(A) Policy Statement

Under the supervision of a Board Certified Medical Physicist, each megavoltage treatment machine shall be checked daily, and monthly for physical and mechanical integrity and performance.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To ensure satisfactory performance of megavoltage radiation therapy units.

(C) Procedure

1) Under the supervision of a Board Certified Medical Physicist, daily, and monthly QA is performed using generally accepted Quality Assurance procedures, based on the AAPM TG 142 report:

a) Daily checks are performed prior to patient’s treatment and include the following:
   i) Dosimetry
      (1) X-ray output constancy
      (2) Electron output constancy
   ii) Imaging
      (1) Collision interlocks
      (2) Positioning/Repositioning
      (3) Imaging/Treatment coordinate coincidence
      (4) Image quality test
   iii) Mechanical
      (1) Laser localization
      (2) Distance indicator (ODI) @ iso
      (3) Collimator size indicator
      (4) MLC - Picket fence test
   iv) Safety
      (1) Door interlock beam off
      (2) Door closing safety
      (3) Audiovisual monitors
      (4) Radiation area monitor
      (5) Beam on indicator
   v) Any other parameter deemed necessary.

b) Monthly checks are performed and include the following:
   i) Dosimetry
      (1) X-ray output constancy
      (2) Electron output constancy
      (3) Backup monitor chamber constancy
      (4) Typical dose rate output constancy
      (5) Photon beam profile constancy
      (6) Electron beam profile constancy
(7) Electron beam energy constancy
(8) Dynamic Wedge -- wedge factor for all energies

ii) Mechanical
(1) Light/radiation field coincidence
(2) Light/radiation field coincidence (asymmetric)
(3) Distance check device for lasers compared with front pointer
(4) Gantry/collimator angle indicators
(5) Jaw position indicators (asymmetric)
(6) Cross hair centering (walkout)
(7) Treatment couch position indicators
(8) Localizing lasers

iii) Safety
(1) Laser Guard interlock test

iv) Respiratory Gating
(1) Beam output constancy
(2) Phase, amplitude beam control
(3) In-room respiratory monitoring system
(4) Gating interlock

v) EDW
(1) Wedge factor for all energies (45 or 60 deg)

vi) MLC
(1) Setting vs. Radiation Field for two patterns.
(2) Travel speed
(3) Leaf positional accuracy at all cardinal gantries

vii) Imaging
(1) Planar MV
   (a) Imaging and treatment coordinate coincidence (four cardinal angles)
   (b) Scaling
   (c) Spatial Resolution
   (d) Contrast
   (e) Uniformity
   (f) Noise
(2) Planar kV
   (a) Imaging and treatment coordinate coincidence (four cardinal angles)
   (b) Scaling for 8 mm diameter disc
   (c) Spatial Resolution
   (d) Contrast
   (e) Uniformity and Noise
(3) Cone-Beam CT (kV and MV)
   (a) Geometric distortion
   (b) Spatial Resolution
   (c) Contrast
   (d) HU constancy
   (e) Uniformity and Noise

viii) Additional in-house tests (not required by TG142)
(1) Photon energy constancy

ix) Any other parameter deemed necessary.

2) Document and file the results in common drive.
3) Under supervision of board certified medical physicists, annual QA will be performed based on recommendations of TG 142 of the AAPM within 14 months of initial acceptance or the previous annual QA. Reports of annual accelerator QA’s are kept in common drive.
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Next Review Date: 10/1/2020

Policies Superseded by This Policy: 38-32

Approved by: Cha' u C e n , MD
Professor & Chairman, Radiation Oncology

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Chief Executive Officer

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Date 4 OCT 2017