



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA  
State Health Commissioner

Department of Health  
P O BOX 2448  
RICHMOND, VA 23218

TTY 7-1-1 OR  
1-800-828-1120

December 1, 2021

Effective December 1, 2021 the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Radiological Health instituted an exemption from Virginia Administrative Code 12VAC5-481-1641 as it corresponds to veterinary computed tomography (CT) units (both fixed and mobile). The following conditions apply to this exemption:

1. A baseline surface CTDI(-P) with annotated angle will suffice in lieu of determining and recording the maximum surface CTDI-P and angle. Additionally, a central CTDI(-C) baseline should be recorded for the same CTDI-P technique factors. A minimum of two CTDI-P (with angle) and corresponding CTDI-C baselines should be recorded, and along with their technique settings, be annotated on the initial inspection form. Additionally, they should be available for review at the facility. The two selected techniques should broadly cover a range of typical usage. Future inspections will then be required to determine the accuracy of the current to baseline measurements utilizing the same technique. Unexplained deviations of over 20% for CTDI-P and CTDI-C may require a recalibration of the system. No other CTDI measurements are required.
2. On site vendor service technicians trained in CT calibration are an acceptable alternative to qualified medical physicists for system calibration. A new inspection, along with a new baseline establishment, must be conducted after any system calibration.
3. In keeping with other VDH-ORH veterinary x-ray criteria, aspects pertaining to image quality are less restrictive for veterinary CT. These "spot checks" include CTN, mean CTN, contrast scale, resolution determination, tomographic thickness etc. It should be stressed that such tests are important and adherence to manufacture's QC guidelines should be strongly encouraged.
4. All veterinary facilities should adhere to existing dosimetry requirements.

The exemption shall expire upon the regulatory adoption of rules for 12VAC5-481-1641 for veterinary CT.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (804) 864-8151 or by email at [lea.perlas@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:lea.perlas@vdh.virginia.gov)

Lea Perlas  
Director, Office of Radiological Health