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医学放射物理

## Tomotherapy不同MVCT扫描模式的成像剂量及对儿童患者位置验证精度的影响

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**【摘要】目的:**探究螺旋断层放疗(Helical TomoTherapy,以下简称TOMO)高能X线计算机体层摄影术(MVCT)3种扫描模式的成像剂量及其对儿童患者位置验证精度的影响。**方法:**使用Exradin A1SL电离室测量标准虚拟水模体(Cheese phantom)相同采样点处3种扫描模式的剂量。使用CIRS 1岁婴儿和5岁儿童仿真人模体模拟MVCT引导摆位流程,将“fine”模式引导的床值作为参考,比较其他两种模式的偏差值。**结果:**“fine”模式下的剂量约为“normal”模式下的2倍( $2.003\pm0.048$ ),“fine”模式下的剂量约为“coarse”模式下的3倍( $3.056\pm0.099$ ),与螺距的比例关系一致。“normal”模式的偏差符合临床容差范围( $\pm1$  mm),且结果[等中心点偏差:1岁婴儿:0.53 mm(头颈),0.25 mm(盆);5岁儿童:0.36 mm(头颈),0.12 mm(盆)]均优于“coarse”模式[等中心点偏差:1岁婴儿:0.59 mm(头颈),0.99 mm(盆);5岁儿童:1.11 mm(头颈),1.11 mm(盆)]。**结论:**TOMO MVCT的辐射剂量和位置验证精度与螺距成反比,“coarse”模式尤其是进出方向的引导精度欠佳,需予以特别关注和必要的人工干预。

**【关键词】**儿童患者;成像;兆伏CT;螺旋断层放疗;图像引导放疗

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## Imaging doses and positioning accuracy under different scanning modes of Tomotherapy MVCT for pediatric patients

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**Abstract:** Objective To investigate the imaging doses needed for helical tomotherapy (TOMO) megavoltage computed tomography (MVCT) using 3 scanning modes for pediatric patients and study the effects of different scanning modes on positioning accuracy. **Methods** Under 3 scanning modes, the imaging dose to the identical sample points in a virtual water phantom (Cheese phantom) were measured using an Exradin A1SL chamber. CIRS 1-year-old infant and 5-year-old pediatric anthropomorphic phantoms were used for simulating the MVCT-guided positioning. The registration accuracies of "normal" and "coarse" modes were compared with that of "fine" mode. **Results** The imaging doses of "fine" mode were about 2 ( $2.003\pm0.048$ ) and 3 ( $3.056\pm0.099$ ) times higher than those-of "normal" and "coarse" modes, which were consistent with the pitch ratio. The deviations of "normal" mode were within clinical tolerance ( $\pm1$  mm) and the results were better than those of "coarse" mode. The isocenter deviations of "normal" mode versus "coarse" mode were 0.53 mm vs 0.59 mm (head and neck), 0.25 mm vs 0.99 mm (pelvis) for 1-year-old infant phantom,

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and 0.36 mm vs 1.11 mm (head and neck), 0.12 mm vs 1.11 mm (pelvis) for 5-year-old pediatric phantom. Conclusion The imaging dose and positioning accuracy of TOMO MVCT were negatively correlated with the pitch ratio. The accuracy of "coarse" mode was relatively lower especially in longitudinal direction, which requires special attention and manual intervention if necessary.

**Keywords:** pediatric patient; imaging; megavoltage computed tomography; helical tomotherapy; image-guided radiotherapy

## 前言

图像引导放疗(Image Guided Radiation Therapy, IGRT)可有效减少放疗过程中的摆位误差,但采用电离辐射成像会增加患者的额外剂量<sup>[1-4]</sup>。儿童患者对放射线具有更强的生物学敏感性<sup>[5-6]</sup>、在标准扫描模式下更高的器官剂量<sup>[7-8]</sup>,以及更长的预期生存等因素均增加了其二次致癌风险,在IGRT中需要予以特别关注。

螺旋断层放疗(Helical TomoTherapy,以下简称TOMO)因独特的硬件设计和剂量分布,在儿童放疗中具有广泛应用<sup>[9-13]</sup>。其能量为3.5 MV的CT影像引导系统有3种不同的螺距比(1, 2, 3),分别对应“fine”、“normal”、“coarse”扫描模式<sup>[14-15]</sup>,是决定扫描层厚、采集时间、图像质量与患者吸收剂量等关键参数之一。相比千伏影像,高能X线计算机体层摄影术(MVCT)获取充分的图像质量需要更大的剂量<sup>[16-18]</sup>。有关TOMO成像剂量的文献报道多针对成人<sup>[19]</sup>,而不同扫描模式对儿童患者的剂量及位置验证精度影响的研究稍显不足。本工作拟通过对这一问题的探究,为儿童患者选择合适的TOMO放疗影像引导模式提供临床决策参考,实现辐射剂量和引导精度的平衡。

## 1 材料与方法

### 1.1 成像剂量

在实时温度气压修正的条件下,使用经标准实验室刻度过的Exradin A1SL电离室(Standard Imaging, Middleton, WI, USA),在Virtual Water™模体(Gammex Inc., Middleton, WI, USA)即cheese模体中,选用完全覆盖模体长度的相同成像范围,分别测量“fine”、“normal”、“coarse”3个扫描模式下MVCT的成像剂量分布。在激光灯辅助下,Cheese模体的中心被置于TOMO的机架中心轴。考虑到cheese模体的剂量模块为均匀介质,采样点分布近似对称,以及TOMO MVCT的扫描方式为360°全弧,为提高效率,本工作仅在垂直方向测量了上半部分的奇数采样点。

### 1.2 位置引导精度

本工作用于验证影像引导位置精度的仿真人模

体分别为CIRS 1岁婴儿(名义高75 cm,体质量10 kg)和5岁儿童(名义高110 cm,体质量19 kg)的头颈和骨盆部。用于配准的参考图像为相应模体的定位CT,参考位置为利用“fine”模式获取的MVCT引导配准的床值,并将其它模式图像配准的床值差异作为评估指标。为了避免人为因素导致的不确定性,所有的自动刚性配准均基于相同的感兴趣区,即MVCT的扫描范围。

## 2 结果

### 2.1 成像剂量

在“fine”模式下,cheese模体垂直方向从深度0.507 cm到深度14.675 cm等距分布的共8个奇数采样点的成像剂量测量结果如图1所示。与螺距的比例关系基本一致,“fine”模式下的剂量约为“normal”模式下的2倍( $2.003 \pm 0.048$ ),约为“coarse”模式下的3倍( $3.056 \pm 0.099$ )。

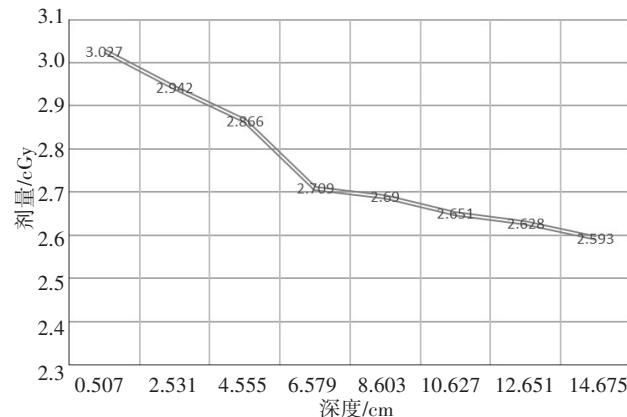


图1 Cheese模体在“fine”模式下的MVCT成像剂量测量值

Fig.1 Measured imaging doses to Cheese phantom using "fine" MVCT mode

### 2.2 位置引导精度

以“fine”模式引导的床值为参照,“normal”和“coarse”配准的位置误差如表1所示。1岁婴儿和5岁儿童模体的头颈和骨盆部在垂直、进出、左右3个方向偏差的均方根(RMS)被计算为等中心点的整体偏差。

## 3 讨论

图1中所示的“fine”模式下实测剂量与文献报道

表1 不同扫描模式下模体配准与“fine”模式的偏差值(mm)

Tab.1 Deviations of registrations using various scanning modes vs "fine" mode (mm)

扫描模式	1岁婴儿		5岁儿童	
	头部	盆部	头部	盆部
<b>"normal"</b>				
横向	0.20	-0.30	0.00	0.00
纵向	0.90	-0.10	0.60	-0.20
垂直向	0.00	-0.30	-0.20	0.00
均方根	0.53	0.25	0.36	0.12
<b>"coarse"</b>				
横向	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20
纵向	1.00	-1.70	1.90	-1.90
垂直向	0.10	-0.20	-0.30	-0.10
均方根	0.59	0.99	1.11	1.11

的辐射水平基本一致<sup>[20-22]</sup>, 微小的偏差来源可能包括:(1)对于3.5 MV成像光子的质控不如治疗射束剂量一样严格且周期性校准, 不同机器间可能存在差异;(2)cheese模体的两个半球的采样点分布非严格对称, 本工作使用的15个采样点半球, 其深度较14个采样点半球略深5.08 mm。作为TOMO的标配MVCT质控设备, 在Cheese模体中测量辐射剂量有助于不同系统间的横向比较, 也可以针对同一机器的基线值对MVCT的辐射剂量进行长期监测<sup>[23]</sup>。但该数据只能作为MVCT辐射剂量的象征性分布, 更精确的患者器官剂量可通过热释光测量<sup>[24]</sup>或蒙特卡罗模拟<sup>[25]</sup>等方法实现。本文验证的“fine”模式剂量分别为“normal”和“coarse”模式的2倍( $2.003\pm0.048$ )或3倍( $3.056\pm0.099$ ), 该关系可进一步简化上述人体剂量学测量或计算, 从而快速推算出不同模式下的成像剂量。较小的标准差可能由并不严格一致的扫描范围导致的散射剂量不同等原因造成, 但该比例关系基本成立。

虽然“fine”模式下配准的床值并不一定代表真实位置, 但真实位置在临幊上难以获得。鉴于图像质量与辐射剂量的正相关性<sup>[26]</sup>, 以及图像质量与配准精度的正相关性<sup>[27]</sup>, 因此, 本工作将与“fine”床值的 $\pm1$  mm作为允差范围<sup>[15]</sup>, 评估“normal”和“coarse”模式能否以更高的性价比(即更低的辐射剂量和更短的成像时间)为儿童模体获得临幊可接受的位置验证精度。

如表1所示, 等中心的位置偏差除5岁儿童的

“coarse”成像外, 均位于1 mm允差范围内, 提示该参数不宜用于体积较大、密度较高的部位, 包括儿童。但等中心误差的主要来源是进出方向, 而左右、升降两个方向的偏差均小于0.30 mm。此外, 除了“normal”模式的骨盆成像外, 其他组的进出误差也大幅高于其他方向, 即使体型很小的婴儿, 进出方向的误差也超过了1.00 mm。这一结果与文献[28-29]报导的一致, 可能与TOMO的螺旋递进式扫描特点有关, 提示临幊在图像配准时需着重关注进出方向的位置, 必要时可在自动匹配后进行人工干预以确保位置精度。

## 4 结论

MVCT引导螺旋断层放疗的成像剂量与螺距成反比, 其中“fine”模式剂量分别是“normal”和“coarse”剂量的2倍和3倍。虽然“coarse”模式具有辐射剂量低、成像速度快等优点, 但在进出方向的位置精度欠佳, 不能满足儿童影像引导放疗的要求, 建议临幊在自动图像匹配后对于进出方向予以特别关注和必要的人工干预。

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