

Philips partners with University of California

09 March 2015 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

Philips partners with University of California



Royal Philips has announced its collaboration with the University of California, Irvine. The deal is to explore how spectral breast imaging can improve breast density measurement, potentially aiding clinicians in more accurately gauging breast cancer risks and monitoring changes over time.

The study will rely on Philips' MicroDose SI mammography spectral imaging technology. With MicroDose SI, Philips introduced its first spectral imaging application with a new feature called Spectral Breast Density Measurement. Rather than estimating density, the tool uses photon counting technology to simultaneously acquire spectral data of the adipose and fibro glandular tissue within a single exposure of a low dose mammogram. This provides an objective volumetric breast density measurement, paving the way for refined risk assessment and personalized care.

The ability to more accurately measure breast density will enable radiologists to personalize breast cancer screenings and potentially be used for treatment monitoring.

"Through this study, UC Irvine and Philips are looking to set an industry standard for objectively measuring breast density. While this doesn't exist today, it will be increasingly critical as we move toward further personalizing breast cancer screening, and enabling patients to become more engaged in their own care," said Mr Gene Saragnese, CEO Imaging, Philips. He added, "With the combination of our MicroDose SI technology and leading imaging experts at UC Irvine, we can determine if spectral breast imaging can help provide more definitive diagnoses, at low radiation dose, to better help patients and

clinicians in the fight against breast cancer."

The first phase of the study will focus on assessing the accuracy of the spectral breast density application by analyzing 40 post-mortem breasts and comparing results with chemical analysis. The study is expected to be completed over a one- to two-year-long period.