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Patient Immobilization & Position Verification Strategies

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Review the role of patient immobilization in proton therapy in contrast to photon therapy.

Discuss immobilization device selection with emphasis on the clinical requirements.

Discuss strategies for improving our understanding of device limitations in the clinic.



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Impact of Effective Path Shifts

Example: 5 mm range shift

Impact on a 10MV x-ray beam is $\sim 1.5\%$



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"ALARA"

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Typical X-Ray Device





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Proton Compatibility:







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Device Uniformity:









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Device Specifications:



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Accessory Uniformity:









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Prostate: Rigid Leg Immobilizer 920400 Alimed Inc, Dedham, MA 02026 800-225-2610 Simple device with reproducible neutral roll



Thorax/Abdomen: Tapered Wing Board MT WB10 Civco/MedTec, Kalona, IA 52247 800-842-8688 Often used with alpha cradle and/or other immobilization devices





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Intra-Cranial (IC): Carbon Head Holder 237HH TRU-SCAN IMAGING Inc., Annapolis, MD 21404 410-268-8305

Solid Core Styrofoam Filled Carbon Base Foam Pad, Reinforced Mask (custom)





Stereotactic Intracranial PSRS/PSRT: GTC Radionics, Burlington, MA 01803 800-466-6814

Modified from commercial product

GTC base frame, bite molds and straps Modified head cup manufactured from carbon Modified bite plate and "large" head adapter used Occipital pad replaced with Civco MoldCare cushion









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H&N Base of Skull (BOS): AccuFix BOS Frame RT-4535-M Q-Fix WFR-Aquaplast, Wyckoff, NJ 07481 201-891-1042 Wafer Core Filled Carbon Base Foam Pad, Aquaplast or Kevlar Mask (provided by WFR)









Cranio-Spinal: Prone Head Immobilizer MT-PB01/202 Civco/MedTec, Kalona, IA 52247 800-842-8688 Modified from commercial product Styrofoam to elevate patient eliminate neck wrinkles Synthetic Lambs wool for torso cushioning No bean-bags/alpha cradle used

Anterior mask (not posterior) for better registration Cushions for nose and forehead Shoulder blades to provide better reproducibility



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H&N / BOS / CSI: Q-Fix WFR-Aquaplast, Wyckoff, NJ 07481 Solid Styro Core Filled Carbon Base Sdd or Custom Foam Pad Aquaplast or Kevlar Mask





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Accuracies and Limitations:

What affects reproducibility other than the immobilization itself?

CT slice thickness Anatomical site Alignment verification method 2D+ fusion surface mapping Manual point mapping 3D fiducial mapping

How do we describe our uncertainties?

Initial setup vs. CT image set Initial setup vs. subsequent setups RTT mapping variability (same RTT day after day) RTT mapping variability (different RTT)

Immobilization Device Uncertainties?

With protons we must consider the impact on range as well as beam edges We must consider inherent device uncertainties as well as setup uncertainties Proper device use is essential (regular in-service sessions are necessary) Patient cooperation is critical

QA/QC "AMARA - As Much As Reasonably Achievable"

Material "ALARA - As Little As Reasonably Achievable" Hsiao-Ming Lu

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Head: Patient

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