

ROBARTS RESEARCH INSTITUTE
CENTRE FOR FUNCTIONAL AND METABOLIC MAPPING
9.4T MRI FACILITY

SOP#320-01

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE:
MRI DATA HANDLING

1. **INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The 9.4T MRI Facility is used primarily for *in-vivo* studies of animal structure and function. These studies assess metabolism and physiology, cognitive function and vascular dynamics using a variety of advanced nuclear magnetic resonance imaging and spectroscopy techniques. The 9.4T MRI Facility represents a unique national resource for state-of-the-art evaluation of structure and functional activity using a variety of MRI and MRS techniques in a research setting. The facility resources are available to peer-reviewed grant funded scientific collaborators with appropriate UWO approved Animal Use Protocols in place. See SOP#405-01 "Animal Use in the 9.4T MRI Facility".
- 1.2 Full-time technical support for scanner operation is provided and included in hourly rates during regular weekday hours, Monday through Friday, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm. Scanning support for after-hours and weekend scanning may be arranged on a subcontract basis. Consult SOP#110-01 "System Scheduling and Billing Guide" for more details.

2. **DATA HANDLING**

- 2.1 All data collected in the 9.4T MRI Facility is stored on disk in an assigned temporary directory. The operator is responsible for informing the investigator and/or the experimental support personnel of the location of the data. The data will remain within that disk location for a maximum of 7 days unless otherwise specified.
- 2.2 The data collected at the 9.4T MRI Facility is also backed up, on a daily basis, onto tapes. Data on the tapes is guaranteed to remain there for no longer than three months. The tapes are cycled periodically and rewritten with new data.
- 2.3 Upon special request, Imaging Lab disk space and user accounts can be made available to investigators at additional yearly costs.
- 2.4 There are post-processing algorithms available at the 9.4T MRI Facility for reconstructing the raw data collected and converting it to a format readable by Brain Voyager, Stimulate and other imaging programs. The investigator and/or experimental support personnel are responsible for reconstructing and analysing the data and are encouraged to do so in the allocated temporary scratch directories.

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SOP Approval Signatures

Dr. Robert Bartha, Facility Director

Date

Dr. Greg Dekaban, RRI Biosafety Officer

Date

Ron Noseworthy, RRI Occupational Health & Safety Officer

Date