breath hold

Interfractional reproducibility of lung tumor position using breath hold

Abstract

Purpose:

The purpose of the present work is to quantify the reproducibility of the position of a lung tumor under

breath-hold conditions.

Methods and Materials:

Weekly computed tomography (CT) data sets under voluntary breath hold at normal end inspiration and

end expiration were acquired for 18 patients with diagnosed non-small cell lung cancer. Gross tumor

volumes (GTV) were outlined by a radiation oncologist. The distances between the centers of the GTV and

a bony reference landmark were evaluated on a weekly basis, and the standard deviations (SD) of the

distances were taken as a metric for assessing tumor position reproducibility.

Results:

The mean SDs for end inspiration were as follows: $lat - 0.27 \pm 0.12$ cm; AP 0.34 ± 0.21 cm; SI 0.42 ± 0.22 cm;

distance 0.32±0.18 cm, whereas for end expiration the mean SDs were as follows: lat 0.23±0.10 cm; AP

 $0.31\pm -.19$ cm; SI 0.38 ± 0.15 cm; distance 0.25 ± 0.11 cm.

Conclusions:

Voluntary breath hold appears to be a reliable method of ensuring reproducibility of lung tumor position.

Setup margins used in our present practice of 0.5 cm for kV image-guided patient setups and 0.3 cm for

cone-beam CT-guided patient setups appear to be appropriate. Reproducibility under end expiration

appears to be slightly better than that under end inspiration but the difference may not be significant.

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