



New Technologies session

# Nanoparticle Enhanced MRI-Guided Radiation therapy for brain melanoma metastases.

Proof of Concept before Phase I Trial.

**Shady KOTB**

**3<sup>rd</sup> year Ph.D. candidate**

**Supervisors :** Dr. Lucie Sancey  
Pr. Olivier Tillement

**Lyon, France.**

16<sup>th</sup> February 2016

# Content

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Concept of radiosensitizers in radiotherapy.
- 1.2 AGuIX<sup>®</sup> nanoprobos.

## 2. Radiosensitization

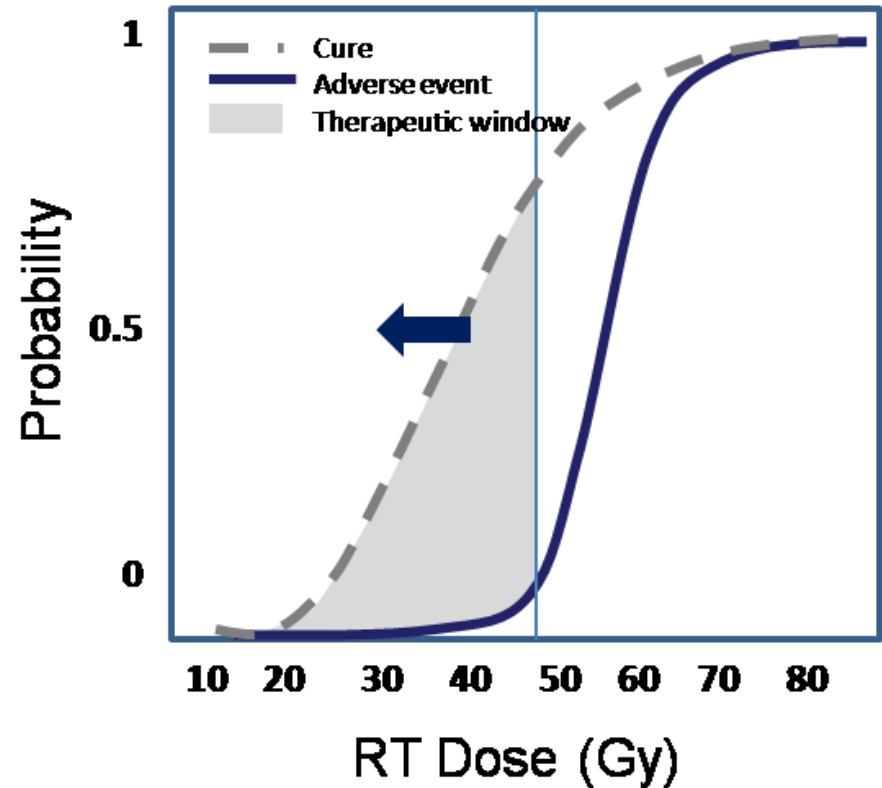
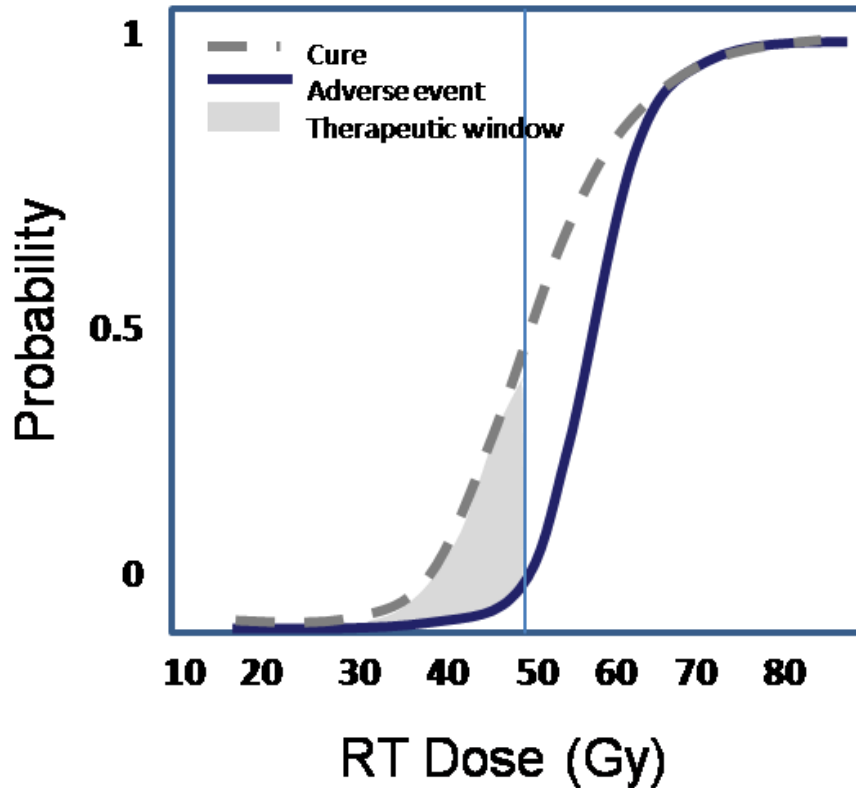
- 2.1 *In-vitro* investigations of B16-F10 melanoma cell line .
- 2.2 *In-vivo* intracerebral studies of B16-F10.

## 3. Conclusion

# 1- Radiosensitizers concept

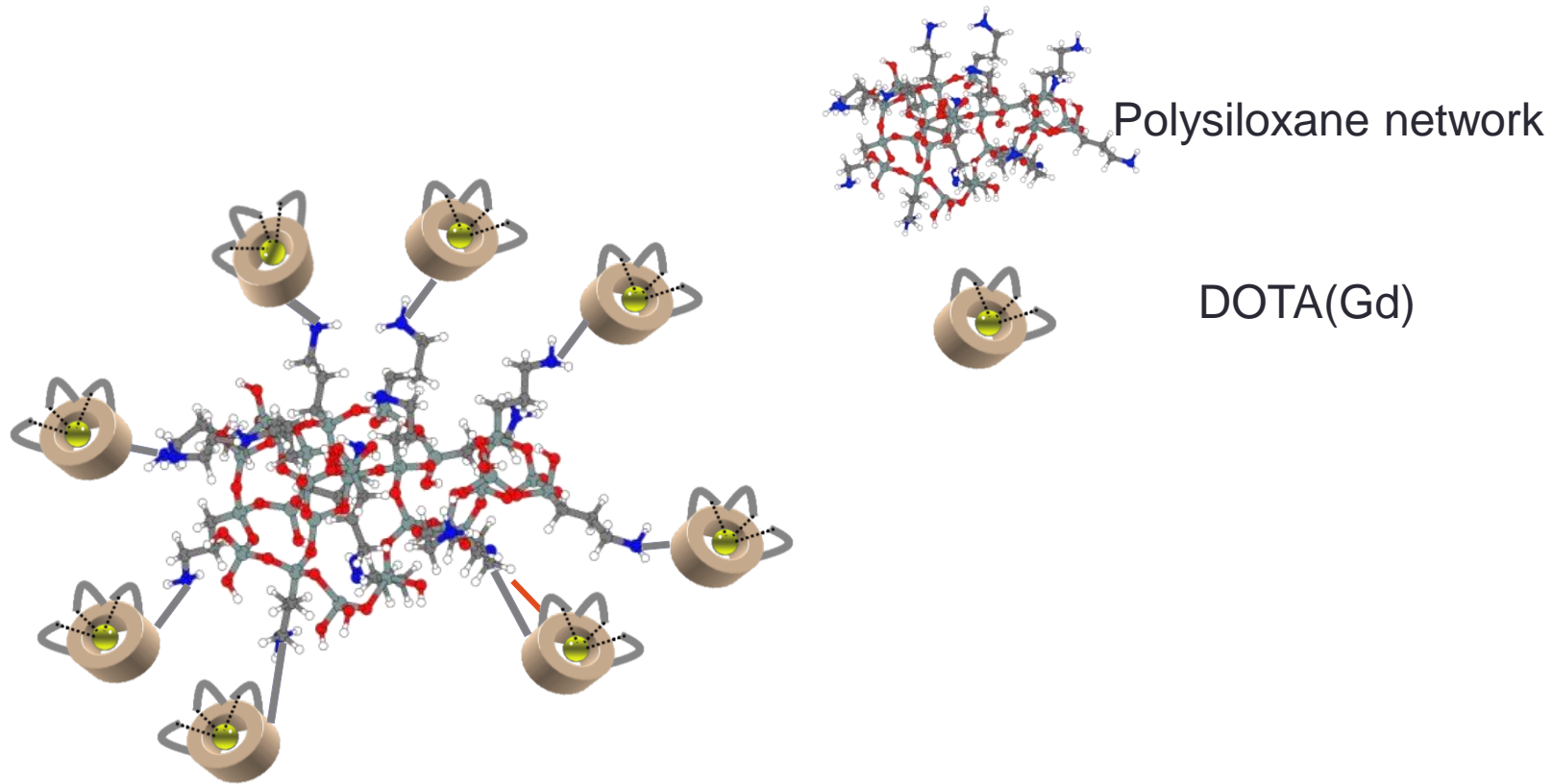
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# WHY? RADIOTHERAPY OPTIMIZATION



*Schematic representation of opening the radiotherapy therapeutic window provided by radiosensitizers (left: radiotherapy alone; right: radiotherapy in the presence of radiosensitizers).*

# AGuIX<sup>®</sup>: Theranostic Nanoparticles



***Ultra-small Size : 3-5 nm***

***High colloidal stability***

***Small enough for renal elimination***

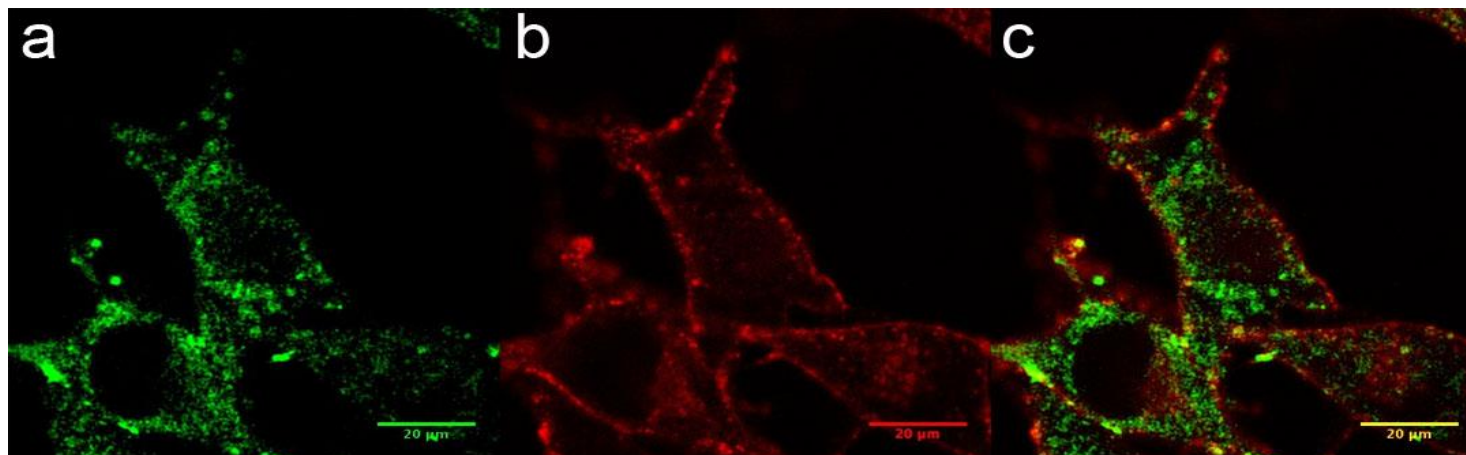
2- Radiosensitization of melanoma B16-F10 *In vitro*  
*Mouse model for human melanoma*

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## *In vitro* investigations – Cells uptake

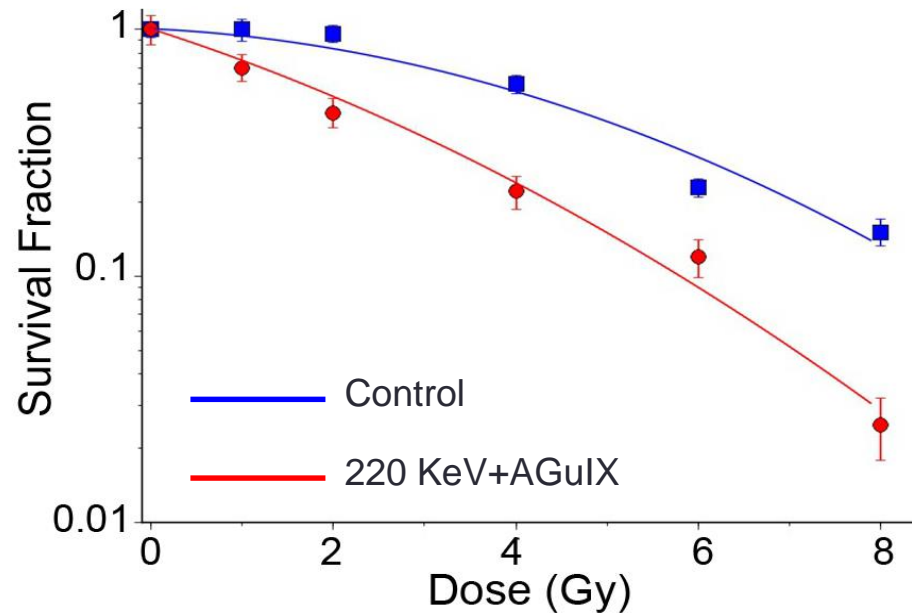
### Confocal Microscopy on live cells

Nanoparticles uptake after incubation with 0.6 mg/L AGuIX for 1 hour (Corresponds to 0.4 pg Gd/cell internalized)



Fluorescence images of B16F10 1 hour after incubation with AGuIX coupled to FITC **(a)**, Plasma membrane labeling in red **(b)** and the merged image **(c)**.

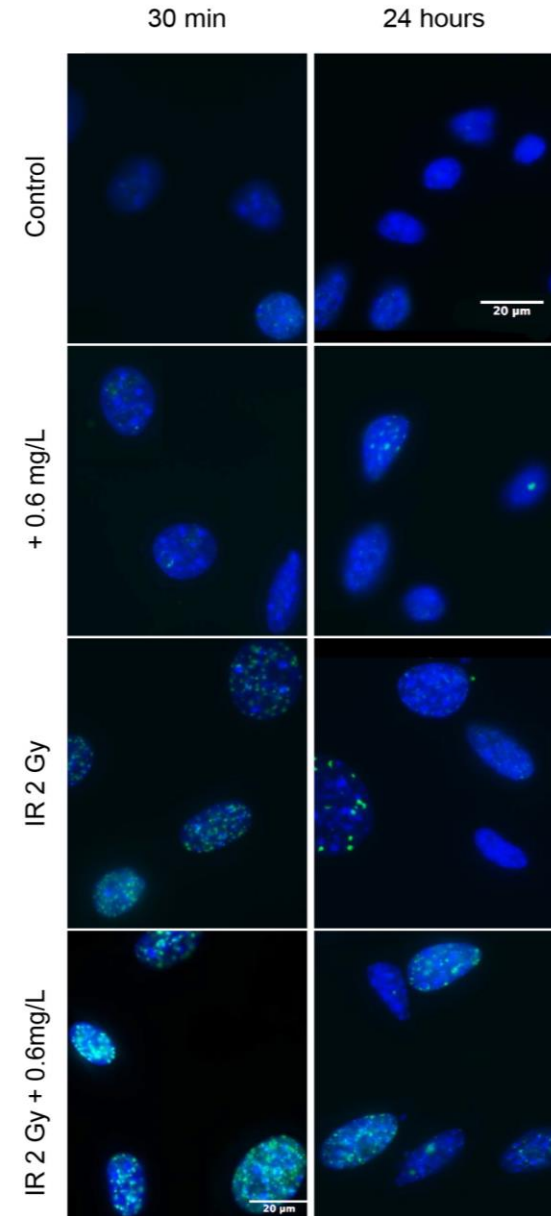
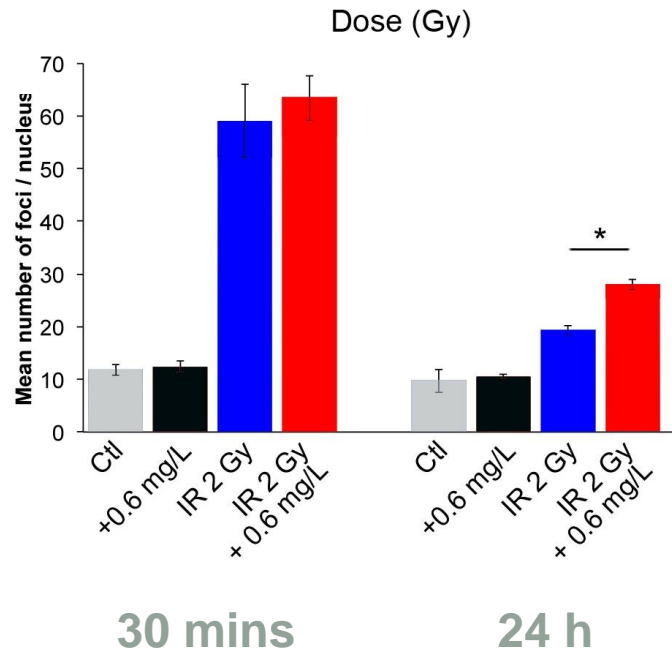
## In vitro investigations - Clonogenic Assay 220-keV X-ray (2 Gy/min)



	$\alpha$ ( $\text{Gy}^{-1}$ )	D50% Gy	SF 2 Gy	% EF 2 Gy	SER 2 Gy	DEF
Control	0.04	4.5	0.96	-	-	-
0.6 mg/L AGuIX	0.26	1.8	0.56	52 %	2.08	1.3



## In vitro investigations $\gamma$ -H2AX immunofluorescence assay



No. of DSBs.      % Enhancement

2 Gy

19 ± 0.8

-

2 Gy+0.6 mg/L AGuIX

28 ± 1

45

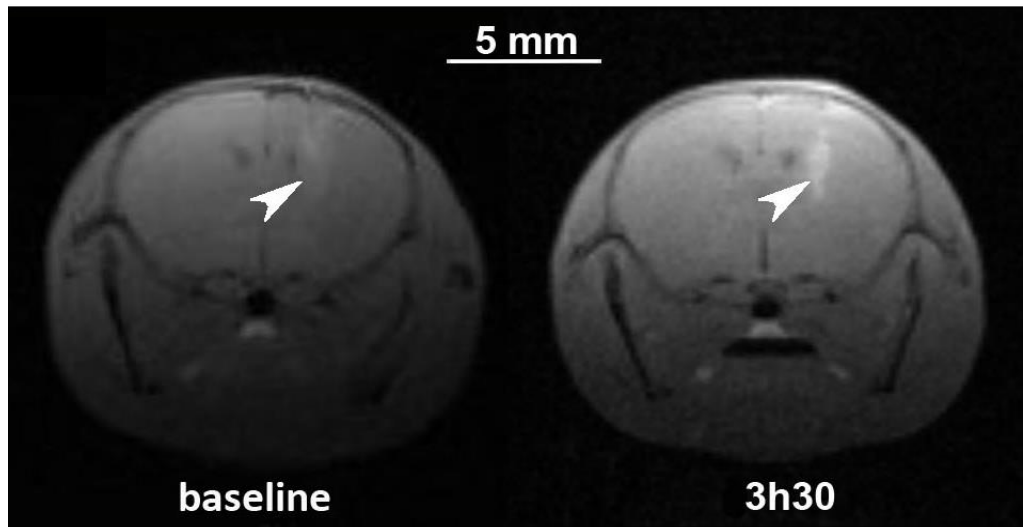
## 2- Radiosensitization of melanoma B16-F10

*In-vivo, model for multiple brain metastases*

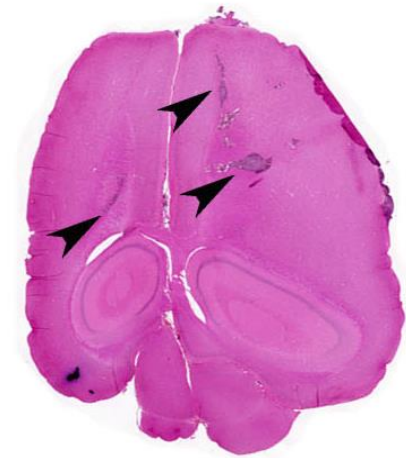
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## *In vivo* investigations - Radiation protocol adjustment

### 4.7 Tesla scanner MRI



IV injection of 50 mg/L in 0.2 mL



H&S staining

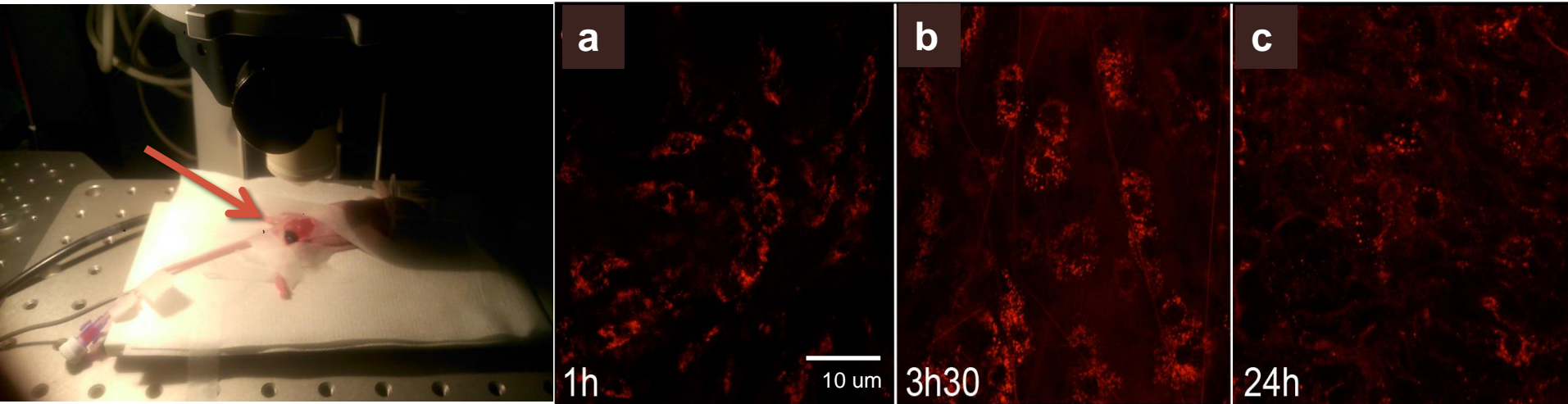
T<sub>1</sub> MR imaging of mice bearing B16-F10 day 5 post tumor implantation.

CNR for tumor vs. Contralateral hemisphere **21**

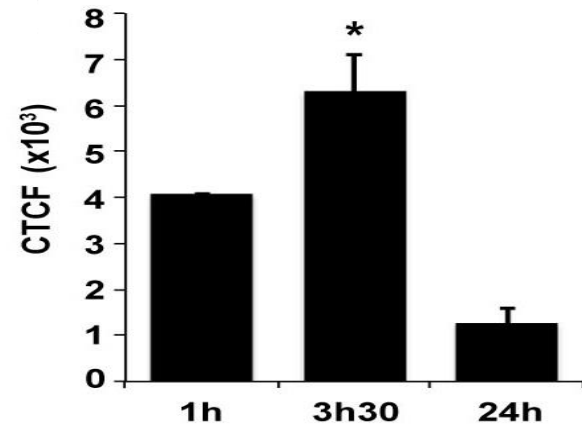
CNR tumor vs. muscle **59**

# *In vivo* investigations - Radiation protocol adjustment

## Intravital two-photon microscopy

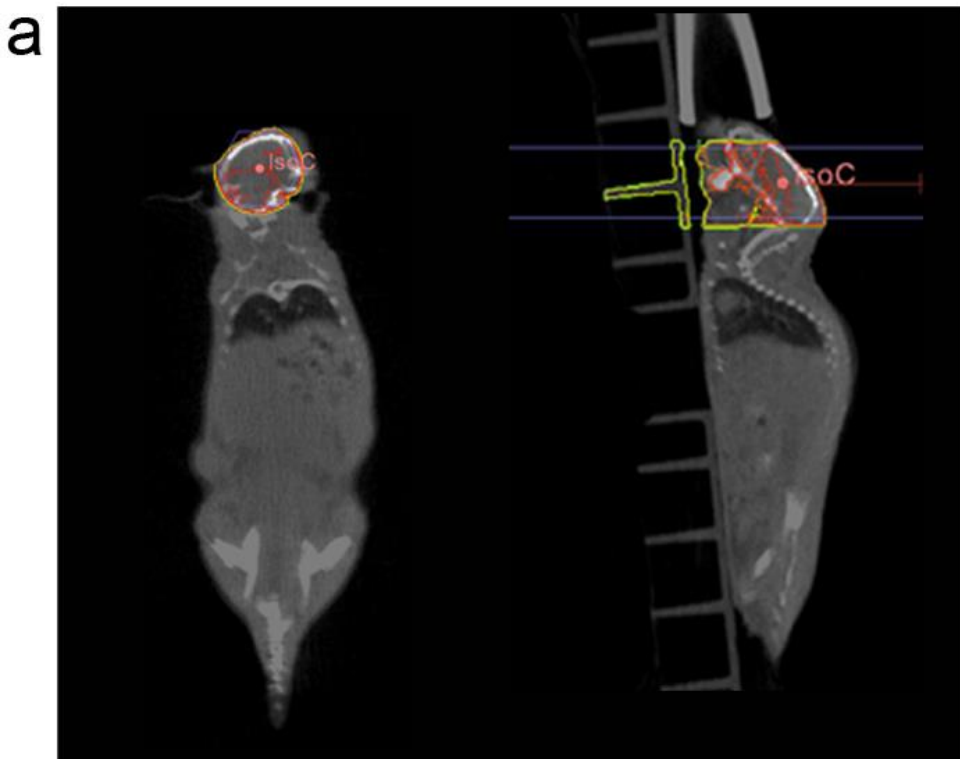


Intravital two-photon microscopy of labeled particles (Rhodamine-B) in subcutaneous B16F10 tumor.



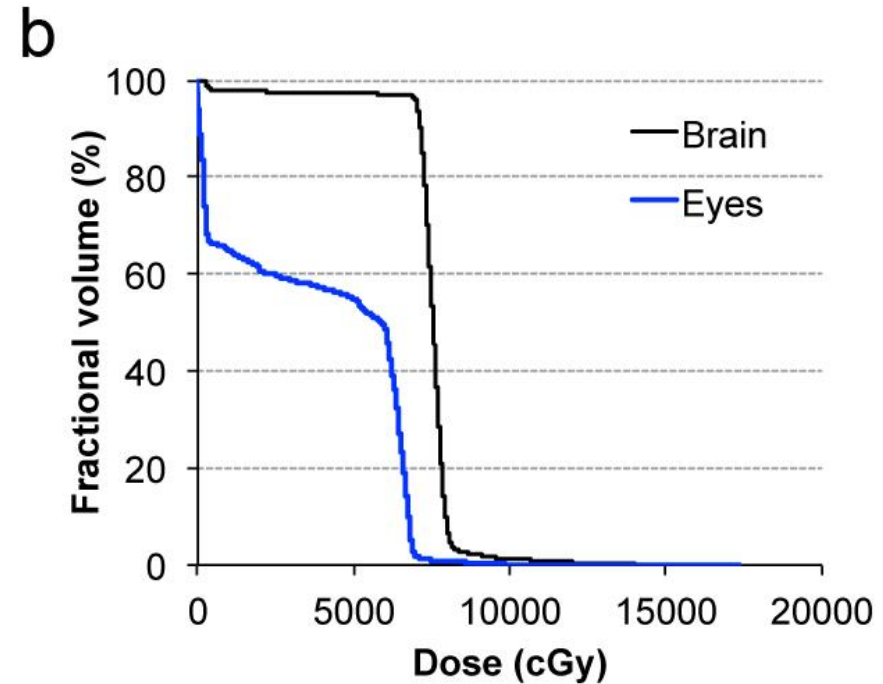
## *In vivo* investigations - Radiation protocol adjustment

Image-guided cone beam CT after single 7-Gy exposure



Axial view

Coronal view



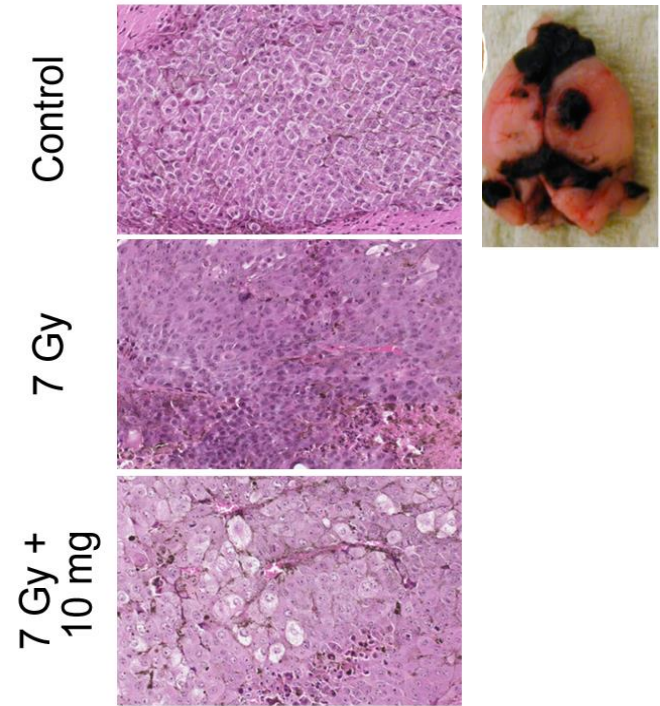
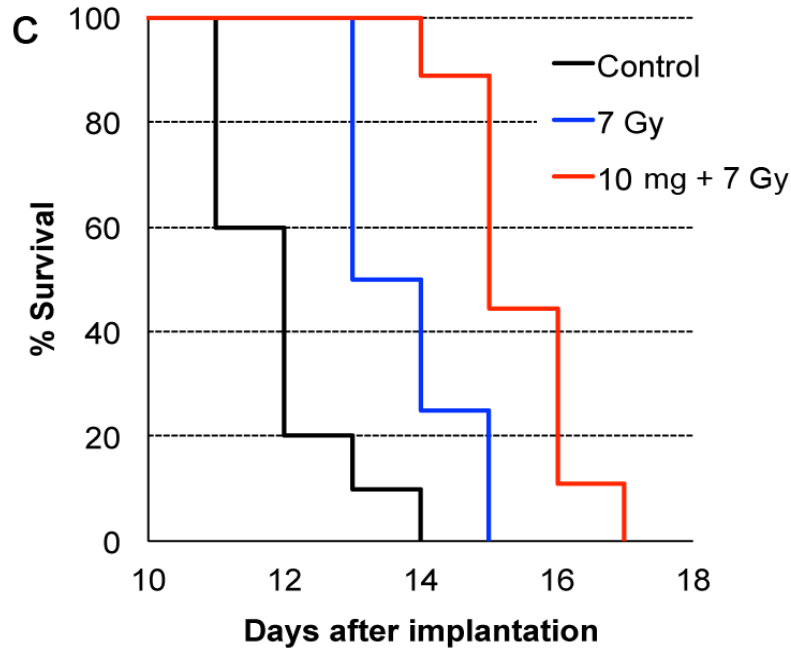
Dose volume histogram

95 % of prescribed dose inside the brain.

51.5 % of prescribed dose in the eyes.

## In vivo investigations - Single 7-Gy exposure.

Irradiation with 220 keV X-rays at dose rate 2 Gy/min.



	n	MeST (days)	ILS vs. Control	ILS vs. IR
Control	10	12	-	-
7 Gy	8	13	8.3 %	-
<b>AGuIX + 7 Gy</b>	9	15	25 %	<b>15.4 %</b>

# Conclusion: Translation to clinical applications

French agencies 02/2016

## Phase I trial, Dr. Camy Verry (Grenoble's University Hospital):

- Enhancement of the radiation efficacy .
- **Multiple brain metastases**, from primary tumors; Skin melanoma, lung, and breast cancer (n>3, or +3 cm)  
Life expectancy < 6 months  
Excluded from stereotactic approaches and surgery
- Current treatment: 10 Fractions of 3 Gy , 5 days a week for 2 weeks.
- Dose escalation:15, 30, 50, 75, 100 mg/kg (3 patients / dose) .
- 1 AGuIX IV injection at day 1 + MRI + standard treatment
  - **Safety and Pharmacokinetics profile**
  - MRI contrast properties
  - Survival without brain progression

# Acknowledgments



**Olivier Tillement  
Lucie Sancey  
François Lux**



**LRCM-EMR3738  
Claire Rodriguez-Lafrasse team.**



**Camille Verry  
Jacques Balosso**



**Stephen McMahon**



Physique, Radiobiologie, Imagerie Médicale et Simulation

**Beatrice Rayet  
Jean-Baptiste Mourgues  
Françoise Peyrin  
Denis Dauvergene**



**Ross Berbeco**



**Chantal Rémy  
Emmanuel Barbier**



Thanks for your attention

# Conclusion: Translation to clinical applications

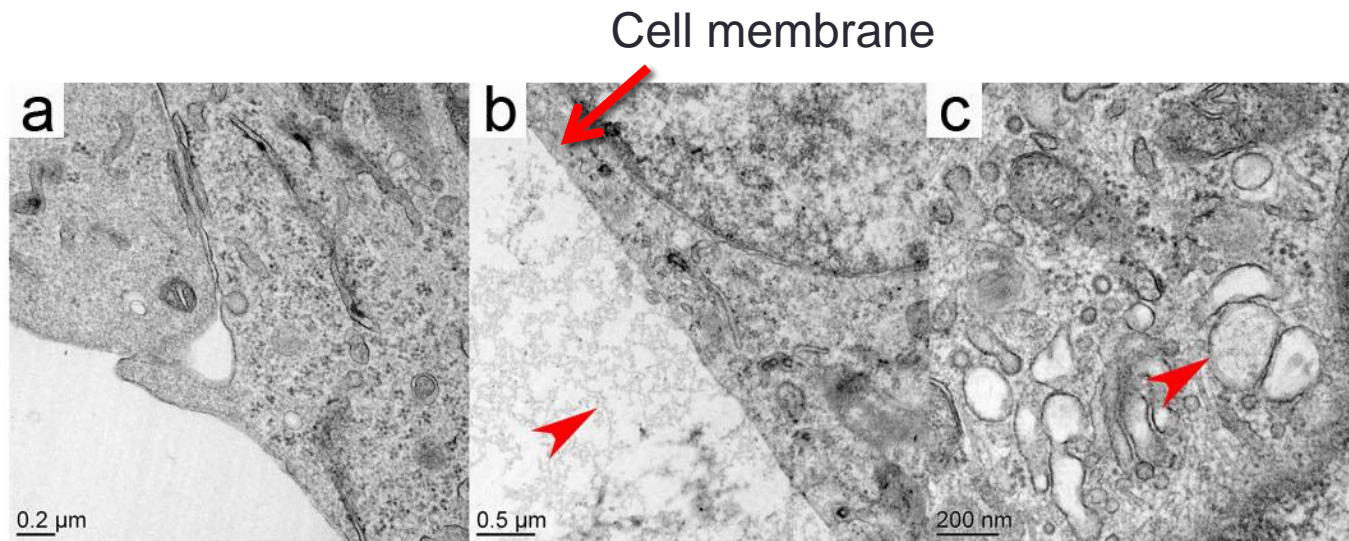
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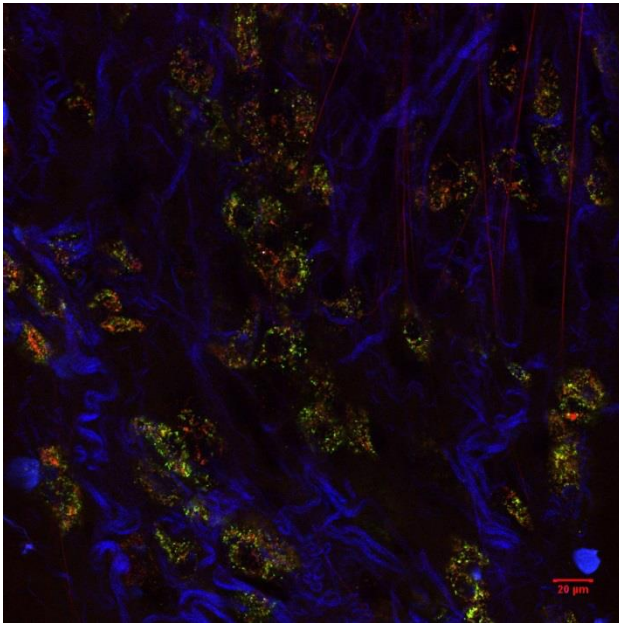
## *In vitro* investigations – Cells uptake

Nanoparticles uptake after incubation with 0.6 mg/L for 1 hour (Corresponds to 0.4 pg Gd/cell internalized)

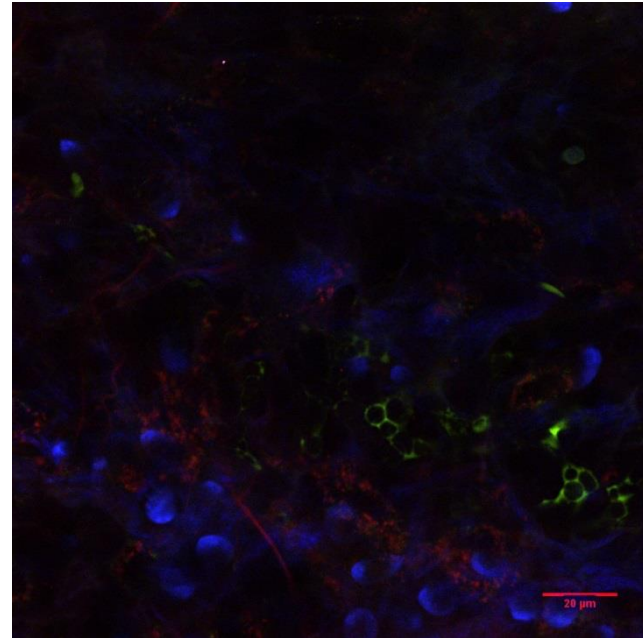


TEM images of B16-F10 cells in the control condition **(a)**, or 1 hour post incubation with 0.6 mM Gd **(b-c)**. Some aggregates are visible in close vicinity to the cell membrane **(b)** and internalized in vesicles **(c)**

3h30

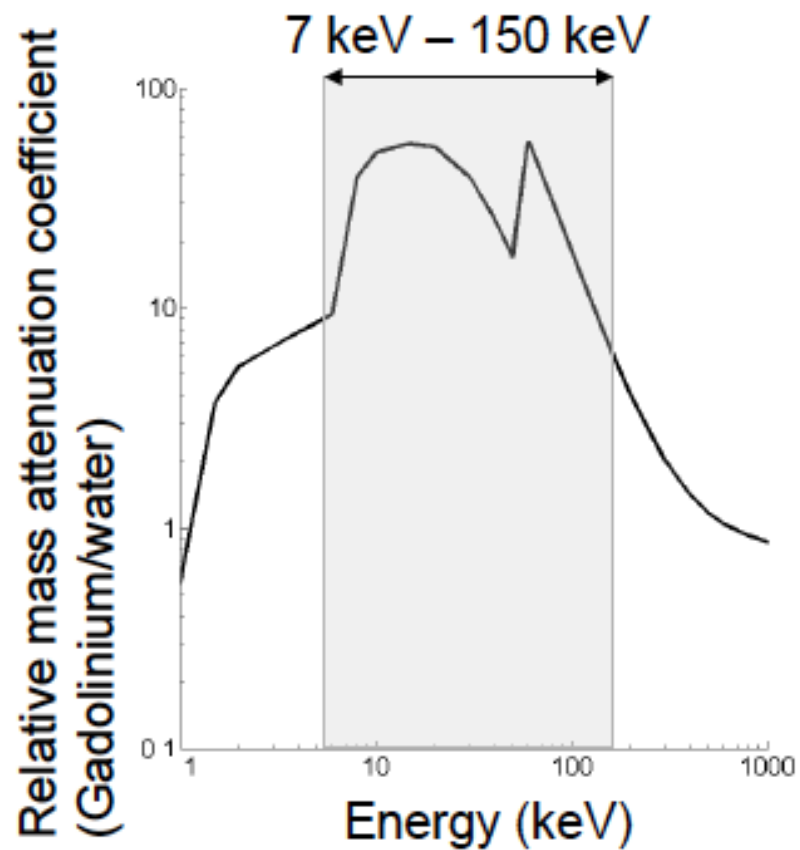
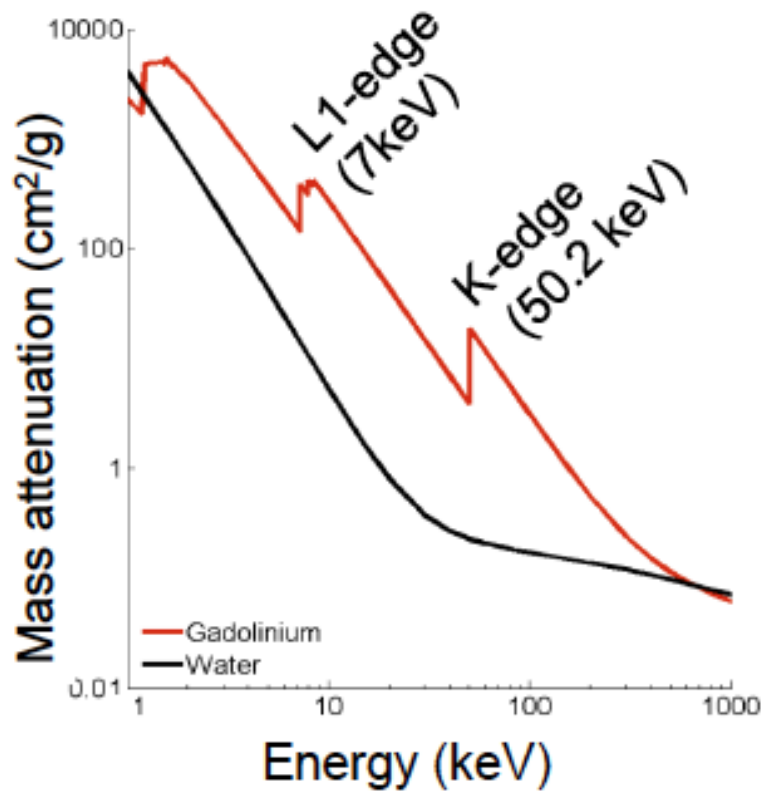


24h

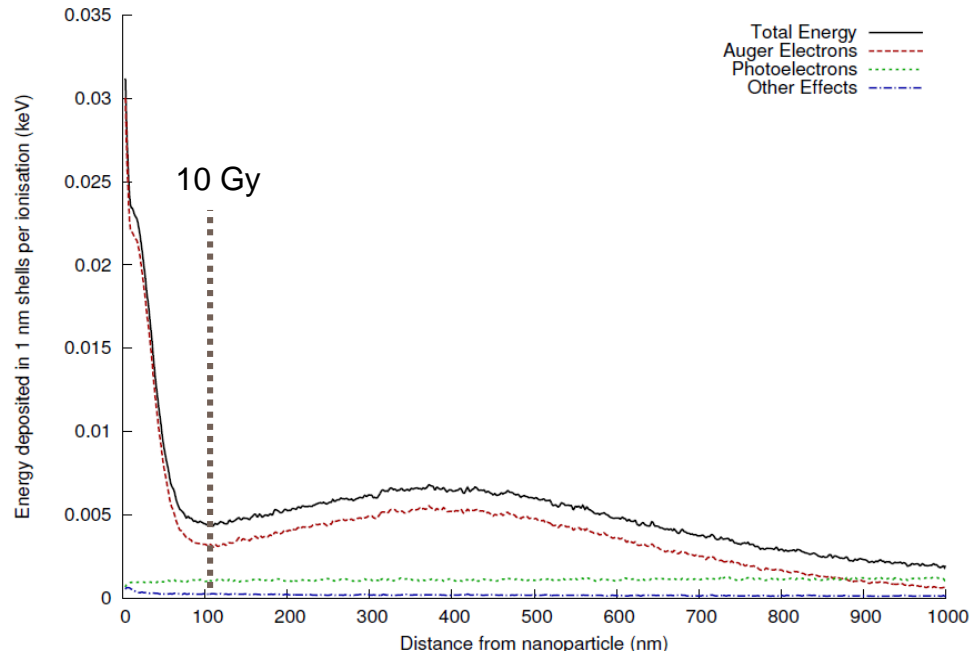


**Blue:** DAPI (DNA), **Green:** FITC-dextran (vessels), **Red:** RhoB-AGuIX®.

AGuIX are either stuck on the cell membrane, or diffused in the cytoplasm ; rather than being only on the extracellular matrix of the tumor.



# Physical effect



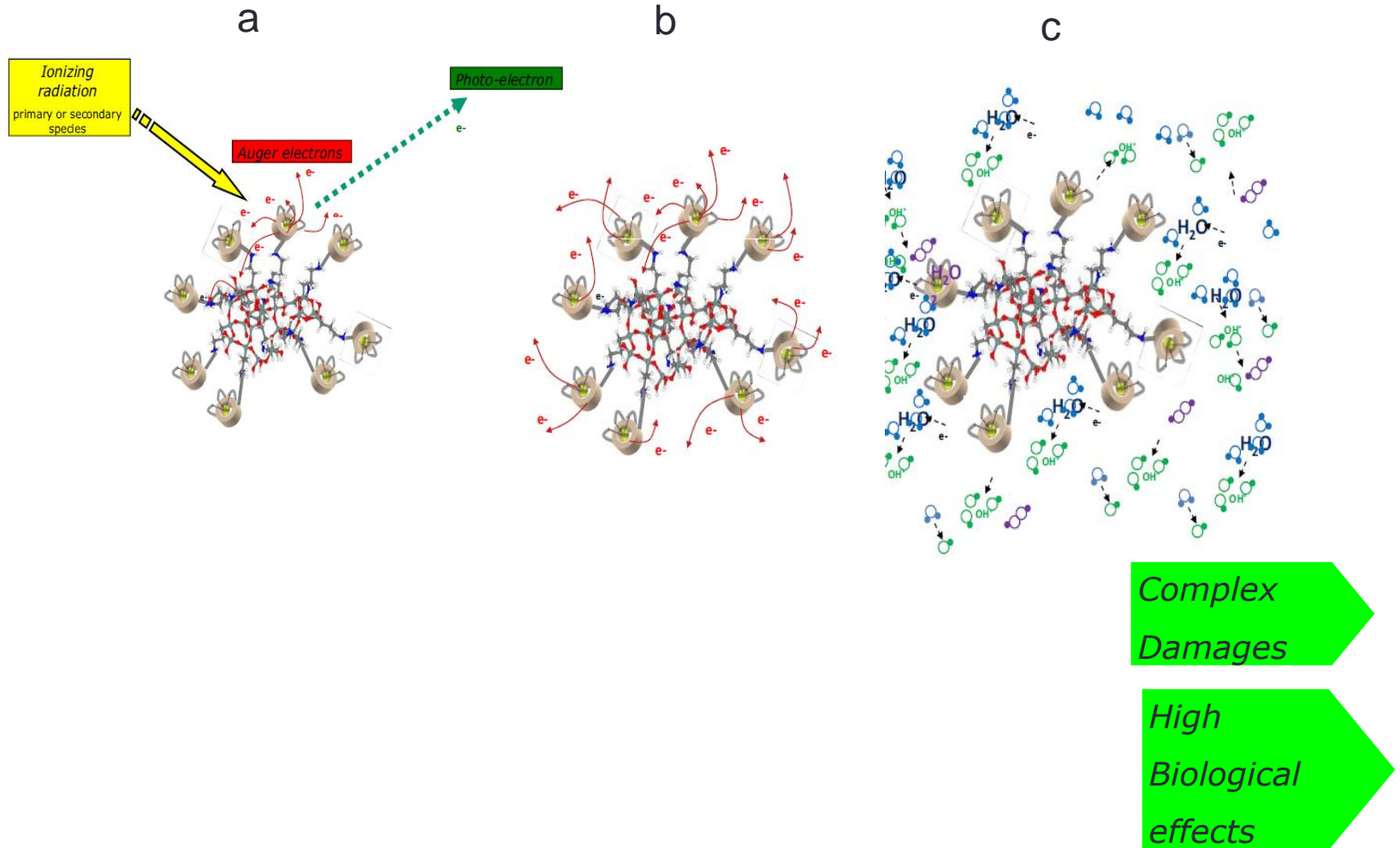
## *Nanoscale dose enhancement*

Demonstration of nanoscale effects around irradiated AGuIX gadolinium nanoparticles. Using Geant4, the average energy deposited around an AGuIX nanoparticle following single ionising event has been calculated as a function of distance from the nanoparticle.

**Stephen McMahon**

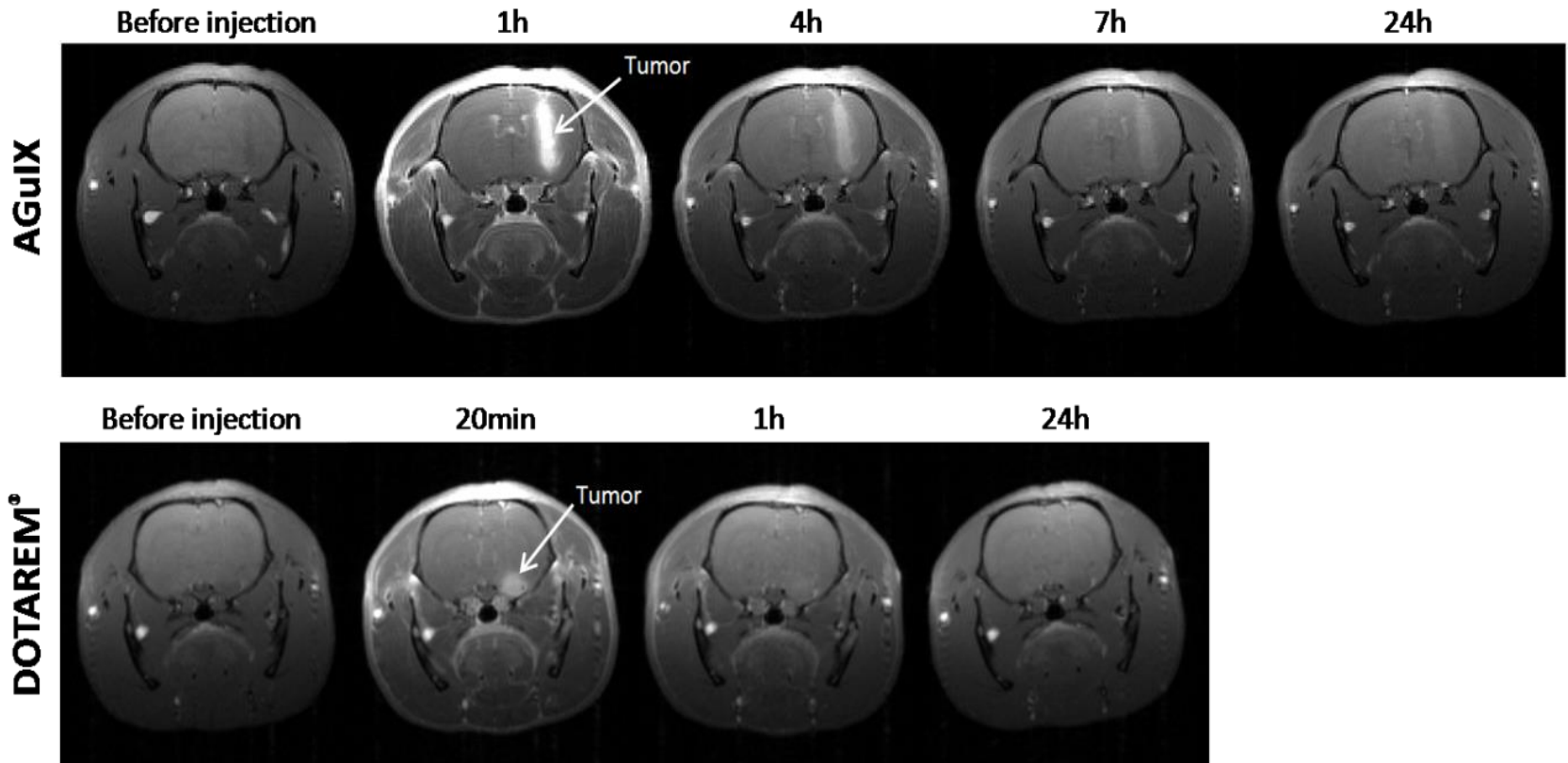
Centre of cancer research and cell biology  
Queen's university Belfast

# Physical effect

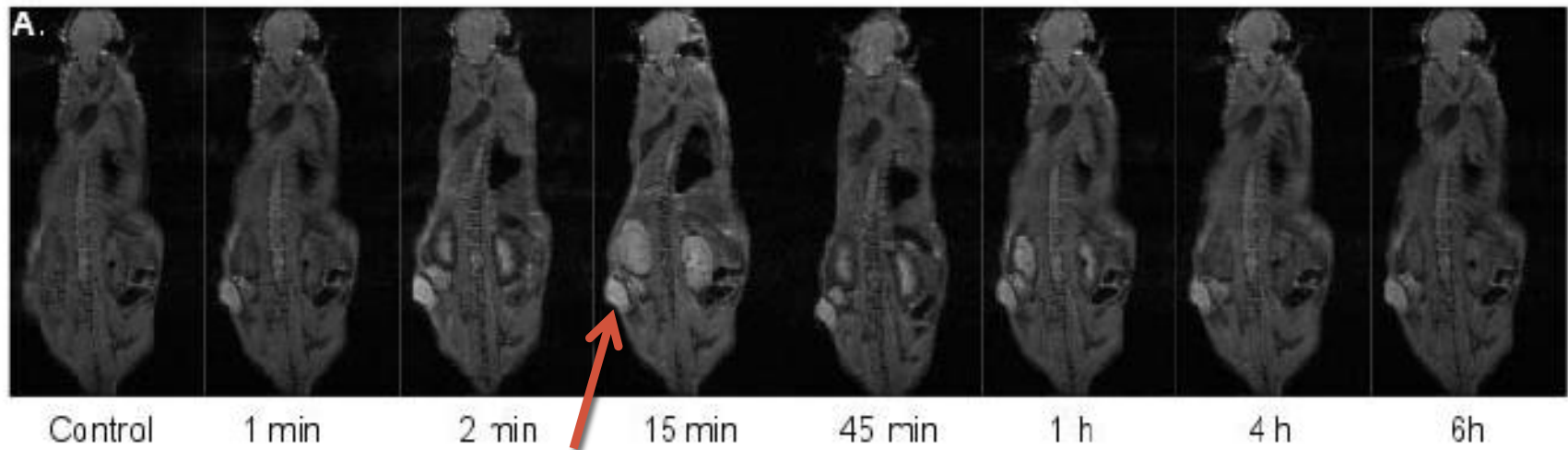




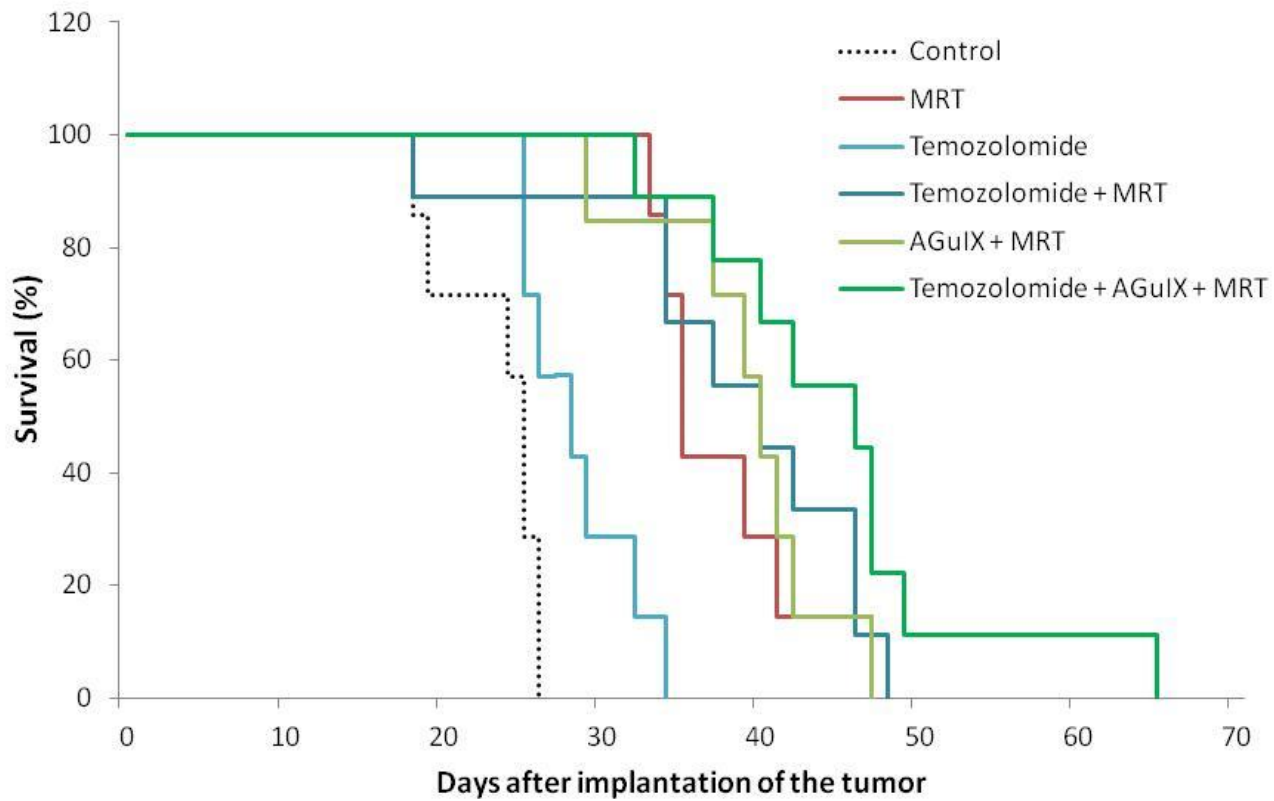
## Intracranial 9LGS tumor detection by MRI (7T)





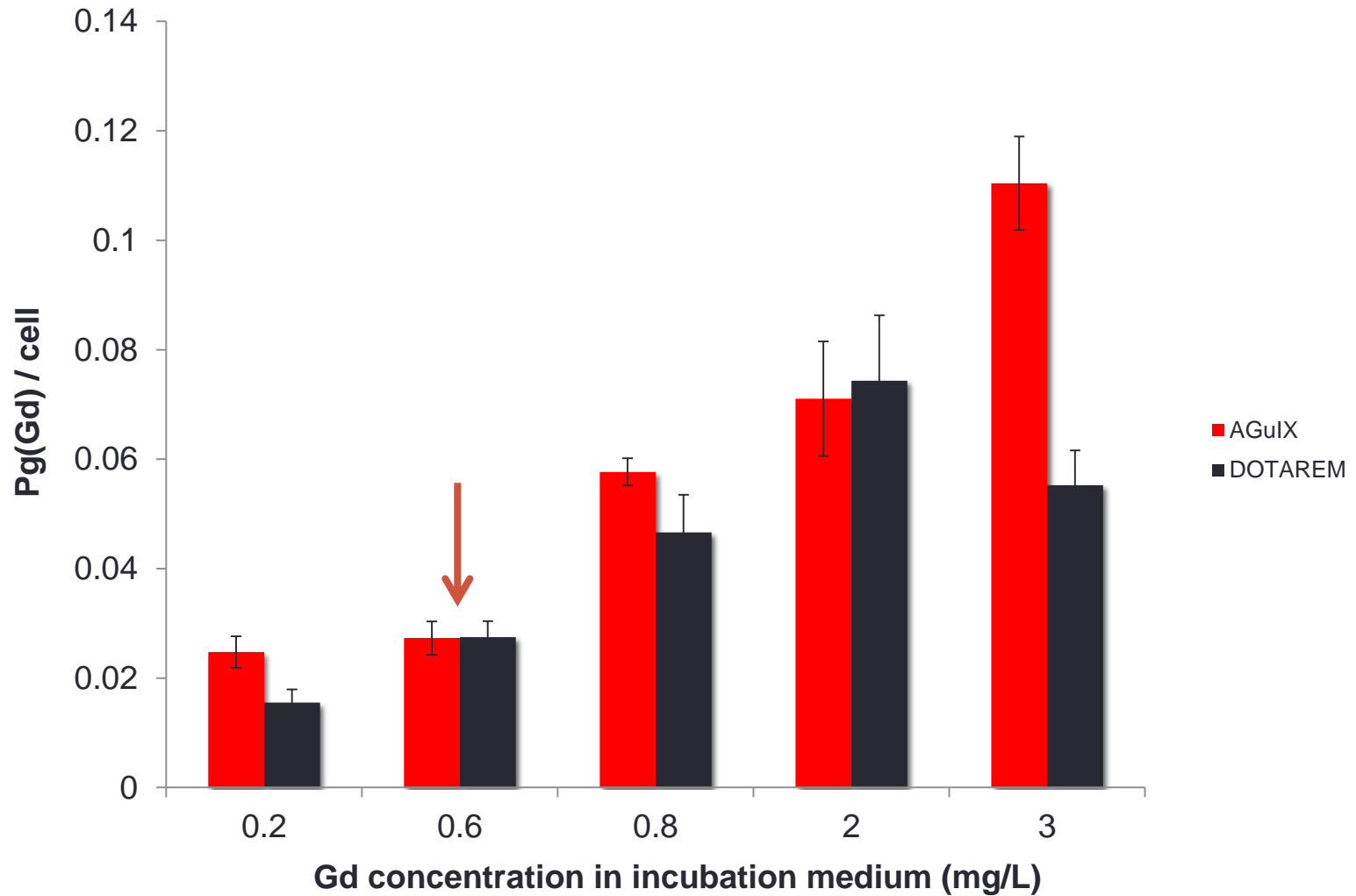


Whole body MRI T1- after IV injection of 40 mg/L of AGuIX (Pancreatic mouse model).



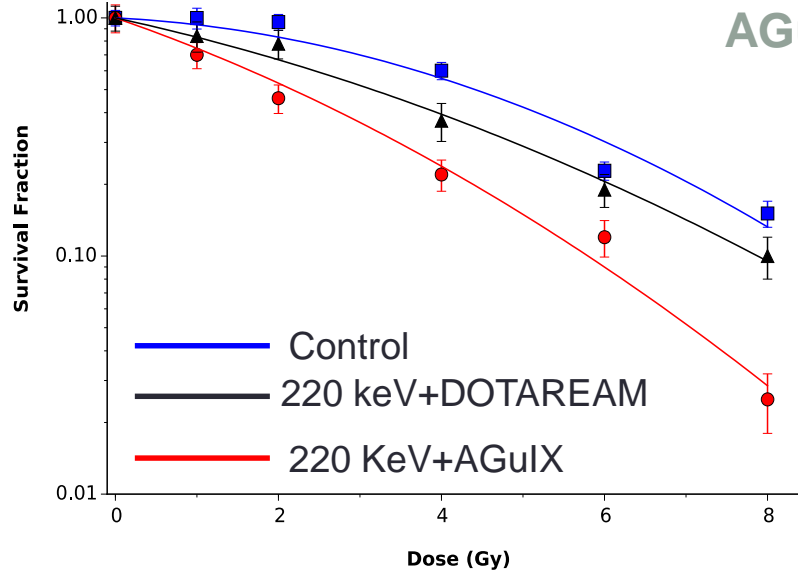
Survival of 9LGS bearing rats : Combination of MRT and temozolimide

## Gadolinium NPs vs. Molecular chelates (DOTAREM®)



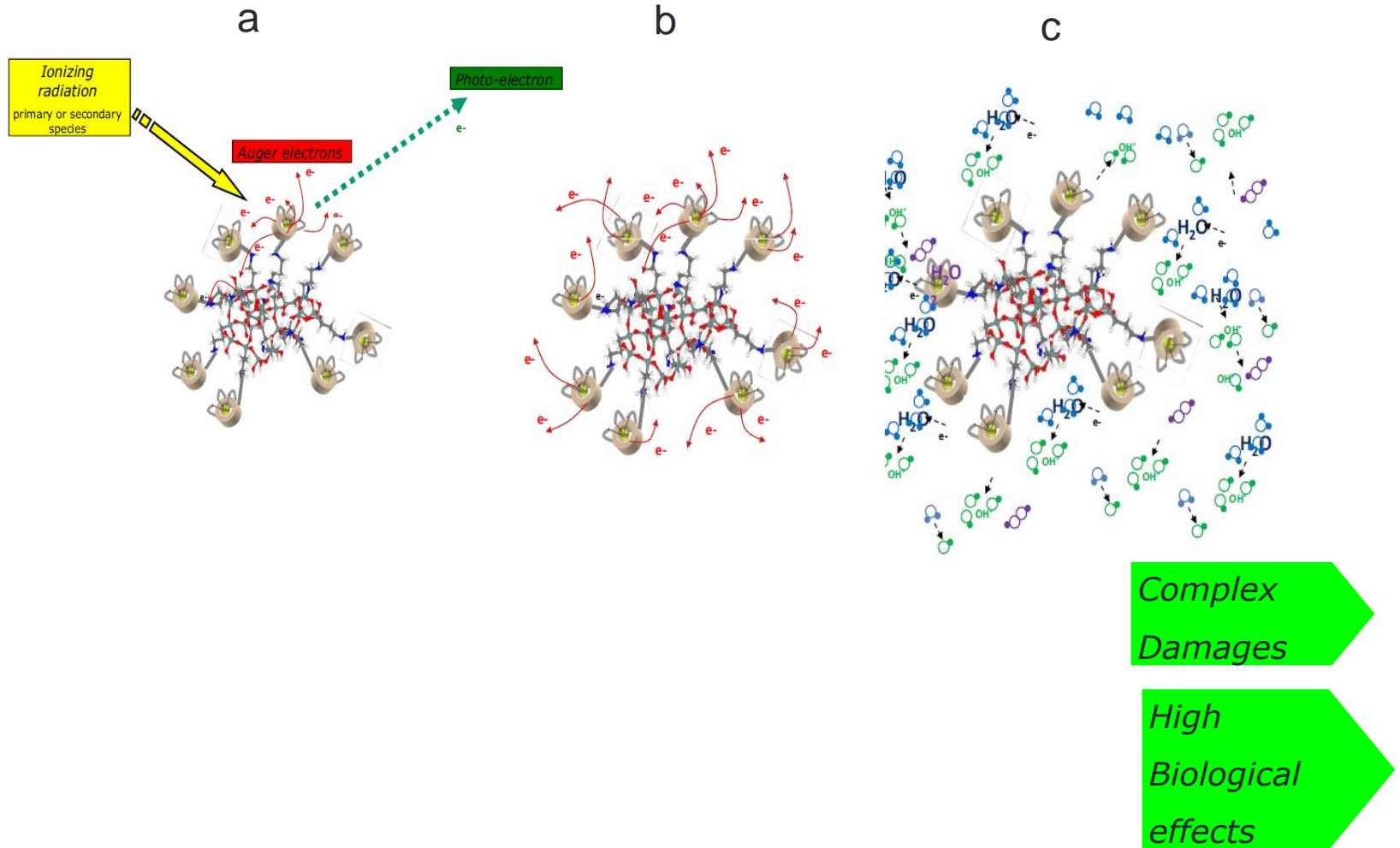
# Gadolinium NPs vs. Molecular chelates 220-keV X-ray (2 Gy/min)

ROS enhancement production factor  
AGuIX vs. DOTAREM at 0.6 mg/L is **1.23**

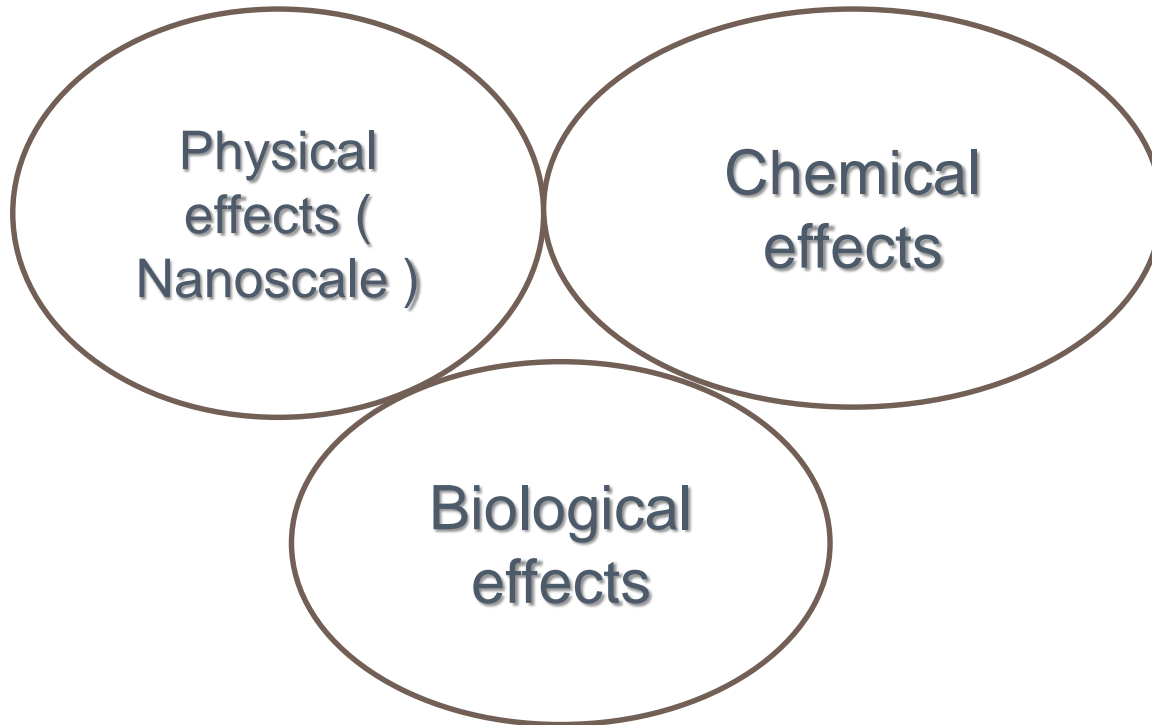


	$\alpha$ (Gy <sup>-1</sup> )	D50% Gy	SF 2 Gy	% EF 2 Gy	SER 2 Gy
Control	0.04	4.5	0.96	-	-
0.6 mg/L AGuIX	0.26	1.8	0.56	52 %	2.08
0.6 mg/L DOTAREM	0.173	3	0.78	19.6 %	1.2

# Physical effect



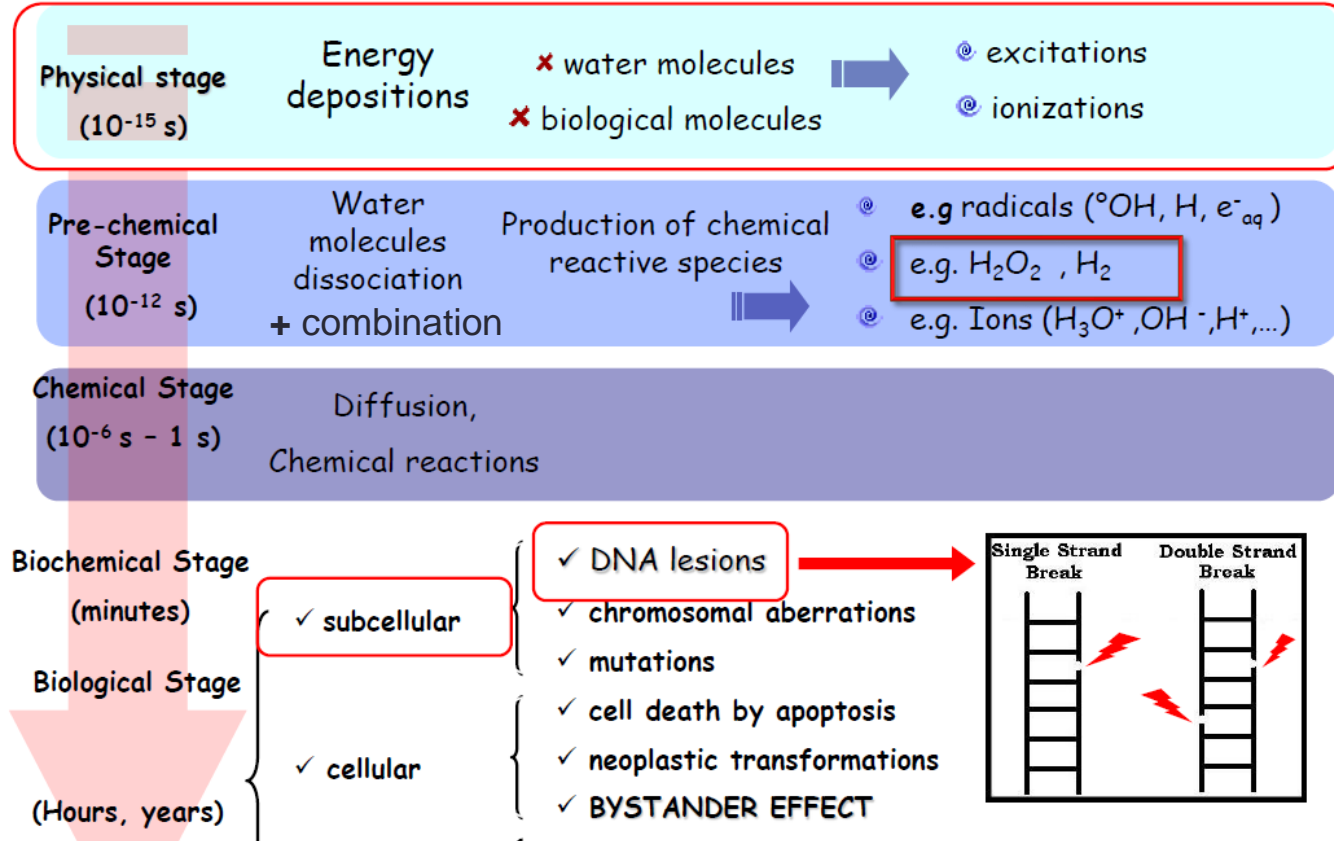
## Radiosensitization effect



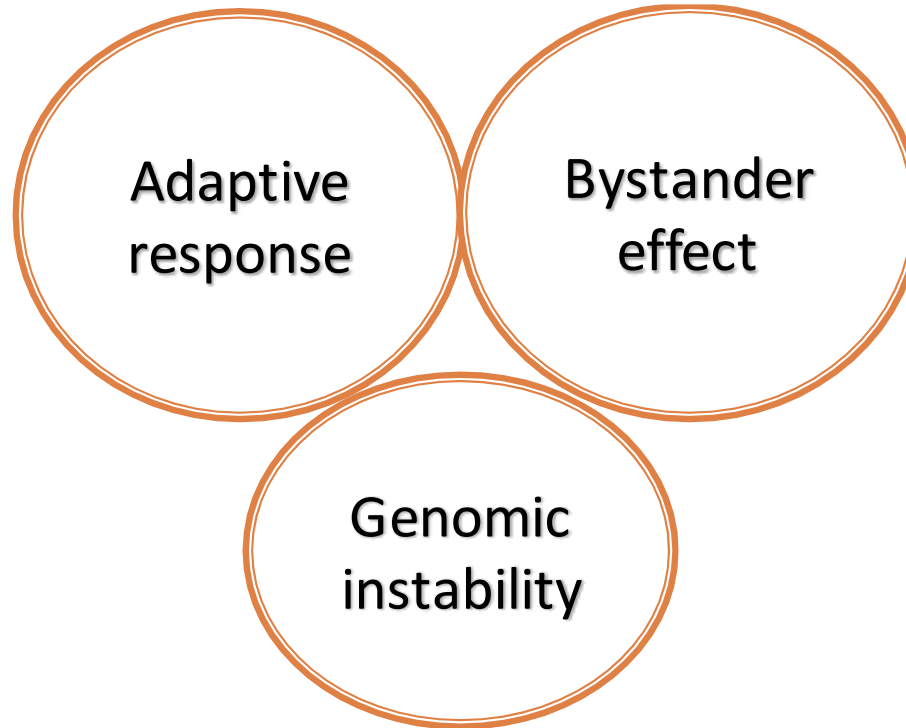
# Chemical effect and biological effect

## Time evolution of radiation-induced biological damage

IRRADIATION



# Radiation-induced non targeted effects





# Bystander effect: Possible signals

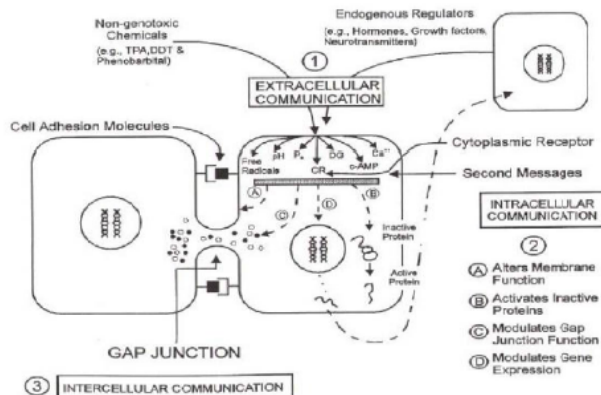
via Gap Junctions

- $\text{Ca}^{++}$
- c-AMP (cyclic-AMP)
- Antioxidants (thiols)
- (long-lived) organic radicals
- Nitric Oxide
- .....

via Extracellular Environment

- Cytokines, e.g.:
  - IL-6, IL-8, IL-10 (Interleukin-6, 8, 10)
  - $\text{TNF}\alpha$  (Tumor Necrosis Factor-  $\alpha$ )
  - $\text{TGF}\beta$  (Tumor Growth Factor-  $\beta$ )
- Lipid peroxidation products
- .....

→ ROS (Reactive oxygen species:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{O}_2$ , etc.)



Microenvironment and cell communication have been studied by biologists since long time ago, but they have been extensively considered in radiobiology only after bystander-effect observations!

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**A mathematical framework for separating the direct and bystander components of cellular radiation response**MARTIN A. EBERT<sup>1,2</sup>, NATALKA SUCHOWERSKA<sup>3,4</sup>, MICHAEL A. JACKSON<sup>3</sup>  
& DAVID R. MCKENZIE<sup>4</sup><sup>1</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Western Australia, Australia, <sup>2</sup>School of Physics, University of Western Australia, Western Australia, Australia, <sup>3</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, New South Wales, Australia and <sup>4</sup>School of Physics, University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia**Abstract**

A mathematical model for fractional tumor cell survival was developed incorporating components of cell killing due to direct radiation interactions and bystander signals resulting from non-local dose deposition. *Material and methods.* Three possible mechanisms for signal production were tested by fitting predictions to available experimental results for tumor cells (non-small cell lung cancer NCI-H460 and melanoma MM576) exposed to gradient x-ray fields. The parameter fitting allowed estimation of the contribution of bystander signaling to cell death (20–50% for all models). Separation of the two components of cell killing allowed determination of the  $a$  and  $\beta$  parameters of the linear-quadratic model both with and without the presence of bystander signaling. *Results and discussion.* For both cell lines, cell death from bystander signaling and direct radiation interactions were comparable. For NCI-H460 cells, the values for  $a$  and  $\beta$  were  $0.18 \text{ Gy}^{-1}$  and  $0.10 \text{ Gy}^{-2}$  respectively when direct and bystander effects were combined, and  $0.053 \text{ Gy}^{-1}$  and  $0.061 \text{ Gy}^{-2}$  respectively when the signaling component was removed. For MM576, the corresponding respective values were  $0.09 \text{ Gy}^{-1}$  and  $0.011 \text{ Gy}^{-2}$  for the combined response, and  $0.014 \text{ Gy}^{-1}$  and  $0.002 \text{ Gy}^{-2}$  for the isolated direct radiation response. The bystander component in cell death was found to be significant and should not be ignored. Further experimental evidence is required to determine how these results translate to the *in vivo* situation where tumor control probability (TCP) models that currently assume cellular independence may need to be revised.

	$\alpha(\text{Gy}^{-1})$	%Cell death
Direct	0.014	16
Bystander	0.076	84

## Design of repeated toxicity study in Monkeys

**Table 1.** *Design of the repeated toxicity study of AGuIX in Cynomolgus Monkeys.*

Group	Dose level (mg/kg/adm)	Dose volume (mL/kg/adm)	Dose concentration (mg/mL)	Number of animals	
				Males	Females
1. Control	0	2.5	0	3	3
2. Low dose	<b>150</b>	2.5	<b>60</b>	3	3
3. Intermediate dose	<b>300</b>	2.5	<b>120</b>	3	3
4. High dose	<b>450</b>	2.5	<b>180</b>	3	3

Dose administrated once/week for two weeks. Monkeys were sacrificed two weeks post last injection. No any side effects observed at the above mentioned dose. The NOEL is 450 mg/kg.

# Human equivalent dose

## Formula for Dose Translation Based on BSA

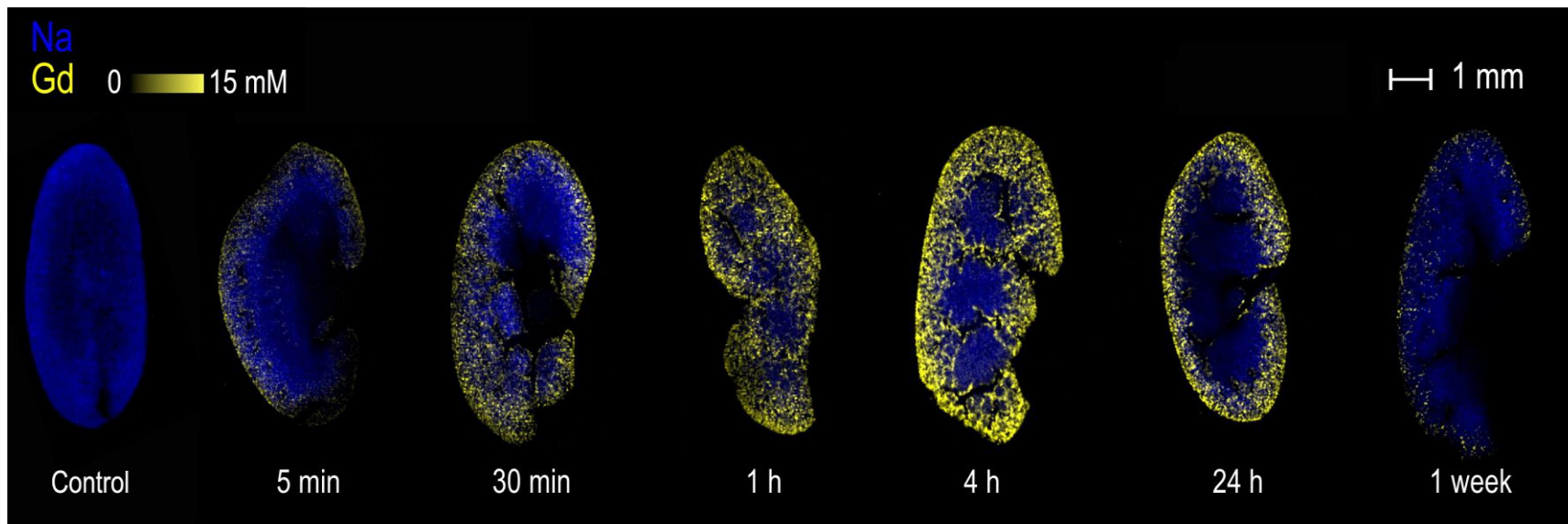
$$\text{HED (mg/kg)} = \text{Animal dose (mg/kg)} \text{ multiplied by } \frac{\text{Animal } K_m}{\text{Human } K_m}$$

TABLE 1. Conversion of animal doses to HED based on BSA

Species	Weight (kg)	BSA (m <sup>2</sup> )	K <sub>m</sub> factor
Human			
Adult	60	1.6	37
Child	20	0.8	25
Baboon	12	0.6	20
Dog	10	0.5	20
Monkey	3	0.24	12
Rabbit	1.8	0.15	12
Guinea pig	0.4	0.05	8
Rat	0.15	0.025	6
Hamster	0.08	0.02	5
Mouse	0.02	0.007	3

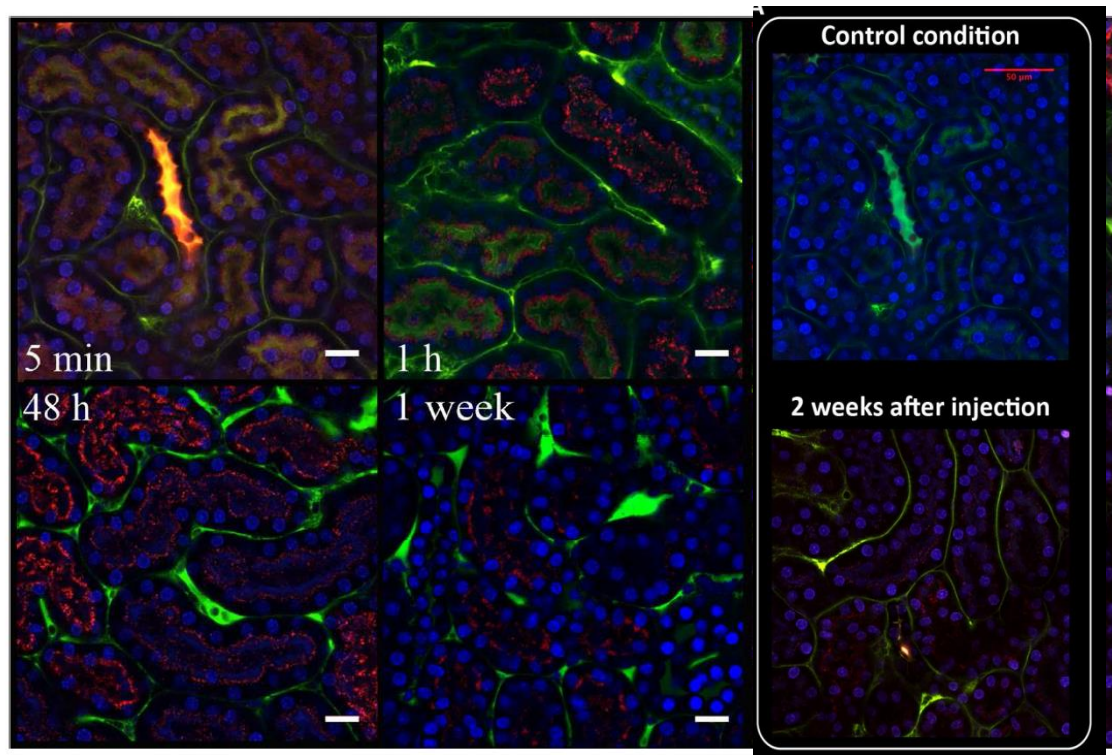
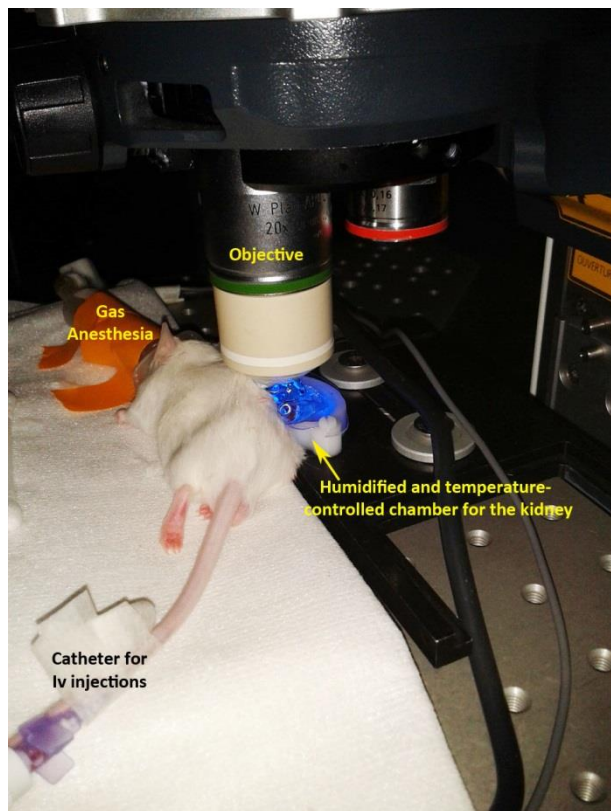
To convert dose in mg/kg to dose in mg/m<sup>2</sup> .

# Laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy



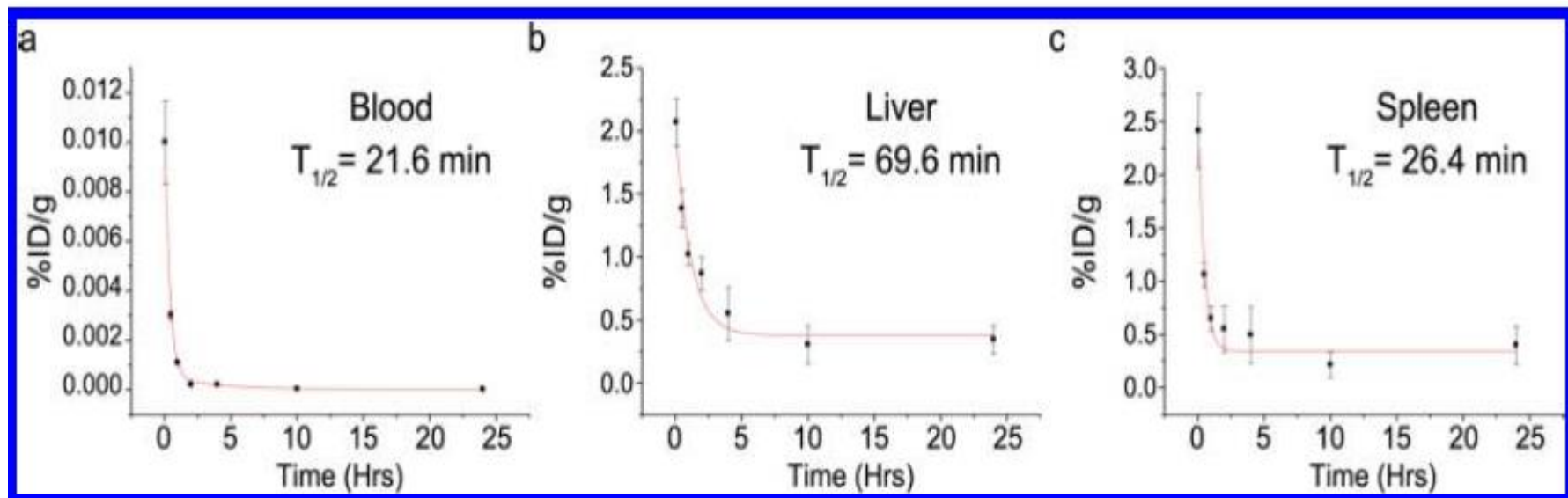


# Intravital two photon microscopy



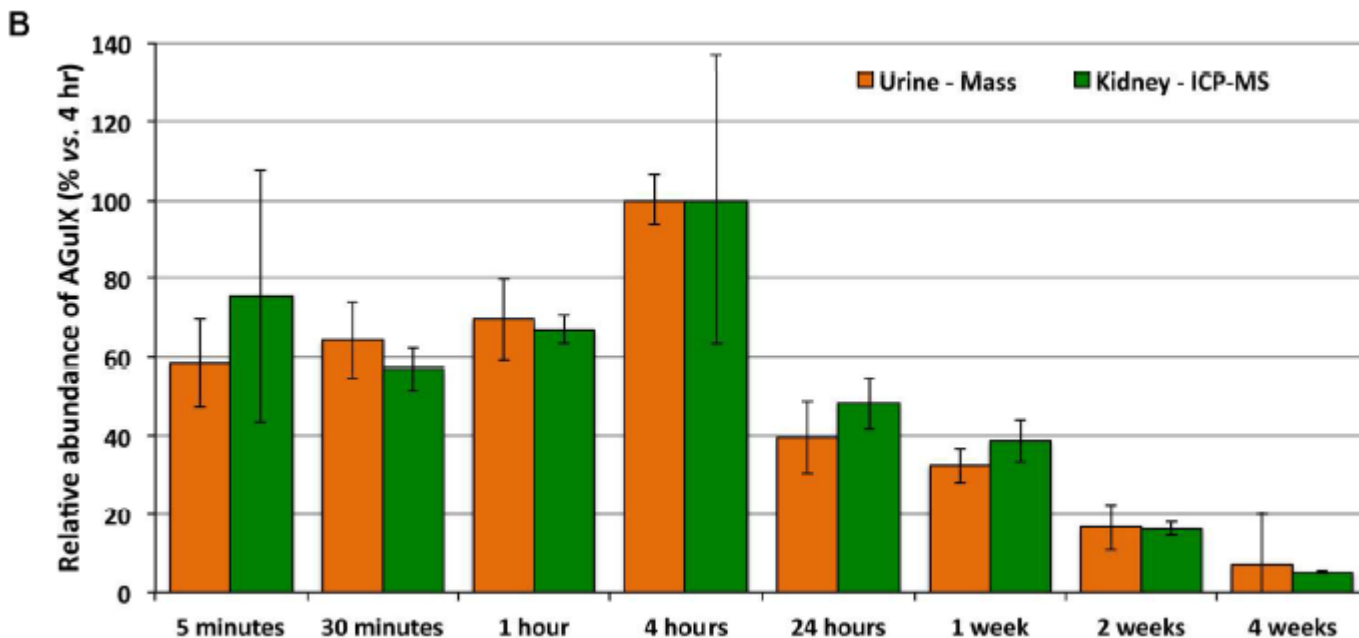
**Blue:** DAPI (DNA), **-Green:** FITC-dextran (vessels), **-Red:** Rho B-AGuIX<sup>®</sup>. The AGuIX<sup>®</sup> reach the kidney within few minutes, with a maximum of intensity between 4-24hrs.

## Retention in reticuloendothelial system (RES) and blood



The nanoparticle's half-life time was determined in blood, liver, and spleen as a function of time elapsed since administration of 8  $\mu$ moles by ICP-AES.

# Relative quantity detected in urine and kidney



Comparison of the relative quantities of AGuIX measured in the urine and in the kidney by MS and ICP-MS respectively.



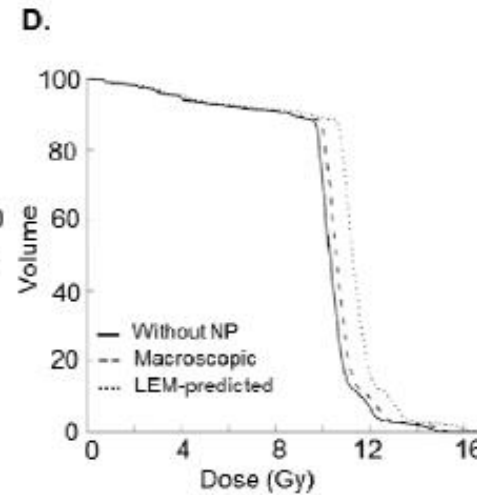
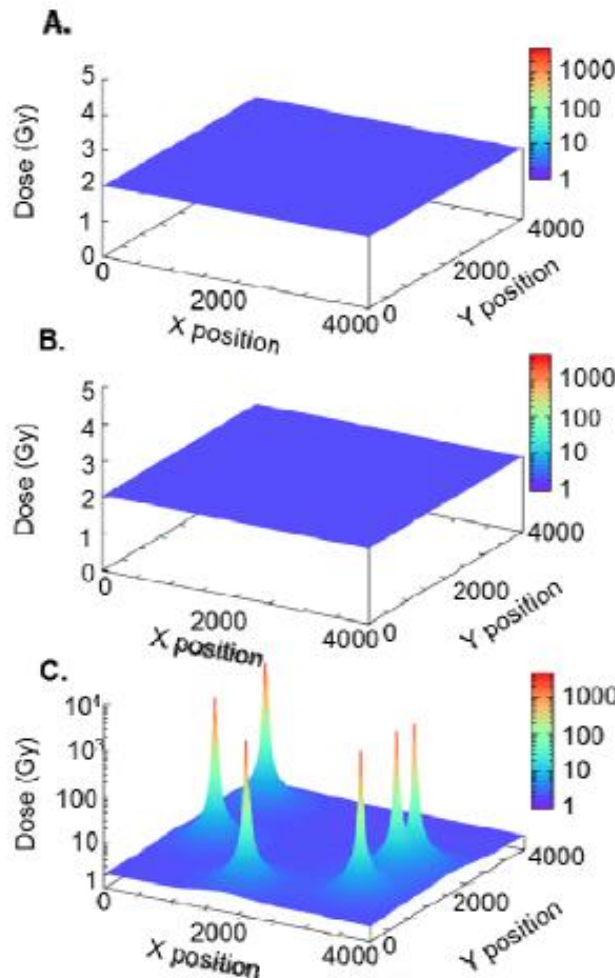
# Nanoscale dosimetric effect in GdNP therapy

A. Detappe et al. submitted

Uniform exposure  
to Dose 2 Gy  
within a 5  $\mu\text{m}$   
cube

Dose enhancement  
2.7% (Macroscopic  
dose model)

Dose enhancement  
delivered  
heterogeneously due  
to presence of GdNPs  
(total increase in the  
dose is the same, LEM  
model)



DVH according to  
Macroscopic model and  
LEM model

Due to the relatively low density of Gd in the tumor, physically driven enhancement is limited- **2.7 % physical dose enhancement** and **9.8 % predicted by LEM**, both too small to explain the observed biological effect.