

# BUILDING PRACTICE PROTOCOLS AND 3D RENDERING



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# DISCLOSURES

- None



# OVERVIEW

- Benefits of Rational CVI Protocol Design
  - CTA protocol design
  - MR protocol design
  - Implementation / Education
- 3D Rendering
  - Personnel, Protocols, Hardware, Software
  - “Marketing” the service
  - Value-added services (3D printing)



# WHY SPEND TIME ON PROTOCOLS?

- Leads to consistent results, decreases variability
- Improves patient care
- Complex exams can become less operator dependent
- Demonstrates value of skill-set
- Vendor protocols and support are limited



# CTA PROTOCOLS



# CTA PROTOCOL DESIGN: IMPORTANT INPUTS

- Contrast medium (CM) Dynamics
- Weight-based CM dosing
- Scan time
- Tube energy (kV), image noise considerations
  - Low kV scanning
  - Iterative Reconstruction



# Rules of Early CM Dynamics:

- **Arterial Enhancement is Proportional to Iodine Flow Rate (Flux)**
  - Increasing the injection flow rate and/or iodine concentration of CM will increase the arterial opacification.
- **Arterial enhancement increases over time as a cumulative effect**
  - Arterial enhancement increases with increasing injection duration.
  - Minimum injection duration of ~ 10 s needed to achieve adequate arterial enhancement.
- **Arterial enhancement is highly variable between individuals**
  - Cardiac output (CO) is inversely proportional to arterial enhancement
  - CO correlates proportionally to body weight / body surface area (BSA)
  - Revising the injection rate and CM volume upward for larger (>90 kg) and downward for smaller (<60 kg) patients will reduce inter-individual variability.
- **Arterial filling may be delayed physiologically and/or pathologically**
  - Even normal coronary arteries need several heartbeats to fully opacify
  - Mixing of opacified and unopacified blood in aneurysms delays peak enhancement



# TIPS FOR BUILDING INJECTION/SCAN PROTOCOLS

- Scan times dependent on scanner, scan mode chosen
- Bolus track the area of interest
- It takes ~ 6 sec for image reconstruction, table movement, and breath hold instructions
  - I also add 2 sec “fudge factor”

**Injection Duration = scan time + 8 + “delay”**



# EXAMPLE: INTEGRATED CT ACQUISITION / INJECTION PROTOCOL: CTA OF THE THORACIC / ABDOMINAL AORTA

Acquisition	64 x 0.6 mm (channels x channel width); automated tube current modulation (250 mAs reference mAs)		
Pitch	Variable (depends on volume coverage, usually <1.0)		
Scan time	Fixed to 10 s (all patients)		
Injection duration	Fixed to 18 s (all patients)		
Scanning delay	$t_{\text{CMT}} + 8$ s (scan starts 8s after CM arrival, as established by automated bolus triggering)		
Contrast medium	High concentration (350-370 mg I/mL)		
Injection flow rates / volumes	<b>Individualized to body weight:</b>		
	Body Weight (kg)	CM Flow Rate (mL/s)	CM Volume (mL)
	≤ 55	4.0	72
	56-65	4.5	81
	<b>66-85</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>90</b>
	86-95	5.5	99
	> 95	6.0	108



# MR PROTOCOLS



# MR PROTOCOLS: TIPS

- Make protocol as brief as possible
  - 45 min. or less
- Assign protocols as early as possible (EMR integration, etc)
- Coordinate w/ nursing for stress CMR, etc.
- Coordinate w/ EP and short stay for device patients (200-300 per year)



# MR PROTOCOLS

- Build common CMR exam protocols:
  - Viability
  - ARVC
  - Pericardium
  - Cardiac Mass
  - Rest/Stress Perfusion
  - Iron Overload



# MR PROTOCOLS

- MRA protocols:
  - TAA
  - AAA
  - Coarct
  - UE / LE
  - Non-con MRA



# EXAMPLE: VIABILITY (1.5 T)

SEQUENCE	PLANES
Scouts	Multi, VLA, SAX, HLA, 3CH
CINE / FUNCTION	HLA, VLA, 3CH, LVOT, SAX
MORPHOLOGY	T2 maps
PERFUSION	3 SAX + HLA EPI
FLOW	Through plane mitral inflow, AO, PA, INPLANE 3CH
DME	DME PSIR HLA, VLA, 3CH, SAX Single shot SAX, 4CH stacks at TI >600
<b>NOTES:</b>	
peripheral IV 20G or larger	If PowerPICC or Port, call for heparin order
Flush with 3 mL NS to assess patency Obtain GFR if none within 30 days	Flush with minimum 10 mL NS pre- and post- injection; document on medication screen
Baseline BP and HR Inject 0.2 mmol/kg GBCA	



# EXAMPLE: COARCTATION MRA (1.5 T)

SEQUENCE	PLANES
Scouts	Multi, VLA, SAX, HLA, 3CH
CINE / FUNCTION	HLA, VLA, 3CH, LVOT, SAX, SFOV AoV
MORPHOLOGY	Black Blood HASTE AX / SAG / COR
ANGIOGRAPHY	3D SPACE SAGITTAL COVER DESC/ASC, 3D MRA OBL SAGITTAL
FLOW	FLASH CINE AORTIC VALVE IN-PLANE FQ CANDY-CANE (3 slices) THROUGH-PLANE FQ Ao, MV THROUGH-PLANE CoA: Above, At, and below THROUGH-PLANE Desc AO near DIAPH
DME	DME Single Shots SAX, HLA, VLA, 3CH
<b>NOTES:</b>	
peripheral IV 20G or larger	If PowerPICC or Port, call for heparin order
Flush with 3 mL NS to assess patency Obtain GFR if none within 30 days	Flush with minimum 10 mL NS pre- and post- injection; document on medication screen
Baseline BP and HR Inject 0.2 mmol/kg GBCA, max 30 mL	



# PROTOCOL IMPLEMENTATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND EDUCATION



# CENTRAL PROTOCOL REPOSITORY:

- Allows
- Imp
- Ada
- Easy

Ascension SharePoint

Protocols

CT GE Revolution 256 Slice (Room 4) > Adult Scanning Guideline

Name
COREVALVE OR TAVI OR TAVR.docx
CT Esophagography.docx
CTA AND CTV ABDOMEN PELVIS 136KG (30...
CTA AND CTV ABDOMENandPELVIS UNDE...
CTA and CTV HEAD.docx
CTA AND CTV PELVIS 136KG (300LBS) OR G...
CTA AND CTV PELVIS UNDER 136KG.docx
CTA AND CTV Spine.docx
CTA and CTV UPPER EXT. RUNOFF ABOVE 6...
CTA AND CTV UPPER EXT. RU...
CTA AP DIEP PROTOCOL.docx
CTA AP FOR ACUTE HEMMORRAGE.docx
CTA AP RUNOFF WITH VENOUS PHASE.docx
CTA AP WITH RUNOFF.docx
CTA CAP WITH RUNOFF.docx
CTA CHEST 80KG AND UNDER.docx
CTA CHEST EVAL BOTH FULM ART. AND DL...
CTA CHEST PREGNANT.docx

## COREVALVE/TAVI/TAVR CTA CHEST/ABD/PELVIS

Indications- COREVALVE / TAVI TAVR (Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement or Implantation)

Make sure group 1 is Cardiac Large and the check group 2's delay is 3 seconds!!!

PLEASE SCAN SCREENING WORKSHEET IN PACS  
NEED TO DO 0-90% 1.25MM Thick 0.75 Spacing AND SEND THEM TO THE TERA-RECON  
PLEASE CALL LYNN BURKETT AT 34116 OR DENISE WEALEY AT 34425 TO SEE IF A DVD NEEDS BURNING IF YES BURN 30%, 40%, 50% & 70% ON A DVD  
and leave up/rot with Clerical. Write patient name on DVD.  
Please Email Lori Bricker that this to be read Lori@NorthWestRadiology.com  
TV needs to be in the rt arm

### RM 4 GE REVOLUTION

POSITIONING/LANDMARK	SUPINE, FEET FIRST. ARMS ABOVE HEAD / STERNAL NOTCH.		
INJECTION RATE / VOLUME	1-64 kg: 72mL @ 4.5mL/sec Non-Ionic contrast agents 65-85 kg: 80mL @ 5.0mL/sec Non-Ionic contrast agents 86-95 kg: 88mL at 5.5mL/sec Non-Ionic contrast agents. 96 & Above kg: 96mL at 5.5mL/sec Non-Ionic contrast agents. For all the above also use 90ml of 0.9% Sodium Chloride (40ml's pre & 50ml's post) at the same injection rate.		
	W/C GATED HEART (G1-R1-6) R2-30%, R3-40%, R4-60%, R5-70% & R6-0-90%	W/C NON GATED CHEST ABDOMEN PELVIS (G2-R1&2)	
SCAN TYPE/ ROTATION TIME/ LENGTH	CARDIAC HI RES MODE OFF / 0.35 / NA	HELICAL HI RES MODE OFF/ 0.35 / PLUS	
START LOCATION	ABOVE HEART	ABOVE APICES	
END LOCATION	BELOW HEART	FEMORAL NECK	
ACQUISITION	DETECTOR CONFIGURATION	0.625 x 256	0.625 x 192 Depends on body habitus

	DETECTOR COVERAGE(mm)	160	120	40
GANTRY ANGLE	NA	NA		
PITCH/SPEED(mm/rotation)	TABLE POSITION ONE OR MORE COVERAGE SMART COVERAGE (120,160MM) OVERLAP AMOUNT MORE Depends on body habitus	0.984:1 / 39.36		
SFOV/ DFOV(cm)	CARDIAC LARGE / 20	LARGE BODY / 40		
KVP	Kv assist 100min-120max	Kv assist 100min-120max		
MA/ NOISE INDEX	SmartmA 50min-405max / 30	SmartmA 10min-680max / 9		
PREP GROUP (seconds)	NA	3 SECONDS		
BOLUS TRACKING OR GATING (LOCATION) MA/ MONITORING DELAY / ISD / DIAGNOSTIC DELAY	SMART PREP (AORITC ROOT) 80 / 5 / 1 / 5 Gating- Auto Gating Off. Acquisition Window Part 1 Range 0-90% with 100% of mA (300) and Widen for SSF on. Acquisition Window Part 2 Range 5-95% with 100% of mA (300) and Widen for SSF off. HR Variation Allowance 8BPM. Repeat Acquisition Off. Adaptive Gating On.	NA		
BREATHING INSTRUCTIONS	GATED INSPIRATION	GATED BREATH		
RECON TYPE	STD	STD		
THICKNESS(mm)	R1-6 0.625MM PHASE%- R2-30%, R3-40%, R4-60%, R5-70% all Manual single phase. SnapShot/Freeze Off R6- 0-90% interval 10% Manual Multi Phase	R1 0.625 R2 1.25		
INTERVAL(mm)	R1-6 0.625MM	R1 0.625 R2 0.75		
RECON OPTION	R1-6 ASIR-V 50%, Recon Mode Plus Off	R1 PLUS / ASIR-V 30%/ IQ Enhance ON R2 PLUS / ASIR-V 30%/ IQ Enhance OFF		
DMPR	SEE REFORMATS DOCUMENT	SEE REFORMATS DOCUMENT		
DOSE INDEX(CTDIvol)(mGy)	EV: 50 NV:75	EV: 50 NV:75		
FACS	R2,R3,R4,R5,R6 BLANK AND LINE SCOUTS	R2		
WORKSTATION	R2-6	R2		

SHIELD PATIENT APPROPRIATELY FOR EXAM.

ADJUST DFOV FOR PATIENTS BODY HABITUS. DFOV SHOULD BE LARGE ENOUGH TO INCLUDE ALL SOFT TISSUES

ASIR, AUTO MA AND SMART MA IS UTILIZED TO DECREASE PATIENT DOSE

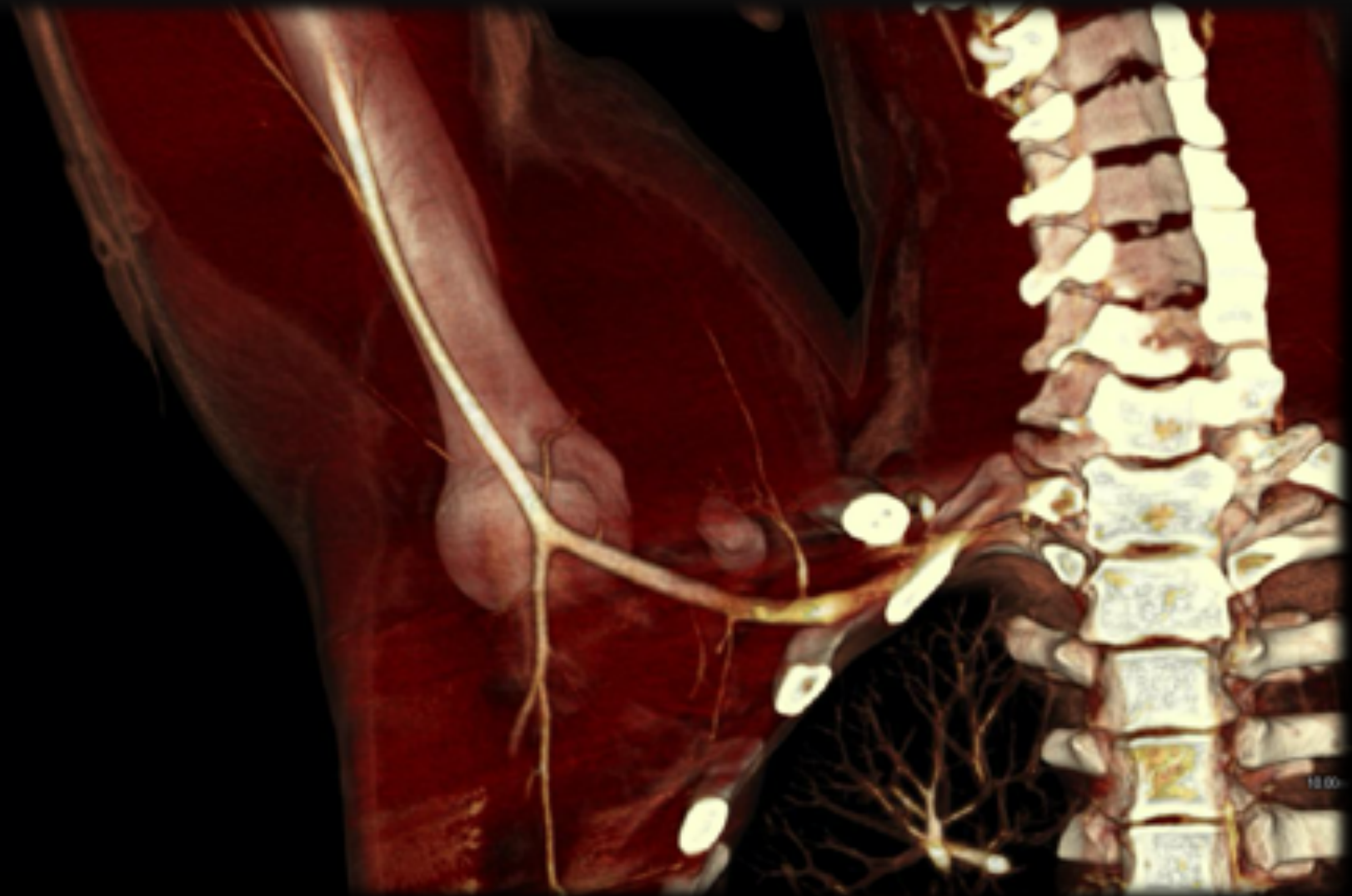


# EDUCATION

- "If you don't use it, you lose it"
- Yearly day of protocol revision and discussion w/ radiologists, tech leaders
- Yearly day(s) of educational lectures by MDs for techs, with CE credit



# 3D RENDERING SERVICES



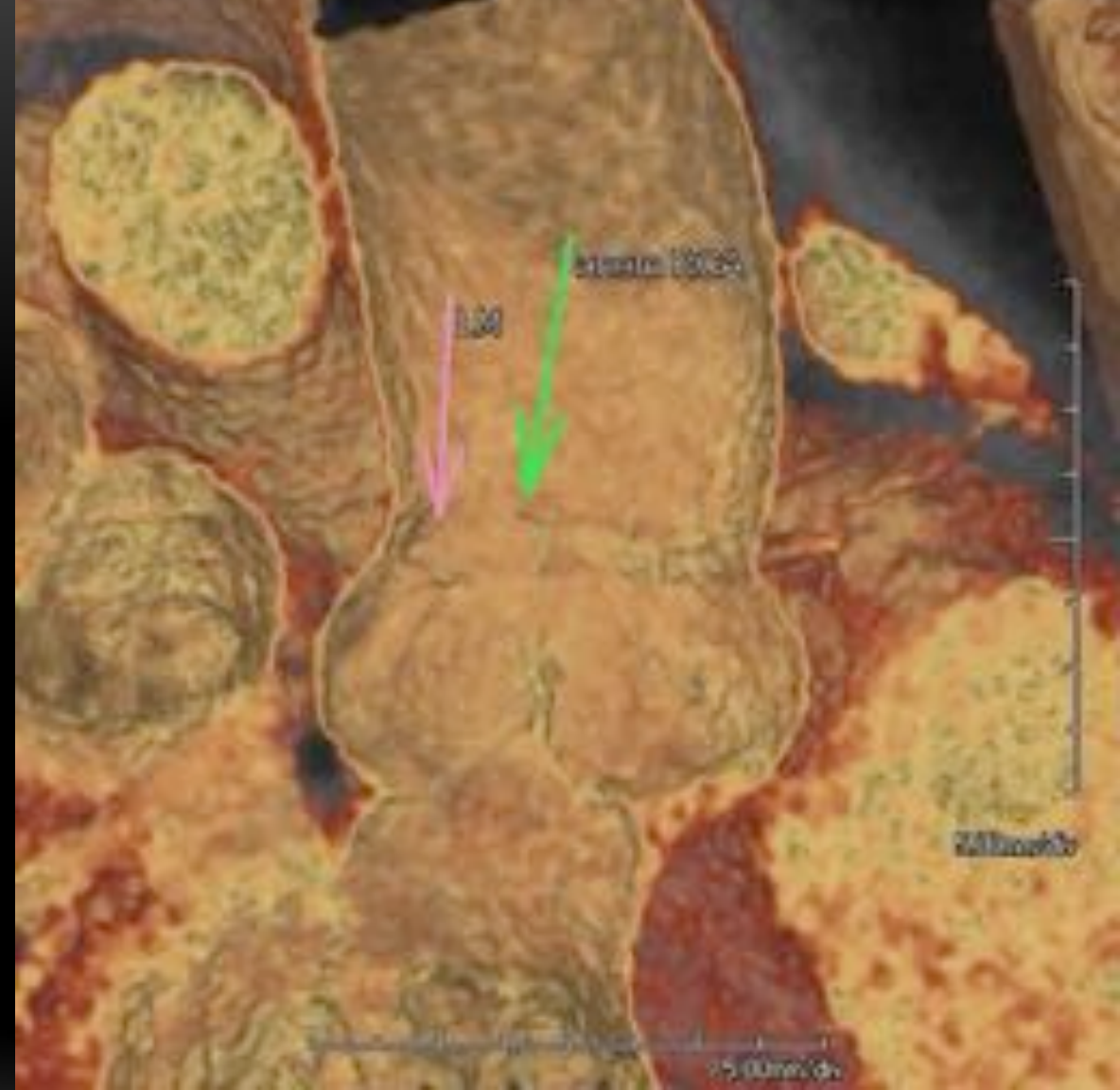
# 3D RENDERING SERVICES

- Integral to referring services' understanding of complex anatomy
- Wide spectrum of use: from LRD to CMR to TAVR
- What technology?
- Who provides?



# 3D RENDERING SERVICES

- Integral to referring services' understanding of complex anatomy

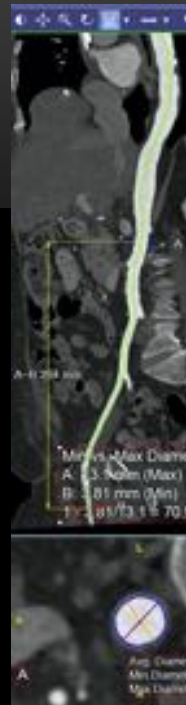


## 3D RENDERING SOLUTIONS:

- Stand-alone workstation
- “Thick”-client
- “Thin” client
- “NO” client (Zero footprint: Cloud-based)



# OUR SETUP



- 3D rendering:
  - Thin Client
- Structural Heart:
  - Watchman, TMVR, TAVR
  - Cloud-based (Zero footprint) client
- Standardized workflow and reporting

**TAVR PROTOCOL CTA WORKSHEET**      **NAME:**      **DATE:**

Calcified Aorta	NO	MILD	MOD	SEVERE	PORCELAIN
Annular Ca++	Sub-annular Ca++				
Major Annulus Diameter (systole)					
Minor Annulus Diameter (systole)					
Annulus PERIMETER (systole)					
Annulus AREA (systole)	mm <sup>2</sup>				
LVOT 4 mm below annulus:	x	mm			

Sinus HEIGHT, RIGHT - Diastole	mm
Sinus HEIGHT, LEFT - Diastole	mm
Sinus HEIGHT, NONCOR - Diastole	mm
Sinus DIAMETER, RIGHT - Diastole	mm
Sinus DIAMETER, LEFT - Diastole	mm
Sinus DIAMETER, NONCOR - Diastole	mm
Distance LM ostium to Annulus	mm
Distance RCA ostium to Annulus	mm

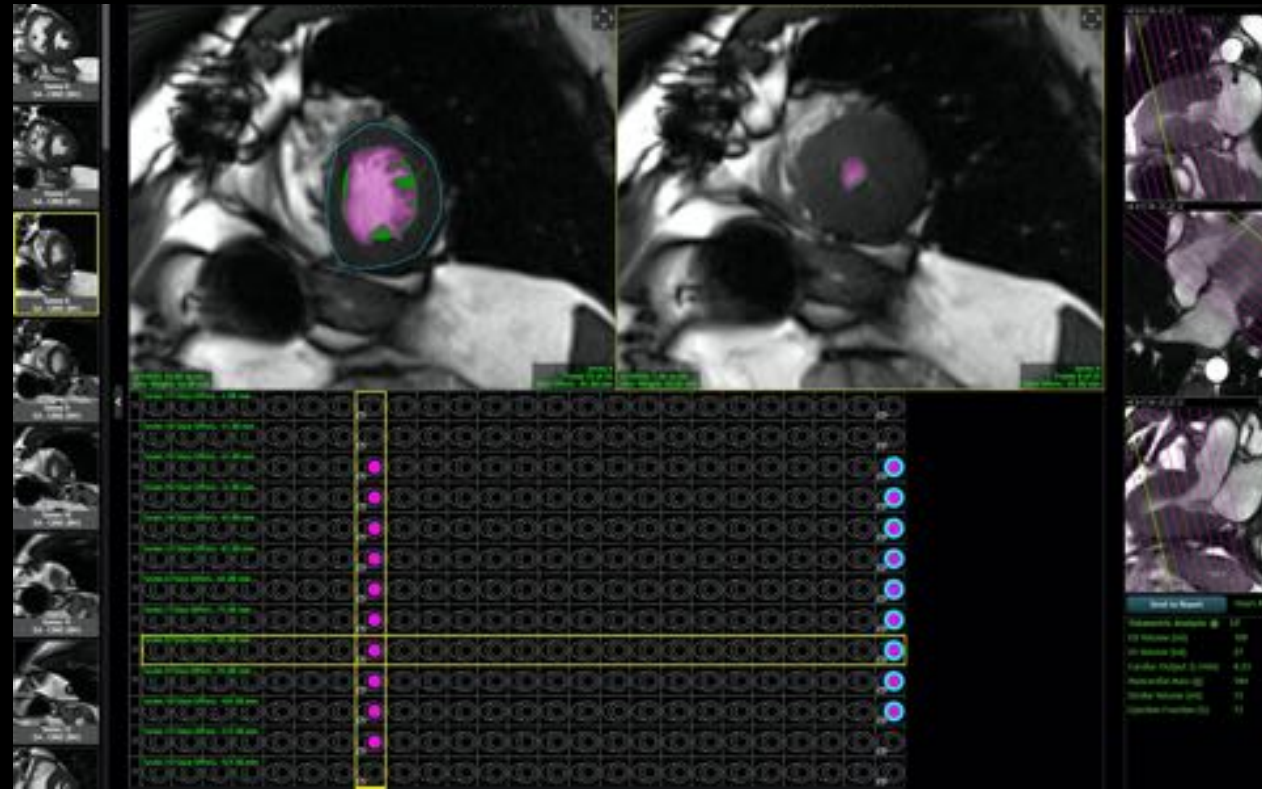
ANGULATION:

LEFT SUBCLAVIAN	MILD=	Tortuosity 0/mild/mod/ severe	Calcification 0/mild/mod/ severe
RCCA	MILD =	Tortuosity 0/mild/mod/ severe	Calcification 0/mild/mod/ severe
LCCA	MILD =	Tortuosity 0/mild/mod/ severe	Calcification 0/mild/mod/ severe
RIGHT ILIOFEMORAL	MILD=	Tortuosity 0/mild/mod/ severe	Calcification 0/mild/mod/ severe
LEFT ILIOFEMORAL	MILD=	Tortuosity 0/mild/mod/ severe	Calcification 0/mild/mod/ severe



# OUR SETUP

- CMR processing: Cloud-based
- Robust reporting direct to EMR
- Mix of MD / tech post-processing
  - 3D lab techs: training is ongoing



## Summary

1) Left ventricle: The left ventricular volume index is decreased. The left ventricular wall thickness is increased moderately in an asymmetric fashion. Maximal wall thickness in the basal anteroseptum is 1.9 cm. The global left ventricular systolic function is normal with a calculated LVEF of 74%. There are no regional wall motion abnormalities noted. No LV thrombus is identified. There is an approximate 15 mmHg peak resting gradient in the left ventricular outflow tract.

2) Myocardial delayed enhancement: Myocardial delayed enhancement imaging is abnormal. There is mid-wall fibrosis in the interventricular septum corresponding to the areas of myocardium with significant hypertrophy. There is also an area of focal mid-wall fibrosis at the inferior RV insertion site. These patterns are consistent with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. There is no ischemic pathology identified. Visually, I would estimate the amount of myocardial fibrosis at 5-10%.

3) Myocardial native T1 mapping: The native T1 relaxation time of the myocardium is increased. The calculated extracellular volume is elevated.

4) Right ventricle: The right ventricular size is normal. The right ventricular global systolic function is normal.

5) Atria: The left atrium is mildly enlarged. The right atrium is normal in size.

6) Valves: There is trivial aortic insufficiency noted. There is mild systolic anterior motion of the chordal apparatus of the mitral valve. There is no evidence of mitral stenosis. There is trivial mitral regurgitation.

7) Pericardium: The pericardium is normal in thickness. There is no significant pericardial effusion.

8) Aorta: The aortic root is normal in size.

## Core Exam

### Measurements

#### Volumetric Analysis

		LV	(Reference) RV	(Reference)
EDV	[ml]	87	(113-196)	(--)
	[ml/m <sup>2</sup> ]	37.2	(62-97)	(--)
ESV	[ml]	23	(29-74)	(--)
	[ml/m <sup>2</sup> ]	9.8	(15-37)	(--)
CO	[L/min]	3.71	(--)	(--)
	[L/min/m <sup>2</sup> ]	1.6	(--)	(--)
MASS	[g]		(--)	(--)
	[g/m <sup>2</sup> ]		(--)	(--)



# VALUE ADDED SERVICES: 3D PRINTING



# 3D PRINTING



- Review with 3D solutions is often sufficient
- In certain instances, physical 3D models are extremely helpful (trouble-shooting, spatial relationships)
- Barriers to entry: training and resources
- Costs are decreasing but reimbursement still elusive



# CONCLUSIONS

- Development and implementation of rational CTA / MRA protocols improves consistency / quality and decreases operator dependence.
- System-wide availability of protocols improves tech performance and comfort.
- Education (technologists, referrers) is important
- 3D rendering services are important across CVI but imperative for structural heart / valve therapies



# *THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!*

- Thanks to:
  - Eric Williamson, MD
  - Mike Morris, MD

