

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1582

DATE: JANUARY 1, 2024

PROJECT RP12181

The following classification changes will be effected by this Notice of Changes:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Group(s)</u>
SCHEME:		
Symbols Deleted:	A61B	6/14, 6/145
Symbols New:	A61B	6/51, 6/512
Titles Changed:	A61B	6/00, 6/02, 6/03, 6/10, 6/12, 6/40, 6/42, 6/46, 6/50, 6/501, 6/502, 6/503, 6/504, 6/505, 6/506, 6/507, 6/58, 6/581
DEFINITIONS:		
Definitions Deleted: (no frozen (F) symbol definitions should be deleted)	A61B	6/14, 6/145
Definitions New:	A61B	6/51, 6/512
Definitions Modified:	A61B	6/00, 6/025, 6/03, 6/037, 6/12, 6/50

The following subclasses/groups are also impacted by this Notice of Changes (indicate subclasses/groups outside of the project scope, such as those listed in the CRL):

A61B 5/05, A61B 5/0534, A61B 5/682, A61C 19/04, A61N 5/0601, G01N 21/00, G01T, G01T 1/00, G03B 42/042, G06T7/00, G16H 30/00, G21F, H01J 43/00, H05G 1/00

This Notice of Changes includes the following [Check the ones included]:

1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

- A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)
- B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning(s)
- C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)
- D. New, Modified or Deleted Guidance Heading(s)

2. DEFINITIONS

- A. New or Modified Definitions (Full definition template)
- B. Modified or Deleted Definitions (Definitions Quick Fix)

3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

5. CHANGES TO THE CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

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1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)

SUBCLASS A61B - DIAGNOSIS; SURGERY; IDENTIFICATION (analysing biological material G01N, e.g. G01N 33/48; obtaining records using waves other than optical waves, in general G03B 42/00)

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)</u>	<u>Title “CPC only” text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**</u>	<u>Transferred to#</u>
M	A61B 6/00	0	Apparatus or devices for radiation diagnosis; Apparatus or devices for radiation diagnosis combined with radiation therapy equipment (instruments measuring radiation intensity for application in the field of nuclear medicine, e.g. <u>in vivo</u> counting, G01T 1/161; apparatus for taking X-ray photographs G03B 42/02)	
M	A61B 6/02	1	Arrangements for diagnosis sequentially in different planes; Stereoscopic radiation diagnosis	
M	A61B 6/03	2	Computed tomography [CT] (echo-tomography A61B 8/14)	
M	A61B 6/10	1	Safety means specially adapted therefor	
M	A61B 6/12	1	Arrangements for detecting or locating foreign bodies	
D	A61B 6/14	1	Applications or adaptations for dentistry	<administrative transfer to A61B 6/51>
D	A61B 6/145	2	{by intraoral means}	<administrative transfer to A61B 6/512>
M	A61B 6/40	1	Arrangements for generating radiation specially adapted for radiation diagnosis	
M	A61B 6/42	1	Arrangements for detecting radiation specially adapted for radiation diagnosis	
M	A61B 6/46	1	Arrangements for interfacing with the operator or the patient	
M	A61B 6/50	1	specially adapted for specific body parts; specially adapted for specific clinical applications	
M	A61B 6/501	2	{for diagnosis of the head, e.g. neuroimaging or craniography}	
M	A61B 6/502	2	{for diagnosis of breast, i.e. mammography}	
M	A61B 6/503	2	{for diagnosis of the heart}	
M	A61B 6/504	2	{for diagnosis of blood vessels, e.g. by angiography}	
M	A61B 6/505	2	{for diagnosis of bone}	
M	A61B 6/506	2	{for diagnosis of nerves}	

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M	A61B 6/507	2	{for determination of haemodynamic parameters, e.g. perfusion CT}	
U	A61B 6/508	2	{for non-human patients}	
N	A61B 6/51	2	for dentistry	
N	A61B 6/512	3	{Intra oral means}	
M	A61B 6/58	1	Testing, adjusting or calibrating thereof	
M	A61B 6/581	2	{Remote testing}	

*N = new entries where reclassification into entries is involved; C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; T = existing entries with enlarged file scope, which receive documents from C or D entries, e.g. when a limiting reference is removed from the entry title; M = entries with no change to the file scope (no reclassification); D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed; U = entries that are unchanged.

NOTES:

- **No {curly brackets} are used for titles in CPC only subclasses, e.g. C12Y, A23Y; 2000 series symbol titles of groups found at the end of schemes (orthogonal codes); or the Y section titles. The {curly brackets} are used for 2000 series symbol titles found interspersed throughout the main trunk schemes (breakdown codes).
- U groups: it is obligatory to display the required “anchor” symbol (U group), i.e. the entry immediately preceding a new group or an array of new groups to be created (in case new groups are not clearly subgroups of C-type groups). Always include the symbol, indent level and title of the U group in the table above.
- All entry types should be included in the scheme changes table above for better understanding of the overall scheme change picture. Symbol, indent level, and title are required for all types.
- “Transferred to” column must be completed for all C, D, F, and Q type entries. F groups will be deleted once reclassification is completed.
- When multiple symbols are included in the “Transferred to” column, avoid using ranges of symbols in order to be as precise as possible.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: “<administrative transfer to XX>”, “<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>”, or “<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>” when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be “additional information”.
- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations “ADD” or “INV”: <administrative transfer to XX ADD>, <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or <administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the “D” entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination (“Transferred to”) symbol, however it is required to specify “<no transfer>” in the “Transferred to” column for such cases.
- For finalization projects, the deleted “F” symbols should have <no transfer> in the “Transferred to” column.
- For more details about the types of scheme change, see CPC Guide.

2. A. DEFINITIONS (new)

A61B 6/51

Definition statement

This place covers:

Radiation diagnosis devices specially adapted for dental examination, e.g. devices for panoramic imaging of the teeth.

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Analysis of teeth using light	A61B 5/0088
Tomosynthesis	A61B 6/025
Computed tomography	A61B 6/032
Multiple detectors	A61B 6/4266
Radiation diagnosis of bone	A61B 6/505
Dentistry per se	A61C 1/00 - A61C 19/00

Special rules of classification

Due to their rotation capabilities needed to acquire panoramic images of the teeth, devices for panoramic radiography are often adapted to acquire projection data and generate computed tomographic images or tomosynthesis. In that case, they should be also classified under [A61B 6/032](#) or [A61B 6/025](#), respectively.

If the device combines panoramic radiography and other imaging techniques, then it might have different detectors for each imaging technique and it should be classified under [A61B 6/4266](#).

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A61B 6/512

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

X-ray tubes having a small cross-section to facilitate introduction into small cavities	H01J 35/32
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2. A. DEFINITIONS (modified)

A61B 6/025

Definition statement

Replace: The entire existing Definition statement text with the following revised text:

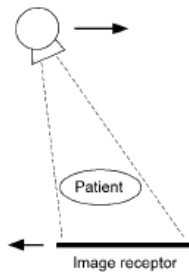
Classical geometric tomography is a method of producing an image of a three-dimensional object (human body) by moving an x-ray source in an opposing motion (x-ray tube and film housing) during exposure to sharpen the structure images in the focal plane and produce a single film integrated x-ray. The objects in the planes above and below the fulcrum are blurred in proportion to their distance from the plane of focus due to parallax.

Modern tomosynthesis is a technique of using a series of source positions from varying orientations to produce a group of images and with a computer program reconstruct the arbitrary planes into the final clear image.

This group covers both functional (e.g. tomosynthesis imaging technique) and constructional aspects (tomosynthesis scanners) of radiation-based tomosynthesis imaging.

Illustrative examples of the subject matter classified in this place:

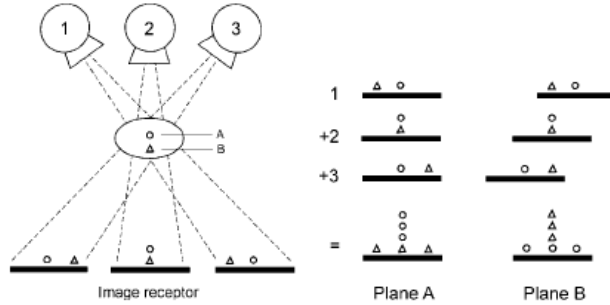
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2. Modern tomosynthesis



References

Informative references

Replace: The text of the first Informative references table row so that it appears as follows:

Transmission computed tomography	A61B 6/032
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Special rules of classification

Replace: The phrase “a computerised” with the word “computed” in the second paragraph of the Special rules text so that the paragraph appears as follows:

In case of a circular trajectory of the source and the detector, said rotation is shorter than $180^\circ + \text{fan angle of the beam}$ (acquisition of an incomplete dataset). If the rotation is longer, then a complete dataset is acquired and the technique is computed tomography (see [A61B 6/032](#)).

[A61B 6/03](#)

Definition statement

Replace: The entire Definition statement text with the following revised text:

Measuring radiation from different angles and reconstructing (computing) a 2D image (slice) or a 3D image (set of slices).

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This group includes tomography (system or function) which does not fall into the subgroups of transmission tomography ([A61B 6/032](#)) or emission tomography ([A61B 6/037](#)), or wherein the kind of tomography is not specified.

This group covers both functional (e.g. tomography) and constructional aspects (tomographs) of both transmission and emission tomography imaging.

References

Informative references

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following revised table:

Optical tomography	A61B 5/0073
Diagnosis using magnetic resonance tomography	A61B 5/055
Tomosynthesis	A61B 6/025
Reconstruction from projections	G06T 11/003
Healthcare informatics for handling or processing of medical images, e.g. DICOM, PACS	G16H 30/00

Special rules of classification

Replace: The entire existing Special rules text with the following revised text:

Computed tomography in radiation diagnosis is basically either transmission tomography ([A61B 6/032](#)) or emission tomography ([A61B 6/037](#)). The subgroups of [A61B 6/03](#) cover therefore all possible options so that [A61B 6/03](#) is mainly to provide structure in the scheme. Documents disclosing transmission tomography (e.g. CT) or emission tomography (e.g. PET) should be classified in [A61B 6/032](#) or [A61B 6/037](#), respectively, but not in [A61B 6/03](#).

A61B 6/037

Definition statement

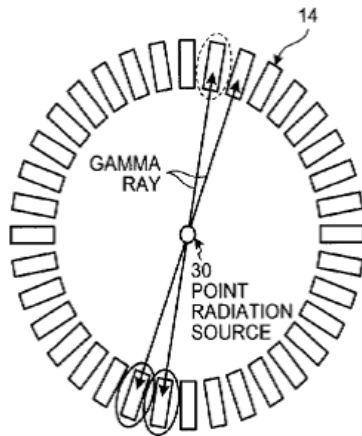
Replace: The word “insider” with “inside” in the first paragraph and also insert a new third paragraph and figure number “1.” so that the Definition statement appears as follows:

The source (typically a radioactive tracer) emits radiation from inside the body which is measured outside the body with one or more detectors from different orientations and an image (representing the distribution of the tracer inside the body) is reconstructed (computed) from the measurements.

PET or SPECT scanners are classified under [A61B6/037](#).

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this place:

1.



References

Informative references

Replace: “diagnosis” with “Diagnosis” in the second row of the Informative references table so that the row appears as follows:

Diagnosis using magnetic resonance tomography	A61B 5/055
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Replace: “class” with “group” in the first paragraph of the Special rules text so that the paragraph appears as follows:

This group covers devices for emission tomography, reconstruction of 2D images (slices) or 3D images (sets of slices). Other devices such as intraoperative gamma cameras should be classified under [A61B 6/4258](#).

A61B 6/12

References

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

Informative references

Insert: The following new row into the Informative references table.

Devices for diagnosis sequentially in different planes; Stereoscopic radiation diagnosis	A61B 6/02
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Special rules of classification

Replace: The Special rules section text with the following revised text:

This group covers the use of radiation diagnostic devices to determine the position of a surgical instrument during an operation, e.g. using a C-arm classified in [A61B 6/4441](#) for performing fluoroscopy classified in [A61B 6/487](#). However, it does not cover path calculations and guiding of said instruments classified in [A61B 34/20](#).

A61B 6/50

Definition statement

Replace: “class” with “group” in the second sentence of the Definition statement text so that the entire text appears as follows:

Classification in this group depends on the body part or organ which is to be diagnosed. This group covers clinical applications not provided for in the subgroups.

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References

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

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2. B. DEFINITIONS QUICK FIX

Symbol	Location of change (e.g., section title)	Existing reference symbol or text	Action; New symbol; New text
A61B 6/00	Special rules of classification, "Construction-oriented aspects" table	A61B 6/02, A61B 6/10, A61B 6/14, A61B 6/46, A61B 6/56	<u>Replace</u> : The symbols in the <u>third row</u> of the table with the following: A61B 6/02, A61B 6/10, A61B 6/46, A61B 6/51, A61B 6/56
A61B 6/00	Special rules of classification	Concordance ECLA - IPC for these groups is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A61B 6/40 : A61B 6/00 • A61B 6/42 : A61B 6/00 • A61B 6/44 : A61B 6/00 • A61B 6/46 : A61B 6/00 • A61B 6/48 : A61B 6/00 • A61B 6/50 : A61B 6/00 • A61B 6/52 : A61B 6/00 • A61B 6/54 : A61B 6/00 • A61B 6/56 : A61B 6/00 • A61B 6/58 : A61B 6/00 	<u>Delete</u> : The <u>entire last paragraph</u> (text and bulleted symbol list) within the Special rules section.
A61B 6/14	Definition		<u>Delete</u> : The entire Definition.
A61B 6/145	Definition		<u>Delete</u> : The entire Definition.

Notes:

Use this Definitions Quick Fix (DQF) table to:

- Delete an entire definition
- Delete an entire section
- Change a reference symbol
- Delete a reference symbol
- Delete text in a References section
- Correct one error in spelling, article use, or verb tense

Otherwise, use the standard template.

Reminder: Never delete F symbol definitions.

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3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

Type*	From CPC Symbol (existing)	To CPC Symbol(s)
D	A61B6/14	<administrative transfer to A61B6/51>
D	A61B6/145	<administrative transfer to A61B6/512>

* C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed.

NOTES:

- Only C, D, F and Q type entries are included in the table above.
- When multiple symbols are included in the "To" column, do not use ranges of symbols.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: "<administrative transfer to XX>", "<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>", or "<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>" when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be "additional information".
- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations "ADD" or "INV": <administrative transfer to XX ADD>, <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or <administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the "D" entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination ("To") symbol, however it is required to specify "<no transfer>" in the "To" column for such cases.
- RCL is not needed for finalization projects.

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4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

<u>CPC</u>	<u>IPC</u>	<u>Action*</u>
A61B 6/14		DELETE
A61B 6/145		DELETE
A61B 6/40	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4007	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4014	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4021	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4028	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4035	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4042	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/405	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4057	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4064	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4071	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4078	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4085	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/4092	A61B 6/40	UPDATE
A61B 6/42	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4208	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4216	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4225	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4233	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4241	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/425	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4258	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4266	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4275	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4283	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/4291	A61B 6/42	UPDATE
A61B 6/46	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/461	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/462	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/463	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/464	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/465	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/466	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/467	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/468	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/469	A61B 6/46	UPDATE
A61B 6/50	A61B 6/50	UPDATE
A61B 6/501	A61B 6/50	UPDATE
A61B 6/502	A61B 6/50	UPDATE

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<u>CPC</u>	<u>IPC</u>	<u>Action*</u>
A61B 6/503	A61B 6/50	UPDATE
A61B 6/504	A61B 6/50	UPDATE
A61B 6/505	A61B 6/50	UPDATE
A61B 6/506	A61B 6/50	UPDATE
A61B 6/507	A61B 6/50	UPDATE
A61B 6/508	A61B 6/50	UPDATE
A61B 6/51	A61B 6/51	NEW
A61B 6/512	A61B 6/51	NEW
A61B 6/58	A61B 6/58	UPDATE
A61B 6/581	A61B 6/58	UPDATE
A61B 6/582	A61B 6/58	UPDATE
A61B 6/583	A61B 6/58	UPDATE
A61B 6/584	A61B 6/58	UPDATE
A61B 6/585	A61B 6/58	UPDATE
A61B 6/586	A61B 6/58	UPDATE
A61B 6/587	A61B 6/58	UPDATE
A61B 6/588	A61B 6/58	UPDATE
A61B 6/589	A61B 6/58	UPDATE

*Action column:

- For an (N) or (Q) entry, provide an IPC symbol and complete the Action column with “NEW.”
- For an existing CPC main trunk entry or indexing entry where the existing IPC symbol needs to be changed, provide an updated IPC symbol and complete the Action column with “UPDATED.”
- For a (D) CPC entry or indexing entry complete the Action column with “DELETE.” IPC symbol does not need to be included in the IPC column.
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry which is positioned within the main trunk scheme (breakdown code) provide an IPC symbol and complete the action column with “NEW”.
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry positioned at the end of the CPC scheme (orthogonal code), with no IPC equivalent, complete the IPC column with “CPCONLY” and complete the action column with “NEW”.

NOTES:

- F symbols are not included in the CICL table above.
- T and M symbols are not included in the CICL table above unless a change to the existing IPC is desired.

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5. CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

Scheme references impacted by this revision project

<u>Location of reference to be changed</u>	<u>Referenced subclass or group to be changed</u>	<u>Action; New reference symbol; New text</u>
A61C 19/04	A61B 6/00	<u>Replace:</u> The reference symbol and corresponding text as follows: radiation diagnosis specially adapted for dentistry A61B 6/51
G03B 42/042	A61B 6/14	<u>Replace:</u> The reference portion of the title so that the entire title appears as follows: {for dental applications (radiation diagnosis specially adapted for dentistry A61B 6/51; individual packages for X-ray film G03C 3/003)}
G16H 30/00	A61B 6/03	<u>Replace:</u> The text so that the entire reference appears as follows: computed tomography A61B 6/03

Definitions references impacted by this revision project

<u>Location of reference to be changed</u>	<u>Referenced subclass or group to be changed</u>	<u>Section of definition</u>	<u>Action; New reference symbol; New text</u>
A61B 5/05	A61B 6/14	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference symbol: A61B6/51
A61B 5/0534	A61B 6/14	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference symbol: A61B 6/51
A61B 5/682	A61B 6/14	Limiting References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference symbol: A61B 6/51
A61C 19/04	A61B 6/00	Limiting References	<u>Replace:</u> The reference text and symbol as follows:

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			Radiation diagnosis specially adapted for dentistry A61B 6/51
A61N 5/0601	A61B 6/145	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference symbol: A61B 6/512
G01N 21/00	A61B 6/00	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> The reference text and symbol as follows: Computed tomography (medical) A61B 6/03
G01T	A61B 6/03	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> With new text: Computed tomography
G01T 1/00	A61B 6/03	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> With new text: Computed tomography for diagnosis
G01T 1/00	A61M 36/00	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference symbol: A61N 5/10
G03B 42/042	A61B 6/14	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference symbol: A61B 6/51
G06T 7/00	A61B 6/03	Application-Oriented References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference text: Computed tomography
G16H 30/00	A61B 6/03	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference text: Computed tomography
G21F	A61B 6/10	Application-Oriented References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference text: Apparatus for radiation diagnosis, e.g.

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			combined with radiation therapy equipment; safety means specially adapted therefor
H01J43/00	A61B 6/03	Informative References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference text: Computed tomography
H05G 1/00	A61B 6/03	Limiting References	<u>Replace:</u> With new reference text: Computed tomography

NOTES:

- The CRL tables above are used for changes to locations **outside** of the project scope. Changes to references in scheme titles or definitions **inside** the project scope will be reflected in the “scheme change” template or one of the “definition” templates.
- In addition to other changes proposed in the tables above, in the column titled “Referenced subclass or group to be changed,” **referenced** D symbols should indicate an action of “delete” or should indicate a replacement symbol and **referenced** F symbols should indicate a replacement symbol.
- When a reference is deleted, text related to that reference will also be deleted unless other references or a range of references associated with the same text remain.