

Siemens *syngo* solutions ensure ease of compliance for new BTS pulmonary guidelines

Following a recent focus on research of the management of pulmonary nodules for lung cancer screening, the British Thoracic Society (BTS)¹ has developed evidence-based algorithms and recommendations for the investigation of nodules when using imaging techniques. These are expected to lead to a more efficient use of resources and consistent outcomes for lung cancer patients. Siemens Healthcare is also pleased to announce its *syngo*[®].via MM Oncology software solution has been fully future-proofed to ensure ease of compliance with key areas of the BTS guidelines.

“Lung cancer is the second most common cancer in the UK and accounts for 13% of all new cases, according to Cancer Research UK. Pulmonary nodules are a common case presented within hospitals and a systematic and logical approach is key to their effective investigation and management. Determining the size and growth rate is a vital part of understanding whether a nodule may be cancerous and the impact on the patient,” explains Ben Reed, *syngo* Business Manager GB & Ireland at Siemens Healthcare.

Greg Baker, Lead Applications Specialist – User Services and *syngo*.via at Siemens Healthcare adds, “Once an imaging procedure has taken place, it is common practice that nodule size is measured using an electronic ruler on the workstation, recording the maximal length and the width perpendicular to it. This somewhat outdated technique can result in a variation in measured nodule sizes from one clinician to another, due to the disparity in subjective judgments of the edges of the nodule shape. If the nodule is then assessed during follow up, understanding its true growth or reduction could prove to be problematic.”

Within the new British Thoracic Society guidelines, volumetric measurement is recommended as the preferred method for assessing coin lesions. It is suggested that automated or semi-automated volumetric measurement is a more accurate technique than

using diameter measurements. Siemens Healthcare's *syngo.via* MM Oncology software provides simplicity for clinicians when measuring the volume of a nodule. This can be used to calculate possible growth or reduction between the initial scan and follow up with ease.

Greg Baker continues, "As standard, all of our customers using *syngo.via* are provided with a range of fully automated tools specifically designed to support clinicians in the detection, segmentation and evaluation of suspicious lesions including dedicated tools for the volumetric measurement of pulmonary nodules. The guidelines from BTS are a welcome change to ensure accuracy in measurement and evaluation. We are looking forward to working with our customers to assist with guideline compliance so clinicians are able to receive the valuable information they need to make a confident diagnosis."

Siemens Healthcare is one of the world's largest suppliers to the healthcare industry and a trendsetter in medical imaging, laboratory diagnostics, medical information technology and hearing aids. Siemens offers its customers products and solutions for the entire range of patient care from a single source – from prevention and early detection to diagnosis, and on to treatment and aftercare. By optimising clinical workflows for the most common diseases, Siemens also makes healthcare faster, better and more cost-effective. Siemens Healthcare employs some 52,000 employees worldwide and operates around the world

www.siemens.co.uk/healthcare.

¹. <https://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/document-library/clinical-information/pulmonary-nodules/bts-guidelines-for-pulmonary-nodules/>

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Media contacts

Laura Bennett
Tel: 07808 823598
Email: laura.bennett@siemens.com

Holly Wale / Marc Gossage
Tel: 01225 471202
Email: holly.wale@mediasafari.co.uk

For further information, please see: www.siemens.co.uk/press

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Picture caption: Siemens Healthcare's *syngo*®.via MM Oncology software is supporting ease of compliance for clinicians adhering to the British Thoracic Society guidelines for the investigation and management of pulmonary nodules.



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