

Checking treatment plans of charts is often a tedious task. Documentation of the plan is summarized on a reference sheet, which is used for daily set-ups by the RTTs. A miss-documentation of the plan on the summary sheet caused by an oversight must be caught before the plan is implemented on the patient. RTTs often provide the so-called “last line of defense” for screening out errors in the chart before the patient begins treatment. A method for assisting the RTT in this task is presented. The method involves utilizing a checklist and a monitor unit cross-check program. The program is implemented on a highly portable Texas Instrument 85 calculator. The program for a single photon energy involves about 150 lines of TI-Basic code and tables consisting of 200 tissue air ratios. The 32 kilobytes of available memory on the TI-85 allows up to 5 of these programs to be stored simultaneously. As will be illustrated in the poster, the beam parameters documented on the summary sheet are entered into the calculator program. The program then checks for the percent difference between the calculated monitor units resulting from the entered beam parameters and the documented monitor units. The relatively large display screen on the TI-85 allows simultaneous viewing of the 16 parameters associated with the beam. In addition to checking for miss-documentation of the beam parameters on the summary sheet the program also cross-checks the treatment planning computer system. The program also computes the number of cGy per mu, which is cross-checked graphically as a function of depth.