



The image of COVID-19 in a public radiology service in the state of São Paulo: An overview

Taise T. da Silva, MD; Nycole C. Lima, MD; Luiz H. B. Lott, MD;
Mario K. Abizaid, MD; Adolfo P. Bolinelli, MD.
Sao Paulo, SP, BRAZIL - Hospital Estadual Vila Alpina - HEVA



Introduction



The Coronavirus pandemic (Sars-Cov2) is already considered humanity's worst health crisis in the modern age.

The estimate of infected and dead directly competes with the impact on health systems.

Crisis took place in an attempt to balance the fall in financial resources with the increase in spending demand.

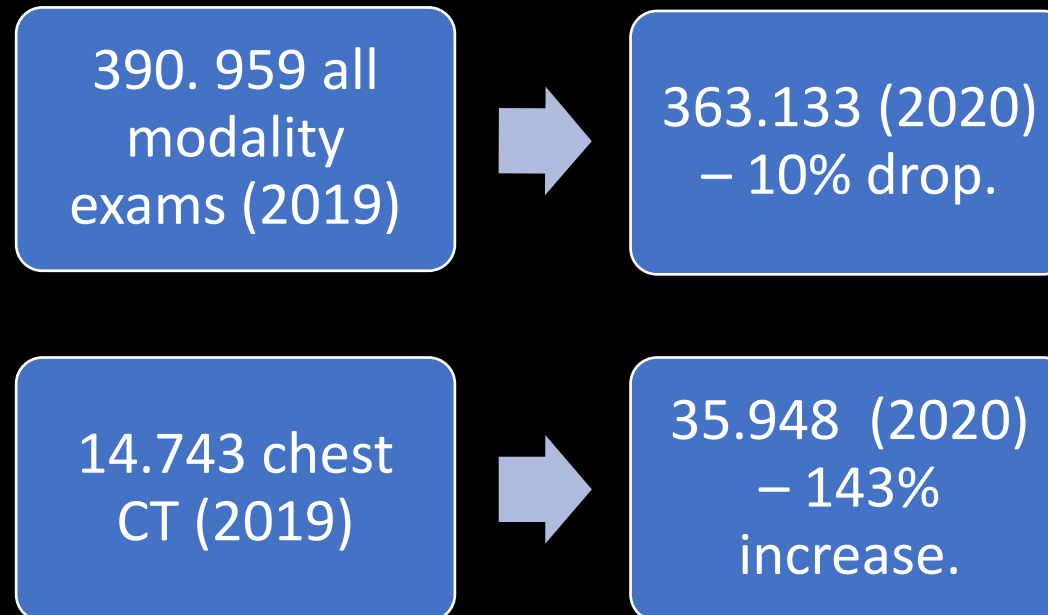
The presentation aims to illustrate how the pandemic impacted the performance of exams in one of the largest public services in the state of São Paulo, the Diagnostic Imaging Service II (SEDI II), and to measure the damage and the consequences of this impact



Results



- The study is based on the comparative analysis of data from a massive teleradiology service that works for five medium and high complexity hospitals in the state of São Paulo (SEDI II).
- Significant drop in the absolute number of exams, in most modalities, except computed tomography (CT) scans.

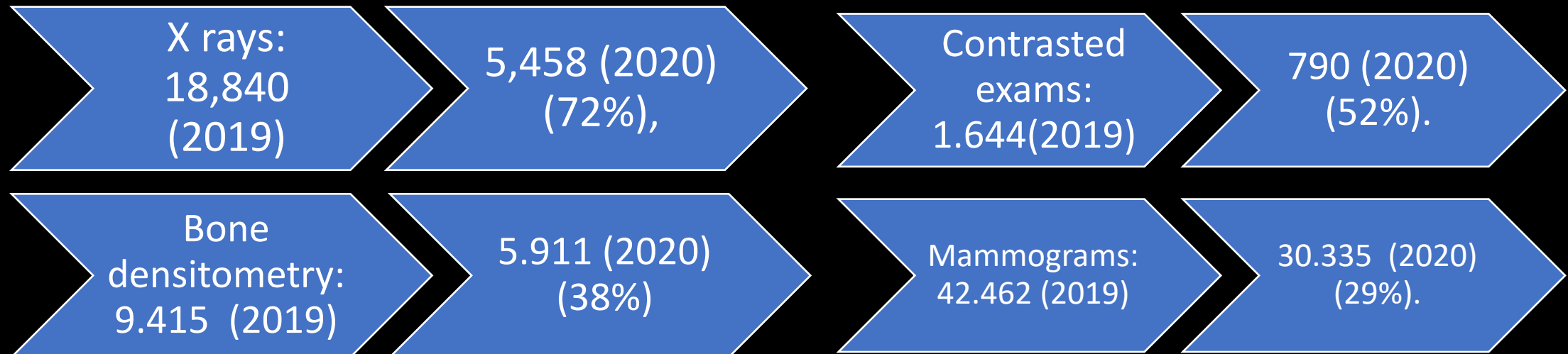




Results

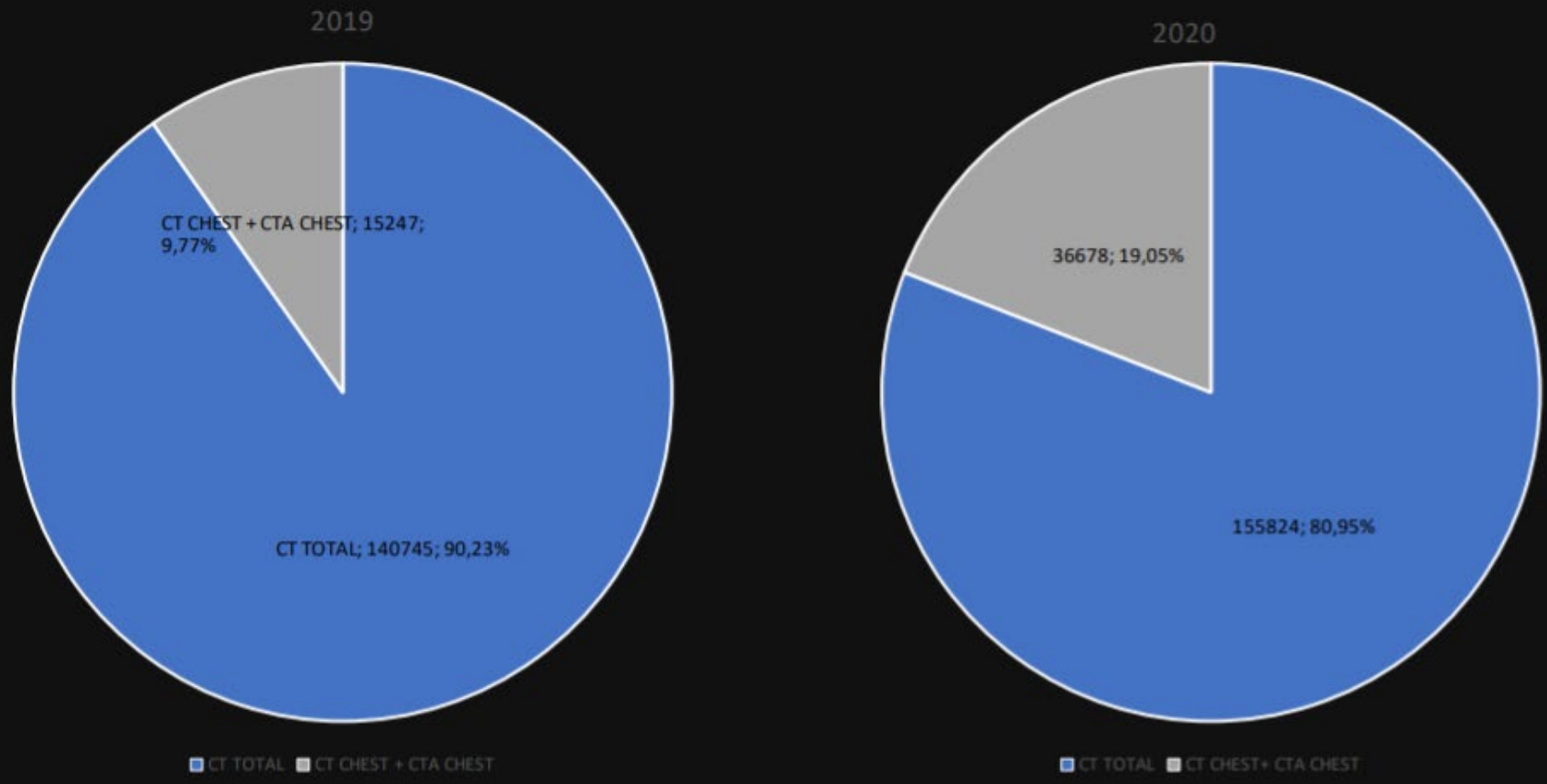


- Regarding the total number of CT scans performed, 140,745 were made in 2019, against 155,094 in 2020, resulting in a 10% increase in the absolute value, which can be attributed to the increase in requests for chest CT scans. (Graphic 1)
- The greatest drops were:





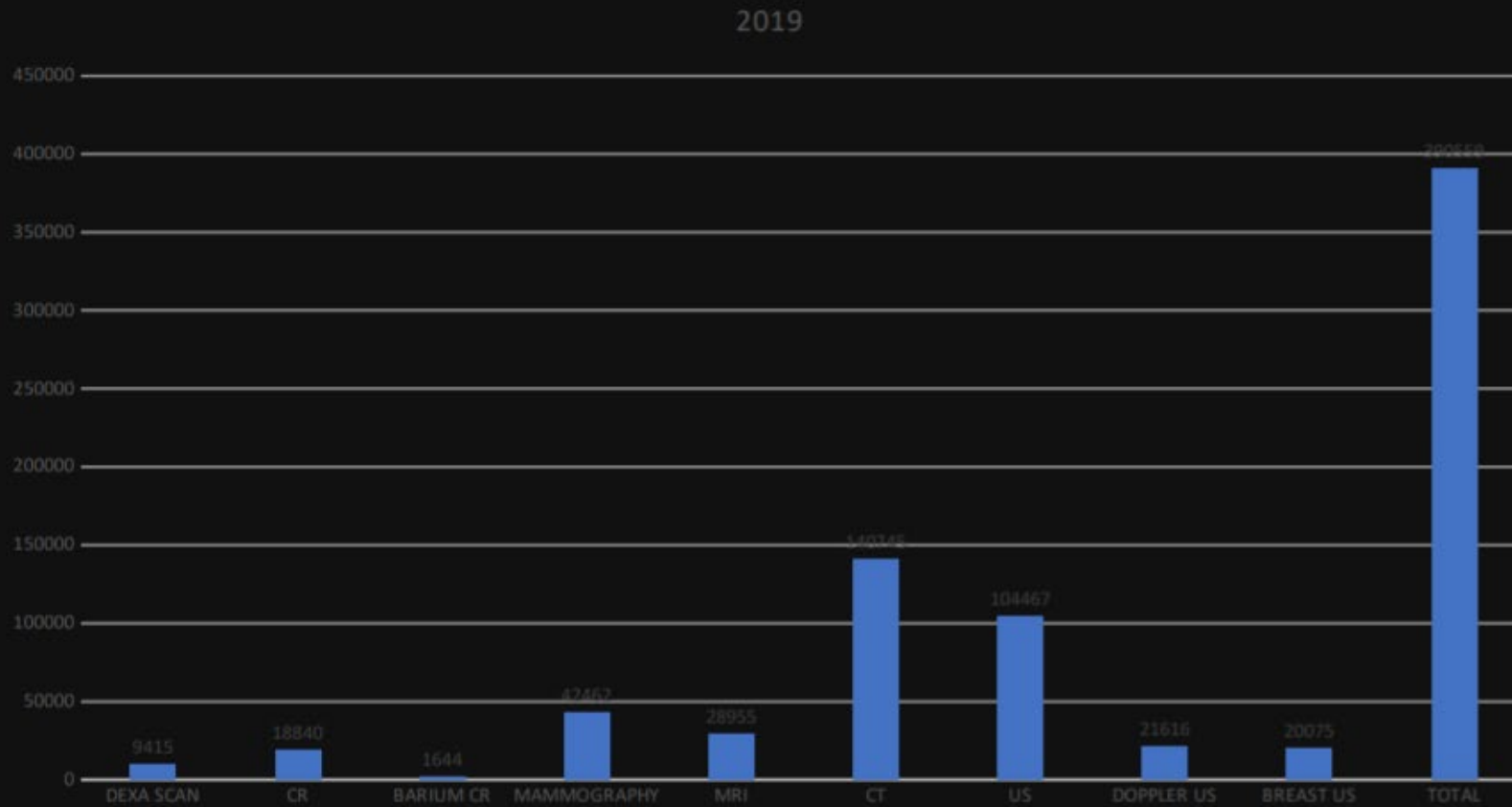
Number of CT-Chest + CTA-Chest performed on 2019 and 2020



Graphic 1

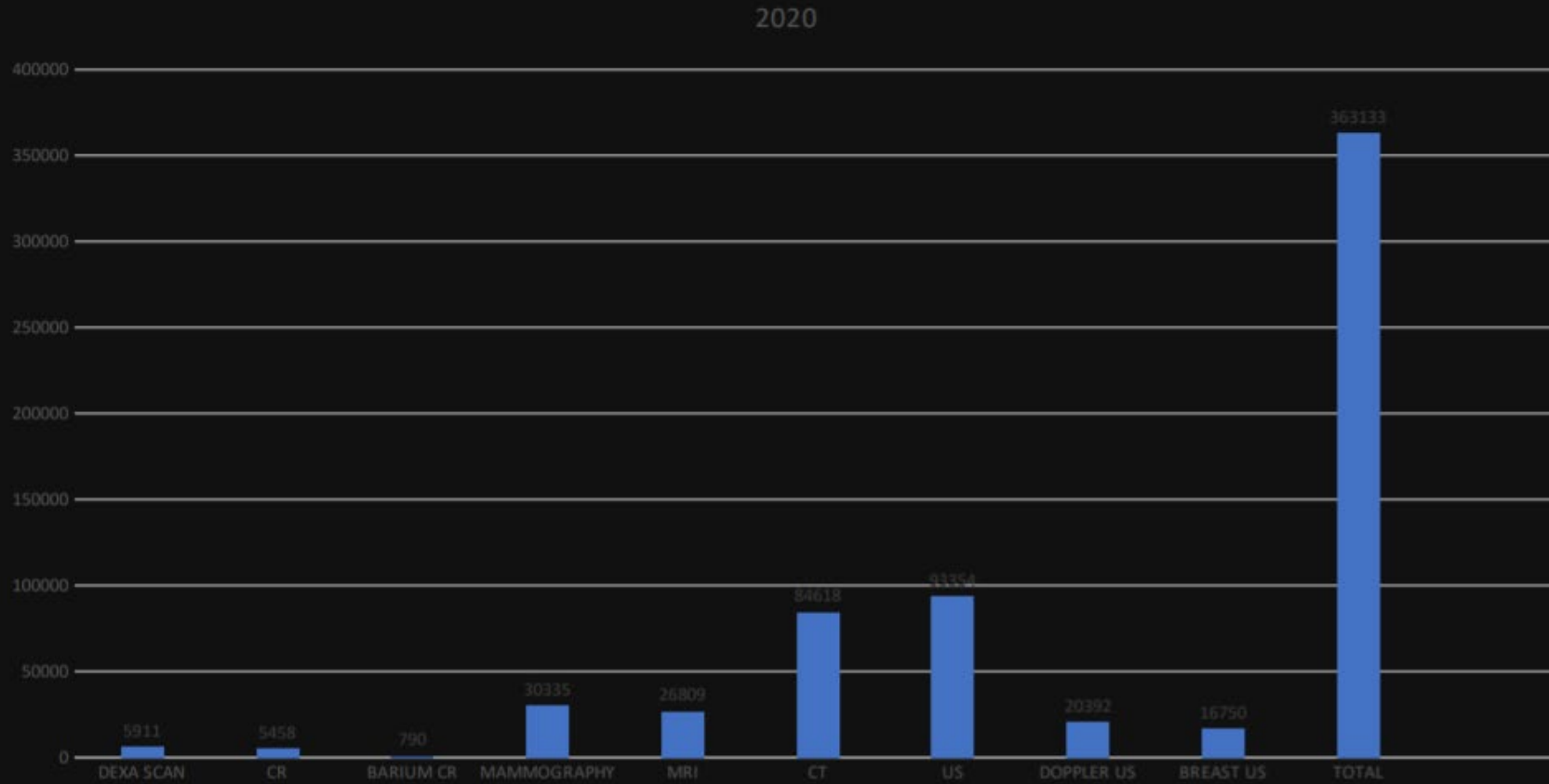


Number of exams performed on 2019 per modality



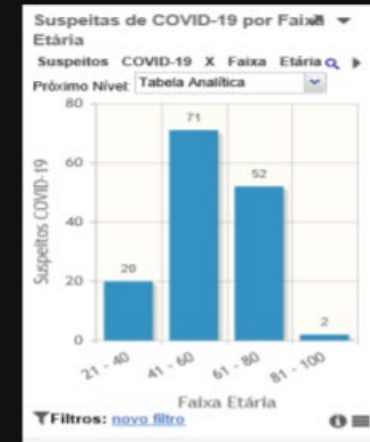
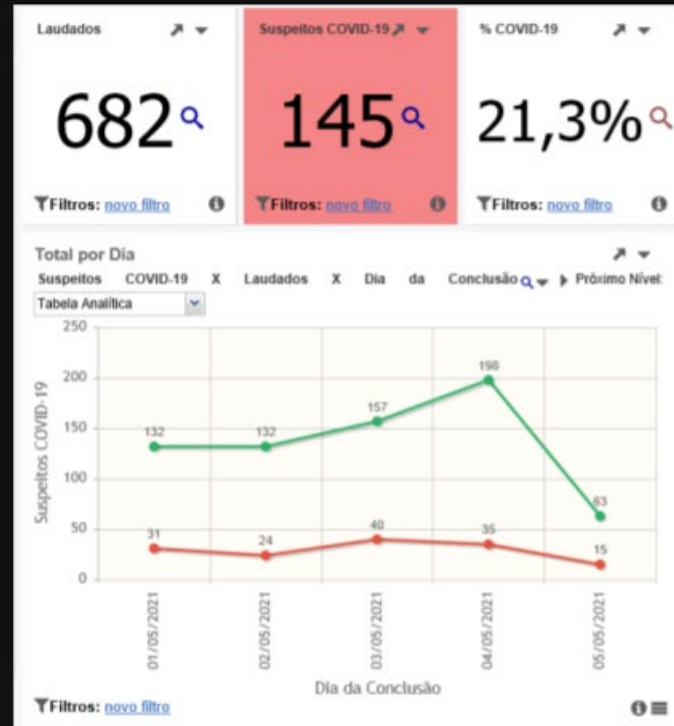
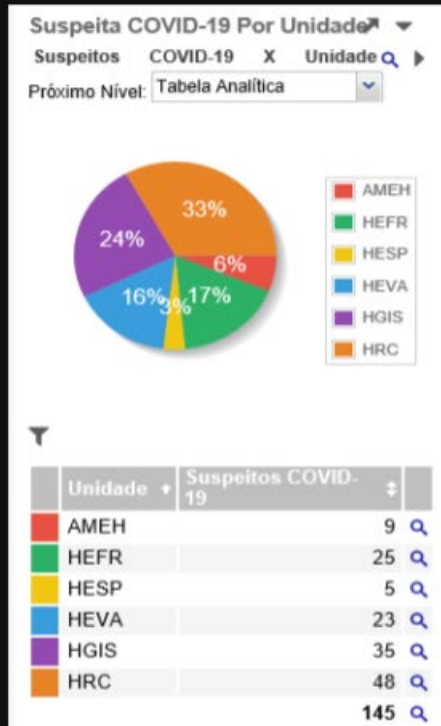


Number of exams performed on 2020 per modality





Example of how the service is counting COVID-19 cases. A measurement is made of the number of suspected and confirmed cases by CT-Chest.



The service tracks all COVID cases by unit, age group, sex and behavior over time through an online panel available to all staff.

Conclusion

- Significant increases:
 - demand for Chest CT
 - general public health expenses
- Decreases:
 - number of exams performed in other modalities – mammography, ultrasound...
- Solution:
 - Emphasize education of the population as well as on preventive medicine, in order to reduce the number of cases of COVID19 and the rate of contagion, to reestablish the pre-pandemic scenario.



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November 28 to December 2

Thank you.