



The use of radiobiological TCP and NTCP models to validate the dose calculation algorithm and readjust the prescribed dose

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Purpose: radio-biological indices for dosimetric system assessment

- In radiotherapy the Tumor Control Probability (**TCP**) and Normal Tissues Complication Probability (**NTCP**) are directly **correlated to the delivered doses**.
- The truly delivered dose is *expected* to be as close as possible to the **prescribed dose (PD)**.
- Practically, to perform the irradiation, the prescribed dose is translated in **Monitor Units (MU)** by a specific **calculation algorithm** in the TPS.
- However, this algorithm is **changing** from time to time, to improve.
- When the cumulated **clinical experience** for a radiotherapy technique, in one or several departments, is known as **TCP/NTCP statistics**, TCP/NTCP models can be used to assess new dose calculation algorithms and probe the need for an adjustment of the PD and the TCP/NTCP parameters **to keep reproducible clinical results**.

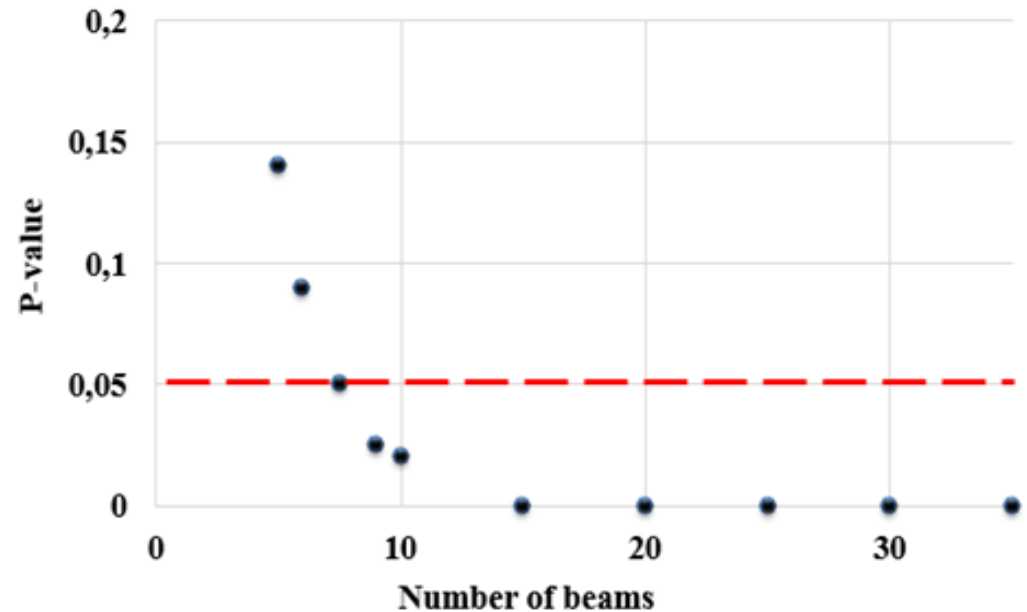
- **This study was applied to thoracic cancer (heterogeneity)**
- **For each case, 3 treatment plans were generated:**
 - The dose in Plan 1 was calculated with MB
 - The dose in Plan 2 was calculated with AAA
 - The dose in Plan 3 was calculated with AAA using the same MU from MB in plan 1 as input
- **Plan 3 calculate the “real” delivered dose with MB and was used to estimate if the prescribed dose should be readjusted when using AAA.**

- **Dose Volume Histograms (DVHs) data**
 - **Target** : Dmin, Dmean and Dmax, D95%
 - **Lung**: Dmin, Dmean, Dmax, V20 and V30Gy
- **Topographic global dosimetric comparison by 2D Gamma index (γ) [2]**
 - ΔD_{\max} : dose difference (%))
 - Δd_{\max} : Distance To Agreement (mm)
- **Statistical analysis**
 - **Bootstrap extension of data to define CI of the differences**
 - **Wilcoxon signed rank test:**
 - *p-value* < 5% : statistic significance
 - **Spearman's correlation coefficient :**
 - *r - value* > 0.7 : good correlation

- **TCP and NTCP were calculated using Uniform Equivalent Dose (EUD) model [3]**
 - $TCP = 1/1 + [TCD_{50}/EUD]^{4 \cdot \gamma_{50}}$
 - $NTCP = 1/1 + [TD_{50}/EUD]^{4 \cdot \gamma_{50}}$
 - $EUD = (\sum v_i D_i^a)^{1/a}$
 - v_i is the fractional organ volume receiving a dose D_i and “a” is a tissue specific parameter which describes the volume effect
 - TCD50: the tumor dose to control 50% of the tumors
 - The TD50 is the tolerance dose for 50% complication rate
 - γ_{50} describes the slope of the dose-response curve
- **The set of radiobiological parameters:**
 - TCP for target : $a = -10$, $\alpha/\beta = 10$, $TCD_{50} = 51.97$ and $\gamma_{50} = 1.81$ [3,4]
 - NTCP for lung : $a = +1$, $\alpha/\beta = 3$, $TD_{50} = 24.5$ [5]

MU comparison for the same PD (plan 1 vs plan 2)

- **Thanks to Bootstrap estimation** 8 beams would have been sufficient to observe a significant difference between the two algorithms.

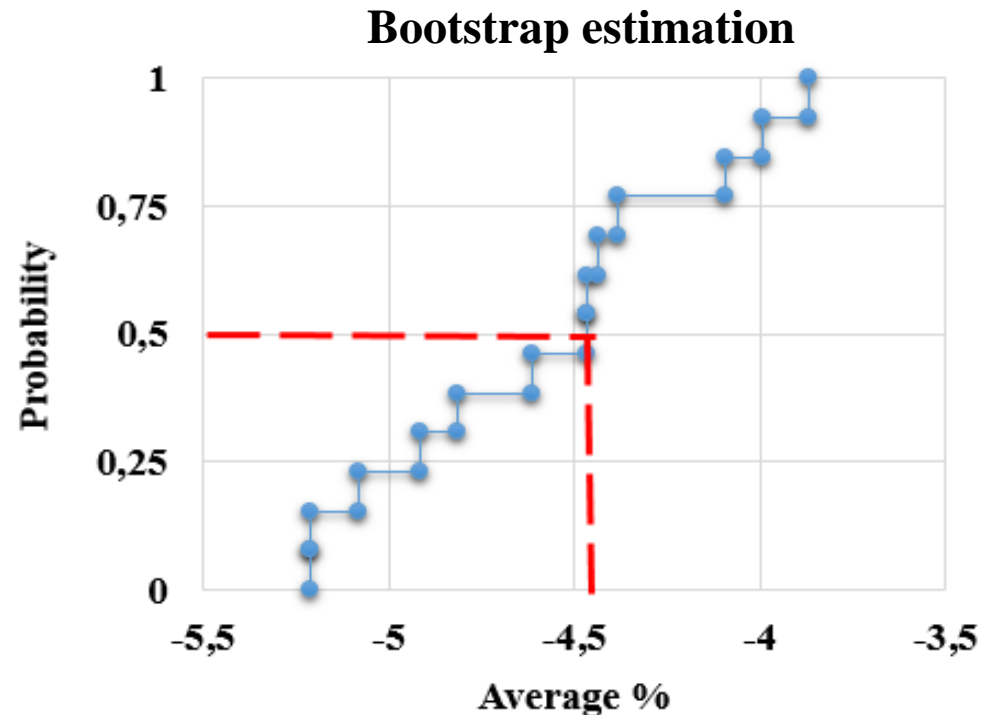


- **AAA** calculates an average of **4.7%** more MUs **CI [+3.9; +5.5]** with $p < 0.001$ and $r > 0.9$

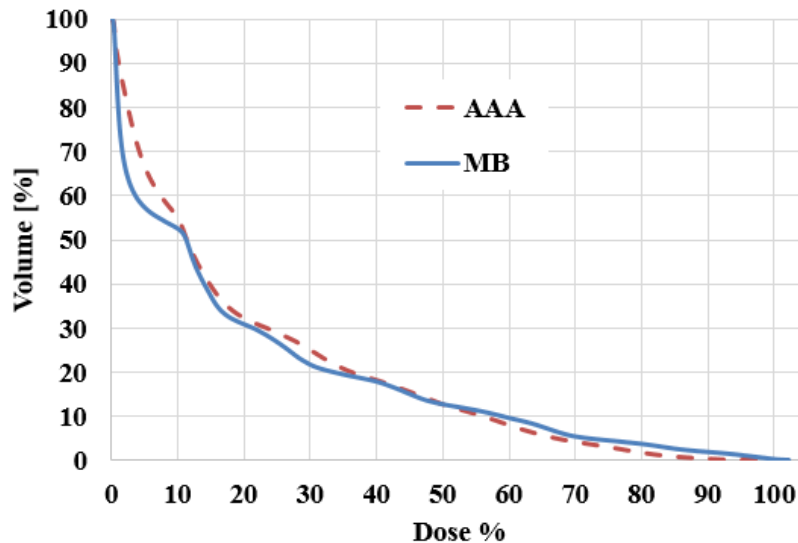
Change of “real” delivered dose (plan 2 vs plan 3)

- Comparing plans 2 and 3, shows that the “real” delivered doses when the PD is calculated with MB and the MUs recalculated with AAA and compared to PD, were reduced by about - 4.5% median probability of average, CI [-5.8; -3.3]

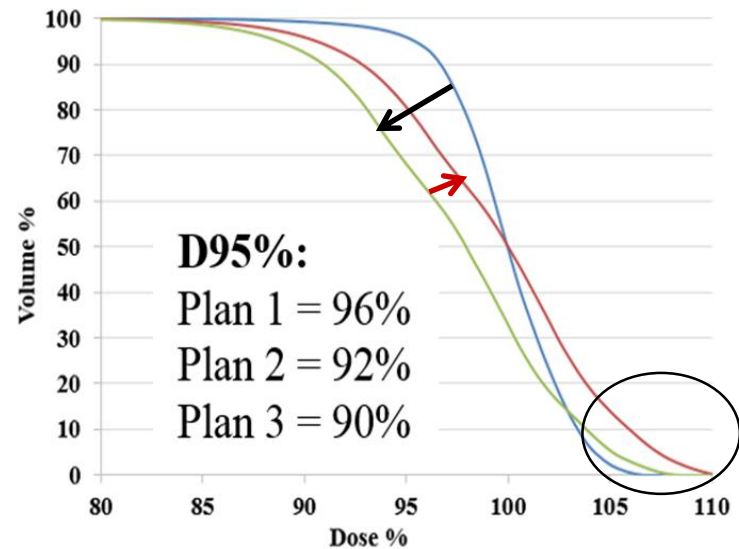
Let's say: “one should apparently prescribed 4.5% less dose with AAA to have the same physical dose delivered than when prescribed with MB”



- **PTV:** the D95% in plans 2 and 3 were significantly reduced with AAA, respectively, [-5.7; -3.4] and [-15.0 ; -10.0] 95% IC
- **Lung:** the constraint doses V20Gy, V30Gy and mean dose were significantly increased with AAA, 95% IC [4.1 ; 12.1].

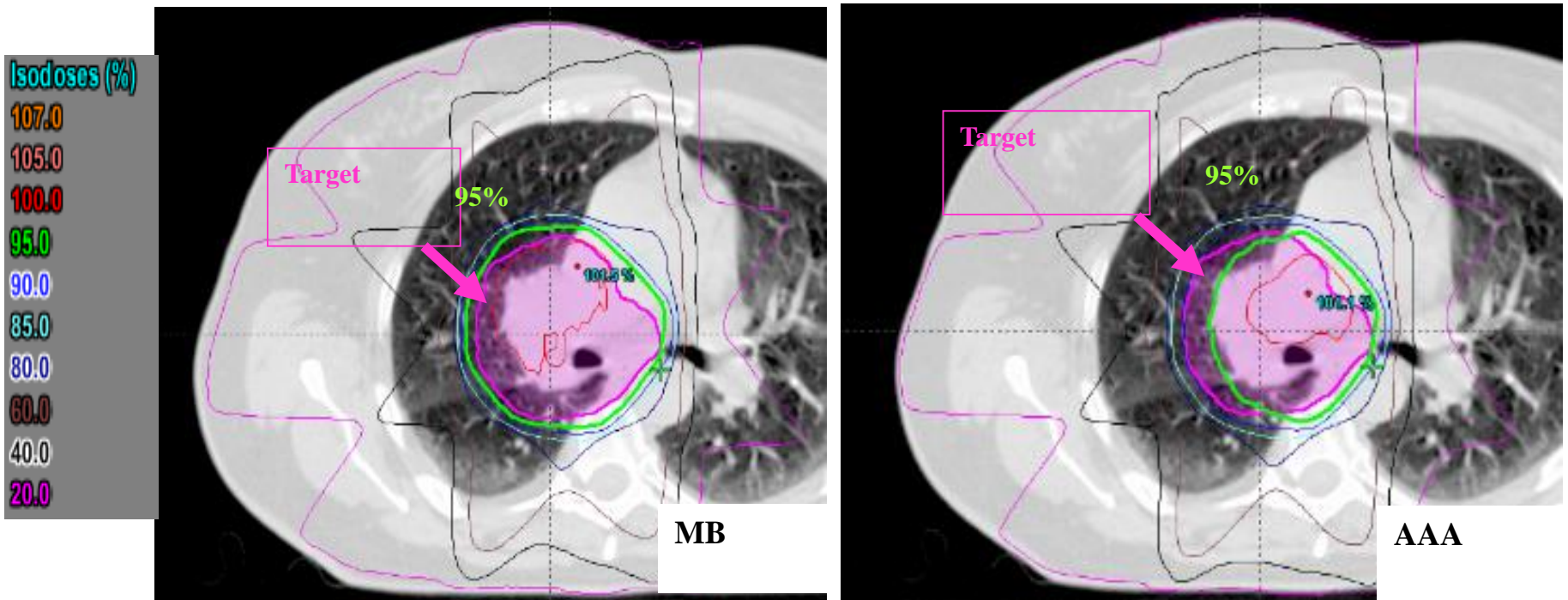


Lung



Target

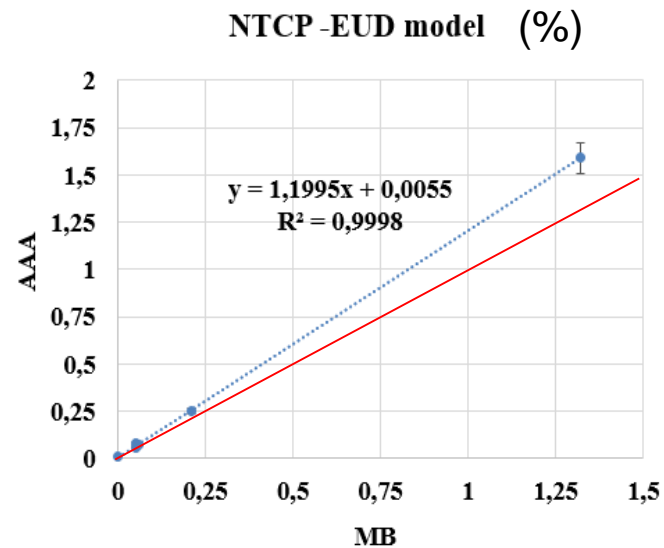
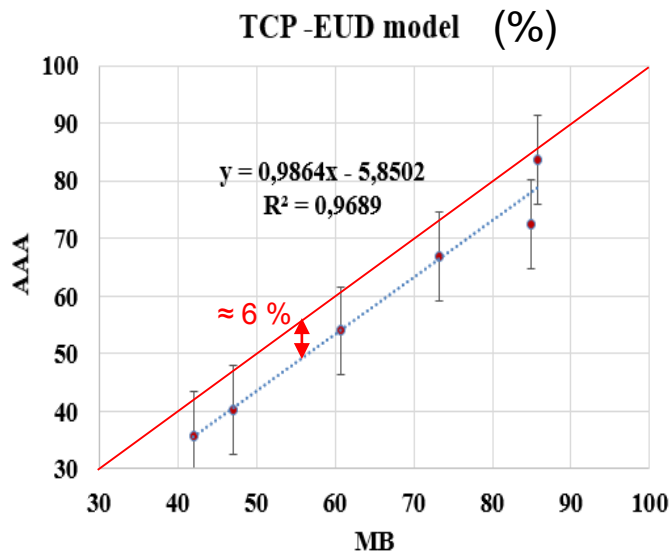
Dose distribution differences: MB vs AAA



Note the large alteration of the 95% isodose (in green)
This is clearly demonstrated by the 2D γ -maps (data not shown).

In-silico study for TCP/NTCP outcome

- **TCP / NTCP predictive outcomes based on DVH evaluation (Plan1 vs 2):**
 - AAA showed less TCP on average **-12% ± 5SD** relative value (about 6% in absolute value, see figure) with more MUs (!!)
 - AAA predicted more NTCP on average **+16% ± 11SD** (upon a very low value)
 - A significant difference was observed with ($p < 0.01$) in both cases
 - A good correlation was observed with a correlation coefficient ($r > 0.9$)



Should the dose prescription be readjusted or optimization pushed on?

- A **significant difference** for dose distribution was observed **in thoracic setting** when using AAA vs MB for the same prescribed dose
- Considering AAA is closer to physical reality, the prescribed dose could be readjusted of about -5 % [-3,3 ; -5,8] when changing from MB to AAA but the **optimization should be improved.**
- It could be inappropriate to use the same set of “clinico-radiobiologic parameters” to estimate TCP/NTCP with different dose calculation algorithms.
- Ideally, **the set of “clinico-radiobiologic parameters” should be adjusted to each calculation algorithm** based on the statistics of the real clinical out-come observed in the department of the users.

Thank-you for your attention



References

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