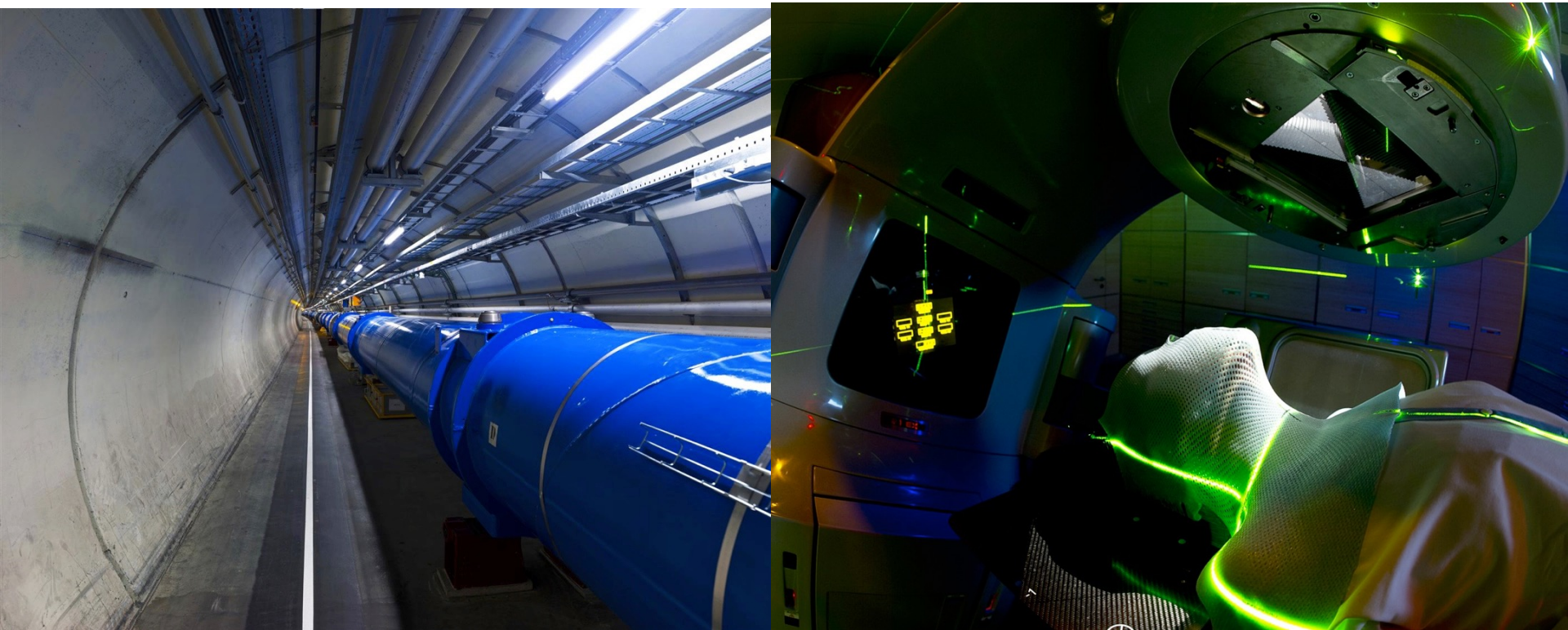


# From Physics to Medical Applications



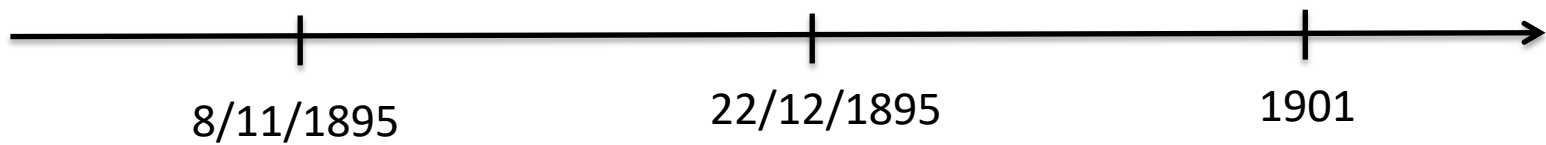
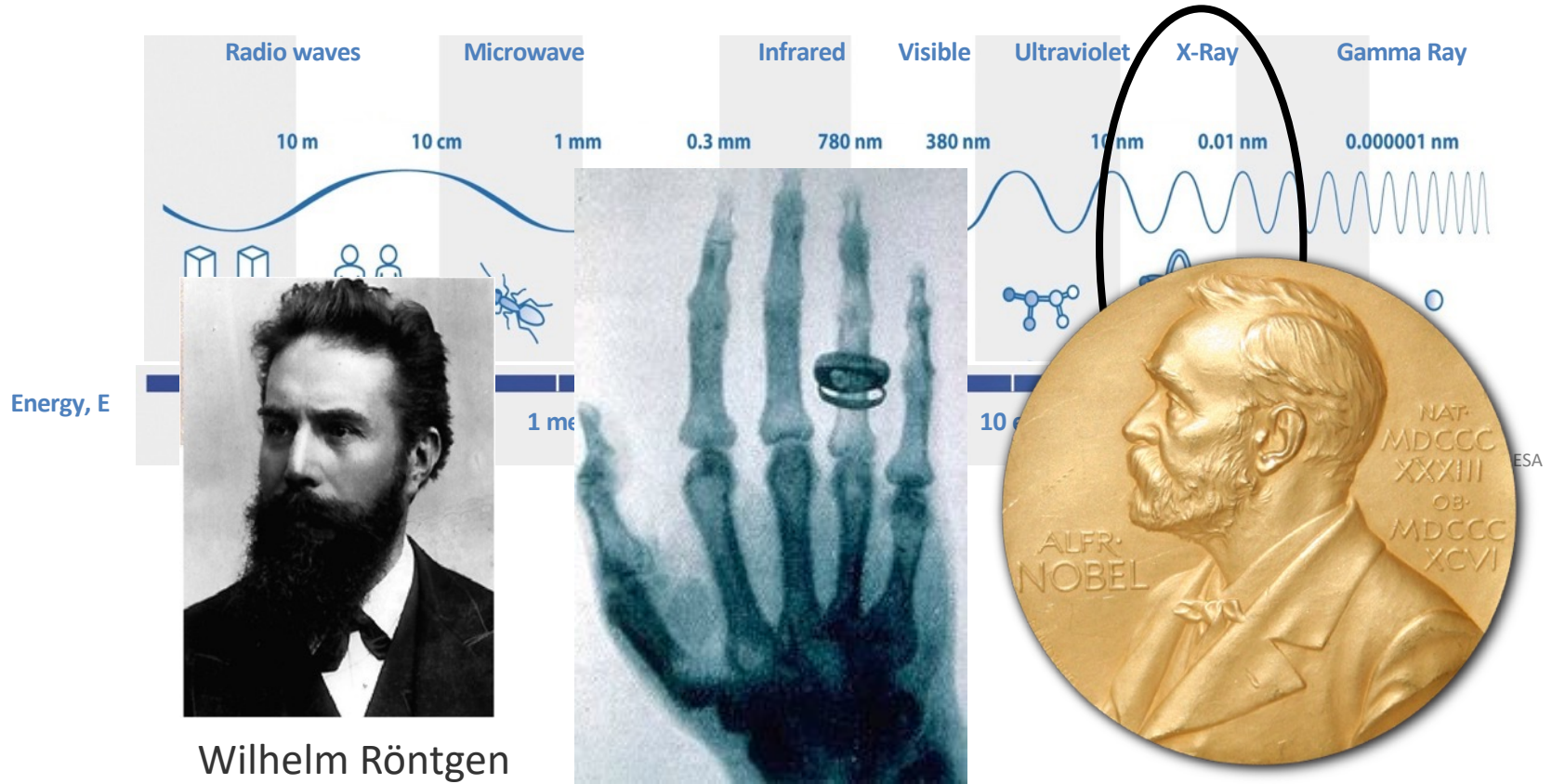
Manjit Dosanjh

Manjit.Dosanjh@cern.ch

9 August 2023



# Modern medical physics.....beginnings

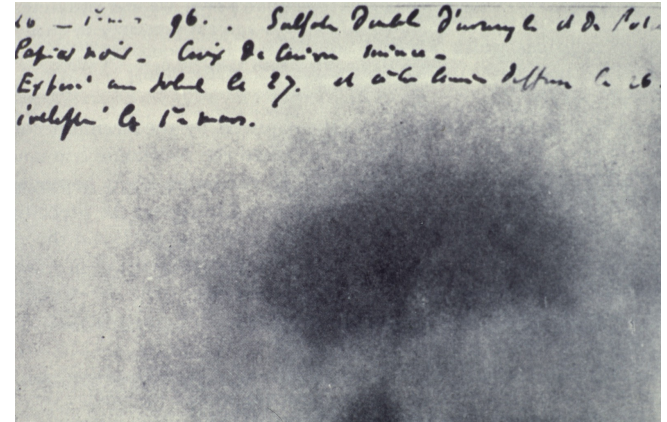


# .....beginnings

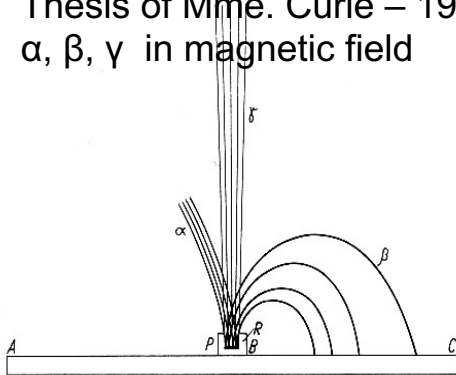


Henri Becquerel

**1896:**  
**Discovery of natural radioactivity**

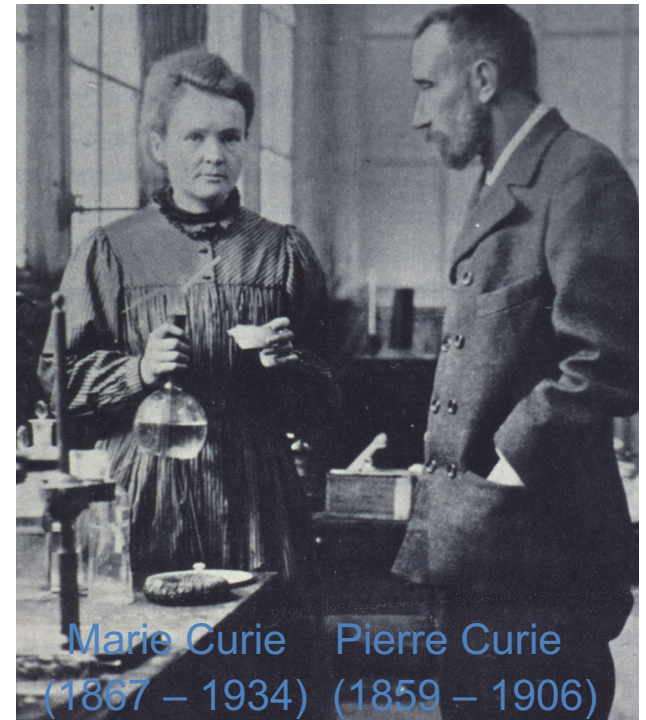


Thesis of Mme. Curie – 1904  
 $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  in magnetic field



**1898: Discovery of radium**

**used immediately for “Brachytherapy”**



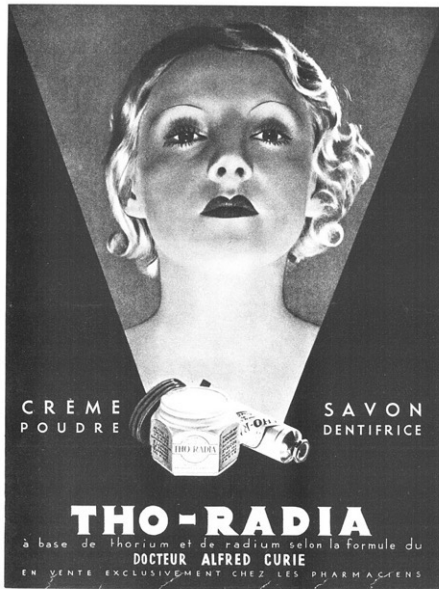
Marie Curie (1867 – 1934) Pierre Curie (1859 – 1906)

# First radiobiology experiment



Pierre Curie and Henri Becquerel

# Use of Radioactivity for everything....



Par Cinémagazine, 14 février 1935 —  
<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k2000628h>, CC BY-SA 4.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=97956453>

12 New York Tribune November 18, 1918

## Radium and Beauty

HERE are the first toilet preparations to embody Actual Radium, in an astonishing new force for maintenance, applied as an active Beauty. Learn how the amazing Energy of Radium has created a boon to the human skin. Learn what Radium actually means to Beauty and how its power is employed in "Radium" Preparations. Study our \$1,000 guarantee. Thank them for "Radium" Toilet Requisites. When you have used, analyzed and tested them you will adopt them as your own first aid to Beauty.

**PREVENTIVE** means first discovered by science, in 1904, that Radium is the most powerful of all known elements. It is the only one that can be used in the form of a cream, powder, soap, or any other form of beauty preparation. It is the only one that can be used in the form of a cream, powder, soap, or any other form of beauty preparation. It is the only one that can be used in the form of a cream, powder, soap, or any other form of beauty preparation.

**Radium Toilet Requisites**

Radium Toilet Requisites are the first beauty preparations to embody Actual Radium. They are the only ones that can be used in the form of a cream, powder, soap, or any other form of beauty preparation. They are the only ones that can be used in the form of a cream, powder, soap, or any other form of beauty preparation.

Write Today for This Vastly Interesting Booklet

**RADIUM BEAUTY**

RADIUM CO., LTD., of LONDON  
235 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

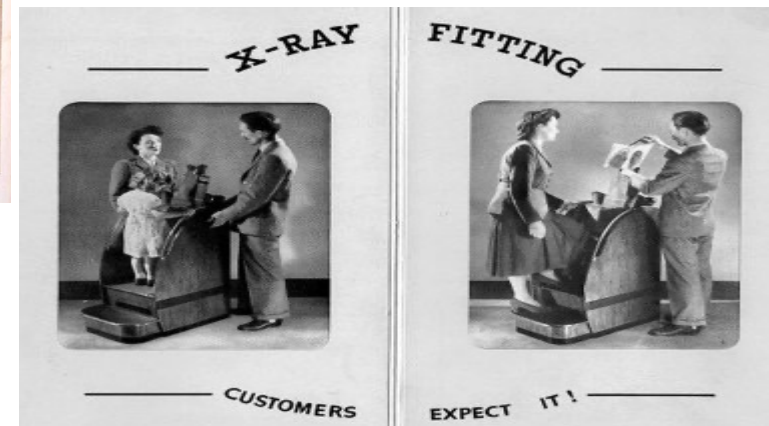
RADIUM TOILET REQUISITES  
Solely Recommended by  
Leading Department Stores of  
New York, Brooklyn and Newark  
and  
Liggett's Drug Stores

**Radium**  
Toilet Requisites  
Radium Co., Ltd., of London  
235 Fifth Avenue, New York, U.S.A.  
If your dealer cannot supply you, communicate with us.

Par Radium cosmetics — sited New York Tribune Magazine, page 12,  
 Domaine public,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=35047170>



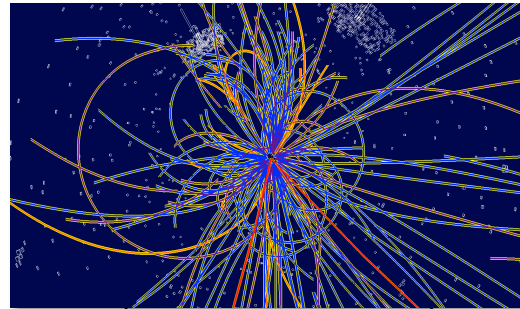
Par Sam LaRussa from United States of America —  
 Radithor, CC BY-SA 2.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=57841049>



<https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/from-the-archives-1956-ban-urged-of-x-ray-machines-at-shoe-shops-20210318-p57c1m.html>

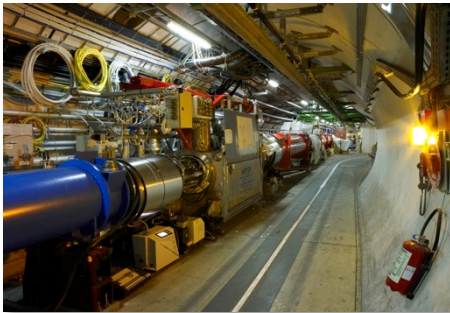
Courtesy of Manuela Cirilli

# CERN and Physics Technologies



Detecting  
particles

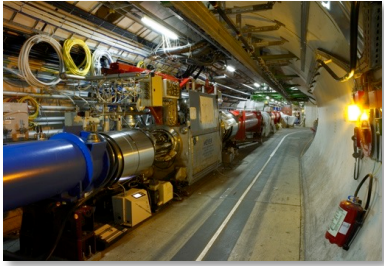
Accelerating  
particle beams



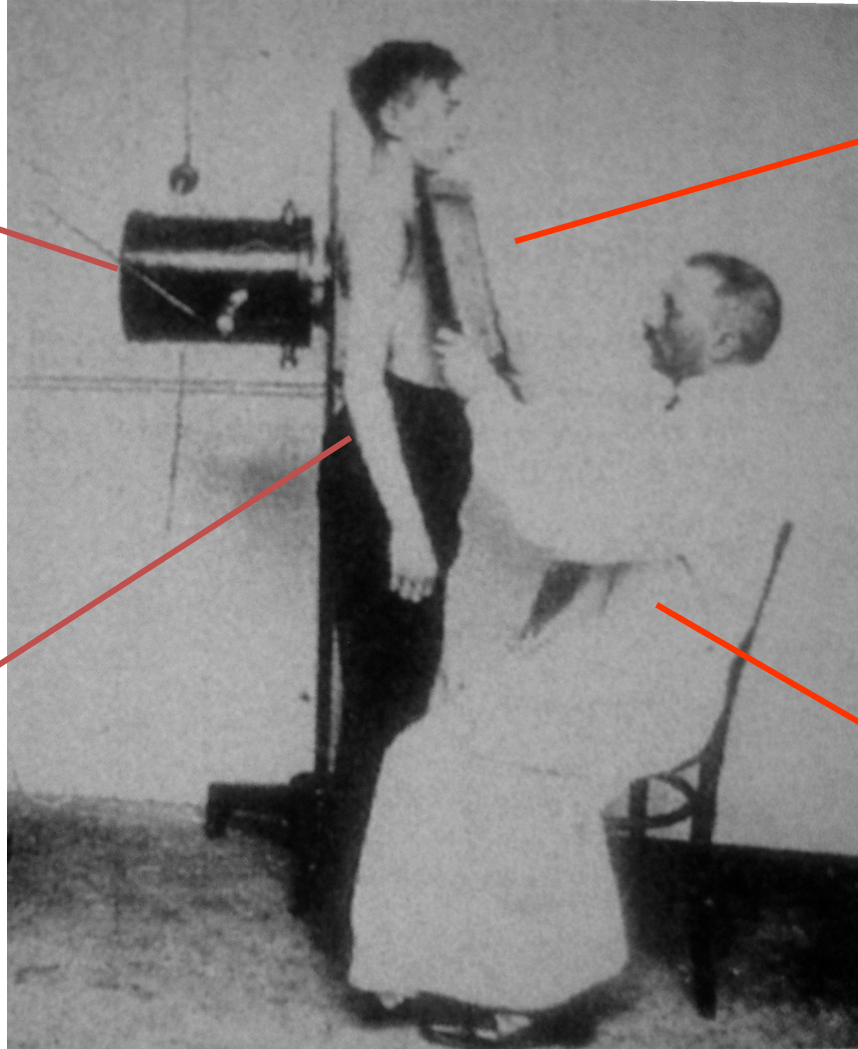
Higgs

Large-scale  
computing (Grid)

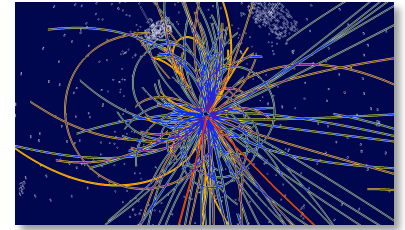




**X-ray source**



**Object**

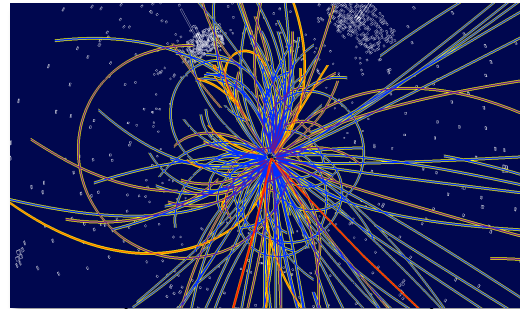


**Detector**



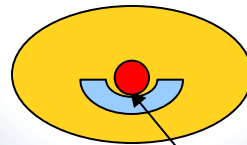
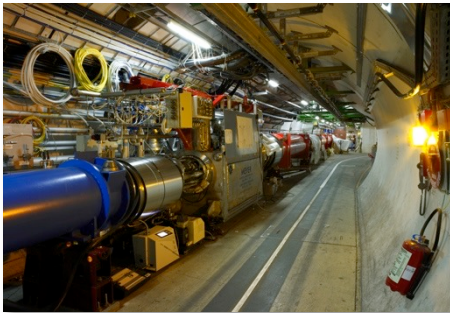
**Pattern Recognition System**

# Physics Technologies helping health



Detecting particles

Accelerating particle beams



**CANCER**

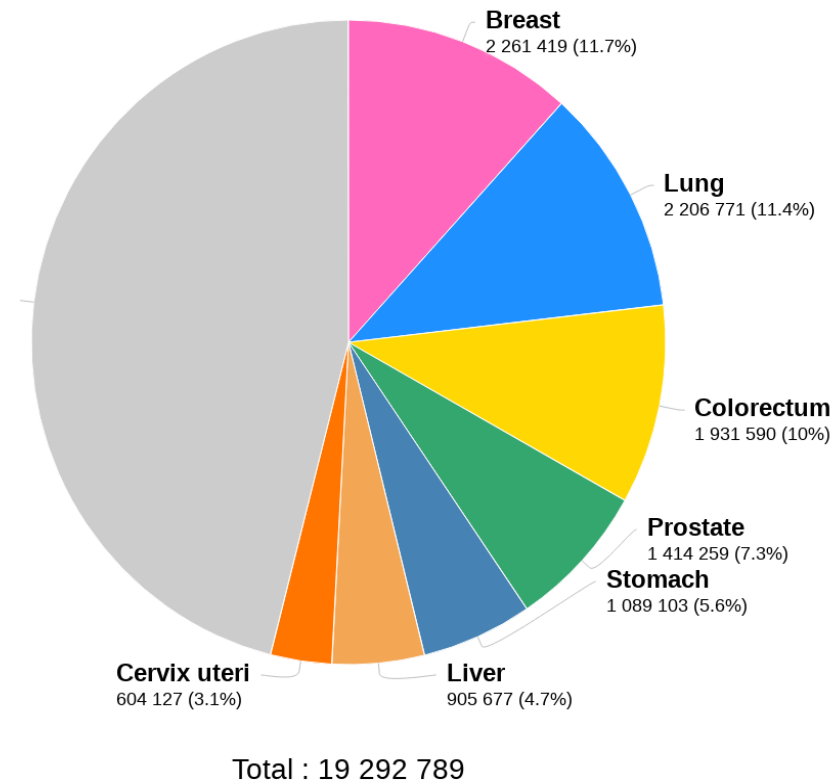
Large-scale computing (Grid)





# Cancer is a growing global challenge

- Globally **19.3** million new cases per year diagnosed and **9.96** million deaths in **2020**
- This will increase to **27.5** million new cases per year and **16.3** million deaths by **2040**
- **70% of these deaths** will occur in low-and-middle-income countries (LMICs)

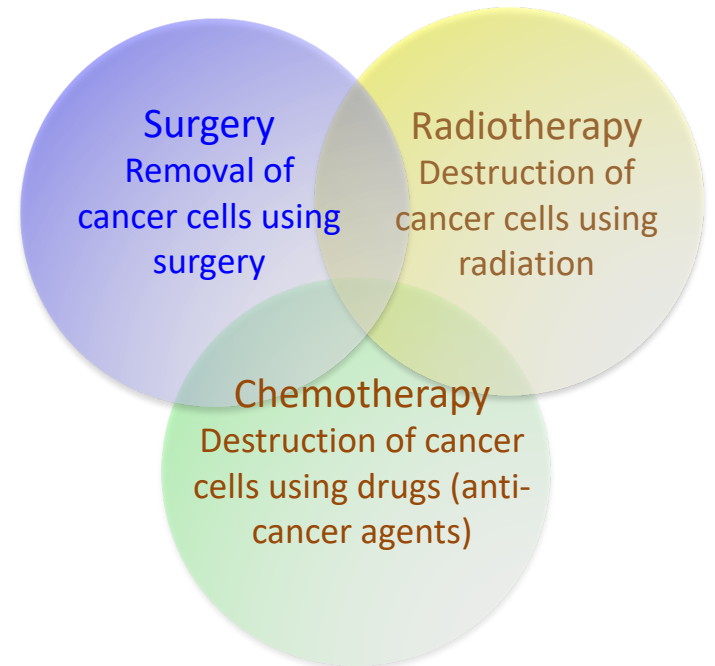


*Data source: GLOBOSCAN 2020*

**Radiation therapy is a key tool for treatment for about 50% patients**

# What is Cancer?

- Tumour: what is it?
  - Abnormal growth of cells
  - Malignant: uncontrolled, can spread → cancer



# Cancer Treatment and Improving Outcomes

Ideally one needs to treat:

The tumour

The whole tumour

And nothing **BUT** the tumour

Treatment has **two important goals** to **kill** the tumour and **protect** the surrounding normal tissue. Therefore **“seeing”** in order to know where and precise **“delivery”** to make sure it goes where it should are **key**.



Early Diagnosis

Local Control

Fewer Side-effects

# Detectors and art of seeing.....

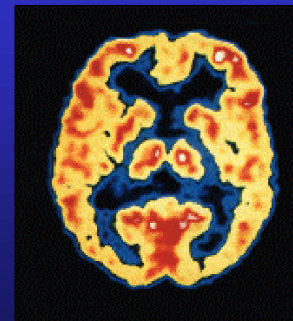
## Particle Detection



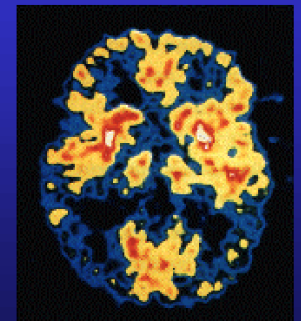
## Imaging

X-ray, CT, PET, MRI

Brain Metabolism in Alzheimer's Disease: PET Scan

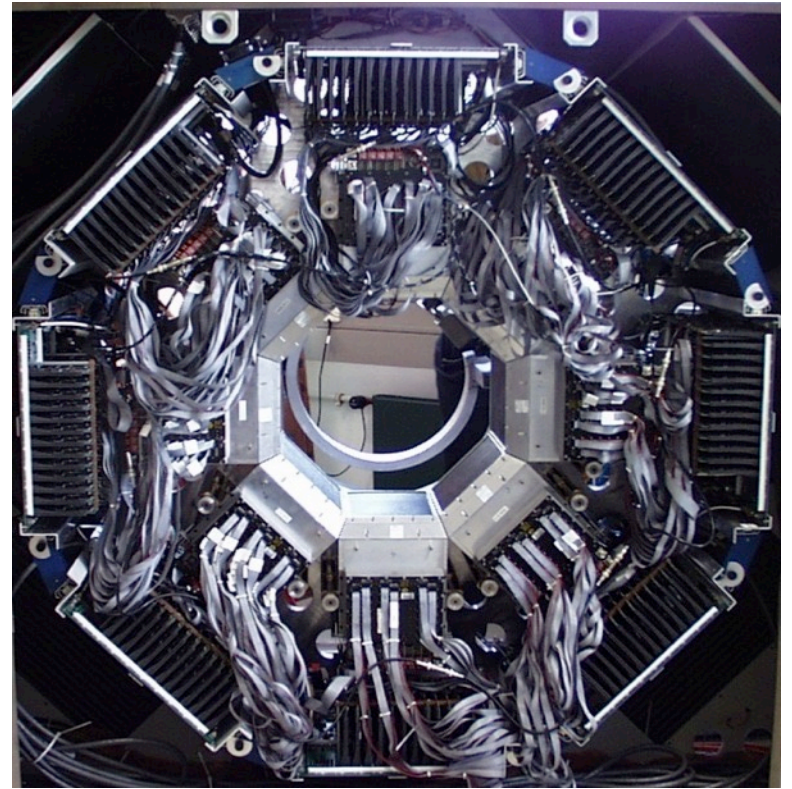
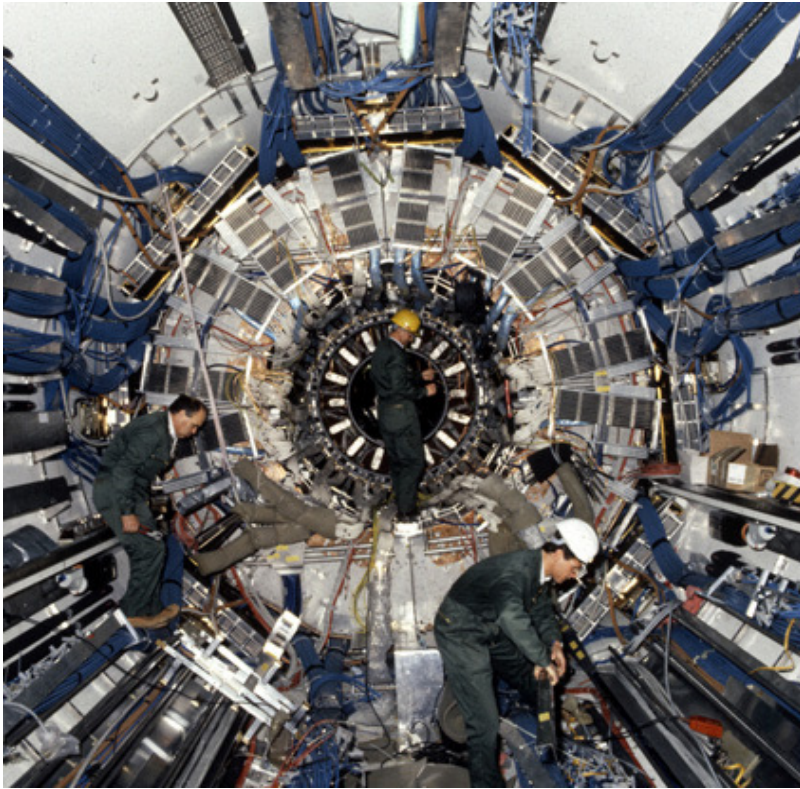


Normal Brain

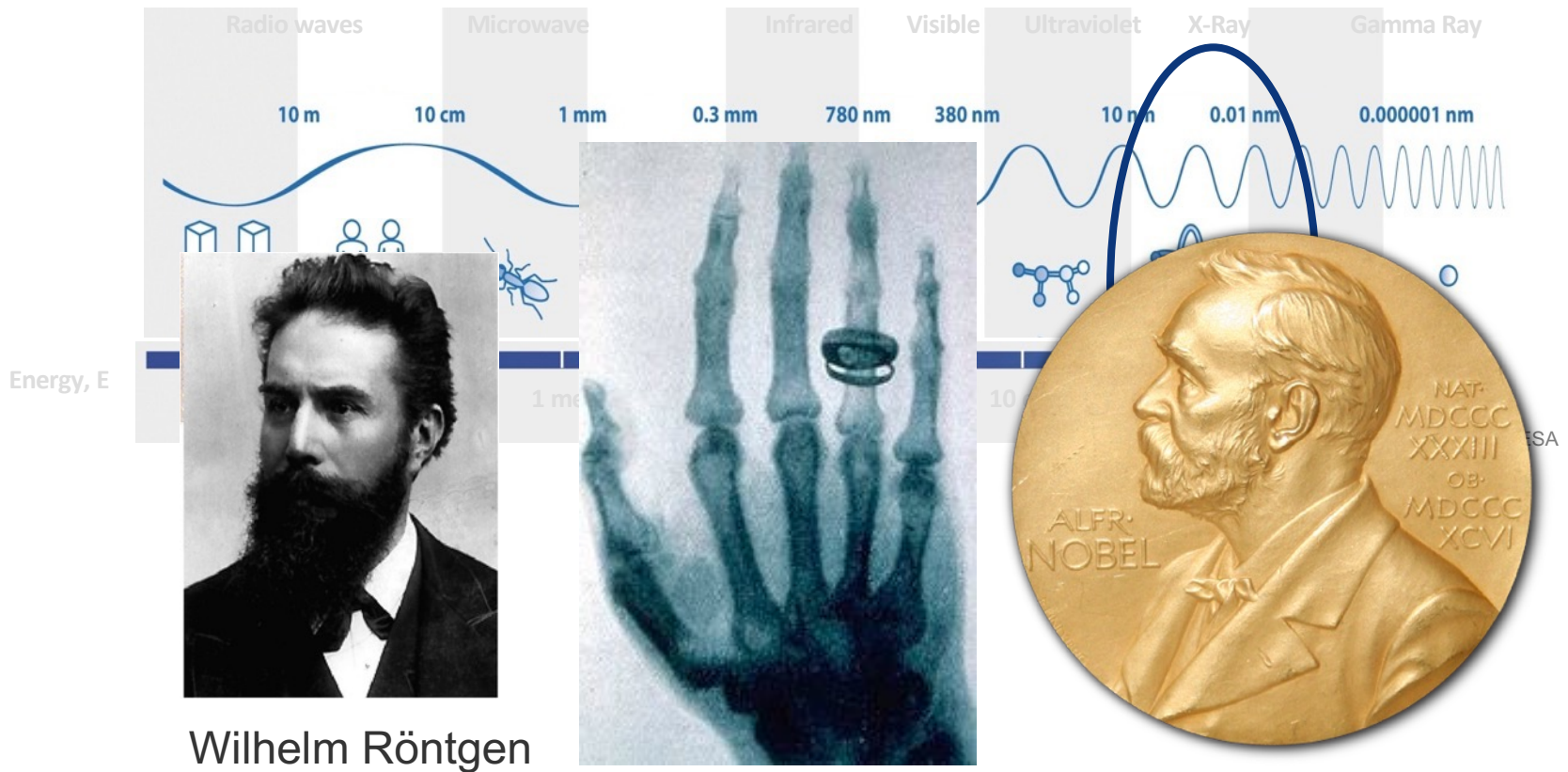


Alzheimer's Disease

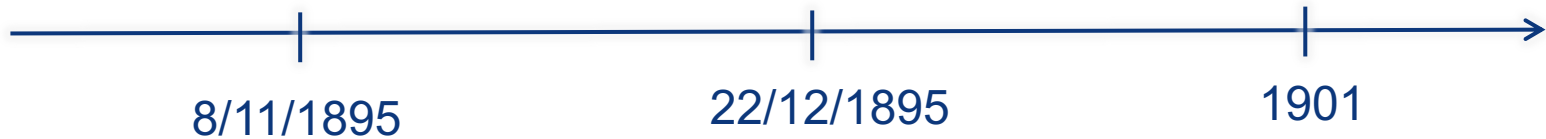
# The detector challenge



# X-ray imaging



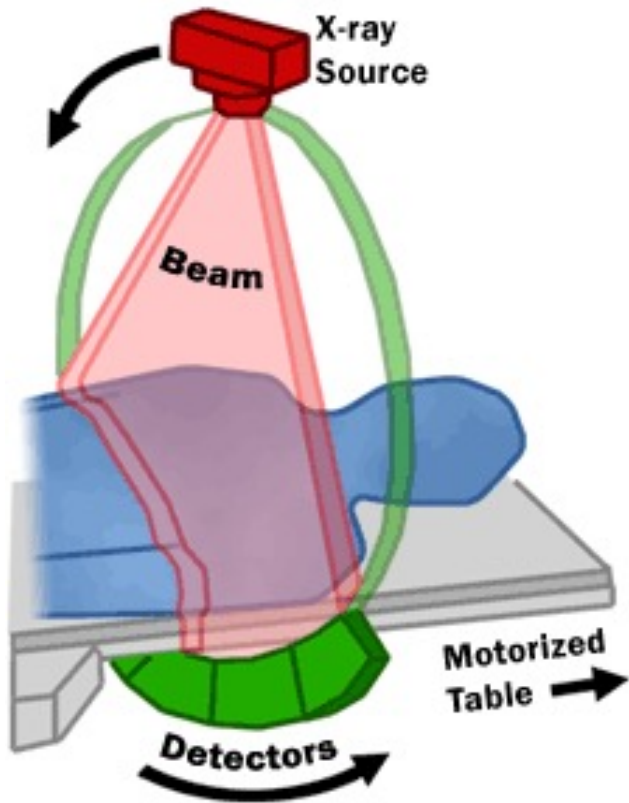
Wilhelm Röntgen



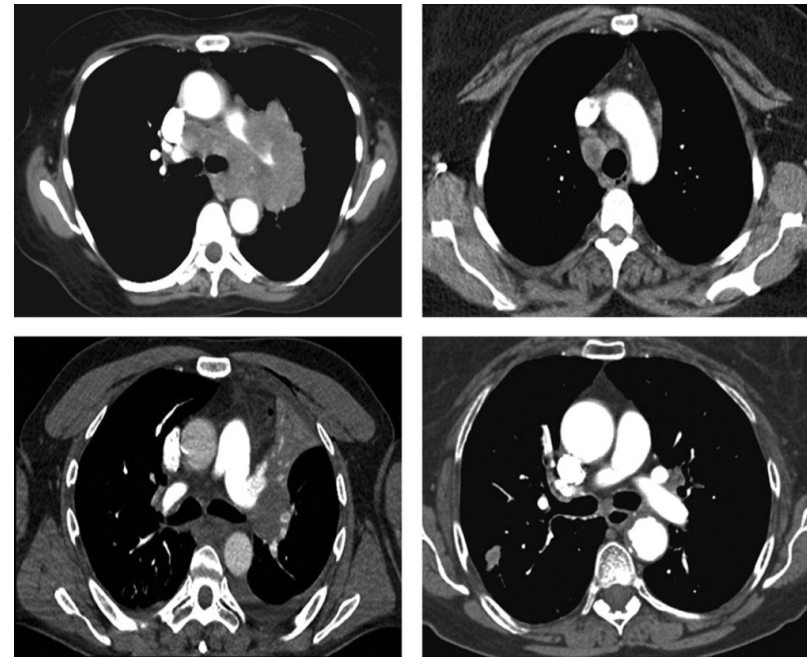
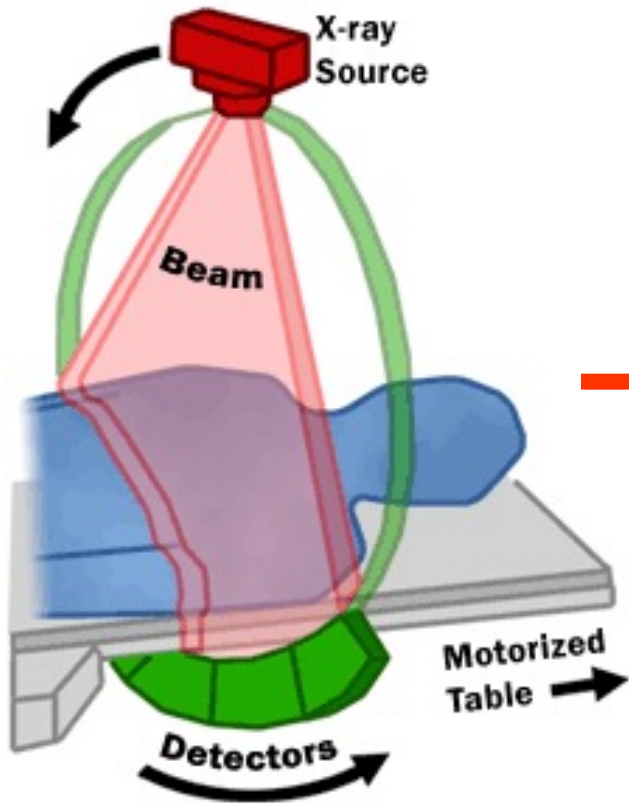
First time we could see beneath the skin without cutting open the patient

# CT – Computed Tomography

## *3d X-rays imaging*



# CT – Computed Tomography



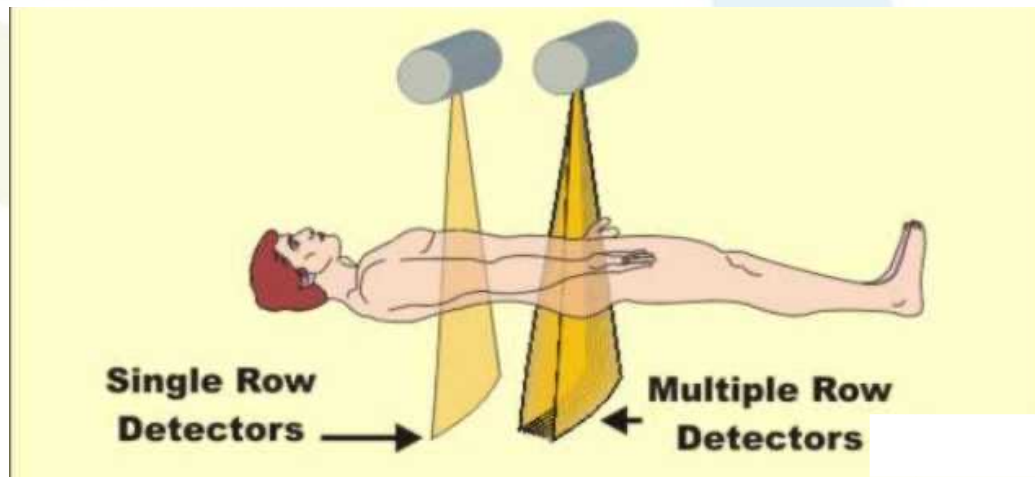
*"3D-imaging"*



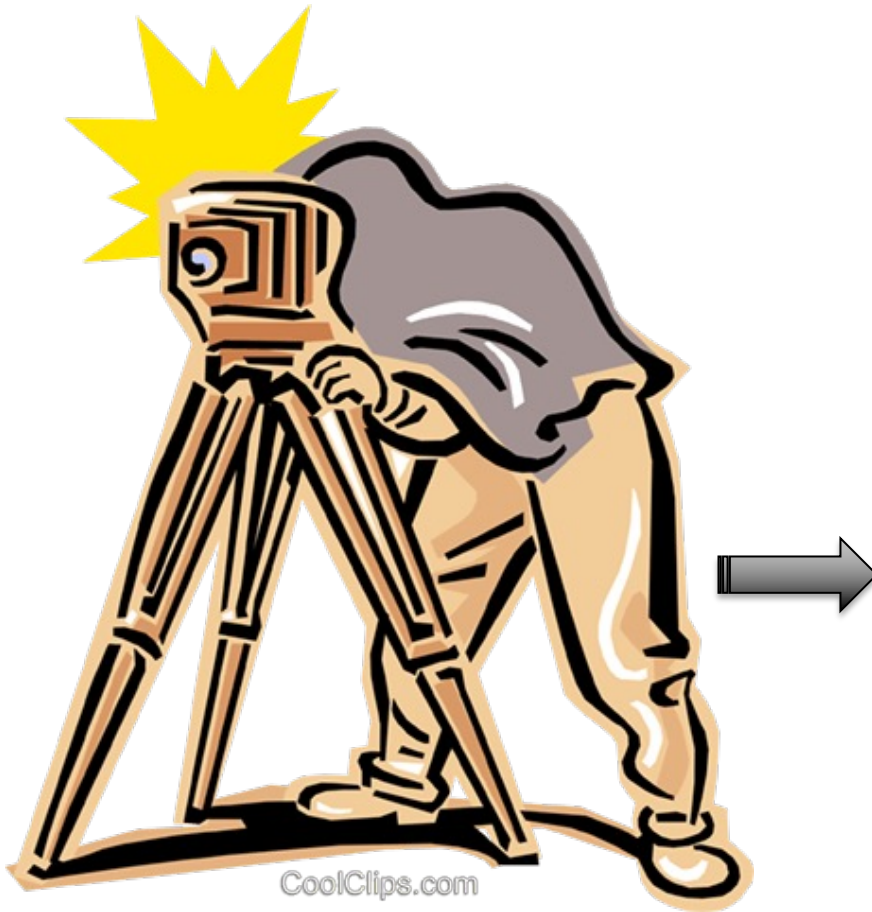
# X-ray CT is a key driver of change in medical imaging

2000-2008 “CT Slice War”

- *CT became very fast with small voxel / pixels*
  - 2000: acquire a single transverse slice per rotation
  - 2012: acquire up to 64-500 slices per rotation



# Revolution in Photography

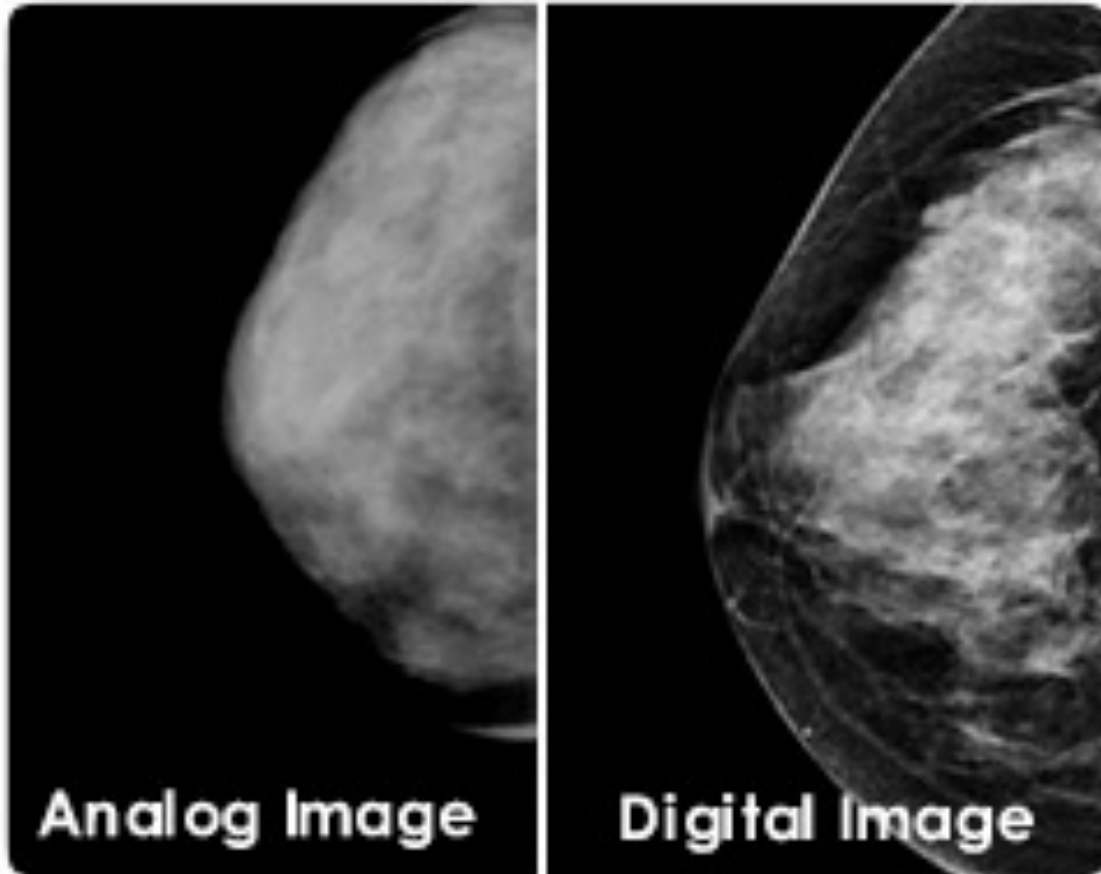


From black and white photos

To

Modern High-Tech photography

# Towards digital colour x-ray imaging



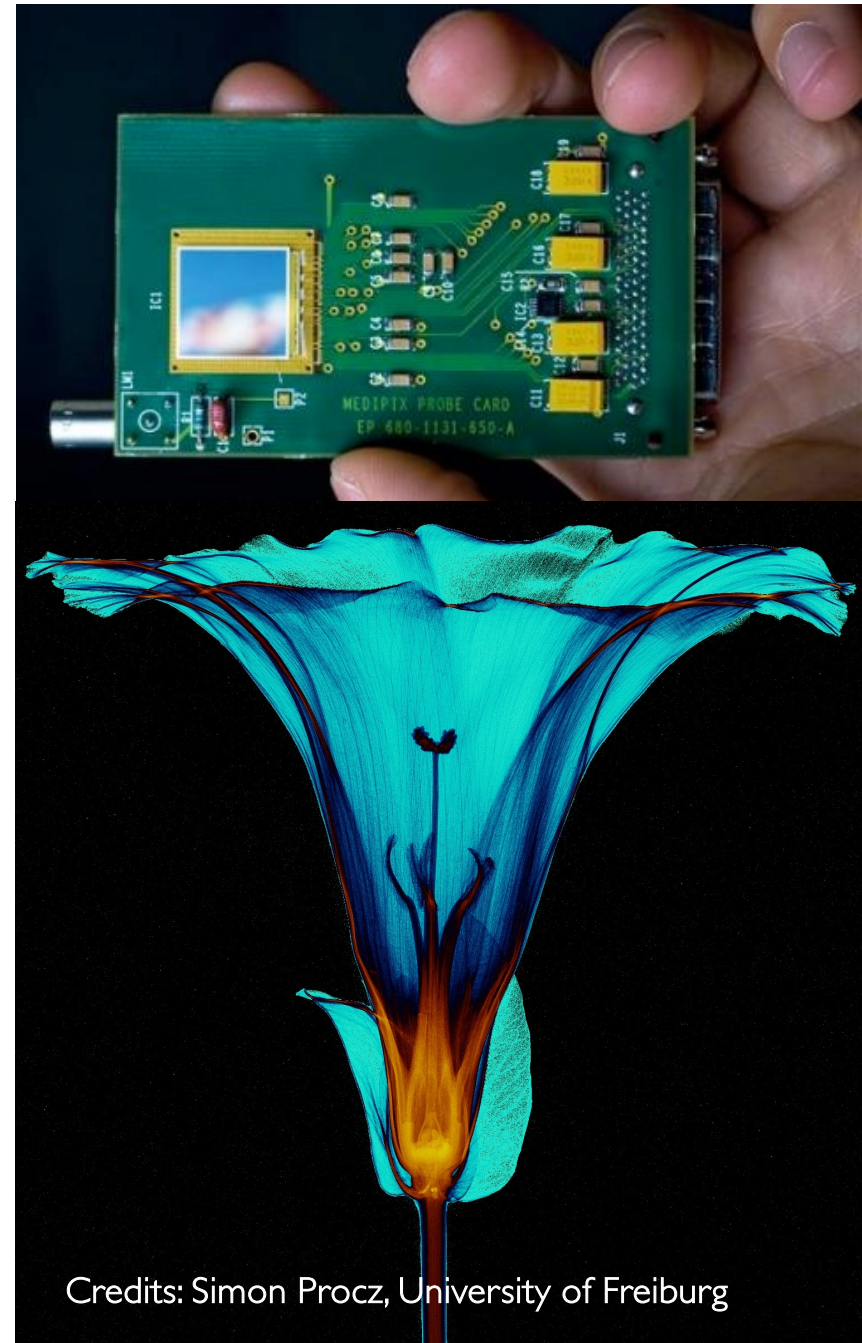
# Medipix

- High Energy Physics original development:

- Particle track detectors
- Allows counting of single photons in contrast to traditional charge integrating devices like film or CCD

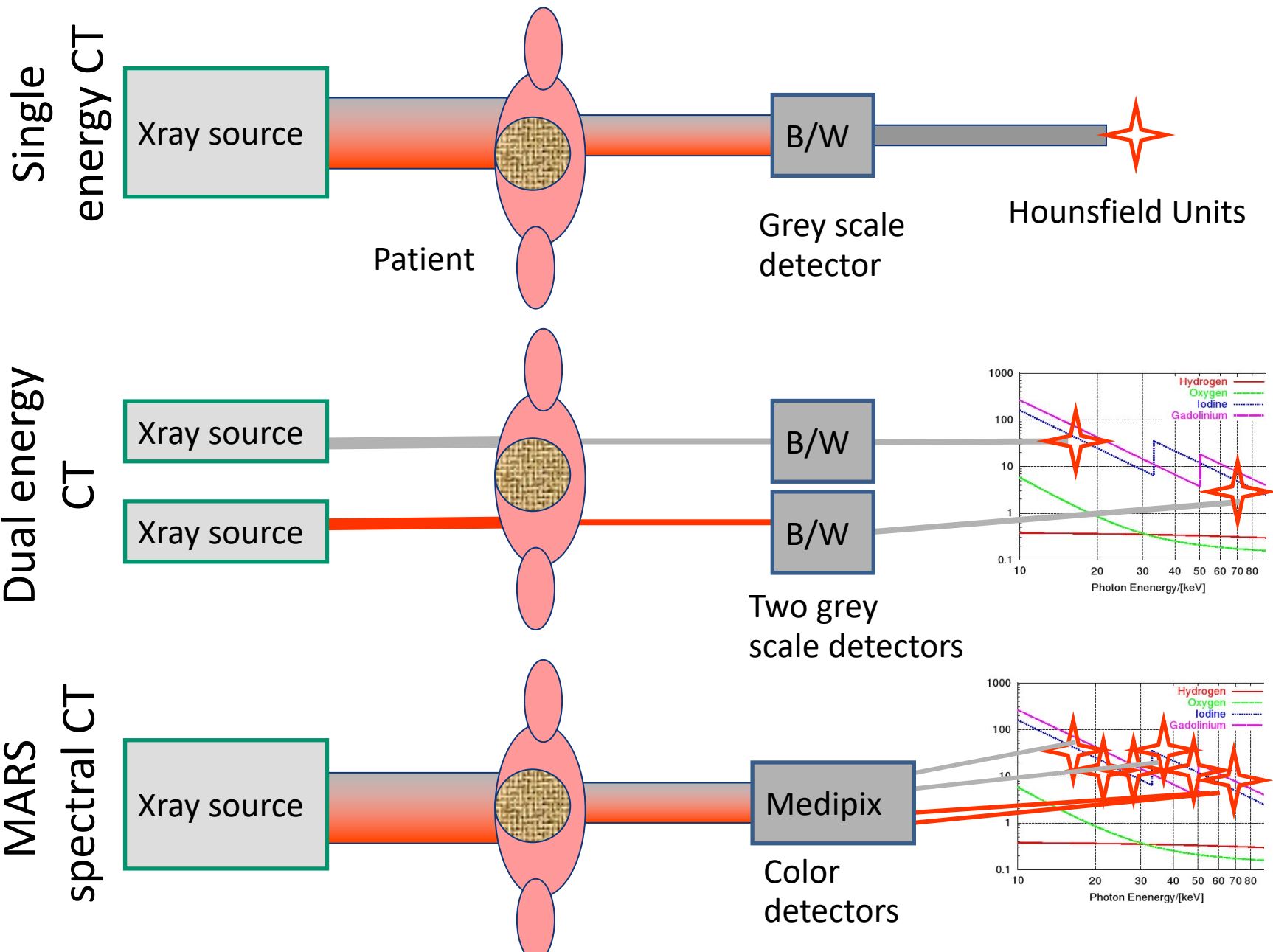
- Main properties:

- Fully digital device
- Very high space resolution
- Very fast photon counting
- Good conversion efficiency of low energy X-rays



Credits: Simon Procz, University of Freiburg

# Single-, dual-, and spectral CT



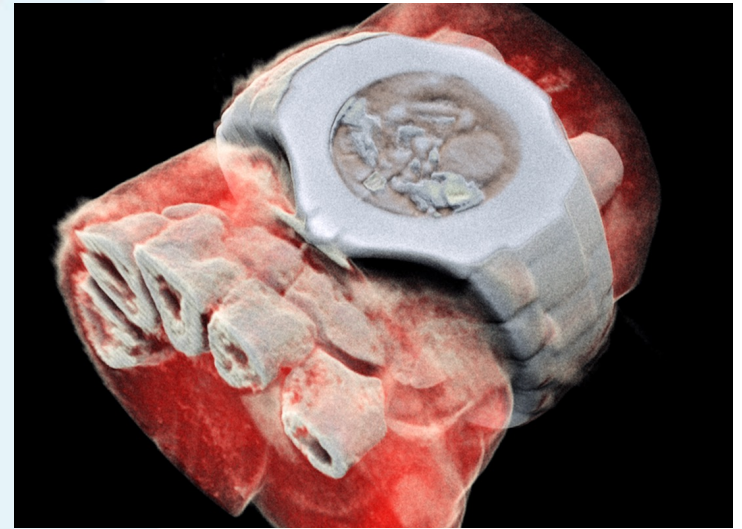
# Spectral CT is now possible

## Medipix All Resolution System

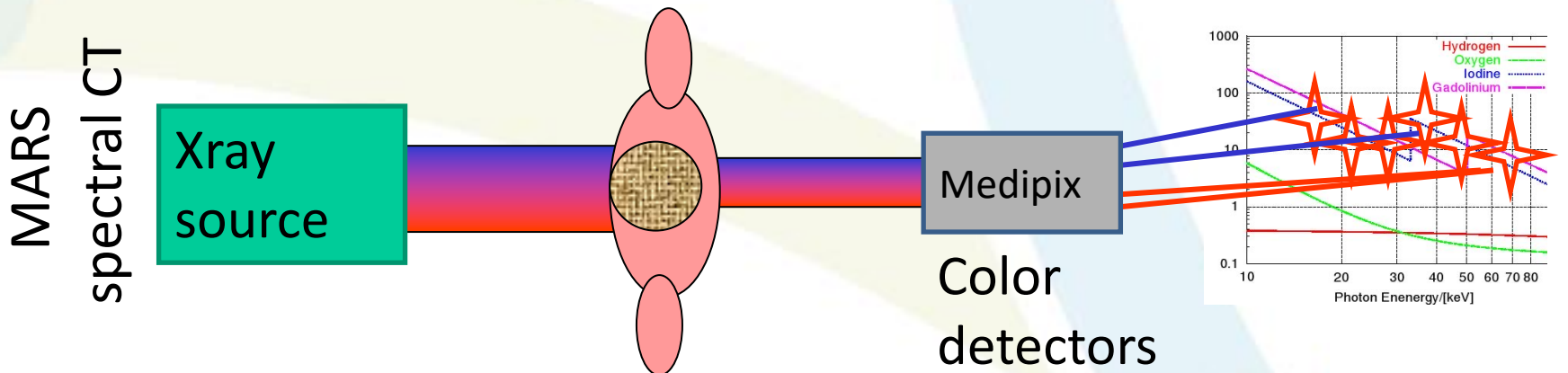
Energy resolution

Spatial resolution

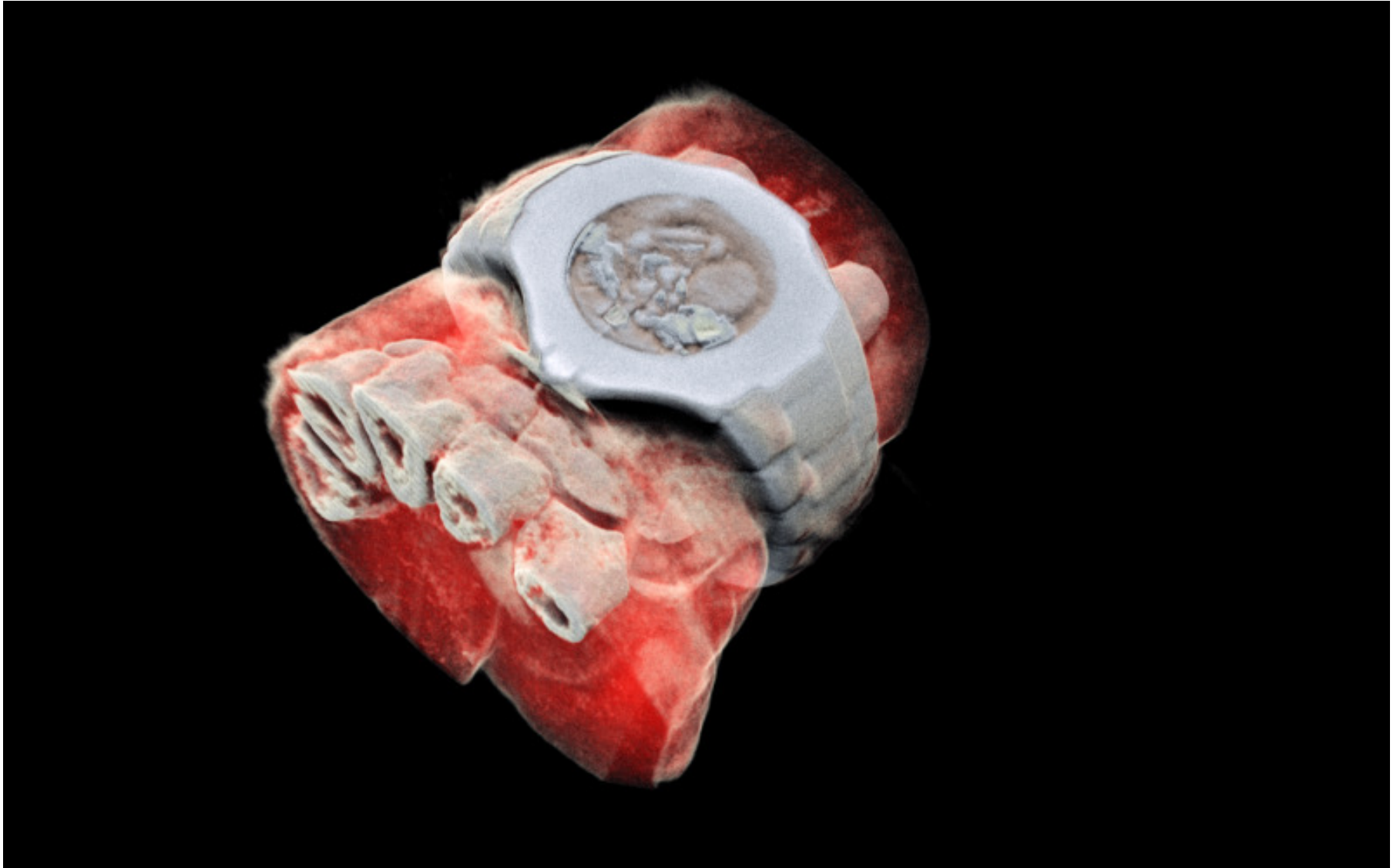
Temporal resolution



First 3D colour x-ray human image



# First 3D human colour x-ray image (2018)



A 3D image of a wrist with a watch showing part of the finger bones in white and soft tissue in red. couples the spectroscopic information generated by the Medipix3 with powerful algorithms to generate 3D images (Image: MARS Bioimaging Ltd)

# More and more progress...

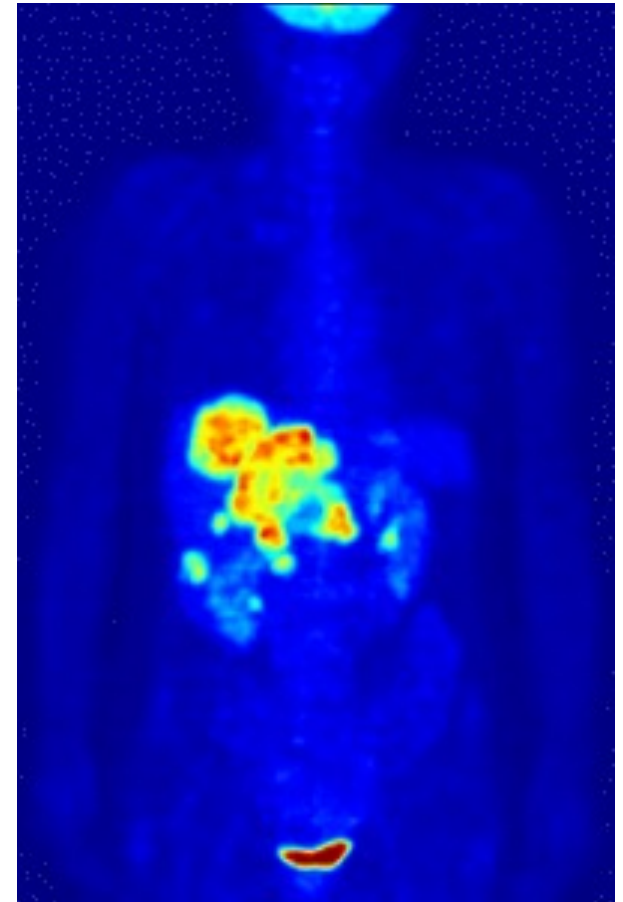
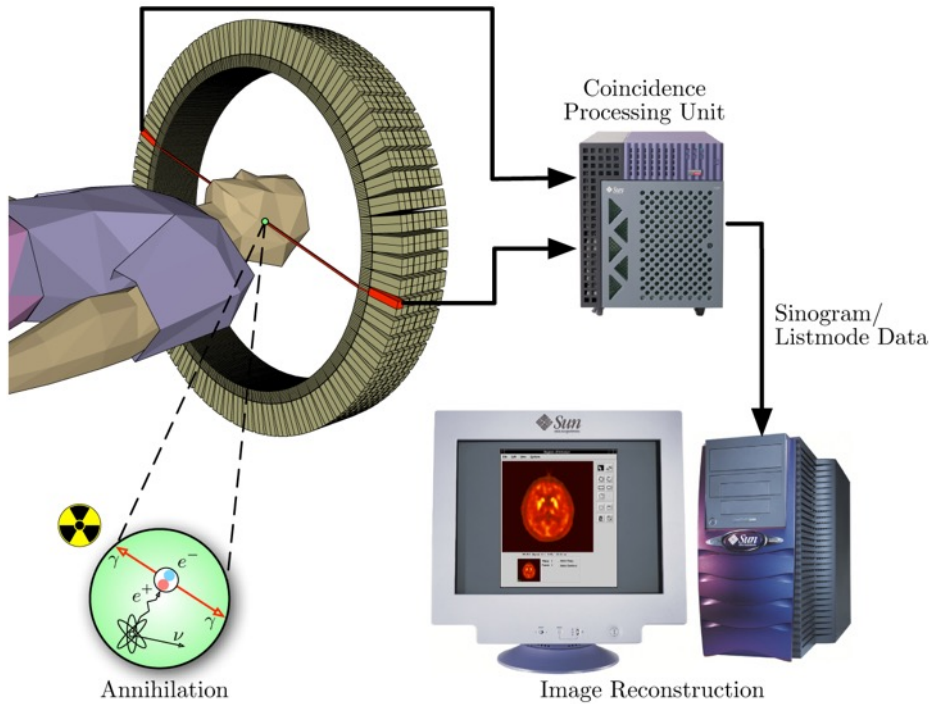
Colour 3D X-ray  
image of a fatty  
deposit on an artery  
(carotid plaque)  
taken using a  
Medipix3 detector

Image by Mars Bio-Imaging  
Feature article link:  
<https://rdcu.be/bOFuR>





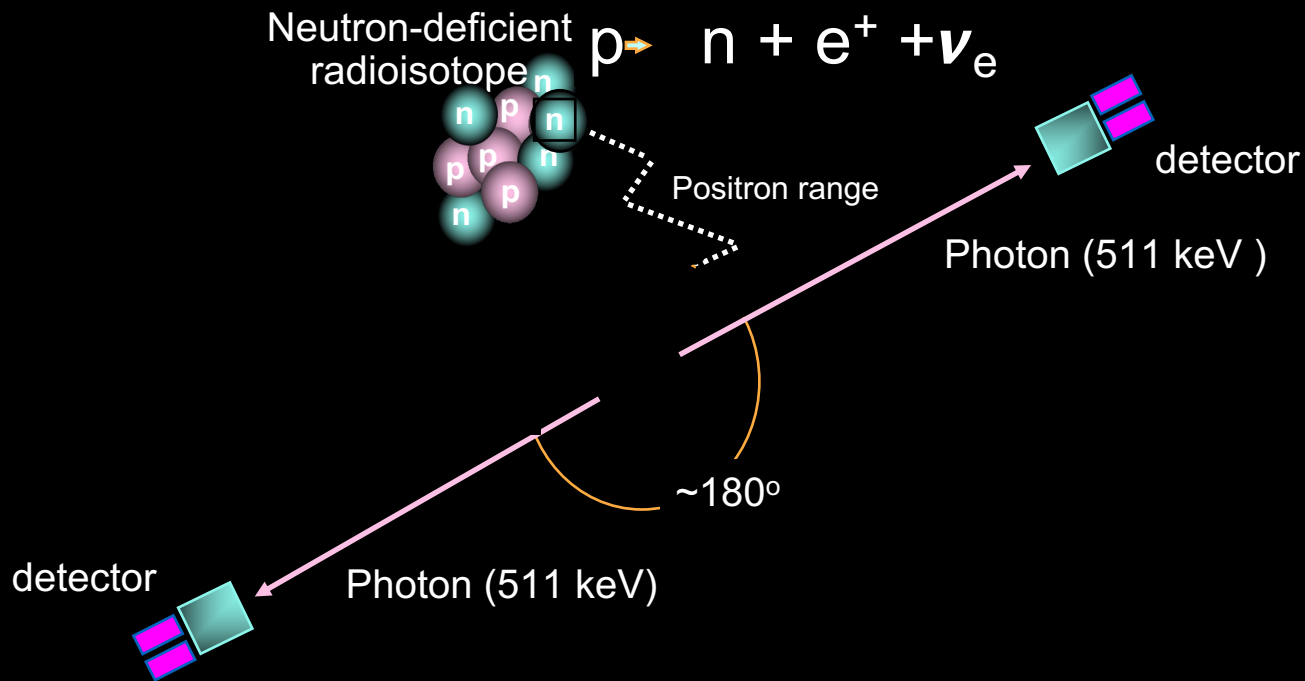
# Positron Emission Tomography



- $^{18}\text{F}$ FDG carries the  $^{18}\text{F}$  to areas of high metabolic activity
- 90% of PET scans are in clinical oncology

1974 the first human positron emission tomography

# Positron Emission Tomography

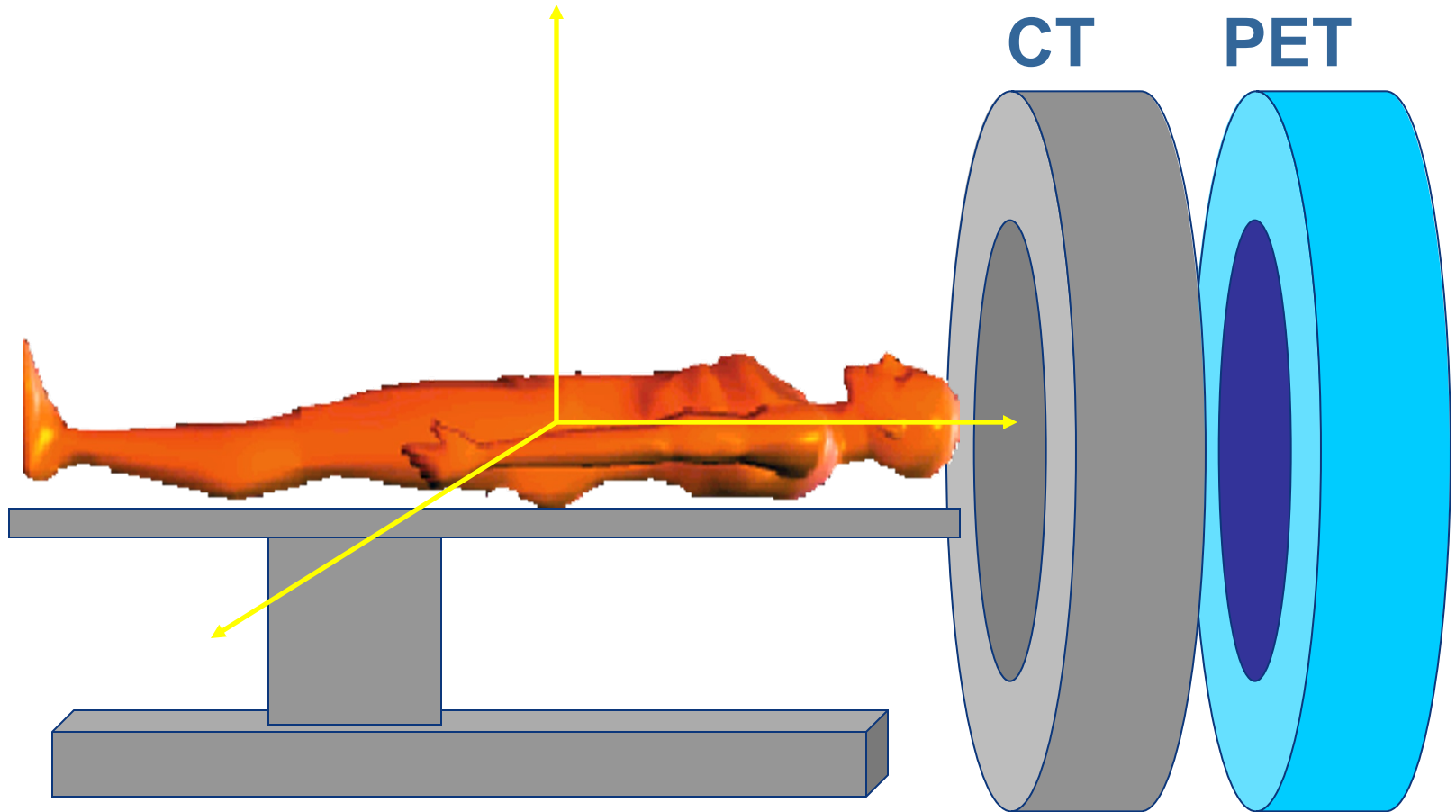


# PET – How it works

<http://www.nymus3d.nl/portfolio/animation/55>

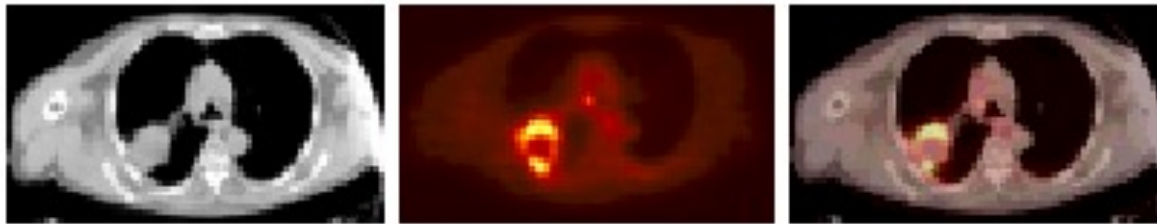
# Concept of PET-CT

*David Townsend*



# Multi-modality imaging

Primary lung cancer imaged with the Dual/Commercial scanner. A large lung tumor, which appears on CT as a uniformly attenuating hypodense mass, has a rim of FDG activity and a necrotic center revealed by PET.



*Courtesy of David Townsend*

# Multimodality imaging: CT with PET

## Combining anatomic and functional imaging

morphology

metabolism



David Townsend, UK Physicist



**European NoVel Imaging Systems  
for ION therapy**

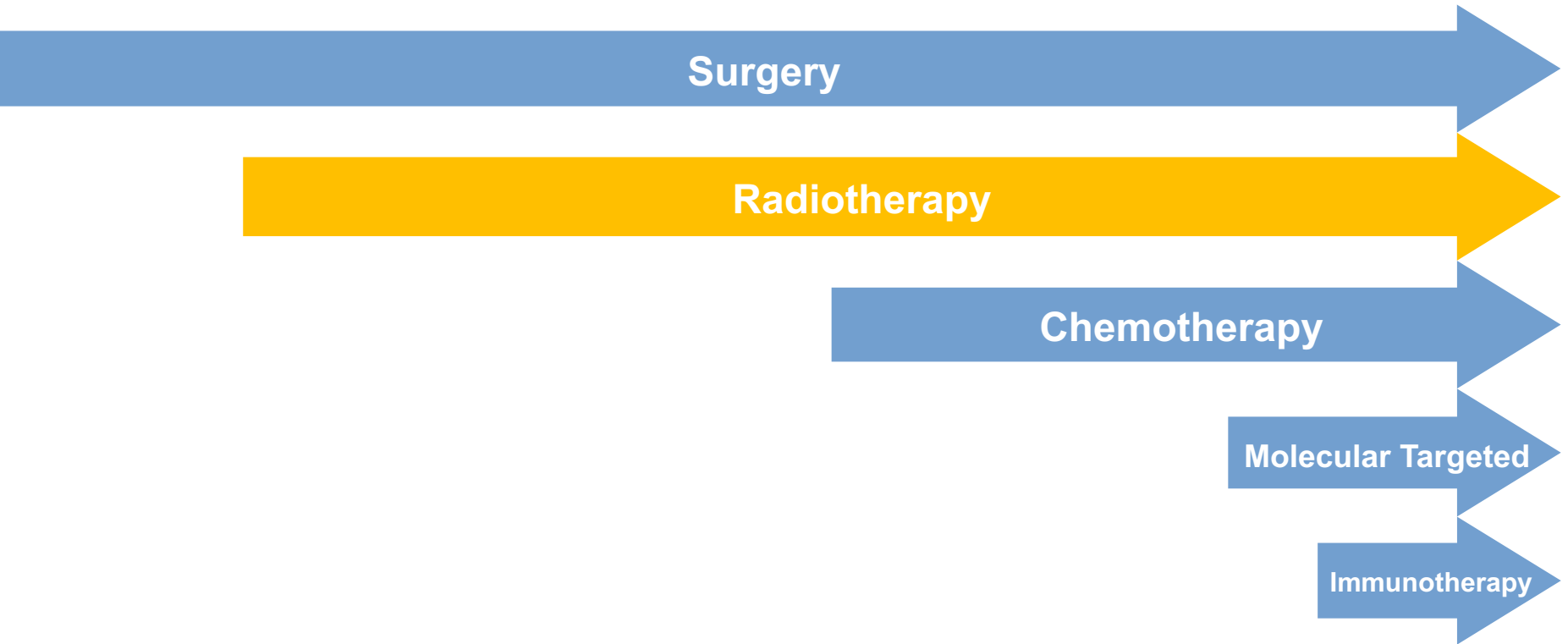
# How do we treat cancer?

1900

1950

2000

2021



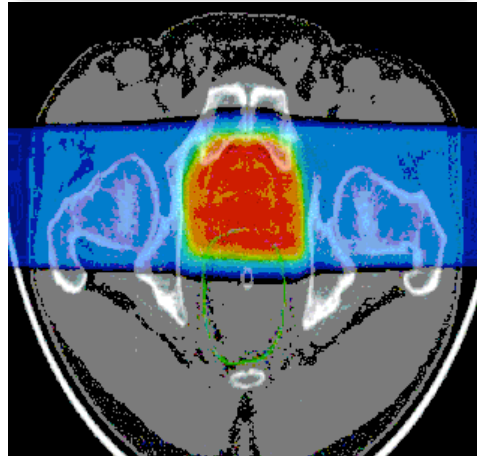


# Treatment options

Surgery



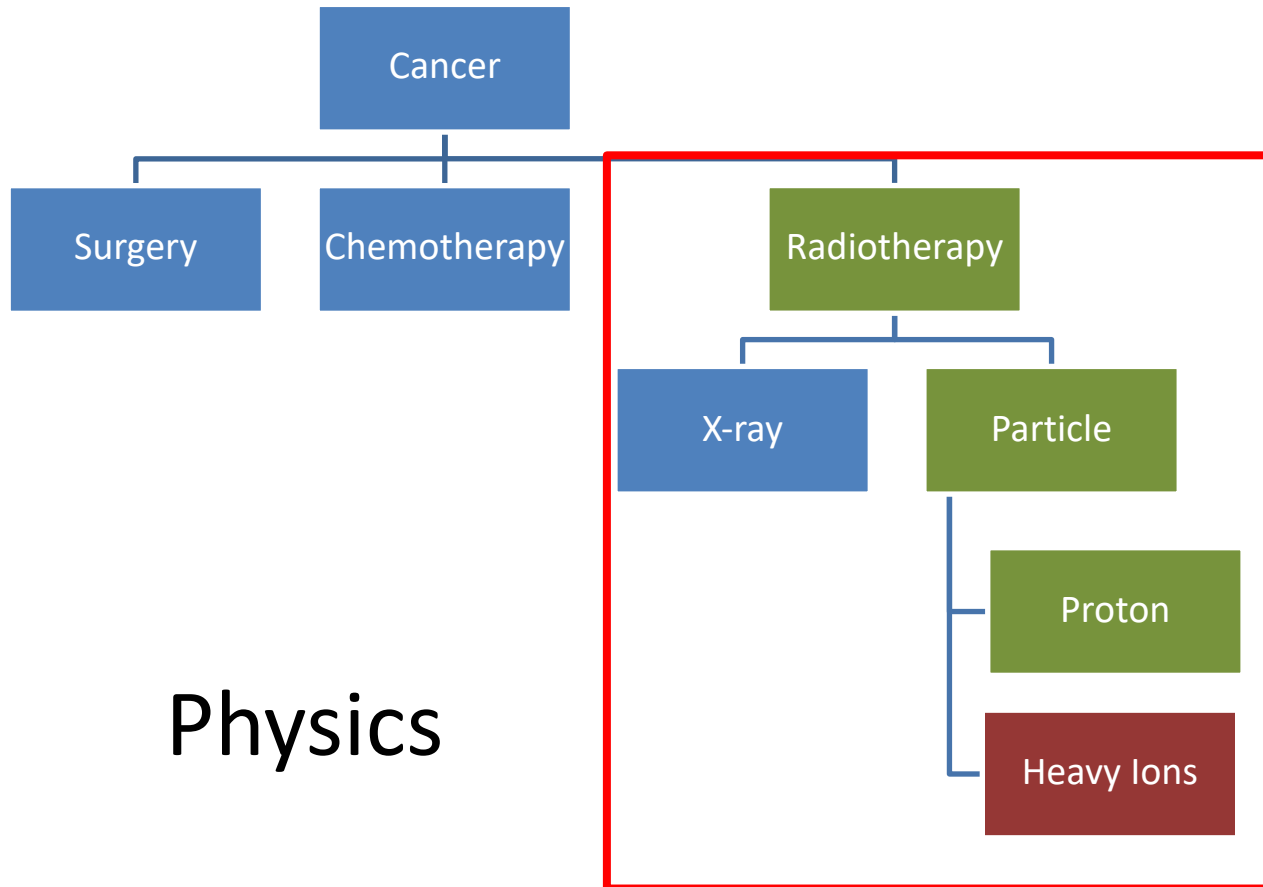
Radiotherapy



Chemotherapy (+ others)



# Cancer treatment options



# Radiotherapy in 21st Century

## 3 "Cs" of Radiation

**Cure** ( about 50% cancer cases are cured)

**Conservative** (non-invasive, fewer side effects)

**Cheap** (about 10% of total cost of cancer on radiation)

*(J.P.Gérard)*

- About 50% patients are treated with RT
- No substitute for RT in the near future
- No of patients is increasing

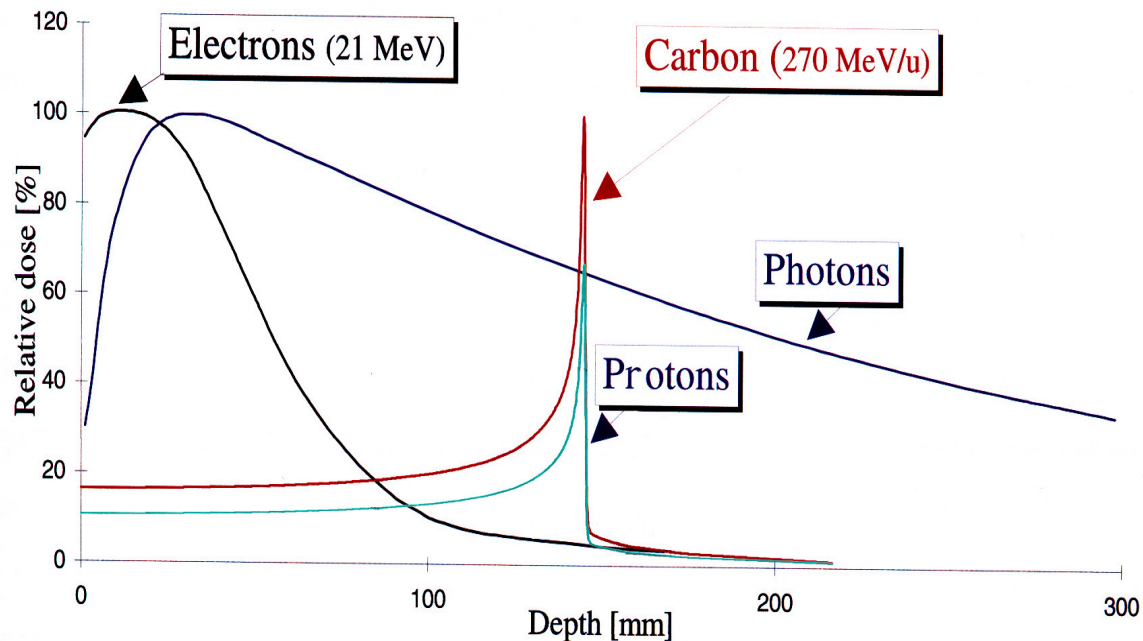


## Aims of Radiotherapy:

- Irradiate tumour with sufficient dose to **stop cancer growth**
- **Avoid complications** and **minimise** damage to surrounding tissue

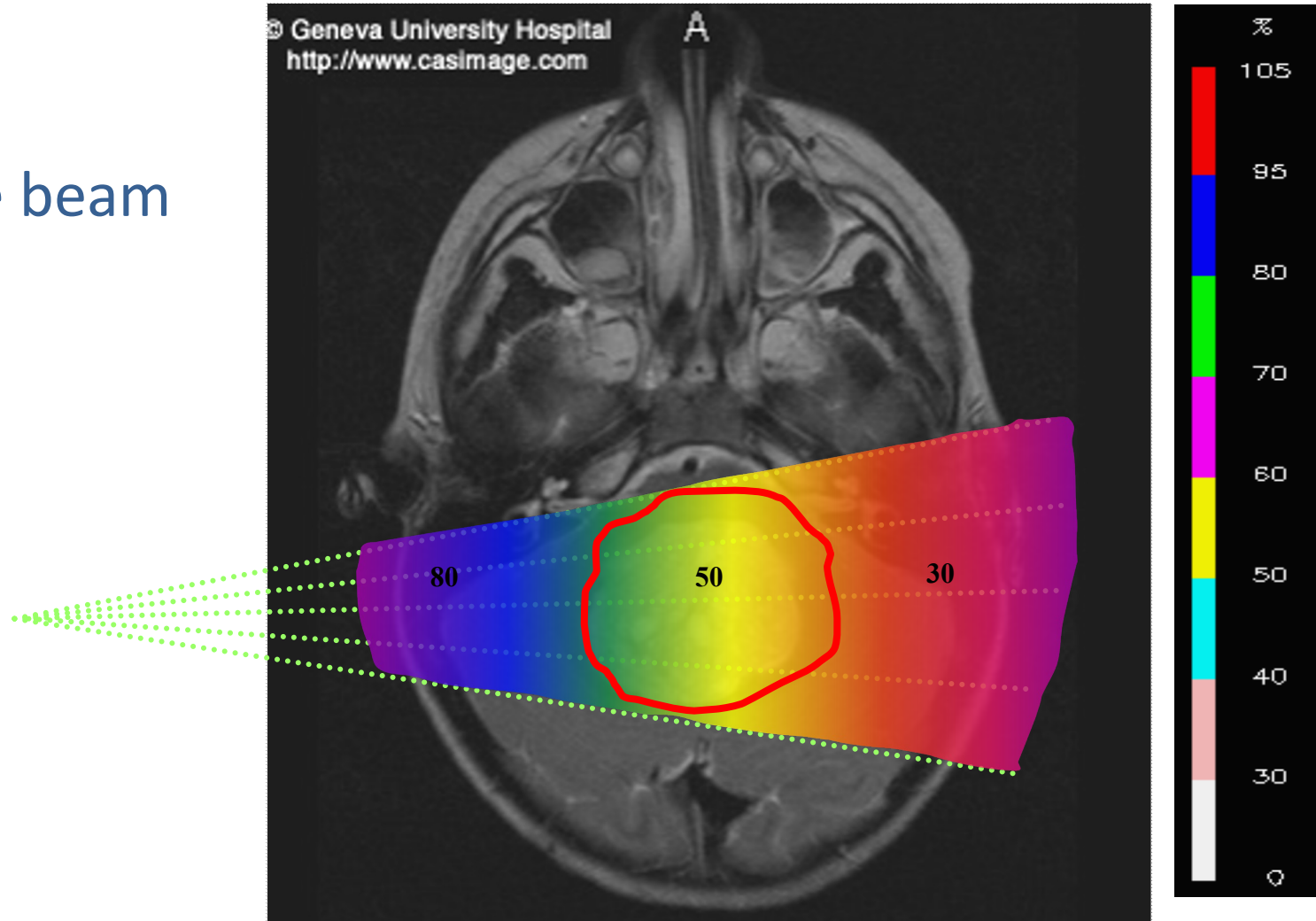
## Current radiotherapy methods:

- 5-25 MV photons
- 5 - 25 MeV electrons
- 50 - 400 MeV/u hadrons



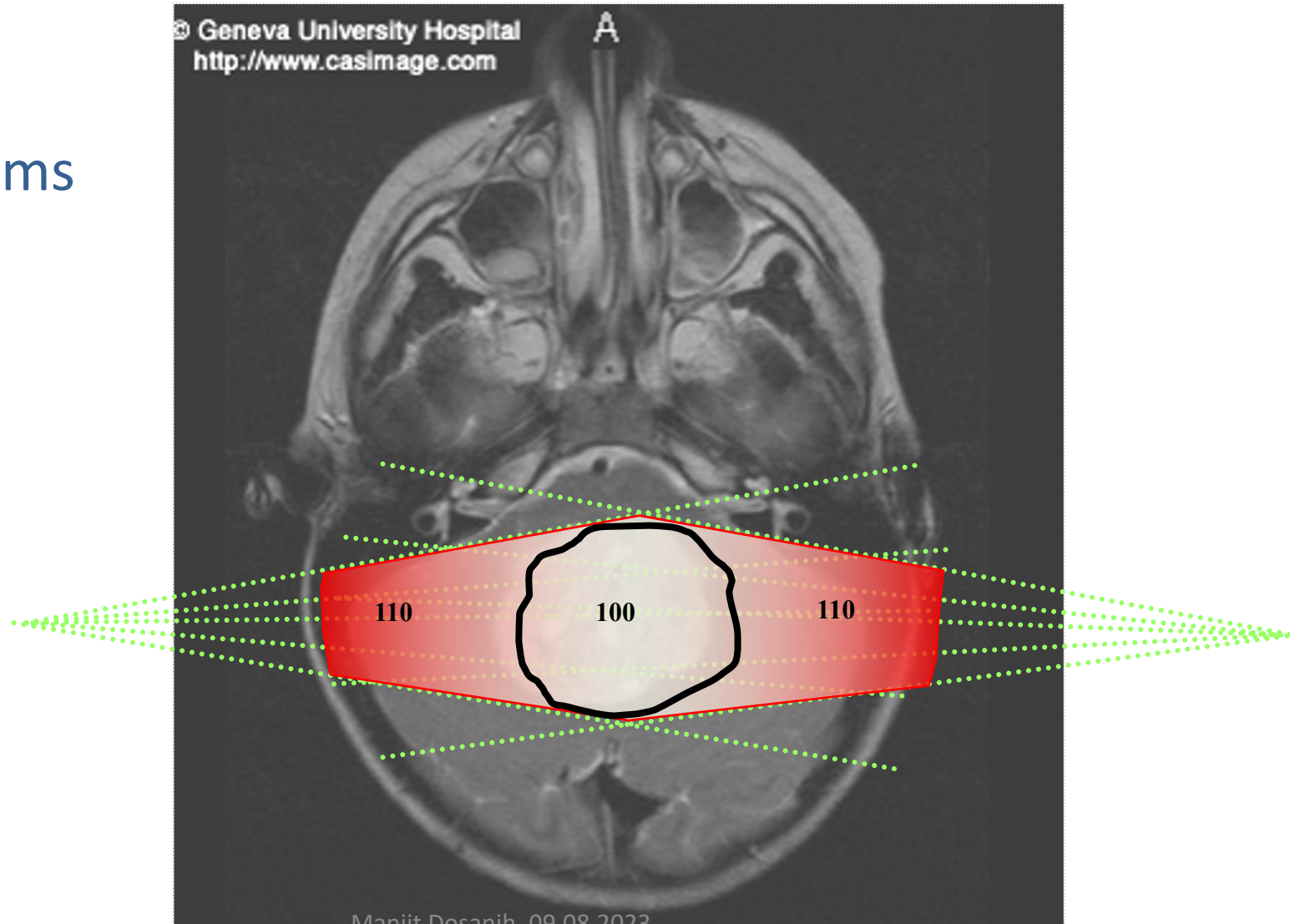
# Classical Radiotherapy with X-rays

single beam

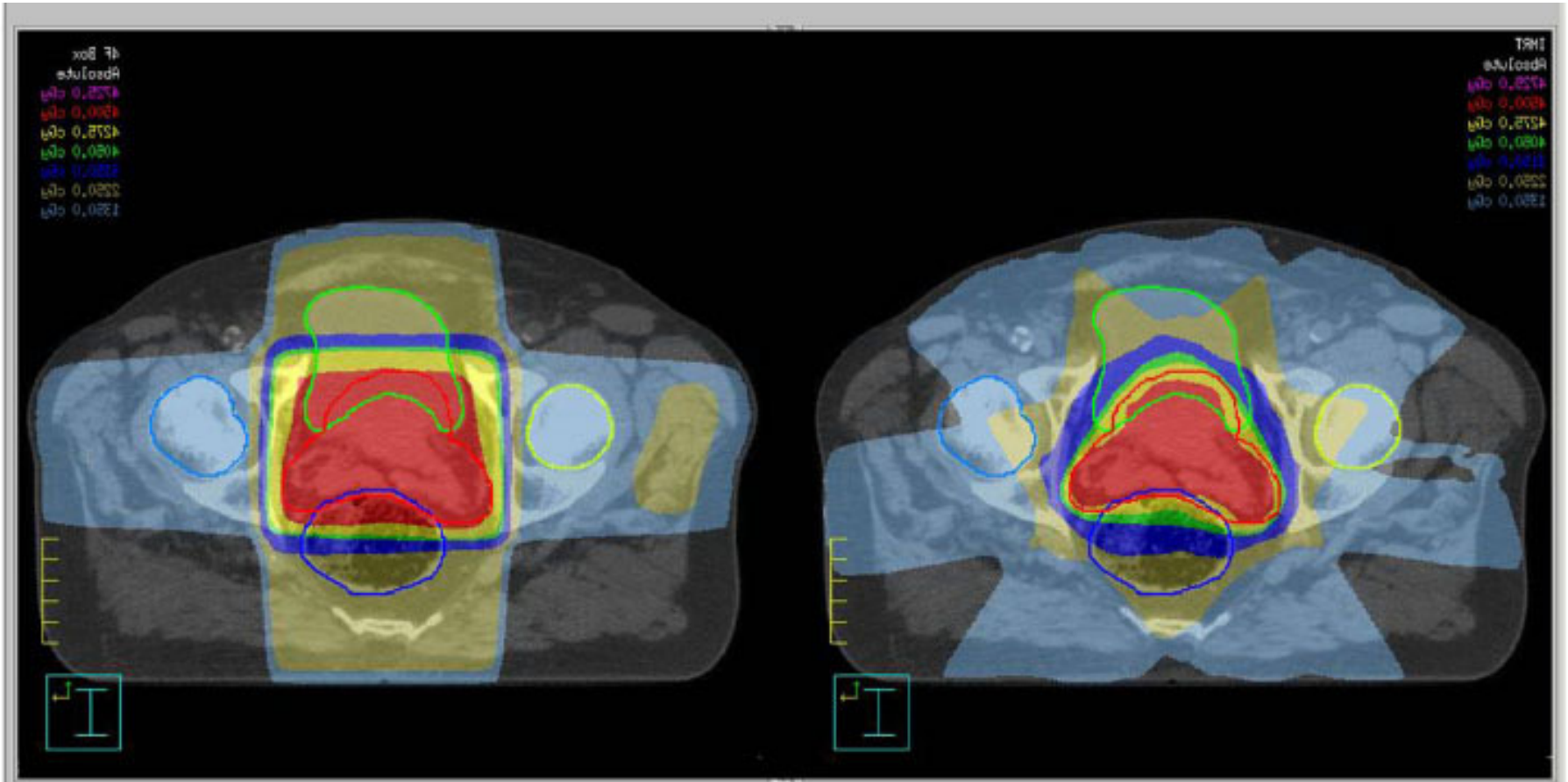


# Radiotherapy with X-rays

two beams



# Improved Delivery

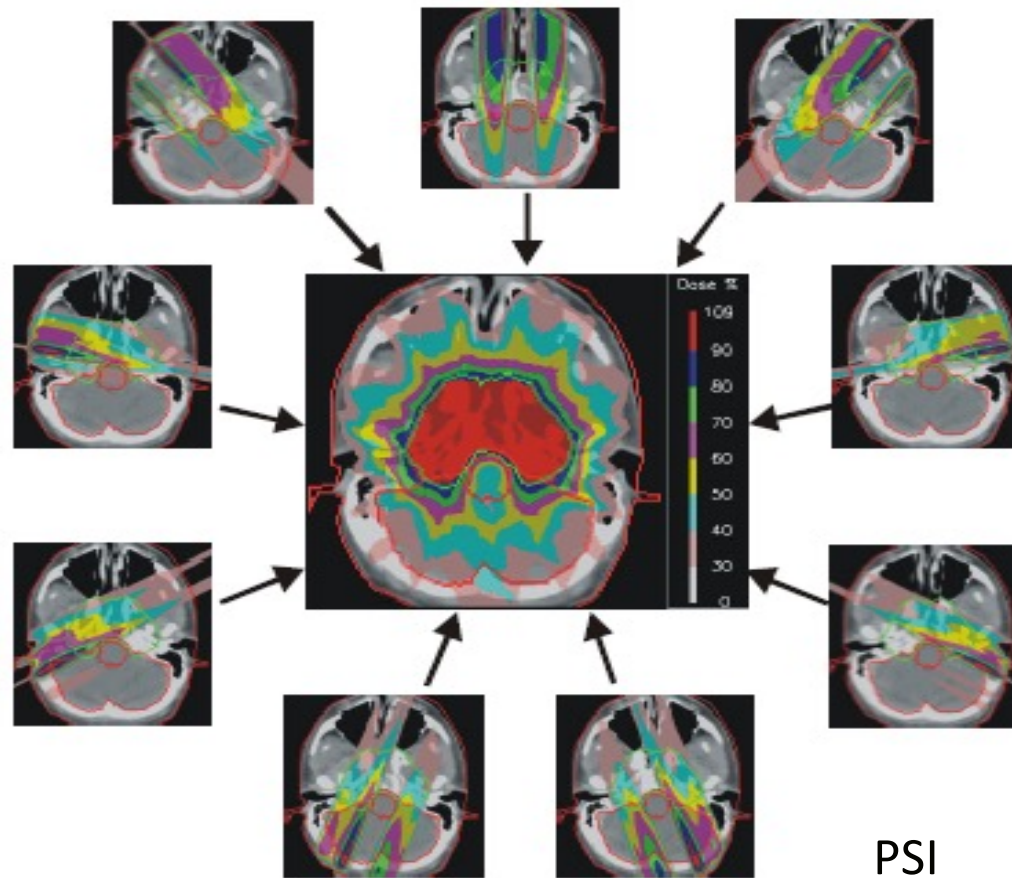


1990s: 4 constant intensity fields

Current state of RT: **Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT)** – Multiple converging field with planar (2D) intensity variations

# Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy

9 NON-UNIFORM FIELDS



60-75 grays (joule/kg) given in 30-35 fractions (6-7weeks)  
to allow healthy tissues to repair:

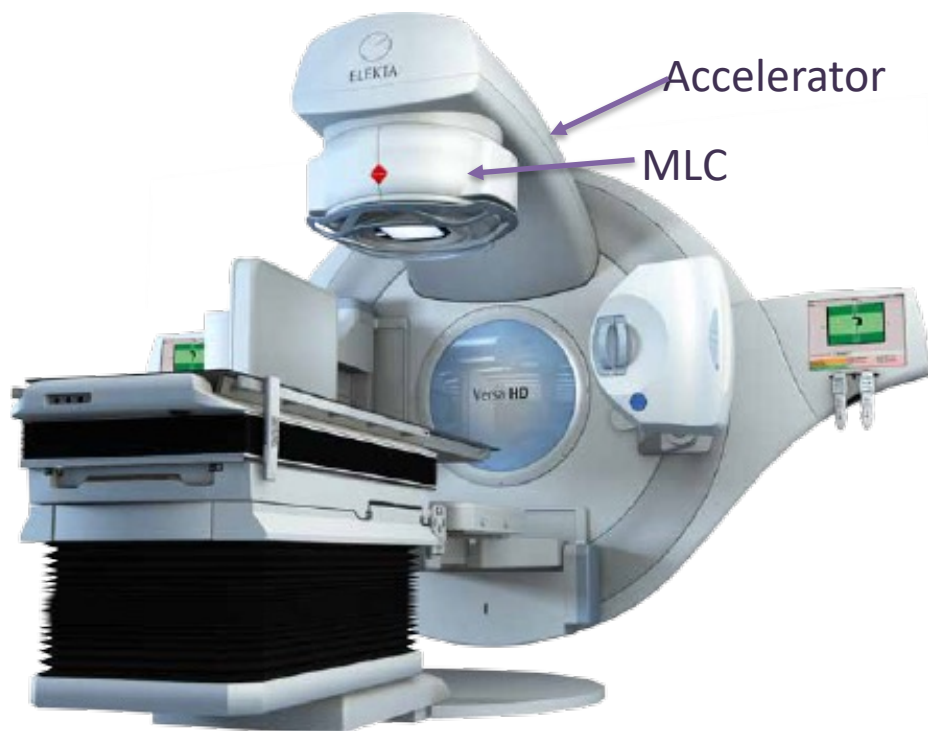
90% of the tumours are radiosensitive



# The most widely available accelerator

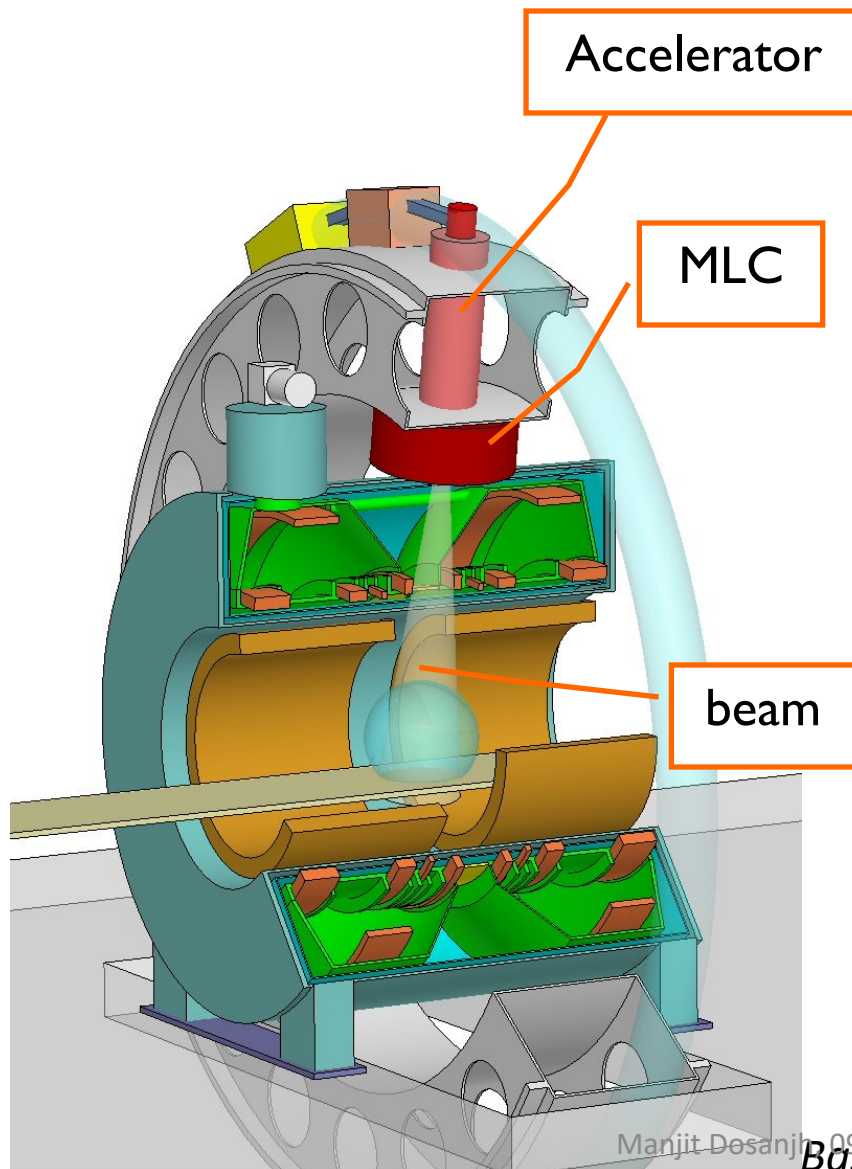
Electron Linac (linear accelerator) for radiation therapy treatment of cancer)

More than 15,000 in use



Widely available in all major hospitals in, specially in high income countries (HIC)

# Concept of MRI guided accelerator



Seeing what you treat at the moment of treatment

Bringing certainty in the actual treatment

# Utrecht solution: Integrating a Philips MRI scanner with a Elekta radiotherapy accelerator



1.5T 70 cm bore Philips Ingenia

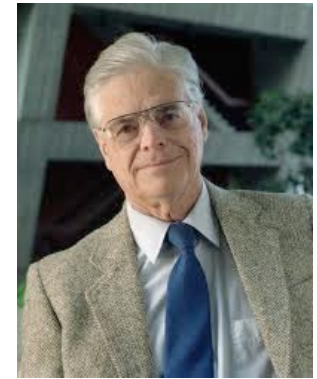


# Advances in Radiation Therapy

In the past two decades due to:

- improvements in imaging modalities, multimodality
- technology, powerful computers and software and delivery systems have enabled:
  - Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT),
  - Image Guided Radiotherapy (IGRT),
  - Volumetric Arc Therapy (VMAT) and
  - Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT)
  - MRI-guided Linac therapy
- **Is Hadron/Particle Therapy the future?**
- **FLASH??**

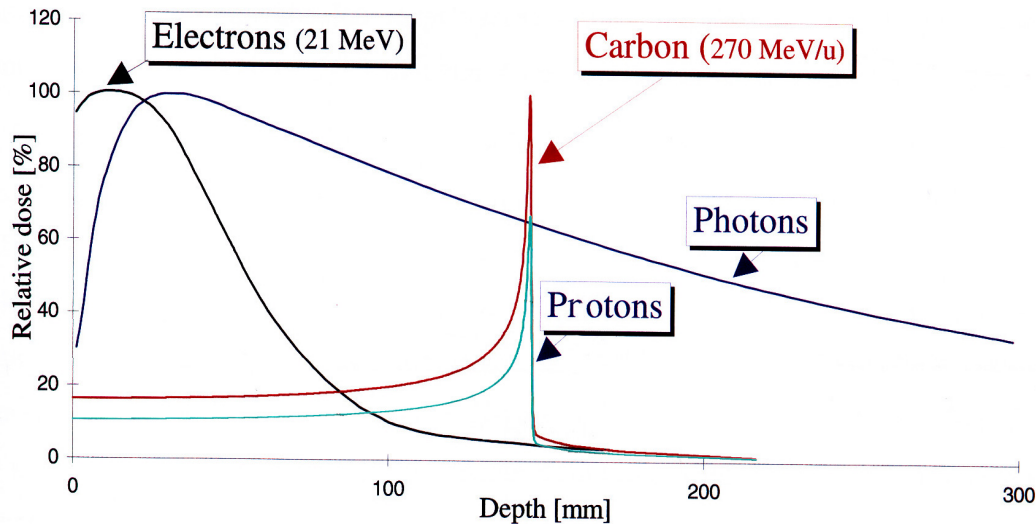
# Hadron Therapy



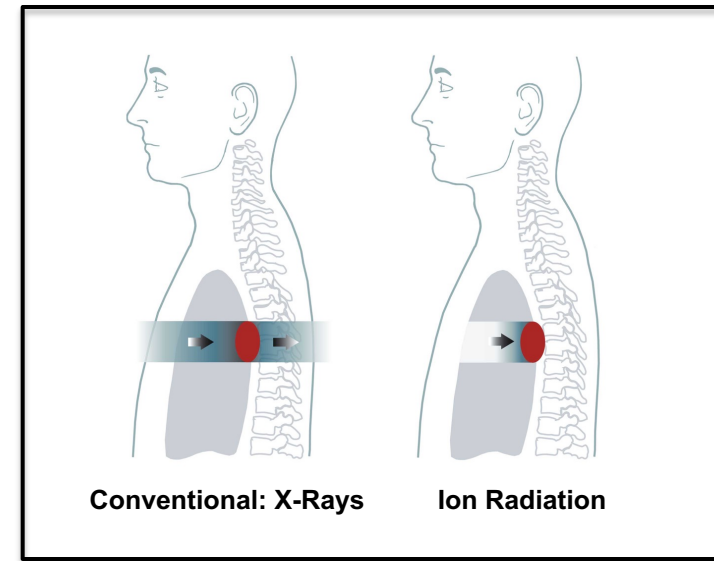
Robert Wilson  
Fermi Lab

In 1946 Robert Wilson:

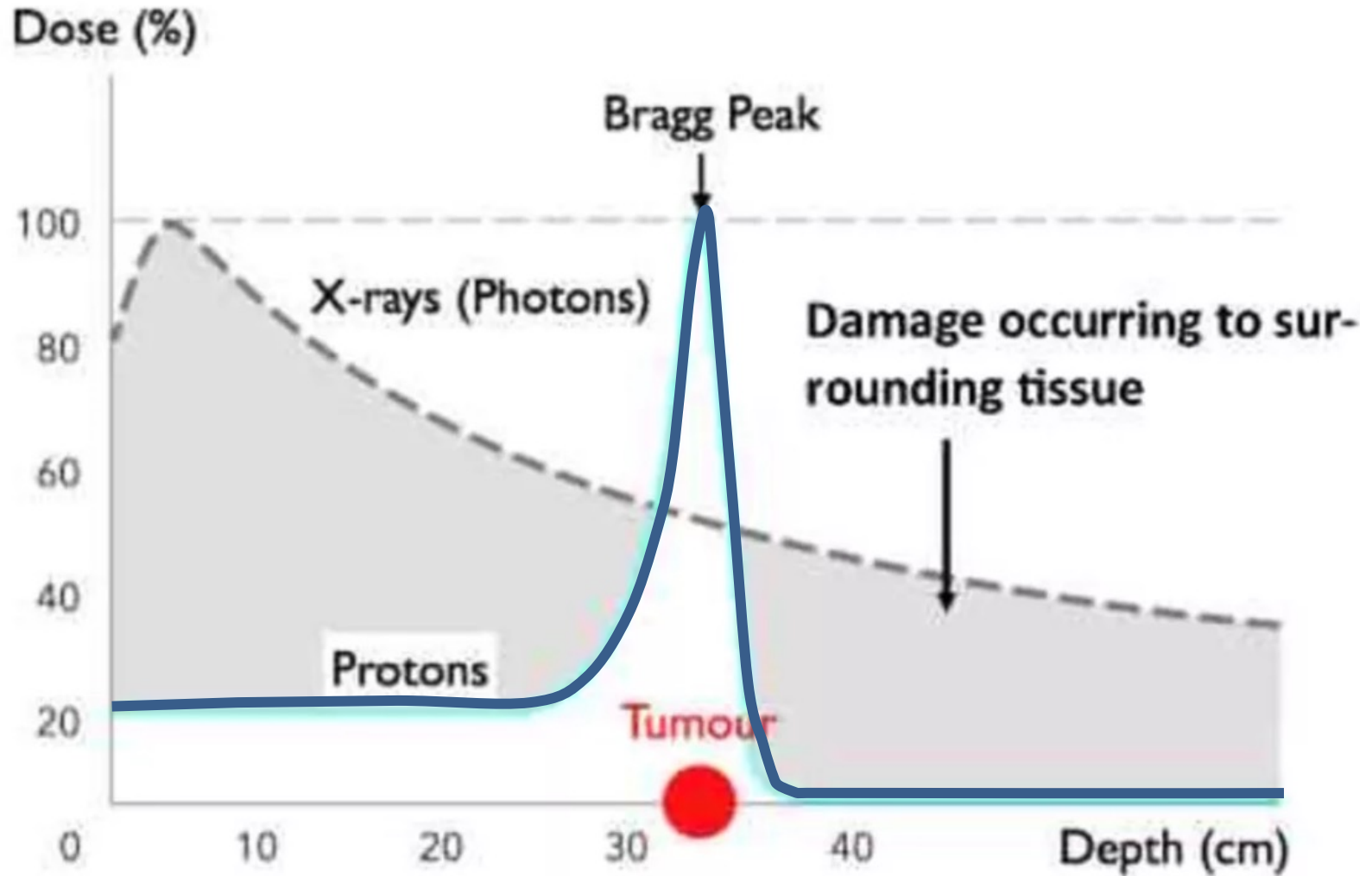
- Protons can be used clinically
- Accelerators are available
- Maximum radiation dose can be placed into the tumour
- Particle therapy provides sparing of normal tissues



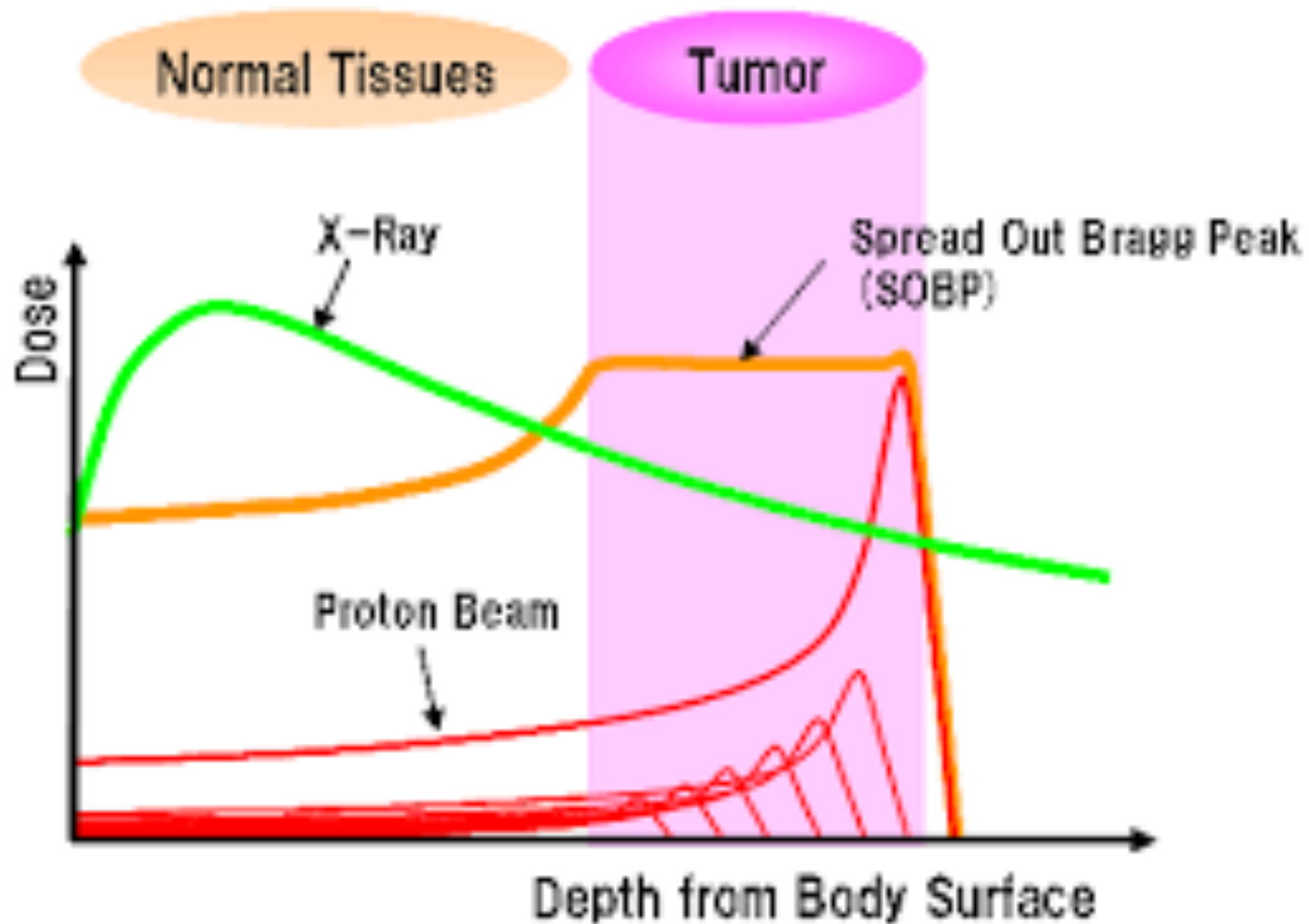
Depth in the body (mm)



# Photons vs. protons



# Spread Out Bragg-peak targeting the **tumour**

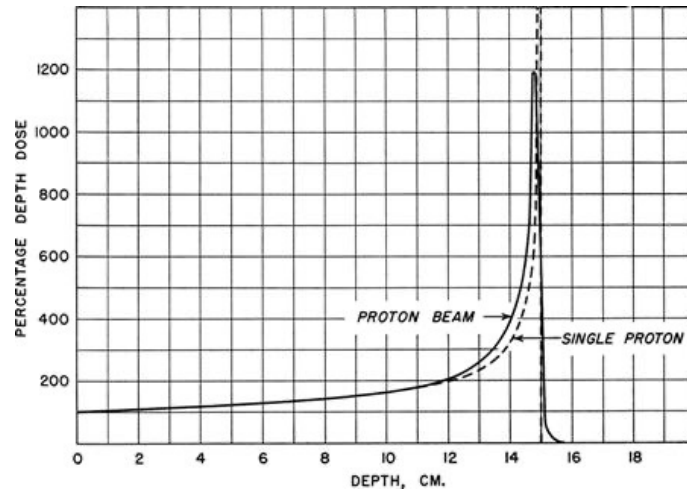




1932 - E. Lawrence  
First cyclotron



1946 – proton therapy  
proposed by R. Wilson



Sept 1954 – Berkeley treats  
the first patient



From physics .....

**E. Lawrence  
First cyclotron**



**Lawrence brothers  
Physicist and Doctor**

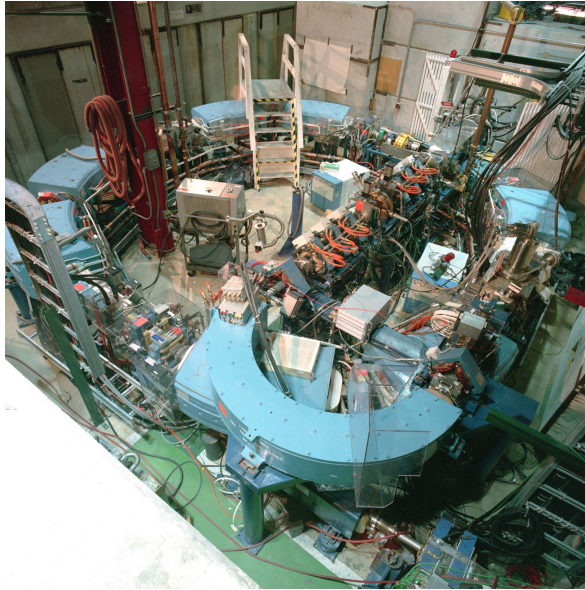


**Sept 1954 – Berkeley  
Treats first patient**



**Importance of collaboration.....**

**1993- Loma Linda  
USA (proton)**



First dedicated clinical  
facility

**1994 – HIMAC/NIRS  
Japan (carbon)**



**1997 – GSI  
Germany (carbon)**



Three crucial years for PT.....to clinics

# Key Milestones of Hadrontherapy

1991 — First hospital based *Proton* facility  
Loma Linda University Medical Center, CA, USA



**360° Gantry**



# The Darmstadt GSI 'pilot project' (1997-2008)

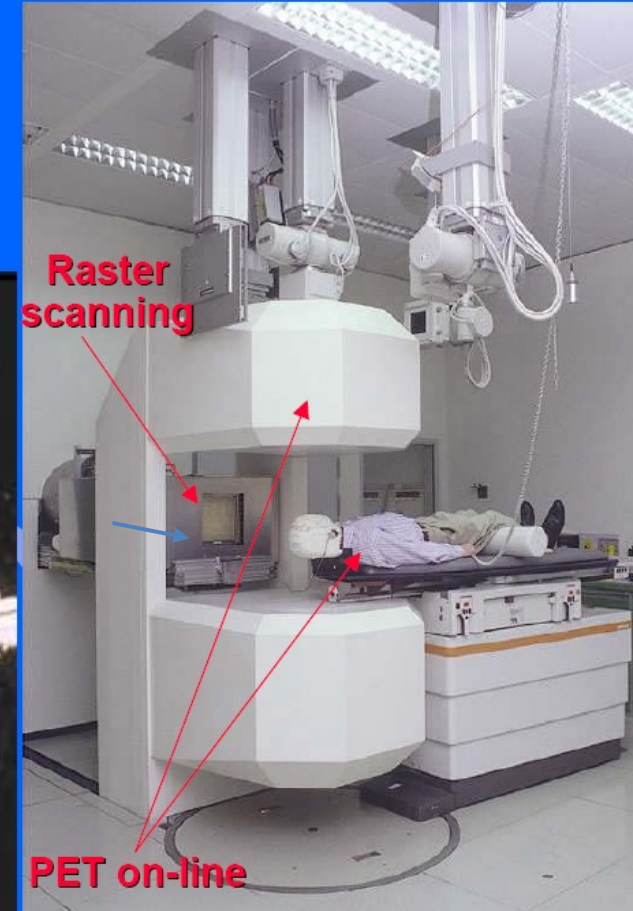


**G. Kraft**

**450** patients treated  
with carbon ions  
**J. Debus (Heidelberg Univ.)**

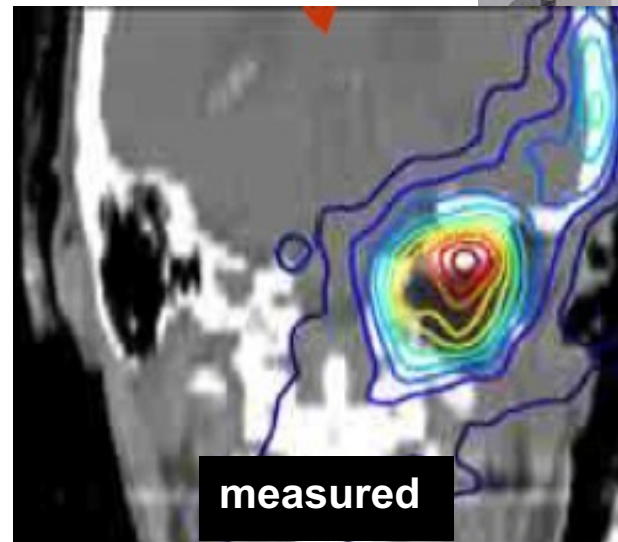
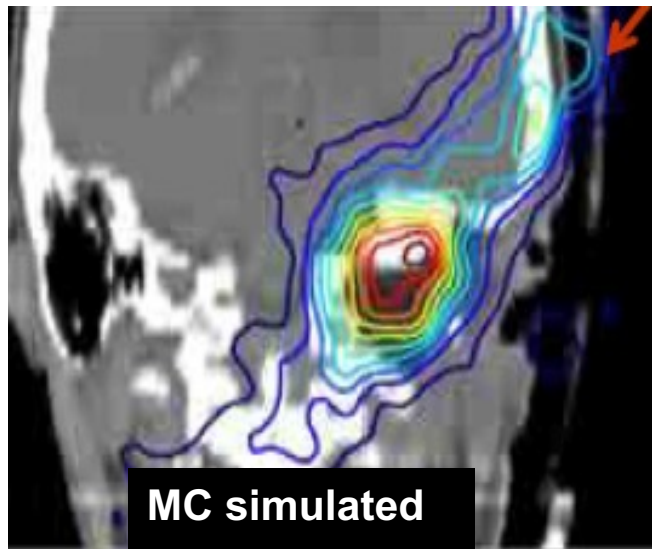


**J. Debus**

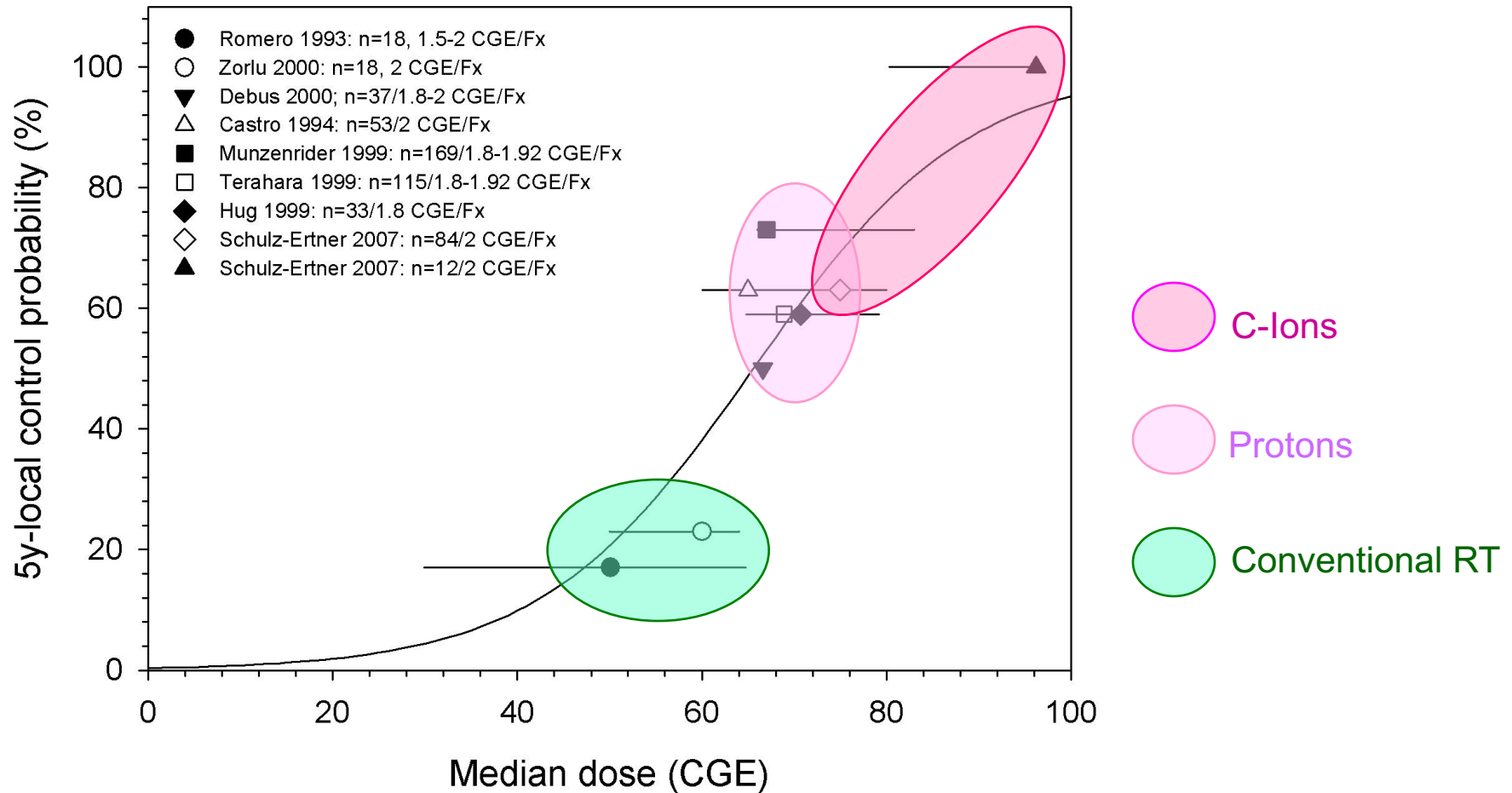


# Real-time monitoring

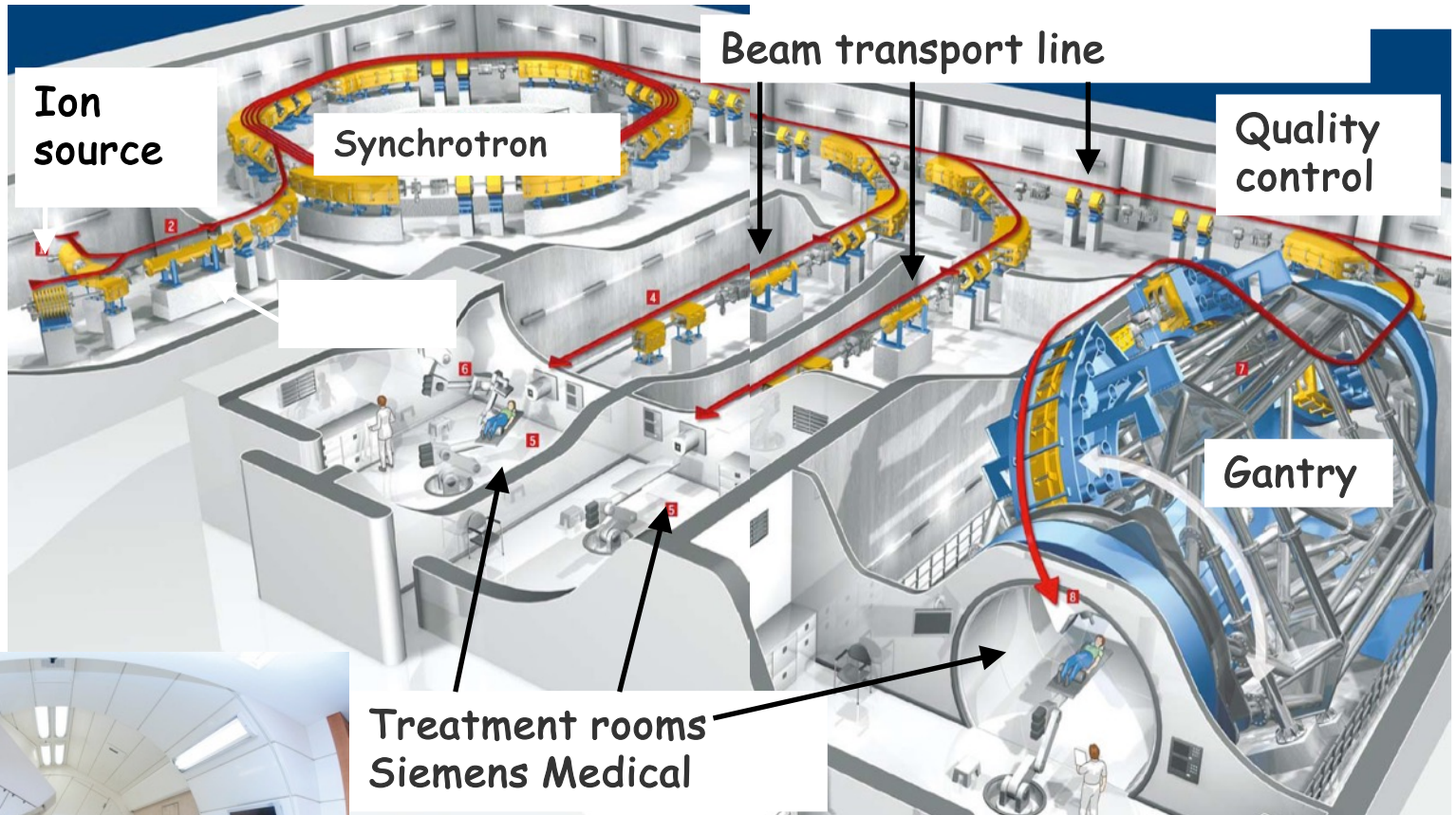
- In-beam PET @ GSI (Germany)
- MonteCarlo simulations
- Organ motion



# Tumour Control Rate: Chordomas



# HIT - Heidelberg



Carbon facilities in Europe: first was HIT  
in Heidelberg – started treating patients in 2009

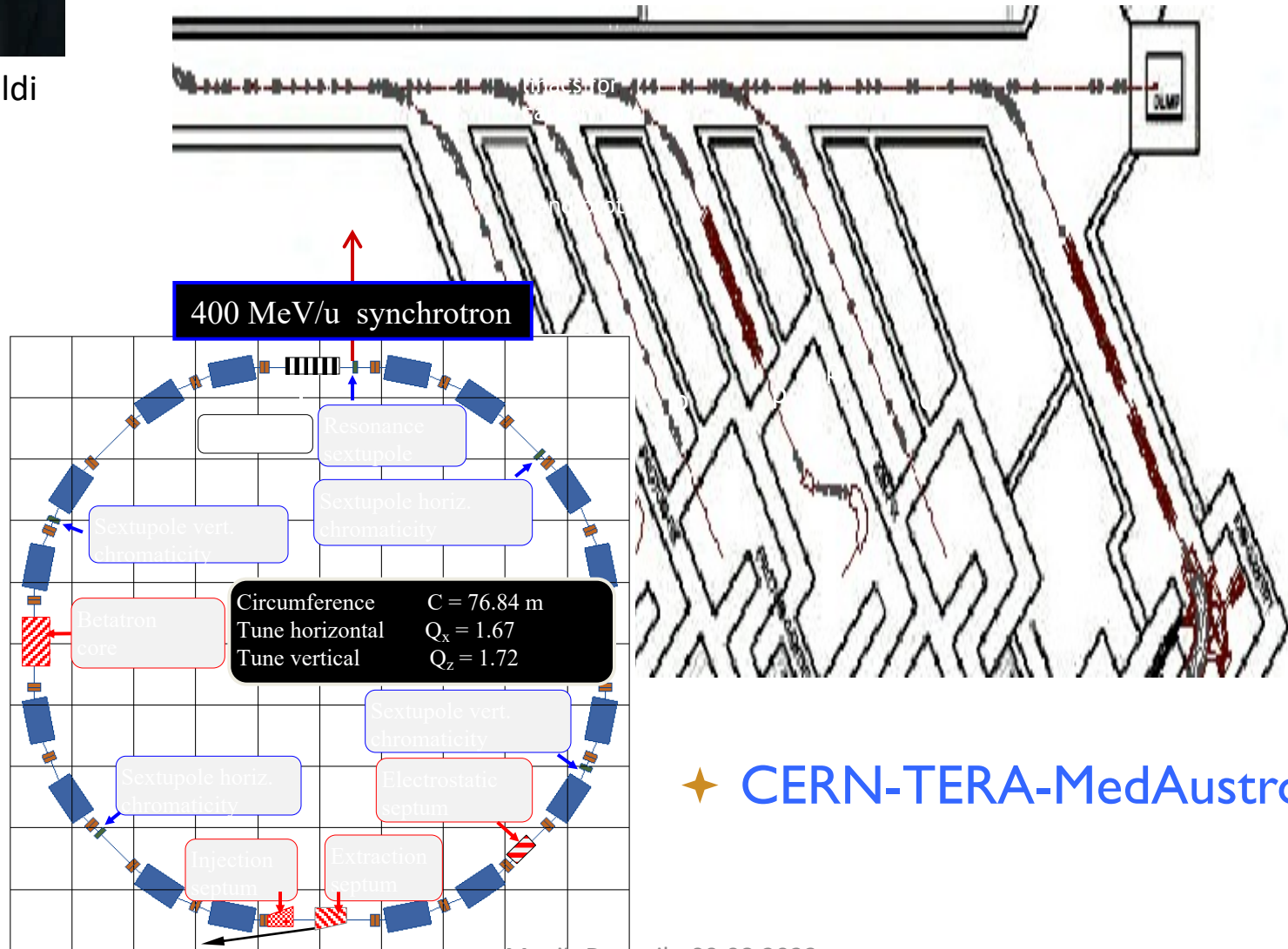
Manjit Dosanjh, 09.08.2023





Ugo Amaldi  
TERA

# PIMMS at CERN (1996-2000)



✦ CERN-TERA-MedAustron

**2001**

# *The beginnings of ENLIGHT*

- The idea germinated in 2001 after ESTRO- Med-AUSTRON meeting
- In October 2001 the proposal for a Thematic Network was submitted to EC
- ENLIGHT was launched In February 2002 at CERN
- Funded: 1 million Euros in 2002

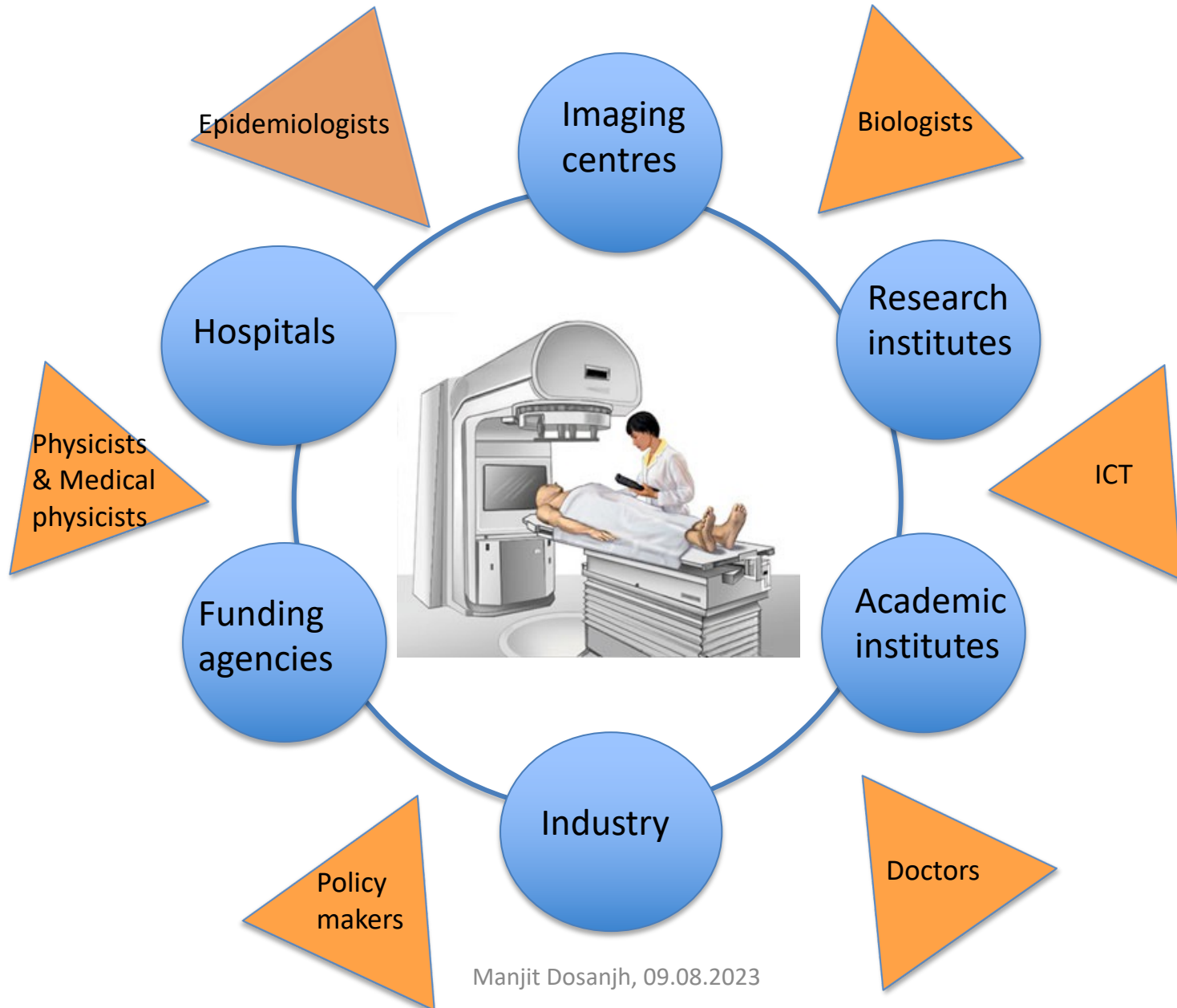


Driving Force: Ugo Amaldi

DG: Luciano Maiani

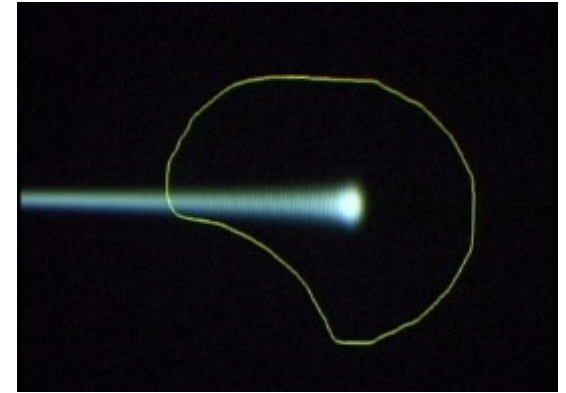
Organisers: Manjit Dosanjh & Hans Hoffmann

# ENLIGHT: Importing physics collaboration spirit



# ENLIGHT was established to .....

- Create common multidisciplinary platform
- Cancer treatment
- Identify challenges
- Share knowledge
- Share best practices
- Harmonise data
- Provide training, education
- Innovate to improve
- Lobbying for funding



Leveraging Physics collaboration philosophy into a multidisciplinary medical environment

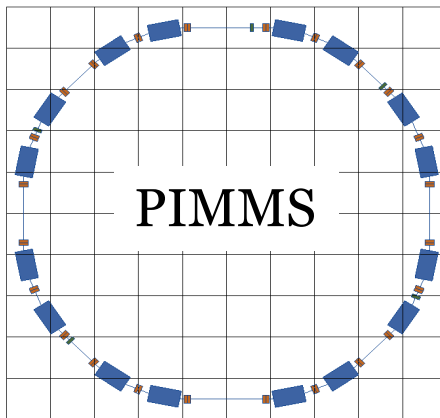


# PIMMS study at CERN (1996-2000)



Treatment , CNAO, Italy  
2011

1996-2000  
PIMMS study



MedAustron, Austria 2019



# From PIMMS study to clinical reality



First patient with carbon ions Nov 2012



Treatment started in 2016

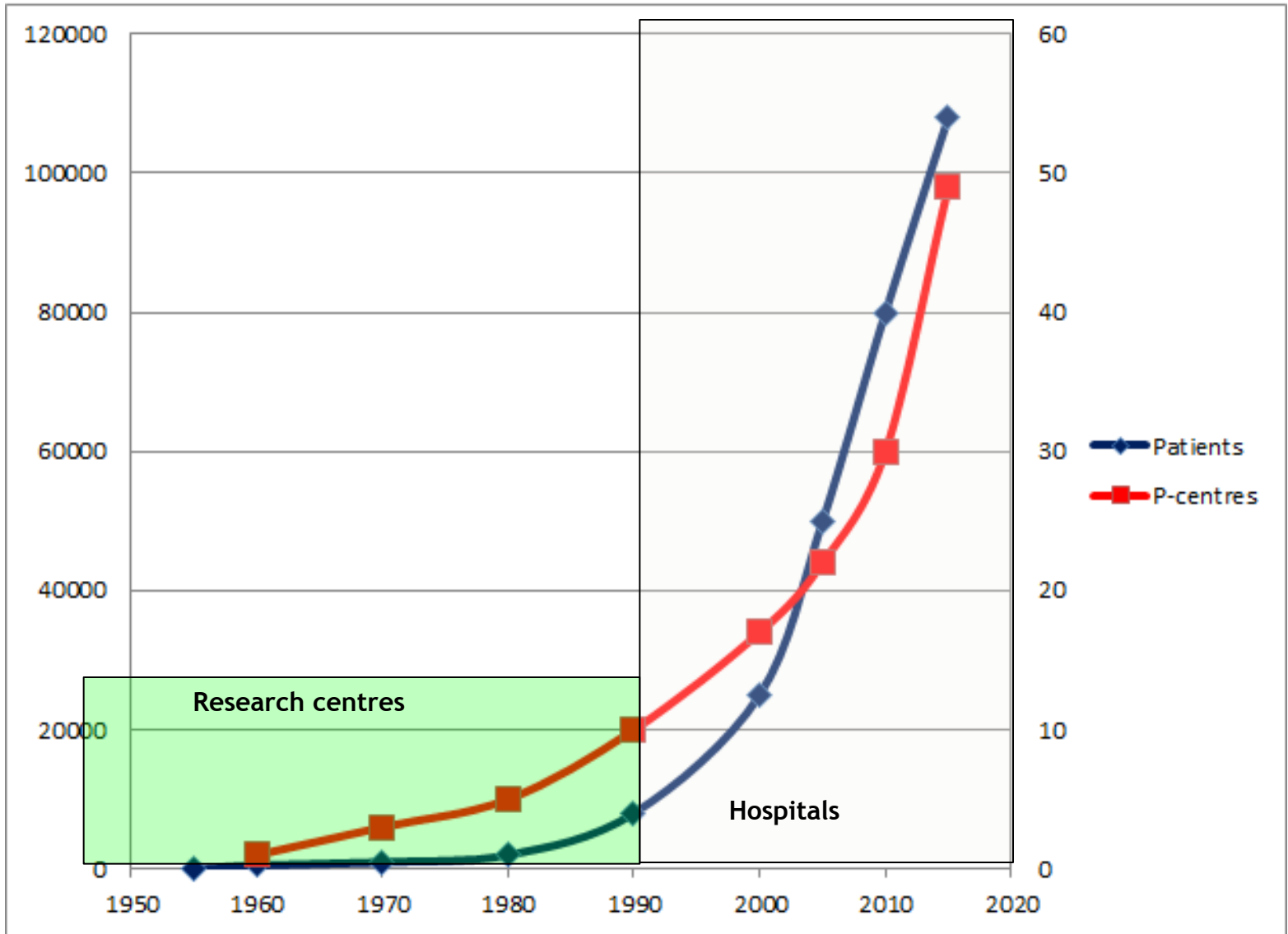
**TERA celebrated 30 years on 16 September 2022**

# CNAO: Pavia, Italy



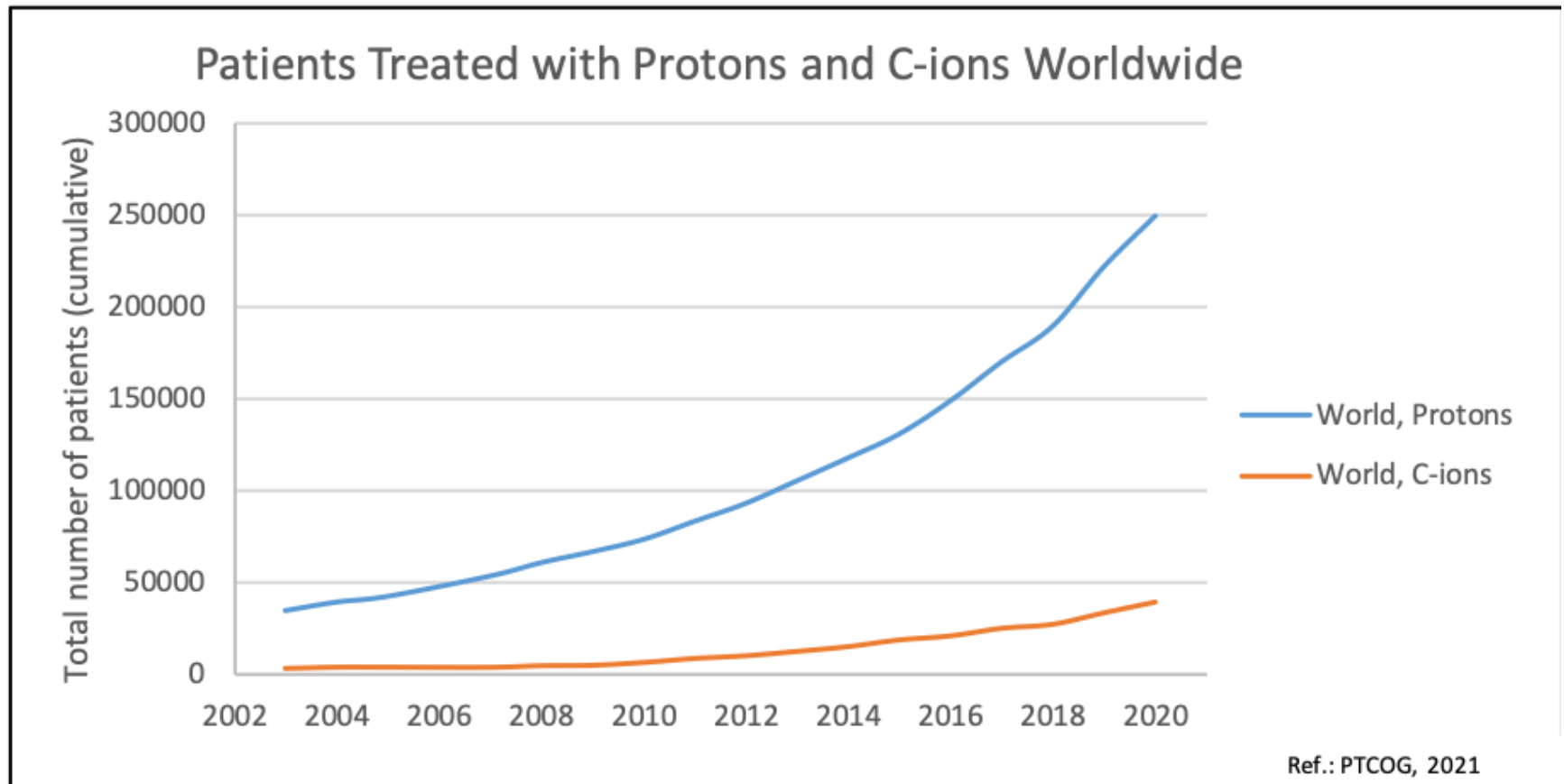
Started treating patients in 2011

[Data from [www.ptcog.ch](http://www.ptcog.ch)]







# Patient Numbers



# Particle Facilities Facilities in Europe in 2020





-  Proton centres
-  C-ion centres

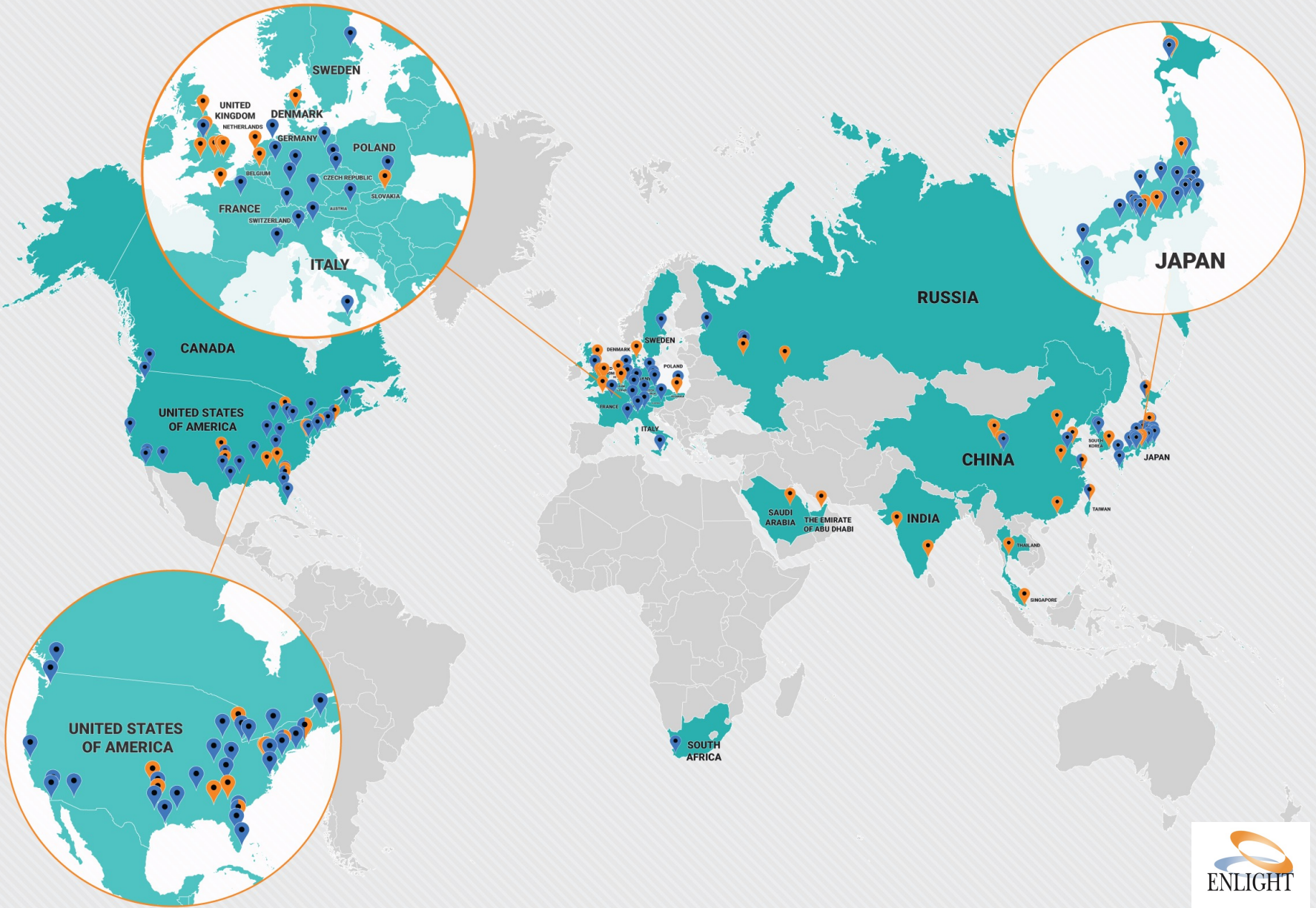


# Hadron Facilities in Europe: Baltics and SEE project



-  Proton centres
-  C-ion centres





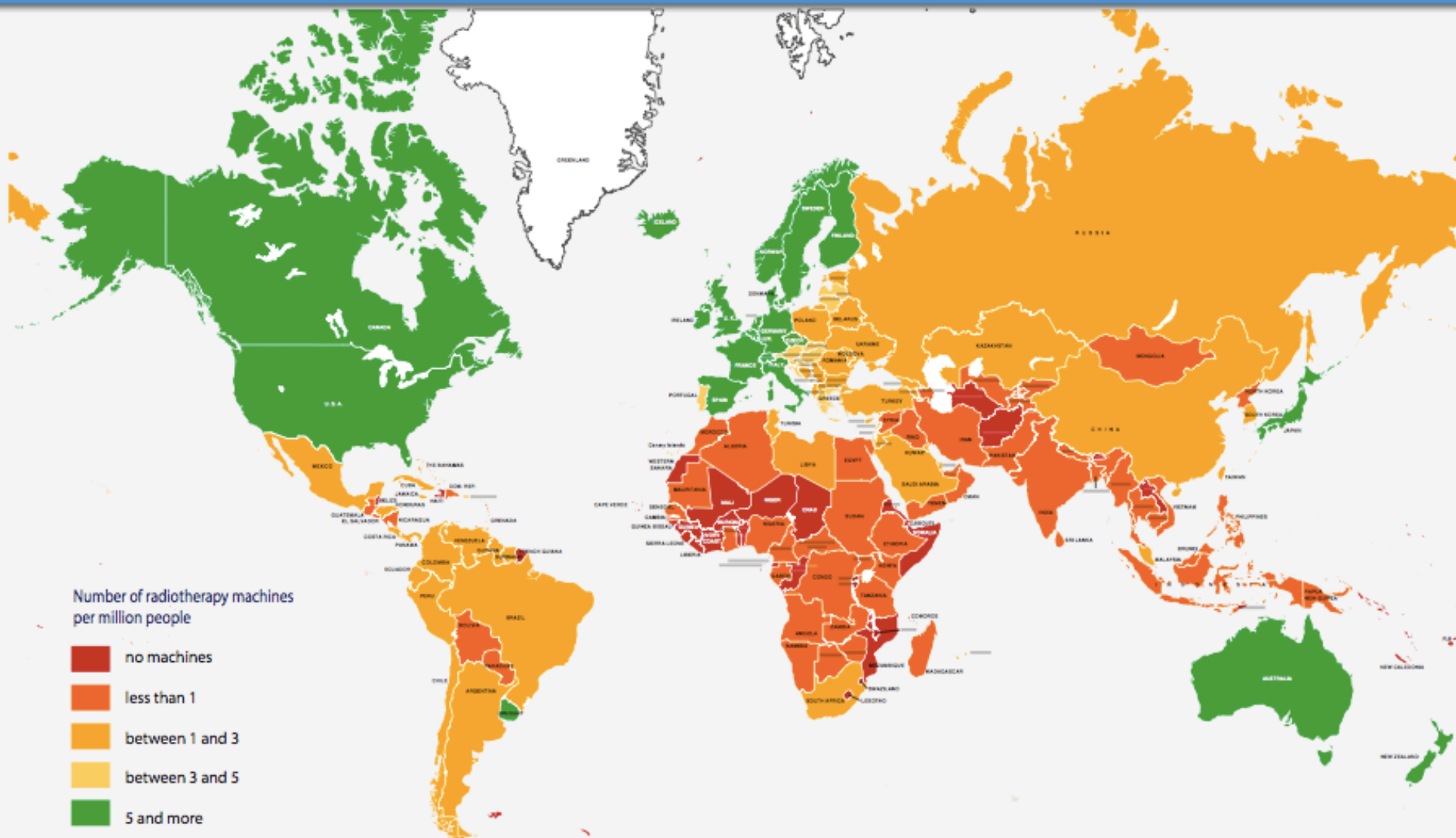
# Much more still needs to be done

- Treat the tumour and only the tumour
  - ⇒ Imaging and dose delivery: control and monitor the ideal dose to the tumour
  - ⇒ Minimal collateral radiation “outside” the tumour
  - ⇒ Minimal radiation to nearby critical organs
  - Even if the tumour is moving
- Compact: Fit into a large hospital
  - ⇒ Accelerator: smaller, simpler, cheaper
  - ⇒ Gantry: compact, cheaper, energy efficient
- Be affordable
  - ✓ Capital cost ?
  - ✓ Operating costs ?
  - ✓ Increased number of treated patients per year ?
- Wish list from community
  - ✓ Improve patient through-put
  - ✓ Increase effectiveness
  - ✓ Decrease cost
- New ideas being explored

# Availability of **RADIATION THERAPY**

Number of Radiotherapy Machines per Million People

2012



Source: DIRAC (Directory of Radiotherapy Centres), 2012 / IAEA

For more information: <http://www-naweb.iaea.org/nahu/dirac/>  
[dirac@iaea.org](mailto:dirac@iaea.org)



# FLASH: a new way of delivering Radiotherapy for treating cancer?



UNIVERSITY OF  
**OXFORD**

# FLASH therapy – a growing clinical interest

NATURE

May 23, 1959 VOL. 183

## Modification of the Oxygen Effect when Bacteria are given Large Pulses of Radiation

D. L. DEWEY  
J. W. BOAG

Research Unit in Radiobiology,  
British Empire Cancer Campaign,  
Mount Vernon Hospital,  
Northwood.

> [Sci Transl Med](#). 2014 Jul 16;6(245):245ra93. doi: 10.1126/scitranslmed.3008973.

## Ultrahigh dose-rate FLASH irradiation increases the differential response between normal and tumor tissue in mice

Vincent Favaudon<sup>1</sup>, Laura Caplier<sup>2</sup>, Virginie Monceau<sup>3</sup>, Frédéric Pouzoulet<sup>4</sup>, Mano Sayarath<sup>4</sup>, Charles Fouillade<sup>4</sup>, Marie-France Poupon<sup>4</sup>, Isabel Brito<sup>5</sup>, Philippe Hupé<sup>6</sup>, Jean Bourhis<sup>7</sup>, Janet Hall<sup>4</sup>, Jean-Jacques Fontaine<sup>2</sup>, Marie-Catherine Vozenin<sup>8</sup>

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 25031268 DOI: [10.1126/scitranslmed.3008973](#)

In vitro studies suggested that sub-millisecond pulses of radiation elicit less genomic instability than continuous, protracted irradiation at the same total dose. To determine the potential of ultrahigh dose-rate irradiation in radiotherapy, we investigated lung fibrogenesis in C57BL/6J mice exposed either to short pulses ( $\leq 500$  ms) of radiation delivered at ultrahigh dose rate ( $\geq 40$  Gy/s, FLASH) or to conventional dose-rate irradiation ( $\leq 0.03$  Gy/s, CONV) in single doses. The growth of human HBCx-12A and HEp-2 tumor xenografts in nude mice and syngeneic TC-1 Luc(+) orthotopic lung tumors in C57BL/6J mice was monitored under similar radiation conditions. CONV (15 Gy) triggered lung fibrosis associated with activation of the TGF- $\beta$  (transforming growth factor- $\beta$ ) cascade, whereas no complications developed after doses of FLASH below 20 Gy for more than 36 weeks after irradiation. FLASH irradiation also spared normal smooth muscle and epithelial cells from acute radiation-induced apoptosis, which could be reinduced by administration of systemic TNF- $\alpha$  (tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$ ) before irradiation. In contrast, FLASH was as efficient as CONV in the repression of tumor growth. Together, these results suggest that FLASH radiotherapy might allow complete eradication of lung tumors and reduce the occurrence and severity of early and late complications affecting normal tissue.

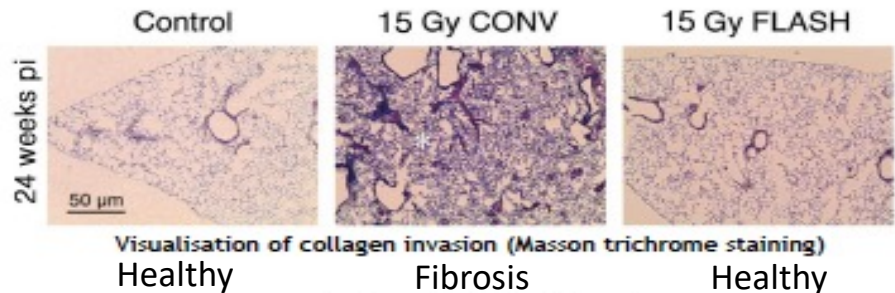


# Glimpse of FLASH THERAPY - 2014

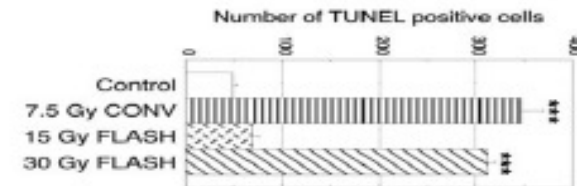
## First Proof-of-Concept with low-energy $e^-$

Sci Transl Med 6: 245ra93, 2014

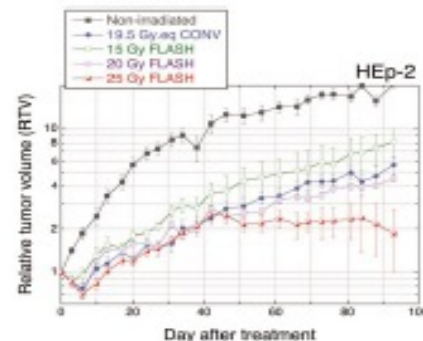
- **FLASH spared normal lung tissue** at doses known to induce fibrosis in mice exposed to conventional dose-rate irradiation (CONV).



- **FLASH spared smooth muscle cells** in arterioles from radio-induced apoptosis.



- No difference between FLASH and CONV with regard to tumor growth inhibition.
- However, **normal tissue sparing by FLASH** allowed dose escalation without complications, resulting in complete tumor cure in some xenograft models.



# FLASH THERAPY

## What are the underlying mechanisms in FLASH effect?

### The role of the oxygen of emerges

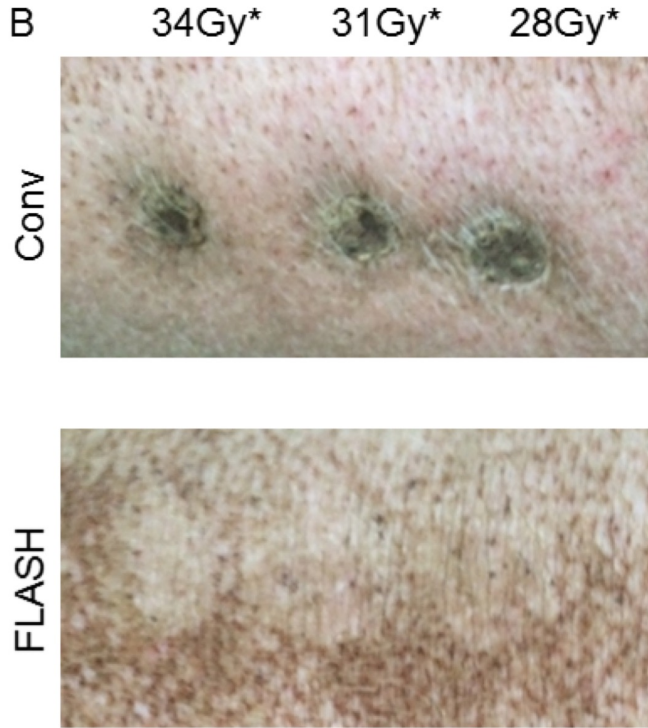
#### Playing with the oxygen tension = modify ROS production

- 1 – Make mice breathe 95% of oxygen (before and during IR)
- 2 – Increase oxygen tension in the brain
- 3 – Deliver FLASH or conventional dose-rate irradiation
- 4 – Evaluate memory



Increase in O<sub>2</sub> tension reverses the FLASH effect  
Less ROS produced by FLASH-RT ?

# The FLASH Effect – gaining huge momentum

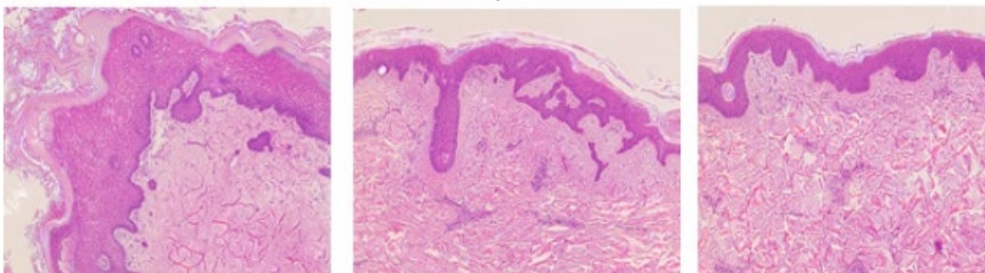


- Apparent sparing of healthy tissue when dose is delivered at **ultrahigh dose rates (UHDR) of > 40 Gy/s**.
- Healthy tissue sparing observed in virtually all radiation modalities.
  - ✓ Majority of experiments/trials with low energy electrons and shoot-through protons.
- So far, 2 human trials:
  - Skin lymphoma with 6 MeV electrons (CHUV, 2019).
  - Bone metastases with 250 MeV (shoot-through) protons (Cincinnati, 2020). Pain relief and not curative
  - Further trials are ongoing

34 Gy Conv

34 Gy FLASH

Control



**FLASH mechanism is still not fully understood.**

# Clinical Translation (2019): Treatment of a first patient with FLASH-radiotherapy,

**5.6 MeV** linac adapted for accelerating  
electrons in FLASH mode

**15 Gy** with 10 pulses in **90 ms**

3.5 cm diameter tumour, multiresistant  
cutaneous

Appears that instantaneous dose  
Induces a massive oxygen consumption  
and a transient protective hypoxia in  
normal issues



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

Radiotherapy and Oncology

journal homepage: [www.thegreenjournal.com](http://www.thegreenjournal.com)



Original Article

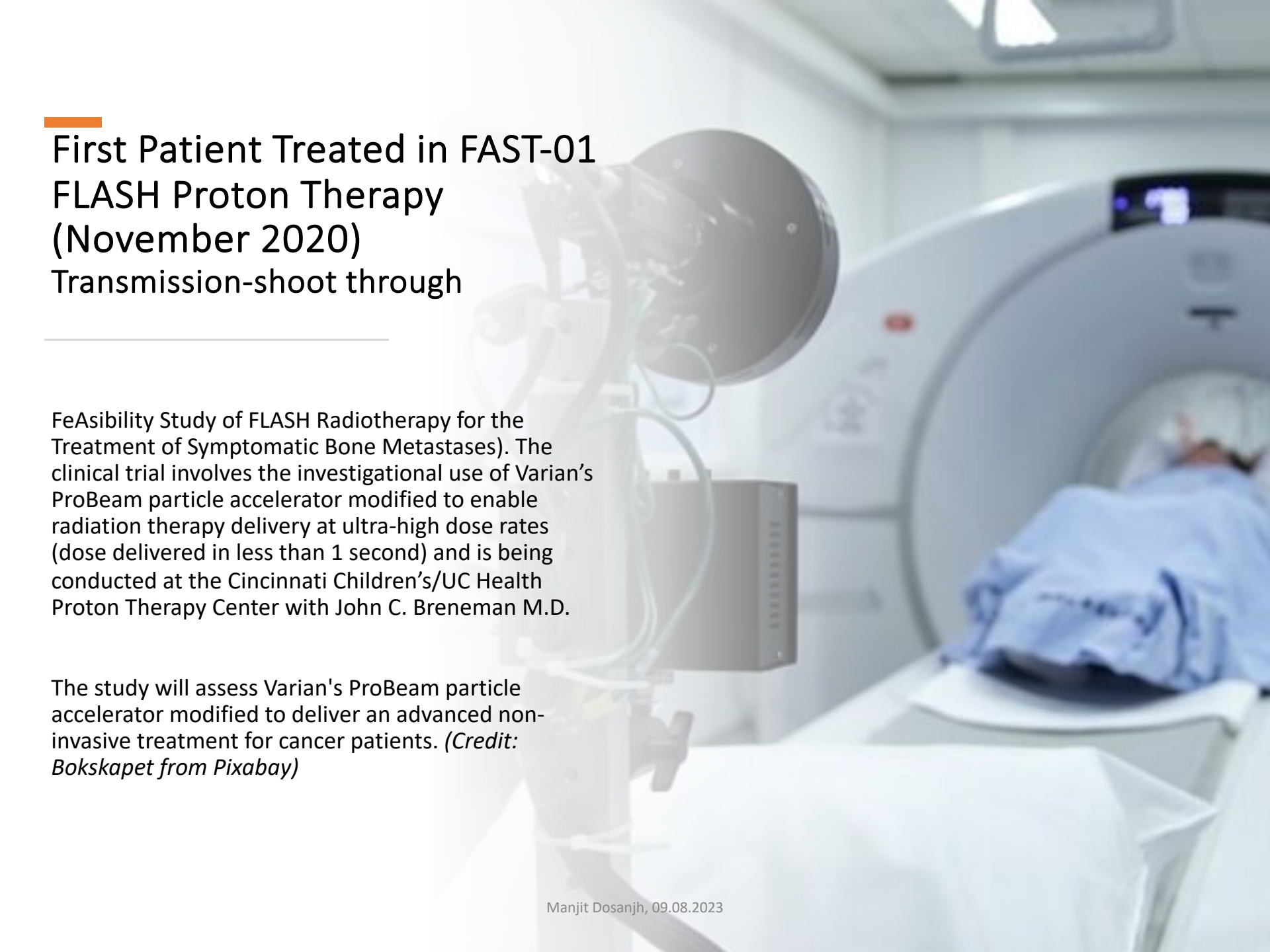
## Treatment of a first patient with FLASH-radiotherapy

Jean Bourhis<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Wendy Jeanneret Sozzi<sup>a</sup>, Patrik Gonçalves Jorge<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Olivier Gaide<sup>d</sup>, Claude Bailat<sup>c</sup>, Frédéric Duclos<sup>a</sup>, David Patin<sup>a</sup>, Mahmut Ozsahin<sup>a</sup>, François Bochud<sup>c</sup>, Jean-François Germond<sup>c</sup>, Raphaël Moeckli<sup>c,1</sup>, Marie-Catherine Vozenin<sup>a,b,1</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne; <sup>b</sup>Radiation Oncology Laboratory, Department of Radiation Oncology, Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne; <sup>c</sup>Institute of Radiation Physics, Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne; and <sup>d</sup>Department of Dermatology, Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne, Switzerland



**Fig. 1.** Temporal evolution of the treated lesion: (a) before treatment; the limits of the PTV are delineated in black; (b) at 3 weeks, at the peak of skin reactions (grade 1 epithelitis NCI-CTCAE v 5.0); (c) at 5 months.



# First Patient Treated in FAST-01 FLASH Proton Therapy (November 2020) Transmission-shoot through

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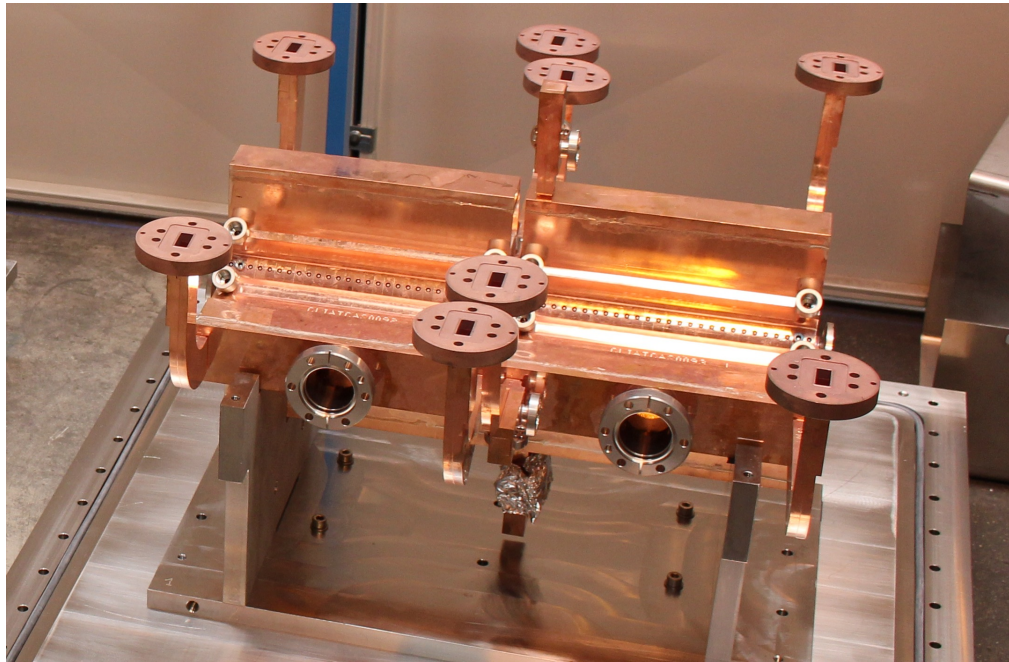
FeAsibility Study of FLASH Radiotherapy for the Treatment of Symptomatic Bone Metastases). The clinical trial involves the investigational use of Varian's ProBeam particle accelerator modified to enable radiation therapy delivery at ultra-high dose rates (dose delivered in less than 1 second) and is being conducted at the Cincinnati Children's/UC Health Proton Therapy Center with John C. Breneman M.D.

The study will assess Varian's ProBeam particle accelerator modified to deliver an advanced non-invasive treatment for cancer patients. *(Credit: Bokskapet from Pixabay)*

# VHEE (Very High Energy Electrons)

# New State of the art?

With recent High-Gradient linac technology developments, **Very High Energy Electrons (VHEE)** in the range 100–250 MeV offer the promise to be a cost-effective option for Radiation Therapy



**CLIC RF X-band cavity prototype (12 Ghz, 100 MV/m)**

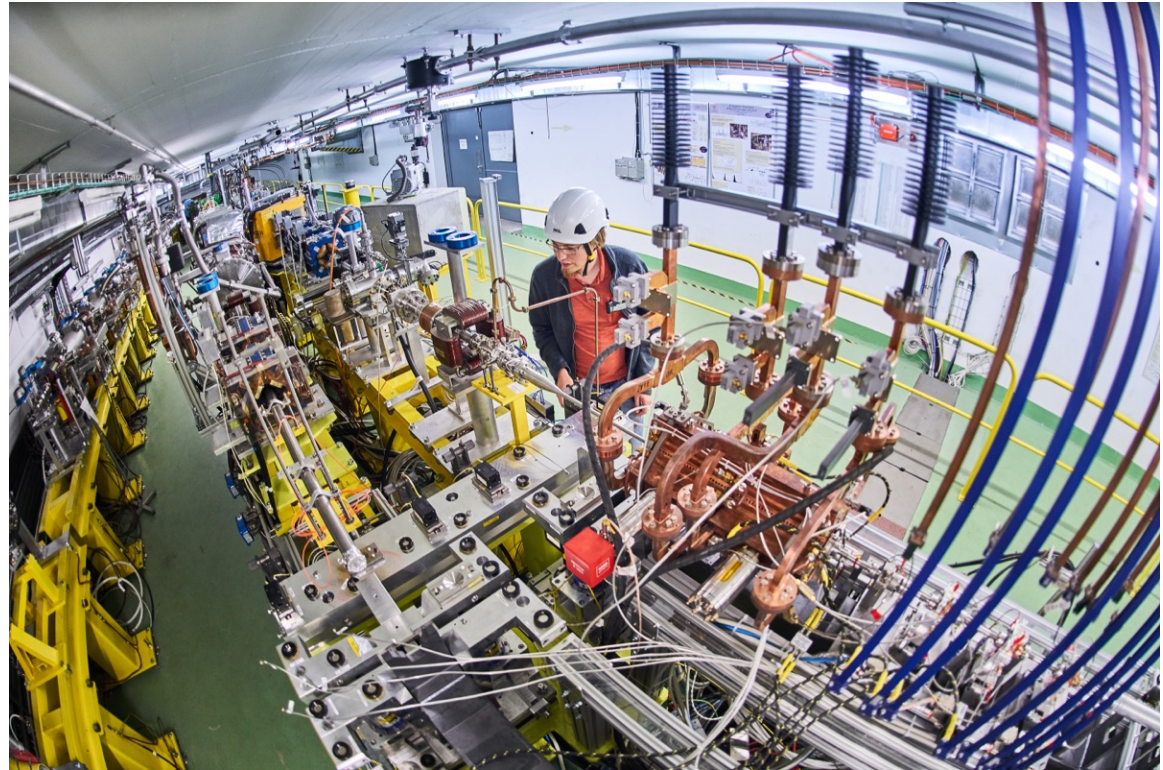
**Compact Linear Collider**

Manjit Dosanjh, 09.08.2023

# The CERN Linear Electron Accelerator for Research (CLEAR)



- CLEAR is a versatile 200 MeV electron linac + a 20m experimental beamline, operated at CERN as a multi-purpose user facility.



Roberto Corsini (CERN)



# VHEE activities in CLEAR

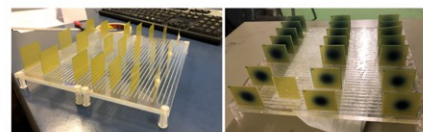
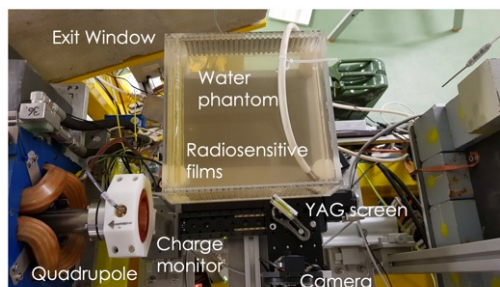


Calibration of operational medical dosimeters – nonlinear effects with high-dose short pulses

Verification of FLASH effect using biological dosimeters

Experimental verification of dose deposition profiles in water phantoms

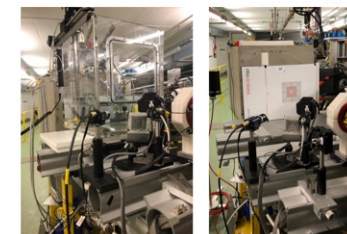
Demonstration of “Bragg-like peak” deposition with focused beams



Films set-up for profile depth dose, CHUV Lausanne (M.C. Vozenin, C. Bailat, R. Moeckli et al.)



Calorimeter and ROOS chamber, Nat. Phys. Lab. UK (A. Subiel et al.)



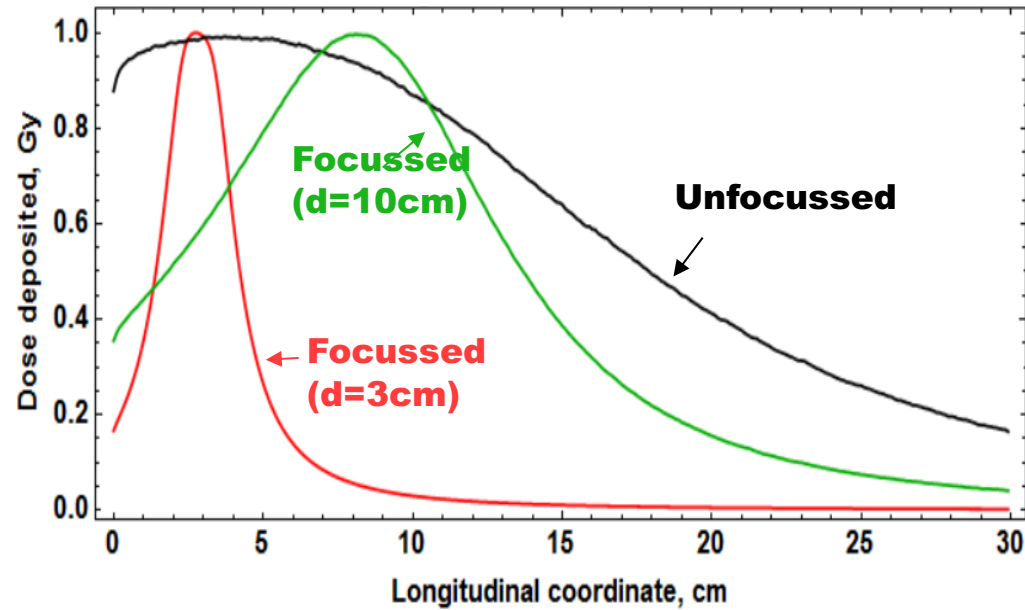
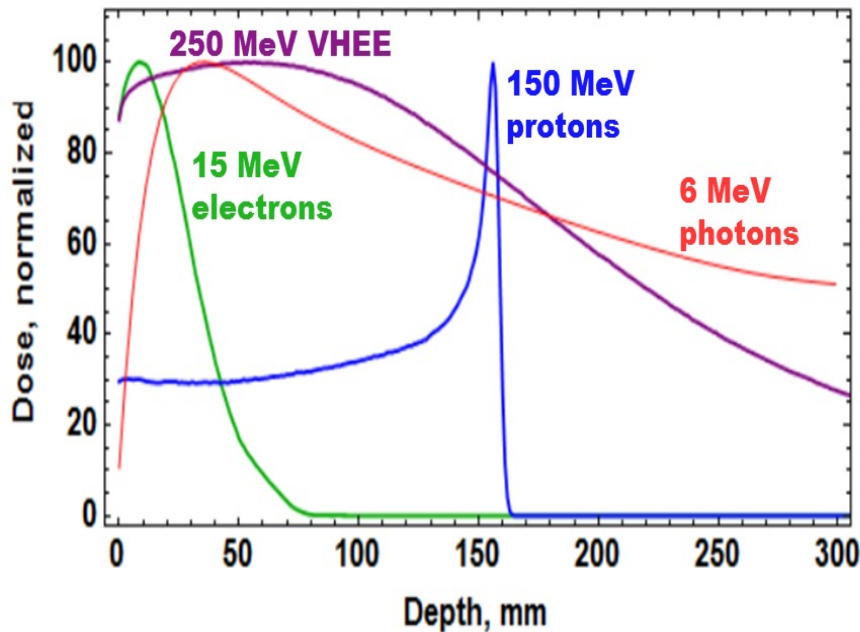
Advance Markus chambers and SRS Array, Oldenburg University and PTW (B. Poppe, D. Poppinga et al.)

- A. Lagdza, R. Jones et al., Influence of heterogeneous media on Very High Energy Electron (VHEE) dose penetration and a Monte Carlo-based comparison with existing radiotherapy modalities, Nuclear Inst. and Meth. in Physics Research, B, 482 (2020) 70-81.
- M. McManus, A. Subiel et al., The challenge of ionisation chamber dosimetry in ultra-short pulsed high dose-rate Very High Energy Electron beams, Nature Scientific Reports (2020) 10-9089.
- Small, K.L., Henthorn, et al., Evaluating very high energy electron RBE from nanodosimetric pBR322 plasmid DNA damage, Nature Sci. Rep. 11, 3341 (2021).
- D. Poppinga et al., VHEE beam dosimetry at CERN Linear Electron Accelerator for Research under ultra-high dose rate conditions, 2021 Biomed. Phys. Eng. Express 7 015012.
- Kokurewicz, K., Brunetti, E., Curcio, A. et al. An experimental study of focused very high energy electron beams for radiotherapy, Nature Commun. Phys. 4, 33 (2021).

Roberto Corsini (CERN)

# VHEE

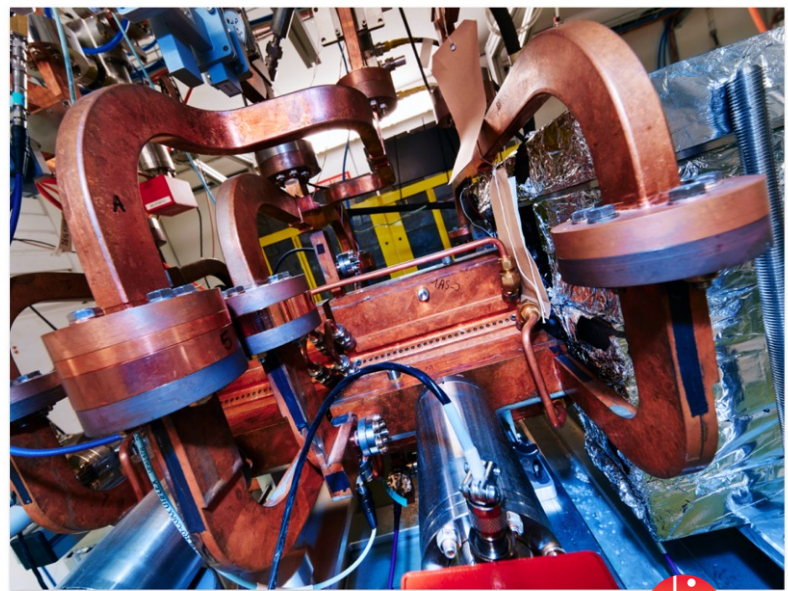
- Their ballistic and dosimetric properties can surpass those of photons, which are currently the most commonly used in RT.
- Their position compared to protons need to be evaluated, but they can be produced at a reduced cost.



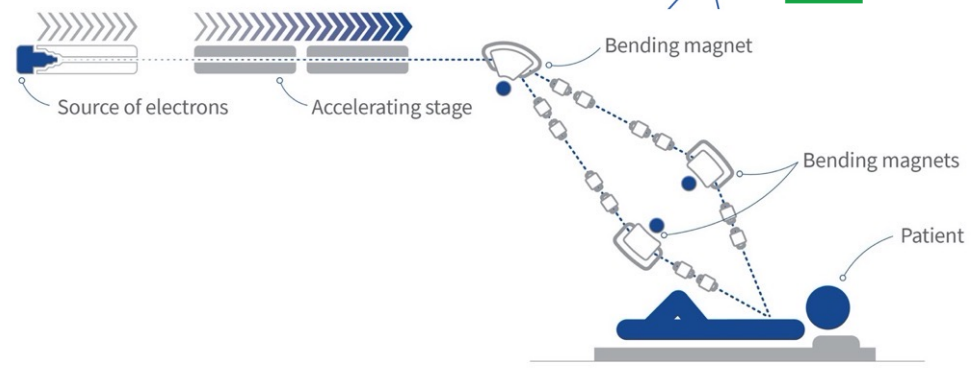
Depth Dose curve for various particle beams in water (beam widths  $r=0.5$  cm)

# CERN – CHUV collaboration on FLASH VHEE therapy

CLIC technology for a FLASH VHEE facility being designed in collaboration with Lausanne University Hospital CHUV



Close-up of the Compact Linear Collider prototype, on which the electron FLASH design is based (Image: CERN)



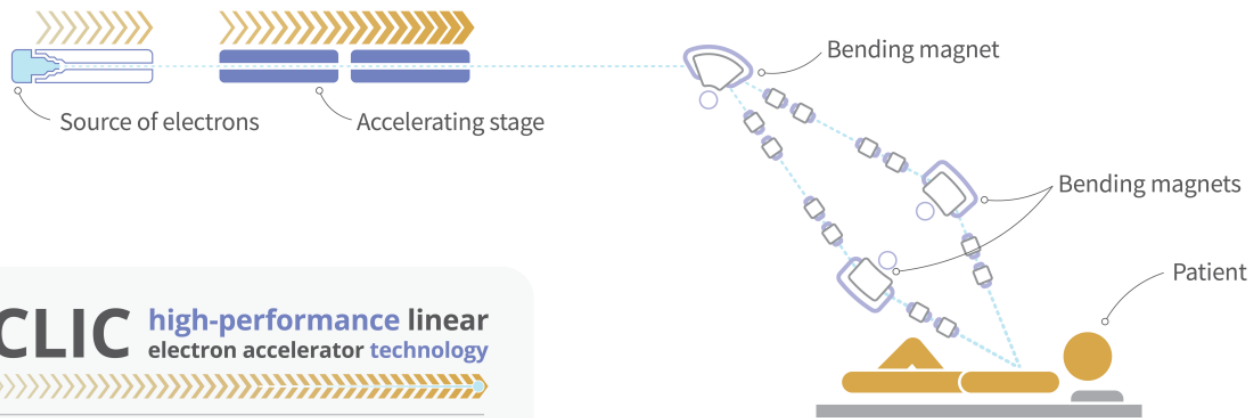
An intense beam of electrons is produced in a photoinjector, accelerated to around 100 MeV and then is expanded, shaped and guided to the patient.

The design of this facility is the result of an intense dialogue between groups at CHUV and CERN.

Jean Bourhis from CHUV:  
“The clinical need that we have really converges with the technological answer that CERN has.”

Walter Wuensch (CERN)

# CERN, CHUV and THERYQ join forces for a first VHEE Facility (Nov 2022)



**CLIC** high-performance linear electron accelerator technology

FLASH treatments of large and deep-seated tumours

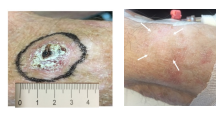
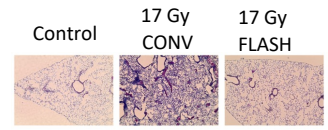
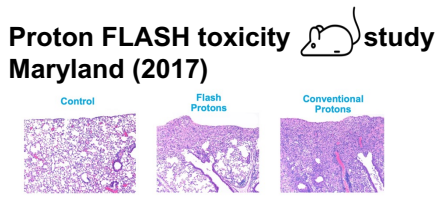
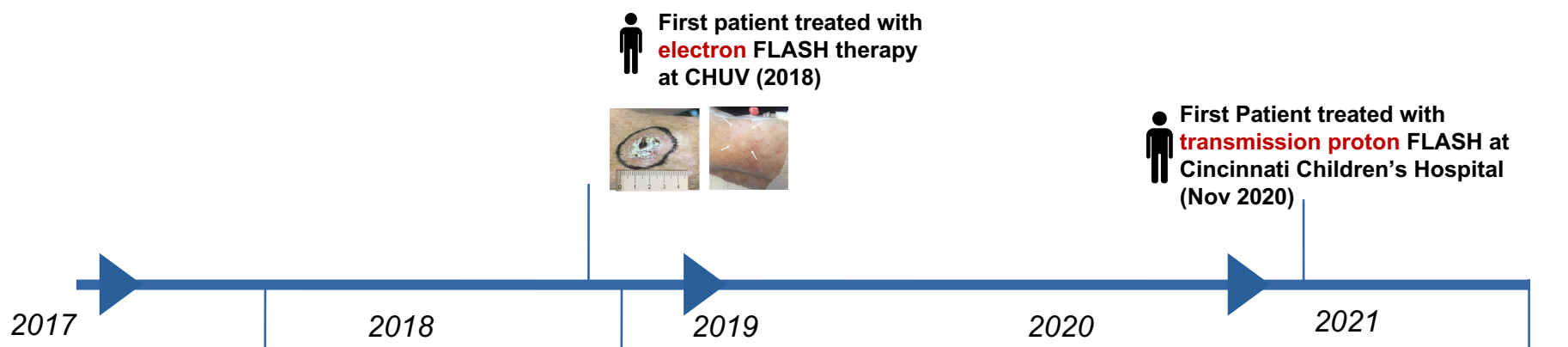
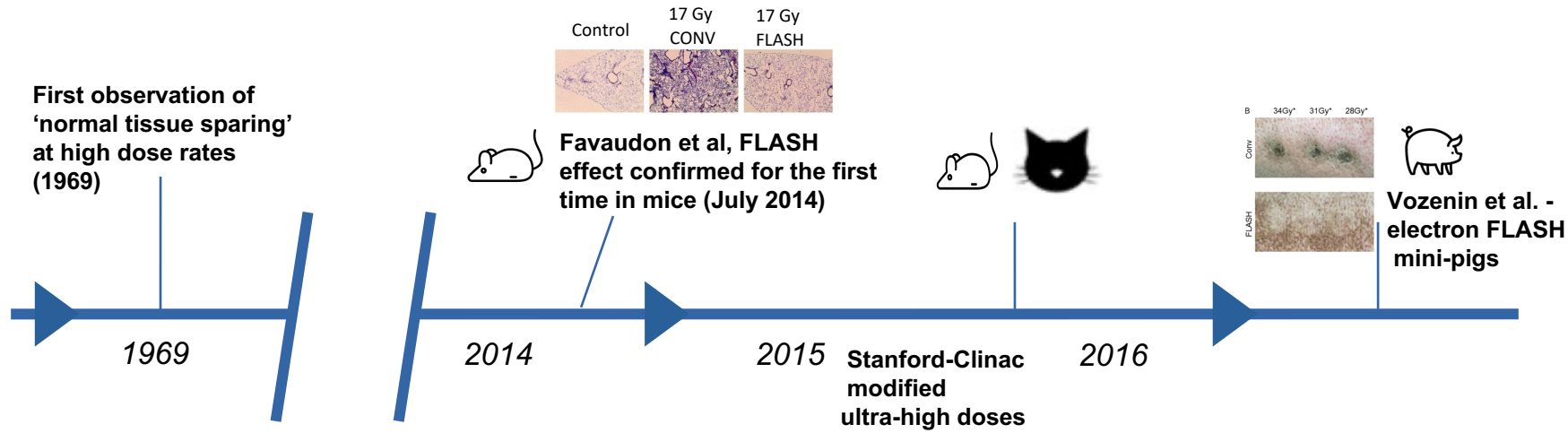
More healthy tissue spared

**< 200 ms**

Full dose is delivered by a beam of electrons in less than 200 ms

## Innovative Radiation Therapy with Electrons

It will produce very high-energy electron (VHEE) beams of 100 to 200 MeV in less than 100-200ms, based on CLIC (Compact Linear Collider) technology, allowing all types of cancers up to a depth of 20 cm to be treated using the FLASH technique.



First patient treated with **electron FLASH** therapy at CHUV (2018)

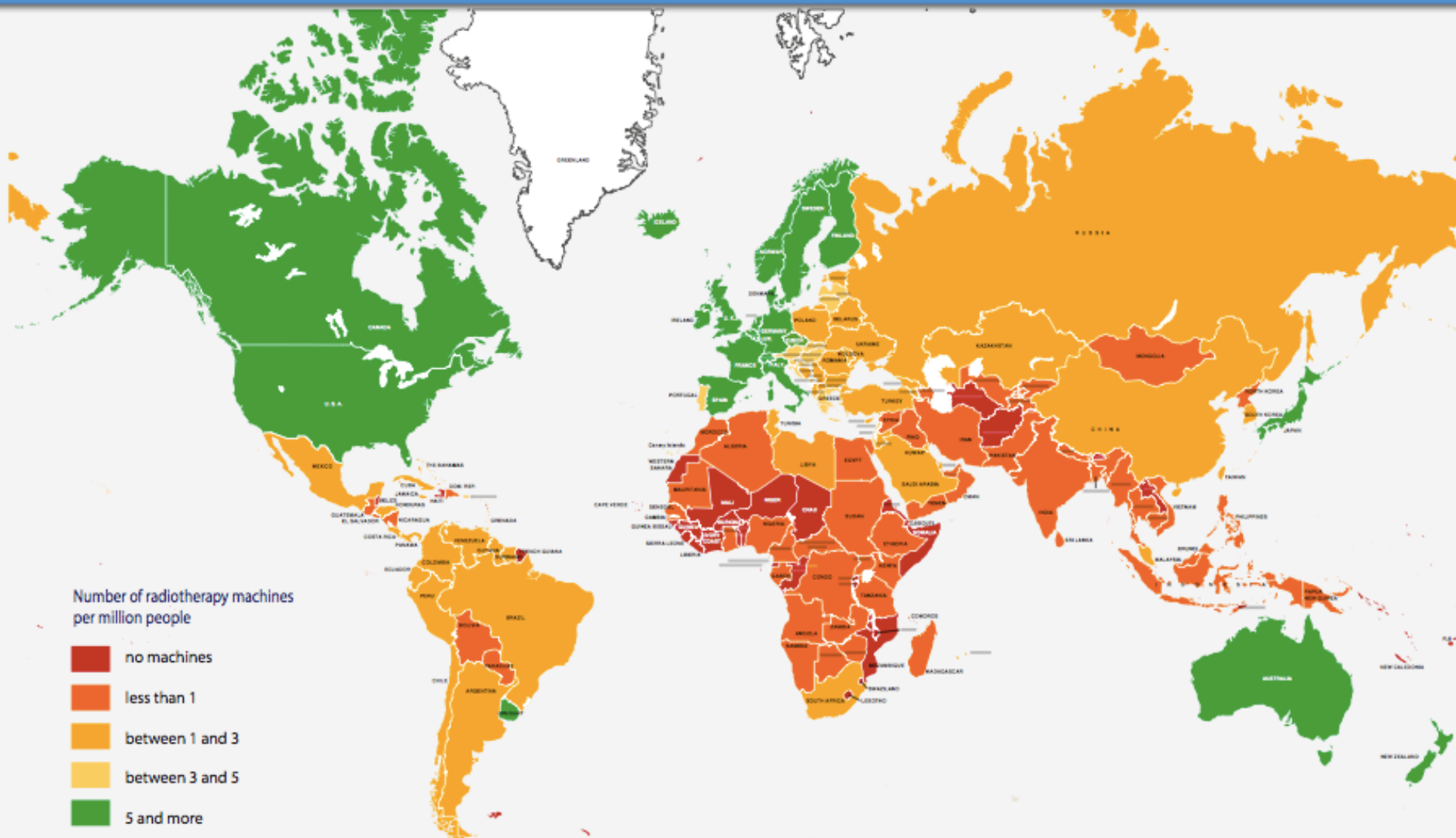
First Patient treated with **transmission proton FLASH** at Cincinnati Children's Hospital (Nov 2020)

**Current Challenge: how to go from almost no radiotherapy to high quality radiotherapy globally**

# Availability of **RADIATION THERAPY**

Number of Radiotherapy Machines per Million People

2012

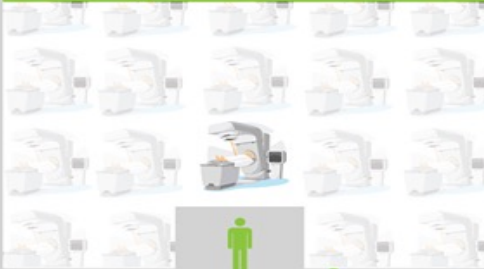


Source: DIRAC (Directory of Radiotherapy Centres), 2012 / IAEA

For more information: <http://www-naweb.iaea.org/nahu/dirac/>  
[dirac@iaea.org](mailto:dirac@iaea.org)

# Radiotherapy in Cancer Care

## In high income countries



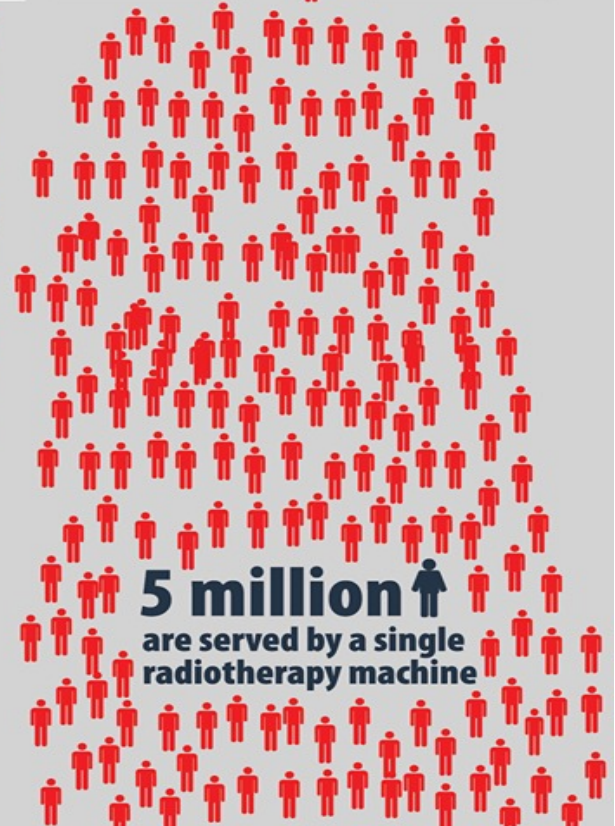
**120,000** ↑  
are served by a single  
radiotherapy machine

## In middle income countries



**1 million** ↑  
are served by a single  
radiotherapy machine

## In low income countries

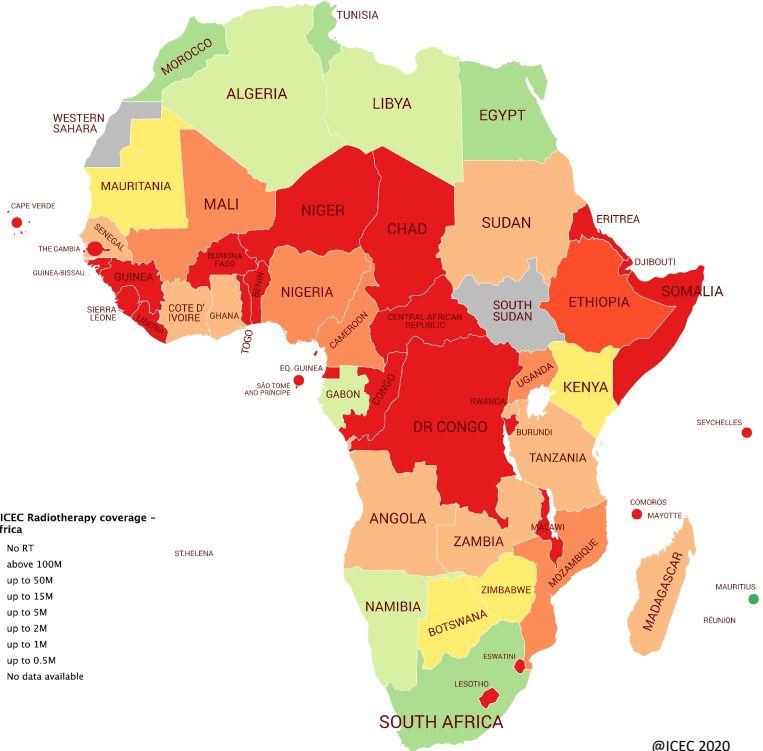


**5 million** ↑  
are served by a single  
radiotherapy machine



# Dramatic Disparity in Access to Radiation Therapy Treatment

Country	LINACs	Population	People per LINAC
Ethiopia	1	115 M	115,000,000
Nigeria	7	206 M	29,000,000
Tanzania	5	59.7 M	11,900,000
Kenya	11	53.9 M	4,890,000
Morocco	42	36.9 M	880,000
South Africa	97	59 M	608,000
UK	357	67 M	187,000
Switzerland	83	8.6 M	103,000
US	3727	331 M	88,000



©ICEC Radiotherapy coverage - Africa

- No RT
- above 100M
- up to 50M
- up to 15M
- up to 5M
- up to 2M
- up to 1M
- up to 0.5M
- No data available

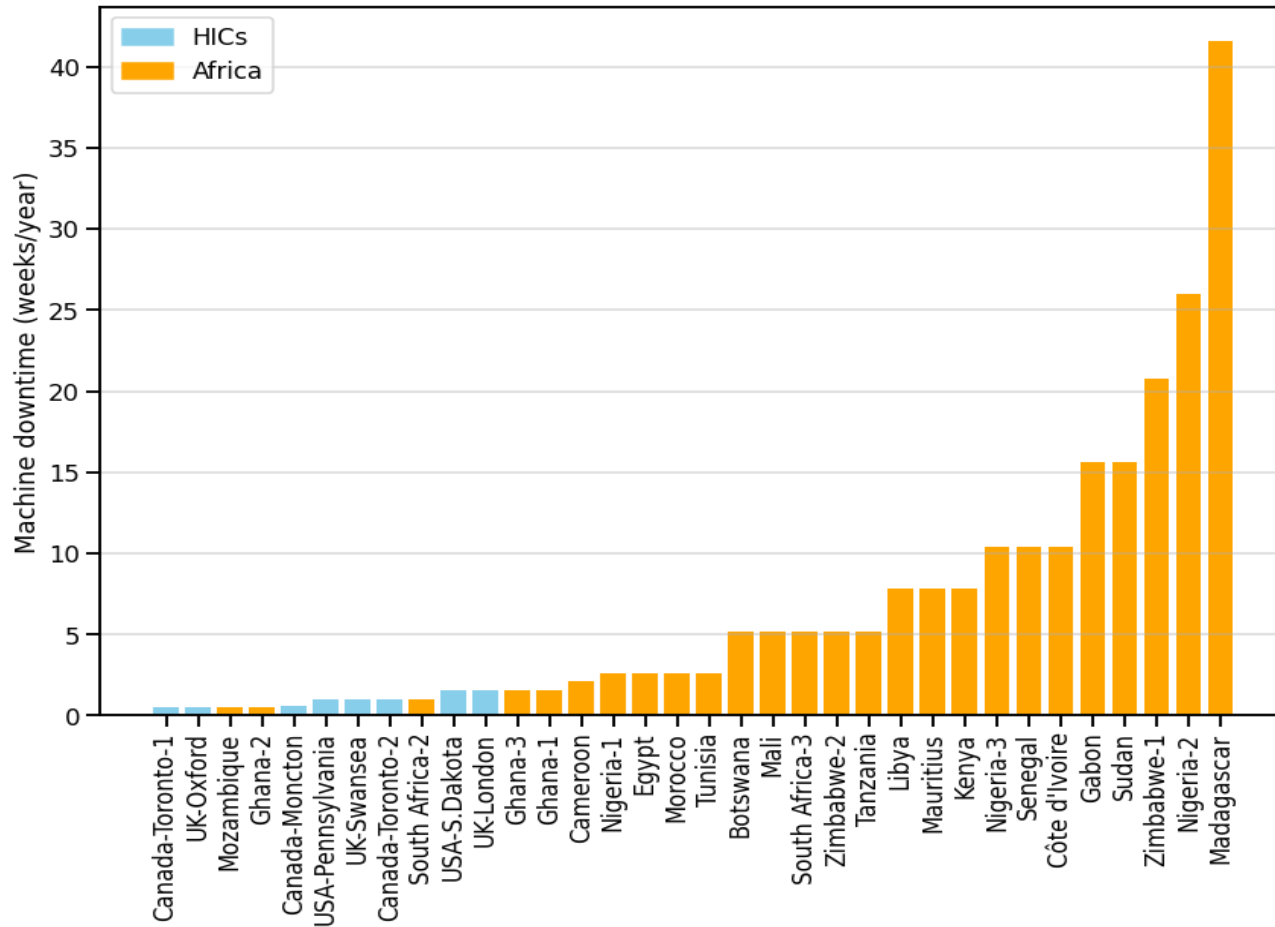
@ICEC 2020  
Created with mapchart.net ©

Map showing the number of people per functioning machine in countries in Africa

# LINAC Needs Assessment and Challenges

- There are ~15,000 LINACs globally; approximately 400 in all of Africa
- There is a **current need for around 4000 LINACs** in Africa alone
- Estimated need for more than 10,000 LINACs in LMICS by 2035
- LINAC machines offer state of the art treatment but:
  - Cost more
  - More complex and
  - Labour intensive to operate and maintain
  - Need trained personnel experts which are lacking
- Current technology not designed for LMIC environments-  
infrastructure power, water, humidity challenges, etc.
- Need affordable LINACs and lower operating costs for RT is a global priority
- Risks associated with Cobalt-60 need a cost-effective alternative

# Downtime in weeks comparison African and HICs



# Looking for solutions for building affordable RT

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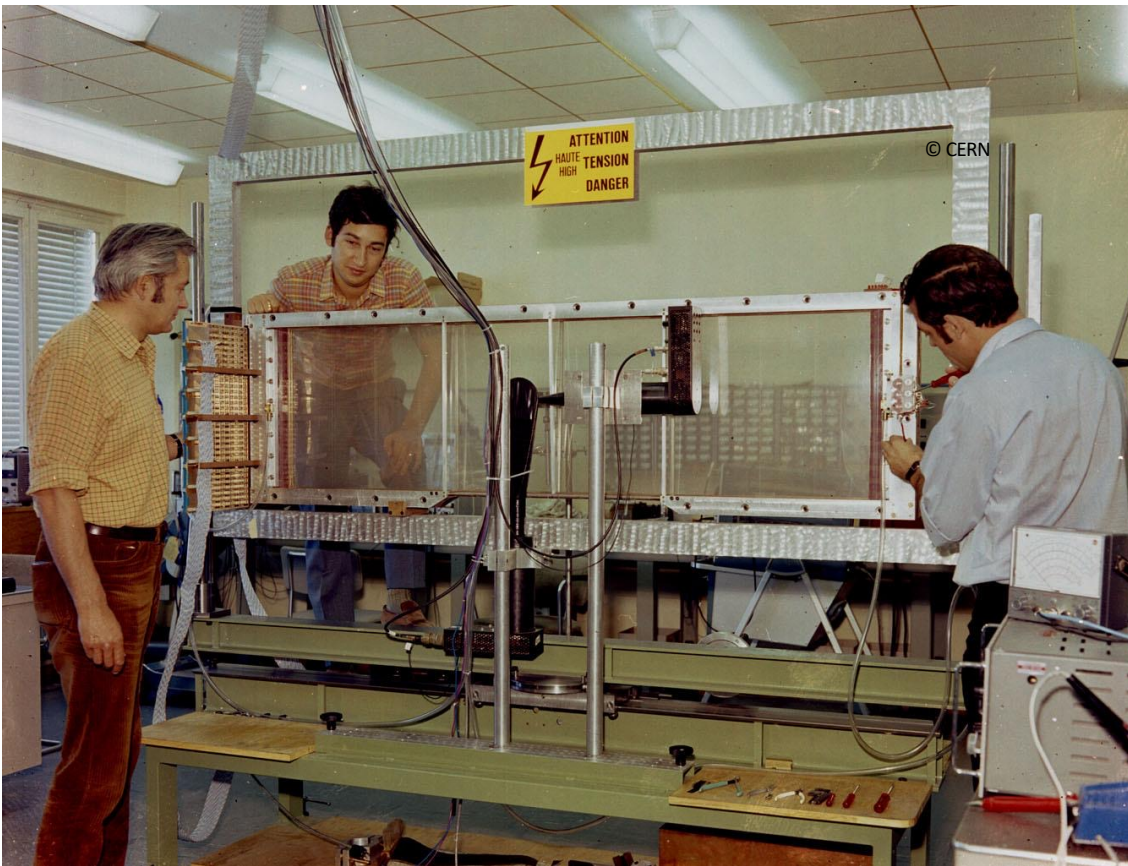
- **Define the problem**
- **Gather information** from African hospitals/facilities regarding challenges experienced in providing radiotherapy in Africa compare these to data from **HIC**.
- **Identify** the challenges from those who live with them day-to-day
- **Create design specifications** for a radiotherapy machine to meet these challenges for an improved design
- Assess applications of **ML, AI and use of cloud-computing** in African and LMIC settings
- Create **conceptual design report** for the radiotherapy system to enable technical design and prototyping in next phase





**[cern.ch/virtual-hadron-therapy-centre](https://cern.ch/virtual-hadron-therapy-centre)**

Manjit Dosanjh, 09.08.2023



Radioprotection 2005  
Vol. 40, n° 2, pages 245 à 255

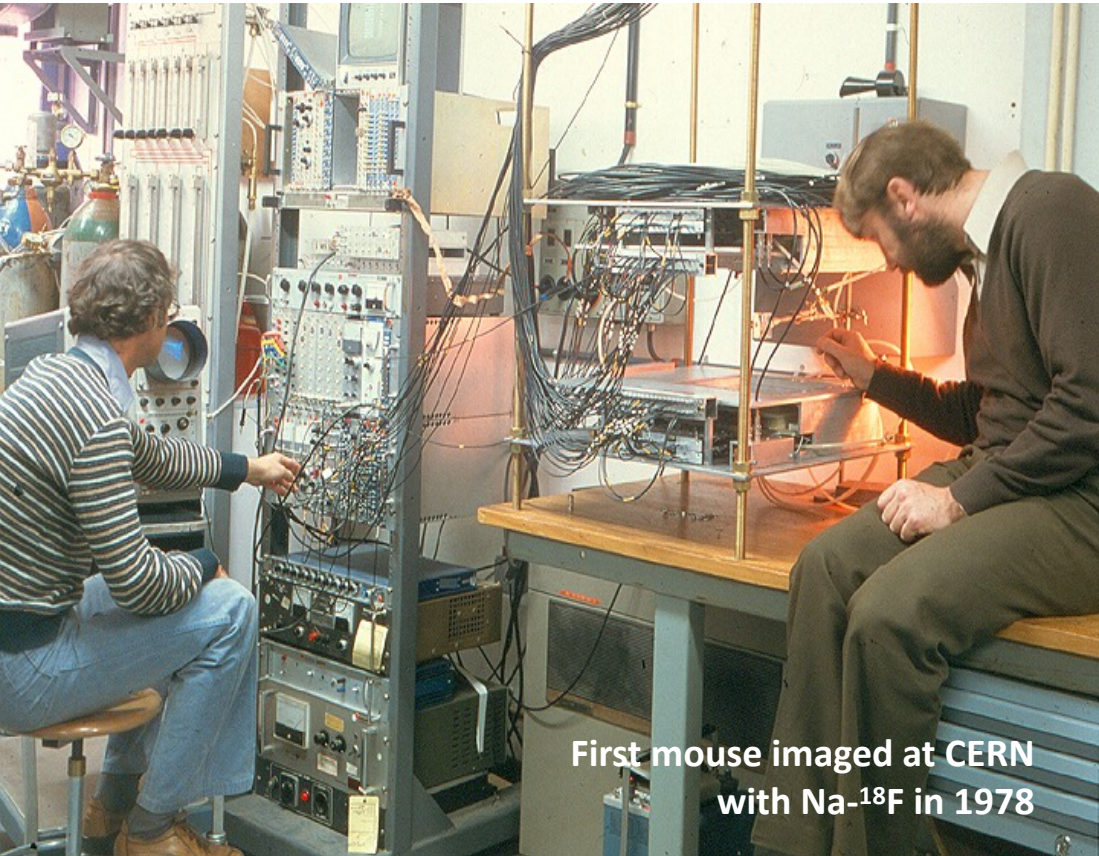
DOI: 10.1051/radiopro:2005010

Produit nouveau

## **Une nouvelle imagerie ostéo-articulaire basse dose en position debout : le système EOS**

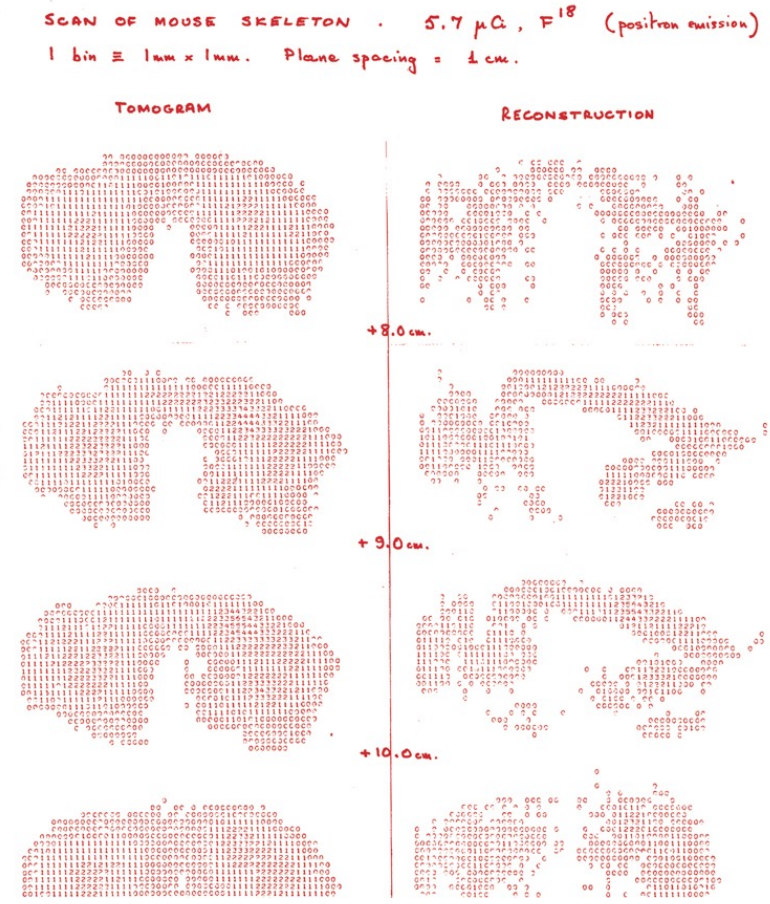
J. DUBOUSSET<sup>1</sup>, G. CHARPAK<sup>2</sup>, I. DORION<sup>2</sup>, W. SKALLI<sup>3</sup>, F. LAVASTE<sup>3</sup>,  
J. DEGUISE<sup>4</sup>, G. KALIFA<sup>5</sup>, S. FERREY<sup>5</sup>

Georges Charpak, Fabio Sauli and Jean-Claude Santiard working on a multiwire chamber in 1970



First mouse imaged at CERN  
with Na-<sup>18</sup>F in 1978

David Townsend and Alan Jeavons





Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

## Radiotherapy and Oncology

journal homepage: [www.thegreenjournal.com](http://www.thegreenjournal.com)



ENLIGHT

### ENLIGHT: European network for Light ion hadron therapy

Manjit Dosanjh <sup>a,\*</sup>, Ugo Amaldi <sup>b</sup>, Ramona Mayer <sup>c</sup>, Richard Poetter <sup>d</sup>, on behalf of the ENLIGHT Network

<sup>a</sup> CERN, Geneva, Switzerland; <sup>b</sup> TERA Foundation, Novara, Italy; <sup>c</sup> Former Medical Director of MedAustron, Wiener Neustadt; and <sup>d</sup> Department of Radiotherapy, Medical University of Vienna, Austria



ENLIGHT was established to co-ordinate European efforts in using ion beams for radiation therapy and to catalyse collaboration and co-operation among the different disciplines involved. ENLIGHT had its inaugural meeting in February 2002 at CERN and was funded by the European Commission for its first 3 years.

While the ENLIGHT network itself flourishes without direct dedicated funding since 2006, the R&D and training activities under the umbrella of ENLIGHT have been funded primarily through European Commission (EC) projects.

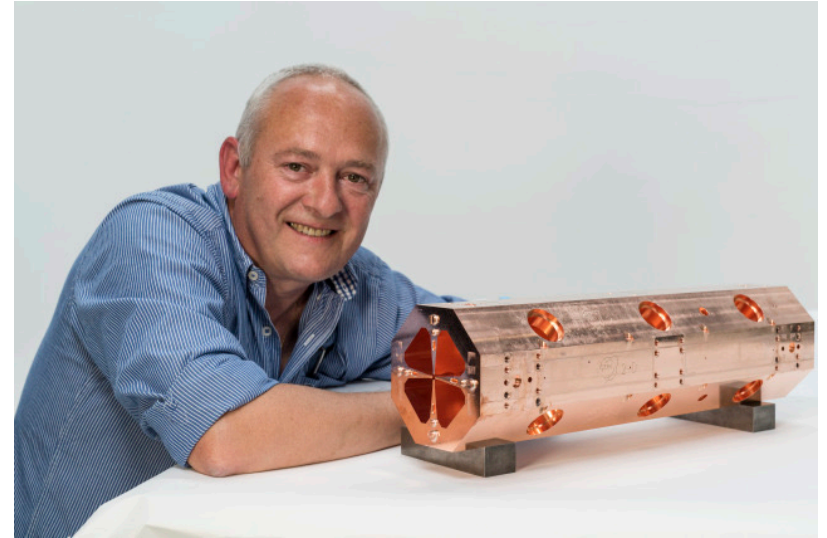
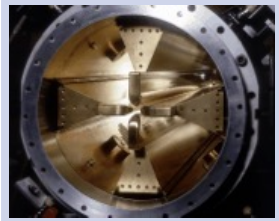
<http://cern.ch/enlight>

2012: Manjit Dosanjh, ENLIGHT co-ordinator, and members of the ENLIGHT network at the ENLIGHT 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting



# Protons: the LINAC way

1990 RFQ2 200 MHz 0.5 MeV /m Weight :1200kg/m Ext. diametre : ~45 cm	2007 LINAC4 RFQ 352 MHz 1MeV/m Weight : 400kg/m Ext. diametre : 29 cm	2014 HF RFQ 750MHz 2.5MeV/m Weight : 100 kg/m Ext. diametre : 13 cm
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## Compact High-Frequency Radio Frequency Quadrupole (RFQ)

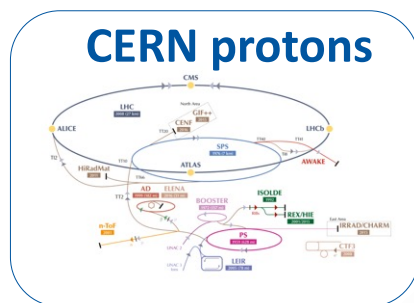
M. Vretenar, A. Dallochio, V. A. Dimov, M. Garlasche, A. Grudiev, A. M. Lombardi, S. Mathot, E. Montesinos, M. Timmins, "A Compact High-Frequency RFQ for Medical Applications", in Proc. LINAC2014, Geneva, Switzerland, September 2014

Licensed to AVO-ADAM

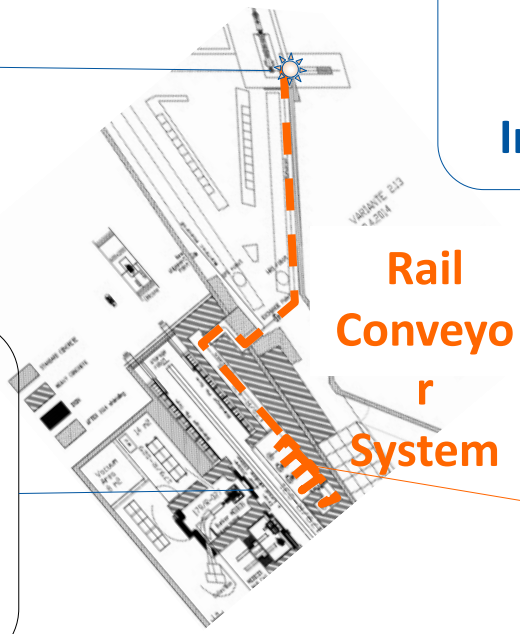
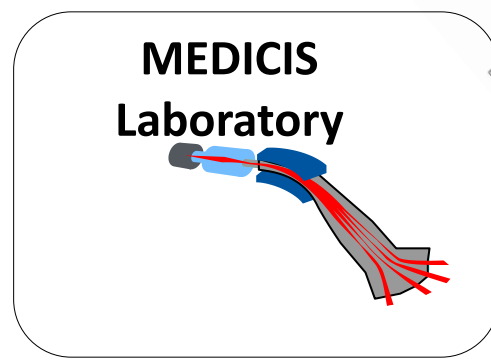
# CERN-MEDICIS



Non-conventional isotopes collected by mass separation for new medical applications



### MEDICIS Target Irradiation



Rail Conveyor System



Thierry Stora (CERN)

# Crystal Clear Collaboration – CERN RD18 Experiment

Initiated in 1990 by P. Lecoq, approved in 1991 by CERN for R&D for future LHC detectors

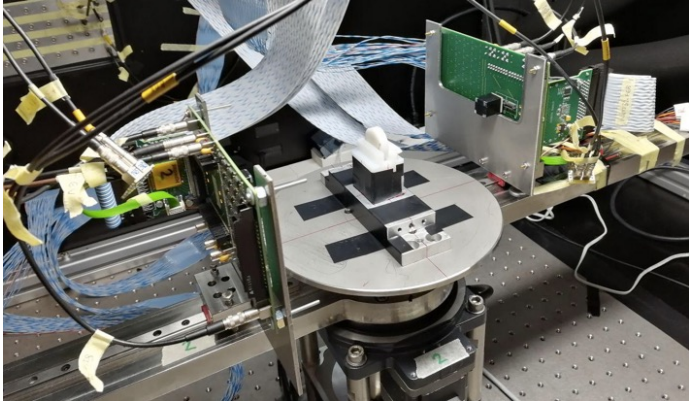
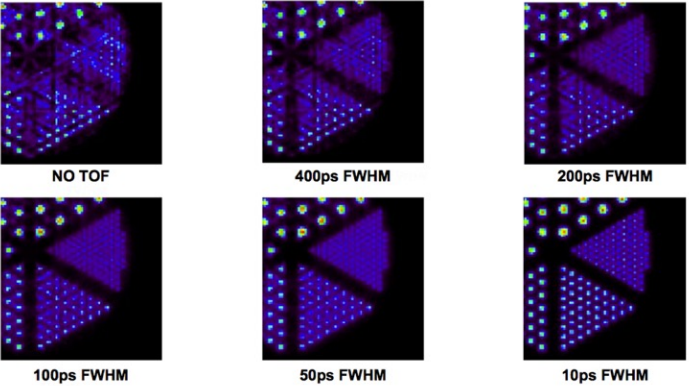
R&D on inorganic scintillators for HEP, medical imaging, industry

A CERN group very active in Positron Emission Tomography (PET), now focusing on:

Flexible testing facility to test “any” PET detector configuration

Scintillating heterostructures

pushing the limit of TOF-PET resolution

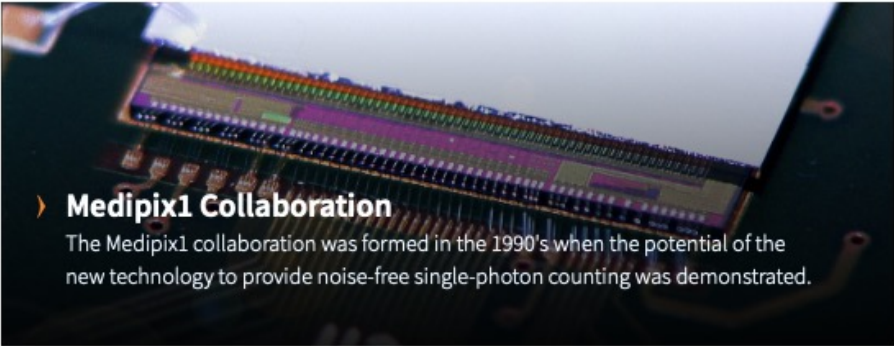


Development of a versatile PET scanner prototype, Polesel et al, IEEE MIC 2019 (Manchester), poster M-13-168

Etiennette Auffray  
(CERN)

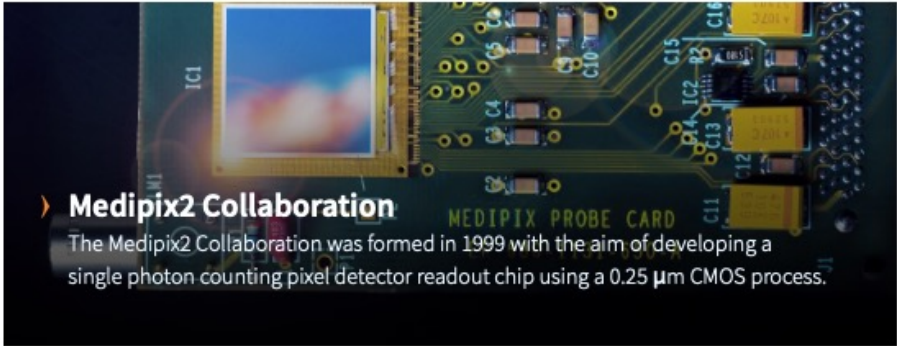
# Medipix

A family of pixel detector read-out chips for particle imaging and detection developed by the Medipix Collaborations



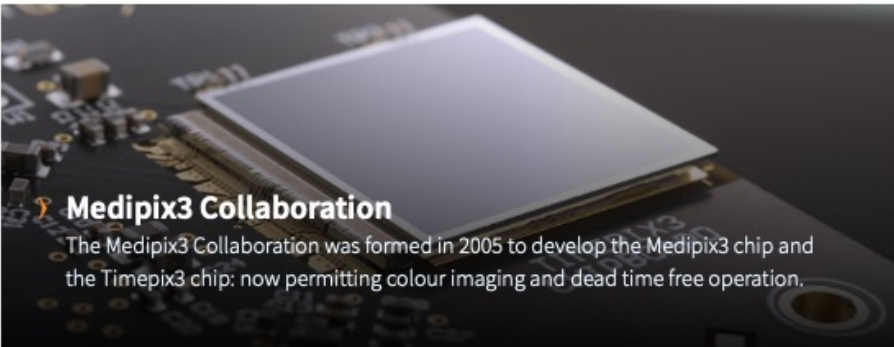
› **Medipix1 Collaboration**

The Medipix1 collaboration was formed in the 1990's when the potential of the new technology to provide noise-free single-photon counting was demonstrated.



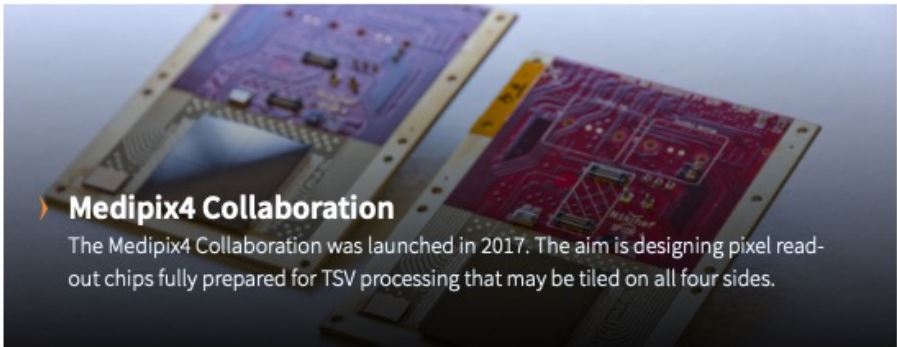
› **Medipix2 Collaboration**

The Medipix2 Collaboration was formed in 1999 with the aim of developing a single photon counting pixel detector readout chip using a 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$  CMOS process.



› **Medipix3 Collaboration**

The Medipix3 Collaboration was formed in 2005 to develop the Medipix3 chip and the Timepix3 chip: now permitting colour imaging and dead time free operation.

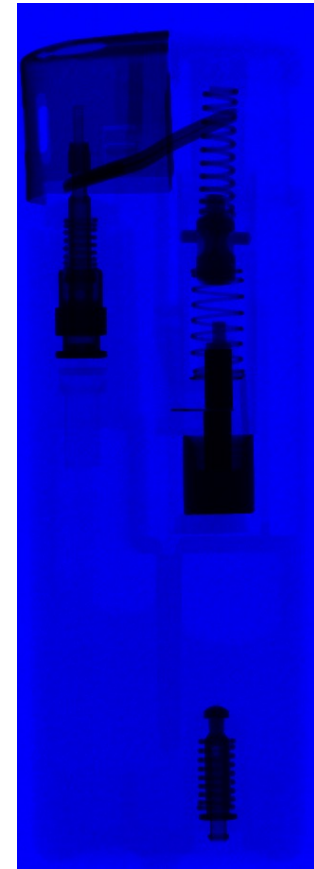
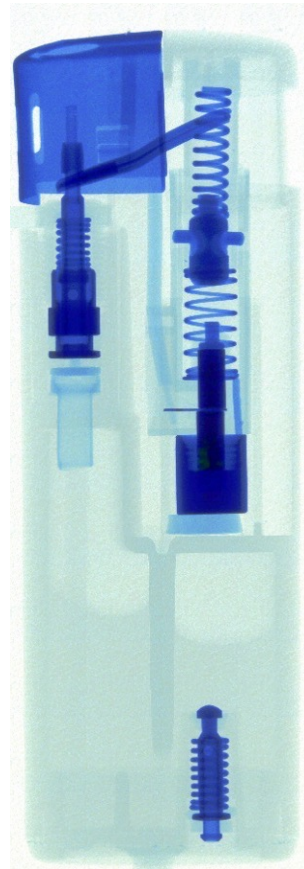
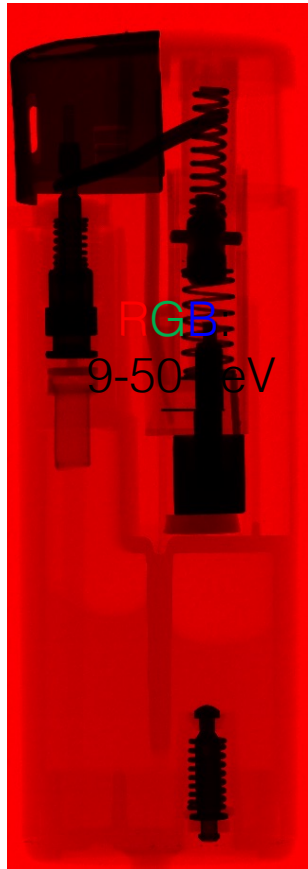


› **Medipix4 Collaboration**

The Medipix4 Collaboration was launched in 2017. The aim is designing pixel read-out chips fully prepared for TSV processing that may be tiled on all four sides.

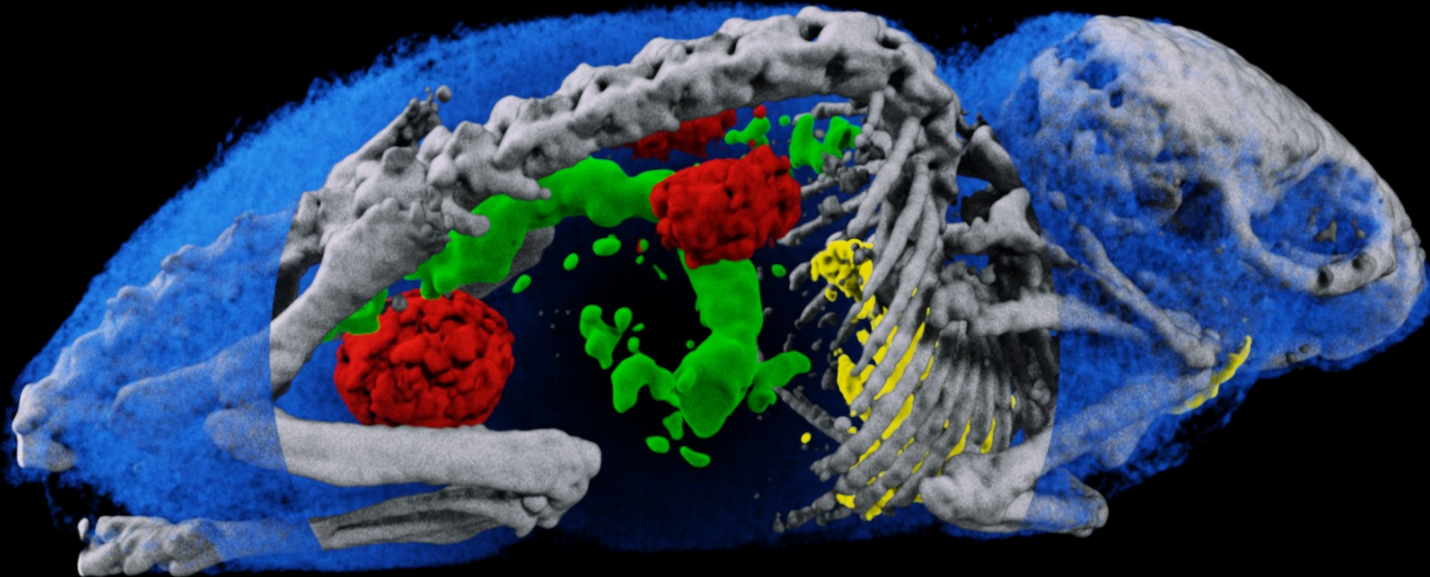
Michael Campbell (CERN)

# Colour x-ray of a lighter



S. Procz et al.

# Spectroscopic information permits material separation

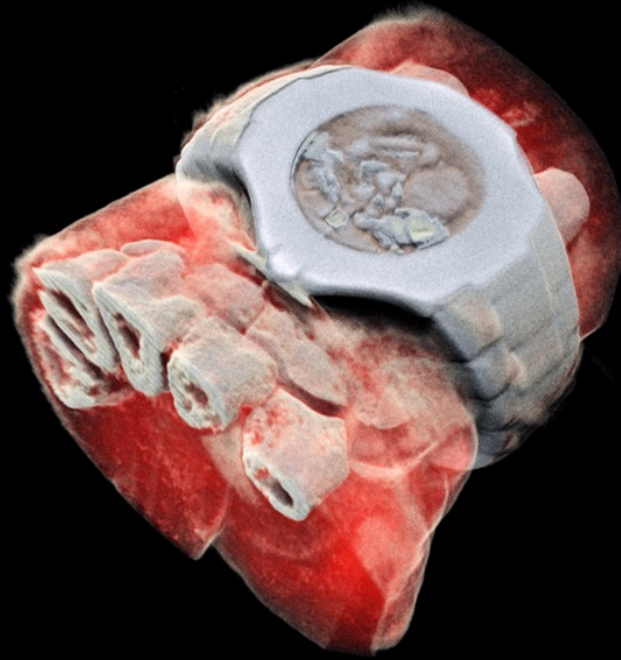


The water has been partly cut away to reveal the bone, gold, gadolinium and iodine

Images presented and the European Congress of Radiology, Vienna, March 2017.

A. Butler, University of  
Canterbury

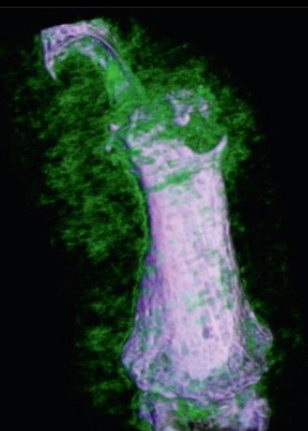
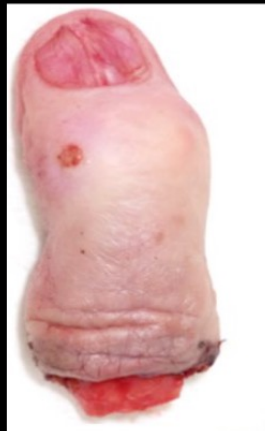
# Fast forward to 2018



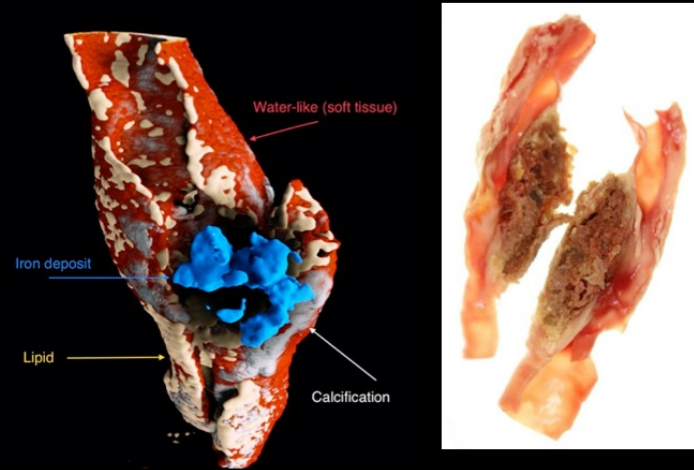
First 3D colour X-ray of a human using the Medipix3 technology developed at CERN

# Molecular versus MARS

## MARS - intrinsic information



Gout crystal characterisation  
(Collab with CHUV)



Carotid plaque with quantitative measurements  
of fat, water, calcium, and iron

MARS SPCCT Imaging technology is in concept development for human use. It is not a product and is not cleared or approved by the US FDA or any other regulator for commercial availability outside of New Zealand



Slide courtesy of Anthony Butler, University of Canterbury

Presented at 6th Workshop on Medical Applications of Spectroscopic X-ray Detectors, 29 Aug 2022, CERN



# Interactive Material

- Imaging and hadron therapy animation  
<http://cds.cern.ch/record/1611721?ln=en>  
<http://cds.cern.ch/record/2002120>
- Interactive virtual visit to a hadrotherapy centre:  
<http://www.cern.nymus3d.nl/maps#>
- PARTNER Marie Curie  
<http://cds.cern.ch/record/1384426?ln=en>  
<http://cds.cern.ch/record/1327668>
- ENERVISION Marie Curie  
<http://cds.cern.ch/record/1541891>
- HITRIplus beam time  
<https://www.hitriplus.eu/transnational-access-what-is-ta/>
- FLASH An innovative electron radiotherapy technology  
<https://videos.cern.ch/record/2762058>  
<https://videos.cern.ch/record/2295068>

# Articles

1. Dosanjh, M.K., [From Particle Physics to Medical Applications](http://iopscience.iop.org/book/978-0-7503-1444-2/chapter/bk978-0-7503-1444-2ch1), IOP Publishing, e-book, <http://iopscience.iop.org/book/978-0-7503-1444-2/chapter/bk978-0-7503-1444-2ch1>
2. <https://cerncourier.com/a/the-changing-landscape-of-cancer-therapy/>
3. Pistenmaa, D., Coleman, C.N., and Dosanjh, M.K.; Developing medical linacs for challenging regions: <http://cerncourier.com/cws/article/cern/67710> (2017)
4. Dosanjh, M.K., Amaldi, U., Mayer, R. and Poetter, R.; ENLIGHT: European Network for Light Ion Hadron Therapy. DOI: 10.1016/j.radonc.2018.03.014  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0167814018301464>
5. Ugo Amaldi, et al . South East European International Institute for Sustainable Technologies (SEEIST) Front. Phys., January 2021 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fphy.2020.567466>
6. Angal-Kalinin D, Burt G and Dosanjh M. *Linacs to narrow radiation therapy gap*, CERN Courier, December 2021 <https://cerncourier.com/a/linacs-to-narrow-radiotherapy-gap/>
7. Manjit Dosanjh, Collaboration, the force that makes the impossible possible. [Advances in Radiation Oncology](#) 7(6):100966 DOI: [10.1016/j.adro.2022.100966](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adro.2022.100966)



## Many thanks to:

- U. Amaldi, CERN & TERA
- E. Blakely, LBNL, USA
- M Durante, GSI, Germany
- HIT, CNAO, MedAustro, PSI and ENLIGHT colleagues
- MARS BioImaging Ltd

## Useful links

- *[cern.ch/crystalclear](http://cern.ch/crystalclear)*
- *[cern.ch/enlight](http://cern.ch/enlight)*
- *[cern.ch/virtual-hadron-therapy-centre](http://cern.ch/virtual-hadron-therapy-centre)*
- *<http://cds.cern.ch/record/1611721>*
- *[cern.ch/knowledgetransfer](http://cern.ch/knowledgetransfer)*
- *[cern.ch/medipix](http://cern.ch/medipix)*
- *[cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AXIALPET](http://cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AXIALPET)*
- *[cern.ch/medaustro](http://cern.ch/medaustro)*
- *[cern.ch/fluka/heart/rh.html](http://cern.ch/fluka/heart/rh.html)*
- *[www.fluka.org/fluka.php](http://www.fluka.org/fluka.php)*
- *[cern.ch/wwwasd/geant](http://cern.ch/wwwasd/geant)*
- *[cern.ch/wwwasd/geant/tutorial/tutstart.html](http://cern.ch/wwwasd/geant/tutorial/tutstart.html)*
- [www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/Publications/PDF/TCS-42\\_web.pdf](http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/Publications/PDF/TCS-42_web.pdf)