Cardiovascular Suite

Cardiovascular Suite 4.4.1

User Manual and Instructions For Use

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Cardiovascular Suite is a software for the estimation of early markers of cardiovascular risk by ultrasound imaging of the vessel longitudinal section. In particular, the software is composed of two main modules of measurement: 1) the FMD-Studio for the measurement of Flow-Mediated Dilation (FMD) of the brachial artery, by processing sequences of ultrasound images; 2) the Carotid-Studio for measuring the Intima-Media Thickness (IMT) and the diameter of the carotid artery by processing sequences of ultrasound images that, when combined with an estimate of pressure, provides parameters of arterial elasticity. On single images, the software provides also a tool for the measurement of geometric and statistic parameters on portions of the image that are recognized manually by the operator as plaques. The system is able to process images (or sequences of images) recorded on files, or can process in real-time the video output of an ultrasound system.

In accordance with the rules of application of chapter 1.4 of Annex IX of the European Directive 93/42/EEC and subsequent amended and the provisions of Chapter III of Annex IX of the European Directive 93/42/EEC and subsequent amendments, Cardiovascular Suite software is within the medical devices of Class IIa according to rule 10. The product is in compliance with the legal requirements of the European Directive 93/42/EEC and subsequent amendments and supplements (European Directive 2007/47/EC) for medical devices. This software is not to be used in any country without appropriate regulatory clearance, license, or registration as may be required by in country regulatory agencies.

The product labeling for the Cardiovascular Suite is comprised of the Manual and Instructions for Use, the login screen of the software as well as in the product license key, and product package leaflets.

A printed version of the User Manual and Instruction for Use can be requested at support@quipu.eu.

Adobe Acrobat Reader ver. 6 or later is recommended to correctly display the PDF version of the User Manual and Instruction for Use.

CE 0476

℞ Only

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1 Indications for Use & Safety Information

Please read all following instructions, precautions, and warnings carefully before use.

Indications for Use

The Cardiovascular Suite is a software program that is intended to aid trained healthcare practitioners in the quantitative analysis of vascular ultrasound images, particularly for the measurement of the diameter and its changes on the brachial artery, the diameter and its changes on the carotid artery, the Carotid Intima-Media Thickness, and for carotid plaque analysis.

Contraindications

The Cardiovascular Suite device is not intended for use as a test that provides a direct diagnosis of any cardiovascular disease. It is intended to supplement, not substitute, the physician's decision-making process for diagnosis and treatment. It should be used in conjunction with knowledge of the patient's history and other clinical findings.

Precautions and Warnings

Below are a list of Precautions and Warnings for the Cardiovascular Suite. All of the following items are found in their appropriate sections throughout this document as well.

Precautions

- CAUTION: the computer must be a Medical Grade Computer in compliance with EN 60601-1 standard for electrical isolation and safety or a common CE marked personal computer (89/366/EEC) connected to power supply via Medical Grade Isolation Transformer that meets IEC 60601-1 standard for electrical leakage.
- CAUTION: The operating system of the machine where the software is used requires controlled access with user name and password. In addition, a time-out of 15 minutes is recommended in the user session of the operating system where the software runs.
- CAUTION: The operating system where the software runs must be updated.
- CAUTION: An updated antivirus/antimalware software protection should be present in the computer where the software runs.
- CAUTION: If the computer is connected to the network, a firewall should be used to prevent cyber-attacks.
- CAUTION : The Quipu License Key contains your license. Store it in a safe place in order to avoid loss and / or theft.
- Please, note that an Internet connection is needed to obtain and use the Evaluation License
- CAUTION: The B-mode window in the image must have a minimal resolution of 6 pixels/mm. If present, the size of the PWD window in the image must be at least 200x100 pixels.
- CAUTION: The ultrasound device must be suitable for vascular imaging and it must be equipped with a vascular linear probe with frequency greater than 5MHz.
- CAUTION: The ultrasound scanner must be in accordance with the European Medical Device Directive 93/42/EEC or cleared / registered / licensed by the appropriate regulatory authority.
- CAUTION: If the video converter is used with an AC/DC power adapter, it must be a medical grade power adapter according to IEC 60601-1, current edition.
- CAUTION: The video converter must be connected directly to a USB port on your computer. Do not use hubs or the USB socket on the external keyboard. Use USB 3.0 to maximize performances.
- CAUTION: verify that the video output type and resolution of the ultrasound scanner are compatible with this video converter.
- CAUTION: the AV.io HD must be updated with the last firmware from Epiphan System Inc.
- CAUTION: the video converter must be connected directly to a USB port on your computer. Do not use hubs or the USB socket on the external keyboard. Use USB 3.0 to maximize performances.
- CAUTION: Exclude any noise reduction filter (especially temporal filters).
- CAUTION: pay attention that nothing but the ultrasound image is into the ROI. Please note that the processing can be affected by annotations or any other graphical object that is superimposed to the image. In particular, pay attention that the cursor of the doppler sample volume is not into the ROI.

- CAUTION: the processing can be affected by annotations or any other graphical object that is superimposed to the image into the Doppler Flow ROI.
- CAUTION: the data produced by Cardiovascular Suite are not deleted during the software uninstall procedure. They should be removed manually by deleting the archive folder.
- CAUTION: the backup of the archive folder is recommended before uninstalling/installing the software.

Warnings

- CAUTION: Failure / incomplete / incorrect installation makes it not possible to use the software.
- CAUTION: It is recommended to perform regular backups of the system. The non-operation of the backup could result in permanent data loss.
- CAUTION: if a virus/malware is detected in the computer where the software runs the user should adopt the suitable countermeasures that can include removing our software and re-installing it.
- CAUTION : The Quipu License Key will work only on the computer where it is used for the first time.
- CAUTION: the lack of calibration can generate a software malfunction.
- CAUTION: the processing can be affected by annotations or any other graphical object that is superimposed to the image into the Doppler Flow ROI.

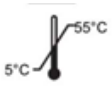
Labeling

The product labeling for the Cardiovascular Suite is comprised of the Manual and Instructions for Use, the login screen of the software as well as in the product license key, and product package leaflets.

Below is a table of all labeling symbols for the Cardiovascular Suite.

Labeling Symbols Table

Symbol	Meaning
	Prescription Only: Caution: U.S Federal law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a physician or health care practitioner.
	Product Model Number / Reference Number
	Manufacturer information
	Year of Manufacture

	Caution. Indicates the need for the user to consult the instructions for use for important cautionary information such as warnings and precautions that cannot, for a variety of reasons, be presented on the medical device itself.
	Consult instructions for use
CE 0476	CE Mark (Conformité Européenne). The product is in compliance with the legal requirements of the European Directive 93/42/EEC and subsequent amendments and supplements (European Directive 2007/47/EC) for medical devices.
	Do not store below 5°C or above 55°C
	Do not store below 5% humidity or above 95% humidity.

2 Recommendations

CAUTION : This manual describes the instructions for proper use of the device software Cardiovascular Suite. Please carefully read the advice in this document.

The software must be used by trained and qualified personnel, such as laboratory technicians, nurses, physicians and / or sonographers, who have experience in acquisition and analysis of vascular ultrasound images. It is recommended that the user is aware of the meaning of the parameters measured and returned as a result from the device. It is recommended that the operator does not have serious problems with vision and hearing. It is required the knowledge of the mother tongue or, for those countries that allow it, of the English language.

A visual impaired due to particular ambient conditions, a visually impaired user, a not optimized brightness, and/or not optimized resolution of the monitor may affect the correct interpretation of the results provided.

The analysis performed by the device can be applied to any adult person who can undergo an ultrasound examination. It is not recommended to use the system for analysis of people with a distorted anatomy of the examined arterial segment.

It is recommended that the device is used according to the international guidelines for estimating carotid biomarkers and brachial flow-mediated dilation (FMD).

The software is installed on a computer and it can be used in conjunction with an ultrasound device and a video converter. For the correct operation it is advisable to pay attention to environmental influences that may alter the operation of these devices. Moreover, it is recommended: i) to adopt the necessary actions in order to prevent virus and malware and ii) to perform periodical data backup. For details, refer to the instructions provided by individual producers.

The software is licensed by a USB dongle key. Use the USB dongle key in an environment with the following conditions of temperature and humidity: operating temperature: +5 ... +55 ° C (+41 ... +131 ° F), humidity: 5 ... 95%. We recommend that you do not expose the USB dongle key to solvents and flammable media. It is recommended to protect the USB dongle key by physical damages.

When you use this software, in case that you manage personal sensitive data, you must do it accordingly to the General Data Protection Regulation UE 2016/679. Sensitive data must be processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of personal data including protection against unauthorized or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction, or damage, using appropriate technical or organizational measures.

3 Installation

Cardiovascular Suite can be installed on Apple computer or on Microsoft Windows computer. Please see the minimum System requirements of the computer for a correct execution of Cardiovascular Suite.

> **CAUTION: The operating system of the machine where the software is used requires controlled access with user name and password. In addition, a time-out of 15 minutes is recommended in the user session of the operating system where the software runs.**

> **CAUTION: The operating system where the software runs must be updated.**

The software installer can be downloaded from the Quipu website www.quipu.eu

Please follow the correct instruction for the installation of the software on Apple computer and on Microsoft Windows computer respectively.

> **CAUTION: Failure / incomplete / incorrect installation makes it not possible to use the software.**

> **CAUTION: It is recommended to perform regular backups of the system. The non-operation of the backup could result in permanent data loss.**

> **CAUTION: if a virus/malware is detected in the computer where the software runs the user should adopt the suitable contro-measures that can include removing our software and re-installing it.**

Once installed, Cardiovascular Suite requires the activation of a License. The license is contained inside a Quipu License Key, which is a USB dongle key. The Quipu License Key must be plugged into the computer where the software is running. Please follow the instruction for Activating a license.

You can ask for a 14-days Evaluation license.

3.1 System requirements

Minimum Requirements

APPLE COMPUTER

- Apple Mac Computer with: Intel Core i5 4th generation 2.3 GHz turbo boost; 4GB RAM; 1GB free Hard Disk space*; 1280x800 monitor resolution.
- Mac OS X 10.12 - 10.15

MICROSOFT WINDOWS COMPUTER

- Intel Core i5 4th generation 2.3 GHz Turbo boost; 4GB RAM; 1GB free Hard Disk space*; 1024x768 monitor resolution.
- OpenGL ES 2.1
- Microsoft Windows 7 64 bit, Windows 8.1 64 bit, Windows 10 64 bit

* 250GB free Hard Disk space is suggested for the Archive

CAUTION: the computer must be a Medical Grade Computer in compliance with EN 60601-1 standard for electrical isolation and safety or a common CE marked personal computer (89/366/EEC) connected to power supply via Medical Grade Isolation Transformer that meets IEC 60601-1 standard for electrical leakage.

Optional video capture devices for on-line analysis:

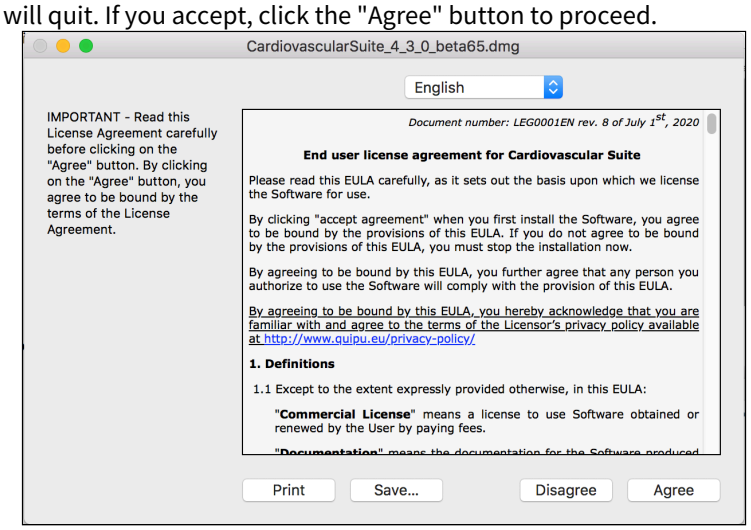
- Epiphan - AV.io HD hardware video capture (to connect your computer to DVI, VGA or HDMI video outputs)
- Magewell USB capture AIO (to connect your computer to DVI, VGA, HDMI, S-video and C-video outputs)

3.2 Apple computer

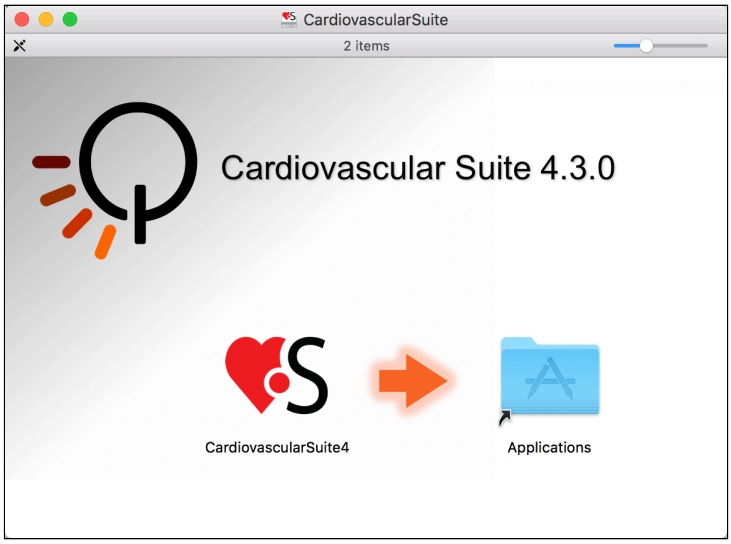
The software installation follows the usual procedure of installing software on Apple computers.

For information or support please contact Quipu support team at support@quipu.eu.

1. Double click on the Cardiovascular Suite disk image file (*.dmg file), a window with the software license will be shown. Read the License Agreement. If you don't accept the license agreement, please click "Disagree" and the installation will quit. If you accept, click the "Agree" button to proceed.



2. Drag the application's icon to your Applications folder.

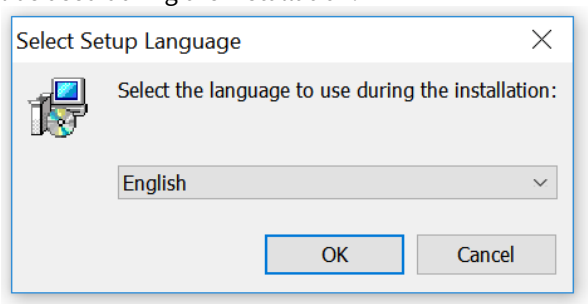


3.3 Microsoft Windows computer

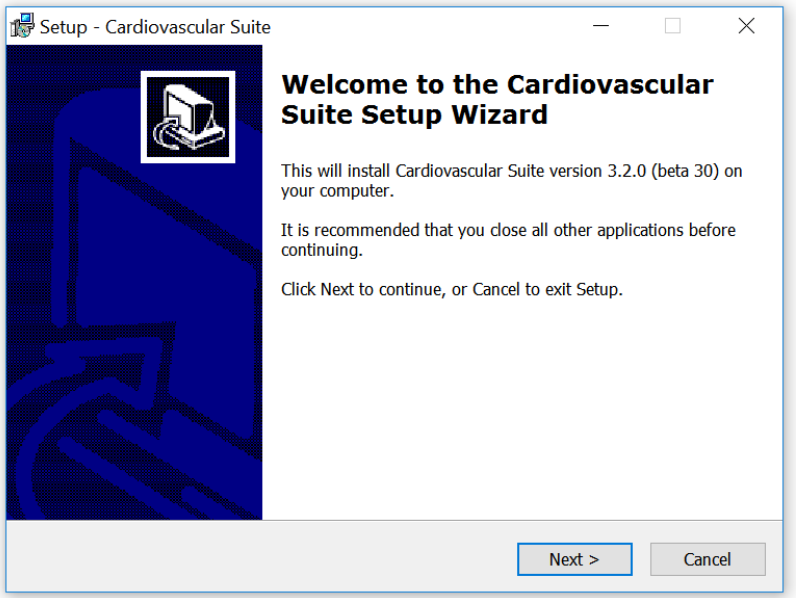
The software installation follows the usual procedure of installing software on Microsoft Windows.

For information or support please contact Quipu support team at support@quipu.eu.

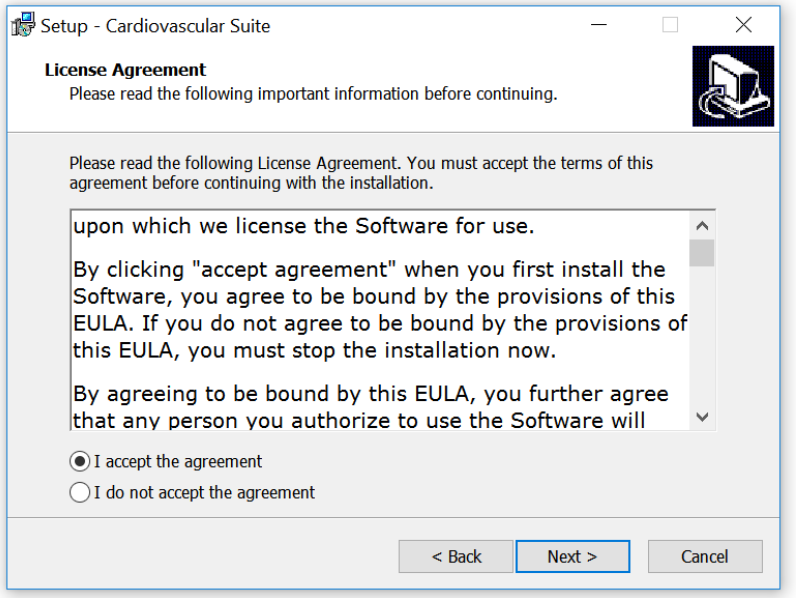
1. Select the language that will be used during the installation.



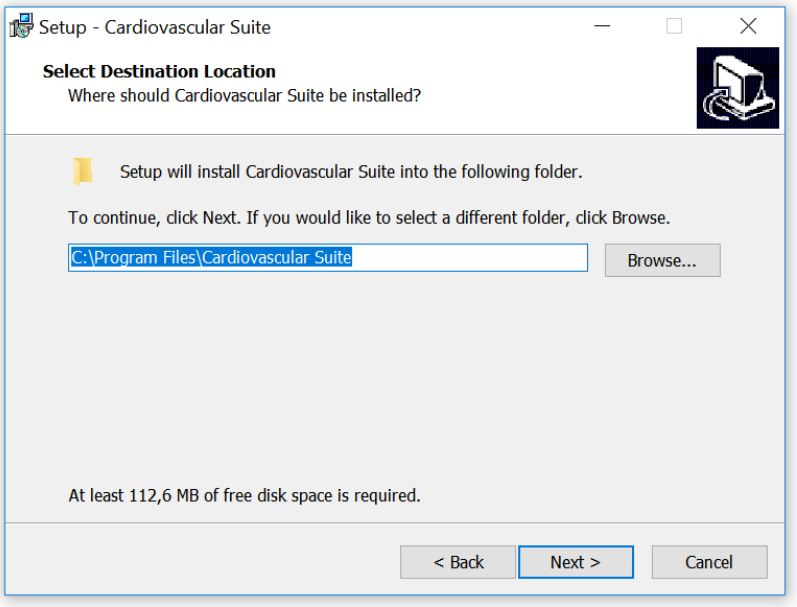
2. A Welcome message is displayed, please click the "Next" button to proceed.



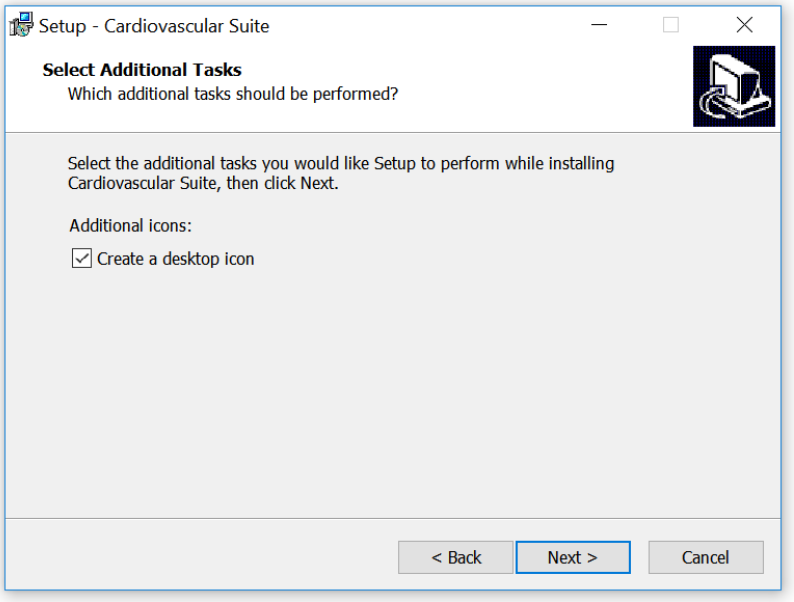
3. Read the License Agreement. If you don't accept the license agreement, please close the Cardiovascular Suite setup. If you accept, click the "Next" button to proceed.



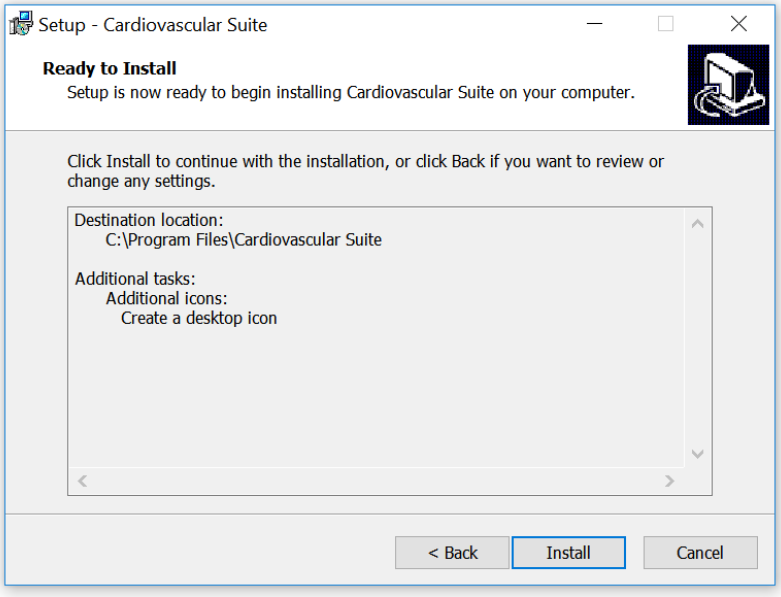
4. Select the installation folder. In most cases, you can use the proposed installation folder. Click the "Next" button to proceed.



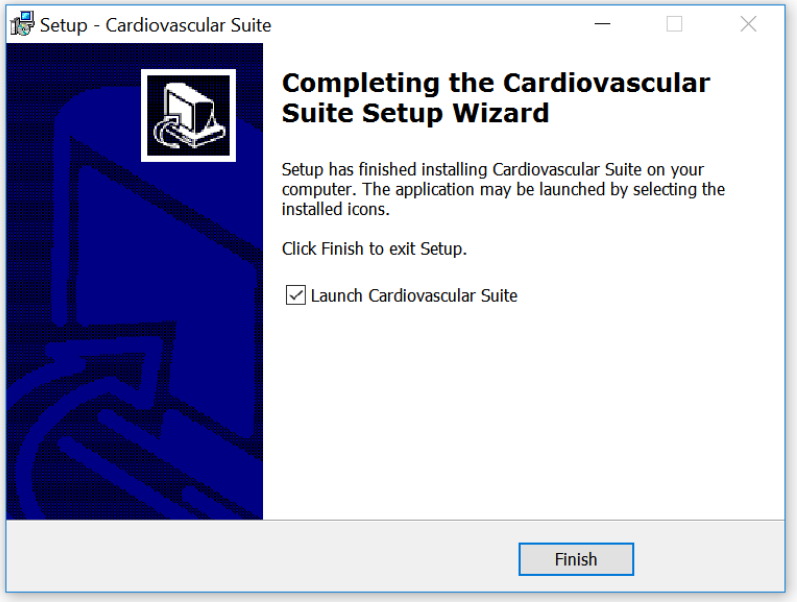
5. Select whether you want to create a Desktop Icon. Click the "Next" button to proceed.



6. Review the installation setting. Click the "Install" button to start installation. Cardiovascular Suite will be installed.



7. When the installation is completed, please click the "Finish" button.



3.4 Extraordinary maintenance

There are no updates of parts of the software. In case of correction of "bugs", the user is alerted via e-mail and the software can be re-installed in the usual manner described in the Installation instructions.

The last version of the software installer can be downloaded from the following links:

- Windows Computers: http://www.quipu.eu/download/CardiovascularSuiteWin.php
- Apple Computers: http://www.quipu.eu/download/CardiovascularSuiteMac.php

For previous versions of the software, please contact our support team at: support@quipu.eu

The archive of the software is not deleted when uninstalling/installing the software. The backup of the archive folder is recommended before uninstalling/installing the software. If you want to delete all the data previously created with Cardiovascular Suite, you must delete the archive folder.

The archive folder is located at the following address:

- Apple Computers: ~/Library/Application Support/CardiovascularSuite4
- Windows Computers: %AppData%\..\Local\cardiovascular_suite4

CAUTION: the backup of the archive folder is recommended before uninstalling/installing the software.

3.5 Decommissioning and disposal

The user can safely decommission and dispose the Cardiovascular Suite and the license key.

In particular, the software can be uninstalled following the usual procedure of uninstalling software on Apple computers or Windows computer. The uninstalling procedure does not delete the archive of the software. These data should be removed manually by deleting the archive folder that is located at the following address:

- Apple Computers: ~/Library/Application Support/CardiovascularSuite4
- Windows Computers: %AppData%\..\Local\cardiovascular_suite4

The license key can be disposed according to the local regulation regarding the waste management.

CAUTION: the data produced by Cardiovascular Suite are not deleted during the software uninstall procedure. They should be removed manually by deleting the archive folder.

4 License

Cardiovascular Suite is licensed under the EULA.

Cardiovascular Suite has independent licenses for FMD Studio and Carotid Studio. You can choose between two types of license:

- **Perpetual License:** it is a license that never expires. With the Perpetual License you are entitled to run all the minor updates of the application. For example, if you have a perpetual license for FMD Studio ver. 3, you will be entitled to run FMD Studio ver. 4.0, 4.1, 4.2 and so on, but you will not be entitled to run FMD Studio ver. 5.0
- **Time License:** it is a time limited license. With this license, you are entitled to run any version of the application within the expiry day. After the expiry date, it is no longer possible to run the application or modify the stored data.

Cardiovascular Suite is licensed by the Quipu License Key, which is a USB dongle key.

Quipu License Key

When you receive the Quipu License Key, it will contain a not activated license. Please follow the instruction for Activating a license.

Once activated, your license will be stored inside your Quipu License Key.

> ⚠ **CAUTION : The Quipu License Key contains your license. Store it in a safe place in order to avoid loss and / or theft.**

The Quipu License Key must be plugged into the computer where the software is running. If you unplug the Quipu License Key while Cardiovascular Suite is running, the software will stop working.

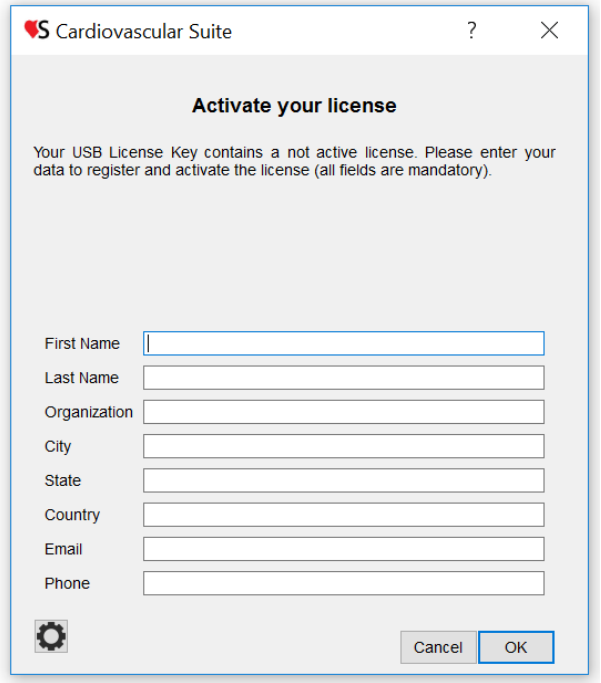
You license will work only on the computer where the Quipu License Key is used for the first time (i.e. it will be locked to this computer). If you want to replace your computer, please contact the Quipu support team (support@quipu.eu) for instructions on how to move your license to the new computer. You are allowed to move your license in a new computer three times in a year.

> ⚠ **CAUTION : The Quipu License Key will work only on the computer where it is used for the first time.**

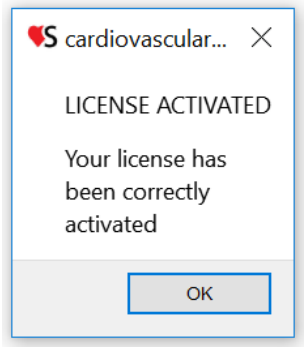
4.1 Activating a license

Plug the Quipu License Key into your computer and run Cardiovascular Suite.

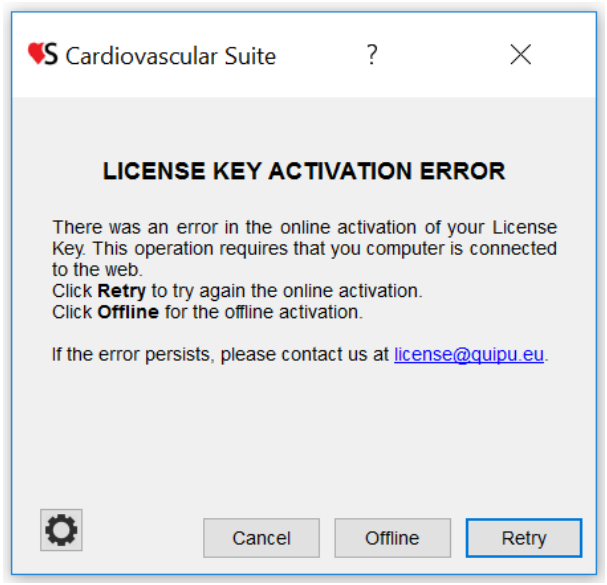
The following form is shown. Please enter your data to register and activate the license (all fields are mandatory). Then, click on the OK button.



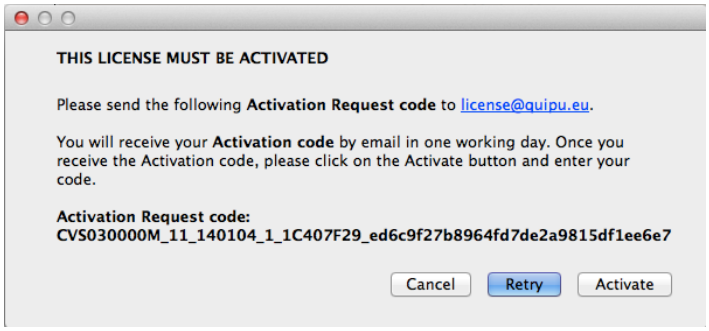
After a few seconds, a confirmation message will appear. CLick on the OK button and Cardiovascular Suite will start automatically.



If activation failed, proceed with offline activation by clicking the Offline button.



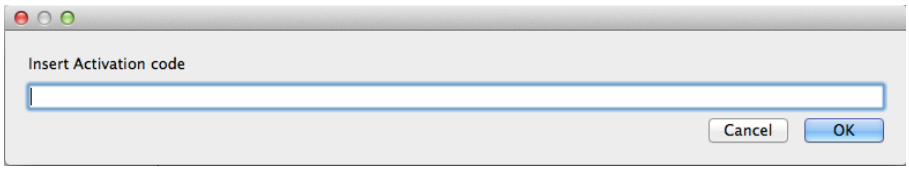
The following message will be shown:



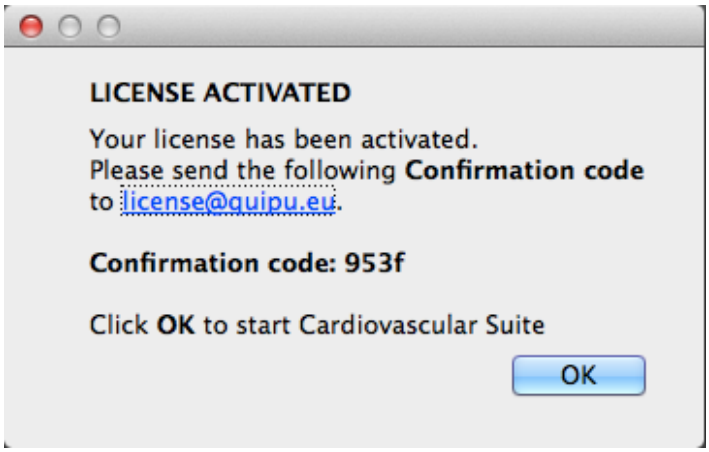
Click on the license@quipu.eu; if you have a mail application on your computer, it will generate a pre-compiled email with your data (Name, Organization, City, Country) and the **Activation request code** that is displayed on the message. Otherwise, please send an email to license@quipu.eu containing your data (Name, Organization, City, Country) and the **Activation request code** that is displayed on the message.

Within a working day, you will receive an email with the **Activation Code**.

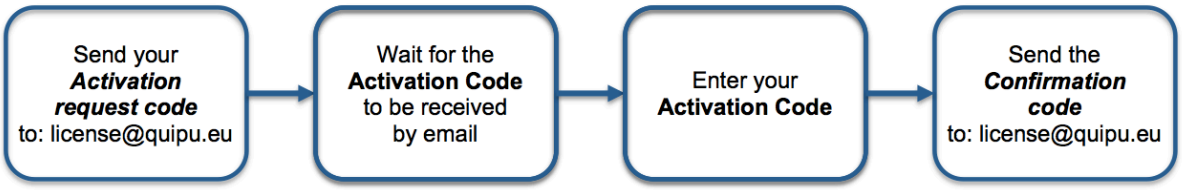
You can now click on the Activate button. The following message is shown:



Enter your Activation code and click OK. A confirmation message is shown.



Please send the Confirmation Code to Quipu by email, then click OK to start Cardiovascular Suite.



4.2 Evaluation license

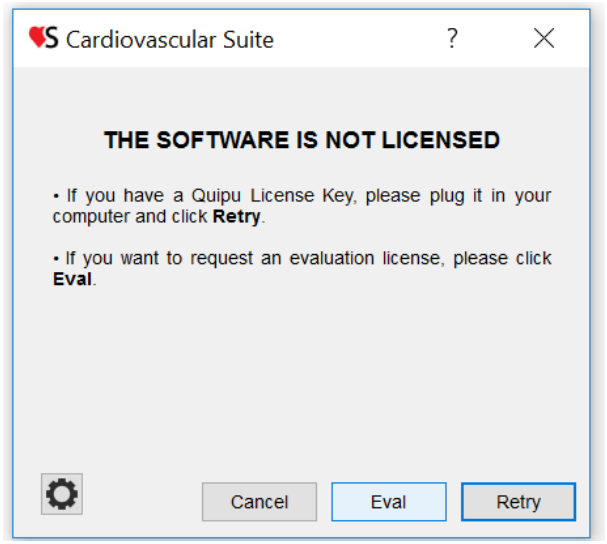
You can evaluate Cardiovascular Suite by a 14 days evaluation license.

With this license, you are entitled to use Cardiovascular Suite **only for EVALUATION PURPOSES**. If you wish to use the software for any other purpose, you must purchase a commercial license. If you do not purchase a commercial license, at the end of the 14 days your content will no longer be available to you.

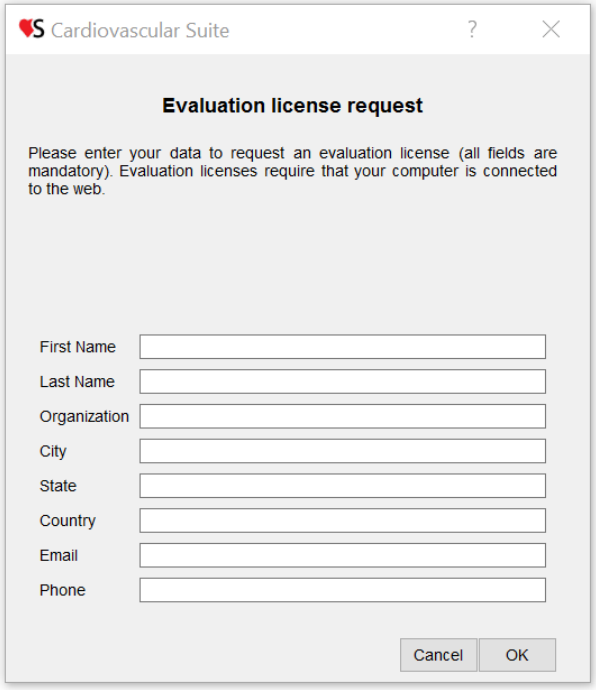
You cannot use/publish/distribute data generated by the Cardiovascular Suite in the evaluation period unless you purchase a commercial license.

> ⚠ **Please, note that an Internet connection is needed to obtain and use the Evaluation License**

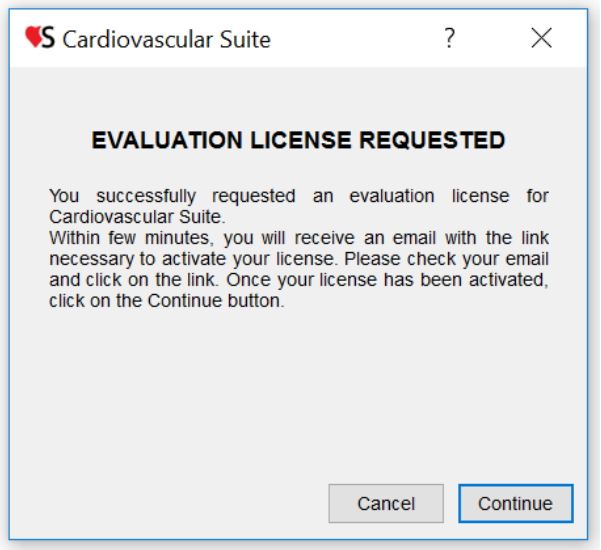
After downloading and installing the software, run Cardiovascular Suite. The following message is displayed:



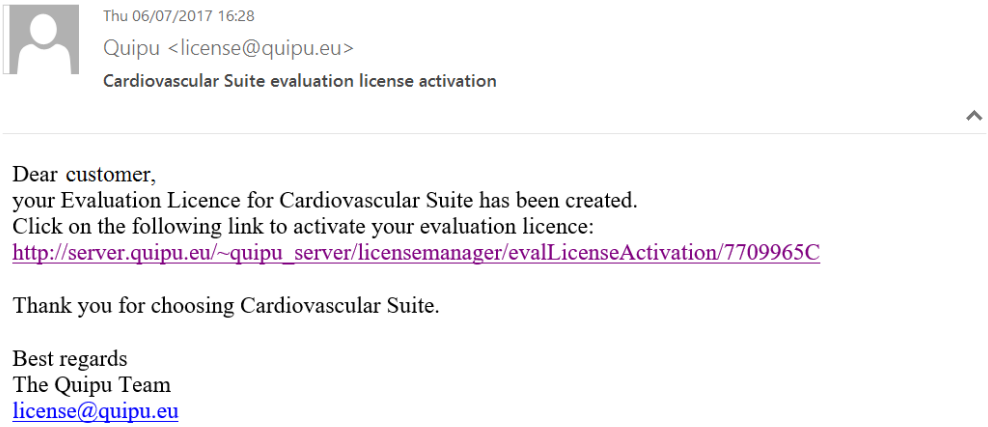
Click on the Eval button to request a fully functional 14-days Evaluation License. The following form is shown:



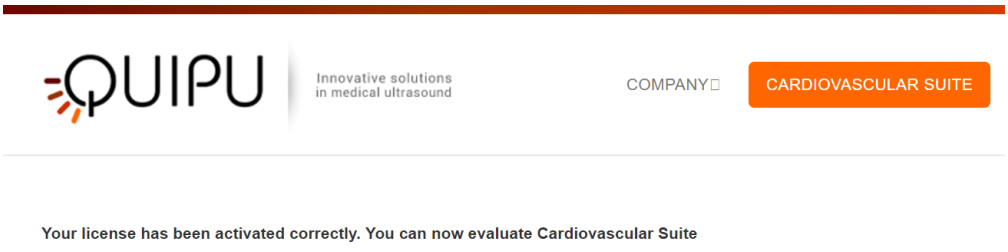
Please, enter your data to request an Evaluation License (all fields are mandatory). Then, click on the OK button. Please wait and after a few second the following confirmation message will be shown:



Within few minutes, you will receive an email with the **Activation link**.



Click on the **Activation link**. Your web browser will open the following web page and your license will be activated:

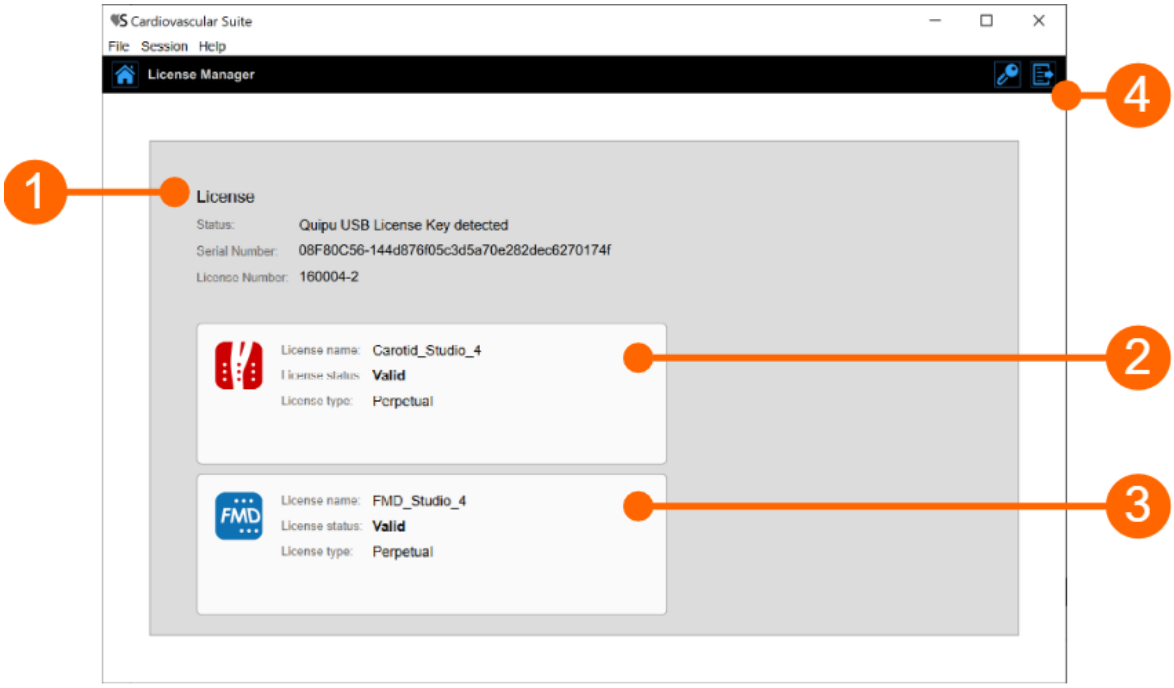


If you still have Cardiovascular Suite open with the "Evaluation License Requested" message, please click on the Continue button. Otherwise run again Cardiovascular Suite. Now, the software starts and the Login window is displayed.

If the Evaluation License Request failed or errors occurred, please contact our technical support by mail or Skype message (support@quipu.eu)

4.3 License manager

The license managers shows the status of your license and can be used to make updates to the license.



The section **(1)** shows some "general" license data:

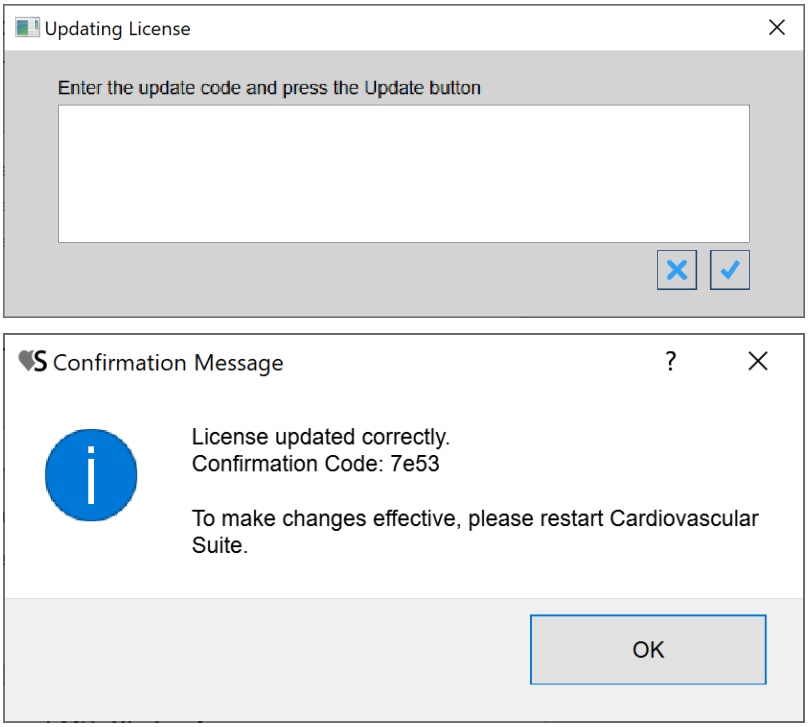
Status: shows whether a USB License Key or a temporary License Key has been detected.

Serial Number: shows the serial number of Cardiovascular Suite.

License Number: shows the number of your License Key.

In the white frames **(2)** and **(3)** the data of the applications licenses are shown. Here you can see if your license is Valid or Not Valid, if it is Perpetual, Time or Evaluation and the expiry date (for time and evaluation only).

The buttons **(4)** can be used to enter the code that updates your license (Update Code) and to save your license data in a file that can be read by the Quipu support team. For more information, please contact support@quipu.eu



Update a license

- Click on the Update License button.
- Enter the Update Code provided by Quipu.
- Confirm with the Update button.
- A confirmation message will show the Confirmation Code. You must restart Cardiovascular Suite to make changes effective.

Export license data

Click on the Export License Data button to export the data of your license in a file that can be read by the Quipu support team. This can be useful when you encounter a problem with your license and you need support.

5 Image and video sources

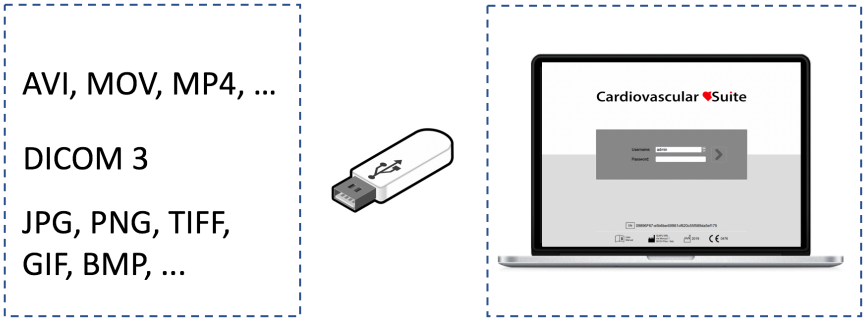
The software processes video images coming from a medical ultrasound equipment. It can work:

- **offline** by processing video clips or single images previously recorded on the ultrasound imaging device. See Using image or video clip for offline analysis.
- in **real-time** by processing the video output of the ultrasound imaging system. See Connecting your computer to the ultrasound system.

5.1 Using image or video clip for offline analysis

Video clips or single images recorded on the ultrasound imaging device can be moved on the computer using a digital medium (flash pen drive, hard disk, CD ROM). Video files can be in DICOM 3 or in all the most common video formats (AVI, MOV, MP4, ..). The images can be in all the most common image formats (JPG, PNG, TIFF, GIF, BMP, ..).

For more information on supported video formats, please contact support@quipu.eu



CAUTION: The B-mode window in the image must have a minimal resolution of 6 pixels/mm. If present, the size of the PWD window in the image must be at least 200x100 pixels.

5.2 Video and image player

The video and the images are displayed in a player like in the following figure.

At the bottom of the video and image player, a control bar is present. The control bar contains different controls if the source is online or offline, and if a video or an image is played.

Control bar - online

The control bar contains the elapsed time and the Setting button.

Control bar - offline video

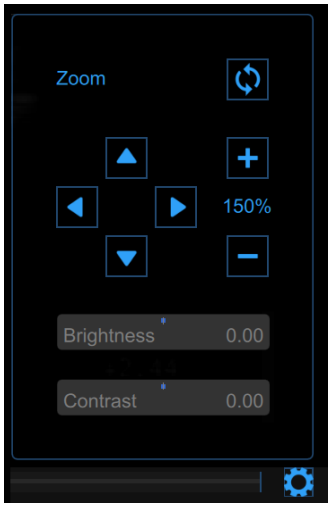
The control bar contains controls to manage the playback of a movie (Stop , Play /Pause , Step backward and Step forward buttons), the current and total time, and the Setting button.

Control bar - offline image

The control bar contains the Setting button.

5.2.1 Video and image settings

Click on the Setting button on the right of the video control bar. The Zoom controls and the Brightness and Contrast sliders will be shown.



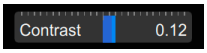
Click the Zoom in + / Zoom out − buttons to zoom in and out the image.

Click the Move up ▲ / Move down ▼ / Move Left ◀ / Move right ▶ button to move up / down / left / right the zoomed image.

Click the Reset zoom button ↻ to reset the image zoom.

Drag the brightness slider 

to adjust the brightness of the image.

Drag the contrast slider 

to adjust the contrast of the image.

5.3 Connecting your computer to the ultrasound system

You need a video capture device to connect the computer with the ultrasound system and perform real-time analysis. Quipu recommends two USB devices: the Epiphan AV.io HD or the Magewell USB Capture AIO.

If your ultrasound machine has a VGA/DVI/HDMI output (see next figure for reference), you can directly connect your ultrasound machine to the computer by using either the Epiphan AV.io HD or the Magewell USB Capture AIO video capture device. (See more...)


VGA


DVI

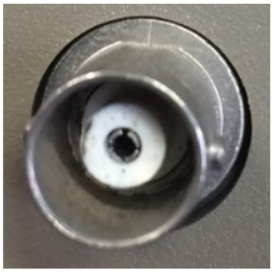

HDMI

If your ultrasound machine has a "legacy" video standard (S-Video or C-Video) output (see next figure for reference), you can directly connect your ultrasound machine to the computer by using the Magewell USB Capture AIO. If you want to use the Epiphan AV.io HD, you must first convert the video output to VGA, and then to acquire the VGA by the Epiphan AV.io HD. For the first video conversion, you can use any high-quality S-Video to VGA or C-Video to VGA

converter. We suggest using the StarTech Video to VGA Converter v4.3 (See more ..)

S-Video

C-Video (RCA)



C-Video (BNC)

	Epiphan AV.io HD	Magewell USB Capture AIO
VGA	Directly supported	Directly supported
DVI	Directly supported	Directly supported
HDMI	Directly supported	Directly supported
S-Video	Conversion to VGA is required	Directly supported
C-Video	Conversion to VGA is required	Directly supported

NOTE: Please, verify with the ultrasound machine technician that the video output of your ultrasound machine is active.

For information on the availability and the standard of the video output, please contact the manufacturer of the ultrasound system.

For additional technical information on how to connect the computer to the ultrasound apparatus and on the compatible video standards, please contact us at support@quipu.eu

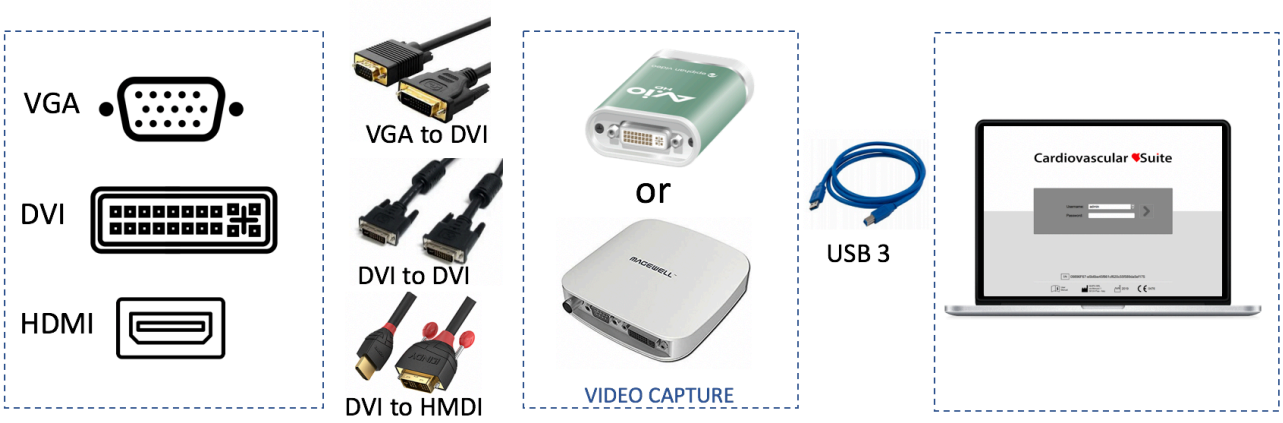
CAUTION: The B-mode window in the video must have a minimal resolution of 6 pixels/mm. If present, the size of the PWD window in the image must be at least 200x100 pixels.

CAUTION: The ultrasound scanner must be in accordance with the European Medical Device Directive 93/42/EEC or cleared / registered / licensed by the appropriate regulatory authority.

CAUTION: If the video converter is used with an AC/DC power adapter, it must be a medical grade power adapter according to IEC 60601-1, current edition.

5.3.1 Using VGA/DVI/HDMI output

You can directly connect your ultrasound machine to the computer by using either the Epiphan AV.io HD or the Magewell USB Capture AIO video capture device.



Detail of the connections based on the output video format:

- **VGA video output**: use a VGA-to-DVI cable to connect your ultrasound machine to the Epiphan AV.io HD or the Magewell USB Capture AIO; then use the USB 3.0 cable to connect the video capture device to your computer.
- **DVI video output**: use a DVI cable to connect your machine to the Epiphan AV.io HD or the Magewell USB Capture AIO; then use the USB 3.0 cable for connecting the video capture device to your computer.
- **HDMI video output**: use an HDMI to DVI cable to connect your ultrasound machine to the Epiphan AV.io HD or the Magewell USB Capture AIO; then use the USB 3.0 cable to connect the video capture device to your computer.

See more about the Epiphan AV.io HD or the Magewell USB Capture AIO.

5.3.2 Using "legacy" video standard output

5.3.2.1 **Magewell USB Capture AIO**

You can directly connect your ultrasound machine to the computer by using the Magewell USB Capture AIO video capture device.

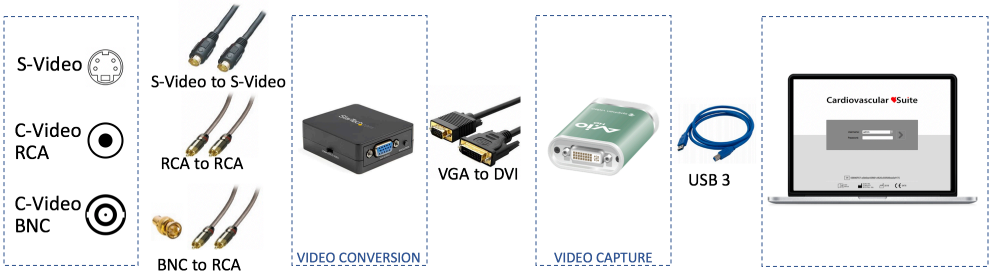
Detail of the connections based on the output video format:

- **S-Video output**: use an S-Video cable to connect your ultrasound machine to the Magewell USB Capture AIO.
- **C-Video (RCA) output**: use an RCA cable to connect your ultrasound machine to the Magewell USB Capture AIO.
- **C-Video (BNC) output**: use a BNC-to-RCA adapter and then an RCA cable to connect your ultrasound machine to the Magewell USB Capture AIO.

Use the USB 3.0 cable to connect the video capture device to your computer. See more about Magewell USB Capture AIO.

5.3.2.2 **Epiphan Av.io HD**

You must first convert the video output to VGA by the StarTech Video to VGA Converter, and then to acquire the VGA by the Epiphan AV.io HD.



Detail of the connections based on the output video format:

1. First, connect your apparatus video output to the StarTech Video to VGA Converter.
    - **S-Video output**: use an S-Video cable to connect your ultrasound machine to the StarTech Video to VGA Converter.
    - **C-Video (RCA) output**: use an RCA cable to connect your ultrasound machine to the StarTech Video to VGA Converter.
    - **C-Video (BNC) output**: use a BNC-to-RCA adapter and then an RCA cable to connect your ultrasound machine to the StarTech Video to VGA Converter.
2. Once you have connected your apparatus to the StarTech Video to VGA Converter, you have to connect it to your computer by the Epiphan AV.io HD. You have to use the DVI-to-VGA cable to connect the Video Converter to the Epiphan AV.io HD. Then, use the USB 3.0 cable to connect the video capture device to your computer.

See more about the Epiphan AV.io HD.

See more about the About StarTech Video to VGA Converter.

5.3.3 About Magewell USB Capture AIO

The USB Capture AIO is a USB2.0/USB3.0 video capture device from Nanjing Magewell Electronics Co., Ltd, China.

The device can be used to connect your computer to DVI, VGA, HDMI, S-Video and Composite video outputs coming from the ultrasound system. See Connecting your computer to the ultrasound system for more details.

There's no software to install to use USB Capture AIO; simply connect the cables and go. It works on Microsoft Windows computers and Apple Mac OS X computers.

Once you have connected your ultrasound apparatus to the USB Capture AIO, connect your computer to the video converter via the USB cable. The red LED (PWR) shows that the device is powered on. The green LED (ACT) shows the status of the device.

GREEN LED (ACT)	STATUS
Pulsing slowly	Idle
ON	Input signal connected
OFF	Input signal unconnected
Double blinks	Memory failed or FPGA configuration failed

The USB Capture AIO supports resolution up to 2048x2160. Performance may be limited by your computer features.

The Magewell USB Capture AIO supports both USB 3.0 and USB 2.0.

CAUTION: the video converter must be connected directly to a USB port on your computer. Do not use hubs or the USB socket on the external keyboard. Use USB 3.0 to maximize performances.

CAUTION: verify that the video output type and resolution of the ultrasound scanner are compatible with this video converter.

5.3.4 About Epiphan AV.io HD

The AV.io HD is a USB2.0/USB3.0 video capture device from Epiphan Systems Inc. Canada.

The device can be used to connect your computer to DVI, VGA or HDMI video outputs coming from the ultrasound system (or coming from a Video Converter if you use "legacy" standard video output). See Connecting your computer to the ultrasound system for more details.

There's no software to install to use the AV.io HD; simply connect the cables and go. It works on Microsoft Windows computers and Apple Mac OS X computers.

1. Once you have connected your ultrasound apparatus to the AV.io HD, connect your computer to the video converter via the USB cable. The lighting of the **red** LED indicates that the device initializing.
2. After a few seconds, the LED turns **blue or green** to indicate proper connection between computers and video converter.
3. Connect the video converter to the ultrasound device via the VGA, DVI or HDMI cable.
4. The LED will be **blue or green** until you start capturing a video signal.
5. LED will be **blinking green** or **blinking blue** during the acquisition of a video signal.

LED COLOR	STATUS
OFF	Video converter not connected to the computer
Solid red	AV.io HD initializing
Blinking red	Adjustment to VGA input in progress

Solid green or blue	USB connection active
Blinking green or blue	Video and/or audio transferring successfully

The Epiphan AV.io HD supports resolution from 640x360 up to 1920x1200. Performance may be limited by your computer features.

The Epiphan AV.io HD supports both USB 3.0 and USB 2.0.

CAUTION: the video converter must be connected directly to a USB port on your computer. Do not use hubs or the USB socket on the external keyboard. Use USB 3.0 to maximize performances.

CAUTION: the AV.io HD must be updated with the last firmware from Epiphan System Inc.

CAUTION: verify that the video output type and resolution of the ultrasound scanner are compatible with this video converter.

5.3.5 About StarTech Video to VGA Converter

The Video to VGA Converter from StarTech (Canada) will allow you to convert your S-Video or Composite Video output to a VGA.

	COMPONENT	FUNCTION

1	Video Input Selection Switch	Select the Source Device Video Signal
2	VGA Output Port	Connect a VGA Video Display Device
3	Resolution Selection Button	Select the Output Resolution
4	Power Port	Connect a Power Source
5	Composite Video Input Port	Connect a Composite Video Source Device
6	S-Video Input Port	Connect an S-Video Source Device

5.3.5.1 How to use the StarTech Video to VGA Converter

- Determine if the Ultrasound system has a Composite or S-Video output. Toggle the Video Input Selection Switch **(1)** to match your Ultrasound system video output.
- Connect a Composite Video Cable to the Composite Video Input Port **(5)**, or Connect an S-Video Cable to the S-Video Input Port **(6)**.
- Connect the other end of the Composite Video Cable to the Composite output of the Ultrasound system, or Connect the other end of the S-Video Cable to the S-Video output of the Ultrasound system.
- Connect a VGA Cable to the VGA Output Port on the Video Converter **(2)**.
- Connect the other end of the VGA Cable to the Epiphan AV.io HD.
- Connect the Medical Grade USB Power Adapter to the Power Port **(4)**.
- Select the output resolution by pressing the Resolution Selection Button **(3)** until the desired resolution is met. Each time you press the Resolution Selection Button the new resolution settings will appear on the On Screen Display (OSD) in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. We suggest to use the following resolution: **800x600 P60**.

5.4 How to set up the ultrasound system

Cardiovascular Suite is based on image processing of a B-mode ultrasound scans. The quality of the results can depend on the quality of the ultrasound image supplied to the system.

The ultrasound device must have the following features:

- The ultrasound device must be suitable for vascular imaging and it must be equipped with a **vascular linear probe** with frequency >= 5MHz (a range 7-15 MHz is recommended)..
- The ultrasound device must have the **B-mode** imaging mode.
- For the shear-rate measurement, the ultrasound device must have the **Pulsed Wave Doppler** (PWD) mode, and the B-mode and the PWD must be shown and updated simultaneously on the image (Dual mode).
- For offline analysis, the ultrasound device must export in one of the following formats: **AVI, MOV, MP4, DICOM, PNG, JPG, BMP, TIF**. The size of the images must be <= 1920×1200 px.
- For online analysis, the ultrasound device must have a video output in one of the following formats: **S-Video** or **Composite Video** in PAL or NTSC; **VGA**, **DVI** or **HDMI** with a resolution up to 1920×1200 pixels.
- The B-mode in the image must have **minimal resolution** of 6 pixels/mm. If present, the size of the PWD window in the image must be at least 200x100 pixels.

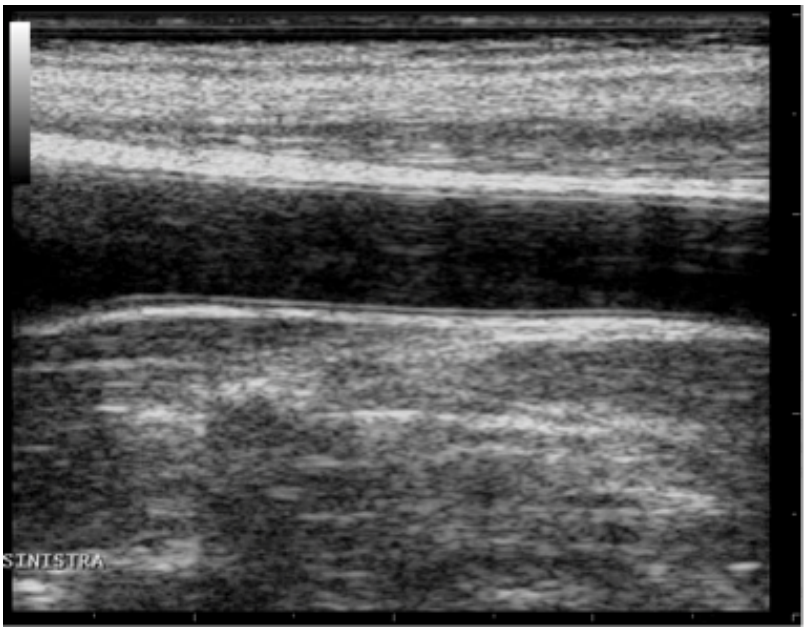
- The **frame-rate** of the video must be >= 17 frames per second.

The general settings of the ultrasound system must be those suggested by the manufacturer of the apparatus. It is important, however, exclude any noise reduction filters that could degrade the performance of the edge detection algorithm. In particular, it is important to exclude any time filters that cause a smoothing effect on the images in motion. These filters may have different designations (the most common name is **persistence**) depending on the model of ultrasound equipment. Please contact the manufacturer of ultrasound apparatus for information on how to exclude this type of filter.

> ⚠ **CAUTION: The ultrasound device must be suitable for vascular imaging and it must be equipped with a vascular linear probe with frequency greater than 5MHz.**

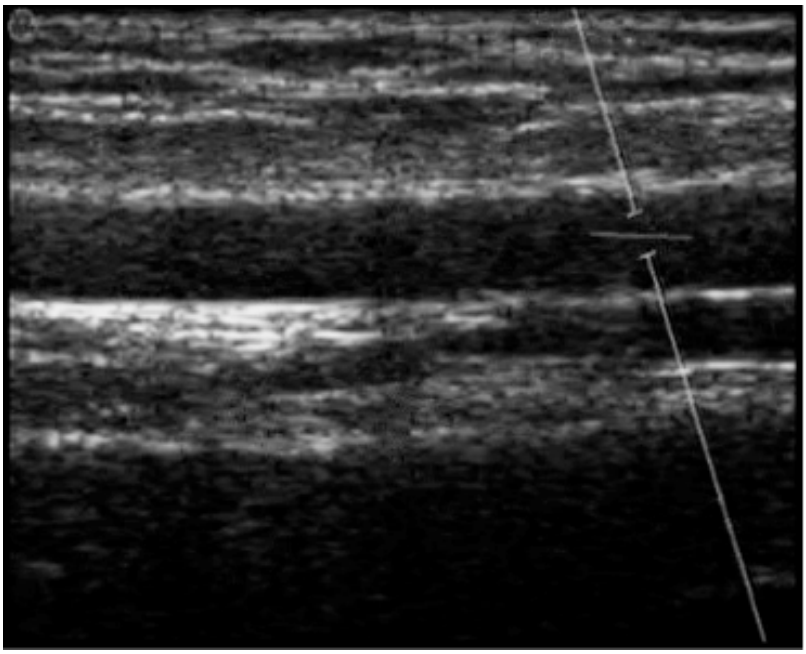
> ⚠ **CAUTION: Exclude any noise reduction filter (especially temporal filters).**

The artery should be viewed in longitudinal section and should be as horizontal as possible to the image. For Carotid Studio we recommend an image depth of 3-4 cm.



Example of carotid artery image

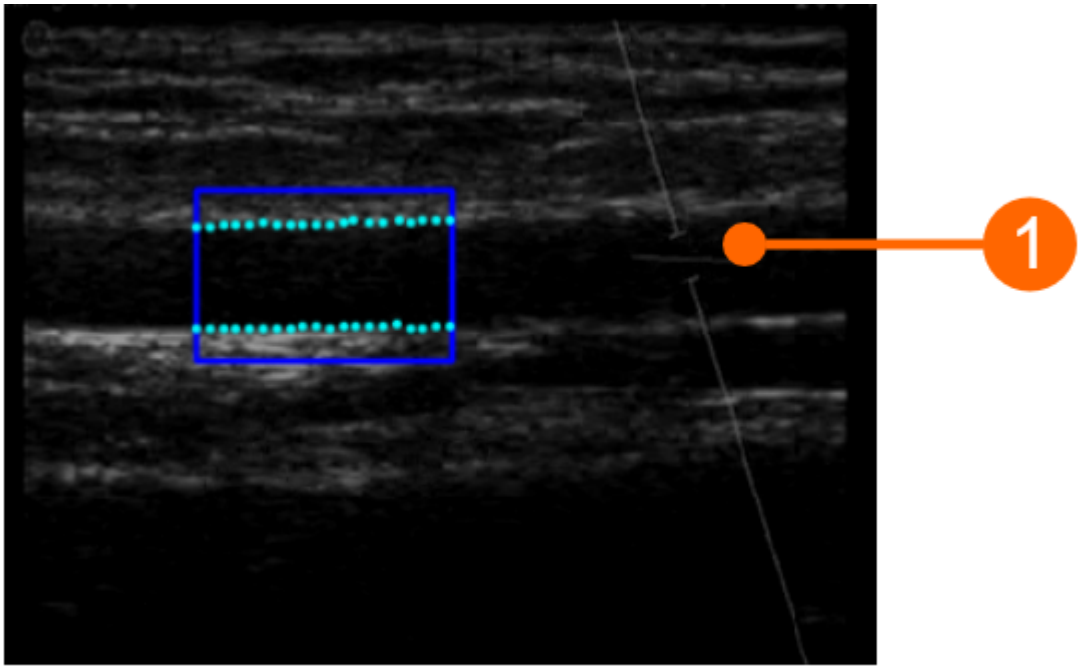
For FMD Studio we recommend an image depth of 2-3 cm. It is suggested also to choose a projection so that the vein is not visible (this normally appears immediately above the brachial artery). The algorithm for automatic tracking of the edges of the vessel could recognize the edge of the vein instead of the artery.



Example of brachial artery image

In addition, for FMD Studio, if you want to obtain both vessel diameter and shear rate, the ultrasound system must be in Duplex mode (simultaneous acquisition of B-mode and Doppler).

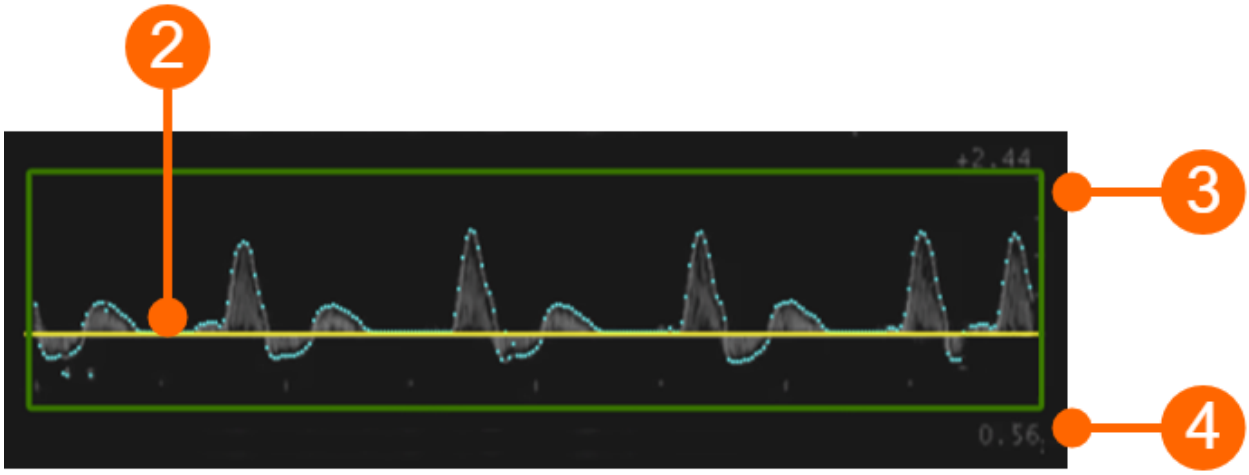
The angle between the Doppler beam and the vessel orientation should be ≤60 degrees. The sample volume should be as wide as possible but without encompassing the vessel walls and allowing for a slight margin for error in case of movement. Pay attention that the cursor of the doppler sample volume is not into the ROI where the diameter is computed. It is recommended that the sample volume is 5 - 15 mm apart from the ROI.



CAUTION: pay attention that nothing but the ultrasound image is into the ROI. Please note that the processing can be affected by annotations or any other graphical object that is superimposed to the image. In particular, pay attention that the cursor of the doppler sample volume is not into the ROI.

The scale of the Doppler flow profile should be set correctly on the ultrasound system. The vertical scale must be large enough to include the velocity profile during all the examination (in FMD measurements, greater velocity values are in reactive hyperemia). For the horizontal scale, we suggest a value of 3-4 seconds. Please note that the time average is computed over all the extend of the horizontal scale.

The Doppler Flow ROI must cover all the extent of the Doppler flow profile. The zero flow axis **(2)** must be included in the ROI: it will be automatically recognized and plotted in yellow. The vertical axis **(3)** must be external to the ROI. Please also ensure that any annotation **(4)** is outside the ROI since it could affect the flow analysis.



CAUTION: the processing can be affected by annotations or any other graphical object that is superimposed to the image into the Doppler Flow ROI.

Please remember that the tool for the calculation of the shear rate must be re-calibrated every time you change the size or scale of the Doppler flow profile. This calibration is present in FMD Studio analysis. It is recommended that the size or scale of the Doppler trace will be no longer changed once you have decided how to set up the ultrasound system.

FMD-Studio precision, expressed as coefficient of variation, is 10% for intra-observer intra-session measurements and 13% for intra-observer inter-session measurements of FMD%. For the Shear Rate measurement, the estimated precision is 2,3%.

Carotid Studio precision expressed as coefficient of variation is 2% for the diameter, 11% for the diameter variation during the cardiac cycle, 6% for IMT for intra-observer intra-session measurements and 3% for the diameter, 12% for the diameter variation during the cardiac cycle, 6% for IMT for intra-observer inter-session measurements. As regards geometric and statistics data the precision of the results expressed as coefficient of variation resulted lower than 10% for each measurement obtained on a single image by the same operator.

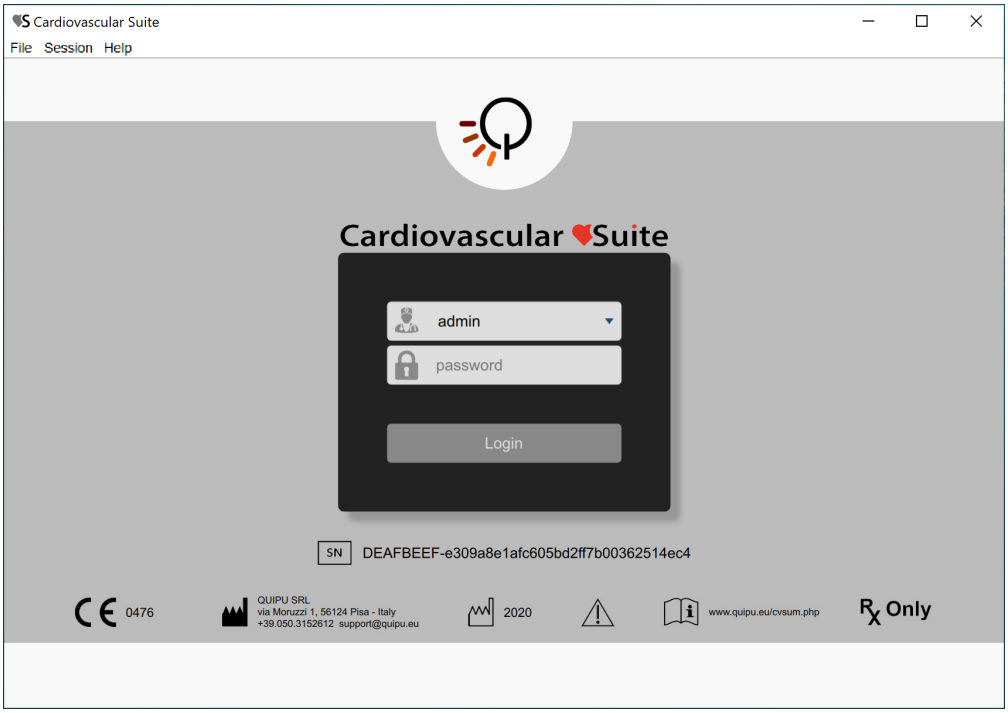
6 Login

When you run Cardiovascular Suite, you are asked to login with a Username and Password. Please enter your Username and Password, then click on the Login button to access the software.

When you first run Cardiovascular Suite, the default user account is:

Username: admin

Password: admin



In the lower part of the Login window, the labeling of the device is shown.

In particular, on the right of the SN symbol you can find the Serial Number of your software.

Operators

A user account (username and password) is associate to each **operator** of Cardiovascular Suite (an operator is a person who uses Cardiovascular Suite). When the software starts, the operator must login with its user account.

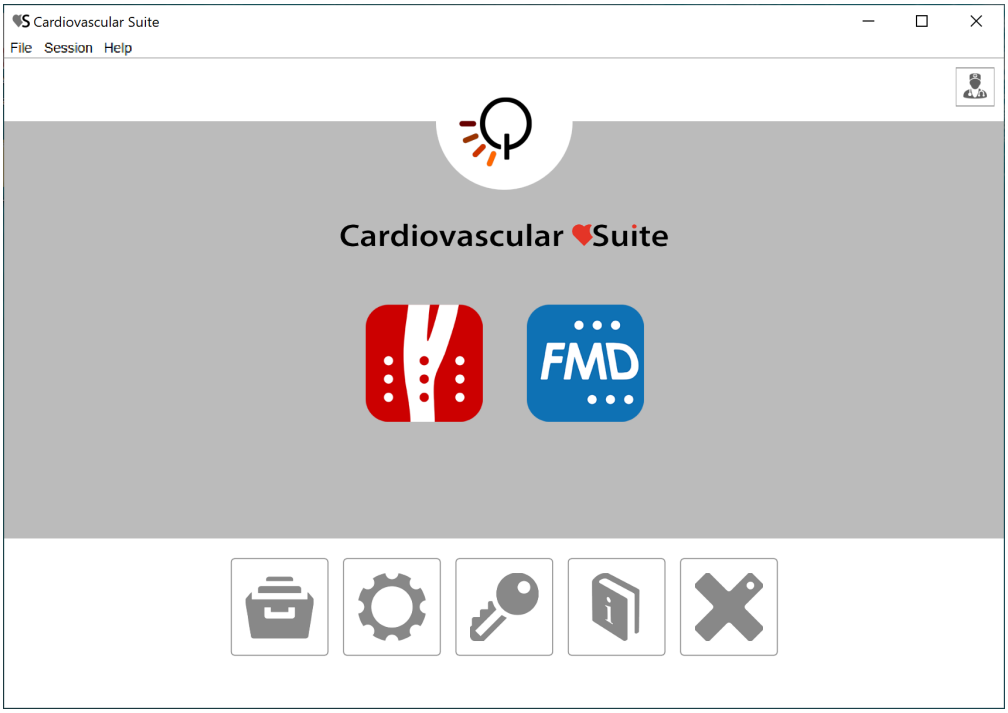
Two classes of operator are available in Cardiovascular Suite:

1. **Users**. They have full access to the software.
2. **Read-only users**. These users can only read the archive and the documents.

An operator is characterized also by a **status** that can be **active** or **disabled.** If an operator has been disabled, he/she cannot access to the software.

It is possible to modify a user account and to add a new one in the Operators management panel.

7 Home



The Home Screen contains the main controls of the software.

The Carotid Studio and the FMD Studio buttons start a new study with Carotid Studio and FMD Studio respectively.

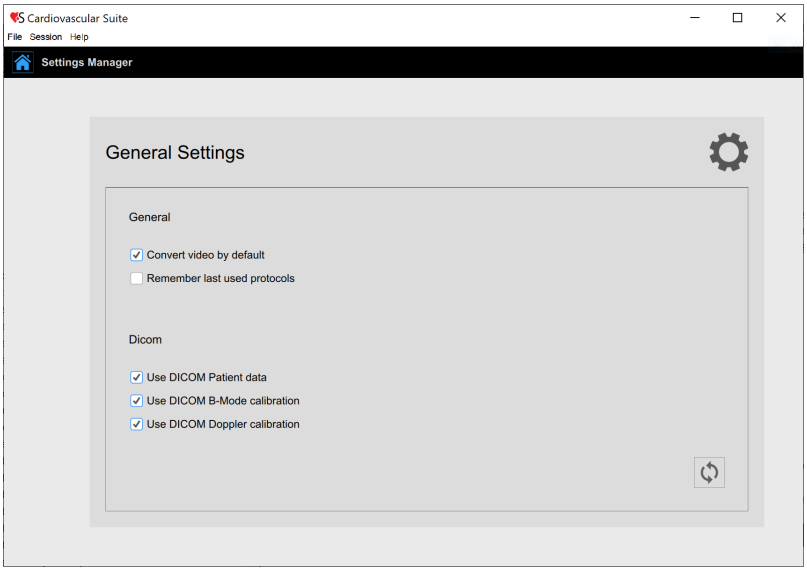
If a lock icon is present inside the button, this means that you don't have a valid license for this application.

The buttons in the lower part of the Home Screen are:

- **archive**: opens the Archive window.
- **settings**: opens the Settings manager window.
- **license**: opens the License manager window.
- **manual**: opens this User Manual in an external browser.
- **exit**: quit Cardiovascular Suite.

On the top right of the Home Screen, clicking on the operator icon, you can find the name of the logged user and the logout button.

8 Settings manager



The Settings manager contains the settings of Cardiovascular Suite.

The following settings are available:

General

- **Convert video by default**: if set, when creating a new study, the "Convert video" checkbox is set by default.
- **Remember last used protocol**: if set, when creating a new study, the study will be associated by default with the last used protocols.

Dicom

- **Use DICOM Patient data**: if set, when opening a DICOM file, the patient data are obtained from the file metadata.
- **Use DICOM B-mode calibration**: if set, when opening a DICOM file, B-mode calibration is obtained from the file metadata.
- **Use DICOM Doppler calibration**: if set, when opening a DICOM file, Doppler calibration is obtained from the file metadata.

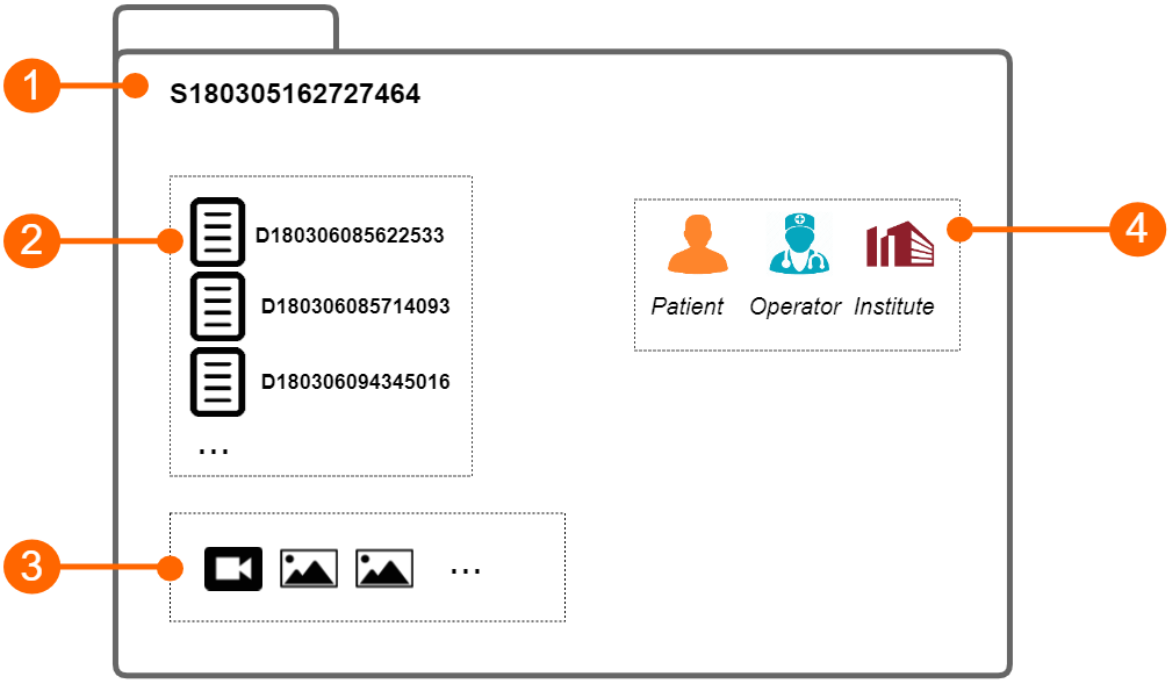
Every time a change is performed, the software automatically saves it. Click the Restore button to restore the default options.

9 Archive

The Archive is made up by several tabs, that manage:

- the studies and their documents;
- the patients;
- the operators;
- the institutes;
- the protocols;
- the tags.

9.1 *STUDIES AND DOCUMENTS*



The study **(1)** contains the results generated by a software application. These results are organized into documents **(2)**. Each document contains the results of the analysis of a video clip or an image. The study instead may contain one or more media files (video clip or images).

Each study has a unique study identification number (study ID), which is a string starting with the letter "S" and followed by 15 numeric digits. Analogously, each document has a unique document identification number (document ID), which is a string starting with the letter "D" and followed by 15 numeric digits.

Each study can be associated with one or more protocols and each document can be associated with one or more tags.

9.2 *PATIENTS*

The patient is the person who undergo the examination.

The archive can contain the following patient data:

- Patient ID
- First name
- Middle name
- Last Name
- Sex (it can be: "Unspecified", "Female" or "Male")
- Birth date (it can be set or "unspecified")
- Address (Street, number, City, ZIP, State/Region, Country)
- Telephone
- E-mail

You can enter no data of the patients. The only mandatory field is the patient ID. If you don't enter patient ID, a random value will be automatically proposed, which is a string starting with the letter "P" and followed by 15 numeric digits.

9.3 *OPERATORS*

The operator is the person who make the examination.

The archive can contain the following operator data:

- First name
- Middle name
- Last Name
- Birth date (it can be set or "unspecified")
- Telephone
- E-mail

You can also set a picture of the operator.

9.4 *INSTITUTES*

The institute is the organization where the examination is performed.

The archive can contain the following institute data:

- Name
- Address (Street, number, City, ZIP, State/Region, Country)
- Telephone
- Fax
- E-mail

You can also set a picture of the institute.

9.5 *PROTOCOLS*

The protocol is a particular experiment or proceeding which a study or more than one may be associated with.

The archive can contain the following protocol data:

- Name
- Description

You can also set a picture of the protocol.

9.6 ***TAGS***

The tag is a particular label which a document or more than one may be associated with.

The archive can contain the following tag data:

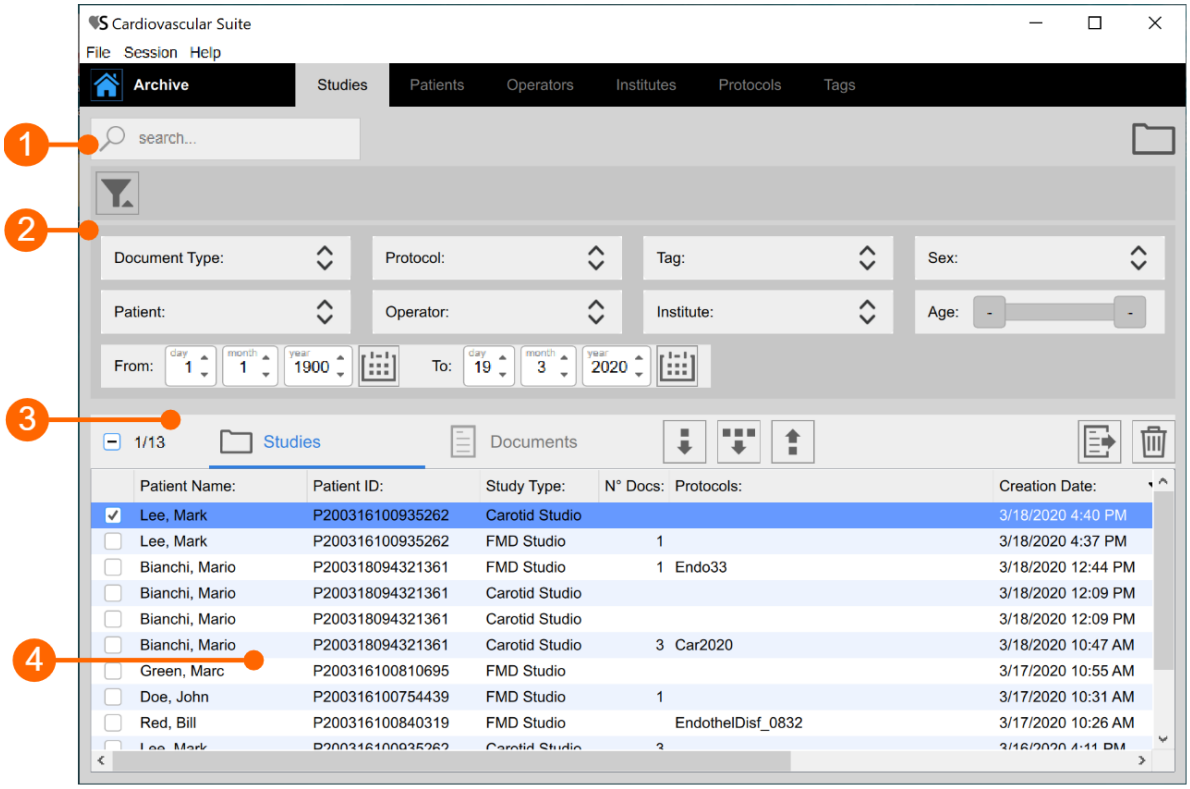
- Name
- Description

You can also set a picture of the tag.

9.7 Studies management

In the Studies and Documents panel, it is possible to manage studies and documents.

This panel is made up by a search field **(1),** the filter management panel **(2)**, the control buttons **(3)** and a table **(4)** for showing the study list (or the document list), depending on the selected tab (Studies or Documents) from the control buttons.



9.7.1 Searching and filtering

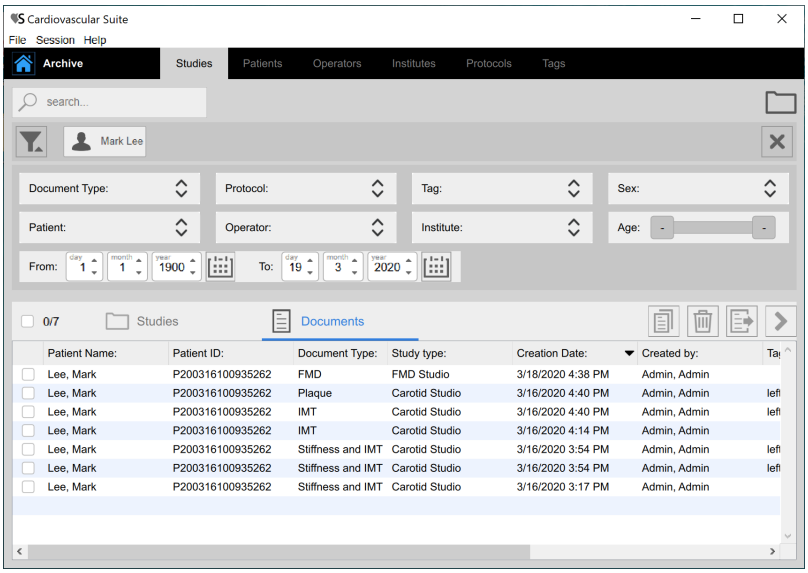
It is possible to perform a textual search in the Studies or Documents table thanks to the search field on the top **(1)**.

The filter management panel **(2)** allows the possibility to add and remove filters. By clicking on the  icon, the following filters can be added:

- Document type
- Patient
- Operator
- Institute
- Patient Sex
- Patient Age
- Patient Birthdate
- Document Tag
- Study Protocol

In addition, it is possible to filter the studies by patient, operator, and institute by going to their panels and double clicking on one of them.

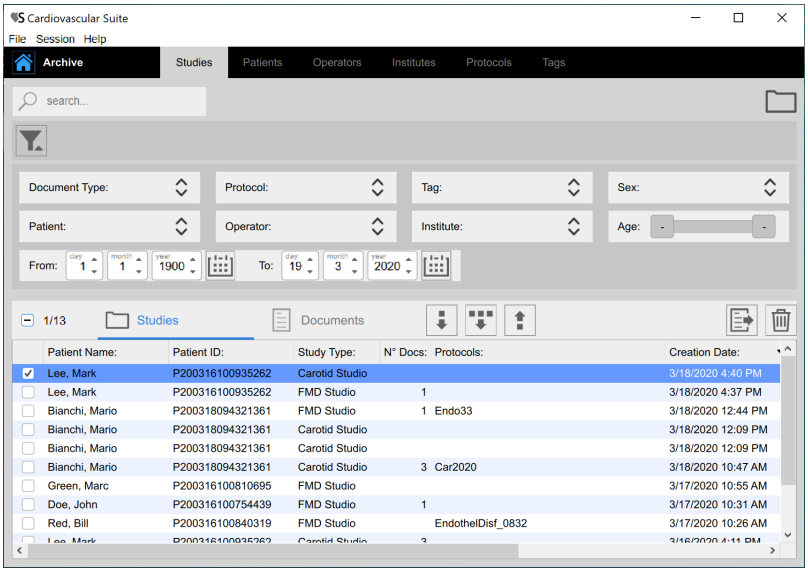
Once the filter panel is visible, it is sufficient to choose one or more filters using the dropdown menu and the table is automatically filtered. It is possible to remove one filter at a time by clicking on it, or to remove all the filters at the same time by clicking on the  icon, as show in the following picture.



9.7.2 Management of Studies Table

Selecting the Studies tab 

, the Studies table is shown where you can find the list of all the studies performed and stored into the Archive.



Import a study:

- Click on the Import Study button that is placed on the top of the Studies Table.
- Select the folder that contains the study to be imported, then press Open.

Import more than one study:

- Click on the Multiple Import Study button that is placed on the top of the Studies Table.
- Select the folder that contains the studies to be imported, then select the studied and press Open.

Export a study:

- In table **(4)**, click on the study to be exported.
- Click on the Export Study button that is placed on the left of the Studies Table.
- Select the destination path where you want to save your exported study, then press Save.

A report file in CVS format is created in the destination folder. It contains the details of the exported study.

Delete a study:

- In table **(4)**, click on the study to be deleted.
- Click on the Delete Study button that is placed above the Studies Table, on the right.

Multiple selection:

In Studies Table multi-select feature is available. You can select more than one study and perform export and delete operation on selected studies.

In table **(4)**, select the studies through the check-box. The label over the table shows how many studies are selected from the available ones.

After you have selected studies you can export them (clicking on multiple Export button, placed above the Studies Table) or delete them (clicking on Delete button, placed above the Studies Table, on the right).

Advanced export:

It is possible to export documents of selected study/studies as CSV, TSV or PDF file.

- In table **(4)**, select the study/studies to be exported

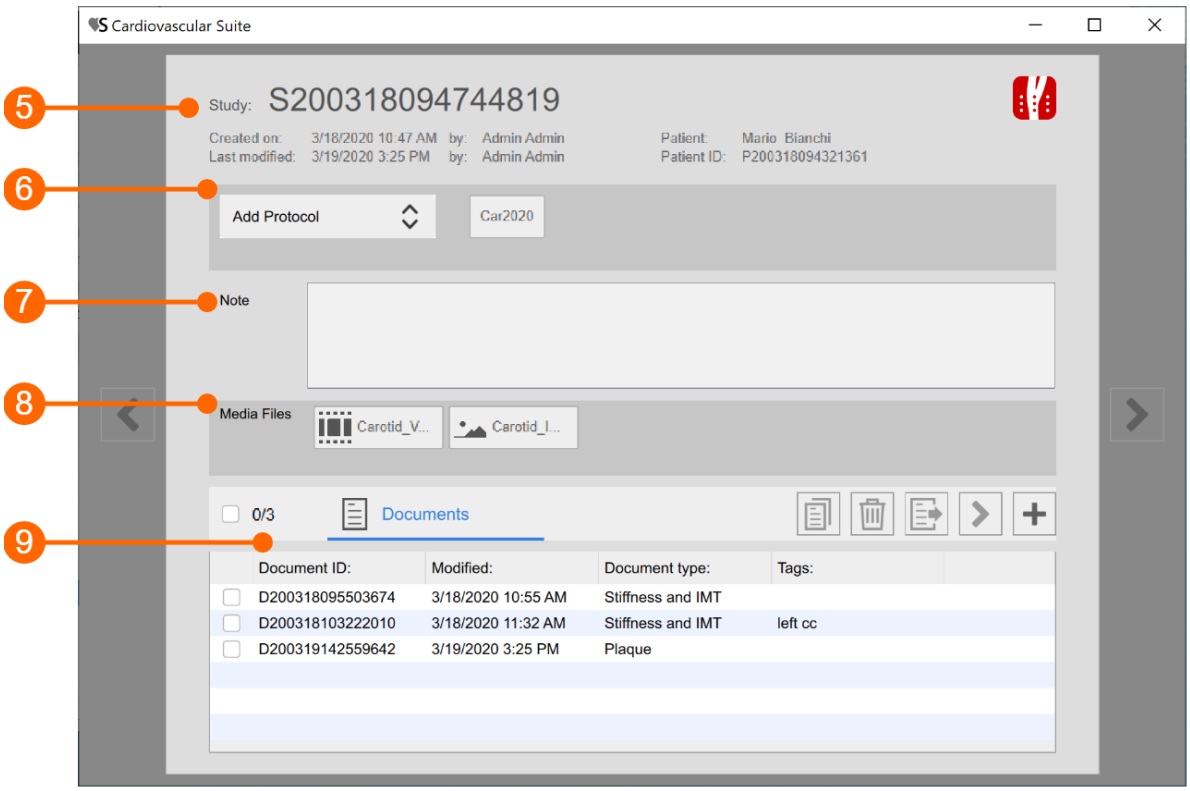
- Click on the Export Documents button that is placed on the top of Studies Table. A drop-down menu appears:
  - *Export Document Results*: it exports a TSV/CSV file containing information about the study, the document, and the computed results. You can also export a PDF report of the document.
  - *Export Document Data*: it exports a TSV/CSV file containing the results of the study and the instantaneous data.
- Select the destination path where you want to save your exported documents, then press Save.

9.7.2.1 Study view

It is possible to open the study view by double clicking on it from the Studies Table **(4)**. A new window containing the study ad its files is opened, as shown in the following picture. It is possible to navigate between studies, going to the next or to the previous study.

The study view contains:

- a panel with information regarding the study and the patient **(5)**
- a panel for adding and removing protocol to the study **(6)**
- a note text field **(7)** where it is possible to add comments to the study
- a media file container **(8)** which collects all the media files of the study (clicking on the media file icon new window for showing the file is opened)
- a table containing all the study documents and the buttons **(9)** for managing them



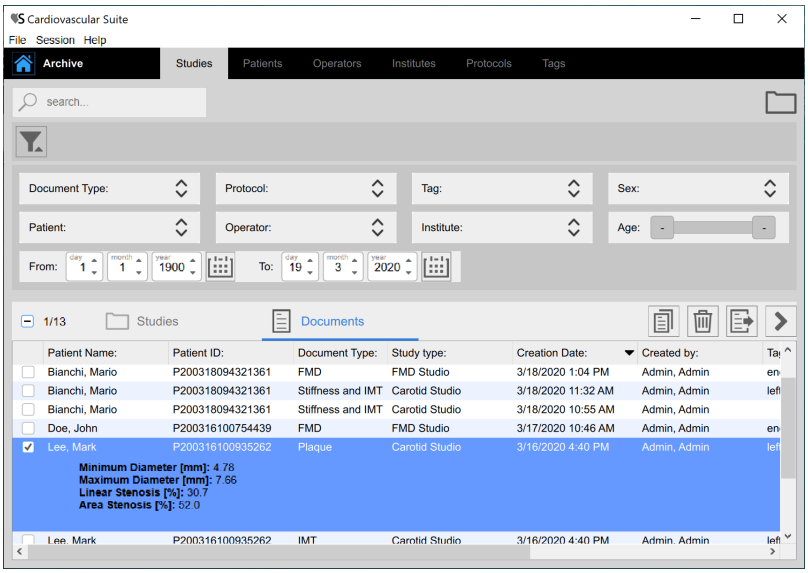
It is possible to click on a document of the table to see some information about the document itself. The preview of the document is made up by:

- Image: by default it is empty and the user can set one of the frames of the video clip as image preview. In order to do this, open an existing document (or at the end of the analysis, during the review) and perform a right click on the video player once the desired frame is displayed. Then, click on the menu item "Set this image as preview"
- Text: it shows a short preview of the document with the values (if calculated) of the characteristic parameters for that study type.

From the documents table **(9)** it is also possible to create a new document related to that study, by clicking on the + button. You can select one or more document and duplicate one of them using the duplicate button. For selected documents, it is also possible to export and delete them. In addition, by clicking on the › icon it is possible to view the review of that document.

9.7.3 Management of Documents Table

Selecting the Documents tab Documents, the Documents table is shown.



Open a document:

- Click on the document to be open.
- Click on the Go › button in document preview and the document will open in the application that created it or,
- Double click on the document to be open.
- The document will open in the application that created it.

Duplicate a document:

- In the Documents table, click on the document to be duplicated.
- Click on the Duplicate Document button placed above the table.

Delete a document:

- In the Documents table, click on the document to be deleted.
- Click on the Delete Document button placed above the table.

Export a document:

It is possible to export one or more documents as CSV, TSV or PDF file.

- In the Documents table, select the document to be exported.
- Click on the Export Document button, placed above the Documents table. A drop-down menu appears:
- *Export Document Results*: it exports a TSV/CSV file containing information about the study, the document, and the computed results. You can also export a PDF report of the document.
- *Export Document Data*: it exports a TSV/CSV file containing the results of the study and the instantaneous data.
- *Export Aggregated Results* (available only if more than a document is selected): it is also possible to export aggregated results of different documents in a single CSV or TSV file (please note that selected studies should all be of the same type).

- Select the destination path where you want to save your exported documents, then press Save.

Multiple selection:

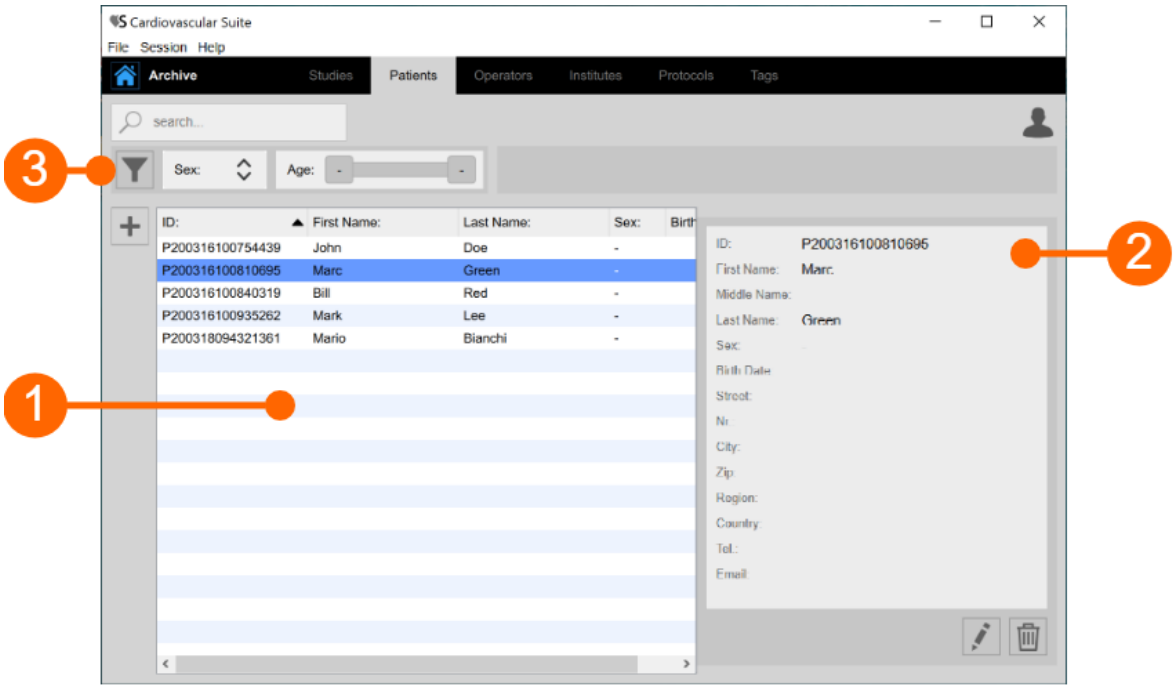
In Documents Table multi-select feature is available. You can select more than one document and perform export and delete operation on selected documents.

In table, select the documents through the check-box. The label over the table shows how many documents are selected from the available ones.

After you have selected documents you can export them (clicking on Export button) or delete them (clicking on Delete button).

9.8 Patients management

Allows you to manage patients.

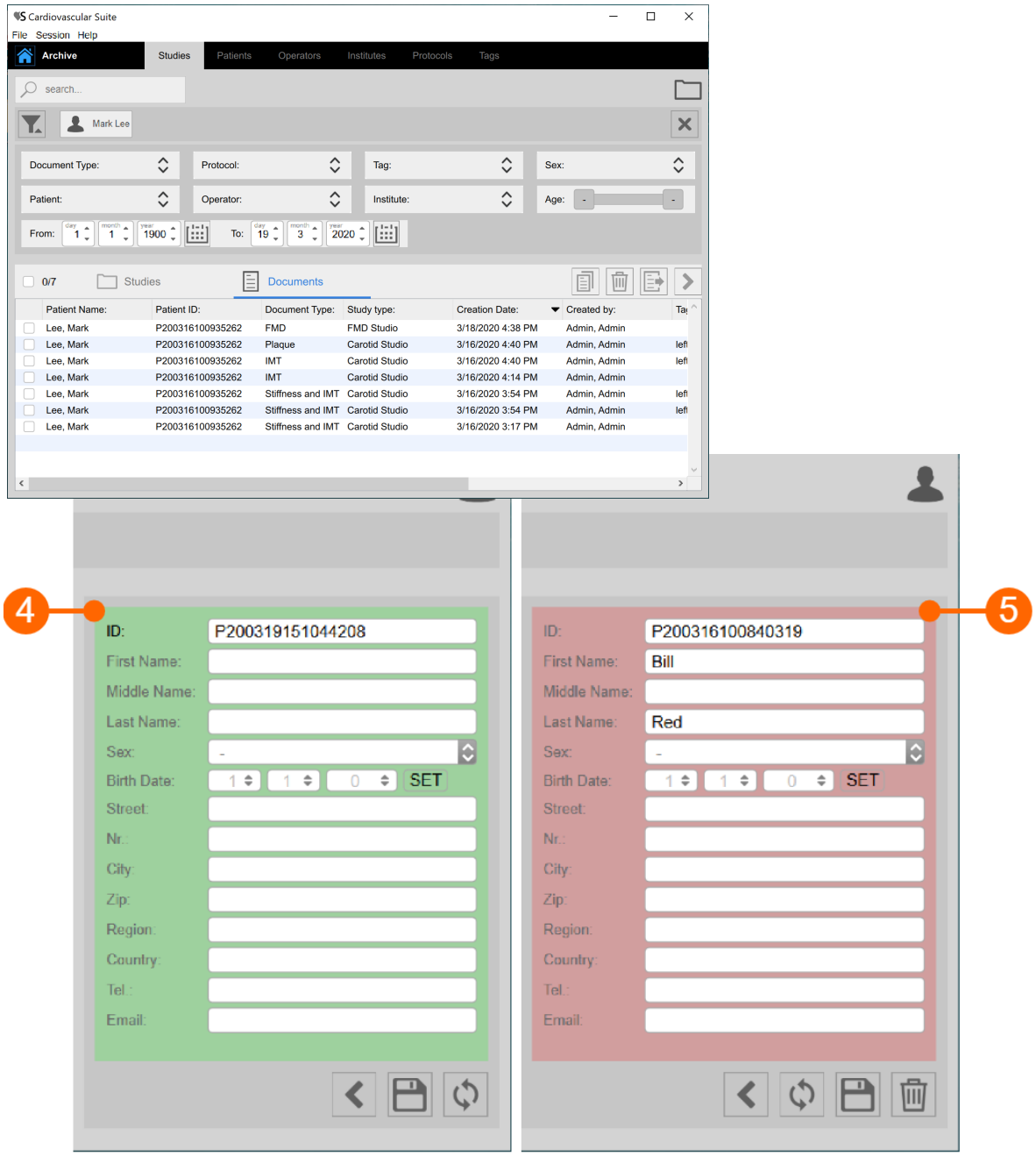


The patient list is given in table **(1)**. Once you select one of patients, detailed information are shown in the frame **(2)**.

In the frame **(3)** you can perform textual research and add and remove filters. The following filter can be used:

- Sex
- Age

In addition, with a double click on a patient, the list of the study related to that patient is shown in the Studies management window:



Add a new patient:

- Click on the Add New Patient button.
- In the new patient frame **(4)**, enter the patient data. The only mandatory field is the patient ID and the software automatically creates a new one.
- Click on the Save button to save the patient data.

Modify a patient:

- Select the patient to be modified.
- Click on the Edit button.
- Modify the patient data in the frame **(5)**.
- Click on the Save button to save the data.
- You can use the Restore button to restore data.

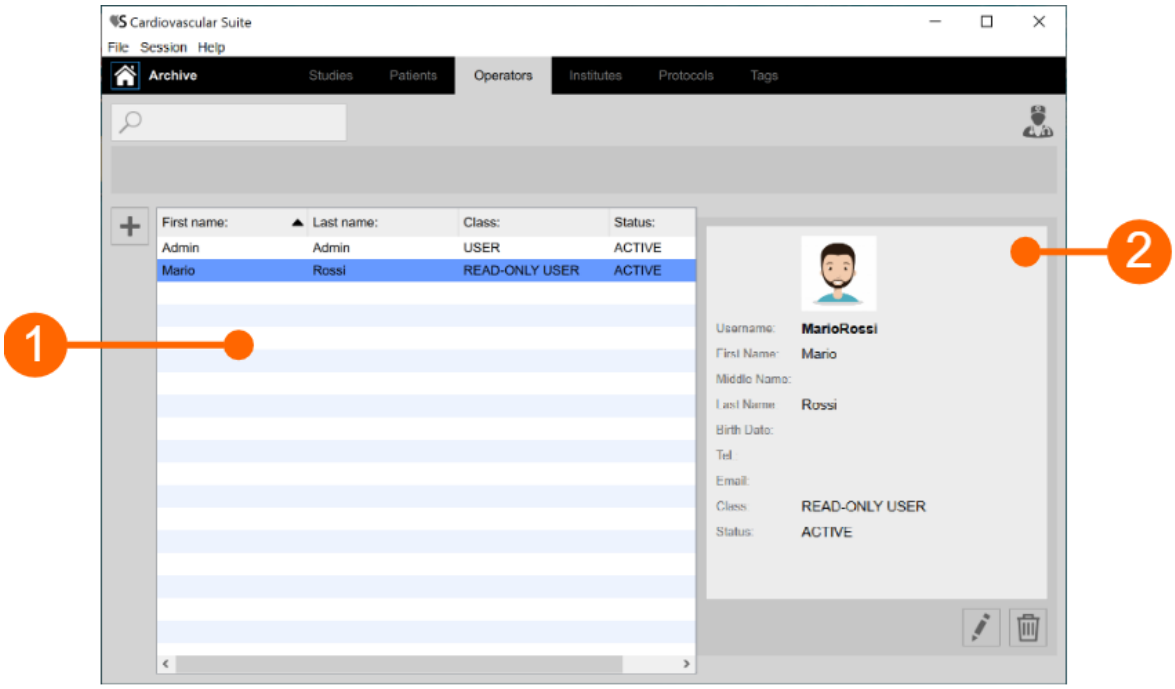
Delete a patient:

- Select the patient to be deleted.
- Click on the Delete button.
- Confirm deletion with the OK button.

> You cannot delete a patient that is associated with existing studies.

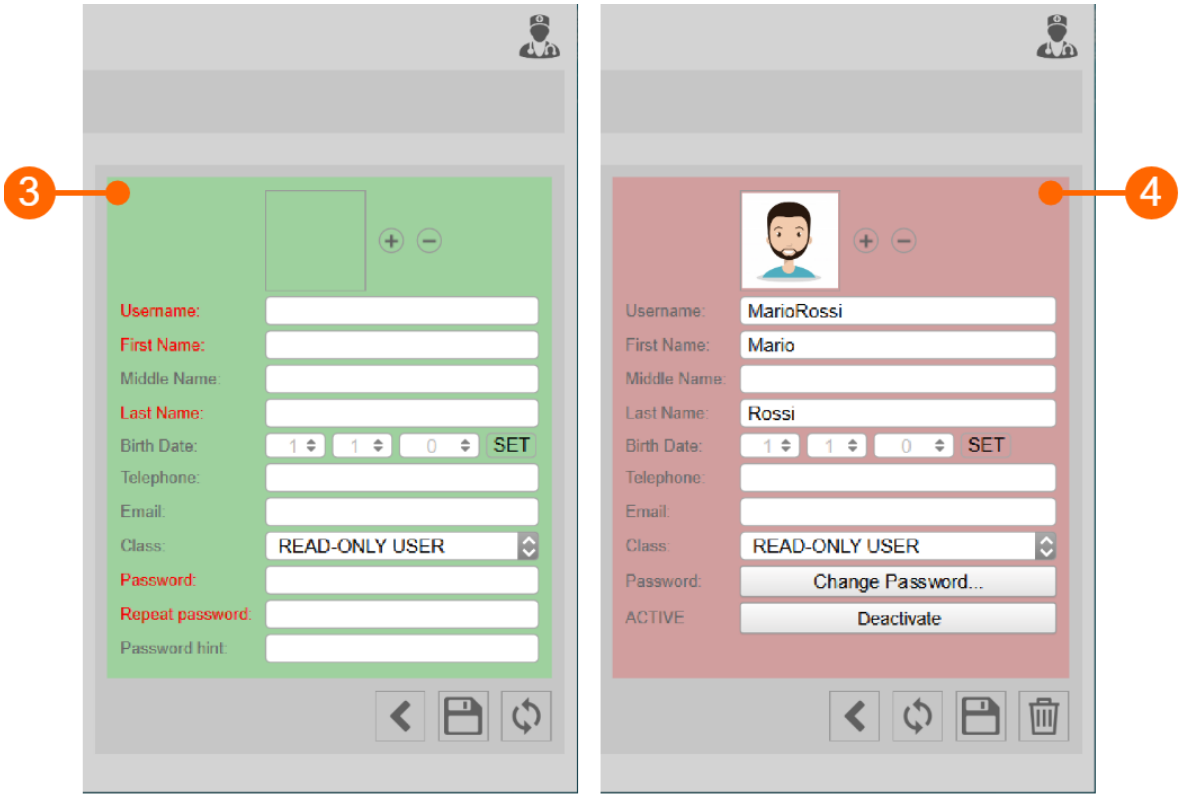
9.9 Operators management

Allows you to manage operators.



The operators list is given in the table above **(1)**. Once you select one of the operators, detailed information are shown in the frame **(2)**.

You can double click on the operator in table **(1)** to show the studies performed by this operator in the Studies management window.



Add a new operator:

- Click on the Add New Operator button.
- In the new operator frame **(3)**, enter the operator data. Labels of mandatory fields (First Name, Last Name) are red.
- Click on the Save button to save the operator data.

Modify an operator:

- Select the operator to be modified.
- Click on the Edit button.
- Modify the operator data in the frame **(4)**.
- Click on the Save button to save the data.
- You can use the Restore button to restore data.

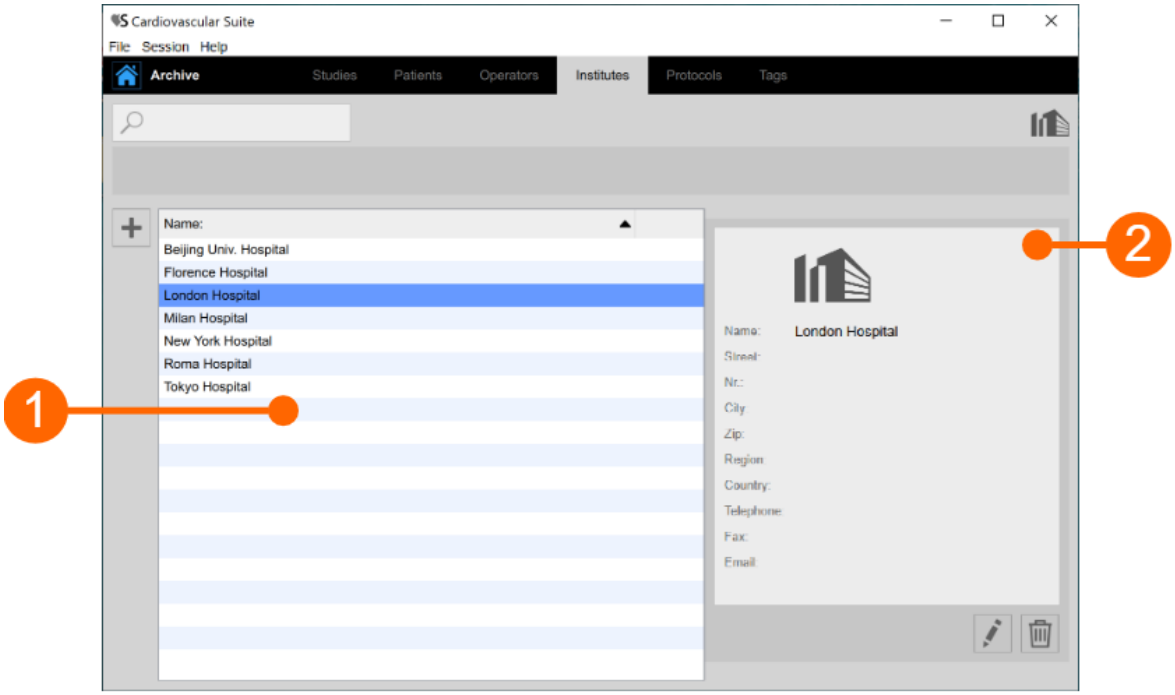
Delete an operator:

- Select the operator to be deleted.
- Click on the Delete button.
- Confirm deletion with the OK button.

You cannot delete an operator that is associated with existing studies.

9.10 Institutes management

Allows you to manage institutes.



The institutes list is given in table **(1)**. Once you select one of the institutes, detailed information are shown in the frame **(2)**.

You can double click on the institute in table **(1)** to show the studies performed within this institute in the Studies management window.

Add a new institute:

- Click on the + button for adding a new institute.
- In the new institute frame **(3)**, enter the institute data. The mandatory field (Name) is in red.
- Click on the Save button to save the institute data.

Modify an institute:

- Select the institute to be modified.
- Click on the Edit button.
- Modify the institute data in the frame **(4)**.
- Click on the Save button to save the data.
- You can use the Restore button to restore data.

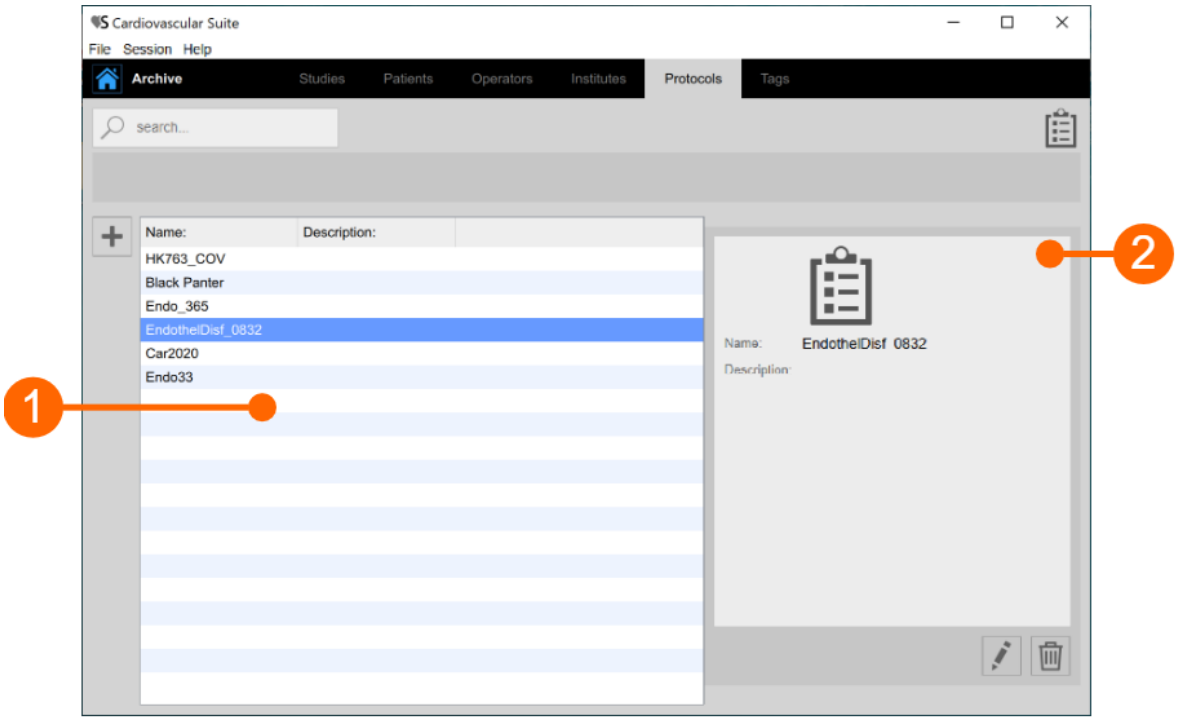
Delete an institute:

- Select the institute to be deleted.
- Click on the Delete button.
- Confirm deletion with the OK button.

> You cannot delete an institute that is associated with existing studies.

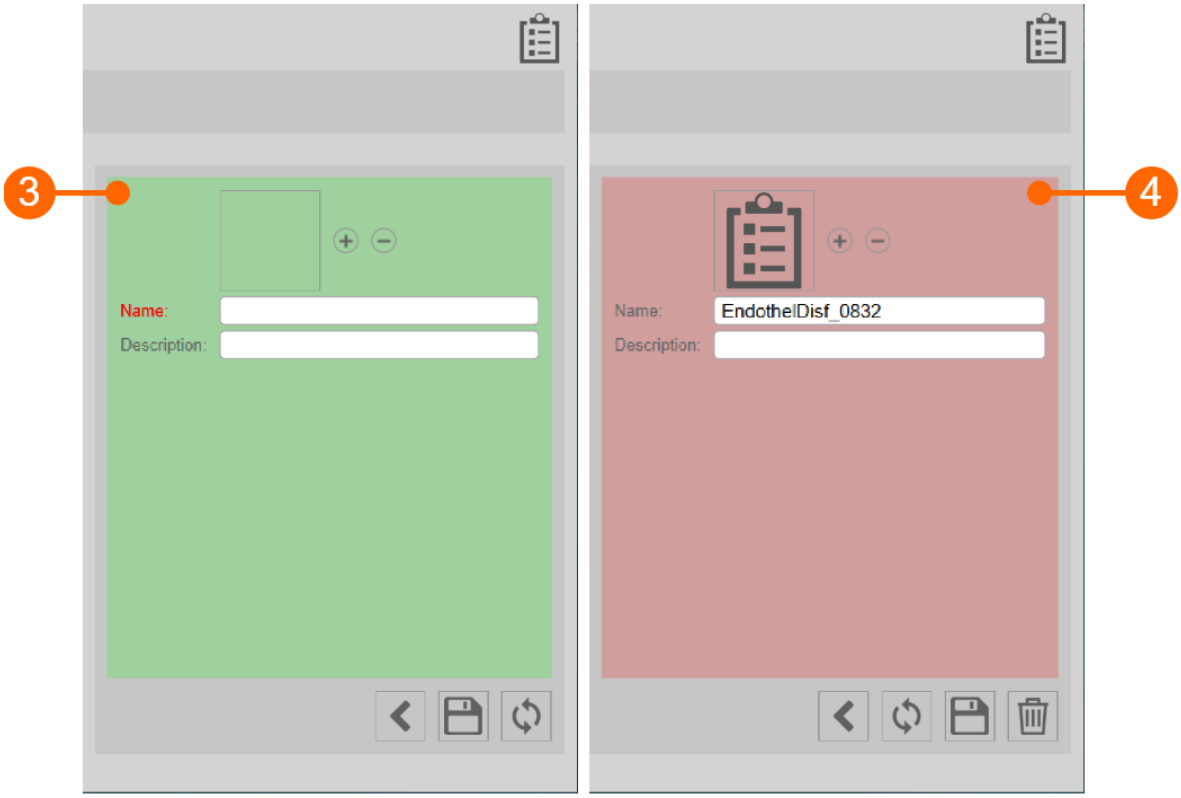
9.11 Protocols managements

Allows you to manage protocols.



The protocols list is given in table **(1)**. Once you select one of the protocols, detailed information are shown in the frame **(2)**. At the top of the screen there is a search field to perform a textual research for protocols in the list.

You can double click on the protocol in table **(1)** to show the studies performed within this protocol in the Studies management window.



Add a new protocol:

- Click on the + button for adding a new protocol.
- In the new protocol frame **(3)**, enter the protocol data. The mandatory field (Name) is in red.
- Click on the Save button to save the protocol data.

Modify a protocol:

- Select the protocol to be modified.
- Click on the Edit button.
- Modify the protocol data in the frame **(4)**.
- Click on the Save button to save the data.
- You can use the Restore button to restore data.

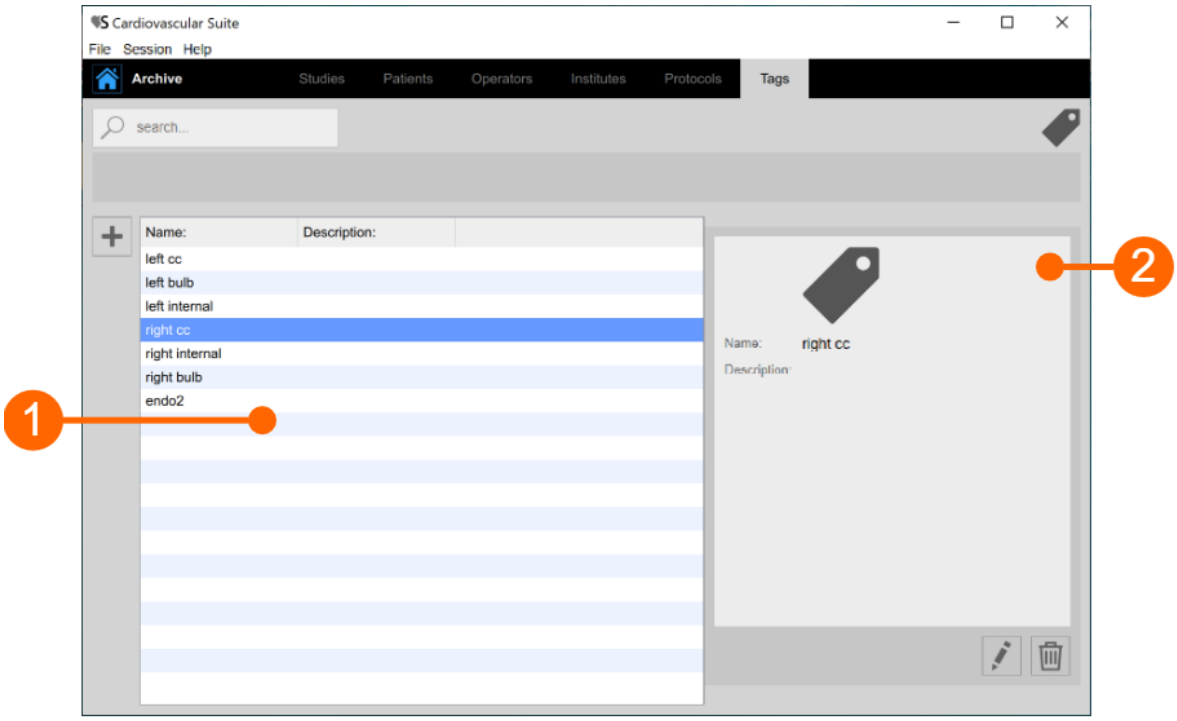
Delete a protocol:

- Select the protocol to be deleted.
- Click on the Delete button.
- Confirm deletion with the OK button.

> You cannot delete a protocol that is associated with existing studies.

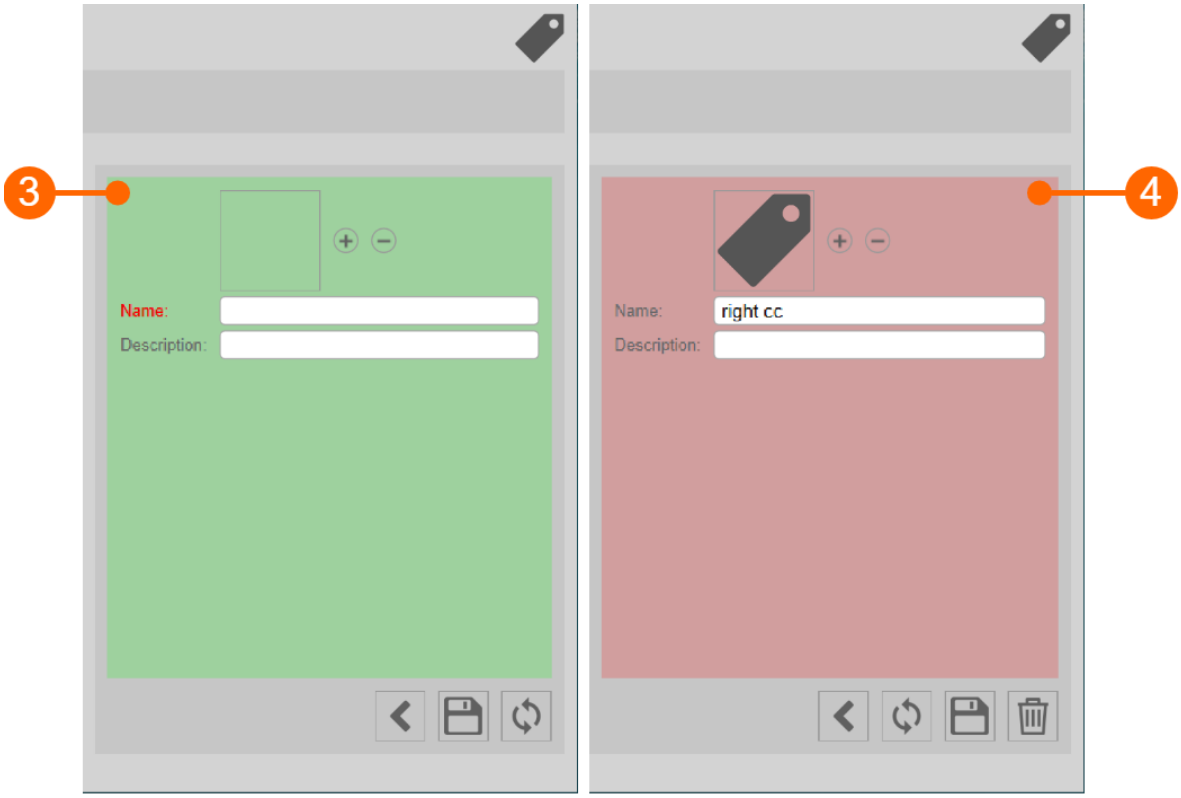
9.12 Tags management

Allows you to manage tags.



The tags list is given in table **(1)**. Once you select one of the tags, detailed information are shown in the frame **(2)**. At the top of the screen there is a search field to perform a textual research for tags in the list.

You can double click on the tag in table **(1)** to show the documents associated to this tag in the Studies management window.



Add a new tag:

- Click on the + button for adding a new tag.
- In the new tag frame **(3)**, enter the tag data. The mandatory field (Name) is in red.
- Click on the Save button to save the tag data.

Modify a tag:

- Select the tag to be modified.
- Click on the Edit button.
- Modify the tag data in the frame **(4)**.
- Click on the Save button to save the data.
- You can use the Restore button to restore data.

Delete a tag:

- Select the tag to be deleted.
- Click on the Delete button.
- Confirm deletion with the OK button.

> You cannot delete a tag that is associated with existing docuements.

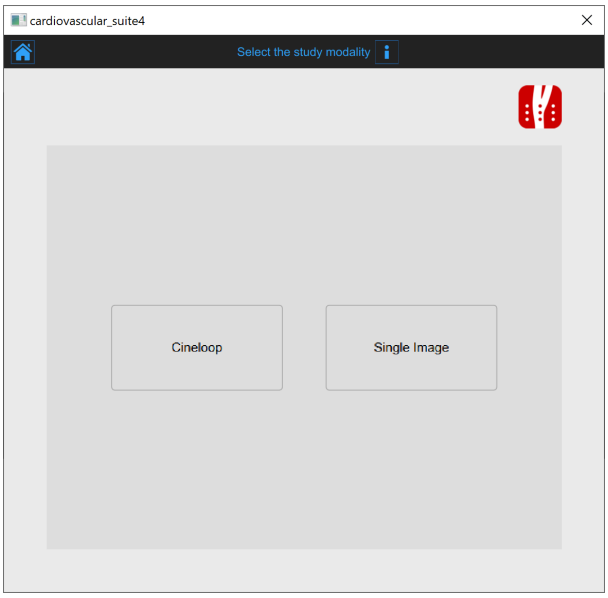
10 Carotid Studio

Carotid Studio is a software for the measurement of the Intima Media Thickness (IMT), the carotid diameter, and the stiffness parameters by processing sequences of ultrasound images. On single images, the software also provides a tool for the measurement of geometric and statistic parameters on plaques that are recognized manually by the operator.

10.1 Create a new study

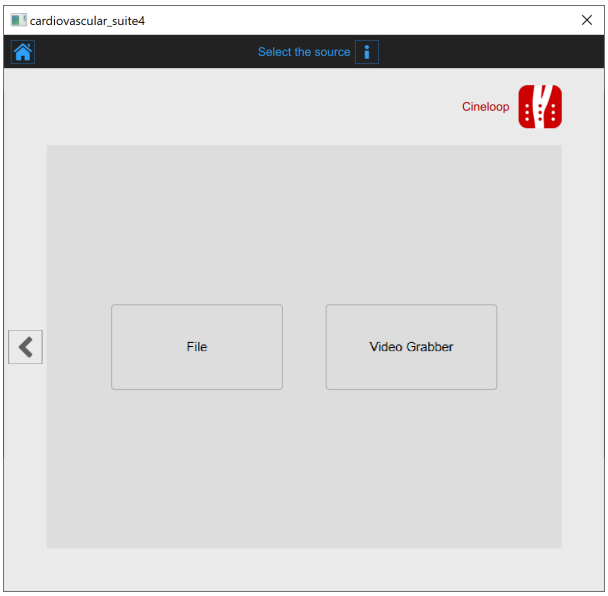
When you start Carotid Studio, a procedure guides you in the creation of a new study. The steps are:

10.1.1 Select the study modality



In this tab, you can select the study modality. Carotid Studio allows to analyze through "Cineloop" modality (loading a video clip) and "Single Image" modality (processing a single frame coming from a video or loaded as image).

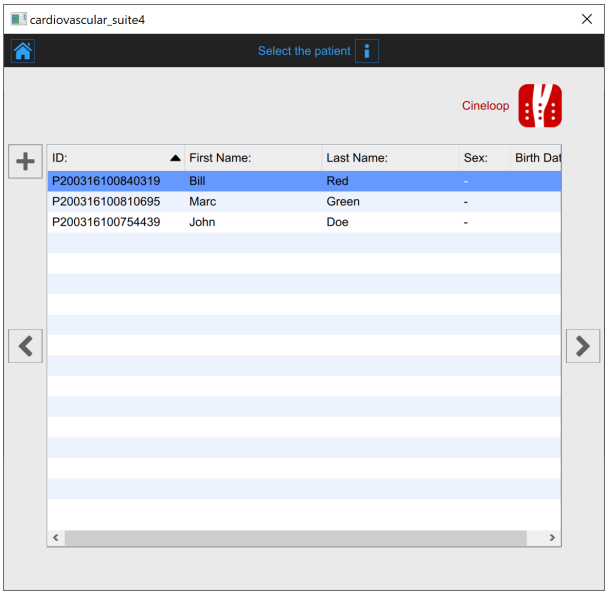
10.1.2 **Select the source**



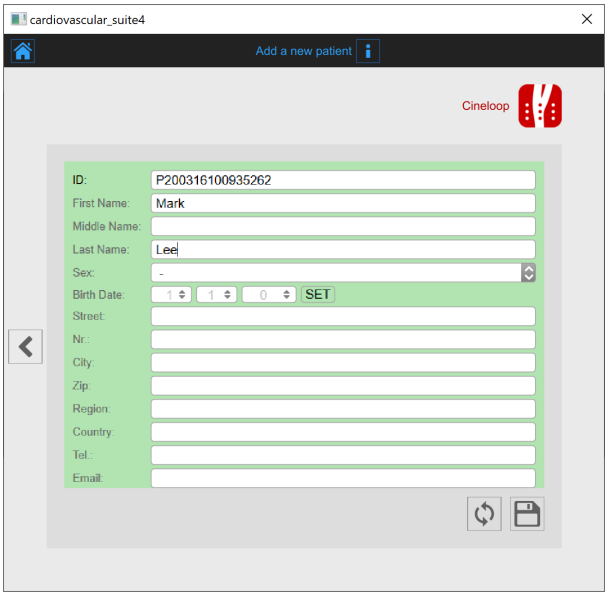
In this tab, you can select the study video source. With the "Cineloop" modality, Carotid Studio processes video sources (Video File or a DICOM File) while with "Single Image" it also processes images. Both the modalities allow to work in real-time by processing images directly coming from the ultrasound equipment thanks to a video converter.

10.1.3 Select the patient

> For DICOM files, the patient data are obtained by the file metadata and this window is skipped (see Settings). You can anyhow edit the patient data from the Review window.

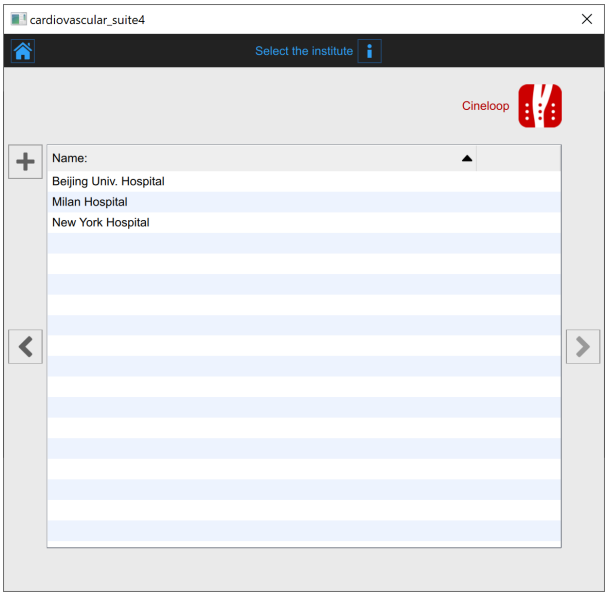


In this tab, you can select the patient among the ones already present in the Archive. Select the patient and click on the Next button (you can simply double-click on the patient to proceed). If you want to create a new patient, click of the Add New Patient button.
In the Add new patient frame, enter the patient data. The only mandatory field is the patient ID (a random value is automatically proposed). Click on the Save button to save the patient data.



10.1.4 Select the institute

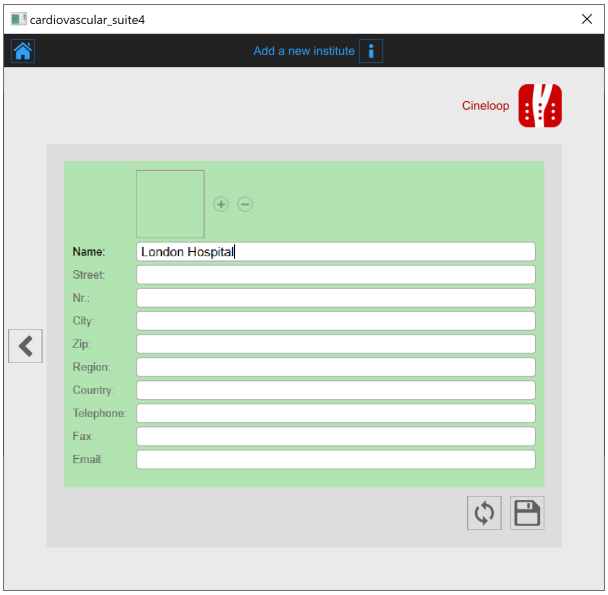
If it is the first time you create a study, after selecting the patient you will also need to select the institute. If you have already created at least one study, the software remembers the institute used for the previous study and after selecting the patient shows you automatically the final review (where you can still make changes before starting the new study).



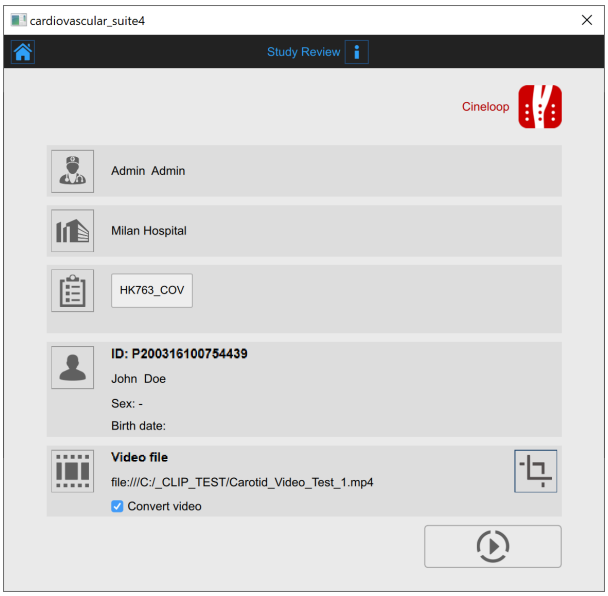
In this tab, you can select the institute among the ones already present in the Archive. Select the institute and click on the Next button (you can simply double-click on the institute to proceed).

If you want to create a new institute, click of the Add New Institute button.

In the Add new institute frame, enter the institute data. The mandatory field (Name) is in red until you have filled in the Name blank. Click on the Save button to save the institute data.

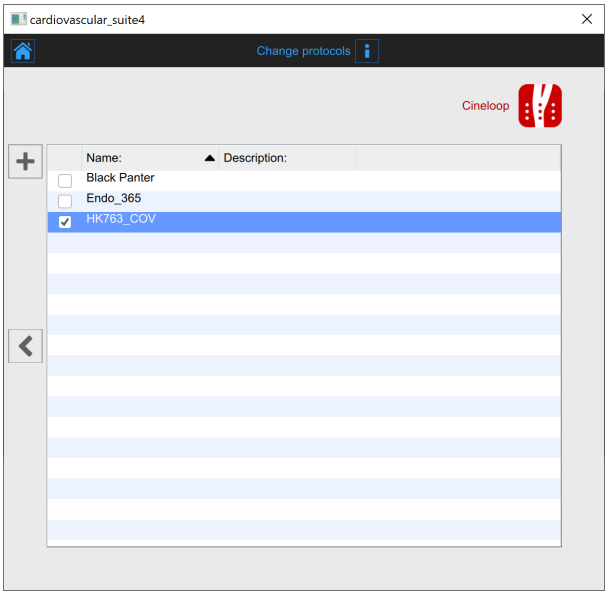


10.1.5 **Review**

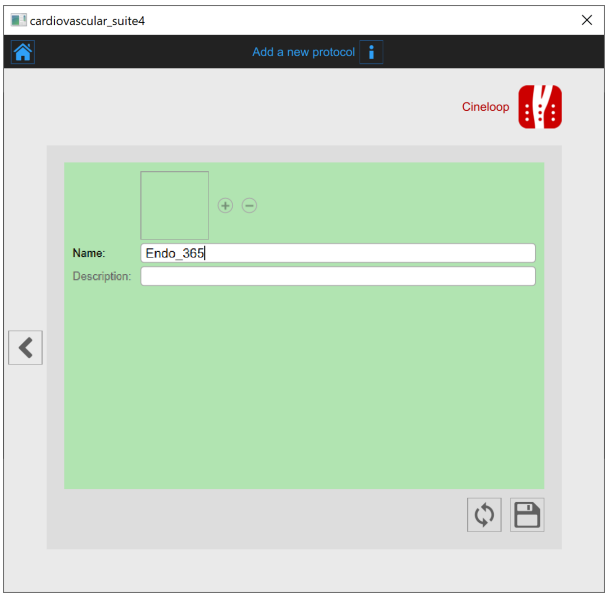


In this tab you can review your selection (you can also change Patient and Institute by clicking on their buttons). It is possible also to change the selected source for this study by clicking on the icon that represents the source.

Here, the user has the possibility to associate the study to one or more existing protocols, by clicking on the protocols icon .



In the Protocols tab, you can associate the study to one or more than one protocols already present in the Archive. Put a tick on the protocol you want to associate the study with. If you want to create a new protocol, click of the Add New protocol button. In the Add new protocol frame, enter the protocol data. The mandatory field (Name) is in red until you have filled in the Name blank. Click on the Save button to save the protocol data.



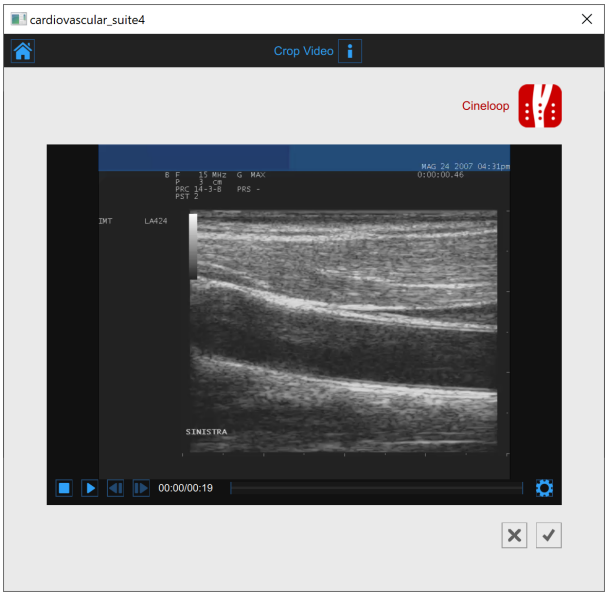
Click on the Previous button to go back to the review window.

> If in the Settings manager the option "Remember last used protocols" is checked, the study will be associated by default with the last used protocols.

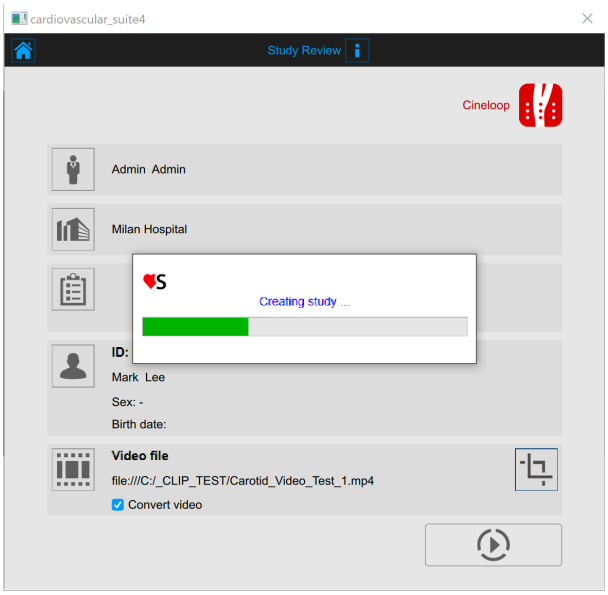
In addition, if you have chosen a video file as source, in the review window, it is possible to convert the video file to be optimized for the analysis with Carotid Studio. This operation may take few minutes.

> The default value of the "Convert video" checkbox is set by the "Convert video by default" option in the Settings manager.

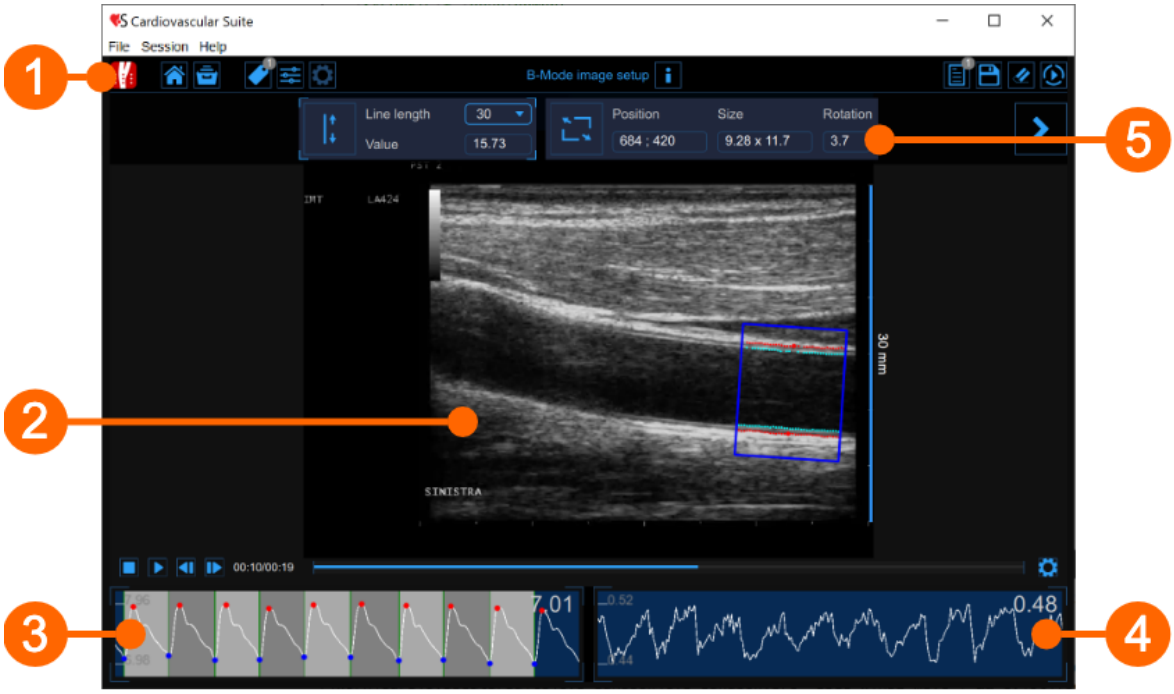
You can also crop the images by clicking the Crop button in the source panel. In this case, a new window opens; it is possible to select a region to be used for the analysis. Click on the Confirm button after you have drawn the region.



Click on the Start the Study button to proceed. A progress bar, as shown in the following picture, will show you the progression of the study creation.



10.2 Cineloop study analysis

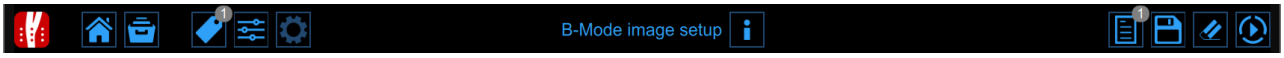


The analysis window contains the following components:

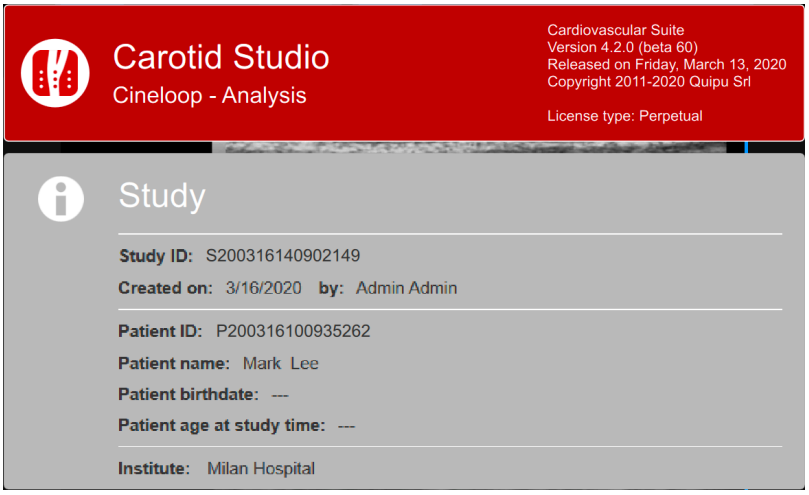
1. Top bar
2. Video window
3. Diameter chart
4. IMT chart
5. Setup panel

10.2.1 Top bar

The top bar contains some essential information for the navigation. Several icons are displayed.



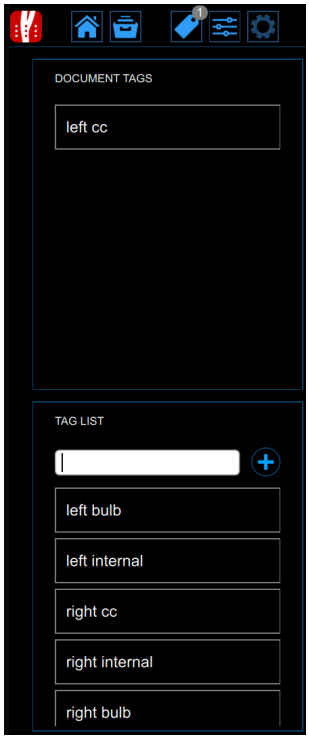
The Carotid Studio  button shows information about the study and about Cardiovascular Suite. Regarding the study, the number identification (ID) is displayed together with information about patient and the institute. Information about the software such as version and type of license are shown in the upper part of the windows, as the following figure:



The Home button closes the Carotid Studio application and returns to the home screen of Cardiovascular Suite.

The Archive button closes the Carotid Studio application and returns to the archive of Cardiovascular Suite.

The Tags Management button opens a panel (see the following picture) that allows to create a new tag and associate an existing tag to the document. Tags can be managed through the Tags management into the Archive.



The Preset Management button opens the preset management panel as described in Presets.

The Setup Panel button is used to show the setup panel when it is hidden.

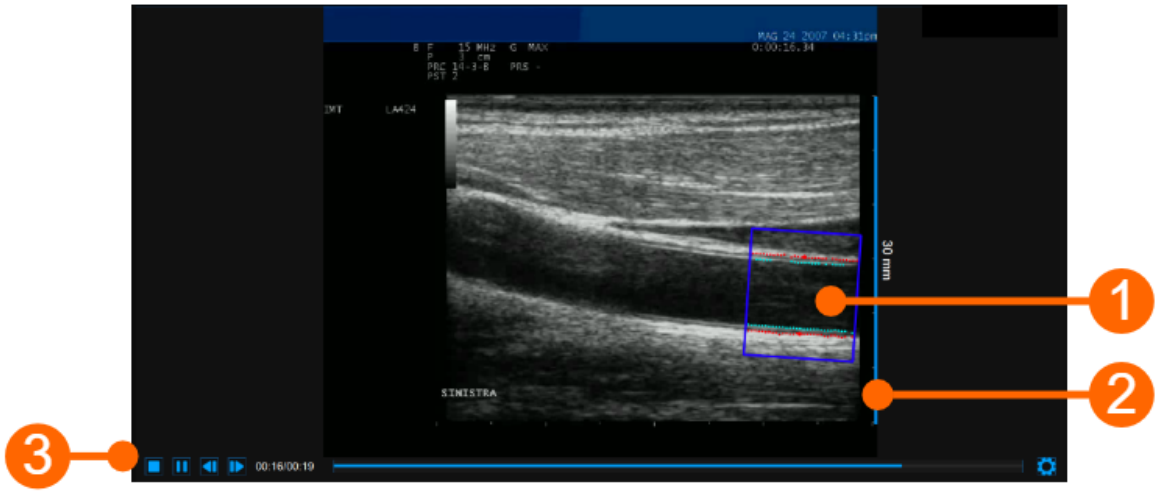
The Info button shows information about active controls (calibration lines, ROI, etc.).

The Start Exam button starts the examination. While the analysis is collecting data, a red led advises that the recording is in progress.

The Save button saves a document of the study. With the Cancel button it is possible to cancel the analysis and delete data in the Diameter and IMT charts.

The Review Documents button allows to suspend the analysis and to review the documents saved in the current analysis session. The button is only activated if you saved at least one document.

10.2.2 Video window

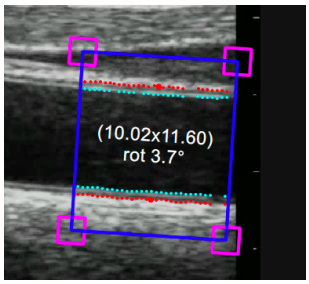


The video window shows the video signal from your ultrasound system. A ROI **(1)** can be traced in the video windows, where both the IMT and the diameter are computed.

The window also contains the calibration line **(2)** for the B-mode image once it has been calibrated. The video controls bar **(3)** is located at the bottom of the window. For more information on the video controls, see Video and image player.

10.2.2.1 ROI

The Region of Interest (ROI) is the portion of the image where both the diameter and the IMT are calculated. The points of the Lumen-Intima interface and the Media-Adventitia interface are displayed within the ROI in cyan and red color respectively. The ROI can be moved, resized, and/or rotated. Each time you change the position, size and/or inclination of the ROI, the analysis is re-initialized.



Draw a new ROI:

- Click on the Set ROI button in the Setup panel (the button remains active).
- Click inside the video window and drag until the ROI is complete (the size of the ROI is shown in the Setup panel and graphically within the ROI).
- When you release the mouse, the analysis is initialized.

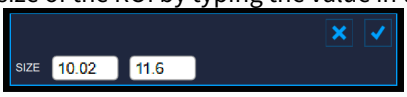
Rotate the ROI:

- Click on the upper side of the ROI and use the special cursor that indicates a rotation.
- Hold inside the ROI, drag the rectangle by rotating it to the desired angle.

> As an alternative, you can modify the position of the ROI by typing the value in the Setup panel.
>
> 
>

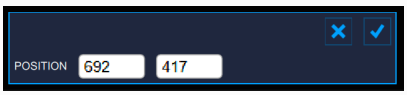
Resize the ROI:

- Click on one of the sides or one of the corners of the ROI.
- Drag to change the size of the the ROI.

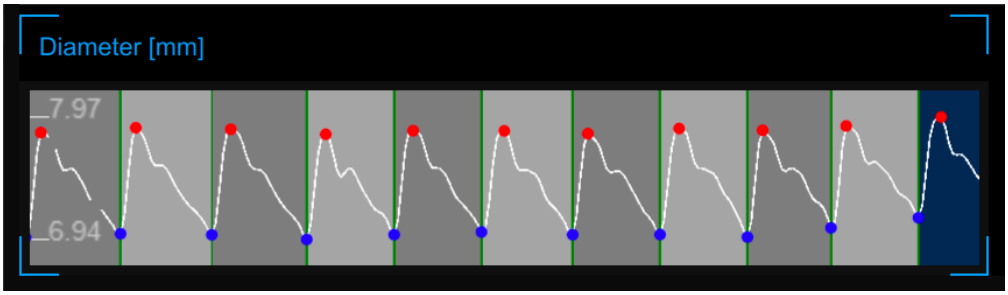
> An alternative, you can modify the size of the ROI by typing the value in the Setup panel.
>
> 
>

Move the ROI:

- Click and hold inside the ROI.
- Drag the ROI to the location of interest.

> As an alternative, you can modify the position of the ROI by typing the value in the Setup panel.
>
> 
>

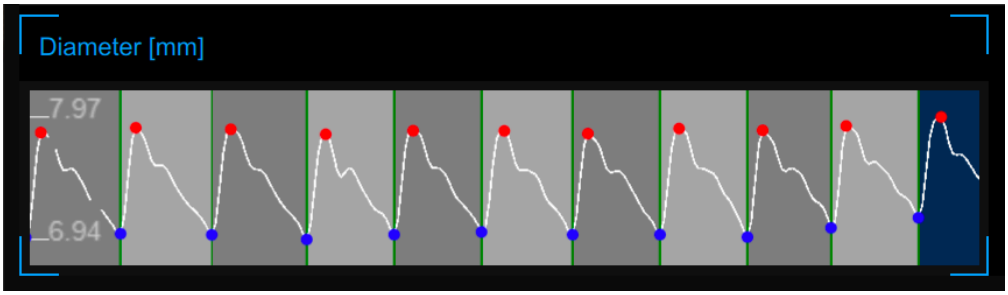
10.2.3 Diameter chart



The chart shows the trend of the diameter during the examination. During the analysis, Carotid Studio recognizes

the heart cycles that are shown in dark and light gray alternatively. The red points in the chart are the systolic diameters and the blue points are the diastolic diameters.

10.2.4 IMT chart



The chart shows the trend of the diameter during the examination. During the analysis, Carotid Studio recognizes the heart cycles that are shown in dark and light gray alternatively. The red points in the chart are the systolic diameters and the blue points are the diastolic diameters.

10.2.5 Setup panel

The setup panel must be used to set the recording data length, to Calibrate the B-mode image, to set the ROI, the *sensitivity* of the algorithm and the systolic and diastolic blood pressures.

10.2.5.1 B-mode image setup

Calibration

The Set Calibration  button is used to Calibrate the B-mode image.

The drop-down menu **(1)** shows the length of the line used for the calibration.

The numeric display **(2)** shows the calibration value.

If you click in the value field, you are allowed to manually enter the calibration value in the editable field (if you already know the value). The click the Save button to enter the values.

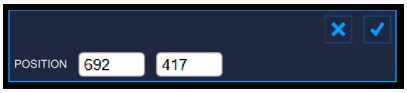
ROI

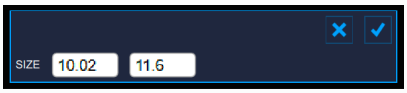
The Set ROI  button is used to set the ROI.

The numeric display **(3)** shows the center position, in pixels, of the ROI.

The numeric display **(4)** shows the size (width x height), in pixels, of the ROI.

If you click in the value field, you are allowed to manually enter the ROI position and size values in the editable fields (if you already know the values). The click the Save button to enter the values.





The numeric displays **(8)** show the degree of rotation of the ROI.

If you click in the value field, you are allowed to manually enter the degree value of rotation.

Sensitivity

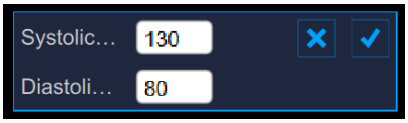
The slider **(5)** sets the sensitivity of the algorithm. Adjust this value in order to have a better detection of the intima-media border and the media-adventitia border.

10.2.5.2 Recording Data Length

The drop-down menu **(6)** shows the time length of the diameter and IMT data recording.

10.2.5.3 Blood Pressure

The numeric displays **(7)** show the values of systolic and diastolic blood pressure. If you click in the value field, you are allowed to manually enter the values of systolic and diastolic blood pressure. The click the Save button to enter the values.



If present, these values will be used to compute the stiffness parameters. For this purpose, the local carotid pressure should be used: in this case the carotid waveform is obtained by tonometer or similar device and it is generally calibrated by brachial measurement (sphygmomanometer) assuming that mean and diastolic values are constant along the arterial tree. For more information you can see:

"Reference values for local arterial stiffness. Part A: Carotid artery", Engelen L, Bossuyt J, Ferreira I et al., *J Hypertens.* 2015 Oct;33(10):1981-96

"Expert consensus document on arterial stiffness: methodological issues and clinical applications.", S. Laurent, J. Cockcroft, L. Van Bortel et al., *Eur Heart J.* 2006 Nov;27(21):2588-605

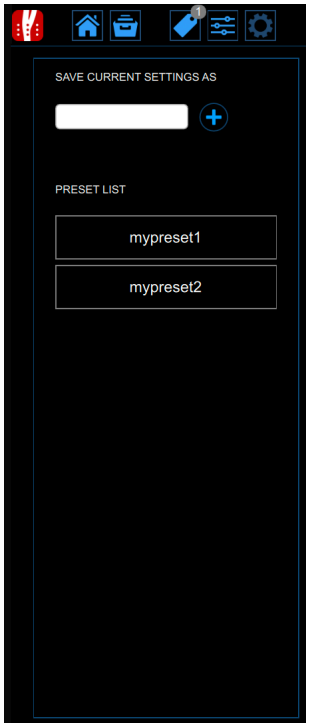
Once you have calibrated the B-Mode image and set the ROI, click on the Next button to proceed to set the recording the data length and the blood pressure. Alternatively, you can click on the Start study button to start the analysis.

10.2.6 Presets

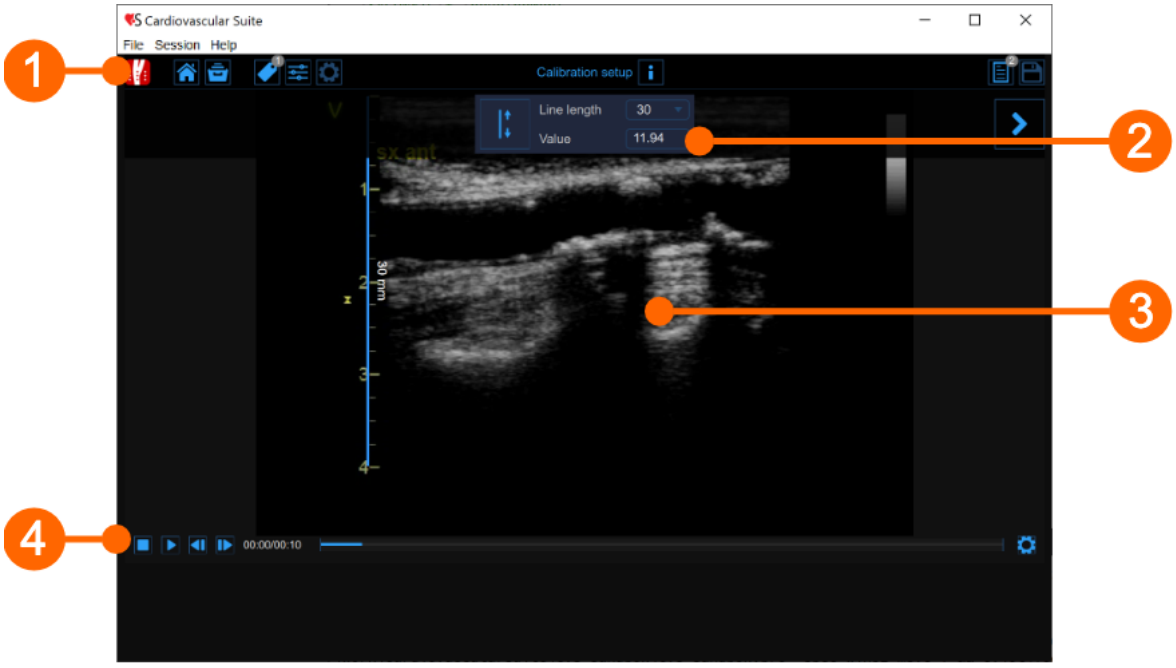
The preset management button opens the preset management panel that allows to manage presets. In particular, it allows to remember the settings of:

- B-mode image calibration
- B-mode image ROI (size, position, and rotation)
- recording time

A preset can be saved and reused for following studies.



10.3 Single image study analysis



Carotid Studio single image modality analyses image files or a single image selected from a video file and allows to perform two different types of analysis:

- IMT analysis
- Plaque analysis

The single image analysis window contains the following components:

1. **Top bar**

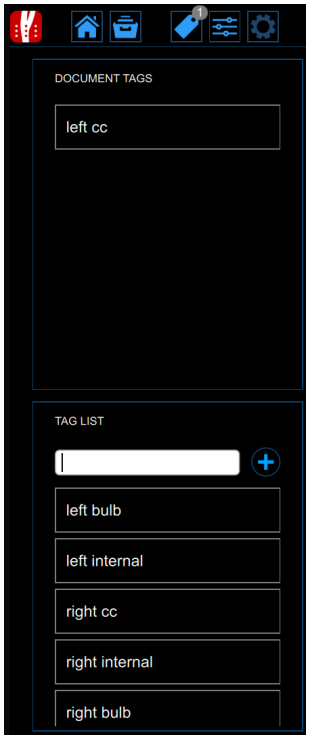
The top bar contains some essential information for the navigation. Several icons are displayed.

The Carotid Studio button shows information about the study and about Cardiovascular Suite. Regarding the study, the number identification (ID) is displayed together with information about patient and the institute. Information about the software such as version and type of license are shown in the upper part of the windows, as the following figure:

The home button closes the Carotid Studio application and returns to the home screen of Cardiovascular Suite.

The Archive button closes the Carotid Studio application and returns to the archive of Cardiovascular Suite.

The Tags Management button opens a panel (see the following picture) that allows to create a new tag and associate an existing tag to the document. Tags can be managed through the Tags management into the Archive.



The preset management button opens the preset management panel as described in Presets.

The Info button shows information about active controls (calibration lines, ROI, etc.). The icon is used to show the setup panel when it is hidden.

The Freeze/Run / button suspends and resume the image acquisition (present in real-time analysis only).

The Save button saves a documents of the study.

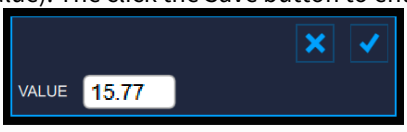
The Review Documents button allows to suspend the analysis and to review the documents saved in the current analysis session. The button is only activated if you saved at least one document.

2. **Setup panel**
   The setup panel must be used to Calibrate the B-mode image.

   Calibration

   The Set Calibration button is used to Calibrate the B-mode image. The drop-down menu shows the length of the line used for the calibration. The numeric display shows the calibration value.

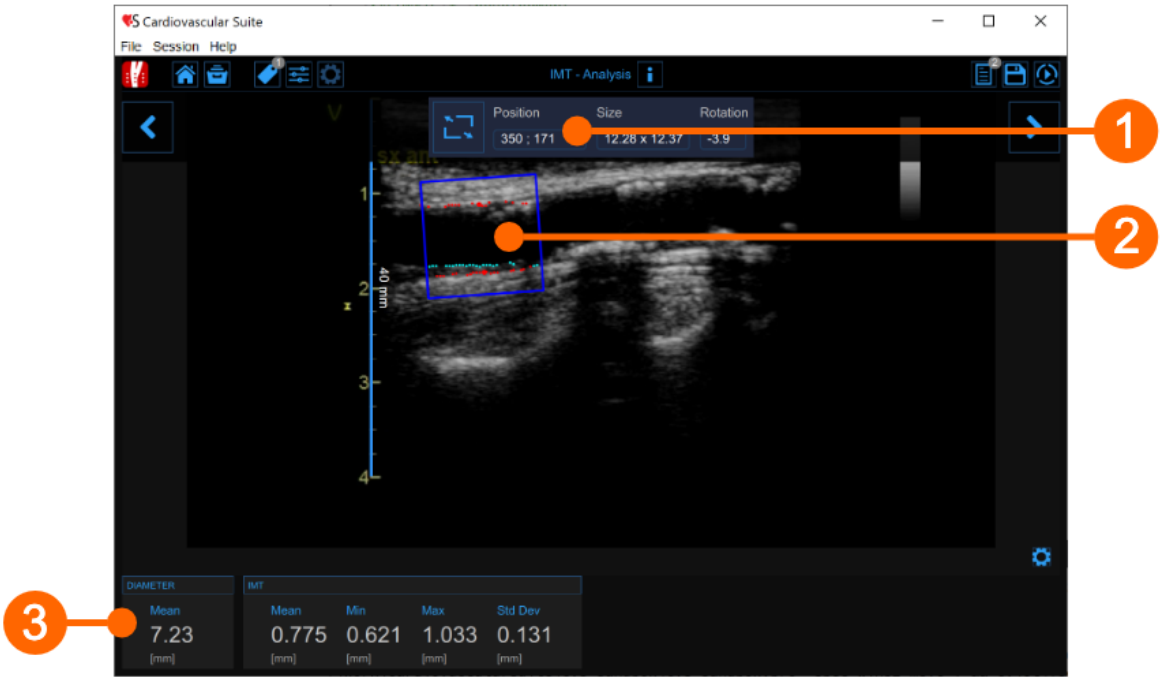
   If you click in the value field, you are allowed to manually enter the calibration value in the editable field (if you already know the value). The click the Save button to enter the values.



3. **Image window**
   The media window shows the media file that is analyzed.

4. **Image window control bar**
   The media window control bar is at the bottom of the media window and contains controls to manage the playback of a movie (only in case of video file) and the brightness and contrast adjustment.

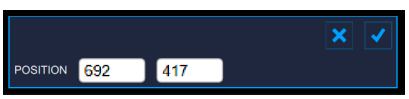
10.3.1 IMT analysis

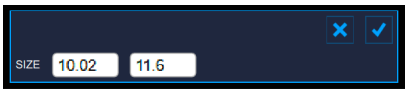


The IMT analysis window contains the following components:

1. **Setup panel**

   The Set ROI  button is used to set the ROI.
   The numeric display "Position" shows the position, in pixels, of the ROI (central point). The numeric display "Size" shows the size (width x height), in pixels, of the ROI. The numeric display "Rotation" shows the degree of rotation of the ROI (degrees).
   NOTE: if you click in the value fields, you are allowed to manually enter the ROI position, the size, and the rotation in the editable fields (if you already know the values). The click the Save button to enter the values.





2. **ROI**
   The Region of Interest (ROI) is the portion of the image where both the diameter and the IMT are calculated. The points of the Lumen-Intima interface and the Media-Adventitia interface are displayed within the ROI in cyan and red color respectively. The ROI can be moved, resized, and/or rotated. Each time you change the position, size and/or inclination of the ROI, the analysis is re-initialized.
   Draw a new ROI:
   - Click on the Set ROI  button in the Setup Panel (the button remains active).
   - Click inside the video window and drag until the ROI is complete (the size of the ROI is shown in the Setup Panel and graphically within the ROI).
   - When you release the mouse, the analysis is initialized.

   Rotate the ROI:
   - Click immediately outside the ROI (a special cursor that indicates a rotation is shown)
   - Hold inside the ROI, drag the rectangle by rotating it to the desired angle

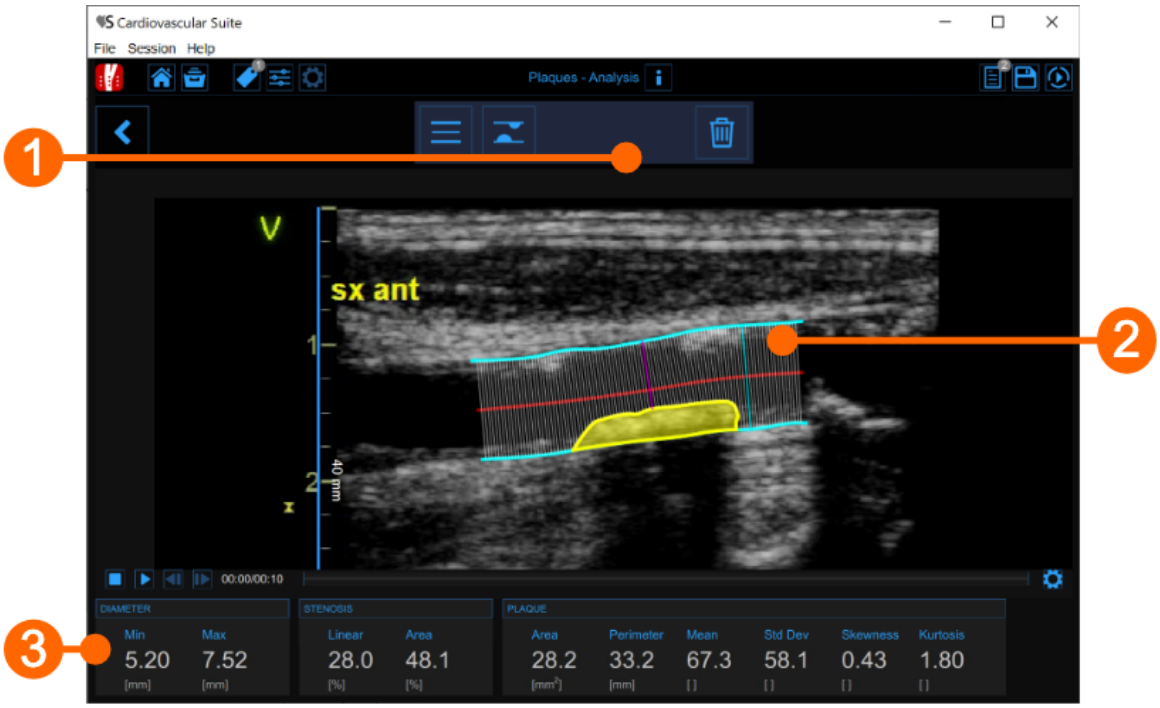
   As an alternative, you can modify the position of the ROI by typing the value in the Setup Panel
   Resize the ROI:
   - Click on one of the sides or one of the corners of the ROI.
   - Drag to change the size of the ROI.

   As an alternative, you can modify the size of the ROI by typing the value in the Setup Panel
   Move the ROI:
   - Click and hold inside the ROI.
   - Drag the ROI to the location of interest.

   As an alternative, you can modify the position of the ROI by typing the value in the Setup Panel.

3. **Data panel**
   This panel contains the computed values. In particular, it shows the mean diameter value and minimum, maximum, mean, and standard deviation of IMT.

10.3.2 Plaque analysis



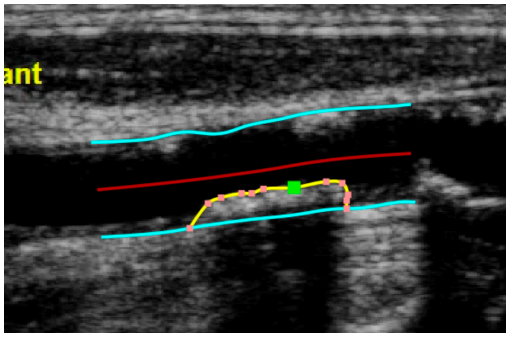
The plaque analysis window contains the following components:

1. **Setup panel**
   It contains the controls for tracing of the vessel borders, drawing a plaque and delete it.

2. **Plaque analysis tool**
   The Trace borders

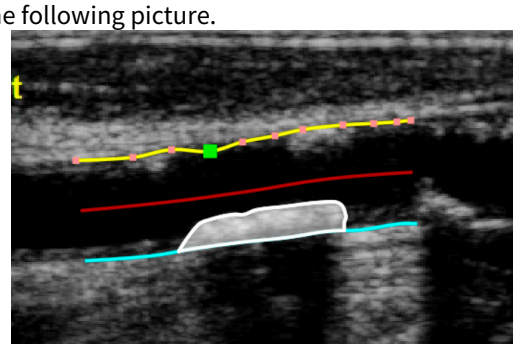
   

   button is used to manually trace the borders of the vessel. The user has to trace point-by-point the vessel edges and the software interpolates them. It is possible to modify the points by dragging them, as shown in the following picture.

   After the two borders are traced, the software automatically compute the minimum and maximum values of the diameter and the linear and circular values of the stenosis. The Draw plaque  button is used to manually draw the profile of a plaque. The user has to trace point-by-point the plaque profile and the

software interpolates them. Also in this case, it is possible to modify the points by dragging them and to delete a plaque, as shown in the following picture.



After the plaque is drawn, the software automatically computes its area, perimeter, and the mean, standard deviation, skewness, and kurtosis of its grey level.

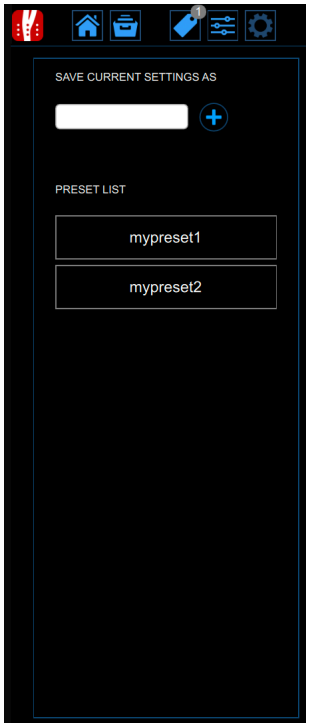
3. **Data panel**
   This panel contains the computed values. In particular, it shows the minimum and maximum values of the diameter and the linear and circular values of the stenosis. In addition, if a plaque has been drawn, it also displays its area and perimeter, and the mean, standard deviation, skewness, and kurtosis value of its grey level.

10.3.3 Presets

The preset management button opens the preset management panel that allows to manage presets. In particular, it allows to remember the settings of:

- B-mode image calibration
- B-mode image ROI (size, position, and rotation)

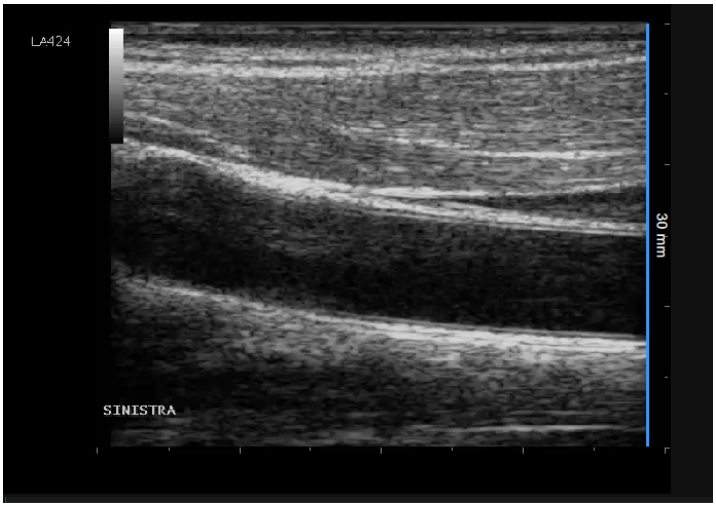
A preset can be saved and reused for following studies.



10.4 Calibrate the B-mode image

The calibration of the images must be done before starting a new examination because it is necessary to provide information about the size of the image generated by ultrasound system. The calibration factor changes depending on the settings of your ultrasound machine. You should check the calibration at each new examination.

> ⚠ **CAUTION: the lack of calibration can generate a software malfunction.**



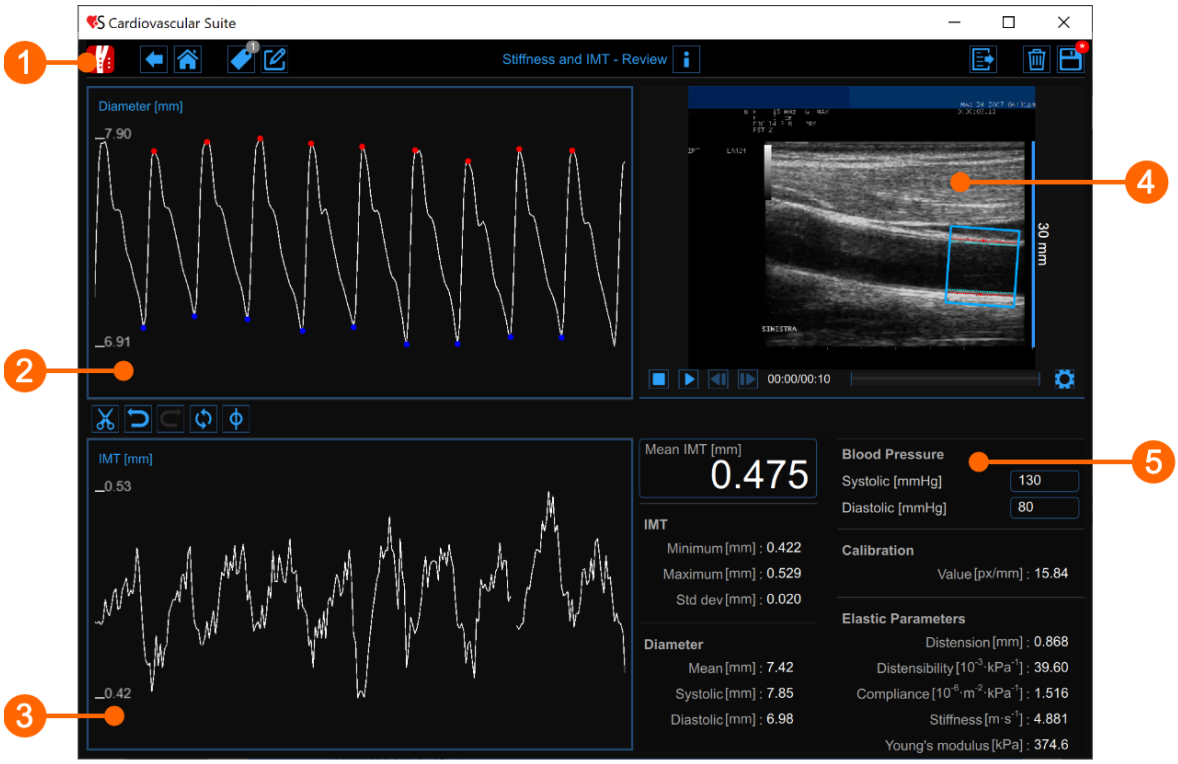
- Locate, in ultrasound image, a range of known distance (30 mm. in the example of figure).
- In the B-mode setup panel, select from the drop-down menu, the distance specified above.

- In the B-mode setup panel, click on the Set B-Mode Calibration button (button remains active).
- Draw a line on the image corresponding to the known distance: click on one end and drag the mouse to the other extreme (press the Shift key or CTRL Shift keys on your keyboard if you want the line to be not vertical or horizontal).

For DICOM files, when present, the B-mode calibration is be obtained automatically by the file metadata (see Settings). You can anyhow modify the calibration value.

You can directly type the calibration value in the Calibration factor field of the B-mode setup panel if you already know the value.

10.5 Cineloop study review



The Review window shows the result of the analysis and allows you to remove piece of data that are considered to be "outliers". In the Review window you can review both the images and the result of the analysis and decide to remove the data that were generated in this time interval.

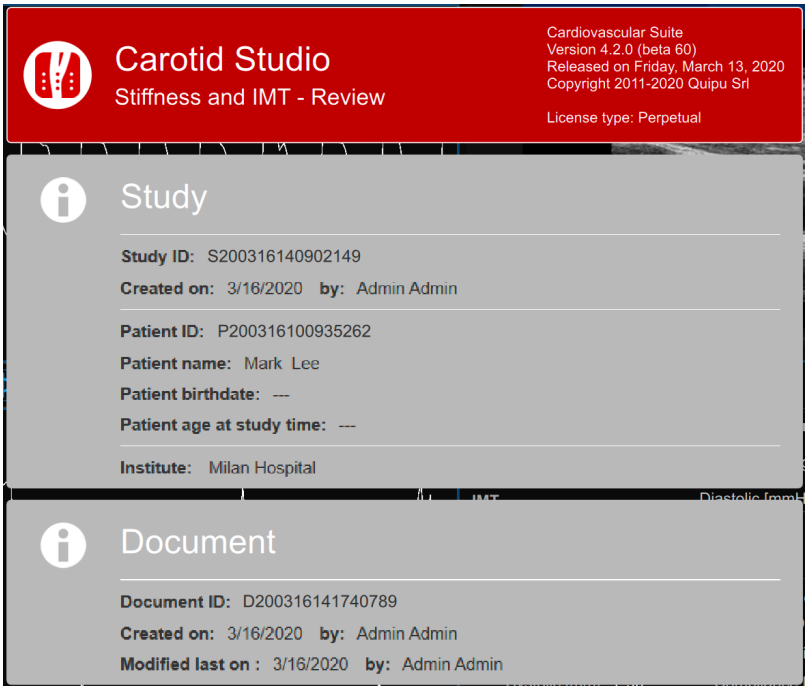
The Review window contains the following components:

1. Top bar
2. Diameter chart
3. IMT chart
4. Video window
5. Results panel

10.5.1 Top bar

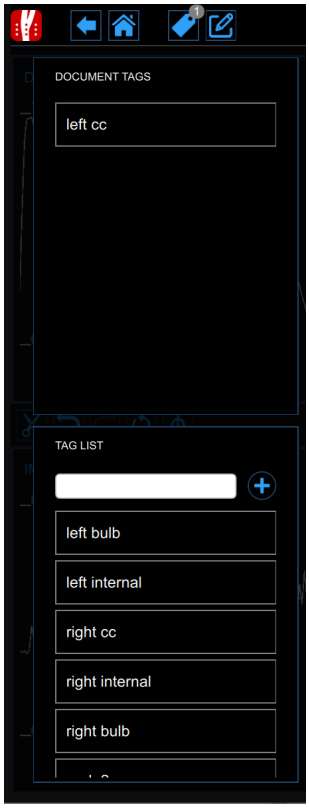
The top bar contains some essential information for the navigation.

The Carotid Studio button shows a panel containing some information about Cardiovascular Suite, about the current study and the current document. Regarding the study, the study ID is displayed together with information about the patient and the institute. In addition, info regarding the current document are provided. Information about the software, such as version and type of license, are shown in the upper part of the panel.

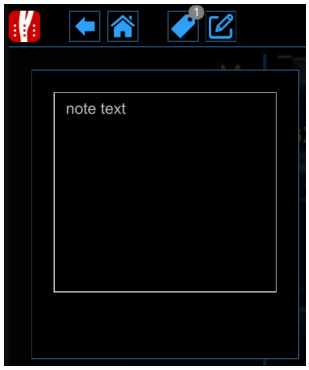


The home button closes the Carotid Studio application and returns to the home screen of Cardiovascular Suite. The back button closes the Carotid Studio application and comes back to the Archive.

The Tags Management button opens a panel (see the following picture) that allows to create a new tag and associate it or an existing tag to the document. Tags can be managed through the Tags management into the Archive.



The Notes button can be used to enter a note in the document.



The Save button is used to save your changes to the document, once you have edited the data.

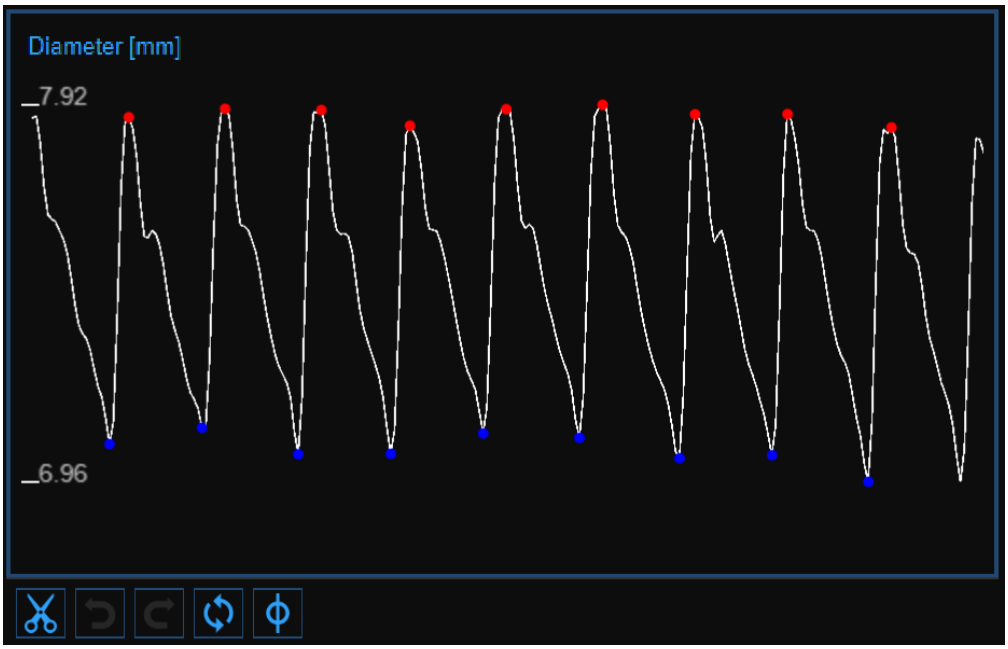
The Delete the document button is used to delete the current document.

The Export button is used to export your data. You can export the Document Results and the Document Data.

The **Document Results** contains all the results of the analysis and all the information about the study, the document and the patient.

The **Document Data** contains all the Document Results, a list of the Diameter and the IMT values computed at each frame.

10.5.2 Diameter chart



The chart shows the trend of the diameter. The buttons on the bottom can be used for editing the chart and removing the outliers.

10.5.2.1 Remove the outliers

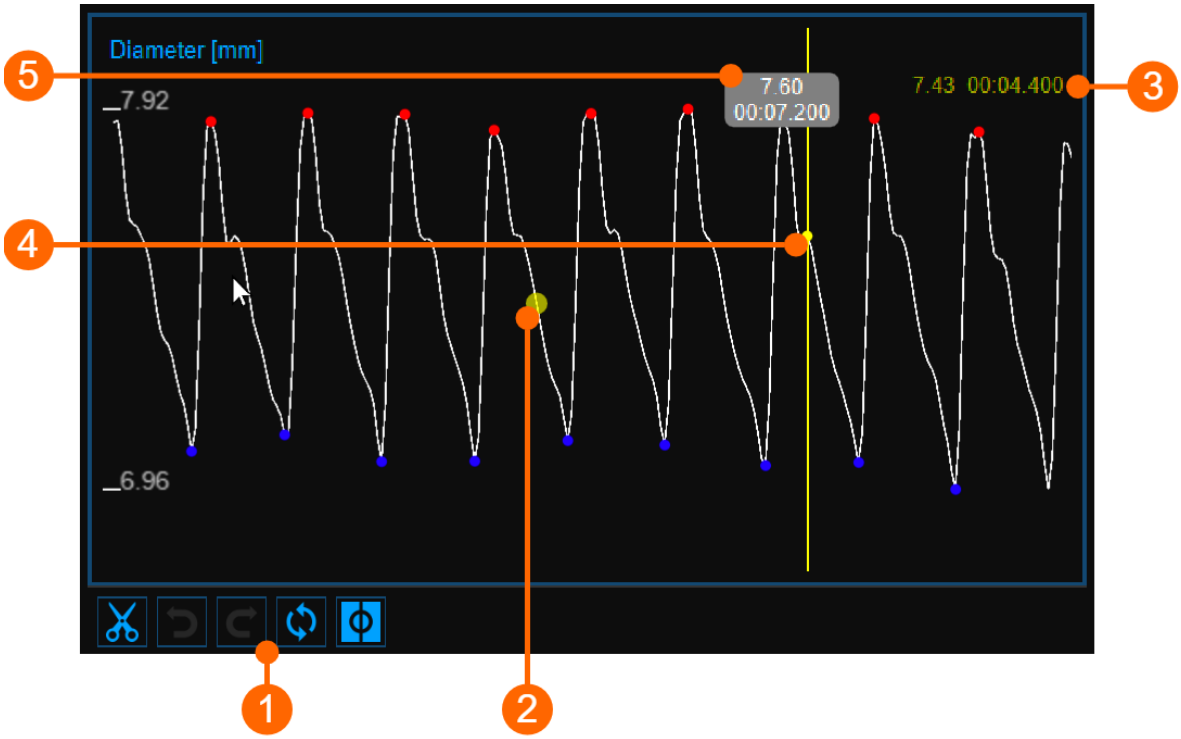
- Click on the Cut button. The heart cycle will be highlighted in the diameter chart.
- Click on the cardiac cycles you want to remove.
- Once you have removed the outliers, the data on the Results panel will be automatically updated.

You can use the undo and redo buttons to cancel and restore your changes. The Restore button cancels all your changes and restore original data.

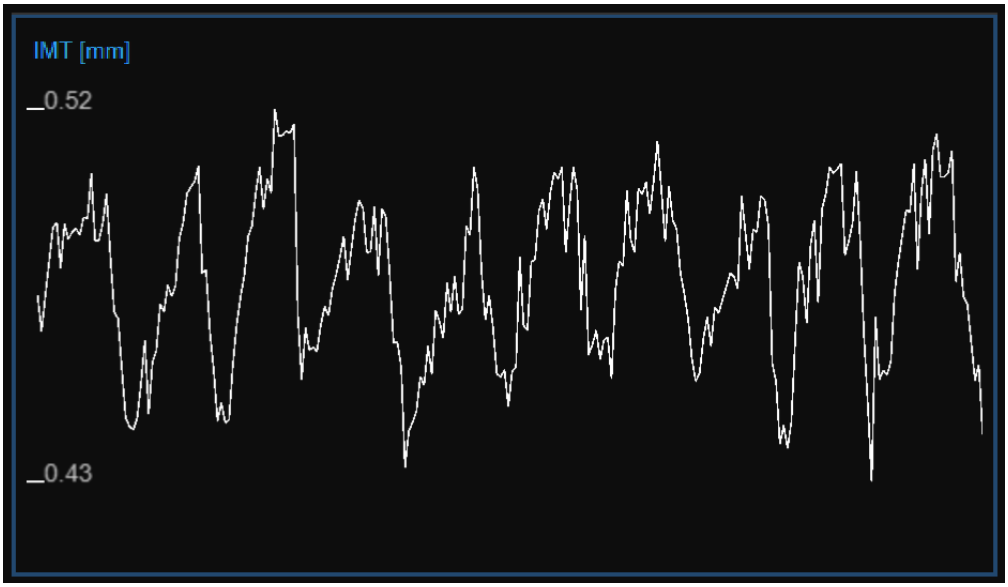
Click on the Save button in the Top Bar to save your changes to the document.

10.5.2.2 Graph cursors

As shown in the following figure, the Cursor button **(1)** activates a cursor **(2)** on the Diameter chart that shows the current time position on the graph according to the images shown in the Video window. The coordinates (diameter value in millimeters and time value in the format *minutes:seconds.milliseconds*) of the cursor are dynamically updated and shown in **(3)**. When the Cursor button is active, it is also possible to know the coordinates of an exact point in the graph; it is only needed to hover over the chart and a second cursor **(4)** is displayed. It follows the mouse movements and the exact coordinates of the point are shown in the label **(5)** (diameter value is expressed in millimeters and the time value has the format *minutes:seconds.milliseconds*).



10.5.3 IMT chart



The chart shows the trend of the IMT. The buttons at the top can be used for editing the chart and removing the outliers.

10.5.3.1 Remove the outliers

- Click on the Cut button.

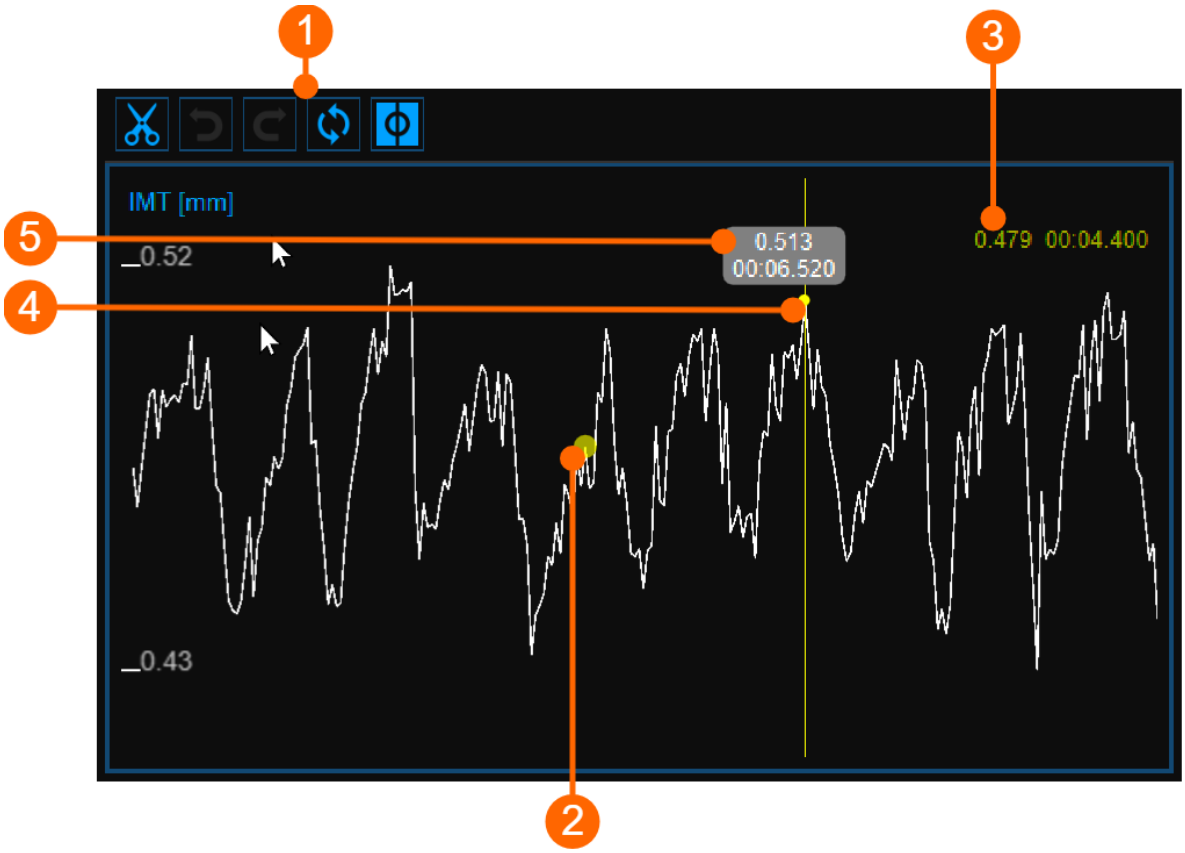
- In the IMT chart, click on one of the two extremes of the range to be deleted.
- Drag the mouse horizontally to the other extreme of the range to be deleted.
- Once you have removed the outliers, the data on the Results panel will be automatically updated.

You can use the undo and redo buttons to cancel and restore your changes. The restore button cancels all your changes and restore original data.

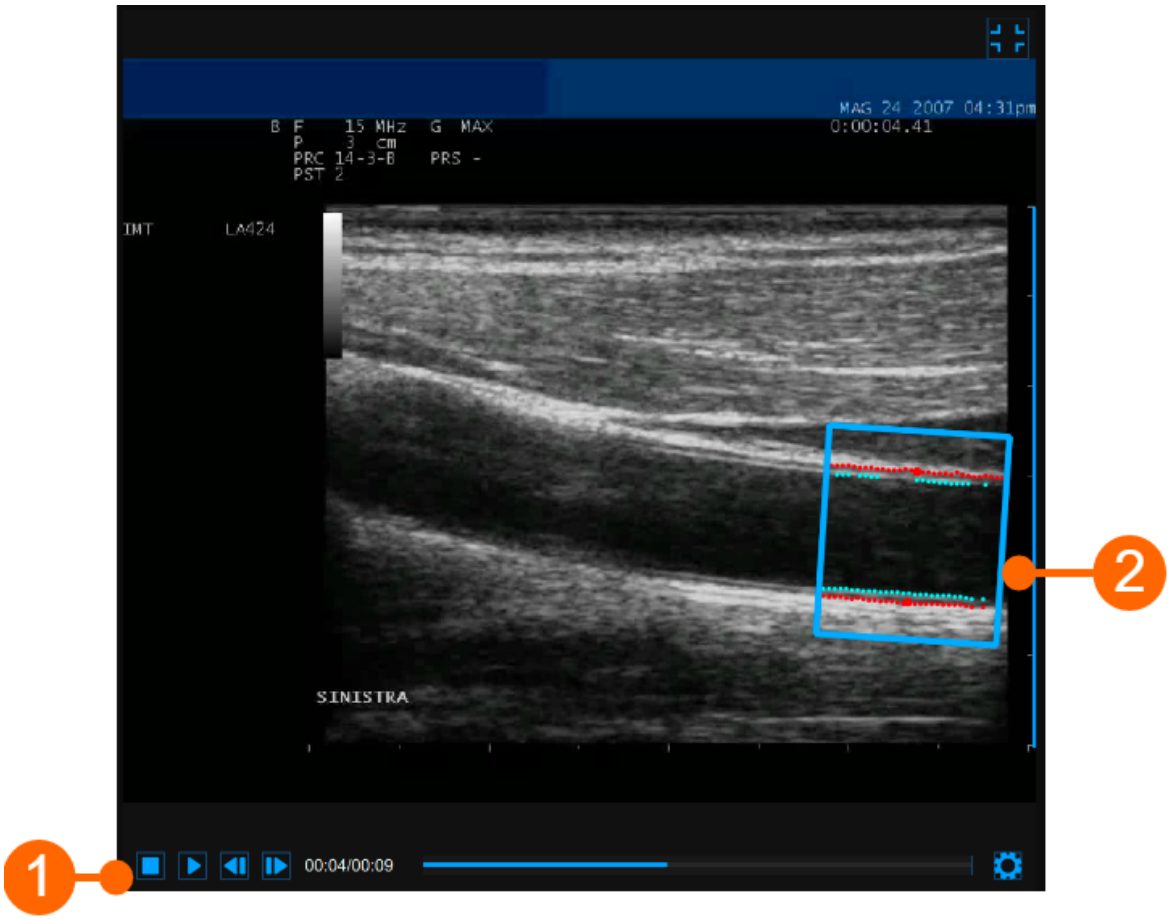
Note: Click on the Save button in the Top bar to save your changes to the document.

10.5.3.2 Graph cursors

As shown in the following figure, the Cursor button **(1)** activates a cursor **(2)** on the IMT chart that shows the current time position on the graph according to the images shown in the Video window. The coordinates (IMT value in millimeters and time value in the format *minutes:seconds.milliseconds*) of the cursor are dynamically updated and shown in **(3)**. When the Cursor button is active, it is also possible to know the coordinates of an exact point in the graph; it is only needed to hover over the chart and a second cursor **(4)** is displayed. It follows the mouse movements and the exact coordinates of the point are shown in the label **(5)** (IMT value is expressed in millimeters and the time value has the format *minutes:seconds.milliseconds*).



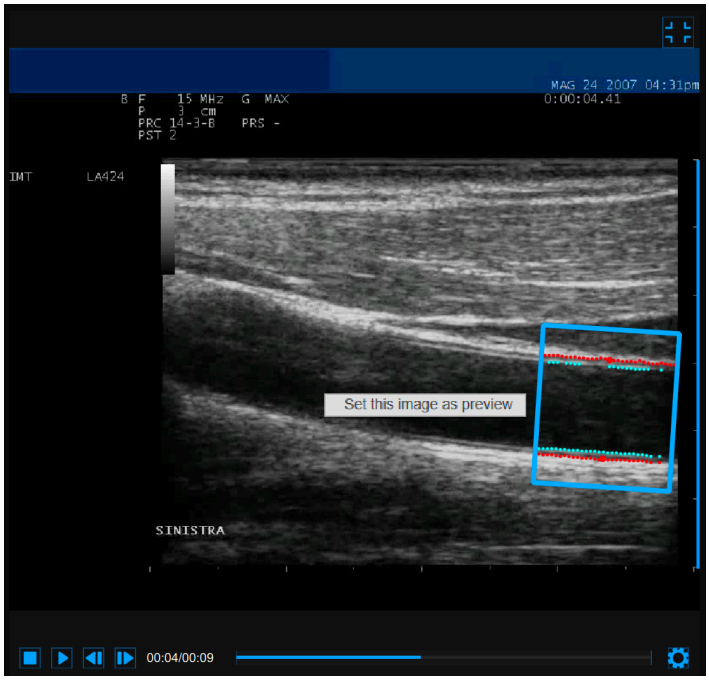
10.5.4 Video window



The video window shows the video signal from your ultrasound system. The points of the Lumen-Intima interface and the Media-Adventitia interface are displayed within the ROI **(2)** in cyan color.

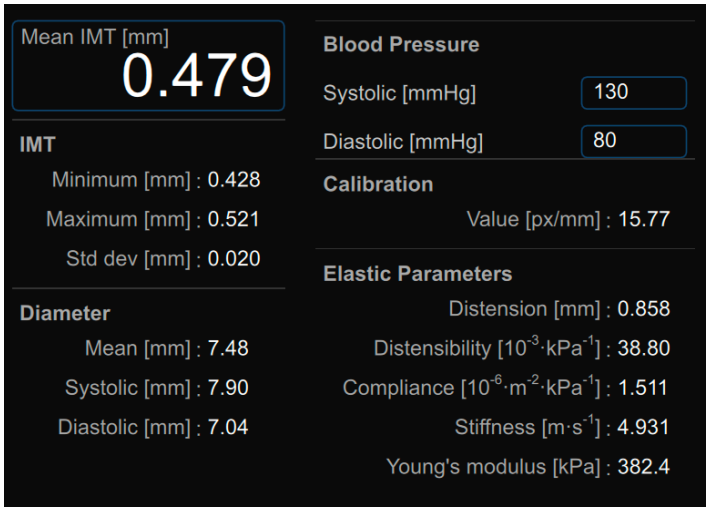
The video control bar **(1)** is located at the bottom of the window.

If you want to expand the video window, you have to click on the Enlarge button.



If you perform right click on the video window and click on "Set this image as preview" the current frame will be saved and displayed in the Documents Table as document preview (see Studies management).

10.5.5 Results panel



The panel shows the results of the analysis. The following data are displayed:

- ***Calibration value [px/mm]***
- ***Mean IMT [mm]***: Intima Media Thickness. It is computed as an average value of the data present in the IMT chart.
- ***Minimum IMT [mm]***: minimum value of Intima Media Thickness. It is computed on the data present in the IMT chart.

- ***Maximum IMT [mm]***: maximum value of Intima Media Thickness. It is computed on the data present in the IMT chart.
- ***Std. dev IMT [mm]:*** standard deviation of Intima Media Thickness. It is computed on the data present in the IMT chart.
- ***Mean diameter [mm]***: value of the average diameter. It is computed as an average value of the diameter data present in the Diameter chart.
- ***Systolic diameter [mm]***: value of the diameter in systole. It is computed as an average value of the systolic diameters present in the Diameter chart.
- ***Diastolic diameter [mm]***: value of the diameter in diastole. It is computed as an average value of the diastolic diameters present in the Diameter chart.
- ***Blood pressure [mmHg]***: diastolic pressure and systolic pressure.
- ***Distension [mm]***: stroke change in diameter.

$$Distension = \Delta D = D_s - D_d$$

- ***Compliance [10^{-6}·m^2·kPa^{-1}]***: absolute change in lumen area for a given pressure change.

$$Compliance = \frac{\Delta A}{\Delta P} = \frac{\pi}{4} \cdot \frac{D_s^2 - D_d^2}{P_s - P_d}$$

- ***Distensibility [10^{-3}· kPa^{-1}]***: relative change in lumen area during systole for a given pressure change.

$$Distensibility = \frac{1}{A_d} \cdot \frac{\Delta A}{\Delta P} = \frac{1}{D_d^2} \cdot \frac{D_s^2 - D_d^2}{P_s - P_d}$$

- ***Carotid Stiffness [m·s^{-1}]***: Stiffness value computed by Bramwell-Hill equation.

$$Stiffness = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho \cdot Distensibility}} = \sqrt{\frac{A_d \cdot \Delta P}{\rho \cdot \Delta A}} = \sqrt{\frac{D_d^2 \cdot (P_s - P_d)}{\rho \cdot (D_s^2 - D_d^2)}}$$

- ***Young's elastic modulus [kPa]***:

$$Young's\ Modulus = \frac{3}{Distensibility} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{A_d}{WCSA}\right)$$

where:

D_e = External Diameter (between the media-adventitia interfaces) measured in diastole.

D_i = Internal Diameter (between the lumen-intima interfaces) measured in diastole.

D_s = Systolic Diameter (external).

D_d = Diastolic Diameter (external), $D_d = D_e$

WCSA = Wall Cross Section Area

$$WCSA = \frac{\pi}{4} \cdot (D_e^2 - D_i^2)$$

ΔA = Stroke change in lumen area.

$$\Delta A = \frac{\pi}{4} \cdot (D_s^2 - D_d^2)$$

A_d = Diastolic Area.

$$A_d = \frac{\pi}{4} \cdot D_d^2$$

P_s = Systolic Pressure.

P_d = Diastolic Pressure.

$\Delta P = P^s - P^d$

ρ = Blood density: is assumed to be constant and equal to 1.06 g/cm^3.

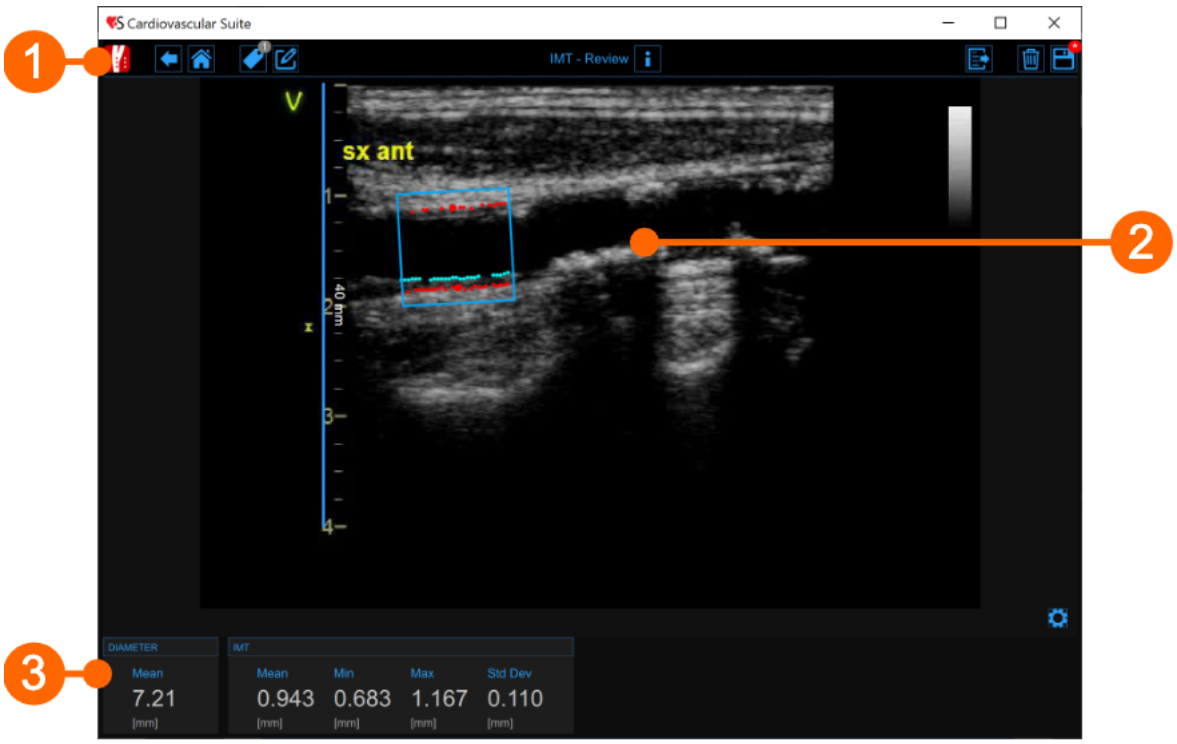
These data can be exported in the Document Data. See here for export details.

10.6 Single image study review

Carotid Studio single image modality, depending on the performed analysis, generates two different types of documents:

1. IMT document
2. Plaque document

10.6.1 IMT review

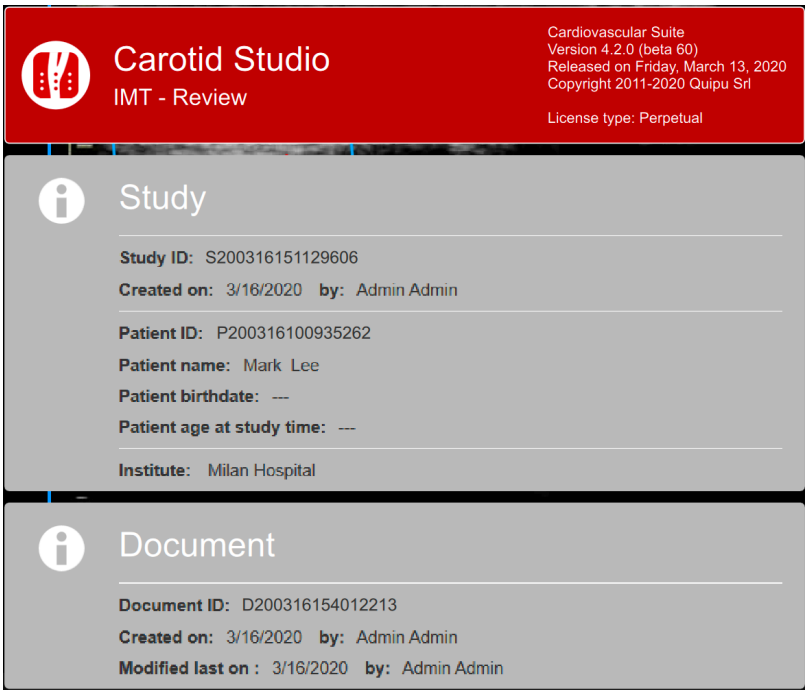


The Review window contains the following components:

1. Top bar

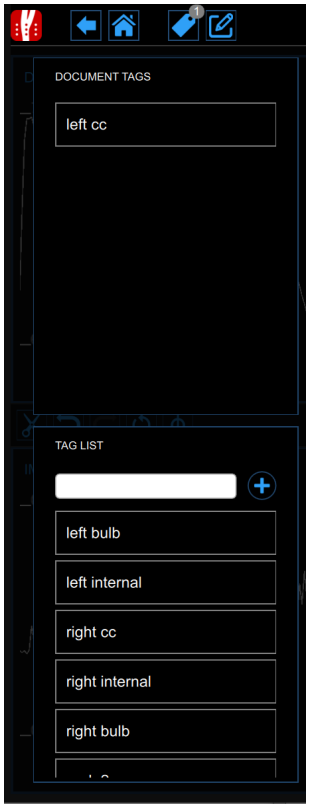
The top bar contains some essential information for the navigation.

The Carotid Studio button shows a panel containing some information about Cardiovascular Suite, about the current study and the current document. Regarding the study, the study ID is displayed together with information about the patient and the institute. In addition, info regarding the current document are provided. Information about the software, such as version and type of license, are shown in the upper part of the panel.

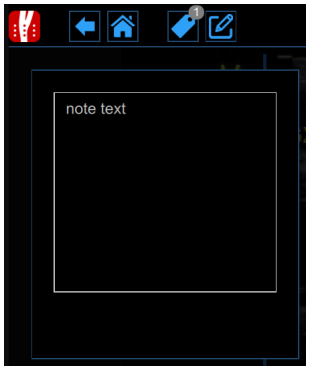


The home button closes the Carotid Studio application and returns to the home screen of Cardiovascular Suite. The Back button closes Carotid Studio and goes back to the Archive.

The Tags Management button opens a panel (see the following picture) that allows to create a new tag and associate it or an existing tag to the document. Tags can be managed through the Tags management into the Archive.



The Notes button can be used to enter a note in the document.



The Save button is used to save your changes to the document, once you have edited the data.

The Delete the document button is used to delete the current document.

The Export button is used to export your data. You can export the **Document Results** that contains all the results of the analysis and all the information about the study, the document and the patient.

2. Image window

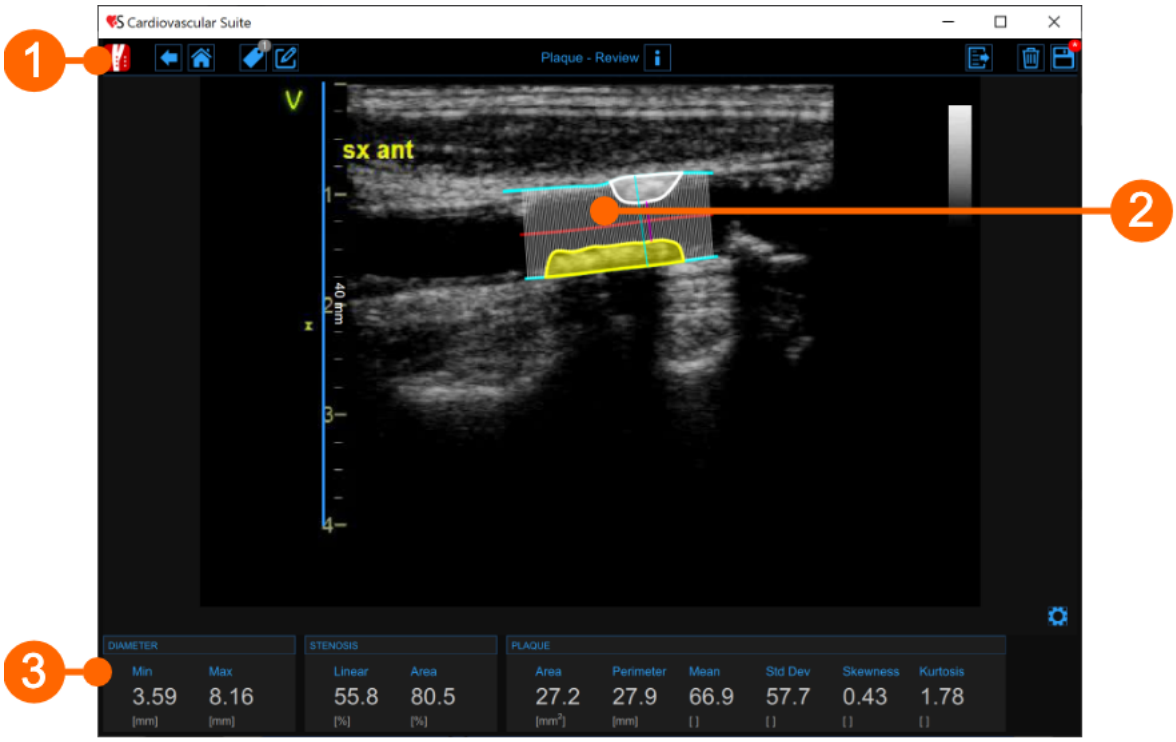
The image window shows the media file that has been analysed. It shows also the ROI and the calibration line used.

3. Results panel

The panel shows the results of the analysis. The following data are displayed:

- ***Mean diameter [mm]***: value of the average diameter. It is computed as an average value of the data present in the ROI.
- ***Mean IMT [mm]***: Intima Media Thickness. It is computed as an average value of the data present in the ROI.
- ***Minimum IMT [mm]***: minimum value of Intima Media Thickness. It is computed on the data present in the ROI.
- ***Maximum IMT [mm]***: maximum value of Intima Media Thickness. It is computed on the data present in the ROI.
- ***Std. dev IMT [mm]:*** standard deviation of Intima Media Thickness. It is computed on the data present in the ROI.

10.6.2 Plaque review

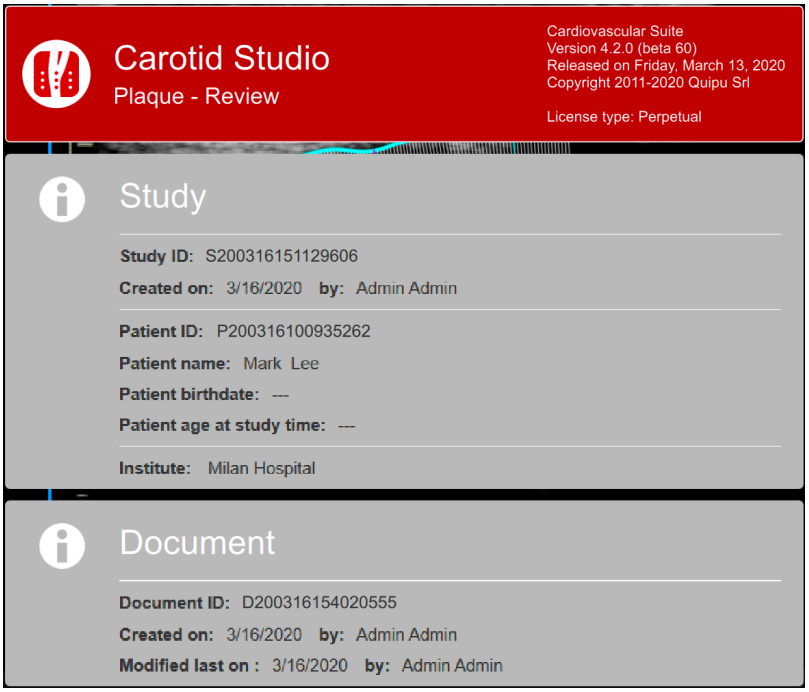


The Review window contains the following components:

1. Top bar

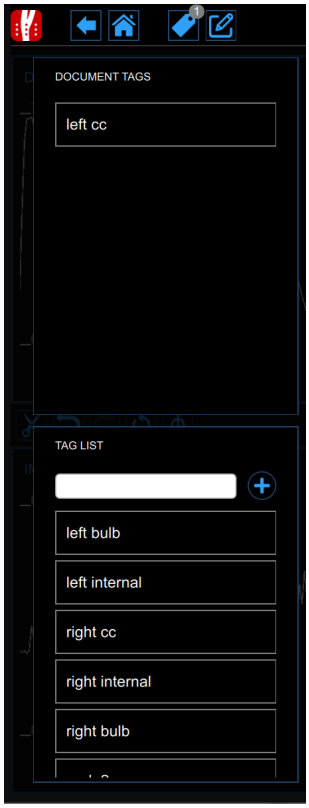
The top bar contains some essential information for the navigation.

The Carotid Studio button shows a panel containing some information about Cardiovascular Suite, about the current study and the current document. Regarding the study, the study ID is displayed together with information about the patient and the institute. In addition, info regarding the current document are provided. Information about the software, such as version and type of license, are shown in the upper part of the panel.

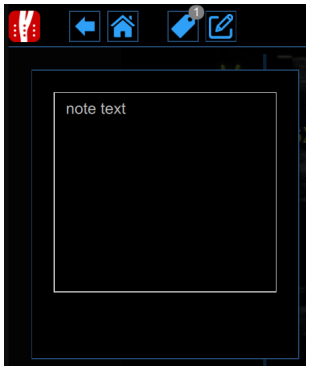


The Home button closes the Carotid Studio application and returns to the home screen of Cardiovascular Suite. The Back button closes Carotid Studio and goes back to the Archive.

The Tags Management button opens a panel (see the following picture) that allows to create a new tag and associate it or an existing tag to the document. Tags can be managed through the Tags management into the Archive.



The Notes button can be used to enter a note in the document.



The Save button is used to save your changes to the document, once you have edited the data.

The Delete the document button is used to delete the current document.

The Export button is used to export your data. You can export the **Document Results** that contains all the results of the analysis and all the information about the study, the document and the patient.

2. Media window
The media window shows the media file that has been analysed. It shows the plaque analysis tool and the calibration line used. It displays also the drawn plaques.

3. Results panel

The panel shows the results of the analysis. The following data are displayed:

- ***Min diameter [mm]***: minimum value of the diameter.
- ***Max diameter [mm]***: maximum value of the diameter.
- ***Linear stenosis [%]***: percent of linear stenosi (computed on the diameter)
- ***Area stenosis [%]***: percent of area stenosi (computed on the cross section area)
- ***Plaque area [mm^2]***: area of the plaque
- ***Plaque perimeter [mm]***: perimeter of the plaque
- ***Plaque mean []***: mean value of the grey levels in the plaque
- ***Plaque std dev []***: standard deviation of the grey levels in the plaque
- ***Plaque skewness []***: skewness of the grey levels in the plaque
- ***Plaque kurtosis []***: kurtosis of the grey levels in the plaque

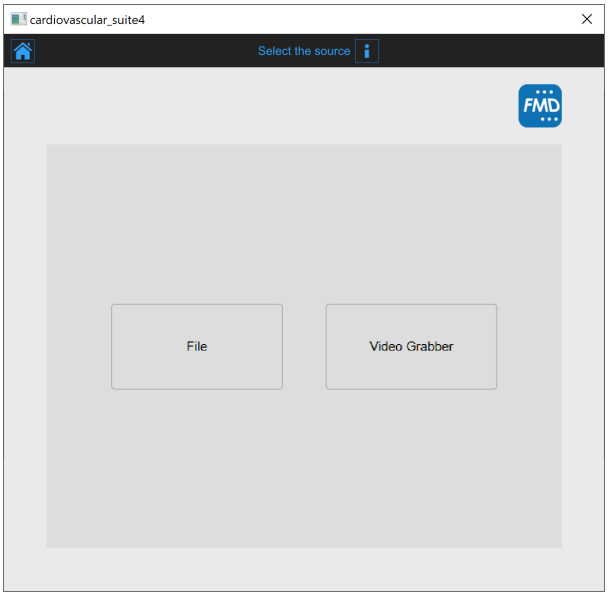
11 FMD Studio

FMD Studio is a software for the measurement of the Flow-Mediated Dilation (FMD) or other general Vasodilation of the brachial artery.

11.1 Create a new study

When you start FMD Studio, a procedure guides you in the creation of a new study. The steps are:

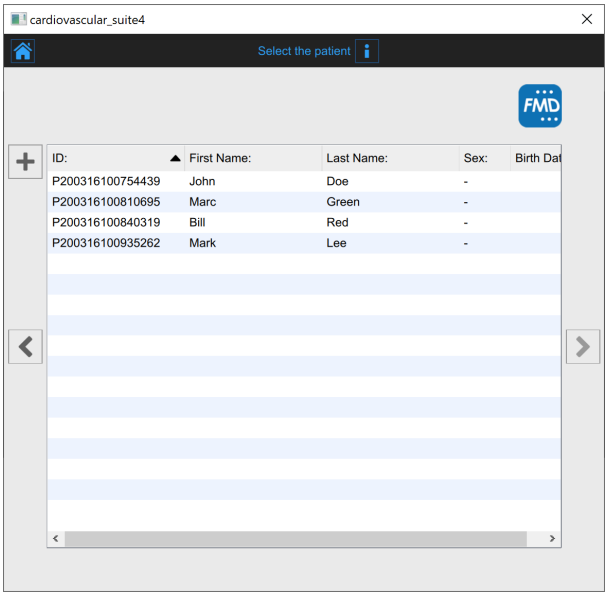
11.1.1 Select the source



In this tab, you can select the study video source. FMD Studio processes video sources and can work in offline modality by processing a Video File or a DICOM File or in real time by processing images directly coming from the ultrasound equipment thanks to a video converter.

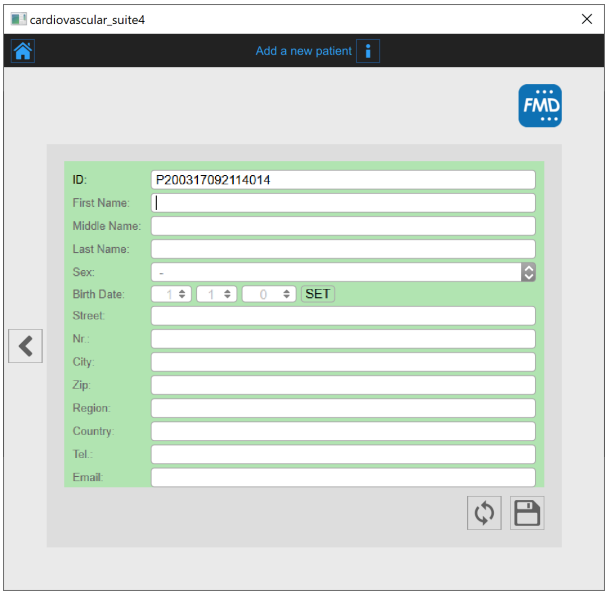
11.1.2 Select the patient

> For DICOM files, the patient data are obtained by the file metadata and this window is skipped (see Settings). You can anyhow edit the patient data from the Review window.



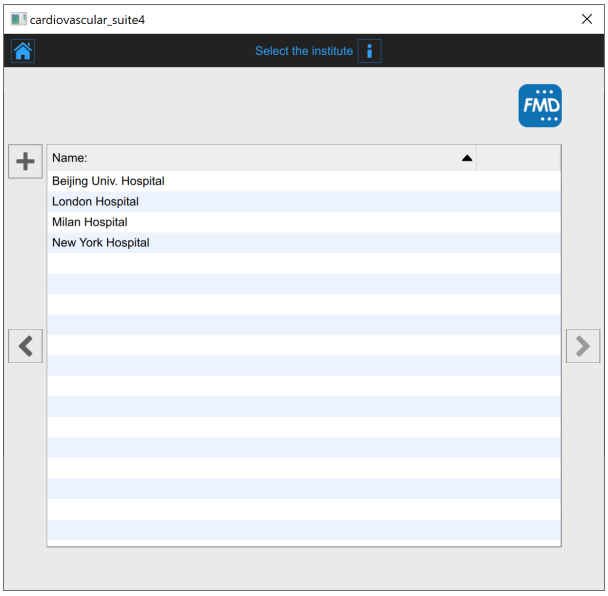
In this tab, you can select the patient among the ones already present in the Archive. Select the patient and click on the Next button (you can simply double-click on the patient to proceed).

If you want to create a new patient, click on the Add New Patient button. In the Add new patient frame, enter the patient data. The only mandatory field is the patient ID. If you don't enter patient ID a random value is automatically proposed. Click on the Save button to save the patient data.



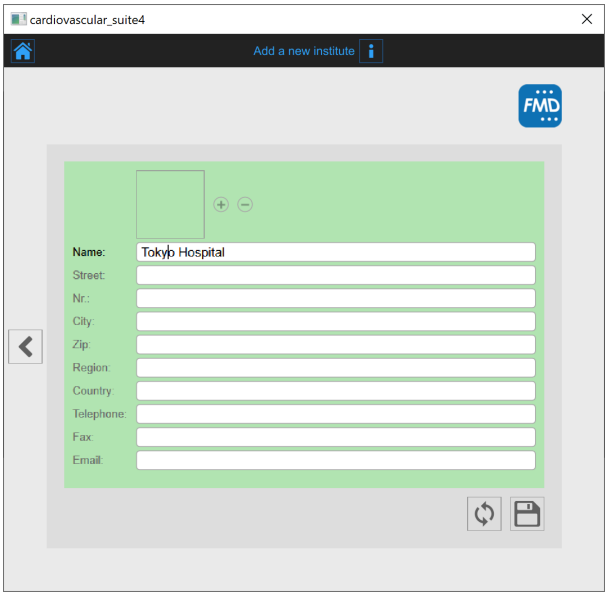
11.1.3 Select the institute

If it is the first time you create a study, after selecting the patient you will also need to select the institute. If you have already created at least one study, the software remembers the institute used for the previous study and after selecting the patient shows you automatically the final review (where you can still make changes before starting the new study).

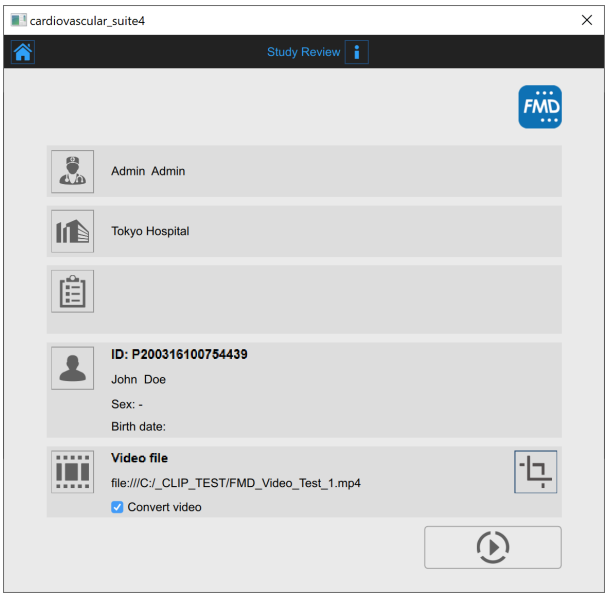


In this tab, you can select the institute among the ones already present in the Archive. Select the institute and click on the Next button (you can simply double-click on the institute to proceed).

If you want to create a new institute, click on the Add New Institute button. In the Add new institute frame, enter the institute data. The only mandatory field is the Name. Click on the Save button to save the institute data.

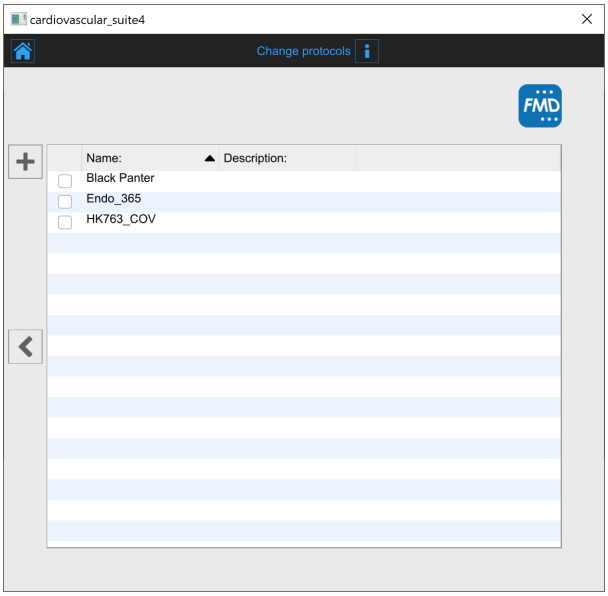


11.1.4 Review

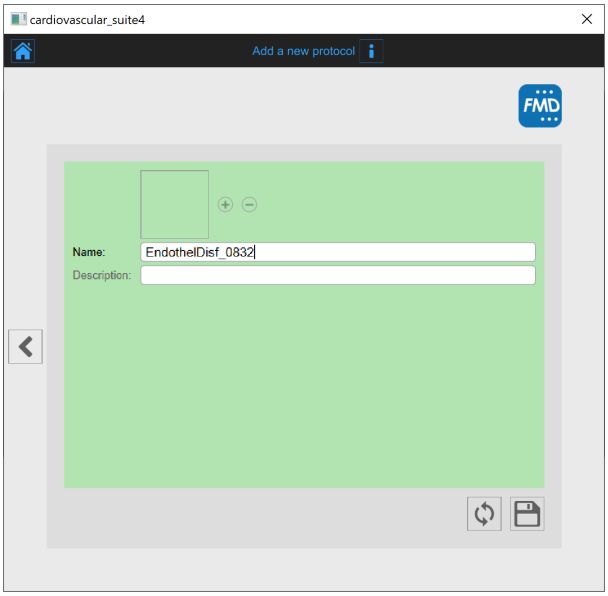


In this tab you can review your selection (you can also change Patient and Institute by clicking on their buttons). It is possible also to change the selected source for this study by clicking on the icon that represents the source.

Here, the user has the possibility to associate the study to one ore more existing protocols, by clicking on the protocols icon .



In the Protocols tab, you can associate the study to one or more than one protocols already present in the Archive. Put a tick on the protocol you want to associate the study with. If you want to create a new protocol, click of the Add New protocol button. In the Add new institute frame, enter the protocol data. The mandatory field (Name) is in red until you have filled in the Name blank. Click on the Save button to save the protocol data.



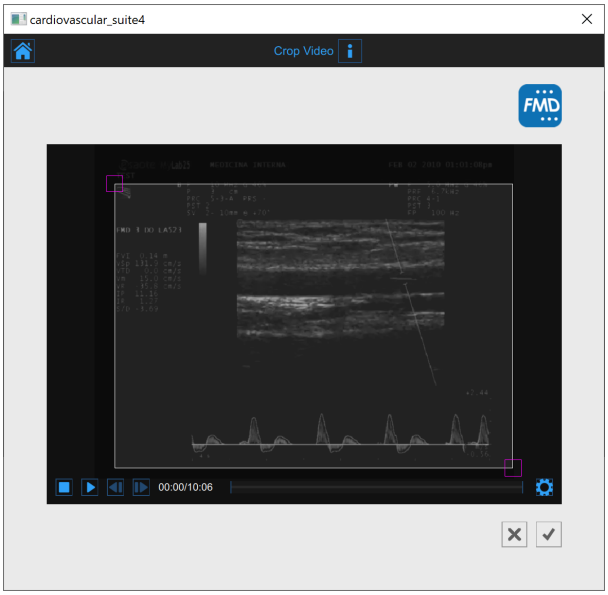
Click on the Previous button to go back to the review window.

> If in the Settings manager the option "Remember last used protocols" is checked, the study will be associated by default with the last used protocols.

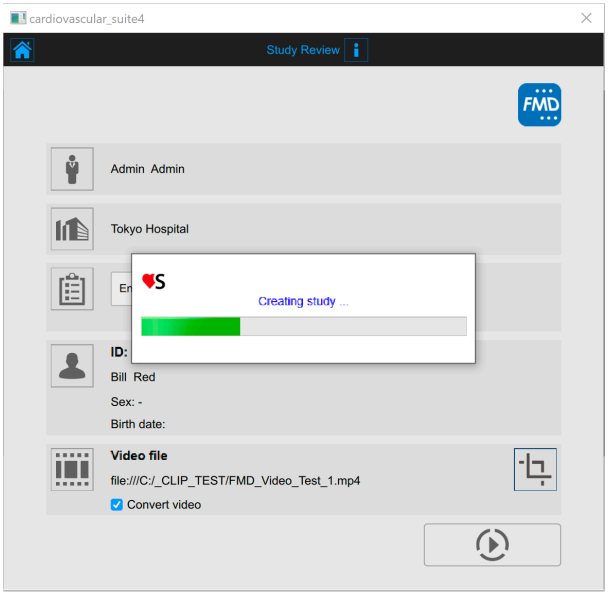
In addition, if you have chosen a video file as source, in the review window, it is possible to convert the video file to be optimized for the analysis with Carotid Studio. This operation may take few minutes.

> The default value of the "Convert video" checkbox is set by the "Convert video by default" option in the Settings manager.

You can also crop the images by clicking the Crop button in the source panel. In this case, a new window opens; it is possible to select a region to be used for the analysis. Click on the Confirm button after you have drawn the region.



Click on the Start the Study button to proceed. A progress bar, as shown in the following picture, will show you the progression of the study creation.



11.2 Analysis

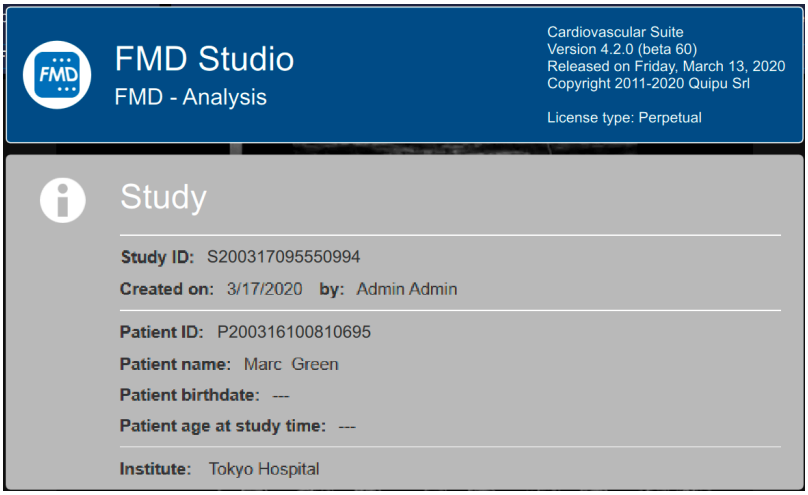
The Analysis window contains the following components:

1. Top bar
2. Video window
3. Mean diameter chart
4. Shear rate chart
5. Instantaneous diameter chart
6. Setup panel

11.2.1 Top bar

The top bar contains some essential information for the navigation.

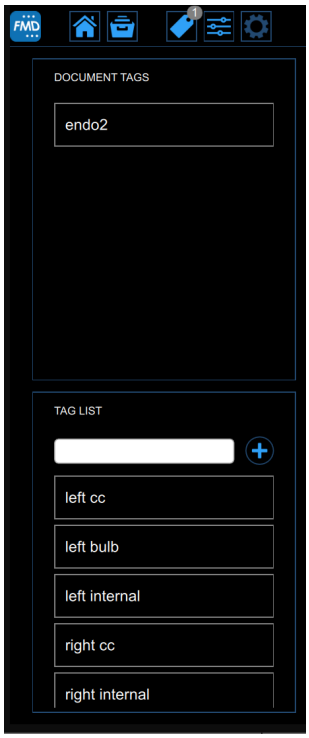
The FMD Studio  button shows a panel containing some information about Cardiovascular Suite and about the current study. Regarding the study, the study ID is displayed together with information about the patient and the institute. Information about the software, such as version and type of license, are shown in the upper part of the panel.



The home button closes the FMD Studio application and returns to the home screen of Cardiovascular Suite.

The Archive button closes the FMD Studio application and returns to the archive of Cardiovascular Suite.

The Tags Management button opens a panel (see the following picture) that allows to create a new tag and associate it or an existing tag to the document. Tags can be managed through the Tags management into the Archive.



The preset management button opens the preset management panel as described in Presets.

The Setup Panel button is used to show the setup panel when it is hidden.

The Info button shows information about active controls (calibration lines, ROI, etc.).

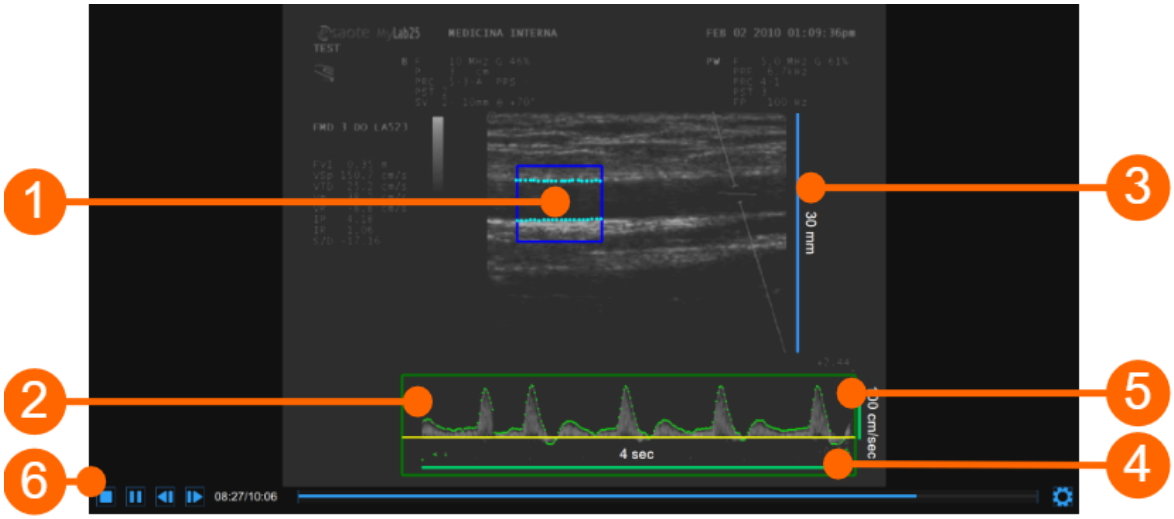
The start/pause and save buttons works in a different way for offline analysis and real-time analysis:

- In **offline analysis**, the Start the Analysis / Pause the Analysis button starts and suspend the image analysis. The Save the Document button, saves the document.
- In **real-time analysis**, the Start Recording / Pause Recording button starts and suspend both the image recording and the image analysis. The Stop Recording ad Save button, stops the image recording (i.e. stops the examination) and saves the document.

The Cancel the analysis button discard the data that have been collected so far.

The Review Documents button allows to suspend the analysis and to review the documents saved in the current analysis session. The button is only activated if you saved at least one document.

11.2.2 Video window



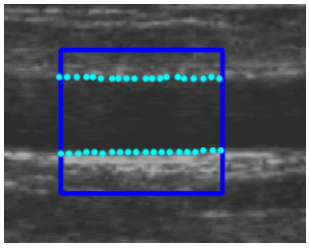
The video window shows the video signal from your ultrasound system. Two ROIs can be present in the window: the diameter ROI in blue **(1)** and the Doppler flow ROI in green **(2)**.

The window contains also the calibration lines for the B-mode image **(3)** and for the Doppler flow **(4)(5)**, once these have been calibrated.

The video controls bar **(6)** is located at the bottom of the window. For more information on the video controls, see Video and image player.

11.2.2.1 **Diameter ROI**

The Diameter Region of Interest (ROI) is the portion of the image where the diameter is calculated. The edges of the vessel obtained by the algorithm of edge detection are displayed within the ROI. The ROI can be moved and/or resized. Each time you change the position and/or size of the ROI, the contours of the vessel are re-initialized.



Draw a new diameter ROI:

- Click on the Set B-Mode ROI button in the Setup panel (the button remains active).
- Click inside the video window and drag until the Diameter ROI is complete (the size of the ROI is shown in the Setup panel).
- When you release the mouse, the contours are initialized.

Modify the diameter ROI:

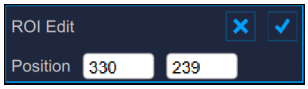
- Click on one of the sides or one of the corners of the diameter ROI.
- Drag to change the size of the the diameter ROI.

As an alternative, you can modify the size of the diameter ROI by typing the value in the Setup panel.

Move the diameter ROI:

- Click and hold inside the diameter ROI.
- Drag the diameter ROI to the location of interest.

As an alternative, you can modify the position of the diameter ROI by typing the value in the Setup panel.



Re-initialize the edge detection algorithm:

- Click inside the Diameter ROI.

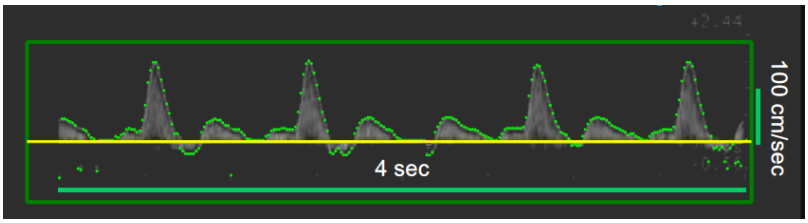
11.2.2.2 Doppler flow ROI

The Doppler Flow Region of Interest (ROI) is the portion of the image that includes the Doppler Flow waveform.

The algorithm for the Doppler Flow analysis, automatically locates the zero line, which is displayed in yellow, and the waveform, which is displayed in green.

The Doppler Flow ROI can be moved and resized. Each time you change the position and size of the ROI, the algorithm is re-initialized and the zero line is re-localized.

For more information on ultrasound setting for Doppler analysis, please see how to Calibrate the Doppler flow image.



Draw a new Doppler flow ROI:

- Click on the Set Doppler Flow ROI button in the Setup panel (the button remains active).
- Click inside the video window and drag until the Doppler Flow ROI is complete (the size of ROI is shown in the Setup panel).
- When you release the mouse, the algorithm for the Doppler Flow analysis is initialized.

Modify the Doppler flow ROI:

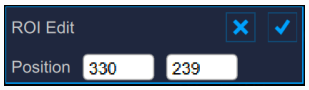
- Click on one of the corners of the Doppler Flow ROI.
- Drag to change the size of the the Doppler Flow ROI (the size of ROI is shown in the Setup panel).

As an alternative, you can modify the size of the Doppler flow ROI by typing the value in the Setup panel.

Move the Doppler Flow ROI:

- Click and hold inside the Diameter ROI.
- Drag the Doppler Flow ROI to the location of interest.

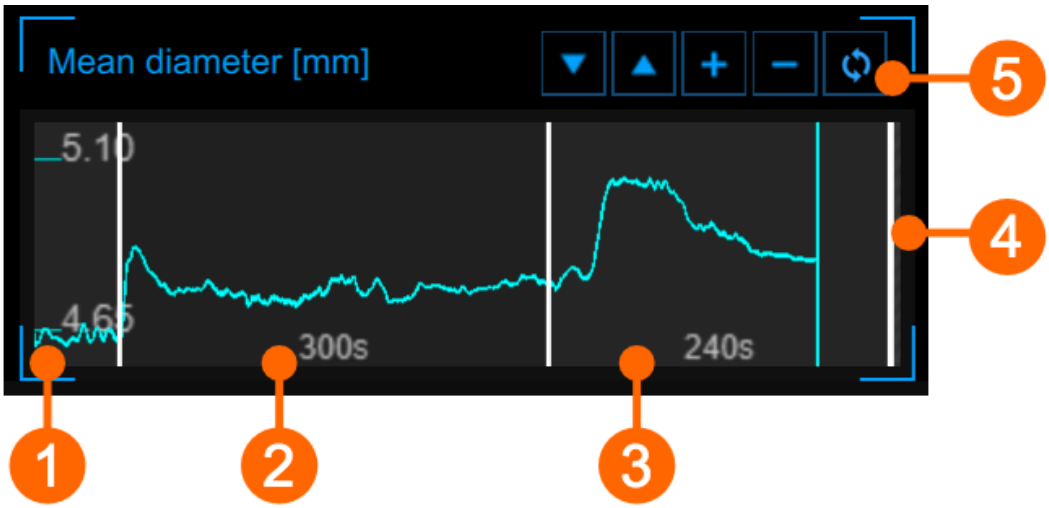
As an alternative, you can modify the position of the Doppler flow ROI by typing the value in the Setup panel.



Re-initialize the algorithm for the Doppler Flow analysis:

- Click inside the Doppler Flow ROI.

11.2.3 Mean diameter chart

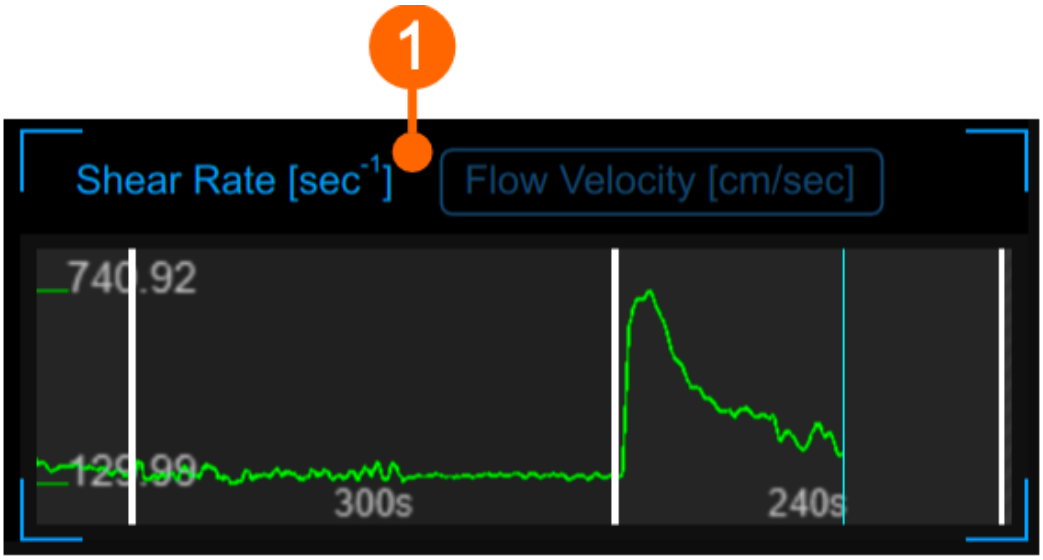


The chart shows the trend of the mean diameter during the examination. The chart is divided into three or two parts, according to the study modality. You have basal **(1)**, ischemia **(2)** and vasodilation **(3)** in FMD; ischemia is missing in vasodilation modality. In offline mode, a fourth part **(4)** may be present if the time length of the video is greater than the sum of the basal + (ischemia) + vasodilation.

The time length of the three (two) parts is set in the Timeline panel. You can set the timeline also by moving the three (two) vertical cursors that are present at end-baseline, end-ischemia and end-vasodilation.

Using the buttons at the top right **(5)** you can move up ▲ or down ▼ the chart, enlarge + or reduce − the vertical scale or restore ↻ the default view.

11.2.4 Shear rate chart

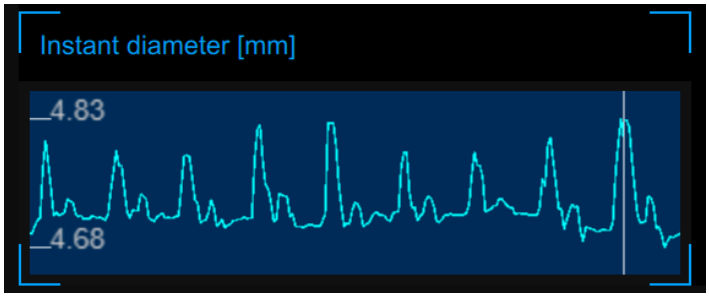


The graph shows the trend of the time averaged positive Shear Rate or the time averaged positive Flow Velocity during the examination. You can switch between the two view by the selector **(1)**.

The chart is divided into time intervals in a similar manner to the Mean diameter chart.

> The chart is enabled if the Doppler analysis has been enabled in the Setup panel.

11.2.5 Instantaneous diameter chart

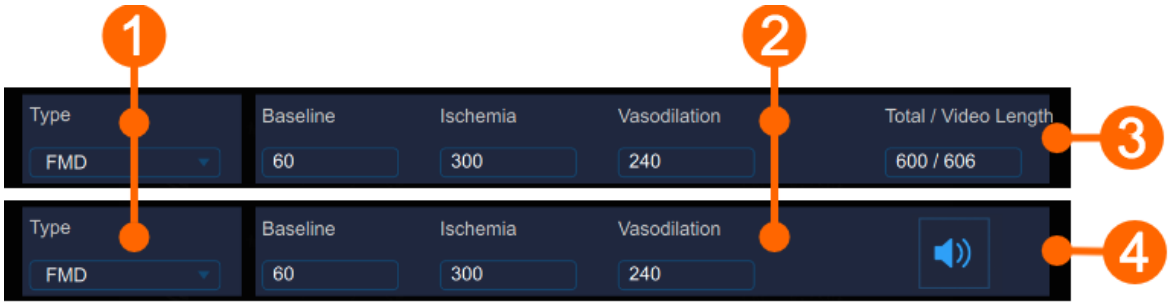


This chart shows the diameter changes within the cardiac cycle. The correct form of this chart is an index of measurement quality. The chart axes will automatically scale.

11.2.6 Setup panel

The setup panel contains the commands to set the timeline of the exam, to calibrate the B-mode and the Doppler flow images, to set the diameter and Doppler flow ROIs and to choose the sensitivity of the algorithm. You can move among the panels by using the Next button and the Previous button. The Next button is enabled only if you have set all the mandatory field in the panel.

11.2.6.1 Study modality and timeline setup



In **(1)**, you can select the study types. FMD Studio can work in two modalities: "FMD" and "Vasodilation". The two modalities differ in how the timeline of the examination is organized.

In **FMD modality**, the timeline is divided into three parts:

1. Baseline, where the software computes the baseline diameter and the baseline shear-rate.
2. Ischemia, which is not used for the analysis.
3. Vasodilation, where the software computes the maximum diameter, the recovery diameter, the maximum shear-rate and the area under the curve of the shear-rate.

In **Vasodilation modality**, the timeline is divided into two parts:

1. Baseline, where the software computes the baseline diameter and the baseline shear-rate.
2. Vasodilation, where the software computes the maximum diameter, the maximum shear-rate and the area under the curve of the shear-rate.

The time length of the timeline parts can be set in the Time panel **(2)**. In the Time Panel, you can choose the time length of baseline, ischemia and vasodilation (ischemia is present only in "FMD" modality) intervals.

In Offline analysis **(3)**, the Time panel shows the total length of baseline + ischemia + vasodilation, and the video length. In Online analysis **(4)**, the panel contains the control indicating if the acoustic alert is Enabled  or Disabled  (click on the icon to change its status). In enabled, an acoustic signal is played at the end of the baseline and the ischemia time interval.

Once the time lengths have been set, click on the Next  button to proceed.

Timeline management

User can set and modify the time length entering values into the Text Fields (see previous picture) but also dragging one of the vertical cursors in graphs, as shown in the following picture:

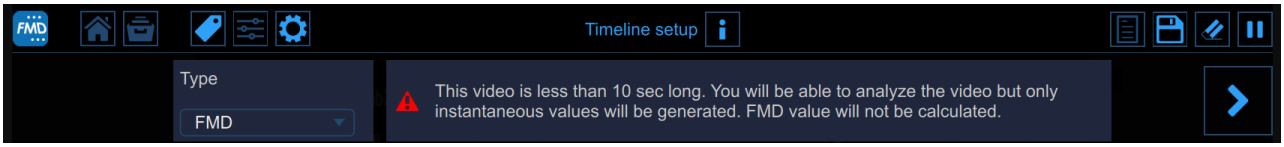
FMD Studio allows the users to manage the timeline in a flexible way able to meet their clinical and/or research needs. There are constraints on the timeline in terms of minimum and maximum allowed values for each interval (you can not set values outside the allowed range and, if the video modality is "Offline analysis", the sum of the intervals cannot be grater than the time length of the video file under examination). There are also suggested minimum values: if the user decides to ignore this advice, the analysis will be performed anyway but there will be a yellow alert icon () next to the values that may not be reliable in that configuration. In the following table allowed and suggested values are shown:

Timeline constraints (in seconds)			
	Baseline	*Ischemia*	*Vasodilation*
FMD	5* - 180	0 - 420	5** - 1200
Vasodilation	5* - 300	-	5 - 1500

* we suggest a basal period of at least 20 sec.

** we suggest a vasodilation period of at least 120 sec.

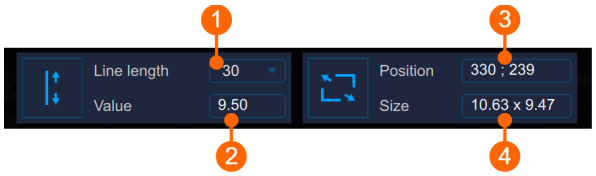
If the user uploads a video clip (for offline analysis) with a lower duration than the minimum allowed values (it means 10 seconds; 5 for baseline and 5 for vasodilation) an error message will appear: "This video is less than 10 sec long. You will be able to analyse the video but only instantaneous values will be generated. FMD value will not be calculated."



In this configuration user cannot set the timeline and characteristics parameters (e.g. FMD, FMDr, baseline diameter,...) will not be computed but only instantaneous values will be generated.

You can hover over the yellow icon ( ) or the red one ( ) and an informative message about the warning or error situation will be displayed.

11.2.6.2 B-mode image setup



The B-Mode Panel must be used to Calibrate the B-mode image and to set the diameter ROI.

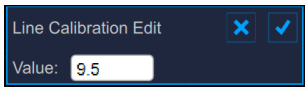
Calibration

The Set B-Mode Calibration button is used to Calibrate the B-mode image.

The drop down menu **(1)** shows the length of the line used for the calibration.

The numeric display **(2)** shows the calibration value.

If you click in the value field, you are allowed to manually enter the calibration value in the editable field (if you already know the value). Then click the Save button to save the values.



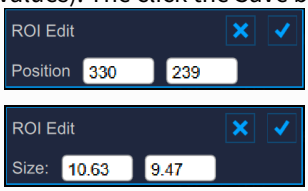
ROI

The Set B-Mode ROI button is used to set the diameter ROI.

The numeric display **(3)** shows the center position, in pixels, of the diameter ROI.

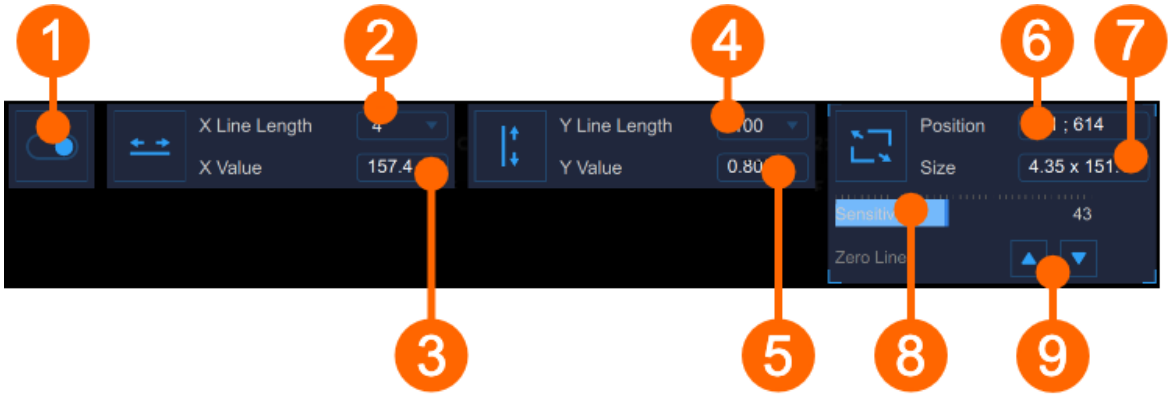
The numeric display **(4)** shows the size (width x height), in mm, of the diameter ROI.

If you click in the value field, you are allowed to manually enter the ROI position and size values in the editable fields (if you already know the values). The click the Save button to enter the values.



Once you have calibrated the B-Mode image and set the Diameter ROI, click on the Next button to proceed.

11.2.6.3 Doppler Setup



The Doppler Panel must be used to Calibrate the Doppler flow image and to set the Doppler flow ROI.

The switch **(1)** enables and disables the Doppler Flow analysis.

Calibration

The Set Doppler X-Calibration button is used to calibrate the x-axis (time).

The drop down menu **(2)** shows the length of the line used for the calibration (sec).

The numeric display **(3)** shows the x-calibration value (pix/sec).

The Set Doppler Y-Calibration button is used to calibrate the y-axis (velocity).

The drop down menu **(4)** shows the length of the line used for the calibration (cm/sec).

The numeric display **(5)** shows the y-calibration value (pix/cm/sec).

ROI

The Set Doppler Flow ROI button is used to set the Doppler flow ROI.

The numeric display **(6)** shows the center position, in pixels, of the Doppler flow ROI.

The numeric display **(7)** shows the size (width x height), in pixels, of the Doppler flow ROI.

The sensitivity of the Doppler Flow analysis algorithm is set by the slider **(8)**.

The position of the zero line can be adjusted by the buttons **(9)**.

Once you have calibrated the B-Mode image and set the Diameter ROI, click on the Next button to proceed.

11.2.7 Presets

The preset management button opens the preset management panel that allows to manage presets. In particular, it allows to remember the settings of:

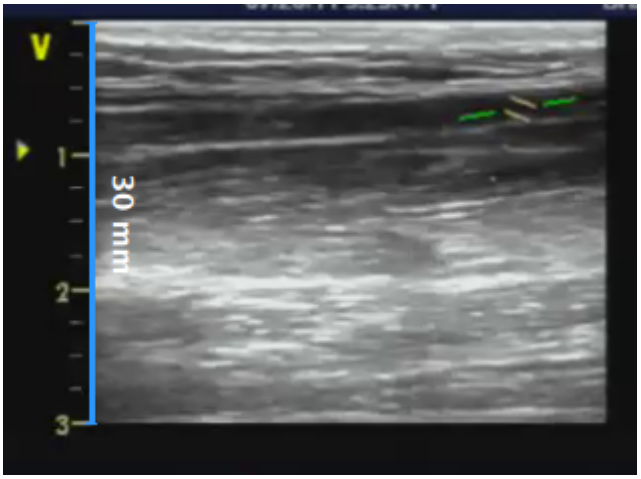
- timeline (baseline, ischemia and vasodilation)
- B-mode image calibration
- B-mode image ROI (size and position)
- Doppler calibration (X and Y calibration)
- Doppler ROI (size and position)

A preset can be saved and reused for following studies.

11.2.8 Calibrate the B-mode image

The calibration of the images must be done before starting a new examination because it is necessary to provide information about the size of the image generated by ultrasound system. The calibration factor changes depending on the settings of your ultrasound machine. You should check the calibration at each new examination.

> **CAUTION: the lack of calibration can generate a software malfunction.**



- Locate, in ultrasound image, a range of known distance (30 mm. in the example of figure).
- In the B-mode setup panel, select from the drop-down menu, the distance specified above.
- In the B-mode setup panel, click on the Set B-Mode Calibration button (button remains active).
- Draw a line on the image corresponding to the known distance: click on one end and drag the mouse to the other extreme (press the Shift key or Ctrl+Shift keys on your keyboard if you want the line to be not vertical or horizontal).

For DICOM files, when present, the B-mode calibration is be obtained automatically by the file metadata (see Settings). You can anyhow modify the calibration value.

You can directly type the calibration value in the Calibration factor field of the B-mode setup panel, if you already know the value.

11.2.9 Calibrate the Doppler flow image

The calibration of the Doppler Flow analysis must be done before starting a new examination because it is necessary to provide information about the size of the Doppler waveform generated by ultrasound system. The calibration factor changes depending on the settings of your ultrasound machine. You should check the calibration at each new examination.

CAUTION: the lack of calibration can generate a software malfunction.

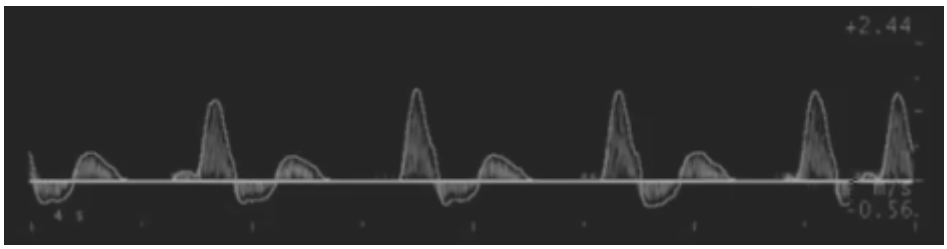
- Locate, on the x axis of the Doppler flow profile, a known time length (1 sec in the example in figure).
- In the Doppler setup panel, select from the "x-line length" drop-down menu, the time length specified above.
- In the Doppler setup panel, click on the Set Doppler X-Calibration button (button remains active).
- Draw a line on the image corresponding to the known distance: click on one end and drag the mouse to the other extreme (press the Shift key on your keyboard if you want the line to be not horizontal).
- Locate, on the y axis of the Doppler flow profile, a known flow velocity value (200 cm/sec in the example in figure).
- In the Doppler setup panel, select from the "y-line length" drop-down menu, the flow velocity value specified above.
- In the Doppler setup panel, click on the Set Doppler Y-Calibration button (button remains active).
- Draw a line on the image corresponding to the known distance: click on one end and drag the mouse to the other extreme (press the Shift key on your keyboard if you want the line to be not vertical).

For DICOM files, when present, the Doppler calibration is be obtained automatically by the file metadata (see Settings). You can anyhow modify the calibration values.

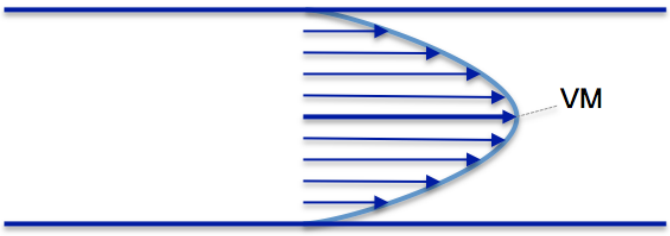
You can directly type the calibration values in the X value and Y value fields of the Doppler setup panel (if you already know the values).

11.2.10 Doppler flow analysis

FMD Studio computes the envelope of the Doppler flow velocity waveform over the time interval defined by the Doppler flow ROI. The result is used to compute the Time Average Wall Shear Rate.



We assume the velocity profile to be parabolic and we assume that the Doppler flow velocity waveform provides the maximum value (VM) of the velocity profile (i.e. the maximum spatial velocity). In fact, the analysis is based only on the Doppler flow envelope because the video image data does not give information on the velocity profile of the vessel.



Velocity Profile in a vessel

With this assumptions, the Shear Rate (SR) can be computed as:

$$SR = \frac{4 \cdot V}{d}$$

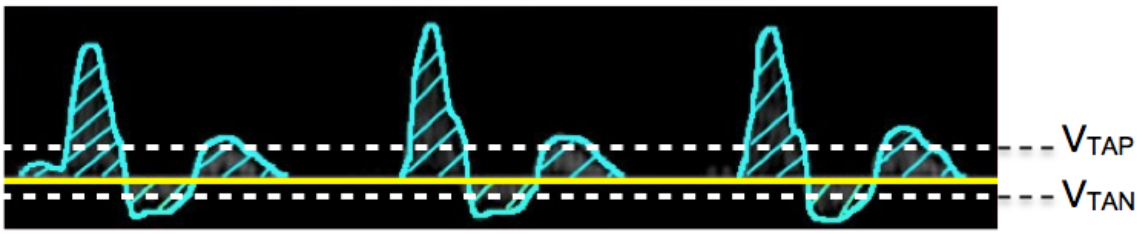
where d is the diameter of the vessel.

FMD Studio computes two values for velocity:

V_{TAP} : time averaged of the positive values of V.

V_{TAN} : time averaged of the negative values of V.

Both the averages are computed over the Doppler flow ROI.

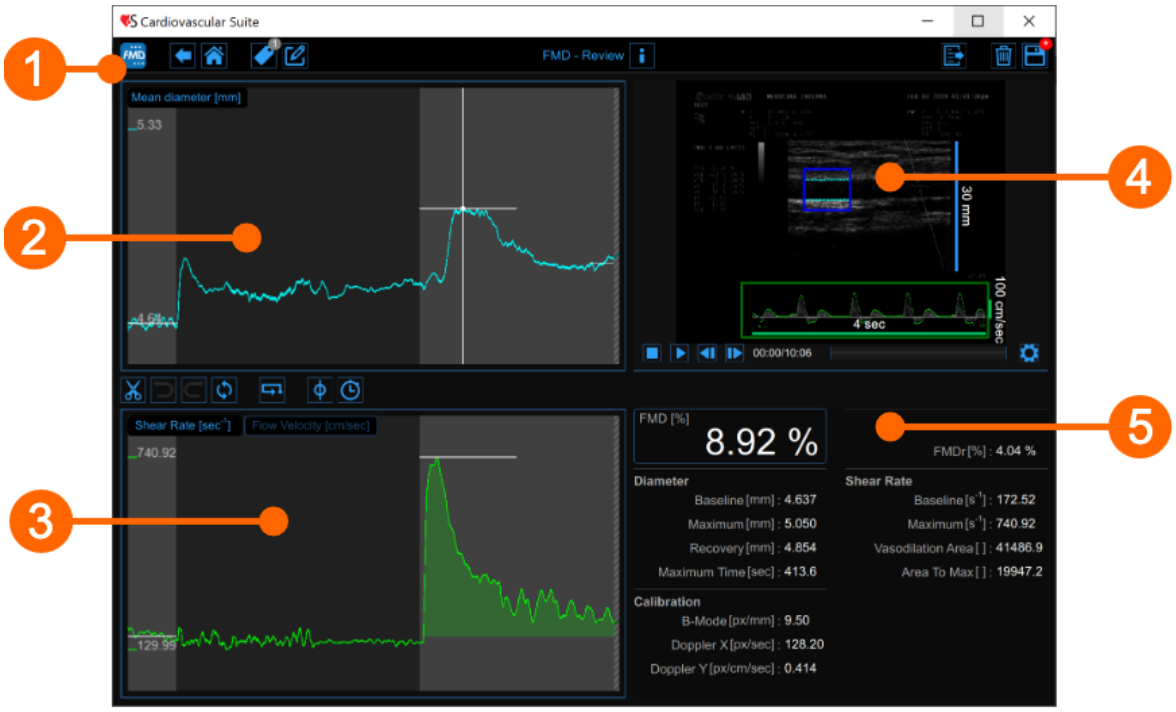


These two values are used to compute the Shear Rate as:

SR_{TAP} : Time Average Positive wall Shear Rate.

SR_{TAN} : Time Average Negative wall Shear Rate.

11.3 Review



The Review window shows the result of the analysis and allows you to remove piece of data that are considered to be "outliers". This can happen, for example, if in a short time interval the patient did move and the brachial artery was not correctly displayed. In the Review window you can review both the images and the result of the analysis and decide to remove the data that were generated in this time interval.

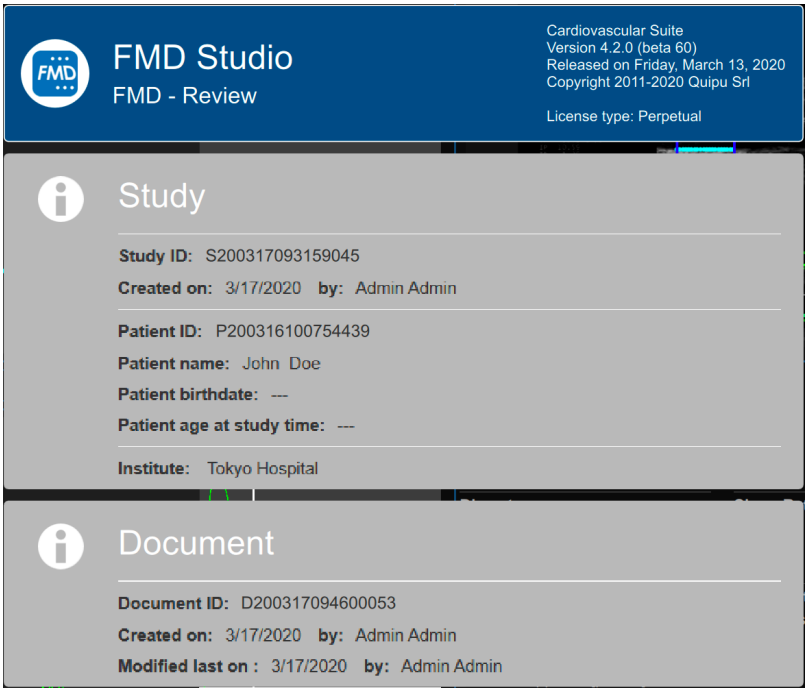
The Review window contains the following components:

1. Top bar
2. Mean diameter chart
3. Shear rate chart
4. Video window
5. Results panel

11.3.1 Top bar

The top bar contains some essential information for the navigation.

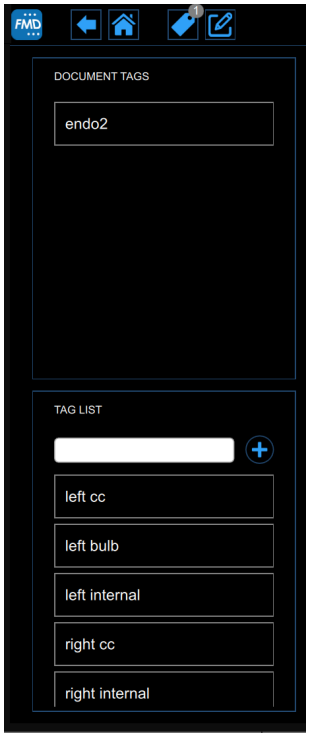
The FMD Studio button shows a panel containing some information about Cardiovascular Suite, about the current study and the current document. Regarding the study, the study ID is displayed together with information about the patient and the institute. In addition, info regarding the current document are provided. Information about the software, such as version and type of license, are shown in the upper part of the panel.



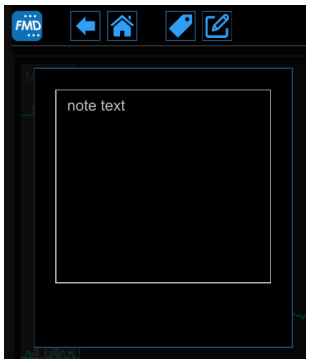
The Home button closes the FMD Studio application and returns to the home screen of Cardiovascular Suite.

The back button closes the FMD Studio application and comes back to the Archive.

The Tags Management button opens a panel (see the following picture) that allows to create a new tag and associate it or an existing tag to the document. Tags can be managed through the Tags management into the Archive.



The Notes button can be used to enter a note in the document.



The Save button is used to save your changes to the document once you have edited the data.

The Delete the document button is used to delete the current document.

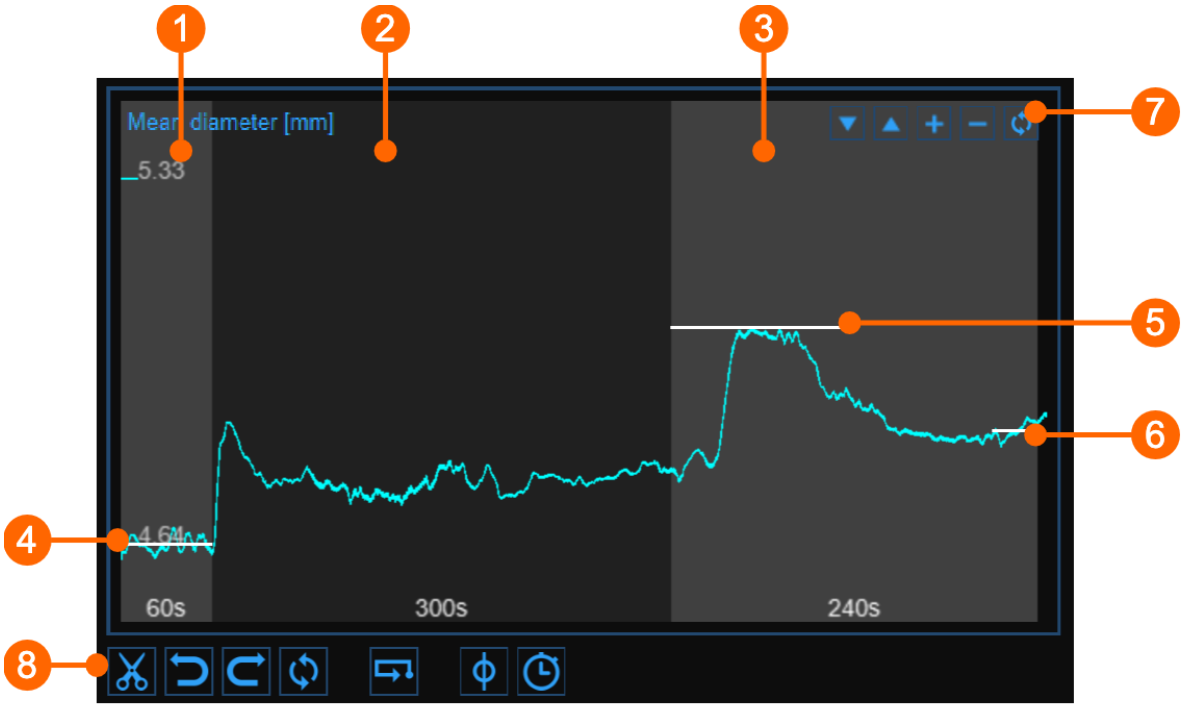
The Export button is used to export your data. You can export the Document Results and the Document Data.

The **Document Results** contains all the results of the analysis and all the information about the study, the document, and the patient.

The **Document Data** contains all the Document Results, a list of the Mean Diameter, the Shear Rate, and the Doppler Velocity (one value per second) and the Diameter and the Doppler Velocity values computed at each frame.

Only the diameter values are actual instantaneous values because they are computed on the single images. The Doppler Velocity is actually a Time averaged value. In fact, despite it is calculated on the single image, it is computed in the time interval defined by the Doppler flow ROI. For more info, please see Doppler flow analysis.

11.3.2 Mean diameter chart



The chart shows the trend of the mean diameter during the examination. The chart is divided into three or two parts, according to the study modality. You have basal **(1)**, ischemia **(2)** and vasodilation **(3)** intervals in FMD; ischemia is missing in vasodilation modality.

In the chart, three cursors are present (two cursors in "Vasodilation" study mode): the first one **(4)** is places at the baseline diameter value; the second one **(5)** is placed at the maximum diameter value in vasodilation; the third one **(6)** is placed at the post baseline (this cursors is absent in "Vasodilation" study modality). Cardiovascular Suite places the cursors at the position automatically computed at the end of the analysis. You can manually place these values if you see that some outliers have affected the automatic analysis.

These values are shown in the Results panel.

Using the buttons at the top right **(7)** you can move up ▲ or down ▼ the chart, enlarge + or reduce − the vertical scale or restore ↻ the default view.

The buttons under the chart **(8)** can be used for editing the chart in order to remove the outliers, for activating the graph cursor, and for modifying the timeline.

11.3.2.1 Remove the outliers

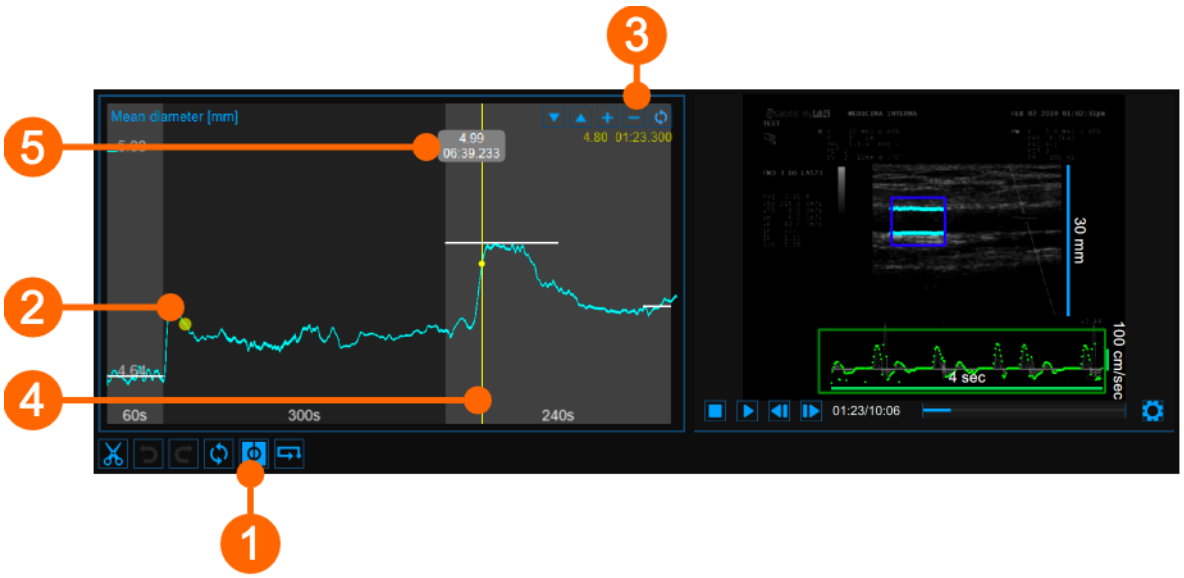
- Click on the Cut button.
- In the Mean diameter chart, click on one of the two extremes of the range to be deleted.
- Drag the mouse horizontally to the other extreme of the range to be deleted (see next paragraph for removal constraints).
- Once you have removed the outliers, click on the recompute button if you want to re-analyze the data on the edited chart.

You can use the undo and redo buttons to cancel and restore your changes. The restore button cancels all your changes and restore original data.

Click on the Save button in the Top bar to save your changes to the document.

11.3.2.2 Graph cursors

As shown in the following figure, the Cursor button **(1)** activates a cursor **(2)** on the Mean Diameter chart that shows the current time position on the graph according to the images shown in the Video window. The coordinates (diameter value in millimeters and time value in the format *minutes:seconds.milliseconds*) of the cursor are dynamically updated and shown in **(3)**. When the Cursor button is active, it is also possible to know the coordinates of an exact point in the graph; it is only needed to hover over the chart and a second cursor **(4)** is displayed. It follows the mouse movements and the exact coordinates of the point are shown in the label **(5)** (diameter value is expressed in millimeters and the time value has the format *minutes:seconds.milliseconds*).



11.3.2.3 Modify the timeline

- Click the Timeline button **(4)**.

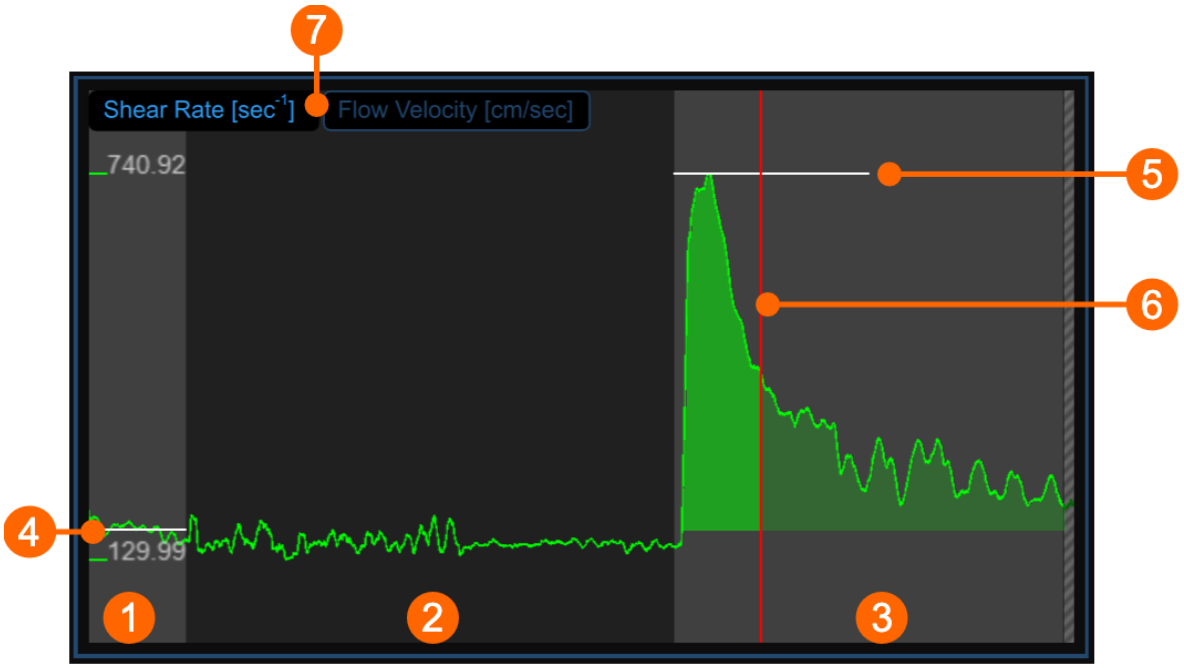
- Move the vertical cursors that are place at the end-baseline **(1)**, end-ischemia **(2)** and end-vasodilation **(3)**.

11.3.2.4 Alerts

In FMD Studio Review you can cut and delete data from the mean diameter chart. Please, note that timeline constraints are already valid (see ***Timeline management*** paragraph in Setup panel).

After data removal, if there are intervals with a duration lower than the suggested value or than the allowed value, a yellow ( ) or red ( ), respectively, alert icon will appear next to the parameters that can be affected by the too short time interval. In addition, if the intervals do not meet the minimum duration allowed value some parameters will not be calculated. You can hover over the icons and an informative message about the warning or error situation will be displayed.

11.3.3 Shear rate chart



The chart shows the trend of the time averaged positive Shear Rate (or the time averaged positive Flow Velocity, according to selector **(7)**) during the examination. The chart is divided into three or two parts, according to the study modality. You have basal **(1)**, ischemia **(2)** and vasodilation **(3)** intervals in FMD; ischemia is missing in vasodilation modality.

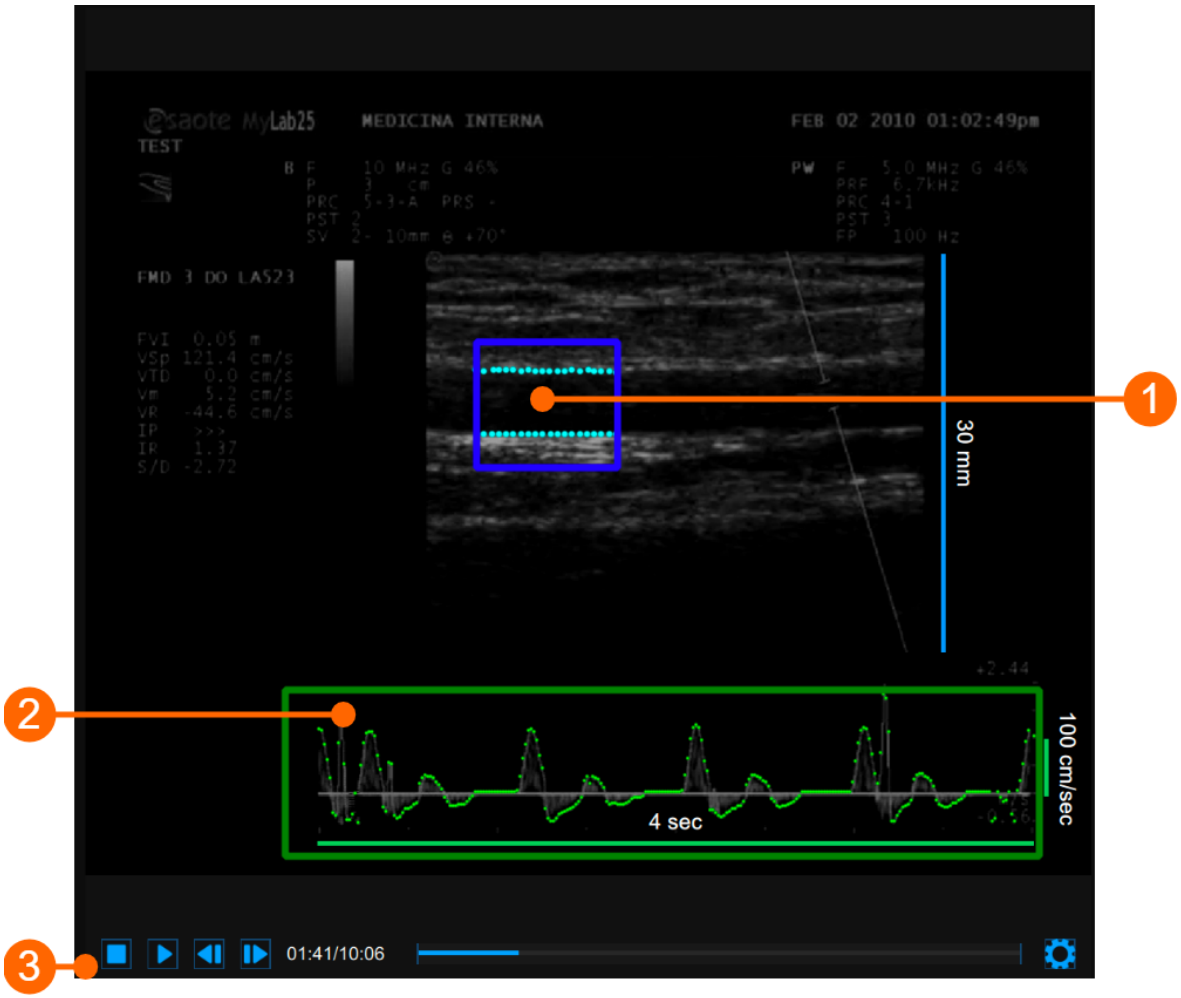
In the chart, two cursors are present: the first one **(4)** is placed at the baseline value; the second one **(5)** is placed at the maximum value in vasodilation. A third cursors **(6)** is shown at the time value corresponding to the maximum value of the diameter when the same cursor is selected in the Mean diameter chart. Cardiovascular Suite places the cursors at the position automatically computed at the end of the analysis. You can manually place these values if you see that some outliers have affected the automatic analysis.

These values are shown in the Results panel.

11.3.3.1 Graph cursors

As shown in the following figure, the Cursor button at the bottom of the Mean diameter chart activates a cursor **(1)** on the Shear Rate chart that shows the current time position on the graph according to the images shown in the Video window. The coordinates (shear rate value in s^{-1} and time value in the format *minutes:seconds.milliseconds*) of the cursor are dynamically updated and shown in **(2)**. When the Cursor button is active, it is also possible to know the coordinates of an exact point in the graph; it is only needed to hover over the chart and a second cursor **(3)** is displayed. It follows the mouse movements and the exact coordinates of the point are shown in the label **(4)** (shear rate value is expressed in s^{-1} and the time value has the format *minutes:seconds.milliseconds*).

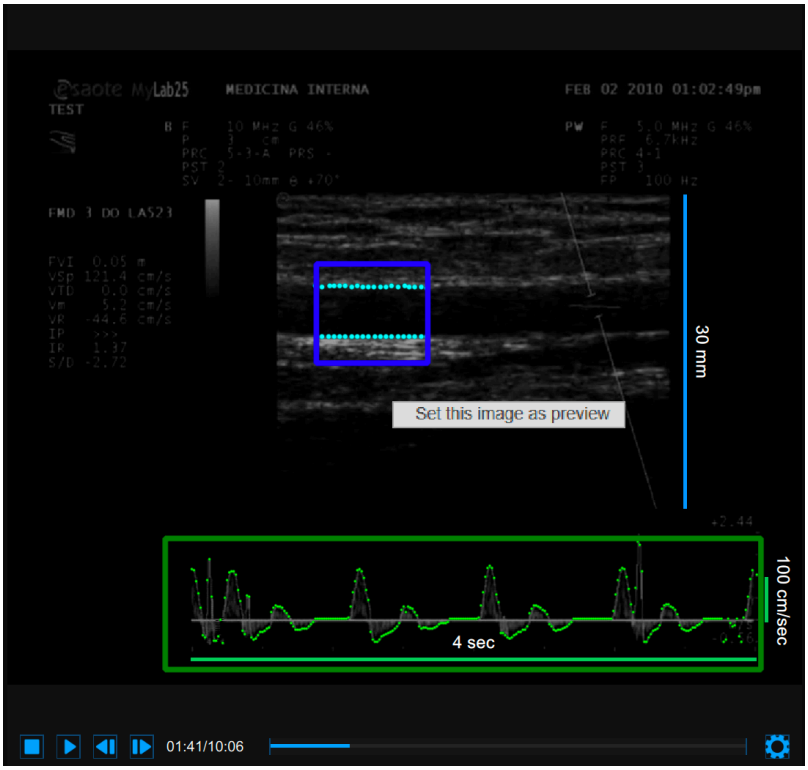
11.3.4 Video window



The video window shows the video signal from your ultrasound system. Two ROIs can be present in the window: the diameter ROI in blue **(1)** and the Doppler flow ROI in green **(2)**.

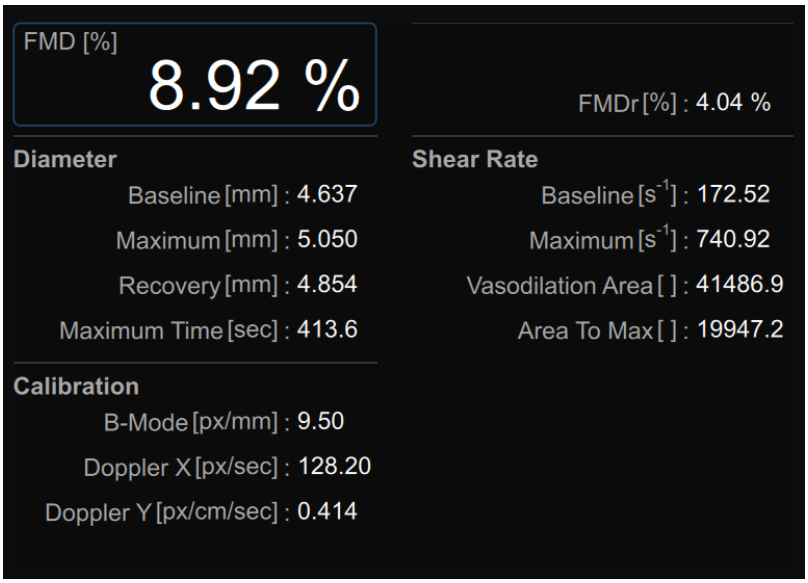
The Video control bar **(3)** is located at the bottom of the window.

If you want to expand the video window, you have to click on the Enlarge button.



If you perform right click on the video window and click on "Set this image as preview" the current frame will be saved and displayed in the Documents Table as document preview (see Studies management)

11.3.5 Results panel



The panel shows the results of the analysis. The following data are displayed:

- ***FMD [%]: Flow Mediated Dilation***

$$FMD = \frac{Maximum\ Diameter - Baseline\ Diameter}{Baseline\ Diameter}$$

- ***FMDr [%]: Flow Mediated Dilation with respect to the Recovery Diameter***

$$FMD_r = \frac{Maximum\ Diameter - Recovery\ Diameter}{Recovery\ Diameter}$$

Diameter

- ***Baseline Diameter [mm]***: mean of the diameter values in the "Baseline" time interval.
- ***Maximum Diameter [mm]***: maximum diameter value in the "Vasodilation" time interval.
- ***Recovery Diameter [mm]***: mean of the last 30 seconds of diameter values available in the "Vasodilation" time interval.
- ***Maximum Time [sec]***: time of the maximum diameter value in the "Vasodilation" time interval.

Calibration

- ***B-Mode calibration value [px/mm]:*** value of the calibration of the B-mode image
- ***Doppler X calibration value [px/sec]:*** value of calibration of the x axis (time) of PW Doppler
- ***Doppler Y calibration value [px/cm/sec]:*** value of calibration of the y axis (velocity) of PW Doppler

Shear Rate *(visible when the shear rate chart is visible)*

- ***Baseline Shear Rate [s^{-1}]***: mean of the shear rate values in the Baseline time interval.
- ***Maximum Shear Rate [s^{-1}]***: maximum of the shear rate values in the Vasodilation time interval.
- ***Vasodilation Area [dimensionless]***: area under the curve of the shear rate in the Vasodilation time interval, calculated with reference to the baseline shear rate value (Fig. 1).
- ***Area to Max [dimensionless]***: area under the curve of the shear rate in the time interval that begins with the Vasodilation and ends at the time of the Maximum Diameter, calculated with reference to the baseline shear rate value (Fig. 2).

Flow Velocity *(visible when the flow velocity chart is visible)*

- ***Baseline Flow Velocity [cm/sec]***: mean of the flow velocity values in the Baseline time interval.
- ***Maximum Flow Velocity [cm/sec]***: maximum of the flow velocity values in the Vasodilation time interval.
- ***Vasodilation Area [cm]***: area under the curve of the flow velocity in the Vasodilation time interval, calculated with reference to the baseline flow velocity value (Fig. 1).
- ***Area to Max [cm]***: area under the curve of the flow velocity in the time interval that begins with the Vasodilation and ends at the time of the Maximum Diameter, calculated with reference to the baseline flow velocity value (Fig. 2).

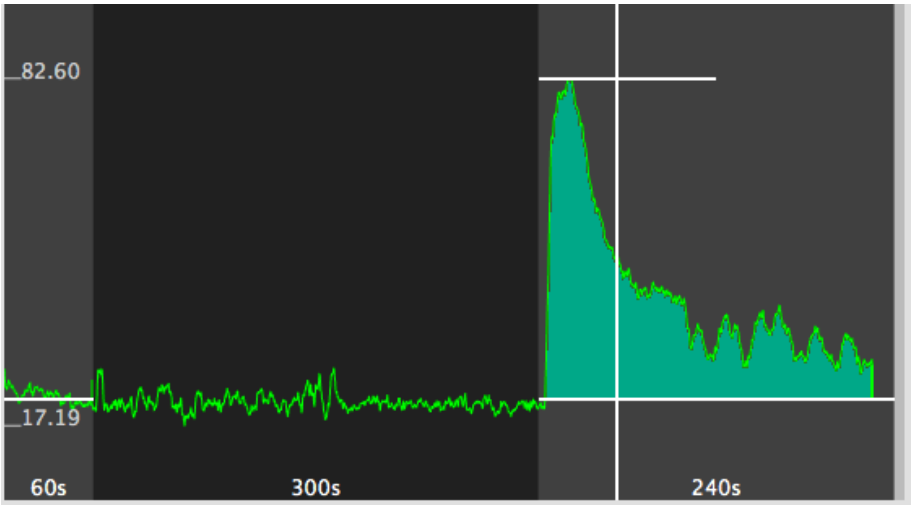


Figure 1 - Area

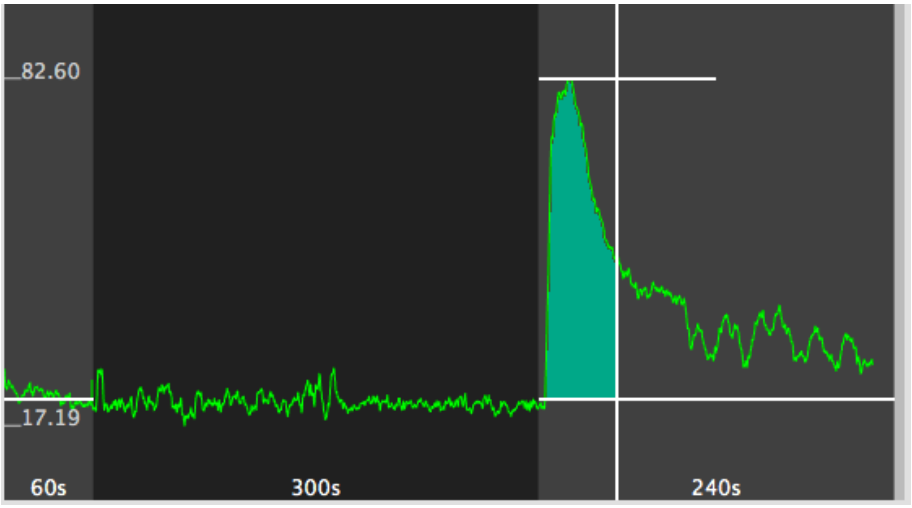


Figure 2 - Area to Max

These data can also be exported in different formats. See here for export details.

12 Warnings

This software may provide incorrect results in the following cases:

- if recommendations regarding type of analysed images, adopted ultrasound equipment and experience of the operator are not followed;
- if the user does not perform the basic operations required, such as calibration and proper tracking of initial contours.

Essential requirement for a correct analysis is the operation of the device. In case of a fault:

- close and reopen the application software, or
- restart the computer where the software is installed and open the application again
- contact your dealer for assistance.

Any malfunction of the device, however, does not affect the state of health of the patient.

The user has the responsibility to check the accuracy of the external ultrasound images to avoid the possibility of generating an incorrect result.

The software device must be used in an environment that allows optimal visibility of the screen.

The software device has a 2 years warranty in which Quipu will provide security updates.

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14 Contacts

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15 Notes

15.1 Trademarks

Cardiovascular Suite, FMD Studio and Carotid Studio are trademarks of Quipu srl.

Mac, OS X and macOS are registered trademarks of Apple Inc.

Microsoft and Windows are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.

AV.io HD is a trademark of Epiphan Systems Inc.

Magewell is a trademark of Nanjing Magewell Electronics Co.

HDMI is a trademark of HDMI Licensing LLC.

Adobe Acrobat is a trademark of Adobe Inc.

15.2 EULA

End user license agreement for Cardiovascular Suite

Document number: LEG0001EN rev. 8 of July 1st, 2020

Please read this EULA carefully, as it sets out the basis upon which we license the Software for use.

By clicking "accept agreement" when you first install the Software, you agree to be bound by the provisions of this EULA. If you do not agree to be bound by the provisions of this EULA, you must stop the installation now.

By agreeing to be bound by this EULA, you further agree that any person you authorize to use the Software will comply with the provision of this EULA.

By agreeing to be bound by this EULA, you hereby acknowledge that you are familiar with and agree to the terms of the Licensor's privacy policy available at http://www.quipu.eu/privacy-policy/

1. Definitions

1.1 Except to the extent expressly provided otherwise, in this EULA:

"**Commercial License**" means a license to use Software obtained or renewed by the User by paying fees.

"**Documentation**" means the documentation for the Software produced by the Licensor and delivered or made available by the Licensor to the User.

"**EULA**" means this end user license agreement, including any amendments to this end user license agreement from time to time.

"**Effective Date**" means the date upon which the User gives the User's express consent to this EULA, following the issue of this EULA by the Licensor.

"Expiry Date" means such date as may be the ending of the usage of the Software.

"Evaluation License" means a 14 days license according to this EULA, limited only for evaluation of the Software purposes, in accordance with Clause 5.

"**Force Majeure Event**" means an event, or a series of related events, that is outside the reasonable control of the party affected (including failures of the internet or any public telecommunications network, hacker attacks, denial of service attacks, virus or other malicious Software attacks or infections, power failures,

industrial disputes affecting any third party, changes to the law, disasters, explosions, fires, floods, riots, terrorist attacks and wars).

"**Intellectual Property Rights**" means all intellectual property rights wherever in the world, whether registrable or unregistrable, registered or unregistered, including any application or right of application for such rights (and these "intellectual property rights" include copyright and related rights, database rights, confidential information, trade secrets, know-how, business names, trade names, trademarks, service marks, passing off rights, unfair competition rights, patents, petty patents, utility models, semi-conductor topography rights and rights in designs);

"**Licensor**" means Quipu s.r.l., a company incorporated in Italy (registration number 01995110507) having its registered office at via Moruzzi 1 I-56124 Pisa – Italy.

"**License Key**" means a piece of hardware (USB dongle) provided by the Licensor, which must be plugged into a USB port of the computer where the Software is installed and allows the Software to run.

"**Perpetual License**" means a license with no specified term or expiration.

"**Software**" means the Software Cardiovascular Suite.

"**Software Defect**" means a defect, error or bug in the Software having an adverse effect on the appearance, operation, functionality, or performance of the Software, but excluding any defect, error or bug caused by or arising as a result of:

- any act or omission of the User.
- any use of the Software contrary to the Documentation by the User or any person authorized by the User to use the Software.
- a failure of the User to perform or observe any of its obligations in this EULA; and/or
- an incompatibility between the Software and any other system, network, application, program, hardware, or Software not specified as compatible in the Software Specification.

"**Software Specification**" means the specification for the Software set out in the Documentation.

"**Source Code**" means the Software code in human-readable form or any part of the Software code in human-readable form, including code compiled to create the Software or decompiled from the Software, but excluding interpreted code comprised in the Software.

"**Term**" means the term of this EULA, commencing in accordance with Clause 2.1 and ending in accordance with Clause 2.2.

"**Time License**" means a time limited license that is granted until the expiry date.

"**Update**" means a hotfix, patch, or minor version update to the Software;

"**Upgrade**" means a major version upgrade of the Software.

"**User**" means the person to whom the Licensor grants a right to use the Software under this EULA.

2. Term

2.1 This EULA shall come into force upon the Effective Date.

2.2 This EULA shall continue in force:

- indefinitely, for Perpetual Licenses; or
- until the expiry date, for Time Licenses; or
- 14 days, for Evaluation Licenses.

subject to termination in accordance with Clause 12.

3. License

3.1 The Licensor hereby grants to the User from the date of supply of the Software to the User until the end of the Term a worldwide, non-exclusive license to:

- install a single instance of the Software.
- use a single instance of the Software in accordance with the Documentation; and
- create, store, and maintain up to 5 back-up copies of the Software,

subject to the limitations and prohibitions set out and referred to in this Clause 3.

3.2 The User may not sub-license and must not purport to sub-license any rights granted under Clause 3.1 without the prior written consent of the Licensor.

3.3 Save to the extent expressly permitted by this EULA or required by applicable law on a non-excludable basis, any license granted under this Clause 3 shall be subject to the following prohibitions:

- the User must not sell, resell, rent, lease, loan, supply, publish, distribute, or redistribute the Software.
- the User must not alter, edit, or adapt the Software; and
- the User must not decompile, de-obfuscate or reverse engineer, or attempt to decompile, de-obfuscate or reverse engineer, the Software.

4. Restrictions of use of the License Key

4.1 The Software will run under a commercial license only if the License Key is plugged into the computer where the Software is installed; if the License Key is disconnected, the Software will stop working.

4.2 The License Key will work only on the computer where it is used for the first time (i.e. it will be locked to this computer).

4.3 The License Key can be unlocked by the Licensor, so to be locked again to a new computer, maximum three times a year.

5. Restrictions of the Evaluation License

5.1 Under the Evaluation License, the User agrees to use the Software only for evaluation purposes.

5.2 The User cannot use/publish/distribute data generated by the Software in the period of time when the Evaluation License is in force unless the User purchases a Commercial License.

6. Updates and upgrades

6.1 Licensor may, in its sole discretion, provide Updates (hotfix, patch or minor version update) of the Software; the User is entitled to receive and run Updates of the Software during the Term.

6.2 Licensor may, in its sole discretion, provide Upgrades (major version upgrade) of the Software; in order to be entitled to receive and run Upgrades of the Software, the User must subscribe a separate upgrade agreement.

7. Source Code

7.1 Nothing in this EULA shall give to the User or any other person any right to access or use the Source Code or constitute any license of the Source Code.

8. No assignment of Intellectual Property Rights

8.1 Nothing in this EULA shall operate to assign or transfer any Intellectual Property Rights from the Licensor to the User, or from the User to the Licensor.

9. Warranties

9.1 The Licensor warrants to the User that it has the legal right and authority to enter into this EULA and to perform its obligations under the EULA.

9.2 The User warrants to the Licensor that it has the legal right and authority to enter into this EULA and to perform its obligations under the EULA.

9.3 All of the parties' warranties and representations in respect of the subject matter of this EULA are expressly set out in this EULA. To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, no other warranties or representations concerning the subject matter of this EULA will be implied into the EULA or any related contract.

10. Acknowledgements and warranty limitations

10.1 The User acknowledges that complex Software is never wholly free from defects, errors, and bugs; and subject to the other provisions of this EULA, the Licensor gives no warranty or representation that the Software will be wholly free from defects, errors, and bugs.

10.2 The User acknowledges that complex Software is never entirely free from security vulnerabilities; and subject to the other provisions of this EULA, the Licensor gives no warranty or representation that the Software will be entirely secure.

10.3 The User acknowledges that the Software is only designed to be compatible with that Software specified as compatible in the Software Specification; and the Licensor does not warrant or represent that the Software will be compatible with any other Software.

10.4 The User acknowledges that the Licensor will not provide any legal, financial, accountancy or taxation advice under this EULA or in relation to the Software; and, except to the extent expressly provided otherwise in this EULA, the Licensor does not warrant or represent that the Software or the use of the Software by the User will not give rise to any legal liability on the part of the User or any other person.

10.5 The User acknowledges that is fully responsible of protecting the License Key against loss and damage; in case of malfunction, the User will be entitled to obtain a replacement License Key only if the original defective License Key is returned to the Licensor by a trackable courier service; when the malfunction of the License Key is due by the User, the User will be charged of a cost of 80 EUR plus shipping cost for the replacement.

11. Limitations and exclusions of liability

11.1 Nothing in this EULA will:

- limit or exclude any liability for death or personal injury resulting from negligence.
- limit or exclude any liability for fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation.
- limit any liabilities in any way that is not permitted under applicable law; or
- exclude any liabilities that may not be excluded under applicable law,

and, if a party is a consumer, that party's statutory rights will not be excluded or limited by the EULA, except to the extent permitted by law.

11.2 The limitations and exclusions of liability set out in this Clause 11 and elsewhere in this EULA:

1. are subject to Clauses 11.1 and 14.6; and
2. govern all liabilities arising under the EULA or relating to the subject matter of the EULA, including liabilities arising in contract, in tort (including negligence) and for breach of statutory duty, except to the extent expressly provided otherwise in the EULA.

11.3 The Licensor will not be liable to the User in respect of any losses arising out of a Force Majeure Event.

11.4 The Licensor will not be liable to the User in respect of any loss of profits or anticipated savings.

11.5 The Licensor will not be liable to the User in respect of any loss of revenue or income.

11.6 The Licensor will not be liable to the User in respect of any loss of business, contracts, or opportunities.

11.7 The Licensor will not be liable to the User in respect of any loss or corruption of any data, database, or Software.

11.8 The Licensor will not be liable to the User in respect of any special, indirect, or consequential loss or damage.

11.9 The liability of the Licensor to the User under this EULA in respect of any event or series of related events shall not exceed the greater of:

- *1 EUR*; and
- the total amount paid and payable by the User to the Licensor under the EULA in the 12 months period preceding the commencement of the event or events.

11.10 The aggregate liability of the Licensor to the User under this EULA shall not exceed the greater of:

- *1 EUR*; and
- the total amount paid and payable by the User to the Licensor under the EULA.

12. Termination

12.1 Either party may terminate this EULA immediately by giving written notice of termination to the other party if the other party commits any breach of the EULA.

12.2 Either party may terminate this EULA immediately by giving written notice of termination to the other party if:

- the other party:

1. is dissolved.
2. ceases to conduct all (or substantially all) of its business.
3. is or becomes unable to pay its debts as they fall due.
4. is or becomes insolvent or is declared insolvent; or
5. convenes a meeting or makes or proposes to make any arrangement or composition with its creditors.

- an administrator, administrative receiver, liquidator, receiver, trustee, manager or similar is appointed over any of the assets of the other party.
- an order is made for the winding up of the other party, or the other party passes a resolution for its winding up (other than for the purpose of a solvent company reorganization where the resulting entity will assume all the obligations of the other party under the EULA).
- if that other party is an individual:

1. that other party dies.
2. as a result of illness or incapacity, that other party becomes incapable of managing his or her own affairs; or
3. that other party is the subject of a bankruptcy petition or order.

12.3 The Licensor may terminate this EULA immediately by giving written notice to the User if:

- any amount due to be paid by the User to the Licensor under the EULA is unpaid by the due date and remains unpaid upon the date that that written notice of termination is given; and
- the Licensor has given to the User at least 30 days' written notice, following the failure to pay, of its intention to terminate the EULA in accordance with this Clause 12.

13. Effects of termination

13.1 Upon the termination of this EULA, all of the provisions of this EULA shall cease to have effect, save that the following provisions of this EULA shall survive and continue to have effect (in accordance with their express terms or otherwise indefinitely): Clauses 1, 3.1, 11, 13, 14, 15.

13.2 The termination of this EULA shall not affect the accrued rights of either party.

13.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the licenses of the Software in this EULA shall terminate upon the termination of this EULA; and, accordingly, the User must immediately cease to use the Software upon the termination of this EULA.

13.4 Within 10 Business Days following the termination of this EULA, the User must:

- return to the Licensor or dispose of as the Licensor may instruct all media in its possession or control containing the Software; and
- irrevocably delete from all computer systems in its possession or control all copies of the Software.

14. General

14.1 No breach of any provision of this EULA shall be waived except with the express written consent of the party not in breach.

14.2 If any provision of this EULA is determined by any court or other competent authority to be unlawful and/or unenforceable, the other provisions of the EULA will continue in effect. If any unlawful and/or unenforceable provision would be lawful or enforceable if part of it were deleted, that part will be deemed to be deleted, and the rest of the provision will continue in effect (unless that would contradict the clear intention of the parties, in which case the entirety of the relevant provision will be deemed to be deleted).

14.3 This EULA may not be varied except by a written document signed by or on behalf of each of the parties.

14.4 Neither party may without the prior written consent of the other party assign, transfer, charge, license or otherwise deal in or dispose of any contractual rights or obligations under this EULA.

14.5 This EULA is made for the benefit of the parties, and is not intended to benefit any third party or be enforceable by any third party. The rights of the parties to terminate, rescind, or agree any amendment, waiver, variation, or settlement under or relating to this EULA are not subject to the consent of any third party.

14.6 Nothing in this EULA shall exclude or limit any liability of a party for fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation, or any other liability of a party that may not be excluded or limited under applicable law.

14.7 Subject to Clauses 11.1 and 14.6, this EULA shall constitute the entire agreement between the parties in relation to the subject matter of this EULA, and shall supersede all previous agreements, arrangements, and understandings between the parties in respect of that subject matter.

14.8 This EULA shall be governed by and construed in accordance with Italian law.

14.9 The courts of justice of Pisa - Italy shall have exclusive jurisdiction to adjudicate any dispute arising under or in connection with this EULA.

15. Interpretation

15.1 In this EULA, a reference to a statute or statutory provision includes a reference to:

- that statute or statutory provision as modified, consolidated, and/or re-enacted from time to time; and
- any subordinate legislation made under that statute or statutory provision.

15.2 The Clause headings do not affect the interpretation of this EULA.

15.3 In this EULA, general words shall not be given a restrictive interpretation by reason of being preceded or followed by words indicating a particular class of acts, matters or things.

16. Privacy Policy

16.1 By agreeing to be bound by this EULA, you hereby acknowledge that you are familiar with and agree to the terms of the Licensor’s Privacy Policy available at http://www.quipu.eu/privacy-policy/.

16.2 This document is not the official document of Privacy Policy of the Licensor. For further information, please see the Privacy Policy in the footer of the Licensor's website.

16.3 The Licensor collects User information to communicate with User about the Licensor’s products, services, and promotions. Personal data are also collected by the Licensor for the Software evaluation license and the Software activation license. The Licensor does not sell or rent User’s personal information to third parties. The Licensor does, however, share User’s information with third parties that provide services on Licensor’s behalf or with whom the Licensor has partnered to offer a particular product or service.

16.4 Personal data collected are also needed for the Licensor to guarantee traceability of the medical device.

16.5 If the Licensor privacy policy changes, the Licensor shall post an updated version on Licensor’s website. The policy revision date will be posted at the top of the page.

16.6 It is important to inform you that you are the only owner and responsible of data collected by your instance of the Software. These data may include personal data of the analyzed subjects that shall be managed according to the GDPR regulation https://gdpr-info.eu/.

15.3 Privacy policy

Document number: LEG0003EN rev. 9 of July 1st, 2020

Quipu s.r.l. is committed to safeguarding the privacy of our customers and website visitors; this policy sets out how we will treat your personal information.

Our website uses cookies. By using our website and agreeing to this policy, you consent to our use of cookies in accordance with the terms of this policy.

1. **What information do we collect?**
   We may collect, store, and use the following kinds of personal information:
   a. information that you provide to us when you purchase one of our products (including Name, Company, Address, Email, Phone number).
   b. information relating to any transactions carried out between you and us, including information relating to any purchases you make of our goods or services.
   c. information that you provide to us for the purpose of using our free trial software (including Name, Company, Address, Email, Phone number, City, State, Country).
   d. information that you provide to us for the purpose of get an evaluation license (including First Name, Last Name, Company, Address, Email, Phone number, City, State, Country).
   e. information that you provide to us for the purpose of activate license (including First Name, Last Name, Company, Address, Email, Phone number, City, State, Country).
   f. information about your computer and about your visits to and use of our website (including your IP address, geographical location, browser type and version, operating system, referral source, length of visit, page views, website navigation).
   g. information that you provide to us when you visit the "Contact us" section on the website to have further information (including Name, Email and Phone number)
   h. any other information that you choose to send to us.
   Before you disclose to us the personal information of another person, you must obtain that person's consent to both the disclosure and the processing of that personal information in accordance with the terms of this privacy policy.

2. **Why we collect your personal data**
   We ask you to share your personal data with us for purposes that include, but are not limited to:
   - Activating or registering licenses for QUIPU's product or enabling functionalities.
   - Receiving information about QUIPU's product and services.
   - Participating in QUIPU online communities, including our social media channels/pages and blogs.
   - Helping us to improve the product and services, and allowing QUIPU to keep you informed of new versions of the software.
   - Resolving consumer and/or product and services issues.
   - Managing customer relationships.
   - Facilitating information access.
   - Enhancing communications.
   - Traceability of medical device.

   We generally process your personal data only for those purposes that we have communicated to you. If we use it for other (closely related) purposes, additional data protection measures will be implemented if required by law.

3. **Definitions for personal data processing**

User
The individual using this Application, which must coincide with or be authorized by the Data Subject, to whom the Personal Data refer.
Data Subject
The legal or natural person to whom the Personal Data refers.
Data Processor (or **Data Supervisor**)
The natural person, legal person, public administration or any other body, association or organization authorized by the Data Controller to process the Personal Data in compliance with this privacy policy.
Data Controller (or Owner)
The natural person, legal person, public administration or any other body, association or organization with the right, also jointly with another Data Controller, to make decisions regarding the purposes, and the methods of processing of Personal Data and the means used, including the security measures concerning the operation and use of this Application. The Data Controller, unless otherwise specified, is the Owner of this Application.
Referring Person of Personal Data Processing
The natural person that the CEO of the Company nominates as a person who acts as an Internal Referring Person for processing personal data. This person is nominated after a verification of his/her competencies and abilities in Personal Data Processing and related legal issues.
This Application
The hardware or software tool by which the Personal Data of the User is collected.
Legal information
Notice to European Users: this privacy statement has been prepared in fulfillment of the obligations under Art. 10 of EC Directive n. 95/46/EC, and under the provisions of Directive 2002/58/EC, as revised by Directive 2009/136/EC, on the subject of Cookies. It has also been prepared in fulfillment of the obligations of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU) 2016/679.
This privacy policy relates solely to this Application.

4. **Contact data**
Data controller's personal data:
    - Name: Vincenzo Gemignani
    - Address: Via Verdi 3/b, Torre del Lago (LU)
    - Email: gemignani@quipu.eu
    - PEC: vincenzo.gemignani@pec.it
    - Phone number: 0039/050-3152612

    Referring Person of Personal Data Processing's personal data:
    - Name: Elisabetta Bianchini
    - Address: via Nottolini 466, San Concordio (LU)
    - Email: bianchini@quipu.eu
    - PEC: elisabettabianchini@pec.it
    - Phone number: 0039/050-3152630

5. **Methods of processing**
The Data Controller processes the Data of Users in a proper manner and shall take appropriate security measures to prevent unauthorized access, disclosure, modification, or unauthorized destruction of the Data. The Data processing is carried out using computers and/or IT enabled tools, following organizational procedures and modes strictly related to the purposes indicated. In addition to the Data Controller, in some cases, the Data may be accessible to certain types of persons in charge, involved with the operation of the site (administration, sales, marketing, legal, system administration) or external parties (such as third party technical service providers, mail carriers, hosting providers, IT companies, communications agencies) appointed, if necessary, as Data Processors by the Owner. The updated list of these parties may be requested from the Data Controller at any time.

6. **Place**
   Personal data are processed at the Data Controller's operating offices and in any other places where the parties involved with the processing are located. For further information, please contact the Data Controller at privacy@quipu.eu.

7. **Retention time**
   Personal data are kept for the time necessary to provide the service requested by the User that is estimated to be 10 years; the User can always request that the Data Controller suspend or remove the data, sending an email at privacy@quipu.eu.

8. **Cookies**
   A cookie is a file containing an identifier (a string of letters and numbers) that is sent by a web server to a web browser and is stored by the browser. The identifier is then sent back to the server each time the browser requests a page from the server. This enables the web server to identify and track the web browser. We may use both "session" cookies and "persistent" cookies on the website. Session cookies will be deleted from your computer when you close your browser. Persistent cookies will remain stored on your computer until deleted, or until they reach a specified expiry date.
   While browsing our website you may also receive cookies from third parties such as those used for Google Analytics, a web analysis service supplied by Google, Inc. ("Google"). We use Google Analytics to analyze the use of our website. Google Analytics generates statistical and other information about website use by means of cookies, which are stored on users' computers. The information generated relating to our website is used to create reports about the use of the website. Google will store this information. Google's privacy policy is available at: http://www.google.com/privacypolicy.html.
   Most browsers allow you to reject all cookies, whilst some browsers allow you to reject just third party cookies. For example, in Internet Explorer (version 9) you can refuse all cookies by clicking "Tools", "Internet options", "Privacy", and selecting "Block All Cookies" using the sliding selector. Blocking all cookies will, however, have a negative impact upon the usability of many websites.
   There are a number of different ways of managing cookies; please refer to the instruction manual or help screen of your browser to determine how to control and adjust settings. Users may change the predefined configuration and disable cookies (block them permanently) by setting the highest level of protection.
   Below are the paths to follow to manage cookies on the following browsers:
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   Safari:
   https://support.apple.com/kb/PH21411?viewlocale=en_US&locale=en_US
   Chrome:
   https://support.google.com/chrome/answer/95647?hl=it-IT&hlrm=fr&hlrm=en
   Firefox:
   http://support.mozilla.org/it-IT/kb/enable-and-disable-cookies-website-preferences
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Personal information submitted to us will be used for the purposes specified in this privacy policy or in relevant parts of the website.

We may use your personal information to:

a. medical device traceability;
b. send you e-mail invitation in product usability surveys.
c. keep you posted on last products' updates.
d. send statements and invoices to you, and collect payments from you.
e. send you general commercial communications.
f. send you email notifications which you have specifically requested.
g. administer the website.
h. improve your browsing experience by personalizing our website.
i. enable your use of the services available on our website.
j. send you goods purchased via the website, and supply to you services purchased via the website.
k. deal with enquiries and complaints made by or about you relating to our website.
l. keep the website secure and prevent fraud.
m. set up your free trial software license.
n. set up your license activation.

We will not, without your express consent, provide your personal information to any third parties for the purpose of direct marketing.

10. **Duration of Data Processing**
The duration of data processing is balanced with the scope of the processing itself. It is limited to the services required by the customers. You can request for restriction or suspension of the processing by sending an email at **privacy@quipu.eu.**

11. **Personal data provision**
Your consent to processing of personal data is mandatory for the Company for the reasons listed in section 2, especially for the traceability of the medical device sold by the Company. If you do not agree with this consent, it will not be possible to download Company's product or activate any evaluation/activation license.

12. **How to propose requests for Personal Data**
If you desire to modify, get access, ask for erasure or rectification, or any other request related to your personal data provided, it is necessary to send an email toprivacy@quipu.euspecifying your request. The Data protection Officer or the controller will perform your request and reply to your mail.

13. **Disclosures**
We may disclose your personal information to any of our employees, officers, agents, suppliers, or subcontractors insofar as reasonably necessary for the purposes set out in this privacy policy. In addition, we may disclose your personal information:
1. to the extent that we are required to do so by law.
2. in connection with any ongoing or prospective legal proceedings.
3. in order to establish, exercise or defend our legal rights (including providing information to others for the purposes of fraud prevention and reducing credit risk).
Except as provided in this privacy policy, we will not provide your information to third parties.

14. **International data transfer**
Information that we collect may be stored and processed in and transferred between any of the countries in which we operate in order to enable us to use the information in accordance with this privacy policy.
Information which you provide may be transferred to countries (including the United States and Canada) which do not have data protection laws equivalent to those in force in the European Economic Area.
You expressly agree to such transfers of personal information.

15. **Security of your personal information**

We will take reasonable technical and organizational precautions to prevent the loss, misuse, or alteration of your personal information.
We will store all the personal information you provide on our secure (password- and firewall-protected) servers.
All electronic transactions entered into via the website will be protected by encryption technology.
You acknowledge that the transmission of information over the internet is inherently insecure, and we cannot guarantee the security of data sent over the internet.
QUIPU's activities also include ultrasound images analysis for third parties. Images provided by the customer to Quipu should be in an anonymous form. Quipu, if required by the customer, can provide a cryptographic process to ensure data security.

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In case of a personal data breach, QUIPU carries out specific actions in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation). QUIPU shall without undue delay and, where feasible, not later than 72 hours after having become aware of it, notify the personal data breach to the supervisory authority competent in accordance with Article 55 of GDPR, unless the personal data breach is unlikely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of natural persons. Where the notification to the supervisory authority is not made within 72 hours, it shall be accompanied by reasons for the delay.
Article 32 of GDPR indicates that QUIPU shall implement appropriate technical and organizational measures to ensure a level of security appropriate to the risk.
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We may update this privacy policy from time to time by posting a new version on our website. You should check this page occasionally to ensure you are happy with any changes.
18. **Your rights**
A data subject shall have the right to obtain confirmation as to whether or not personal data concerning him exist and to know their content and origin, to check their accuracy and to request integration or updating, or rectification (section 7 of Legislative Decree no. 196/2003) or objection to data processing, as stated in Articl e 21 of GDPR. Your rights are listed here:
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    - Article 13: Information to be provided where personal data are collected from the data subject
    - Article 14: Information to be provided where personal data have not been obtained from the data subject
    - Article 15: Right of access by the data subject
    - Article 16: Right to rectification
    - Article 17: Right to erasure (‘right to be forgotten’)
    - Article 18: Right to restriction of processing
    - Article 19: Notification obligation regarding rectification or erasure of personal data or restriction of processing
    - Article 20: Right to data portability
    - Article 21: Right to object
    - Article 22: Automated individual decision-making, including profiling

Under the same section, data subjects are entitled to request erasure, anonymization or blocking of data that have been processed unlawfully, and in all cases to object to their treatment on legitimate grounds.
Requests in this regard should be sent to the Data Controller, sending an email at privacy@quipu.eu.
We may withhold such personal information to the extent permitted by law.
You can expressly agree to our use of your personal information for marketing purposes; you can opt out of the use of your personal information for marketing purposes by sending an email to us at privacy@quipu.eu.
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It is in count that joining any kind of survey powered by a third part you also accept the private policy of the third part.
We are not responsible of the eventual wrongs belonging to the third part.

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    Please let us know if the personal information which we hold about you needs to be corrected or updated. You can send an email to privacy@quipu.eu specifying your request.

21. **Changes to this Privacy Policy**
    The Data Controller reserves the right to make changes to this privacy policy at any time by giving notice to its Users on the website. It is strongly recommended to check this page often, referring to the date of the last modification listed at the bottom. If a User objects to any of the changes to the Policy, the User must cease using this Application and can request that the Data Controller removes the Personal Data. Unless stated otherwise, the then-current privacy policy applies to all Personal Data the Data Controller has about Users.
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15.5 LGPL 2.1

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Version 2.1, February 1999

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Although the Lesser General Public License is Less protective of the users' freedom, it does ensure that the user of a program that is linked with the Library has the freedom and the wherewithal to run that program using a modified version of the Library.

The precise terms and conditions for copying, distribution and modification follow. Pay close attention to the difference between a "work based on the library" and a "work that uses the library". The former contains code derived from the library, whereas the latter must be combined with the library in order to run.

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This option is useful when you wish to copy part of the code of the Library into a program that is not a library.

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