Invitation to participate in the QIBA 3A CT Volumetry Study of CLINICAL data

Dear Colleagues Interested in CT Volumetry:

We are pleased to invite your participation as we announce a *NEW* challenge problem, using CLINICAL data, for the purpose of characterizing performance of volume estimation in synthetic lesions. This announcement relates to the effort to specify standards and optimize performance of algorithmic post-processing of medical CT, through a series of challenges similar to those of *Biochange* or MICCAI.

As outlined in the joint QIBA Volumetric CT Study 3A/QI-Bench face-to-face meeting held on February 25, 2013, at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, Maryland, we are now releasing a NEW clinical challenge of the "Volumetric Study 3A" as an evaluation of algorithms and use of algorithms for absolute volume estimation of pulmonary lesions.

The primary aim of the QIBA Volumetric Study 3A is to estimate inter- and intra-algorithm variability by the volume estimation of CT scans. The QIBA 3A CT Volumetry Study is jointly sponsored by the Radiological Society of North America's (RSNA) Quantitative Imaging Biomarkers Alliance (QIBA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Who should participate: Building on the strong participation in the prior phase of this study, we are looking for additional developers and users from academia, non-profit organizations, and industrial vendors. We hope to engage both developers of algorithms for CAD and users of clinical decision tools. If you cannot participate, but know someone who may wish to do so, we encourage you to forward this invitation. The study is open to all interested parties.

How to participate: Detailed instructions within the participant agreement are attached to this communication. The CT-scan data are available online for your download at:

http://www.qi-bench.org/wiki/index.php?title=Manually_access_data

Over the life of QIBA, we have experienced growing and continuous participation by academics and companies and have been glad for the active engagement. This would be a key time to participate, as the Challenge has a clear and direct benefit to your organization. Not only will you get feedback on how you are doing relative to others without compromising your identity, you will also be playing a role in setting the standards against which algorithms will be judged. Analysis based on anonymous data will be compiled and shared with participants approximately three months after the completion of the study.

To confirm your participation, please email the entire signed participant agreement to RSNA as a PDF document to: QIBAchallenge@rsna.org.

For any technical questions regarding the data or QI-Bench, please contact **Dr. Jovanna Danagoulian,** at jovanna.danagoulian@bbmsc.com.

Important Deadlines:

- The deadline to send in your signed PDF participant agreement is: **May 15, 2013.**
- The deadline for submission of anonymized data is: **June 30, 2013.**

Message to Association Administrators:
In our efforts to reach a broader community, we have sent this invitation-to-participate to organizations in the medical field which may have an interest. We realize you may not be the primary contact, and would appreciate your help in forwarding this invitation to interested parties. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Maria Athelogou, Andrew Buckler, Alden Dima
QIBA 3A Challenge Organizers

Attachments:

(1) Application to Participate (*Please fill in and save as a PDF document with your name*.) – on wiki
(2) Information on files and formats provided by Dr. Danagoulian – on wiki