Quality and dose control for CR/DR

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From analogue to digital

What is the impact of going digital on my daily work?

- Radiographers' questions
 - How do I know my work quality is OK?
- Radiology Supervisor's questions
 - How can I monitor team quality?
- Physicist's questions
 - How can I monitor the system quality?



NX Tools

- Radiographer
 - E.I Exposure Index
 - Dose Bar-graph
- Radiology supervisor
 - Repeat Reject Report
 - Extended Dose Monitoring New
 - IHE REM Profile New
- Physicist
 - Auto AC2
 - Auto QC Mammo



NX Tools for everyone

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Why Exposure Index?

Four Systems four ways of measuring exposure at the plate

Exposure	in
μ G y	

2.5

5

10

20



What is Exposure Index? (IEC 62494-1)

- The Exposure Index (EI) is related to receptor exposure
 - The Exposure Index provides a relative exposure measurement within an exam type
 - <u>It is not (and should not be used as) a calibrated patient dose</u> <u>meter!!!</u>
 - The dose in µGy to the plate can only be determined when a <u>a flat</u> <u>field exposure is made under calibrated (RQA-5) X-Ray beam</u> <u>conditions</u>
 - Three Parameters
 - El Exposure Index
 - TEI Target Exposure Index
 - DI Deviation Index



Target Exposure Index and Deviation Index

- Target Exposure Index: TEI
 - The reference exposure index for a particular exposure*
 - Extremities 1000*, Chests 500*, Abdomens 250*
 - Can be determined by statistical averaging (50 exposures)
 → preferred scenario
 - Can be preset (fixed) by the user

- What is it used for
 - To calculate the Deviation Index

* Example values - actual values should be based on customer statistics



Target Exposure Index and Deviation Index

Deviation Index :

$$DI = 10 * Log \left[\frac{EI}{TEI}\right]$$

- Expresses how far the exposure is away from a reference value
- Provides a relative indication for under/over exposure
- In a perfect situation the DI would be zero (rarely the case)
- 1 deviation unit equals ~ 25% (+1 or -1) on a AEC
- 3 deviation units equals 2x exposure or ½ exposure (+3 or -3)

Dose bar-graph

- Has been introduced to improve interpretation of Lgm or E.I./D.I (Exposure Index/Deviation Index) by the radiographer.
- This feature allows radiographers to personally monitor their own exposure technique quality.
- => Are they working inline with the agreed average dose for each exposure type?



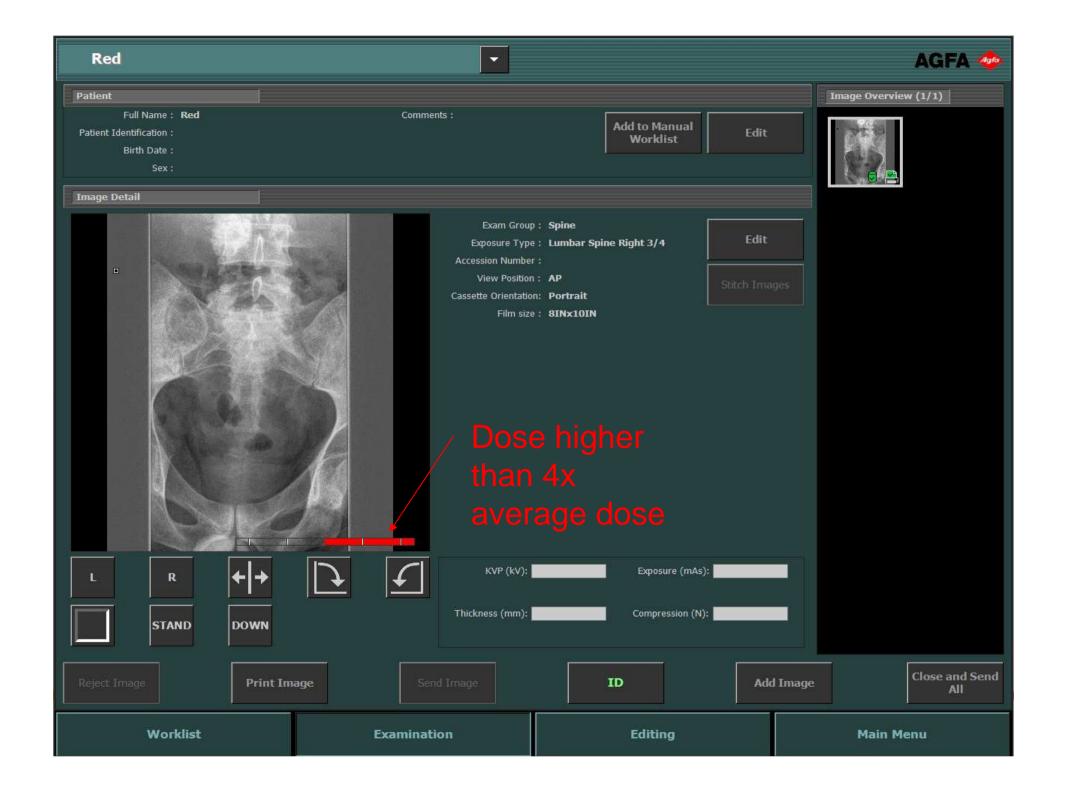
Dose bar-graph

- Colour improves interpretation of Lgm / D.I.
 - -0.3 < Lgm < +0.3 Green bar
 - -0.6 < Lgm < -0.3 or +0.3 < Lgm < +0.6 Yellow bar
 - Lgm < -0.6 or +0.6 < Lgm < Red bar
 - -3 < D.I. < +3 Green bar
 - -6 < D.I. < -3 or + 3 < D.I. < +6 Yellow bar
 - D.I. < -6 or +6 < D.I < Red bar
 - D.I.= Deviation Index is displayed on an Exposure Index acquisition system (= all new CR30, DX-G and DX-D systems)









Exposure Index Guidelines*

	Low Dose	General Work		Extremities
Historic Film Speed	600	400	200	100
Exposure Index	~200	~300	~600	~1000
Deviation Index	"+ or - 3 units maximum"			

*These are guidelines only!!!!

The customer has to decide on exposures settings using the ALARA principle. The dose level used corresponds with the noise level the customer accepts.



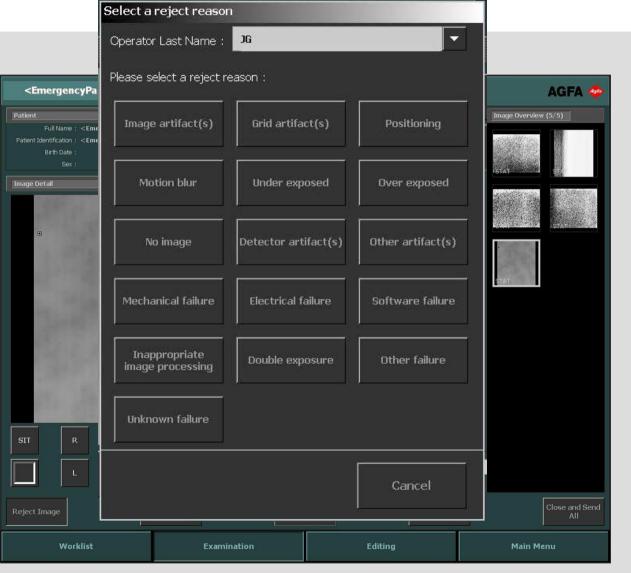
Who?

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Repeat Reject

 Reject workflow: rejecting an image automatically generates a new exposure for the repeat, user can assign a reject reason.





Repeat Reject report

Formatted report available for Repeat/Reject



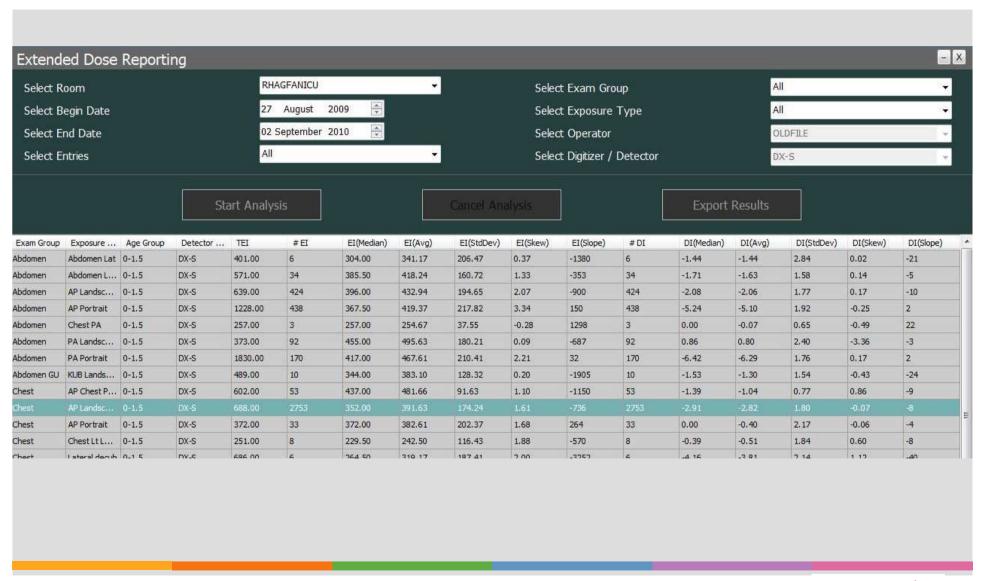
 When exporting statistics now two file are created, the xml file (as before) and a html file that contains a readable/printable summary of the exported data.



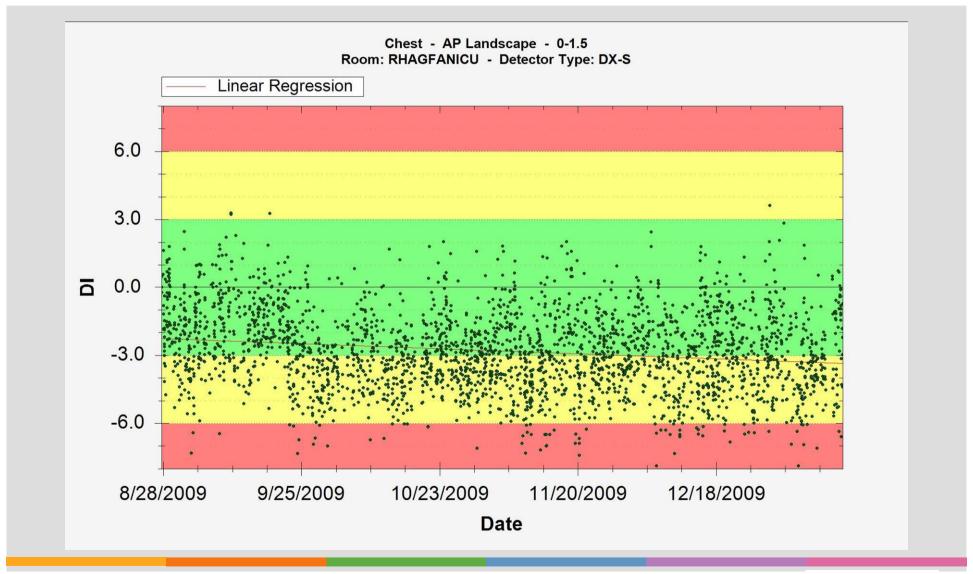
Extended Dose Reporting New NX8600

- Allows searching the dose database of 60.000 exposures to create reports
- Search for a certain time period, digitizer, x-ray room, exam type or operator
- Create report for statistics of all exposures or only look at the extremes (DI outliers)

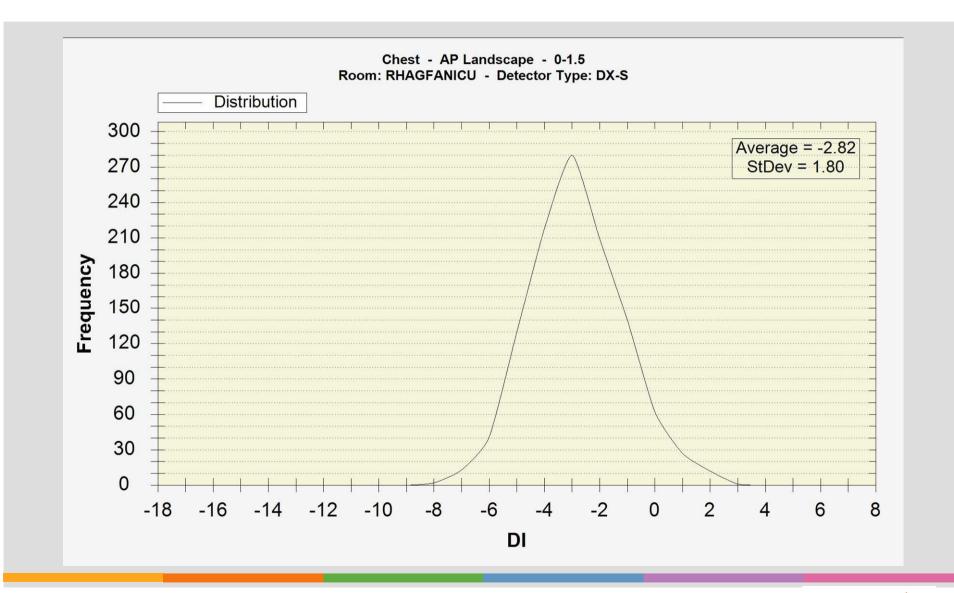




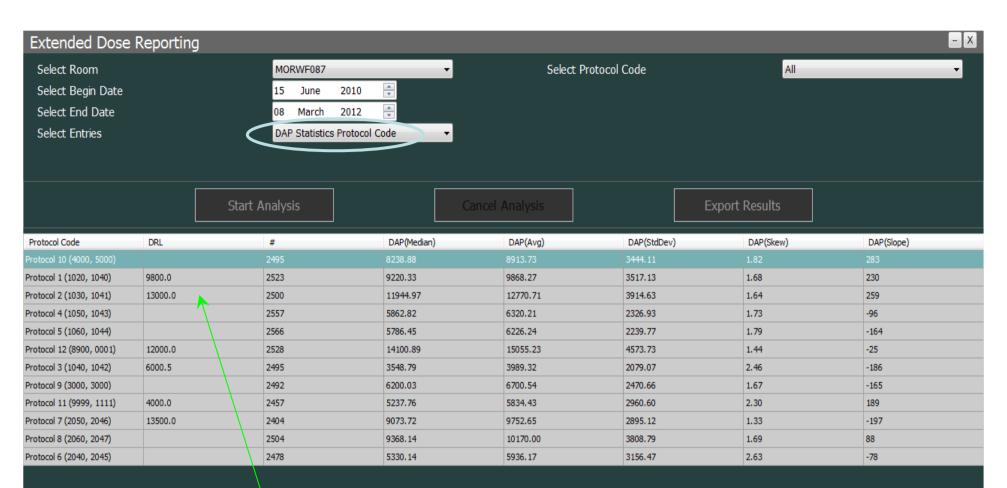








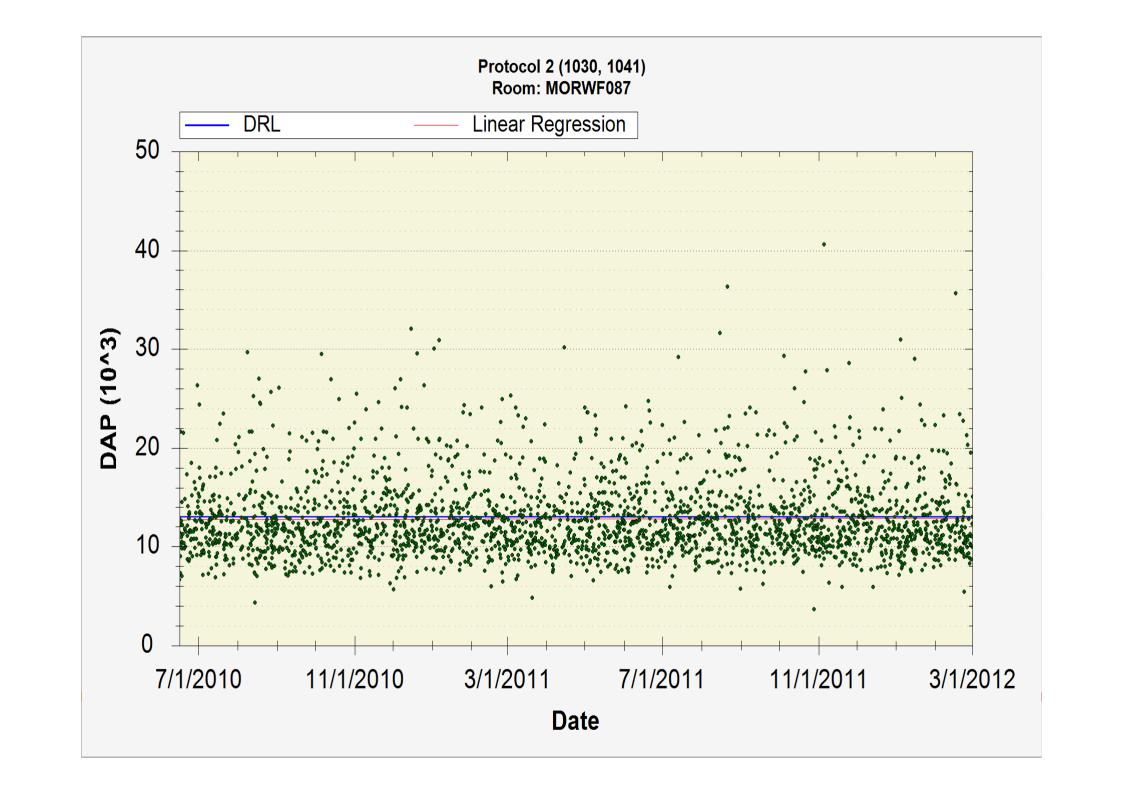


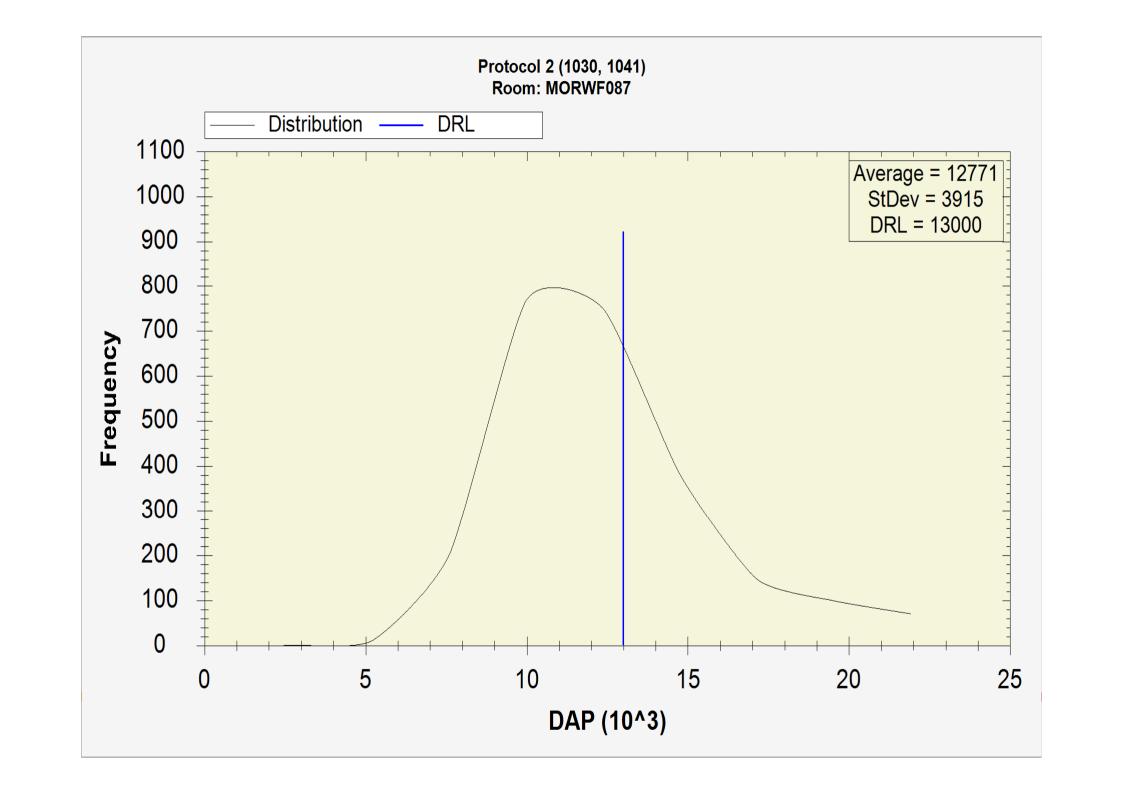


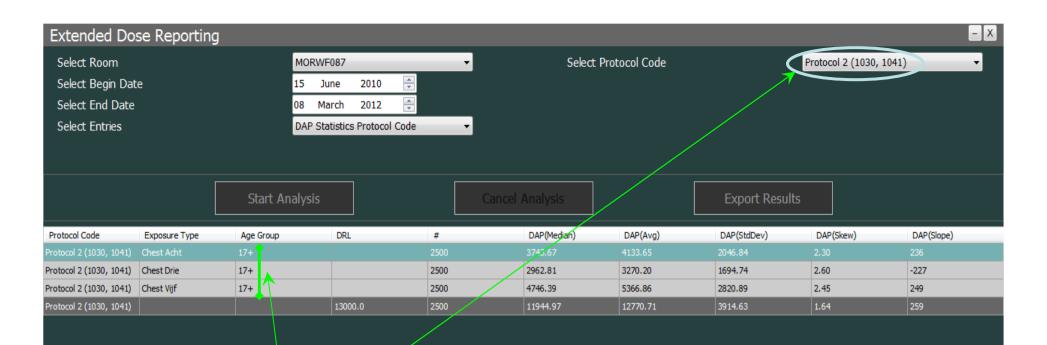
For each Protocol code, statistics are shown for the received DAP values

Select a single line to see graphical representation of the results

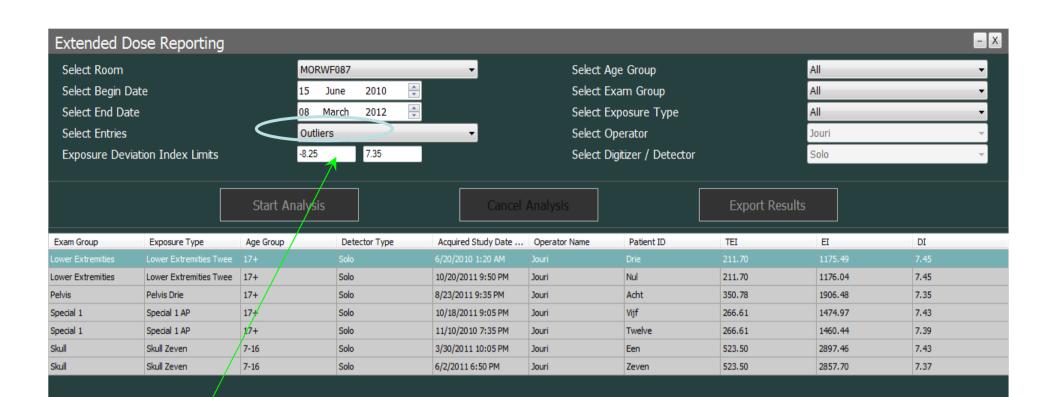
A Diagnostic Reference Level (DRL) can be entered for each code



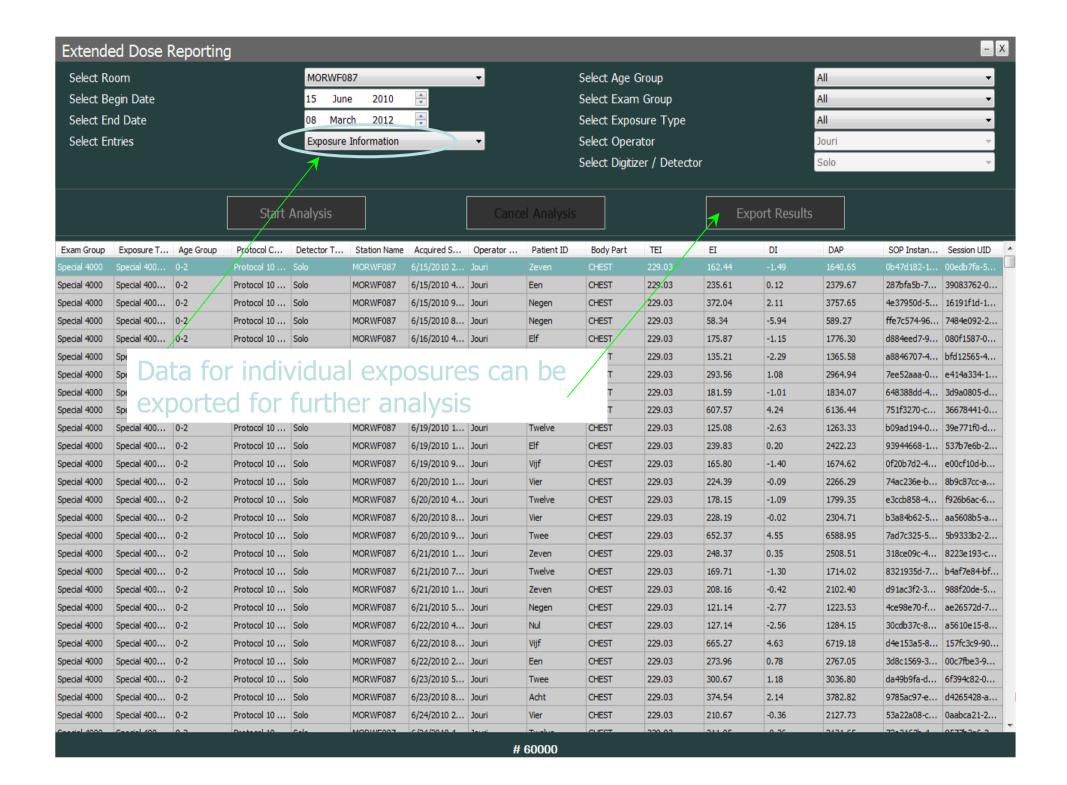




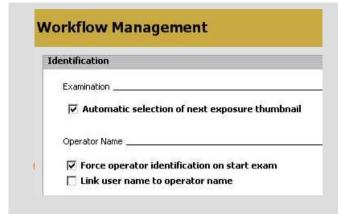
Select a single Protocol code to see statistics of the exposures that are part of the protocol code.

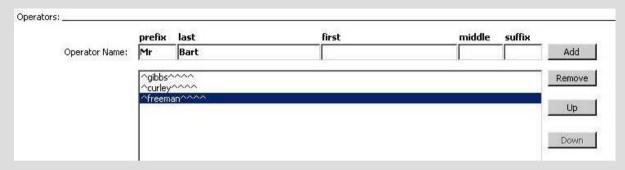


Limit that determines outliers can now be configured.



Forced entry of operator ID per exam





Select 'force operator ID Create operator list in configtool

Operator selection box will pop up at first ID of each open exam.



Select or type in name



- Limitations:
 - CR DR only
 - Agfa modalities only
 - Hospital wide dose reporting → IHE REM

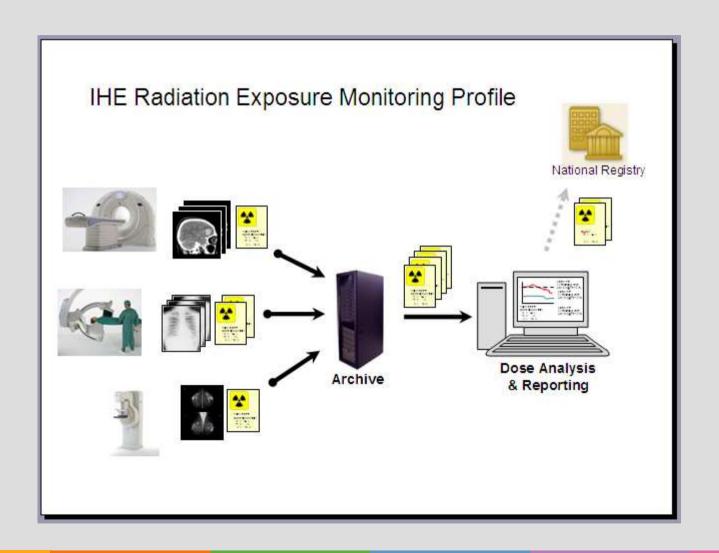


IHE REM Profile

- Radiation Exposure Monitoring
- We will send DICOM Structured Reports of radiation events (Dose objects) to Radiation Reporting Systems.
 - Some of the key details include:
 - All modalities
 - kVP, mA, collimation, filters, etc.
 - Patient/Order/Study details
 - Projection X-Ray
 - DAP, Dose@RP, Imaging geometry, Fluoro Dose, Fluoro Time
 - Mammography
 - AGD, Entrance Exposure@RP, Compression, Half Value Layer
- What is in report depends on what is provided by the modality!
 - OR manually entered.

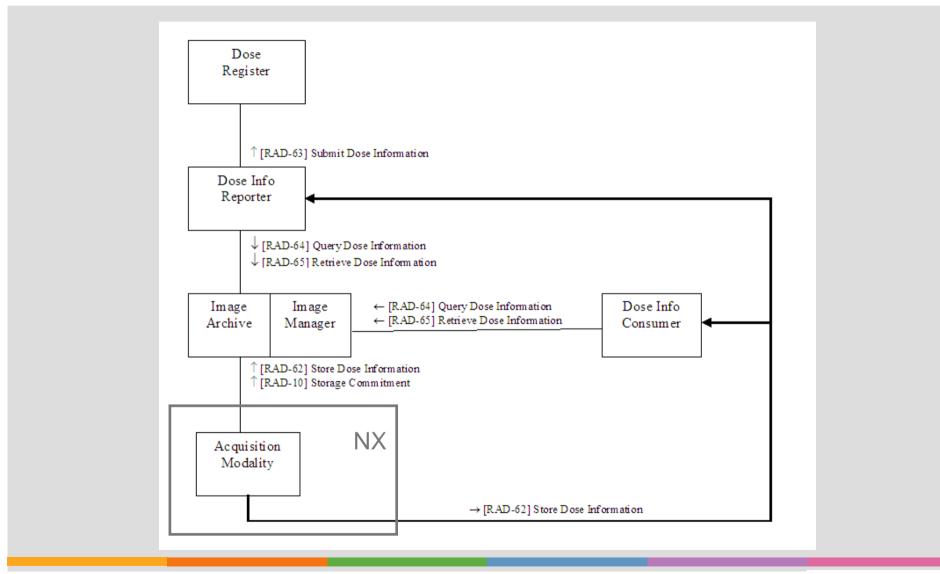


IHE REM Profile New





IHE REM Profile New





Agfa Dose Info Reporter

- Under development
 - CT + Agfa CR
 - US + Canada
 - Vendor Neutral
 - Data accessible by AGFA PACS /RIS



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Auto QC²

- Hardware
 - One test phantom
 - Filters, filter module, positioning template
- Delivered in one suitcase







Auto QC² - Product information

Software

- Automatic calculation on raw images
- Artifact inspection (visual check)
- Automated report
- Search & history functions
- Based on NX GUI, with 4 main panes
- Follows the NX licensing (protected by dongle & ELMS)



Auto QC² - Overview of tests

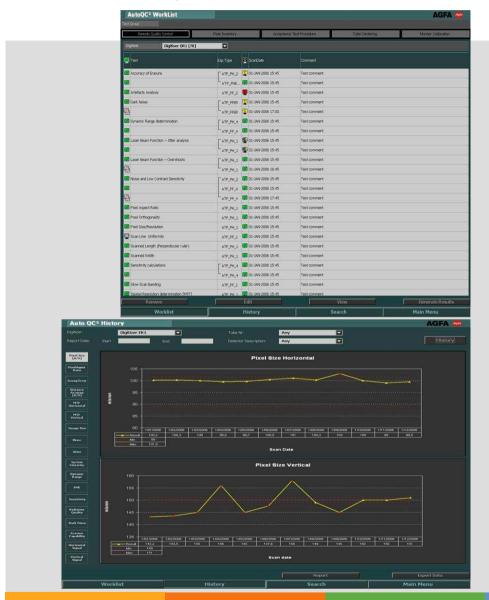
- Periodic quality control & Acceptance test procedure
 - Scan Line Drop Outs
 - Overshoots
 - Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR)
 - Sensitivity
 - Dynamic Range
 - Signal Uniformity (banding)
 - Spatial Resolution [MTF]
 - Laser Jitter
 - System Linearity
 - Distance Accuracy

- Sweep Error
- Pixel Aspect Ratio (V/H)
- Pixel Size Horizontal & vertical
- Skew
- •Image Width
- Image Length
- Radiation Quality (KVP, tubewear)
- Dark Noise
- Erasure Efficiency

- Plate inventory
- Monitor check



Auto QC² software UI







AutoQC Mammo - Phantom + PMMA





AutoQC Mammo - Software

 Software package installable on NX or on a separate (physicists) PC







QC for DR - Overview of tests

Periodic quality control & Acceptance test procedure

- Overshoots/Ringing
- Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR)
- System Sensitivity
- System Linearity (Dose response)
- Dynamic Range determination
- Slow Scan Banding
- Scan Line Uniformity
- Spatial Resolution (MTF)
- Laser Beam Jitter
- Laser beam positioning error (Sweep Error)
- Pixel Aspect Ratio

- Pixel Size / Resolution
- •Image Skew
- •Image Width and Height
- (Radiation Quality) Only relevant for automated Auto QC calculations
- Artifact Analysis
- AEC test
- Bad pixels
- Low contrast
- Dark Noise(ATP)
- Erasure Efficiency(ATP)

Ghosting is not relevant due to Dark Images correction



QC for DR - Overview of tests

- DR Periodic quality control & Acceptance test procedure
 - Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR) (covered by low contrast test)
 - System Sensitivity **
 - System Linearity (Dose response) *
 - Dynamic Range determination *
 - Spatial Resolution (MTF) *
 - Artifact Analysis **
 - AEC test
 - Bad pixels ***
 - Low contrast *
- Current Procedure
 - * Tested with Normi 13 phantom
 - ** Tested with Flatfield exposure
 - *** Panel type dependant



Thank you.

