

**EFOMP**  
European Federation of Organisations  
for Medical Physics

**ESTRO**  
European Society for  
Radiotherapy & Oncology

**IAEA**  
International Atomic Energy Agency

Quality control in cone beam computed tomography (CBCT)  
EFOMP-ESTRO-IAEA protocol

## Scientific workgroups - Mammo dosimetry, Cone Beam CT protocol, etc

*MPEC/MEIbioeng 2017- EFOMP Session - 13 Sep 2017*

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## Purpose of the EFOMP QA protocols

- One of the aims of EFOMP is to encourage exchanges between the National Member Organisations and disseminate professional and scientific information through publications and meetings.
- The purpose of the **quality assurance protocol series** is to develop a minimum set of easily implemented quality control tests on diagnostic and therapeutic systems that can be used to assure the performance of a system within a set and acceptable range.

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## Regular updates for medical physicist use

- It is intended that these be implemented as part of the daily routine of medical physicists and system users throughout Europe in a harmonised way so allowing results to be compared.
- EFOMP pursues to update these protocols every few years taking into consideration the experience gained through their implementation in different settings.

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## Mammo QC

- **EFOMP Mammo Protocol** (2015) was the first of the series on quality control protocols.
- It proposes tests that can be applied by each country with the resources available locally, accepting the fact that there are different technological levels across the European countries.

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# Mammo protocol publication

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**Mammo Protocol**



  
Mammo Working Group Protocol, March 2015

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 Mammo Working Group Protocol, March 2015

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## CBCT QC protocol

- The most recent EFOMP working group document is the **Quality control in cone beam CT (CBCT)** protocol, just published (Sep 2017), presenting procedures for quality control of CBCT systems used for **dental, radiotherapy, interventional radiology** and guided surgery applications.
- It was created as a collaborative effort with ESTRO and IAEA, hence called the EFOMP-ESTRO-IAEA protocol, as a result of the experience and knowledge of an international group of leading medical physics experts.

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## CBCT protocol publication

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Quality control in cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT)  
EFOMP-ESTRO-IAEA protocol

EFOMP  
Final version 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2017

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## CBCT protocol publication – Chapter 3, IQ

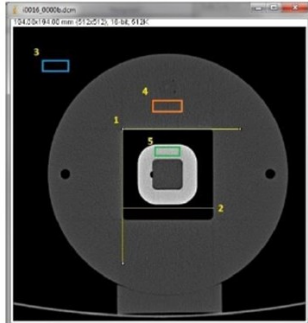


Figure 3.2.1. Illustration of geometrical measurements on the DIN phantom. The 90-degree angle (1) and the 60 mm-side of the air gap (2) can be used to check the linearity in the xy-plane.

**Freeware tip:** To measure angles and distances in the DICOM image, the freeware ImageJ<sup>40</sup> can be used. For this purpose, select the straight line or the angle tool, click on the image object that you want to measure (see Figure 3.2.1) and select “measure” on the Analyze menu. A pop-up window containing a table of results will show the values of the angle and/or the length on the right columns.

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## CBCT protocol publication – Chapter 3, IQ

### 3.7. Summary table

Table 3.7.1. Summary of image quality tests including suggested frequencies and action levels for the described procedures.

Parameter	Procedures	Frequency*			Action level		
		Dental	Interventional radiology	Radiotherapy	Dental	Interventional radiology	Radiotherapy
3.1 Uniformity	XYZ uniformity curves	Annual		Monthly	Manufacturer specifications, or > 10% difference air water		Deviation from baseline > 10 HU
	DIN method				Uniformity parameter U < 5		
3.2 Geometrical precision	Geometrical accuracy	Annual (or none)		Monthly	>1 mm	> 2 mm	> 2 mm for conventional treatments, > 1 mm for SRS/SBRT
	Linearity	Annual (or none)		Monthly			
	Spatial Stability	n.r.		Monthly (coincidence of isocentres daily)	n.r.	n.r.	

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## CBCT protocol publication – Chapter 4, IQ phantoms

4.4.

### Summary table

TABLE 4.4.1. Summary of commercial phantoms available

Phantom	Diameter (mm)	Height (mm)	Materials	Noise/Uniform.	CNR	Spatial res.	Contrast res.	Density values	Artefacts	Geom. accuracy	Applications
Quart DVT_AP	160	150	PMMA PVC Air Enhancement set <sup>2</sup>	Y	Y	Y	*	Y	Y	Y	Universal CBCT <sup>1</sup>
Quart DVT_KP CBCT 161	160	40	PMMA PVC Air	Y	Y	Y	*	Y	Y	Y	Universal CBCT <sup>3</sup>
Quart DVT_150	120 x 120 x 60 mm <sup>3</sup>			N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Dental 3D
SedentexCT IQ	160	162	PMMA Aluminium PTFE Delrin LDPE Air	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Dental CBCT

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## CBCT protocol publication – Chapter 5, Radiation output

the longitudinal size of the scanned volume is user-defined. For the data acquisition, the exposure parameters for a standard patient are used following indications of the manufacturer. If the x-ray device makes use of an automatic exposure control, it is necessary to manually enter the appropriate exposure parameters.



Figure 5.2. Position of a flat solid-state probe to measure the  $K_{a,i}$ (FDD) in a dental CBCT (left), a C-arm for angiography CBCT (right) and a CBCT in radiotherapy. Used with permission from F. Schöfer, B. Renger and K. Mair, respectively.

The advantage of this simple measurement is that it enables the calculation of a dose quantity,  $D_{FOV}$ , which takes into account the kind of geometry, size of the field of view and rotation angle. This quantity is an estimation of the average dose calculated over the diameter of the FOV, and it can be determined from the  $K_{a,i}$ (FDD) using a simple geometrical relation:

$$D_{FOV} = K_{a,i}(\text{FDD}) \cdot \frac{b}{a} \cdot \frac{d}{c} \quad [5.1]$$

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# CBCT protocol publication

## APPENDIX 2

### Example of Quality Control Report

#### Monthly CBCT QC report following the EFOMP-ESTRO-IAEA guidelines

##### User data

Name: *Name of the person performing the tests (or the owner of the CBCT device)*  
Facility: *Name and address of the institution*  
Telephone number/E-mail: *User contact information*

Model: *QUART DVTap*  
S/N: *0123*

##### Analysis software data

Name: *ImageJ & QUART CTec*  
Manufacturer: *NIH & QUART GmbH*  
Website: *imagej.nih.gov/ij/ & quart.de*

##### Device data

Type: *Dental CBCT*  
Manufacturer: *Vatech*  
Model: *Pax-i3D PHT6500*  
S/N: *052-1988*  
Effective area of the detector: *71.68 x 11.76 mm*

##### Scan data

Maximum scan time: *24 s*  
kVp/mAs: *89 kV/ 4.9 mA*  
Mode: *constancy tests*

##### Phantom data

Manufacturer: *QUART GmbH*

##### Geometric data (see equation 5.1)

Distance from the focal spot to the isocentre (a): *449 mm*  
Distance from the detector to the focal spot (b): *642.3 mm*  
Horizontal diameter of scanned volume: (c): *80 mm*  
Horizontal diameter of radiation field at the detector (d): *71.68 mm*

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# CBCT protocol publication

## Appendix 5

### Macro for Calculations of Noise Power Spectrum

```
doWand(H/2,W/2);
run("Measure");
x_c=getResult("X",nResults-1);
y_c=getResult("Y",nResults-1);
resetThreshold;

//create an internal Clipboard for each stack image (ROI 128 px x 128 px).
//subtract ROI mean pixel value
//compute Fourier Transform (FT) and |FT|^2
d = 128; //ROI size in pixel

for(i = 1; i < Nim+1; i++){
  setSlice(i);
  makeRectangle(x_c/w_px-d/2,y_c/h_px-d/2,d,d);
  run("Copy");
  run("Internal Clipboard");
  run(">32-bit");
```

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## The future breast dosimetry publication

- Work in progress regarding a **universal breast dosimetry** under the **EFOMP-AAPM-ICRU** Task Group 282.
- The development aims to a new model and methodology to estimate the breast average glandular dose (AGD) from x-ray based image acquisitions (standard, contrast-enhanced, spot, magnification mammography and breast tomosynthesis).

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## Big data and deep learning

- Big data and deep learning will profoundly change various areas of professions and research in the future. This will also happen in medicine and medical imaging.
- Patient specific optimisation (in a clinically relevant way) requires big data analysed by AI.
- As physicists, we should pursue beyond the concept of quality, to extend our methodology towards measuring the diagnostic value **in terms of outcome**.

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## Big data / deep learning and medical physicists

- In order to make sensible system from the vast heterogeneous big data, **data quality control and validation** are prerequisites for further analysis.
- As medical physicists, quantitative aspects of data are firmly within our field of profession.
- It is in our interest to ensure that our professional roles, education and competence will follow this global development.

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