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STUDY SHOWS CAD FOR BREAST MRI
IMPROVES STANDARDIZATION AND ANALYSIS OF STUDIES

Study Conducted at University of Washington and Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

Published in July Issue of the Journal Radiology

Bellevue, WA, June 28, 2007 – Confirma, developer of CADstream® and market leader in computer-aided-detection (CAD) for breast MRI, today announced research will be published in the July issue of the journal *Radiology* indicating that CAD for breast MRI may improve standardization, and the analysis of benign and malignant lesions.

Teresa Williams, M.D., and colleagues at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance and the University of Washington Medical Center did a retrospective examination of 154 breast lesions deemed suspicious by radiologists that were only visible on MRI and that had been biopsied under MRI guidance ('Breast MR Imaging: Computer Aided Evaluation (CAE) Program for Discriminating Benign and Malignant Lesions'). They compared the findings and recommendations made by radiologists at the time to the findings obtained using CAD for breast MRI to evaluate studies.

The lesions in the study had been identified and biopsied during 2001-2004 from a study population of 125 women, age 27-86. The studies were processed using CADstream, version 3.0. CAD was used to analyze the breast tissue and mark areas where the MRI data curves were characteristic of abnormal lesions. Analysis of the tissue enhancement data as displayed in the CAD-processed images identified 38 of the 41 malignant lesions examined by radiologists using the software, according to researchers. Using the standardized CAD protocols and enhancement profiles, the radiologists noticed a reduction in their false positive rate.

Dr. Williams was a medical resident in radiology at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) when the research was done. She is now a fellow in pediatric radiology at Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle.

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"There are challenges associated with breast MRI and one is the time it takes to process and evaluate the many images acquired," said Constance Lehman, M.D., corresponding author and director of radiology at the SCCA. "Computer software programs such as the one evaluated in our study can assist us in interpreting breast MRI scans more easily. Our study suggests that the information provided may improve our ability to distinguish between benign and malignant lesions."

About Breast MRI and CADstream

The ACS panel on breast cancer screening now recommends that women with a 20-25 percent or greater lifetime risk of the disease undergo an annual MRI in addition to mammography. In addition to the new ACS guidelines, a study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* suggests that women with cancer found in one breast should undergo an MRI scan of the other breast.

Due to the recent news and published clinical studies supporting breast MRI for increased breast cancer detection, it is becoming increasingly important to improve analysis of these complex, time-consuming studies. CADstream is an intuitive technology that is advancing breast MRI by enhancing quality, standardization and efficiency of studies. The system automates analysis, reporting and interventional planning of studies and promotes standardization with the incorporation of the ACR BI-RADS® Atlas.

CADstream is designed for any workflow scenario, integrating with existing equipment and providing access to studies anywhere on the network. Automated features include image registration, multiplanar reformatting, subtractions, Angiogenesis Maps, curves, maximum intensity projections (MIPs), volume summaries, Portfolio for reporting, SureLoc® for interventional guidance and multimodality capability. CADstream was first introduced at the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) meeting in 2002 and is currently in use by thousands of physician users and hundreds of breast MRI programs.

About Confirma, Inc.

Confirma, Inc. develops and markets CAD systems and accessories for medical imaging. CADstream is the standard in CAD for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). CADstream automates the analysis and interventional guidance of MRI studies, providing higher quality imaging studies, lower costs for radiology practices and improved communication tools for physicians and patients. In its initial application, CADstream is being used to assist in the analysis, interventional guidance and reporting of breast MRI studies. CADstream is DICOM 3.0 compliant, allowing integration with any MRI scanner and PACS. The company plans to adapt its proven CAD technology to advance other medical imaging applications.

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Confirma has established partnerships with companies including GE Healthcare, Philips Medical Systems, Bayer HealthCare, Medipattern, Vital Images and CARESTREAM. Confirma has partnered with hundreds of imaging centers and corporate partners worldwide since 2003, helping develop more standardized, high performance breast MRI programs that deliver premium patient care. Confirma Europe GmbH opened operations in Berlin to further develop the European market. Frost & Sullivan recently recognized Confirma with the 2006 Industry Innovation and Advancement Award for the U.S. CAD market. For more information, visit www.confirma.com or call 877-811-2356.

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