

# International code of practice IAEA TRS-457 and the need for updates

**Zakithi Msimang** (on behalf of the CRP E2.40.24 team)

**IAEA - International Atomic Energy Agency**

Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications

Division of Human Health

Dosimetry and Medical Radiation Physics Section

**CCRI Webinar: X-ray imaging dosimetry challenges**

# Background



International standardization in dosimetry is essential for the safe and effective optimization of radiation technology in the clinical environment

## **IAEA TRS 457 (2007):**

- Different irradiation conditions (radiation quality and X ray beam geometry);
- Application specific dosimetric quantities;
- Specific dosimetric methods.

Need to update the TRS?  
How do we know?

TECHNICAL REPORTS SERIES NO. **457**

## **Dosimetry in Diagnostic Radiology: An International Code of Practice**

# Performance test of multi-parameter measuring devices used for quality assurance in diagnostic radiology

L. Büermann, R. Böttcher

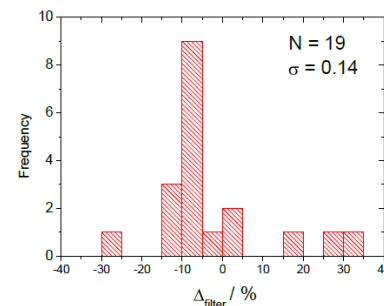
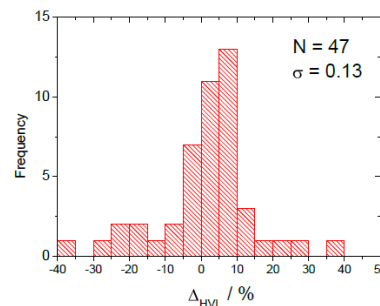
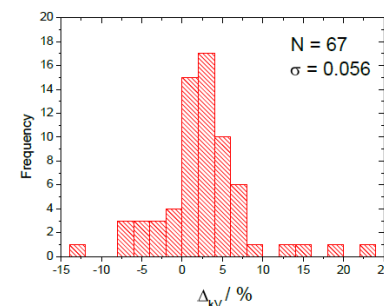
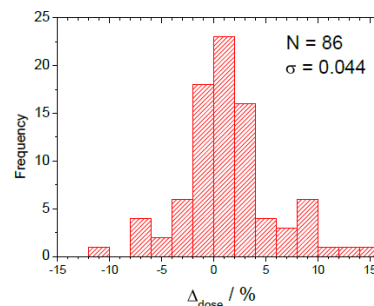
Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, Braunschweig, Germany



IDOS 2010, E2-CN-182, Paper No 080

## Abstract

The results of a performance test of four different types of semiconductor-based multi-parameter ..... **It turned out that a remarkably high amount of all measured data points (20 % - 50 %) fall beyond the limits of accuracy stated by the manufacturers.** .....need for the international standardization of the performance of semiconductor-based multi-parameter measuring devices, especially for those quantities which are essential for quality assurance in diagnostic radiology.



# Performance of semiconductor dosimeters with a range of radiation qualities used for mammography: A calibration laboratory study

Elisabeth Salomon<sup>a)</sup>

Section of Dosimetry and Medical Radiation Physics, International Atomic Energy Agency, 1220 Vienna, Austria  
Center for Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, Medical University of Vienna, 1090 Vienna, Austria

Peter Homolka

Center for Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, Medical University of Vienna, 1090 Vienna, Austria

Istvan Csete and Paula Toroi

Section of Dosimetry and Medical Radiation Physics, International Atomic Energy Agency, 1220 Vienna, Austria

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**Purpose:** To investigate the radiation quality dependence of the response of commercial semiconductor-based dosimeters, and to estimate potential errors and uncertainties related to different measurement and calibration scenarios.

**Methods:** All measurement results were compared to reference values measured at the IAEA dosimetry laboratory which is traceable to the international system of units (SI). Energy dependence of the response of eight semiconductor dosimeters were determined for five different anode-filter combinations and tube voltages from 25 to 35 kV. For systems capable of deriving half value layer (HVL) and tube voltage from measurements, calibration coefficients for these measurements were calculated.

**Results:** For six dosimeters, the maximum deviations from the reference value of the air kerma measurement were within  $\pm 5\%$  as required by IEC 61674. Calibration coefficients for radiation qualities (anode-filter and tube voltage combinations) relative to reference radiation quality Mo-Mo 28 kV deviate up to 12%. HVL and tube voltage measurements exhibited deviations up to 11% and 10%, respectively.

**Conclusions:** The air kerma responses of modern semiconductor dosimeters have a small energy dependence. However, no dosimeter tested complied with the accuracy limits stated by the manufacturer for tube voltage measurements, and only two dosimeters complied with the limits for HVL measurements. Absolute measurement of HVL and tube voltage with semiconductor dosimeters have to be verified for actual clinical radiation conditions on clinical mammography systems. Semiconductor dosimeters can be used for quality control measurements if individual calibration coefficients are available for the radiation condition applied. If other conditions are applied, additional uncertainty needs to be considered, particularly in the case of HVL and tube voltage measurements. © 2019 International Atomic Energy Agency. Medical Physics published by Wiley Periodicals, Inc. on behalf of American Association of Physicists in Medicine. [https://doi.org/10.1002/mp.14005]

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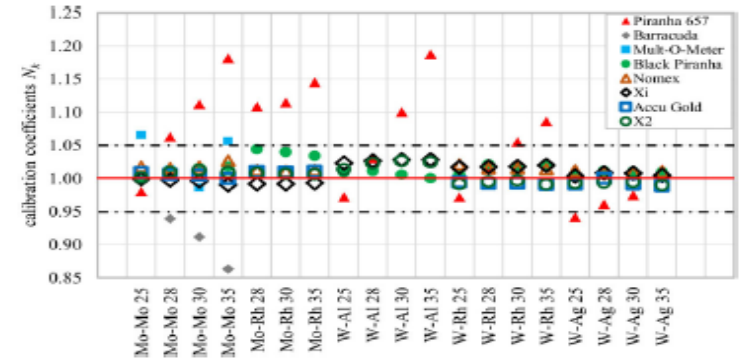
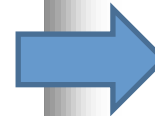


FIG. 2. Air kerma calibration coefficients  $N_k$  for all semiconductor dosimeters tested as a function of radiation quality. The horizontal red line indicates the ideal calibration coefficient of 1.0, the dashed black lines represent  $\pm 5\%$  tolerance level. Piranha 657, Barracuda, Multi-O-Meter, Black Piranha, Nomex, Xi, Accu Gold, X2. [Color figure can be viewed at [wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)]



The role of medical physicists  
Impact on MGD calculations



Investigation of single-shot beam quality of  
art solid-state dosimeters for routine quality  
in mammography

Frédéric Bemelmans<sup>a</sup>, Nicholas W. Marshall<sup>a,b</sup>, A  
Sonja Ivanovic<sup>c</sup>, Joke Binst<sup>b</sup>, Lara Struelens<sup>d</sup>, Ar  
Hilde Bosmans<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

JOURNAL OF APPLIED CLINICAL MEDICAL PHYSICS, VOLUME 16, NUMBER 4, 2015

**Investigation of the clinical performance of a novel  
solid-state diagnostic dosimeter**

Jason Tse,<sup>a</sup> Donald ...  
Medical ...

Performance testing of dosimeters used in interventional radiology: Results  
from the VERIDIC project

Nikola Kržanović<sup>a,\*</sup>, Valentin Blideanu<sup>b</sup>, Olivera Ciraj-Bjelac<sup>a</sup>, Johann Plagnard<sup>b</sup>,  
Werner Schoonjans<sup>c</sup>, Miloš Živanović<sup>a</sup>, Jérémie Dabin<sup>c</sup>

ACT 2605,

DOI: 10.1002/acm2.13389

**RADIATION MEASUREMENTS**

**Accuracy of HVL measurements  
detectors for radiography and fluoroscopy**

**... and measurement with  
dosimeters using ionization chambers  
and solid-state detectors**

C J Hourdakis, A ...

**TECHNOLOGY TALK**

MAHADEVAPPA MAHESH, MS, PhD, RICHARD L. MORIN

**Meaningful Data or Just Measurements?  
Differences Between Ionization  
and Solid-State Detectors**

Libby F. Brateman, PhD, Philip H. Heintz, PhD

**Solid-state dosimeters: A new approach for mammography  
measurements**

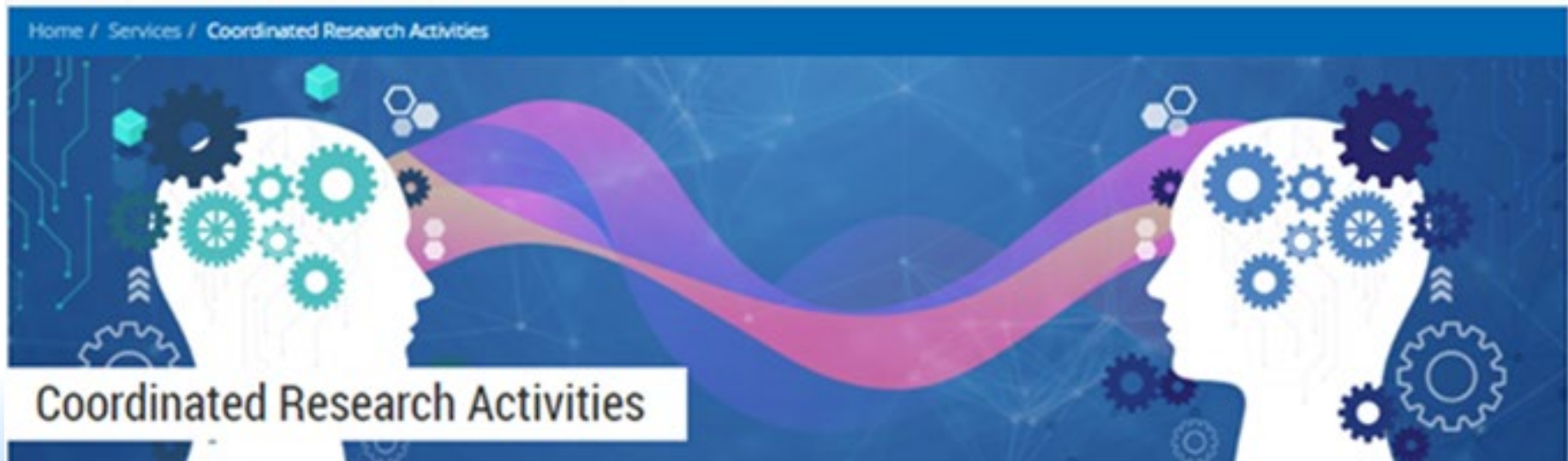
Libby F. Brateman<sup>a)</sup>  
Department of Radiology, University of Florida College of Medicine Box 100374,  
Gainesville, Florida 32610-0374

Philip H. Heintz  
Department of Radiology, University of New Mexico, MSC10 5530, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131

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**Coordinated Research Projects (CRPs): bring together research institutions from its developing and developed Member States to collaborate on research projects of common interest.**

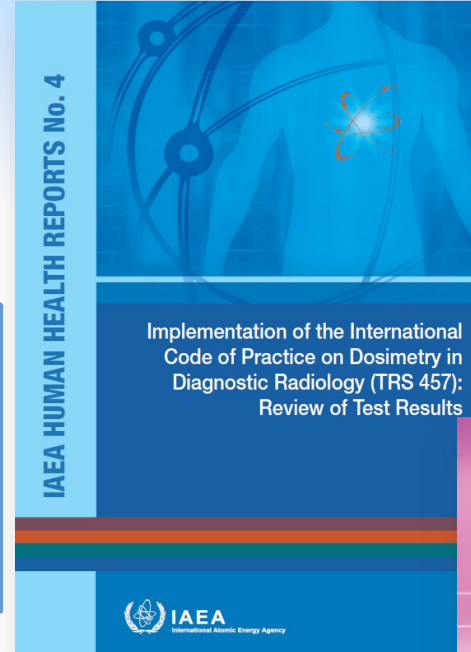


- Previous CRP: CRP (E2.10.06, 2005-2008): testing of various procedures described in the IAEA TRS-457

- Recommendations relating to TRS 457 implementation (30)
- Recommendations for future review of areas in TRS 457 (6)
- Recommendations for future action (7)

- Challenges with using the semiconductor-based dosimeters highlighted in the review

- Survey in MS conducted in 2017
- Recommendations by the **SSDL Scientific Committee (SSC)**



# Consultancy Meeting to advise on CRP for the update of IAEA TRS-457, 10-13 November 2020

- The experts supported the idea to revise the guidance so that the dosimetry in diagnostic radiology to the level of measurable modality-specific dosimetry quantities, was addressed;
- CRP to provide input for the update of IAEA TRS-457, by:
  - Bridging the gap between dosimetry in diagnostic radiology from the perspective of PSDL/SSDLs and clinical medical physicists;
  - Providing international data about clinical practice in different imaging modalities, including those that are not included in the current version of the document;
  - Providing data on use of semiconductor-based dosimeters from the perspective of uncertainties in dose measurements.



CRP: Evaluation of the Dosimetry needs and practices for the update of the code of practice for dosimetry in diagnostic radiology (TRS-457) E24024



## CRP launched and duration: 2021-2025

### Main objective

To standardise radiology medical physics dosimetry instrumentation, equipment and procedures in laboratories and hospitals, and support the update of the [IAEA TRS No. 457](#).

### Participation

- Experienced radiation metrologists from the IAEA/WHO [Secondary Standards Dosimetry Laboratory \(SSDL\) Network](#) members providing services in the diagnostic radiology field
- Clinically qualified medical physicists from public hospitals providing comprehensive diagnostic and interventional radiology services
- Scientists from Primary Standards Dosimetry Laboratories (PSDLs) providing services in the diagnostic radiology field

## Specific objectives

- To provide recommendations on the performance specifications for **reference dosimeters in laboratory and clinical environments** for different beam qualities (standard radiation beam qualities (RQR), radiation qualities for computed tomography (CT) applications (RQT) and radiation qualities for mammography applications (RQM));
- To assess the accuracy of measurements performed using **semiconductor-based dosimeters** (in standard radiation qualities (RQR), mammography applications (RQM), CT applications (RQT)) e.g. practical peak voltage (kVp), kerma rate, total filtration, half value layer (HVL), etc.;
- Develop and test harmonized methodologies for **kerma-area product** ( $P_{KA}$ ) measurements relevant to calibration laboratories and end users at the hospitals in cone beam computed tomography (CBCT), dental radiology and interventional procedures;
- To obtain data pertaining to **intra- and inter-scanner variations** in measured vs. displayed CT dose indices.

# CRP: Evaluation of the Dosimetry needs and practices for the update of the code of practice for dosimetry in diagnostic radiology (TRS-457) E24024



IAEA project officers: Z. Msimang, O.Ciraj-Bjelac

# Instruments



## Reference standards

- Definition of a reference instrument for dosimetry in diagnostic radiology
- Survey to collect data on types of reference instruments used (IAEA data, SSDL input)
- To define conditions for testing (radiation qualities, ionization chambers available): testing in monoenergetic radiation beams, ISO N radiation qualities, RQR radiation qualities, non-standard radiation qualities

## X ray multimeters (XMMs)

- Guidelines on disseminating traceability for quantities measured by the XMMs
- Requirements for type test vs verification test vs conformity tests vs calibration
- Beam qualities and measurement protocol at laboratories and clinics
- Quantities/Parameters measured by XMMs (air kerma/rate, HVL, tube voltage)

# Other considerations

- Evaluation of the method for HVL measurements (described in the IAEA TRS No. 457)
- Guidance how to transfer traceability from reference instrument to various modalities
- To investigate reference dosimetry for interventional procedures and CT
- Role and relevance of a monitor chamber at calibration laboratories
- Use of voltage dividers (necessity, availability)
- Guidance on commissioning of dosimetry equipment



Work in Progress



# Uncertainty assessment

- To define what measurement uncertainties are required in diagnostic radiology for clinics;
- Estimate measurement uncertainties in diagnostic radiology for laboratory and clinical measurements based on the procedures followed;
- Preparing uncertainty budgets in a hospital environment is a challenge;
- Need for training of medical physicists working in hospitals on measurement uncertainties and preparation of uncertainty budgets.



*Work in  
Progress*

# KAP and CT

## KAP measurements

Look at available standards and literature (TRS457, EFOMP CBCT, ICRP ....)

Identification of modalities for which KAP is a relevant quantity (other than dental)

Dental (CBCT, panoramic, intraoral): protocol, calibration of KAP indication, clinical measurements

Other CBCTs: protocol, calibration of KAP indication, clinical measurements

Data analysis and uncertainty assessment

Dissemination

## CT dose measurements

Collecting already available data (ACR, clinical data from CRP participants)

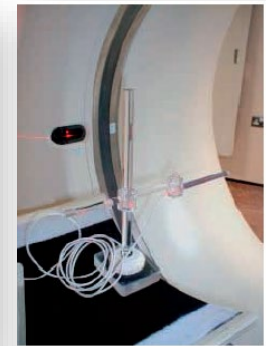
Data analysis

Consider a "new" survey or data collection

Data analysis and uncertainty assessment

Dissemination

Consideration of different beam qualities (Sn)-link to first objective



# Summary & points for discussion

- Concept of reference-class dosimeter in diagnostic radiology
- Definition, selection & establishment radiation beam qualities
- Transfer of traceability from reference instrument to imaging modalities
- What is the best approach to the XMMs from radiation metrology perspective?
- Should SSDLs perform calibrations/verifications/conformity test for measurement of HVLs, total filtration, exposure time, etc.?
- Reference measurements in certain imaging modalities (e.g. IR, CT)
- Need for accuracy and uncertainty assessment

# For SSDs:

**REALITY  
CHECK**

- How many diagnostic radiology ionization chambers you calibrate per year (for users)?
- How many XMMs you calibrate per year?
- To what extent are you comfortable with software and interface? Does the setting match lab conditions?



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*Thank you!*

