QIBA Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound (CEUS) Biomarker Committee (BC) Call

Friday, December 13, 2019; 11 AM CT

Call Summary

In attendance

Mike Averkiou, PhD (Co-Chair) Todd Erpelding, PhD (Co-Chair) Paul Carson, PhD

Nancy Obuchowski, PhD Thierry Rognard Nicolas Rognin, MSc, PhD Douglas Stone, PhD Theresa Tuthill, PhD Stephanie Wilson, MD

Joe Koudelik Julie Lisiecki

RSNA

Moderator: Dr. Averkiou

Approval of 10.11.2019 call summary

The summary was approved as presented

RSNA 2019 Update (Dr. Erpelding)

- New QI biomarkers, including attenuation coefficient, backscatter coefficient and speed of sound for liver fat quantification, were discussed during the US breakout session
- There was a brief breakout session update for the SWS and VBF BCs

Manuscript Update (Dr. Averkiou)

- The first manuscript focusing on a variability study is well underway, with many sections already written
- Dr. Averkiou asked for BC input on figures he would like to include in the manuscript
- It is not yet ready for review by the BC, as it is still in rough draft form
- Dr. Erpelding suggested anonymizing scanners in the results, though the scanners can be listed in the materials and methods.

Next project

- Amplitude normalization across systems will be the next focus for the BC
- The goal of this standardization is to determine a reference intensity for a reference microbubble concentration and implement it either directly in the system or in the linearization software.

VueBox access in North America (Dr. Wilson)

- Dr. Wilson spoke with Bracco reps at RSNA 2019 regarding the need to make VueBox available in North America.
- There is a "chicken-egg" problem in that Bracco may think that the North American market is not yet ready, as progress has not been demonstrated sufficiently; however, sufficient progress cannot be made without access to VueBox, compounding the frustration of physicians
- The compelling need for VueBox is the versatility that it provides users to look at multiple systems from a clinical view
- Dr. Averkiou expressed the concern that quantification is still not the norm in the field and that QIBA CEUS BC members must champion quantitation and become spokespersons for various QIBA efforts
- Mr. Rognard to draft an email, creating the necessary connection for Drs. Averkiou and Wilson with appropriate Bracco leadership

Next steps:

- The process of drafting the CEUS Profile will begin
- Mr. Rognard to draft an email to Bracco European contacts regarding the possibility of making VueBox available in North America, with copy to Drs. Averkiou and Wilson

The next scheduled QIBA ultrasound calls will be as follows at 11 am CT:

01/10	CEUS BC
02/07	SWS BC
02/14	CEUS BC
02/	US Coordinating Committee, Q1, TBD
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