

The recommendations of the American College of Radiology's Stereotactic Breast Biopsy Quality Control Manual will be discussed with primary emphasis on pointing out in what way the unique design aspects of Lorad breast biopsy units affect the QC testing of these units. Operational information needed by medical physicists will be presented, including tips and precautions on startup procedures, access to ROI statistics in different software versions, methods to make x-ray exposures with and without image capture, and hard copy options. Patient dose issues will be covered, including Lorad recommendations for image receptor exposure levels, guidance for establishing a technique chart for both 512 and 1024 images, and advice on identification of over- and under-exposed images. Field uniformity measurement issues on Lorad units and possible corrective action will be discussed. A review of the service engineer tests and adjustments for accuracy of positioning and for "white- and dark-fielding" will be presented.

Educational Objectives:

1. Review ACR Accreditation recommendations for QC testing of stereotactic breast biopsy units.
2. Become familiar with unique characteristics of Lorad unit, and how these impact on medical physicist's testing protocol.
3. Become familiar with recognizing proper exposure levels and with setting up manual technique charts appropriate to Lorad units.
4. Become familiar with service engineer level calibrations and alignments.