

**Purpose:** The purpose of this study was to determine if aluminum oxide ( $Al_2O_3$ ) detectors could be used for in-vivo dosimetry. The first specific aim of this project was to characterize the performance of a commercially available aluminum oxide detector system for in-vivo dosimetry. The second specific aim of this study was to compare the accuracy of the new aluminum oxide detector to a commercially available MOSFET system in side-by-side patient measurements.

**Method and Materials:** The dosimeters were evaluated for: 1) Signal decay; 2) Field size dependence; 3) Energy dependence; 4) Angular dependence; and 5) their reusability using the Landauer, InLight MicroStar system. In-Vivo dosimetry measurements were taken for 53 patients treated on a Varian 21EX using ( $Al_2O_3$ ) dosimeters and 67 patients using OneDose Mosfets.

**Results:** The variation between dosimeters was evaluated and found to be  $\pm 1.6\%$ . The dosimeters appeared to over-respond in the first 10 minutes, however, after 10 minutes the chips were within 1 percent of the steady-state reading. Unlike other detectors, the  $Al_2O_3$  dosimeters showed no field size, energy, or angular dependence. In testing the  $Al_2O_3$  reusability, it was found that the half life of the OSL material was  $5.14 \pm 0.01$  hours. The agreement between the dosimeters and the calculated doses for the in-vivo dosimetry patients was  $-1.9 \pm 5.9\%$ . The OneDose agreement between mosfet and calculated dose was found to be  $-1.3 \pm 8.5\%$ .

**Conclusion:**  $Al_2O_3$  dosimeters can be a convenient, inexpensive alternative to TLDs, MOSFETS, and Diodes. The agreement between calculated and measured doses for in-vivo dosimetry QA is comparable to TLDs, MOSFETS, and Diodes. The dosimeters can be quickly read and analyzed after 10 minutes (*to allow time for signal decay*). The dosimeters do not appear to have an energy, field size, angular, or sensitivity dependence. In addition, under specific conditions, the detectors can be erased and re-used.