



GE Healthcare

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## Dose Check Overview

GE Healthcare in cooperation with the Medical Imaging & Technology Alliance (MITA), a trade group representing all of the manufacturers of Computed Tomography devices, is pleased that you are receiving this no-charge update to your CT scanner. Dose Check is part of MITA's commitment to do their share in addressing patient safety in medical imaging through new radiation dose safeguards on CT scanners.

The update you are receiving includes a new radiation Dose Check feature that provides an alert or notification prior to the scan initiation on your CT system if predetermined radiation dose levels – as established by you – will be exceeded. The alerts are designed to provide a clear indication when radiation dose adjustments made for a patient's exam would result in delivering a dose higher than the pre-determined dose thresholds for either routine use or a case of a dose level that would well exceed your expected range.

The "Notification Values", should be set by your clinicians at values that represent a dose that potentially exceeds the routine range for a given protocol element. We are pleased that the American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) has published, "Guidelines for the CT Dose Check Standards", recommendations for Notification Value on their website, [www.AAPM.org](http://www.AAPM.org).

The new Dose Check feature includes an additional safeguard that allows you to set maximum radiation dose limits that prevent CT scanning at higher, potentially dangerous radiation levels. Known as an "Alert Value", this feature is designed to help prevent the potentially hazardous levels of radiation that could lead to burns, hair loss or other injuries.

The US Food and Drug Administration has asked all CT manufacturers to pre-populate the  $CTDI_{vol}$  Alert Value at 1,000 mGy. GE's implementation also gives you the option to set a second Alert Value that is applied for exams on patients under an age threshold that you determine.

The American Society of Radiology Technologists and the Alliance for Radiation Safety in Pediatric Imaging, which leads the Image Gently campaign to reduce radiation dose to children who undergo medical imaging exams, support the inclusion of Dose Check on all CT scanners.

Please review all of the information you have received from GE Healthcare on the configuration and use of the Dose Check feature. We urge you to establish Notification Values appropriate for your practice. If you need any additional assistance in setting up this new feature, please contact a GE Healthcare representative or visit us at [www.gehealthcare.com/LowerDoseByDesign](http://www.gehealthcare.com/LowerDoseByDesign).

Kind regards,

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