

Toshiba Introduces Enhanced Aquilion LB Scanner

Toshiba has introduced its Aquilion™ Large Bore scanners for oncology applications. The company reports that its wide gantry aperture of 90cm combined with a true scan field of 70cm is designed to provide extreme exam flexibility for CT simulation, trauma, bariatric and interventional procedures. Aquilion LB also features Toshiba's "Quantum PLUS Detector Technology". The finest details are depicted by 16-row data acquisition with 0.5mm thin slices, reportedly providing the best low contrast visualization and 350 micron spatial resolution.

The "Next Generation" not only features all of the above, but has been enhanced with the latest state-of-the-art technologies to improve patient care at reduced dose.

AIDR 3D (Adaptive Iterative Dose Reduction in 3D) provides a dose reduction in clinical setting by up to 75%, when compared to scans performed with traditional Filtered Back Projection (FBP) techniques. The AIDR 3D algorithm is designed to work in both the raw data and reconstruction domains and optimizes image quality for each particular body region. AIDR 3D is fully integrated in SUREExposure™ 3D (the automatic exposure control software) for optimized dose control and adds mere seconds to total reconstruction times. In addition newly designed hardware maximizes reconstruction speed in all applications.

"Double Slice Technology" allows 32 images to be generated in a single rotation without dose penalty. The acquired volume data can be reconstructed at double density, resulting in sharper images and provides vastly superior MPR and 3D reconstructions.

The robust "Respiratory-gating system"* minimizes image artifacts, associated with respiratory motion and provides reliable 4D CT gated images to evaluate respiratory motion. Respiratory gated scanning is available in both prospective and retrospective scan modes, and can be applied for all patients, even those with a slow respiratory cycle as low as 6 breaths per minute. The new "Phase Averaging Function", enables stacking of multiphase data to demonstrate tumor movement in one static image. In addition the "Advanced 4D Viewer" includes a target tracking function so the region of interest is always shown in-plane during cine playback. The "Next Generation" Aquilion LB stands for a fast and flexible Workflow. New console architecture, remote access by a network PC equipped with SUREXtension™*, provides direct access to the main console for instant reviewing of patient data, without affecting the main console.

The new architecture and visualization of the "Next Generation" features will be highlighted at the ESTRO ** 2012 congress in Barcelona, May 9 – 13 (Toshiba booth nr. 20, hall P1, Polivalent Area).

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