

Due to advances in technology, the regulation and testing of digital mammography systems has become complicated. Not only does each mammographic x-ray unit model have its own test protocol, peripheral equipment must also be tested according to manufacturer specifications. This plethora of testing methodologies and requirements can cause much confusion for facilities and physicists. To ameliorate the situation, the American College of Radiology has established a committee to specify a set of tests applicable to all digital mammography systems that can be used uniformly to satisfy quality control and regulatory requirements. A new mammography phantom is also being designed. This talk will present the current thinking of the committee regarding tests to be included in and excluded from the specification. Design elements of a prototype phantom will be presented.