

# Collaboration Between Radiologists and Clinicians Improves Identification of Parathyroid Adenoma on 4DCT

Beverly Hershey, MD<sup>1</sup> Nicole Levy, MD<sup>1</sup>; Robert Gray, DO<sup>1</sup>;  
Thomas Chayapruks, MD<sup>1</sup>; Lindsay Kuo, MD<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Temple University Hospital, Department of Radiology

<sup>2</sup> Temple University Hospital, Department of Surgery

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# BACKGROUND

- Prior to December 2017, 4DCT rarely ordered at our institution
- Following hire of surgeon with subspecialty training in endocrine surgery, we experienced an increase in orders for 4DCT
- In reviewing preoperative and postoperative scans with the surgeon, we quickly became aware of our low sensitivity in identifying PTH adenoma compared to 93% published in the literature

# PURPOSE

PLAN objective: improve detection of  
PTH adenoma by 4DCT

Prediction: review with surgeon  
will increase sensitivity

# METHODOLOGY

- Use PDSA methodology to improve identification of PTH adenomas
- Retrospective review performed following institutional IRB waiver
- Initial cycle: 7 patients scanned prior to review with surgeon from December 2017 to September 2018 with comparison of radiologists' report to surgical notes and surgical pathology from Epic records
- Second cycle (DO): 30 scans performed between September 2018 and December 2019 with preoperative review of 4DCT with surgeon, in addition to surgical notes and surgical pathology from Epic records

# Data pre and post intervention

	# patients	% sensitivity for laterality
Radiologist alone	7	43
Radiologist with surgeon feedback	30	87

# 4DCT scan review

- Scans reviewed for:
  - presence or absence of one or multiple candidate lesions
  - lesion laterality
  - location and size
  - lesion enhancement characteristics
  - identification of polar vessel
  - presence and type of factors limiting evaluation

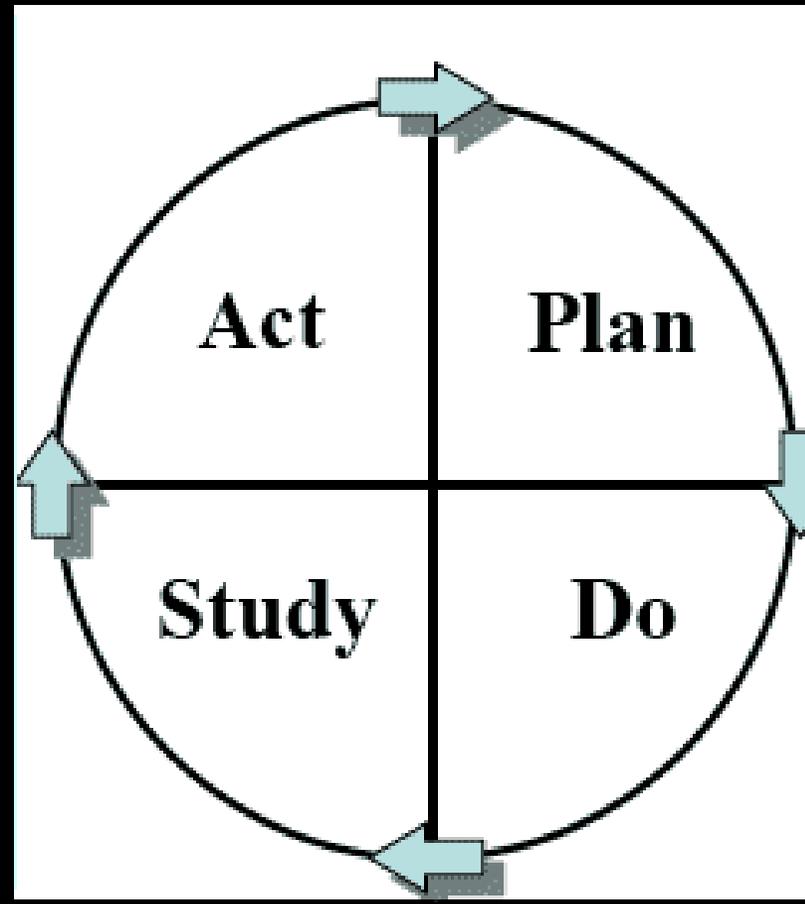
# RESULTS

- Initial study cycle: 43% sensitivity in lateralizing candidate lesions by radiologists alone
- Second cycle: 73% sensitivity for lesion laterality by radiologists alone, increasing to 87% in review with surgeon
- Correlation with surgeon feedback and operative results lead to identification of lesions that did not demonstrate classic imaging features of marked contrast enhancement on arterial phase imaging with washout on delayed images, identification of a polar artery, or those obscured by artifact or located posterior to a thyroid mass

# Summary of PDSA cycle

Changes for next cycle: reduce artifacts limiting PTH adenoma detection by 4DCT

What was learned?  
Sensitivity of PTH adenoma detection by radiologist increased two fold by collaborating with surgeon



Objective: improve detection of PTH adenoma by 4DCT  
Prediction: review with surgeon will increase sensitivity

Collect and analyze data for identification of PTH adenoma by review of 4DCT with surgeon and comparison to surgical results

# CONCLUSION

- Clinical feedback aids in increasing radiologists' sensitivity of interpretation of 4DCT in identifying parathyroid adenomas
- Clinical feedback is essential in quality improvement of radiology results reporting of candidate lesions

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