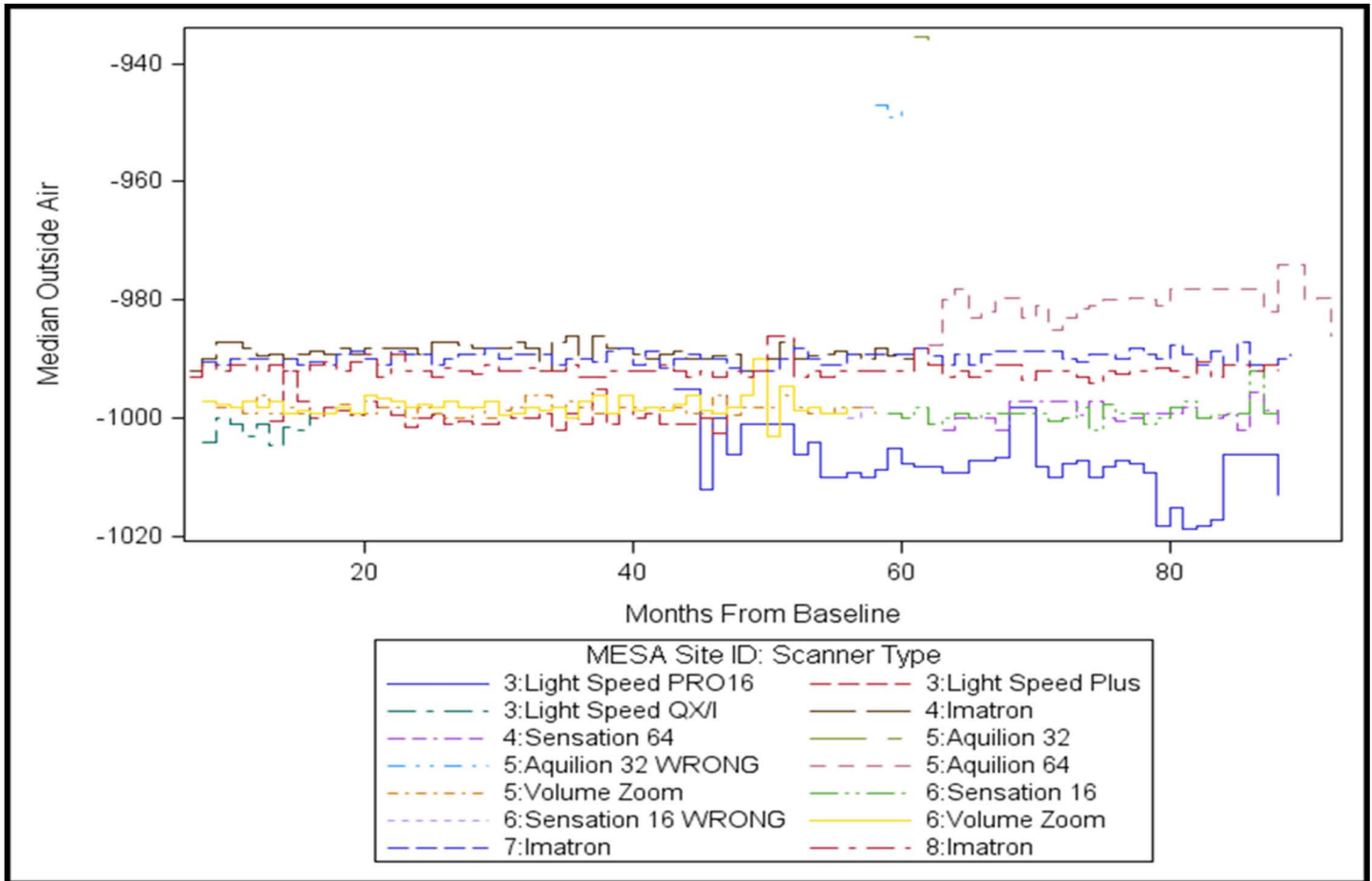


Figure E1. Attenuation of air outside the body by scanner and time in MESA study.



Monthly median attenuation (Hounsfield Units) of air outside the body assessed on each scan over 7 years of follow-up. The median value for each month is plotted against time. Multidetector scanners have an average attenuation of air of -1,000 HU whereas electron beam scanners maintain a stable difference with an average attenuation of -990 HU. The outlier values were all acquired on Toshiba Aquilion scanners (dashed lines departing from average) or a GE Lightspeed Pro 16 scanners (solid blue line departing from average). Exclusion of scans acquired on these scanners increased the precision of results.