

QIBA CT Angiography Biomarker Committee (BC) Call

13 September 2022 at 11 AM CT

Call Summary

In Attendance

Andrew Buckler, MS (Co-Chair)

Timothy J. Hall, PhD

Márton Kolossváry, PhD

Hugo Marques, MD, PhD

Alastair J. Moss, MD, PhD

Raquel Themudo, MD, PhD

Todd Villines, MD-INMD

Renu Virmani, MD

Michelle Williams, MBChB, PhD...

RSNA Staff

Julie Lisiecki

Moderator: Andrew Buckler, MS

Discussion topics:

- CMS coverage for coronary CTA plaque analysis
- Profile review and editing of sections

Additional detail re: announcement

- Coverage up to \$950 for quantitative CTA plaque analysis will be reimbursable as of October 1, 2022
- This announcement has escalated the significance of the QIBA CTA Profile
- QIBA is focused on quantitative reads, whereas the **Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography** ([SCCT](#)) is focused on qualitative reads
- A joint partnership / statement suggested to promote awareness of CTA reimbursement for coronary plaque quantitative analysis by CTA and demonstrate unity amongst imaging providers

Profile Improvements suggested:

- Adding clinical practice parameters
- Provide guidance to the field regarding what is needed to quantify plaque morphology, e.g., structural anatomy or tissue characteristics
- Plaque stability phenotype
- 3D vs. 2D measurements of plaque morphology discussed
- Suggestion to normalize CT values and have a prognostic, meaningful response for a normalized plaque values
- Change “wall volume” to “plaque volume”
- “Plaque and wall” or just “wall” are two very different but overlapping concepts
- Must also consider adaptive or pathological interval thickening
- Consider the wall volume in areas with and without plaque in the normal segments and resultant noise
- Include multiple approaches and definitions in the table to aid with assessment
- Reduce data-driven markers by half
- Add a paragraph discussing the differentiation between imaging biomarkers and data driven biomarkers
- Footnote numbering has been replaced with symbols to avoid confusion
- Correct calcified nodules reference
- Utilize tables where possible for ease of understanding definitions and quick reference

Decisions / Action items (ongoing):

- Staff to arrange a call with QIBA Leadership, Dr. Villines, and Dr. Blankstein to discuss a possible collaboration between QIBA and the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography ([SCCT](#))
- Mr. Buckler and Dr. Villines to draft a joint message to promote awareness of the CMS announcement.

- Dr. Hall suggested that Mr. Buckler contact Communications Committee co-chairs, Drs. [Smith](#) and [Chalian](#) and RSNA Staff (Julie) re: social media posts and provide some proposed verbiage
- Dr. Marques to review the Profile document offline and provide feedback
- Questions or comments regarding the Profile may be directed to the co-chairs: [Mr. Buckler](#) and Drs. [Saba](#) and [Schoepf](#).
- Field test (advancement to Stage 3) of current 2020 Consensus Profile to be postponed until updated 2023 Profile is ready

Links for more information:

- [Profile Stages](#) | [CTA Profile \(March 2020 version\)](#) | [Public Comment Resolution Page](#)
- http://qibawiki.rsna.org/index.php/CT_Angiography_Biomarker_Ctte

Next call: Tuesday, Sept 27th at 11 am CT

(Will move to 1st & 3rd Tuesdays for October. Worked around Labor Day holiday for September calls.)

Upcoming calls: 9/27, 10/11, 10/25, 11/15