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Tel: +44 20 8600 3540 [www.simplantscans.com](http://www.simplantscans.com) email: [info@ctscan.co.uk](mailto:info@ctscan.co.uk)

***What is the Radiation Dose  
from  
a CT or CBCT Scan?***

**Anthony Reynolds BA MSc PhD**  
*Registered Clinical Scientist CS03469*

**Image Diagnostic Technology Ltd.**

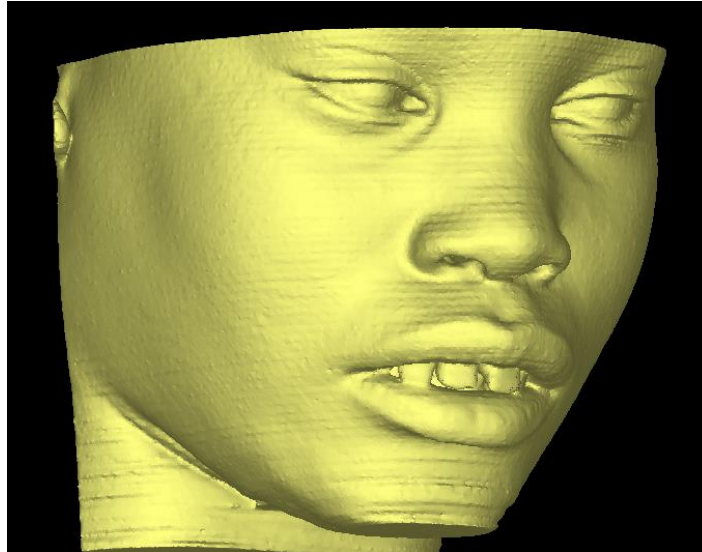
# Who or what is IDT?

## Three Companies:

**Image Diagnostic  
Technology Ltd**

**specialises in  
arranging  
CT scans and  
3D processing**

**since 1991**



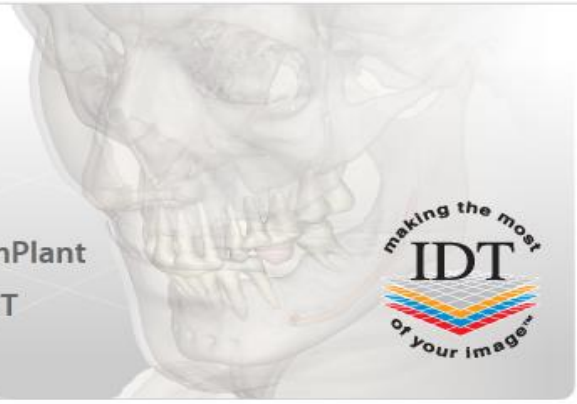
**IDT Dental Products Ltd  
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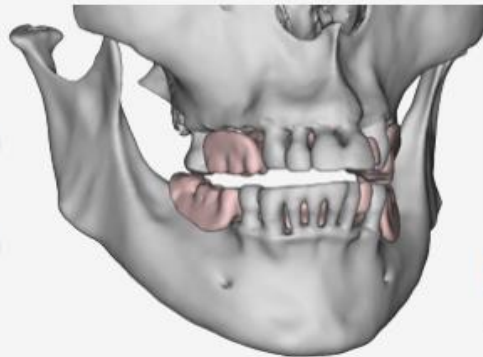
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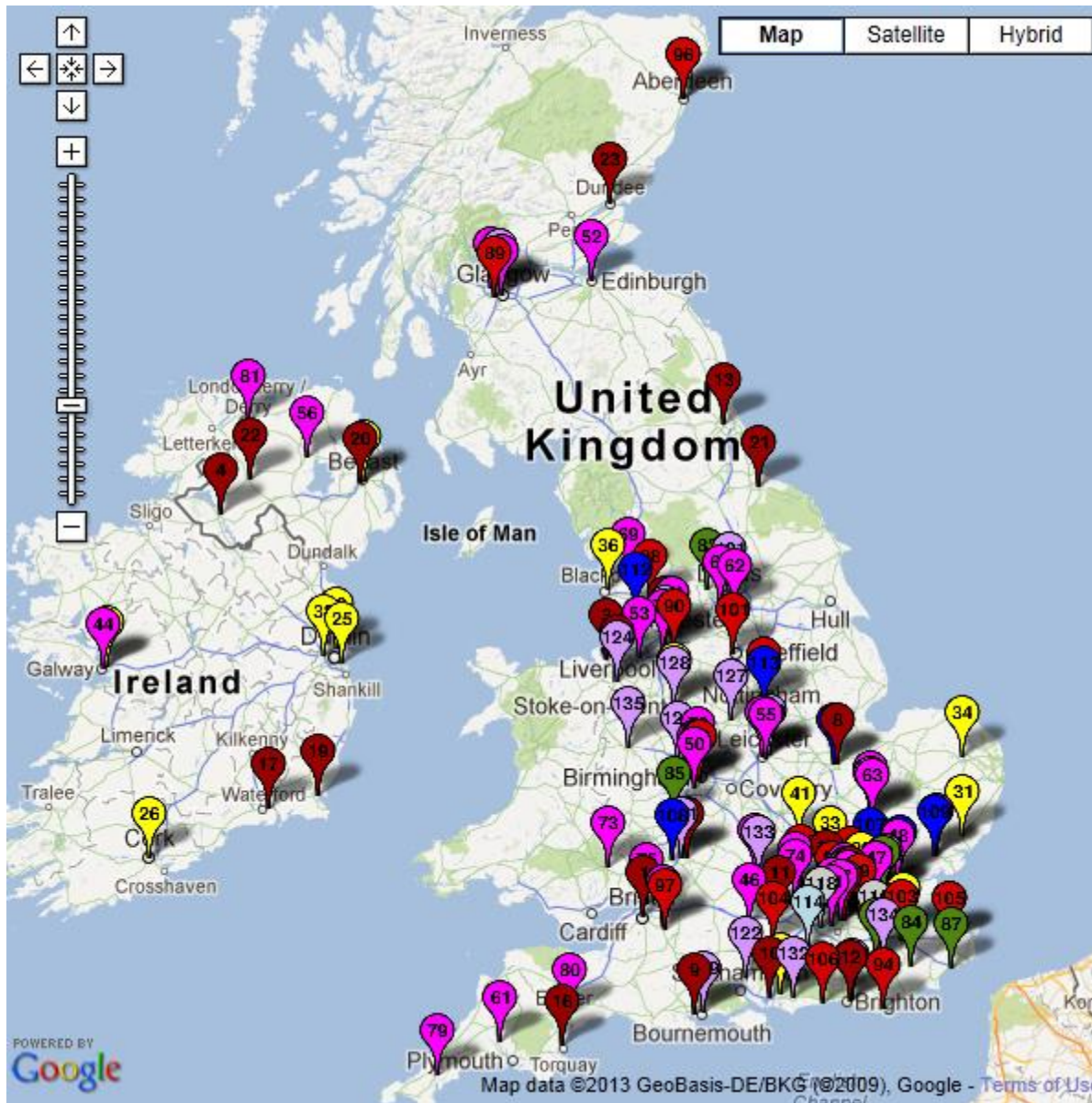
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# i-CAT *Cone Beam CT Scanner*



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# *Medium Field Of View CBCT*



Gendex™ is a trademark of Gendex Dental Systems of Lake Zurich, USA

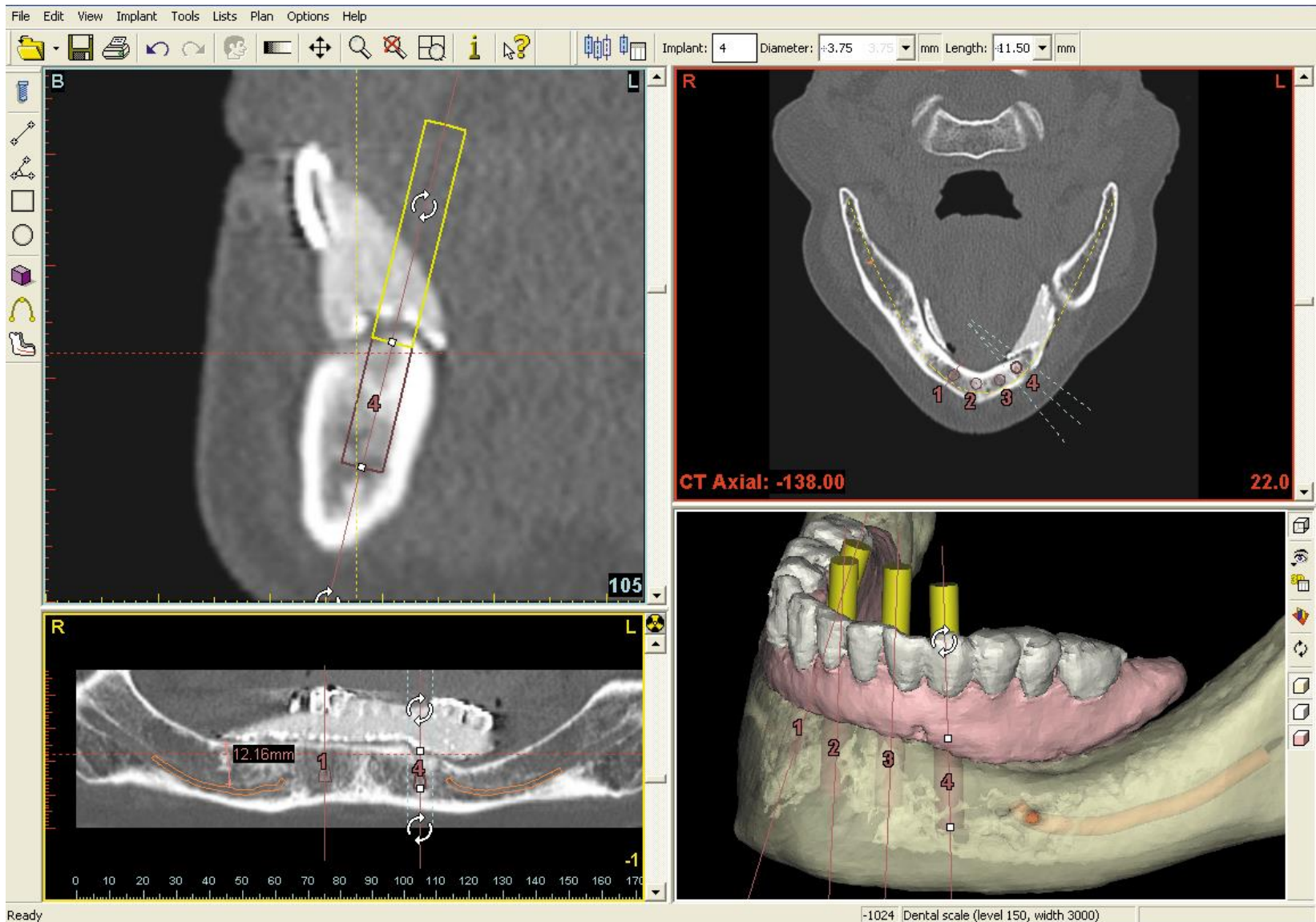


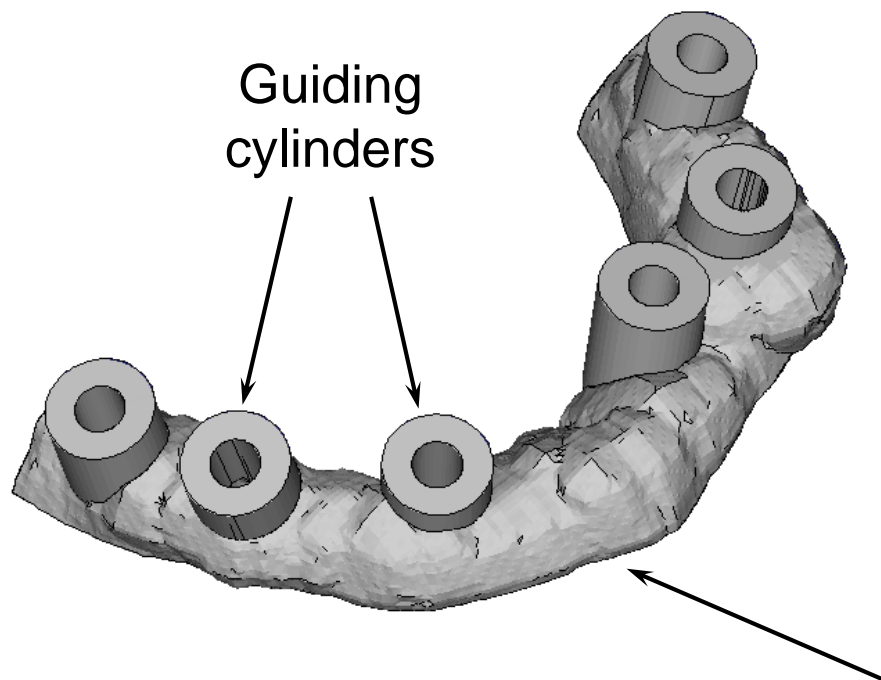
# *Small Field Of View CBCT*



Gendex™ is a trademark of Gendex Dental Systems of Lake Zurich, USA







The SurgiGuide controls:

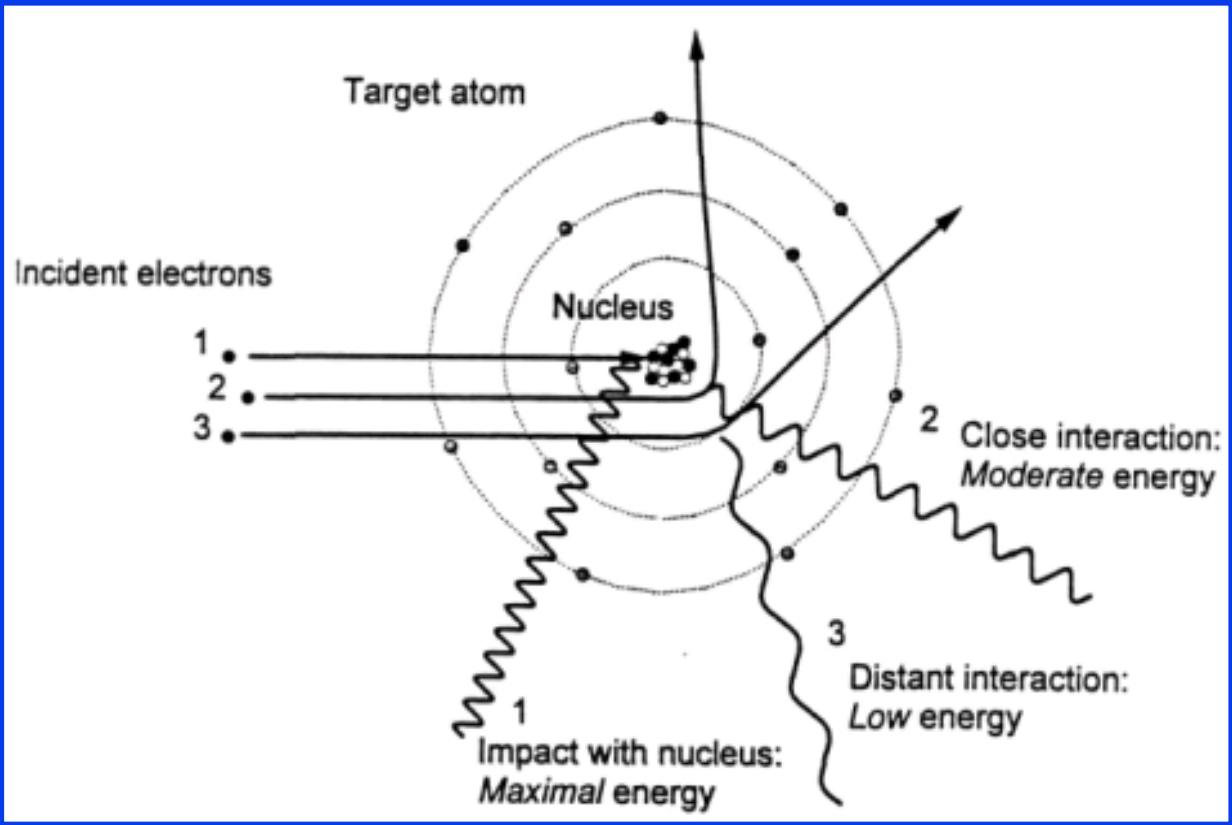
- Position
- Orientation
- (Depth)

Guide resting on:

- Bone
- Mucosa
- Teeth

# *Outline of Presentation*

- ✓ **Introduction / Disclosures**
  - **Risk from Low Radiation Doses**
  - **What do we mean by Effective Dose?**
  - **How to evaluate the Risks?**
  - **How does CT work?**
  - **How does Dose affect Image Quality?**
  - **What other factors affect Image Quality?**



# Annals of the ICRP

PUBLICATION 103

## The 2007 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection

Editor  
J. VALENTIN

PUBLISHED FOR

The International Commission on Radiological Protection

by



# *Transposition into UK Law*

## **Ionisation Radiations Regulations 1999 – “IRR99”**

- Exposure of members of the public (e.g. staff and visitors)
- Enforced by Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

## **Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2000 (amended in 2006) – “IR(ME)R 2000”**

- Medical exposures (e.g. patients)
- Enforced by Care Quality Commission

# *What's in ICRP103?*

## **Fundamental Principles of Radiation Protection**

- **Justification** (benefits must outweigh the risks)
- **Optimisation** (keep doses **As Low As Reasonably Achievable**)
- **Dose Limits** (20 mSv per year for members of the public)  
(no dose limits for medical exposures)

## ***What else is in ICRP103?***

- **The distribution of risks to different organs/tissues is judged to have changed somewhat since ICRP60 (1991)**
- **Overall estimate of deterministic effects remains the same**
- **Risk of heritable effects is judged to be lower**
- **Risk of fatal cancer remains unchanged at just over 5% per Sv**



# ***Risk Coefficients for Stochastic Effects***

Detriment ( $10^{-2}\text{Sv}^{-1}$ )	
Cancer	5.5
Hereditary effects	0.2
Total	5.7

## *Risk varies with Age*

Age group (years)	Multiplication factor for risk
<10	x 3
10-20	x 2
20-30	x 1.5
30-50	x 0.5
50-80	x 0.3
80+	Negligible risk

5% per Sievert at age 30

# *How do we know that exposure to radiation results in harm?*

## **Deterministic Effects are reproducible**

- severity of the effect increases with the dose
- not observed below a threshold dose of about 500mSv

## **Stochastic Effects are random**

- known to occur above 20mSv or so
- the risk (not the severity) increases with the dose
- below about 20mSv we don't know if they occur or not

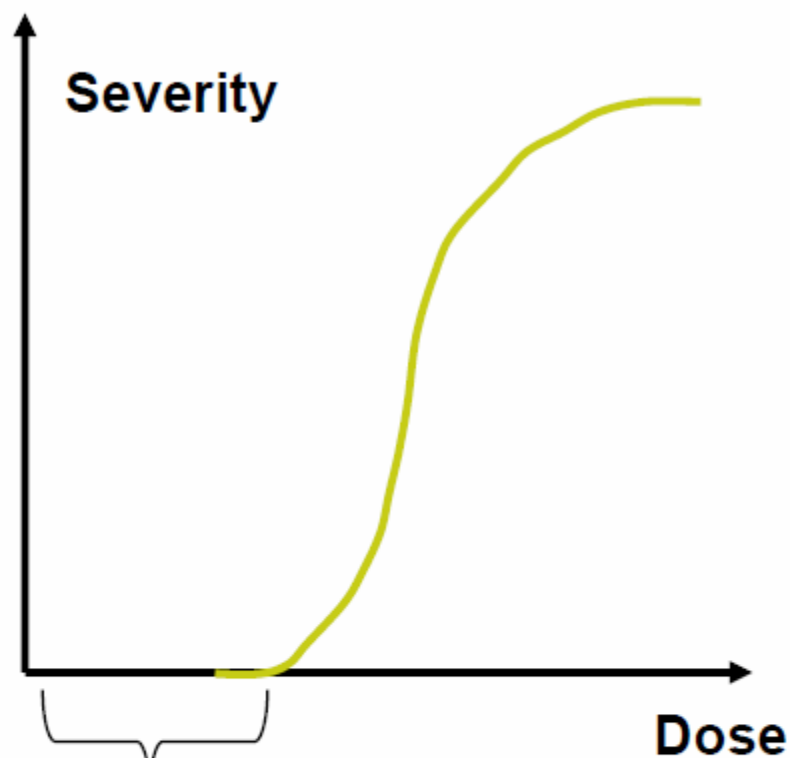
**Hereditary Effects are random but the incidence is very low**

# Dr Mihran Kassabian (1870–1910)

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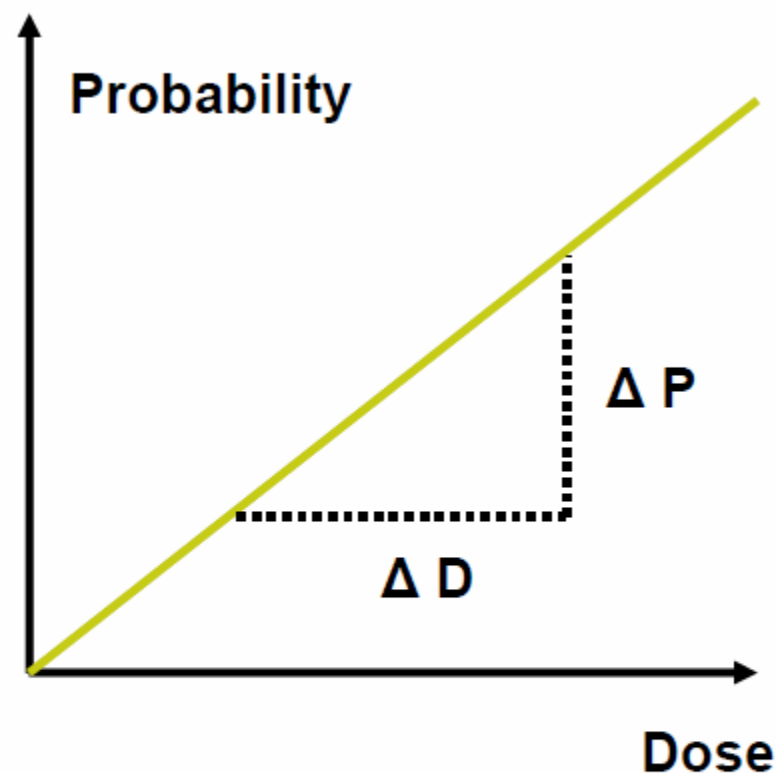
## Deterministic Effects



**Threshold  
Dose**

(about 500 mSv)

## Stochastic Effects



**Risk Factor =  $\Delta P / \Delta D$**

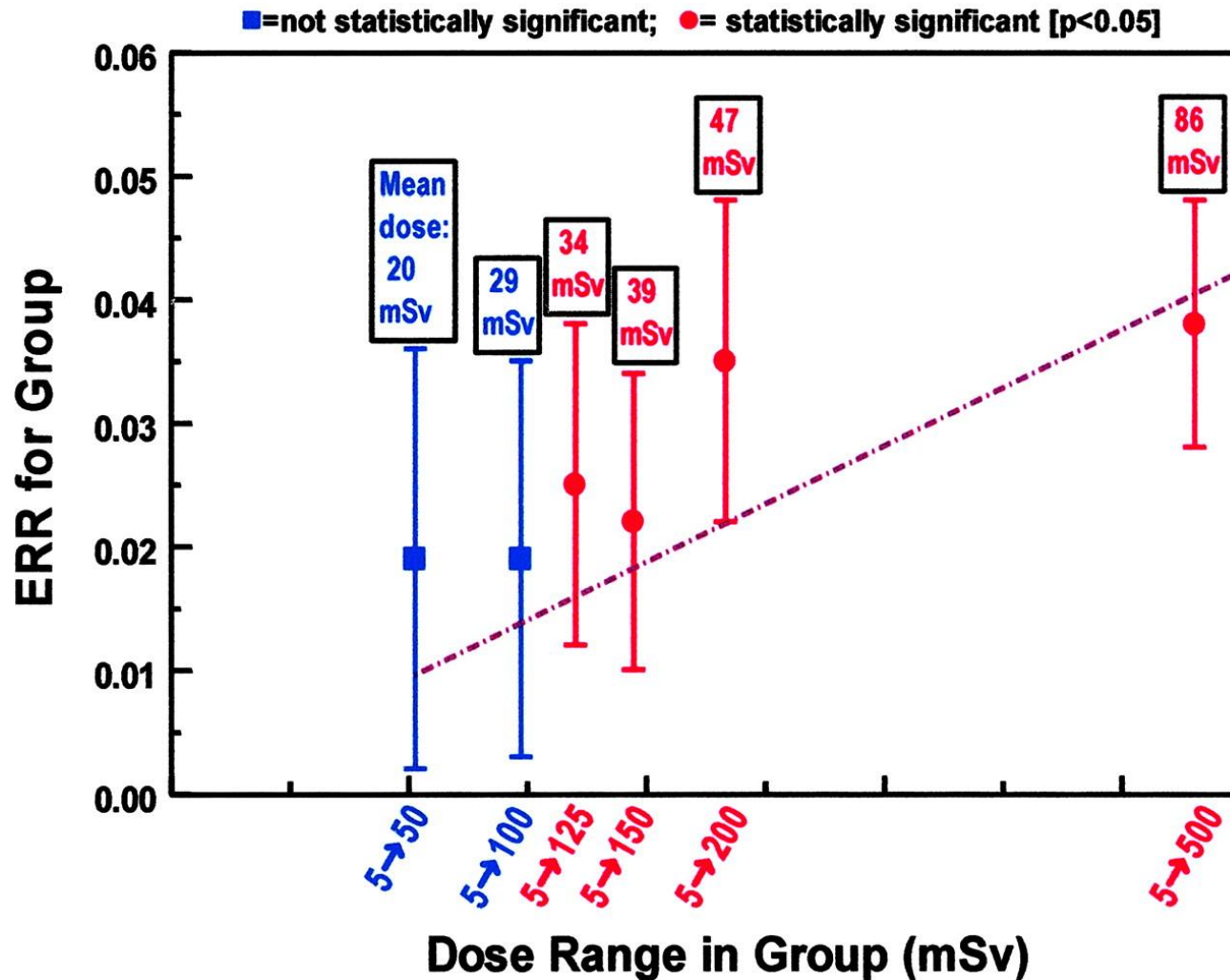
(about 5% per Sievert)

# **Cancer risks attributable to low doses of ionizing radiation: Assessing what we really know**

David J. Brenner<sup>a,b</sup>, Richard Doll<sup>c</sup>, Dudley T. Goodhead<sup>d</sup>, Eric J. Hall<sup>a</sup>, Charles E. Land<sup>e</sup>, John B. Little<sup>f</sup>, Jay H. Lubin<sup>g</sup>, Dale L. Preston<sup>h</sup>, R. Julian Preston<sup>i</sup>, Jerome S. Puskin<sup>j</sup>, Elaine Ron<sup>e</sup>, Rainer K. Sachs<sup>k</sup>, Jonathan M. Samet<sup>l</sup>, Richard B. Setlow<sup>m</sup>, and Marco Zaider<sup>n</sup>

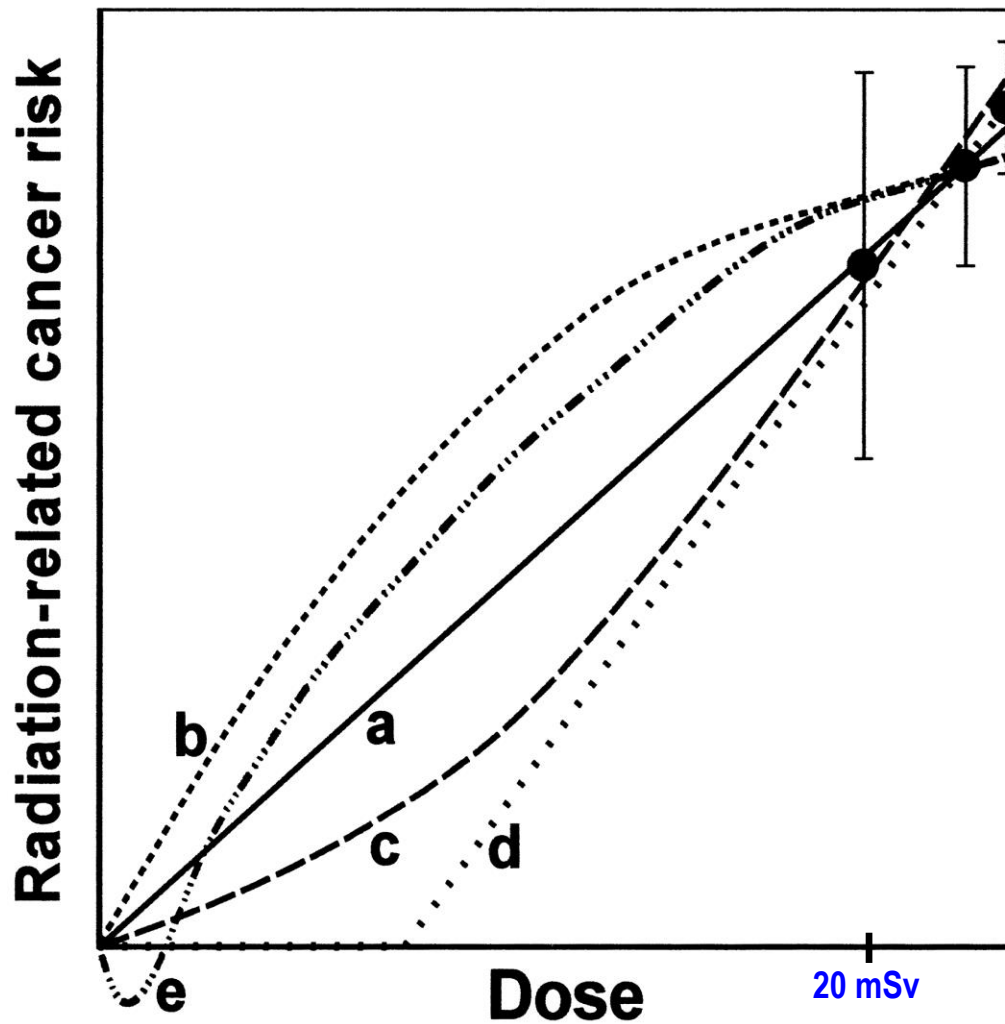
Contributed by Richard Doll, August 29, 2003

Estimated excess relative risk ( $\pm 1$  SE) of mortality (1950–1997) from solid cancers among groups of survivors in the LSS cohort of atomic bomb survivors, who were exposed to low doses (<500 mSv) of radiation (2).



Brenner D J et al. PNAS 2003;100:13761-13766

Schematic representation of different possible extrapolations of measured radiation risks down to very low doses, all of which could, in principle, be consistent with higher-dose epidemiological data.



Brenner D J et al. PNAS 2003;100:13761-13766





## The AAPM

*We advance the science,  
education and professional  
practice of medical physics*

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- Committees
- Committee Classifieds
- Individual Appointments
- History & Heritage
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### Public & Media

## Professional/Education/Science Policies

POLICY NUMBER	POLICY NAME	POLICY DATE	SUNSET DATE
PP 25-A	AAPM Position Statement on Radiation Risks from Medical Imaging Procedures	12/13/2011	12/31/2016

### Policy source

### Policy text

The American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) acknowledges that medical imaging procedures should be appropriate and conducted at the lowest radiation dose consistent with acquisition of the desired information. Discussion of risks related to radiation dose from medical imaging procedures should be accompanied by acknowledgement of the benefits of the procedures. Risks of medical imaging at effective doses below 50 mSv for single procedures or 100 mSv for multiple procedures over short time periods are too low to be detectable and may be nonexistent. Predictions of hypothetical cancer incidence and deaths in patient populations exposed to such low doses are highly speculative and should be discouraged. These predictions are harmful because they lead to sensationalistic articles in the public media that cause some patients and parents to refuse medical imaging procedures, placing them at substantial risk by not receiving the clinical benefits of the prescribed procedures.

AAPM members continually strive to improve medical imaging by lowering radiation levels and maximizing benefits of imaging procedures involving ionizing radiation.

# ***Duty Holders under IR(ME)R 2000***

## **The Employer**

- provides a framework of policies and procedures

## **The Referrer**

- must supply sufficient clinical information to allow the exposure to be justified

## **The Practitioner**

- responsible for justifying the exposure

## **The Operator**

- responsible for carrying it out

# **Guidance on the Safe Use of Dental Cone Beam CT (Computed Tomography) Equipment**

**Prepared by the HPA Working Party  
on Dental Cone Beam CT Equipment**

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Core Curriculum in Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) for Dentists and Dental Care Professionals**

**Extracted from the Core Curriculum developed by the HPA Working Party in  
association with the British Society of Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology  
(BSDMFR), Version 10 December 2009**

# *The Problem*

As *Practitioners* we have a duty to ensure the benefits of exposing the patient to radiation outweigh the risks

But we don't know what the risks are

How can we address this issue in practice?

Use *Effective Dose* to assess the risks!

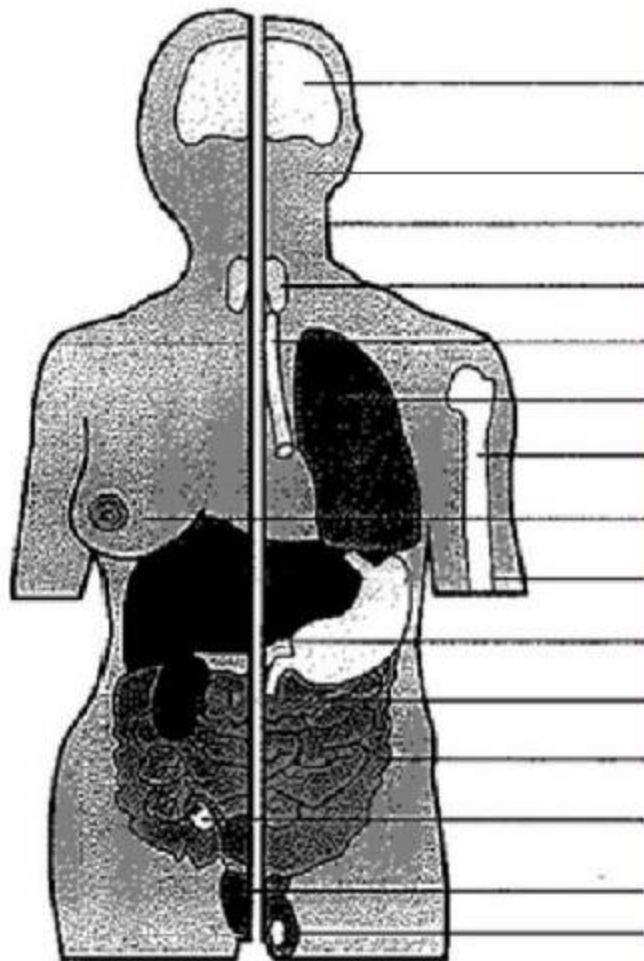
# *Effective Dose*

**We know the risks from high doses of radiation**

- e.g. Atom Bomb survivors
- Atom Bomb survivors received whole body doses
- Dental patients receive doses to a very small region
- How can we relate the risks?

***Effective Dose* is a way of describing the dose to a limited region in terms of the whole body dose that would result in the same risk to the patient**

**Effective Dose is a measure of risk!**



$w_T$  value ICRP103

<i>Brain</i>	0.01
<i>Salivary glands</i>	0.01
<i>Skin</i>	0.01
<i>Thyroid</i>	0.04
Oesophagus	0.04
<i>Lung</i>	<b>0.12</b>
<i>Red bone marrow</i>	<b>0.12</b>
<i>Breast</i>	<b>0.12</b>
<i>Bone surface</i>	0.01
Liver	0.04
<i>Stomach</i>	<b>0.12</b>
<i>Colon</i>	<b>0.12</b>
<i>Ovary</i>	<b>0.08</b>
Bladder	0.04
<i>Testes</i>	<b>0.08</b>
<i>Remainder</i>	0.12

## Effective Dose (E)

$$E = \sum_T H_T w_T$$

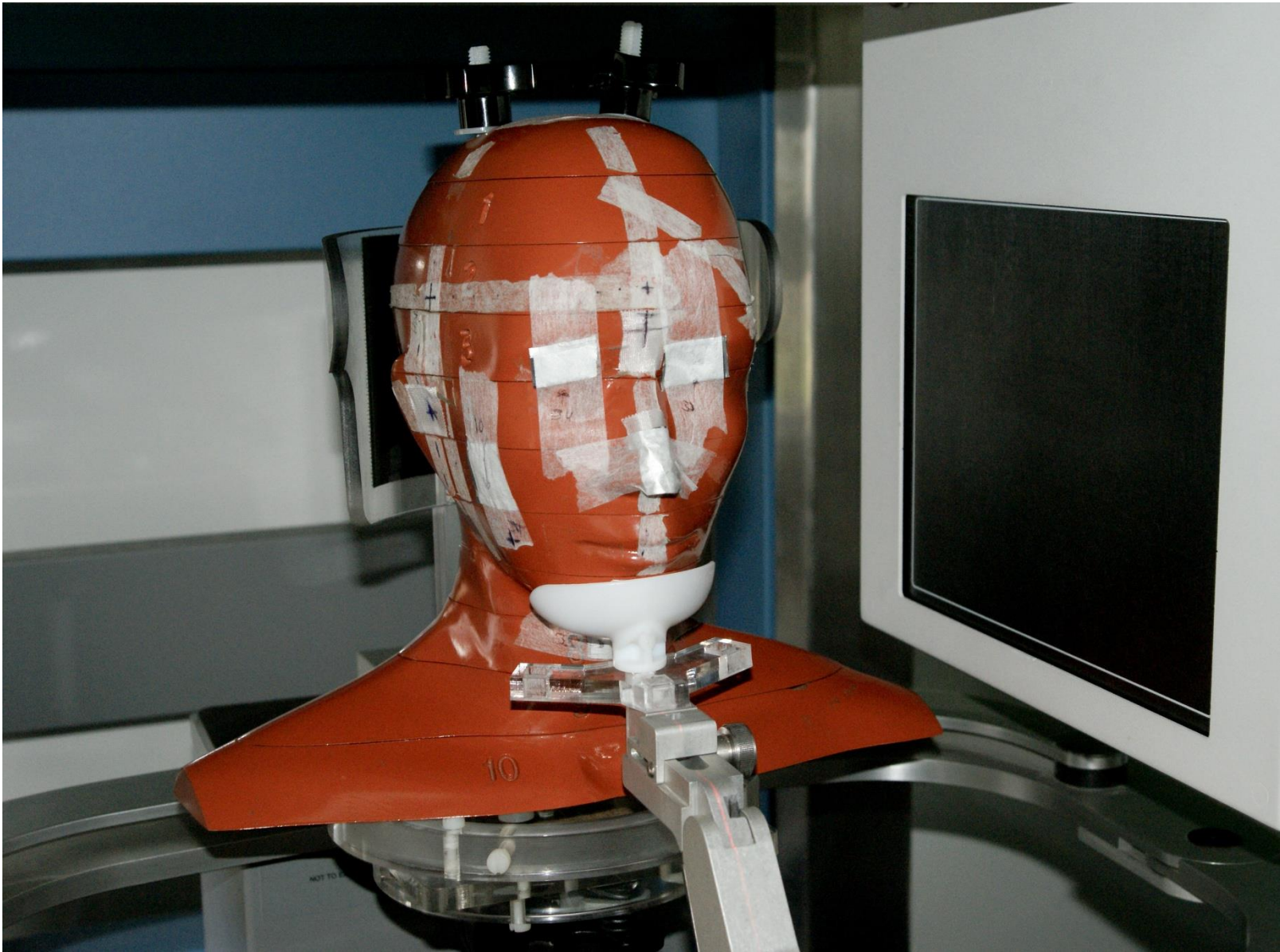
$H_T$  = Organ Equivalent Dose

$w_T$  = Tissue weighting factor

**Unit = (Sv) Sievert**

Effective Dose is proportional to  
risk of fatal cancer

	$w_T$ value ICRP103
<i>Brain</i>	0.01
<i>Salivary glands</i>	0.01
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Colon	0.12
Ovary	0.08
Bladder	0.04
Testes	0.08
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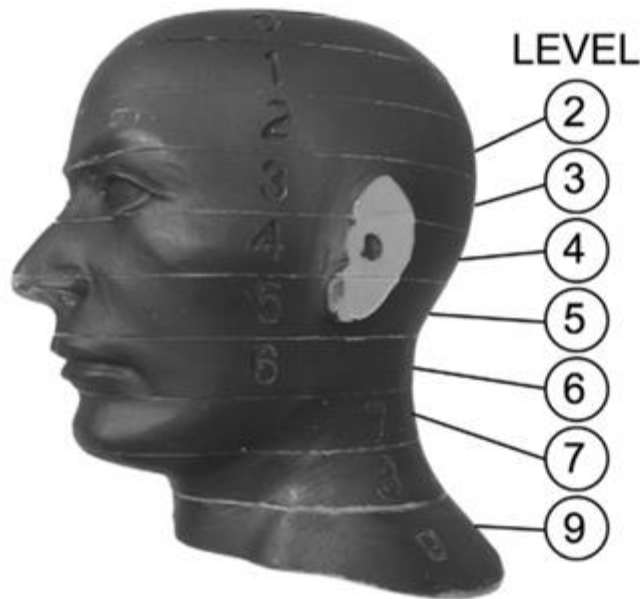


Fig. 1. Adult skull and tissue-equivalent phantom (Rando). Levels correspond to TLD dosimeter sites identified in Table 2.

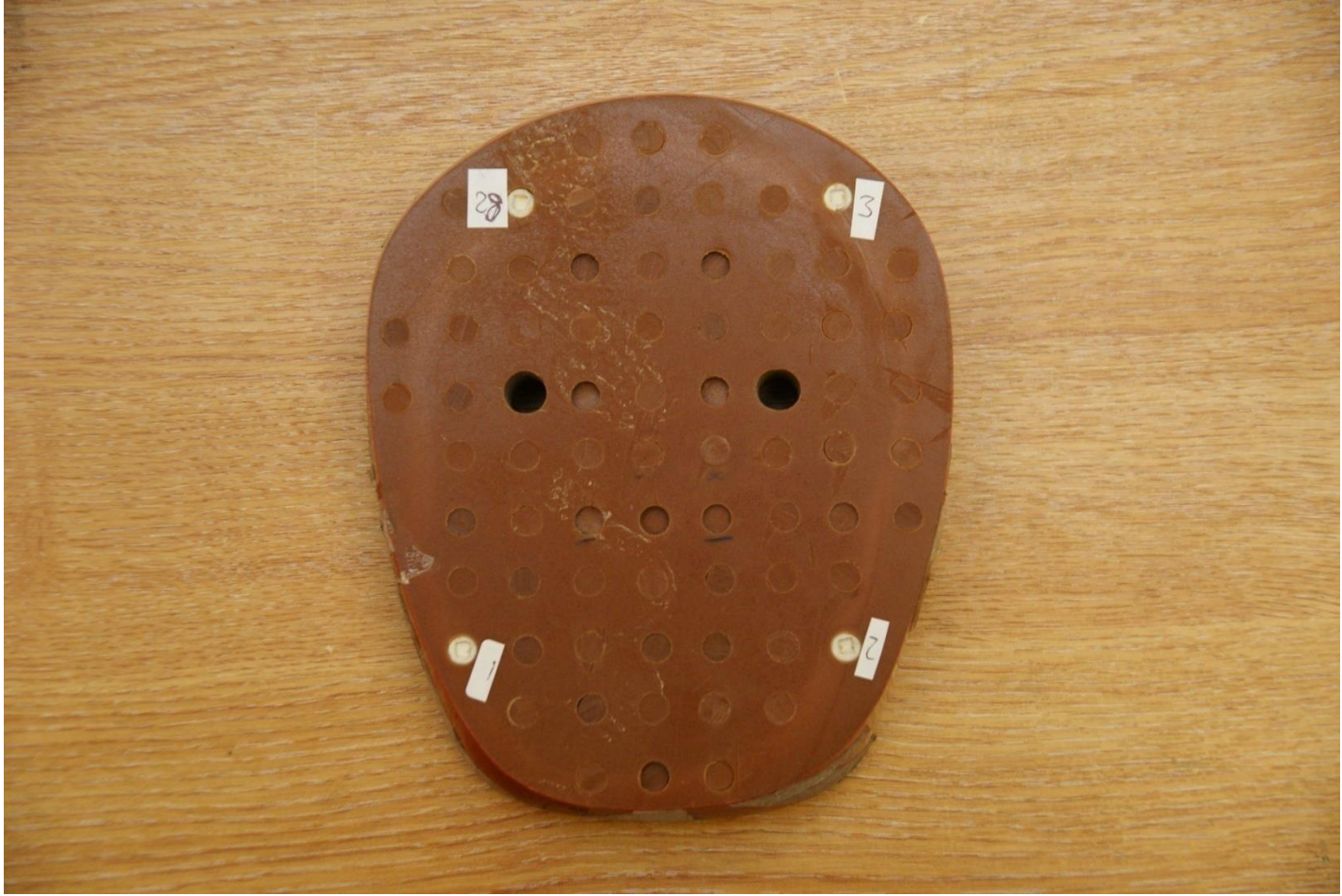
**Table II.** Locations of TLD chips in Rando phantom

<i>Phantom location</i>	<i>TLD ID</i>
Calvarium anterior (2)	1
Calvarium left (2)	2
Calvarium posterior (2)	3
Midbrain (2)	4
Pituitary (3)	5
Right orbit (4)	6
Left orbit (4)	7
Right lens of eye (3)	8
Left lens of eye (3)	9
Right cheek (5)	10
Right parotid (6)	11
Left parotid (6)	12
Right ramus (6)	13
Left ramus (6)	14
Center cervical spine (6)	15
Left back of neck (7)	16
Right mandible body (7)	17
Left mandible body (7)	18
Right submandibular gland (7)	19
Left submandibular gland (7)	20
Center sublingual gland (7)	21
Midline thyroid (9)	22
Thyroid surface—left (9)	23
Esophagus (9)	24

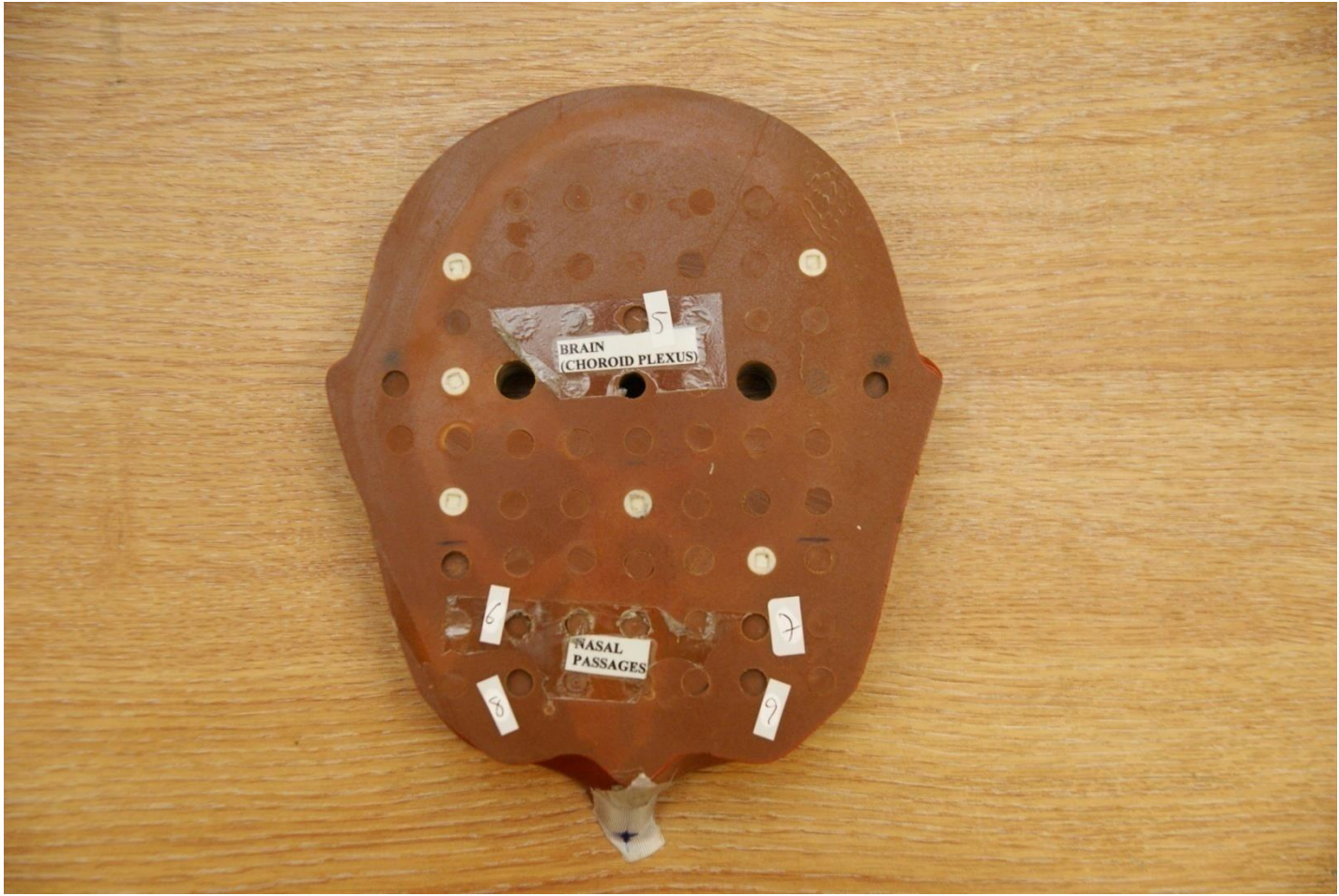
*TLD*, Thermoluminescent dosimeter; *Rando*, radiation analog do-













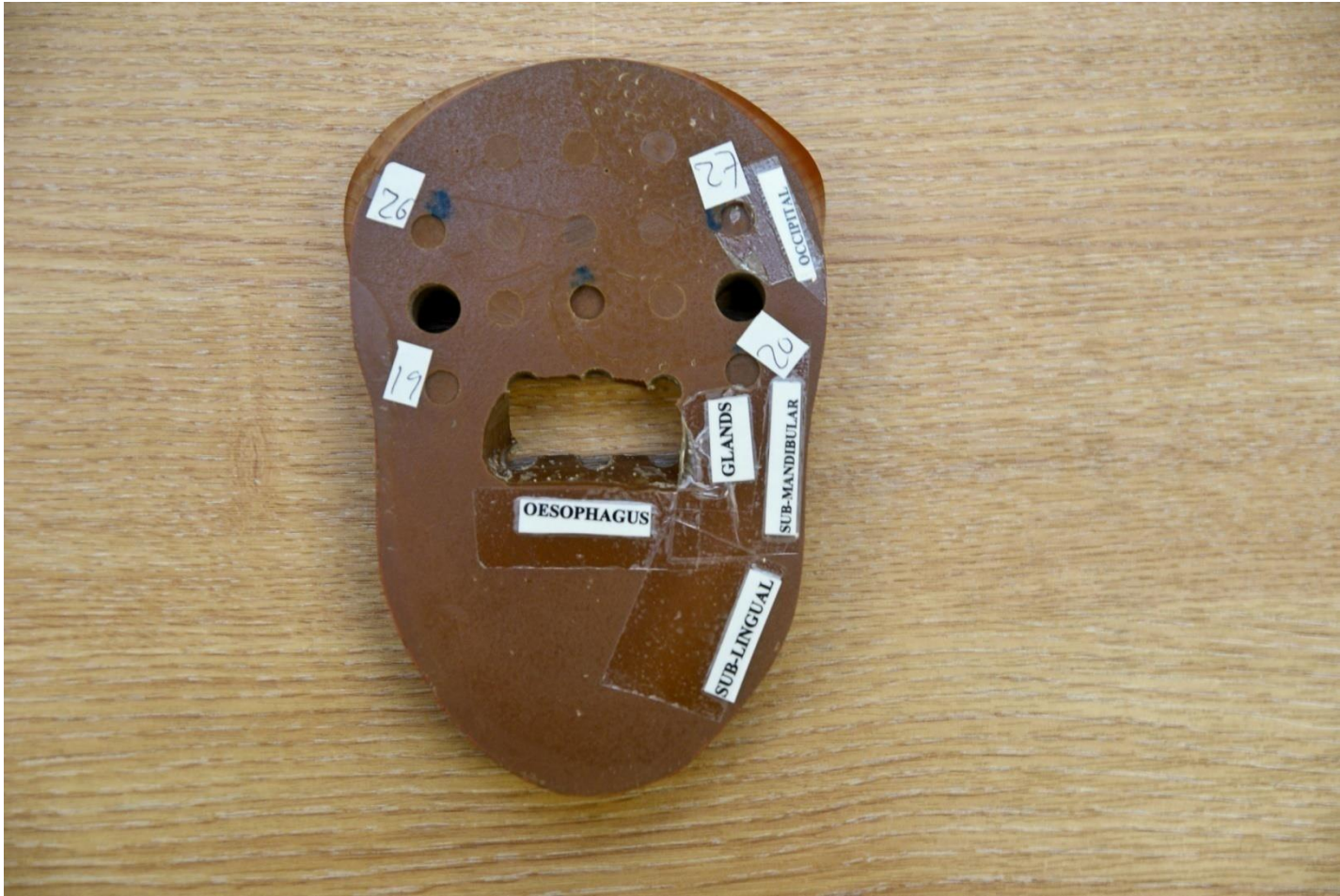
BRAIN (CEREBELLUM)  
30

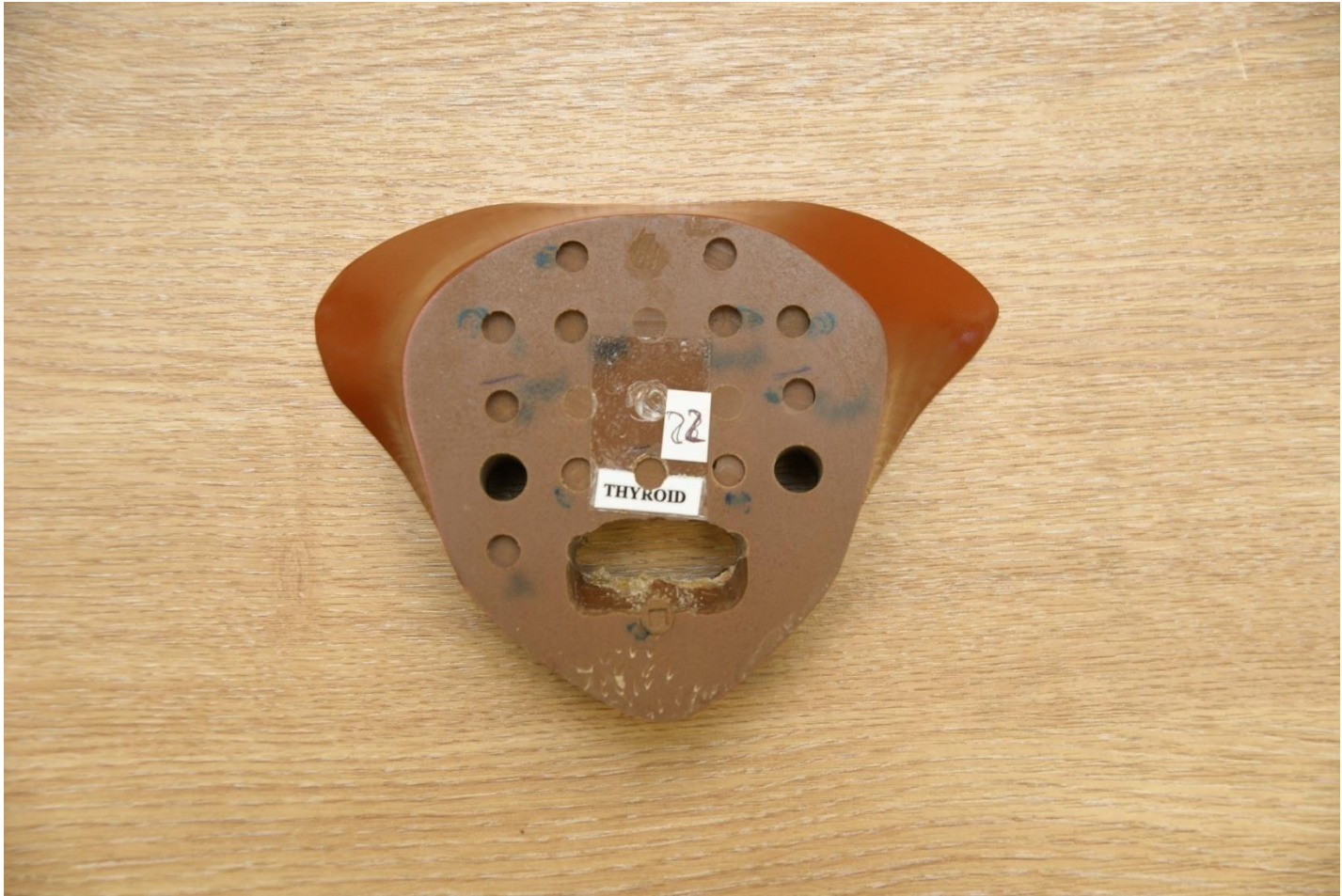
MIDBRAIN

29 ↓

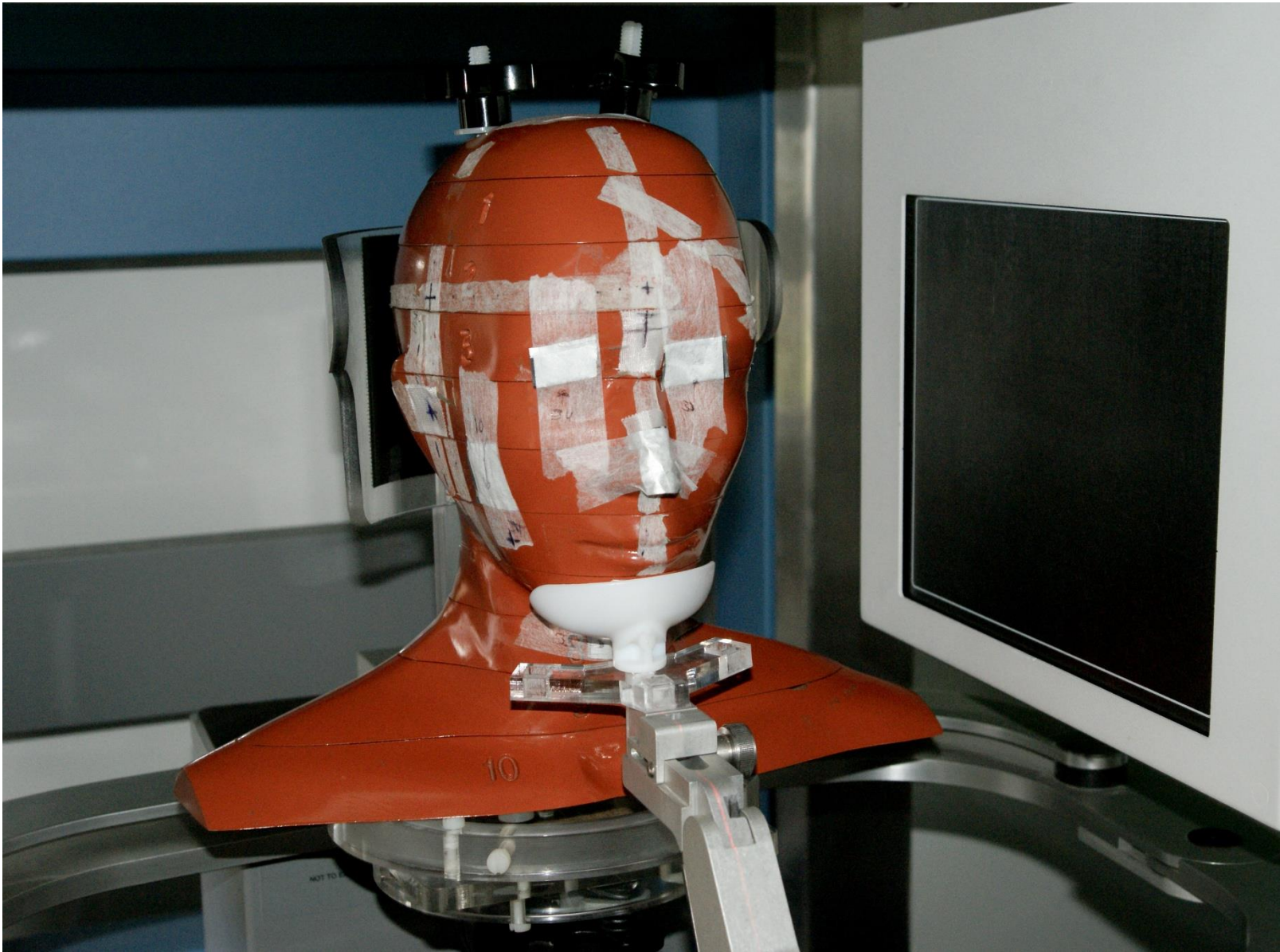












## Effective Dose (E)

$$E = \sum_T H_T w_T$$

$H_T$  = Organ Equivalent Dose

$w_T$  = Tissue weighting factor

**Unit = (Sv) Sievert**

Effective Dose is proportional to  
risk of fatal cancer

	$w_T$ value ICRP103
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Ovary	0.08
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Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## European Journal of Radiology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ejrad](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejrad)



### Effective dose range for dental cone beam computed tomography scanners

Ruben Pauwels<sup>a,\*</sup>, Jilke Beinsberger<sup>a,1</sup>, Bruno Collaert<sup>b,2</sup>, Chrysoula Theodorakou<sup>c,d,3</sup>,  
Jessica Rogers<sup>e,3</sup>, Anne Walker<sup>c,3</sup>, Lesley Cockmartin<sup>f,4</sup>, Hilde Bosmans<sup>f,5</sup>, Reinhilde Jacobs<sup>a,6</sup>,  
Ria Bogaerts<sup>g,7</sup>, Keith Horner<sup>d,8</sup>, The SEDENTEXCT Project Consortium<sup>9</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Oral Imaging Center, School of Dentistry, Oral Pathology and Maxillofacial Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium

<sup>b</sup> Center for Periodontology and Implantology, Heverlee, Belgium

<sup>c</sup> North Western Medical Physics, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust, Manchester Academic Health Sciences Centre, UK

<sup>d</sup> School of Dentistry, University of Manchester, Manchester Academic Health Sciences Centre, UK

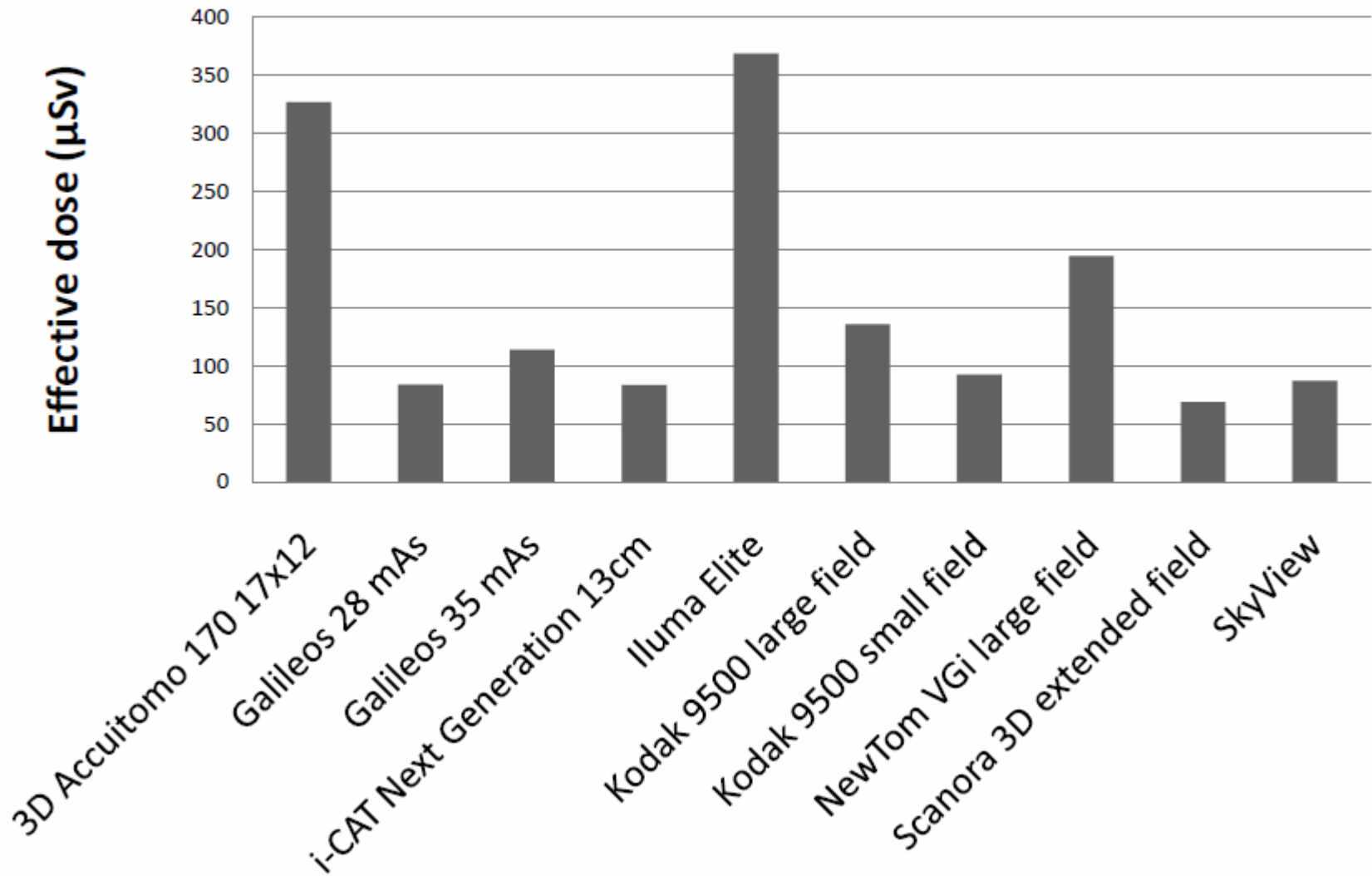
<sup>e</sup> School of Medicine, University of Manchester, Manchester Academic Health Sciences Centre, UK

<sup>f</sup> Department of Radiology, University Hospital Gasthuisberg, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>g</sup> Department of Experimental Radiotherapy, University Hospital Gasthuisberg, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

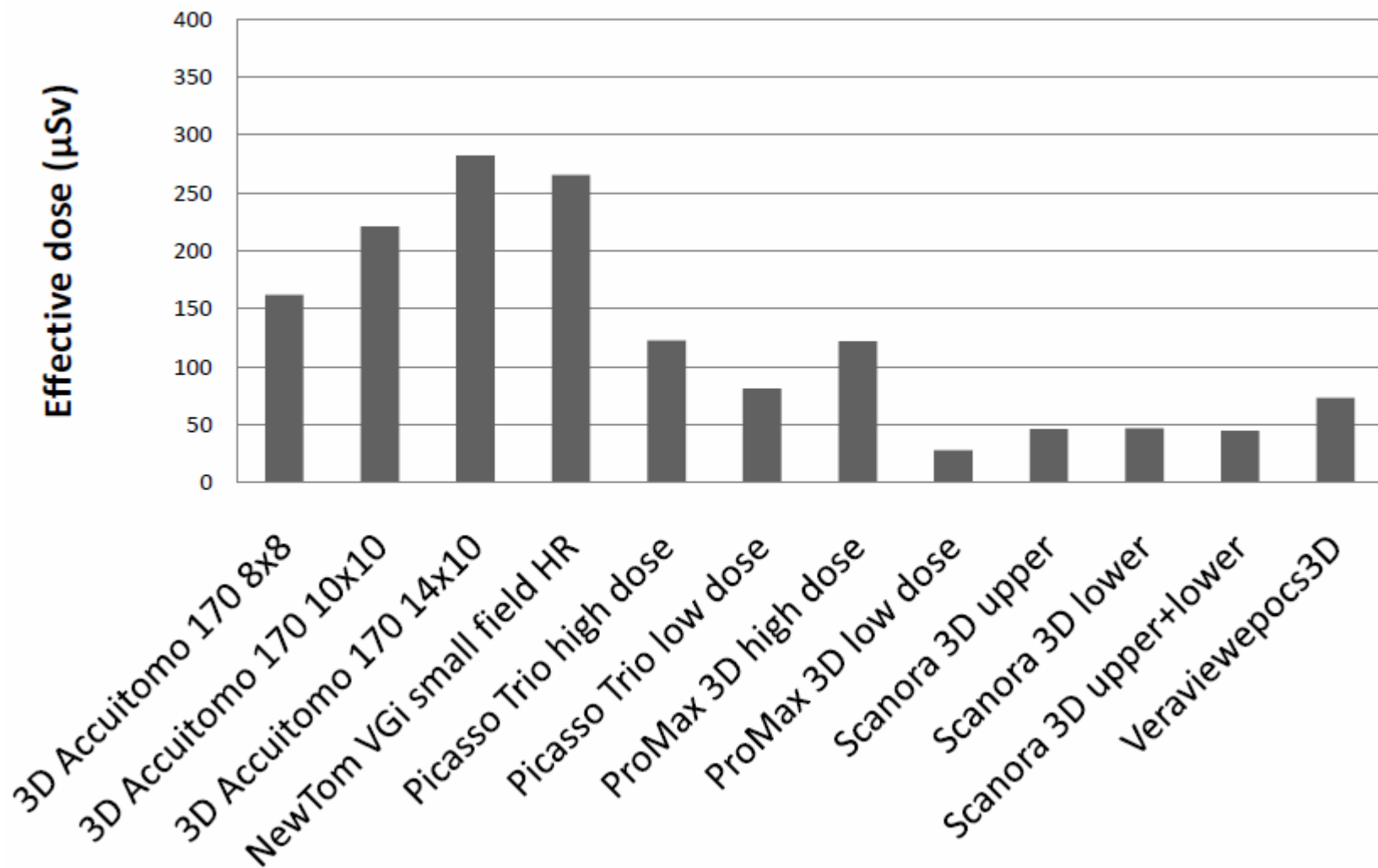
Eur J Radiol 81,2,267-271 (February 2012)

# Effective dose for large field CBCTs



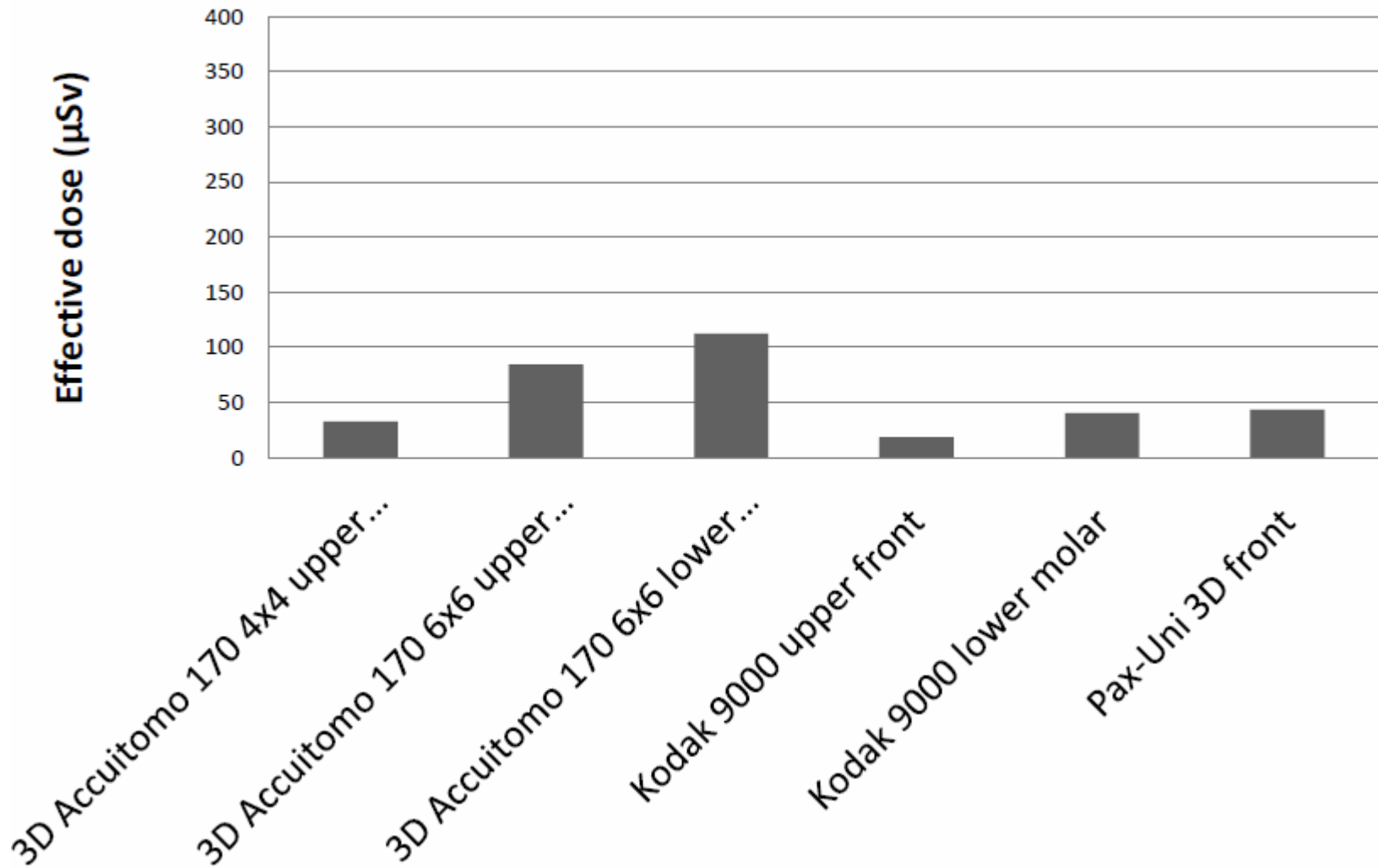
Prof. Ria Bogaerts, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, March 2011

# Effective dose for medium field CBCTs

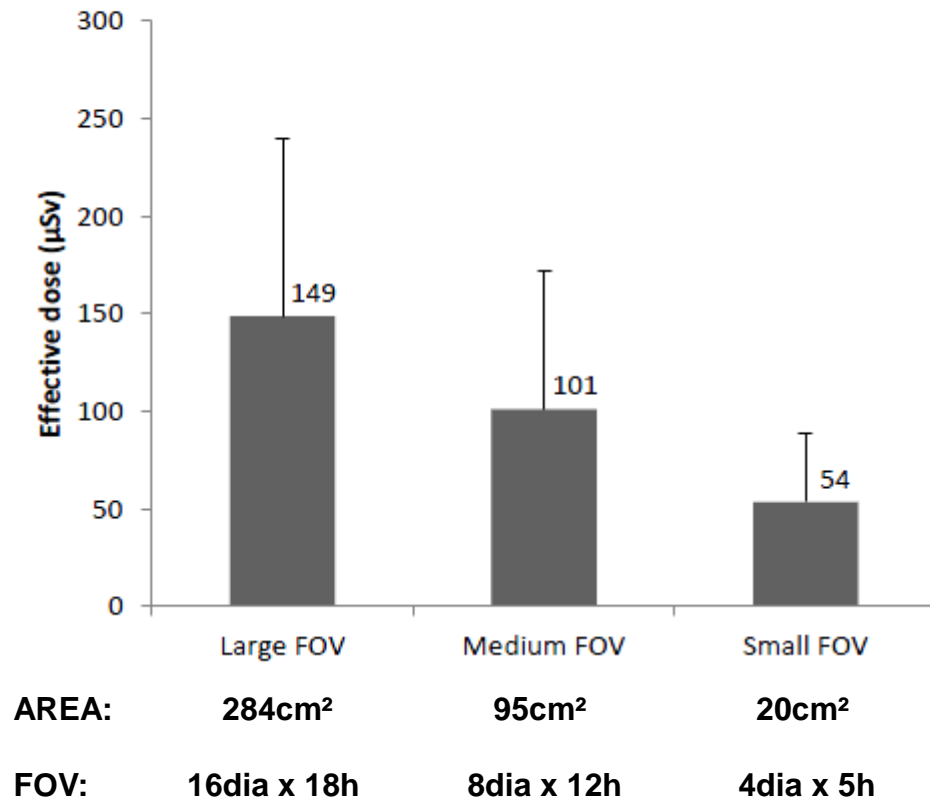




# Effective dose for small field CBCTs



**Figure 5.1: Bar chart showing the effective doses associated with a range of CBCT scanners, classified according to FOV. Adapted from Pauwels et al (2012).**



# ***Estimating Effective Dose in practice***

**We can't measure the Effective Dose for every patient**

**The SEDENTEXCT paper doesn't cover every situation**

**SO**

**We need a practical way to calculate the Effective Dose.**

# *How can we calculate the Effective Dose?*

**kVp, mA, scan duration (s)**

- can only use these to compare doses on the same machine

**Dose Length Product (DLP)**

- works very well for medical CT

**Dose Area Product (DAP)**

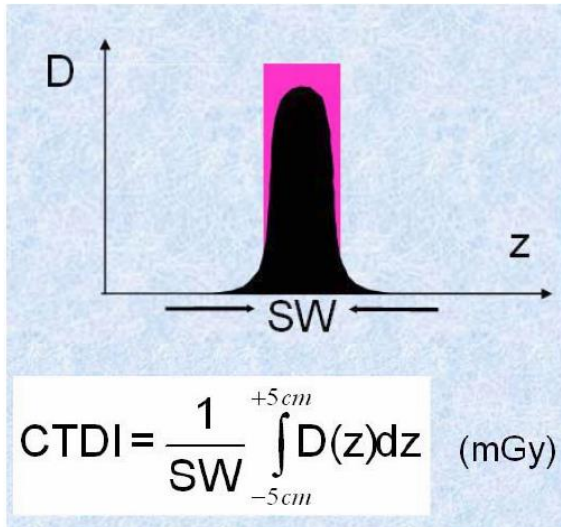
- works reasonably well for cone beam CT

# Dose Length Product (DLP)

**CTDI<sub>vol</sub>** is the dose per cm

**DLP = CTDI<sub>vol</sub> x Irradiated Length**

**Effective Dose = DLP x F** (where F is a conversion factor)



- works well for medical CT
- most CBCT manufacturers don't display CTDI<sub>vol</sub> (exception: J.Morita Accuitomo and Veraviewepocs)

# Conversion Factor F

**Tab. 3.1**  
Average values  $f_{mean}$  of conversion factor (in mSv/mGy·cm) to convert from dose free-in-air on the axis of rotation into effective dose for different regions of the body and patient groups (beam quality: 125 kV, 9 mm Al-equivalent); demarcation of the body regions was made according to (Hidajat96/2) (see also fig. 3.1 - 3.3).

Body region	Adults		Children (7 year-old)		Babies (8 week-old)	
	(female)	(male)	(female)	(male)	(female)	(male)
Head	0.0022	0.0020	0.0028	0.0028	0.0075	0.0074
Neck	0.0051	0.0047	0.0056	0.0055	0.018	0.017
Chest	0.0090	0.0068	0.018	0.015	0.032	0.027
Upper abdomen	0.010	0.0091	0.020	0.016	0.036	0.034
Pelvis (*)	0.011	0.0062	0.018	0.011	0.045	0.025
Entire abdomen (*)	0.010	0.0072	0.019	0.014	0.041	0.031

Table from “Radiation Exposure in Computed Tomography” edited by Hans Dieter Nagel  
F can also be calculated from ImPACT CT Dosimetry calculator [www.impactscan.org](http://www.impactscan.org)

Roughly speaking,  $F = 0.002 \text{ mSv} / \text{mGy}\cdot\text{cm}$  for Maxilla and  $0.003 \text{ mSv} / \text{mGy}\cdot\text{cm}$  for Mandible  
 $2 \mu\text{Sv}$   $3 \mu\text{Sv}$

Accuracy:  $\pm 50\%$

# Effective Dose for Medical CT Scanners

```
Patient ID : 15625528      Study ID : 6021
Sex : F                   Patient's Birth Date : 1952.07.20
Patient's Age : 58Y
Image Comment :

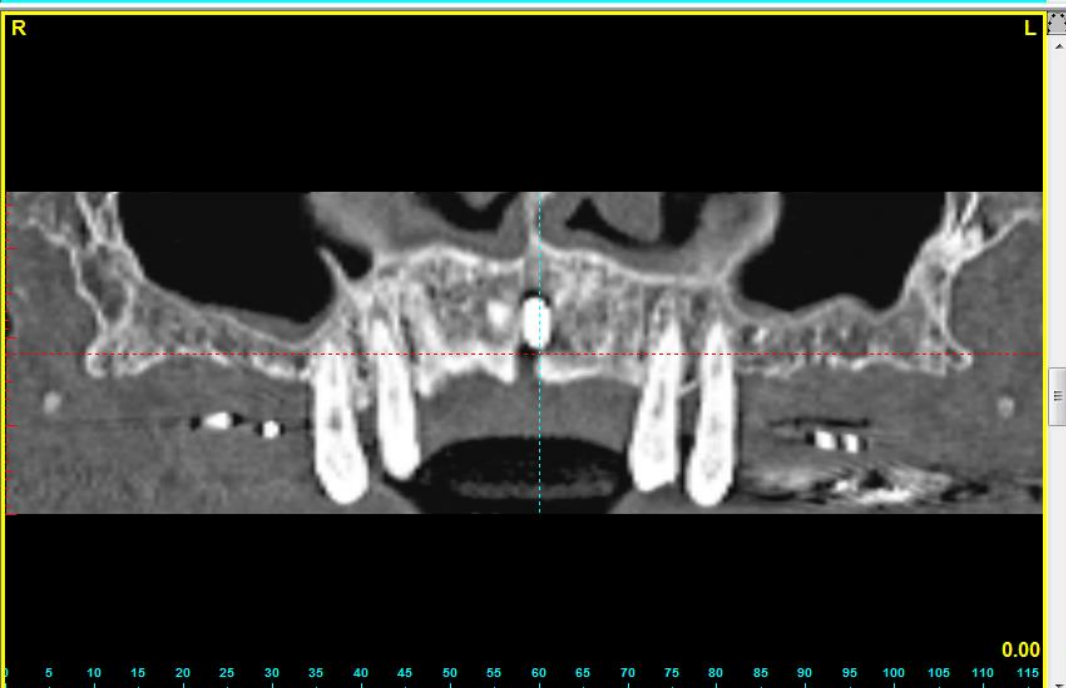
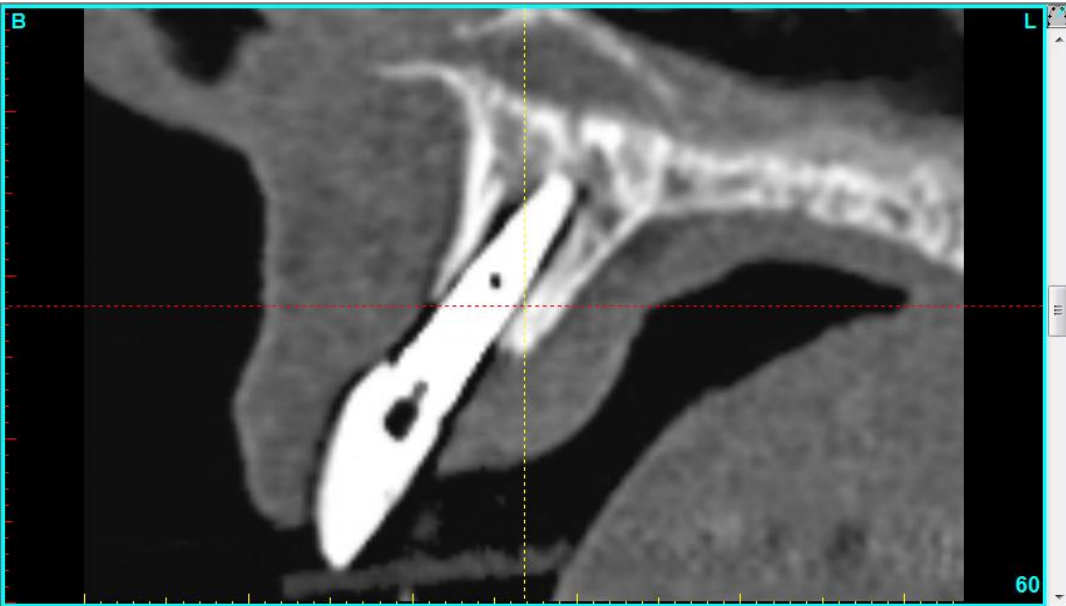
Study Date : 2011.06.30
Body Part :
Contrast Enhance : NONE
Contrast/Bolus Volume :   Contrast density :
Requesting Service :
Referring Physician's Name :
Name of Physician Reading Study :
Operators Name :
Total mAs in Study :    652
Total Scan time in Study : 10.85
Total DLP mGycm : 64.00
Total slice : 5
Scanning Sequence : HELICAL_CT
```

**Multiply DLP by 2 for Maxilla or 3 for Mandible  
to get the Effective Dose in microSieverts ( $\mu\text{Sv}$ )**

**Accuracy:  $\pm 50\%$**

**Mx 128 $\mu\text{Sv}$**

**ROUGHLY**



**Medical CT 128 $\mu$ Sv**



# ***IDT Physics Report***

*Patient ID* 23416

*Gender* Male

*Date of Birth* 1953-06-12

*Scanning Date* 2012-08-16

*Region Scanned* Maxilla

*Reason for Scan* Proximity of implant to incisive canal

*Scanning Site* Bath Clinic

*Equipment* Toshiba Aquilion (64 slice)

*Scan Duration* 12 seconds

*FOV (diameter)* 15 cm

*FOV (length)* 4.2 cm

*Dose Length Product (DLP)* 64 mGy.cm

*Effective Dose* 128 microSv approx (calculated from DLP)

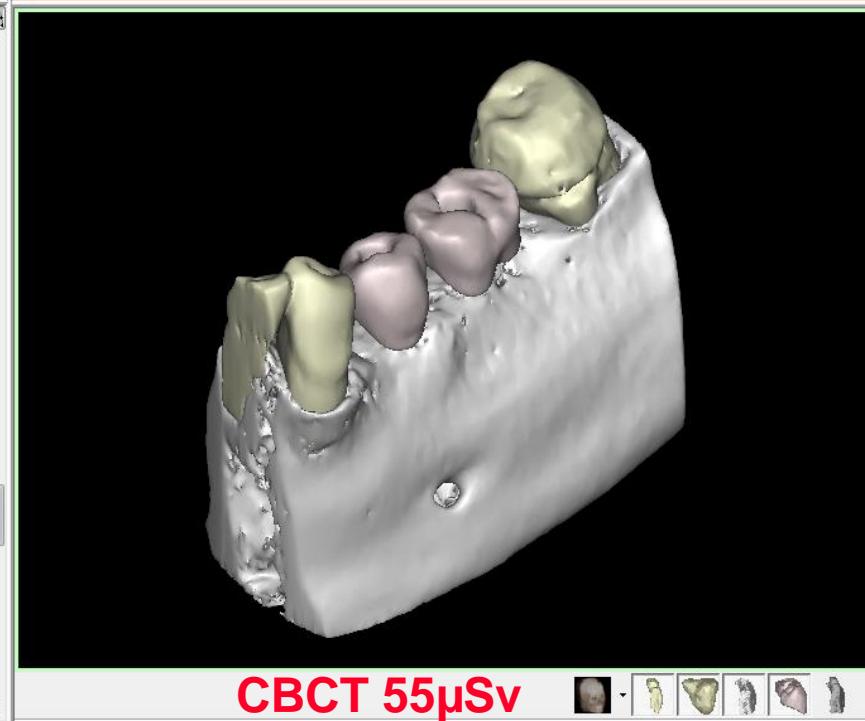
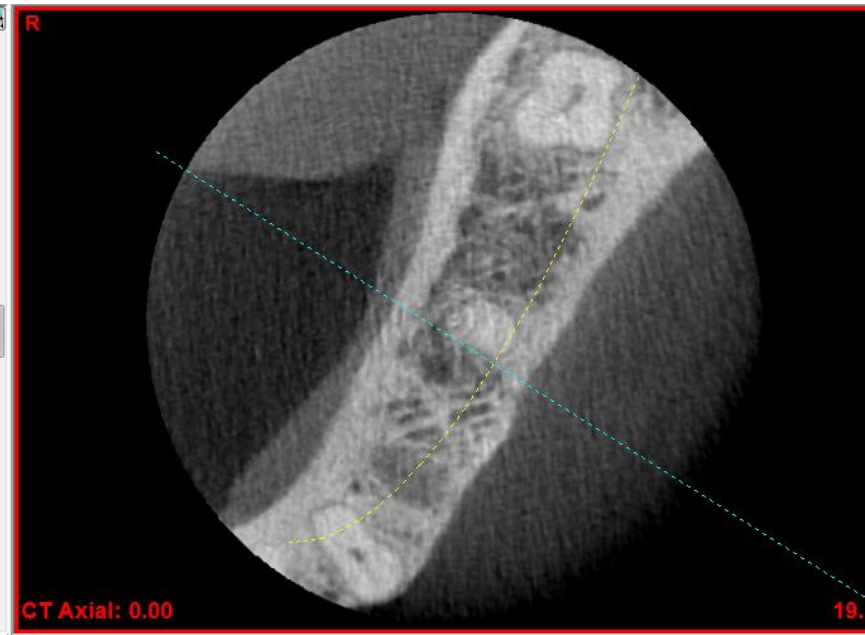
# J.Morita Accuitomo and Veraviewepochs

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0x0018	0x0000	AcquisitionGroupLength	110
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0x0018	0x0060	KVP	90
0x0018	0x1110	DistanceSourceToDet...	842.0
0x0018	0x1111	DistanceSourceToPati...	540.0
0x0018	0x1150	ExposureTime	17
0x0018	0x1151	XRayTubeCurrent	5
0x0018	0x1152	Exposure	86
0x0018	0x9345	CTDIvol	4.6
0x0020	0x0000	ImageGroupLength	644
0x0020	0x0012	AcquisitionNumber	
0x0020	0x0013	InstanceNumber	00000083
0x0020	0x0032	ImagePositionPatient	-20.120000\0-20.120000\0.240000
0x0020	0x0037	ImageOrientationPatient	1.000000\0.000000\0.000000\1.000000\0.000
0x0020	0x1002	ImagesInAcquisition	167
0x0020	0x4000	ImageComments	~INIAGL:0.0dekV:90mA:5.0PR:JAGL:2PIEOD:540.0

**DLP = CTDIvol x Irradiated Length = 4.6mGy x 4cm = 18.4mGy.cm**

**Effective Dose = 18.4 x 3 = 55 microSv**

**ROUGHLY**



# Effective dose range for dental cone beam computed tomography scanners

Ruben Pauwels<sup>a,\*</sup>, Jilke Beinsberger<sup>a,1</sup>, Bruno Collaert<sup>b,2</sup>, Chrysoula Theodorakou<sup>c,d,3</sup>,  
Jessica Rogers<sup>e,3</sup>, Anne Walker<sup>c,3</sup>, Lesley Cockmartin<sup>f,4</sup>, Hilde Bosmans<sup>f,5</sup>, Reinhilde Jacobs<sup>a,6</sup>,  
Ria Bogaerts<sup>g,7</sup>, Keith Horner<sup>d,8</sup>, The SEDENTEXCT Project Consortium<sup>9</sup>

**Table 5**

Absorbed organ dose and effective dose for small FOV (localised) protocols.

	3D Accuitomo 170	Kodak 9000 3D	Kodak 9000 3D	Pax-Uni3D
FOV positioning	Lower jaw, molar region	Upper jaw, front region	Lower jaw, molar region	Upper jaw, front region
Red bone marrow	37	21	78	47
Thyroid	195	30	251	209
Skin	32	25	24	55
Bone surface	37	27	35	49
Salivary glands	2120	523	709	1073
Brain	37	18	290	28
Remainder	70	74	86	146
Effective dose	43	19	40	44

# Cone Beam Computed Tomography radiation dose and image quality assessments

Sara Lofthag-Hansen

Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology  
Institute of Odontology at Sahlgrenska Academy



UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG



Gothenburg 2010

**Table 5.** Most commonly used exposure parameters in three specified regions and corresponding dose-area product (DAP) value and effective dose according to ICRP 60 (1991)

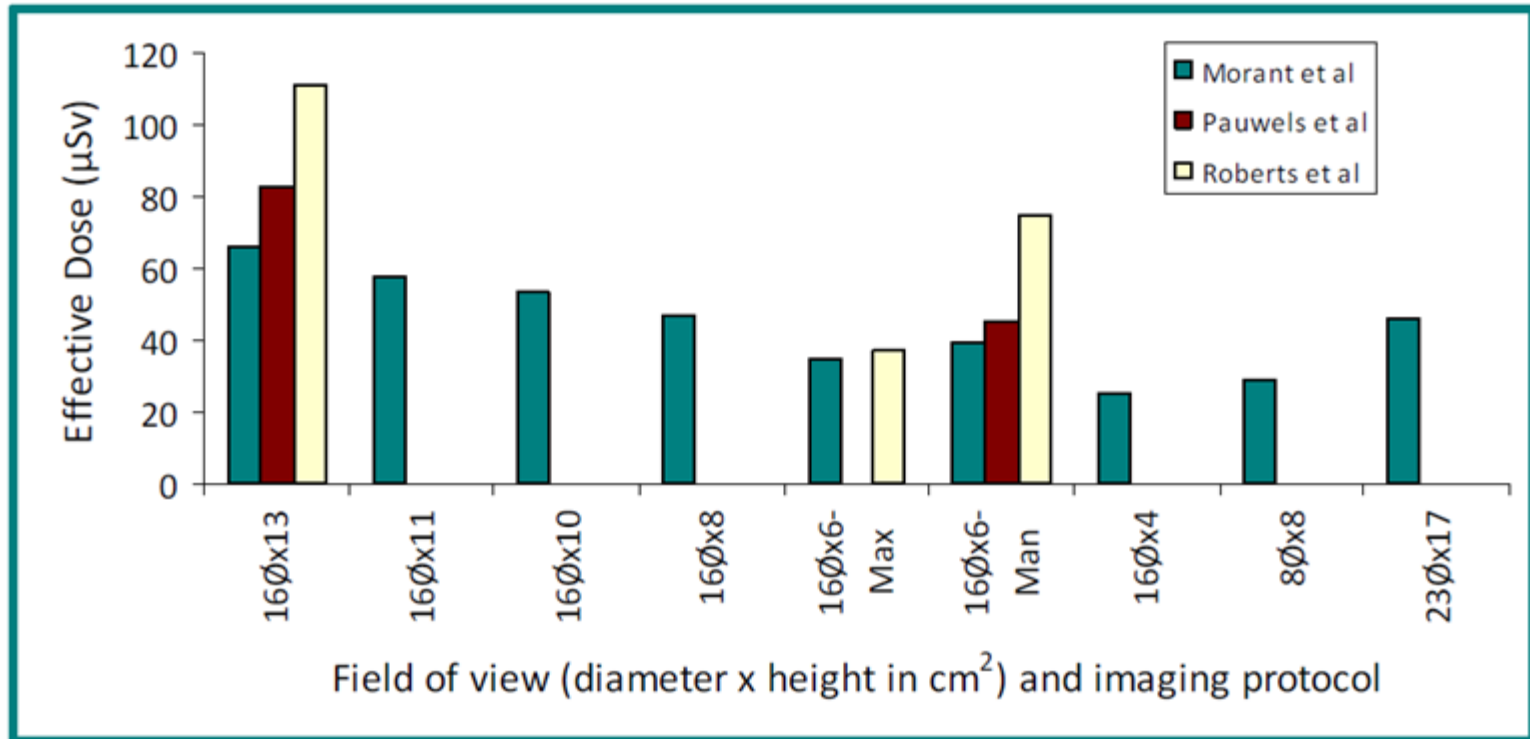
<i>Region</i>	<i>Volume size (mm x mm)</i>	<i>Tube voltage (kV)</i>	<i>Tube current (mA)</i>	<i>DAP value (mGy cm<sup>2</sup>)</i>	<i>Effective dose (μSv)</i>
Upper jaw					
Cuspid	30 x 40	80	5.0–6.0	263–316	21–25
	40 x 40	75	4.0–5.0	260–325	21–26
	60 x 60	75	4.5–5.5	645–788	52–63
Lower jaw					
Second premolar–first molar	30 x 40	75–80	3.0–6.0	140–316	11–25
	40 x 40	75	4.0–6.0	260–390	21–31
	60 x 60	75	5.0–6.0	716–859	57–69
Lower jaw					
Third molar	30 x 40	75–80	3.0–6.5	140–342	11–27
	40 x 40	75–80	4.0–5.0	260–366	21–29
	60 x 60	75–80	4.5–6.0	645–967	52–77

$$\text{Effective Dose } (\mu\text{Sv}) = 0.08 \times \text{DAP } (\text{mGy.cm}^2)$$

## Results of Monte Carlo calculations

Morant J, Salvadó M, Hernández-Girón I, Casanovas R, Ortega R, Calzado A. Dosimetry of a cone beam CT device for oral and maxillofacial radiology using Monte Carlo techniques and ICRP adult reference computational phantoms. *Dentomaxillofac Radiol*. 2012 Aug 29. [Epub ahead of print]

### i-CAT 17-19



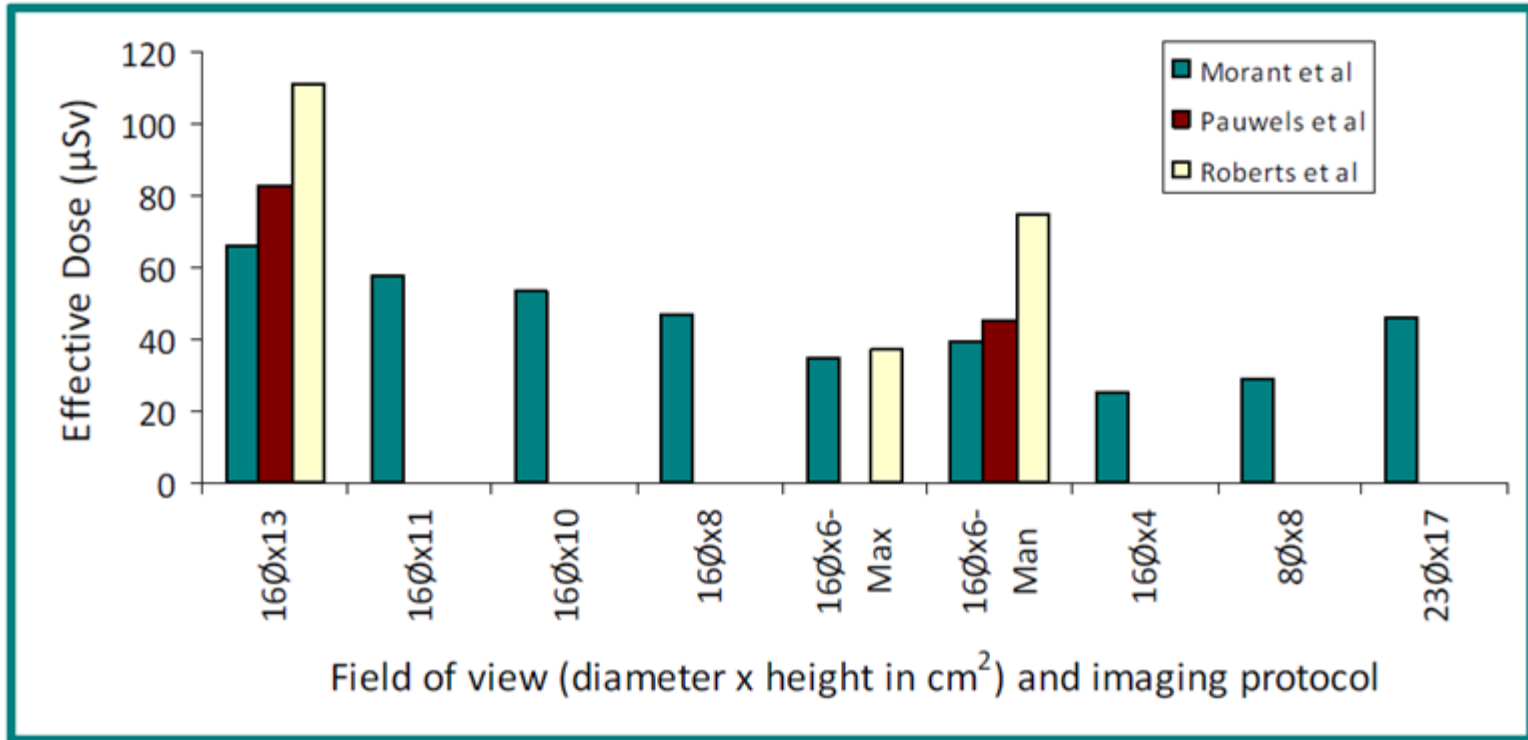
- Effective dose-DAP relationship:
  - ♦  $\text{Effective dose } (\mu\text{Sv}) = 0.130 \times \text{DAP } (\text{mGycm}^2), r^2=0.994$



## Results of Monte Carlo calculations

Morant J, Salvadó M, Hernández-Girón I, Casanovas R, Ortega R, Calzado A. Dosimetry of a cone beam CT device for oral and maxillofacial radiology using Monte Carlo techniques and ICRP adult reference computational phantoms. Dentomaxillofac Radiol. 2012 Aug 29. [Epub ahead of print]

### i-CAT 17-19



- Effective dose-DAP relationship:
  - ♦ Effective dose (µSv) = 0.130 x DAP (mGycm<sup>2</sup>),  $r^2=0.994$

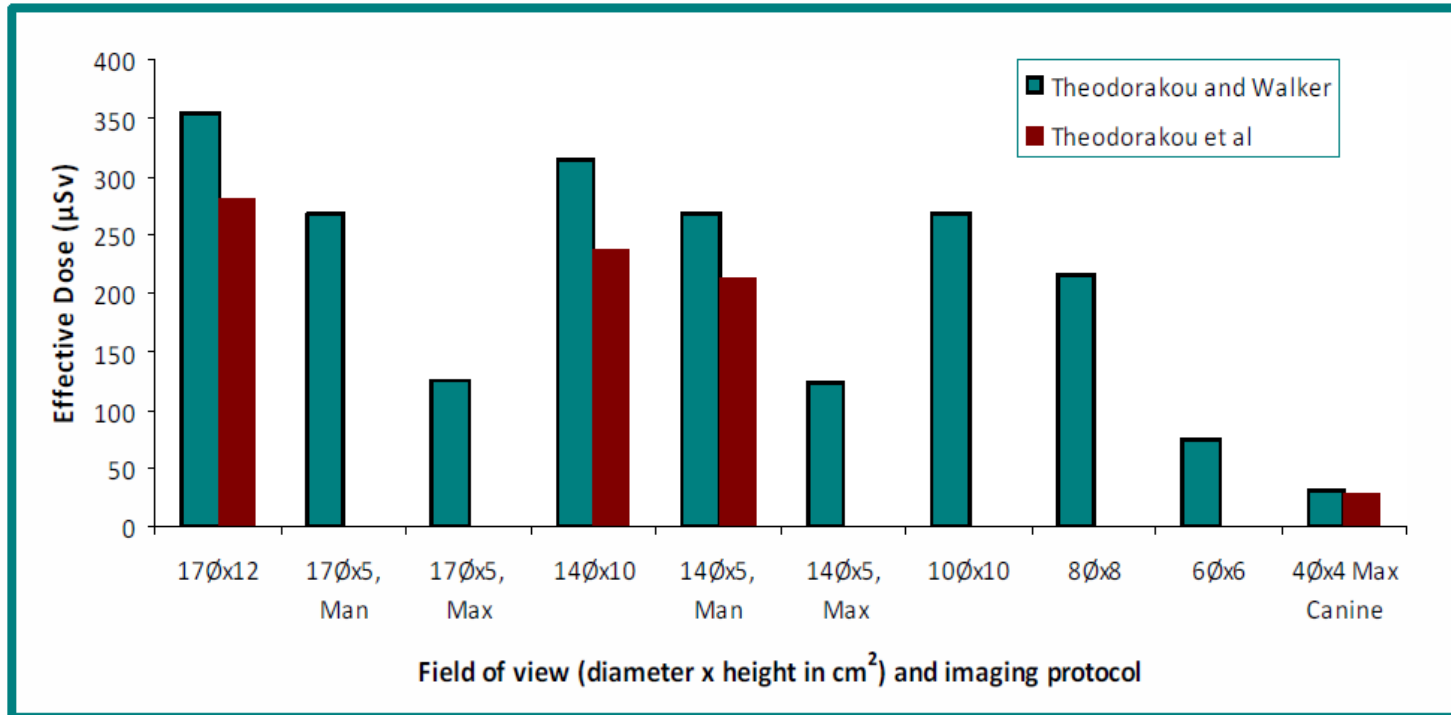




## Results of Monte Carlo calculations

Theodorakou C, Walker A and The SEDENTEXCT Consortium. Paediatric effective and organ dose conversion factors for dental cone beam computed tomography using MCNP5. World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, 26-31 May, Beijing, China

## Accuitomo F170



- Effective dose-DAP relationship:
  - ♦ Effective dose ( $\mu\text{Sv}$ ) =  $0.183 \times \text{DAP}$  ( $\text{mGycm}^2$ ),  $r^2=0.96$
  - ♦ Effective dose ( $\mu\text{Sv}$ ) =  $0.189 \times \text{DAP}$  ( $\text{mGycm}^2$ ),  $r^2=0.76$



slide from presentation by  
Dr Chrysoula Theodorakou, "Dental Cone Beam Computed Tomography", BIR, London, 6 November 2012

# *Dose Area Product (DAP) for Cone Beam CT Scanners*

Patient Name:	Test Dose
Patient ID:	ICU080898Dose
Scan Type:	CT
Scan Date:	16/02/2011
Primary Scan:	302.9 mGy*cm <sup>2</sup>
Number of Previews:	0
Total Preview:	0.0 mGy*cm <sup>2</sup>
Total Study:	302.9 mGy*cm <sup>2</sup>

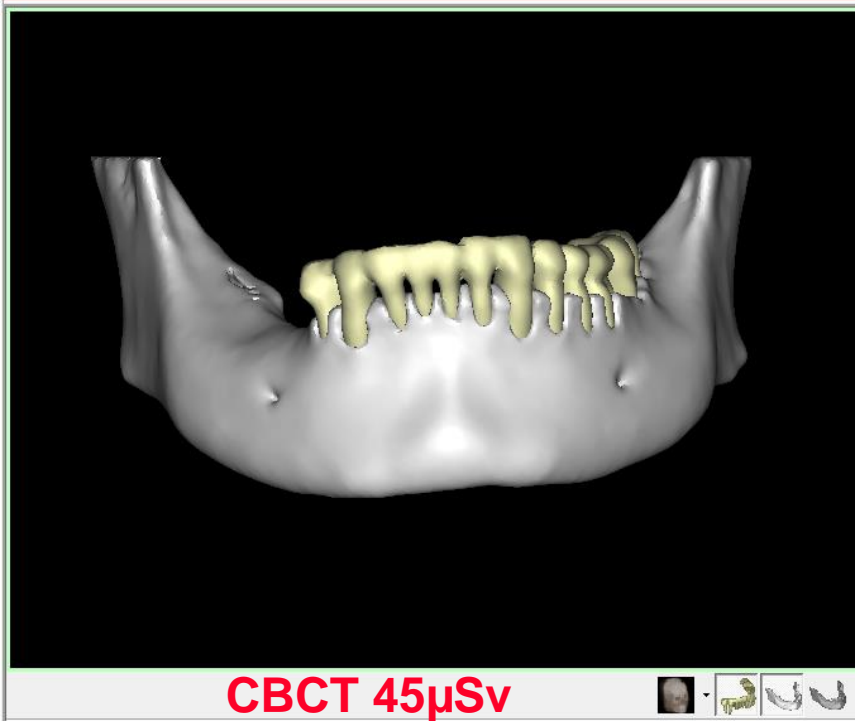
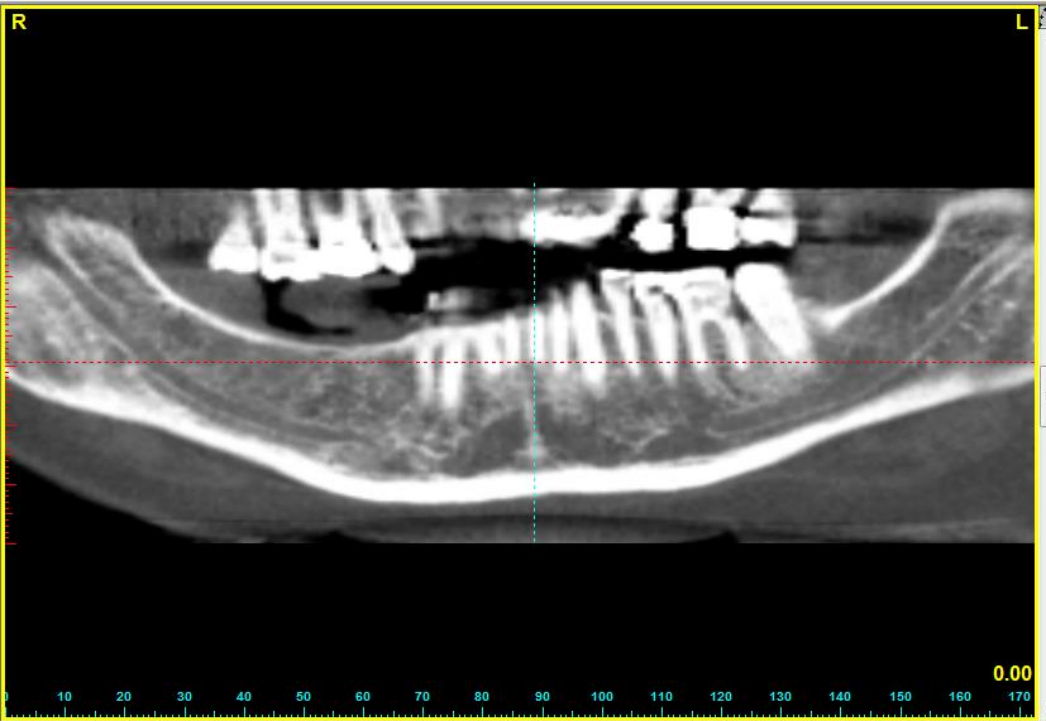
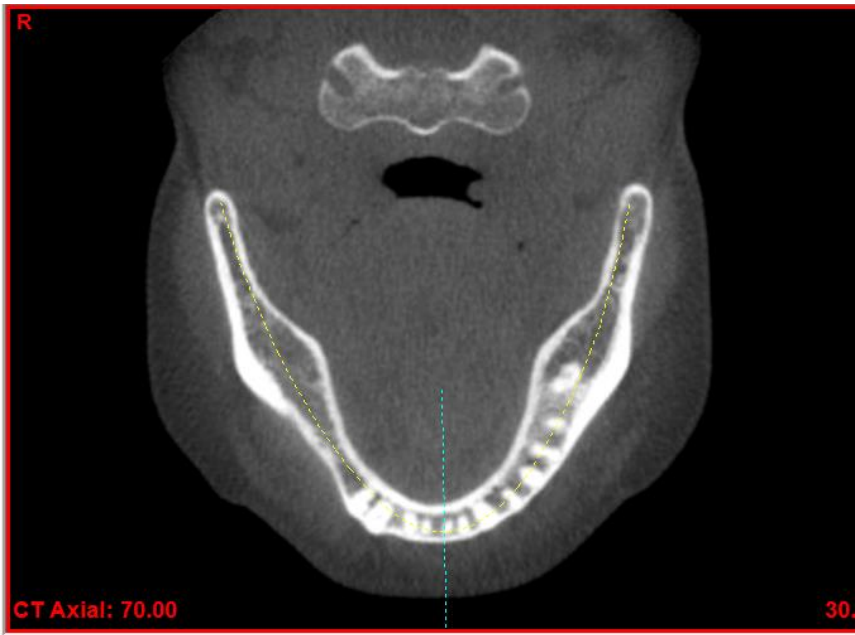
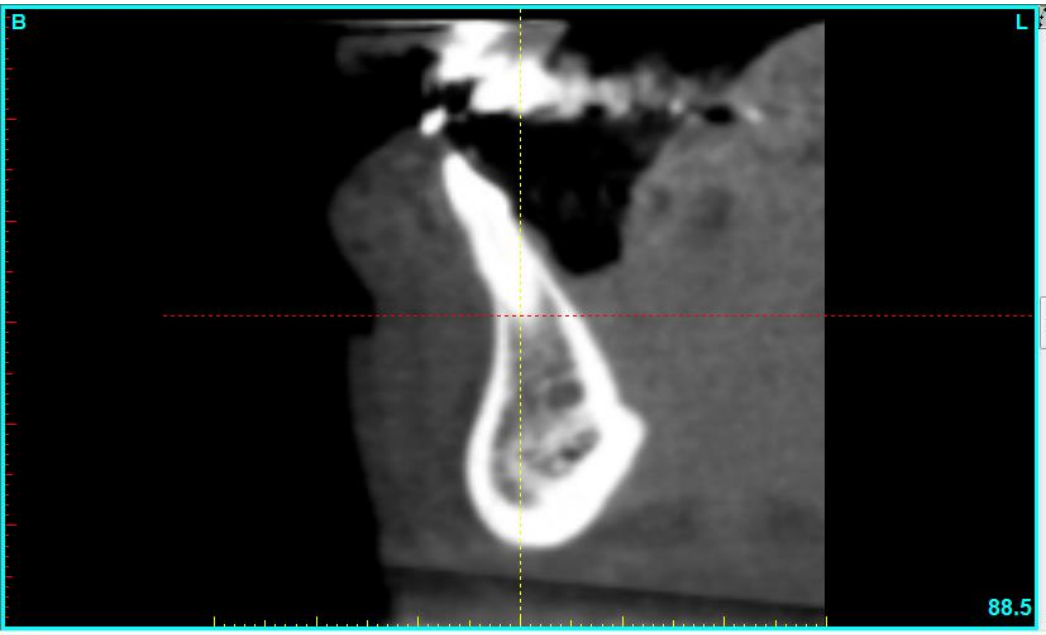
OK

**Multiply DAP by 0.1 for Maxilla or 0.15 for Mandible  
to get the Effective Dose in microSieverts ( $\mu\text{Sv}$ )**

**Accuracy:  $\pm 50\%$**

**Mn  $45\mu\text{Sv}$**

**ROUGHLY**



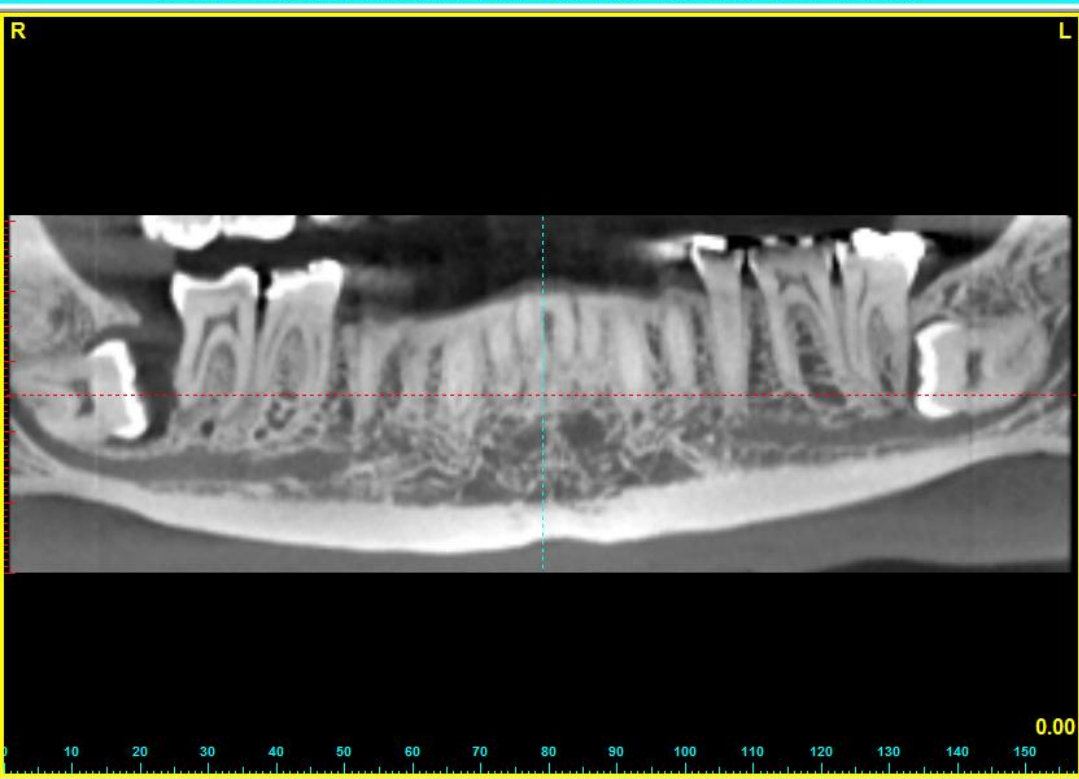
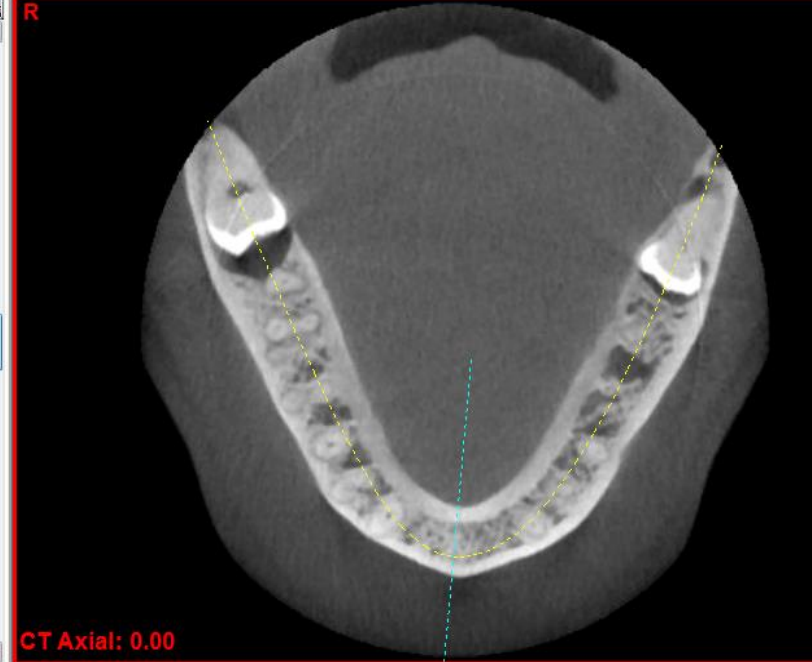
# Effective dose range for dental cone beam computed tomography scanners

Ruben Pauwels<sup>a,\*</sup>, Jilke Beinsberger<sup>a,1</sup>, Bruno Collaert<sup>b,2</sup>, Chrysoula Theodorakou<sup>c,d,3</sup>,  
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 Ria Bogaerts<sup>g,7</sup>, Keith Horner<sup>d,8</sup>, The SEDENTEXCT Project Consortium<sup>9</sup>

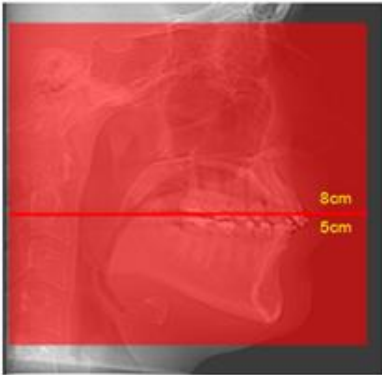
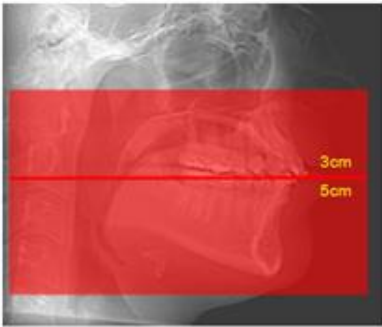
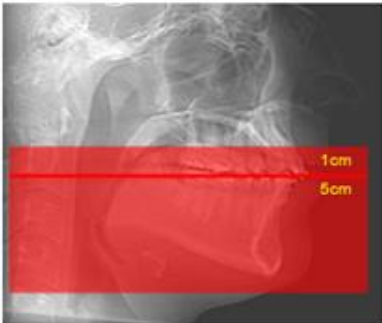
**Table 4**  
 Absorbed organ dose and effective dose for medium FOV (dentoalveolar or single jaw) protocols.

	3D Accuitomo 170	i-CAT N.G.	Kodak 9500	NewTom VGi	Picasso Trio	Picasso Trio	ProMax 3D	ProMax 3D	Scanora 3D	Scanora 3D	Scanora 3D	Veraviewepocs 3D
Protocol <sup>a</sup>	Upper jaw				High dose	Low dose	High dose	Low dose	Upper jaw	Lower jaw	Both jaws	
Red bone marrow	112	33	85	294	126	62	88	27	42	34	37	55
Thyroid	148	251	541	1293	551	583	1021	202	148	352	240	330
Skin	62	25	51	145	113	56	145	15	30	29	31	69
Bone surface	112	33	84	299	156	57	121	26	50	35	39	57
Salivary glands	2138	973	2166	6372	2982	1837	2576	596	1285	1052	1117	1956
Brain	189	46	91	431	134	39	53	28	45	25	31	40
Remainder	85	172	304	881	432	254	346	83	178	147	155	267
Effective dose	54	45	92	265	123	81	122	28	46	47	45	73

<sup>a</sup> If not specified, the positioning of the FOV is dentoalveolar (both jaws).

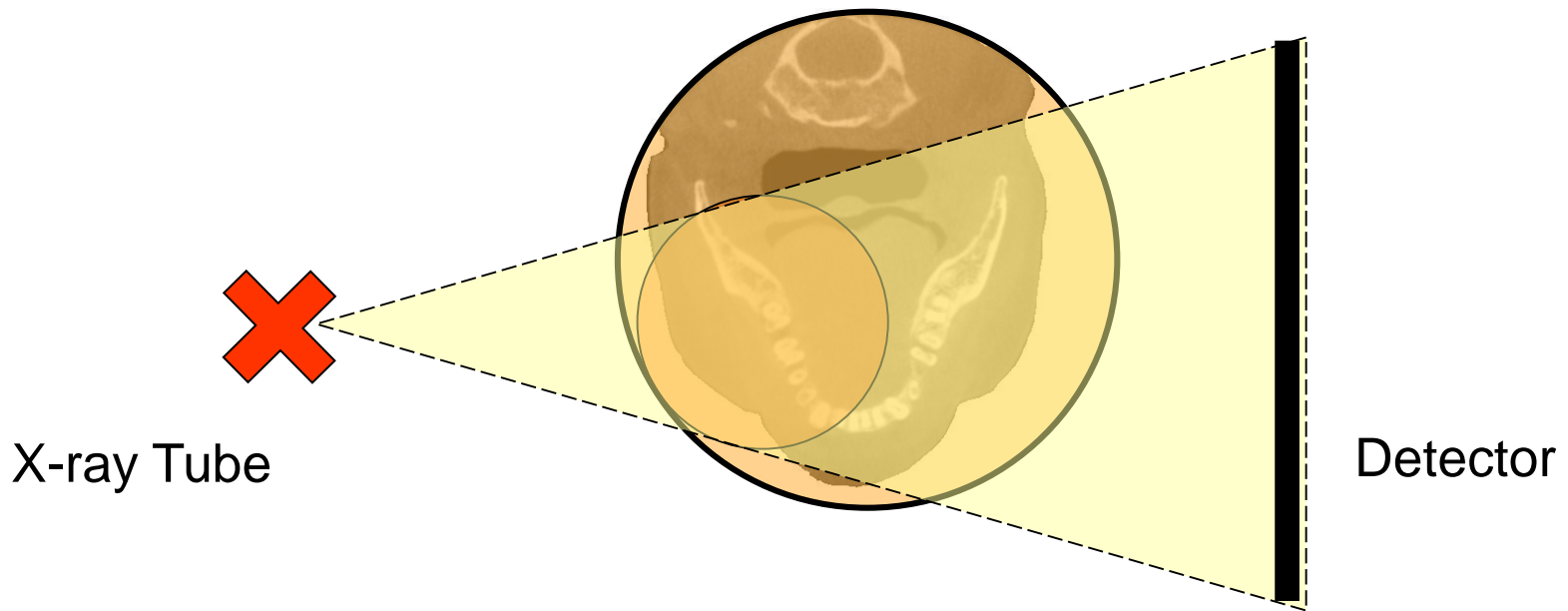


# *Effect of Reducing Beam Height*

	<p><b>Full face</b> 13cm height x 16cm diameter 83 microSieverts *</p>
	<p><b>Both arches</b> 8cm height x 16cm diameter 56 microSieverts (interpolated)</p>
	<p><b>Mandible</b> 6cm height x 16cm diameter 45 microSieverts *</p>

\* From: Pauwels et al, Effective dose range for dental CBCT scanners, Euro J Radiol 81, 2, 267-271, Feb 2012.

# *Effect of Reducing Beam Width*



- Reducing the beam height by 50% reduces the dose by approximately 50%
- Reducing the beam width by 50% reduces the dose by only about 25%

# *Typical Doses from Dental X-Rays\**

**Intraoral** (F speed, rectangular collimator) **2  $\mu$ Sv**

**Intraoral** (E speed, round collimator) **6  $\mu$ Sv**

**Lateral Ceph** **4  $\mu$ Sv**

**Panoramic** **24  $\mu$ Sv<sup>†</sup>**

**Cone Beam CT Scanner** **48 - 1073  $\mu$ Sv<sup>†</sup>**

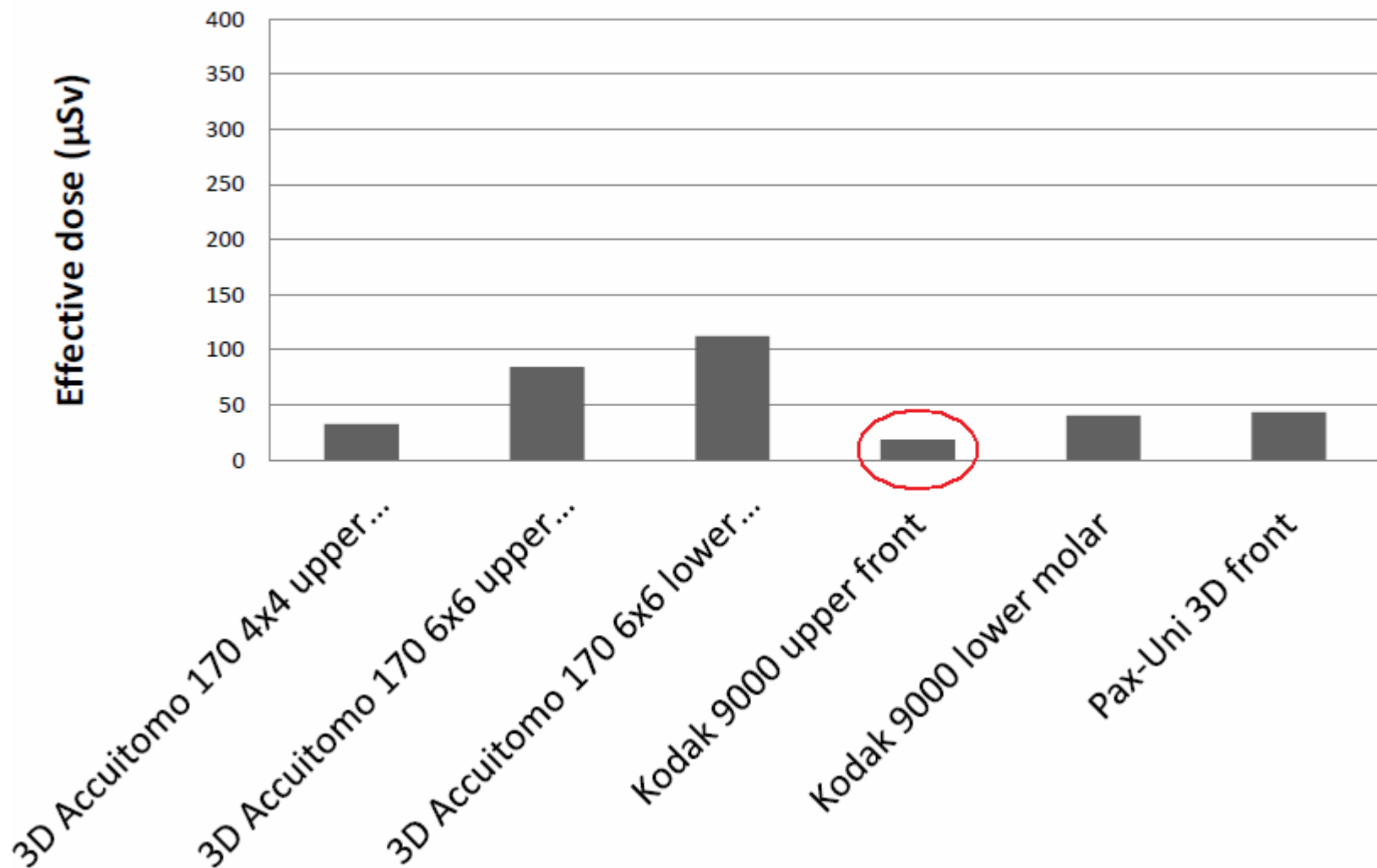
**Medical CT Scanner** **534 - 2100  $\mu$ Sv<sup>†</sup>**

*\*ICRP103 weighting factors*

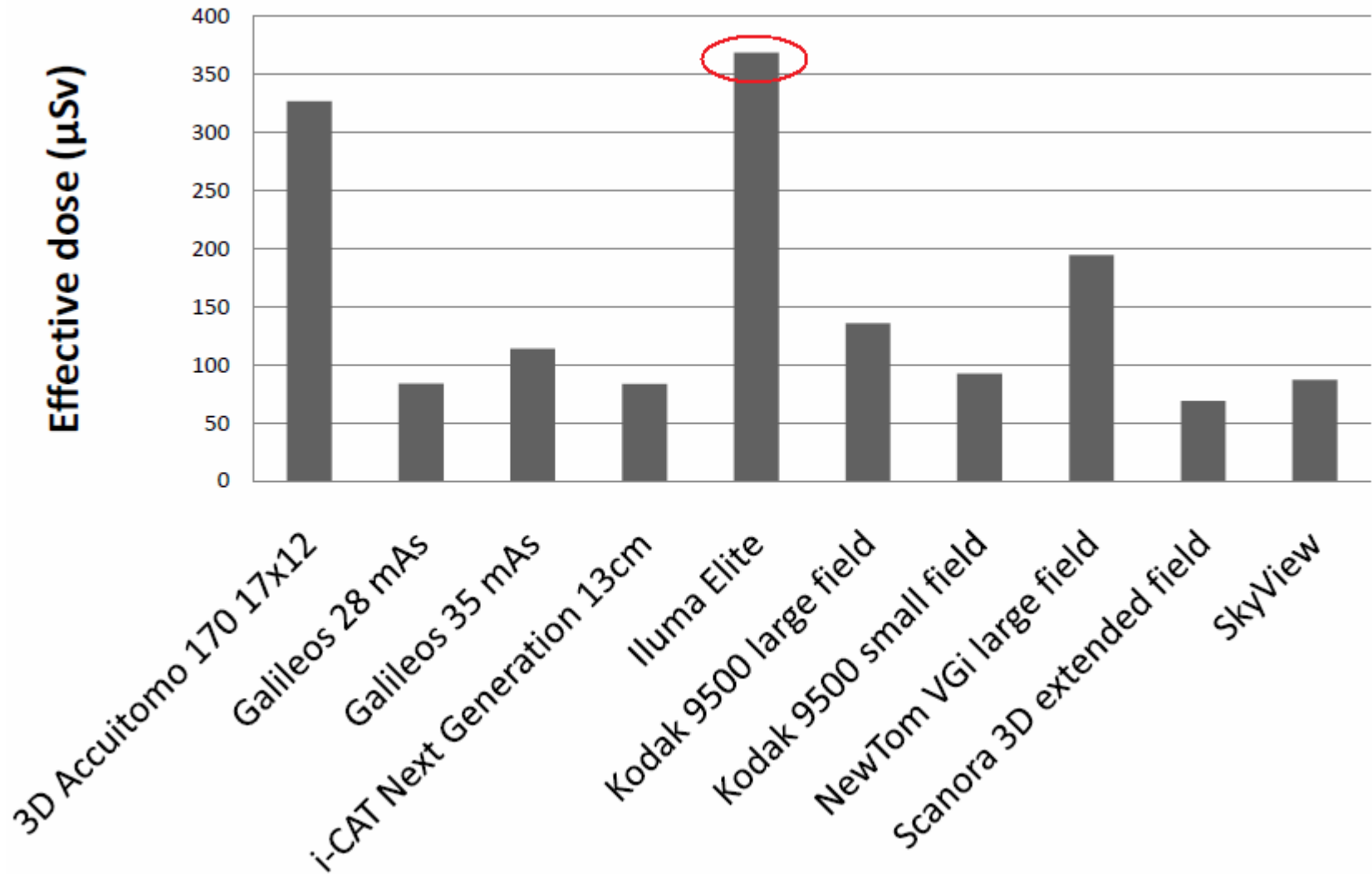
*†Holroyd JR, Gulson AD, Guidance on the Safe Use of Dental Cone Beam CT (Computed Tomography) Equipment, HPA-CRCE-010, November 2010*



# Effective dose for small field CBCTs



# Effective dose for large field CBCTs



# Typical Doses from Dental X-Rays\*

**Intraoral** (F speed, rectangular collimator)

2  $\mu\text{Sv}$

**Intraoral** (E speed, round collimator)

6  $\mu\text{Sv}$

**Lateral Ceph**

10  $\mu\text{Sv}$

**Panoramic**

24  $\mu\text{Sv}^\dagger$

**Cone Beam CT Scanner**

~~20 - 48 - 1073  $\mu\text{Sv}^\dagger$  400~~

**Medical CT Scanner**

534 - 2100  $\mu\text{Sv}^\dagger$

*\*ICRP103 weighting factors*

*†Holroyd JR, Gulson AD, Guidance on the Safe Use of Dental Cone Beam CT (Computed Tomography) Equipment, HPA-CRCE-010, November 2010*

# Typical Doses from Dental X-Rays\*

**Intraoral** (F speed, rectangular collimator)

2  $\mu$ Sv

**Intraoral** (E speed, round collimator)

6  $\mu$ Sv

**Lateral Ceph**

10  $\mu$ Sv

**Panoramic**

24  $\mu$ Sv<sup>†</sup>

**Cone Beam CT Scanner**

~~20 48 - 1073  $\mu$ Sv<sup>†</sup> 400~~

**Medical CT Scanner** (dental protocol)

~~100 534 - 2100  $\mu$ Sv<sup>†</sup> 1000~~

*\*ICRP103 weighting factors*

*†Holroyd JR, Gulson AD, Guidance on the Safe Use of Dental Cone Beam CT (Computed Tomography) Equipment, HPA-CRCE-010, November 2010*

# ***What is the Risk from an Intraoral x-ray?***

- **Assume adult patient,\* F speed, rectangular collimation**
- **Effective Dose might be 2 microSieverts approx.**
- **Risk that patient might develop fatal cancer in 20 years time**
  - = 5% (1 in 20) per Sievert (from ICRP103)**
  - = 1 in 20 million for 1 microSievert**
  - = 2 in 20 million for 2 microSieverts**
  - = 1 in 10 million for 2 microSieverts**

**Health & Safety people  
would call this a  
“Negligible Risk”**

**\* If your patient is a child the risk is 3x more**

# ***What is the Risk from a CBCT scan (worst case)?***

- **Assume adult patient\***
- **Effective Dose might be 1073 microSieverts = 1.073 mSv**
- **Risk that patient might develop fatal cancer in 20 years time**
  - = 5% (1 in 20) per Sievert (from ICRP103)**
  - = 1 in 20 thousand for 1 mSv**
  - = 1.073 in 20 thousand for 1.073 mSv**
  - = 1 in 18,639 for 1.073 mSv**

**Health & Safety people  
would call this a  
“Very Low Risk”**

**\* If your patient is elderly the risk is 3x less**

# Cancer: science and society and the communication of risk

Kenneth C Calman

*This article is based on the Calum Muir lecture, delivered in Edinburgh in September 1996.*

BMJ VOLUME 313 28 SEPTEMBER 1996

**Table 2**—Descriptions of risk in relation to the risk of an individual dying (D) in any one year or developing an adverse response (A)

Term used	Risk range	Example	Risk estimate
High	$\geq 1:100$	(A) Transmission to susceptible household contacts of measles and chickenpox <sup>6</sup>	1:1-1:2
		(A) Transmission of HIV from mother to child (Europe) <sup>7</sup>	1:6
Moderate	1:100-1:1000	(A) Gastrointestinal effects of antibiotics <sup>8</sup>	1:10-1:20
		(D) Smoking 10 cigarettes a day <sup>9</sup>	1:200
Low	1:1000-1:10 000	(D) All natural causes, age 40 <sup>9</sup>	1:850
		(D) All kinds of violence and poisoning <sup>9</sup>	1:3300
Very low	1:10 000-1:100 000	(D) Influenza <sup>10</sup>	1:5000
		(D) Accident on road <sup>9</sup>	1:8000
		(D) Leukaemia <sup>9</sup>	1:12 000
		(D) Playing soccer <sup>9</sup>	1:25 000
		(D) Accident at home <sup>9</sup>	1:26 000
Minimal	1:100 000-1:1 000 000	(D) Accident at work <sup>9</sup>	1:43 000
		(D) Homicide <sup>9</sup>	1:100 000
		(D) Accident on railway <sup>9</sup>	1:500 000
Negligible	$\leq 1:1 000 000$	(A) Vaccination associated polio <sup>10</sup>	1:1 000 000
		(D) Hit by lightning <sup>9</sup>	1:10 000 000
		(D) Release of radiation by nuclear power station <sup>9</sup>	1:10 000 000

# *The Risk from an Intraoral x-ray*



J E STEVENSON/ROBERT HARDING

*Lightning: the risk is negligible*



## *The Risk from a CBCT scan (worst case)*



*The risk of death from playing soccer is very low (this player survived)*

# *Typical Doses from Dental X-Rays*

	<b>Effective Dose (<math>\mu\text{Sv}</math>)</b>	<b>Risk</b>	
<b>Intraoral (F speed, rect coll)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1 in 10 million</b>	<b>Negligible</b>
<b>Intraoral (E speed, round coll)</b>	<b>6</b>		
<b>Lateral Ceph</b>	<b>10</b>		
<b>Panoramic</b>	<b>24</b>		
<b>Cone Beam CT</b>	<b>48 to 1073</b>	<b>1 in 19 thousand</b>	<b>Very Low</b>
<b>Medical CT</b>	<b>534 to 2100</b>		

# ***Typical Doses from Dental X-Rays***

	<b>Effective Dose (<math>\mu\text{Sv}</math>)</b>	<b>Risk</b>	
<b>Intraoral (F speed, rect coll)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1 in 10 million</b>	<b>Negligible</b>
<b>Intraoral (E speed, round coll)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1 in 3.3 million</b>	<b>Negligible</b>
<b>Lateral Ceph</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1 in 2 million</b>	<b>Negligible</b>
<b>Panoramic</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1 in 833 thousand</b>	<b>Minimal</b>
<b>Cone Beam CT</b>	<b>48 to 1073</b>	<b>1 in 417 thousand to 1 in 19 thousand</b>	<b>Mimimal to Very Low</b>
<b>Medical CT</b>	<b>534 to 2100</b>	<b>1 in 37 thousand to 1 in 9.5 thousand</b>	<b>Very Low to Low</b>

# Implant Surgery Complications: Etiology and Treatment

Kelly Misch, DDS,\* and Hom-Lay Wang, DDS, MSD, PhD†

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Implant Dentistry  
Volume 17 • Number 2  
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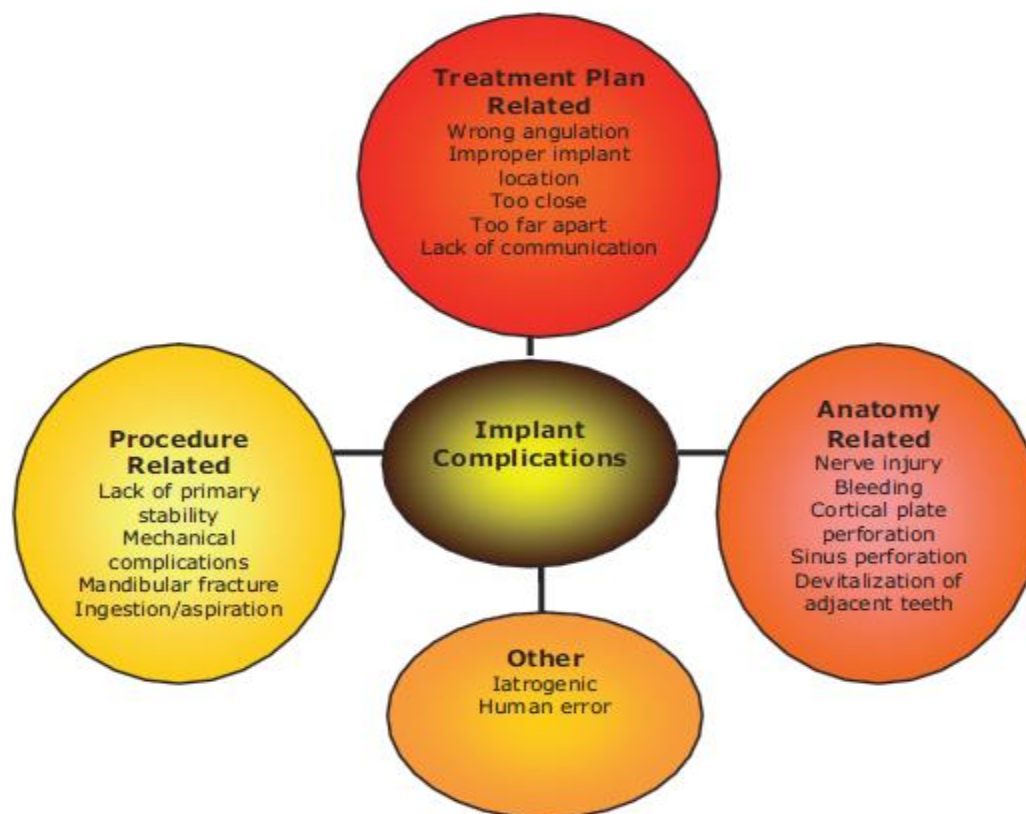


Fig. 1. Outline of common complications during implant surgery.

## Clinical complications with implants and implant prostheses

Charles J. Goodacre, DDS, MSD,<sup>a</sup> Guillermo Bernal, DDS, MSD,<sup>b</sup> Kitichai Rungcharassaeng, DDS, MS,<sup>c</sup> and Joseph Y. K. Kan, DDS, MS<sup>d</sup>  
School of Dentistry, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, Calif (J Prosthet Dent 2003;90:121-32.)

	<b>Number of patients affected</b>	<b>Risk</b>	
<b>Hemorrhage-related complications</b>	<b>92 out of 379</b>	<b>1 in 4</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Neurosensory disturbance</b>	<b>151 out of 2142</b>	<b>1 in 14</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Mandibular fracture</b>	<b>4 out of 1523</b>	<b>1 in 380</b>	<b>Moderate</b>

# *Outline of Presentation*

- ✓ **Introduction / Disclosures**
- ✓ **Risk from Low Radiation Doses**
- ✓ **What do we mean by Effective Dose?**
- ✓ **How to evaluate Risks?**
  - **How does CT work?**
  - **How does Dose affect Image Quality?**
  - **What other factors affect Image Quality?**

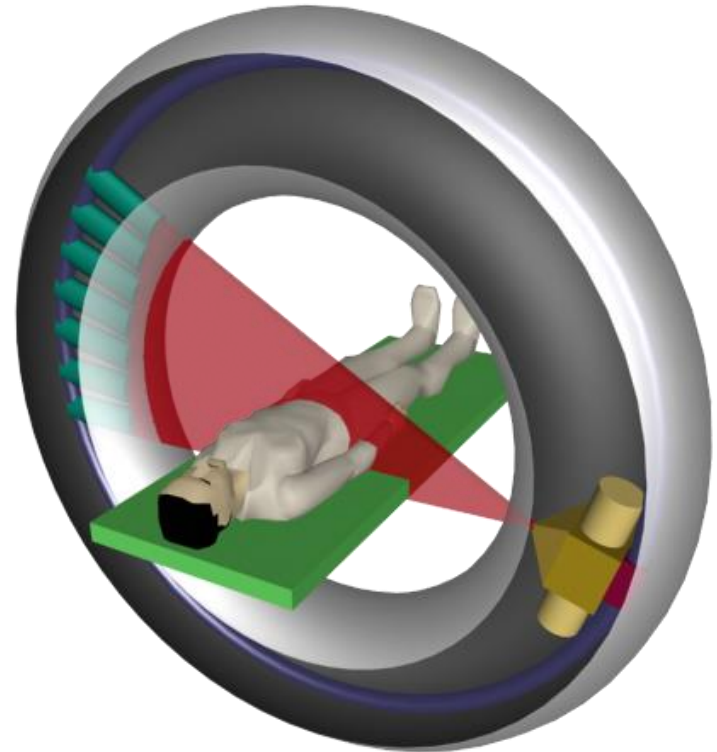
# how CT works...



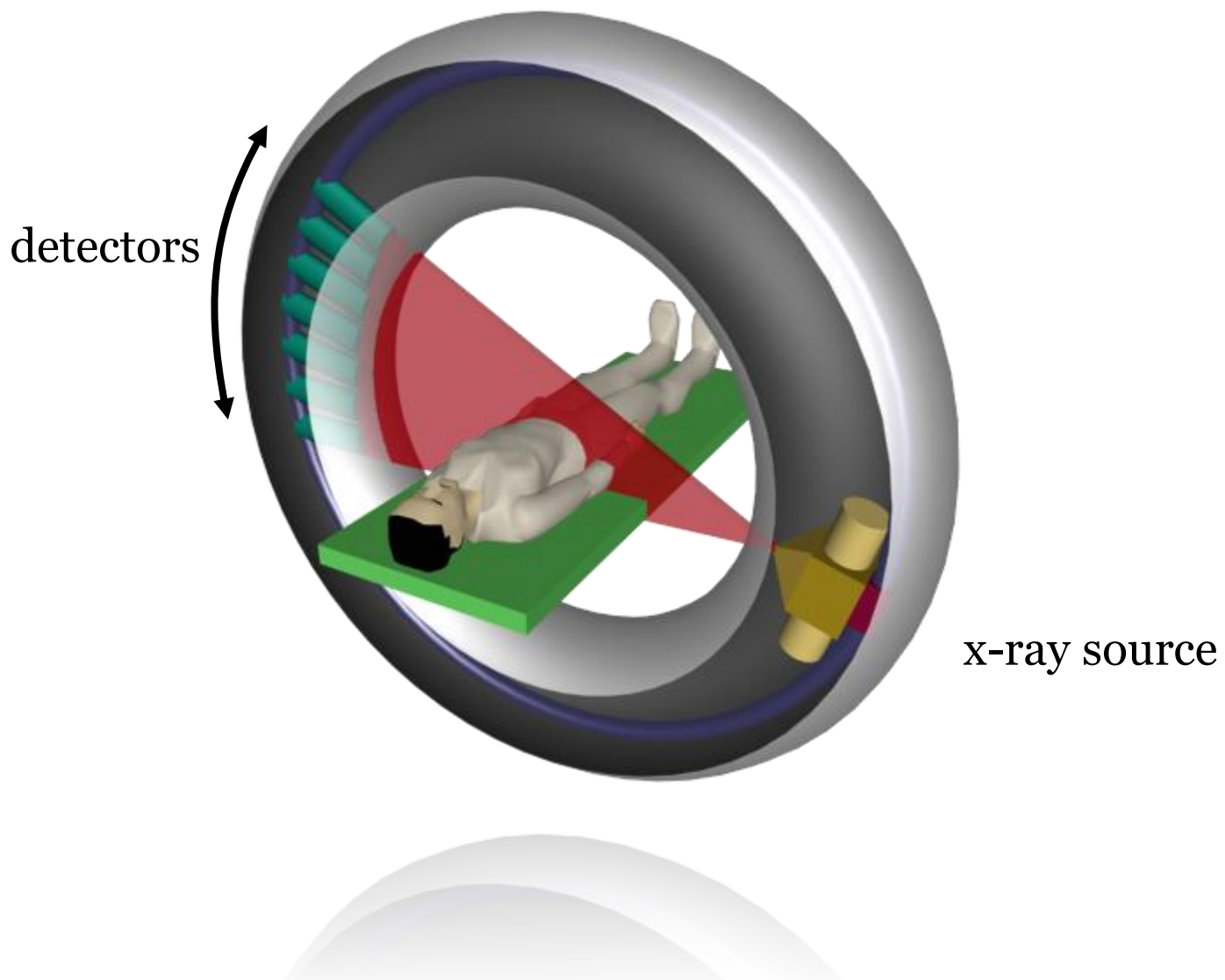
*Godfrey Hounsfield*

*Allan Cormack*

**Nobel prize in Medicine,  
1979**

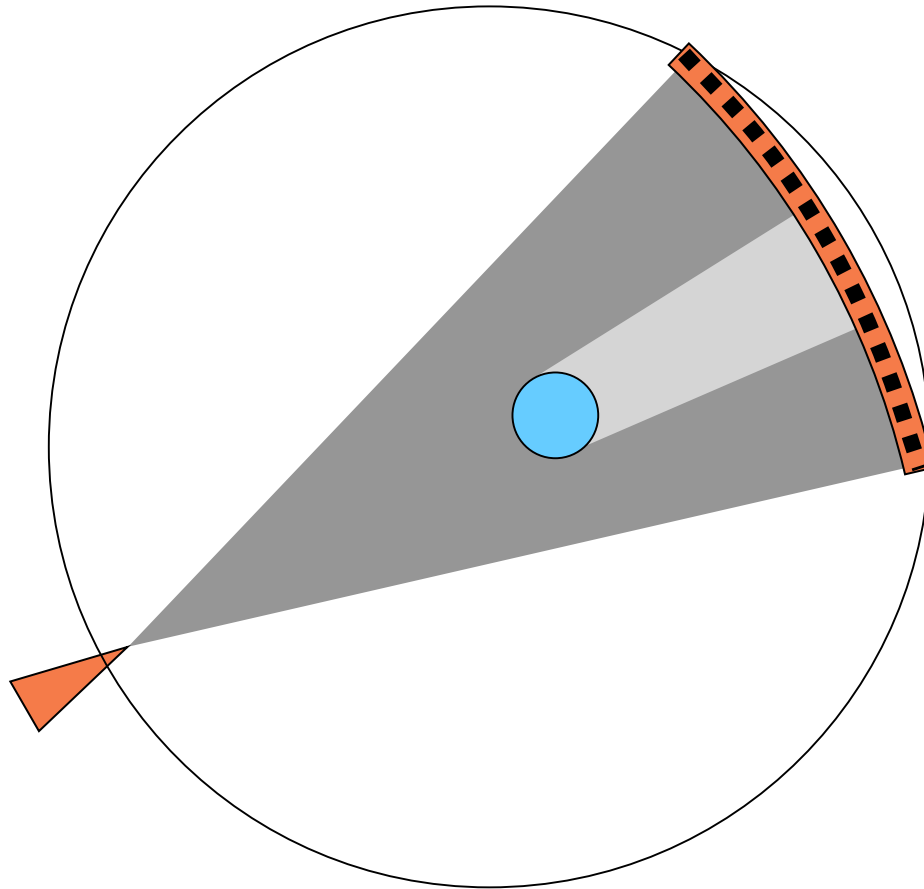


Animation from  
Demetrios J. Halazonetis  
[www.dhal.com](http://www.dhal.com)



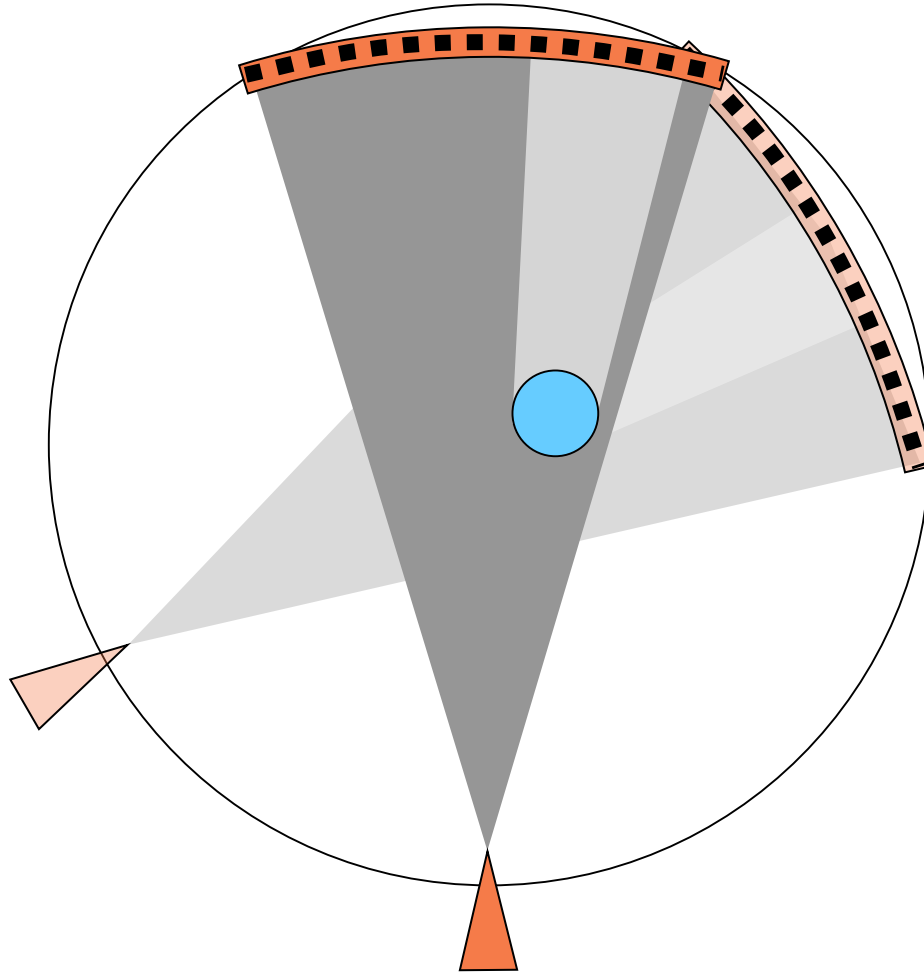


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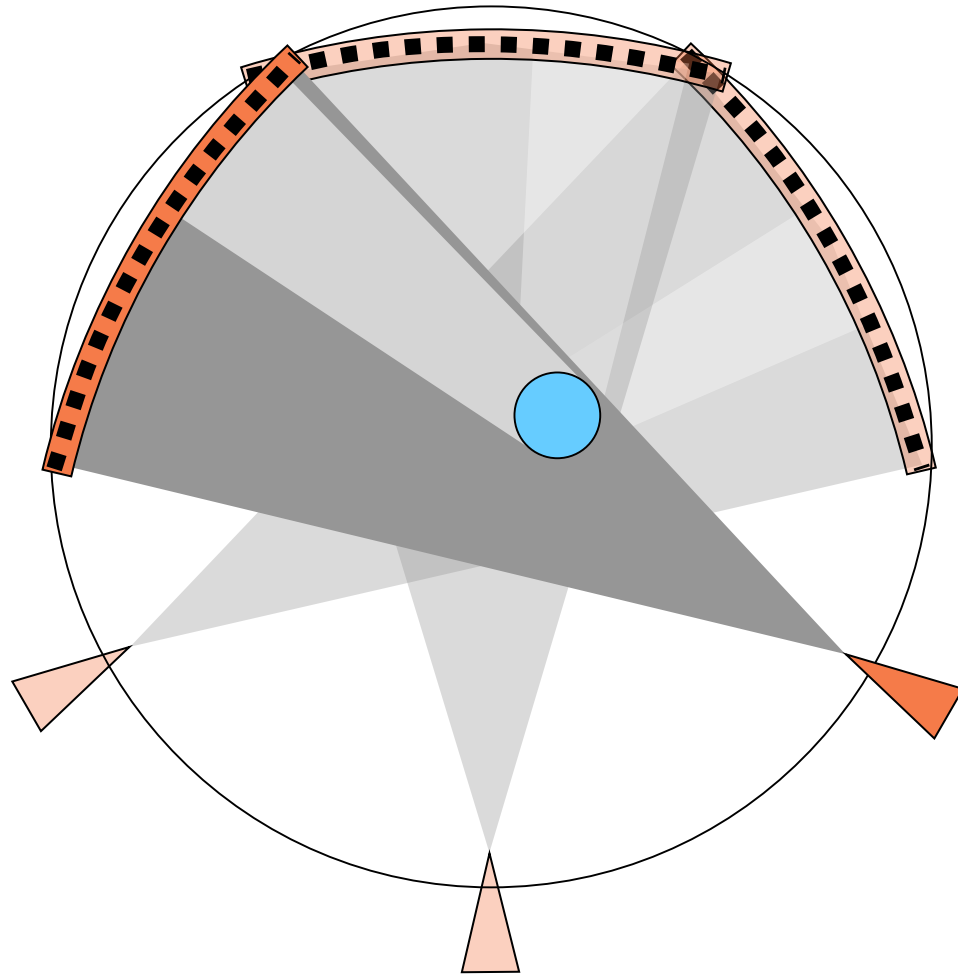


Animation from  
Demetrios J. Halazonetis  
[www.dhal.com](http://www.dhal.com)

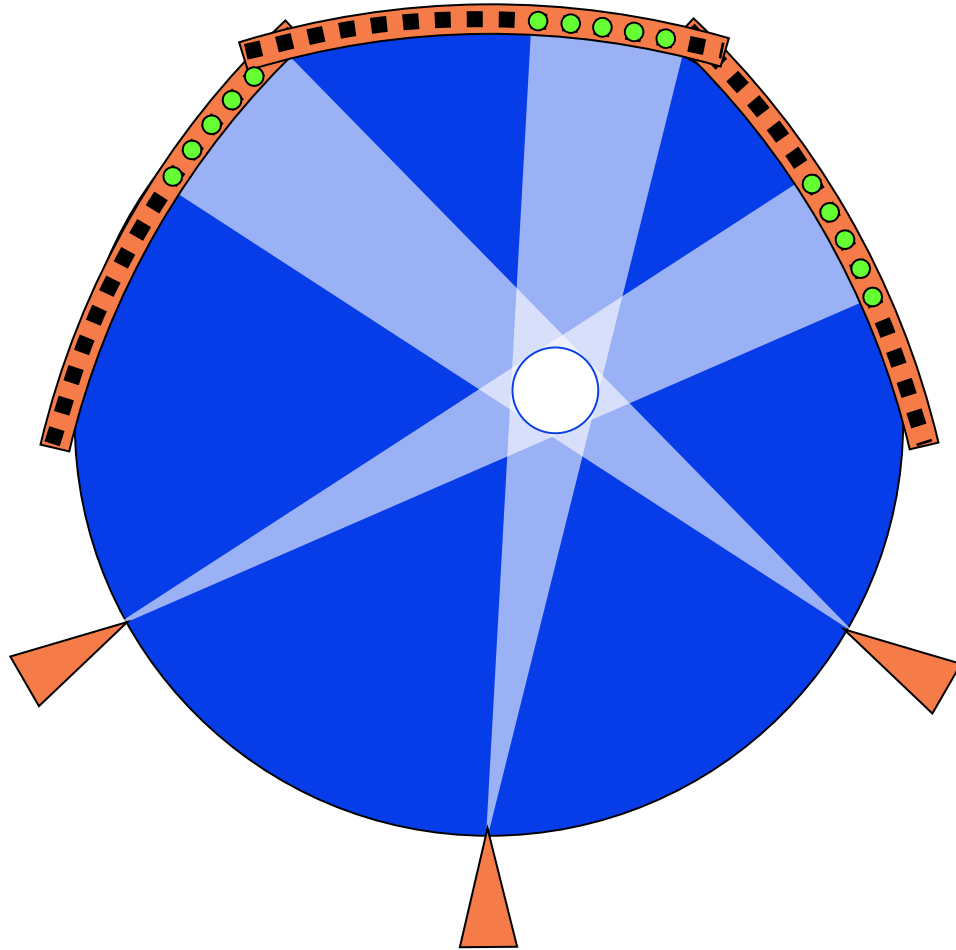
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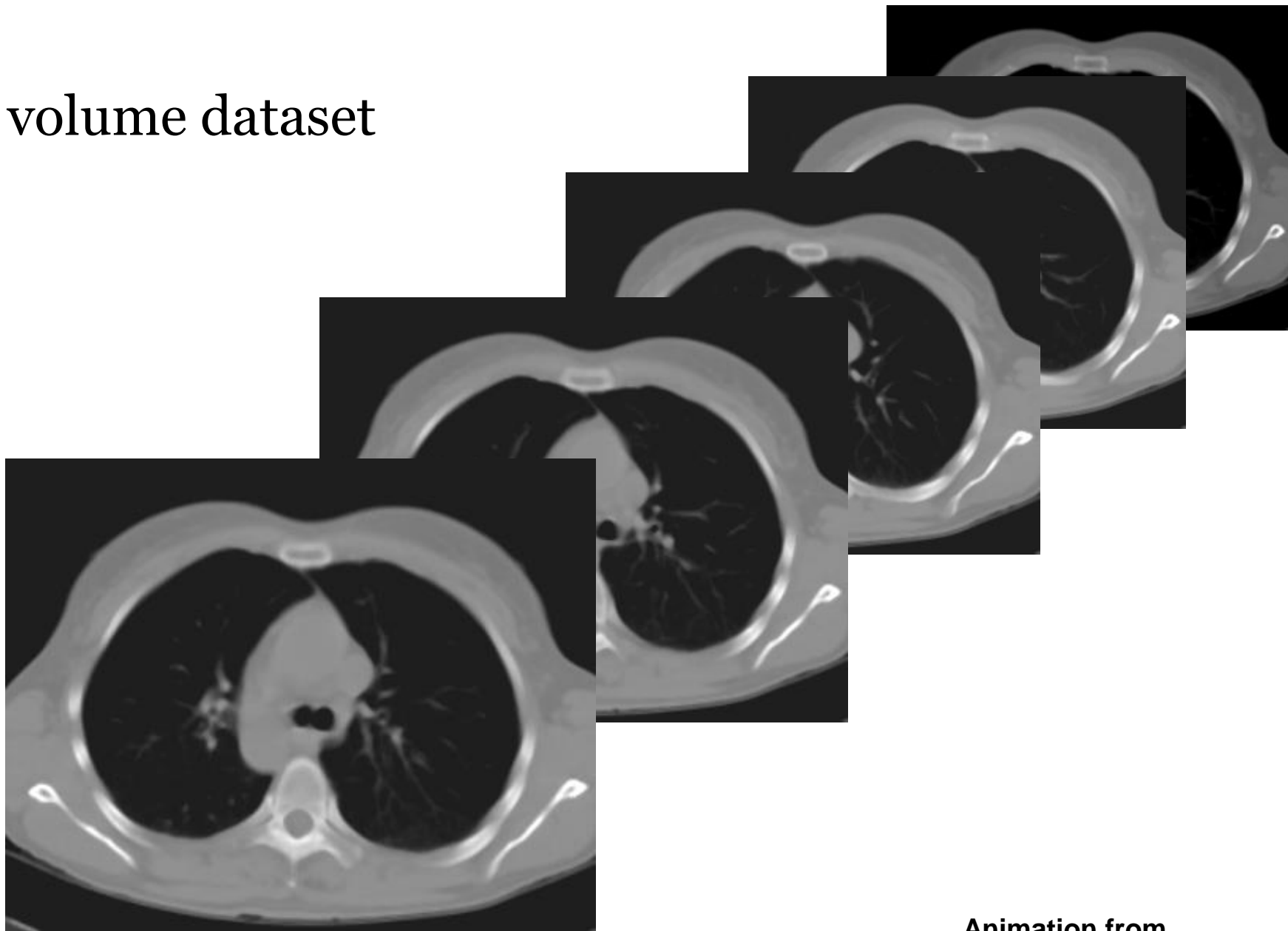
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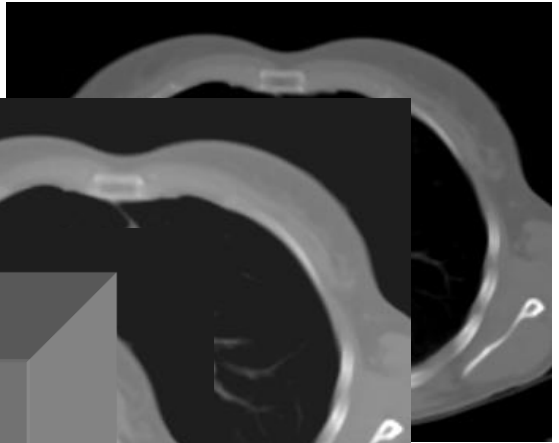
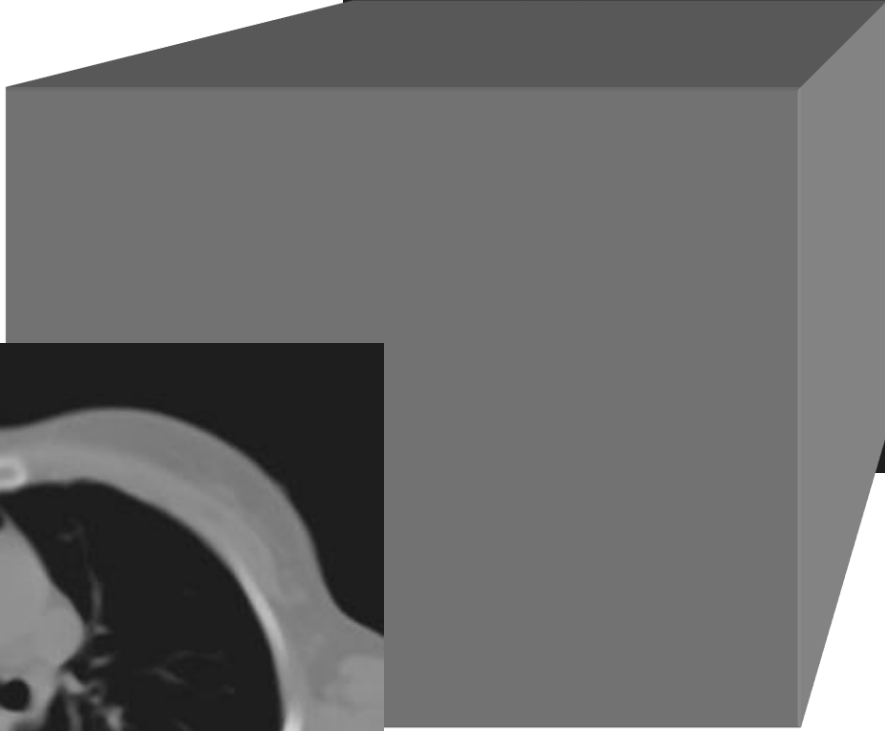
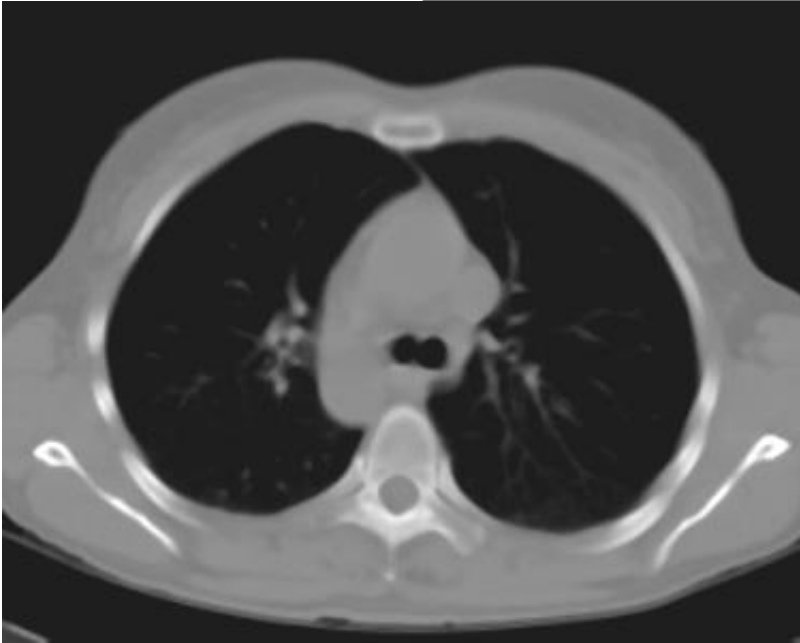
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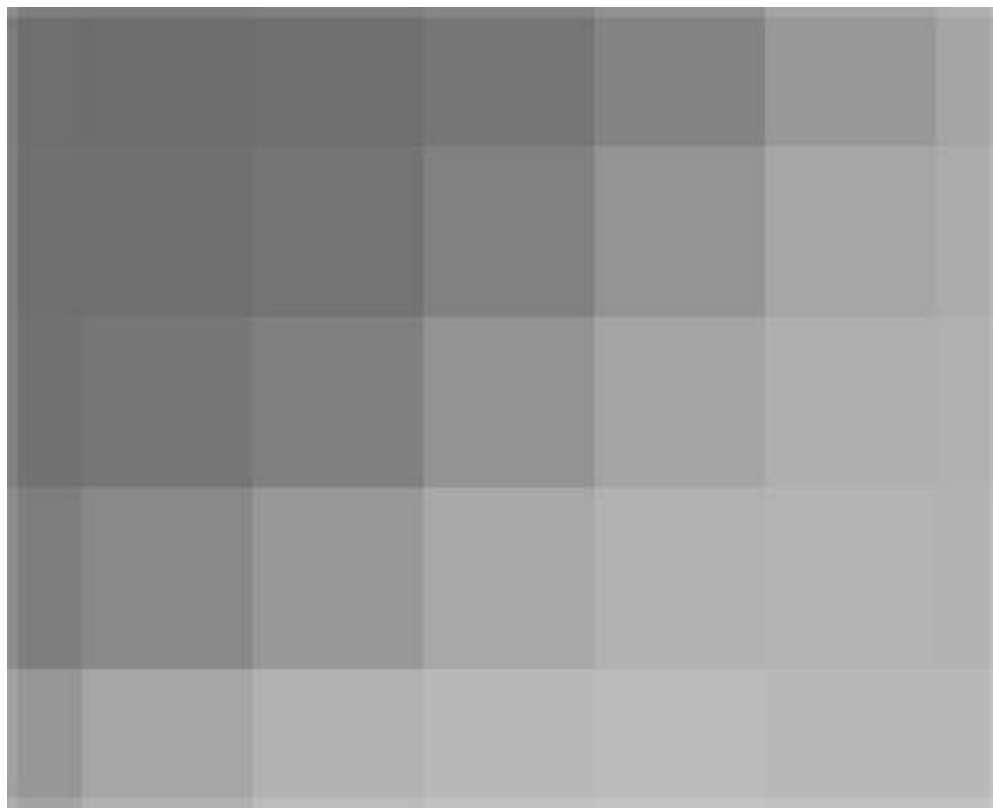


volume dataset

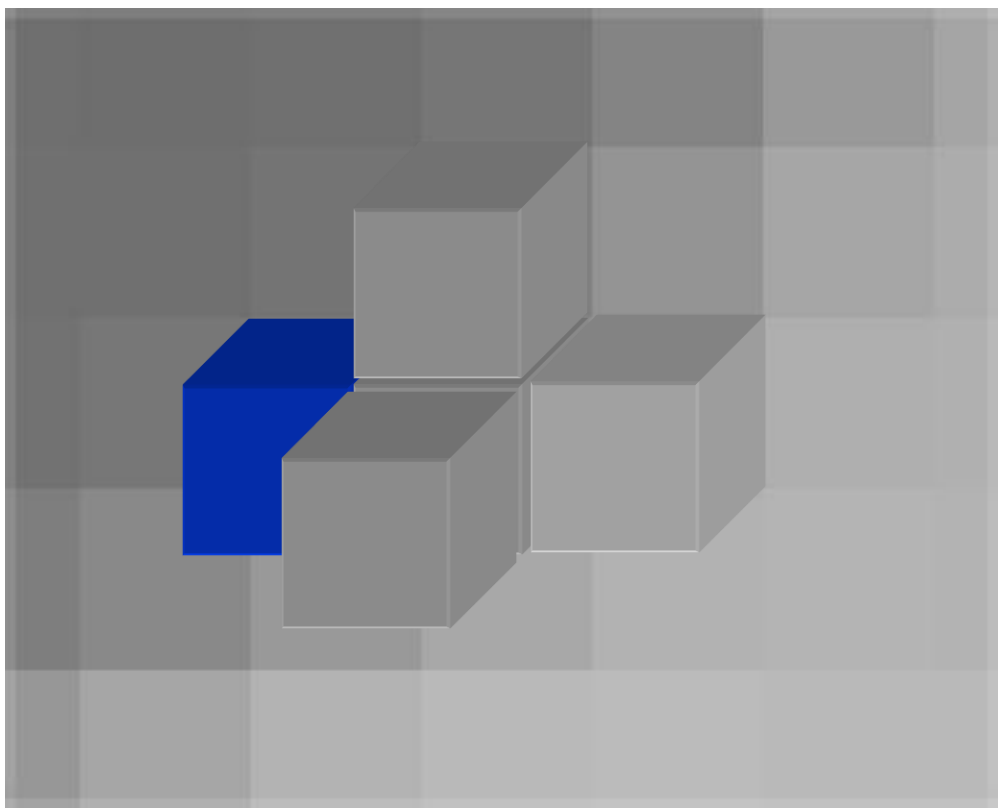


Animation from  
Demetrios J. Halazonetis  
[www.dhal.com](http://www.dhal.com)



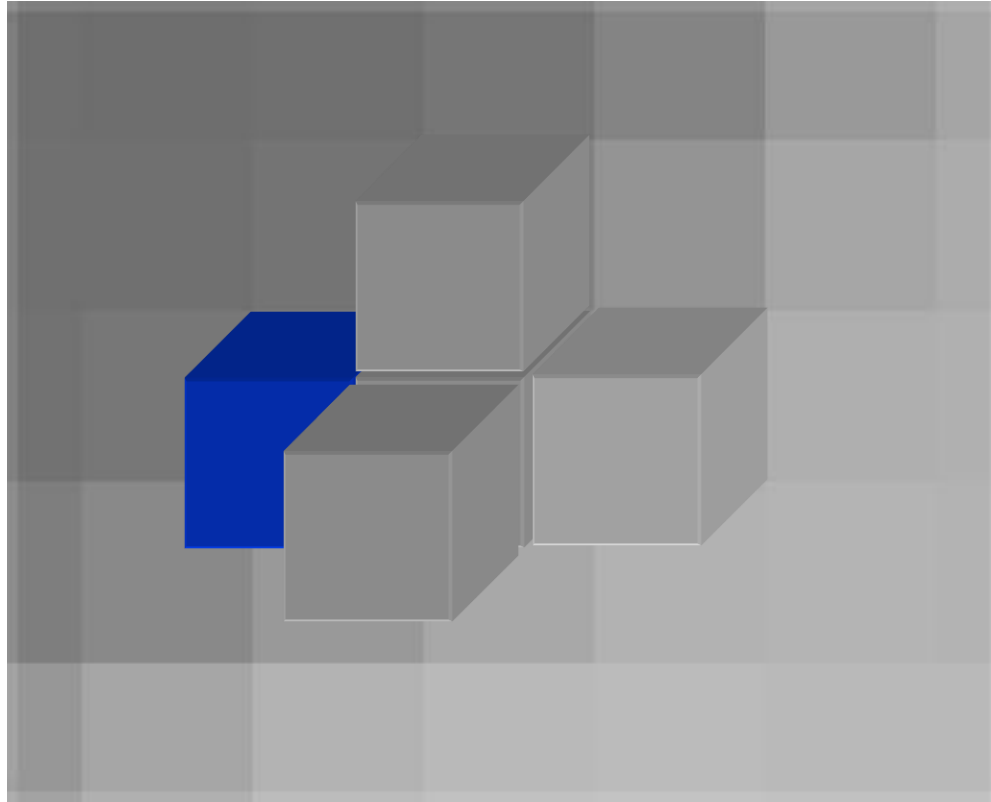


Animation from  
Demetrios J. Halazonetis  
[www.dhal.com](http://www.dhal.com)

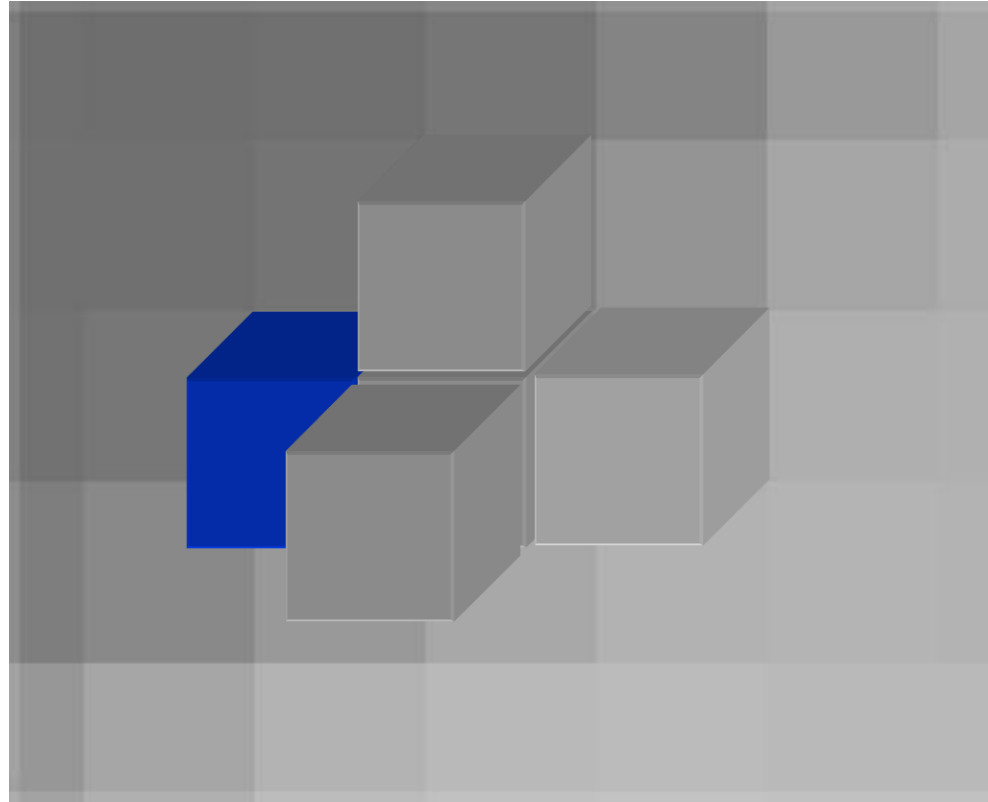




# Voxels (Volume elements)

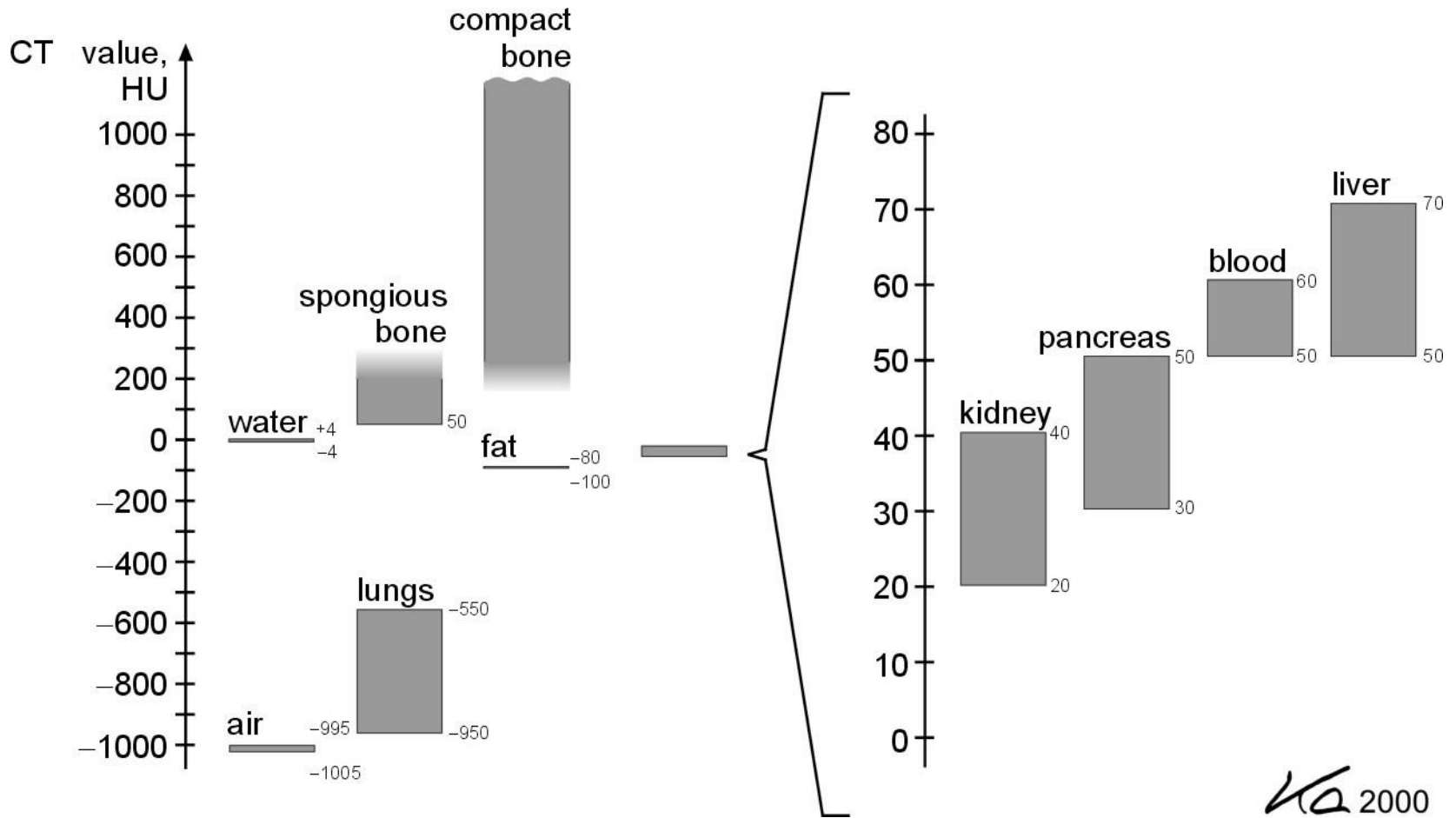


# Voxels (Volume elements)



density:  
0 to 4095  
  
(-1000 to 3095  
Hounsfield Units)

512 x 512 x  $\frac{400}{\text{slices}}$   $\approx$  100 million voxels (200 Mb)



The Hounsfield Scale was devised for medical CT scanners - 120kVp and Large Field Of View

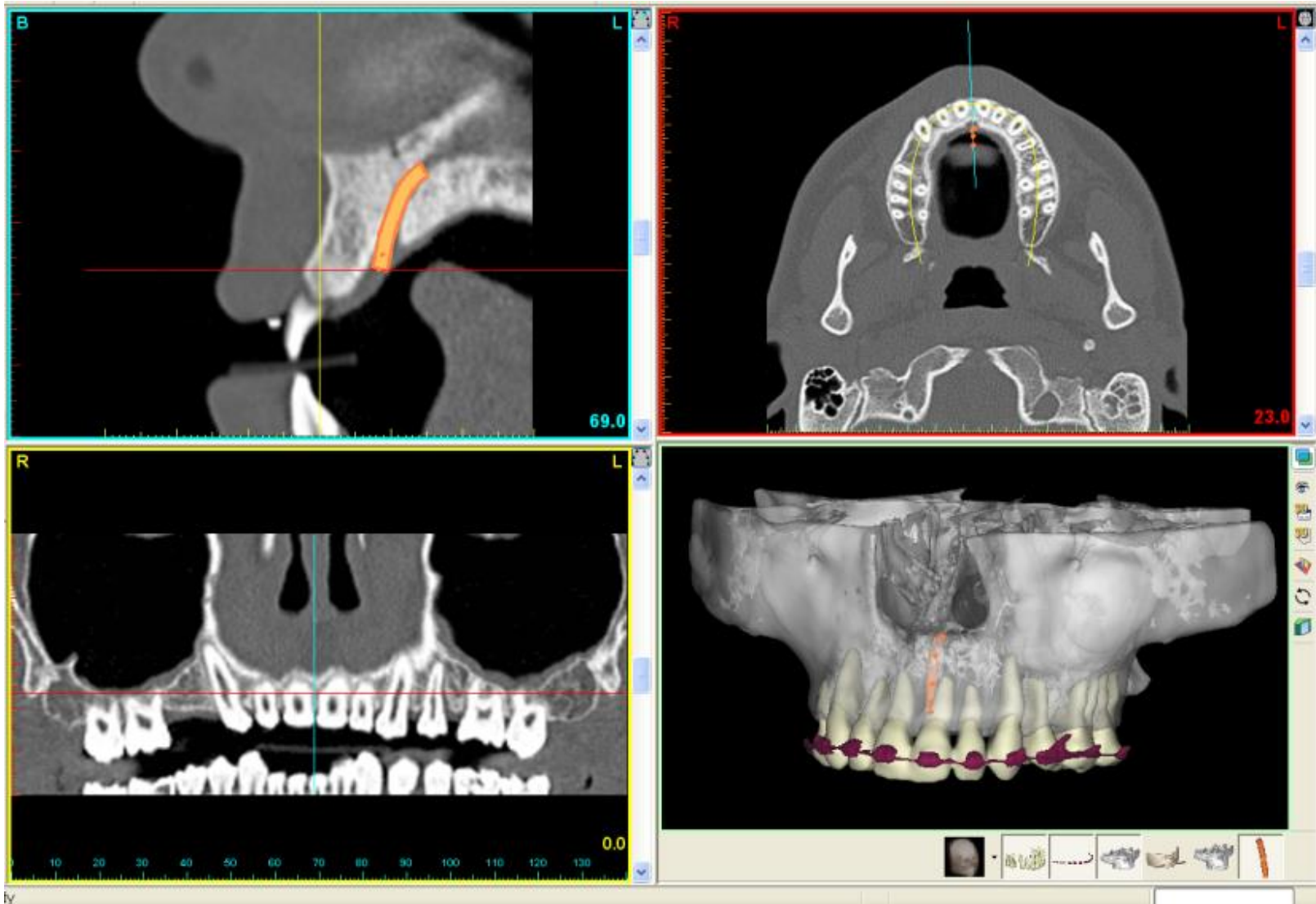
From: Kalender WA. *Computed Tomography*. Munich: Publicis MCD Verlag, ISBN 3-89578-081-2, 2000.

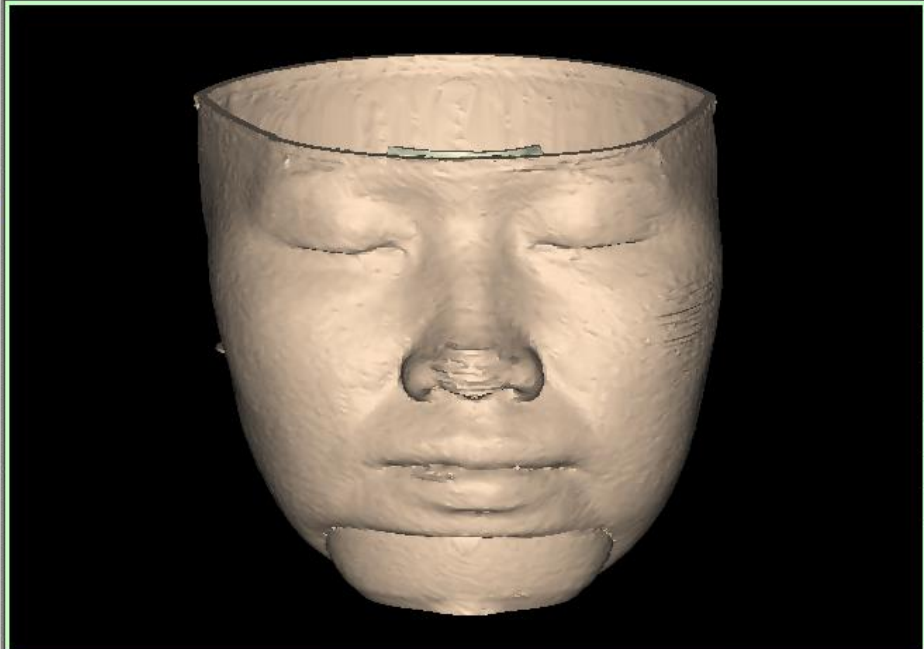
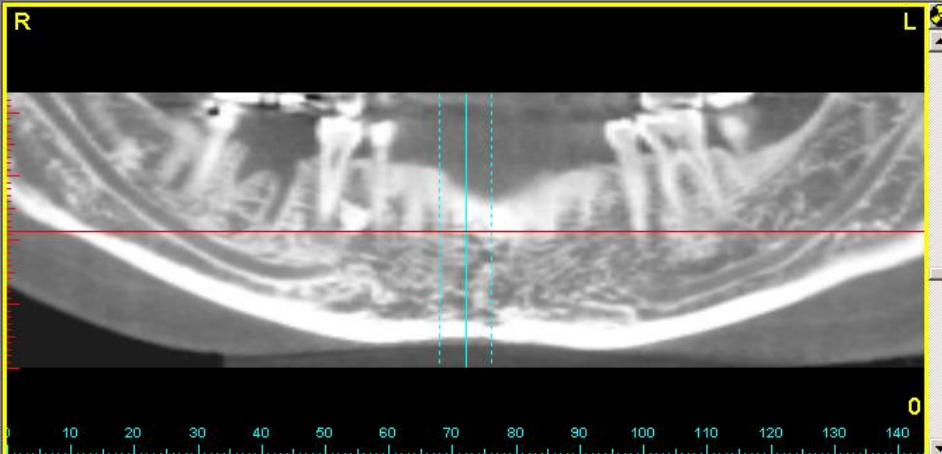
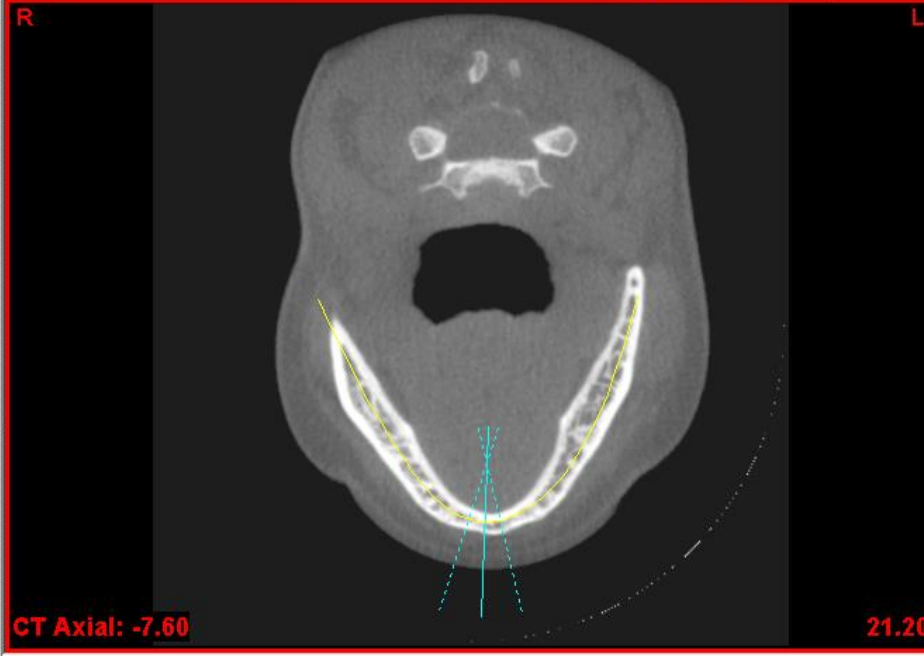
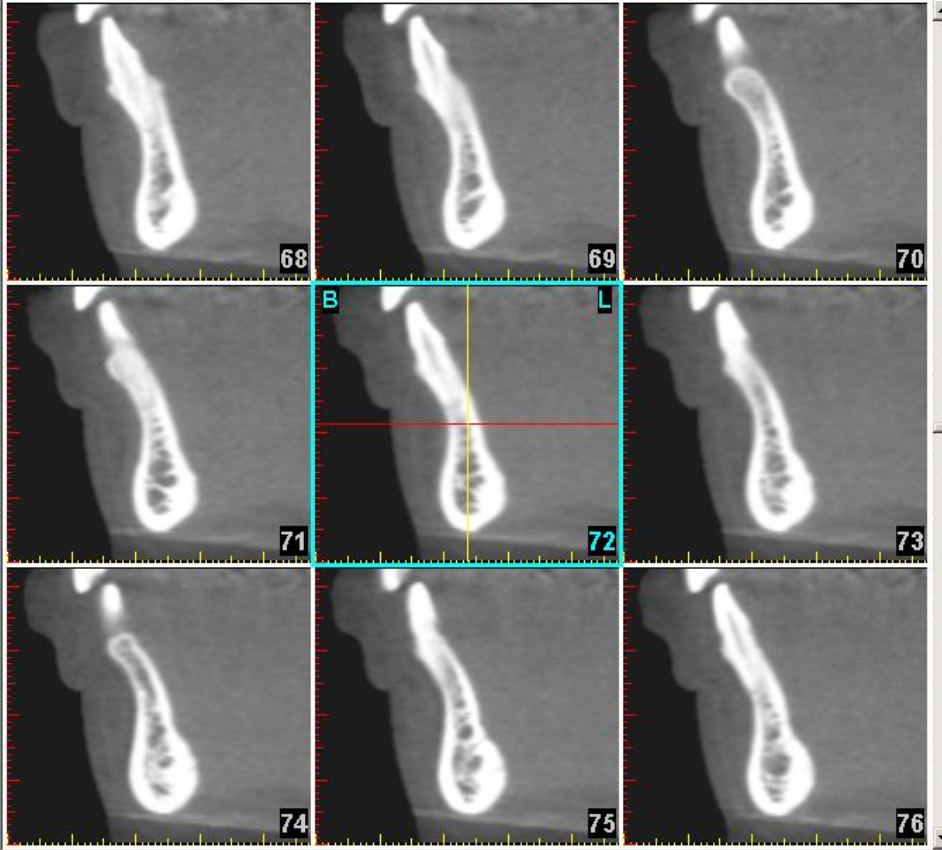
# Why is Density Important?

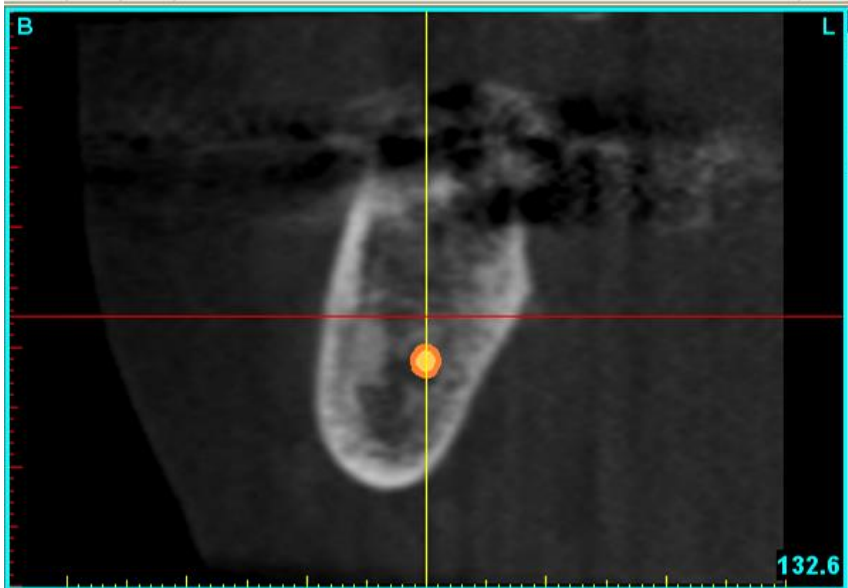
- Segmentation – making physical models or drill guides
- Virtual 3D models e.g. in SimPlant
- Clinical application of bone densities e.g. Carl Misch scale

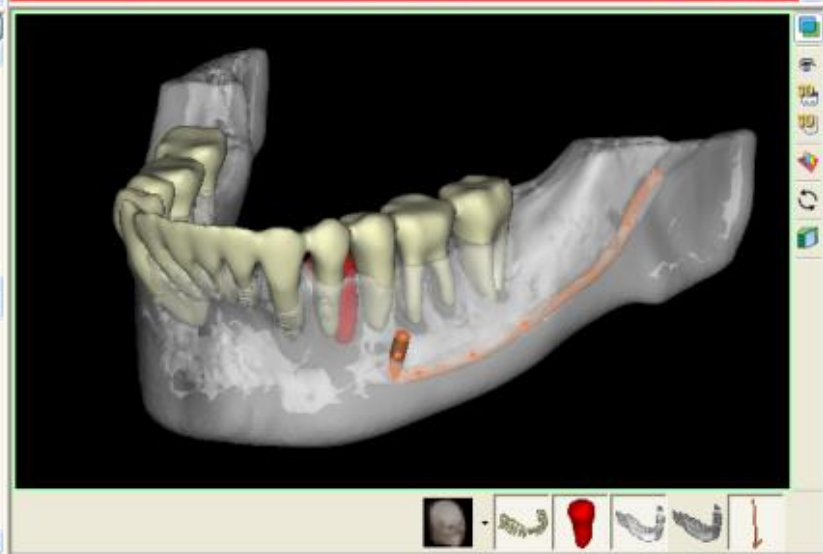
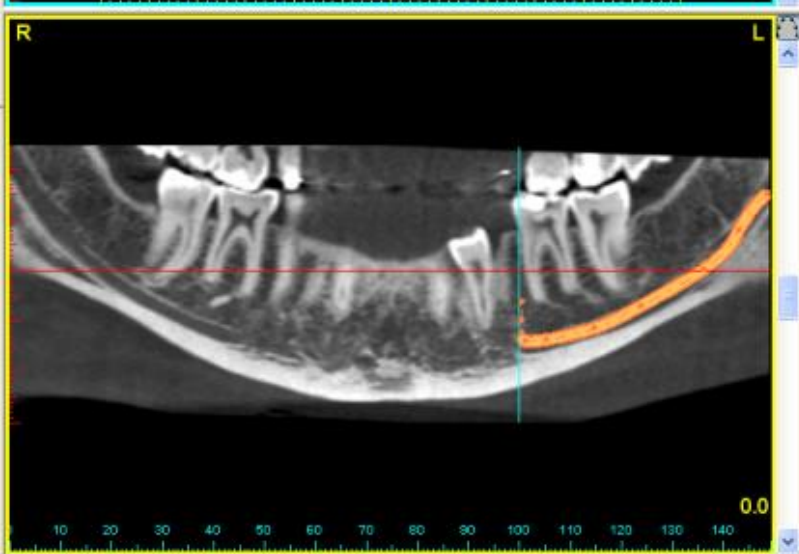
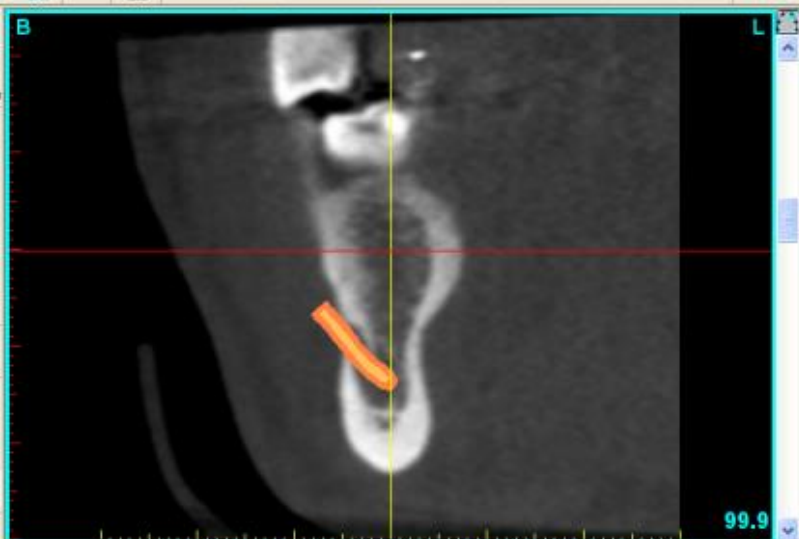
<b>Table 1. Misch classification of bone density</b>		
<b>Density</b>	<b>Hounsfield range</b>	<b>Type of bone</b>
D1	> 1250	Dense cortical bone
D2	851–1250	Thick dense to porous cortical bone on crest and coarse trabecular bone within
D3	351–850	Thin porous cortical bone on crest and fine trabecular bone within
D4	150–350	Fine trabecular bone

# Segmentation



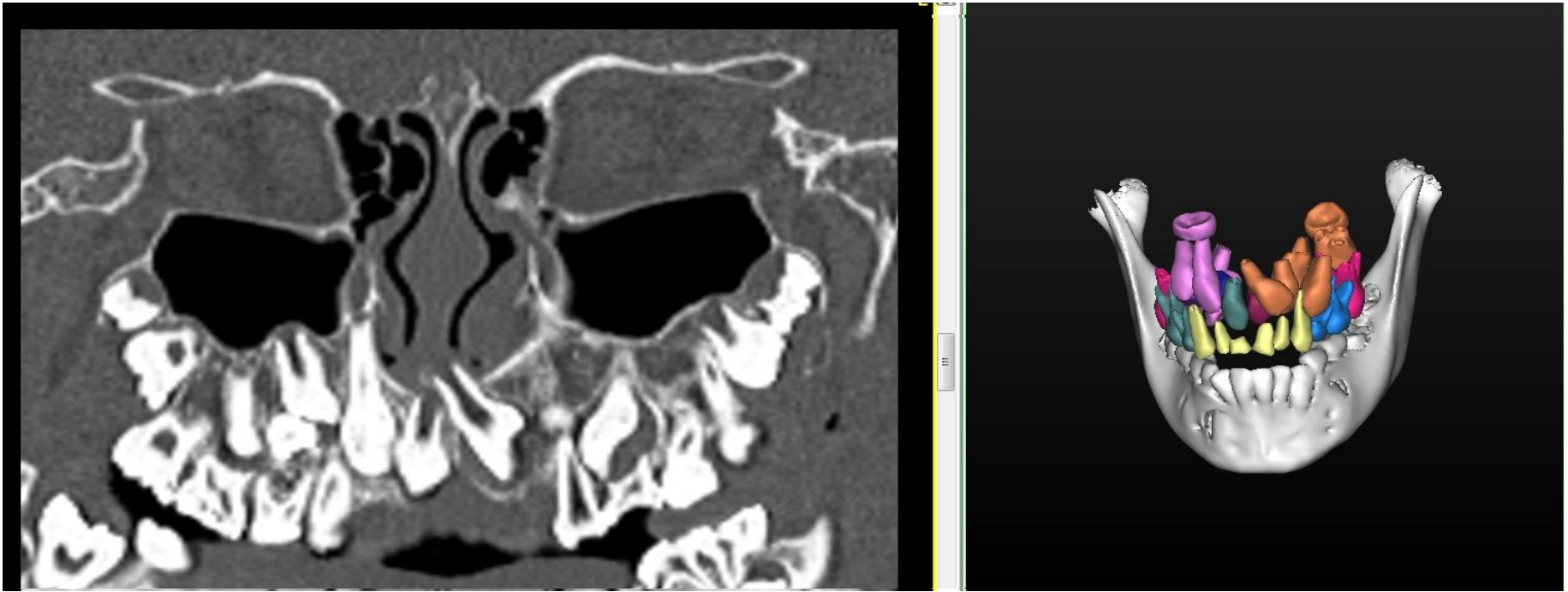






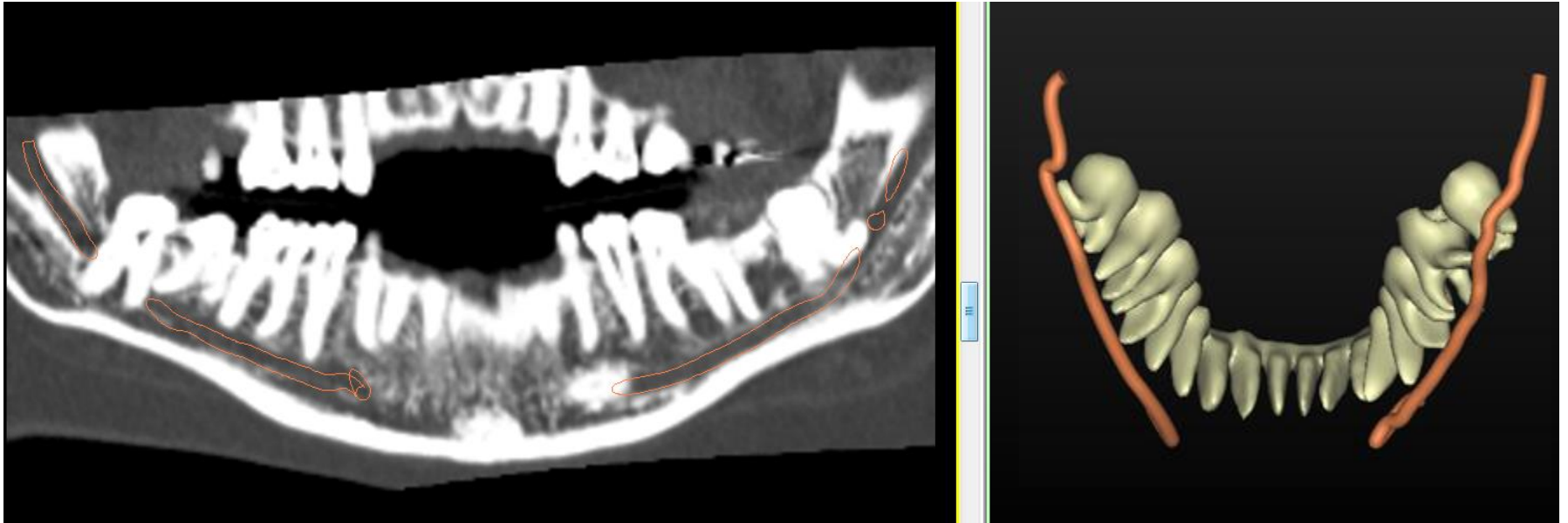


# *Hyperdontia*

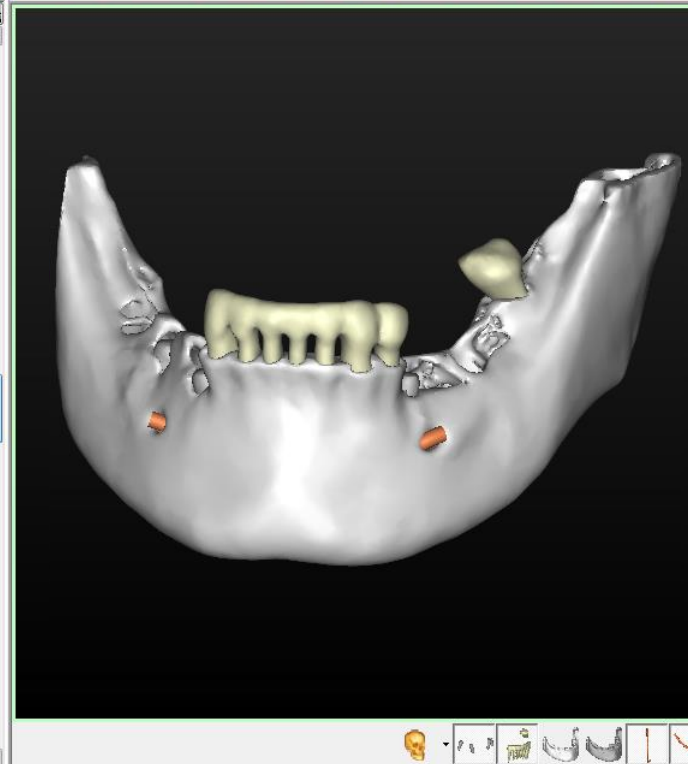
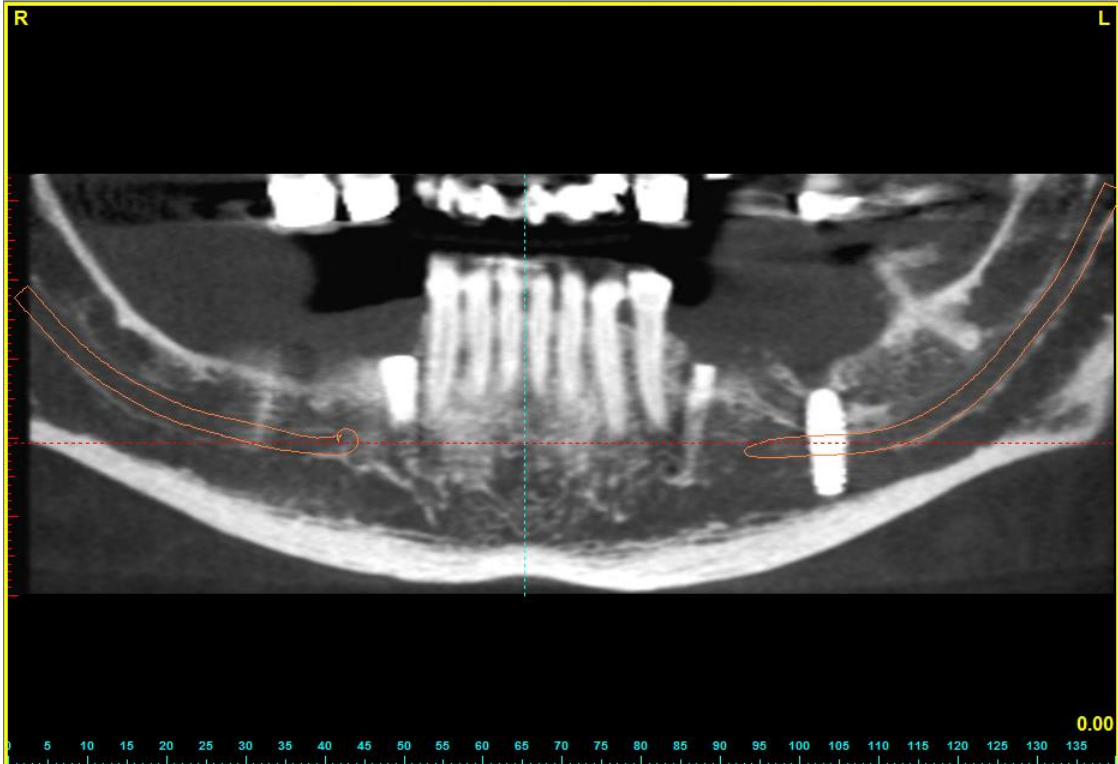
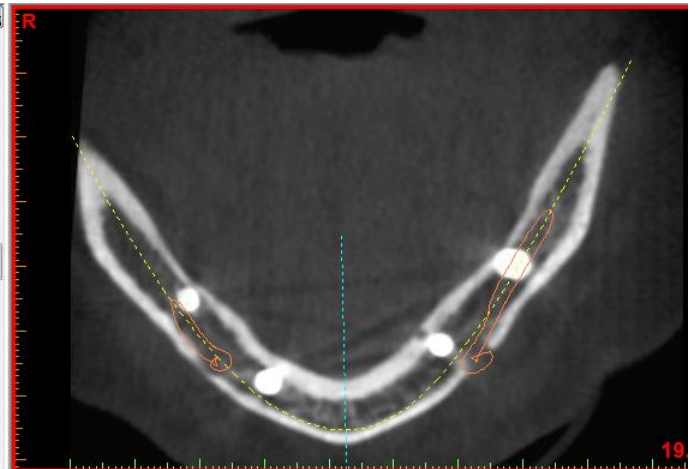
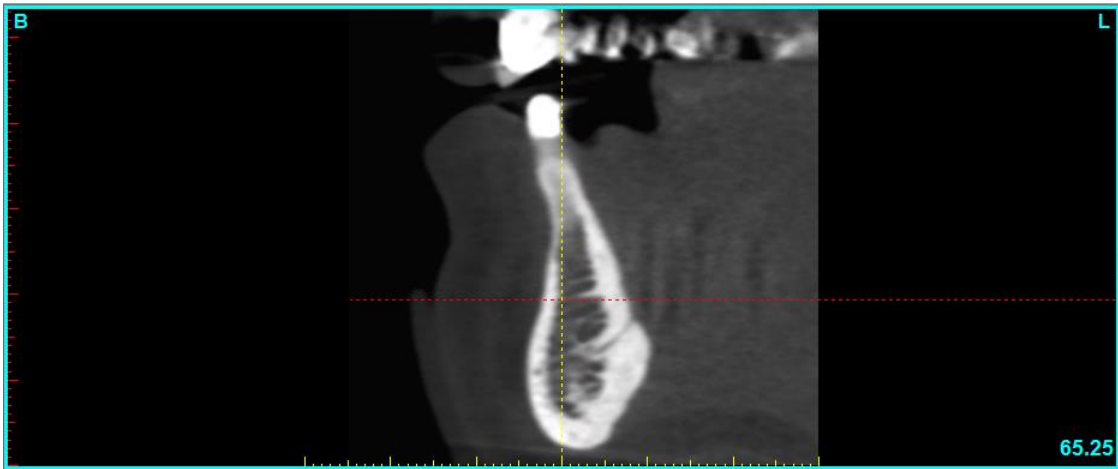


Courtesy of Nicolette Schroeder

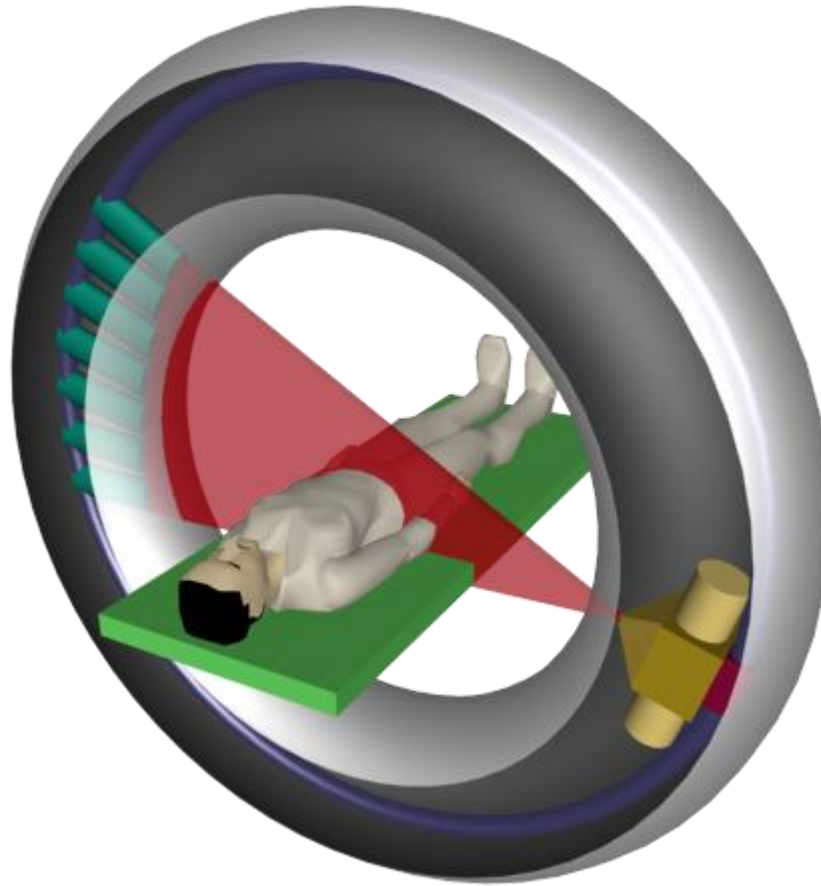
# *Third Molars*



Courtesy of Barry Dace

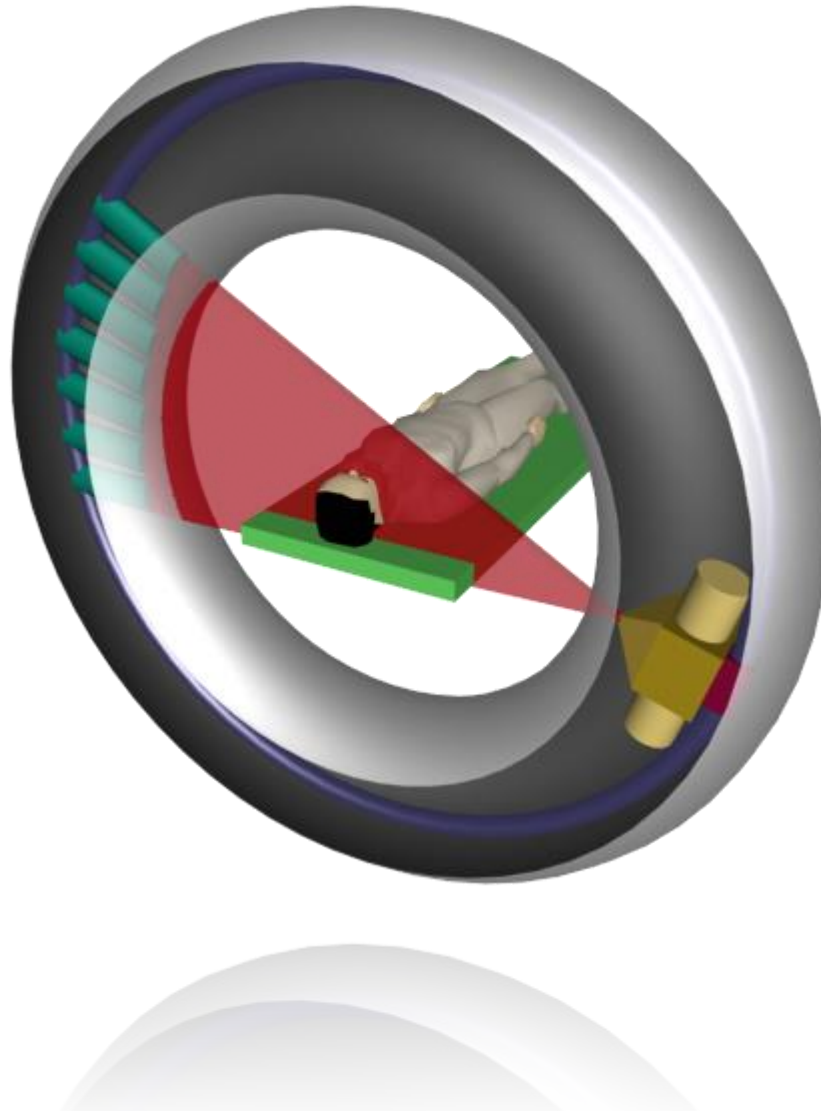


# cone-beam CT (CBCT)

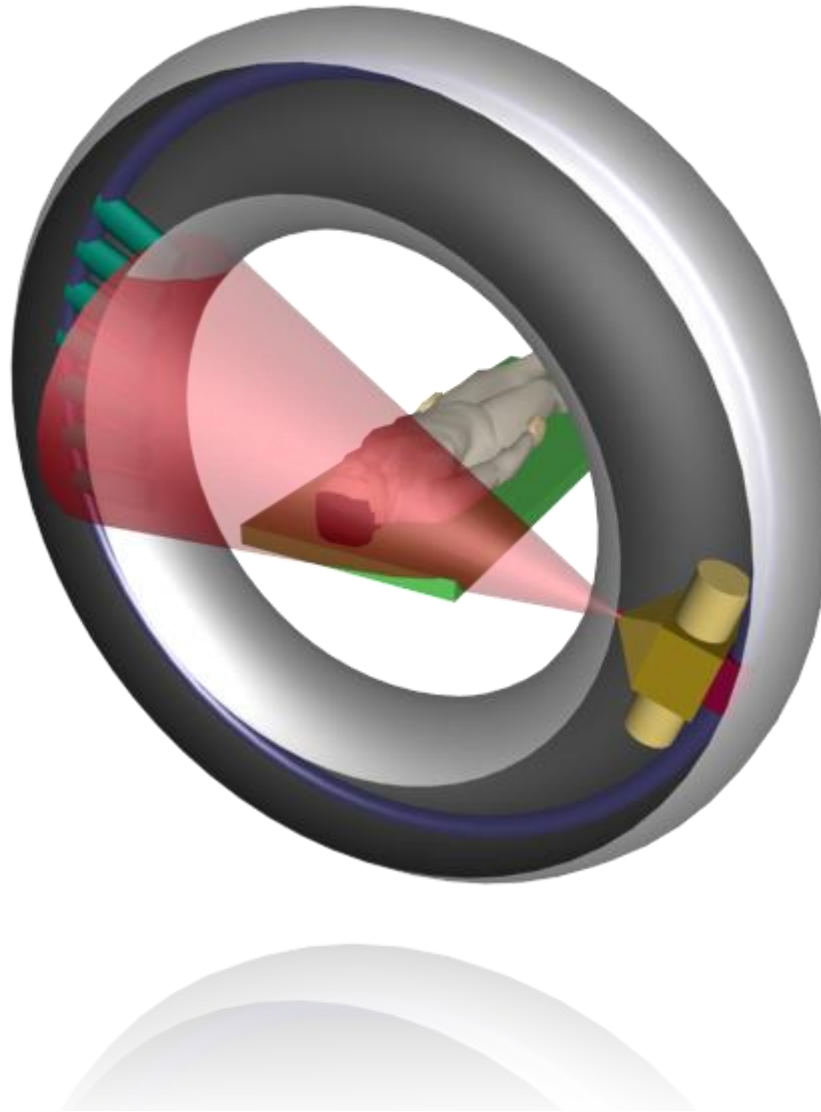


Animation from  
Demetrios J. Halazonetis  
[www.dhal.com](http://www.dhal.com)

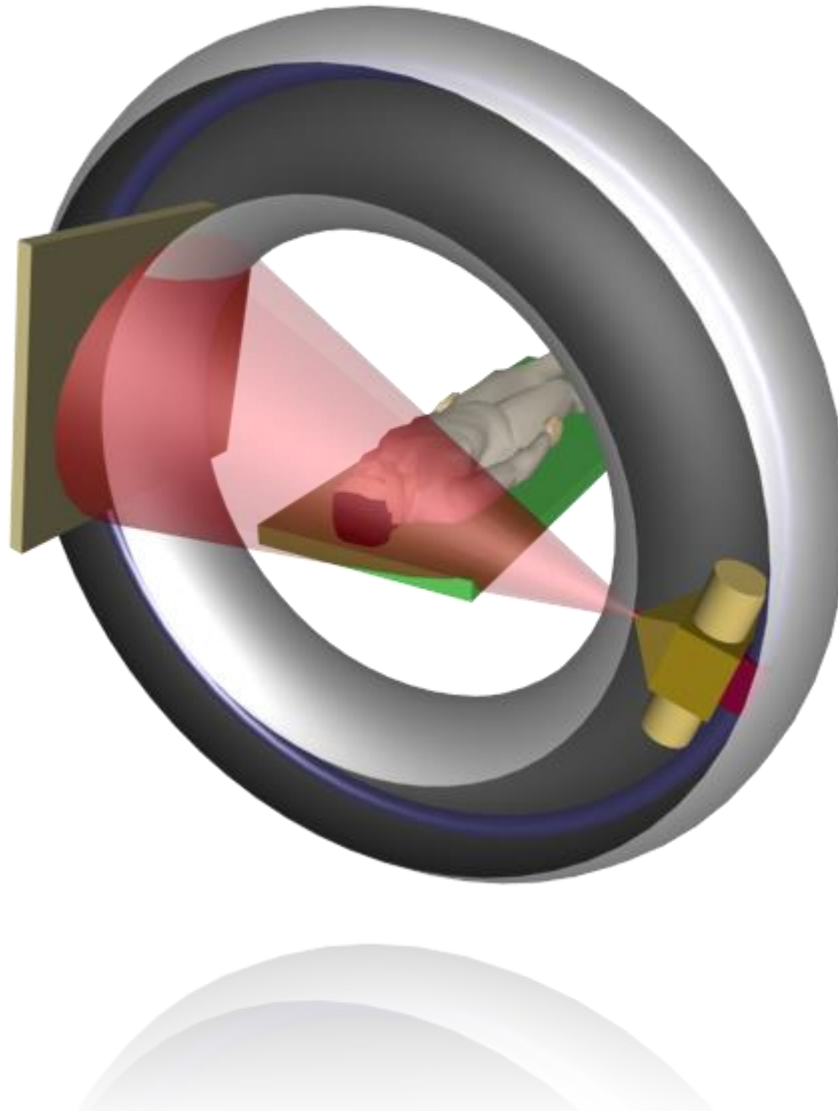
# cone-beam CT (CBCT)



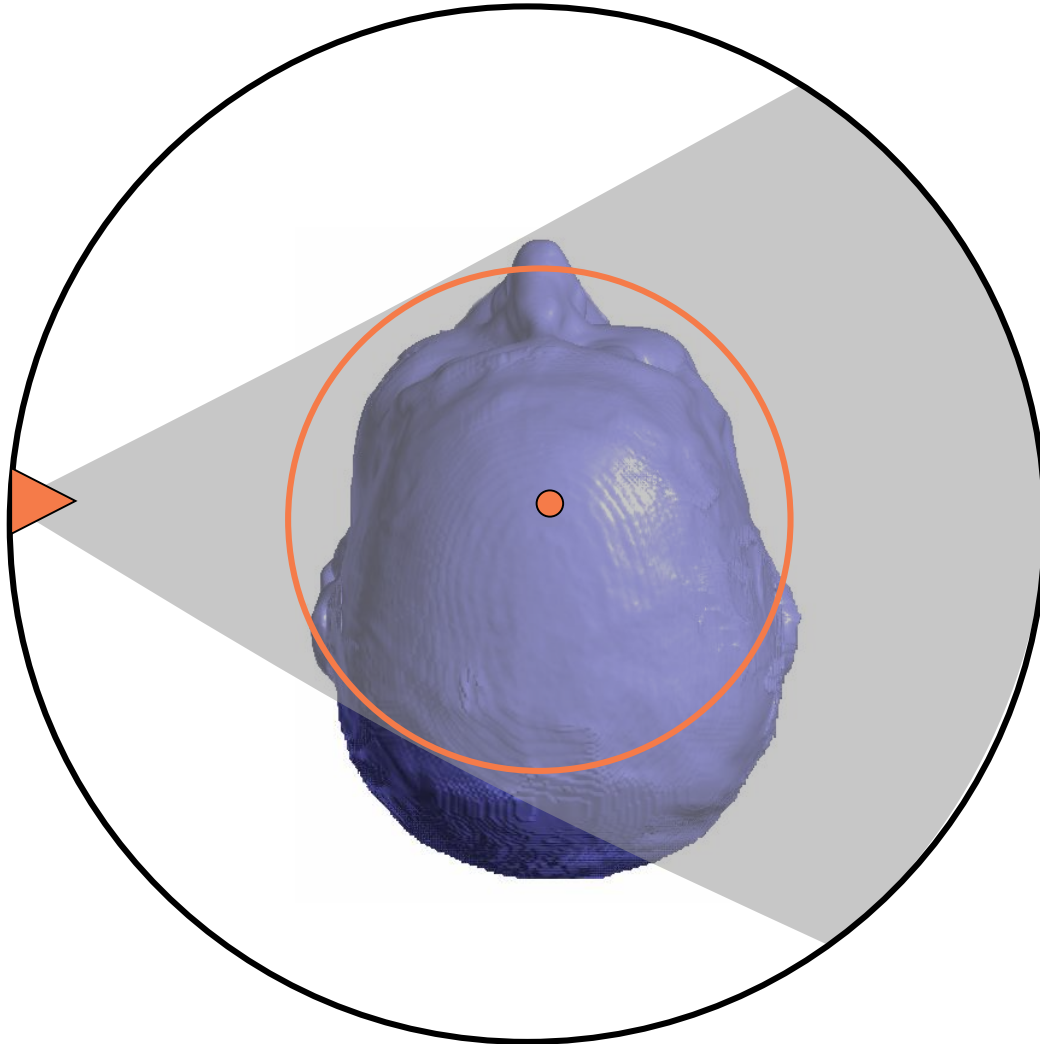
# cone-beam CT (CBCT)



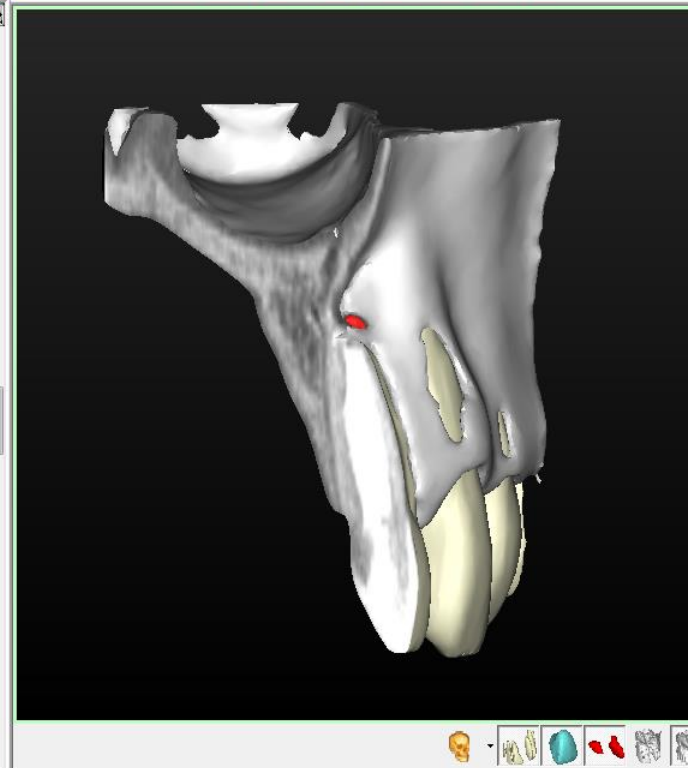
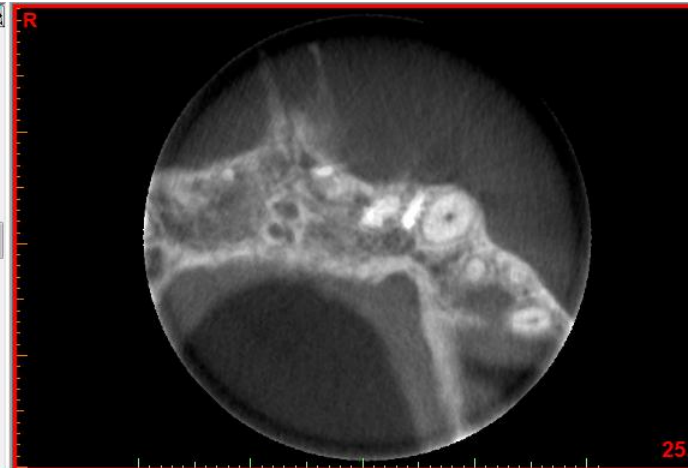
# cone-beam CT (CBCT)

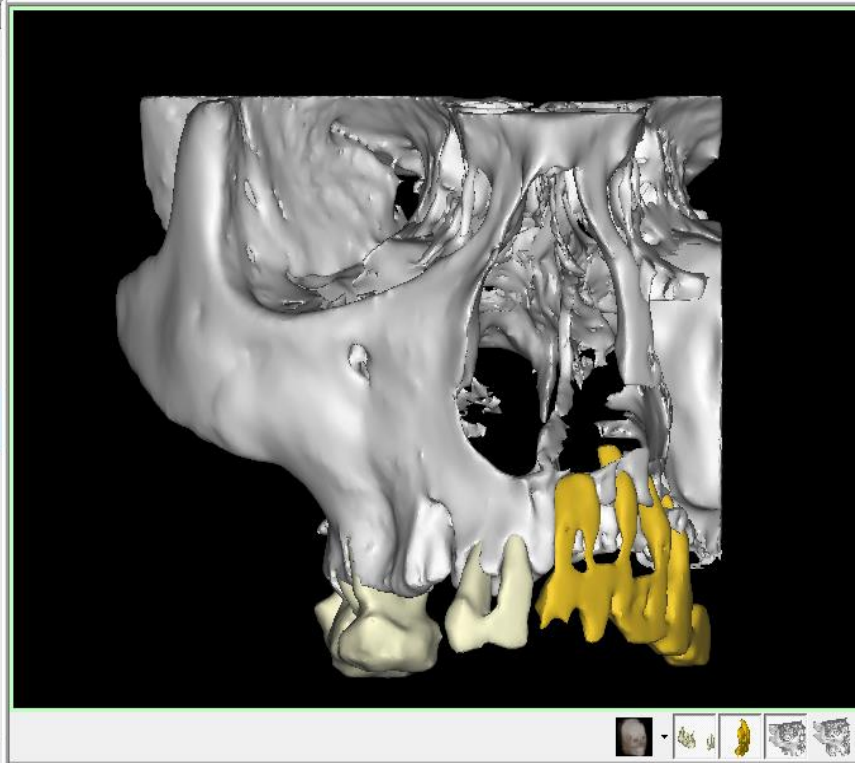
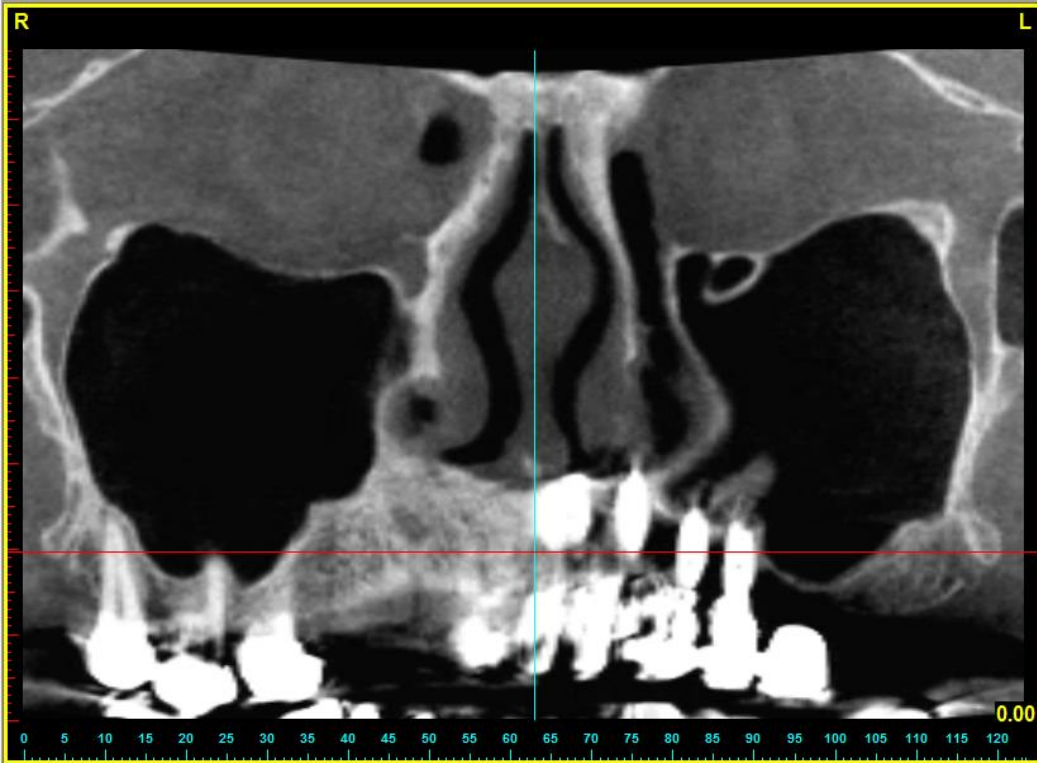
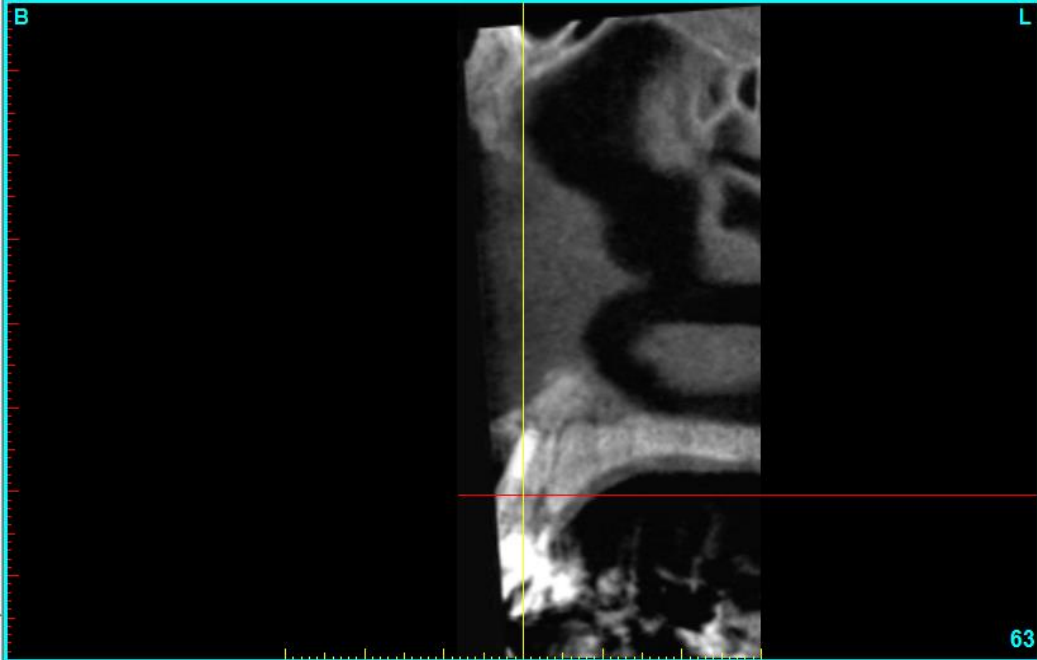


cone-beam CT  
(CBCT)



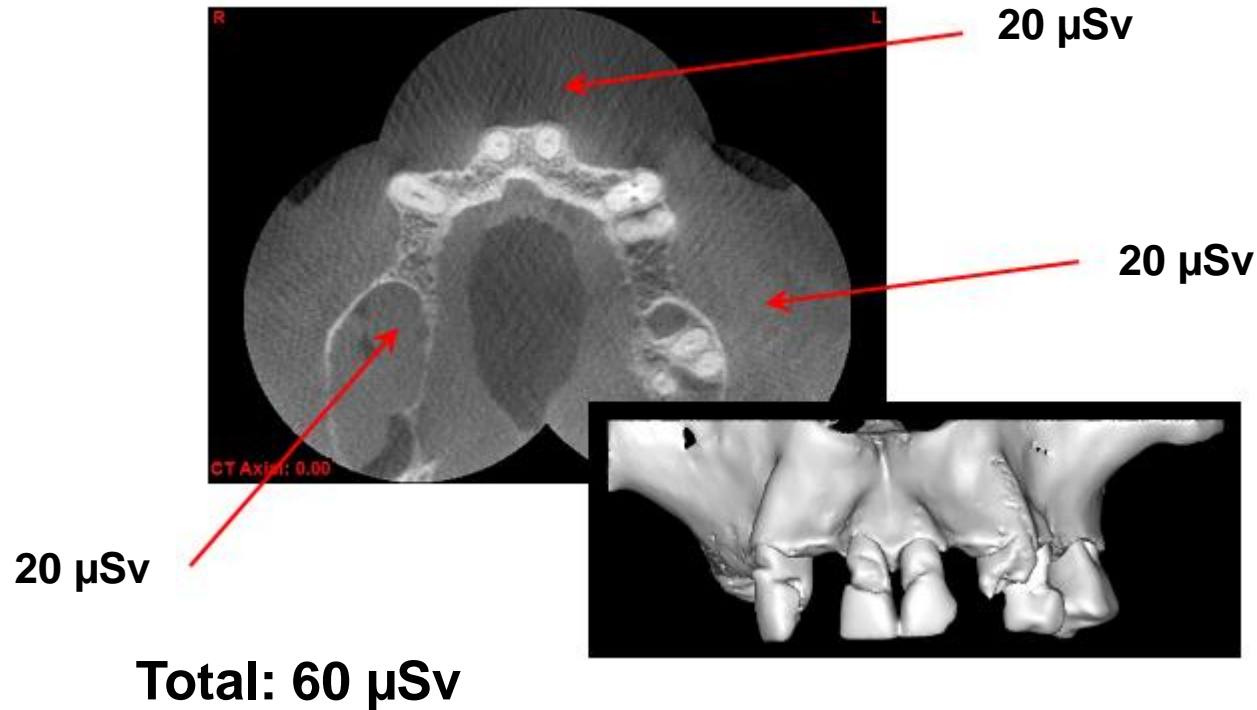






# Maxilla – Full Arch

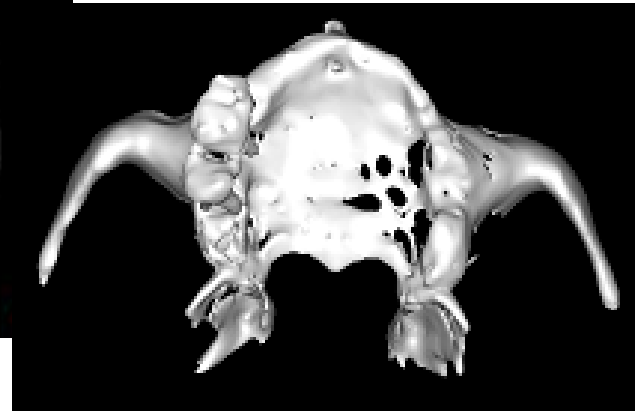
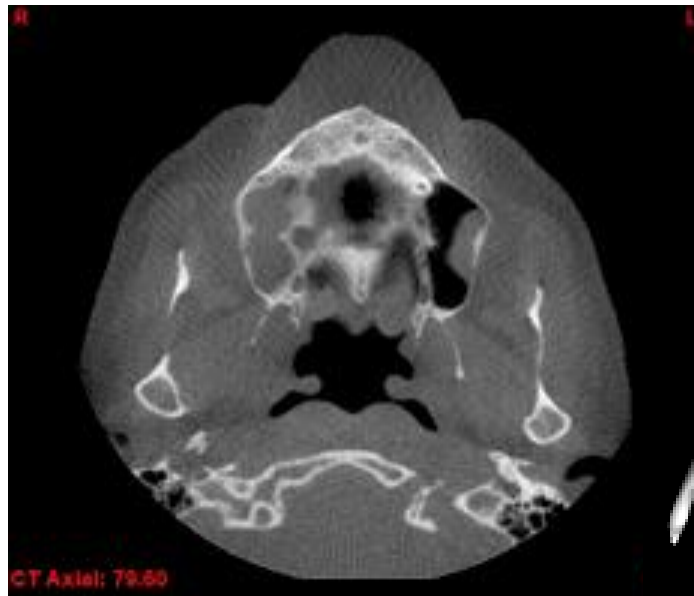
3 small fields stitched together  
each 5cm dia x 4cm height



# *Maxilla – Full Arch*

one large field

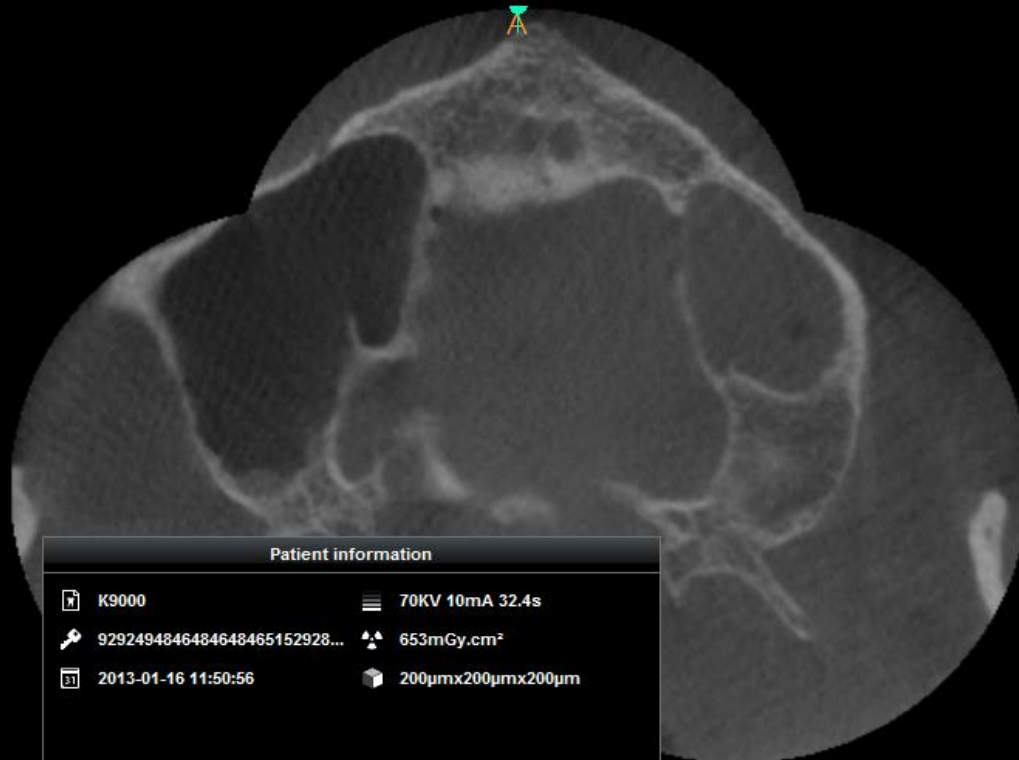
16cm dia x 4cm height



Total: 40  $\mu$ Sv

1x1 200 μm

18.60 mm



R

A

**Patient information**

K9000	70KV 10mA 32.4s
9292494846484648465152928...	653mGy.cm <sup>2</sup>
2013-01-16 11:50:56	200μm x 200μm x 200μm

OK

zoom: 1.45

1x1 200 μm

35.00 mm

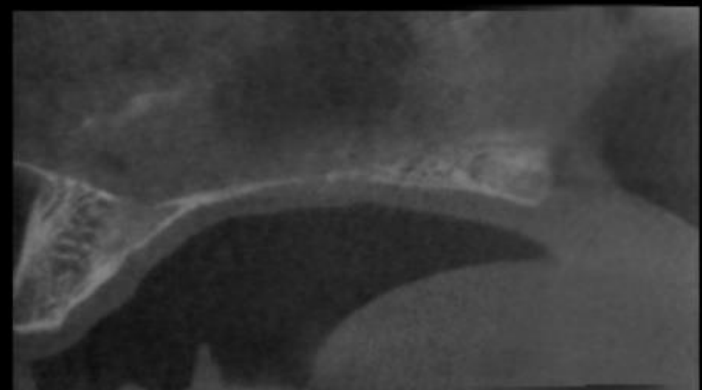
H

H



R

A



# *Image Quality*

## **- Noise**

- *depends on radiation dose*

## **- Artefact**

- *metal objects within the patient*
- *depends on machine calibration and operator technique*

## **- Spatial Resolution (resolution at high contrast)**

- *depends on machine design  
(focal spot size, detector elements, sampling, mechanical stability)*
- *voxel size can only limit the resolution – cannot increase it!*

## **- Contrast Resolution (resolution at low contrast)**

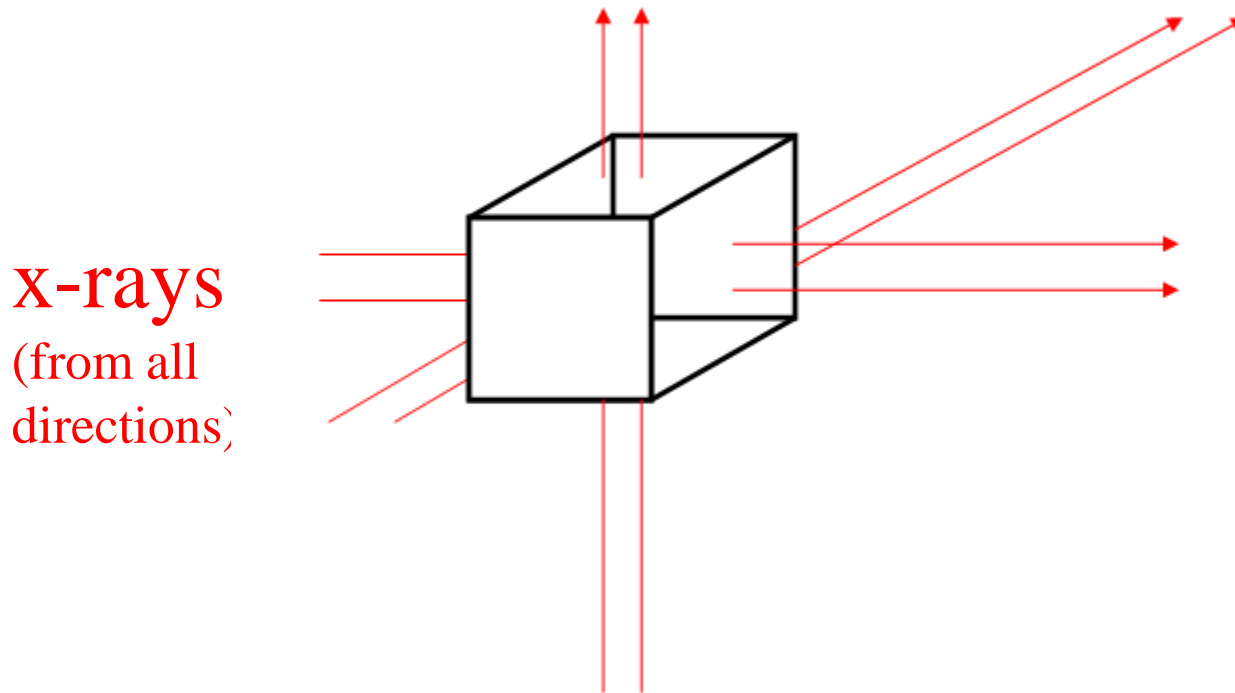
- *depends on filtration and kVp*
- *limited by the noise*

# ***Noise in CT / CBCT images***

**Noise = unstructured contribution to the image which has no counterpart in the object.**

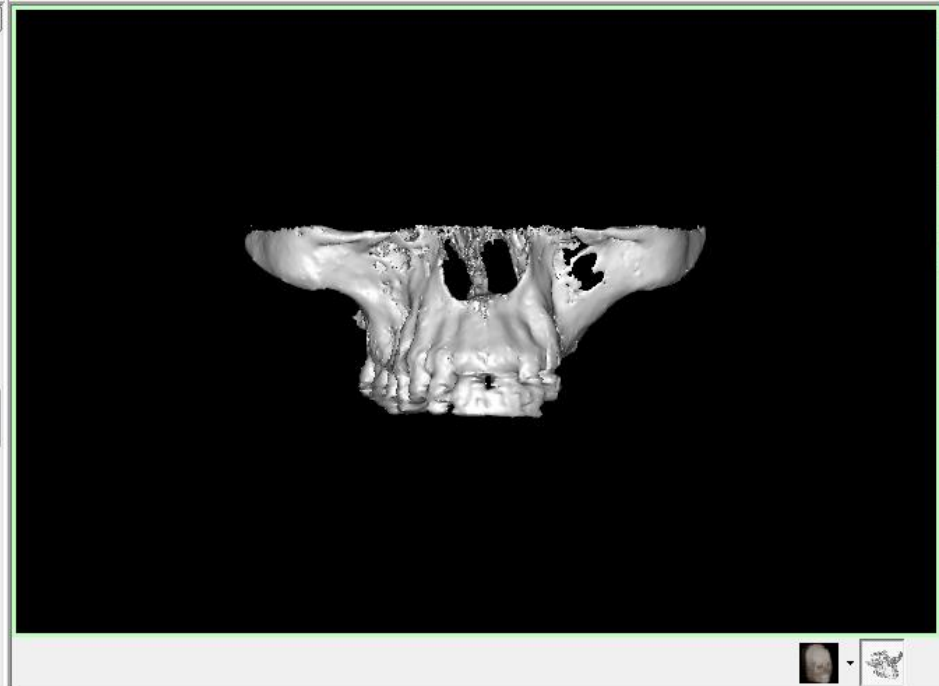
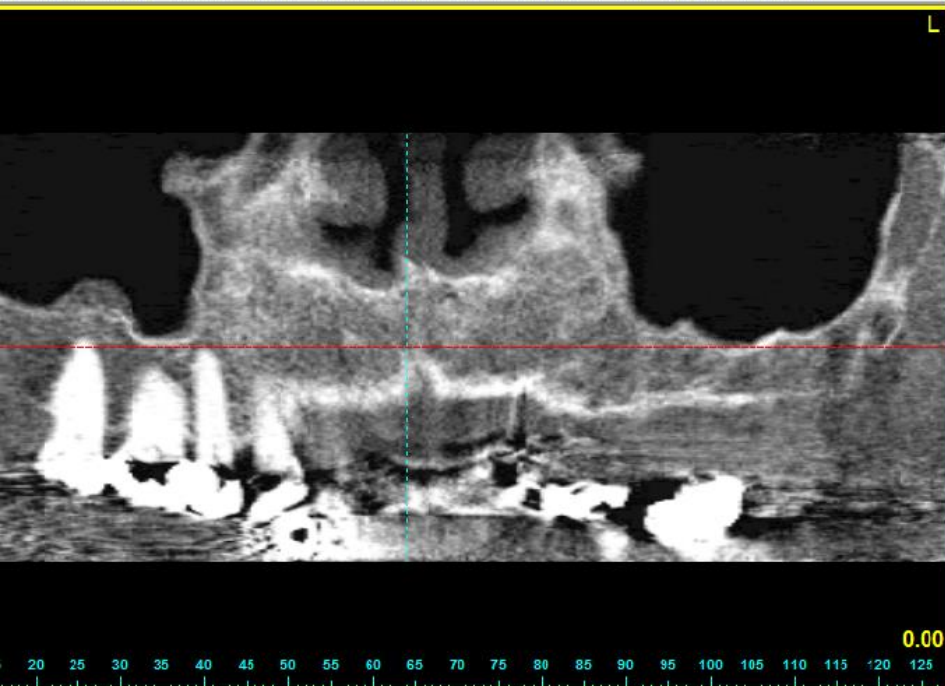
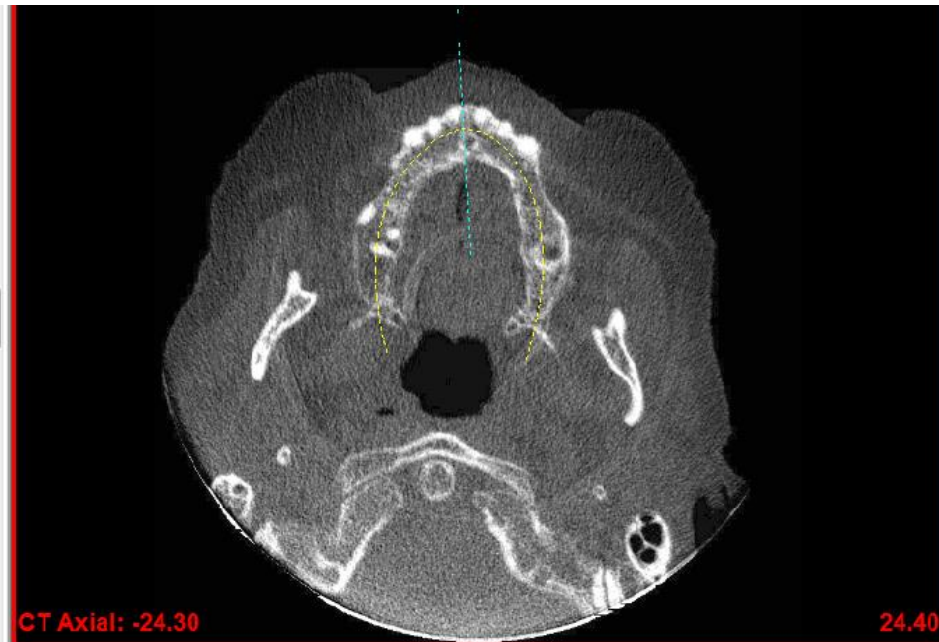
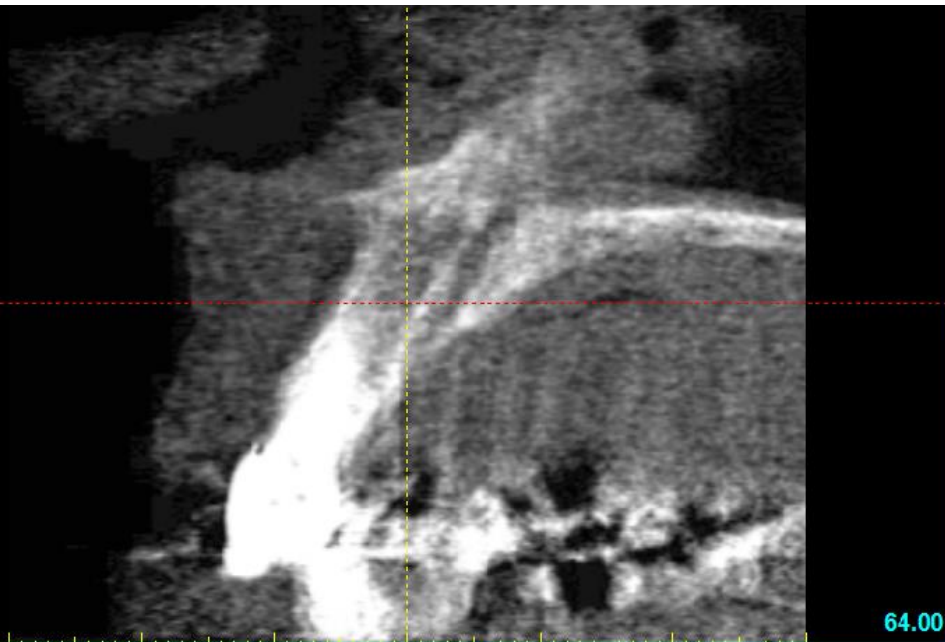
- **Electronic noise (dark current)**
- **Photon noise (not enough x-rays)**
  - Noise is proportional to  $\sqrt{n}$
  - Signal-to-Noise Ratio is proportional to  $n / \sqrt{n} = \sqrt{n}$
  - Where  $n$  is the number of x-ray photons

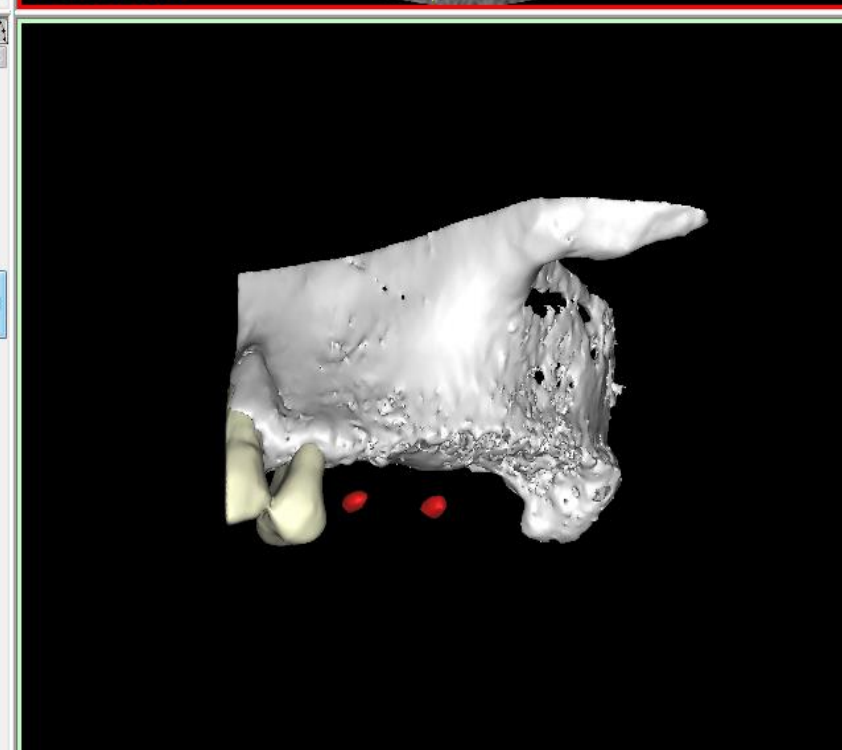
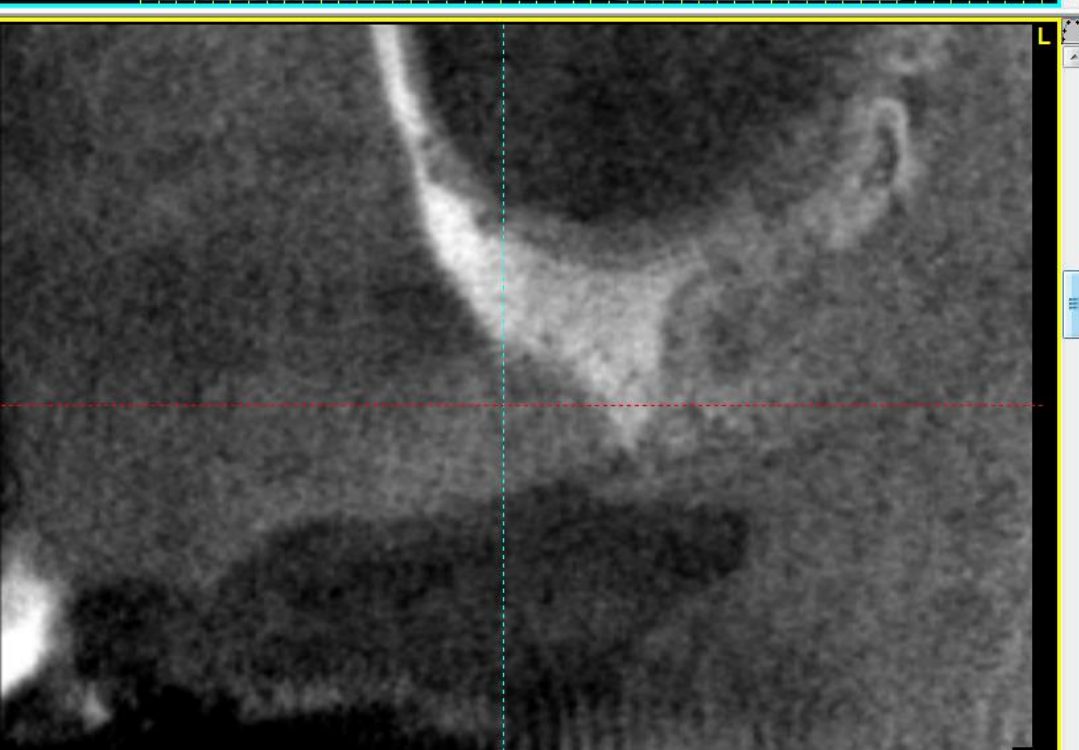
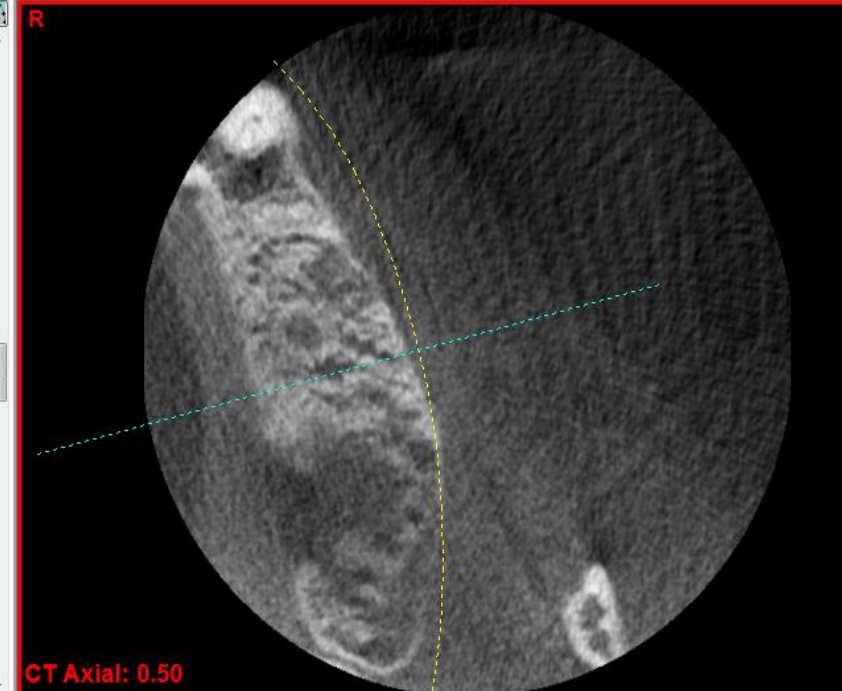
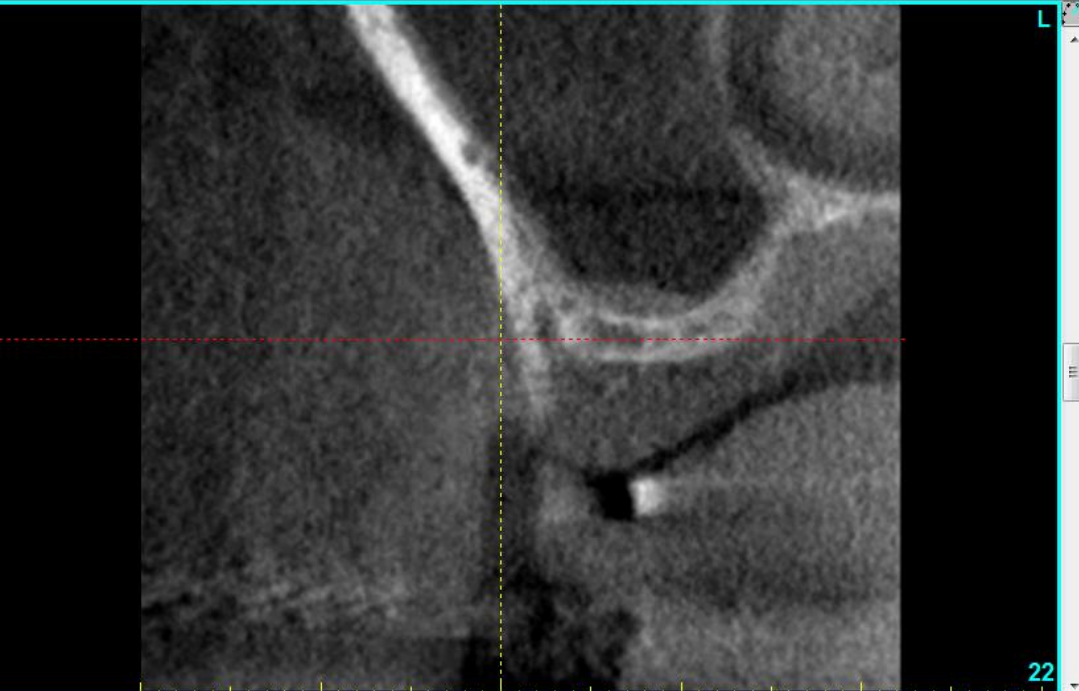
# *Noise depends on voxel size*



If you halve ( $1/2$ ) each side of a cube e.g. from 0.4mm to 0.2mm  
Number of x-ray photons passing through it goes down by 8 (i.e.  $1/8$ )  
Noise goes up by  $\sqrt{8} = 2.83$   
mAs (dose) may have to be increased to compensate







## ***Scan Duration versus Voxel Size***

- The noise increases as the voxel size gets smaller
- On most machines the operator **may choose** to increase the dose (mA or scan duration) to compensate for this
- On some machines (e.g. i-CAT 17-19 and CB-500) the operator **must choose** a longer scan duration to obtain a smaller voxel size  
*(e.g. 0.25mm voxels require a 23s scan duration on CB-500)*
- Advantage of the longer scan duration is better spatial resolution since the detector acquires more samples
- Disadvantages are: (a) more dose (b) patient movement.

# Other things that affect Image Quality

## Noise

- *depends on radiation dose*

## - Artefact

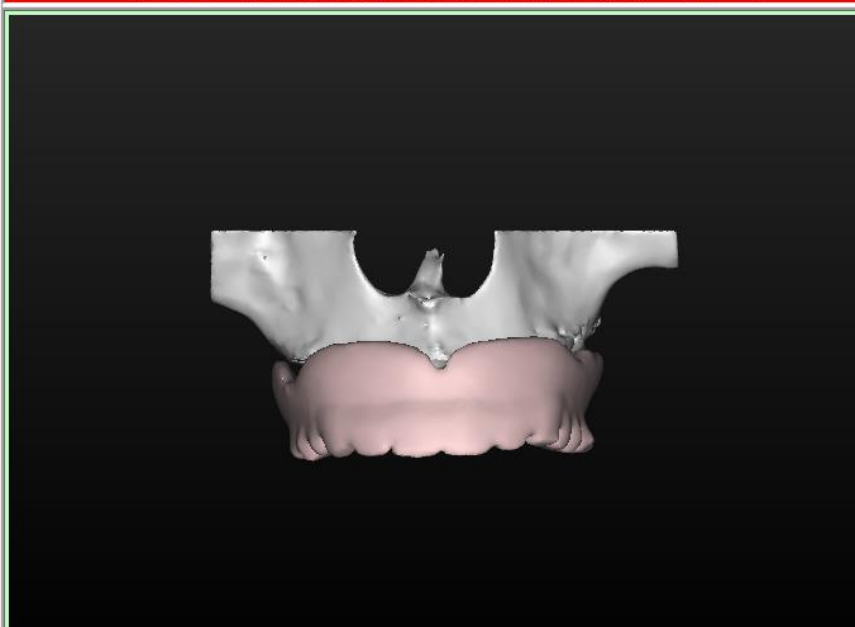
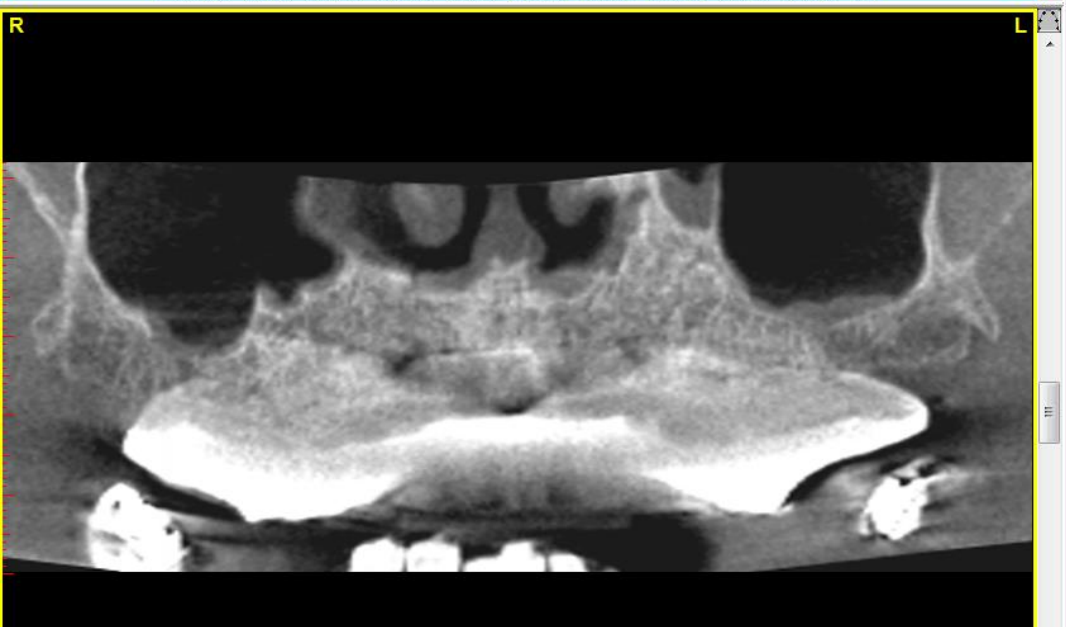
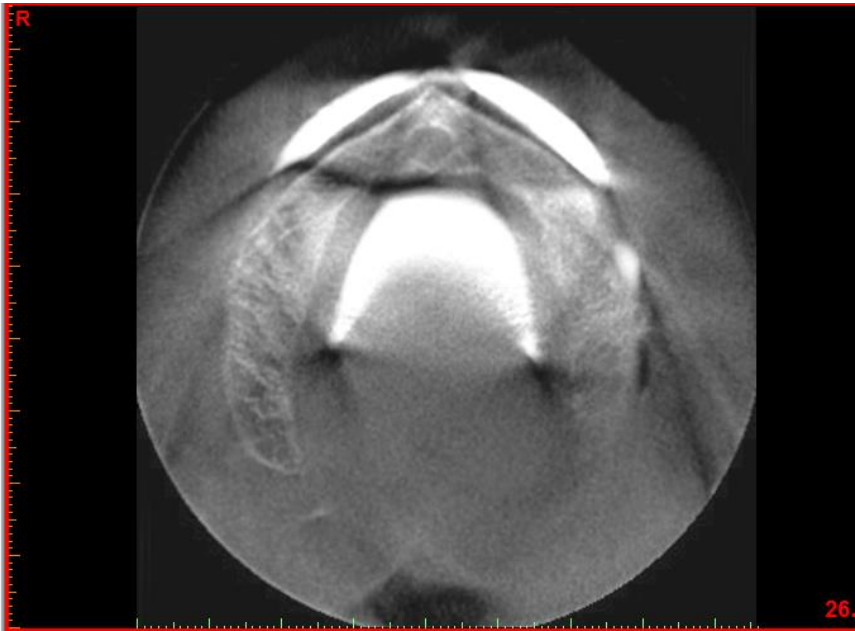
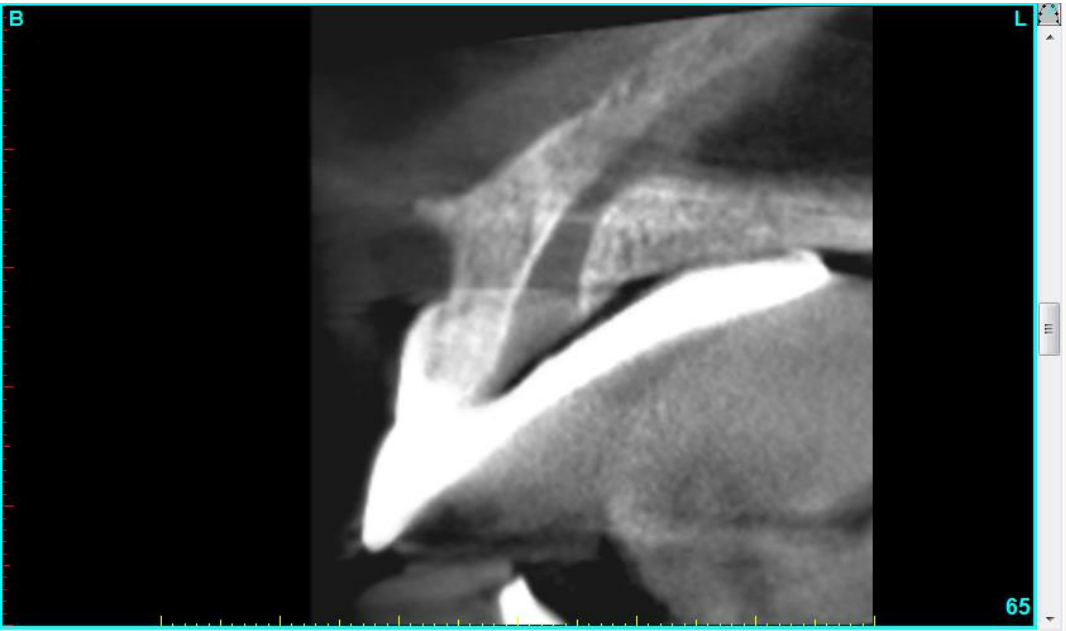
- *metal objects within the patient*
- *depends on machine calibration and operator technique*

## - Spatial Resolution (resolution at high contrast)

- *depends on machine design  
(focal spot size, detector elements, sampling, mechanical stability)*
- *voxel size can only limit the resolution – cannot increase it!*

## - Contrast Resolution (resolution at low contrast)

- *depends on filtration and kVp*
- *limited by the noise*



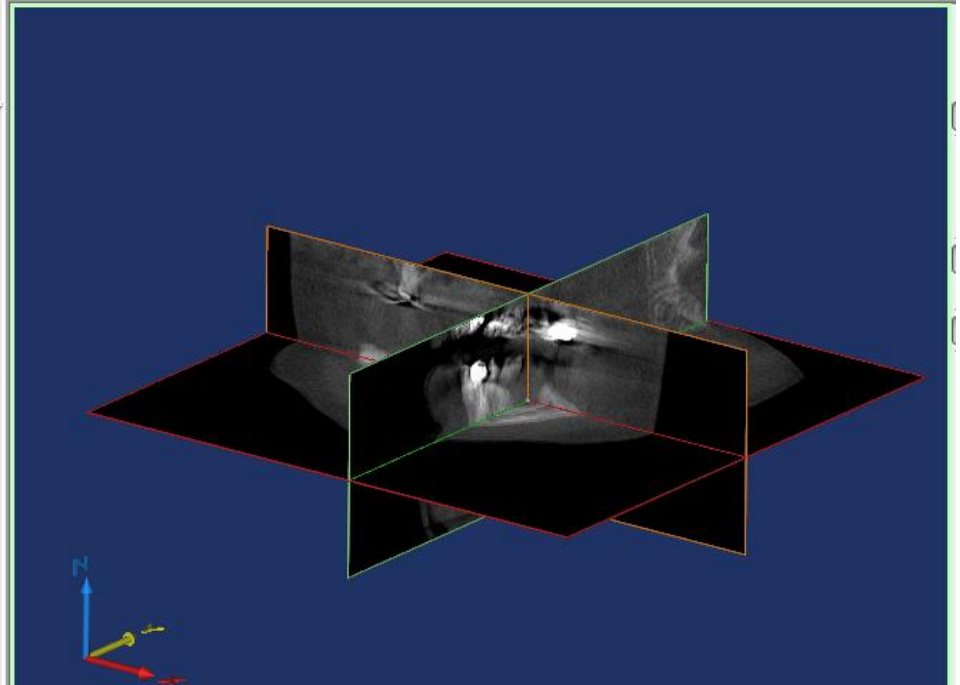
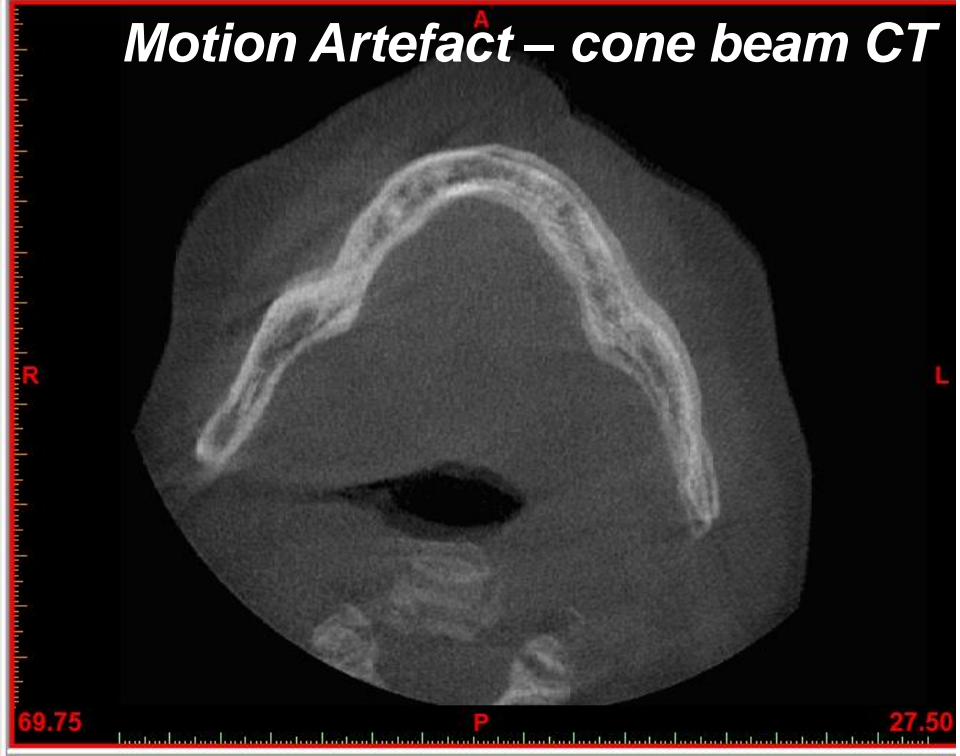
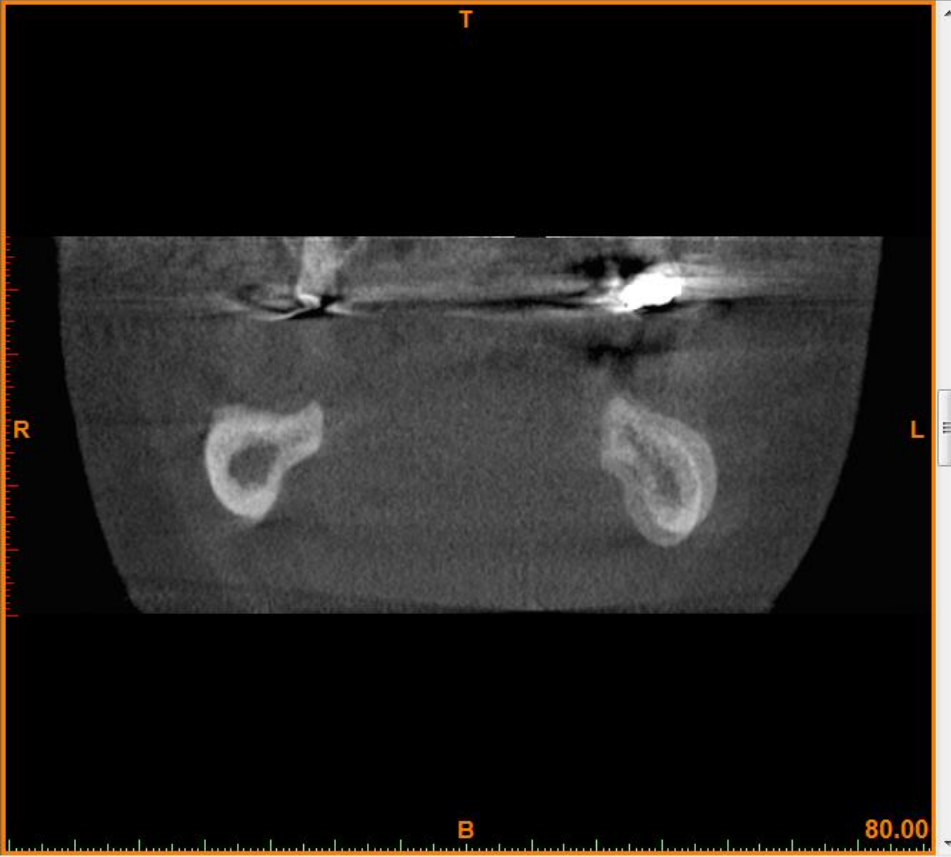
# *Artefacts in CT images*

**Artefact = structured contribution to the image which has no counterpart in the object.**

- **Motion artefact**
- **Spiral artefacts**
- **Cone beam artefacts**
- **Ring artefacts**
- **Starburst artefact**
- **Beam hardening**

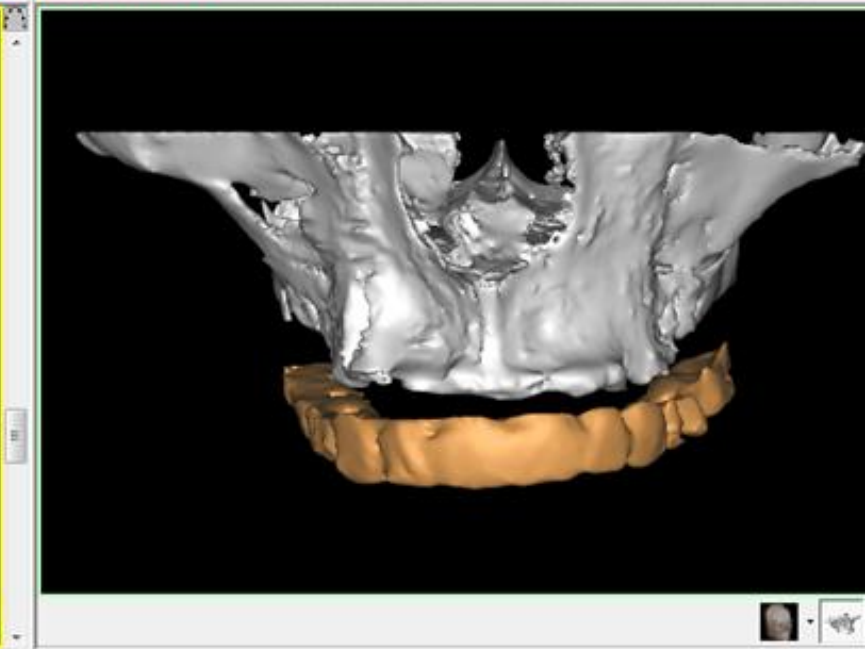


# Motion Artefact – cone beam CT

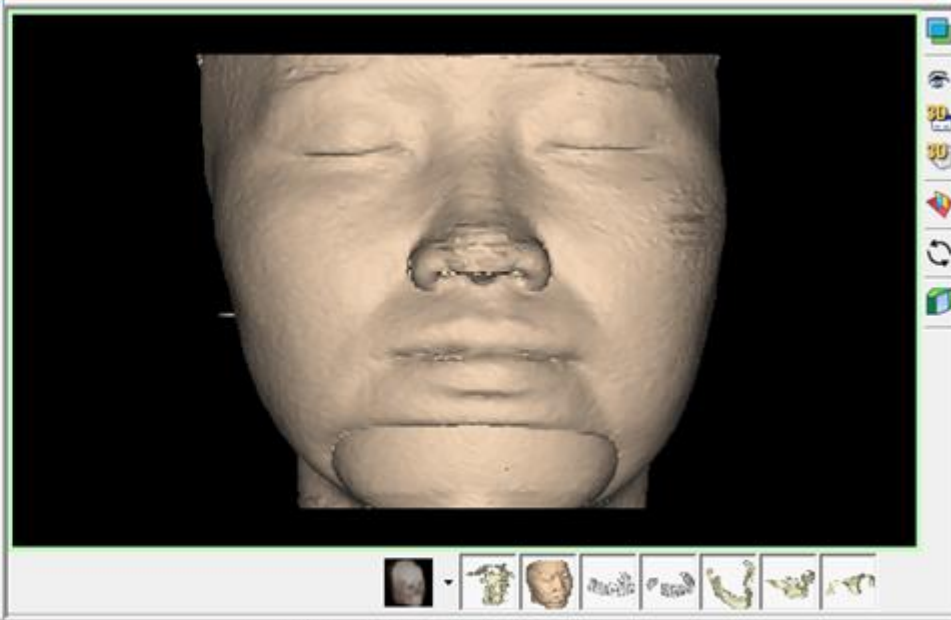
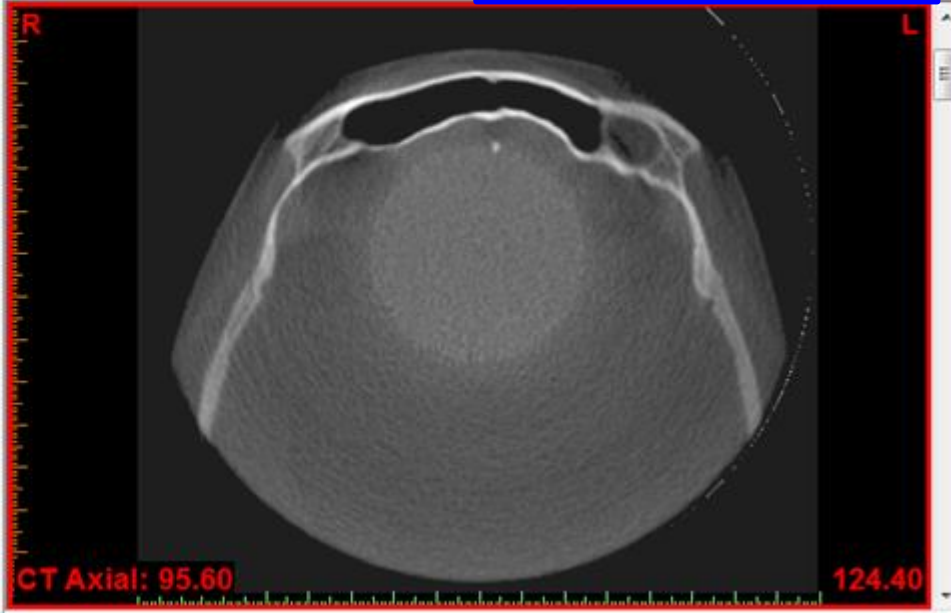
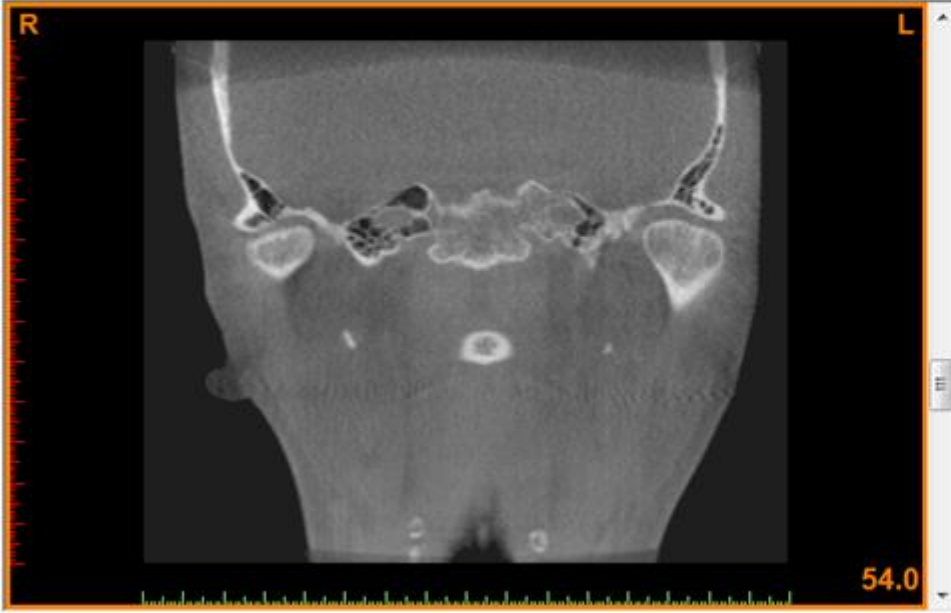


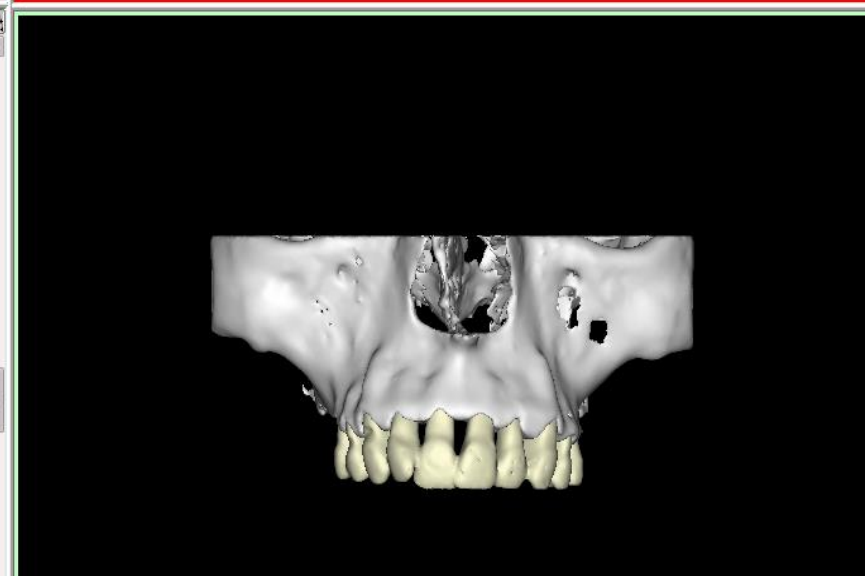
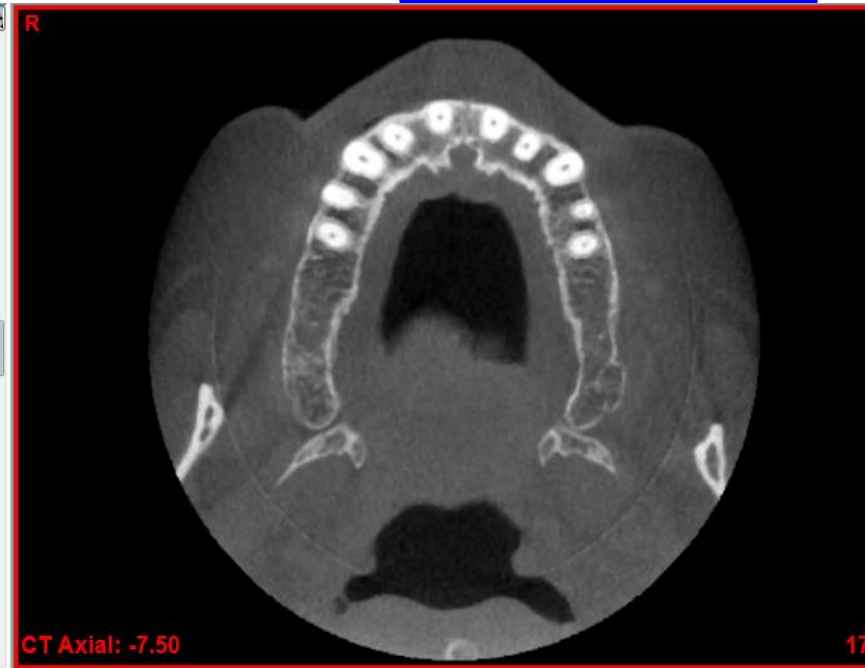


# Motion Artefact – cone beam



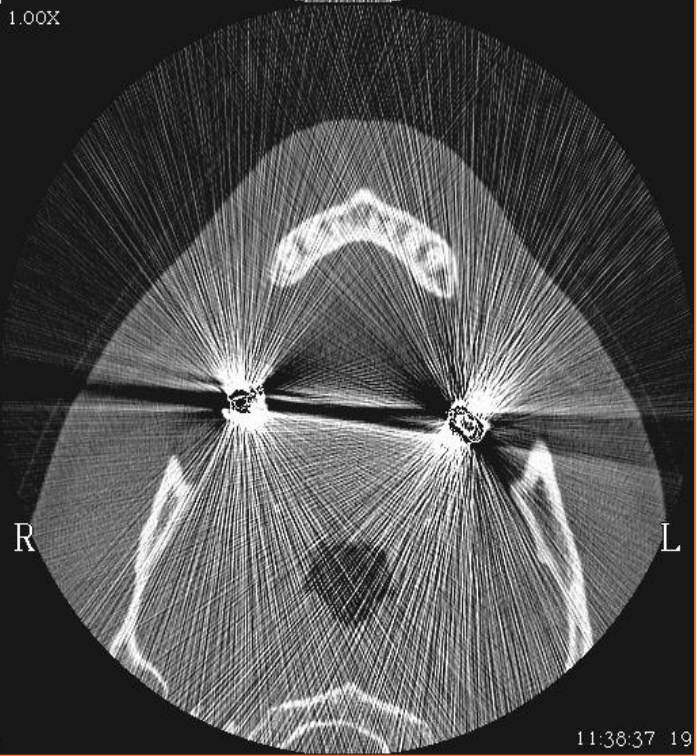
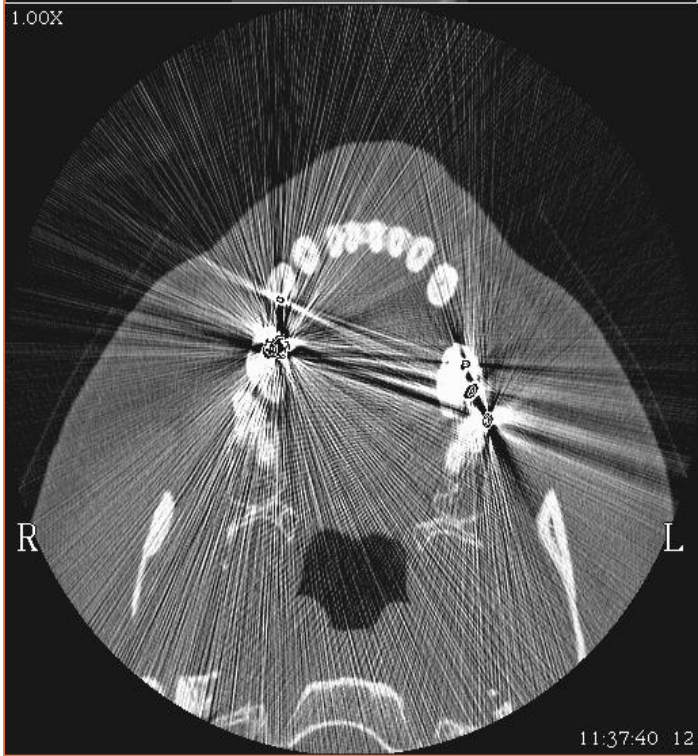
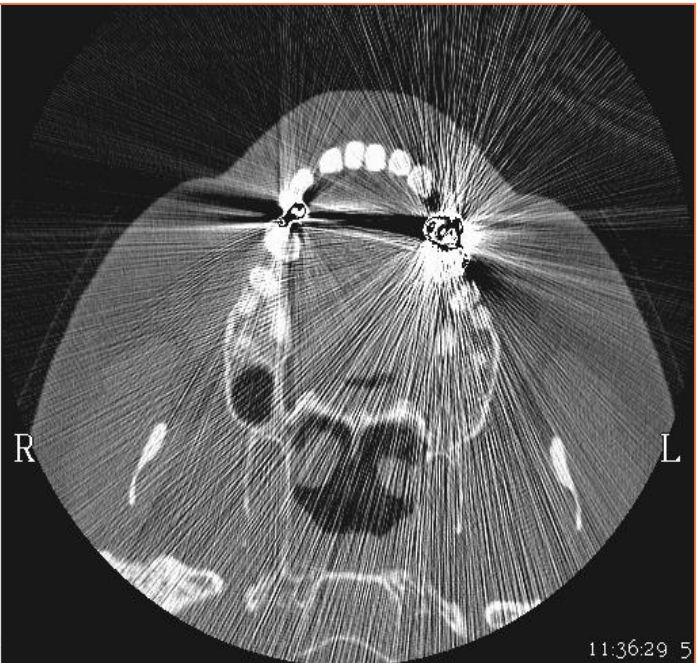
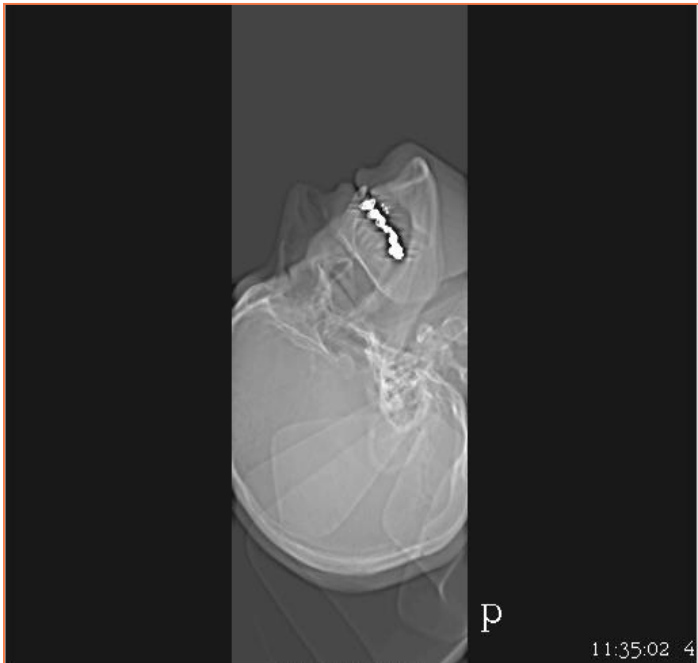
**cone beam artefact**





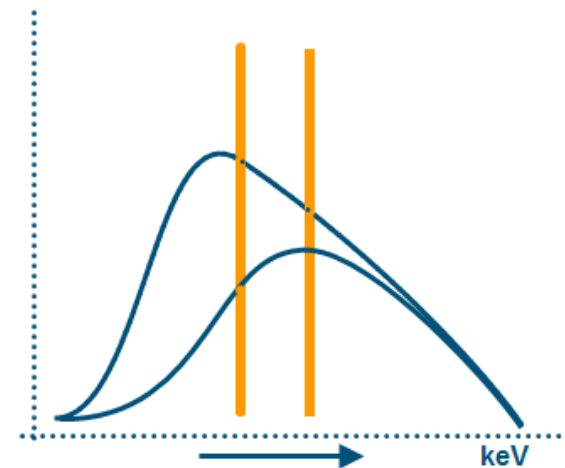
# ***STARBURST ARTEFACT***

- **Starburst artefacts arise in CT scans when sharp changes in density are present, e.g. between air and bone or between bone and dense metals**
- **Starburst artefacts are caused by limitations in high frequency sampling**
- **Starburst artefacts are not caused by scattered radiation**



# ***BEAM HARDENING ARTEFACT***

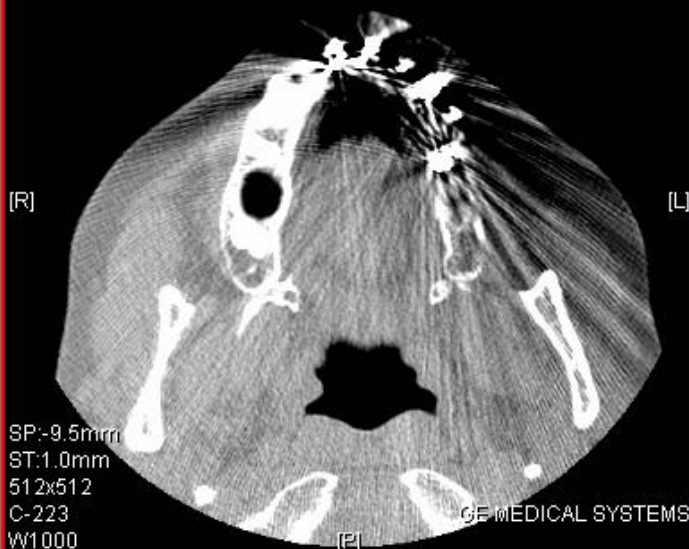
- **Beam Hardening artefacts also occur in CT scans when metals are present**
- **Metals cause the low energy x-rays to be filtered out of the x-ray beam**
- **The average energy becomes higher**
- **The CT numbers become lower**
- **Parts of the image appear black**



1863009  
17/03/45  
F  
37

[A]

DENTAL  
08/08/02  
28037  
120 KV



1863009  
17/03/45  
F  
38

[A]

DENTAL  
08/08/02  
28037  
120 KV



1863009  
17/03/45  
F  
39

[A]

DENTAL  
08/08/02  
28037  
120 KV

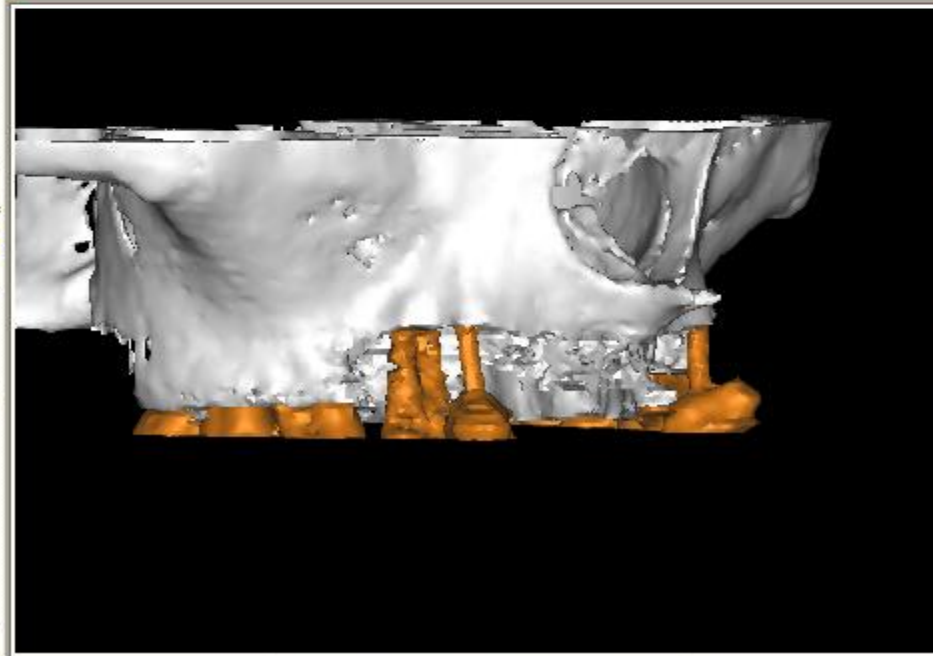
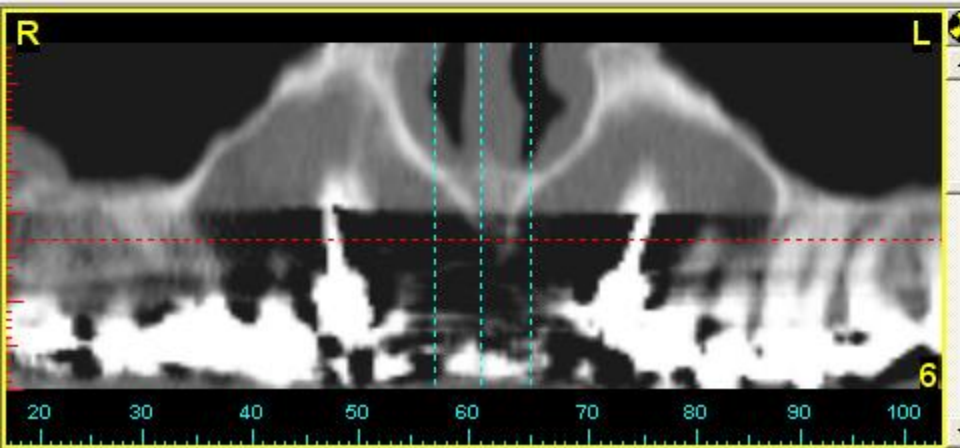
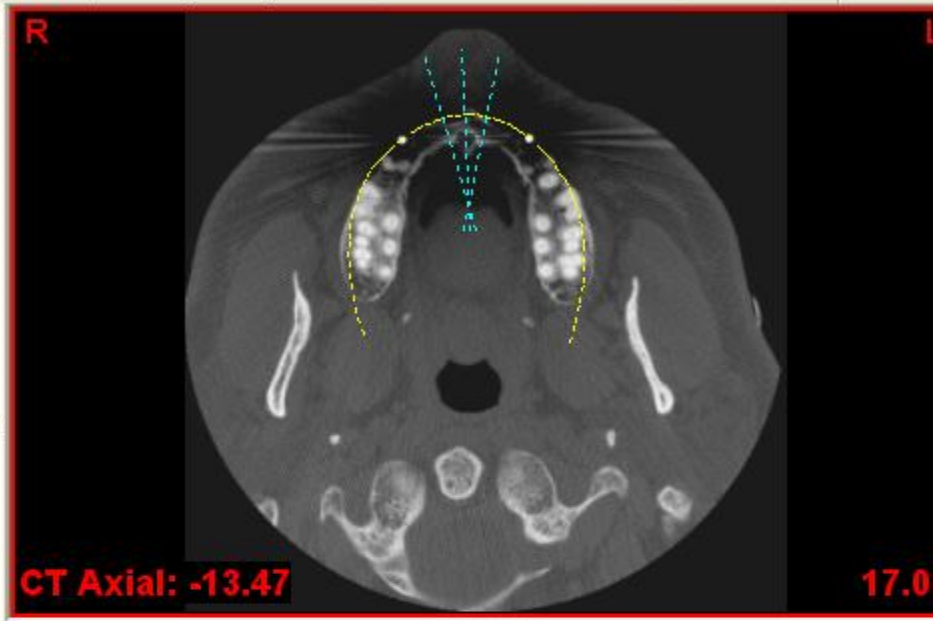
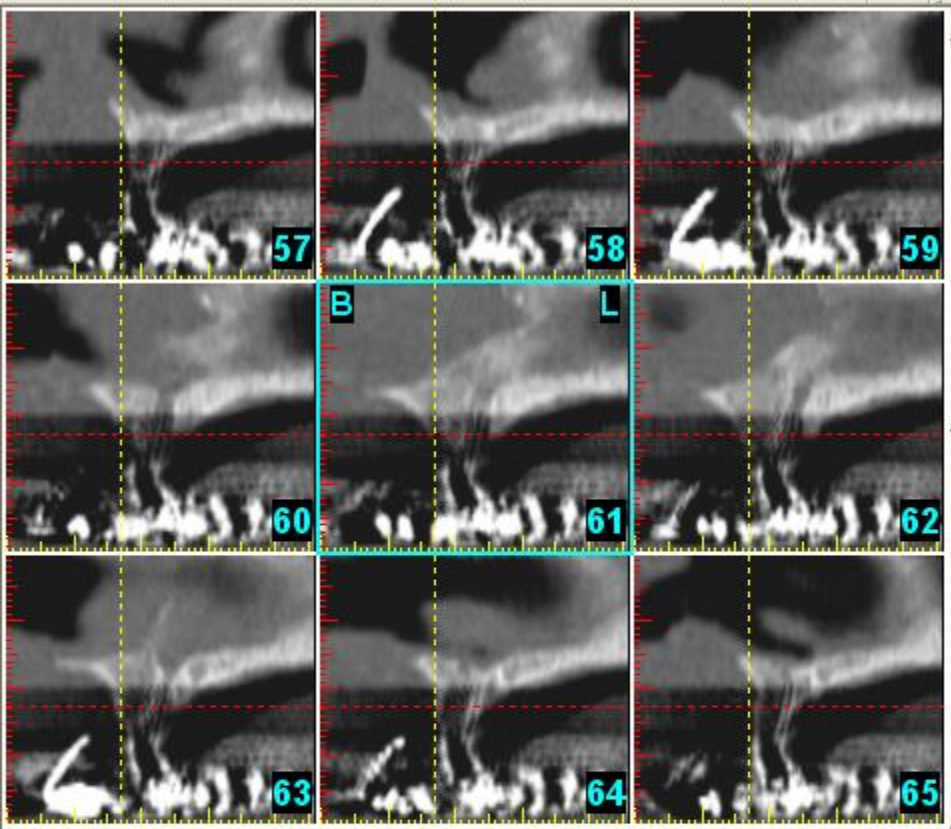


1863009  
17/03/45  
F  
40

[A]

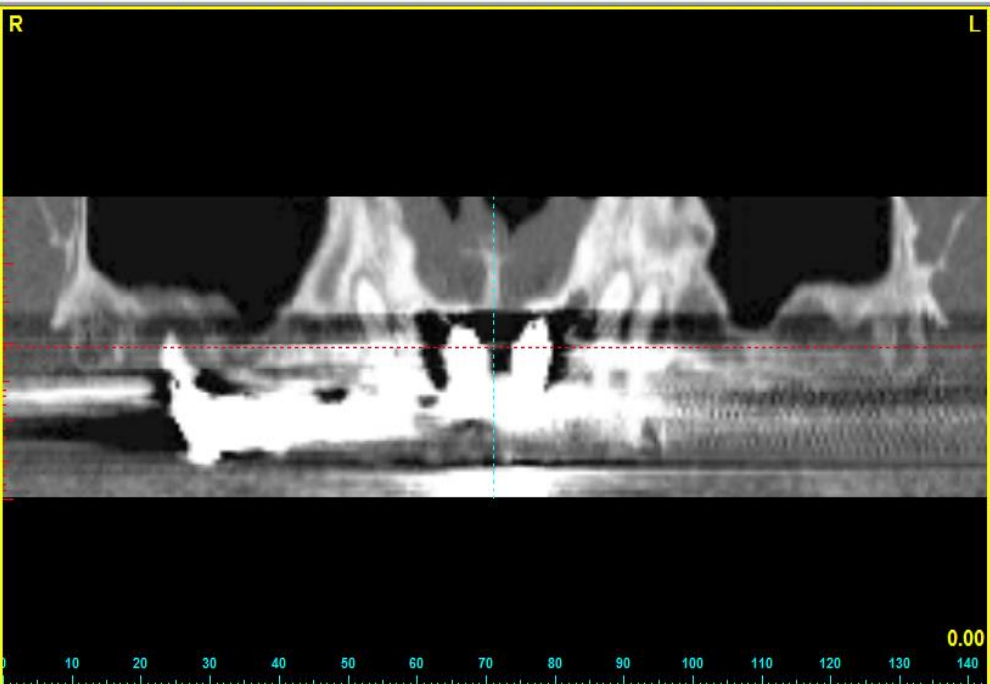
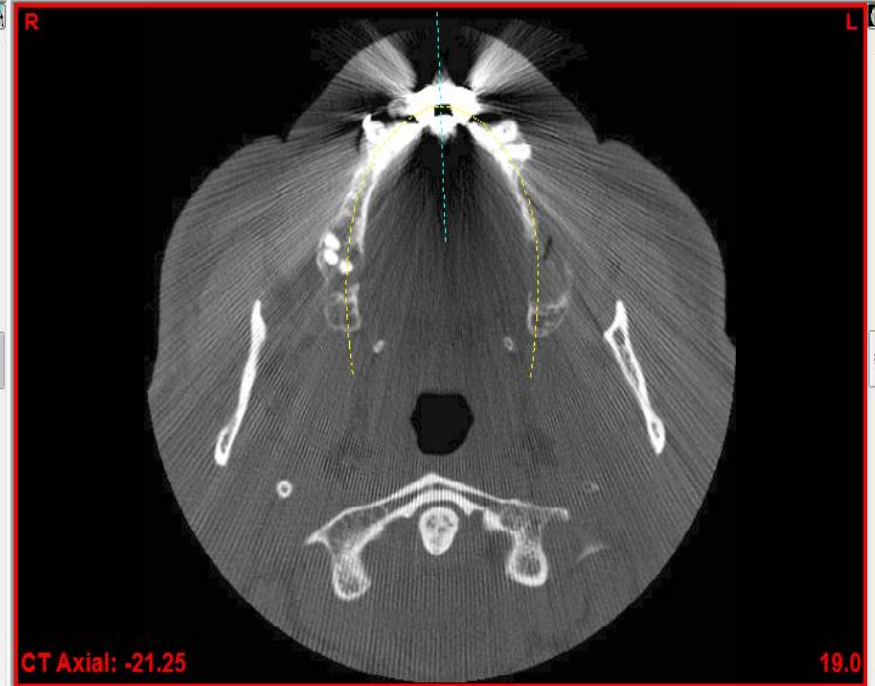
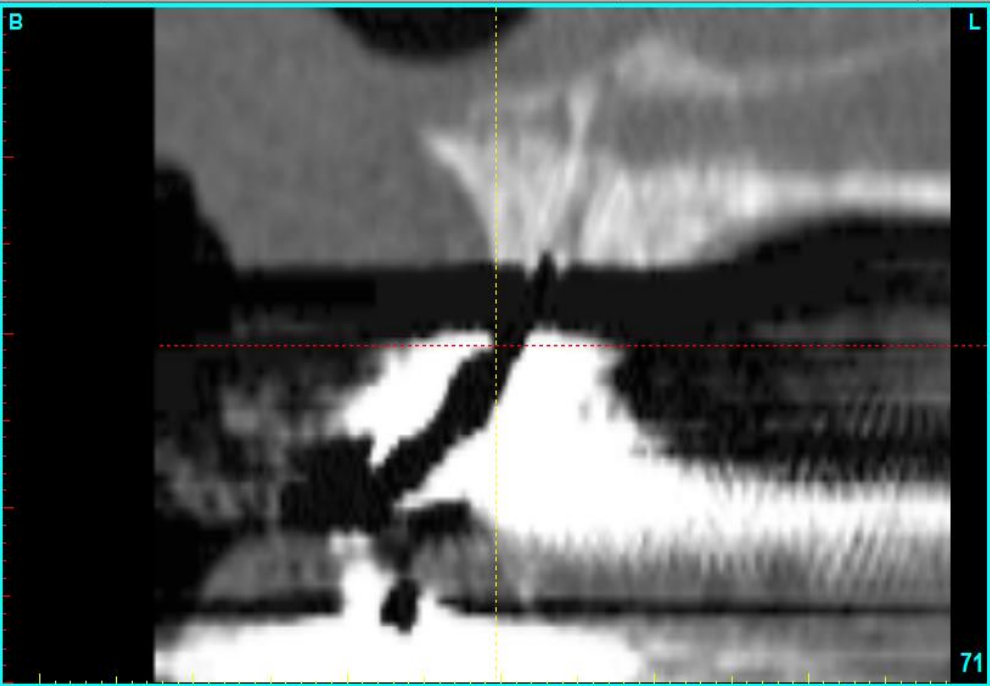
DENTAL  
08/08/02  
28037  
120 KV







Implant: Diameter: 3.75 mm Length: 0.50 mm



# High-Z materials cause the worst artefacts

Periodic Table of the Elements

The periodic table shows elements arranged by atomic number (1-113) and grouped into columns labeled IA through VIIIA. The element Titanium (Ti, atomic number 22) is circled in green, and Gold (Au, atomic number 79) and Mercury (Hg, atomic number 80) are circled in red. The lanthanide and actinide series are shown at the bottom.

1	2											3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
IA			IIA		IIIB	IVB	VB	VIB	VII B	VIII	IB	IIB	IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	VIIIA	
1 H													5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne	
2 Li	4 Be												13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar	
3 Na	12 Mg												31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr	
4 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn		49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe	
5 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd		81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn	
6 Cs	56 Ba	*La	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg								
7 Fr	88 Ra	+Ac	104 Rf	105 Ha	106 Sg	107 Ns	108 Hs	109 Mt	110	111	112	113							

* Lanthanide Series	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
+ Actinide Series	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr

# ***HOW TO AVOID ARTEFACTS***

- **Titanium implants produce little artefact, gold produces a lot**
- **Remove dentures or other fixtures that include metal clasps, reinforcements or chrome cobalt bases**
- **Replace amalgam with composites, especially if the tooth will be sacrificed anyway.**

# Other things that affect Image Quality

## ✓ Noise

- *depends on radiation dose*

## ✓ Artefact

- *metal objects within the patient*
- *depends on machine calibration and operator technique*

## - Spatial Resolution (resolution at high contrast)

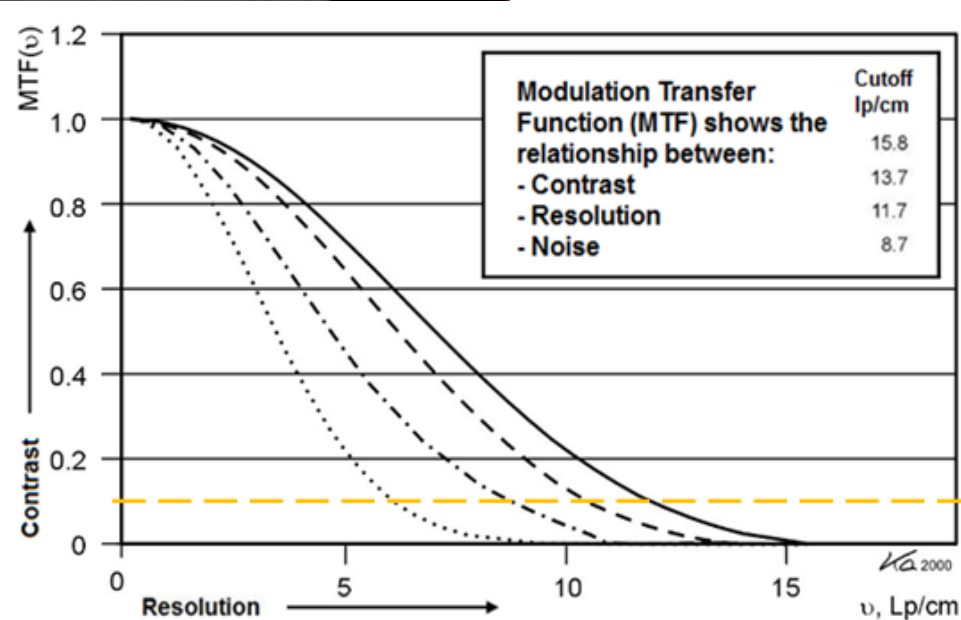
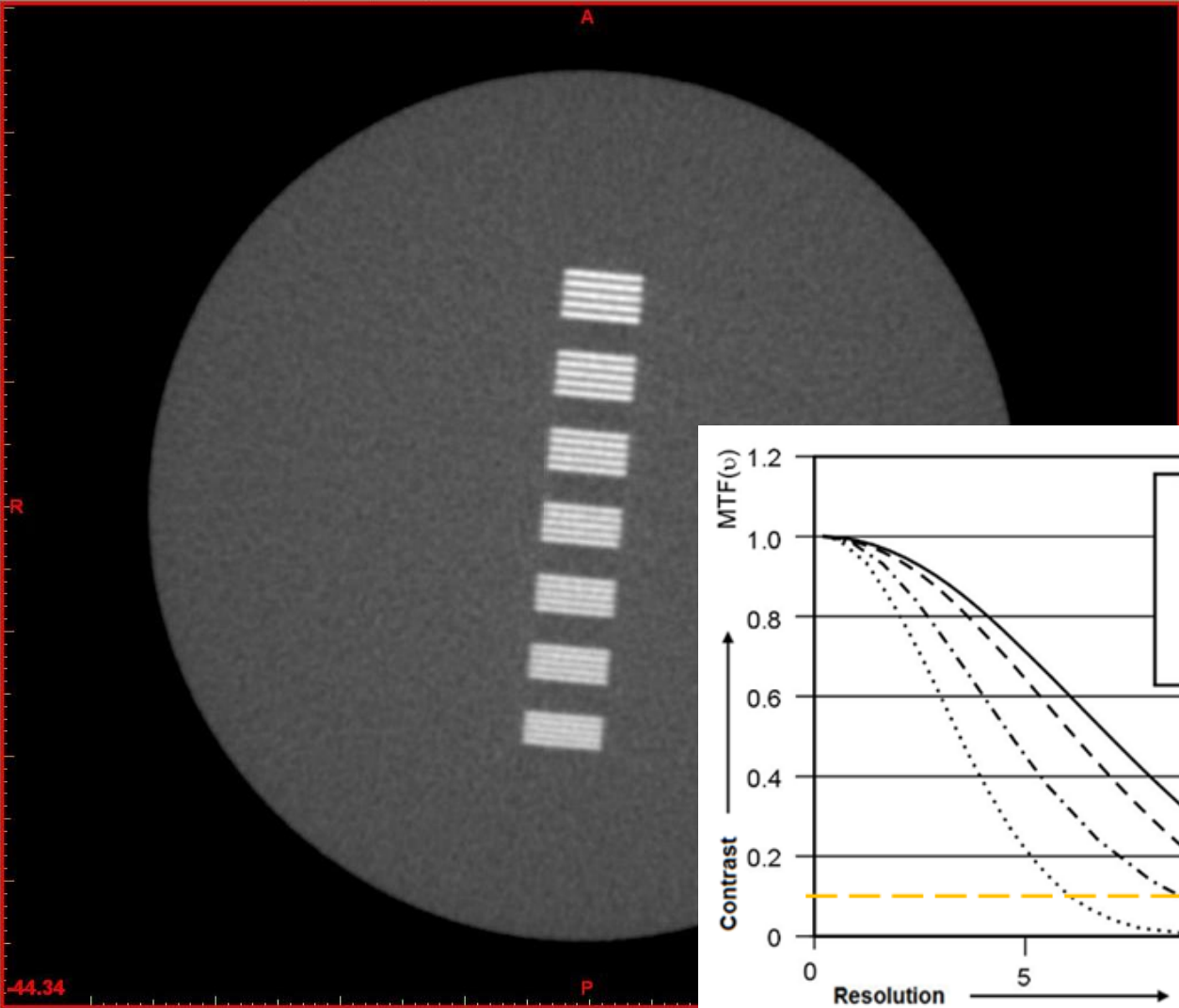
- *depends on machine design  
(focal spot size, detector elements, sampling, mechanical stability)*
- *voxel size can only limit the resolution – cannot increase it!*

## - Contrast Resolution (resolution at low contrast)

- *depends on filtration and kVp*
- *limited by the noise*

# Spatial Resolution

## Detail at high contrast



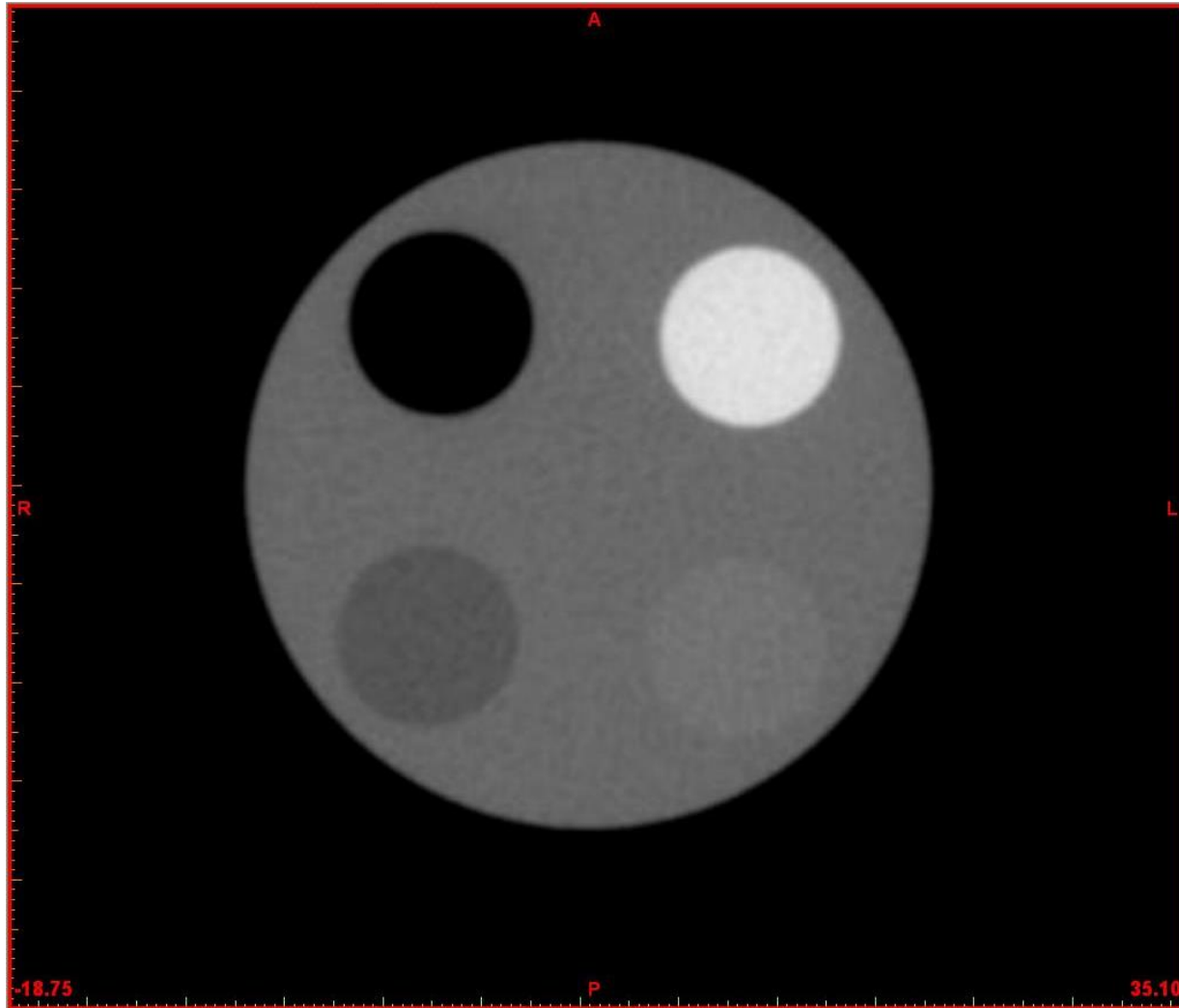
10% Noise

# Spatial Resolution



# Contrast Resolution

Detail at low contrast



# Contrast Resolution





# Spatial and Contrast Resolution are both important

## Basic Research—Technology

### Comparison of Five Cone Beam Computed Tomography Systems for the Detection of Vertical Root Fractures

Bassam Hassan, BDS, MSc,<sup>\*†</sup> Maria Elisavet Metska, DDS, MSc,<sup>††</sup> Ahmet Rifat Ozok, DDS, PhD,<sup>‡</sup> Paul van der Stelt, DDS, PhD,<sup>\*</sup> and Paul Rudolf Wesselink, DDS, PhD<sup>‡</sup>

#### Abstract

**Introduction:** This study compared the accuracy of cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) scans made by five different systems in detecting vertical root fractures (VRFs). It also assessed the influence of the presence of root canal filling (RCF), CBCT slice orientation selection, and the type of tooth (premolar/molar) on detection accuracy. **Methods:** Eighty endodontically prepared teeth were divided into four groups and placed in dry mandibles. The teeth in groups Fr-F and Fr-NF were artificially fractured; those in groups control-F and control-NF were not. Groups Fr-F and control-F were root filled. CBCT scans were made using five different commercial CBCT systems. Two observers evaluated images in axial, coronal, and sagittal reconstruction planes. **Results:** There was a significant difference in detection accuracy among the five systems ( $p = 0.00001$ ). The presence of RCF did not influence sensitivity ( $p = 0.16$ ), but it reduced specificity ( $p = 0.003$ ). Axial slices were significantly more accurate than sagittal and coronal slices ( $p = 0.0001$ ) in detecting VRF in all systems. Significantly more VRFs were detected among molars than premolars ( $p = 0.0001$ ). Conclusions: RCF presence reduced specificity in all systems ( $p = 0.009$ ) but did not influence accuracy ( $p = 0.79$ ) except in one system ( $p = 0.012$ ). Axial slices were the most accurate in detecting VRFs ( $p = 0.0001$ ). *J Endod* 2010;36:126–129

#### Key Words

Cone beam computed tomography scan, diagnosis, root canal filling, vertical root fracture

From the Departments of \*Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology and †Cariology Endodontology Pedodontology, Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam (ACTA), Loosweg 1 1066 EA Amsterdam, The Netherlands

<sup>‡</sup>Bassam Hassan and Maria Elisavet Metska contributed equally to this manuscript.

Address requests for reprints to Dr Ahmet Rifat Ozok, Department of Cariology Endodontology Pedodontology, Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam (ACTA), Loosweg 1 1066 EA Amsterdam, The Netherlands. E-mail address: r.ozok@acta.nl

0099-2398/10 - see front matter  
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### Comparison of Five Cone Beam Computed Tomography Systems for the Detection of Vertical Root Fractures

Bassam Hassan, BDS, MSc,<sup>\*†</sup> Maria Elisavet Metska, DDS, MSc,<sup>††</sup> Ahmet Rifat Ozok, DDS, PhD,<sup>‡</sup> Paul van der Stelt, DDS, PhD,<sup>\*</sup> and Paul Rudolf Wesselink, DDS, PhD<sup>‡</sup>

The clinical and radiographic diagnosis of vertical root fractures (VRFs) is often complicated. A local deep pocket, dual sinus tracts, and a halo type of lateral radiolucency are among the symptoms (1–8). Often these symptoms are not convincing to justify tooth extraction, which usually is the elected treatment because the prognosis of VRFs is poor. Therefore, the exact diagnosis of a VRF is crucial to avoid erroneous extraction. However, because of the two-dimensional nature of periapical radiographs (PRs) and the inherent superimposition projection artifacts, visualizing a VRF is difficult, especially when the fracture line is mesiodistally oriented (9). The presence of a VRF is only confirmed by direct visualization (10). This may sometimes be accomplished by means of a surgical diagnostic flap, which is quite invasive.

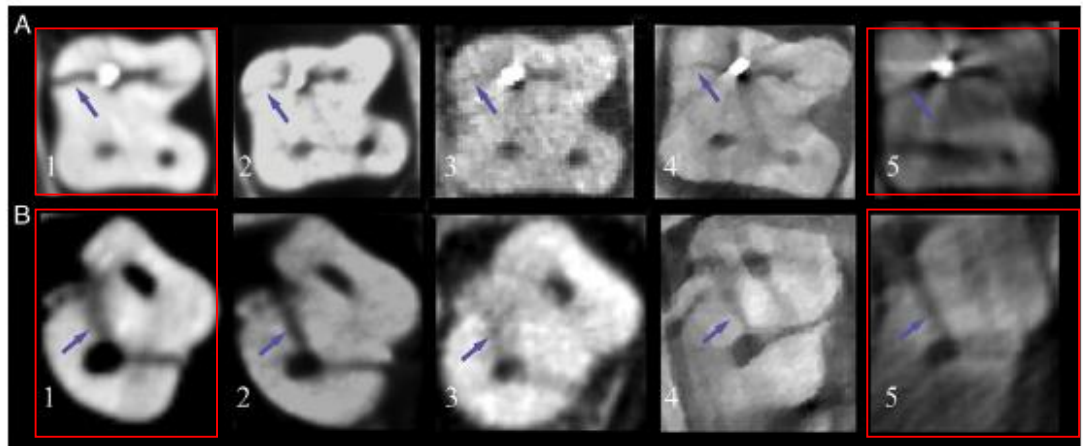
Cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) scans specifically designed for the maxillofacial region have become largely accessible to clinicians and have replaced conventional computed tomography scans for dentomaxillofacial applications because of their reduced radiation dose and installation and maintenance costs (11–13). Prototype flat-panel CBCT systems were found useful in detecting VRFs (14, 15). Those systems, however, cannot be used to scan patients. Recently, a CBCT system was found more accurate than PR in detecting VRFs in root-filled teeth (16). The superiority of CBCT over PR is primarily because of the high contrast and three-dimensional nature of tomographic imaging, which permits direct visualization of fracture lines otherwise masked in PR.

Several dentomaxillofacial CBCT systems are currently on the market. Those systems differ from each other in detector design, patient scanning settings, and data reconstruction parameters (17–21). Several scanning and reconstruction factors including scan field of view (FoV) selection and voxel size, the number of basis projections (acquisitions) used for reconstruction, and image artifacts have significant influence on image quality in CBCT. CBCT systems vary in their image quality and ability to visualize anatomic structures (22–27). This variation is most prominent with small and delicate anatomic structures such as periodontal ligament and trabecular bone (28). It is, therefore, probable that different CBCT systems vary in their ability to detect VRFs because the fractures are small. The influence of the presence of root canal filling (RCF) on VRF visibility could also vary among the different scanners. Additionally, the selection of the reconstruction plane (axial, sagittal, or coronal) used for the detection or the type of tooth could have an influence on VRF detection. This study aimed to compare the accuracy of five clinical CBCT systems for detecting VRFs in endodontically prepared teeth and to assess the influence of the presence of a RCF, slice orientation selection, and the type of tooth on accuracy for detecting VRF in each system.

#### Material and Methods

##### Sample Preparation

We used the method described by Hassan et al (16). Briefly, 40 extracted premolars and 40 molars were inspected on a stereomicroscope (Wild Photomicroscope M400; Wild, Heerbrugg, Switzerland) for the absence of VRFs. Endodontically prepared root canals (size F3, ProTaper; Dentsply Maillefer, Tulsa, OK) were divided into two experimental (Fr-F and Fr-NF) and two control groups (control-F and control-NF). Each group consisted of 10 premolars and 10 molars ( $n = 20$ ). The teeth were decorated to eliminate a bias of enamel fractures.



**Figure 1** An example of an axial cross-section showing a vertical root fracture line (arrow) in an endodontically filled root (row A) and in a nonfilled root (row B). CBCT systems from left to right: (1) Next Generation i-CAT, (2) Scanora 3D, (3) NewTom 3G, (4) AccuTomo MFC-1, and (5) Galileos 3D.

**Image 1 has good Spatial Resolution and good Contrast Resolution**  
**Image 5 has poor Spatial Resolution and poor Contrast Resolution**

# ***Conclusions***

- **If your patient will truly benefit from a CT or CBCT Scan the risks are likely to be minimal or very low compared to the benefits.**
- **A certain amount of Dose is essential for good image quality but other factors are important too.**

## ***5 things to discuss with CBCT salesmen***

- 1. There's no dose to the parts of the patient not visible in the images. FALSE**
- 2. A Small Field Of View (SFOV) always means a lower dose. FALSE  
USUALLY BUT NOT ALWAYS.**
- 3. A CBCT scanner always has a lower dose than a medical CT scanner. FALSE  
USUALLY BUT NOT ALWAYS.**
- 4. The dose from my SFOV scanner is so low that stitching 3 fields together is better than scanning the whole arch on a LFOV machine. FALSE**
- 5. My CBCT scanner has a low kV so that means a lower dose. FALSE**

## ***5 things to discuss with your colleagues***

- 1. The smaller the voxel size, the better. FALSE**
- 2. A smaller voxel size always means a higher dose. FALSE**  
**USUALLY BUT NOT ALWAYS.**
- 3. A longer scan time can never be justified. FALSE**
- 4. The CT images were non diagnostic but I shouldn't ask for a repeat because of the dose. FALSE**
- 5. My patient had a CT scan last week – she should wait at least 6 months before she has another one. FALSE**

***Thank You!***

- **Any Questions?**