

ADDRESSES: Licensing information and copies of the U.S. patent applications listed below may be obtained by writing to the indicated licensing contact at the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health, 6011 Executive Boulevard, Suite 325, Rockville, Maryland 20852-3804; telephone: 301/496-7057; fax: 301/402-0220. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of the patent applications.

UltraRad—A Method and Probe To Enhance Radiation Delivery

C. Norman Coleman (NCI), Robert Miller (NCI), Brian Justus (NRL), and Alan Huston (NRL)
U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/453,934 filed 11 Mar 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E-049-2003/0-US-01)
Licensing Contact: Michael Shmilovich; 301/435-5019;
shmilovm@mail.nih.gov.

Available for licensing and commercialization in a novel technique of locating a tumor in 3-dimensional space to provide a precisely targeted external radiation beam directed to the tumor. A catheter like probe equipped with an ultrasound transducer for precise local imaging of the tumor, and proprietary radiation dosimeters for measuring the amount of radiation delivered by the external beam. The probe would also be equipped with a flow-through drug delivery system that could provide radiation opaque material to protect the area surrounding the tumor from radiation damage. It is envisioned that controlling the external radiation beam will be in response to radiation detected by the probe. Of interest is the utility of the probe in phantom models and prostate cancer. The method and apparatus utilizes a radiation-detecting array of radiation sensitive dosimeters for the real-time remote measurement of radiotherapy at the radiation-detecting array. The radiation-detecting array is positioned within the patient's body along the treatment path before or after the identified radiotherapy target or the device may be positioned beyond the patient to measure transit dose. A radiation source for emitting radiation for radiotherapy along a treatment path through the patient to the identified radiotherapy target is utilized. The method includes generating a predicted dose pattern of radiation at the placed radiation-detecting array. The predicted dose pattern assumes an on-target radiation source emitting the radiotherapy beam along the treatment path through the patient to the identified radiotherapy target. Gating of the radiation source can occur

responsive to the comparing of the predicted dose pattern of radiation to the real-time dose pattern at the radiation-detecting array. Radiation intensity can vary between low levels to a treatment level responsive to coincidence of the predicted dose pattern of radiation to the real-time dose pattern at the radiation-detecting array.

Computer-Aided Classification of Anomalies in Anatomical Structures

Ronald Summers, Marek Franaszek, Gheorge Iordanescu (CC)
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/671,749 filed 26 Sep 2003 (DHHS Reference No. E-077-2002/0-US-03)
Licensing Contact: Michael Shmilovich; 301/435-5019;
shmilovm@mail.nih.gov.

Available for licensing is a software enabled method for improving the sensitivity and specificity of computer aided detection (CAD) for computed tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) colonography. Colonography is an imaging test that identifies polyps and cancers of the colon and may be useful for reducing the incidence, morbidity and mortality of colon cancer in human beings. The invention comprises three main areas of characterization used to substantially reduce the number of CAD false positives: (1) analysis of the neck of a colon polyp can help distinguish true positive from false positive tumor detections (2) characterization of the colon wall thickness in the proximity of the polyp has been found to be determinative in distinguishing polyps, and (3) templates that mimic the shape of different types of polyps (for example, those on folds, sessile polyps, pedunculated polyps etc.) can improve sensitivity and increase specificity.

Dated: February 5, 2004.

Steven M. Ferguson,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.

[FR Doc. 04-3165 Filed 2-12-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Special Emphasis Panel, Review of Research Project Grants.

Date: March 19, 2004.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Bethesda Marriott Suites, 6711 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Contact Person: Glen H. Nuckolls, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal, and Skin Diseases, 6701 Democracy Boulevard, Bldg. 1, Ste 800, Bethesda, MD 20892. 301-594-4974; *nuckollg@mail.nih.gov.*

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.846, Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: February 6, 2004.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 04-3172 Filed 2-12-04; 8:45 am]

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