

CYTOLOGY WORKLOAD ISSUES

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Cytology Workload Regulation

Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA '88)

- ❑ “individual workload limits must be established by the technical supervisor and based on individual capabilities/performance”

- ❑ “maximum workload limit for manual screening is 100 slides in no less than an 8-hour day” (based on expert consensus opinion)

- ❑ “When performing evaluations using automated and semi-automated screening devices, the laboratory must follow manufacturer's instructions for preanalytic, analytic, and postanalytic phases of testing...”

FDA approved two semi-automated screening devices

- ❑ Hologic's ThinPrep Imaging System (TIS) for ThinPrep Pap slides – 2003
 - Hologic's Review Scope Manual+ (TIS+): Microscope with enhanced features to be used with the ThinPrep Imaging System for ThinPrep Pap slides – 2012
- ❑ Becton Dickinson Focal Point Guided Screening System (BD) for SurePath Pap slides - 2008

- ❑ For a Pap slide, imaging algorithm identifies Field of View (FOV) (field of diagnostic interest)

- ❑ Cytotechnologist (CT) reviews the FOVs
 - If no abnormality is identified during FOV review and there are no specimen adequacy limitations, then slide is Negative (NILM)

 - If abnormal cells or specimen adequacy limitations are identified during FOV review, CT performs a Full Manual Review (FMR)

 - If imager does not give any FOVs (Algorithm failed) then CT performs FMR

Pre-Market Clinical Study

- Imaging System for ThinPrep slides by Hologic
- Imaging System for SurePath slides by BD
- Both Imagers were evaluated with similar study design
- Both Studies (TIS and BD) had 2 parts:
 - Accuracy and
 - Workload

Workload Part of Study

For Manual arm and for Imager arm:

- ❑ Each day is considered as 8 hours (480 minutes) including bio-breaks

- ❑ Each day for each CT, the following were recorded:
 - Number of hours worked
 - Total number of slides reviewed
 - Total number of slides requiring FOV only
 - Total number of slides requiring FMR after FOV review (FOV+FMR)
 - Total number of slides requiring FMR because of no FOV

NOTE: In this study design, the time spent for each slide was not recorded (i.e. case set up time, slide review time, case complete time and in-between time)



Workload limits specified in the labeling for the FDA approved semi-automated cytology screening devices were based on data from the workload studies

TIS+ (Review Scope Manual+)

- ❑ TIS+ is an accessory to the ThinPrep Image processor
- ❑ Replacement of the desktop joystick console with a touch screen monitor which serves as the user interface
- ❑ In addition to all the functions that are present in the joystick console, the touch screen also provides real-time slide screening information such as slide ID, date scanned and a map of the fields of view (FOVs) for each slide and their location when the slide is being screened
- ❑ Addition of a review control knob to the microscope. The review control knob replaces the Navigator Pod on the joystick console and functions similarly to the Navigator Pod. It has a scroll wheel that enables the user to execute the main review functions (Next, Previous, Mark) while screening slides without having to take their eyes away from the binocular objectives of the microscope

TIS+

- ❑ The essential function of the TIS+ is to move the microscope slide to the coordinates identified by the accompanying ThinPrep Image Processor so the objects of interest are visible to the cytotechnologist.
- ❑ The changes to the TIS+ were considered minor and therefore workload studies were not needed

FDA Lab Tip - 2010

- ❑ There were inconsistencies with the way labs were counting slides when using these semi-automated devices
- ❑ FDA issued a laboratory safety tip: “How Laboratorians Can Safely Calculate Workload for FDA-Approved Semi-Automated Gynecologic Cytology Screening Devices” – July 2010
- ❑ Provided clarification about the method that should be used to count slides in order to calculate workload



FDA Slide Counting Method for Semi-Automated Screening Devices

- ❑ All slides with full manual review (FMR) count as **1 slide** (as mandated by CLIA'88 for manual screening) or 4.8 minutes per slide
- ❑ All slides with field of view (FOV) only review count as 0.5 or ½ slide or 2.4 minutes
- ❑ Slides with **both** FMR and FOV count as 1.5 or 1½ slides or 7.2 minutes
- ❑ Use these values to count workload, not exceeding the CLIA maximum limit of 100 slides in no less than an 8-hour day

CLIA/FDA Formula

	FOV Only	FOV+FMR	FMR-non-imaged (or Imager error)
Time in min	2.4	7.2	4.8

$$2.4 * \text{FOV} + 7.2 * (\text{FOV} + \text{FMR}) + 4.8 * \text{FMR} = 480 \text{ min}$$



	FOV Only	FOV+FMR	FMR-non-imaged
Weights	0.5	1.5	1.0

$$0.5 * \text{FOV} + 1.5 * (\text{FOV} + \text{FMR}) + 1.0 * \text{FMR} = 100 \text{ slides}$$

CLIA/FDA formula is applied
for three systems:
BD, TIS, and TIS+.

CDC Study



□ 102 CTs

For each CT for each slide,

Total time includes

□ Case set-Up time

□ FOV time

□ FMR time

□ Case Complete time

□ Time till next slide

Time of work with slides for 8 hours = 480 minutes

For each of three systems:

(BD, TIS, and TIS+),

for each of three types of slide review:

(FOV, FOV+FMR, FMR),

Times for slides were analyzed and

25th percentile,

50th percentile (median)

75th percentile

were estimated (in minutes).

CDC Data for slides FMR-only.



In minutes

	BD	TIS	TIS+
25 th percentile	3.063	3.837	3.405
median	3.870	4.870	5.090
75 th percentile	4.970	6.270	7.348

Weights* in counting for Limit of Slides=100

	BD	TIS	TIS+
25 th percentile	0.64	0.80	0.71
median	0.81	1.01	1.06
75 th percentile	1.04	1.31	1.53

- If FMR is counted as 1, then calculations based on medians are close to CLIA requirement of 100 slides
- If FMR is counted as 1 and one uses 75th percentiles of time in calculations => it can require a **change in CLIA requirement of 100.**

* Minutes are divided by 4.8 because working day is 480 minute

BD

CDC Data, time in minutes

	FOV Only	FOV +FMR	FMR Only
25 th percentile	2.017	4.385	3.063
median	2.617	5.615	3.870
75 th percentile	3.398	7.018	4.970

6% of slides with FMR Only

BD



% of FOV+FMR	CLIA/FDA	CDC Data (Median)	Over-work time (minutes)
95%	70	89	
90%	73	92	
85%	75	94	
70%	84	103	
60%	91	110	
50%	100	117	
40%	110	126	
30%	123	136	
28.6%	125	137	
20%	139	147	
10%	160	161	
9%	163	163	
8%	165	165	
7%	168	166	
6%	171	168	+7.9
5%	173	169	+11.0



TIS



CDC Data, time in minutes

	FOV Only	FOV +FMR	FMR Only
25 th percentile	2.033	4.867	3.837
median	2.587	6.297	4.870
75 th percentile	3.363	7.897	6.270

3% of slides with FMR Only

TIS



% of FOV+FMR	CLIA/FDA	CDC Data (Median)	Over-work time (minutes)
95%	70	79	
90%	72	81	
85%	75	84	
70%	84	93	
60%	91	100	
50%	100	108	
40%	111	117	
30%	124	129	
28.6%	126	130	
20%	141	142	
10%	163	159	+12.7
9%	166	161	+14.7
8%	169	163	+16.7
7%	172	165	+18.8
6%	174	167	+20.9
5%	177	169	+23.2

TIS+



CDC Data, time in minutes

	FOV Only	FOV +FMR	FMR Only
25 th percentile	2.680	5.547	3.405
median	3.270	7.077	5.090
75 th percentile	4.180	8.758	7.348

3% of slides with FMR Only

TIS+



% of FOV+FMR	CLIA/FDA	CDC Data (Median)	Over-work time (minutes)
95%	70	70	
90%	72	72	
85%	75	74	+2.5
70%	84	81	+14.9
60%	91	87	+25.0
50%	100	93	+37.1
40%	111	100	+51.8
30%	124	108	+69.9
28.6%	126	110	+72.8
20%	141	118	+93.1
10%	163	130	+123.6
9%	166	131	+127.2
8%	169	133	+130.9
7%	172	134	+134.7
6%	174	135	+138.7
5%	177	137	+142.8

TIS+

$$3.270 * FOV + 7.077 * (FOV+FMR) + 5.090 * FMR = 480 \text{ min}$$

This relationship can be presented in many ways

$$0.68 * FOV + 1.47 * (FOV+FMR) + 1.06 * FMR = 100$$

For simplicity, keeping the same weights as in the current formula (0.5, 1.5 and 1), what is limit of slides?

$$0.5 * FOV + 1.5 * (FOV+FMR) + 1 * FMR = ???$$



% of FOV+FMR	FDA formula with 100	FDA formula with 85	FDA formula with 80	TIS+ (based on CDC data)
95%	70	59	56	70
90%	72	61	58	72
85%	75	63	60	74
70%	84	71	67	81
60%	91	77	73	87
50%	100	85	80	93
40%	111	94	89	100
30%	124	105	99	108
28.6%	126	107	101	110
20%	141	120	113	118
10%	163	139	131	130
9%	166	141	133	131
8%	169	143	135 (+8.7 min)	133
7%	172	146	137 (+11.8 min)	134
6%	174	148	140 (+14.9 min)	135
5%	177	151	142 (+18.2 min)	137

Proposal:

BD and TIS: No changes

The same weights, limit=100

$$0.5 * \text{FOV} + 1.5 * (\text{FOV} + \text{FMR}) + 1.0 * \text{FMR} = 100$$

TIS+:

No change in methodology (the same weights: 0.5, 1.5, 1),
number of slides (limit=80)

$$0.5 * \text{FOV} + 1.5 * (\text{FOV} + \text{FMR}) + 1.0 * \text{FMR} = 80$$

Individualized Approach



Each CT has his/her own weights

Basic points (without details):

- Weights are data driven weights
- Imager system calculates automatically number of reviewed slides using weights for this CT;
- Weights are set up in the beginning as “median” and then updated based on performance of this CT, for example, during previous 2-4 weeks;
- It can be that weights for CT can be only from some range of weights (times) for FOV, FOV+FMR, and FMR in CDC study data (for example, 25th -75th percentiles or 40th-75th percentiles).
- Pilot program and then implementation

Individualized Approach



Example of TIS+



25 th percentile	
Type of slides	Weight
FOV	0.56
FOV + FMR	1.16
FMR	0.71
Limit=100 slides	

50 th percentile	
Type of slides	Weight
FOV	0.68
FOV + FMR	1.47
FMR	1.06
Limit=100 slides	

75 th percentile	
Type of slides	Weight
FOV	0.87
FOV + FMR	1.82
FMR	1.53
Limit=100 slides	

$2.680 * \text{FOV} +$
 $5.547 * (\text{FOV} + \text{FMR}) +$
 $3.405 * \text{FMR} = 480$

$3.270 * \text{FOV} +$
 $7.077 * (\text{FOV} + \text{FMR}) +$
 $5.090 * \text{MR} = 480$

$4.180 * \text{FOV} +$
 $8.758 * (\text{FOV} + \text{FMR}) +$
 $7.348 * \text{MR} = 480$

Individualized Approach (Example of TIS+)



25 th percentile	
Type of slides	Weight
FOV	0.56
FOV + FMR	1.16
FMR	0.71
Limit=100 slides	

50 th percentile	
Type of slides	Weight
FOV	0.68
FOV + FMR	1.47
FMR	1.06
Limit=100 slides	

75 th percentile	
Type of slides	Weight
FOV	0.87
FOV + FMR	1.82
FMR	1.53
Limit=100 slides	

FDA formula with 80 gives
number of slides=73

Percent of
(FOV+FMR) =60%
Number of slides =
87

Percent of
(FOV+FMR) =60%
Number of slides =
69

FDA formula with 80 gives
number of slides=131

Percent of
(FOV+FMR) =10%
Number of slides =
130

Percent of
(FOV+FMR) =10%
Number of slides =
102



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