

4. Probe Calibration Process

Dosimetric Assessment Procedure

Each E-Probe/Probe amplifier combination has unique calibration parameters. A TEM calibration procedure is conducted to determine the proper amplifier settings to enter in the probe parameters. The amplifier settings are determined for a given frequency by subjecting the Probe to a known E-field density (1mW/cm²) using an RF Signal generator, TEM cell, and RF Power Meter. The SAR measurement software is used for Probe calibration.

Free Space Assessment

The free space E-field from amplified probe outputs is determined in a test chamber. This calibration can be performed in a TEM cell if the frequency is below 1 GHz and in a waveguide or some other methodologies above 1 GHz for free space. For the free space calibration, we place the probe in the volumetric center of the cavity and at the proper orientation with the field. We then rotate the probe 360 degrees until the three channels show the maximum reading. The power density readings equates to 1mW/cm².

Temperature Assessment *

E-field temperature correlation calibration is performed in a flat phantom filled with the appropriate simulated brain tissue. The measured free space E-field in the medium correlates to temperature rise in a dielectric medium. For temperature correlation calibration a RF transparent thermistor-based temperature probe is used in conjunction with the E-field probe.

$$SAR = C \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta t}$$

where:

Δt = exposure time (30 seconds),

C = heat capacity of tissue (brain or muscle),

ΔT = temperature increase due to RF exposure.

SAR is proportional to $\Delta T / \Delta t$, the initial rate of tissue heating, before thermal diffusion takes place. Now it's possible to quantify the electric field in the simulated tissue by equating the thermally derived SAR to the E- field;

$$SAR = \frac{|E|^2 \cdot \sigma}{\rho}$$

where:

σ = simulated tissue conductivity,

ρ = Tissue density (1.25 g/cm³ for brain tissue)

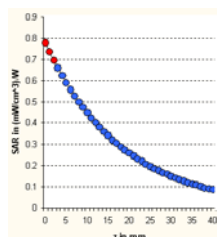


Figure 4.1 E-Field and Temperature measurements at 900MHz

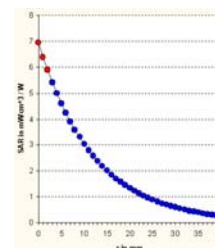


Figure 4.2 E-Field and temperature measurements at 1.9GHz

*NOTE: The temperature calibration was not performed by PCTEST. For information use only.

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