

## Experience Matters

For more than 20 years, CSI has been a leader in Health Care Information Technology. We offer a comprehensive portfolio of Best-In-Class, industry-recognized Healthcare products, along with a knowledgeable and experienced support team, to deliver customized solutions that fit the needs and budget of your hospital, clinic, department or professional office.

Neusoft®



## What is NEMA XR-29?

In March 2013, The Medical Imaging & Technology Alliance (MITA) announced the approval of XR-29 Standard Attributes on Computed Tomography (CT) Equipment Related to Dose Optimization and Management, also known as MITA Smart Dose.

The XR-29 standard is the fourth dose related standard to be released by MITA since 2010, preceded by XR-25, XR-26 and XR-27 standards. Collectively, these standards promote adoption and use advances in CT dose management and mitigation.

XR-29 includes four key features of CT equipment that enable optimization or management of radiation dose delivery while also providing high quality medical images.

1. DICOM Radiation Dose-Structured Reporting (RDSR)- enables recording of post-exam dose information in a standardized electronic format for inclusion in the patient record, promoting the establishment of diagnostic reference levels, as well as facility dose management and quality assurance.
2. CT Dose Check incorporates two features- dose notifications and dose alerts – that warn operators and physicians when dose exceeds established thresholds.
3. Automatic Exposure Controls (AEC) – automatically adjust the amount of radiation within prescribed bounds as needed to achieve the desired image quality.
4. Pediatric and adult reference protocols provide set of pre-loaded parameters on a CT system that can be selected by the operator to complete a particular clinical task such as capturing an image of the abdomen.

## Why should you care?

Customers contemplating a used or refurbished system should consider XR-29 in their buying decision. DICOM RDSR and Dose Check features require modification to the proprietary system operating software. However, the original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) may not retrofit older system, including popular platforms like GE LightSpeeds, Siemens Sensation and Phillips MX series. In general, systems with less than 16 slices will not be upgraded.

DICOM RDSR will become a central element to mandatory dose reporting, which is currently the law in Texas and California. Twenty-two states are considering legislation that will MANDATE dose reporting. DICOM RDSR is one of the NEMA XR-29 components.

**H.R. 4302 was passed on March 31, 2014. Any system that IS NOT NEMA XR-29 compliant will be subject to reduced reimbursement.**

## What happens to providers who do not comply?

CMS will reduce reimbursement by 5% in January 2016 and 15% January 2017.

## What to do?

The Neusoft NeuViz 16 and NeuViz 64 platforms are fully compliant with NEMA XR-29.

For more information about NeuViz dose-reduction features or help determining if your equipment will be upgradeable, contact Csi at 888-255-1775.