If current trends continue, digital radiographic methods will soon eclipse film as the dominant radiographic method. Mammography, which is some years behind technologically, is likely to follow suite. The benefits of digital radiography are clear – independent acquisition and display, simplified storage and image distribution, and advanced image processing techniques. However, there currently does not exist an optimum digital detector technology that will solve all radiographic needs. The choice made in purchasing a technology today will have ramifications for years to come. This debate presents a forum for leaders in the field of digital radiography to present their position in a brief statement, and to defend their position against those of others. Issues such as current technological strength, up-and-coming research innovations, economic factors, machine ergonomics, availability and robustness of the technology and human-machine interface issues will be presented as points for and against computed-radiography (CR) and digital radiography (DR), addressing both indirect and direct technologies. Which technology will reign supreme?

Educational Objectives

1. Introduce the conflicting needs of various radiographic services and the solutions provided by various digital radiographic technologies
2. Develop a critical understanding of the justification for digital radiography, and compare the solutions provided by the various technologies
3. Understand the issues involved in making purchase decisions for computed and digital radiography