# From particle physics to medical applications

#### Manuela Cirilli Knowledge Transfer Group



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## **Cancer Incidence**

- Every year >3 millions new cases in Europe
- About one third of us will have cancer
- Number of patients needing treatment is increasing as people are living longer
- Main cause of death between the ages of 45 and 65 in Europe
- Second most common cause of death in Europe after heart-disease



## Cancer is a large and growing challenge

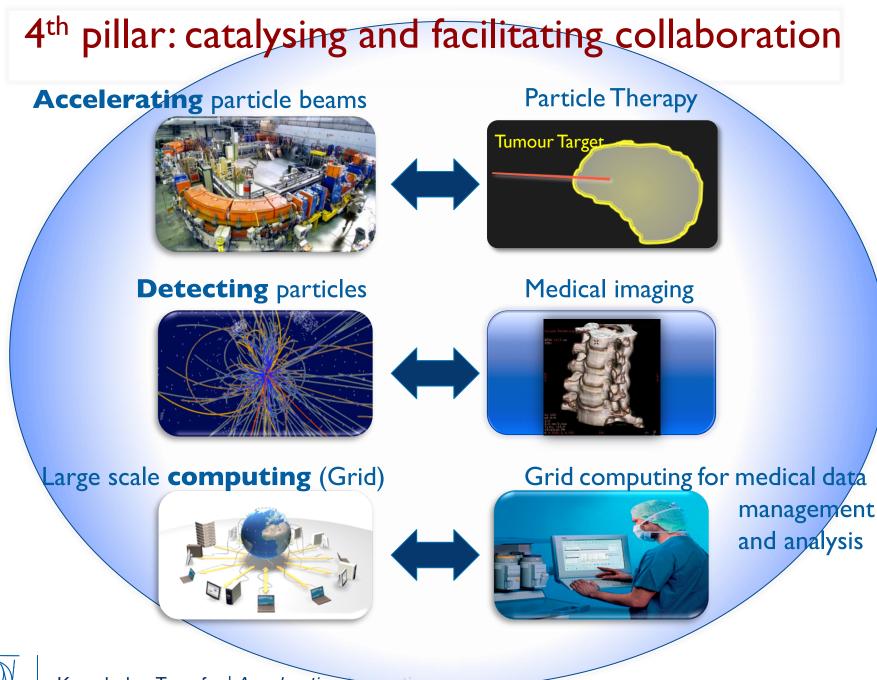
Need: Earlier diagnosis, better control, fewer side-effects How?

- new technologies
  - Imaging, dosimetry, accelerator & detector technology
  - Better understanding genetics, radiobiology...
  - Advanced healthcare informatics ...
- international collaboration
  - If progress is to be maintained

Although cancer is a common condition, each tumour is individual

- → personalised approach
- $\rightarrow$  Large patients data-sets to understand key drivers of the disease





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## Catalysing collaboration in health field

#### Challenges:

- Bring together physicists, biologists, medical physicists, doctors
- Cross-cultural at European and global level

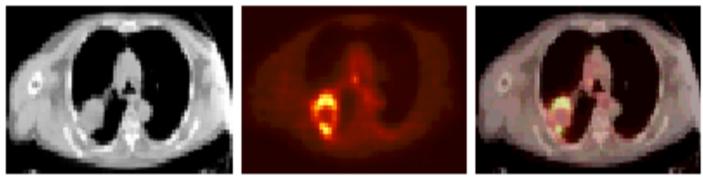
#### Why is CERN well placed to do this?

- It is widely acknowledged as a *provider of technologies* and as a *catalyst* for collaboration.
- It is international, non-commercial, not a health facility.



## **Detector Technologies**

- Detector technology improved photon detection and measurement: Crystal Clear, PET, PEM, Axial PET
- Electronics and DAQ high performance readout: (Medipix)
- Multimodality imaging: PET-CT (proposed by Townsend, future with PET-MRI)







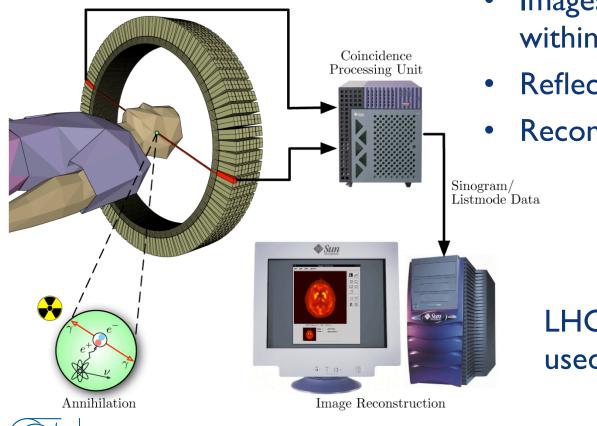




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# PET (Positron Emission Tomography)

• Detects pairs of photons emitted by an injected positronemitting radionuclide



- Images tracer concentration within the body
- Reflects physiological activity
- Reconstructed by software

LHC detector systems used in PET Systems



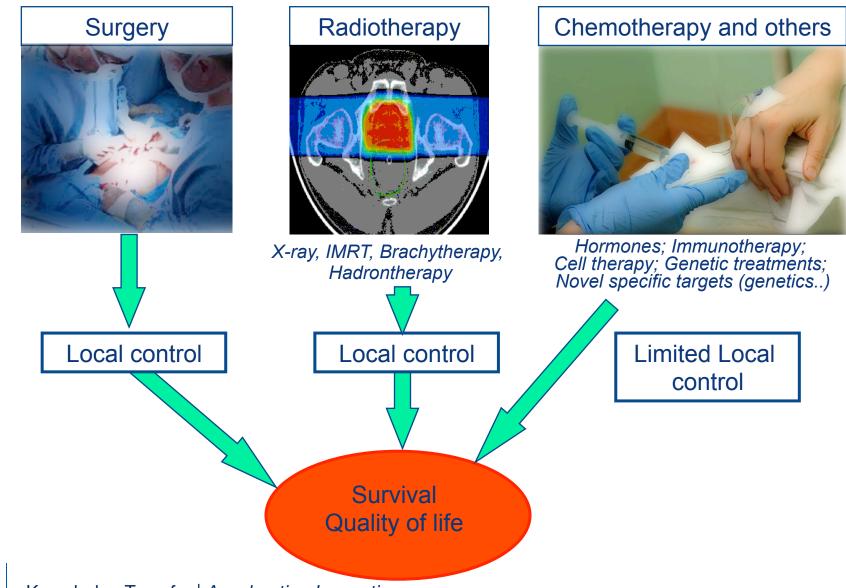
## **Computing Technologies**

**GRID** – data storage, distributed, secure computing

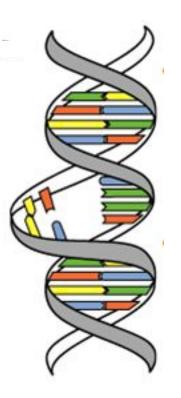
- **MammoGrid:** European-wide database of mammograms and support collaboration
- Health-e-Child: combining various types (clinical, imaging...) of data and share in distributed, clinical arena.
- **HISP:** Hadrontherapy Information Sharing Platform



#### Cancer Treatment Options...



## Conventional Radiotherapy in 21st Century



3 "Cs" of Radiation

Cure (~ 45% cancer cases are cured) Conservative (non-invasive, few side effects) Cheap (~ 5% of total cost of cancer on radiation) (J.P.Gérard)

There is no substitute for RT in the near future The rate of patients treated with RT is increasing

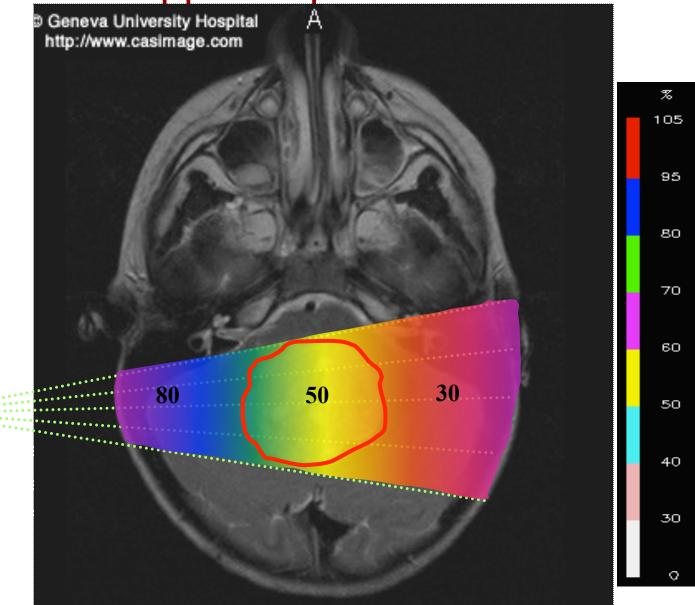
Present Limitation of RT: ~30% of patients treatment fails locally

(Acta Oncol, Suppl:6-7, 1996)



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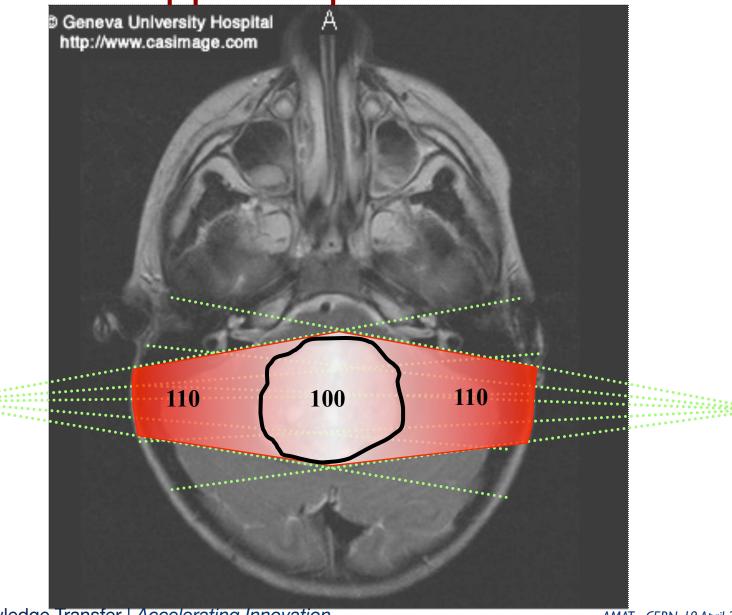
#### Two opposite photon beams





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# Two opposite photon beams





AMAT - CERN, 19 April 2013

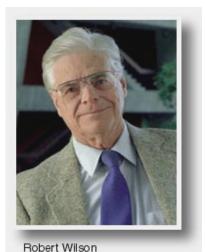
## How to decrease failure rate?

- Physics technologies to improve treatment: higher dose
- Imaging: accuracy, multimodality, real-time, organ motion
- Data: storage, analysis and sharing (confidentiality, access)
- Biology: fractionation, radio-resistance, radio-sensitization
- Working together: multidisciplinary

Raymond Miralbell, HUG

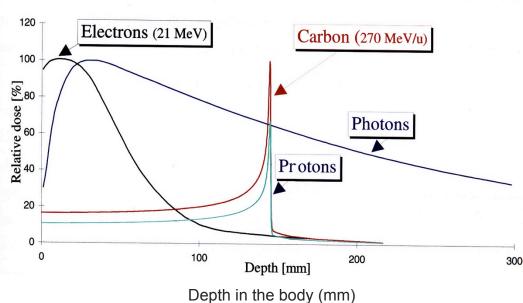


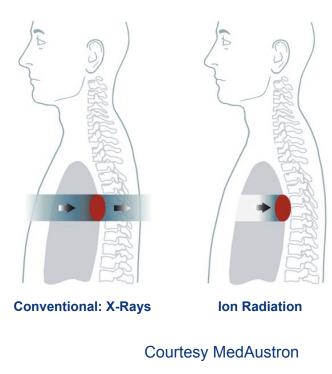
#### Hadrontherapy: all started in 1946



#### In 1946 Robert Wilson:

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

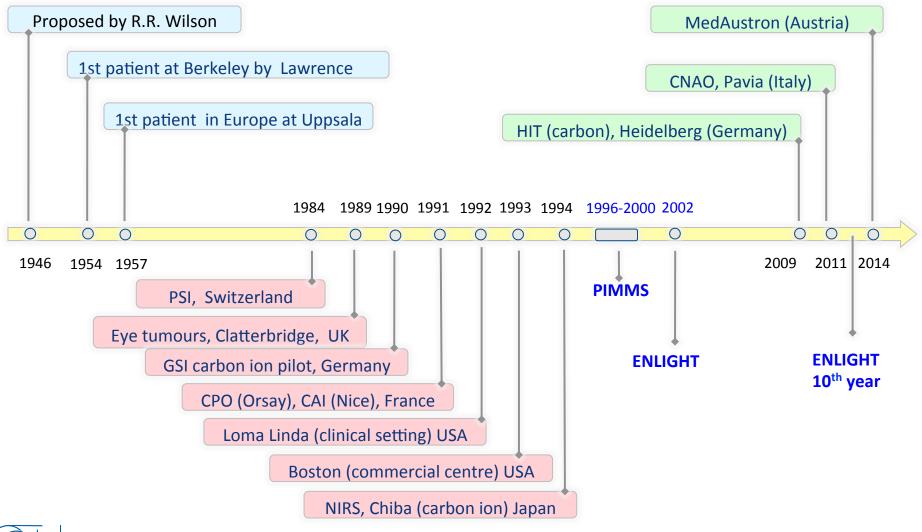






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#### Proton & Ion Beam Therapy: a short history





#### Accelerator technologies and KT

PIMMS 2000 (coordinated by CERN) has led to:



Treatment centre in Pavia, Italy. First patient treated in Sept 2011



Treatment centre in Wiener Neustadt, Austria, foundation stone 16 March 2011, will be ready in 2015

Looking ahead:

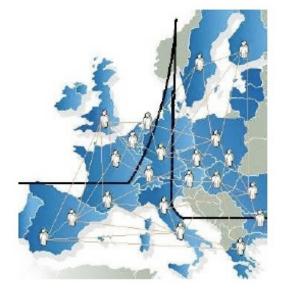
- LEIR facility: requested by community, see later
- Medicis (ISOLDE): exotic isotopes for future R&D
- Minicyclotron: commonly used isotopes



## ENLIGHT

CERN collaboration philosophy into health field

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



> 150 institutes

> 400 people

> 25 countries

(>80% of MS involved)



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Coordinated by CERN, 80% MS involved



## EU funded projects



- Wide range of hadron therapy projects: training, R&D, infrastructures
- A total funding of ~24 M Euros
- All coordinated by CERN (except ULICE coordinated by CNAO)
- Under the umbrella of ENLIGHT



- Marie Curie ITN
- I2 institutions



- Infrastructures for hadron therapy
- 20 institutions



- R&D on medical imaging for hadron therapy
- 16 institutions



Marie Curie ITN 12 institutions



## Preparing for the Future

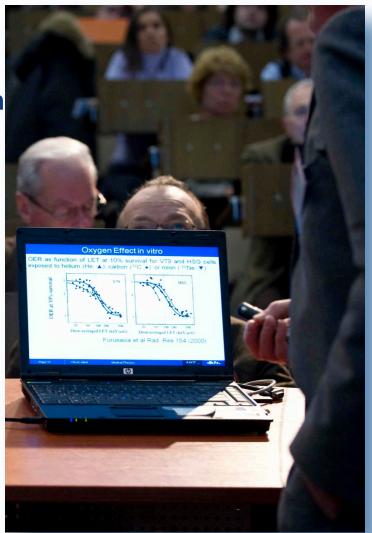
#### Objective

- Review progress in physics for health
- Identify areas for development
- Explore synergies
  - physics and health
- Catalyse dialogue
  - doctors, physicists, medical physicists.....

#### Result:

#### First workshop on Physics for Health @CERN in Feb 2010







International Conference on Translational Research in Radio-Oncology & Physics for Health in Europe



- 2 days devoted to physics, 2 days to medicine, I common day
- Over 600 people registered, nearly 400 Abstracts
- Chairs: Jacques Bernier (Genolier) and Manjit Dosanjh (CERN)

#### Four physics subjects :

- Radiobiology in therapy and space
- Detectors and medical imaging
- Radioisotopes in diagnostics and therapy
- Novel technologies





I) Radiobiology in therapy and space :

- Particle therapy on the rise
  (100 000 patients treated from 1954-2012)
- Carbon ions have higher radiobiological effectiveness (RBE) than protons
- Which is THE ion?

#### 2) Radioisotopes in diagnostics and therapy

- Lutetium 177: The rising star for therapy
- The Theranostic approach: Terbium isotopes in therapy and diagnostics





- 3) Prospects in detectors and medical imaging:
  - The holy grail: 10-picosecond PET
  - Hybrid systems: PET/CT to PET/MR

- 4) Novel technologies in radiation therapy:
  - New accelerators, beams
  - Organ motion: fast rescanning, gating
  - Simulation: Geant4
  - Beam transport & gantry



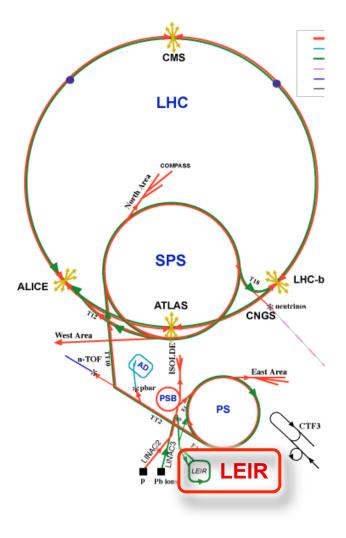
### Future Biomedical Facility @ CERN

Using LEIR (low energy ionising ring) for:

#### European facility for radiobiology

- basic physics studies
- radiobiology
- fragmentation of ion beam
- dosimetry
- test of instrumentation

Biomedical facility requested by ENLIGHT Community (> 20 countries, >200 people )

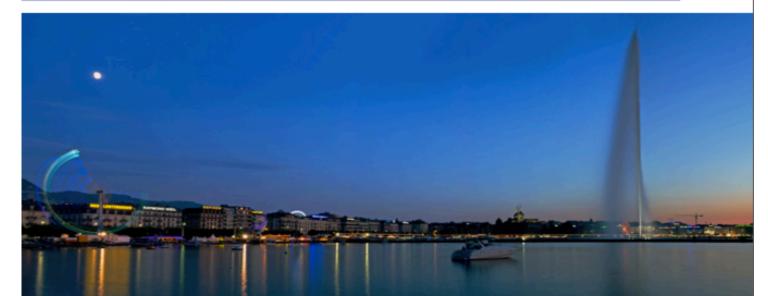






#### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN RADIATION ONCOLOGY

#### PHYSICS FOR HEALTH IN EUROPE



February 10 – 14, 2014 at CICG Geneva Early registration and abstract submission from June 1 to September 30 http://cern.ch/ictr-phe14



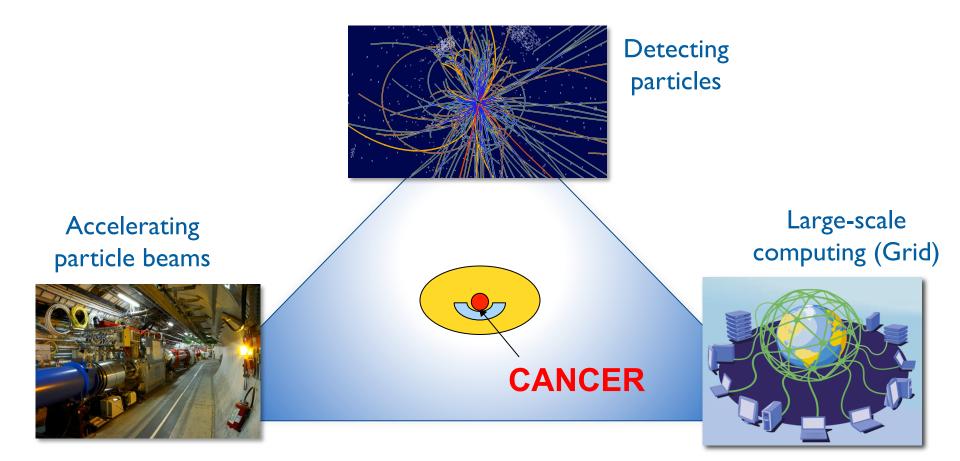
# Thank you for your attention

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#### CERN Technologies and innovation accelerators, detectors and IT to fight cancer





#### Knowledge and Technology Transfer

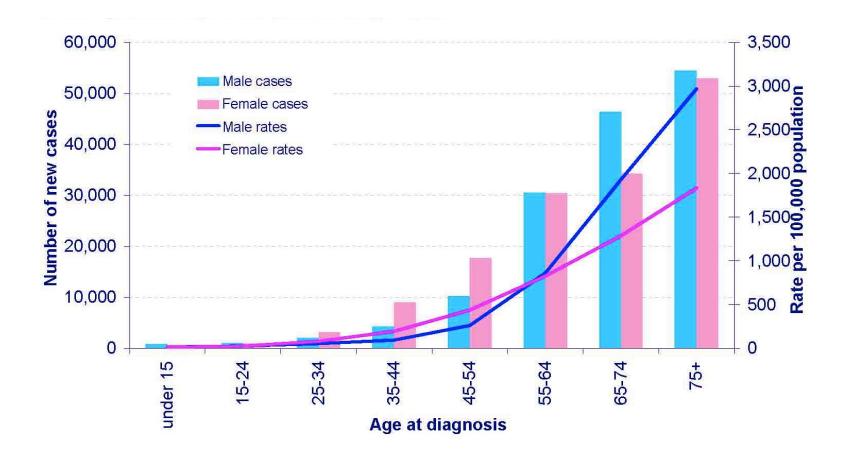
- KT is an integral part of CERN's mission
- PP technologies relevant to key societal issues e.g. Health
- CERN involved in the last 10-15 years

few CERN resources attracted significant external funding (EC, MS...) raises impact and profile beyond the particle physics arena large number of collaborating institutes including medical institutes & hospitals

Collaborators appreciate facilitation by CERN



## Cancer incidence increases with age





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Jean-Pierre Gerard (founder of ENLIGHT and radio-oncologist): Physics-Clinics: collaboration is not enough, we need union





Alejandro Mazal (Chair PTCOG and Curie Institute)

Collaboration is important, "Tomorrow I will be back treating patients, but I will carry with me lots of dreams and ideas of how to work together"

Ruxandra Draghia-Akli (EC Health Director): Horizon 2020 will focus on societal challenges (cancer is one)





#### José Mariano Gago:

Health research must be a driving force for the renewal of science policy: a European Council for Health Research is needed. Bringing together Medicine, Physics and Engineering Schools, across the EU.

