---

---

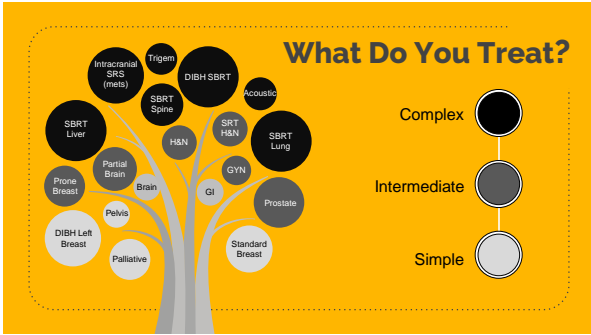
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

“

The goal is to turn data into information and information into insight

-Carly Fiorina,  
Former CEO of HP

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

This includes measuring the system accuracy, determining system limitations, and developing operating procedures and QA schedules.

Some of these tests will be completed as part of the acceptance test with the vendor; however, in most cases, the acceptance test is at the discretion of the vendor and may not satisfy all clinical recommended quality assurance

Acceptance

Commissioning

Performance Evaluation

It is important to keep in mind that acceptance tests demonstrate only that the equipment is working as per the specification.

Validation of software and analysis tools under as many clinically relevant conditions as possible (not directly listed in TG-147)

**TG-147**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Use **TG-147** tests to characterize your system's performance

Integration of Peripheral Equipment

Static Localization Accuracy

Spatial Reproducibility and Drift

Vendor Recommended Testing and Determination of Failure Modes

Dynamic Localization Accuracy and Gating

Operating Procedures Documentation

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**TG-147**

Monthly QA by or under the supervision of a QMP should include all tests performed daily with the addition of the following:

- Gating
- Static Localization (Hidden Target)
- Dynamic Localization
- Documentation
- Vendor Recommended

A QMP should perform the following daily QA tests or delegate them to another member of the radiation therapy team, like a radiation therapist. If the tests are delegated, a QMP needs to review the test results in regular intervals.

- Safety
- Static Localization
- Documentation
- Vendor Recommended

In addition to the tests performed daily and monthly, the following tests should be performed annually by or under the supervision of a QMP:

- System Stability
- System Integrity
- Extended System Performance
- Positioning Accuracy
- Extended Gating
- Data Transfer
- Documentation
- Vendor Recommended

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**01 Commissioning**  
This includes measuring the system accuracy, **determining system limitations**, and developing operating procedures and QA schedules.

**02 Performance Validation**  
An assessment of the performance of the system under various clinically relevant conditions and **is an ongoing process**  
Examples (Deformable Surfaces, DIBH SBRT, SRS in BOS and High Neck, etc)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

“  
*statistics*  
 The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results.  
 - The Universe  
 - Albert Einstein  
 ”

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## SGRT as an Observer Based Pattern



Computer vision systems are widely used in other fields / disciplines as part of a quality control systems to gather and process large amounts of data

SGRT systems are no different and can be used to direct and further refine your treatment delivery and quality management process.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Statistical Process Control

Let's start with what we know  
(Walter A. Shewhart and W. Edwards Deming)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## SPC in Radiation Oncology



- Has been shown to identify systematic change in a process where standard deviation methods or the use of established industry standards cannot
- Using SPC control charts allows one to evaluate a system in an objective and quantifiable manner
- Control limits are constructed in a way that de-emphasizes random variation in the data

- Pawlicki T., Whitaker M., Boyer A-L. Statistical process control for radiotherapy quality assurance, *Med Phys*, 2005, vol. 32 (pg. 2777-86)
- Breen S-L., Moseley D-J., Zhang B. et al. Statistical process control for IMRT dosimetric verification, *Med Phys*, 2008, vol. 35 (pg. 4417-25)
- Pawlicki T., Yoo S., Court L-E. et al. Moving from IMRT QA measurements toward independent computer calculations using control charts, *Radiother Oncol*, 2009, vol. 8 (pg. 330-7)
- Gerard K., Grandhiya J.P., Marchesi V. et al. A comprehensive analysis of the IMRT dose delivery process using statistical process control (SPC), *Med Phys*, 2009, vol. 36 (pg. 1275-85)

---

---

---

---

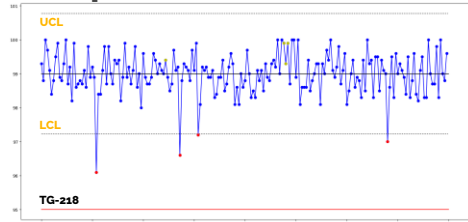
---

---

---

---

### Example SPC for TG-218



16

---

---

---

---

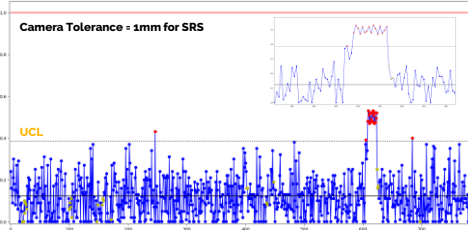
---

---

---

---

### SPC for SGRT Pod Error



17

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Using SGRT to Determine Margin and Tolerances



- SGRT can and has been used to determine systematic and random errors for interfraction positioning and intrafraction motion allowing for **statistically derived planning margins**
- Statistical evaluation of the SGRT system output for various treatment sites and techniques can help drive quality by using properly computed control limits in an effort to limit both Type I and Type II errors

• Gierga DP, Turcotte JC, Tong LW, Chen YL, DeLaney TF. Analysis of setup uncertainties for extremity sarcoma patients using surface imaging. Pract Radiat Oncol. 2014 Jul-Aug;4(4):261-6

18

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

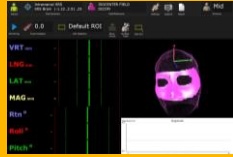
---

## SRS Tolerance Determination



### QA and Phantoms

- Your commissioning will help you develop a starting point for tolerances for various applications of SGRT in your clinic



### System Setup

- A base set of statistically reviewed tolerance levels can be set as defaults (if your SGRT software allows) so that you can use best practices to drive quality

---

---

---

---

---

---

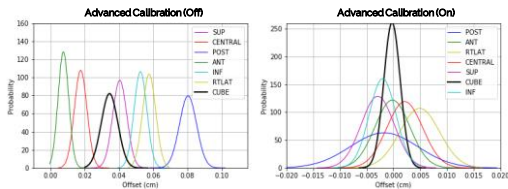
---

---

---

---

## Isocenter Offset by Location



Calibration of the system and location of isocenter can effect the perceived offset of the system. More advanced calibration techniques can provide better convergence which can then can be monitored for drift.

20

---

---

---

---

---

---

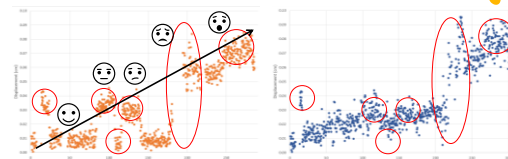
---

---

---

---

## SRS Tolerance Evolution



### Patient Specific Phantom QA

- Running the system under ideal conditions can give you an indication of system performance
- This can help you determine expected clinical action levels

### Real life application

- The tolerances should be evaluated over time.
- Tolerances should be adjusted to give you and your team useful information (i.e. not too many false positives)

21

---

---

---

---

---

---

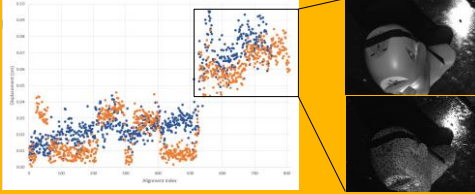
---

---

---

---

### Information for SRS Planning



Feature based registration of the two traces suggests we can develop better action levels based on patient / plan specific tolerances obtained during the standard QA measurement procedure or customize plans to avoid regions where the system is less stable.

---

---

---

---

---

---

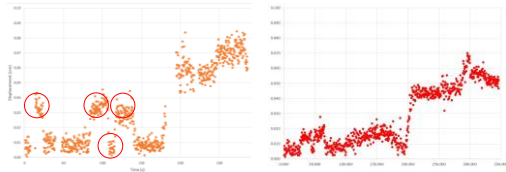
---

---

---

---

### Feature Exploration



Plans with similar or identical couch rotational setups can have similar QA RTD traces suggesting a "real" couch offset that can be calibrated out to isolate "true" patient motion.

23

---

---

---

---

---

---

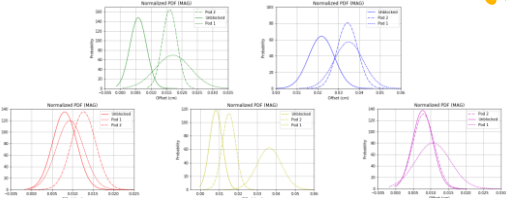
---

---

---

---

### Obstruction Characteristics



Obstruction characteristics of your cameras can exhibit differences based on location of isocenter

24

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---






---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Two Quick SRS Concepts

### Couch Walk

My reported couch walkout doesn't match between my radiographic images and my SGRT system.

### Winston-Lutz

What does my Winston-Lutz really tell me and is it a real measure of my treatment accuracy?

26

---

---

---

---

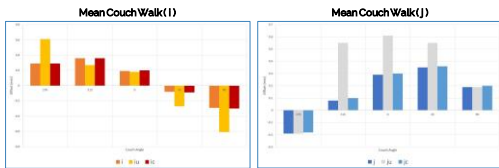
---

---

---

---

## SGRT vs Radiographic Offset



Correcting radiographic images for gantry sag and collimator walk shows good agreements between the SGRT reported couch walk and radiographic couch walk making SGRT a quick and easy check for this metric.

27

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## SRS Information for Planning



	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4
2.0	0.913	0.904	0.895	0.887	0.878
2.1	0.908	0.899	0.890	0.881	0.872
2.2	0.904	0.895	0.885	0.875	0.866
2.3	0.900	0.890	0.880	0.870	0.860
2.4	0.895	0.885	0.875	0.864	0.854
2.5	0.891	0.880	0.869	0.859	0.848
2.6	0.887	0.875	0.864	0.853	0.842
2.7	0.882	0.871	0.859	0.847	0.836
2.8	0.878	0.866	0.854	0.842	0.830
2.9	0.874	0.861	0.849	0.836	0.824
3.0	0.869	0.856	0.843	0.831	0.818

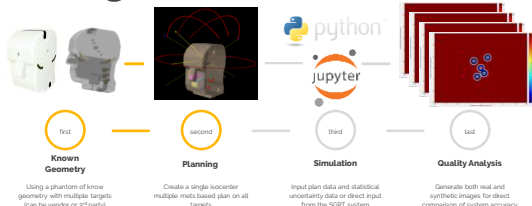
### Multiple Isocenter Validation

- Very small rotational uncertainties can result in large displacements of the dose relative to the targets if the distance to isocenter is **large**
- For small tumors this is a **real** issue

### Calculated Uncertainties vs System Performance

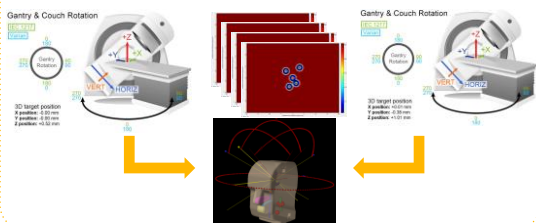
- The system's performance under standard metrics like WL are hard to determine
- The SGR system should be evaluated end-to-end and in light of other mechanical limitations and uncertainties that may exist on the machine.

## Using our SGR Data



29

## Insights for Planning



30

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Key Takeaways for SGRT and SRS



- SGRT systems are capable of meeting the accuracy demands of modern stereotactic treatments but their unique features and differing implementations require an understanding of both the system and the desired treatment types to derive the proper QA metrics.
- Proper QA of SGRT systems should not only give you data about the systems state but should give you ongoing information to draw insights on expected states during its use .
- The SGRT system is itself an excellent source of rich information and can be used to inform your quality management program.

31

---



---



---



---



---



---

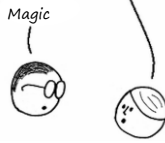


---

## Thanks!



Any questions? *How does your SGRT system work?*



Michael J Tallhamer M.Sc. DABR  
 Chief of Radiation Physics – Centura Health  
[Michael.Tallhamer@Centura.org](mailto:Michael.Tallhamer@Centura.org)  
 Quality Improvement and Safety Applications of Surface Imaging  
 AAPM 2018

32

---



---



---



---



---



---



---