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The AISHa Source for the CNAO Facility

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AISHa is an ECR ion source operating at INFN-LNS designed taking into account the typical requirements of hospital facilities, where the key issues are the source reliability optimization and fast maintenance operations together with low ripple, high stability and high reproducibility of the beams produced.

In the framework of the IRPT and INSpIRIT projects and in collaboration with CNAO, further upgrades are underway to produce high intensity beams of Oxygen, Helium and Lithium, new candidates for their better lateral dose distribution compared to protons and lower biological efficacy compared to Carbon ions.

In particular the AISHa source will be equipped with a dedicated oven which will expand the potential of CNAO in the research field, with a longer-term goal of introducing into clinical practice new ionic species more effective for tumours treatment, and in industrial sector due to the capability of producing metal beams of interest in the aerospace field.

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