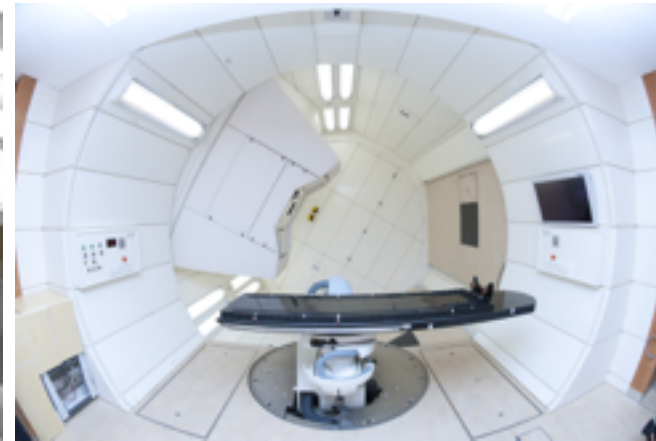




UniversitätsKlinikum Heidelberg
Jürgen Debus

indications and challenges of clinical trials in particle therapy



1946 - Robert D. Wilson publishes the concept of Proton-based therapy

Radiological Use of Fast Protons

ROBERT R. WILSON

Research Laboratory of Physics, Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

EXCEPT FOR electrons, the particles which have been accelerated to high energies by machines such as cyclotrons or Van de Graaff generators have not been directly used therapeutically. Rather, the neutrons, gamma rays, or artificial radioactivities produced in various reactions of the primary particles have been applied to medical problems. This has, in part, been due to the very short penetration in tissue of protons, deuterons, and alpha particles from present-day energy machines. However, per centimeter of path, or specific ionization, and this varies almost inversely with the energy of the proton. Thus the specific ionization or dose is many times less where the proton enters the tissue at high energy than it is in the last centimeter of the path where the ion is brought to rest. These properties make it possible to irradiate inter-ally a strictly localized region.

Radiology 47: 487-491, 1946

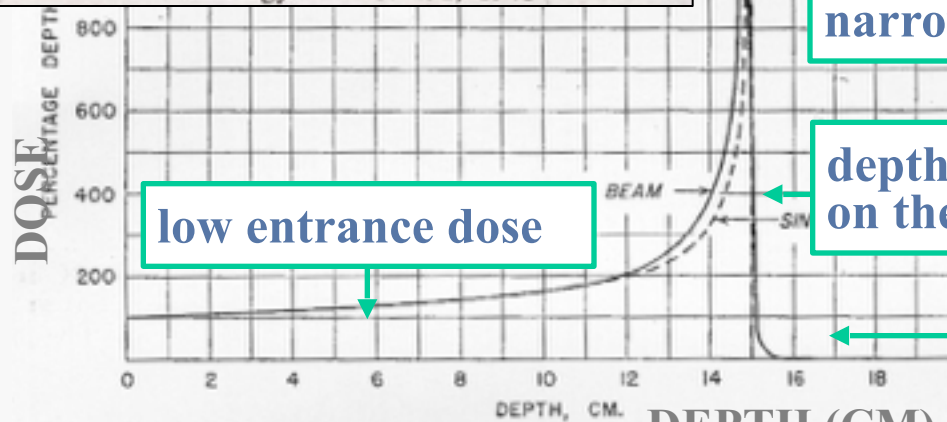
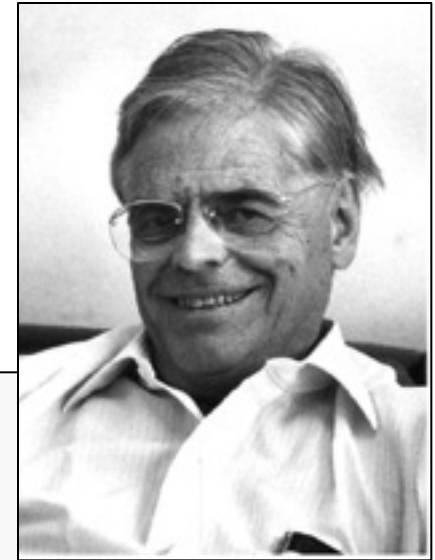


Fig. 2. The dotted curve shows the relative dose due to a single 140 Mev proton. The full curve shows qualitatively the depth dose curve for a beam of 140 Mev protons in tissue.

narrow peak (few mm)

depth of penetration depends on the proton's energy

"no" exit dose

low entrance dose



History of Protons

Radiological Use of Fast Protons in 1946

“These properties (of protons, as described before) make it possible to irradiate intensely a strictly localized region within the body, with but little skin dose.”

“One naturally asks what are the advantages of fast protons over high-energy electrons such as those from a betatron. This question can be answered only by medical workers, and the answers will probably be different for different kinds and sizes of tumors.”

Robert Wilson, 1946

27 years prior to the introduction of individually shaped blocks

First proton treatments at Harvard Cyclotron / Mass. General Hospital

HCL-MGH pioneers of proton radiation therapy



The first large field treatment with protons at the Harvard Cyclotron in **1973**, for a pediatric pelvic rhabdo-myosarcoma.

The patient died several years later from probably a marginal tumor progression or relapse

The second large field treatment, for a chondrosarcoma of the base of skull.

The patient is alive and active, though diagnosed with local relapse more than 30 years after proton radiation therapy

PARTICLE THERAPY CENTRES IN EUROPE - 2015

Protons and carbon ions

Protons



In operation

Under construction

Being planned

● Proton

▲ Proton

◆ Proton

● Dual Ion

▲ Dual Ion

◆ Dual Ion

The future role of **Proton** Radiotherapy in the framework of modern **Photon-RT**

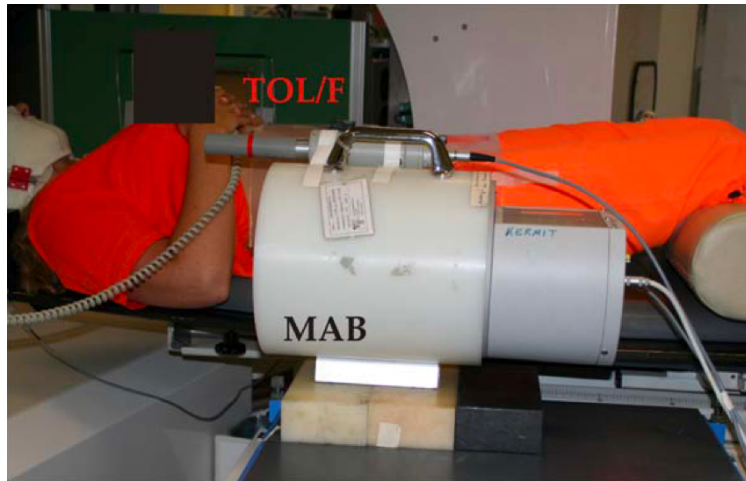
The 2 (historic) legs of Proton Radiotherapy

**High-Dose
Target
coverage**

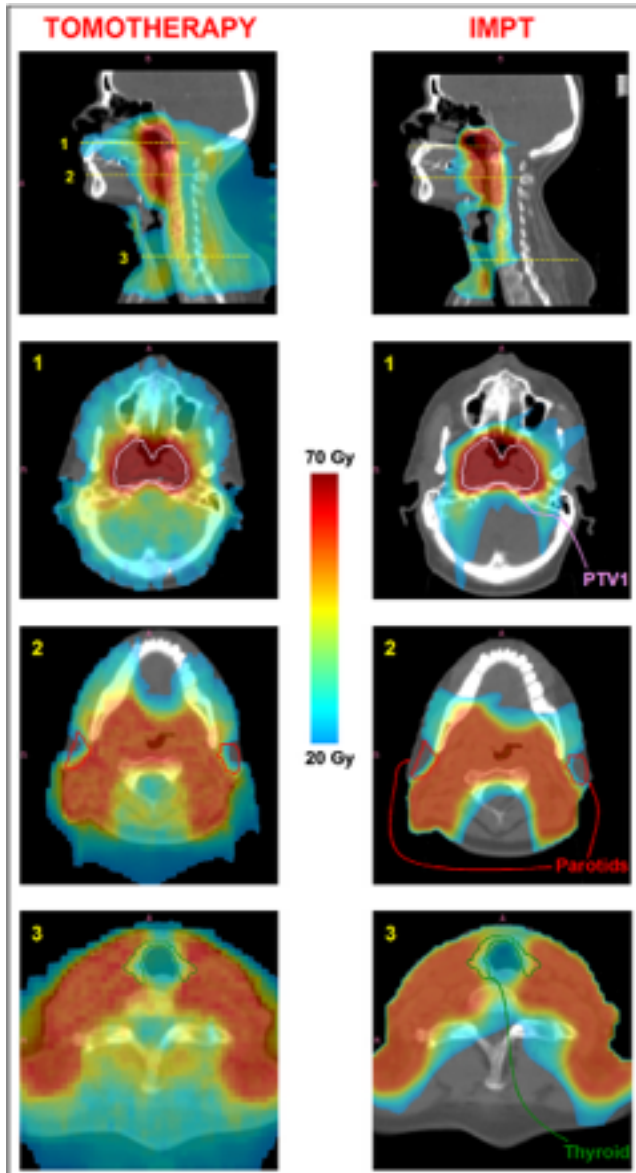


**Reduction of
low-moderate
dose volume**

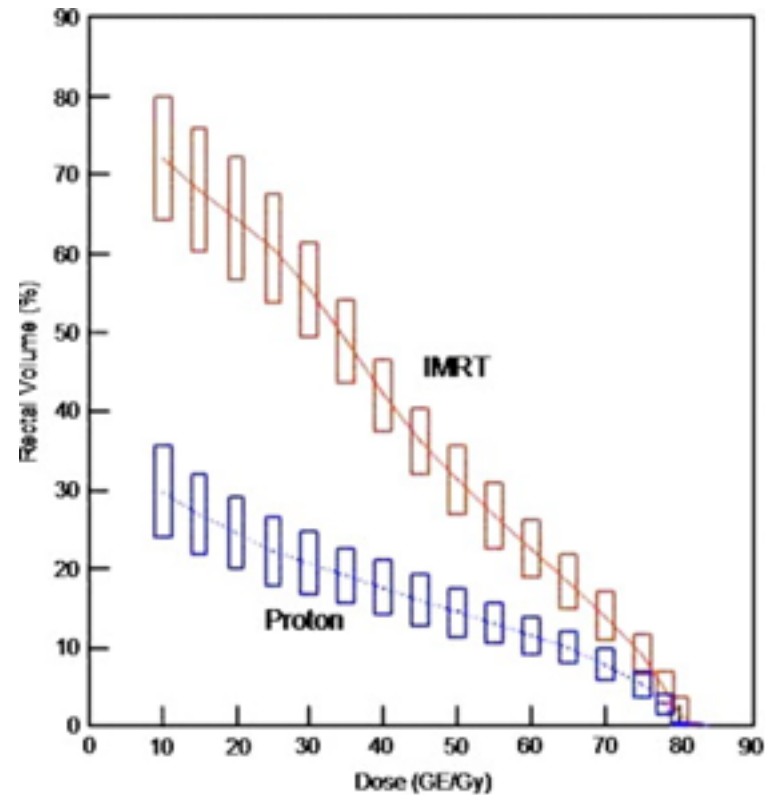
Carbon Radiotherapy In A Pregnant Patient: low scattered dose to the fetus



	photon dose ($\mu\text{Sv}/\text{fraction}$)	neutron dose ($\mu\text{Sv}/\text{fraction}$)	Number of fractions	Total dose (μSv)
Normal field	3.0 *	1.4	15	66
Boost field	2.2 **	1.0	5	16
Total treatment			20	82



L. WIDESOTT, M. SCHWARZ.
IJROBP 72(2):589, Oct. 2008



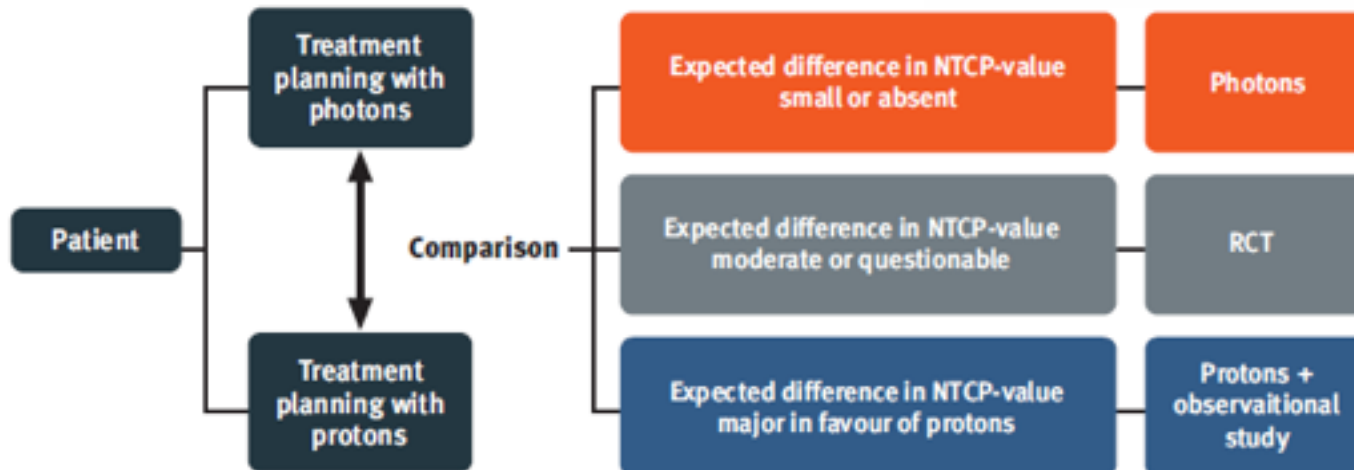
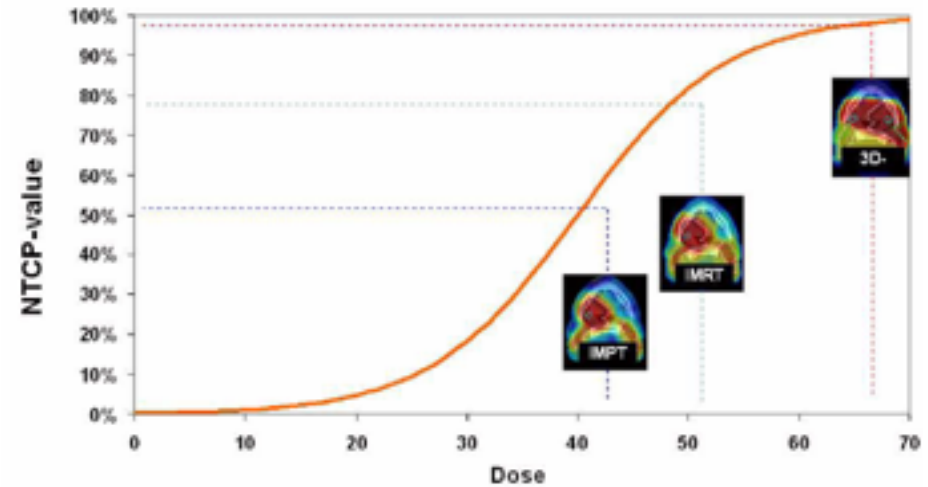
Combined rectal dose–volume curves for proton therapy and intensity-modulated radiotherapy (IMRT) ($n = 20$ plans)

Volume Comparison of Proton Therapy and Intensity-Modulated Radiotherapy for Prostate Cancer

Vargas et al, IJROBP 2008, 70(3):744

Protocol Strategies: Comparative Photon / Proton planning

EU-ALLEGRO
Consortium





NCI: Indices of clinical relevance

Strength of endpoint	Overall mortality			High	
	Cause-specific mortality				
	Quality of life				
	Indirect surrogates	Low			
		Best case series	Case series	Non-randomized	Randomized
		Levels of evidence			

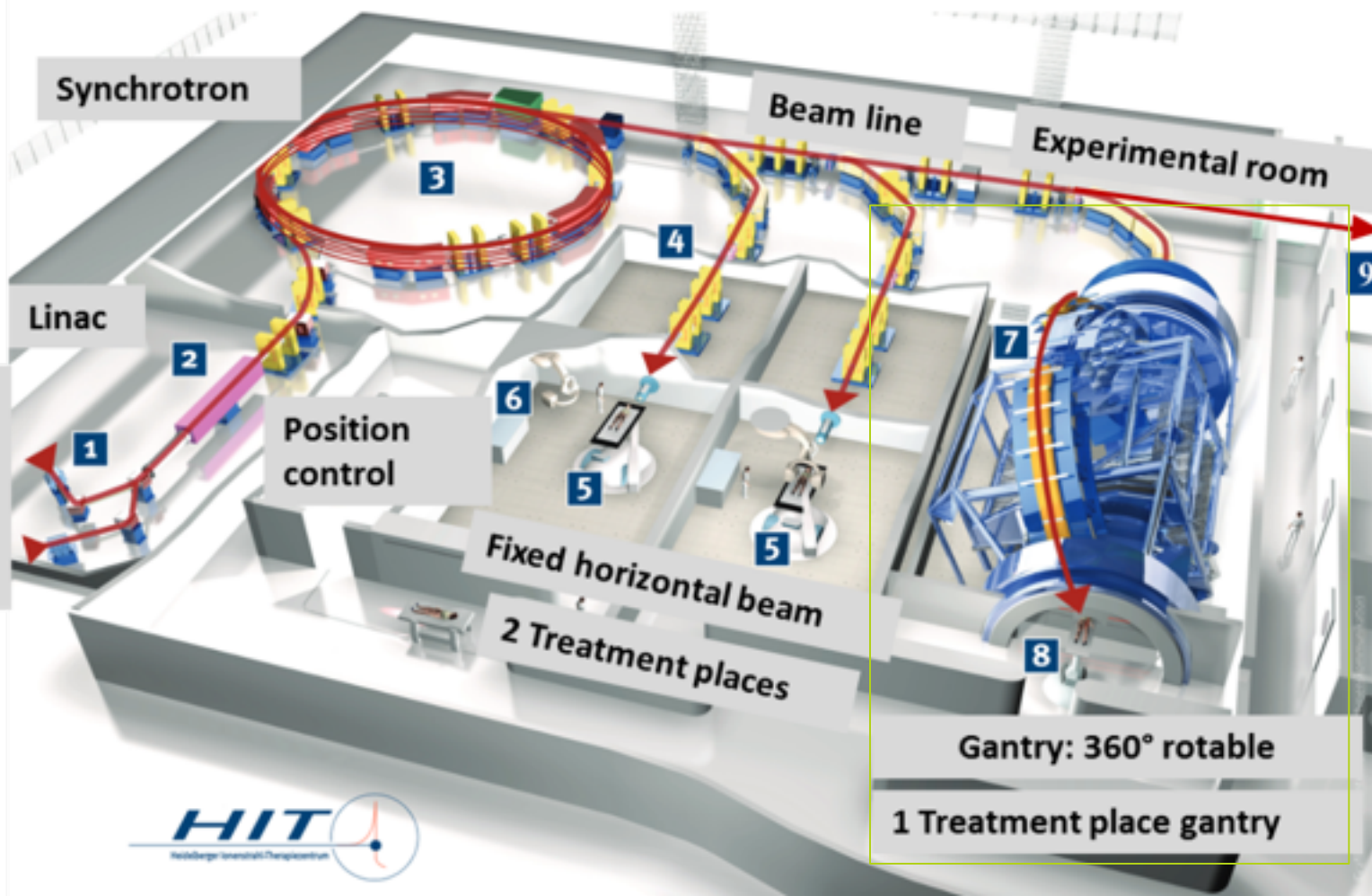
Caveat:

„Local Tumor Control“
only a „low-strength“
endpoint

HIT: Heidelberg Ion Therapy Center

HIT is Europe's first combined treatment facility using **protons and heavy ions** for radiation therapy.

HIT is the world's first heavy ion treatment facility with a **360° rotating beam delivery system (gantry)**.

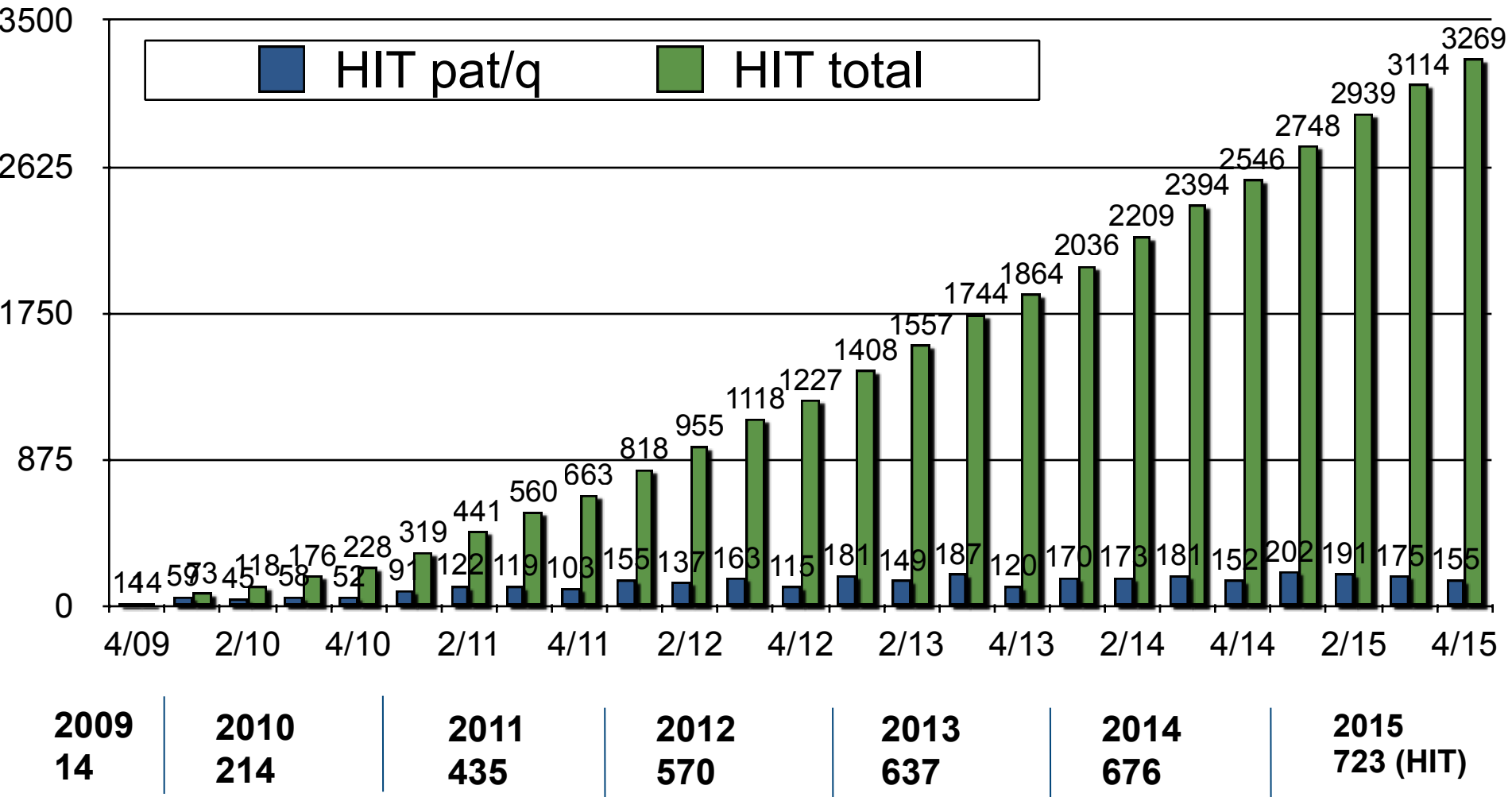


Ion sources:
 Protons
 Carbon
 Helium
 Oxygen



Patients @ HIT / MIT

Protonen- und Schwerionentherapi seit 11/2009, ~3300 patients treated





MIT: Marburg Ionbeam Therapy center



**Operation started in
10/ 2015**



MIT: Marburg Ionbeam Therapy center

- 3 treatment places at horizontal beam -1 treatment place at 45° beam
- clinical operation since 10/2015: 106 patients treated





Clinical trials @ HIT+MIT

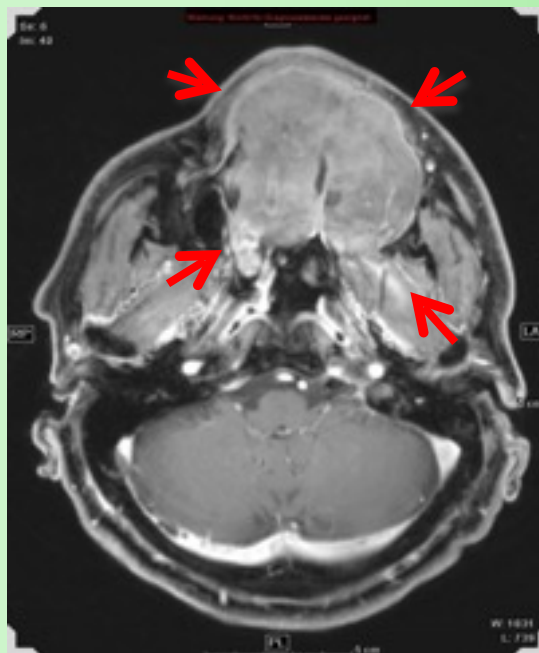
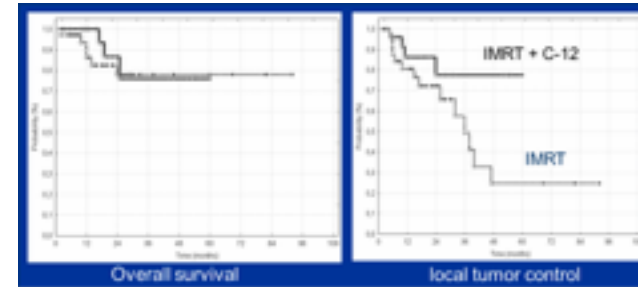
- SB chordomas: H1 vs. C12 **recruiting** (71/319)
- SB chondrosarcomas: H1 vs. C12 **recruiting** (49/154)
- CLEOPATRA (H1 vs. C12 boost RT; prim. glioblastoma) **recruiting** (97/150)
- CINDERELLA (C12 recurrent glioblastoma) **recruiting** (56/56 Phase 1)
- MARCIE (C12 boost RT, meningiomas grade 2) **recruiting** (15/40)
- **COSMIC** (C12 boost RT; salivary glands) **published**
- TPF-C HIT (C12 boost RT; head&neck) **closed**
- IMRT HIT-SNT (C12 boost RT; sinu-nasal cancer) **recruiting** (9/36)
- ACCEPT (C12 boost RT + Erbitux for ACC) **recruiting** (17/49)
- PROMETHEUS (C12 for HCC) **recruiting** (11/36)
- **OSCAR** (H1 + C12 boost; inoperable osteosarkoma) **recruiting** (15/20)
- PANDORA (C12 for recurrent rectal carcinoma) **recruiting** (11/51)
- IPI (C12/H1 for prostate cancer) **f/u phase**
- ISAC (C12/H1 for sacral chordoma) **recruiting** (35/100)
- PROLOG (hypofract. H1 for prostate cancer recurrence) **f/u phase**
- **INKA** (neoadj. C12 for inop. sulcus superior tumors) **recruiting** (5/20)
- KOLOG (hypofract. C12 for Prostate cancer recurrence) **recruiting** (8/40)

COSMIC- trial

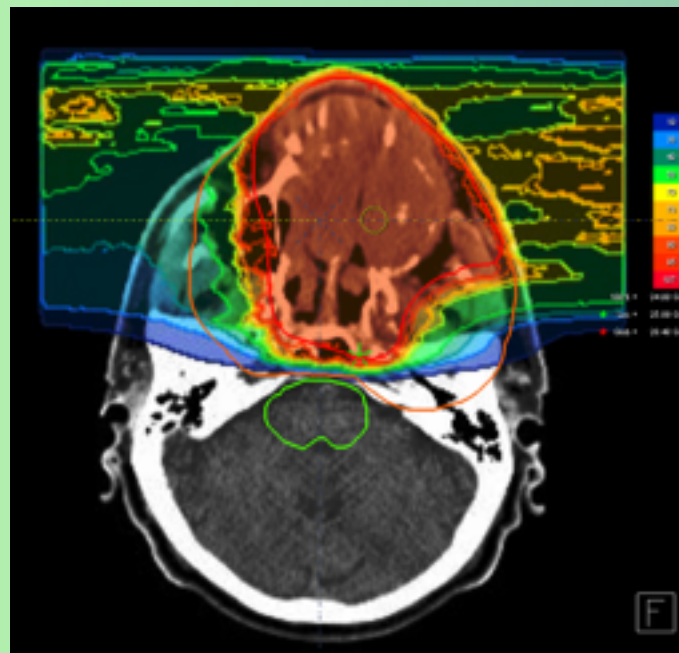
Combined therapy of malignant salivary gland tumors with IMRT and carbon ions

- Phase II feasibility study
 - No dose limiting acute toxicity
 - Late Toxicität G > CTC grade 2 < 5%

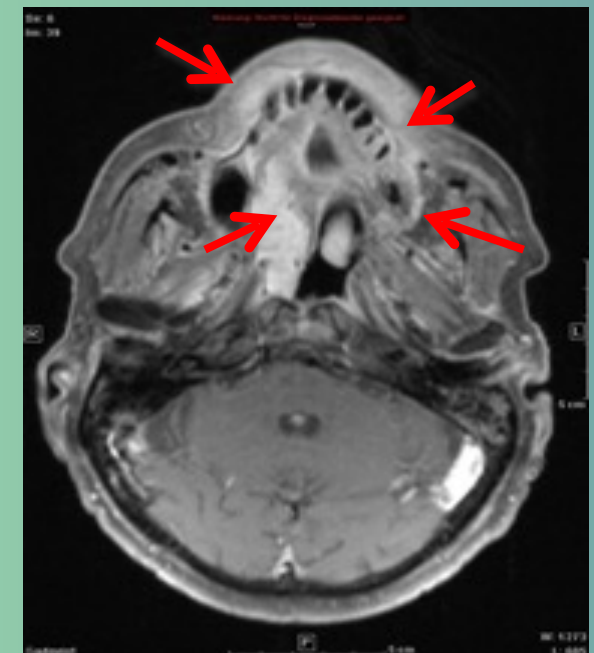
Schulz-Ertner, Cancer. 2005 Jul 15;104(2):338-44



Pre-treatment situation



Treatment planning
C-12 boost

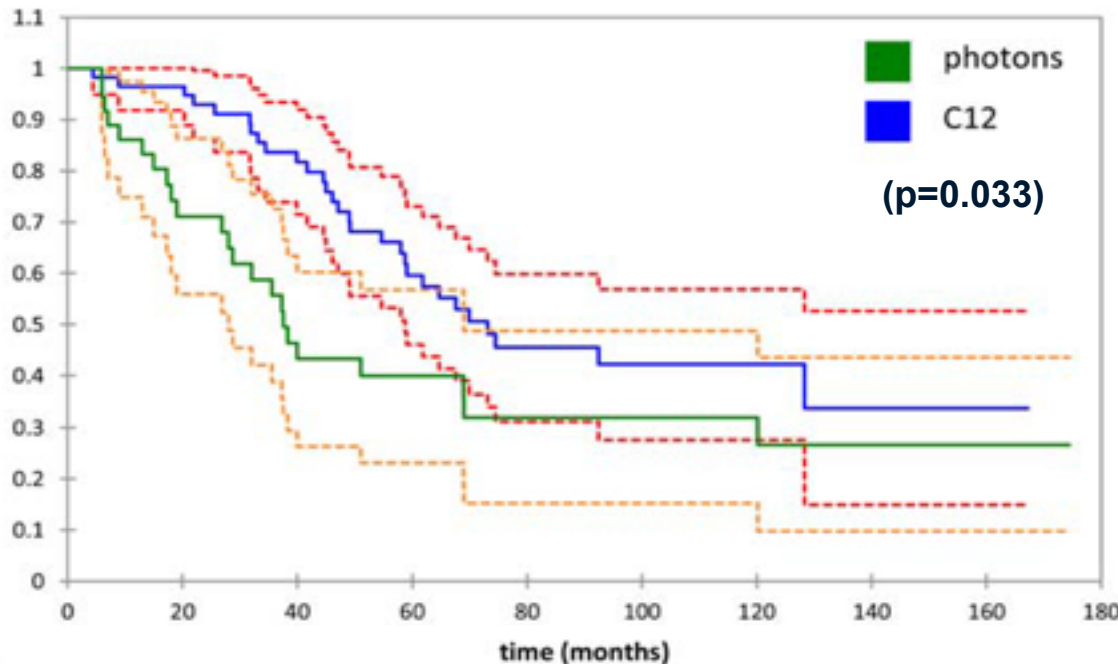


6 weeks post RT

COSMIC- trial

Better local tumor control by C-12 irradiation leads to better long-term survival of locally advanced adenoid cystic carcinoma

Local control



Original Article

Combined intensity-modulated radiotherapy plus raster-scanned carbon ion boost for advanced adenoid cystic carcinoma of the head and neck results in superior locoregional control and overall survival

Alexandra D. Jensen MD, MSc, Anna V. Nikoghosyan MD, Melanie Poulakis DDS, Angelika Höss MSc, Thomas Haberer PhD, Oliver Jäkel PhD, Marc W. Mütner MD, Daniela Schulz-Ertner MD, Peter E. Huber MD, PhD, Jürgen Debus MD, PhD

First published: 4 June 2015 Full publication history

DOI: 10.1002/oncr.29443 View/Save citation

Cited by: 0 articles Check for new citations

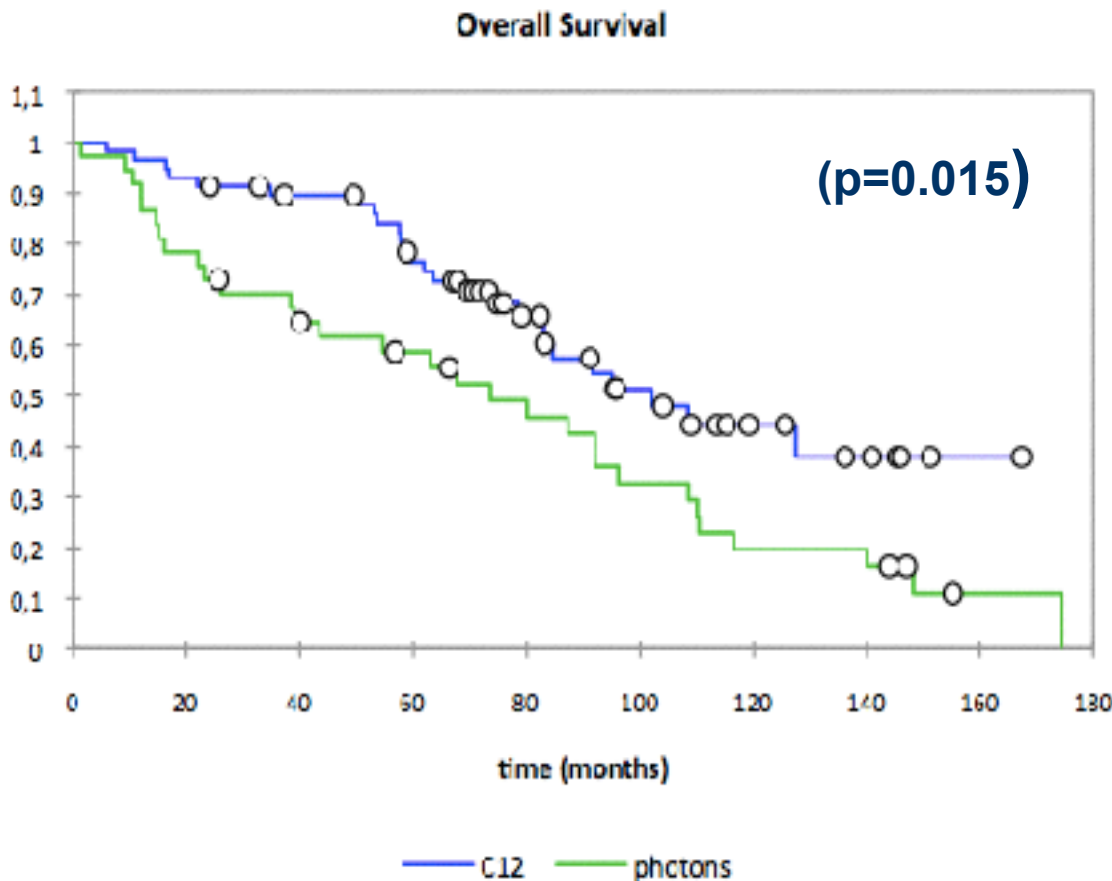
numbers at risk:

C12:	58	55	43	28	17	11	8	5	2
photons:	37	24	15	12	9	7	7	5	2

Jensen et al. 2015, Cancer

COSMIC- trial

Better local tumor control by C-12 irradiation leads to better long-term survival of locally advanced adenoid cystic carcinoma



Original Article

Combined intensity-modulated radiotherapy plus raster-scanned carbon ion boost for advanced adenoid cystic carcinoma of the head and neck results in superior locoregional control and overall survival

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First published: 4 June 2015 Full publication history

DOI: 10.1002/cncr.29443 View/save citation

Cited by: 0 articles Check for new citations

Hypothesis: Dose Response Relationship Radiotherapy of Skull Base Chordomas

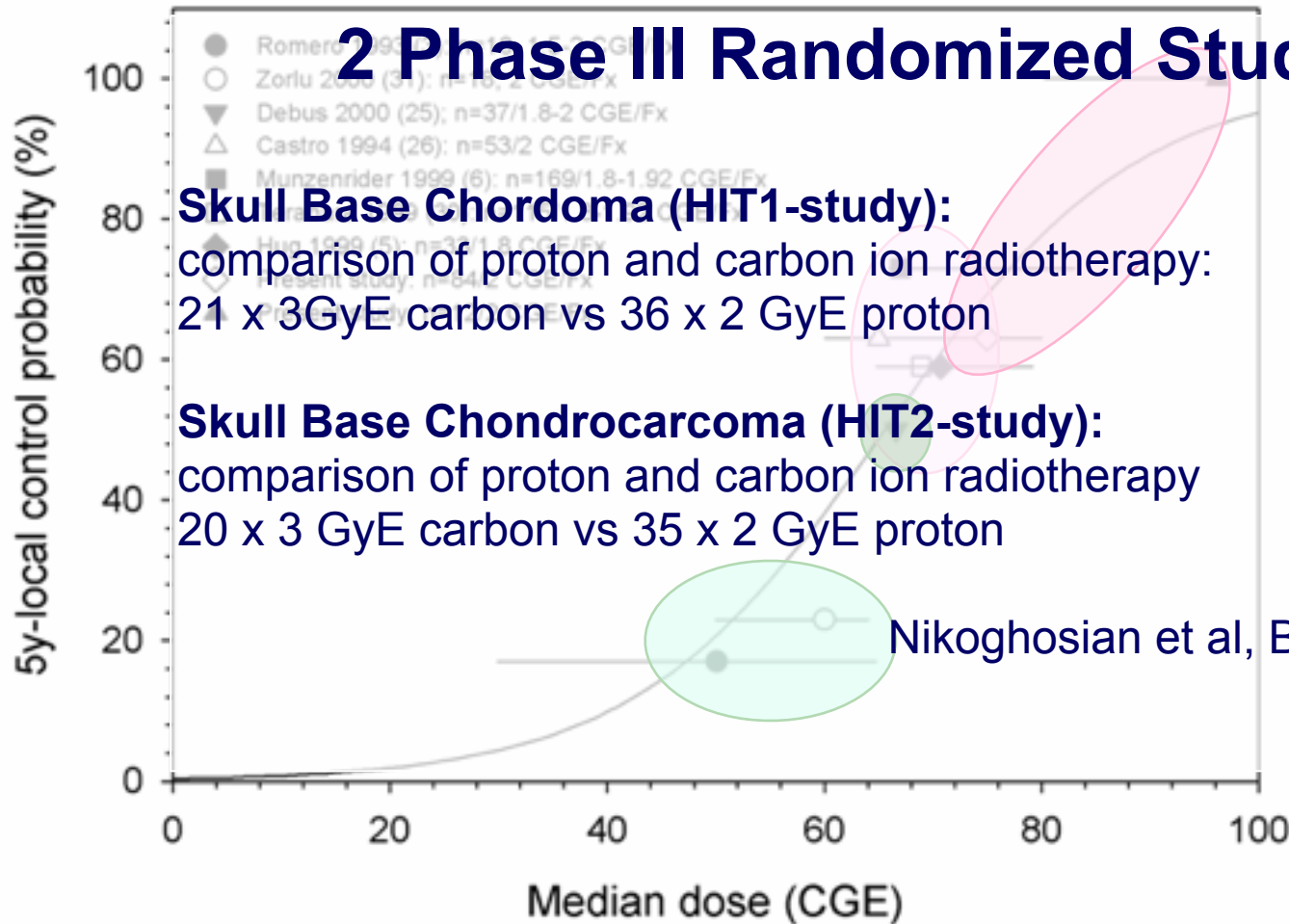
2 Phase III Randomized Studies @ HIT:

Skull Base Chordoma (HIT1-study):

comparison of proton and carbon ion radiotherapy:
21 x 3GyE carbon vs 36 x 2 GyE proton

Skull Base Chondrocarcoma (HIT2-study):

comparison of proton and carbon ion radiotherapy
20 x 3 GyE carbon vs 35 x 2 GyE proton



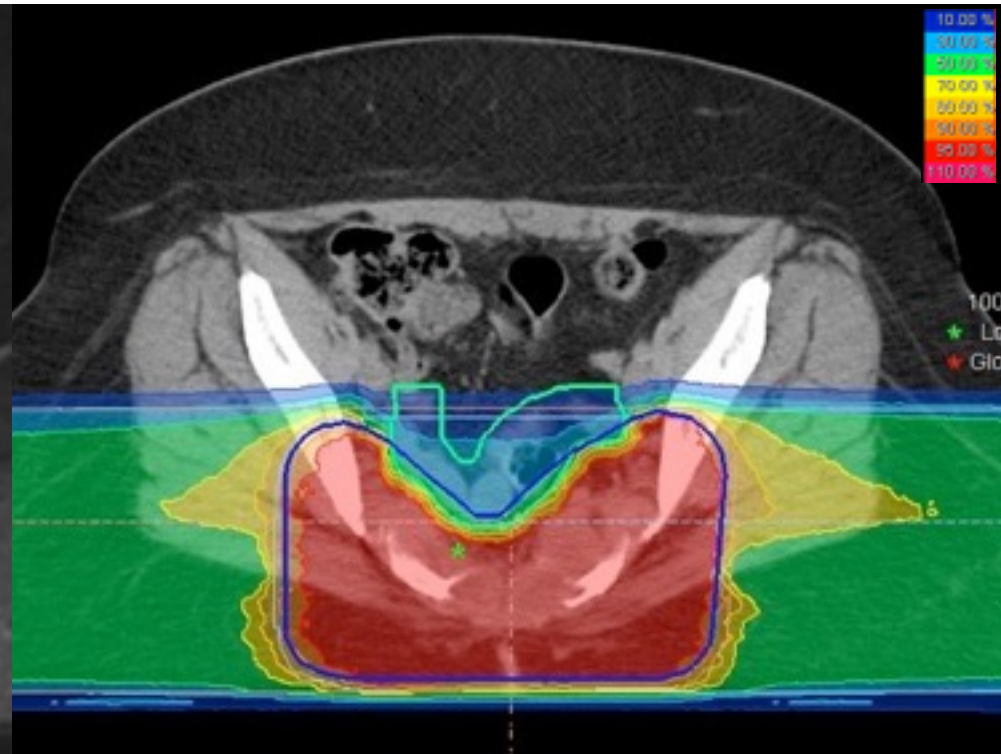
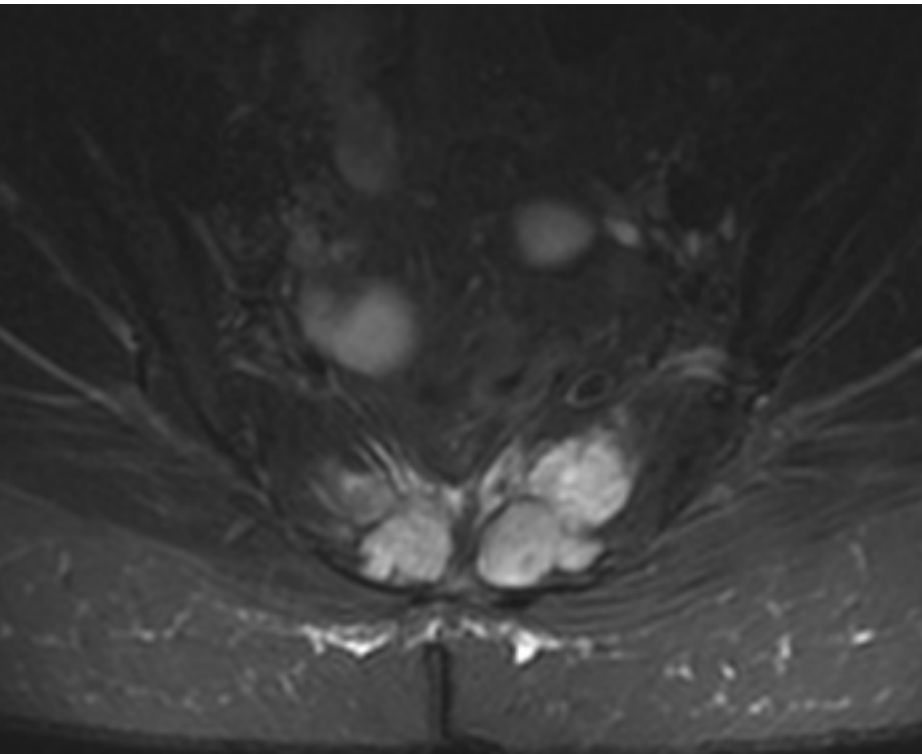
Nikoghosian et al, BMC Cancer 2010, 10:606



Sacral Chordoma

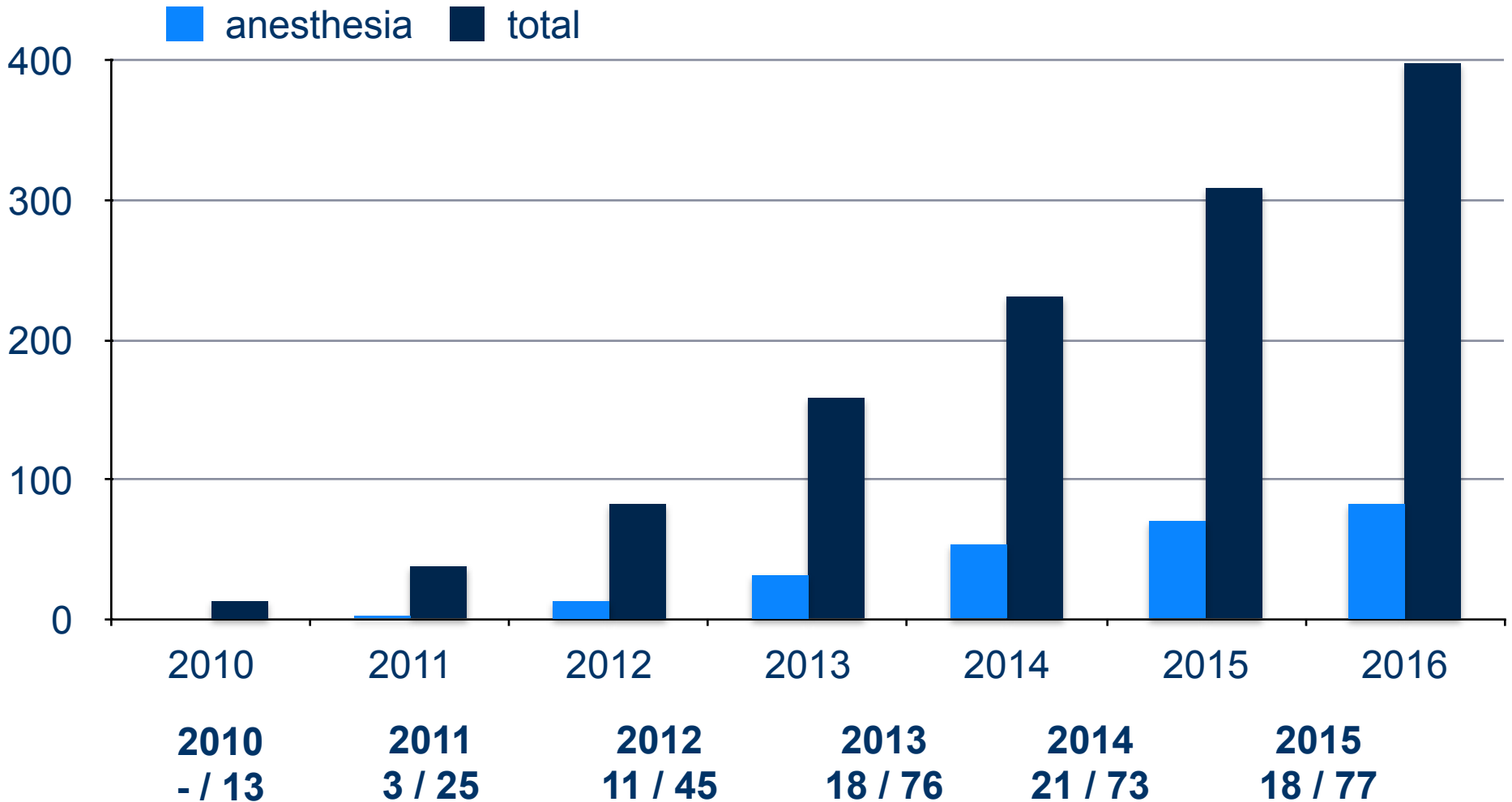
ISAC trial: randomized phase II

16 x 4 GyE **CI2** vs. 16 x 4 GyE **HI**





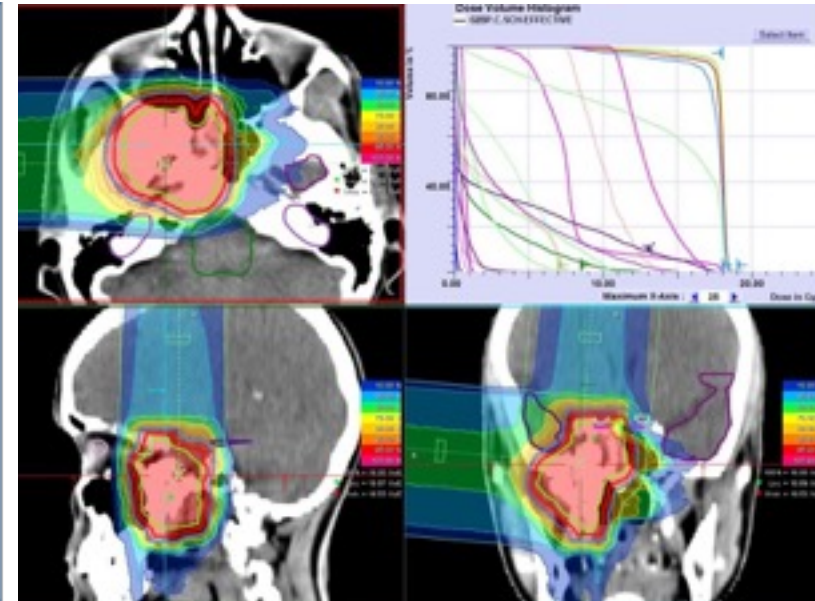
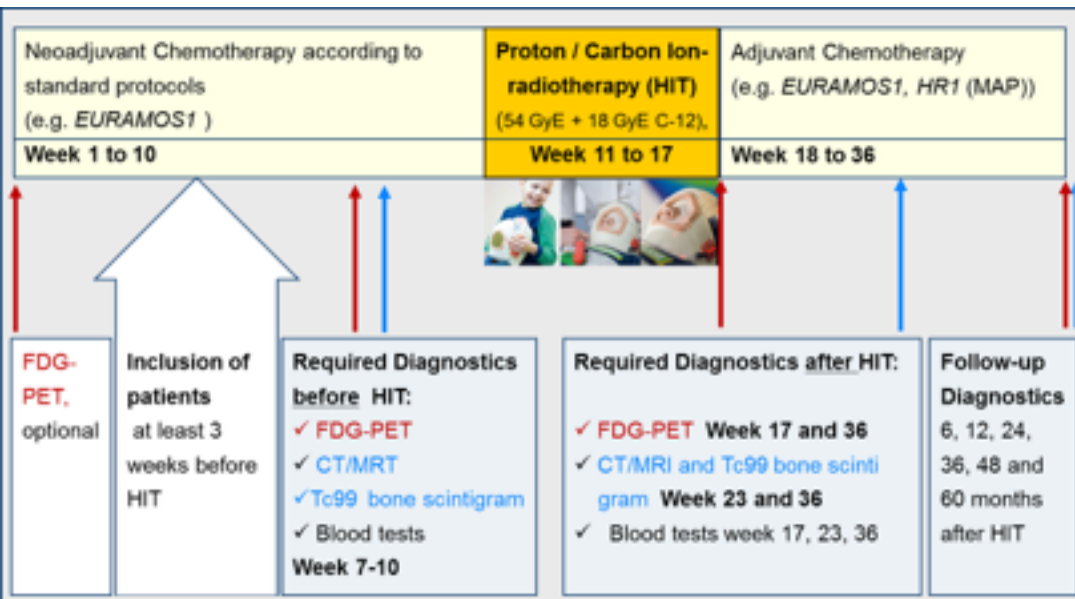
Pediatric Patients at HIT



OSCAR- trial

OSteosarcoma – CARbon Ion Radiotherapy: Phase I/II therapy trial to determine the safety and efficacy of heavy ion radiotherapy in patients with inoperable osteosarcoma

Secondary endpoints: local control disease-free and progression-free survival, Overall survival, role of **FDG-PET** in response monitoring

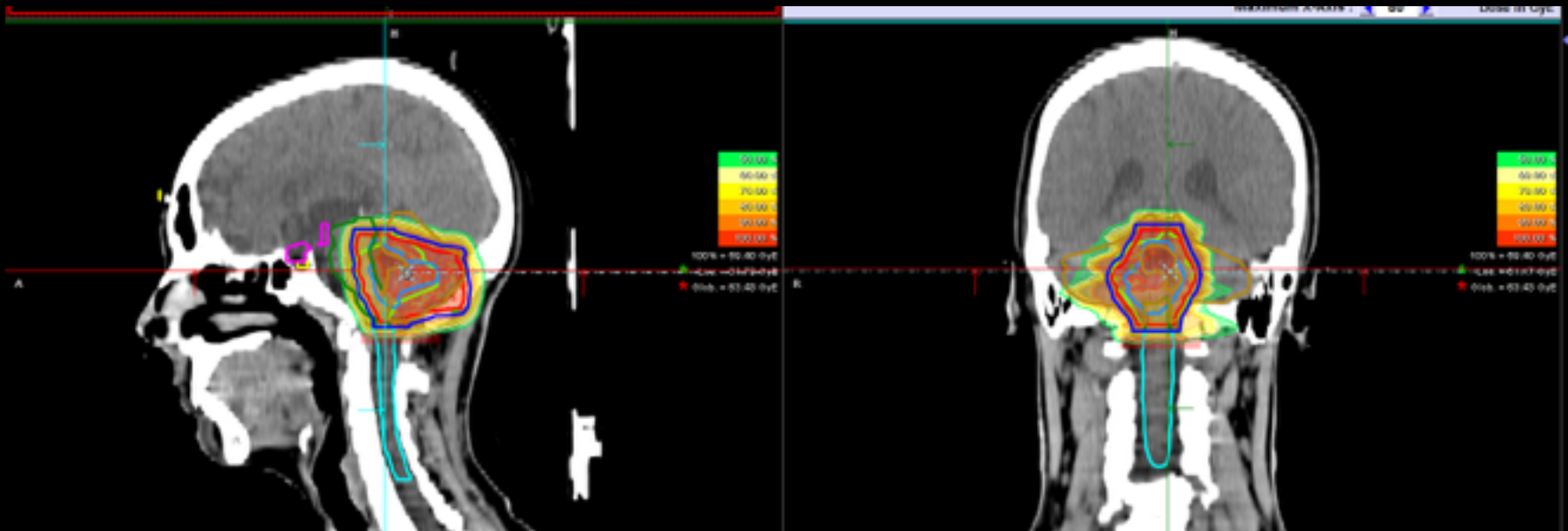


Challenges: Changes Due Molecular Diagnostics

12 years old girl
Diagnosis post surgery:
Ependymoma ° III
on reference
pathology

Localization infratentorial,
IV Ventricle

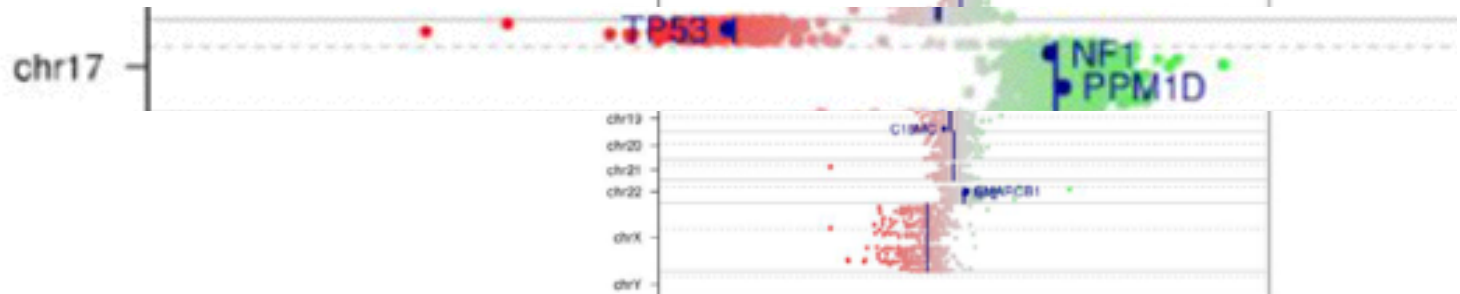
Residual Tumor:
59.4 GyE Proton (HIT)
in 1.8Gy Fx (33 Fx total)

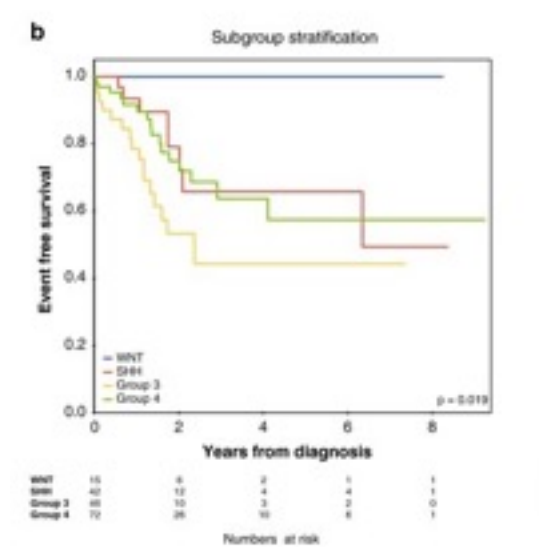
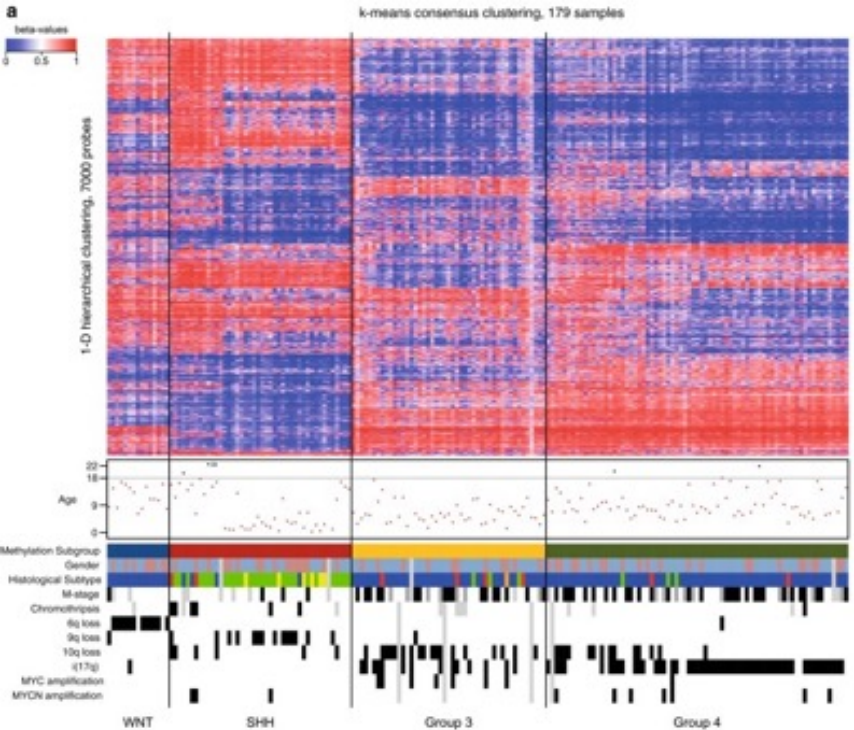


450k Methylome/CNV + NGS analysis

No, GLI-, MYC, MYCN amplif.
No mut. in 130 NGS Ultra Deep
Seq

Isochromosome 17q
2 identical long q arms
Loss of the p arm





Localized lowly methylated regions (LMRs)

Our case:
 Non-SHH,
 non-WNT,
 no p53 mut

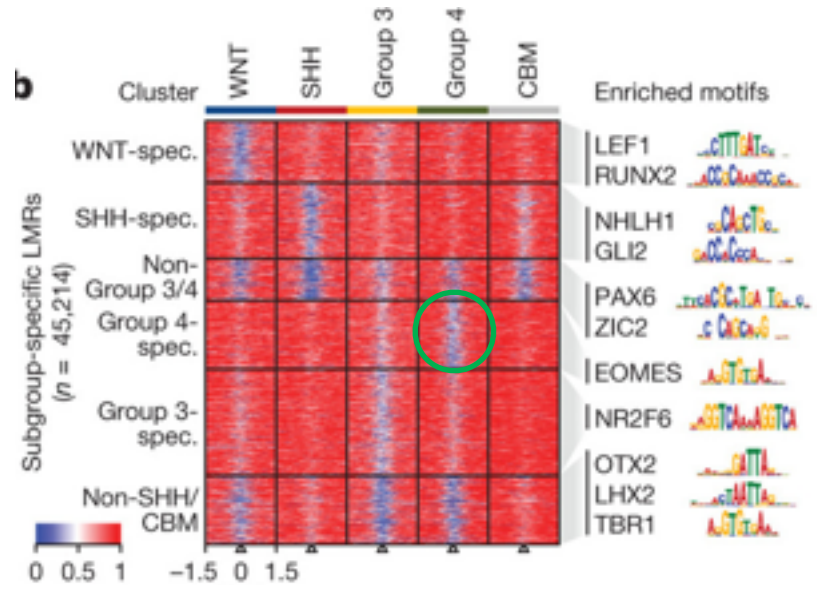
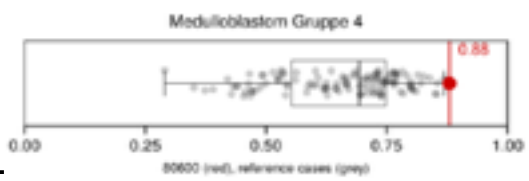
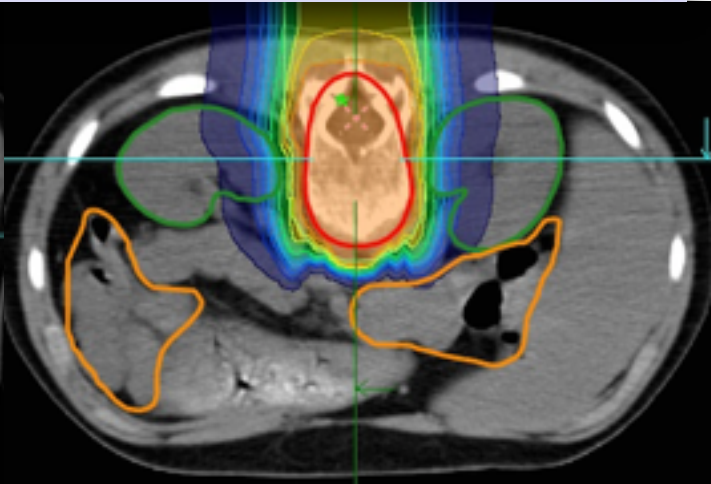
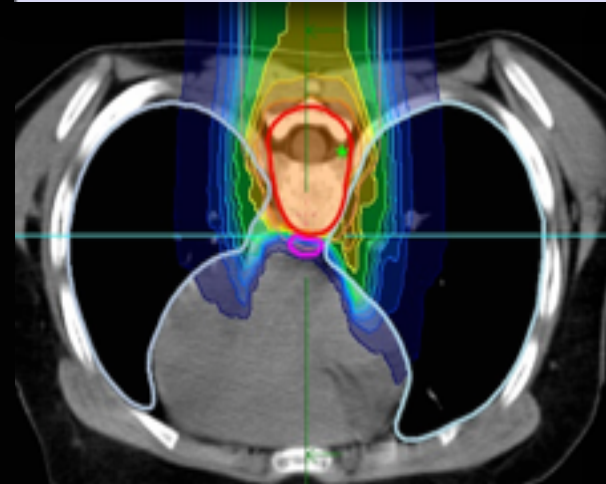
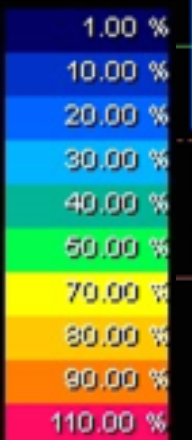
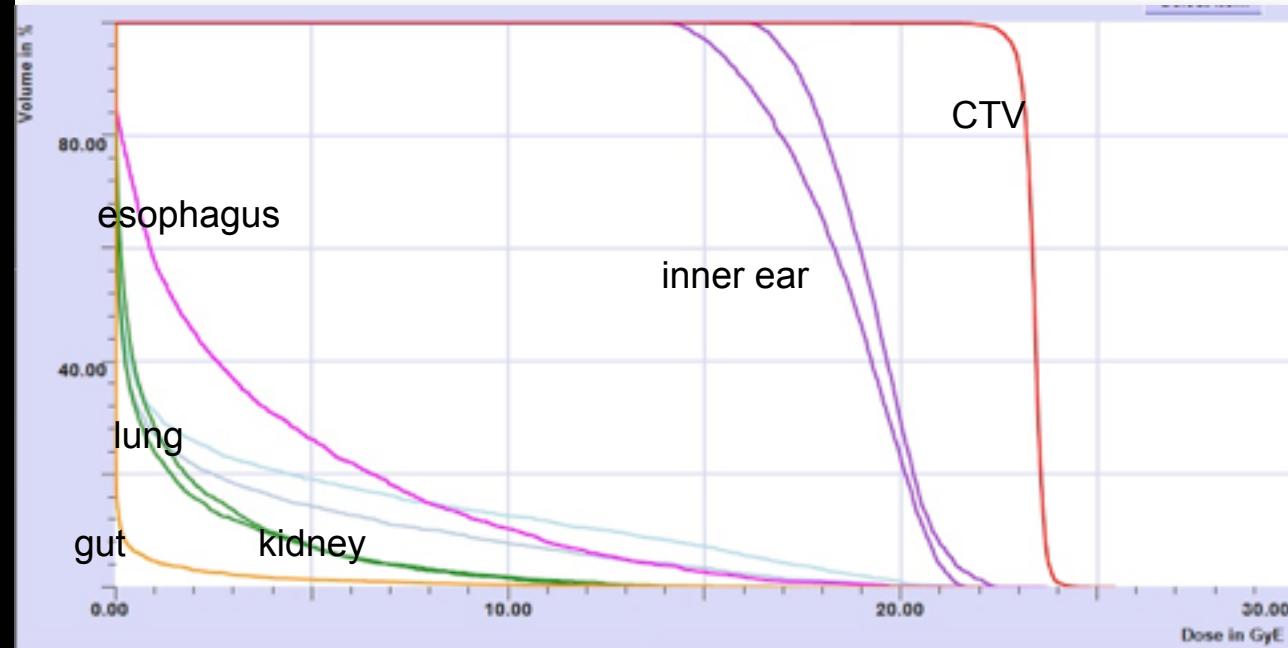
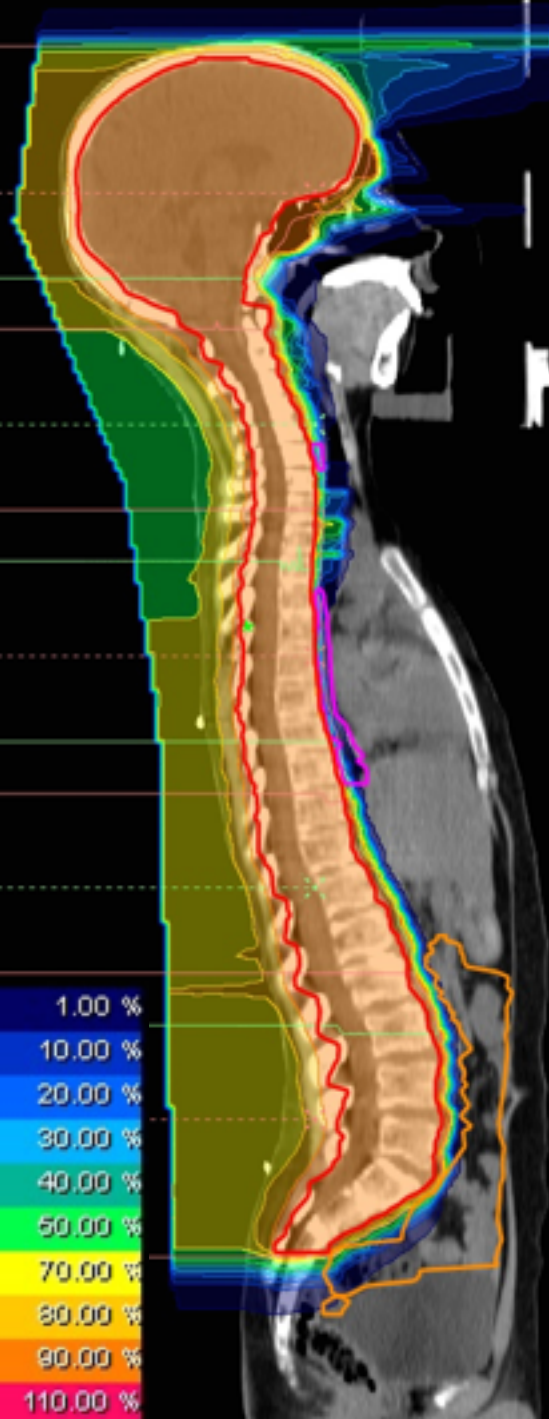
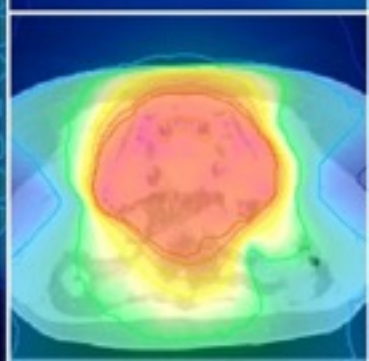
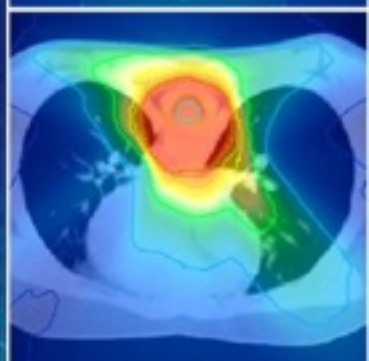
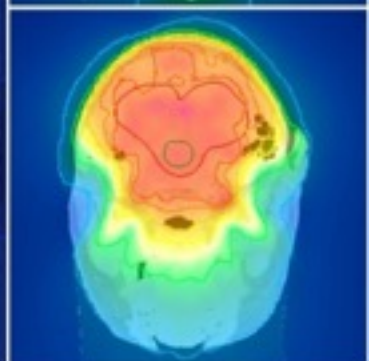
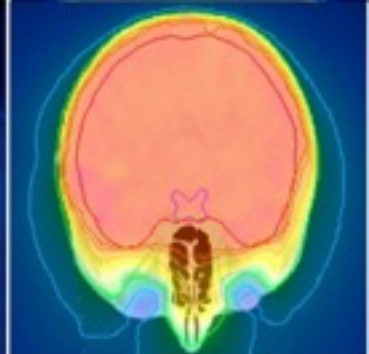
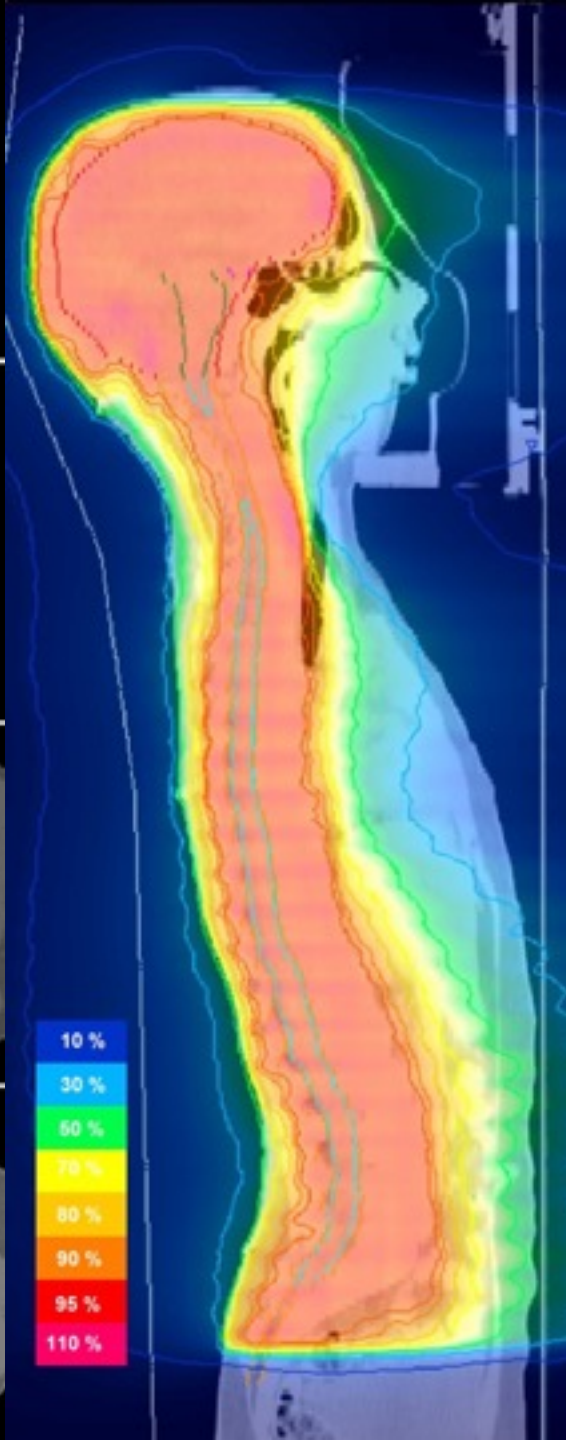
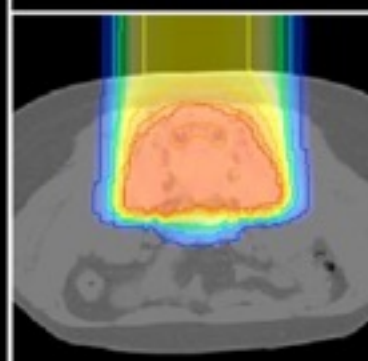
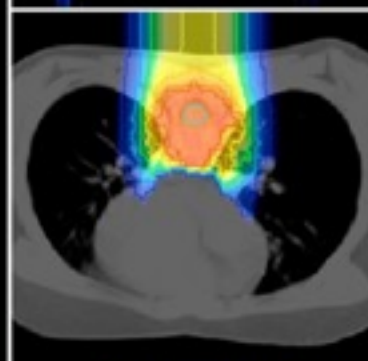
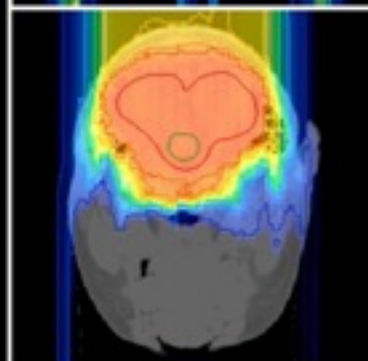
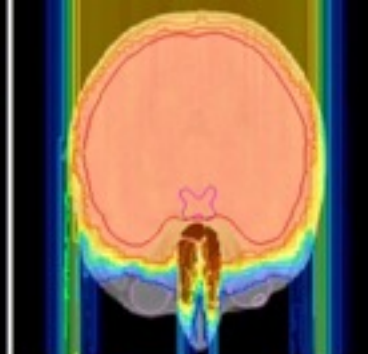


Figure adapted from Hovestadt et al. *Nature* and *Acta Neuropathol.* 2014

MEDULLOBLASTOMA WHO Grad IV (Group 4)

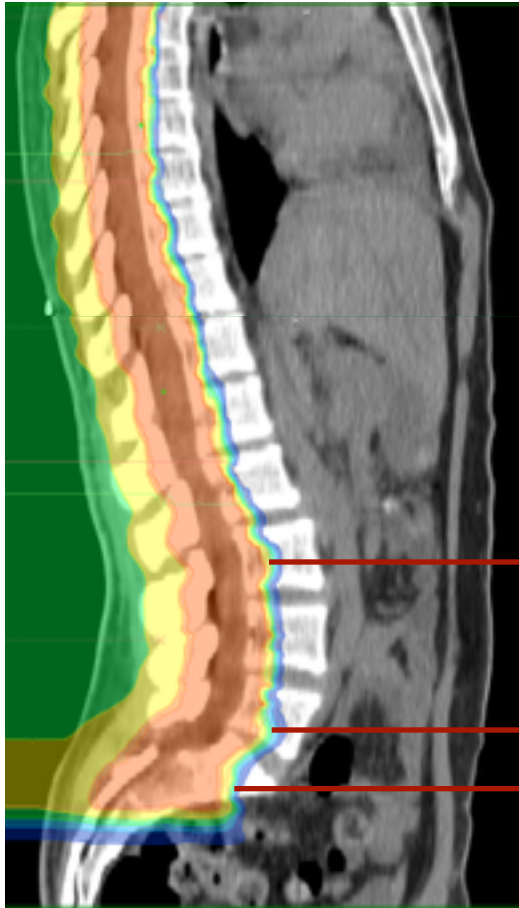
cranio spinal irradiation: protons







Proof of principle: CSI



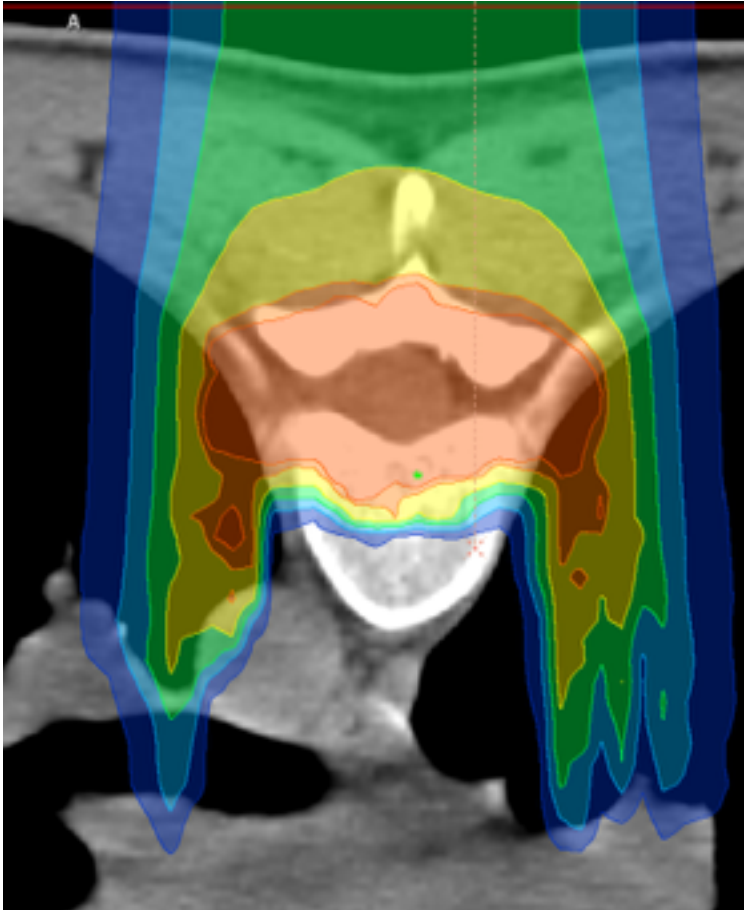
treatment plan



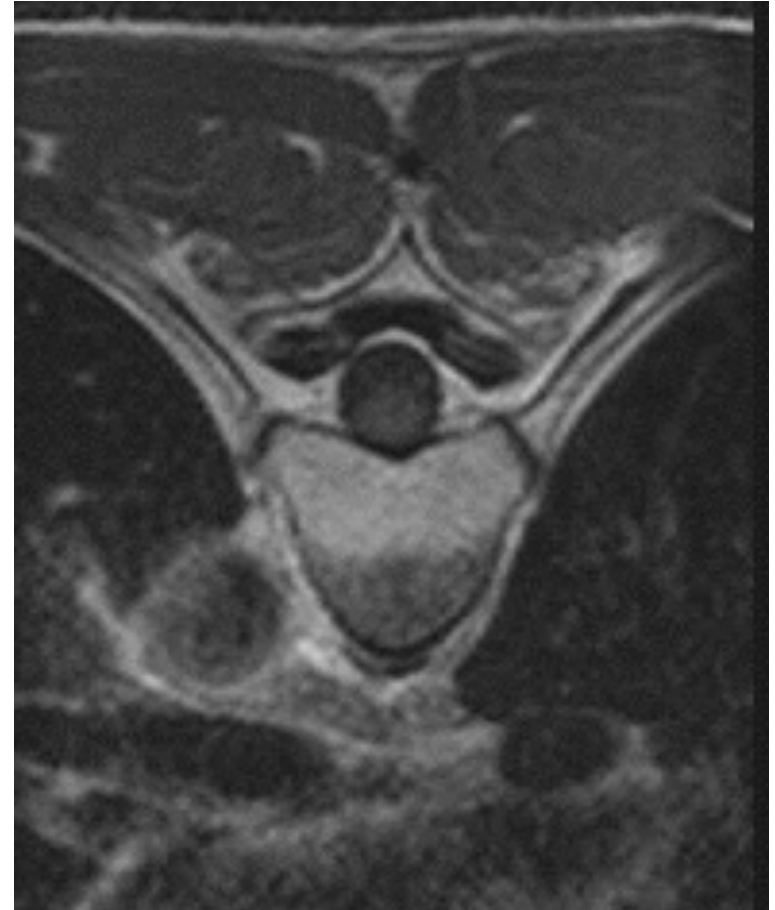
6 months after therapy



Proof of principle: CSI



treatment plan



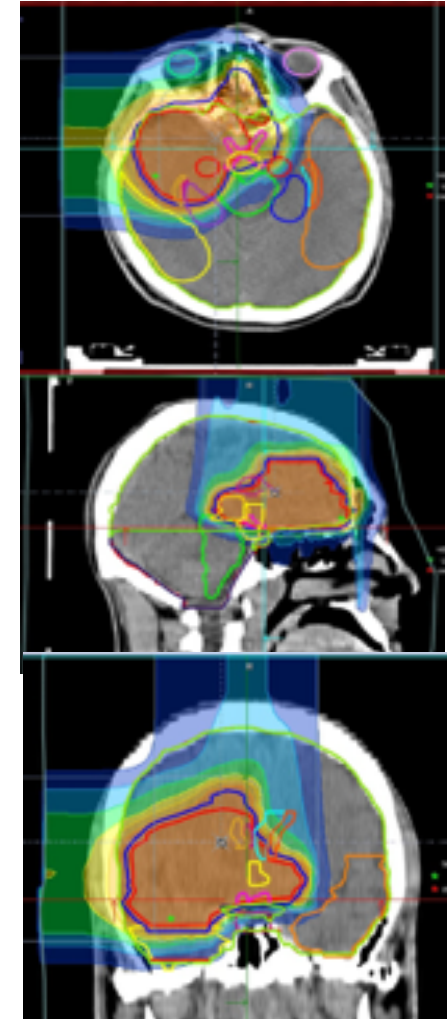
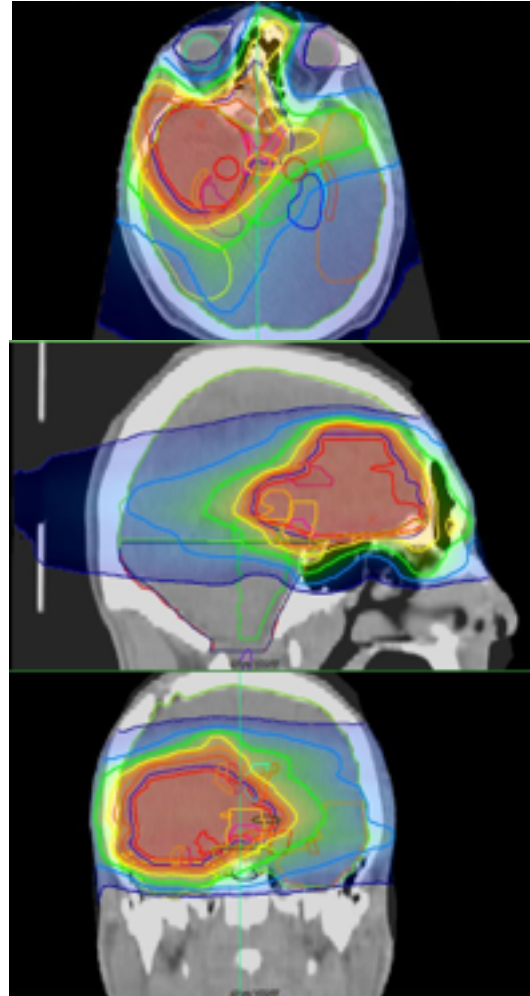
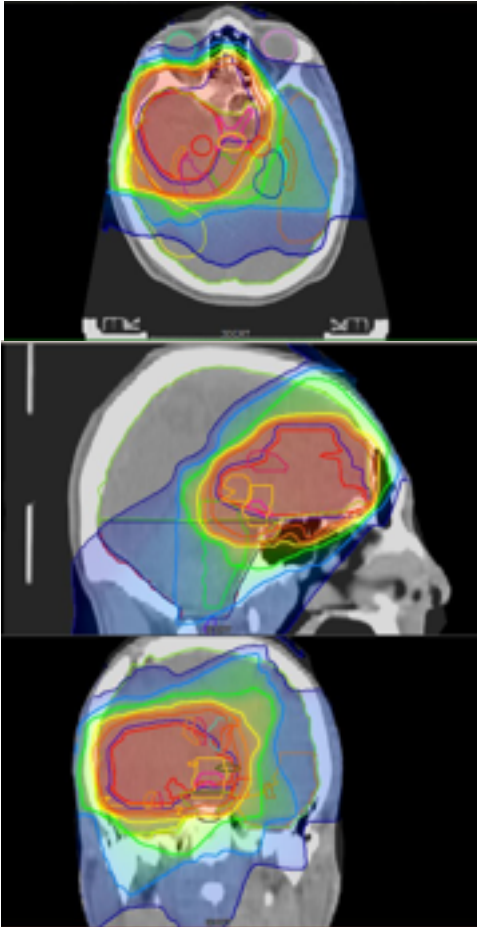
6 months after therapy

Low grade glioblastoma

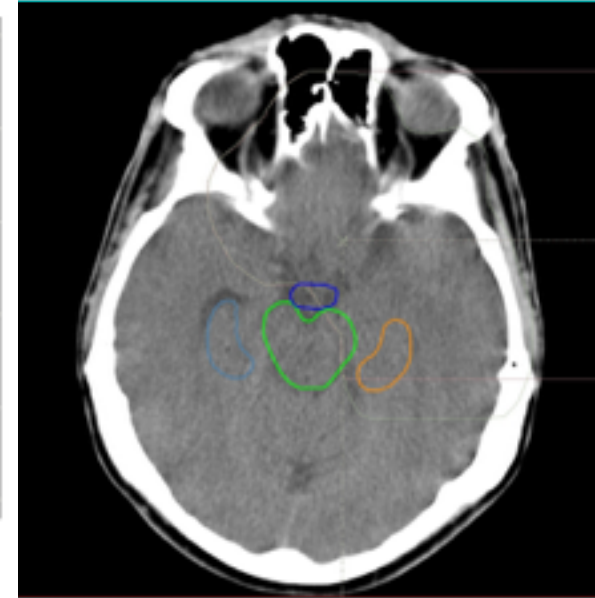
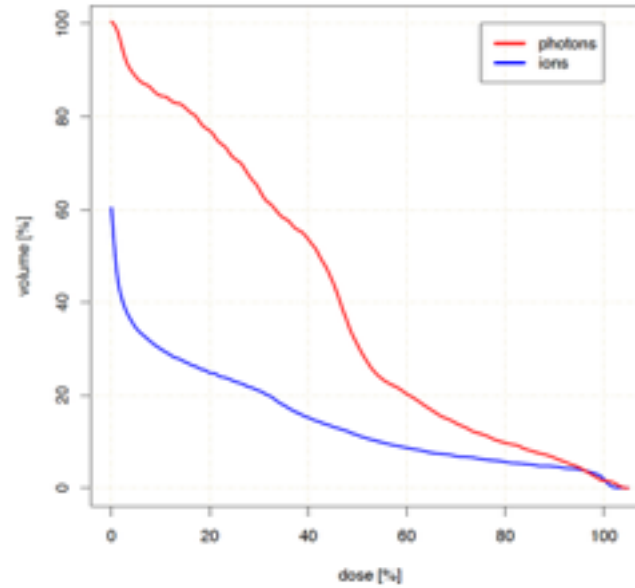
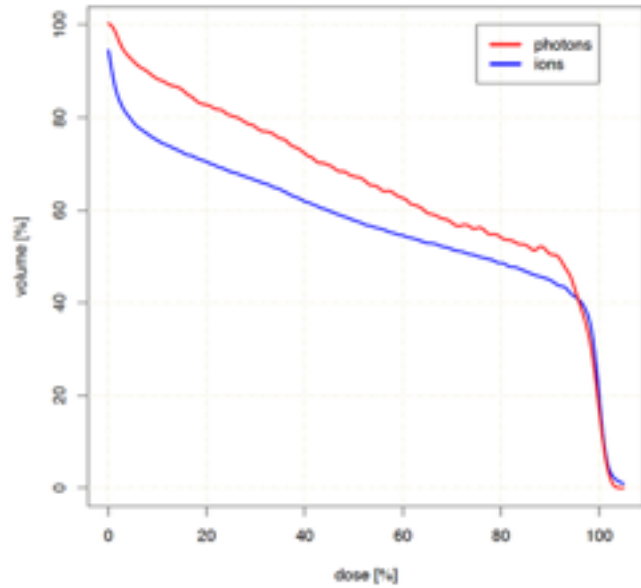
3D-CRT

VMAT

PRT



Result: dose reduction



Hippocampus ipsilateral:

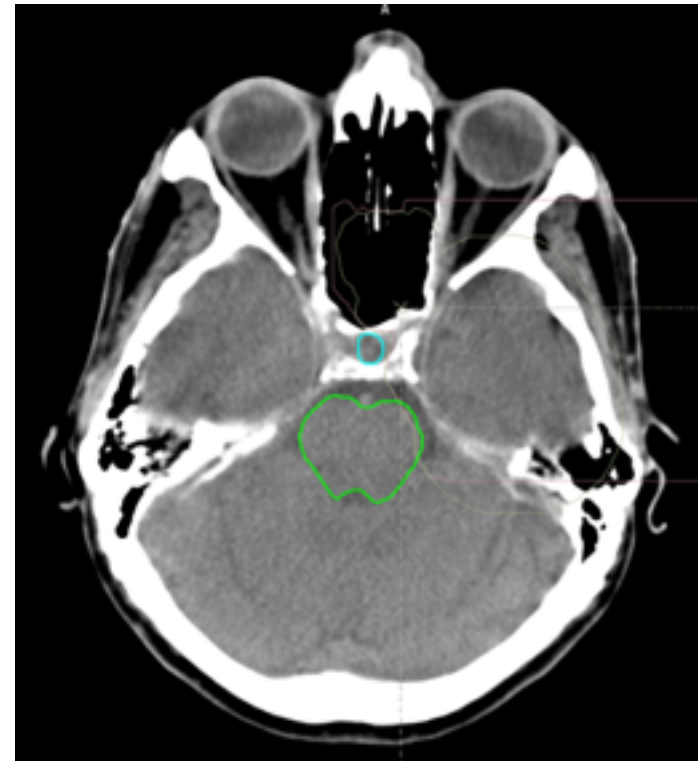
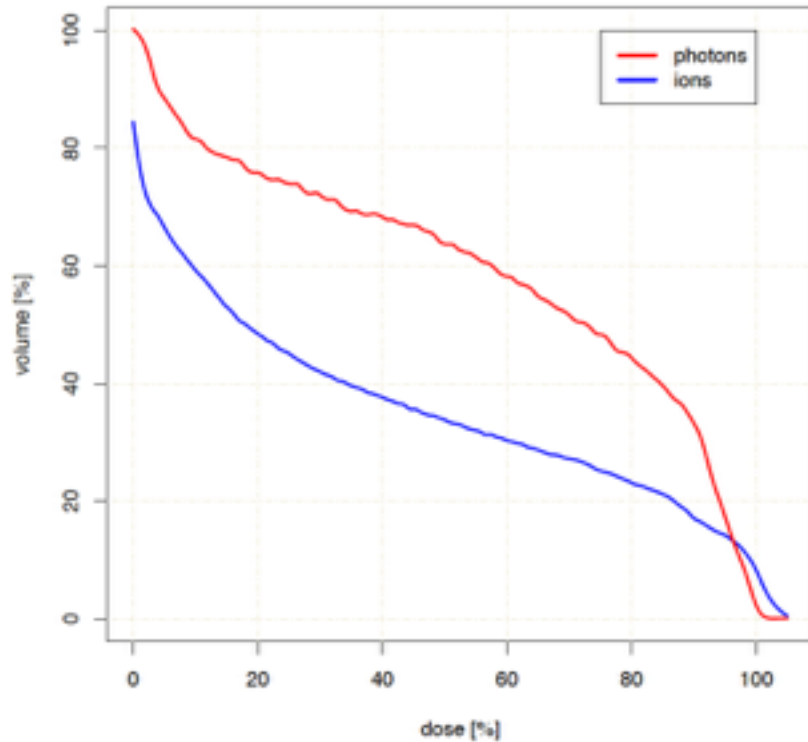
Dmax: -5.5%
 Dmean: -15.3%
 Mean ID: -16.5%

Hippocampus contralateral:

Dmax: -37.2%
 Dmean: -64.5%
 Mean ID: -62.7%



Result: dose reduction



Hypophyse

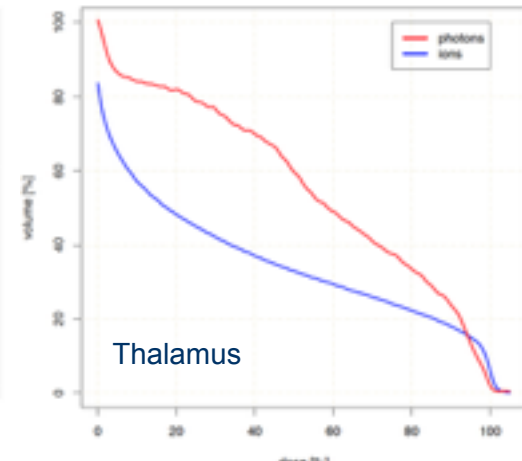
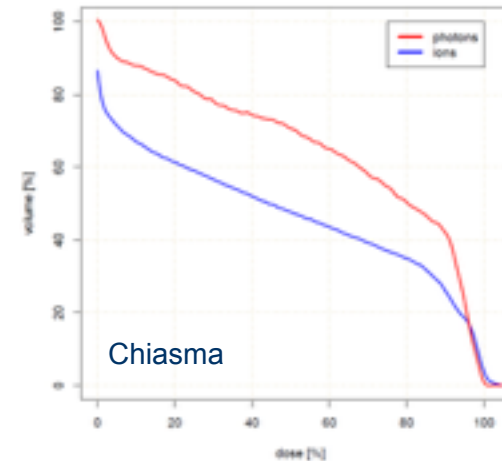
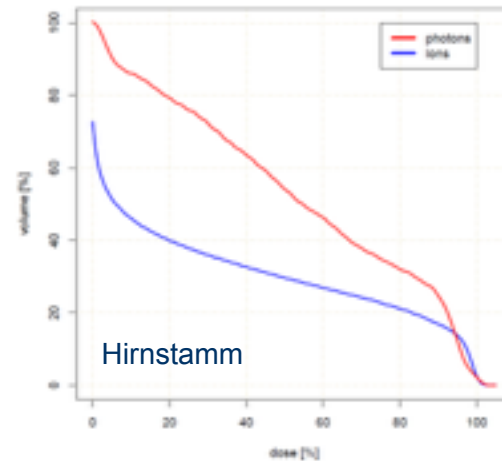
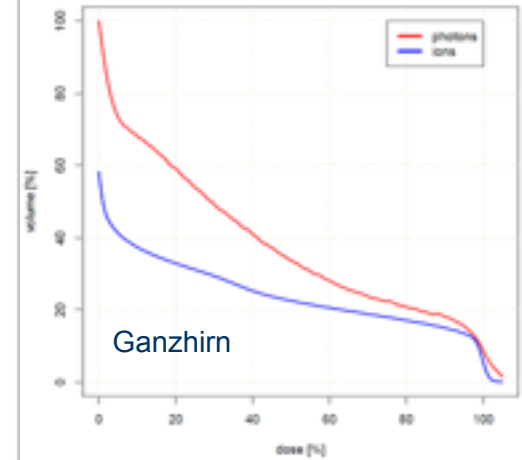
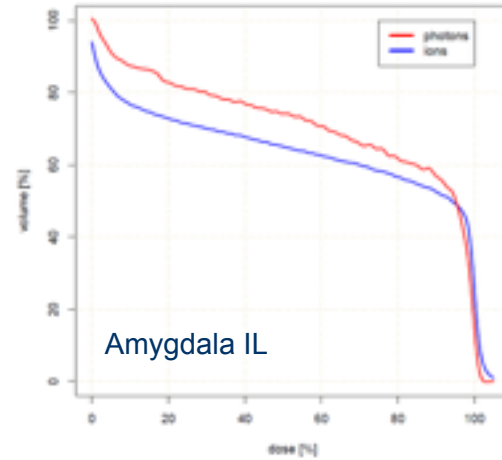
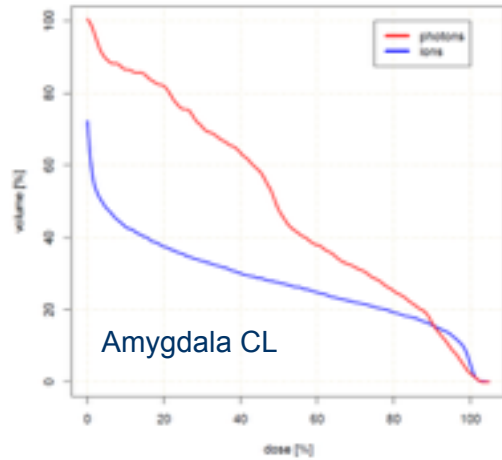
Dmax: -24.6%

Dmean: -40.9%

Mean ID: -37.8%



Result: dose reduction



Mediastinal lymphoma

Dosimetric plan comparison: Methods

Proton therapy (PT):

Raster-Scan



Helical TomoTherapy® :6 MV,
binary MLC



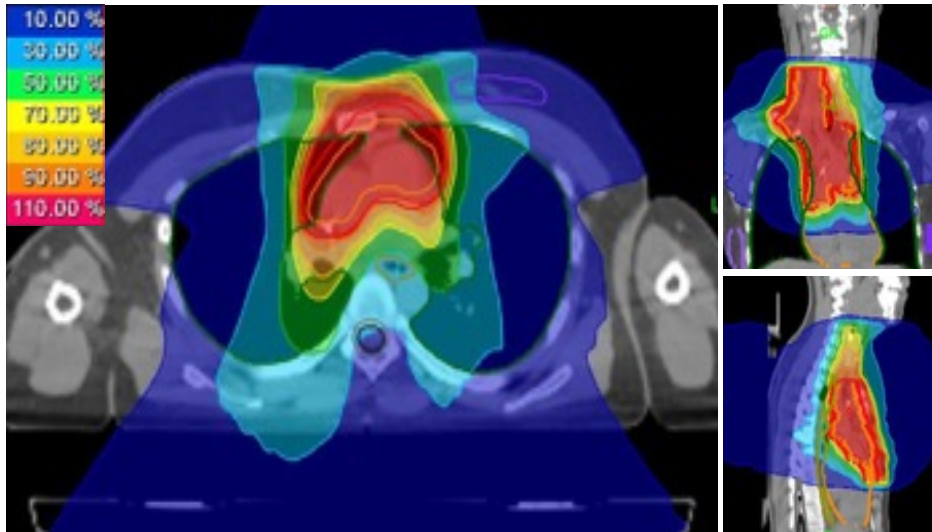
Planning: 4D-BPL-CT

Target volume definition: PTV: CTV + 5mm

16 Patients (11 w, 5 m), Median age: 29,5 years (21-54 years)

indikation for protons : age, pericard involvement, high dose expected in
mamma

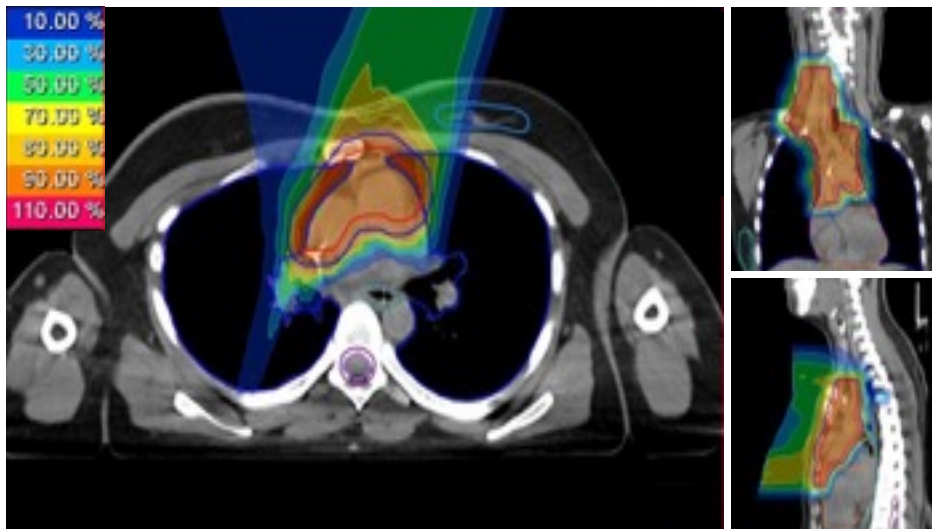
Mediastinal lymphoma



IMRT

27 LJ, f, DLBCL
St. IIA mit med.
Bulk

RT: 36 Gy RBE in 18 Fx (ED
 2,0 Gy RBE)



PT

D_{mean} myocard:
 3,5 Gy RBE vs. 7,2 Gy

D_{mean} breast right.:
 0,1 Gy RBE vs. 1,4 Gy

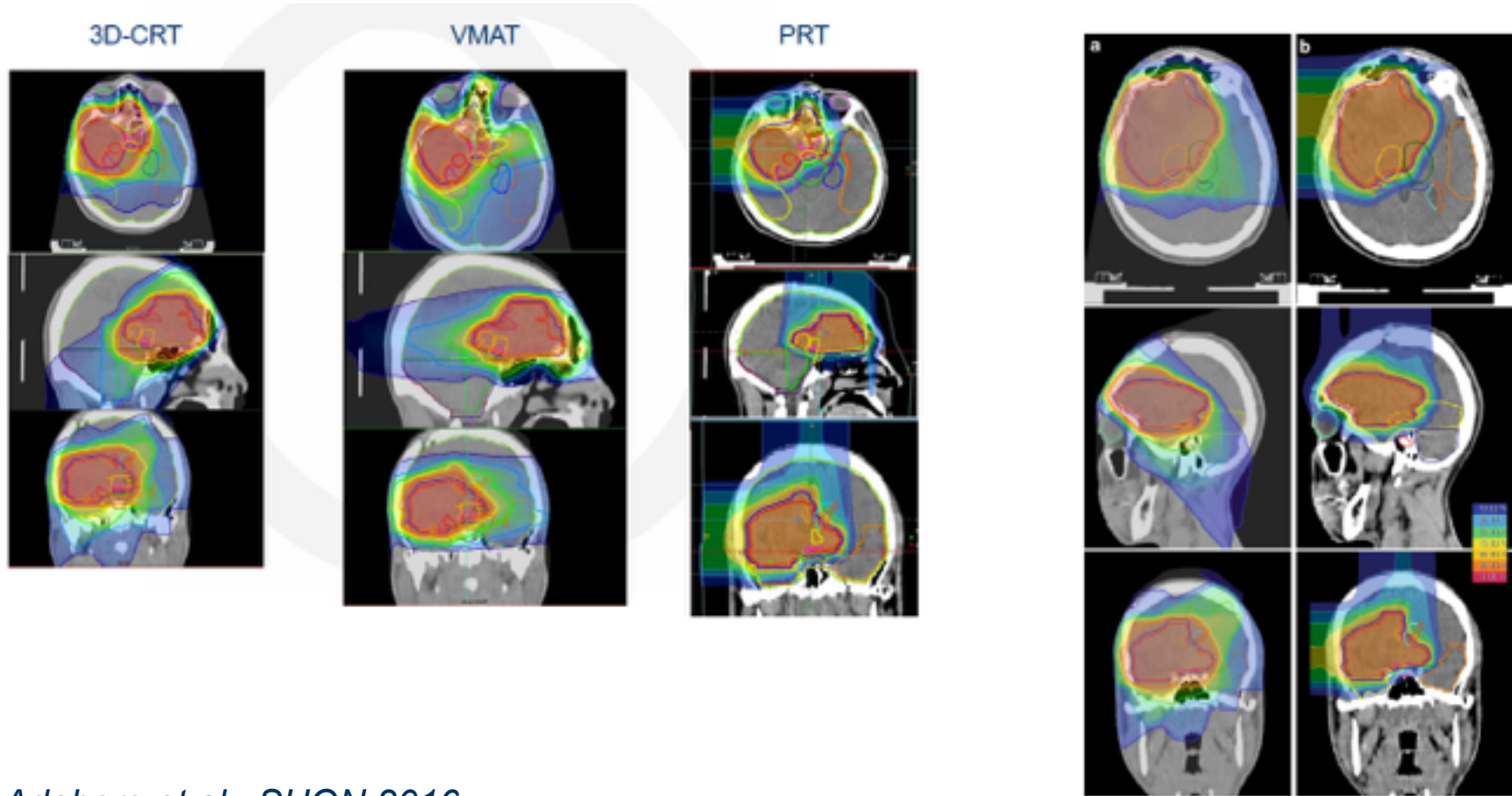
D_{mean} breast left.:
 1,7 Gy RBE vs. 2,4 Gy



Dose reduction OAR: Protontherapy Of Mediastinal Lymphoma

	PT (Gy)	IMRT (Gy)	Absolute Reduction (Gy)	Relative Reduction (%)	p-value
D _{mean} heart (myocard)	3,2	7,1	-3,9	-54,9%	≤ 0,001
D _{mean} right breast	0,1	1,4	-1,3	-92,9%	≤ 0,001
D _{mean} left breast	1,4	2,4	-1,0	-41,7%	≤ 0,001
D _{mean} esophagus	7,0	10,9	-3,9	-35,9%	≤ 0,001
D _{max} spinal chord	1,6	16,2	-14,7	-90,4%	≤ 0,001

Low grade glioma



Adeberg et al., SUON 2016

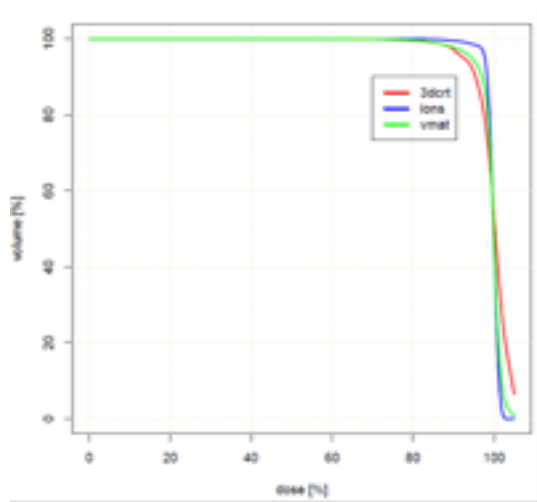
Harrabi, ..., Adeberg et al., SUON 2016

Fig. 4 Comparison of dose distribution for a patient with low grade glioma. **a** Three-dimensional conventional radiotherapy plan, **b** proton beam therapy plan. CTV is delineated in *red*, the corresponding planning target volume in *blue*. The potential for dose reduction is especially eminent at the contralateral site

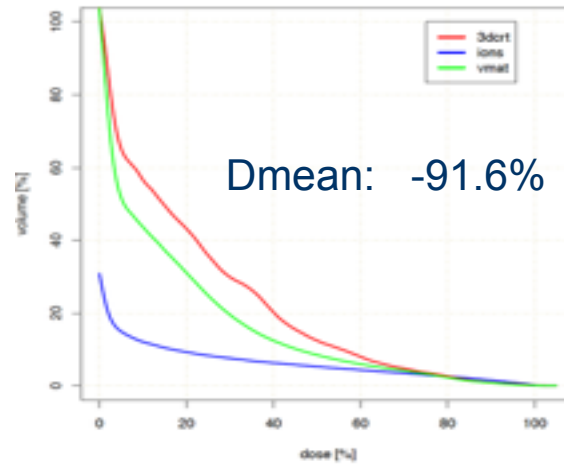


Low grade glioma

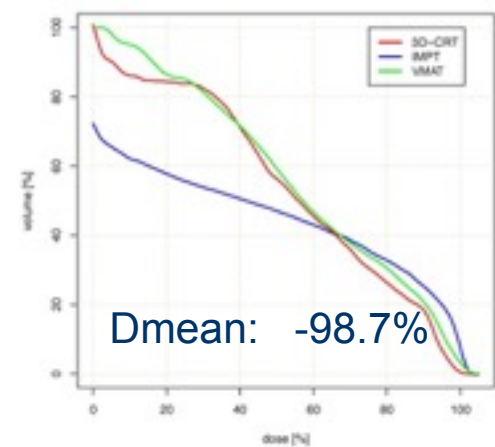
Plan comparisons: IMPT vs IMRT vs 3D-CRT



Dose coverage

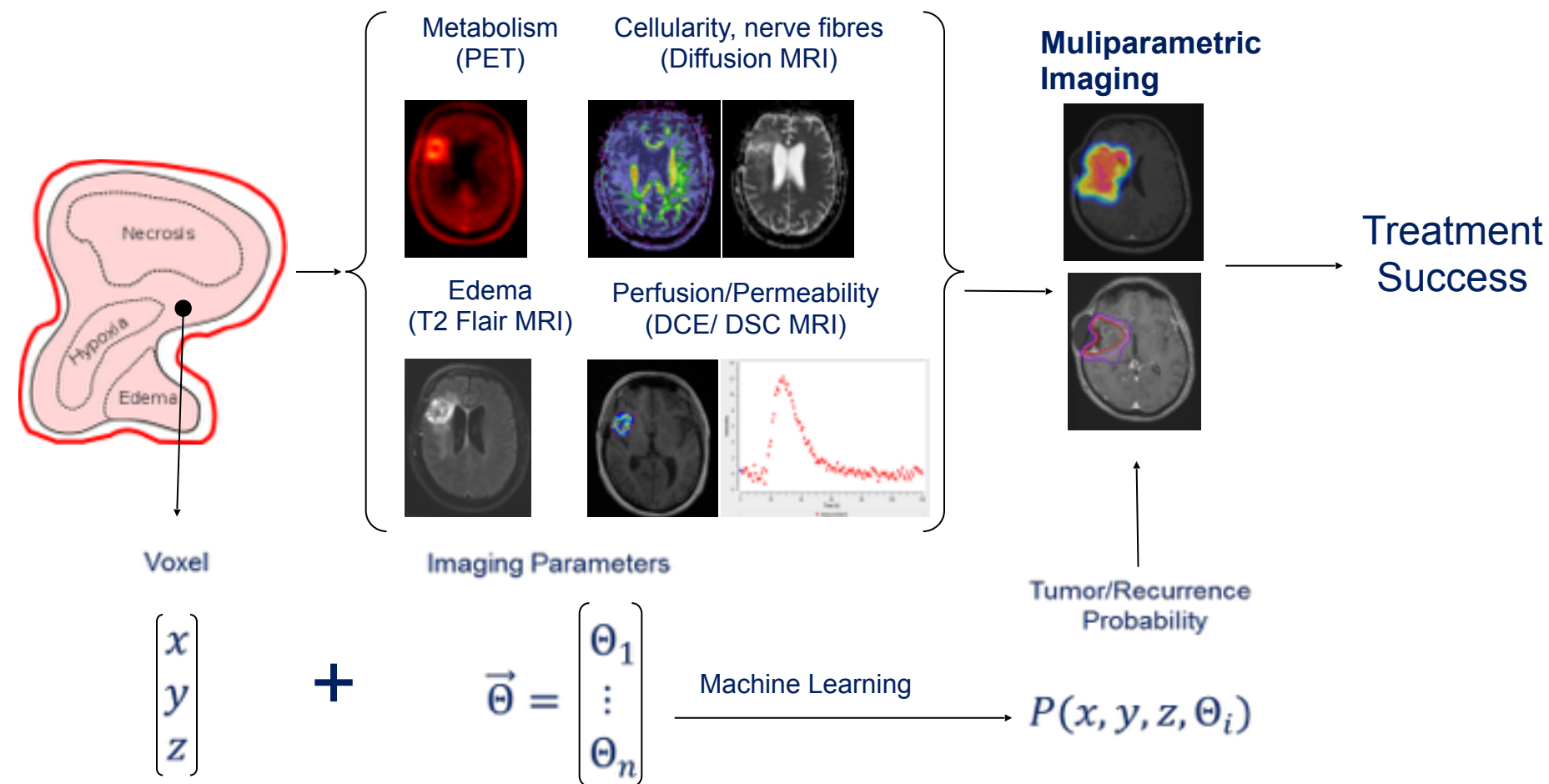
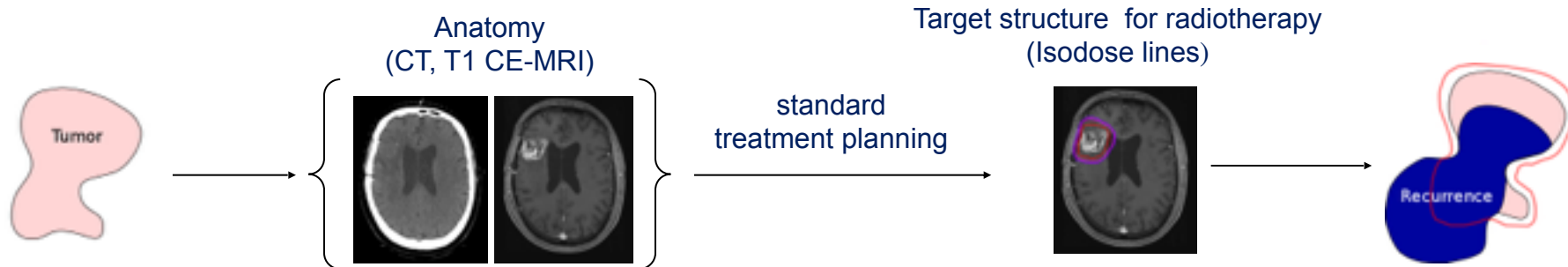


Brainstem



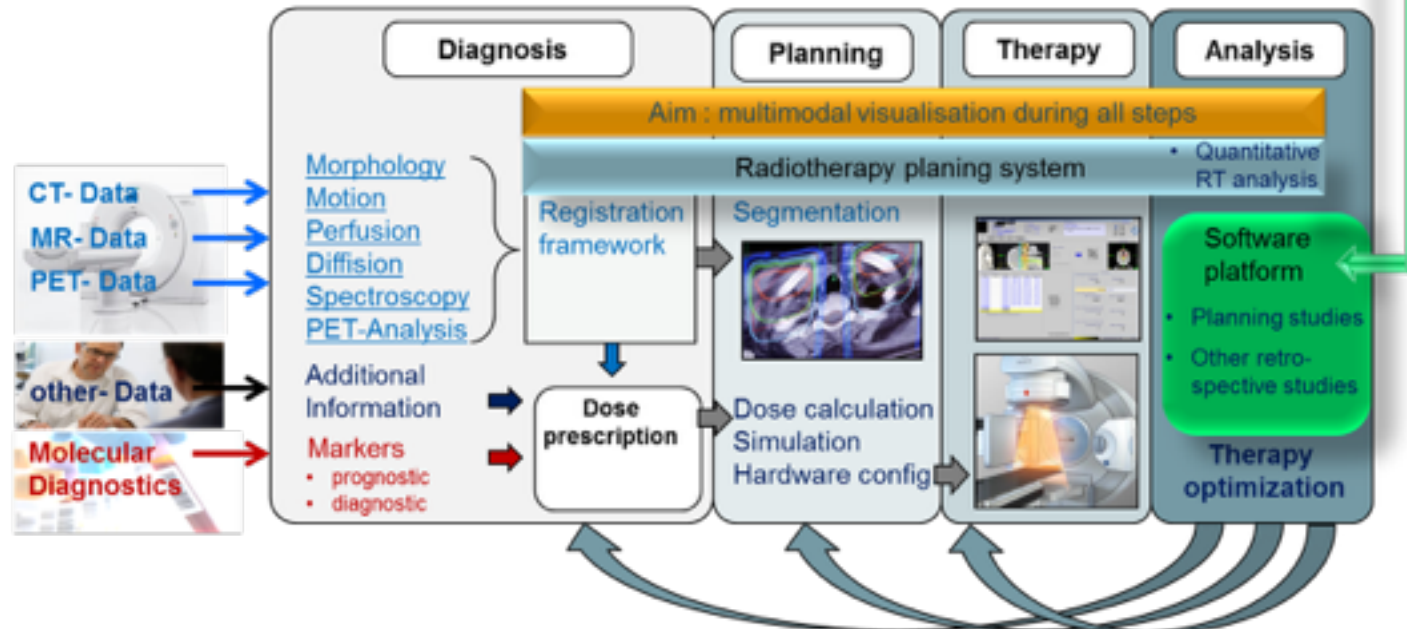
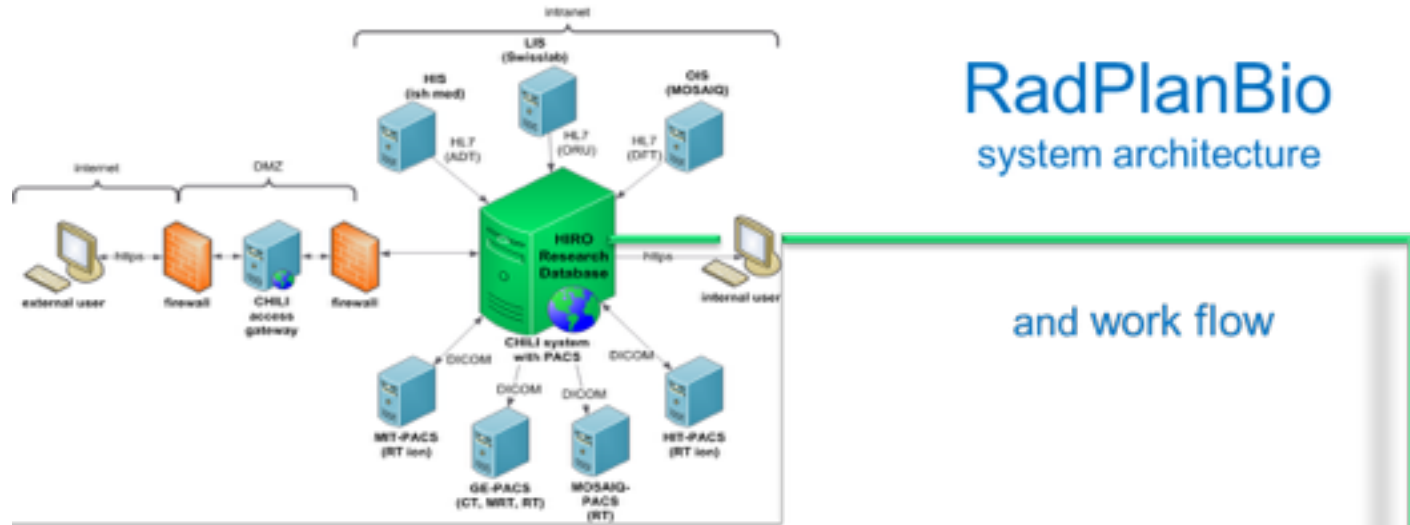
CL Hippocampus

New Ways Of Learning





Systematic assessment of long term effects of particle therapy



Pitfalls

- Commercial priorities: financial pressure
- Not sufficient time for ramp-up
- Underestimation of training needs: CTV / PTV
- Lack of trials interesting for 1) advancing cancer care and for 2) health authorities/ insurances
- Too optimistic estimation of recruitment for studies
- Quick progress of photon radiotherapy (IGRT, ART) comparison with standard of care
- Too rapid shifts from standard treatments (e.g. hypofractionation)
- Underestimation of current shortcomings of particle vs. photon therapy (moving targets, range detection/QM, TPS, on-board imaging, IMRT,)

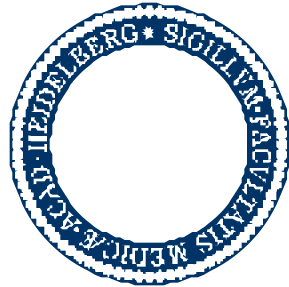


NCI: Indices of clinical relevance

Strength of endpoint	Overall mortality			High	
	Cause-specific mortality				
	Quality of life				
	Indirect surrogates	Low			
		Best case series	Case series	Non-randomized	Randomized
		Levels of evidence			

Caveat:

„Local Tumor Control“
only a „low-strength“
endpoint



UniversitätsKlinikum Heidelberg



HIRO



NCRO



Partners:

