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Letter to the Editor:

Semi-Quantification Limitations:

FMTVDM©℗ Demonstrates Quantified Tumor Response to Treatment With Both Regional Blood Flow and Metabolic Changes

Richard M. Fleming, PhD, MD, JD
FHHI-OmnificImaging-Camelot

Matthew R. Fleming, B.S
FHHI-OmnificImaging-Camelot

Andrew McKusick, BS Pharm
FHHI-OmnificImaging-Camelot

Tapan Chaudhuri, MD
Eastern Virginia Medical School

Richard M. Fleming, PhD, MD, JD
FHHI-OmnificImaging-Camelot
707 E. Grand Avenue, #8
El Segundo, CA, 90245
USA
DrRichardMFleming@gmail.com
Tele: (818) 210-6930

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True quantification[1-6] is the actual measurement of material within a tested region. In molecular imaging, the ability to accurately measure isotope accumulation is dependent upon the demonstration that the measuring device, be it SPECT or PET camera, is accurately calibrated, is measuring the correct isotope and can be counted and reproduced serially.

The publication by Humbert[7] *et al*, is important because it raises the question of whether PET cameras can detect actual changes in disease following treatment. In order to accurately measure changes in regional blood flow and metabolism it is necessary to rely on a truly quantified[1-6] method and not upon a method that produces only a calculated value. The Humbert[7] *et al* method makes two flawed presumptions. First, it applies the wrong pharmacologic kinetic model that the isotope absent from the arterial bed traveled only to the site of interest. Second, it uses a matrix setting, which has been demonstrated to produce a loss of signal data, which produces a significant error rate[2-6]. This method produces a *semi*-quantified value derived from "first-pass extraction", not an accurate measurement of the amount of isotope within the tissue of interest.

We have demonstrated that using a true quantification method provides an actual measurement of change in regional blood flow and metabolism, which is useful in assessment of treatment response.

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