A new three dimensional (3D) dose measurement method is described which uses liquid scintillation (LS) solution both as a phantom material and as a dose registration medium. The method is designed to measure simultaneously the brachytherapy dose in all points of a volume. The scintillation photons emitted from the volume at multiple angles are detected by using a highly collimated image detector. The scintillation light emission density for each voxel of the solution can be estimated by using a tomographic reconstruction technique. A highly efficient and radiologically water equivalent liquid scintillation solution was developed and used in the measurements. Scintillation light images induced by a rotationally symmetric dose distribution in the vicinity of a therapeutic <sup>125</sup>I source in a cubical LS volume with a 25.4 mm side were obtained to estimate the signal to noise ratio and to test the experimental accuracy. We conclude that exposure times of 10 min./projection can provide count rate precision better than 5% per 0.4 mm image pixel for dose rates ~1 cGy/h for experimental geometry with resolution better than 2 mm in the volume center. Simulations of the detector signal for selected sample dose distributions were performed and used to verify the range of reliability for the reconstruction algorithm.

This work is sponsored by the Whitaker Foundation under grant No. 97-0336 and Washington University.