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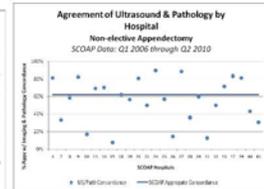
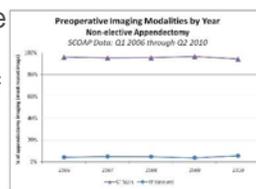
SCOAP Community Speaks Up Radiation Safety

Radiologists at University of Washington have asked "What is SCOAP doing about reducing radiation exposure for WA State patients having surgical care?"

In the March 2009 SCOAP Box, surgeons at Kadlec Hospital asked, "Why does it seem that SCOAP wants everyone to get a CT scan given recent evidence of radiation's effect over time?" We responded at that time that SCOAP's focus is not on getting more CT scans but on getting more accurate scans and where the accuracy of ultrasounds is acceptable, increasing the use of ultrasound. Since then, SCOAP data (see figure) shows that the relative use of CT and

SCOAP Making a Difference: CT vs US

SCOAP data (see figure) show that the relative use of CT and ultrasound (US) scans has



stayed about the same over SCOAP's 5 years and that US accuracy remains highly variable across sites ([see Figures 1 and 2](#)). Consensus is growing that efforts are needed to minimize radiation exposure from CT scans. Check out this month's [SCOAP Community Speaks Up article](#) to find out what SCOAP is doing to help hospitals track radiation exposure among surgical patients.

To determine which hospital is yours in the figure above, please [contact Rosa Johnson](#).

SCOAP Marching Across Washington State Franciscan System Joins SCOAP

SCOAP is proud to welcome the Franciscan Health System to SCOAP! Franciscan Health System is a faith-based organization affiliated with Catholic Health Initiatives, one of the largest non-profit health organizations in the United States. Franciscan includes 5 hospitals, a physicians group, hospice and palliative care services, same-day

US scans has stayed about the same over SCOAP's 5 years and that US accuracy remains highly variable across sites.

Consensus is growing that efforts are needed to minimize radiation exposure from CT scans. [Read more...](#)

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surgery centers, occupational health and physical therapy clinics, and centers for advanced medicine.

Franciscan's 5 hospitals (St. Joseph Medical Center, Tacoma; St. Francis Hospital, Federal Way; St. Clare Hospital, Lakewood; Enumclaw Regional Hospital, Enumclaw; and St. Anthony Hospital, Gig Harbor) join hospitals from across the State of Washington in SCOAP - a clinician-led, voluntary collaborative that links hospitals across the state to increase the use of best practices in surgical care. SCOAP's goal is to provide the kind of surveillance of procedures and response to negative outcomes that exists in the world of aviation. Now in its fifth year, SCOAP's membership represents over 90% of the general surgical care in Washington State. To see a list of SCOAP and non-SCOAP hospitals, or to learn more, [visit the SCOAP website](#).

About Us

SCOAP is the future of surgical quality improvement. It is a physician-led, voluntary collaborative creating an aviation-like surveillance and response system for surgical quality. SCOAP's goal is to improve quality by reducing variation in process of care and outcomes at every hospital in the region.

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