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# Pediatric cancer particle therapy

- Individual therapy
- very time consuming (sedation, anesthesia)
- Interdisciplinary team
- Mostly in trial protocols

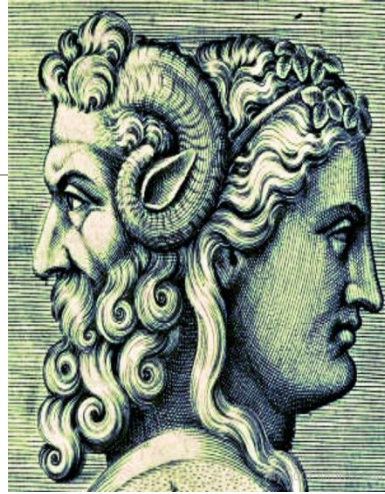


# Challenges in pediatric RadioOncology

Complex tumor volumes

Proximity to neighboring organs, e.g.:

- optical nerves
- bone marrow
- tendon crossings
- brain stem



Aim: local tumor control

High risk for therapy induced adverse effects:

- Impaired vision, blindness
- Neurological deficits
- Xerostomia (mouth dryness)
- Impairment of growth, deformations
- Hormonal deficits
- Secondary malignancies
- etc.

# Indications for particle therapy in pediatric RadiationOncology

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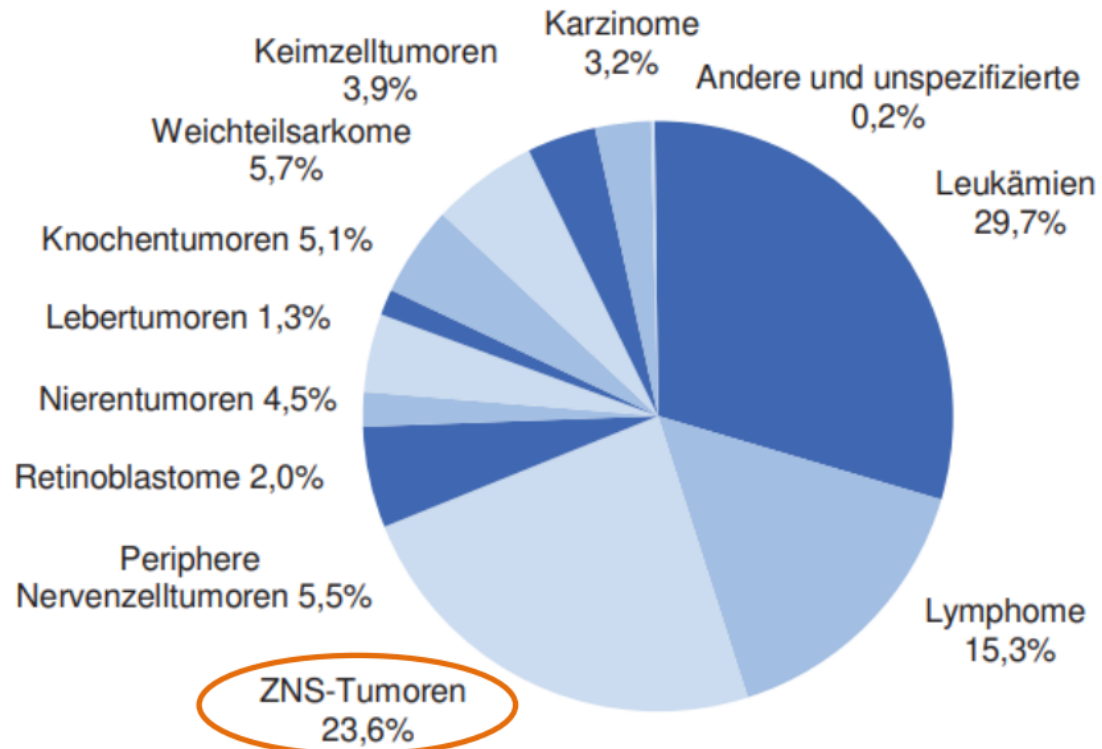
## Protons

- Chordoma / low grade chondrosarkoma
- Glioma, Ependymoma, boost-irradiations
- RMS, EWS, (head&neck, orbita, parameningeal etc.)
- Paraspinal tumors, e.g. sarkoma
- *(irradiation of craniospinal axis in medulloblastoma, pineoblastoma etc.)*

## Carbon ions

- Chordoma / low grade chondrosarkoma
- Osteosarkoma
- Rare tumors, e.g. adenoid cystic carcinoma (ACC)

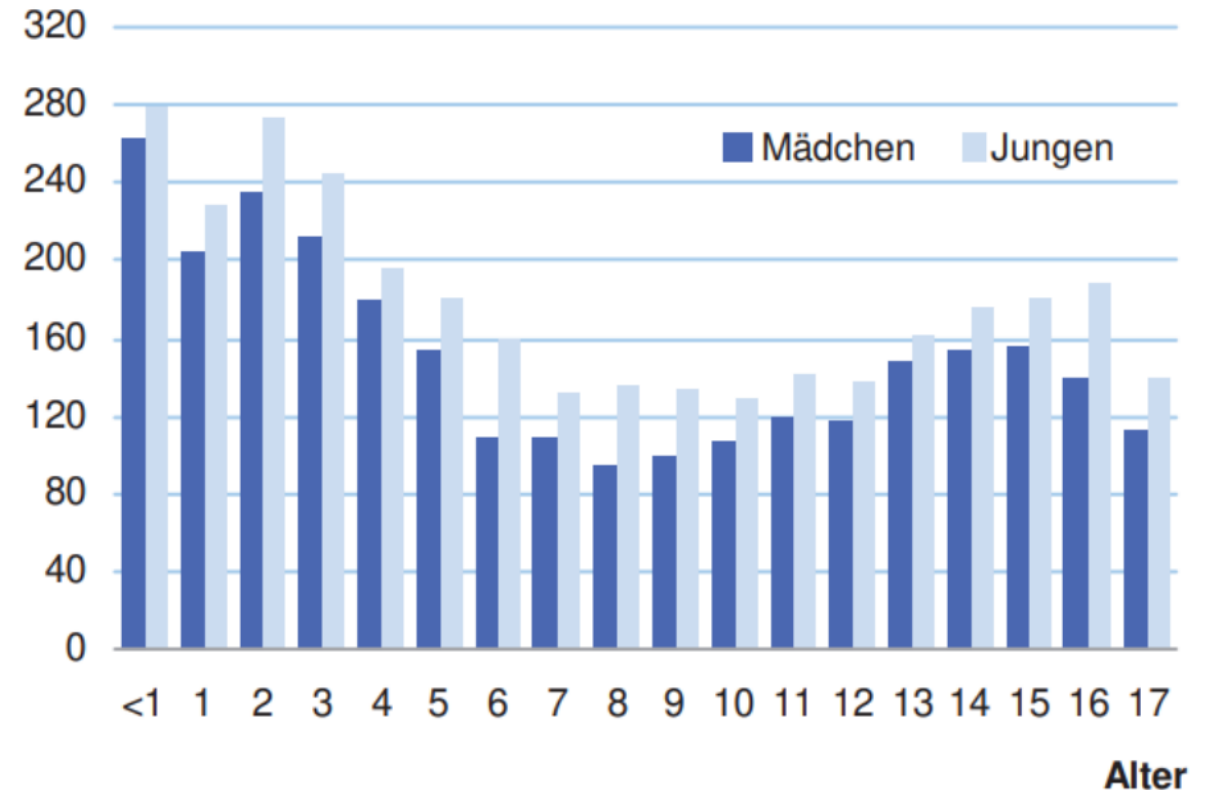
## Relative Häufigkeiten der an das Deutsche Kinderkrebsregister gemeldeten Erkrankungsfälle nach Diagnose-Hauptgruppen\*



ZNS: Zentrales Nervensystem

\*2009-2018, basierend auf insgesamt 21831 unter 18-jährigen Patienten

## Alters- und geschlechtsspezifische Erkrankungsrate pro 1 Million\*



Quelle: deutsches Kinderkrebsregister, Jahresbericht 2019

Relative frequency:	5142 / 21831 = 23.6 %		
Relative frequency of trial patients:	93.5 %		
Incidence rates per million:	Girls	Boys	Total
Number of cases:	2348	2794	5142
Standardized rate *:	37.3	41.9	39.6
Cumulative incidence:	659	742	702
Sex ratio (m/f):	1.2		

### Second neoplasms (SN) within 30 yrs. of diagnosis (1981-2016):

III CNS and miscellaneous intracranial and intraspinal neoplasms

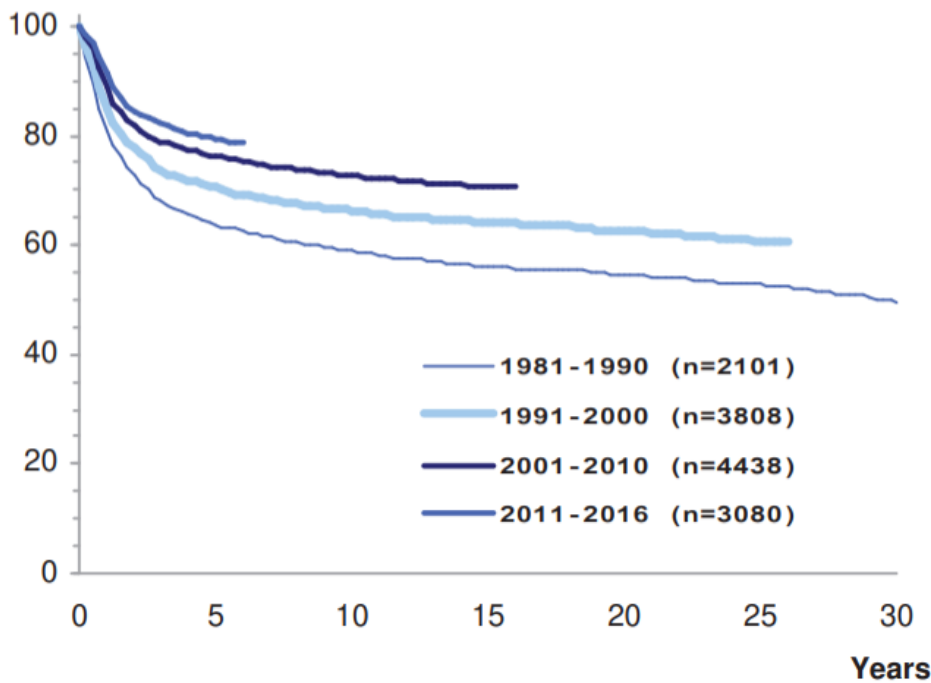
SN after III			III as SN after any primary		
N	% of all 1540 SN	Cumulative incidence	N	% of all 1540 SN	Cumulative incidence
288	18.7 %	7.6 %	344	22.3 %	1.7 %

\* Standard: Segi world standard population

The prognosis for overall survival for pediatric cancer patients has improved over the decades

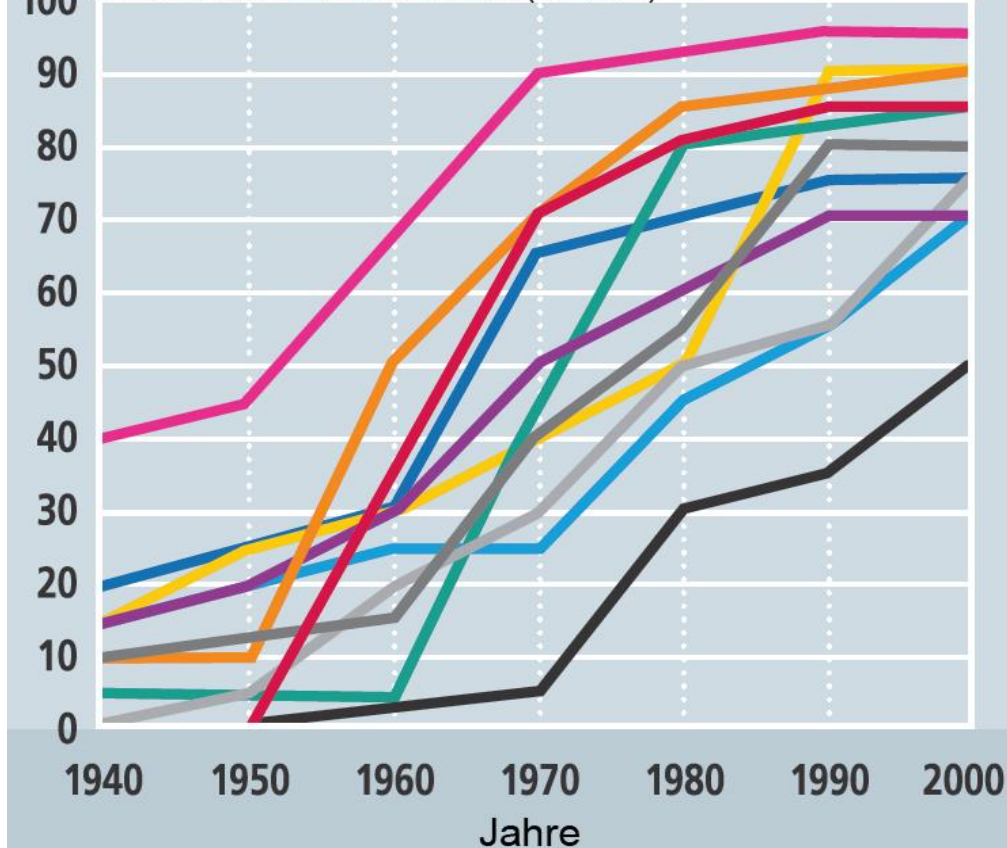


### Survival probabilities by year of diagnosis Germany 1981-2016



Quelle: deutsches Kinderkrebsregister, Jahresbericht 2019

### Zwei-Jahres-Überlebensraten (Prozent)



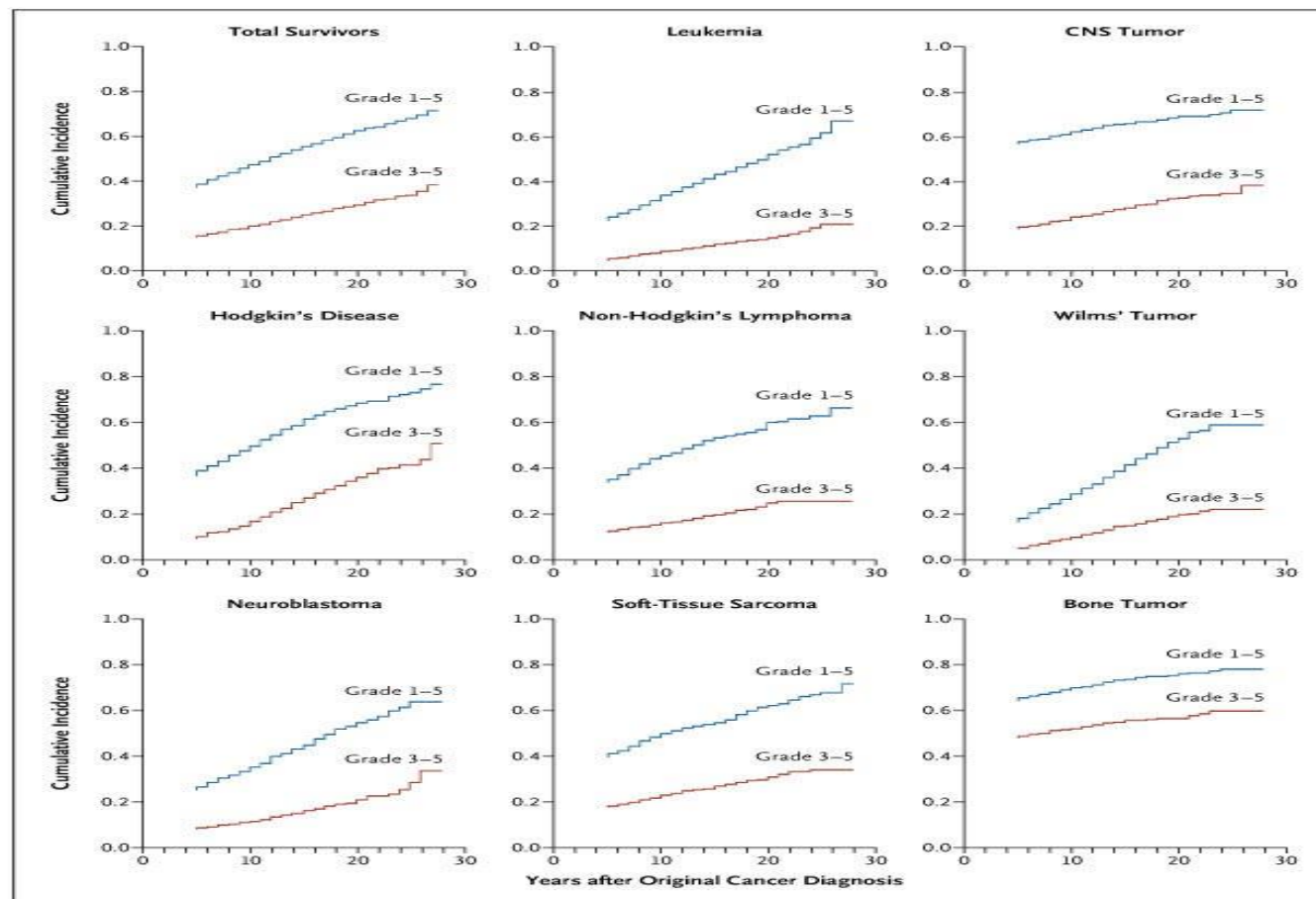
- Morbus Hodgkin
- Rhabdomyosarkom
- Wilms-Tumor
- Maligne Keimzell-tumoren
- ALL\*
- Neuroblastom
- Non-Hodgkin-Lymphom
- Hirntumore
- Ewingsarkom
- AML\*
- Osteosarkom

ALL\*: akute lymphoblastische Leukämie  
 AML\*: akute myeloblastische Leukämie

# Price of survival: the childhood cancer survival study



Cumulative incidence of chronic health conditions among 10,397 adult survivors of pediatric cancer



# Price of survival: the childhood cancer survival study

**Table 3. Relative Risk of Selected Severe (Grade 3) or Life-Threatening or Disabling (Grade 4) Health Conditions among Cancer Survivors, as Compared with Siblings.**

Condition	Survivors (N = 10,397)	Siblings (N = 3034)	Relative Risk (95% CI)
	<i>percent</i>		
Major joint replacement*	1.61	0.03	54.0 (7.6–386.3)
Congestive heart failure	1.24	0.10	15.1 (4.8–47.9)
Second malignant neoplasm†	2.38	0.33	14.8 (7.2–30.4)
Cognitive dysfunction, severe	0.65	0.10	10.5 (2.6–43.0)
Coronary artery disease	1.11	0.20	10.4 (4.1–25.9)
Cerebrovascular accident	1.56	0.20	9.3 (4.1–21.2)
Renal failure or dialysis	0.52	0.07	8.9 (2.2–36.6)
Hearing loss not corrected by aid	1.96	0.36	6.3 (3.3–11.8)
Legally blind or loss of an eye	2.92	0.69	5.8 (3.5–9.5)
Ovarian failure‡	2.79	0.99	3.5 (2.7–5.2)



62% affected,  
25% vital,  
25% >3 conditions

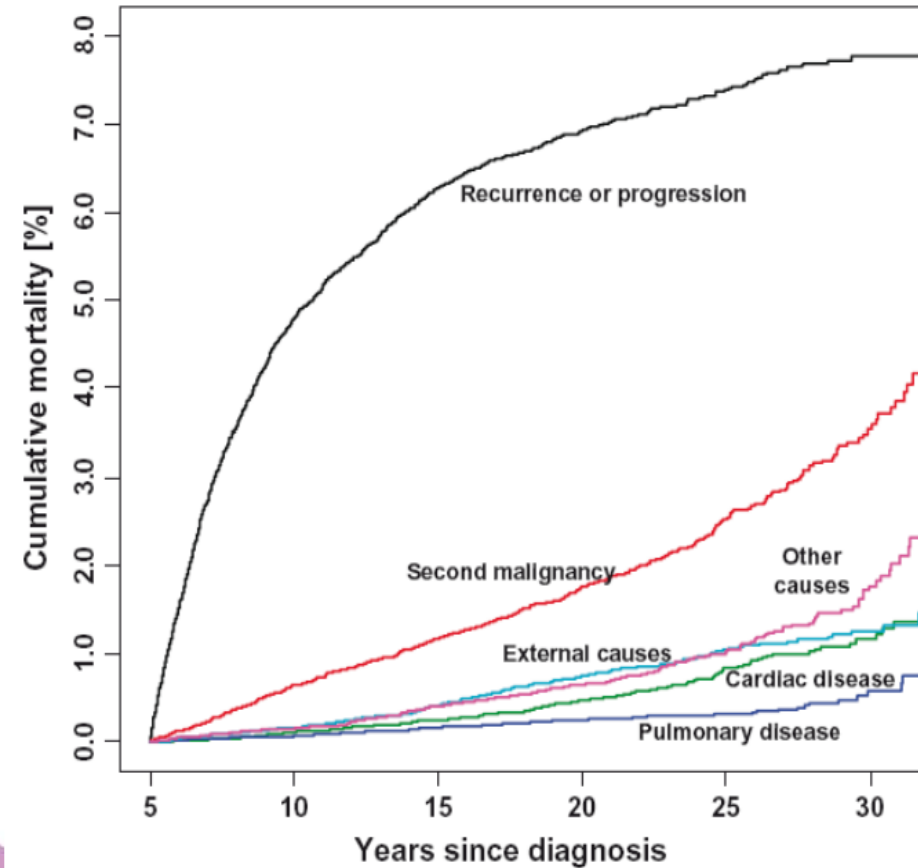
\* For survivors, major joint replacement was not included if it was part of cancer therapy.



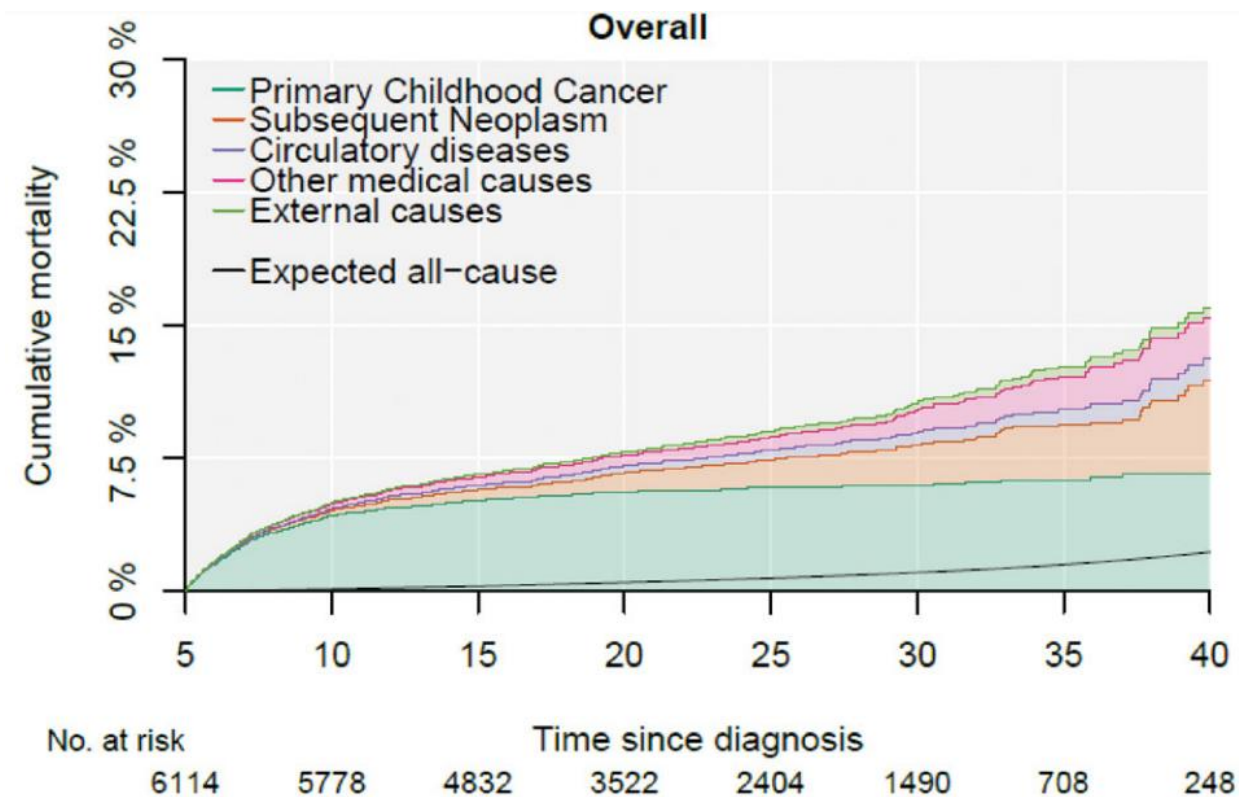
# Price of survival: late mortality



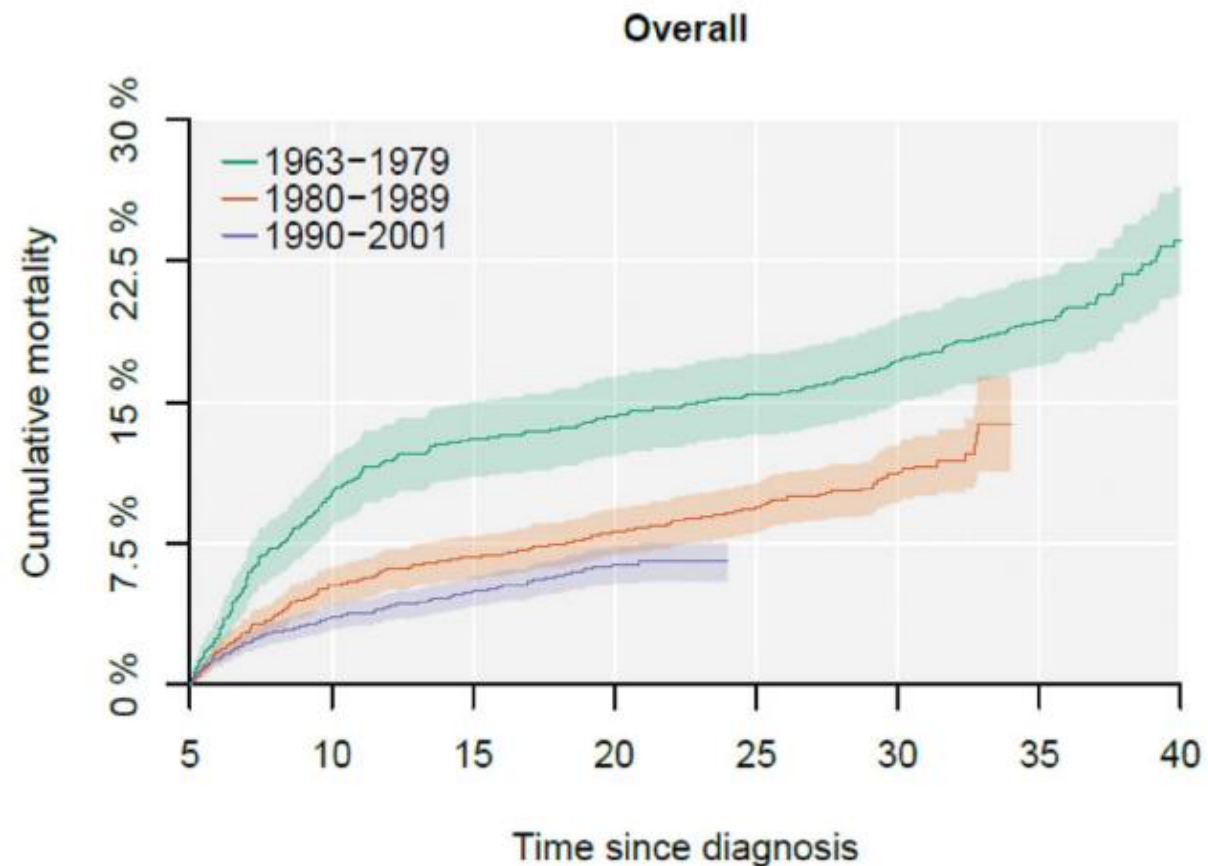
Cause-specific late mortality among long term survivors of childhood cancer



# Price of survival: late mortality



**Figure 1.** Cumulative mortality (%) by time since diagnosis for various COD categories in the DUTCH LATER cohort. \*Corrected for sex, age and calendar year.



**Figure 3.** Cumulative late mortality (%) of CCSs by time since diagnosis for different periods of diagnosis.

# physical rationale for ion beam therapy

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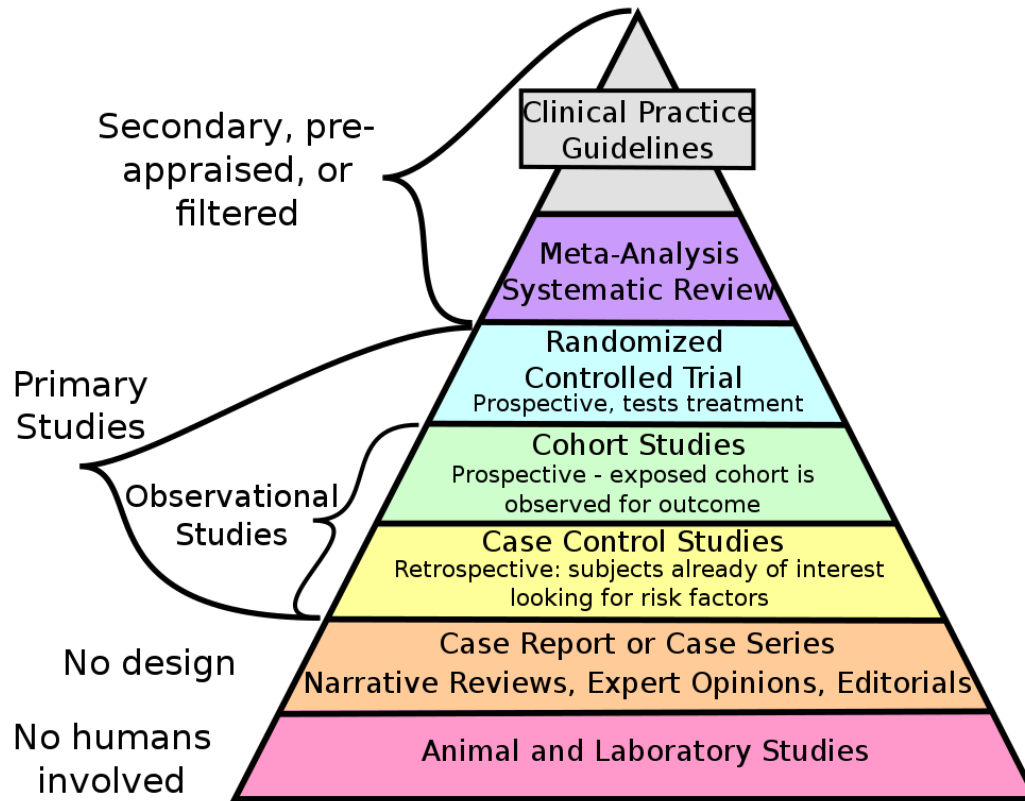
## potential aims of ion beam therapy

- Dose escalation -> improving outcome
- Sparing of normal tissue -> reduction of late sequelae
- Reduction of irradiated volume -> reduction of 2nd malignancies

## particularly relevant if

- Very high radiation dose is needed
- Very sensitive patients/structures are involved

# Level of evidence



Randomized trials on proton beam therapy in children internationally considered unethical

# German society of radiation oncology

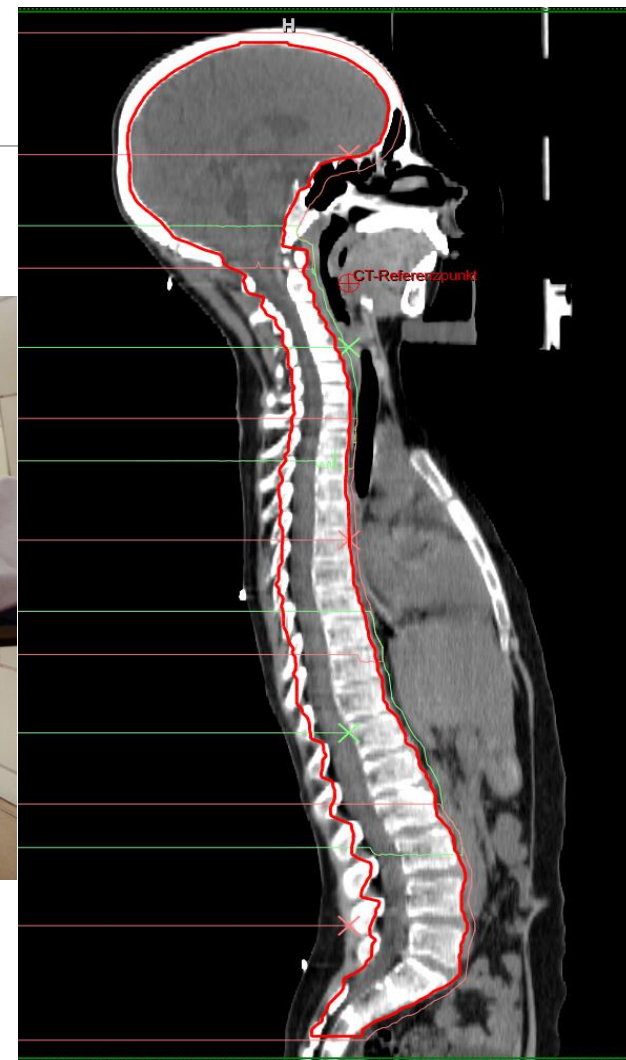
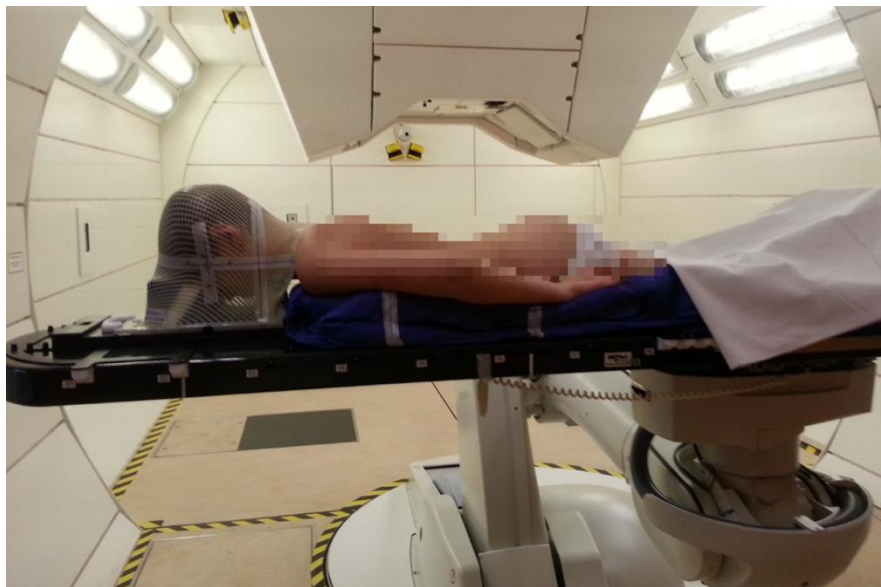
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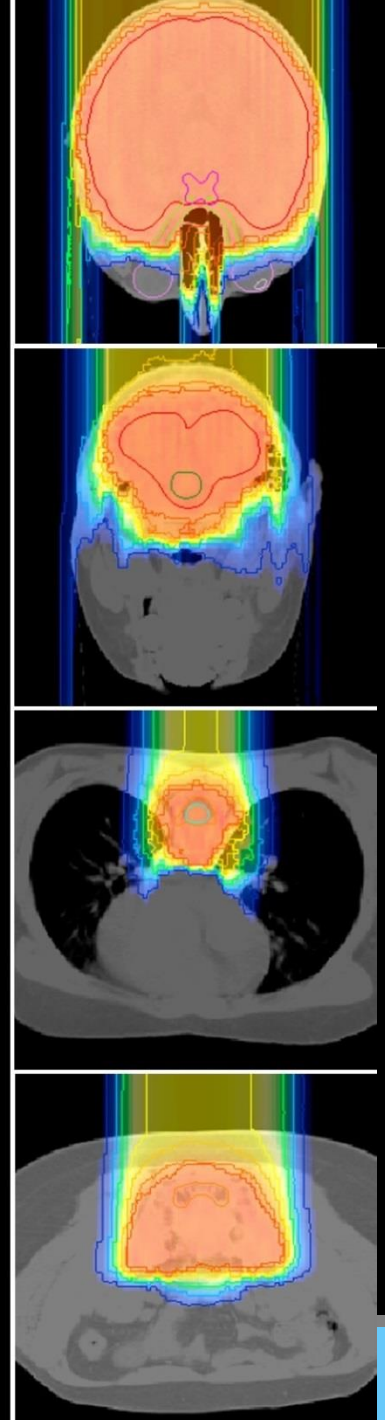
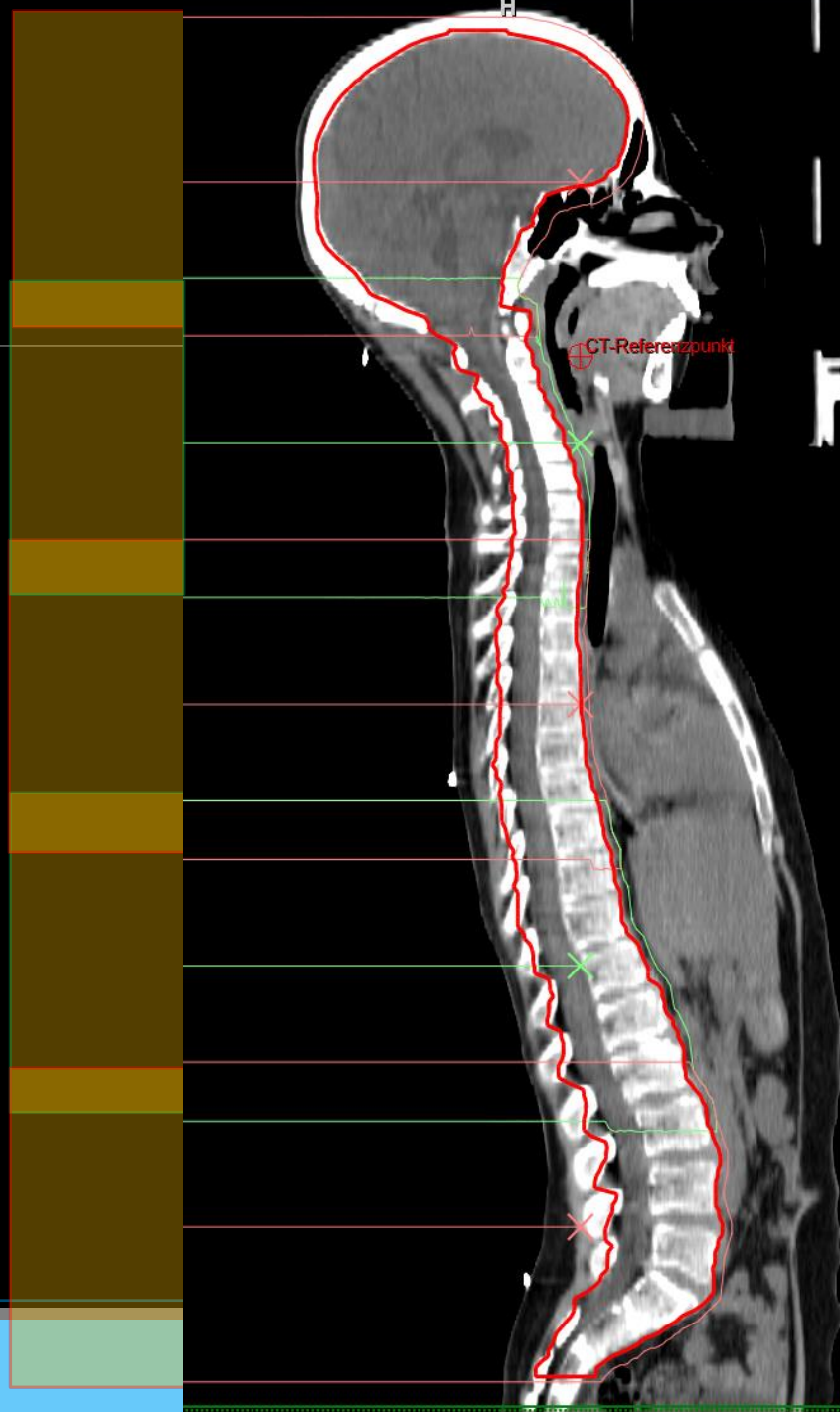
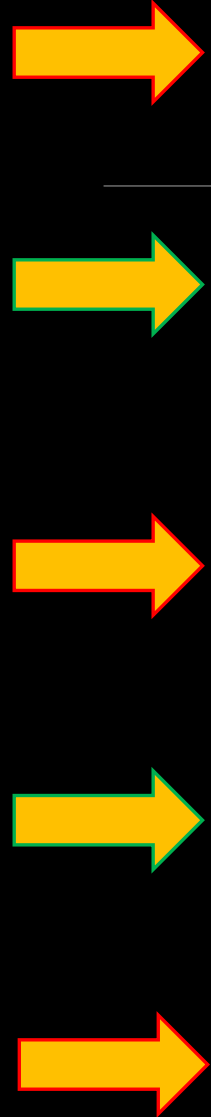
## Proton beam therapy

- is **NOT** considered being **experimental**
- is considered to be a **proven radiation technique**
- can be performed according to photon standards
- does not need special approval (radiation safety board) if dose/volume concepts are alike photon concepts
- may help to reduce dose to normal tissue

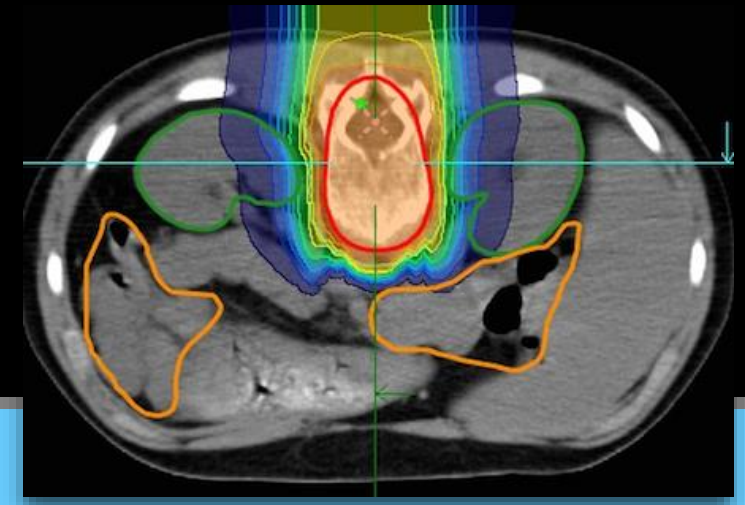
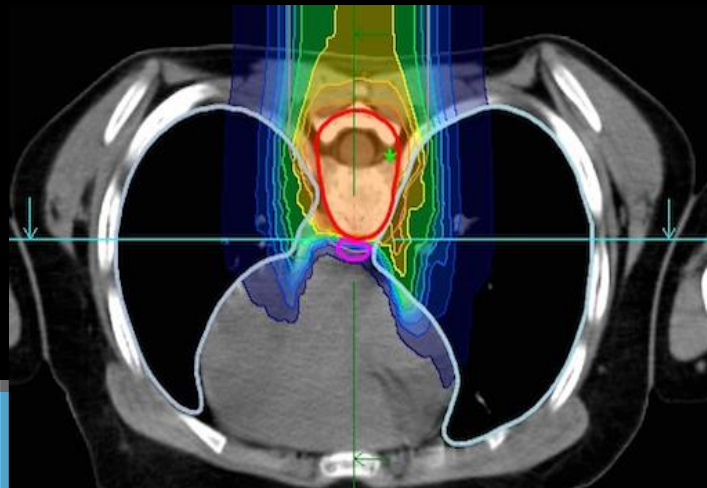
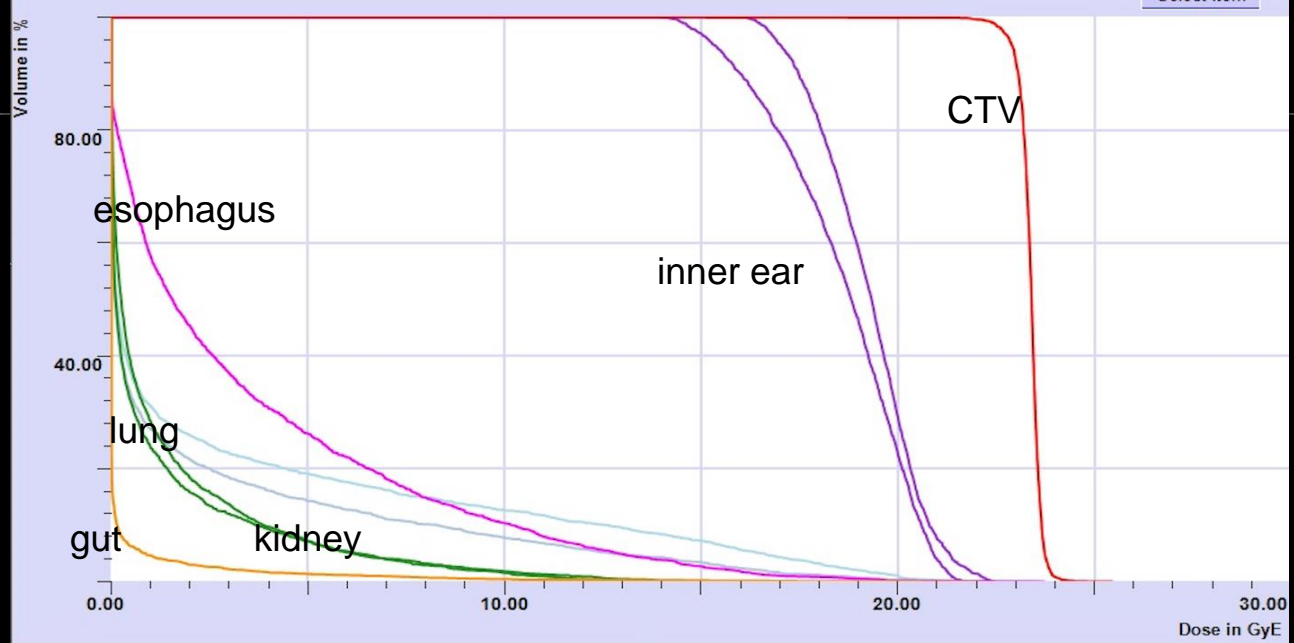
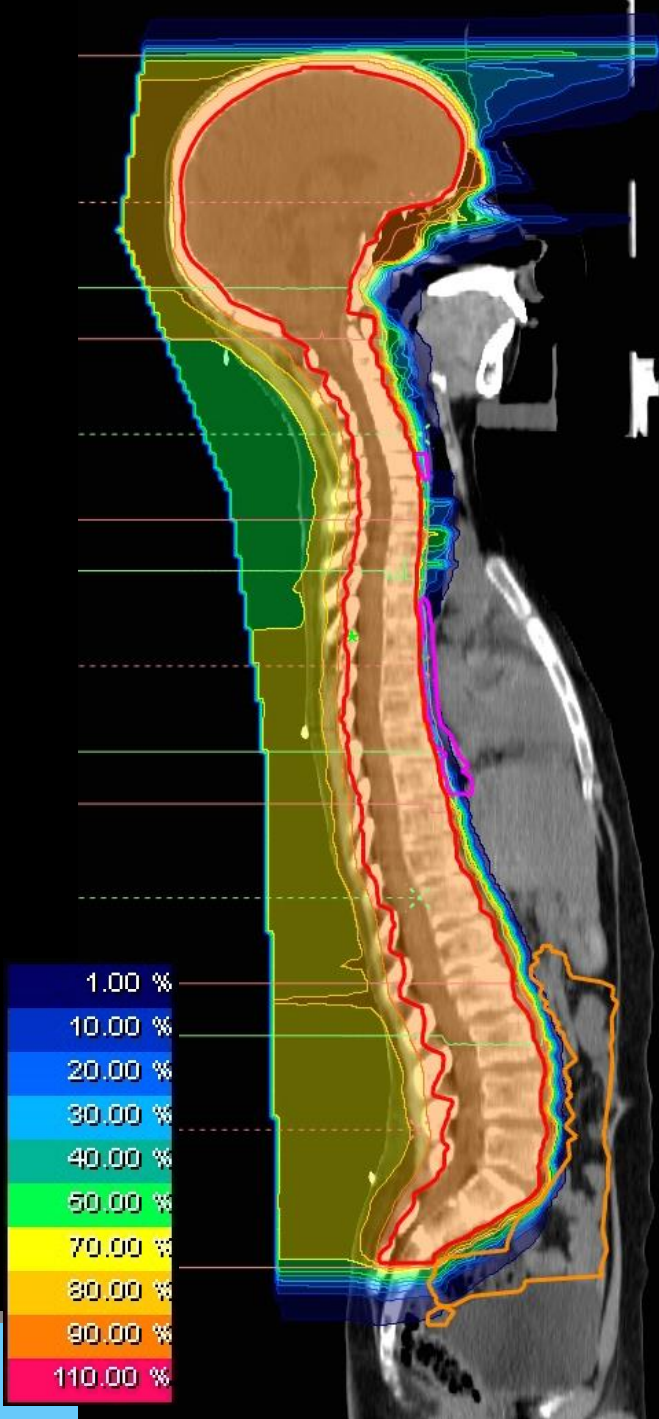
# medulloblastoma

- Large irradiation field
  - Vertebral bodies might need to be included in PTV
    - Growth impairment
    - Blood production disorders
  - So many critical OAR: thyroid gland, heart, lungs, kidneys, bowel, ...
- challenging situation necessitating special radiation techniques



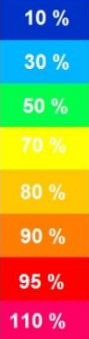
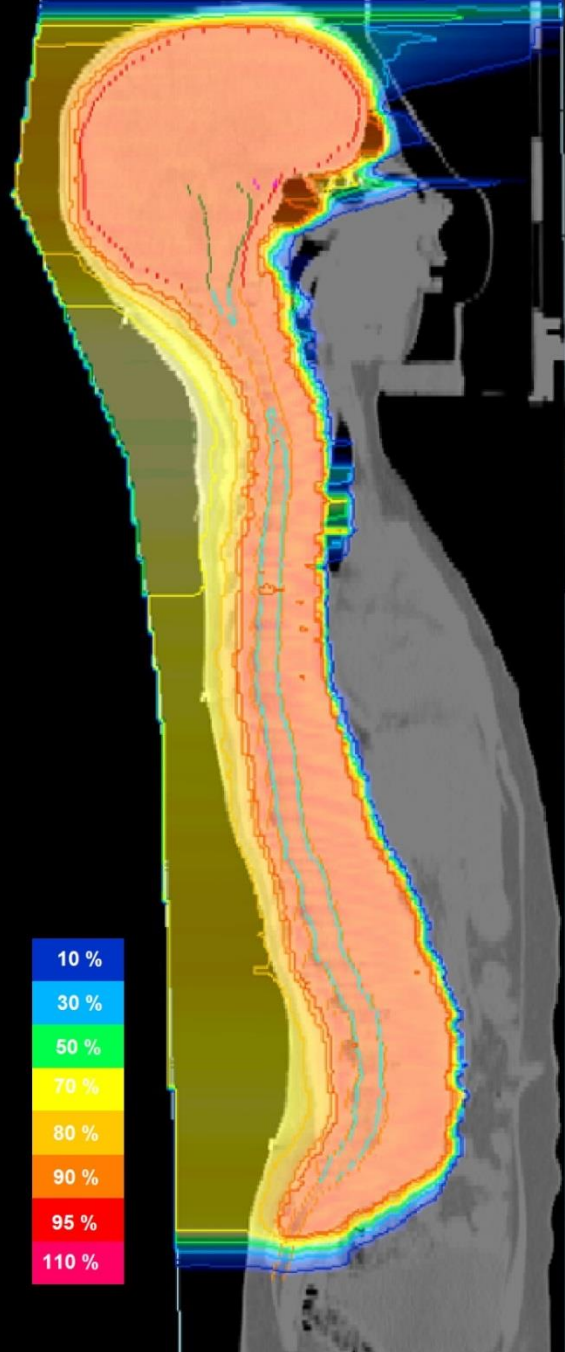


# cranio spinal irradiation

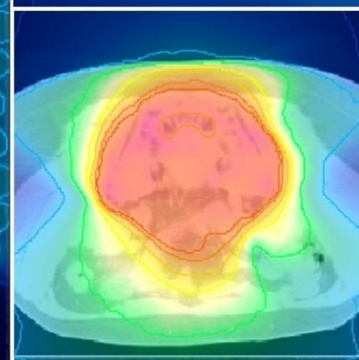
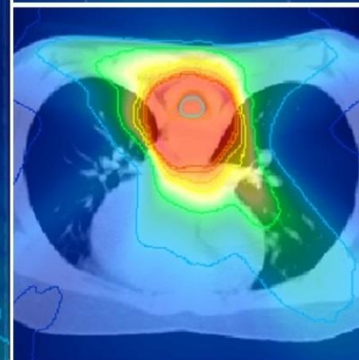
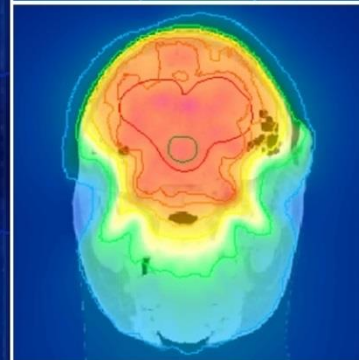
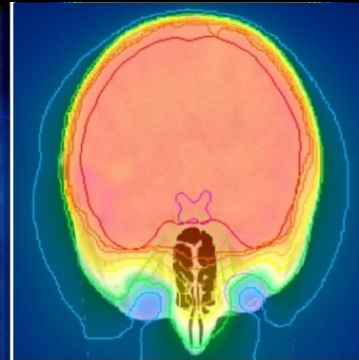
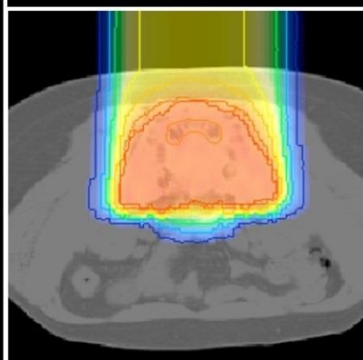
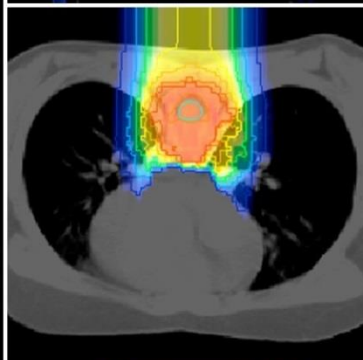
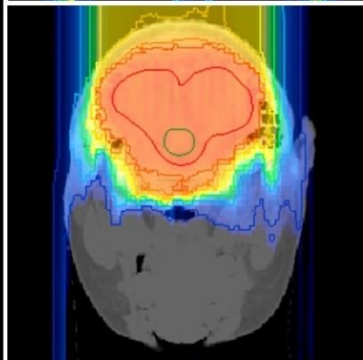
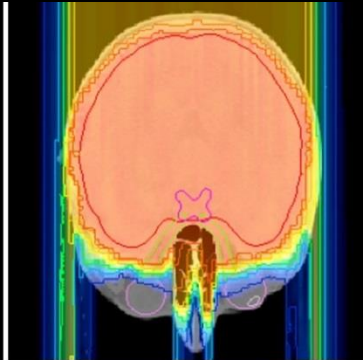
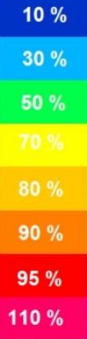
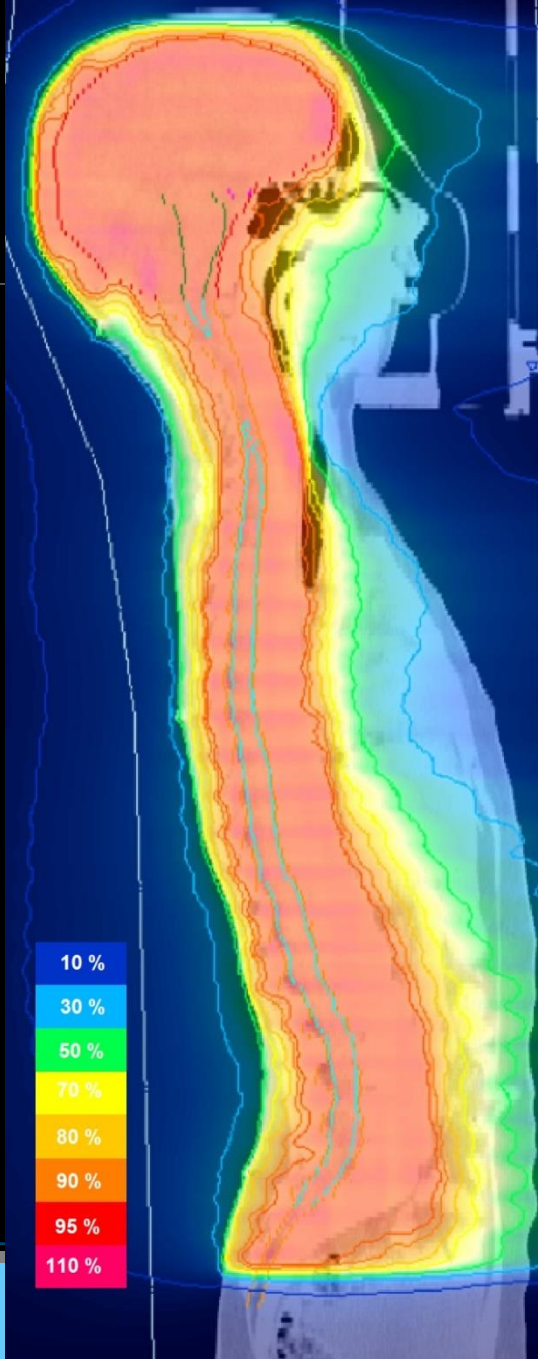




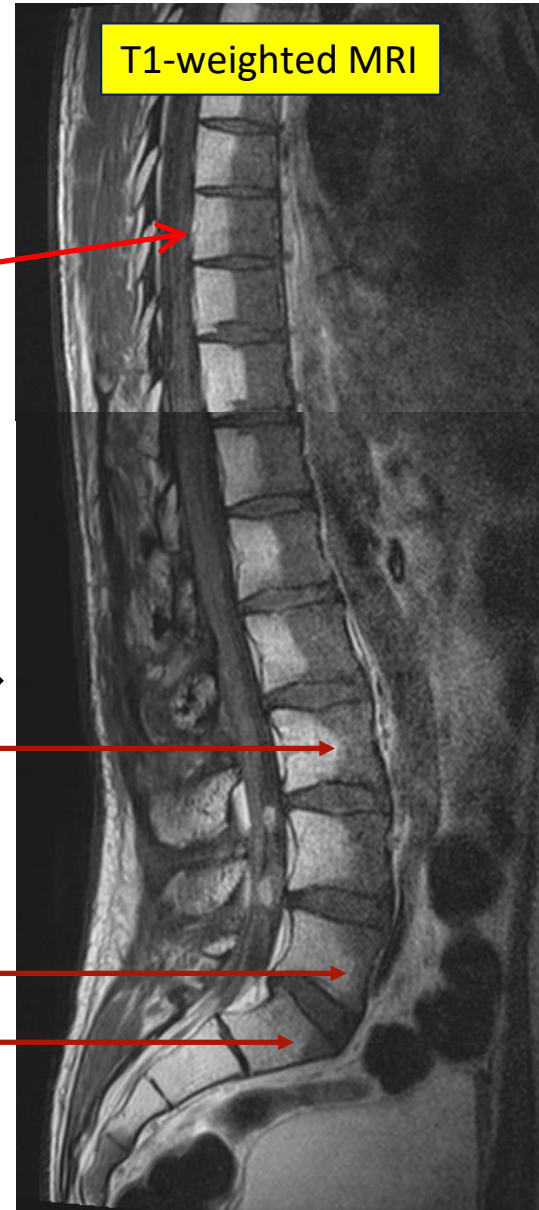
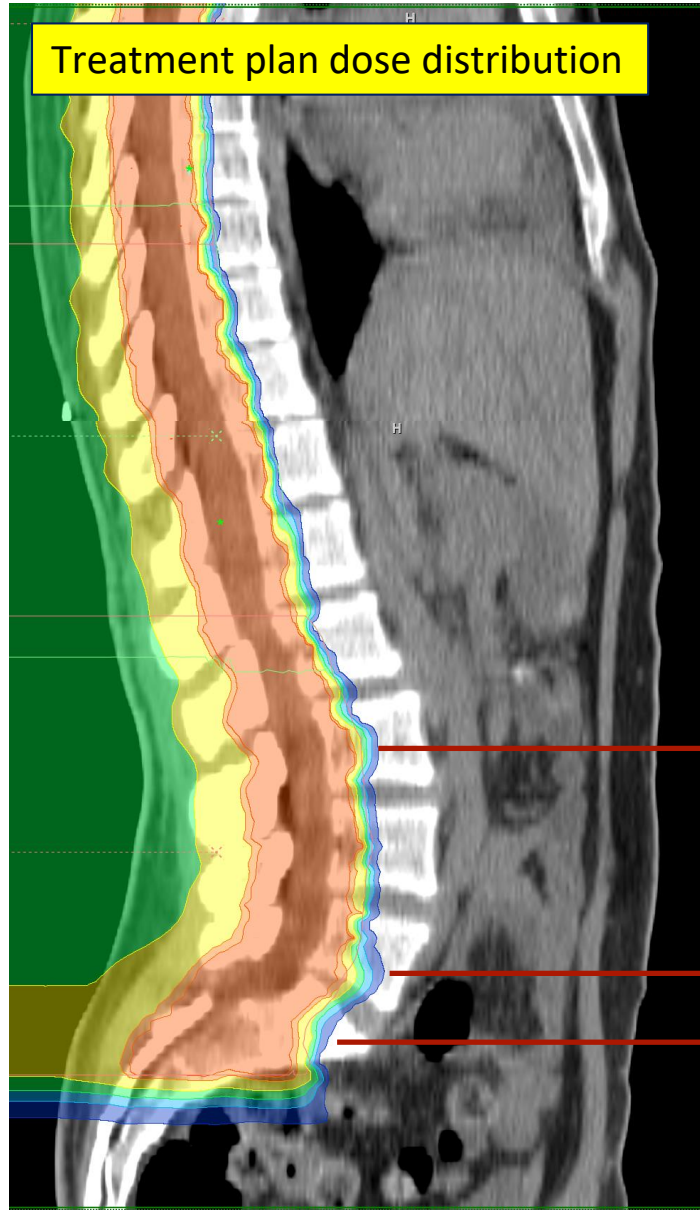
# protonen



# photons

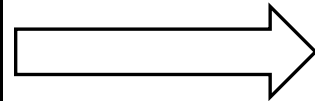


# In vivo range verification



Fatty changes  
in irradiated part  
of vertebral bodies

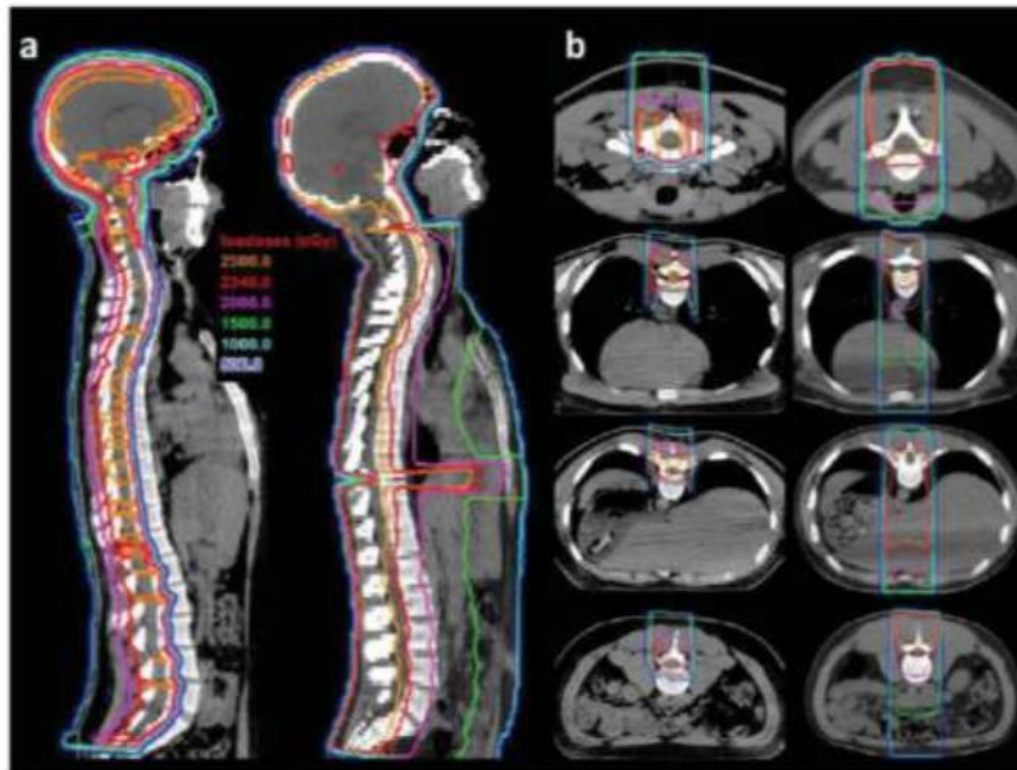
~6 month  
after  
Proton RT



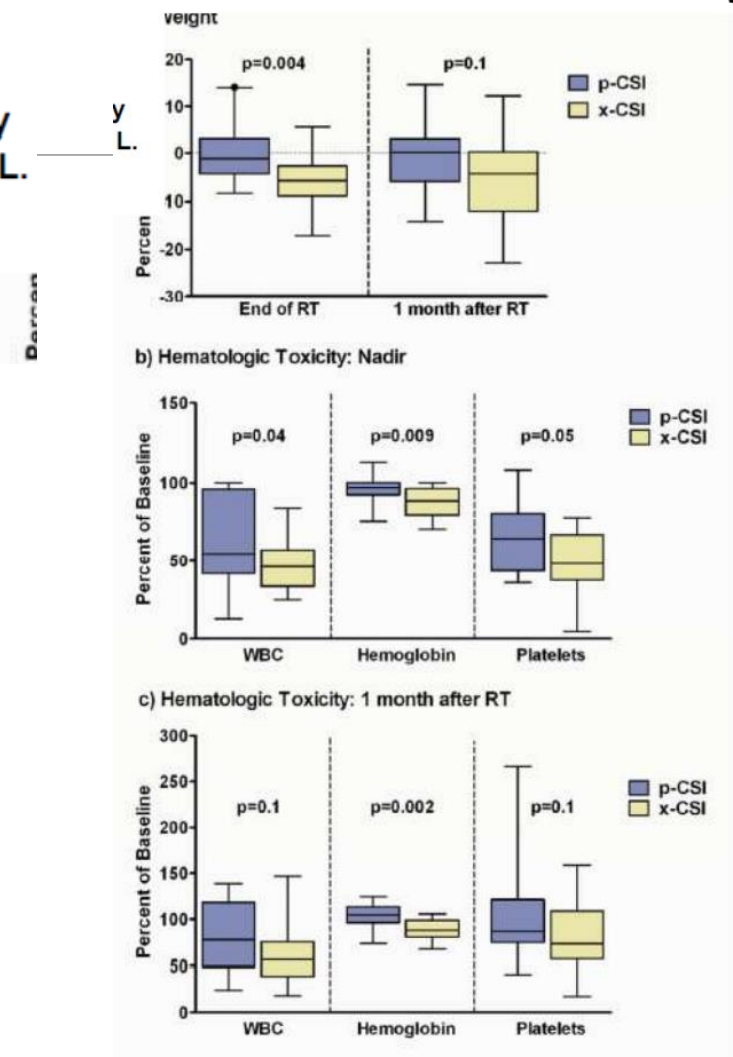
Proves entire treatment chain, incl. patient positioning, beam application

# Proton Beam Craniospinal Irradiation Reduces Acute Toxicity for Adults with Medulloblastoma

Aaron P. Brown, M.D.<sup>a</sup>, Christian L. Barney, B.S.<sup>e</sup>, David R. Grosshans, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>a</sup>, Mary Frances McAleer, M.D., Ph.D.<sup>a</sup>, John F. de Groot, M.D.<sup>b</sup>, Vinay K. Puduvalli, M.D.<sup>b</sup>, Susan L. Tucker, Ph.D.<sup>d</sup>, Cody N. Crawford, C.M.D.<sup>a</sup>, Meena Khan, C.M.D.<sup>a</sup>, Soumen Khatua, M.D.<sup>c</sup>, Mark R. Gilbert, M.D.<sup>b</sup>, Paul D. Brown, M.D.<sup>a</sup>, and Anita Mahajan, M.D.<sup>a</sup>



## PT & Acute Toxicity



## Endocrine outcomes with proton and photon standard risk medulloblastoma

Bree R. Eaton, Natia Esiashvili, Sungjin Kim, Briana Patterson, Eliza Claire Mazewski, Tobey J. MacDonald, David Ebb, Shannon M. MacF

## Yock TI et al. Quality of life outcomes in proton and photon treated pediatric brain tumor survivors.

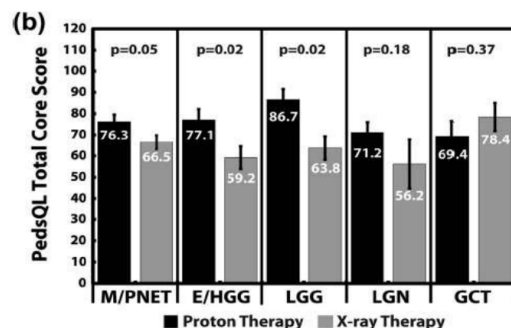
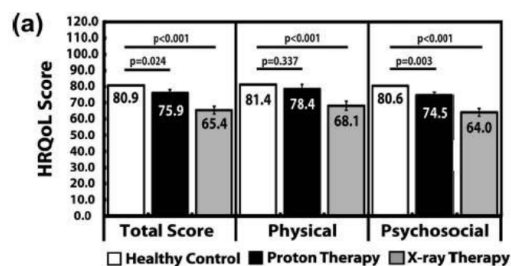
Radiother Oncol. 2014 Oct; 113 (1):89-94

- 57 PT vs. 63 XRT
- Ped. Brain tumours
- PedsQL Tests after 3 years

original reports

# Superior Intellectual Outcomes After Proton Radiotherapy Compared With Photon Radiotherapy for Pediatric Medulloblastoma

Lisa S. Kahalley, PhD<sup>1,2</sup>; Rachel Peterson, PhD<sup>2</sup>; M. Douglas Ris, PhD<sup>1,2</sup>; Laura Janzen, PhD<sup>2</sup>; M. Fatih Okcu, MPH, MD<sup>1,2</sup>; David R. Grosshans, MD, PhD<sup>4</sup>; Vijay Ramaswamy, MD, PhD<sup>2,5</sup>; Arnold C. Paulino, MD<sup>4</sup>; David Hodgson, MD<sup>6</sup>; Anita Mahajan, MD<sup>7</sup>; Derek S. Tsang, MD, PhD<sup>6</sup>; Normand Laperriere, MD<sup>6</sup>; William E. Whitehead, MPH, MD<sup>1,2</sup>; Robert C. Dauser, MD<sup>1,2</sup>; Michael D. Taylor, MD, PhD<sup>3,5</sup>; Heather M. Conklin, PhD<sup>8</sup>; Murali Chintagumpala, MD<sup>1,2</sup>; Eric Bouffet, MD<sup>3,5</sup>; and Donald Mabbott, PhD<sup>3,5</sup>



### Article

## Neurocognitive Outcomes in Pediatric Patients Following Brain Irradiation

Katharina Weusthof<sup>1,2</sup>, Peggy Lüttich<sup>3</sup>, Sebastian Regnery<sup>1,2</sup>, Laila König<sup>1,2,4,5</sup>, Denise Bernhardt<sup>6,7</sup>, Olaf Witt<sup>3,8</sup>, Klaus Herfarth<sup>1,2,4,5,9,10</sup>, Andreas Unterberg<sup>11</sup>, Christine Jungk<sup>11</sup>, Benjamin Farnia<sup>12</sup>, Stephanie E. Combs<sup>6,7</sup>, Jürgen Debus<sup>1,2,4,5,9,10</sup>, Stefan Rieken<sup>13</sup>, Semi Harrabi<sup>1,2,4,5,9,10</sup> and Sebastian Adeberg<sup>1,2,4,5,9,10,\*</sup>

### Clinical Investigation

## Cognitive and Adaptive Outcomes After Proton Radiation for Pediatric Patients With Brain Tumors

Margaret B. Pulsifer, PhD,<sup>\*,†</sup> Haley Duncanson, PhD,<sup>\*,†</sup> Julie Grieco, PsyD,<sup>\*,†</sup> Casey Evans, MS,<sup>\*</sup> Irene Delgado Tseretopoulos, PhD,<sup>\*</sup> Shannon MacDonald, MD,<sup>†,‡</sup> Nancy J. Tarbell, MD,<sup>†,‡</sup> and Torunn I. Yock, MD<sup>†,‡</sup>

# Cancer

Original Article | [Free Access](#)

## Cost-effectiveness of proton radiation in the treatment of childhood medulloblastoma

Jonas Lundkvist M.Sc., [✉](#) Mattias Ekman Ph.D., Suzanne Rehn Ericsson Ph.D., Bengt Jönsson Ph.D., Bengt Glimelius Ph.D.

First published: 03 February 2005 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/cncr.20844> | Citations: 93

Evidenz for Cost effectiveness!

Table 1. Cost and Clinical Outcome per Patient for the Base-Case Assumptions

Variable	Proton radiation	Conventional radiation	Difference
Radiation cost (€)	10217.9	4239.1	5978.8
Cost from adverse events (€)	4231.8	33857.1	-29625.3
Total cost (€)	14449.7	38096.2	-23646.5
LYG	13.866	13.600	0.266
QALY	12.778	12.095	0.683

LYG: life years gained; QALY: quality-adjusted life-years.

Table 2. Radiation-Induced Events per 100 Patients

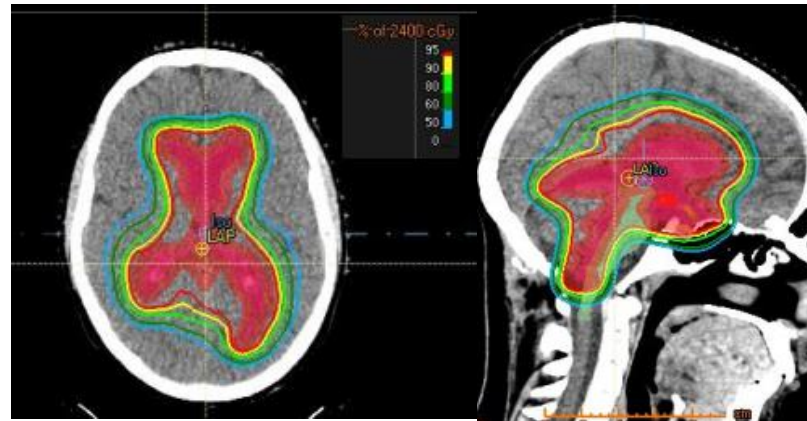
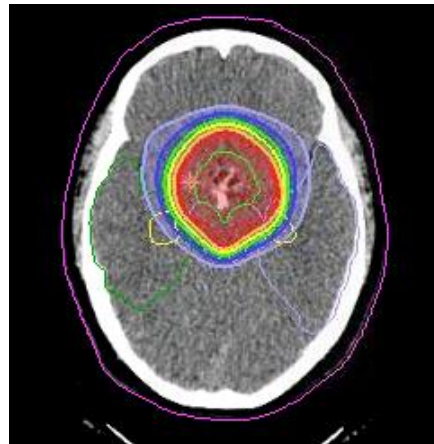
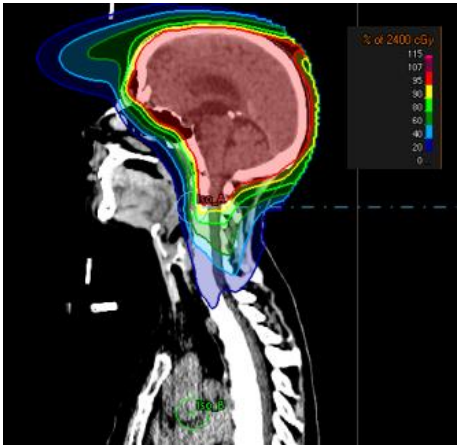
Variable	Hearing loss	Hypothyroidism	Osteoporosis	GHD	Nonfatal secondary malignancies	Fatal events
Conventional radiation	11.9	16.3	0.4	17.1	1.2	1.91
Proton radiation	1.4	2.7	0.1	2.0	0.7	0.38
Difference	10.5	13.6	0.3	15.1	0.5	1.53

GHD: growth hormone deficiency.

The current analyses indicated that **proton therapy had both lower total cost and better effect than conventional radiation**. In the base-case analysis, **proton therapy was associated with €23,600 cost savings, 0.27 additional life years, and 0.68 additional QALYs per patient** compared with conventional radiation. Thus, the additional costs for radiation therapy were offset by reduced costs for adverse events.

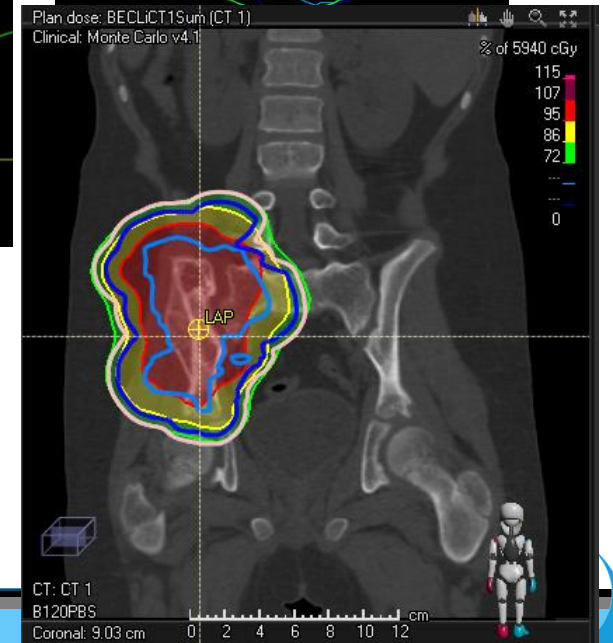
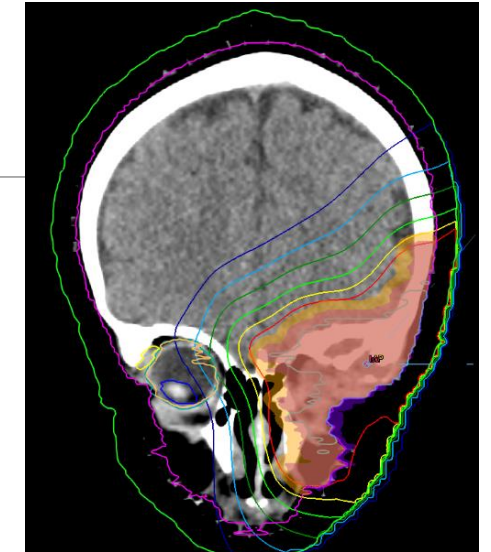
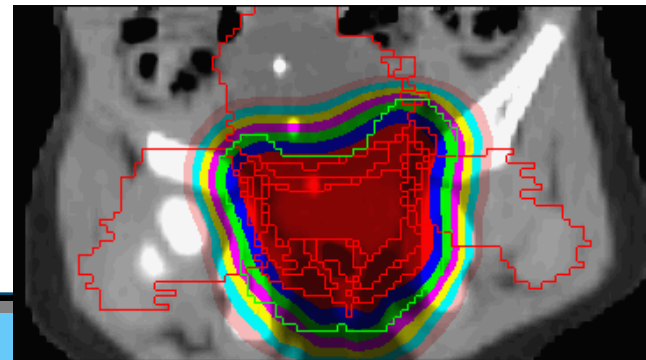
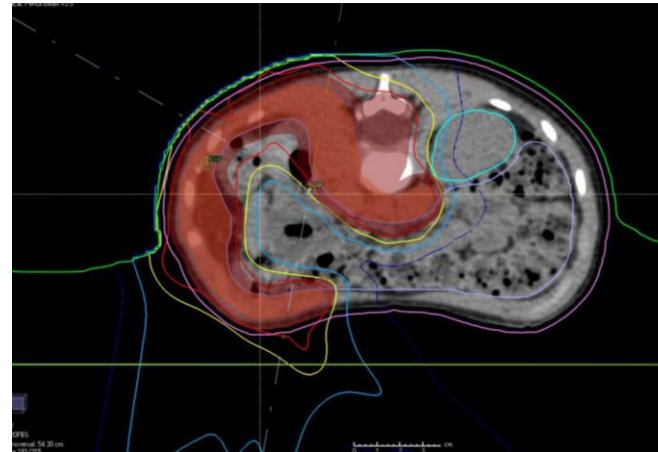
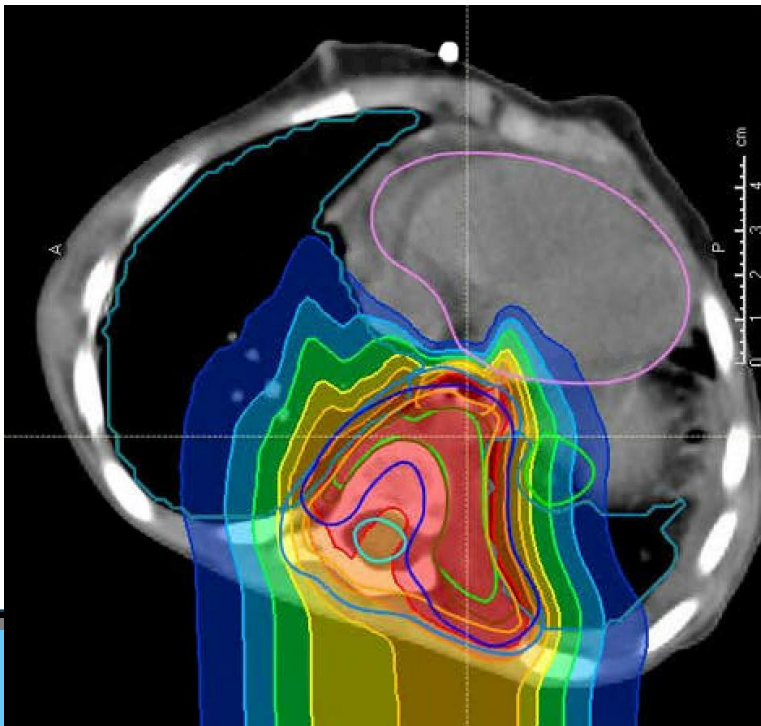
# Proton beam therapy for CNS

1. Craniospinal („CSI“)
2. Whole ventricular system
3. Focal irradiation
4. Tumor bed
5. ...



# Proton beam therapy for non-CNS

1. Osteo-, Rhabdomyo- or Ewing-Sarcoma
2. lymphoma
3. neuroblastoma
4. retinoblastoma



## Second cancer risk after primary cancer treatment with three-dimensional conformal, intensity-modulated, or proton beam radiation therapy

Michael Xiang<sup>1,2</sup>, Daniel T Chang<sup>1</sup>, Erqi L Pollom<sup>1,2</sup>

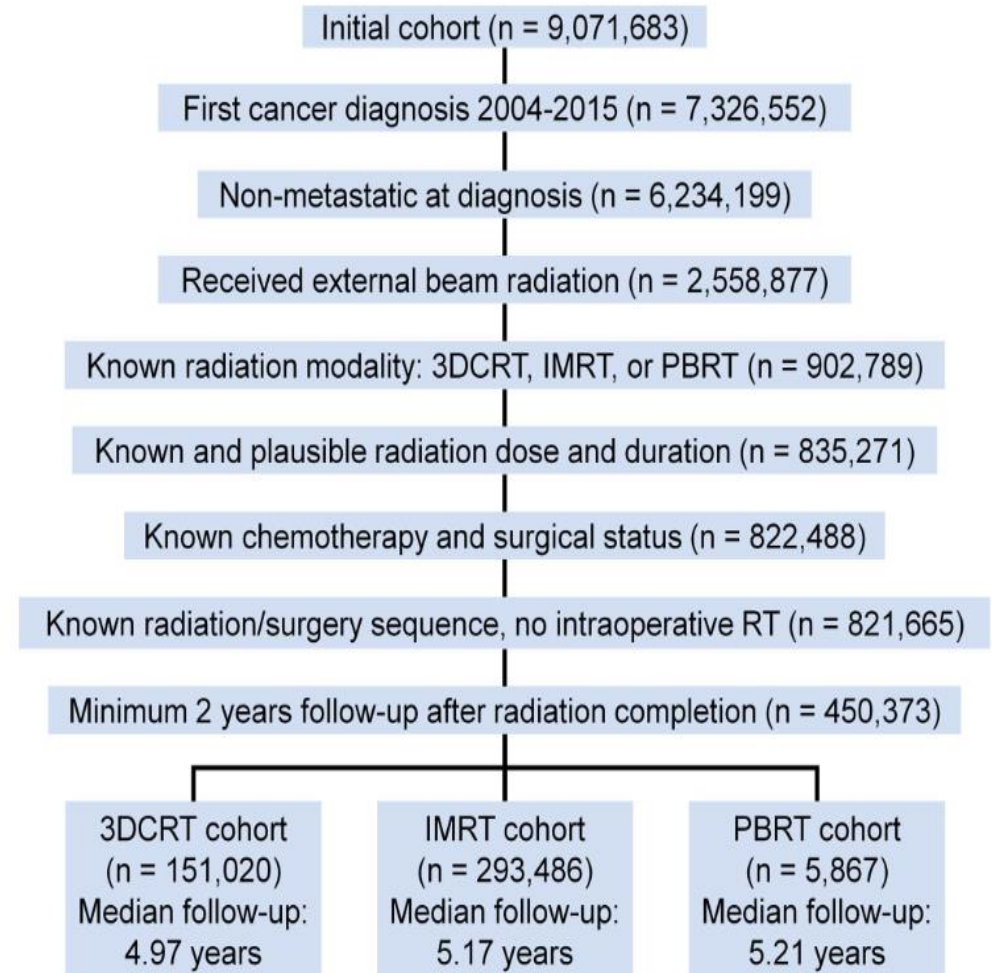
**TABLE 2.** Overall Second Cancer Risk for Intensity-Modulated Radiation Relative to Three-Dimensional Conformal Radiation and Proton Beam Radiation Relative to Intensity-Modulated Radiation<sup>a</sup>

Cohort and Adjustment Method(s)	Adjusted OR (95% CI)	P
IMRT relative to 3DCRT		
Nonmatched, multivariable	1.00 (0.97-1.02)	.75
Matched, univariable	1.03 (1.00-1.06)	.04
Matched, multivariable	1.00 (0.98-1.03)	.75
PBRT relative to IMRT		
Nonmatched, multivariable	0.31 (0.26-0.36)	<.0001
Matched, univariable	0.30 (0.26-0.36)	<.0001
Matched, multivariable	0.29 (0.24-0.35)	<.0001

Abbreviations: 3DCRT, 3-dimensional conformal radiation; IMRT, intensity-modulated radiation; OR, odds ratio; PBRT, proton beam radiation; CI, confidence interval.

<sup>a</sup>Values were estimated using multivariable adjustment, matching, or both (with the same covariates used in Table 1).

## Evidence for reduction of SPC



**FIGURE 1.** This is a Consolidated Standards for Reporting Trials (CONSORT)-style diagram for cohort identification. 3DCRT indicates 3-dimensional conformal radiation therapy; IMRT, intensity-modulated radiation therapy; PBRT, proton beam radiation therapy.



# A (Strong) Case

**2008:** Dx: **Bilateral RB**  
 TX: Enucleation left eye  
 Chemotherapy  
 EBRT right eye (50Gy)

**2015:** ♀ 7.5 y.  
 Swelling left paraocular  
 Dx: **undiff. Sarcoma**

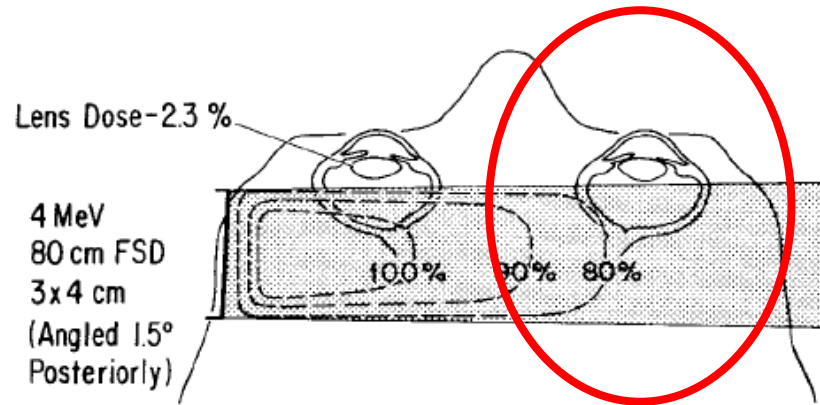


Fig. 2. Computer-calculated isodose distribution for a single 3 X 4-cm lateral field using a 4 MeV Varian linear accelerator. The anterior beam edge is placed at the bony canthus and the beam angled 1.5° posteriorly if the contralateral eye remains in place. Ipsilateral lens dose is estimated using a Li<sub>2</sub>BO<sub>4</sub> thermal luminescent dosimeter.

## Today: Proton Beam Therapy

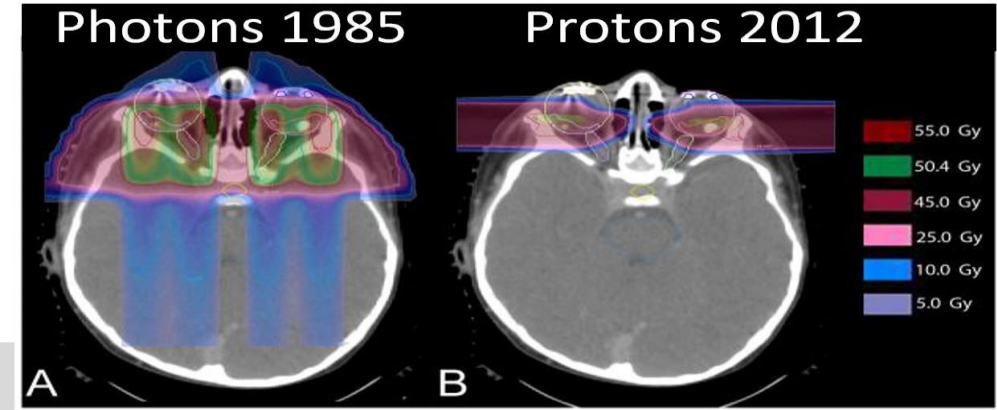


# Second non-ocular tumors among survivors of retinoblastoma treated with contemporary photon and proton radiotherapy.

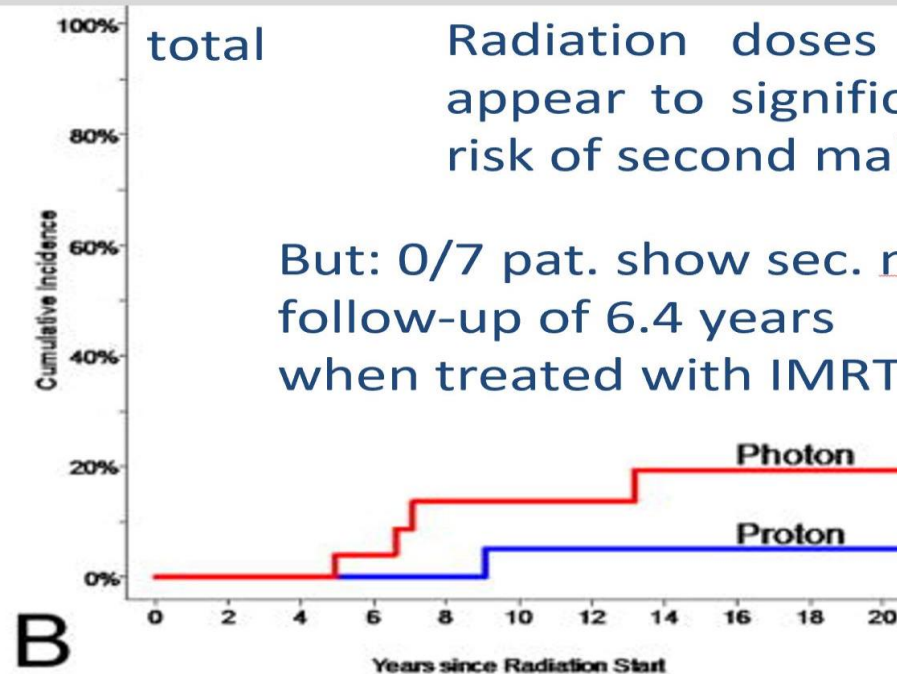
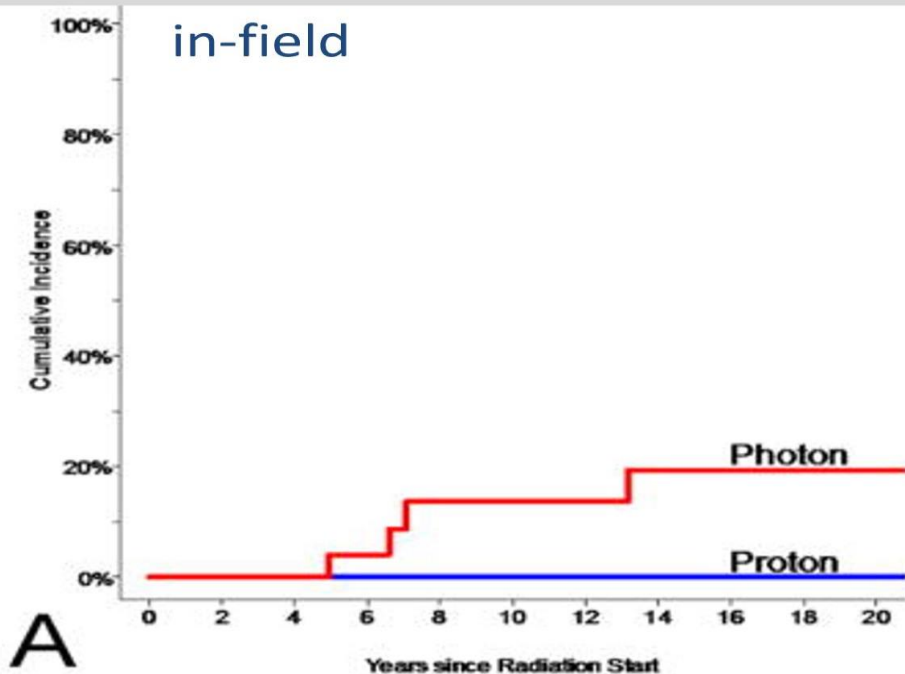
Sethi et al. Cancer. 2014; 120(1):126-33.

protons 55 patients  
f/u median 6.9 years

photons 31 patients  
f/u median 13.1 years



## Secondary malignancy



Radiation doses as low as 5 Gy appear to significantly increase the risk of second malignancy.

But: 0/7 pat. show sec. malign. at median follow-up of 6.4 years when treated with IMRT and SRT

# Breast Cancer After Chest Radiation Therapy for Childhood Cancer

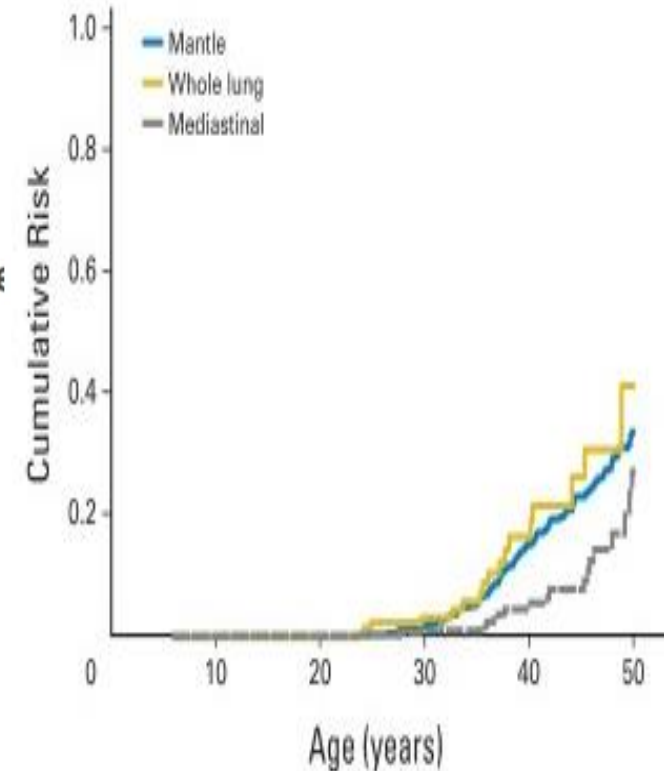
*Moskowitz CS, Wolden SL, Oeffinger KC for Childhood Cancer Survivor Study J Clin Oncol. 2014 Apr 21.*

Assessed cumulative breast cancer risk in 1,230 female childhood cancer survivors treated with chest irradiation. Whole lung irradiation versus Mantle field.

- **Lower** delivered doses of radiation (**median, 14 Gy**; range, 2 to 20 Gy) to a **large volume** (whole-lung field) had a high risk of breast cancer (standardized incidence ratio [SIR], 43.6), as did survivors treated with high doses of delivered radiation (median, 40 Gy) to the mantle field (SIR, 24.2).
- The **cumulative incidence of breast cancer by age 50 years was 30%** (95% CI, 25 to 34), with a 35% incidence among Hodgkin lymphoma survivors (95% CI, 29 to 40).
- Breast cancer mortality at 5 and 10 years: 12% and 19%, respectively.

## CONCLUSION:

Among women treated for childhood cancer with chest radiation therapy, those treated with **whole-lung irradiation have a greater risk of breast cancer than previously recognized**, demonstrating the importance of radiation dose and volume. **Importantly, mortality associated with breast cancer after childhood cancer is substantial.**



# Background - Toxicity

## Long-term side effects after mediastinal RT/RChT:

- Secondary malignancies (breast):
  - 734 patients with HL after 20-y: Mantle field RT (7.5%) is associated with increased risk of breast cancer compared to small volume RT (3.1%) or ChT alone (2.2%) [2]
  - 3905 HL patients after 40 y: cumulative incidence for secondary cancers 49% and breast cancer 17% [3]
  - 1230 childhood HL survivors with chest RT: cumulative incidence of breast cancer by age 50 y 35% [4]

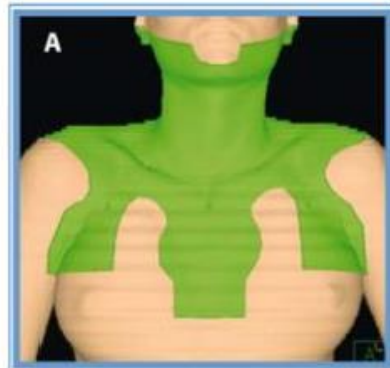
[2] Conway et al., Secondary Breast Cancer Risk by Radiation Volume in Women with Hodgkin Lymphoma, IJROB, in press

[3] Schaapveld et al., Second Cancer Risk Up to 40 Years after Treatment for Hodgkin's Lymphoma. N Engl J Med. 2015 Dec 24;373(26):2499-511.

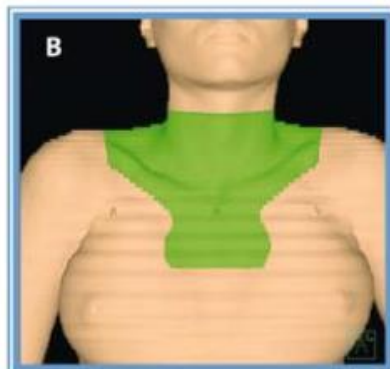
[4] Moskowitz et al., Breast cancer after chest radiation therapy for childhood cancer. J Clin Oncol. 2014 Jul 20;32(21):2217-23.

# HL: Individualized Estimates of 2NPL Risks after Contemporary RT

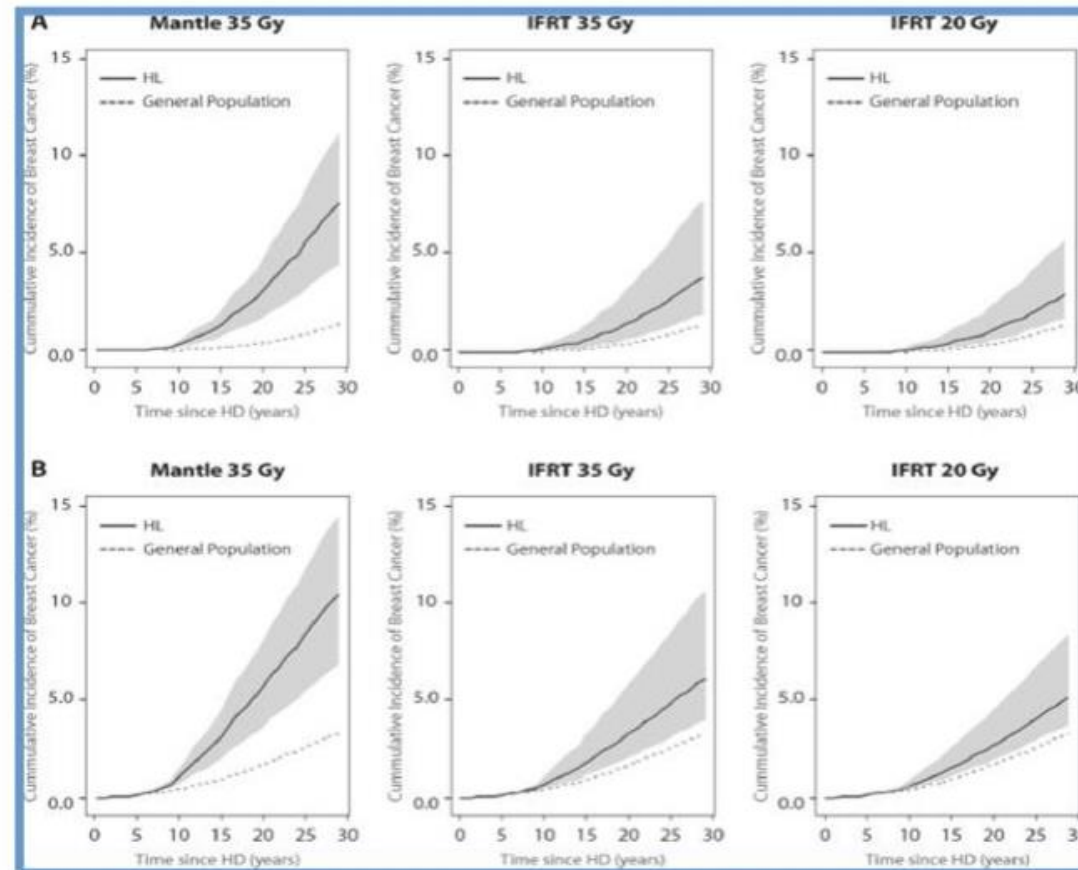
Breast Cancer Reduced 77%  
Lung Cancer Reduced 57%w



Age 20



Age 30



# Background - Toxicity

## Long-term side effects after mediastinal RT/RChT:

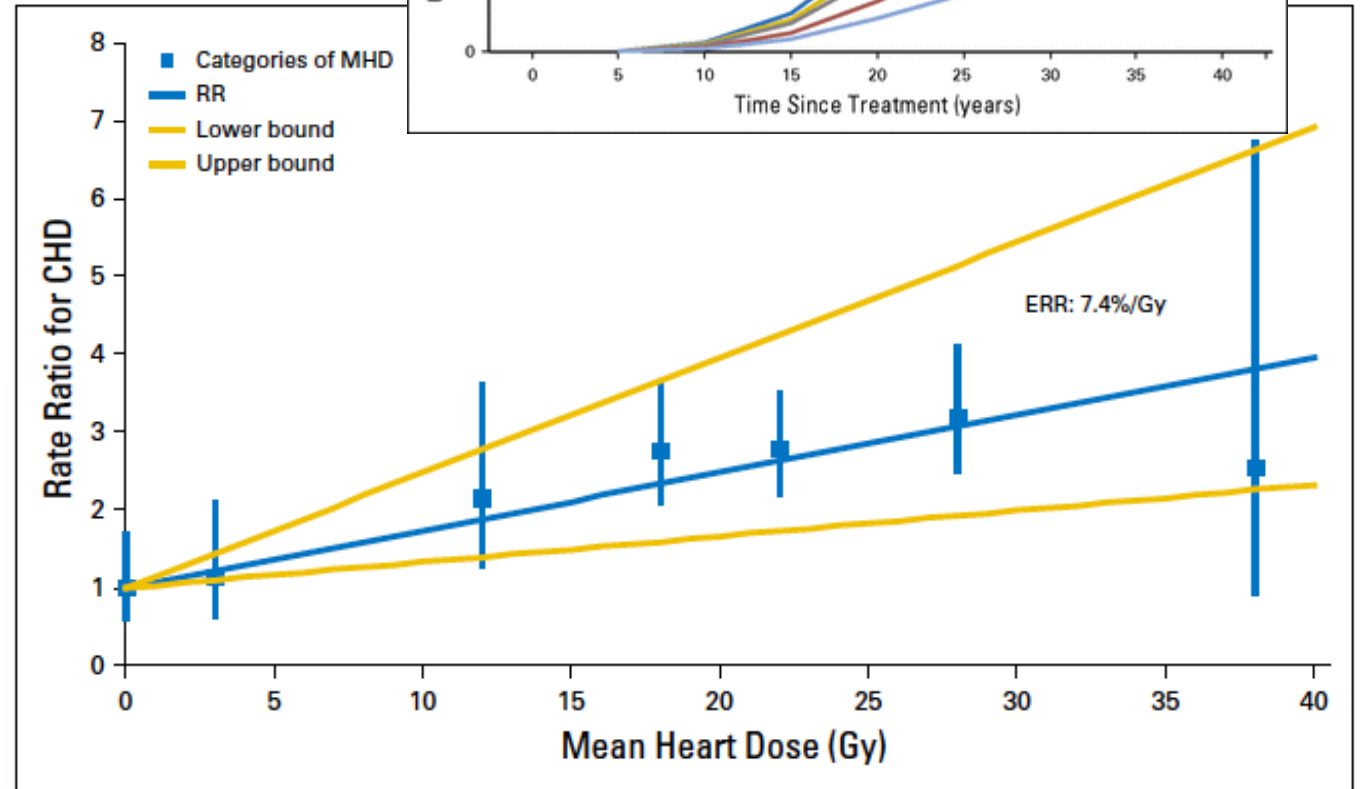
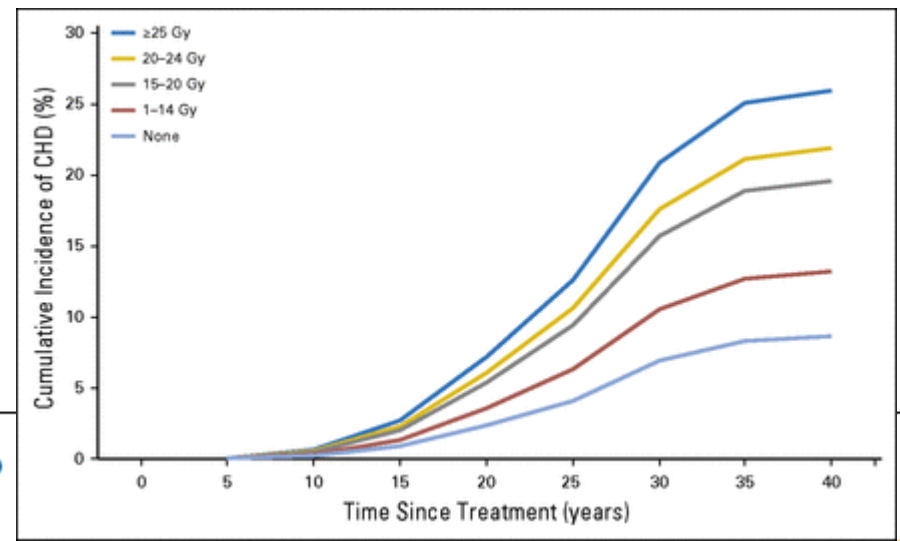
- Cardiovascular toxicity:

2617 patients: 2.5-fold increased risk of CHD for patients receiving a mean heart dose of 20 Gy, risk increased by 7.4% per Gy

Higher risk for younger patients: (<27.5 y.: 20% per Gy) [5]

Increase of cardiac mortality: 60% per Gy [6]

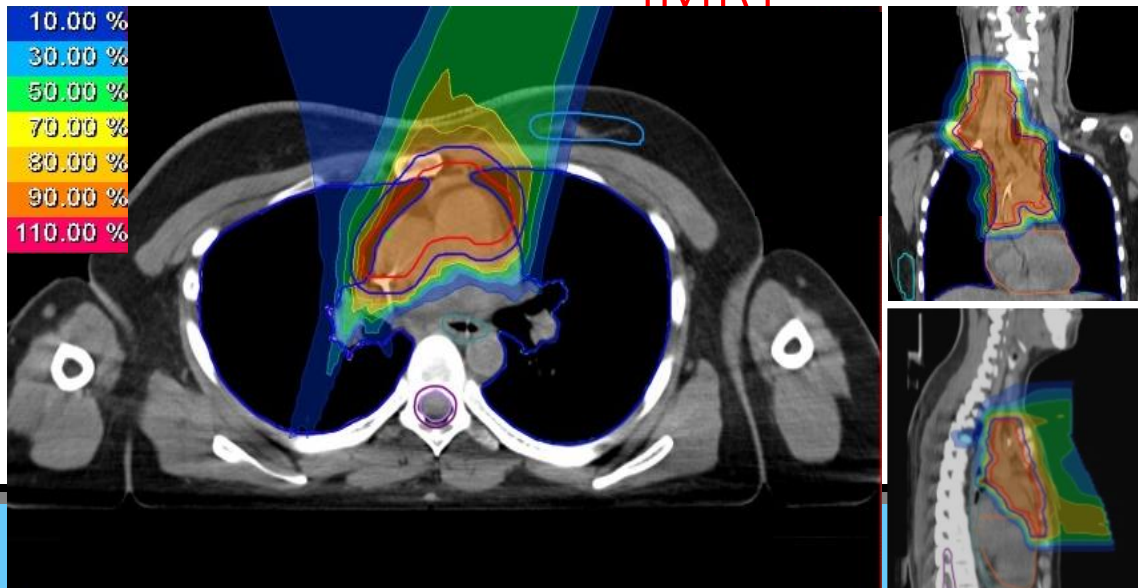
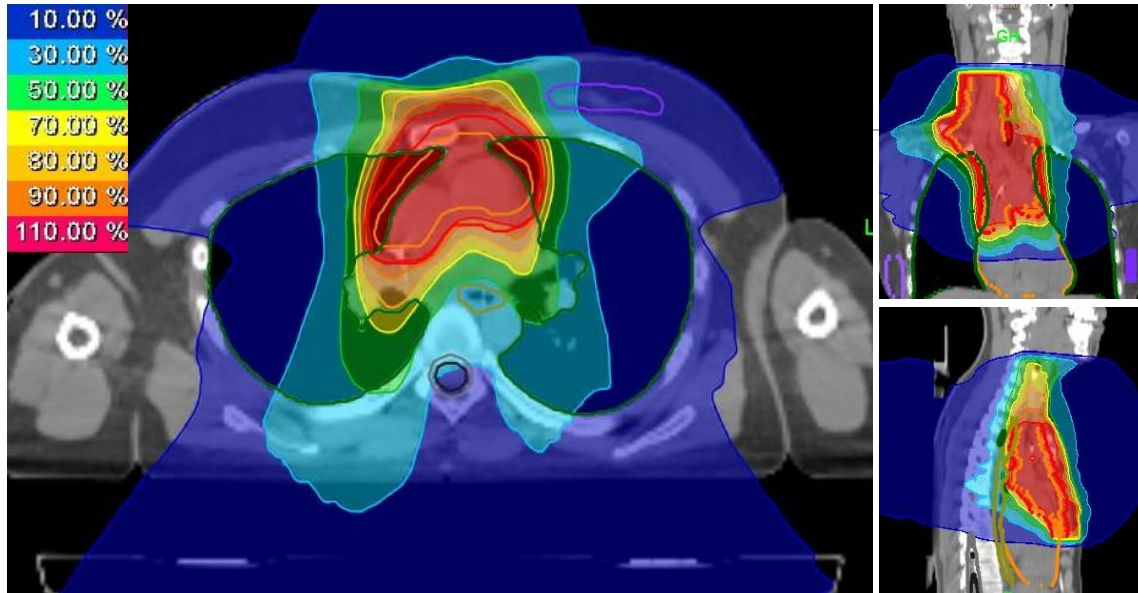
Additional effect of chemotherapy (anthracyclines) [6]



[5] van Nimwegen et al., Radiation Dose-Response Relationship for Risk of Coronary Heart Disease in Survivors of Hodgkin Lymphoma. J Clin Oncol. 2016 Jan 20;34(3):235-43.

[6] Lipshultz et al., Long-term cardiovascular toxicity in children, adolescents, and young adults who receive cancer therapy: pathophysiology, course, monitoring, management, prevention, and research directions: a scientific statement from the American Heart Association. Circulation. 2013 Oct 22;128(17):1927-95.

# dose reduction



**26 y, f, DLBCL**

St. IIA with bulky disease

RT: 36 Gy RBE in 18 Fx

$D_{\text{mean}}$  heart:

**7.2 Gy** vs. **3.5 Gy RBE**

$D_{\text{mean}}$  breast right:

**1.4 Gy** vs. **0.1 Gy RBE**

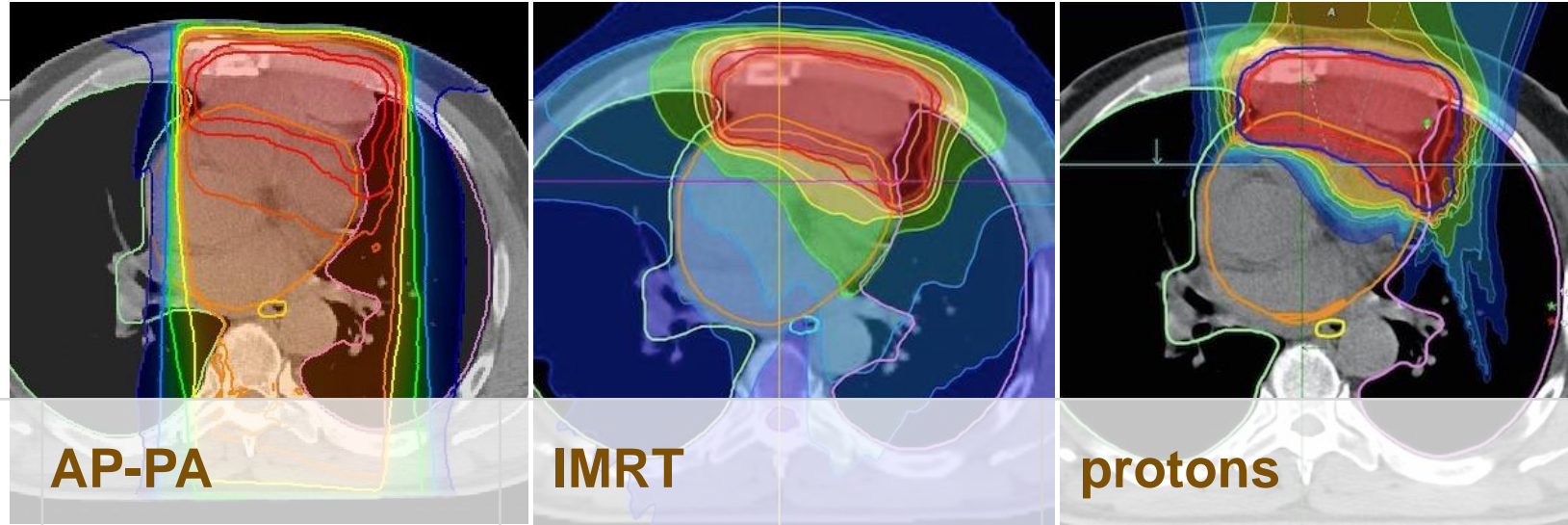
$D_{\text{mean}}$  breast left:

**2.4 Gy** vs. **1.7 Gy RBE**



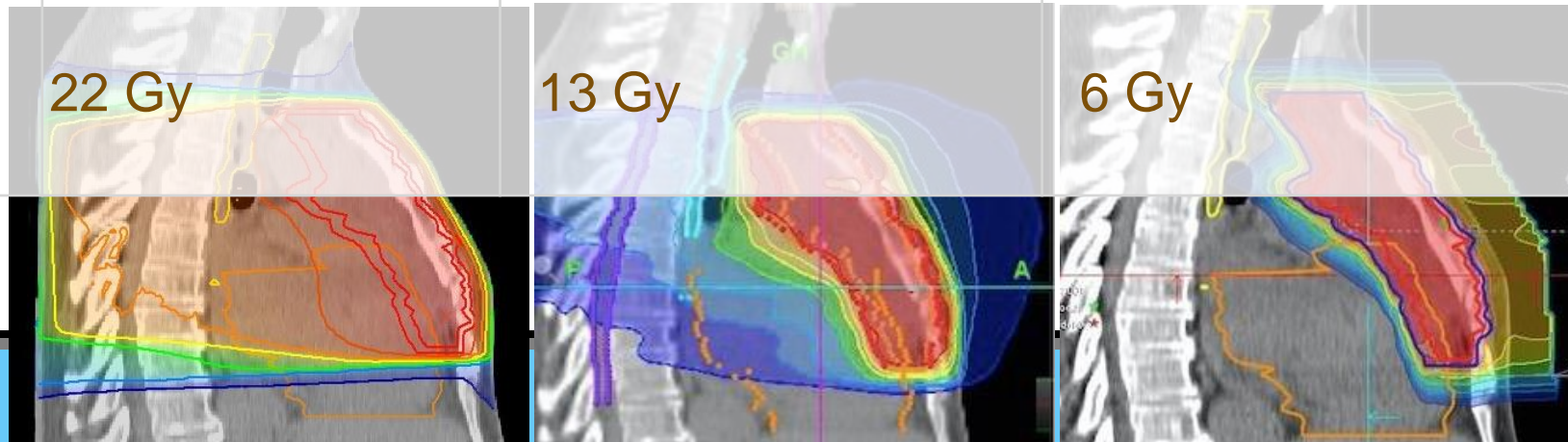
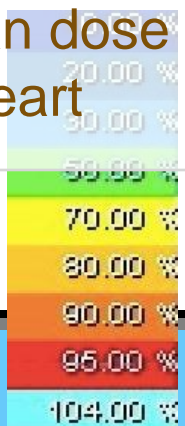
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101008548

# DLBCL – consolidation RT 36 Gy



<b>Technik</b>	<b>AP-PA</b>	<b>IMRT</b>	<b>protons</b>
Median dose to heart	30 Gy	9 Gy	0 Gy

Mean dose to heart	22 Gy	13 Gy	6 Gy
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# biological rationale for ion beam therapy

## **biological properties of (heavy) ion beam therapy**

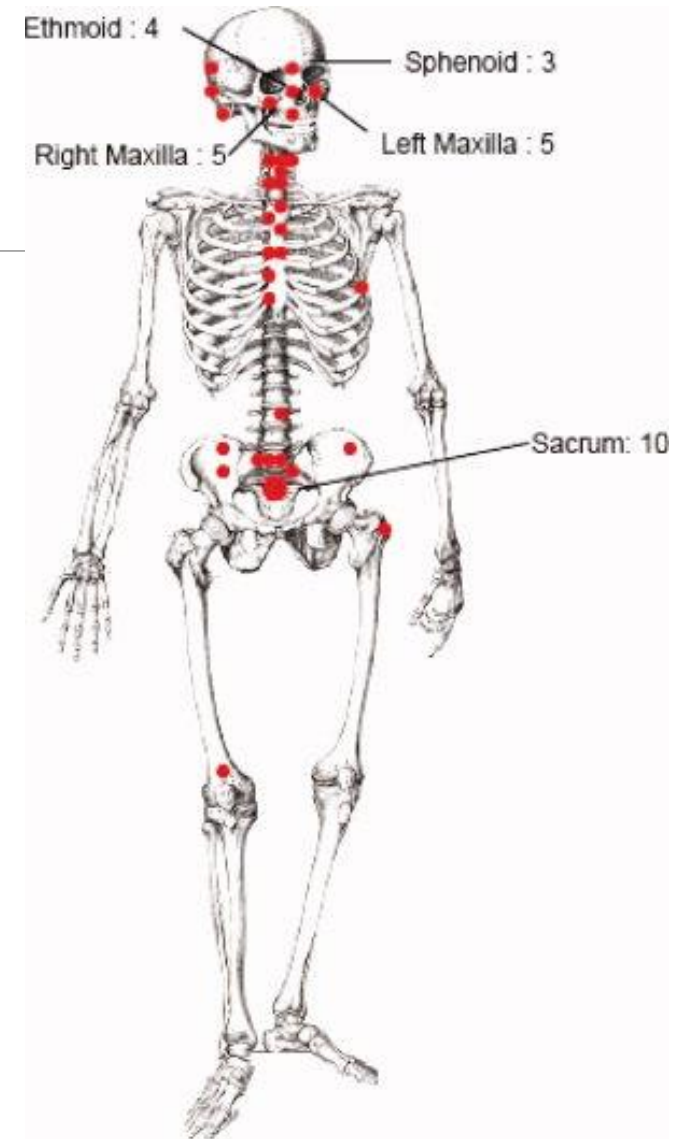
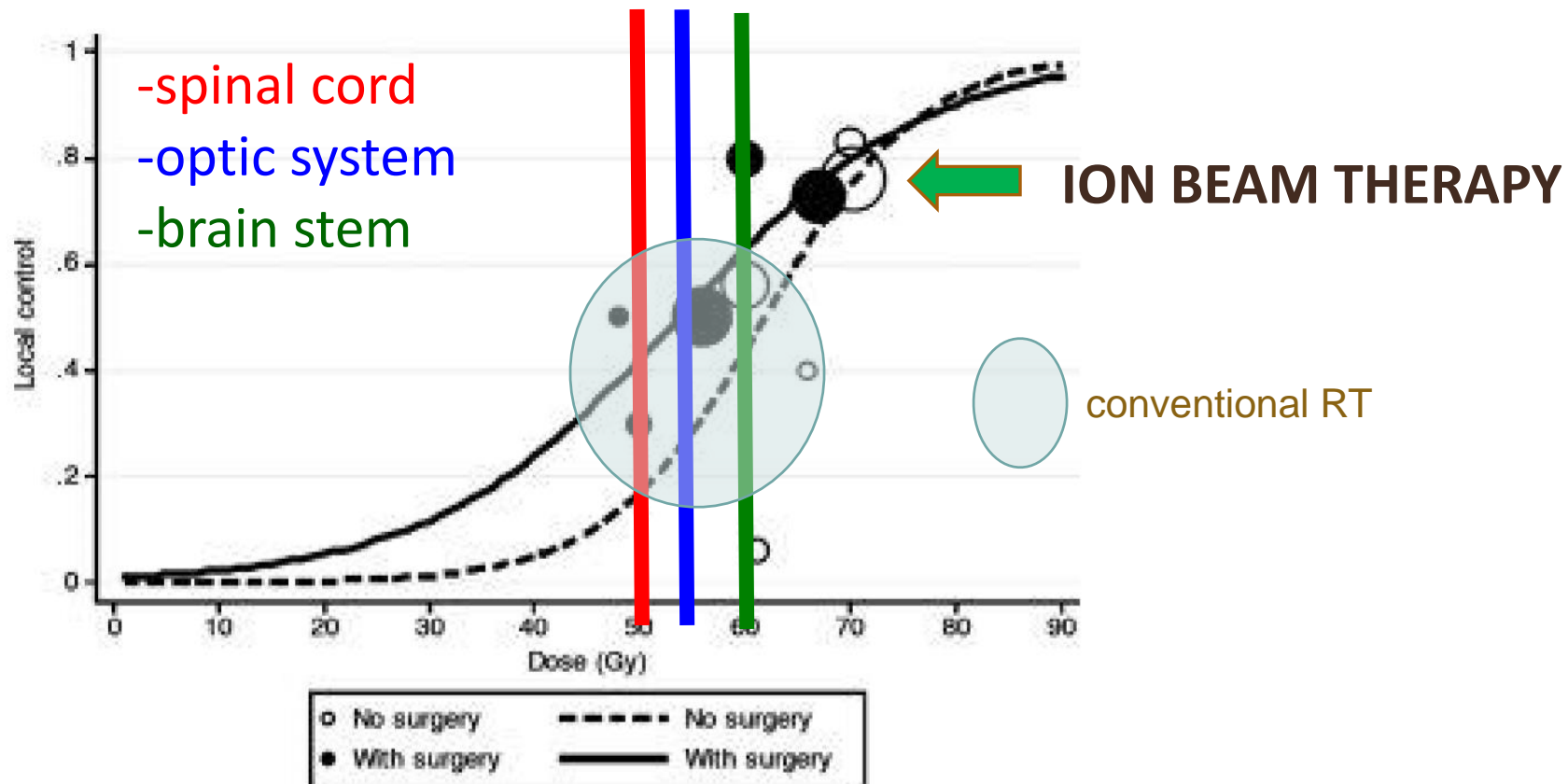
- Increased relative biological effectiveness (RBE)
- More efficient in killing hypoxic tumor cells
- Independent of cell cycle

## **particularly relevant for**

- Large inoperable diseases
- Radio-resistant tumors
- Previously with conventional radiation treated diseases

# osteosarcoma

## Dose dependency of local control rate



# typical examples

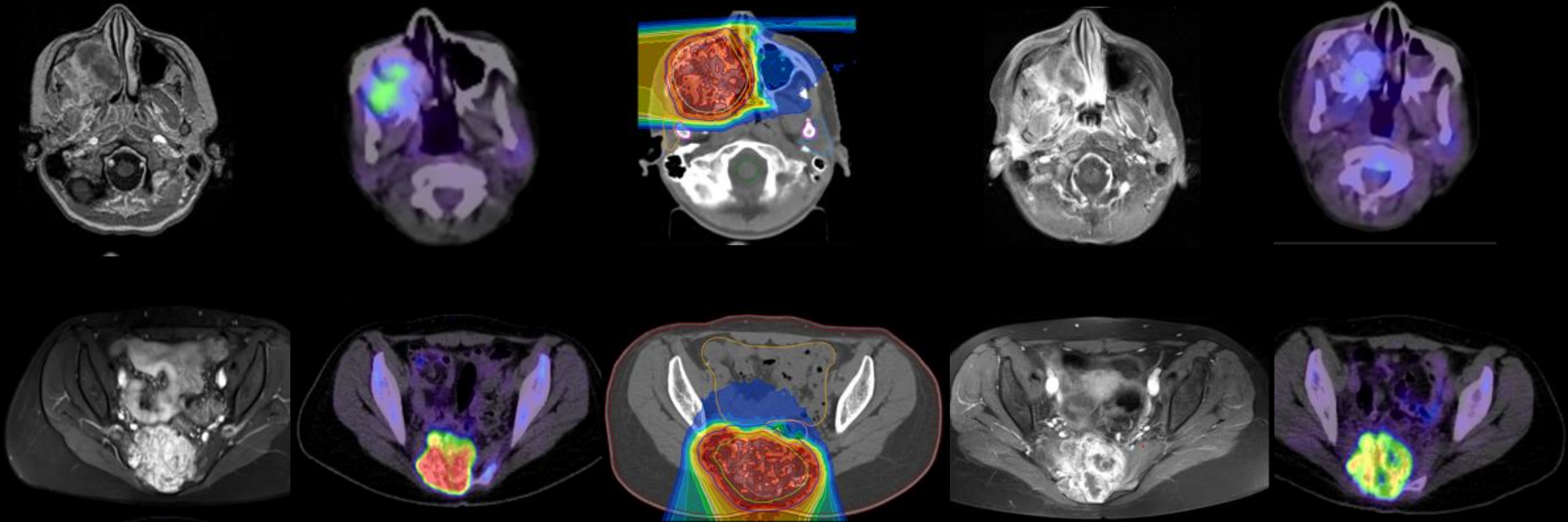
MRT pre RT

PET pre RT

dose distribution

MRT post RT

PET post RT



# In the context...

research group	modality	overall Survival	PFS	comment
<b>OSCAR</b>	<b>P + C</b>	<b>68 % (2 years)</b>	<b>45 % (2 years)</b>	
COSS-Kollektiv	Heterogen	41 % (5 years)	26 % (5 years)	
DeLaney 2002	Ph / P	66 % (5 years)	40 % (5 years)	surgery, rarely pelvic
Ciernik 2011	P	67 % (5 years)	65 % (5 years)	surgery, high tox. (>30 % grade III-IV)
Matsunobu, 2012	C	58 % (2 years)	n/a, 2y-LC 73 %	surgery, short FU, 10 % grade III-IV
Kamada, 2002	C	46 % (3 years)	n/a, 3y-LC 73 %	surgery
Mohamad, 2018	C	50 % (3 years)	35 % (3 years)	Incl. pelvic, 15 % grade III-IV

# summary

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- **Proton beam therapy is significantly superior in sparing OARs**
- **And therefore also in the reduction of long-term sequelae**
- **Suitable candidates for protons are**
  - young patients with long life expectancy
  - Female patients, particularly if elevated risk for breast cancer
  - Limited volumes in close proximity to the heart
  - Large treatment volumes such as CSI



# Thank you!

parent's and children's radiotherapy video guide



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