

*Guidelines for treatment reporting*

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29 Introduction

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31 The guidelines outlined in this document aim to fulfill three main objectives:

32

- 33 • To ensure consistency in reporting FUS treatment parameters, in order to allow
- 34 cross-comparison of studies performed by different groups and/or with different
- 35 systems
- 36 • To provide guidelines for assessing and reporting bioeffects associated with different
- 37 FUS treatment regimens, necessary for (1) cross-comparison of studies, (2) validation
- 38 of therapeutic bioeffects
- 39 • To provide guidelines for testing the FUS systems and protocols

40

41 The guidelines are divided into five sections: (1) overall recommendations for important

42 reporting parameters, (2) detailed methodologies for measuring/simulating FUS system and

43 field parameters, (3) detailed methodologies for assessing bioeffects, (4) dosimetry quality

44 assurance (DQA) procedures for FUS equipment, and (5) relevant standards and references.

45

46 These guidelines were drafted by the Focused Ultrasound Foundation with input from

47 several focused ultrasound scientific and technical experts. The guidelines will be

48 disseminated to a wide audience via the Foundation's newsletter and website and will be

49 open for a 30-day public comment period.

50

51 Recommendations

52

53 1. Operational parameters reporting

54

55 The following must be considered:

- 56 • FUS transducer & system
  - 57 ○ See **Reporting on FUS transducer & system**
  - 58 ○ See **Reporting DQA procedures**
- 59 • Frequency (Hz or equivalent), bandwidth
- 60 • Axial and radial beamplots of the acoustic pressure field (Pa) and/or quantification of
- 61 the Intensity ( $W/m^2$  or equivalent unit of Power/Area)
  - 62 ○ See **Reporting acoustic output parameters: power and intensity**
  - 63 ○ See **Reporting acoustic field: hydrophone measurements**
  - 64 ○ See **Reporting numerical simulation**
- 65 • Acoustic output power (W or equivalent unit of Energy/time)
  - 66 ○ See **Reporting acoustic output parameters: power and intensity**
  - 67 ○ See **Reporting numerical simulation**

68

69

70 2. Treatment parameter reporting

71

72 The following must be reported:

- 73 • Treatment duration (s or equivalent)
- 74 • Total treatment time vs actual treatment delivery (on) time
- 75 • If pulsed: pulse repetition rate and pulse duration (or number of acoustic cycles per
- 76 pulse or duty cycle), and any appropriate complementary description of the pulsing
- 77 regime
- 78 • Acoustic Pressure/Intensity/Power levels used for the treatment
- 79 • Target tissue type(s)
- 80 • Depth of treatment
- 81 • Position of transducer relative to tissue/anatomy
- 82 • If multiple spots are treated: sequential positioning of the treatment spots, duration
- 83 at each spot, waiting time between spots if any
- 84 • If microbubbles are used, composition, dose, method of injection
  - 85 ○ See **Reporting use of microbubbles**

86

87

88 3. Treatment bio-effect reporting

89

90 The following should be given:

- 91 • Thermal dose, peak and average temperature, temperature maps, recorded over
- 92 time
  - 93 ○ See **Recommendations for temperature monitoring**
- 94 • Localization, monitoring method, type and level of cavitation activity
  - 95 ○ See **Recommendation for reporting on cavitation monitoring**
- 96 • Targeting accuracy, lesion formation, changes in biomarkers
  - 97 ○ See **Recommendation for validation of induced bio-effects**

98

99 Detailed Methodologies

100

101 1. Reporting on methodologies used to measure/simulate/derive FUS system and field  
102 parameters

103

104 The guidelines on how to report FUS treatment parameters follow the guidelines published  
105 in reference [1] to determine and report the exposure conditions used in studies.

106

107 Reporting on FUS transducer & system

108

109 • Transducer geometry (plane v. focused, single v. multiple elements, diameter, focal  
110 length, f-number, positioning of elements if multiple, backing material v. air-backed),  
111 material (PZT, other ceramics...), and characterization (impedance, use of matching  
112 circuit, center frequency, frequency bandwidth).

112

113 • Drive electronics: references to function generator, amplifier (including  
114 manufacturer)

114

115 Reporting acoustic field: hydrophone measurements

116

117 • Hydrophone characteristics: diameter, sensitivity, frequency response, dynamic  
118 range, hydrophone calibration, hydrophone precision/accuracy

118

119 • Scanning grids: interval between steps, dimensions of the grid

119

120 • Hydrophone data collection: sampling rate, filtering, amplifier or preamplifier

120

121 • Spatial-variation of peak-negative and peak-positive pressure: as a minimum  
122 measured along three orthogonal axes, one of which being the direction of  
123 propagation of the ultrasound beam.

123

124

124 *Hydrophone measurements*

125

126 Measurements should be made to determine at least the maximum values of peak negative  
127 and positive acoustic pressures. The pressure variations should be measured along at least  
128 three orthogonal axes, one of which should be the direction of propagation of the  
129 ultrasound beam. The spatial interval between sample points may be different on each axis;  
130 but the interval should be sufficiently small to demonstrate the main features of the spatial  
131 variation.

132

133 The description of the hydrophone set-up will include hydrophone diameter, sensitivity,  
134 frequency response, dynamic range, its calibration (how and where), precision/accuracy;  
135 description of the data collection methods including sampling rate, filtering (if filters used),  
136 amplifier or preamplifier.

137

138 For precise recommendation on the use of hydrophones to characterize acoustic fields for  
139 medical applications, refer to the IEC standards<sup>1</sup>. Particularly, these standards provide  
140 recommendations on relevant hydrophone characteristics given specifications of the

<sup>1</sup> [IEC 62127-1:2007+AMD1:2013 CSV](#) ; [IEC 62127-2:2007+AMD1:2013+AMD2:2017 CSV](#) ; [IEC 62127-3:2007+AMD1:2013 CSV](#)

141 therapeutic transducer, the acoustic parameters to be measured, the derived intensity  
142 parameters, and the definition of measurement procedure that may be used for the  
143 determination of acoustic pressure parameters.

144  
145 Commercial scanning tanks are available<sup>2</sup>, and in-house systems can be designed. The FUS  
146 Foundation for example will publish a blueprint for how to build one's own 3D-printed,  
147 computer-driven motorized system to be used with hydrophones for acoustic field  
148 calibration.

149  
150 Because of the technical difficulty of measuring these acoustic outputs with a hydrophone  
151 and force balance, some laboratories may not be able to undertake these measurements  
152 themselves. In that case, we recommend contacting laboratories who do have the necessary  
153 expertise, or companies providing these services, and the need to involve one of these  
154 should be factored into a study from the start. A list of potential sites is provided in Annex 1  
155 (Medical Ultrasound Test Measurement Laboratories), and the Focused Ultrasound  
156 Foundation can connect you with appropriate laboratories if needed.

157  
158 Measurements for characterization of the acoustic field pressure and intensity should be  
159 performed in water to allow comparisons between centers. If estimated values of in situ  
160 acoustic pressure or intensity are reported (for instance, by using a derating factor), the  
161 method for calculating the in situ value should be fully explained and a worked example  
162 given. Note that it is generally not correct to use a derating factor of  $0.3 \text{ dB}\cdot\text{cm}^{-1}\cdot\text{MHz}^{-1}$  to  
163 estimate the in situ values of intensity or acoustic pressure that are relevant to the  
164 occurrence temperature rise, cavitation or other mechanical effects. An estimate of the  
165 transmission loss of the propagation path should be used instead.

166  
167 If high pressures are to be measured, the use of a fiber optic or membrane hydrophone [2]  
168 will be necessary to assess whether nonlinear propagation and the associated phenomenon  
169 of acoustic saturation are significantly affecting the in situ exposure levels.

170

#### 171 Reporting acoustic output parameters: power and intensity measurement

172

173 The following are needed:

- 174 • Description of the radiation force balance system, including accuracy/precision
- 175 • Acoustic power as a function of voltage to the transducer
- 176 • Frequency, pulsing or scanning regime
- 177 • Transducer efficiency
- 178 • Acoustic intensity
- 179 • Uncertainty of these measurements

180

#### 181 *Power and intensity measurement*

182

183 Measurements should be made to determine at least

- 184 1. the total output power

<sup>2</sup> Examples of commercially available scanning systems: Onda  
[http://www.ondacorp.com/products\\_testingsol\\_scanningsystem.shtml](http://www.ondacorp.com/products_testingsol_scanningsystem.shtml); Precision Acoustics  
<https://www.acoustics.co.uk/product/ums3-scanning-tank/>

185 2. the spatial-peak temporal-average intensity of the field (and the distance from the  
186 transducer at which these measurements are taken)

187  
188 Radiation force will provide a measurement of the acoustic output power for a given set of  
189 electrical inputs. Reports should include a description of the radiation force balance system,  
190 including its accuracy/precision, and how acoustic power measurements were performed.  
191 For details on the procedure for force balance measurements, refer to the IEC standards (see  
192 IEC 61161 or IEC 62555.)

193  
194 Operational parameters, including the acoustic frequency, pulse repetition rate (or an  
195 appropriate description of any pulsing or scanning regime), and pulse duration (or number of  
196 acoustic cycles per pulse) should be given over the relevant range of output powers.

197  
198 The acoustic power should be measured for different transducer drive voltages to provide a  
199 plot of power versus voltage.

200  
201 Estimating the transducer efficiency (ratio of output acoustic power to input electrical  
202 power) will require a measure of the input electrical power, and its method of measurement  
203 should be provided as well.

204  
205 Quantities such as intensity must be calculated by combining the power measurements with  
206 field measurements (e.g. hydrophone or field simulations). The method of calculation of  
207 intensity from these measurements should be detailed, including the area over which the  
208 intensity is calculated (see for example [9,10].)

209  
210 All these measurements have uncertainties that must be estimated, and a description of  
211 how uncertainty was derived should be provided.

212

### 213 Reporting numerical simulation

214

215 The following are important:

- 216 • Model equation
- 217 • Numerical implementation
- 218 • Code verification
- 219 • Parameters modeled
- 220 • Coupling of the system
- 221 • Software used
- 222 • System discretization
- 223 • Material parameters and transducer characteristics
- 224 • Sensitivity analysis
- 225 • System geometry
- 226 • Initial and boundary conditions
- 227 • Outputs simulated at each point
- 228 • Limitations of the model

229

230

231 *Numerical simulations*

232

233 Numerical simulations of acoustic fields are a useful tool for designing a treatment scheme  
234 and/or validating experimental measurements.

235

236 The FDA has published detailed guidance on reporting the results of simulations<sup>3</sup>, from upon  
237 which this section is based. The document has sections on both ultrasound propagation  
238 modeling and heat transfer, and we strongly recommend referring to these guidelines.

239

240 Several tools are available for numerical modeling, some in open format, such as the HITU  
241 Simulator developed by the FDA<sup>4</sup> or k-wave developed by University College London and  
242 Brno University<sup>5</sup>. Both run on Matlab and include some form of bioheat equation solving to  
243 predict heating and calculation of thermal dose in tissues.

244

245 Detailed reporting should include:

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- Model equations including propagation model (full wave, parabolic, linear or non-linear), frequency dependence of attenuation if modeled, assumptions underlying the propagation model used
- Numerical implementation, such as finite difference method or finite element method
- Code verification, method used to assess the accuracy of the model's predictions (bench methods, experimental data...)
- Parameters modeled (pressure or displacement), fluid or solid model (shear wave taken into account)
- Coupling of acoustic field simulation with thermal effects, streaming, ...
- Software used (commercial, user-developed...)
- System discretization: spatial mesh (uniform, non-uniform), simulation timepoints...
- Configurations: material parameters (organ/tissue specifics) including speed of sound, density, absorption, coefficient of non-linearity; and if heat transfer is also modeled (such as bioheat equation) heat capacity, thermal conductivity, perfusion rate, and transducer characteristics (acoustic power, frequency, pressure/phase distribution), dependence of these properties on other variables such as temperature or frequency.
- Sensitivity analysis: if uncertainties are associated with the data, it is relevant to perform a sensitivity analysis to estimate the effect of uncertainties on the simulation results
- System geometry: details about device (single element geometry, where multiple elements include arrangements of the elements, dimensions) and tissue geometry modeled (anatomical features included, if anatomy generated from images, describe the technique used, any scaling or similarities used in the modeling approach)
- System conditions, including initial and boundary conditions
- Outputs simulated at each point (pressure, temperature....)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.fda.gov/media/87586/download>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/cdrh-offices/hitu-simulator>;

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.k-wave.org>

- 275
- 276
- 277
- 278
- Results from the computational modeling, recommended to be provided over a range of parameters
  - Limitations of the model and how this might affect the output

279 Reporting use of microbubbles

280

- 281
- 282
- 283
- 284
- Type of MB
  - Concentration/dilution
  - Injection method
  - Dose

285

286 *Microbubbles*

287

288 If the treatment involves the use of microbubbles (MB) for therapeutic effects, such as BBB

289 opening, MB characteristics, dose, injection method has to be reported precisely as they will

290 affect response to ultrasound. This information should include:

- 291
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- 299
- Type of MB: commercial or homemade, size distribution characterization (device used, when was it measured with respect to treatment time, where - straight out of the vial or at the other end of the injection setup), composition including shell and gas
  - MB concentration, dilution if any before injection
  - Injection method (bolus v. infusion, single v. repeated injection, injection volume), syringe (gauge), if infusion is used give infusion rate and infusion duration
  - Dose, amount of injected MBs (such as number of MB/kg)
  - Injection volume

300

301

302 **2. Reporting on the methodologies to assess bio-effects**

303

304 Reporting temperature monitoring

305

306 If using thermocouple

- 307
- 308
- 309
- 310
- 311
- specifications (type, size)
  - locations
  - parameters (temporal sampling, duration)
  - accuracy
  - artefacts & their mitigation

312

313 If using MRI thermometry:

- 314
- 315
- 316
- 317
- 318
- 319
- sequence specifications
  - maps of peak temperature over time
  - average temperature in the treatment zone over time
  - voxel size (spatial averaging resolution)
  - accuracy (temperature resolution)
  - estimated thermal dose at the treatment location

320

321



322

323 *Thermal dosimetry*

324

325 Monitoring of the temporal evolution of temperature allows calculation of the thermal dose  
326 (or thermal isoeffect dose) delivered, or a cumulative equivalent minutes at 43 °C

327 (CEM43°C), which has been demonstrated as an empirical estimator of induced necrosis.

328 Monitoring and reporting thermal effects induced by a treatment is essential to allow

329 comparison of treatment regimens and to estimate a thermal dose, average, and peak

330 temperature reached. Basic temperature monitoring will include the use of thermocouples,

331 and the use of multiple thermocouples at several locations can give information about the

332 temperature distribution within the tissues. For temperature mapping, MRI thermometry,

333 such as PRF-based MR thermometry [3], seems to be the most reliable option although it is

334 not always available. Temperature maps can be recorded as a function of time, to estimate

335 temporal variation of peak temperature, average temperature in the treatment zone over

336 time, and the thermal dose at the treatment location. These maps should be recorded over a

337 time span which that covers a pre-measurement to estimate noise, the treatment duration

338 and the cool-down phase.

339

340 For MRI thermometry, reporting should include:

341

- specifications of the sequence used to estimate temperature

342

- resolution of the maps (voxel size)

343

- method of calculation for each map (what is quoted, average - over which area, or peak?)

344

- For temperature maps recorded over time:

346

- include pre- and post-treatment phases

347

- include estimated peak temperature, average temperature in the treatment zone, and the thermal dose at the treatment location

348

- For thermal dose maps: thermal-dose contour maps, including the threshold

349

- value for damage for the organ of interest

350

351 For ultrasound image-based systems, options include tissue change monitoring (thermal  
352 mapping) [4], and visual changes in the US images during treatment [5].

353

354 The use of a thermocouple requires some precautions, as artefacts may give incorrect

355 readings: the presence of a thermocouple changes the environment at the point of interest

356 and may introduce a systematic error. To minimize errors, particularly sources of errors such

357 as thermal conductivity and the effect of the difference in heat capacity between the

358 thermocouple wire and the surrounding tissue, the wire diameter of the thermocouple

359 should remain small, ideally 1/20, of the wavelength of ultrasound field [11].

360

361 An important artifact remains however and must be accounted for. This arises from the

362 difference in density between the thermocouple wire and the surrounding tissue leading to

363 relative motion between the two and giving rise to so-called “viscous heating” at the

364 thermocouple-tissue interface [11]. Viscous heating leads to a very rapid increase in the

365 temperature which distorts measurements. The induced artifact can comprise 80% of the

366

367 measurement when using wire thermocouples [14].

368 Thermocouples that do not exhibit viscous heating exist, such as thin-film thermocouples  
369 (TFT) [14], are not widely available and are not suitable for in-vivo experiments, limiting their  
370 use to phantom or ex-vivo experiments.

371  
372 One common compensation method for the viscous artifact is the “wait then measure”  
373 approach; because the temperature rise due to viscous heating initially increases rapidly and  
374 then levels off, it is assumed that waiting at the end of the insonification will allow the  
375 temperature rise due to viscous heating to decay sufficiently. Different waiting periods have  
376 been proposed, from 0.2 to 0.5s after the cessation of FUS exposure [12, 13]. Although such  
377 a method will provide more confidence in the results, there is also no consistency as to  
378 whether corrections for viscous heating are made or not, and it has been reported that the  
379 corrected temperature rise determined with the “wait and see” approach depends on the  
380 thermocouple type, beam width of the HIFU beam, and radius of the viscous heating  
381 distribution, and should not be used without careful consideration [14].  
382

383 More complete compensation approaches use numerical simulations to evaluate the viscous  
384 heating, the heating due to ultrasound absorption in biological tissues, the temporal  
385 behavior of the artifact and the effects of the thermocouple diameter, and then remove the  
386 contribution of the viscous heating from experimental temperature rises [15].  
387

#### 388 Reporting cavitation monitoring

389

390 If using simple PCDs:

- 391 • PCDs specifications: frequency bandwidth, number, positions
- 392 • PCD signal acquisition: sampling frequency, number of points acquired, description of  
393 signal processing method applied, such as how frequency spectra were derived,  
394 filters used
- 395 • Specifications of the metrics used to quantify cavitation, such as computation of sub-  
396 harmonic power, broadband power, harmonic or ultra-harmonic power, what  
397 thresholds or metrics were used to assess presence/absence of cavitation activities  
398

399

399 If mapping cavitation:

- 400 • Specifications of the experimental system, such as the imaging array, multiple PCDs...
- 401 • Description of the algorithms used to process the signal and localize cavitation
- 402 • If imaging cavitation using conventional imaging scanners, specification of the  
403 imaging mode used (B-mode, contrast mode...)
- 404 • Specifications of the metrics used to quantify cavitation, such as computation of sub-  
405 harmonic power, broadband power, harmonic or ultra-harmonic power, what  
406 thresholds or metrics were used to assess presence/absence of cavitation activities  
407

407

408 Histotripsy

- 409 • Description of the method used to assess bubble activity (US, MRI)
- 410 • Description of the method used to assess treatment efficacy/changes in tissue  
411 structure (US imaging, optical imaging, histology, MRI imaging)  
412

412

413

414 *Cavitation*

415

416 Cavitation, such as sustained inertial or non-inertial cavitation seeded by microbubbles is  
417 now used as a therapeutic mechanism to enable increased delivery and penetration of drugs  
418 across the blood-brain barrier or into tumors.

419

420 The treatment results will depend on the sonication parameters, the characteristics of  
421 microbubbles used if any, such as their size, composition, concentration, dose injected,  
422 injection method and rate, and the tissue or tumor type and location. All these parameters  
423 should be carefully reported.

424

425 So-called pulsed-ultrasound also potentially rely on the generation of cavitation bubbles to  
426 induce bioeffects.

427

428 In addition to reporting treatment characteristics, monitoring of cavitation activity is also  
429 required to localize and quantify the effects. Several real-time monitoring strategies have  
430 been proposed that rely on passive cavitation monitoring with a single transducer or  
431 hydrophone, or on spatiotemporal monitoring, such as passive cavitation imaging. For  
432 histotripsy in particular, image guidance schemes are preferable for quantifying the bubble  
433 cloud activity and assessing treatment location.

434

435 Tissue liquefaction techniques – cavitation histotripsy, and boiling and shock wave  
436 histotripsy – rely on bubble cloud activity to liquefy tissues mechanically. Methods for  
437 characterizing histotripsy treatments have been reviewed in detail in [16]. For histotripsy  
438 image guidance, assessment of bubble activity and treatment efficacy, B-Mode echogenicity  
439 is the most ubiquitous parameter since the bubbles cloud generated will hyper-echoic on a  
440 B-mode ultrasound imaging, whereas liquefied tissue appears hypo-echoic.

441

442 However, there have been reports of significant variability between patients, preventing  
443 quantification of B-mode images. An alternative modality to B-mode imaging for localization  
444 of the cavitation cloud is triangulation using PCDs, or so-called passive cavitation imaging  
445 (PCI) utilizing an ultrasound imaging array to detect and beam-form acoustic emissions  
446 generated by the mechanical oscillations of bubbles. Bubble clouds can also be visualized  
447 using MRI, although the timing between the therapy pulse and the imaging gradients is  
448 critical for monitoring cavitation, and the sensitivity of MR sequences to bubble cloud  
449 formation is low compared with acoustic methods. Bubble cloud motion, which can be used  
450 as a surrogate marker for tissue destruction, can be monitored with color Doppler. Tissue  
451 liquefaction however may be better characterized by MRI, as histotripsy ablation zones can  
452 be clearly visualized immediately post-insonation with T1- or T2-weighted imaging, or using  
453 acoustic elastography since a strong decrease in tissue elasticity occurs during fractionation.  
454 After treatment however, acoustic elastography becomes difficult to perform as tracking of  
455 the shear wave becomes difficult in the hypo-echoic focal zone. This will limit the accuracy  
456 of elastography techniques for delineating the liquefied zone.

457

458 Reporting on the validation of induced bio-effects

459

460 Targeting accuracy

- 461 • Provide an estimate of the actual focal location relative to the desired location
- 462 • Explain how the target location was determined

463

464 Thermal treatments

- 465 • Histology (H&E): for necrosis, especially in case of thermal coagulation
- 466 • NADH staining: for early assessment of protein denaturation following thermal FUS
- 467 • IHC: for cell death, apoptosis & other death mechanisms
- 468 • CEUS to assess loss of perfusion in treated area

469

470 Histotripsy

- 471 • Histology (H&E) to demonstrate histotripsy-like tissue liquefaction and acellular debris, any hemorrhage or edema

472

473

474 Biomarkers

- 475 • When appropriate, monitor expected changes in biomarkers pre- and post-treatment values, such as PSA in prostate cancer treatment
- 476 • Other biological markers, such as the number of circulating tumor cells or the frequency/phenotype of immune cells, can also be monitored but will be more relevant for response monitoring than the for validation of treatment efficacy

477

478

480

481 *Bioeffects*

482

483 The validation of the tissue response is required to clearly demonstrate that the intended  
484 bio-effects were effectively induced.

485

486 Standard histology staining such as H&E can reveal necrosis in treated areas, especially in  
487 the case of thermal coagulation. Note that it may take time for the thermal coagulation to  
488 be clearly visible on H&E staining, and for early assessment of protein denaturation  
489 following thermal FUS, NADH staining is preferable (see [6] for example.) Damage such as  
490 tissue liquefaction induced by histotripsy can be clearly identified with standard histology  
491 imaging, and H&E stained histological sections of the lesion should contain sharply  
492 demarcated homogenized tissue areas.

493

494 For drug delivery applications, validation will have to be made on a case-by-case basis, for  
495 example using reporters to assess drug distribution and concentration with PET, MRI,  
496 fluorescence or bioluminescence imaging post-treatment, or quantification on tissue  
497 samples post-mortem using imaging or direct drug quantification using HPLC.

498

499 DQA procedure

500

501 Reporting DQA procedures

- 502 • Specifications of the DQA processes
  - 503 ○ Use of phantom, hydrophone or RFB measurements, ...

- 504                   ○ Specifications of phantom, hydrophone...
- 505                   • Frequency/schedule of the DQA
- 506                   • Metrics assessed (lesion formation, thermometry, ...)

507  
508

509 *DQA procedure*

510

511 A DQA procedure should be used to provide a rapid and efficient method to assess the  
512 consistency of the FUS transducer output. When possible, using a phantom approved by the  
513 FDA as a “medical device development tool” (MDDT) could enable a more streamlined  
514 regulatory pathway for the treatment device in the USA.

515

516 The FDA has released a report<sup>6</sup> on a MDDT-qualified tissue mimicking material (TMM) for  
517 preclinical acoustic performance characterization of HIFU devices, intended as a standard  
518 material that can be used for acoustic performance evaluation during high intensity  
519 therapeutic ultrasound (HITU) bench testing. Although the TMM was developed to match  
520 literature values of soft tissue acoustic properties, it cannot replicate the complexity or the  
521 thermal response of tissue thermal ablation and thus should not be used for these purposes  
522 in lieu of ex-vivo or in-vivo tissues, as FUS-induced temperature rises in the TMM may differ  
523 from soft tissues. The TMM has acoustical properties in the range of non-fatty soft tissues  
524 and is formulated to assist in the design evaluation phase of HITU Class II or Class III devices  
525 operating at clinically relevant parameters. The report provides the formulation, a  
526 standardized generic recipe, the characteristics and guide for use in performing tests of HIFU  
527 lesioning in the TMM under MRI thermometry. Cavitation can occur in this phantom, but the  
528 threshold for cavitation is not reported. It is however recommended to use a new phantom  
529 should cavitation occur.

530

531 Different types of thermo-sensitive phantoms can also be fabricated in the laboratory, using  
532 for example bovine serum albumin (BSA) as a surrogate marker to ensure that the  
533 temperature for tissue coagulation is reached with the device and treatment parameters [7].  
534 BSA can be coupled with thermochromic ink to make a so-called tissue-mimicking  
535 thermochromic phantom (TMTCP) for direct visualization and quantification of HIFU heating  
536 [8]. These TMTCP have properties comparable to those of human soft tissues, and upon  
537 heating, exhibit incremental but permanent color change for temperatures between 45 and  
538 70°C, allowing post-treatment quantification of a lesion formed, which can also be detected  
539 with MRI thermometry and hypointense regions on T2-weighted MRI.

540

541 Pieces of fresh chicken breast or bovine liver can also be used in a first pass to monitor  
542 formation of thermal lesion, as coagulated tissues are very easy to distinguish in these two  
543 types of tissue.

544

545 Other phantoms are under development. The AAPM has a task force developing and  
546 validating a phantom specifically for MRlgHIFU. This phantom is currently being assessed by  
547 different laboratories around the USA & Europe and should soon be commercially available  
548 through the phantom manufacturer CIRS<sup>7</sup>. Low cost thermochromic phantoms that can vary

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.fda.gov/media/128803/download>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.cirsinc.com>

549 easily be homemade and used to monitor any drift in a HIFU system's output are also under  
550 development (amongst others by the FUS Foundation.)  
551

552 [Standards](#)

553

554 It is not the scope of these recommendations to provide guidance on how to meet  
555 regulatory requirements in the characterization of the treatment systems, but below is a list  
556 of some of the standards to be followed for measurements and reporting for regulatory  
557 submissions in accordance with the IEC 60601 series standards.  
558

559

- 560 • IEC 60601-2-5 Ed. 3.0. Medical Electrical Equipment – Part 2-5: Particular  
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648 ANNEX 1: Medical Ultrasound Test Measurement Laboratories

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650

651 [National Physical Laboratory \(NPL\)](#)

652 Hampton Road, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 0LW, UNITED KINGDOM

653 Tel: 020 8977 3222

654 <https://www.npl.co.uk/acoustics>

655

656

657 [Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt \(PTB\)](#)

658 Bundesallee 100

659 38116 Braunschweig, GERMANY

660 [https://www.ptb.de/cms/en/research-development/subject-areas-in-metrology/acoustics-  
ultrasound-acceleration.html](https://www.ptb.de/cms/en/research-development/subject-areas-in-metrology/acoustics-ultrasound-acceleration.html)

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664 [Acertara Acoustic Laboratories](#)

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666 Longmont, CO 80501, USA

667 Tel: +1 303.834.8413

668 <https://www.acertaralabs.com/>

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671 [ONDA Corporation](#)

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675 <http://ondacorp.com/>

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