

MEDICIS-Promed Summer School - Pavia



# Treatment Planning in Nuclear Medicine

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Leuven, Belgium

# Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017

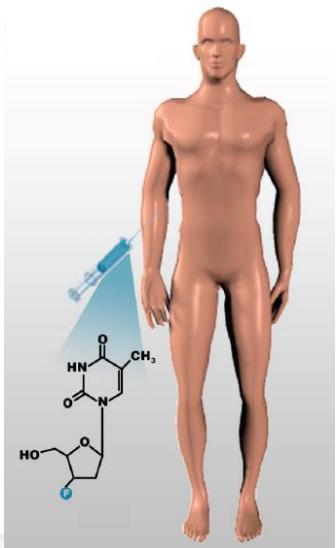
# Overview

- Nuclear medicine treatment: radionuclide therapy (RNT)
- Therapeutic radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals
- Dosimetry
- Currently used RNT and planning aspects
  - $\text{Na}^{131}\text{I}$  for thyroid disease
  - $^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG
  - Peptide receptor radionuclide therapy (PRRT)
  - $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -PSMA (Prostate specific membrane antigen)
  - Radium-223 for bone metastases
  - Selective internal radiation therapy (SIRT)
- Conclusions

# Overview

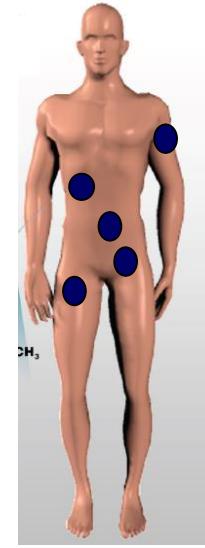
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# Nuclear medicine treatment: Radionuclide Therapy (RNT)



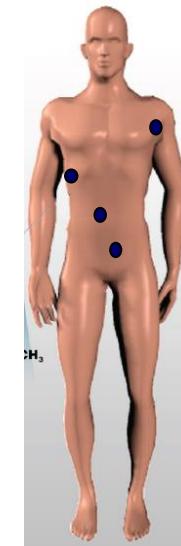
Radiopharmaceutical  
administration

$\Delta\text{Time}$



Radiopharmaceutical  
binds to molecular target  
and accumulates in the  
tissue

$\Delta\text{Time}$



Particulate emission  
leads to local cellular  
destruction

# Theranostics: at the heart of nuclear medicine treatments



On the 31<sup>st</sup> March 1941, Saul Hertz performed the first treatment of hyperthyroidism by a mixture of iodine-131 and iodine-130 isotopes, in Mass. General Hospital

# Theranostics: what's in a name?

## Different words, same concept

- Theranostics
- Theragnostics
- Diapeutics

## Definition

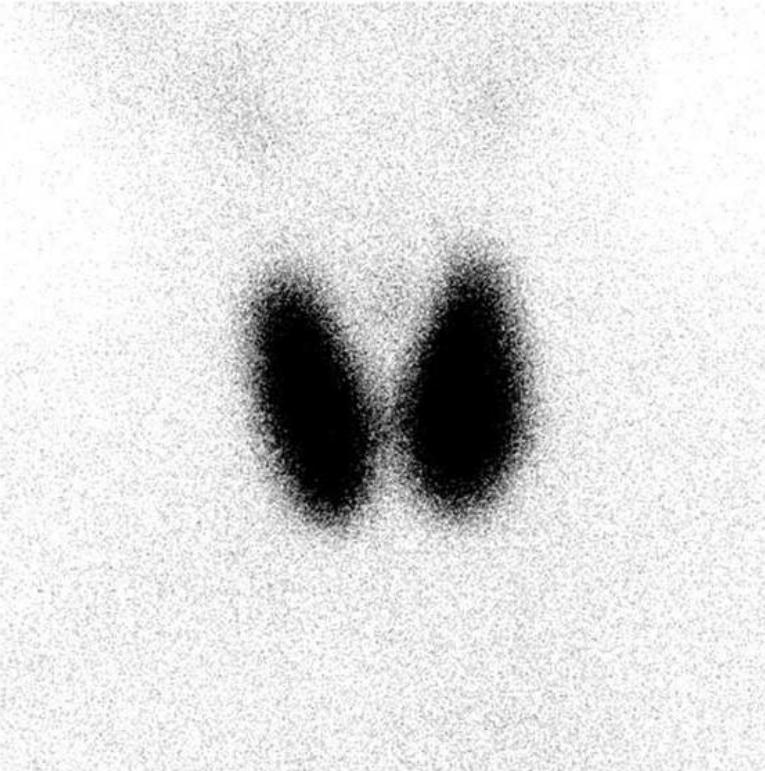
- Wiktionary: “A form of diagnostic testing employed for selecting targeted therapy”
- “Set of molecules used for both diagnostic and therapeutic medical purposes”.



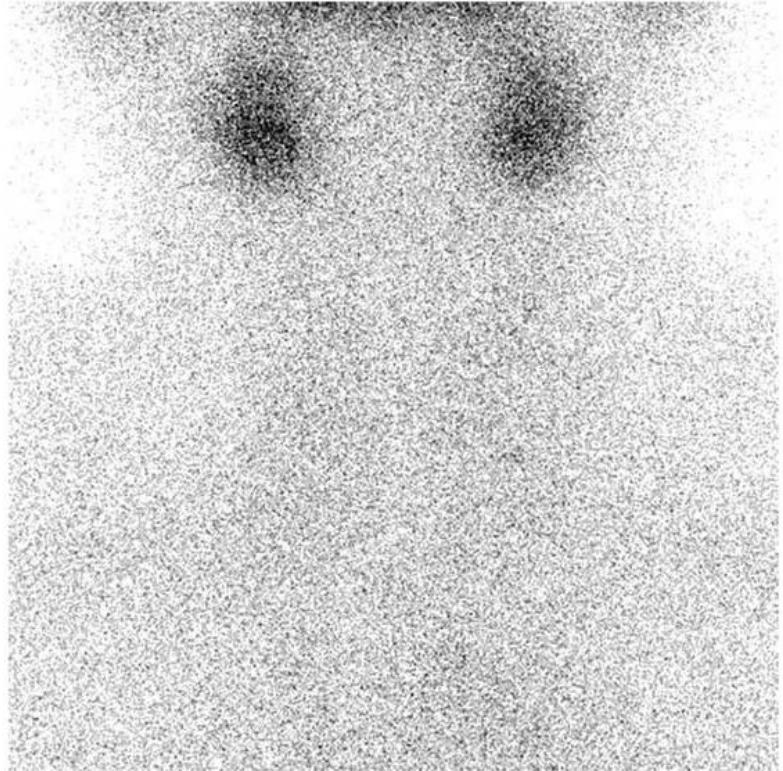
## Key features

- Diagnostic test allows to predict the efficacy or toxicity of the corresponding treatment
- Allows to individualize a treatment for a given patient
- In its most extreme form, the same vector molecule or even the exact same chemical entity is used for both a diagnostic and therapeutic purpose

# Imaging the thyroid gland in hyperthyroidism

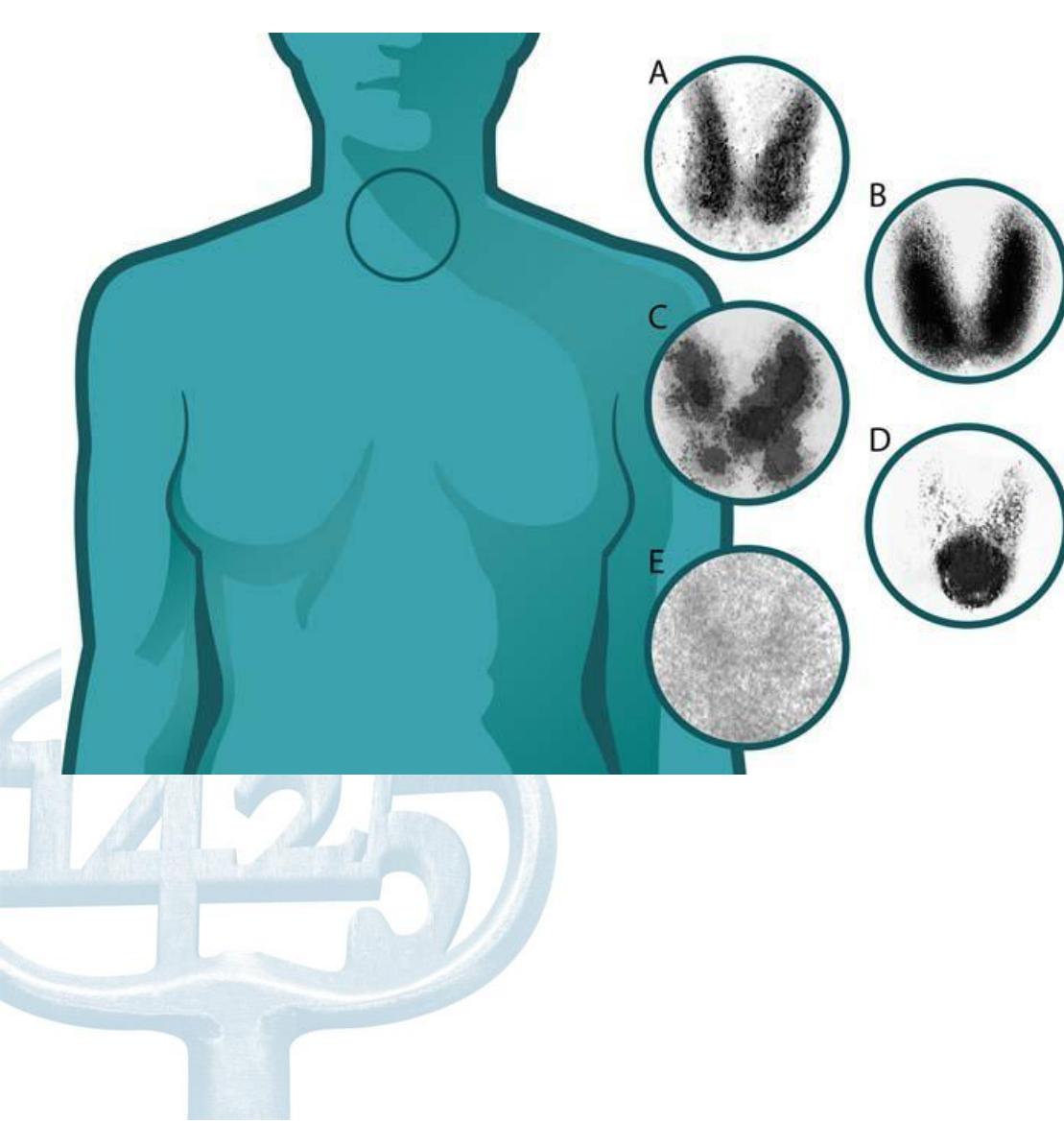


Graves' disease



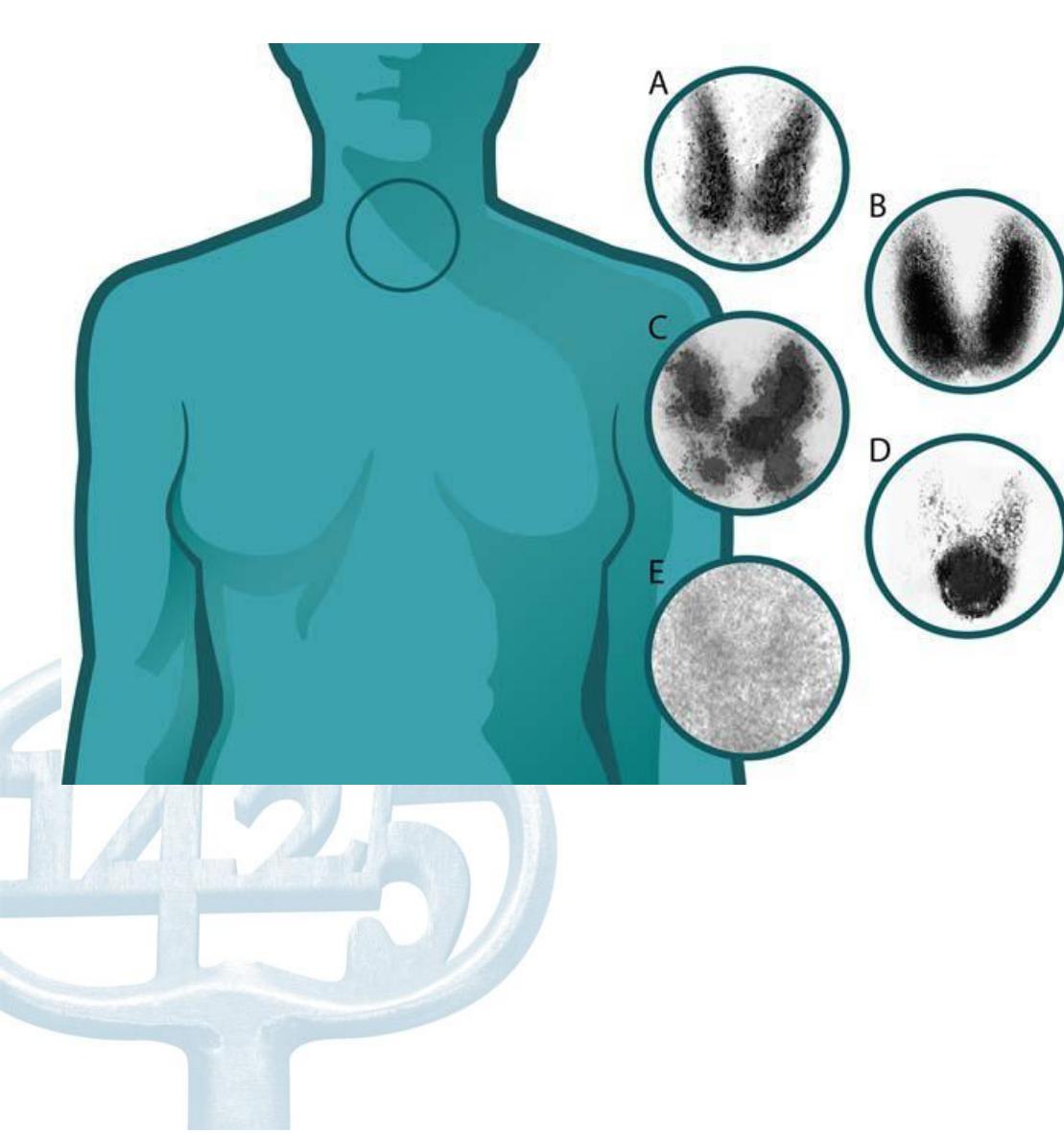
Thyroiditis

# Treatment of the thyroid with iodine-131



- A: Normal
- B: Graves
- C: Toxic multinodular goiter
- D: Autonomous Nodule
- E: Thyroiditis

# Treatment of the thyroid with iodine-131



**A: Normal**

**B: Graves**

**C: Toxic multinodular goiter**

**D: Autonomous Nodule**

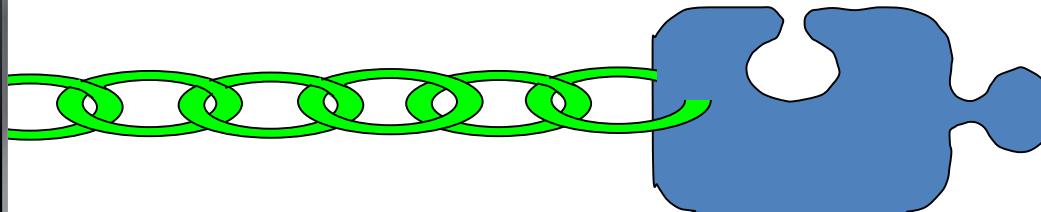
**E: Thyroiditis**

# Radiopharmaceutical: diagnostic

For molecular imaging (diagnosis)



**Linker:**  
Serves as a handle to attach the radionuclide to the vector



**Radionuclide:**

Emits radiation upon decay.  
The radiation can be detected  
by the nuclear medicine  
cameras

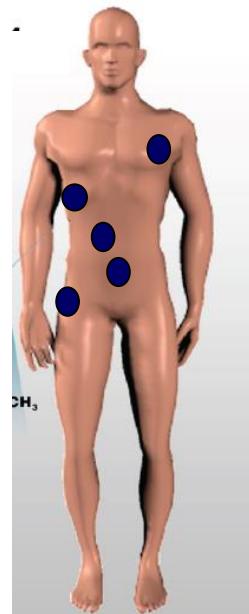
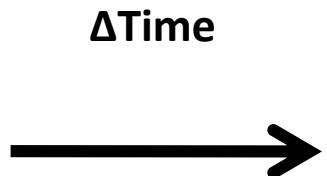
**Vector:**

Is responsible for a specific interaction  
with the target (receptor, transporter,  
enzyme,...)

# Diagnostic use: imaging



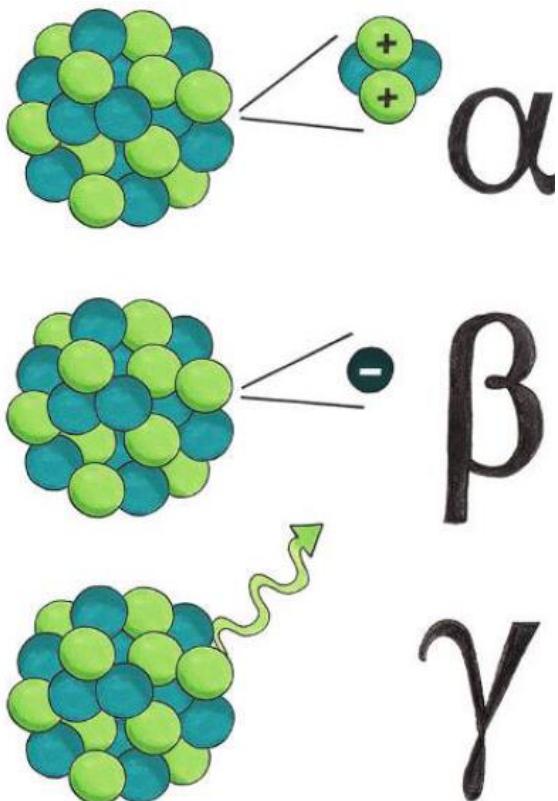
Injection  
radiofarmaceutical



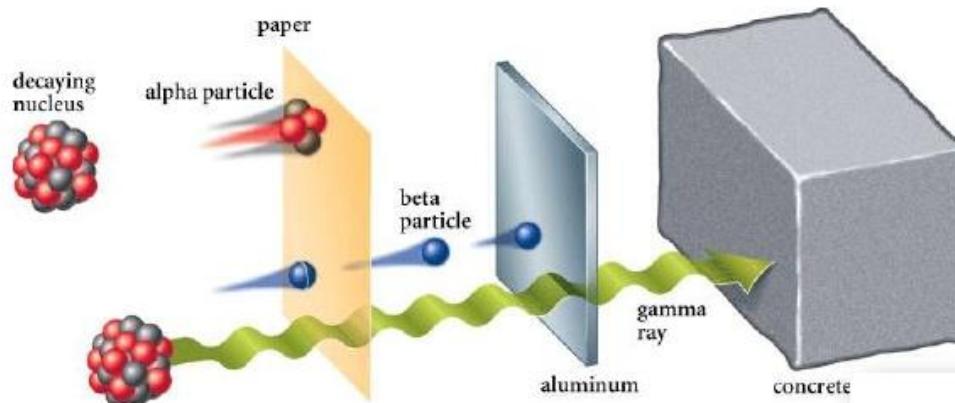
Accumulation  
radiofarmaceutical in  
cancer cells



# Limited penetration power of $\alpha$ et $\beta$ -particles: allows therapeutic applications



Characteristics of alpha, beta ( $\beta^+$  and  $\beta^-$ ) and gamma radiations

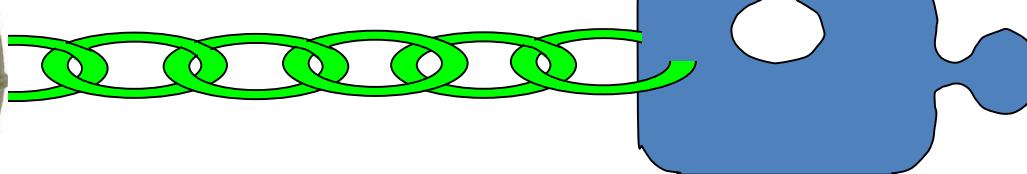


# Radiopharmaceutical: therapeutic

For therapy

Linker:

Serves as a handle to attach the radionuclide to the vector



Radionuclide:

Upon decay emits particulate radiation for destruction of the tissue target cells

Vector:

Is responsible for a specific interaction with the target (receptor, transporter, enzyme,...)

# Specific features of the radionuclide: example from PRRT

- Most documented:  $^{111}\text{In}$  -  $^{90}\text{Y}$  –  $^{177}\text{Lu}$
- Differ in:
  - emitted particles
  - energy of particles
  - tissue penetration

Radionuclides	Emitted particle	Energy of particles	Max tissue penetration	Half life
Indium-111	Auger elektron $\gamma$ -radiation	3 & 19 keV  171 & 245 keV	10 $\mu\text{m}$	2.8 days
Yttrium-90	$\beta$ -radiation	935 keV	11 mm	2.7 days
Lutetium-177	$\beta$ -radiation $\gamma$ -radiation	130 keV  113 & 208 keV	2 mm	6.7 days
Bismuth-213	$\alpha$ -radiation $\beta$ -radiation $\gamma$ -radiation	8400 keV  435 & 198 keV  440 keV	0.080 mm	46 min

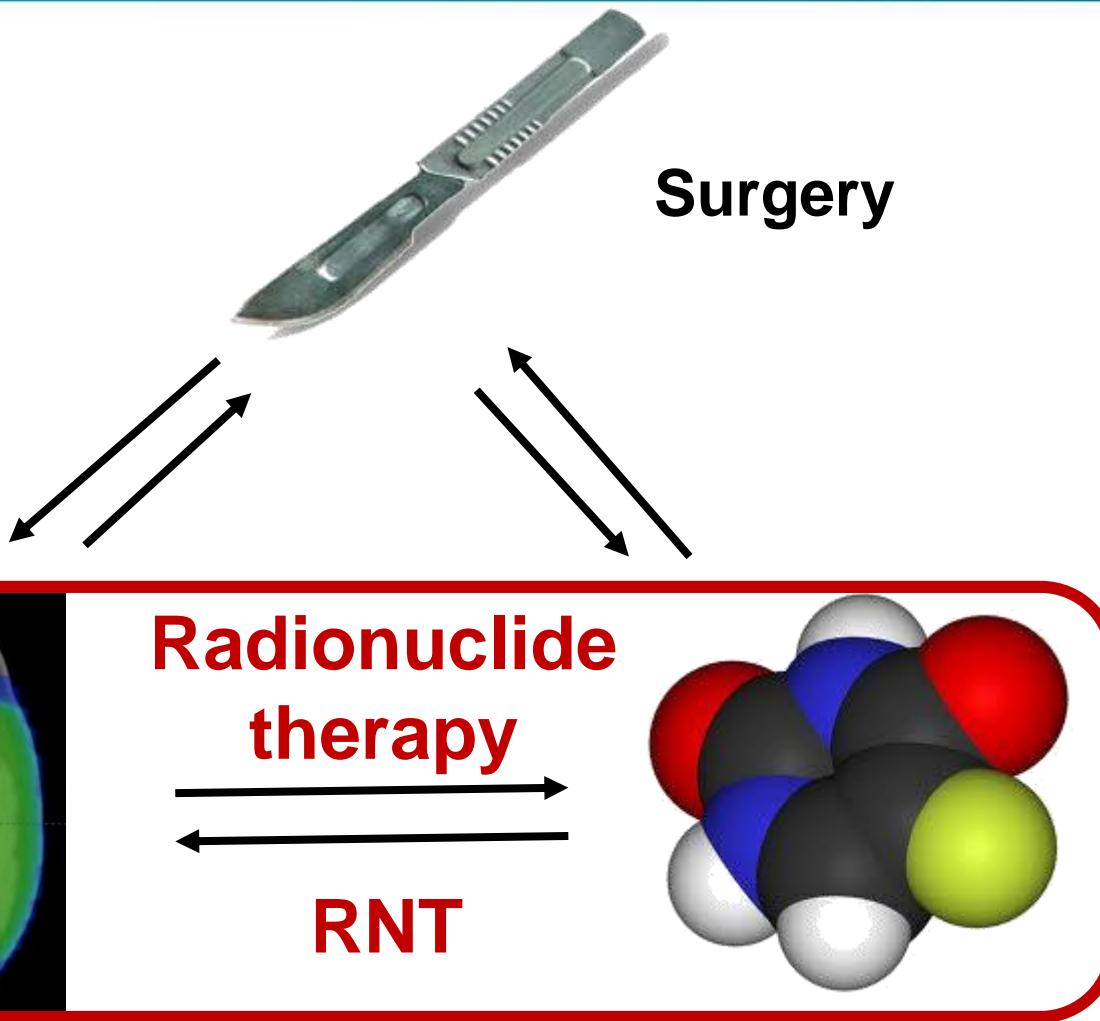
Large tumors

Small tumors

Large & small

Microscopic disease

# The Oncological Treatment Triangle



**External beam  
radiation therapy**

**Systemic treatment  
(chemo, hormono, targeted, immuno)**

# RNT compared to EBRT

**RNT = EBRT**

	RNT	EBRT
<b>Ionising radiation tissue damage</b>	YES	YES

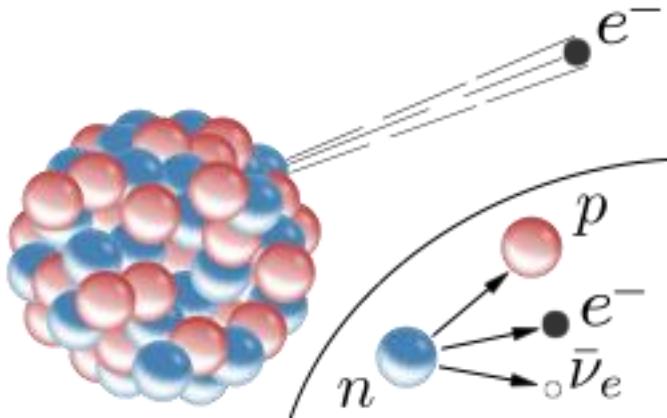
**RNT ≠ EBRT**

	RNT	EBRT
<b>Source in relation to patient</b>	Internal	External
<b>Source</b>	Radiopharmaceutical	Accelerator
<b>Regulatory aspects</b>	Drug + Radiation	Radiation
<b>Prescription</b>	Activity (Bq)	Dose (Gy)
<b>Dose rate</b>	Gy/hour – Gy/day	Gy/min
<b>Potential to harm</b>	Low	High

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# Beta-particle ( $\beta^-$ )



Particle emitted during  $\beta$ -decay by some radioactive atoms

1425

●	1 electron
Mass:	$9.109 \times 10^{-31}$ kg
Mass:	0.00055 u
Electric charge:	-1 e
Spin	1/2
Kinetic Energy	continuous spectrum few keV – 10's MeV
Speed	typically > 75% c
Source	$^{131}\text{I}$ , $^{90}\text{Y}$ , $^{177}\text{Lu}$ , $^{153}\text{Sm}$ , $^{89}\text{Sr}$ , ...

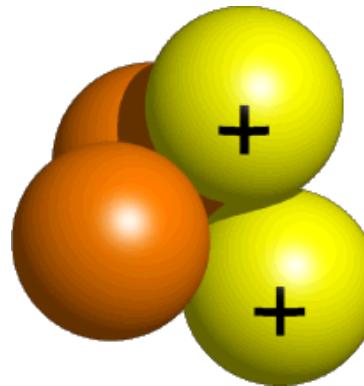
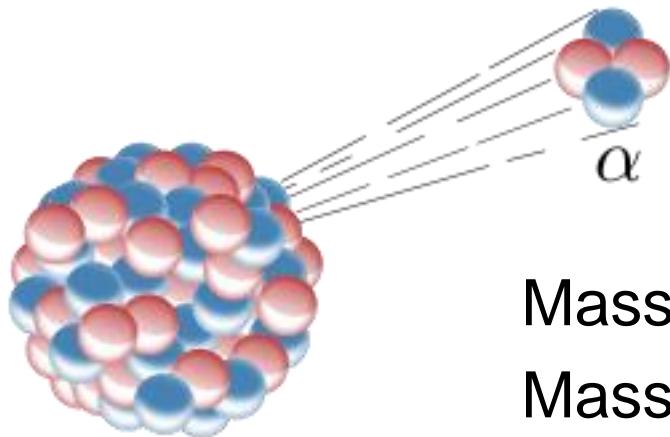
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electron>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beta\\_particle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beta_particle)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beta\\_decay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beta_decay)

# Alpha-particle ( $\alpha$ )

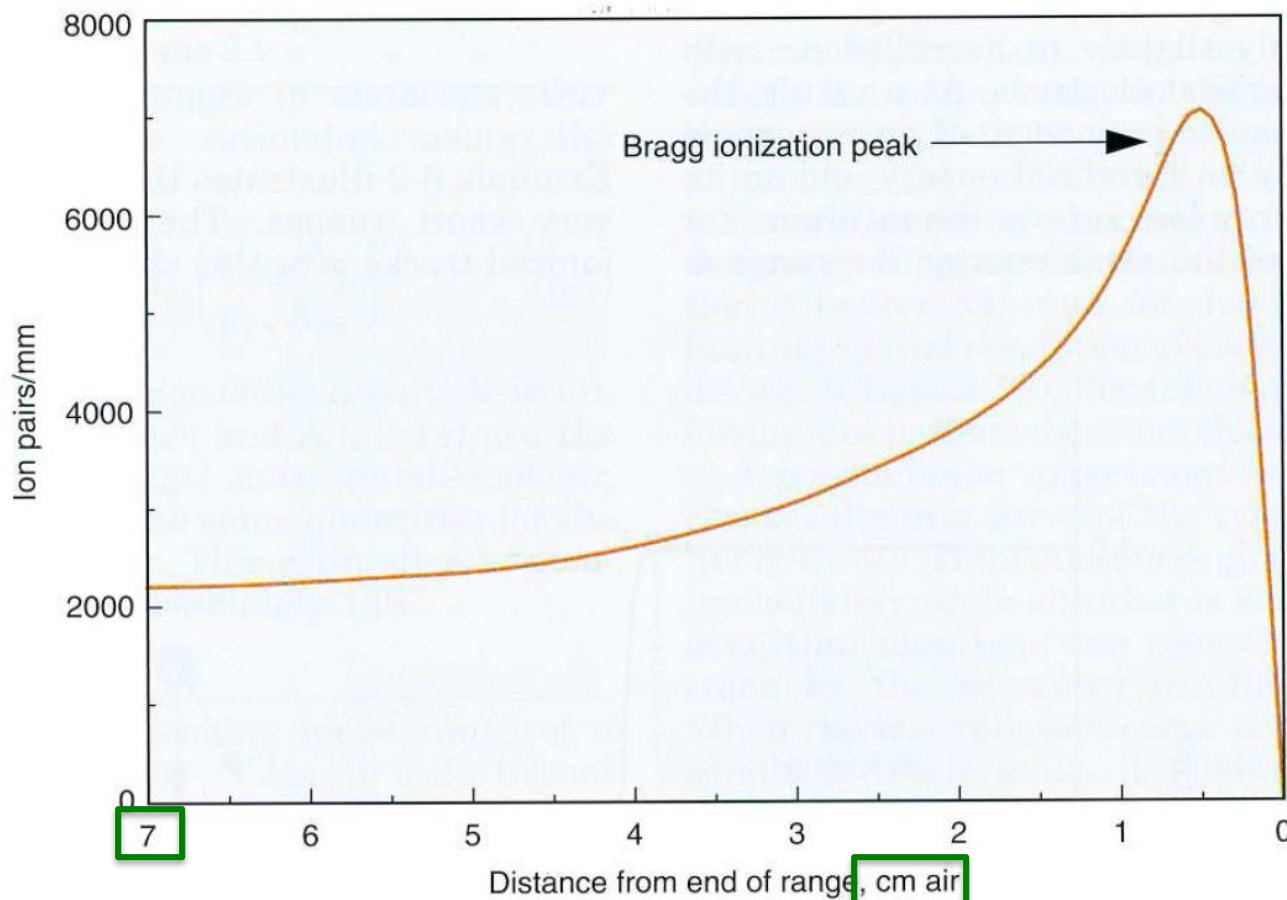
Particle emitted during  $\alpha$ -decay  
by some radioactive atoms



2 neutrons  
2 protons  
= He Nucleus

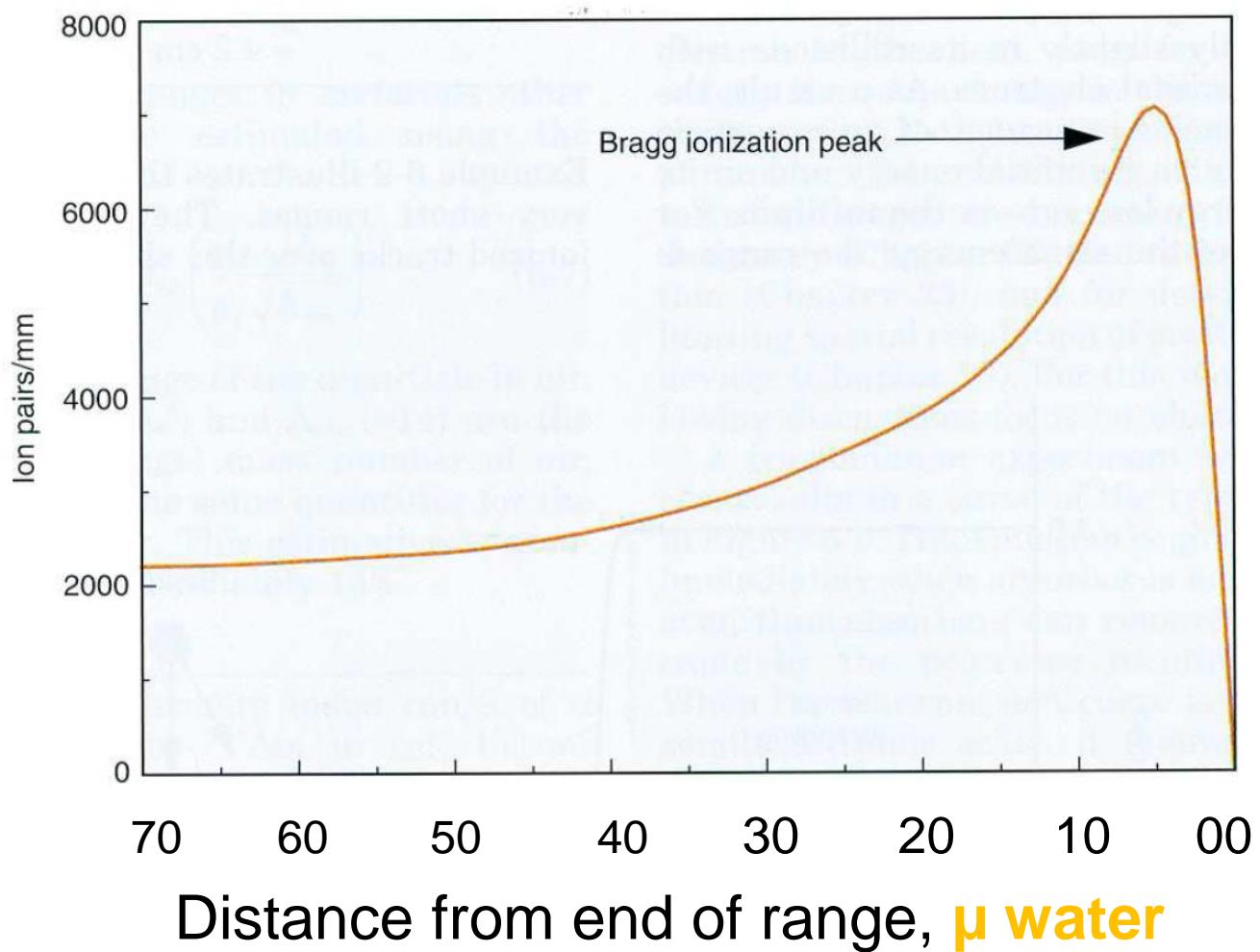
Mass:	$6.645 \times 10^{-27}$ kg
Mass:	4.0015 u
Electric charge:	2 e
Spin	0
Kinetic Energy	typically 3-7 MeV
Speed	$\approx 5\%$ speed of light (c)

# Ionisations of $\alpha$ -particles in air



**FIGURE 6-7** Specific ionization versus distance traveled for  $\alpha$  particles in air. (Adapted from Mladjenovic M: Radioisotope and Radiation Physics. New York, 1973, Academic Press, p 111.)

# Ionisations of $\alpha$ -particles in water



Adapted from Physics in Nuclear Medicine, Cherry, Sorenson et al, Elsevier Saunders, 4th edition, 2012

# Difference in ionisations induced by $\alpha$ and $\beta$ -particles



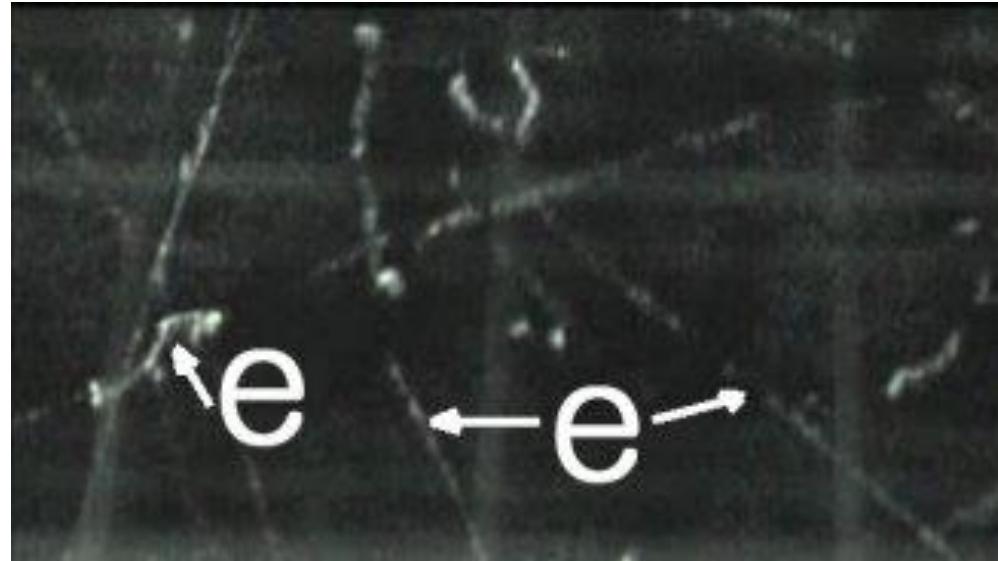
**α**

Short range ( $\approx$  microns)

Many ionisations

$\Rightarrow$ High linear energy transfer (LET)

Irreparable cell damage



**β**

Longer range ( $\approx$  millimeters)

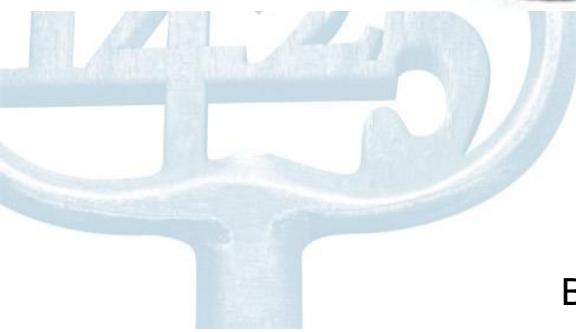
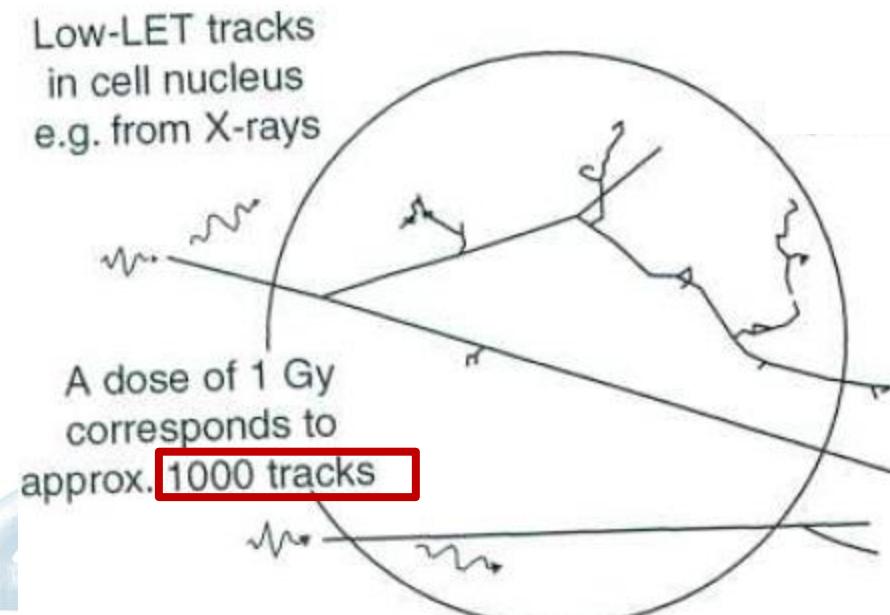
Less ionisations

$\Rightarrow$ Low linear energy transfer (LET)

Cell damage can be repaired

# Difference of particle track compared to mammalian nucleus

β



# Radiopharmaceuticals used for the therapy of bone metastases

Isotope	Form	Decay	$T^{1/2}$	Particle Energy		$\gamma$ -Energy		Soft-tissue range		Typical Activity	
				(days)	Max (MeV)	Mean (MeV)	(keV)	(%)	Max (mm)		
$^{32}\text{P}$	$^{32}\text{P}$ -orthophosphate	$\beta$	14.3	1.7	0.70	na			8.5	3	5-10 mCi i.v. 10-12mCi p.o.
$^{89}\text{Sr}$	$^{89}\text{SrCl}_2$	$\beta$	50.5	1.46	0.58	909	0.01%	7.0	2.4	4 mCi i.v. 40-60 $\mu\text{Ci/kg}$ i.v.	
$^{153}\text{Sm}$	$^{153}\text{Sm-EDTMP}$	$\beta$	1.9	0.81	0.23	103	28%	3.4	0.6	1 mCi/kg i.v.	
$^{186}\text{Re}$	$^{186}\text{Re-HEDP}$	$\beta$	3.7	1.07	0.35	137	9%	3.7	1.1	35 mCi i.v.	
$^{117\text{m}}\text{Sn}$	$^{117\text{m}}\text{Sn-DTPA}$	Conv e <sup>-</sup>	13.6	0.15	$\approx$ 0.13	159			0.2-0.3	0.05-0.27 mCi/kg i.v.	
$^{223}\text{Ra}$	$^{223}\text{RaCl}_2$	$\alpha$	11.4	5.98	5.64	154 269 351 ( $<^{211}\text{Bi}$ )	6% 14% 13%		0.05-0.08	1.4 $\mu\text{Ci/kg}$ i.v.	

# Radiopharmaceuticals used for the therapy of bone metastases - normalised

Isotope	Form	Decay	$T^{1/2}$	Particle Energy		$\gamma$ -Energy		Soft-tissue range		Typical Activity	
				(days)	Max	Mean	(keV)	(% des)	Max		
<sup>32</sup> P	<sup>32</sup> P-orthophosphate	$\beta$	125%	28%	12%	na			131	46	74
<sup>89</sup> Sr	<sup>89</sup> SrCl <sub>2</sub>	$\beta$	443%	24%	10%	909	0.01%	108	37	37	
<sup>153</sup> Sm	<sup>153</sup> Sm-EDTMP	$\beta$	17%	14%	4%	103	28%	52	9	740	
<sup>186</sup> Re	<sup>186</sup> Re-HEDP	$\beta$	32%	18%	6%	137	9%	57	17	345	
<sup>117m</sup> Sn	<sup>117m</sup> Sn-DTPA	Conv e <sup>-</sup>	119%	3%	2%	159			4	118	
<sup>223</sup> Ra	<sup>223</sup> RaCl <sub>2</sub>	$\alpha$	100%	100%	100%	154 269 351 (< <sup>211</sup> Bi)	6% 14% 13%		1	1	

# Examples of therapeutic radionuclides

- Strontium-89 ( $\beta$ )

Previous routine clinical use

- Iodine-131 ( $\beta$ - $\gamma$ )

- Radium-223 ( $\alpha$ )

- Yttrium-90 (“pure”  $\beta$ )

- Lutetium-177 ( $\beta$ - $\gamma$ )

- Samarium-153 ( $\beta$ - $\gamma$ )



Current routine clinical use

- Holmium-166 ( $\beta$ - $\gamma$ )

Extensive experimental human data

- Thorium-227 ( $\alpha$ )

In developement

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# Internal Dosimetry: definition

- Dosimetry = calculation of the (absorbed) dose within matter (tissue) caused by (in)direct ionising radiation from a certain amount of (radio)activity.
- Dosimetry : activity (Bq) → absorbed dose (Gy)



# Unit of internal dosimetry

- Rad: energy deposited per unit mass (any material, any radiation)
- Kerma (kinetic energy released in matter)
  - Sum of initial kinetic energies of all charged particles liberated by uncharged ionizing radiation per unit mass
- Rad ~ Kerma
- SI Unit: Gray (Gy)
  - $1 \text{ Gy} \equiv 1 \text{ J/kg absorber}$
  - 4186 Joules to heat a kilogram of water  $1^\circ\text{Celsius}$
  - 1 Gy heats 1 kg water by  $1/4186^\circ\text{C}$  ( $\sim 0.0002^\circ\text{C}$ )

# Radiation weighting factors

TABLE 14.1. Radiation weighting factors.

Type and energy range	Radiation weighting factors, $W_r$
Photons, all energies	1
Electrons, muons, all energies	1
Neutrons, energy <10 keV	5
10 keV to 100 keV	10
>100 keV to 2 MeV	20
>2 MeV to 20 MeV	10
>20 MeV	5
Protons, other than recoil protons, energy >2 MeV	5
Alpha particles, fission fragments, heavy nuclei	20

Adapted with permission from ICRP Publication 60: *1990 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection*. New York: Pergamon Press; 1991.



# What factors determine dose?

- Administered activity (sometimes called “Dose” or “Dosis”)
- Physical half-life
- Fractional abundance of radiation from the radionuclide
- Biodistribution within the body and its evolution over time
- Fraction of energy released from the source organ absorbed in the target organ:

- Shape
- Composition
- Location

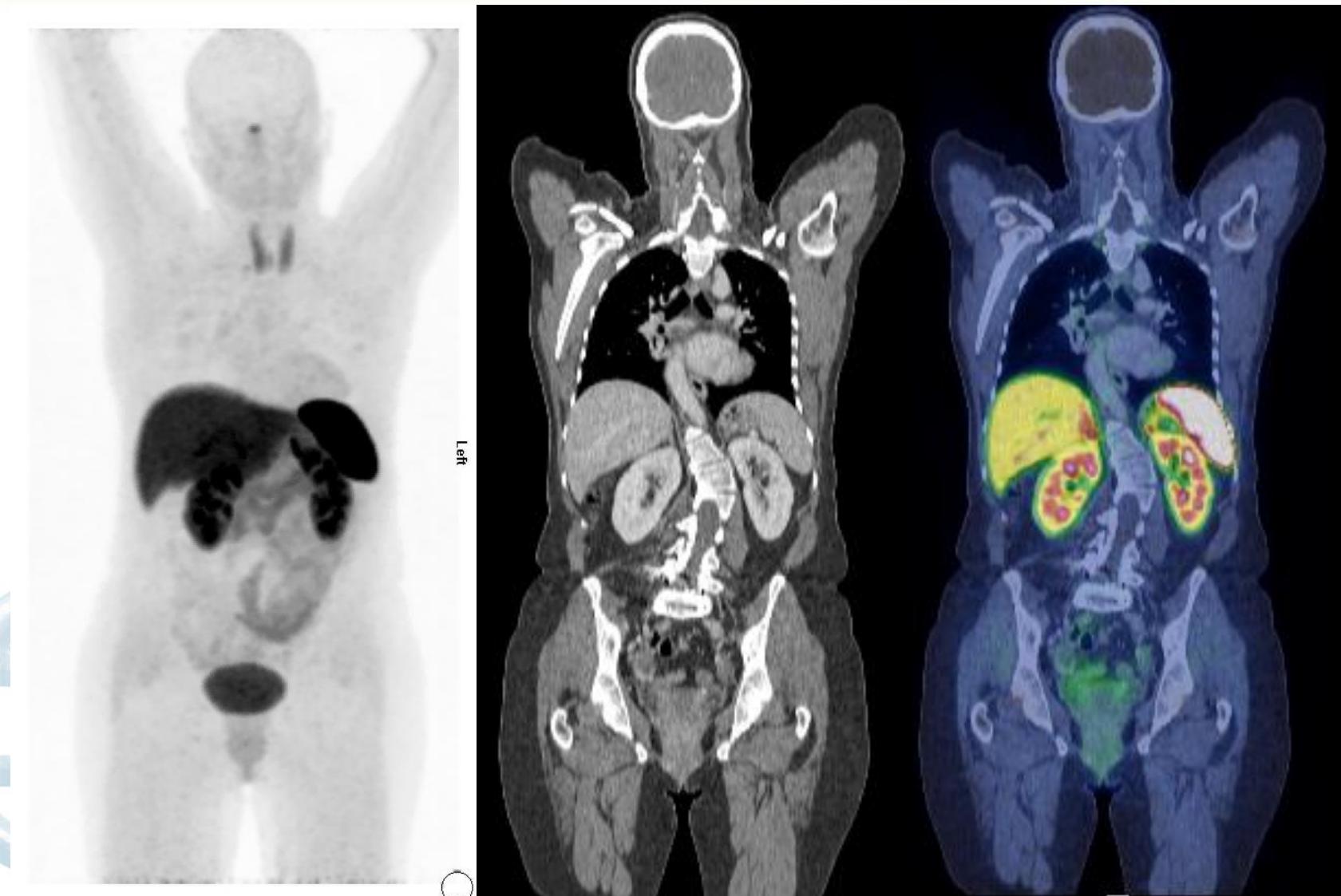
} of the target

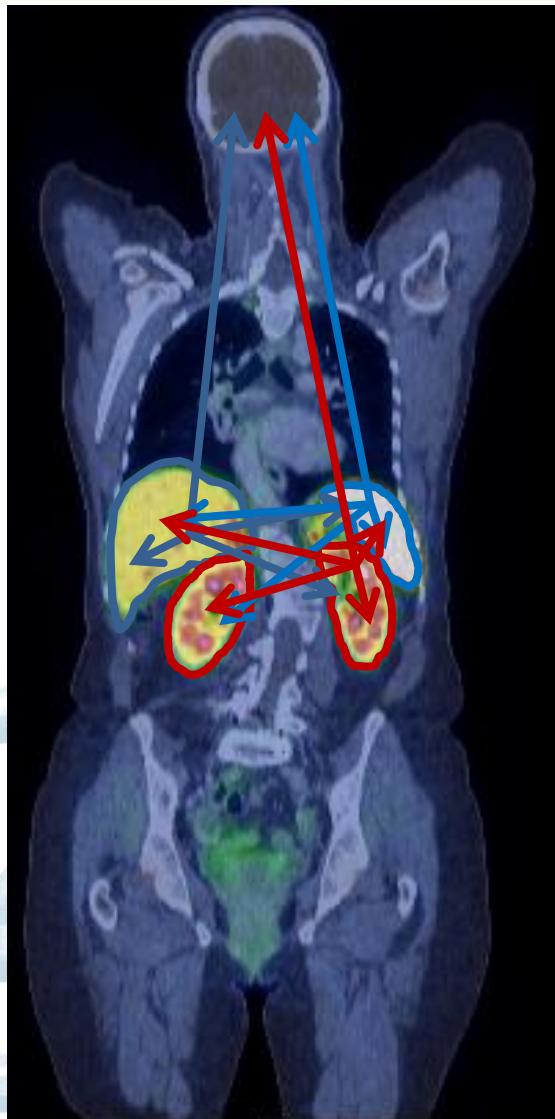
Green: measured dose calibrator

Dark green: constant

Red: unknown, biological variation

Purple: unknown, biological variation



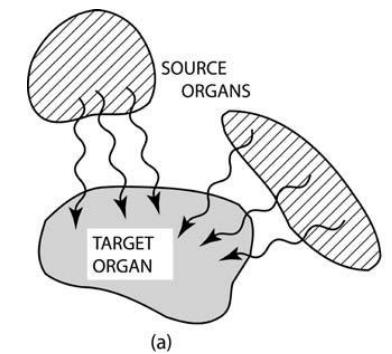


Liver

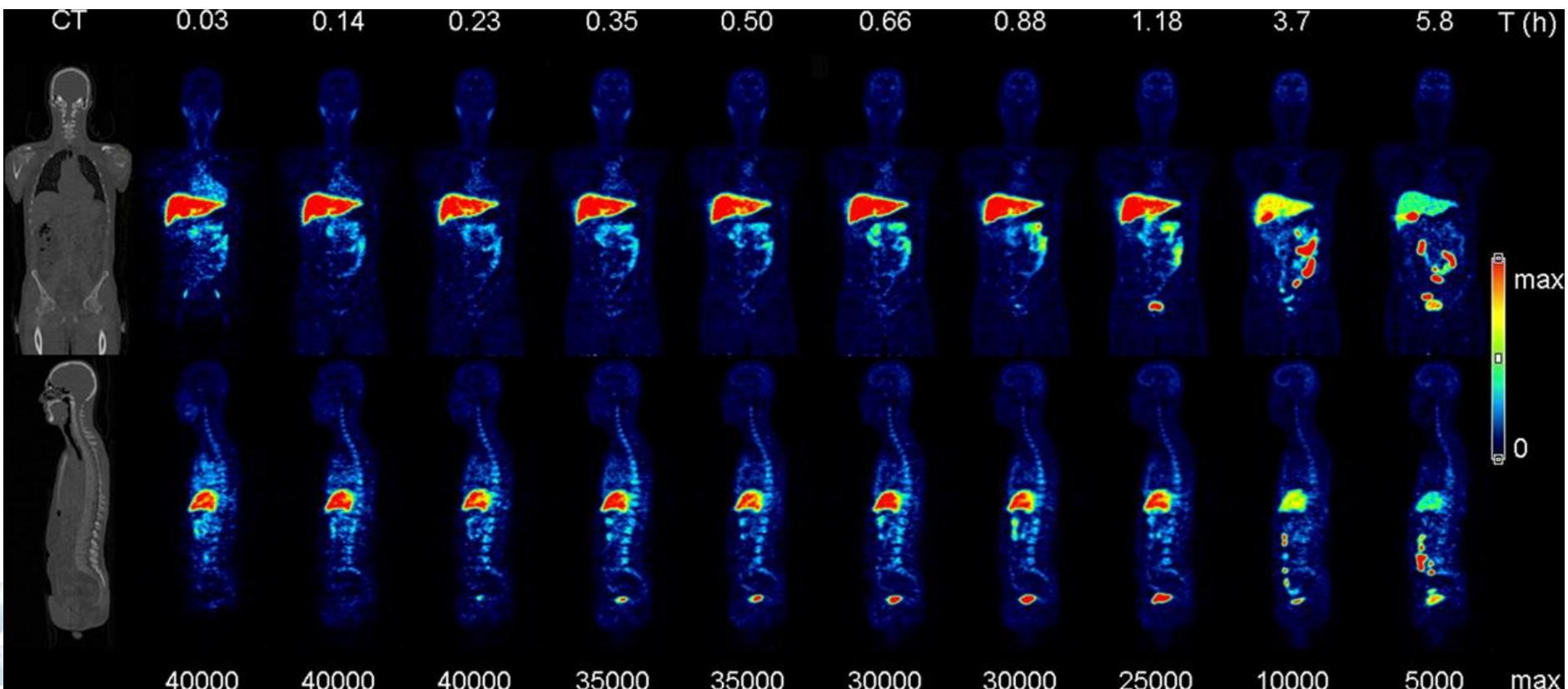
Spleen

Kidneys

All relevant organs



# Biodistribution: serial imaging

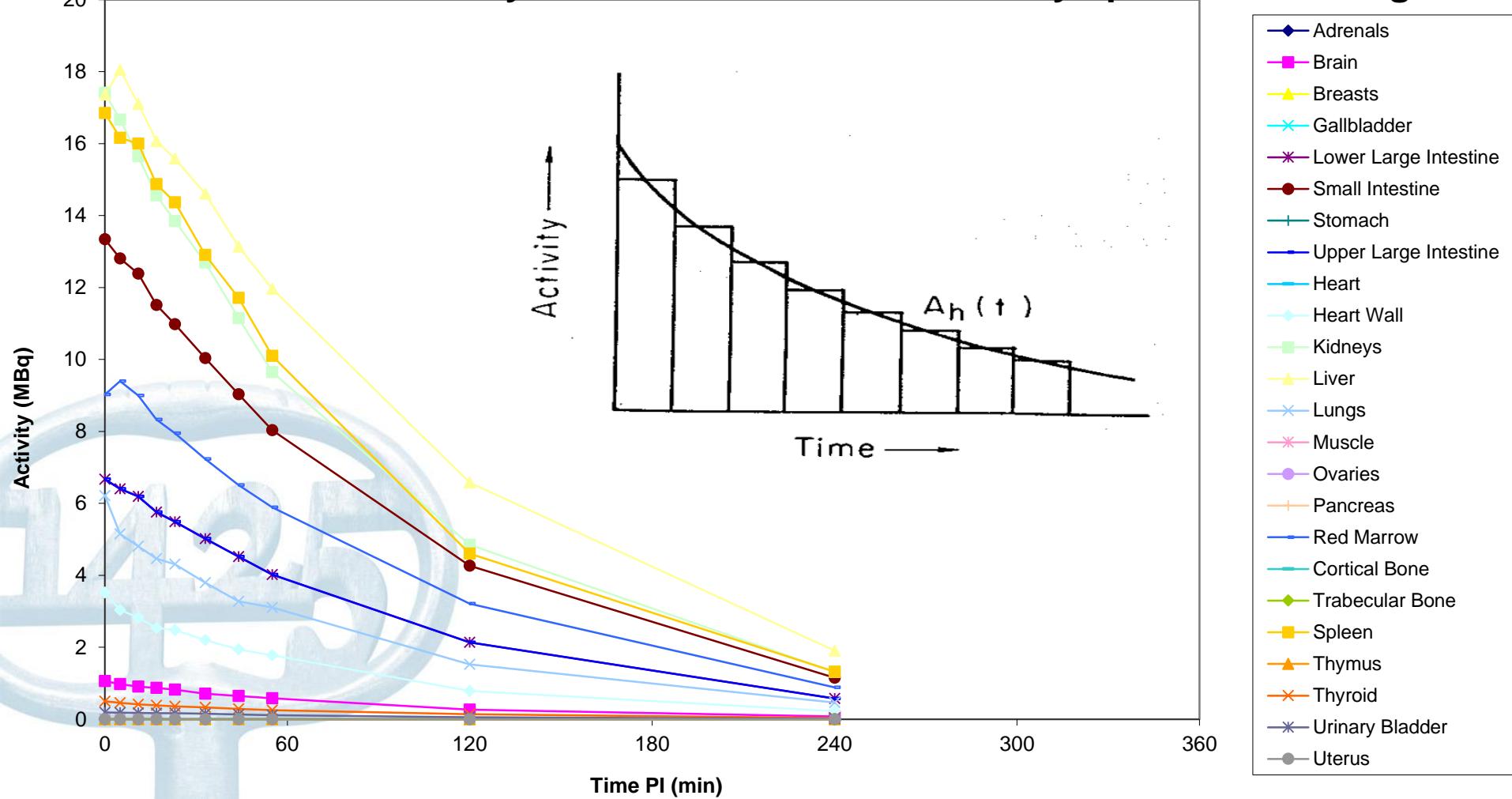


# Biodistribution: time activity curve

Integral (Bq.hrs)

Residence time: integral divided injected Activity ( $A_0$ ) (hrs)

Residence time intuitively: virtual time the entire activity spends in one organ



# S-value

- Conversion factor between activity in one part of the body and dose in an other part of the body
- S-value
  - Fysical characteristics of the radionuclide
    - Type of desintegration (X-rays, gamma, beta, ...)
    - Desintegration probability
    - Energy per desintegration
  - Absorbed fraction of the emitted energy
    - Attenuation of the medium
    - Scatter
    - Morphology
  - Mass of the target organ
  - Conversion constant

S-value

$$\text{dose rate} \propto (\text{activity}) \frac{\left( \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{transition}} \right) \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{energy emitted from a source}}}{\text{energy absorbed in a target}}$$

# Emitted Energy per transition

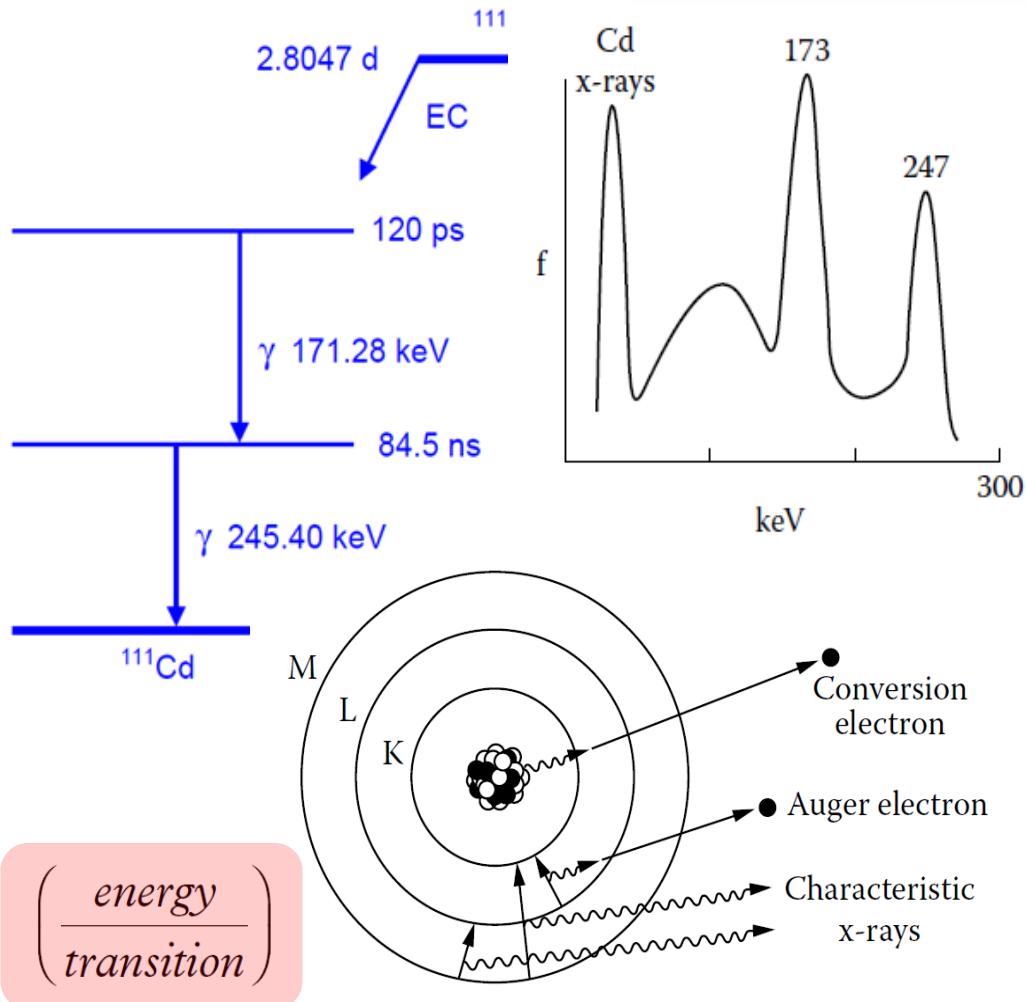
TABLE 3. Nuclear Data for  $^{111}\text{In}$

Principal radiation	$E_i$ (keV)*	$n_i$	Equilibrium dose constant, $\Delta_i$	
			(rad g $\mu\text{Ci}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ )	(Gy kg $\text{Bq}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ )
Auger electron	2.7	0.98	5.68E-03	4.27E-16
	19.3	0.156	6.41E-03	4.82E-16
Conversion electron	144.6	0.078	2.40E-02	1.80E-15
	167.3	0.0106	3.78E-03	2.84E-16
	170.5	0.00203	7.37E-04	5.54E-17
	171.2	0.000424	1.55E-04	1.16E-17
	218.7	0.0493	2.30E-02	1.73E-15
	241.4	0.00785	4.04E-03	3.03E-16
	244.6	0.00151	7.87E-04	5.91E-17
	245.3	0.000301	1.57E-04	1.18E-17
	3.1	0.069	4.60E-04	3.46E-17
x-ray	23	0.235	1.15E-02	8.64E-16
	23.2	0.443	2.19E-02	1.64E-15
	26.1	0.145	8.06E-03	6.06E-16
	171.3	0.902	3.29E-01	2.47E-14
$\gamma$	245.4	0.94	4.91E-01	3.69E-14

\*Average electron energies.

$E_i$  = mean energy per particle or photon;  $n_i$  = mean number of particles or photons per nuclear transition;  $\Delta_i$  = mean energy emitted per nuclear transition.

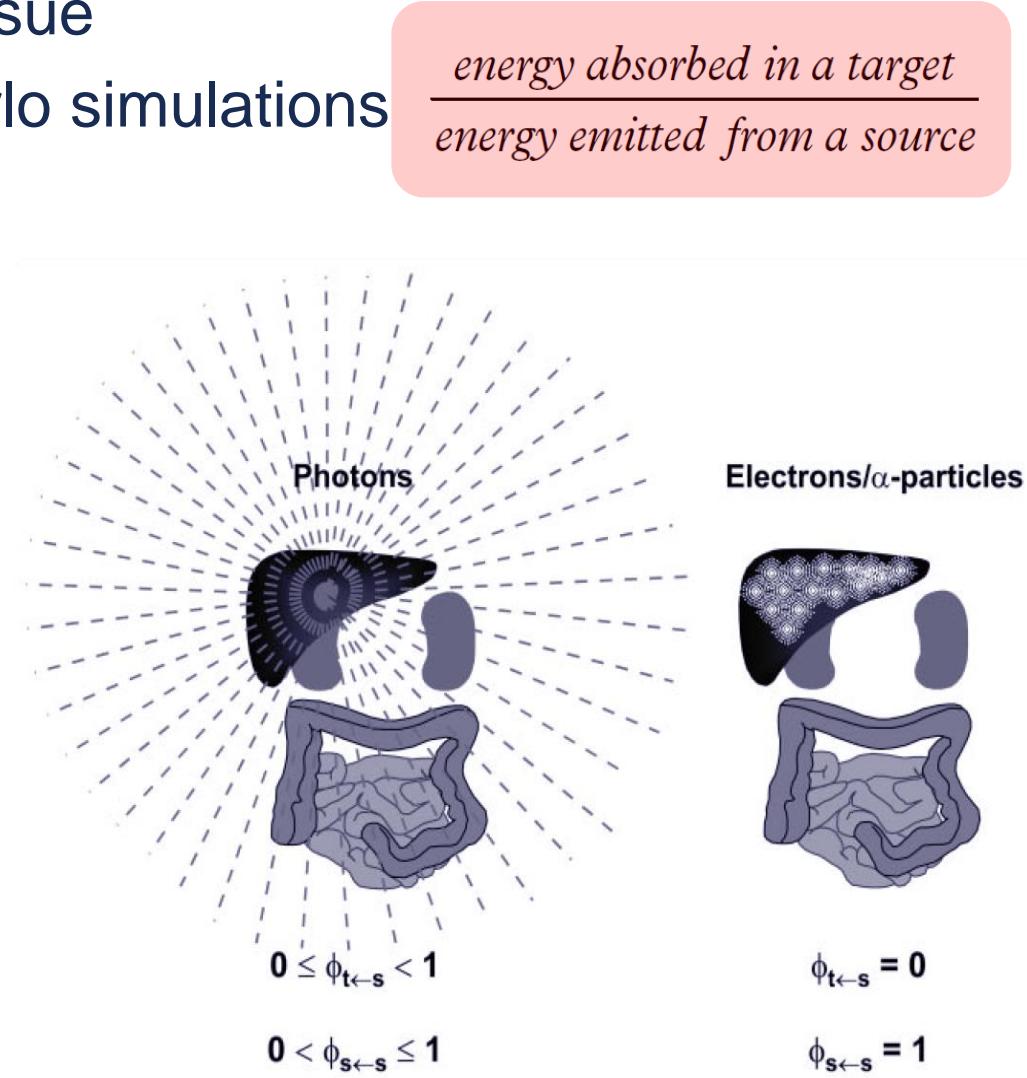
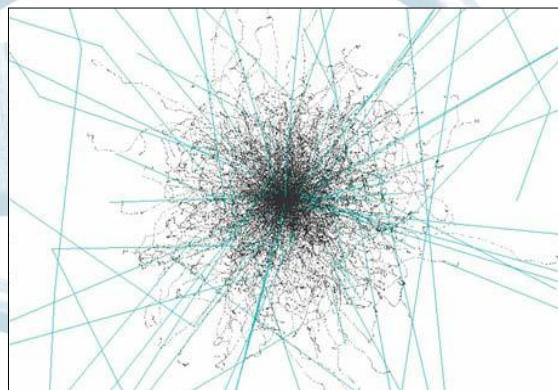
$^{111}\text{In}$  has the following properties: physical half-life, 67.3 h; decay constant,  $0.0103 \text{ h}^{-1}$ ; and decay mode, electron capture.



# Absorbed fraction

- Fraction of the energy emitted in the source which is absorbed by the target tissue
- Determined by Monte Carlo simulations
- Depends on
  - type radiation
  - energy
- Particular case:  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ :
  - Source  $\rightarrow$  Source  $\sim 1$
  - Source  $\rightarrow$  Target  $\sim 0$

$$\frac{\text{energy absorbed in a target}}{\text{energy emitted from a source}}$$



# Specific absorbed fraction

- SAF (unit:  $\text{kg}^{-1}$ )
- Determined based on phantoms
- More or less realistic compared to normal human

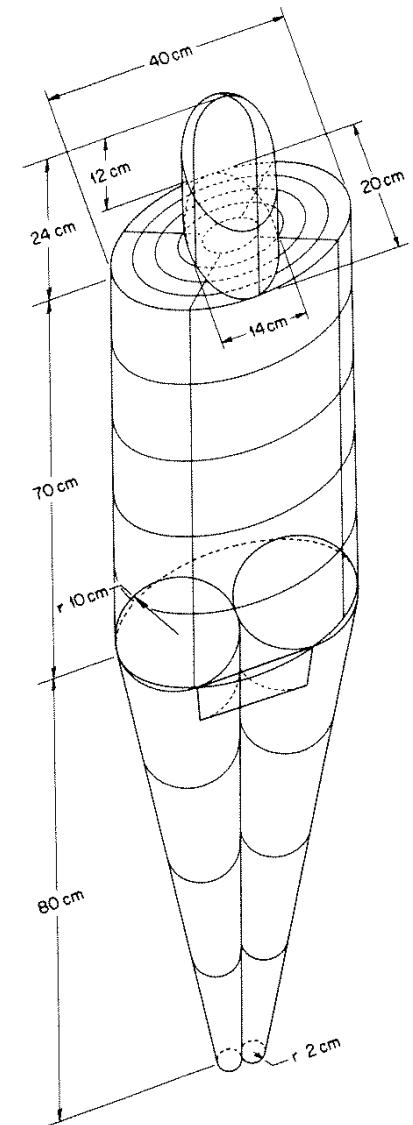
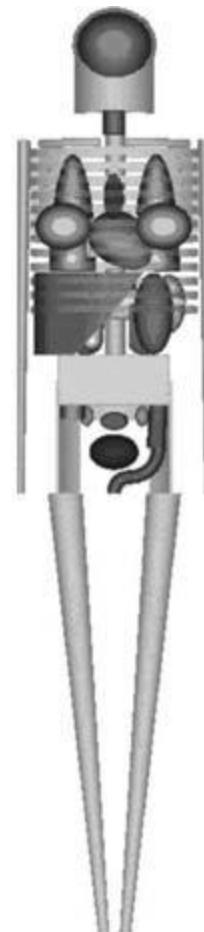
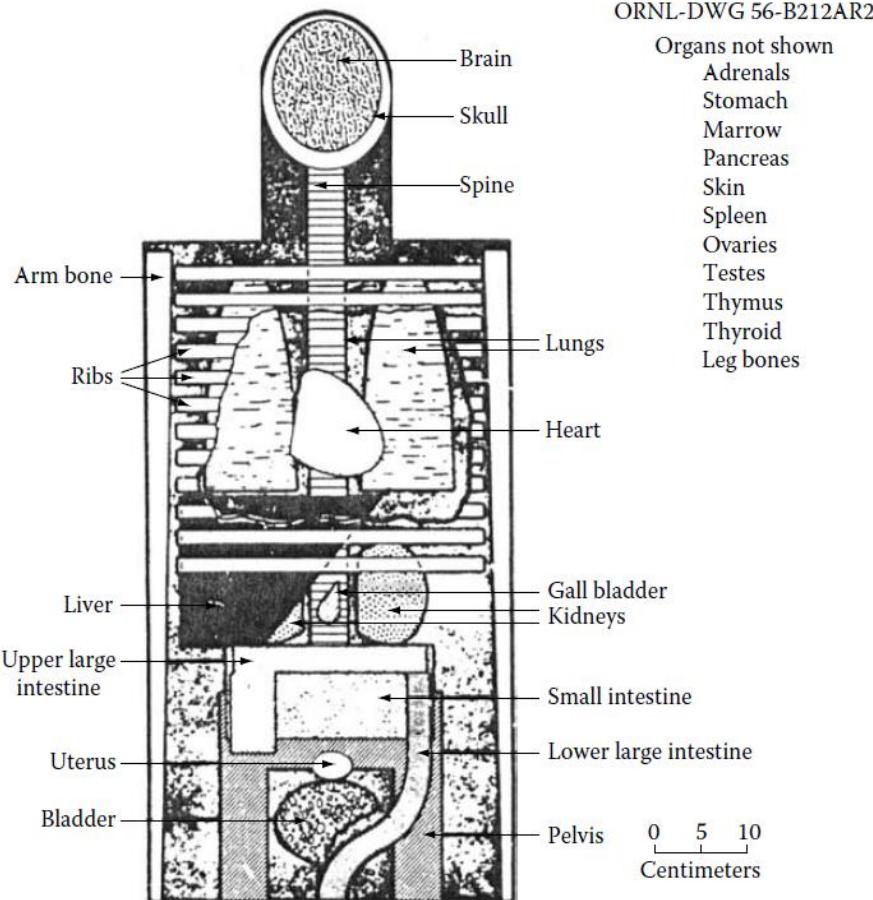


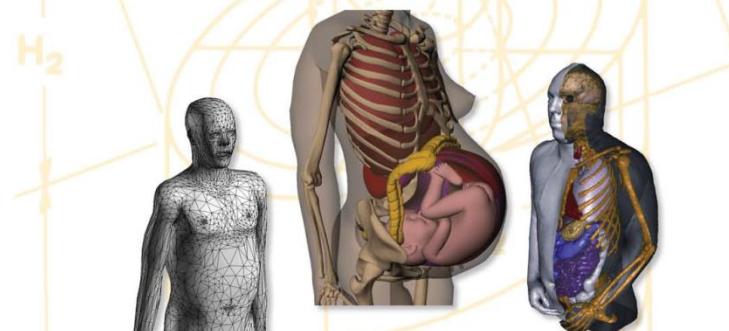
FIG. B-1. Exterior of the adult phantom.

# Evolution regarding phantoms



SERIES IN MEDICAL PHYSICS AND BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

## HANDBOOK OF ANATOMICAL MODELS FOR RADIATION DOSIMETRY



Edited by  
**Xie George Xu and Keith F. Eckerman**

CRC Press  
Taylor & Francis Group  
A TAYLOR & FRANCIS BOOK

# Example of internal dosimetry result: $^{111}\text{In}$ -Octreotide (Octreoscan<sup>®</sup>)

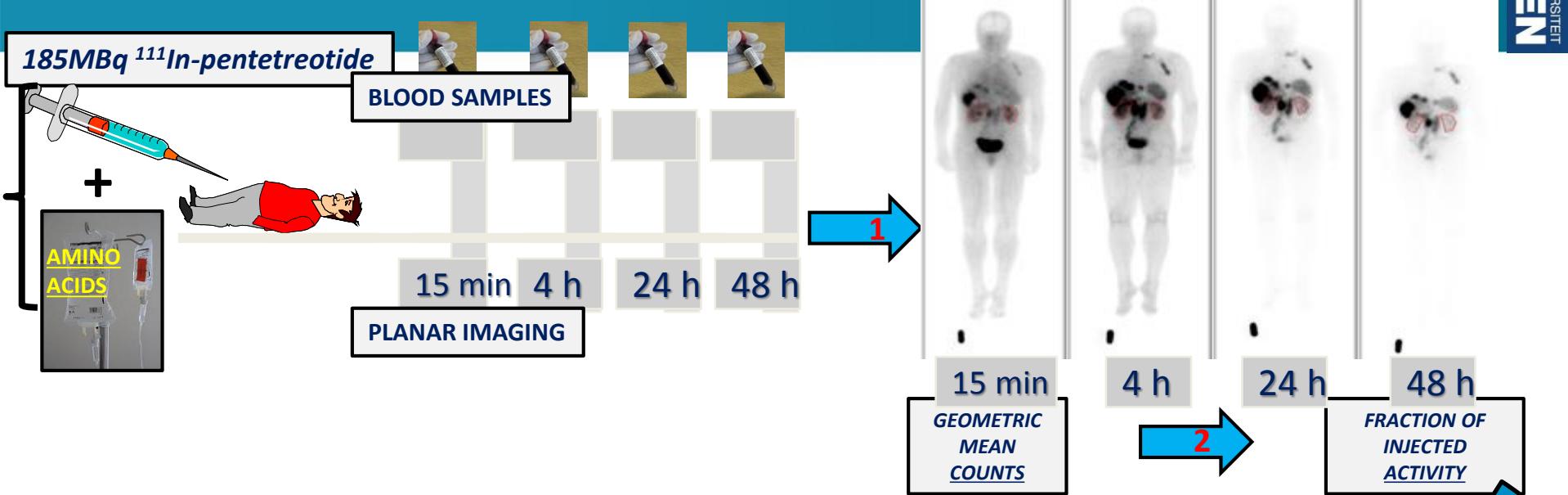
## 2.9.4. Absorbed doses: $^{111}\text{In}$ labelled-octreotide

$^{111}\text{In}$  2.83 days

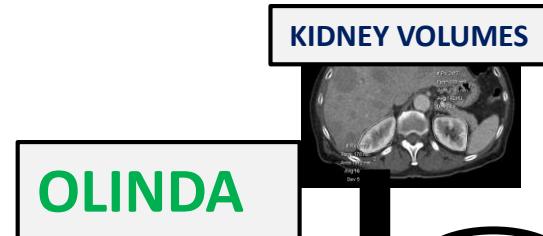
Organ	Absorbed dose per unit activity administered (mGy/MBq)				
	Adult	15 years	10 years	5 years	1 year
Adrenals	5.8E-02	7.5E-02	1.2E-01	1.7E-01	3.0E-01
Bladder	2.0E-01	2.5E-01	3.1E-01	4.6E-01	8.2E-01
Bone surfaces	2.7E-02	3.4E-02	5.0E-02	7.6E-02	1.5E-01
Brain	9.6E-03	1.2E-02	2.0E-02	3.3E-02	5.8E-02
Breast	1.2E-02	1.5E-02	2.3E-02	3.7E-02	6.8E-02
Gall bladder	5.2E-02	6.3E-02	9.2E-02	1.4E-01	2.2E-01
GI-tract					
Stomach	4.3E-02	5.0E-02	7.8E-02	1.1E-01	1.8E-01
SI	2.9E-02	3.8E-02	5.9E-02	9.1E-02	1.6E-01
Colon	2.9E-02	3.6E-02	5.5E-02	8.9E-02	1.5E-02
(ULI	3.0E-02	3.7E-02	5.8E-02	9.4E-02	1.6E-01
(LLI	2.7E-02	3.4E-02	5.0E-02	7.6E-02	1.3E-01
Heart	2.5E-02	3.2E-02	4.9E-02	7.1E-02	1.3E-01
Kidneys	4.1E-01	4.9E-01	6.7E-01	9.6E-01	1.6E+00
Liver	1.0E-01	1.3E-01	2.0E-01	2.7E-01	4.8E-01
Lungs	2.3E-02	3.0E-02	4.4E-02	6.8E-02	1.2E-01
Muscles	2.0E-02	2.6E-02	3.8E-02	5.7E-02	1.1E-01
Oesophagus	1.4E-02	1.9E-02	2.8E-02	4.4E-02	7.8E-02
Ovaries	2.7E-02	3.5E-02	5.1E-02	8.1E-02	1.4E-01
Pancreas	7.2E-02	8.8E-02	1.3E-01	2.0E-01	3.2E-01
Red marrow	2.2E-02	2.7E-02	3.9E-02	5.3E-02	8.7E-02
Skin	1.1E-02	1.3E-02	2.1E-02	3.3E-02	6.2E-02
Spleen	5.7E-01	7.9E-01	1.2E+00	1.8E+00	3.1E+00
Testes	1.7E-02	2.3E-02	3.5E-02	5.5E-02	1.0E-01
Thymus	1.4E-02	1.9E-02	2.8E-02	4.4E-02	7.8E-02
Thyroid	7.6E-02	1.2E-01	1.8E-01	3.7E-01	6.9E-01
Uterus	3.9E-02	4.9E-02	7.1E-02	1.1E-01	1.9E-01
Remaining organs	2.3E-02	2.8E-02	4.2E-02	6.3E-02	1.1E-01
<b>Effective dose (mSv/MBq)</b>	<b>5.4E-02</b>	<b>7.1E-02</b>	<b>1.0E-01</b>	<b>1.6E-01</b>	<b>2.8E-01</b>



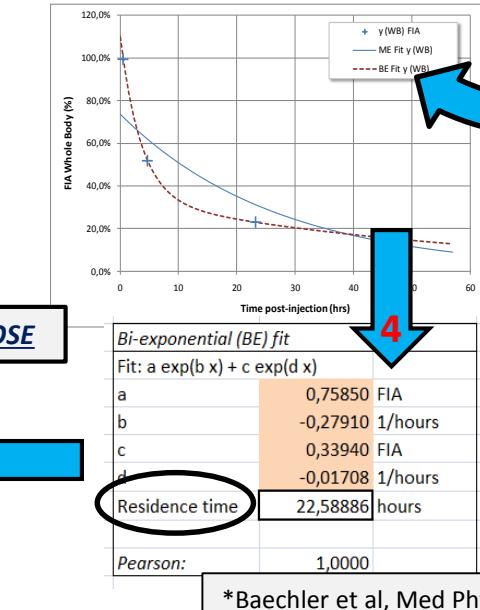
## Clinical Therapeutic Dosimetry

 **$^{90}\text{Y}$ -DOTATOC PRRT DOSIMETRY PROTOCOL**

Kidney dosimetry	
Fractions of administration:	4
Absorbed dose after 1 administration:	7031 mGy
Absorbed dose after 4 administration(s):	28125 mGy
Alfa-Beta ratio:	2600 mGy
Repair half-time:	2,8 hrs
Repair rate constant $\mu$ :	0,248 1/hr
Contribution to total kidney activity :	Right 100%    Left 100%
Lea-Catcheside factor:	G 0,07950
Relative effectiveness:	BE 1,21500
<b><math>\text{BED} = D_i \times (1 + (G \times D_i) / (\alpha/\beta))^\ast</math></b>	
Biological effective dose after 1 administration:	$\text{BED}(1)$ 8,5 Gy
Biological effective dose after 4 administration:	$\text{BED}(4)$ 34,2 Gy
<b>BIOLOGICAL EFFECTIVE DOSE</b>	



Target Organ	Total (mCi/MBq)	Total (mCi)	Total after 4 administration (Ci)
Adrenals	0,139	428	1,75
Brain	0,135	428	1,75
Breasts	0,135	428	1,75
Gallbladder Wall	0,135	428	1,75
LII Wall	0,135	428	1,75
Small Intestine	0,135	428	1,75
Stomach Wall	0,135	428	1,75
ULI Wall	0,135	428	1,75
Other t. sites	2,22	7033	28,33
Kidneys	2,23	7063	28,25
Liver	2,23	7063	28,25
Lungs	0,135	428	1,75
Muscle	0,135	428	1,75
Ovaries	0,135	428	1,75
Pancreas	0,135	428	1,75
Red Marrow	0,101	320	1,28
Osteogenic Cells	0,237	753	3,20
Skin	0,135	428	1,75

**6****5****4**

# Overview

- Nuclear medicine treatment: radionuclide therapy (RNT)
- Therapeutic radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals
- Dosimetry
- **Currently used RNT and planning aspects**
  - $\text{Na}^{131}\text{I}$  for thyroid disease
  - $^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG
  - Peptide receptor radionuclide therapy (PRRT)
  - $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -PSMA (Prostate specific membrane antigen)
  - Radium-223 for bone metastases
  - Selective internal radiation therapy (SIRT)
- Conclusions

# SODIUM-IODIDE SYMPORTER TARGETING:

$^{123}\text{I}$ -

$^{131}\text{I}$ -



# Treatment planning Na<sup>131</sup>I therapy (Thyroid)

- Limit iodide exposure
  - No contrast enhanced CT in 6 previous weeks
  - Avoid iodide rich food (seasalt, seaweed, vitamins)
- Benign thyroid disease:
  - Empiric: standard activity is prescribed e.g. 37 to 555 MBq
  - “Dosimetric method”:
    - Volume is taken into account
    - Uptake and retention is taken into account (with <sup>123</sup>I scintigraphy)
- Malignant thyroid disease
  - Thyroidectomy!
  - Activate the sodium-iodide symporter (NIS):
    - Hormone withdrawal
    - Recombinant Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (THS)

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# NOREPINEPHRINE TRANSPORTER TARGETING:

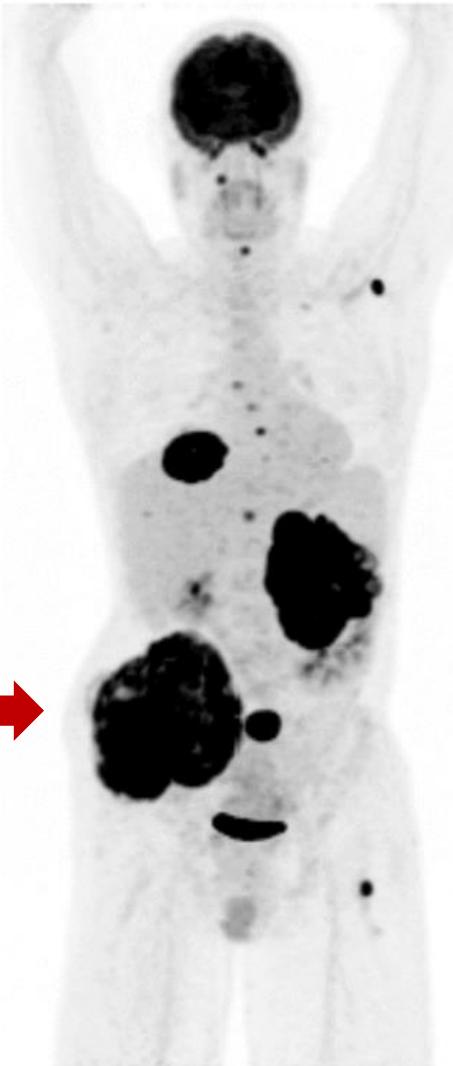
**$^{123}\text{I}$ -MIBG**

**$^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG**

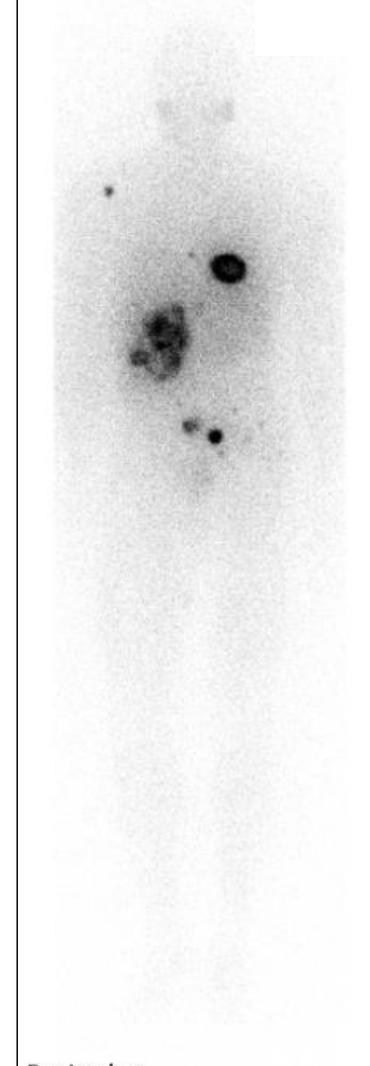
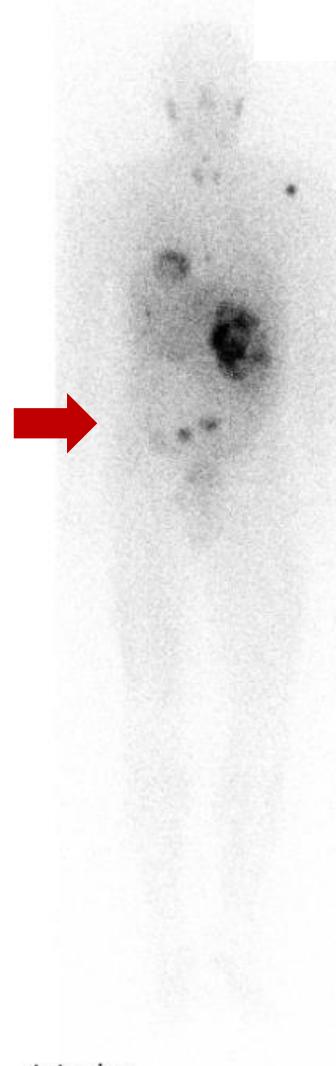


# Case: 34 year old man - paraganglioma

**$^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG**



**$^{123}\text{I}$ -MIBG**

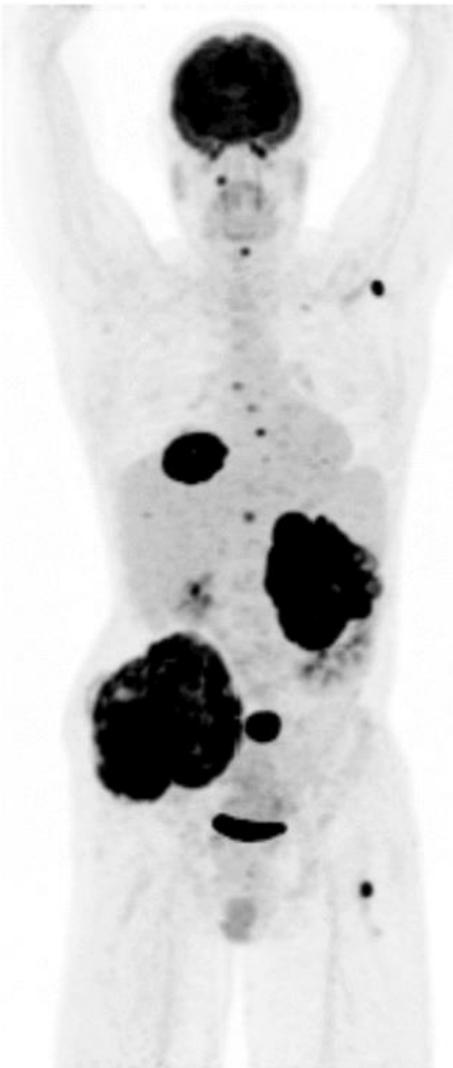


Anterior

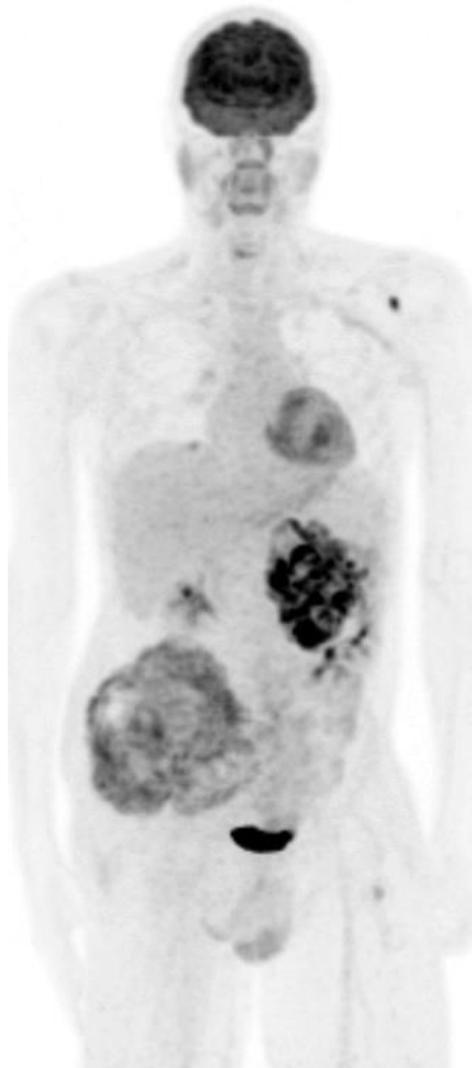
Posterior

# Case: status post chemo and EBRT

Baseline



Post-therapy



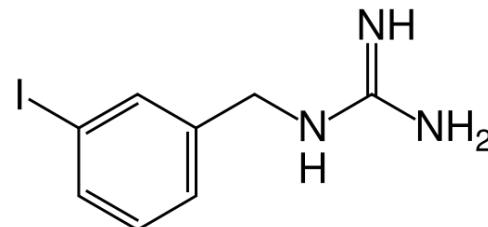
Partial  
metabolic  
response

Plan:  $^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG

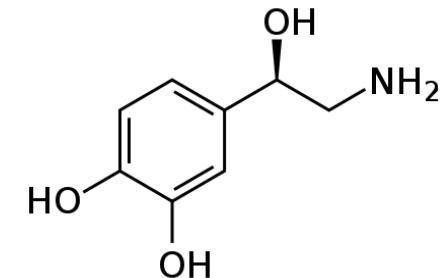
But:  
paraneoplastic  
thrombocytopenia:  
 ~~$^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG~~

# Sympathomimetics: MIBG/MFBG

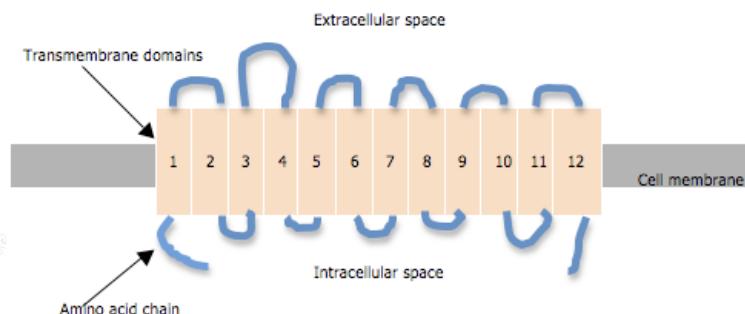
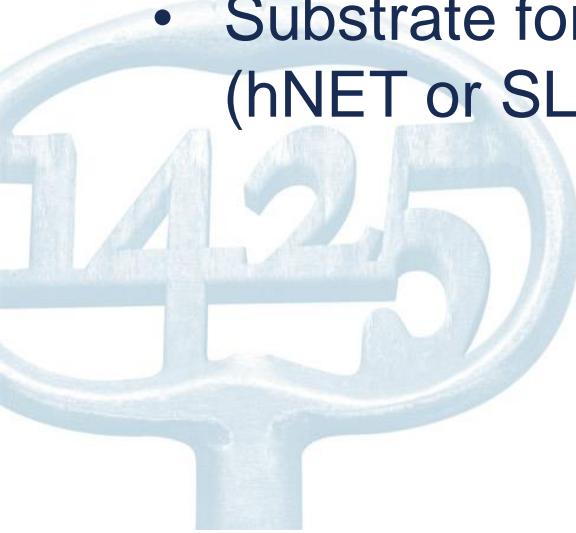
MIBG



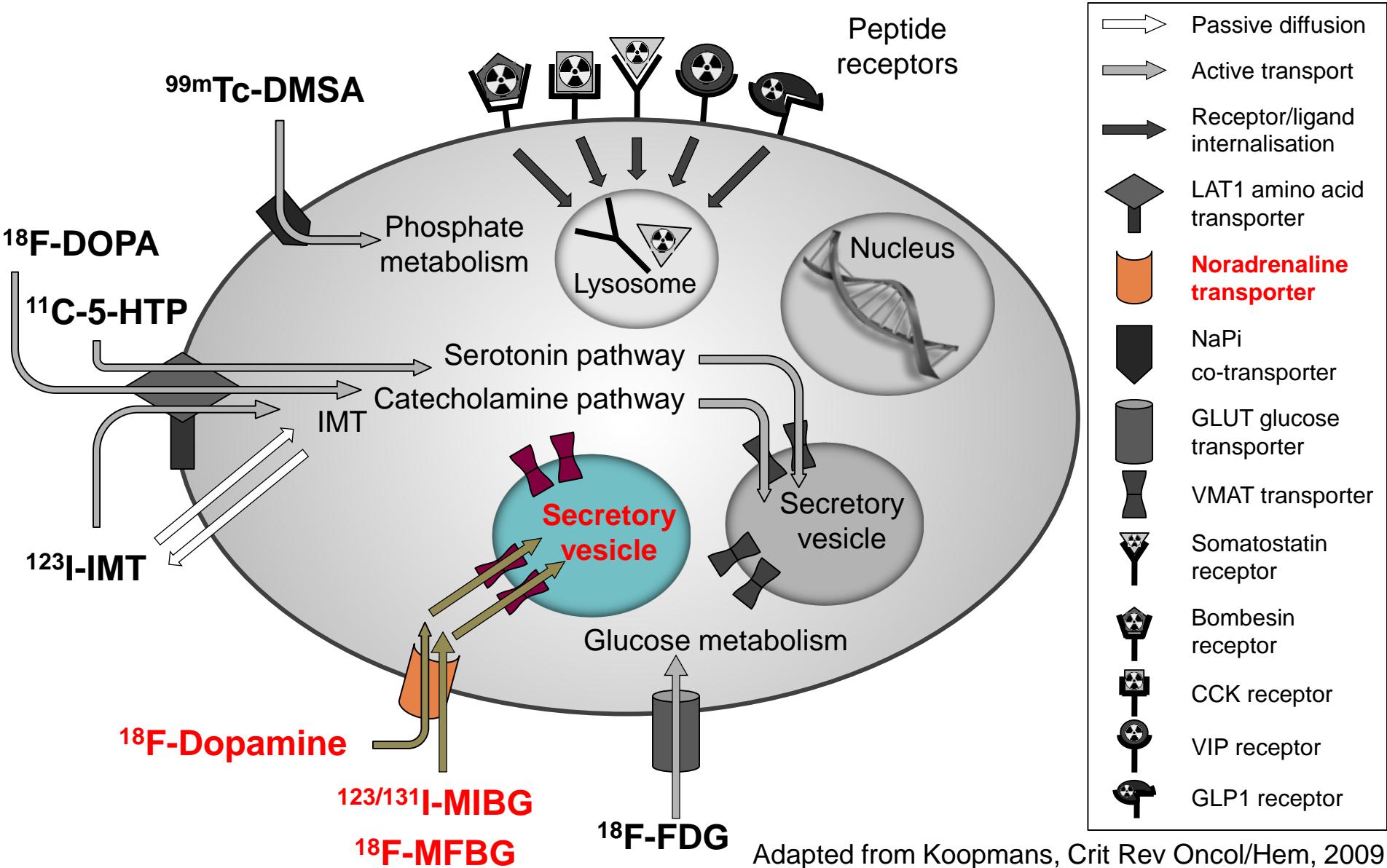
Norepinephrine



- Metaiodobenzylguanidine (mIBG or MIBG)
- Can be labeled with
  - Iodine-123:  $^{123}\text{I}$ -MIBG
  - Iodine-131:  $^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG
  - Fluorine-18:  $^{18}\text{F}$ -MFBG
- Substrate for the human norepinephrine transporter (hNET or SLC6A2)

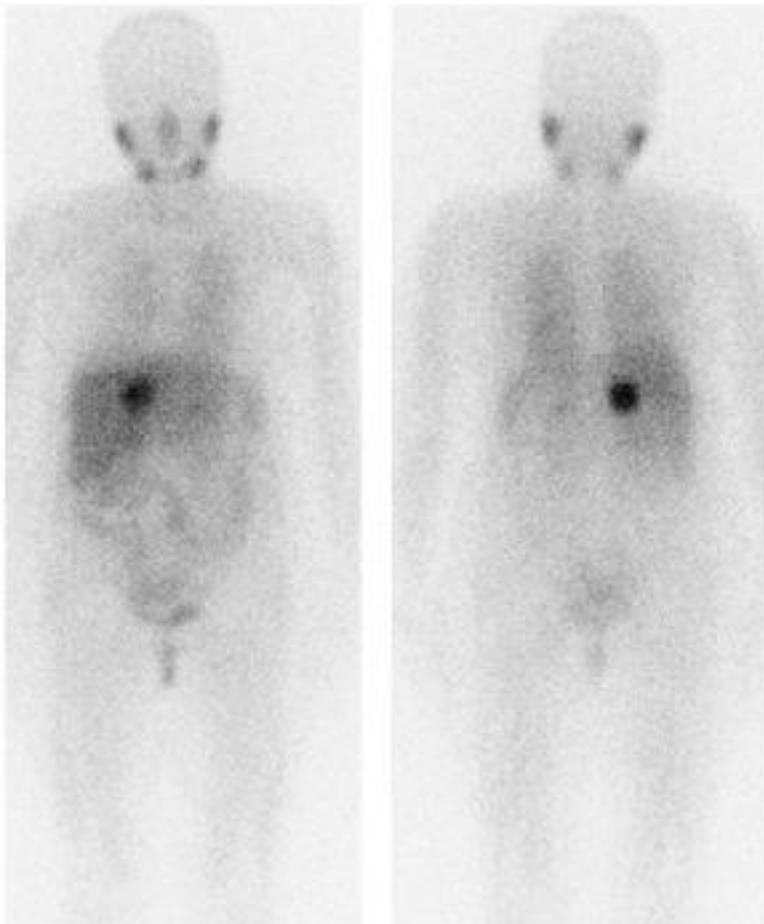


# Radiopharmaceuticals for Neuro-endocrine Tumors: Radiolabelled Catecholamines



# $^{123}\text{I}$ -MIBG scintigraphy

Patient 1

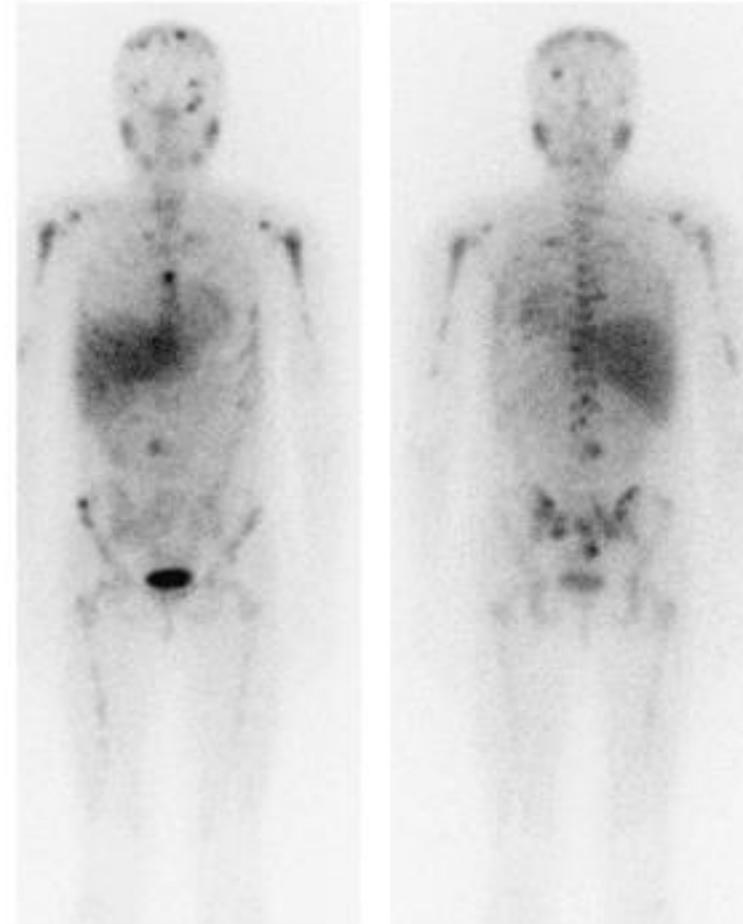


**Phaeochromocytoma**

Solitary location

R/ Surgery

Patient 2



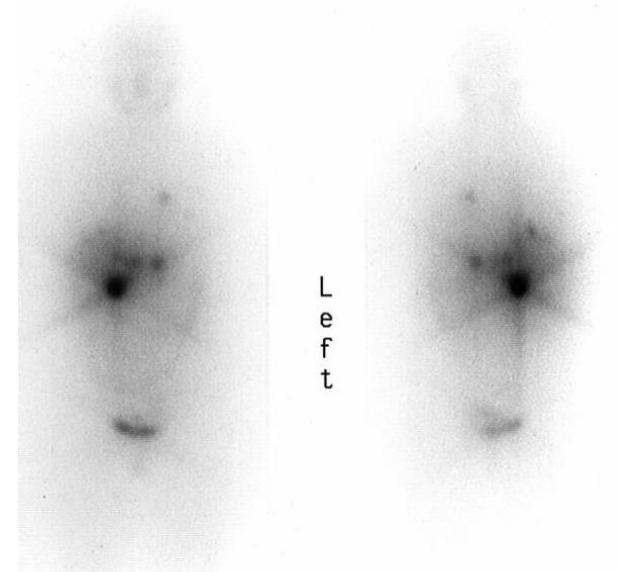
**Paraganglioma**

Diffuse bone metastases

R/  $^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG

# $^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG therapy

- Efficient therapy of neural crest tumors
  - Phaeochromocytoma
  - Paraganglioma
  - Neuroblastoma
- Overall response rates around 30% in refractory or recurrent diseases
- Combined with
  - Chemotherapy (e.g. topotecan)
  - Radiosensitizers
  - Autologous stem cell transplant
- Most efficient nonsurgical therapeutic modality
- Antisecretory effect with powerful palliation of symptomatic disease (response rate: 75%-90%)



Post therapy  
 $^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG  
scintigraphy

Grünwald, 2010, Semin Nucl Med; 40:153-63 – PMID: 20113683

Ezzidin S, 2012, Radiat Oncol; doi: 10.1186/1748-717X-7-8 – PMID: 22277577

# Treatment planning $^{131}\text{I}$ -MIBG Therapy

- Theranostic imaging
- Avoidance of medication that can block the Norepinephrin transporter (hNET)
- Administration of KI (Potassium Iodide) to block uptake of free  $^{131}\text{I}^-$  by the thyroid gland (“saturation”)
- Activity: fixed or per kg
- In dosimetry based strategy:
  - 2 treatments 2 days apart
  - Myeloablative dose of 4Gy whole body dose
  - Dosimetry after first course, compute dose
  - Administer activity that will lead to cumulative 4Gy WB dose in second treatment

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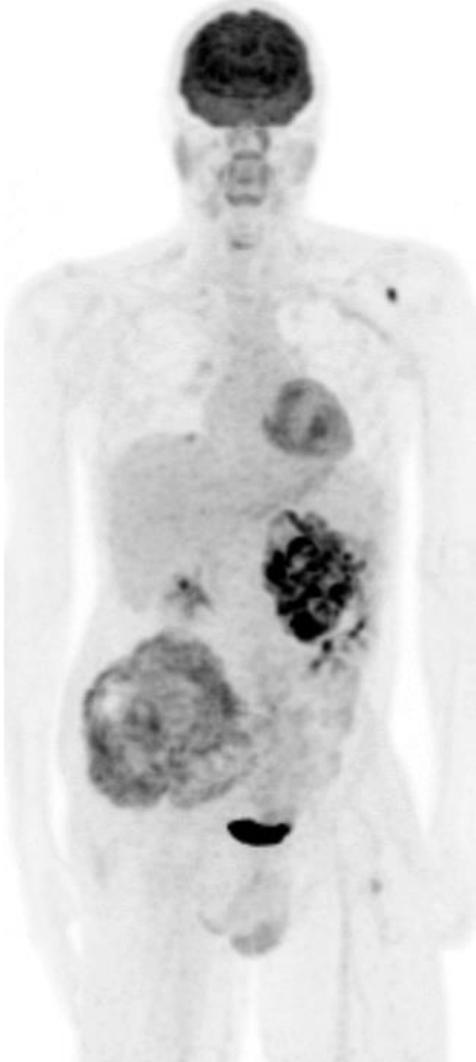
# SOMATOSTATIN RECEPTOR TARGETING: $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATATE $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -DOTATATE



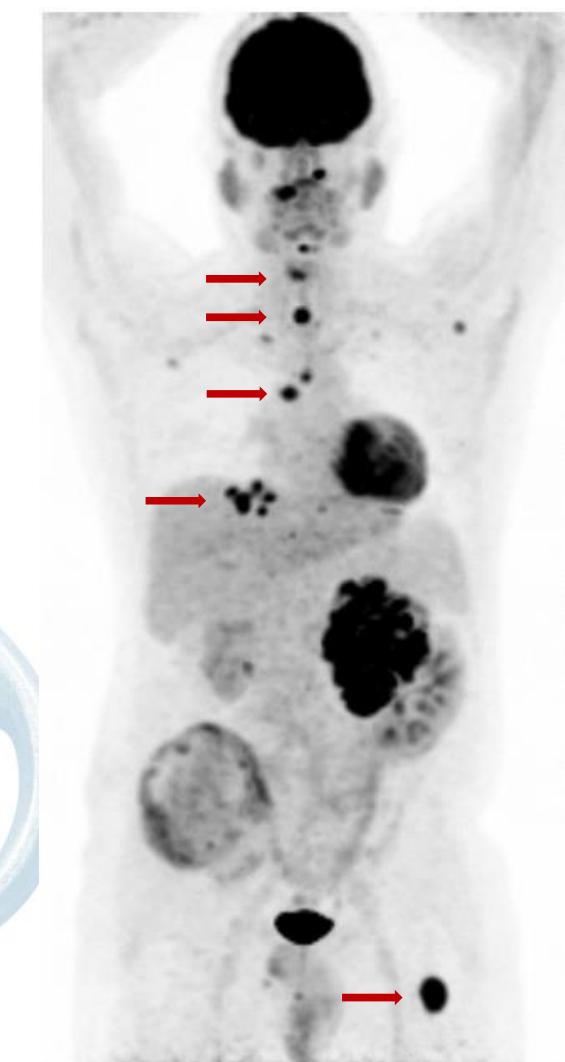
# Case: 1½ years later: progression

**<sup>18</sup>F-FDG**

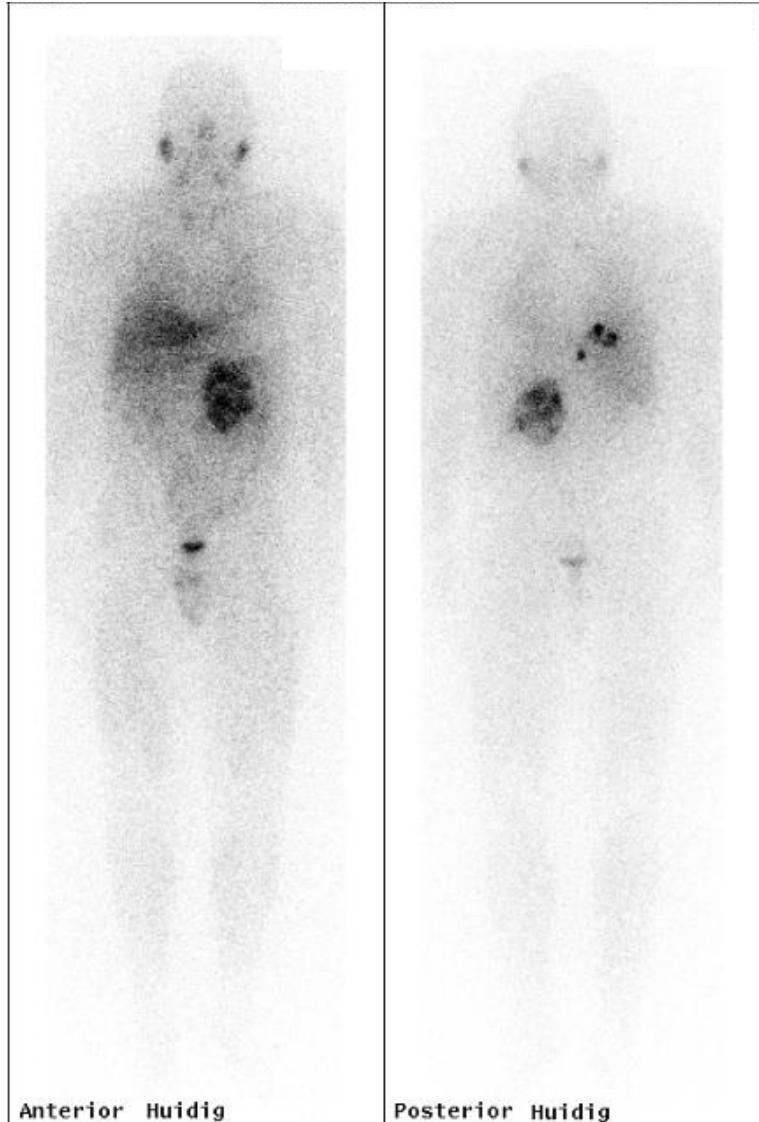
Post Chemo-RT



New scan



**<sup>123</sup>I-MIBG**



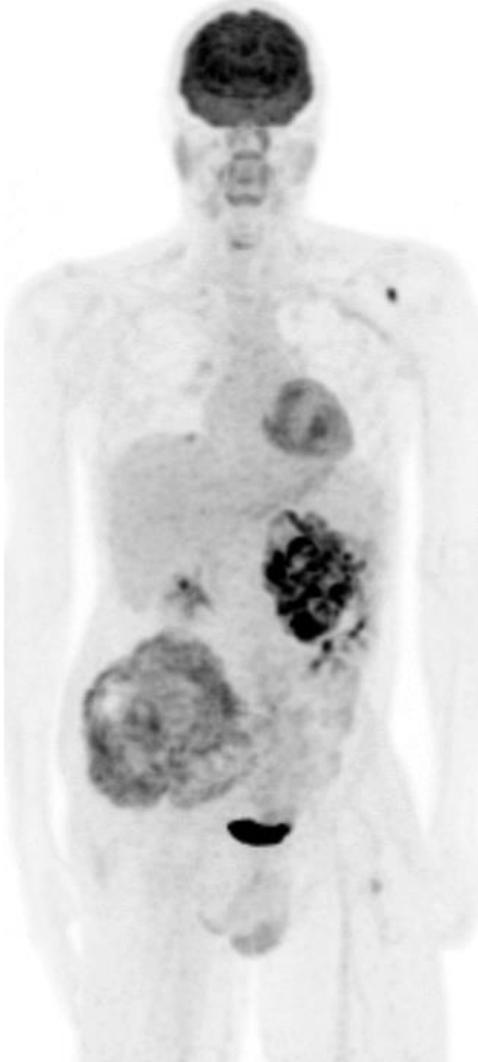
Anterior Huidig

Posterior Huidig

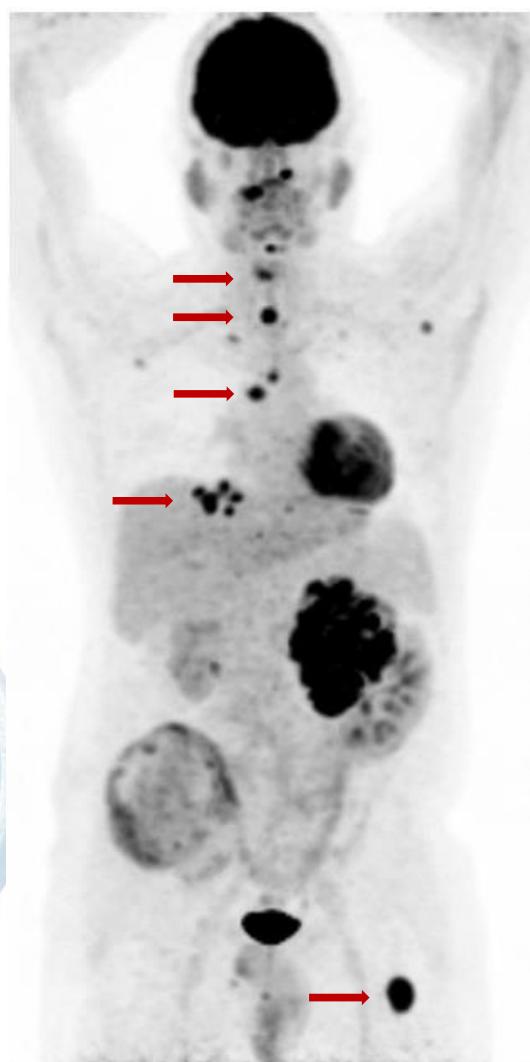
# Case: 1½ years later: progression

**<sup>18</sup>F-FDG**

Post Chemo-RT

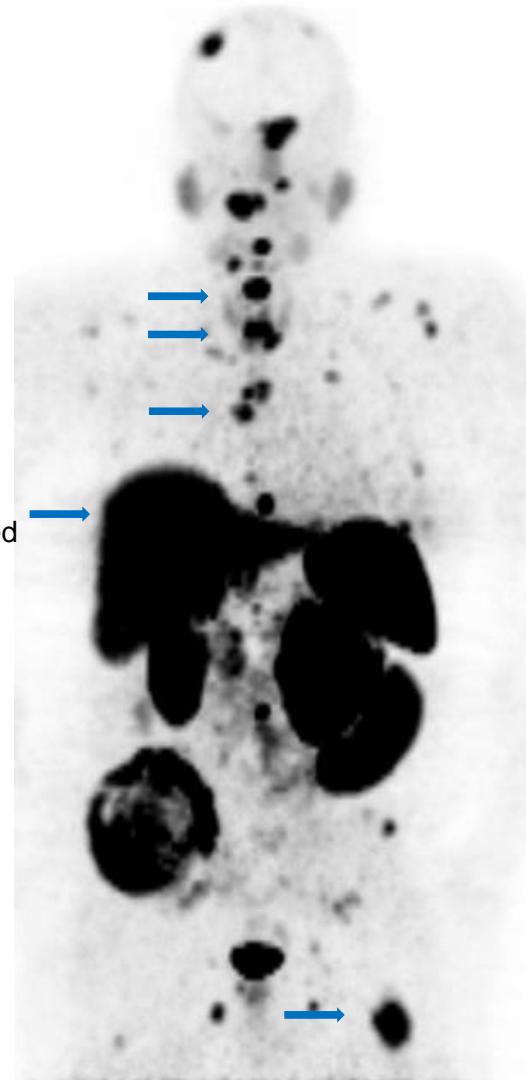


New scan



**<sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTATATE**

Lesion  
saturated



# Case: 1½ years later: PRRT

**$^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG**  
New scan



**$^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATATE**

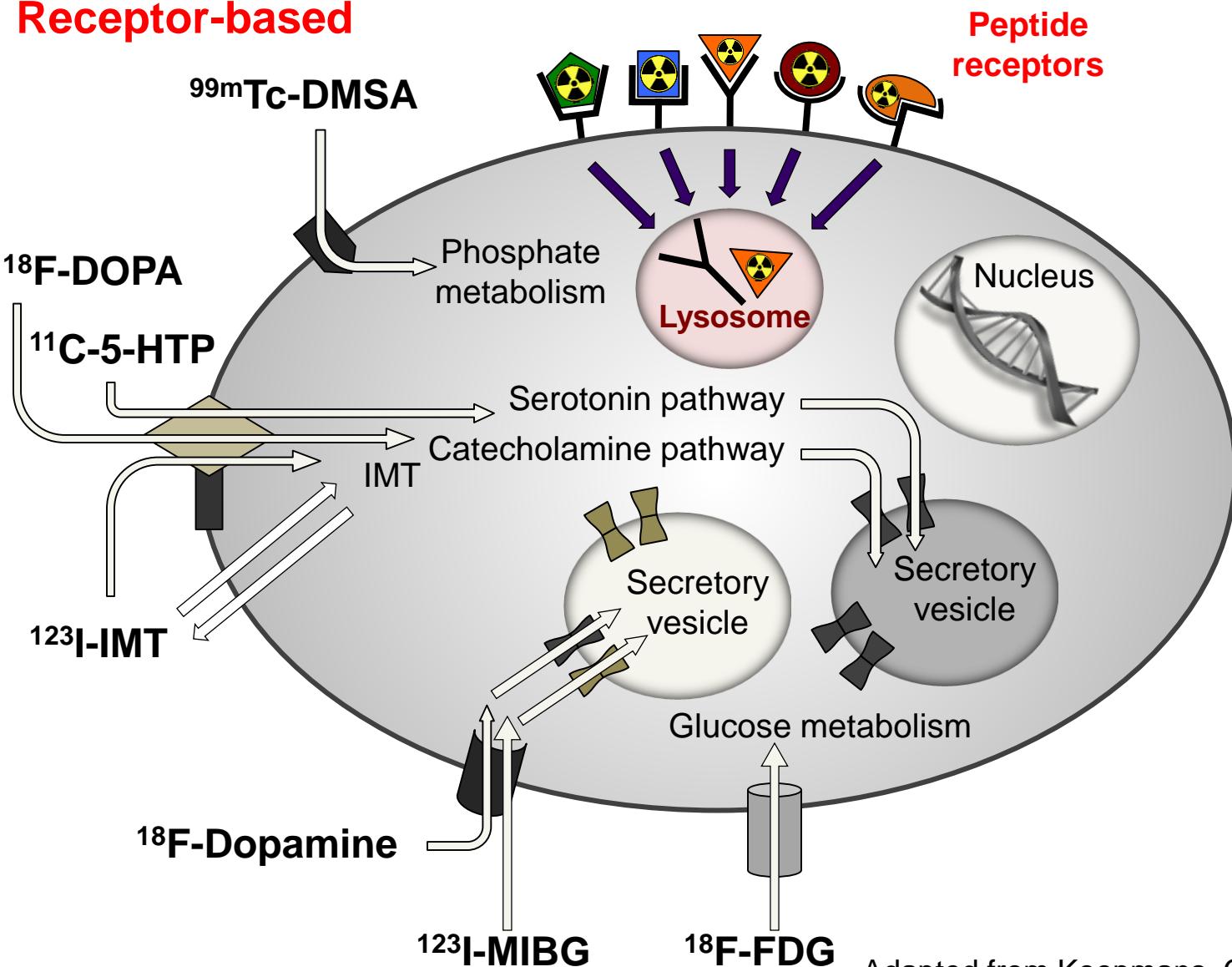


**$^{177}\text{Lu}$ -DOTATATE**



# Peptide Receptors

## Receptor-based

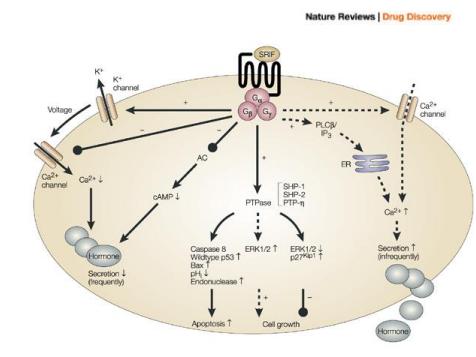
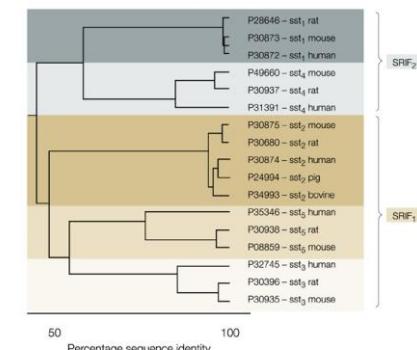
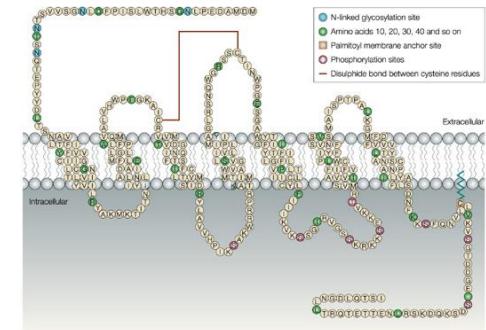


- Passive diffusion
- Active transport
- Receptor/ligand internalisation
- LAT1 amino acid transporter
- Noradrenaline transporter
- NaPi co-transporter
- GLUT glucose transporter
- VMAT transporter
- Somatostatin receptor
- Bombesin receptor
- CCK receptor
- VIP receptor
- GLP1 receptor

Adapted from Koopmans, Crit Rev Oncol/Hem, 2009

# Somatostatin Receptor (SSTR)

- Seven transmembrane G-coupled receptor
- Six human subtypes
  - SSTR1
  - SSTR2 (2A & 2B)
  - SSTR3
  - SSTR4
  - SSTR5
- Function
  - ↓ secretions
    - Endocrine
    - Exocrine
  - ↓ Cell growth
  - ↑ Apoptosis
- Internalise upon agonist binding / recycle



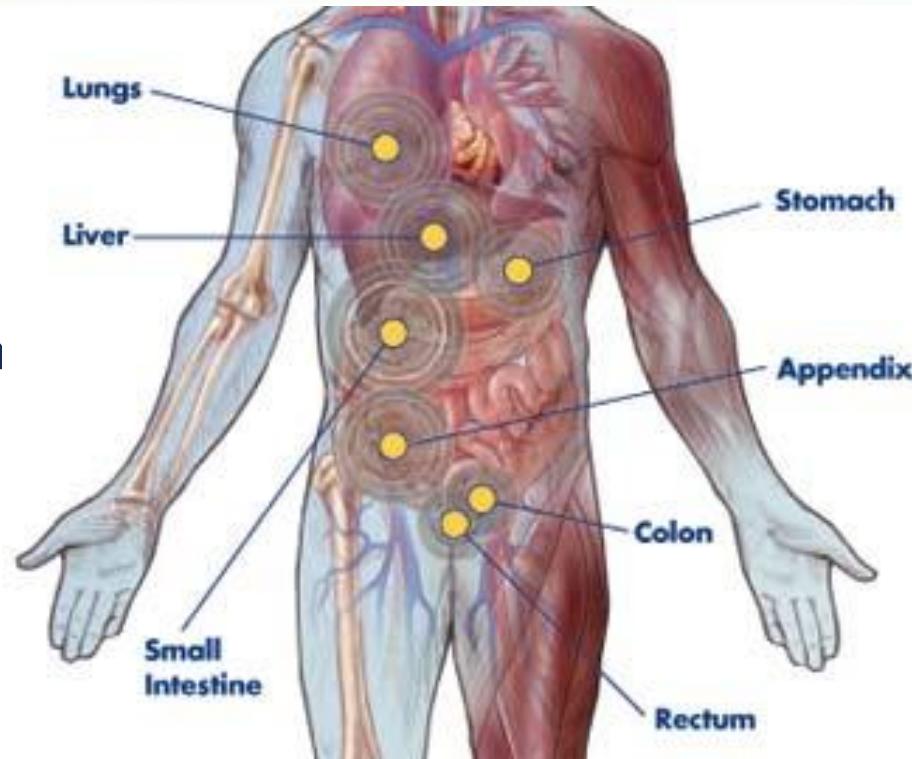
# Neuro-endocrine Tumors (NET's)

## CHARACTERISTICS:

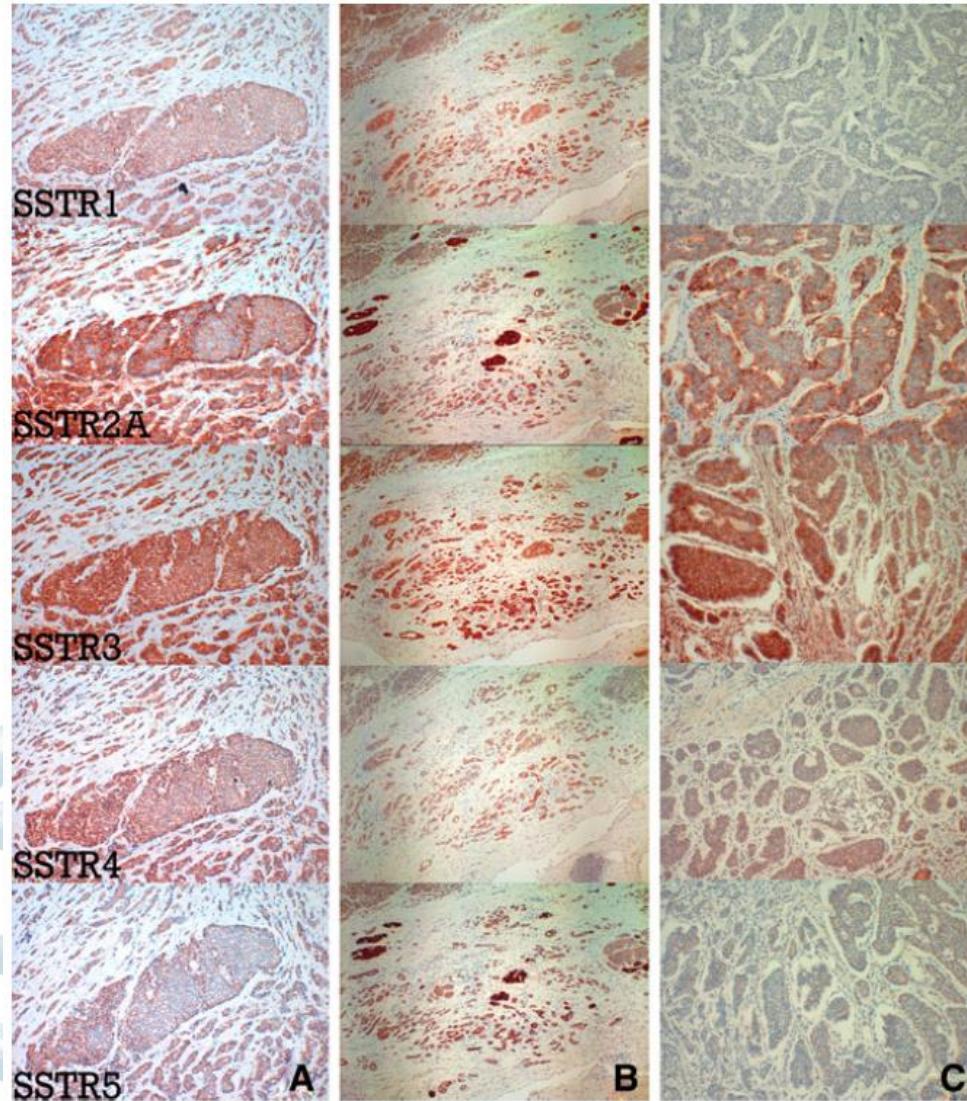
- Arise from neuroendocrine cells
- Slow growing and rare
- Young patients
- Heterogenic group of tumors with specific features
- Can secrete hormones,
  - e.g. serotonin -> carcinoid syndrome

## DIAGNOSIS:

- Clinical: complaints
  - Mechanical
  - Hormonal
- Tumormakers in blood and urine
- Imaging: US, CT, MRI, Octreoscan, 68Ga-DOTATOC PET/CT
- Pathology



# Overexpression of SSTR subtypes on NET



LN M+

NET ileum NET pancreas

48%

86%

87%

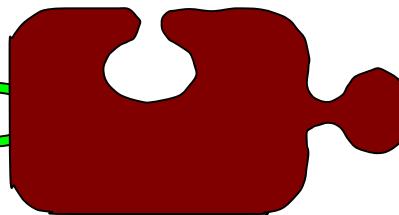
50%

46%

- cytoplasmic staining
  - SSTR1
  - SSTR3
  - SSTR5
- membrane bound
  - SSTR2A

# Diagnostic agents for SSR

Radionuclide + Chelator + Somatostatin analogue



$^{111}\text{In}$

$^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$

$^{68}\text{Ga}$

$^{18}\text{F}$

DTPA

DOTA

NOTA

HYNIC

Octreotide

Tyr<sup>3</sup>-octreotide (TOC)

Tyr<sup>3</sup>-octreotate (TATE)

Naph-octreotide (NOC)

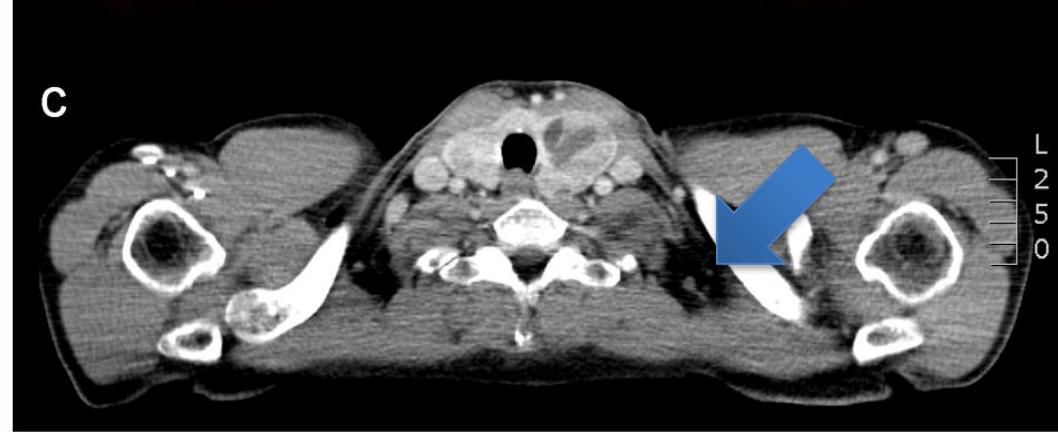
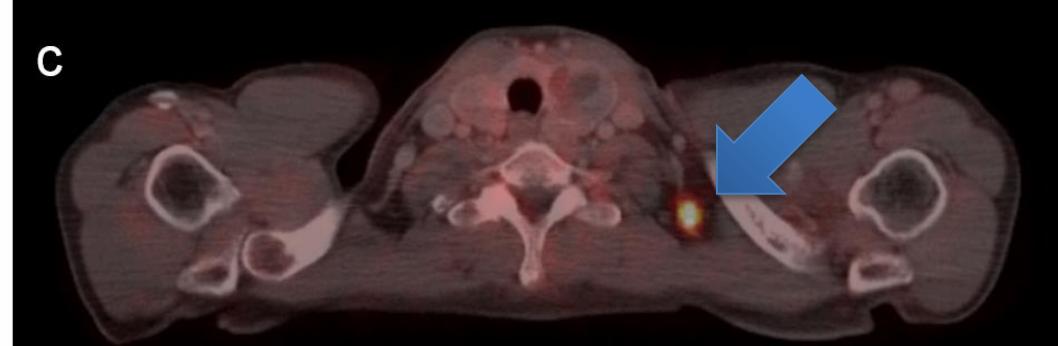
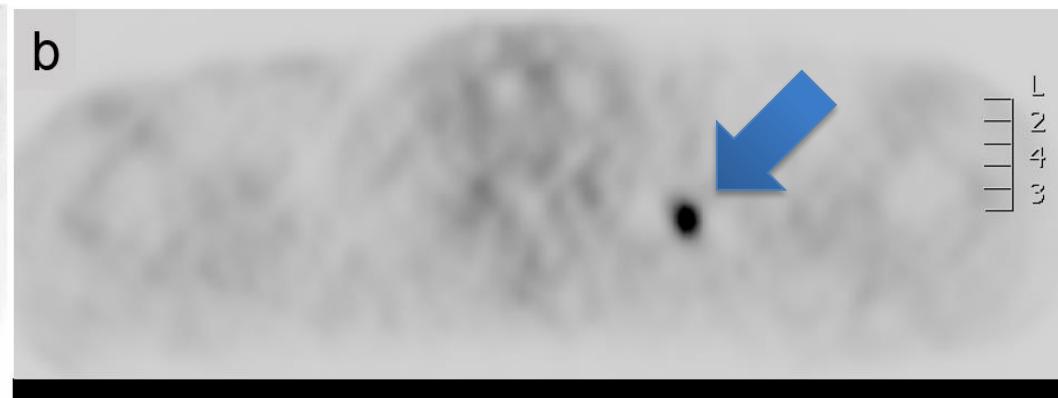
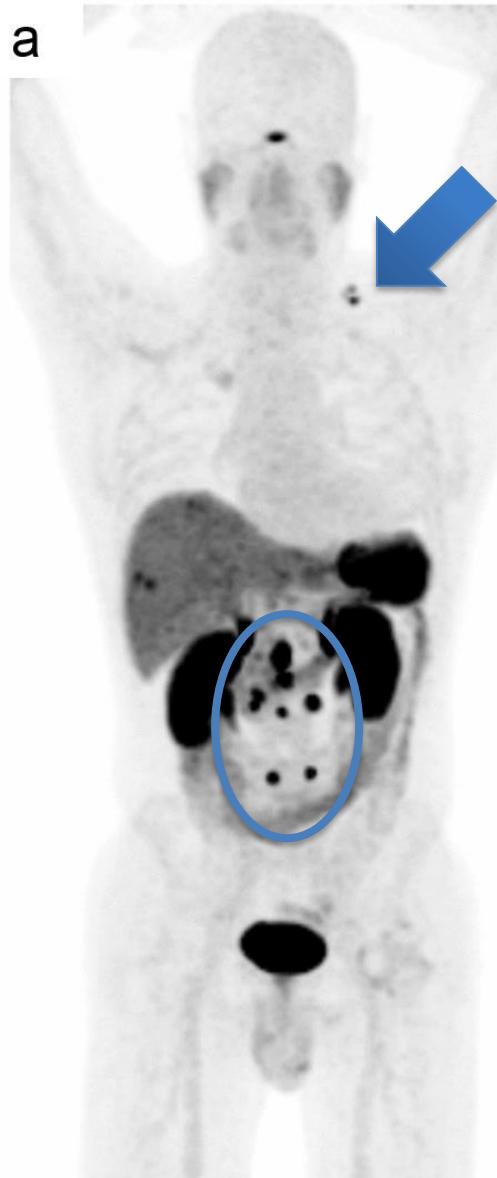
## DIAGNOSTIC COMBINATIONS:

- $^{111}\text{In}$ -DTPA-octreotide (Octreoscan®)
- $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTA, Tyr<sup>3</sup>-octreotide ( $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATOC)
- $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTA, Tyr<sup>3</sup>-octreotate ( $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATATE)
- $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTA, [Phe<sup>1</sup>-1-Nal<sup>3</sup>]-octreotide) ( $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTANOC)

SPECT

PET

# SSR imaging: very sensitive and specific technique for NET detection



# Comparison of $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATATE PET/CT vs. $^{111}\text{In}$ -pentetreotide SPECT: largest series on record

VOLUME 34 • NUMBER 6 • FEBRUARY 20, 2016

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

ORIGINAL REPORT

## Comparison $^{111}\text{In}$ -Pentetreotide, $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATATE, CT (n=131)

- Sensitivity:
  - $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATATE 95.1%
  - $^{111}\text{In}$ -Pentetreotide SPECT/CT 30.9%
  - CT 45.3%
- $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATATE PET/CT induced **change in management** in **43** of 131 patients (**32.8%**)
- In patients with **carcinoid symptoms** and negative biochemical testing:
  - $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATATE PET/CT: positive in **65.2%**
  - **40%** of these were anatomic imaging and  $^{111}\text{In}$ -pentetreotide SPECT/CT **negative**

# Comparison of <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTA-peptide PET vs. <sup>111</sup>In-pentetreotide

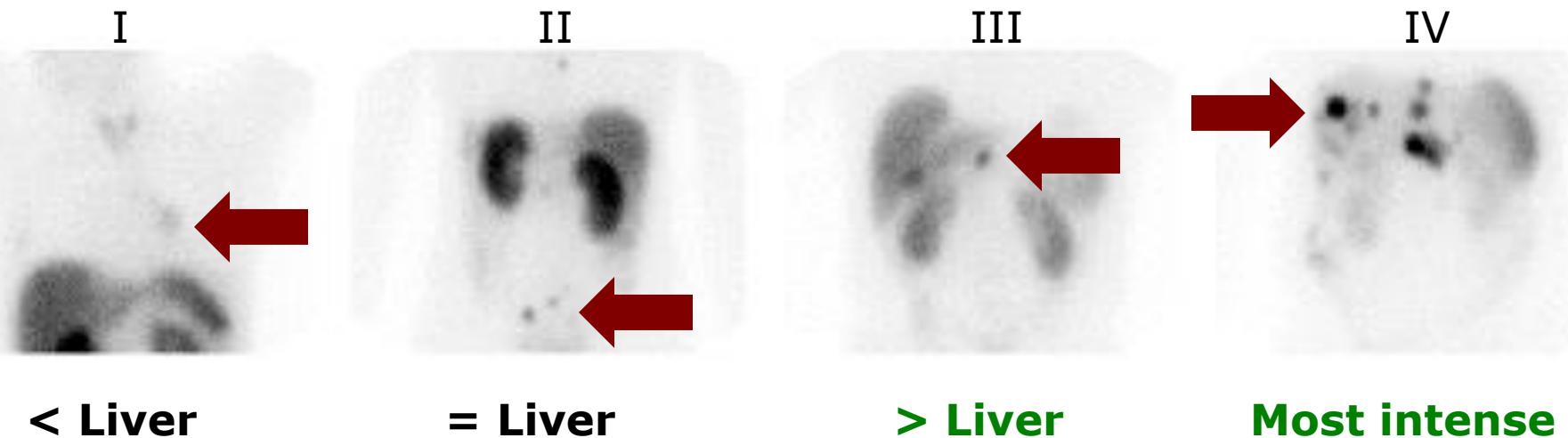
Author	Year	n	<sup>68</sup> Ga-Peptide	Level (Patient /lesion)	Sensitivity <sup>111</sup> In-pentetreotide	Sensitivity <sup>68</sup> Ga-peptide	Δ Sens
Gabriel	2007	84	-TOC	Patient	52.0%	97.0%	45.0%
Buchmann	2007	27	-TOC	Region	66.0%	100.0%	34.0%
Srirajaskanthan	2010	51	-TATE	Lesion	11.9%	74.3%	<b>62.4%</b>
Van Binnebeek	2016	53	-TOC	Lesion	60.0%	99.9%	39.9%
Deppen	2016	78	-TATE	Patient	72.0%	96.0%	<b>24.0%</b>
Sadowski	2016	131	-TATE	Lesion	30.9%	95.1%	64.2%
<hr/>							
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>424</b>		<b>Range</b>	<b>12-72%</b>	<b>74-100%</b>	<b>24-64%</b>

**Gabriel**, 2007, J Nucl Med; 48(4):508-18; **Buchmann**, 2007, Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging;34(10):1617-26; **Srirajaskanthan**, 2010, J Nucl Med; 51:875-82; **Van Binnebeek**...Deroose, 2016 Eur Radiol; 26(3):900-9; **Deppen**, 2016, J Nucl Med; 57: 708-14; **Sadowski**, 2016, J Clin Oncol; 34(6): 588-96

# Semi-quantitative determination of SSR expression with<sup>111</sup>In-pentetreotide

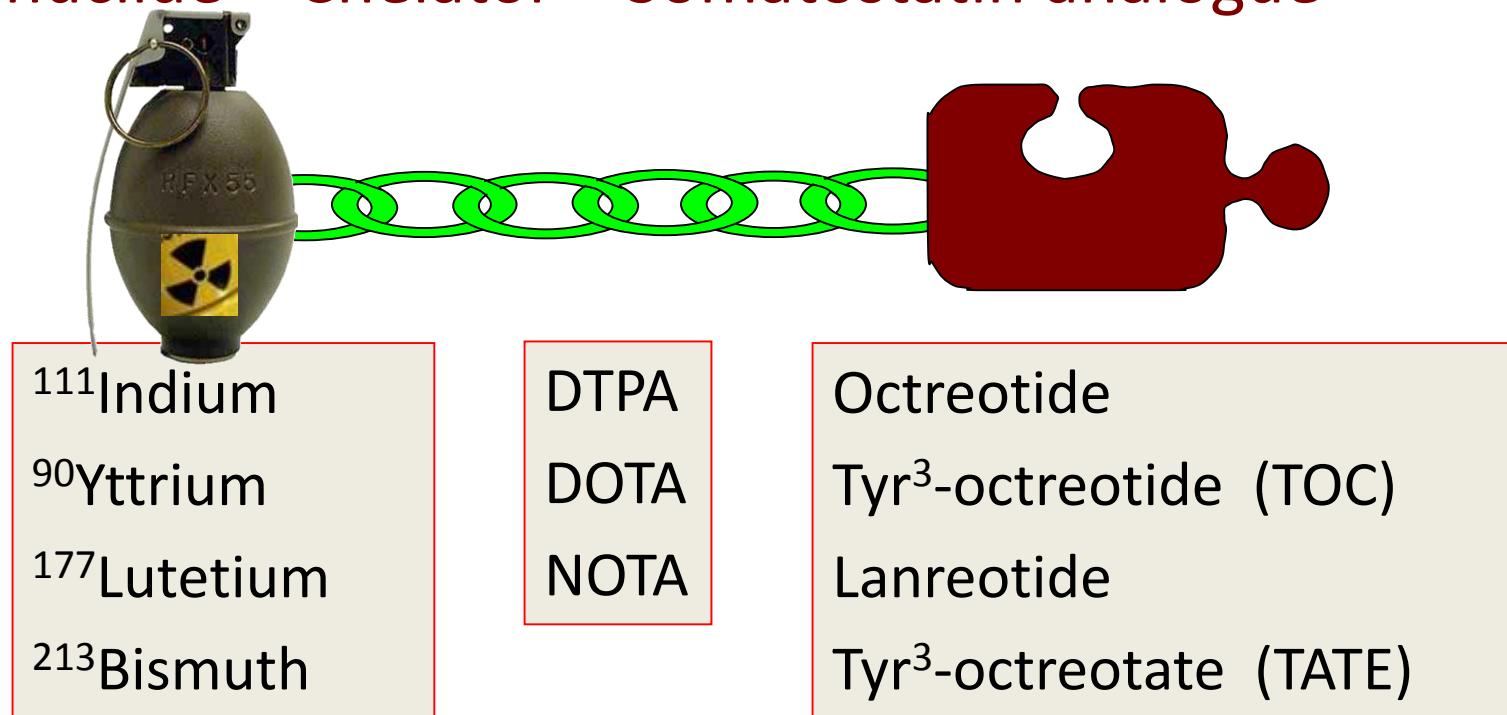
## Krenning scale

Visual comparison of uptake in tumor versus normal organs



# Theranostic concept: Therapeutic agents for Peptide Receptor **Radionuclide** Therapy (PRRT)

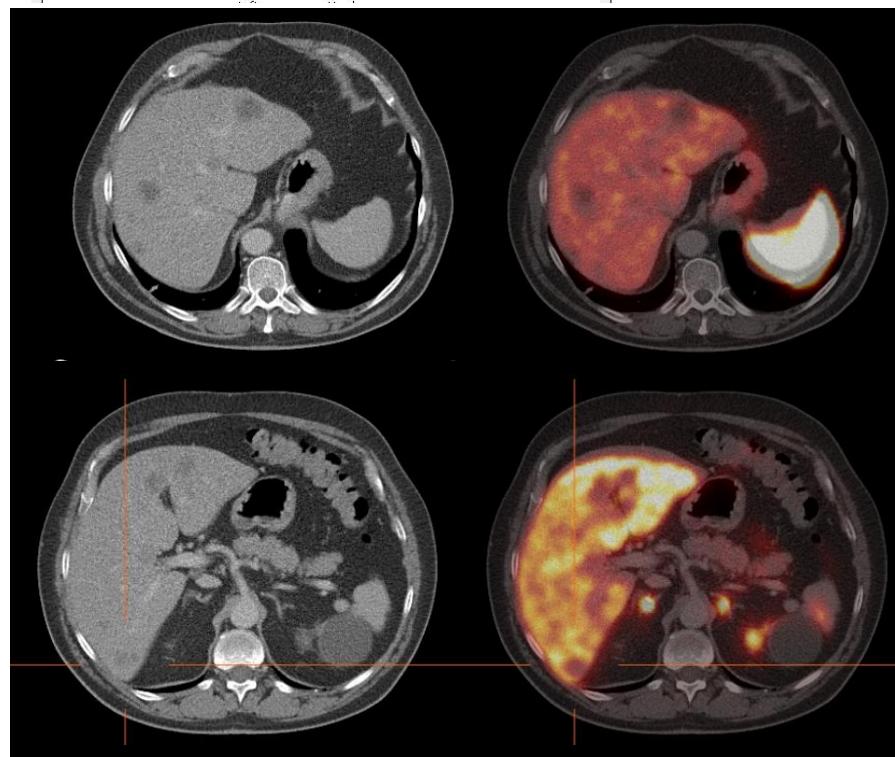
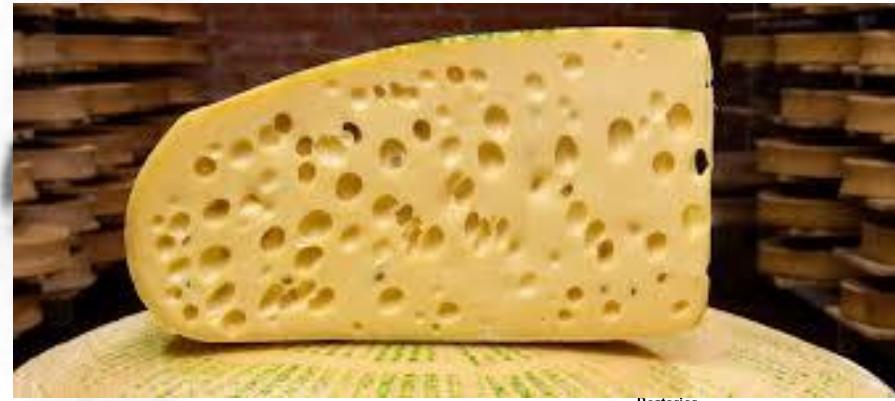
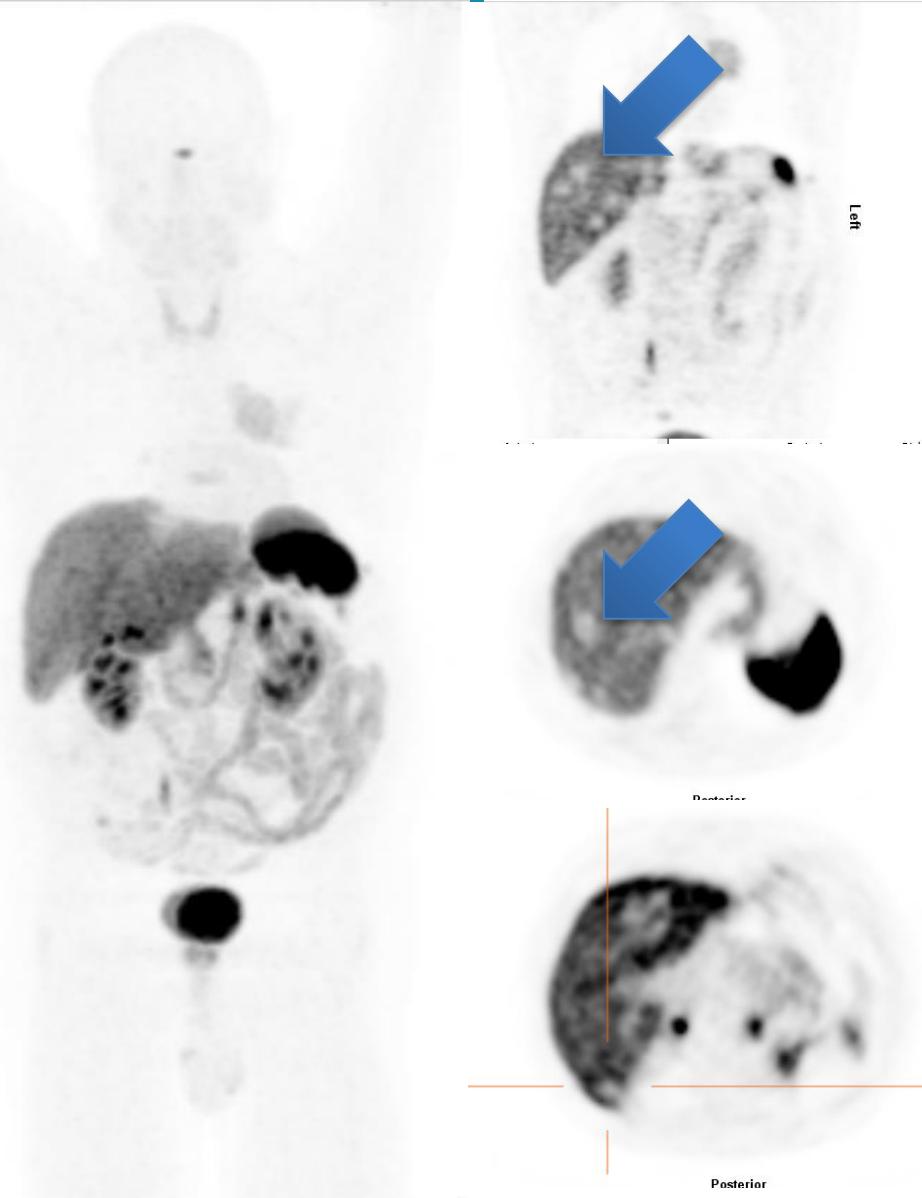
Radionuclide + Chelator + Somatostatin analogue



## THERAPEUTIC COMBINATIONS:

- |                            |   |                                |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> generation | • $^{111}\text{In}$ -DTPA-octreotide                    | (Octreoscan®)                  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> generation | • $^{90}\text{Y}$ -DOTA, Tyr <sup>3</sup> -octreotide   | ( $^{90}\text{Y}$ -DOTATOC)    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> generation | • $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -DOTA, Tyr <sup>3</sup> -octreotate | ( $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -DOTATATE) |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> generation | • $^{213}\text{Bi}$ -DOTA, Tyr <sup>3</sup> -octreotide | ( $^{213}\text{Bi}$ -DOTATOC)  |

# Absence of SSR expression – no candidate for PRRT



# High SSR expression: PRRT candidate

Normal biodistribution

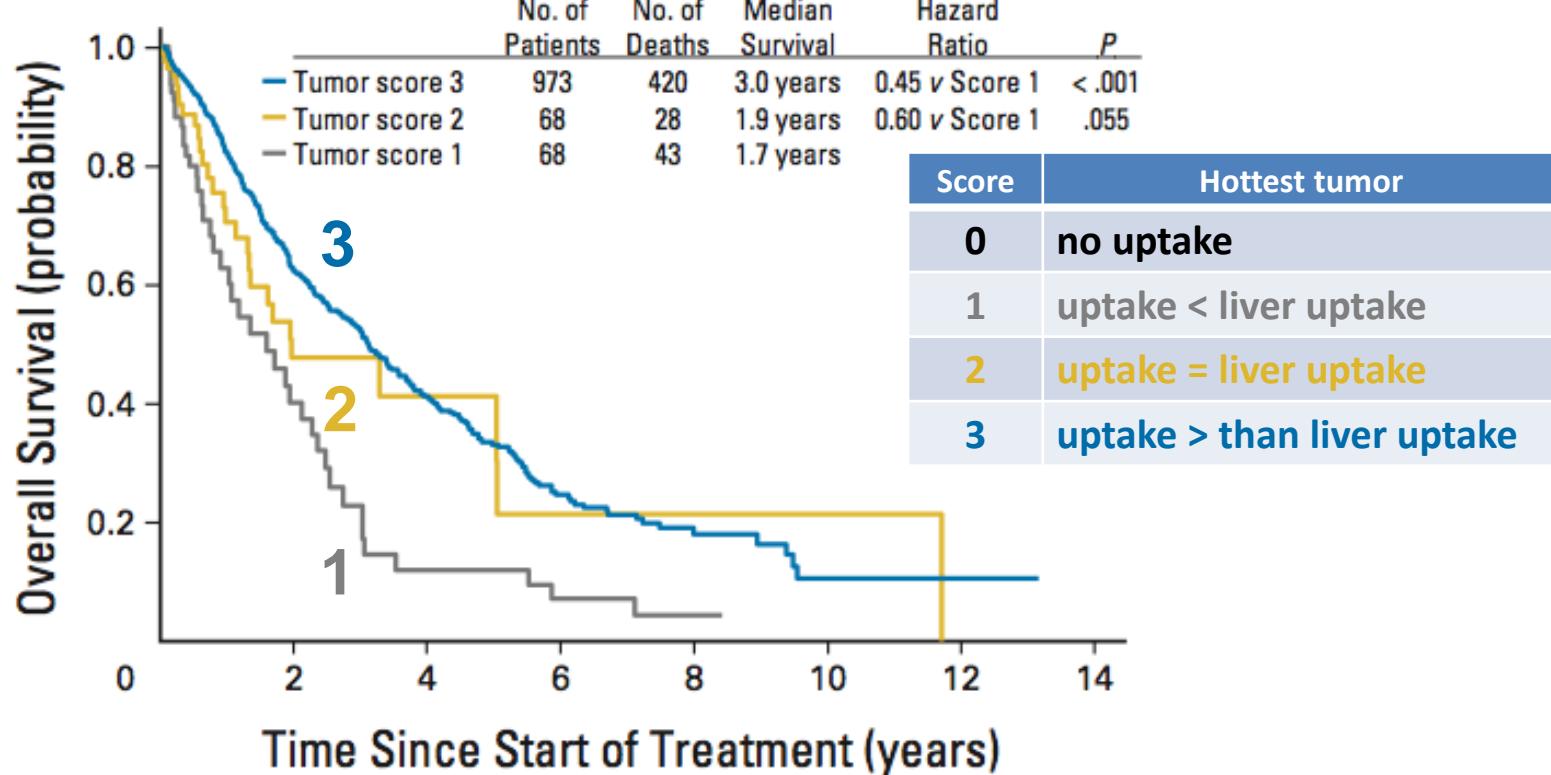


Patient with multifocal disease



# <sup>90</sup>Y-DOTATOC (Basel experience; n=1109)

## Overall survival as function of <sup>111</sup>In-pentetreotide binding

**B**

## No. at risk

	Total	381	172	66	27	5	1	0
Score 3	973	344	155	58	23	3	1	0
Score 2	68	19	11	4	3	2	0	0
Score 1	68	18	6	4	1	0	0	0

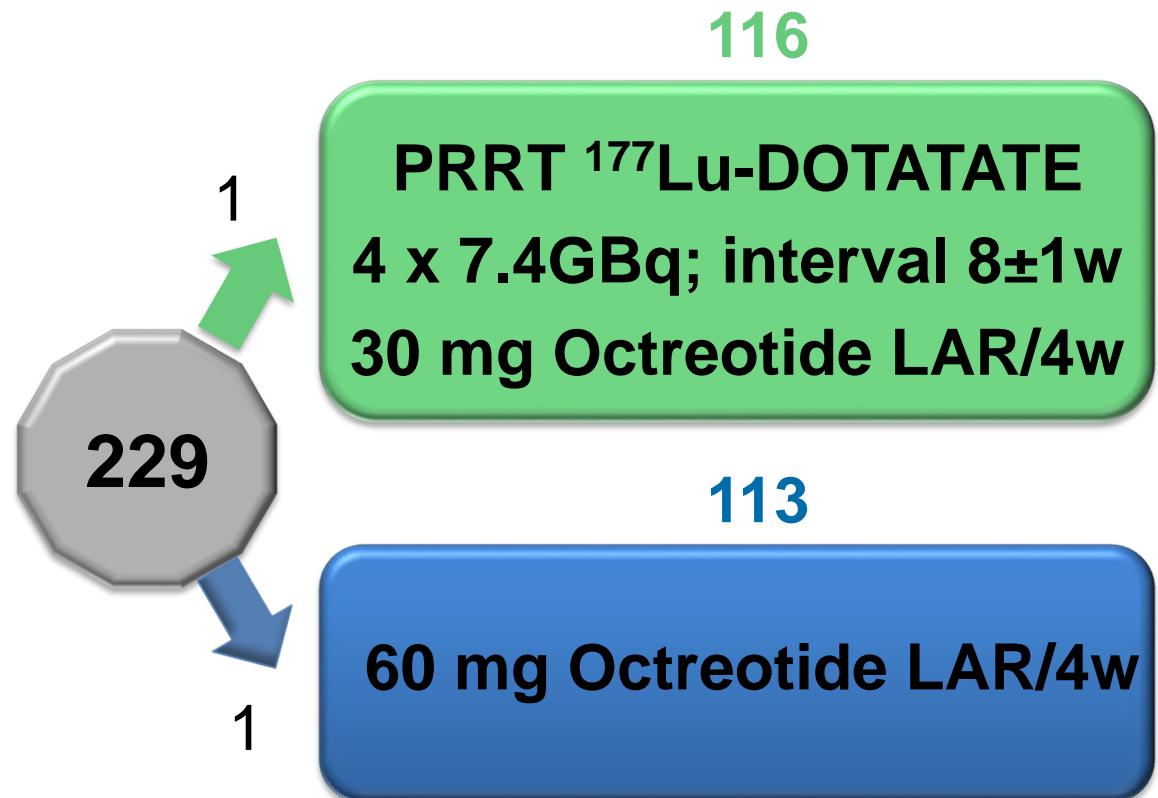
# Randomised Controlled Trial NETTER-1

## Metastatic NET (midgut)

- RECIST progression on fixed dose SSA
- Ki67 <20% (Gr 1/2)
- **SRS + all lesions**
- Adequate GFR, blood, liver
- No prior PRRT

## Stratification

- Fixed dose SSA: <6 months vs >6 months
- **SRS uptake score**



**1<sup>ary</sup> end: PFS**

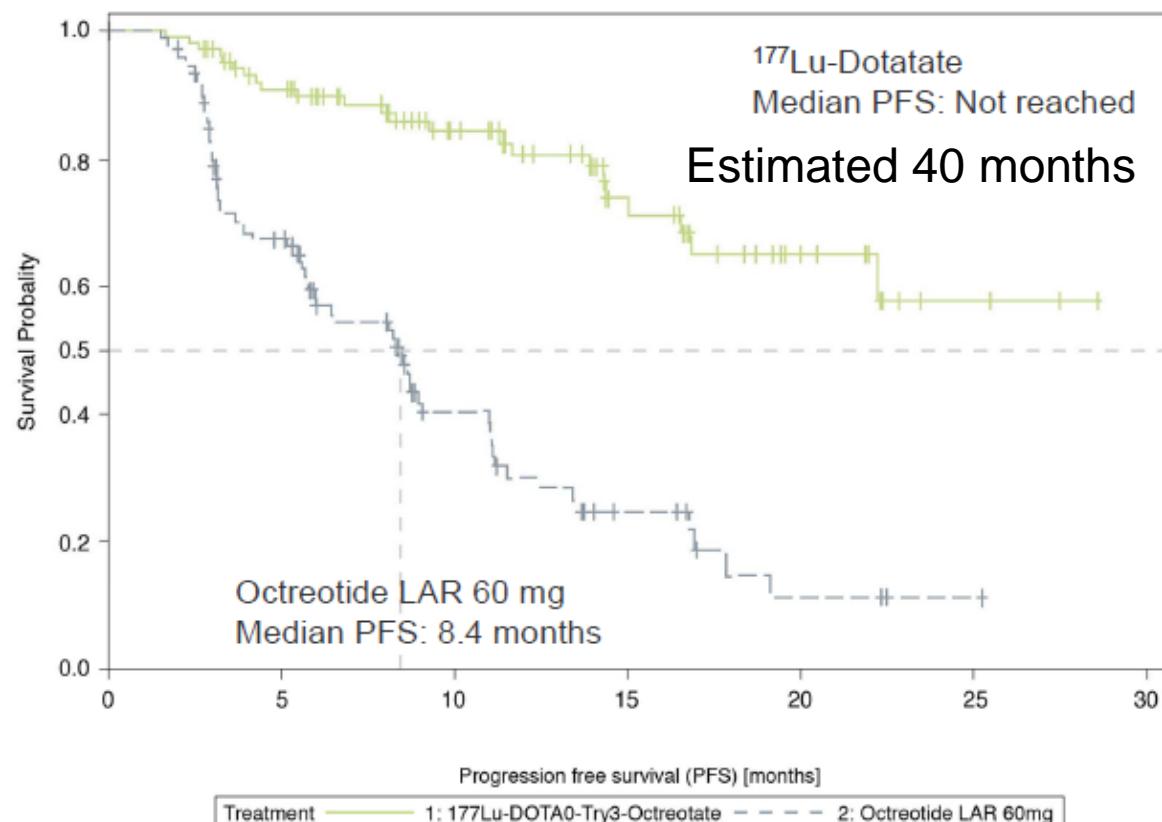
**2<sup>ary</sup> end: ORR, TTP, OS, DoR, PFS<sub>2</sub>**

# NETTER-1: primary endpoint PFS

## Progression-Free Survival

N = 229 (ITT)  
Number of events: 90  
•  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -Dotatate: 23  
• Oct 60 mg LAR: 67

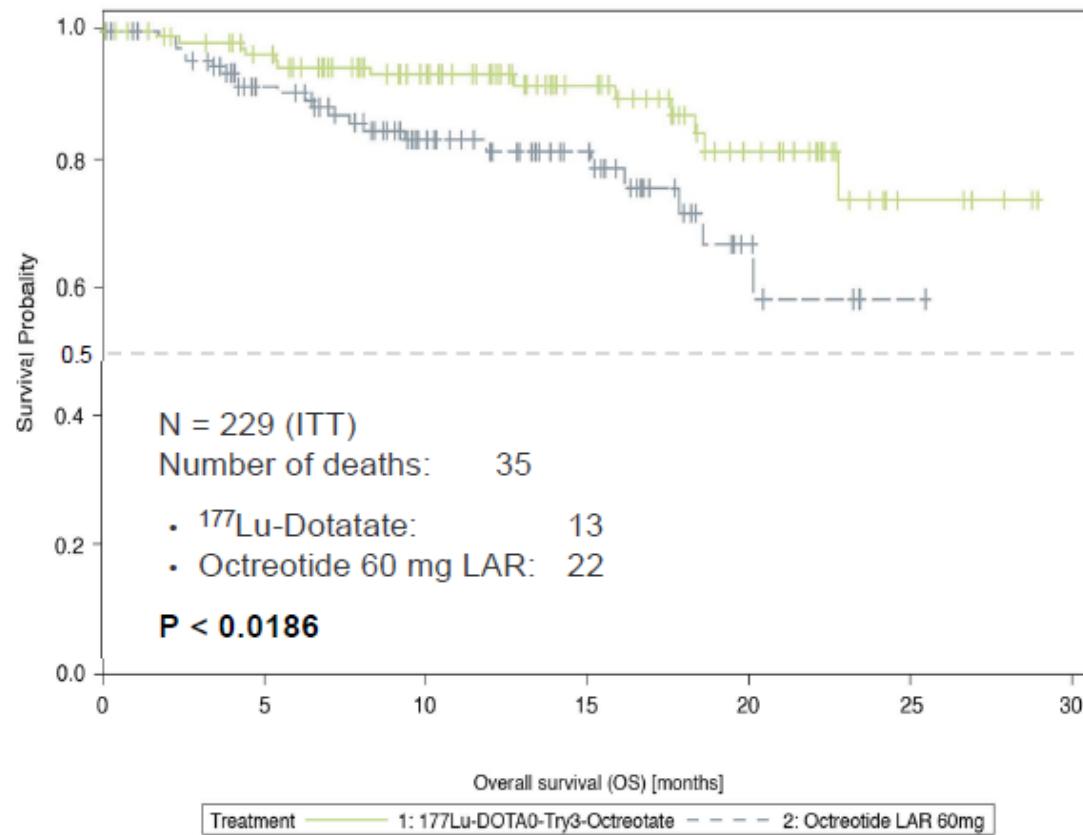
Hazard Ratio [95% CI]  
0.209 [0.129 – 0.338]  
**p < 0.0001**



All progressions centrally confirmed and independently reviewed for eligibility (SAP)

# NETTER-1: secondary endpoint OS

## Overall Survival (interim analysis)



**Validation of the concept that  
directing beta-emitters to  
tumorcells can prolong overall  
survival in metastatic cancer  
patients.**



# Treatment planning PRRT

- Pre-therapy work-up
  - Determine kidney function
  - Determine hematological function (blood draw)
  - Theranostic imaging
  - Optional: Pre-therapeutic dosimetry (e.g. for yttrium-90 treatment)
- Pre-administration
  - Stop cold somatostatin analogues:
    - >24 hours for short acting
    - >6 weeks for long acting
  - Amino-acid infusion (blocks kidney retention)
  - Anti-emetics (block emetic effect of amino acids)
  - Hydration
- Post-therapy
  - Lutetium-based dosimetry (prepare for next cycle)

# Overview

- Nuclear medicine treatment: radionuclide therapy (RNT)
- Therapeutic radioisotopes and radiopharmaceuticals
- Dosimetry
- **Currently used RNT and planning aspects**
  - Na<sup>131</sup>I for thyroid disease
  - <sup>131</sup>I-MIBG
  - Peptide receptor radionuclide therapy (PRRT)
  - **<sup>177</sup>Lu-PSMA (Prostate specific membrane antigen)**
  - Radium-223 for bone metastases
  - Selective internal radiation therapy (SIRT)
- Conclusions

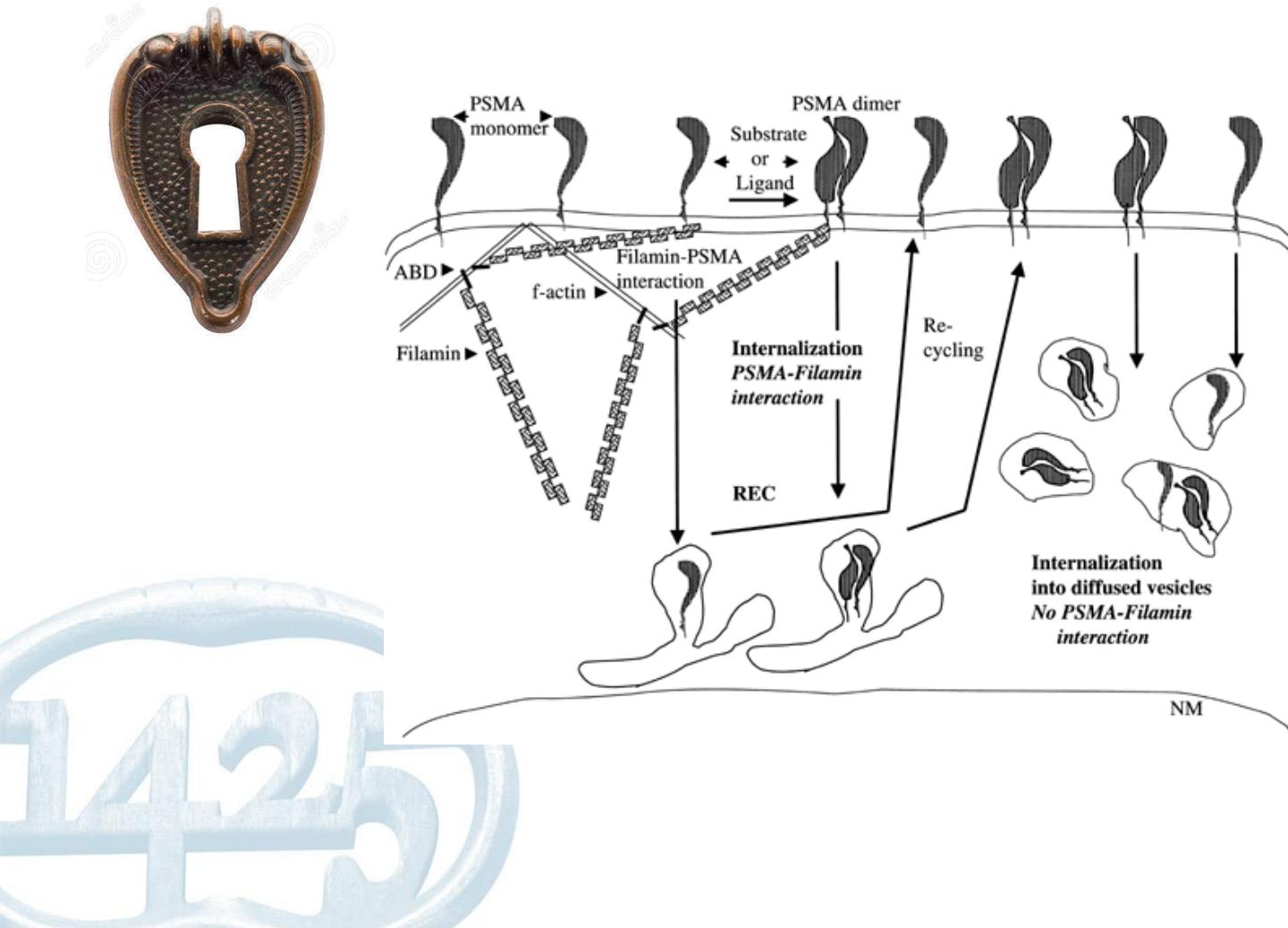
# PROSTATE SPECIFIC MEMBRANE ANTIGEN (PSMA) TARGETING: $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -HBED-CC (aka $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -PSMA) $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -PSMA



# Prostate-specific membrane antigen **(PSMA) ( $\neq$ PSA!)**

- Type II transmembrane protein
- Over-expressed in Prostate carcinoma
- Including androgen-independent, advanced and metastatic disease
- Overexpressed in bladder carcinoma , schwannoma, and in the tumor neovasculature of many solid tumors
- Membrane bound receptor
- Binds ligands as a dimer before internalization through clathrin-coated pits
- PSMA-bound ligands are internalized within the cell
  - either retained in lysosomal compartments along with the degrading PSMA receptor
  - may be released to distribute within the cell

# PSMA Regulation in prostate cancer



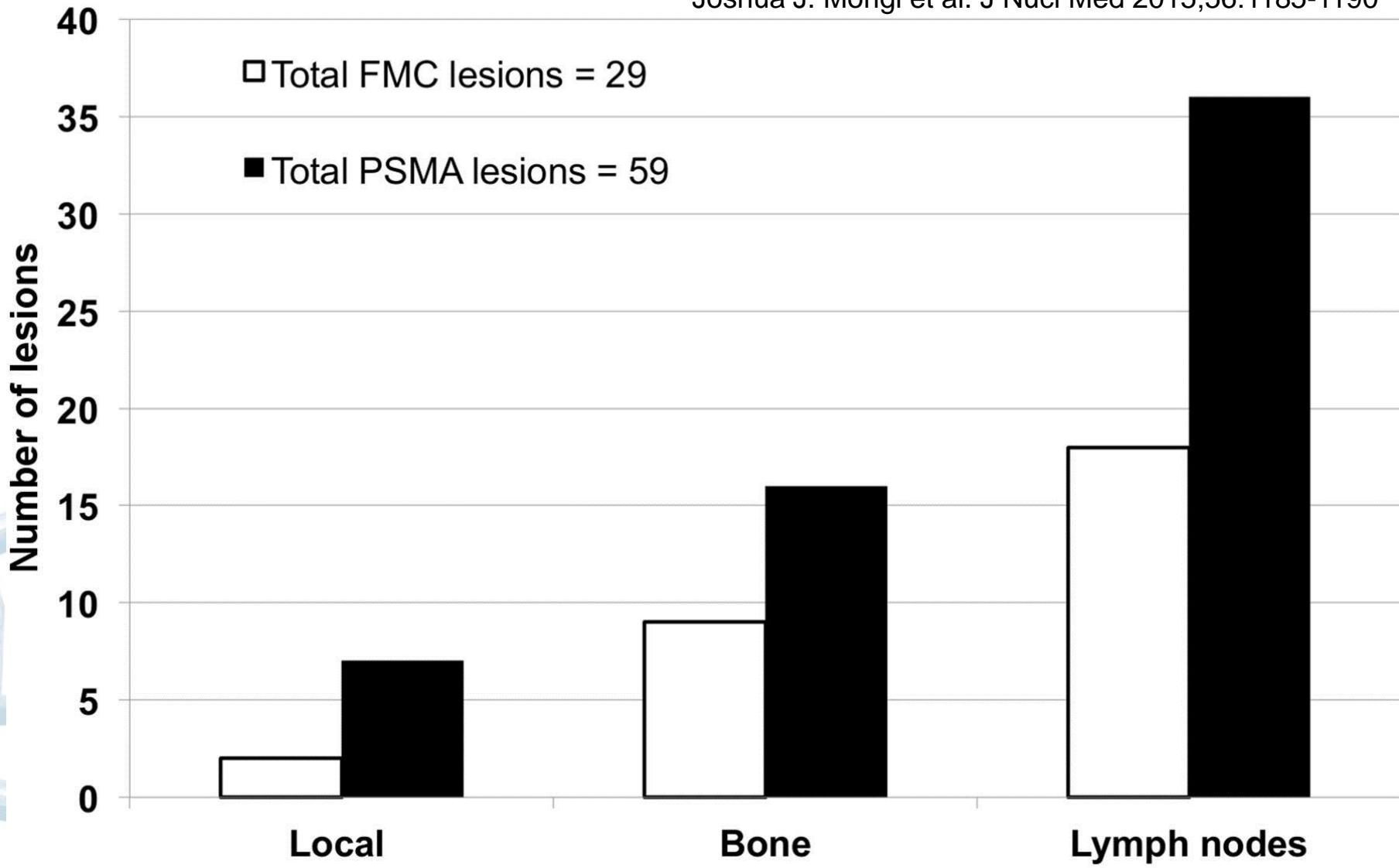
Ghosh and Heston, Journal of Cellular Biochemistry

Volume 91, Issue 3, pages 528-539, 7 OCT 2003 DOI: 10.1002/jcb.10661

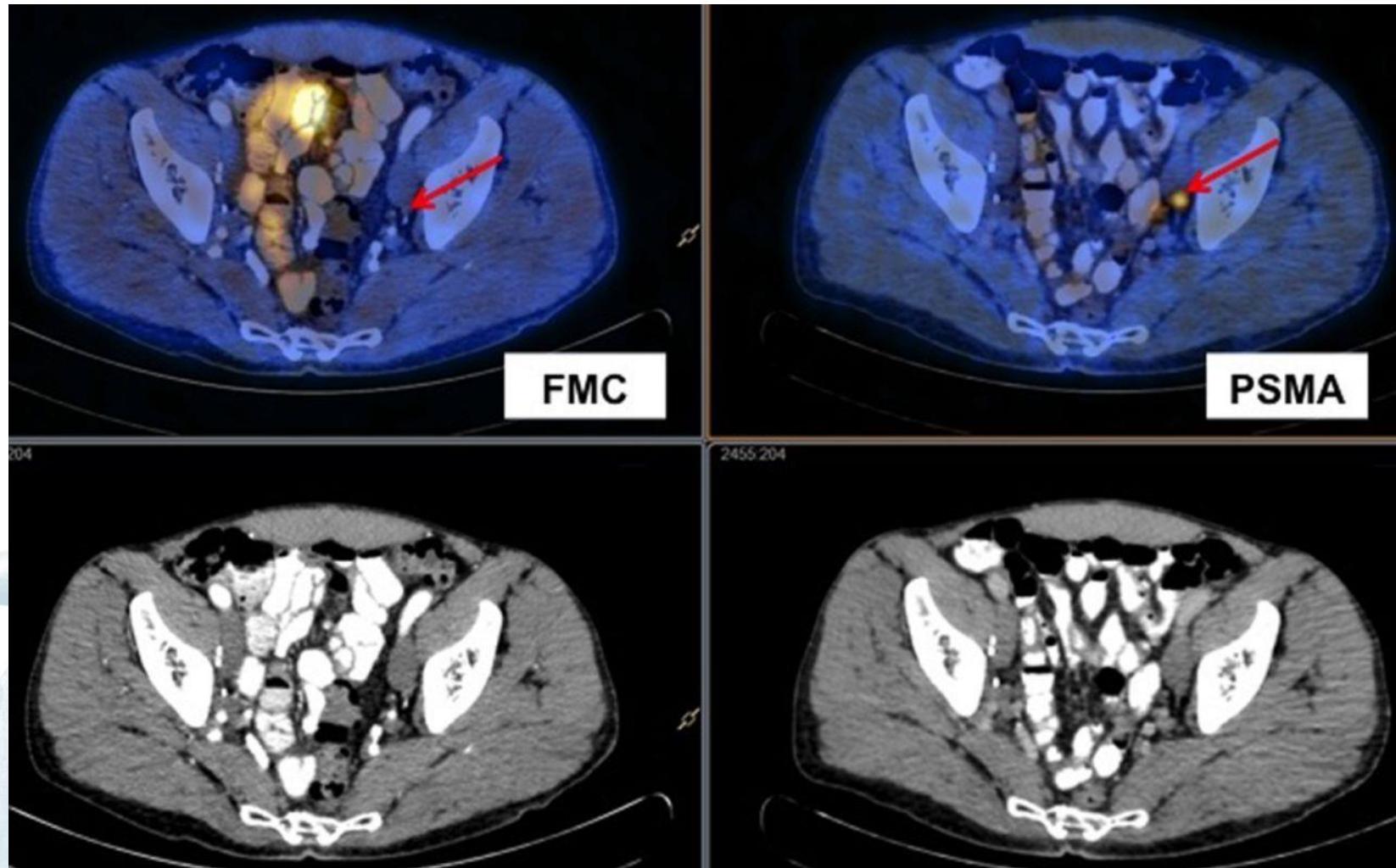
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jcb.10661/full#fig4>

# Number of lesions per site

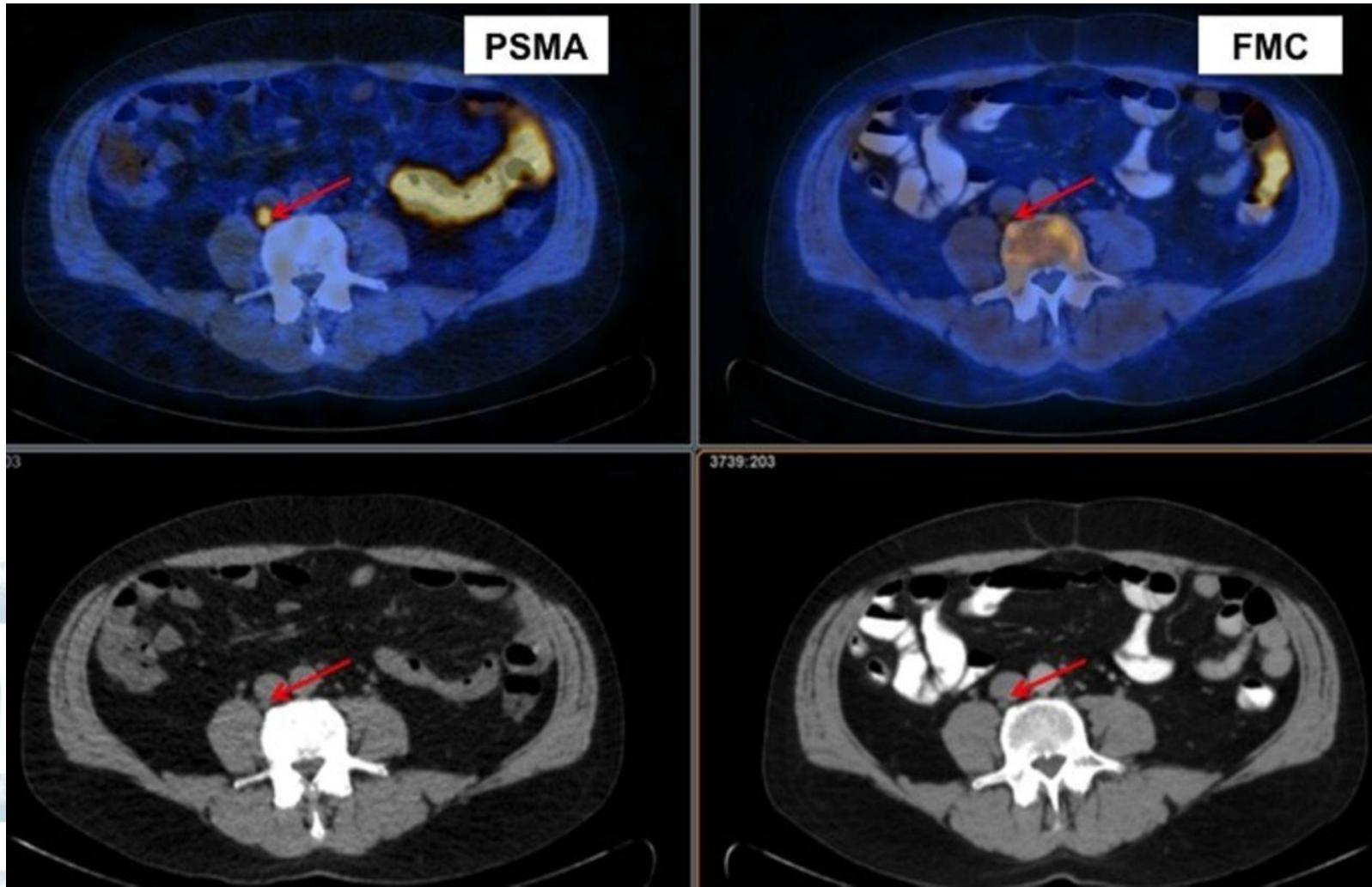
Joshua J. Morigi et al. J Nucl Med 2015;56:1185-1190



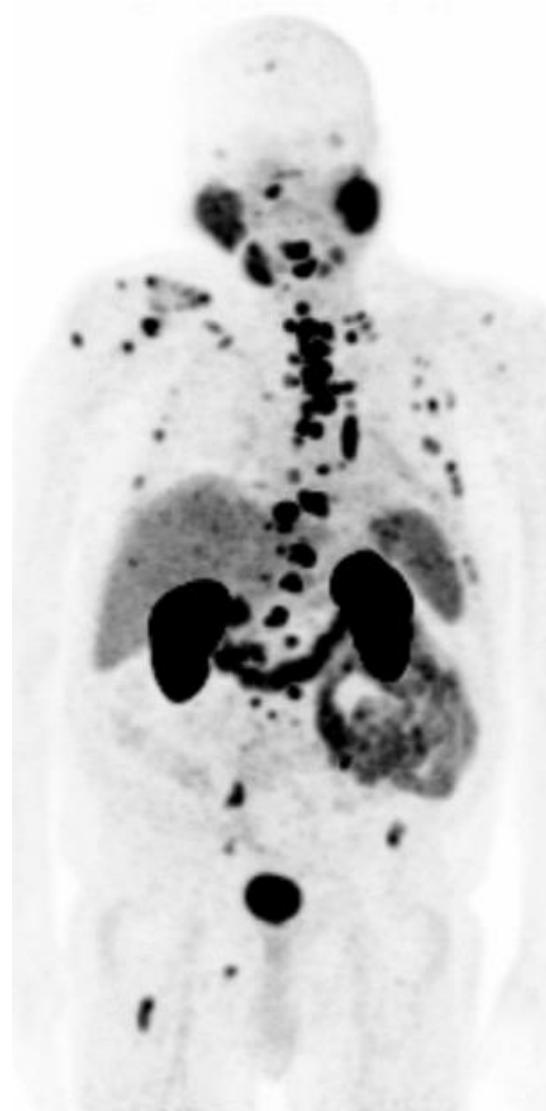
# $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -PSMA PET/CT: detection of lesions missed by other techniques



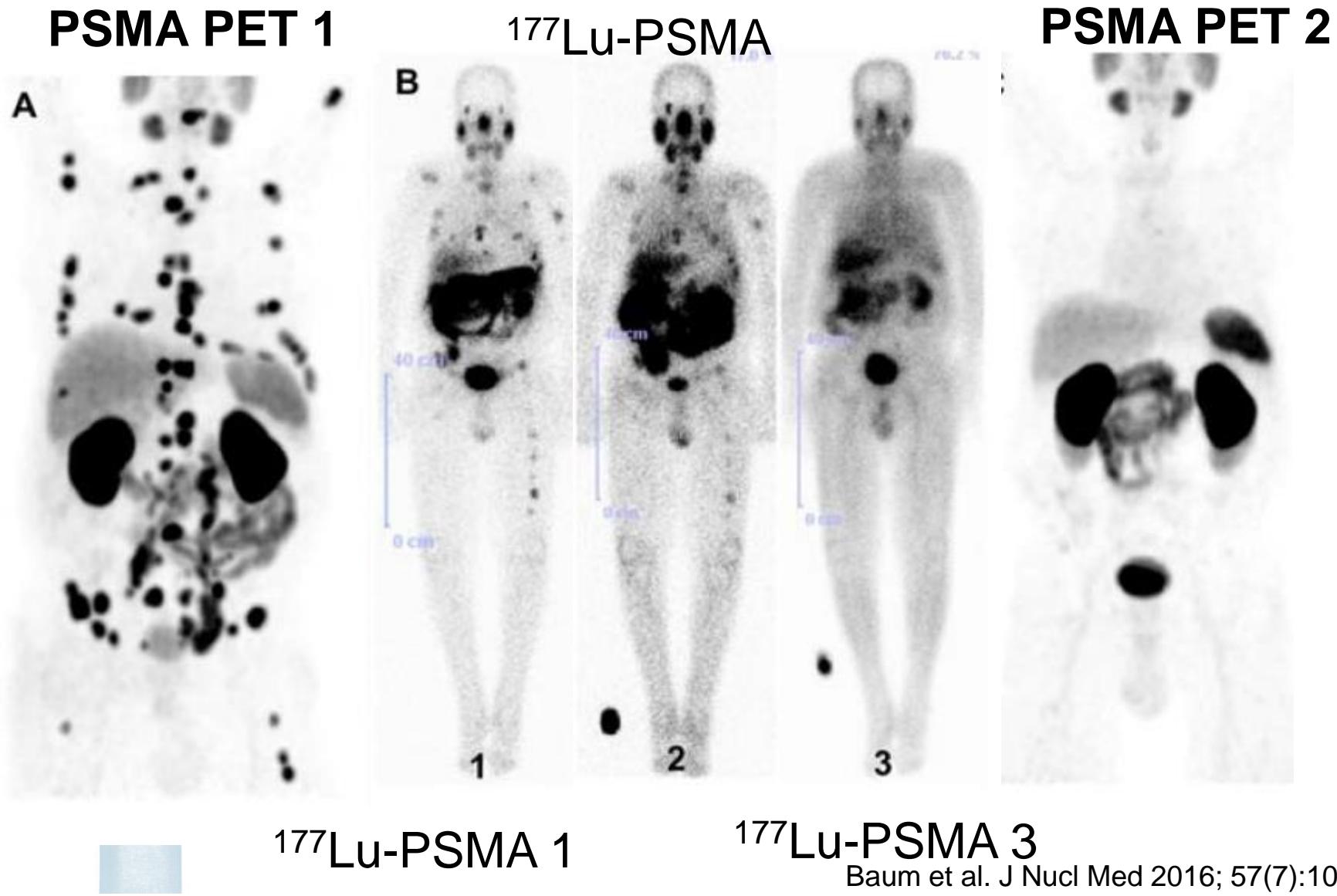
# $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -PSMA PET/CT: detection of lesions missed by other techniques



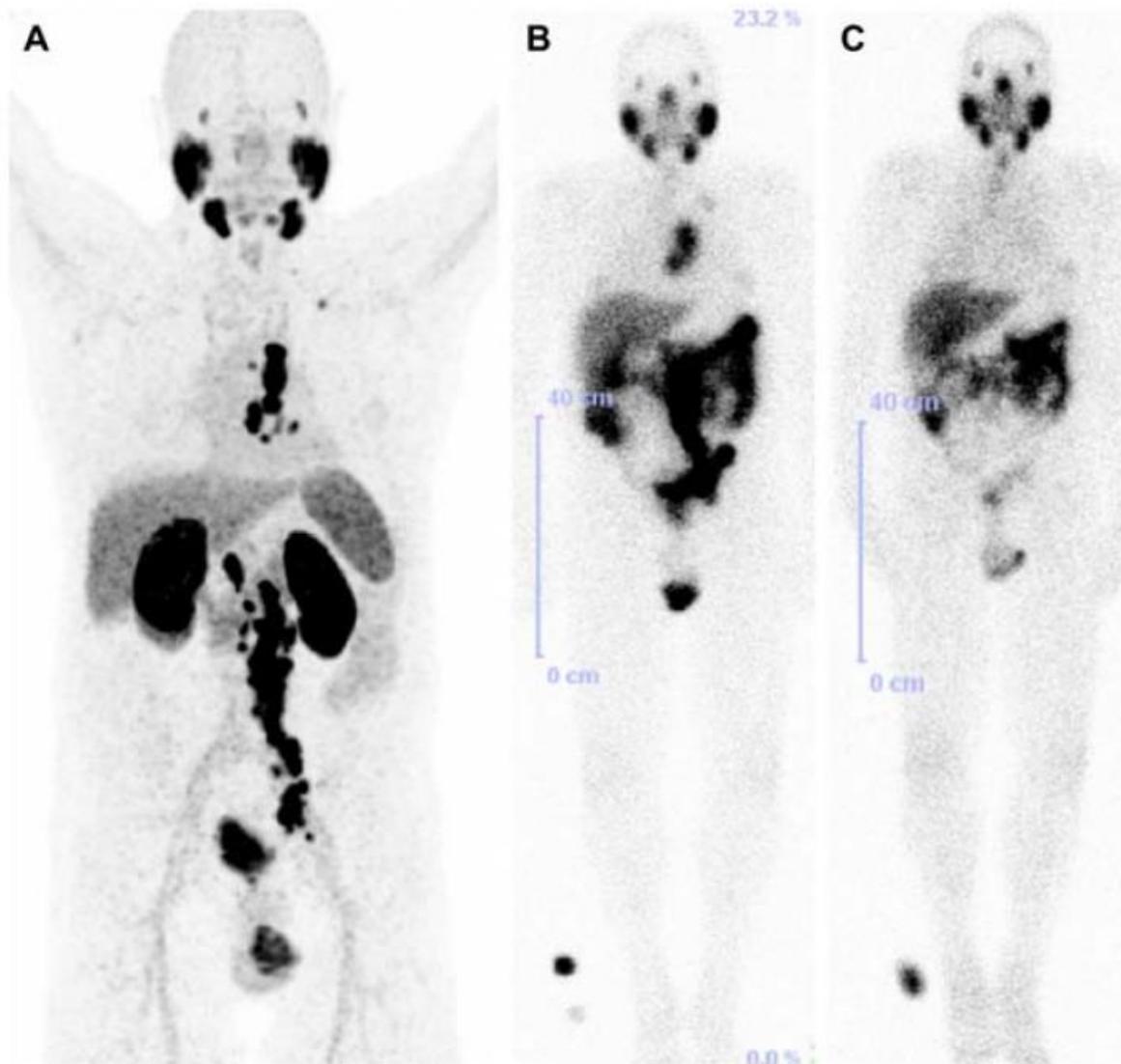
# PSMA: Theranostic target



# PSMA: theranostic target ( $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -PSMA)

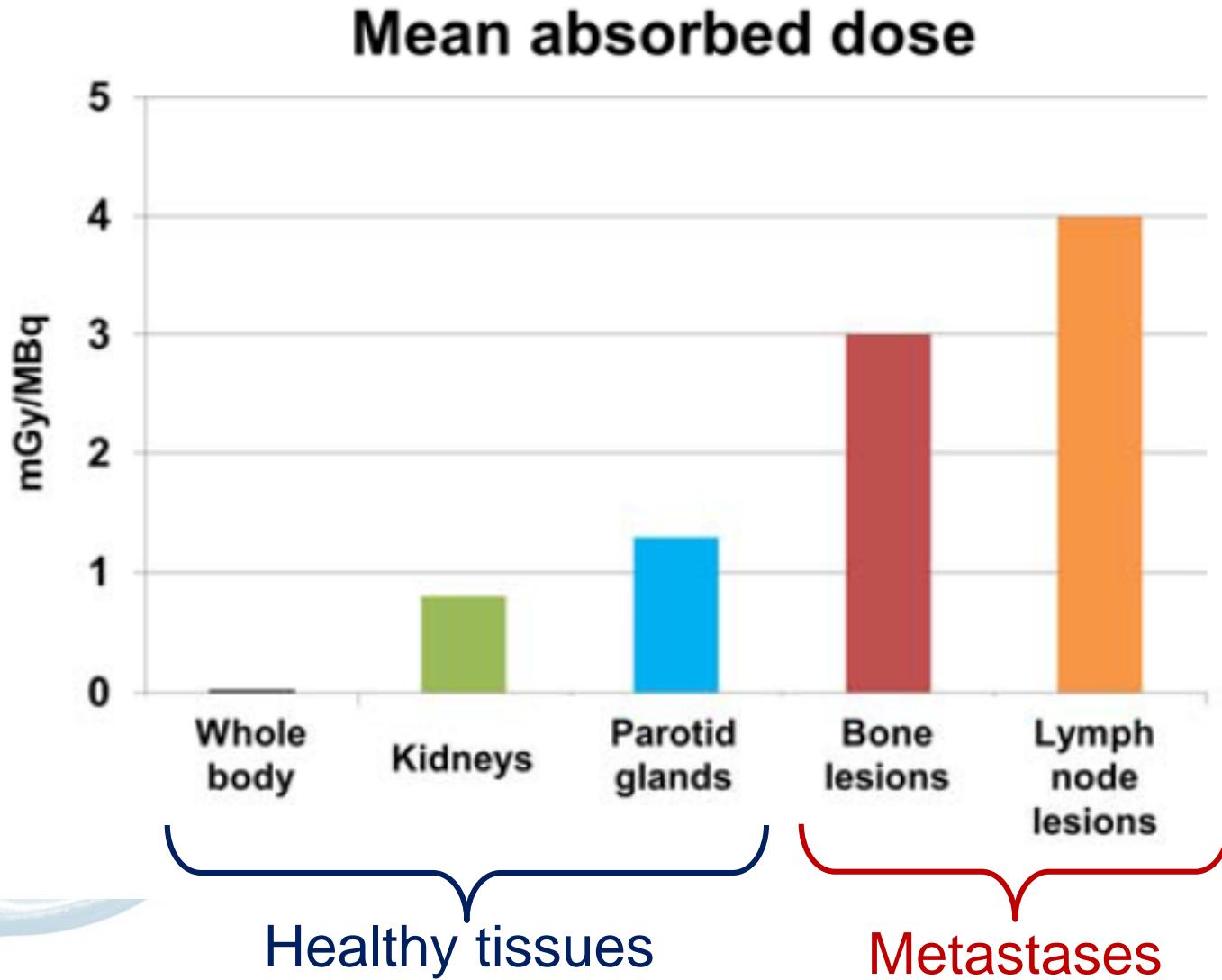


# PSMA: theranostic target ( $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -PSMA)

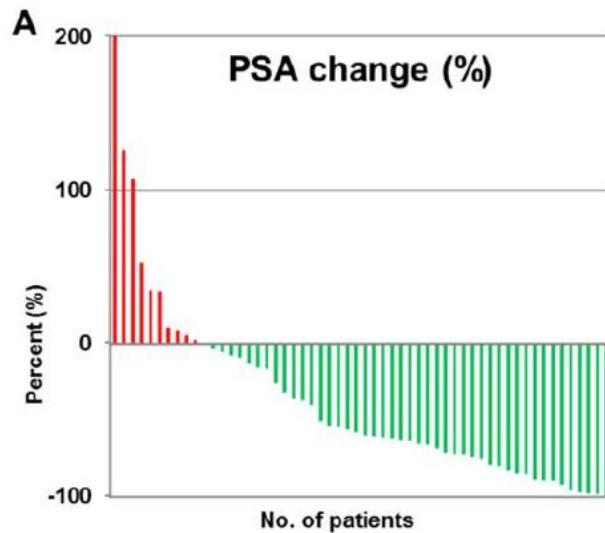


# Absorbed dose to tissues

Baum et al. J Nucl Med 2016; 57(7):1006-13

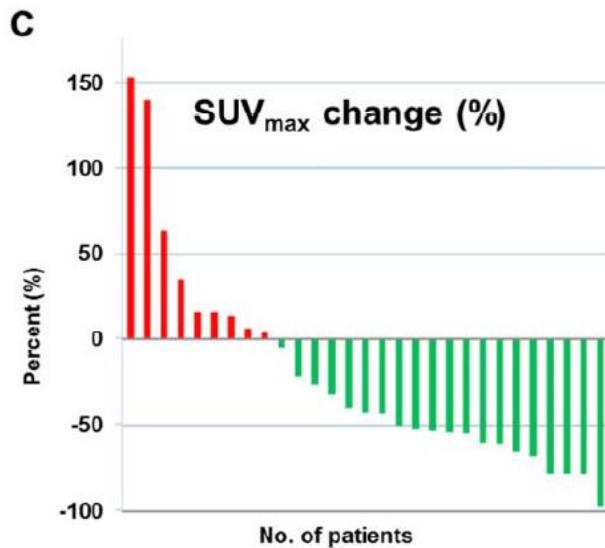
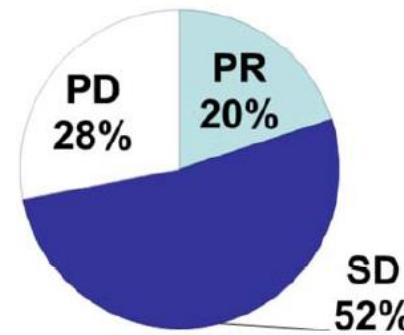


# Response evaluation



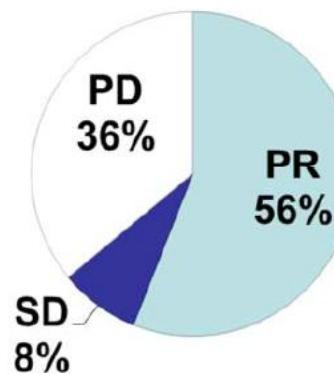
B

Response evaluation  
(RECIST 1.1)

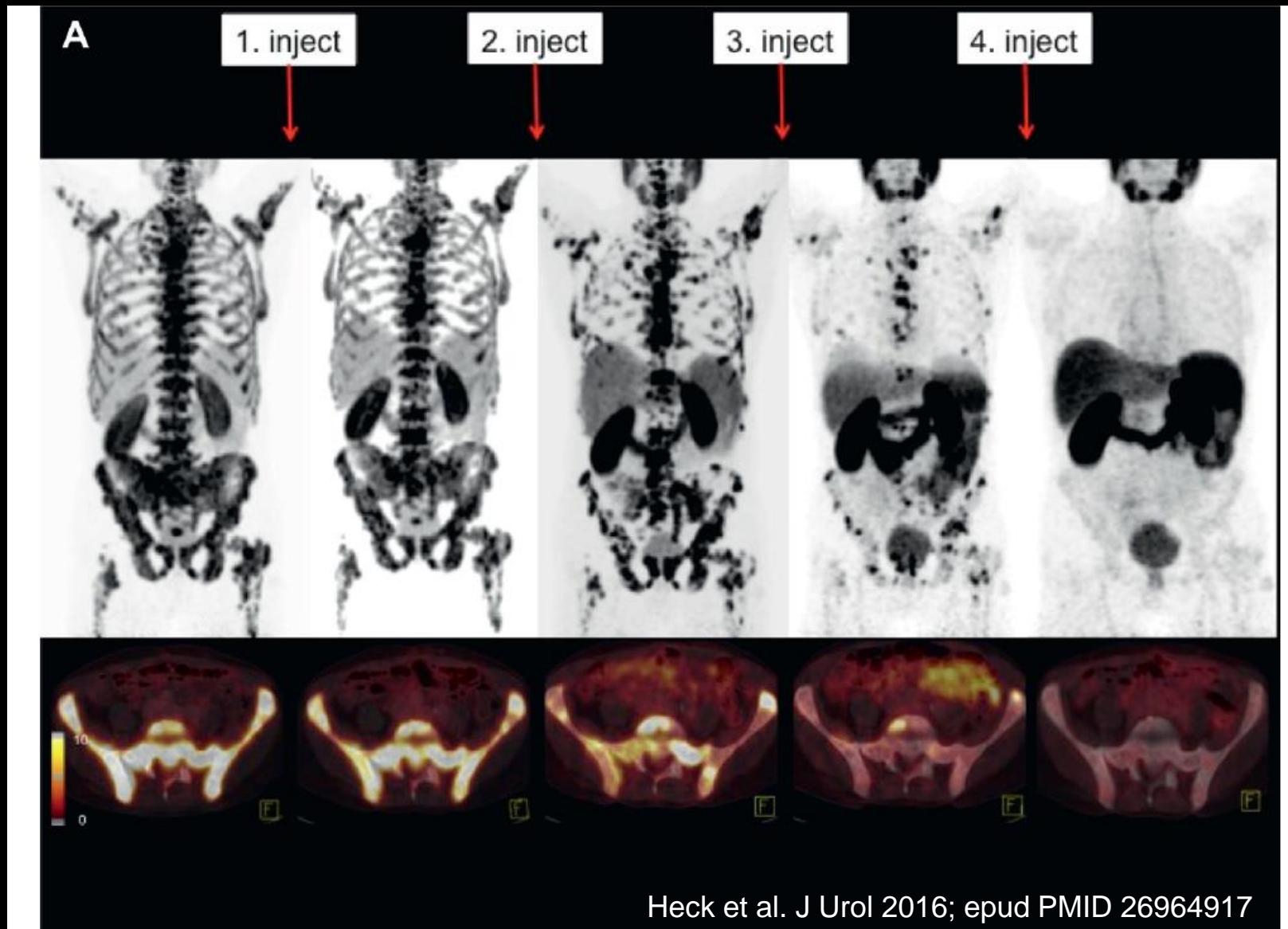


D

Response evaluation  
(EORTC)



# Dramatic response in superscan patient



# SNMMI 2015 Image of the year

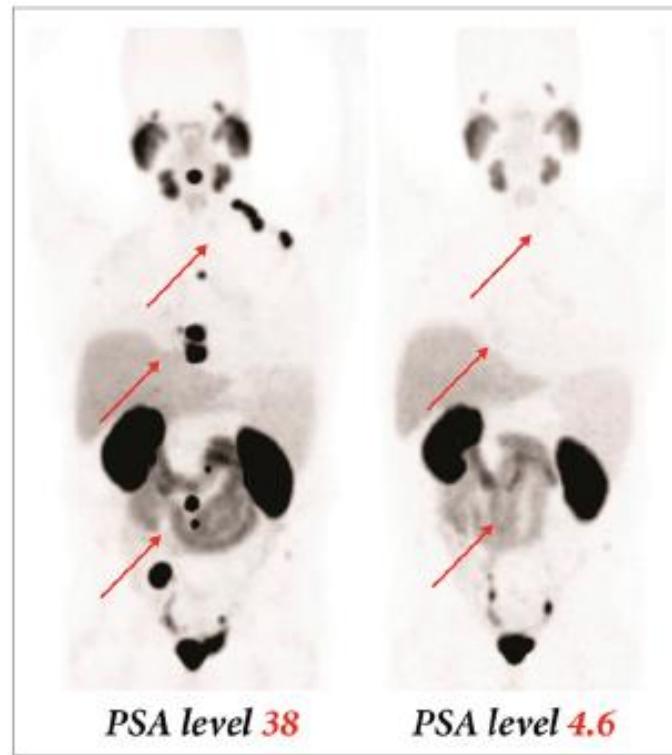
## SNMMI 2015 Image of the Year

**A**t the final session of the SNMMI Annual Meeting on June 8, society leaders announced the award of the 2015 Image of the Year to a group working under Matthias Eder, PhD, from the German Cancer Research Center (Heidelberg, Germany) for images acquired with an agent that can be labeled with  $^{68}\text{Ga}$  for imaging for treatment stratification and with  $^{177}\text{Lu}$  for therapy in prostate cancer. PSMA-617 is a prostate-specific membrane antigen inhibitor that targets prostate cancer cell surfaces at both local and metastatic sites. Their podium presentation was titled "PSMA-617—a novel theranostic PSMA inhibitor for both diagnosis and endoradiotherapy of prostate cancer."

"We feel very honored to receive this prestigious award as it is the result of the excellent work of many people," said Eder. "I would like to thank all the team members who contributed to this work." This team included the first author of the presentation, Martina Benesova, PhD.

The same group, in partnership with researchers at Heidelberg University Hospital under Uwe Haberkorn, MD, have already used  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -PSMA-617 to treat patients with advanced prostate cancer. After treatment, >50% of patients experienced sharp drops in prostate-specific antigen (PSA) levels. In addition, PET/CT imaging confirmed that metastases had shrunk and were no longer detectable. "The results were so promising that we plan to go ahead with a clinical trial as soon as possible to examine whether PSMA-617 is superior to other therapy methods," said Haberkorn in a press release from the researchers' institutions.

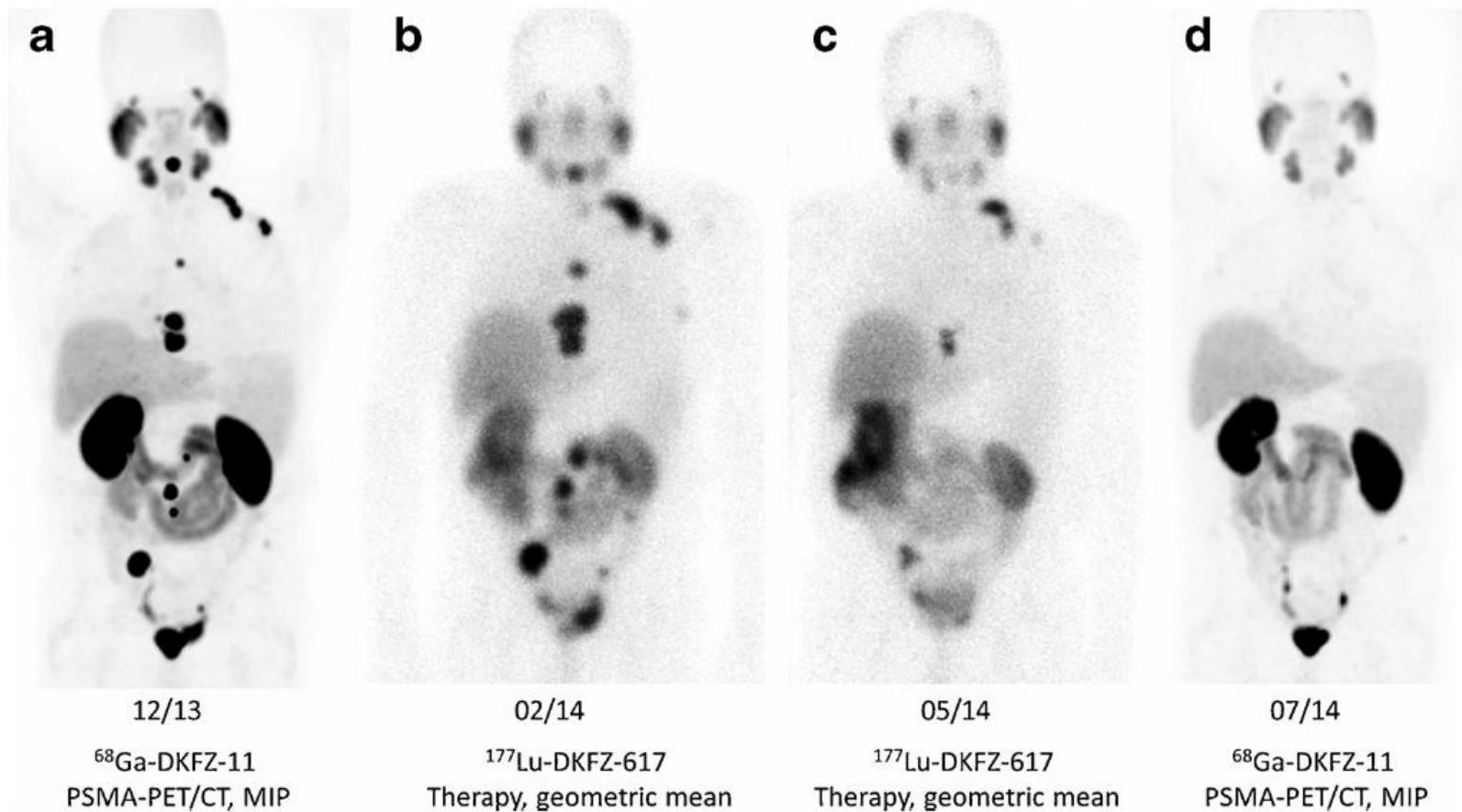
"Prostate cancer remains one of the main causes of cancer-related death among men worldwide," said Peter Herscovitch, 2014–2015 SNMMI president. "This new mo-



Left: Baseline image of patient with widely metastasized prostate cancer before  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -PSMA-617 treatment (PSA = 38). Right: After treatment (PSA = 4.6).

lecular imaging technology not only detects metastatic prostate cancer, but also can treat metastases noninvasively. It is the combined capability of diagnosis and therapy that makes this molecular theranostic so powerful."

# Image of the Month January 2015



Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging (2015) 42:987–988

IMAGE OF THE MONTH

# Great expectations....

Curr Radiopharm. 2016;9(1):6-7.

**Lutetium-177 Labeled Therapeutics:  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -PSMA is Set to Redefine Prostate Cancer Treatment.**

Pillai AM, Knapp FF Jr<sup>1</sup>.

**“Lutetium-177 Labeled Therapeutics:  
 $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -PSMA is Set to Redefine  
Prostate Cancer Treatment”**

Pillai AM & Knapp FF Jr

*Current radiopharmaceuticals* 2016;9(1):6-7

# Treatment planning $^{177}\text{Lu-PSMA}$

- Pre-therapy work-up
  - Determine kidney function
  - Determine hematological function (blood draw)
  - Theranostic imaging
- Pre-administration
  - Hydration
  - Apply cold packs to salivary glands
- Post-therapy
  - Lutetium-based dosimetry (prepare for next cycle)



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  - <sup>131</sup>I-MIBG
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  - **Radium-223 for bone metastases**
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- Conclusions

The Diagnostic Vectormolecule can be  
Different from the Therapeutic

## **OSTEOID AND BONE METASTASES**

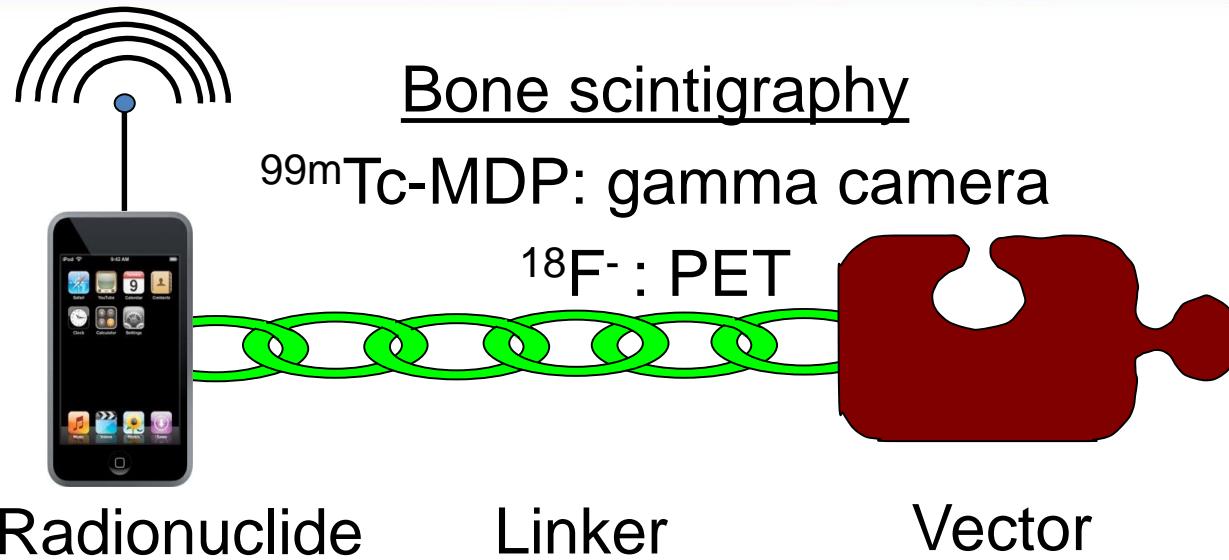
**$^{99m}\text{Tc-MDP}$  /  $^{18}\text{F-}$**

**$^{153}\text{Sm-EDTMP}$  /  $^{223}\text{RaCl}_2$**

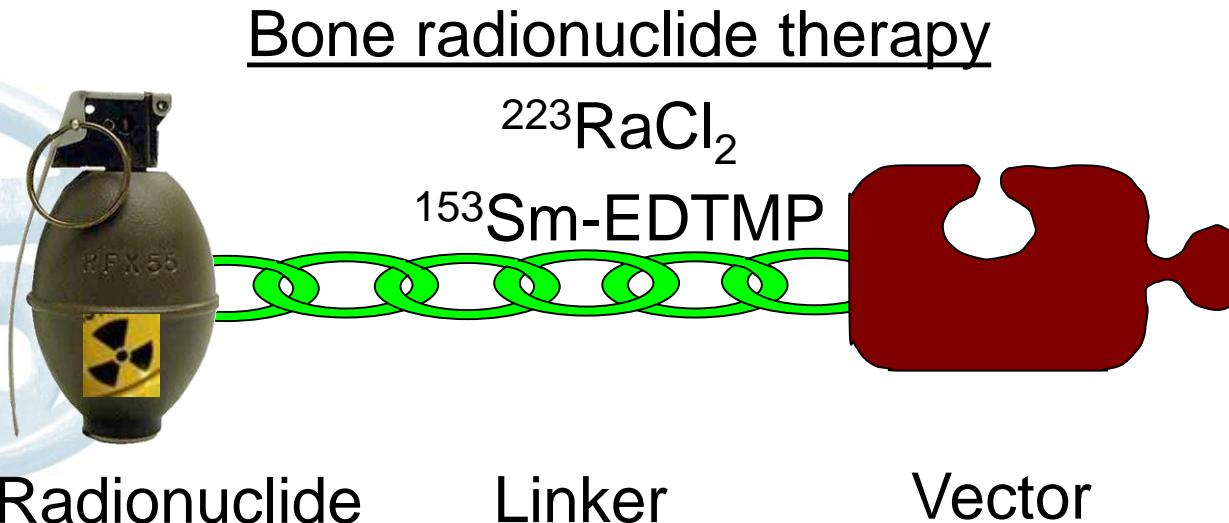


# Bone turnover: theranostic duo's

IMAGE



THERAPY



# “Ceci n'est pas un squelette”



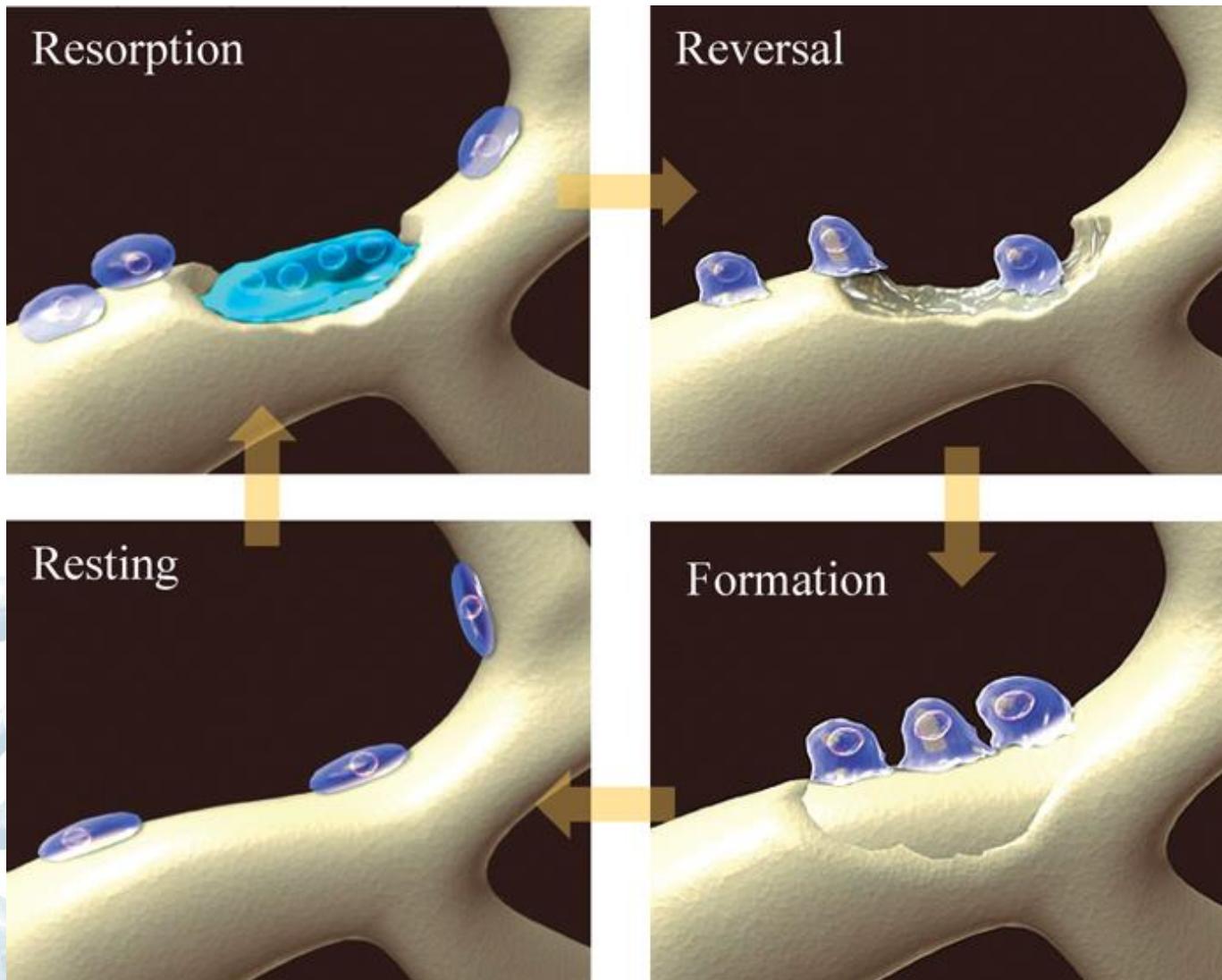
“La Trahison des Images”  
“The Treachery of Images”  
René Magritte, 1928-9



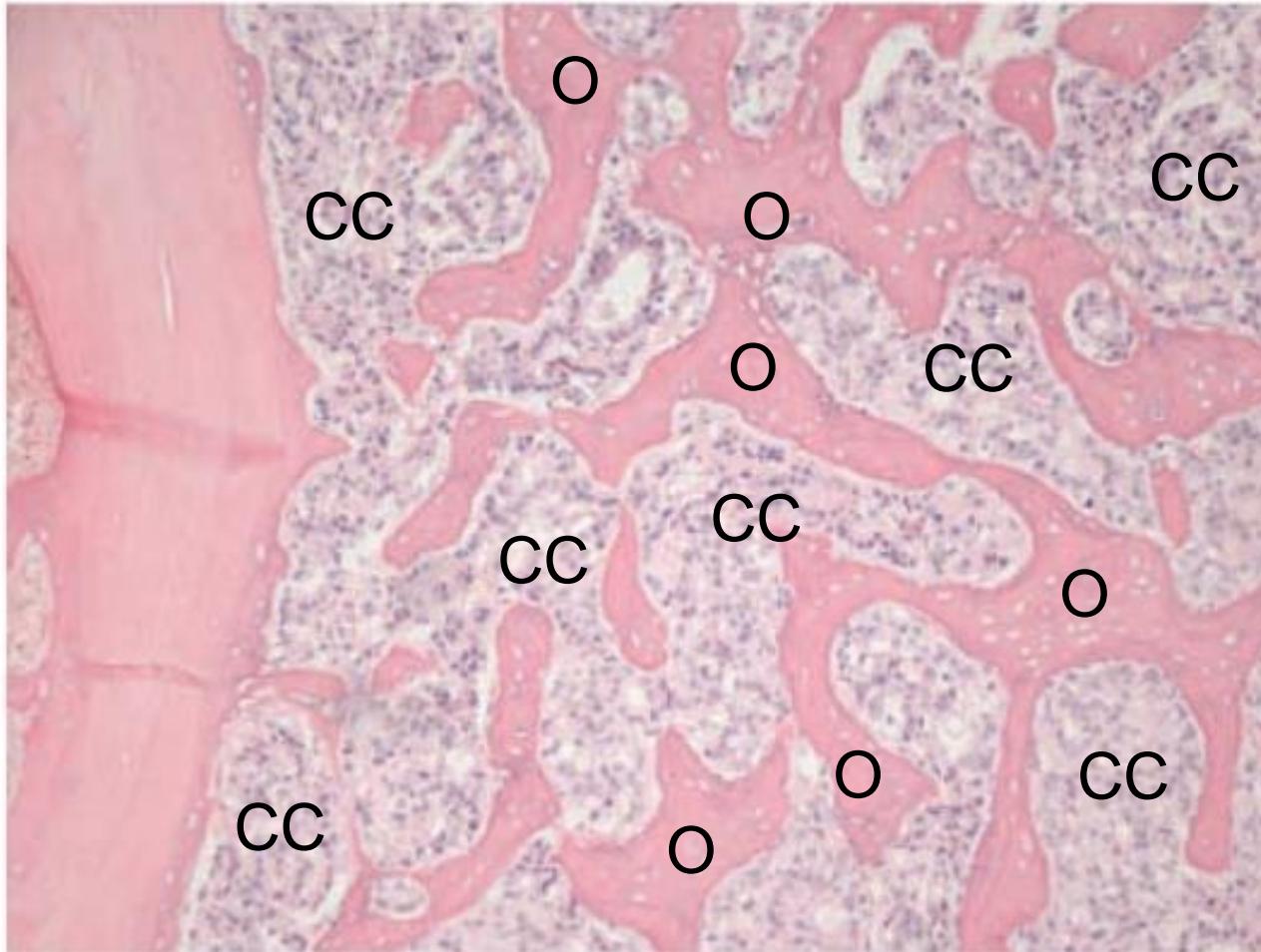
Bone scintigraphy

Bone  
**turnover**

# Bone remodeling cycle



# Theranostic target Osteoid & hydroxyapatite

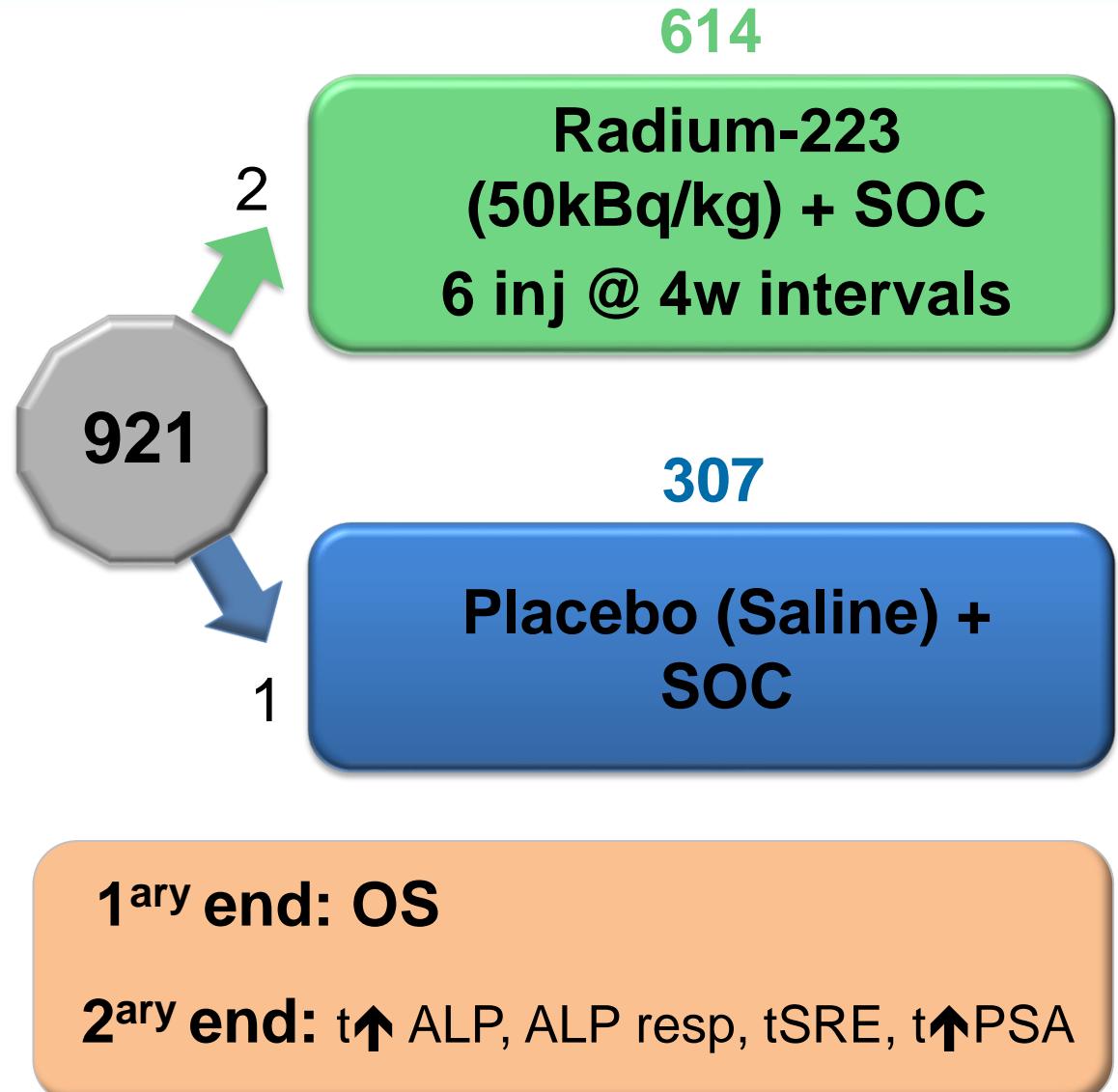
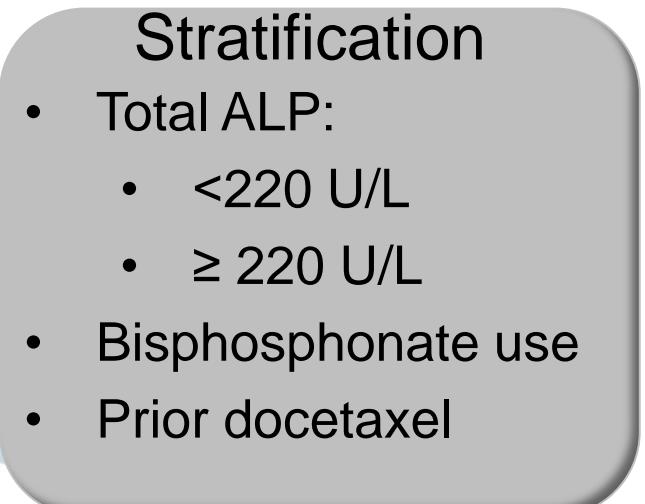
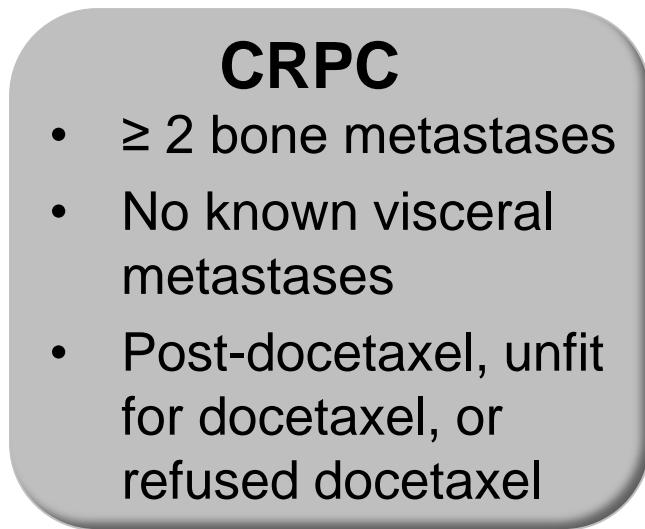


O: osteoid

CC: Cancer cells



# ALSYMPCA: Trial Design



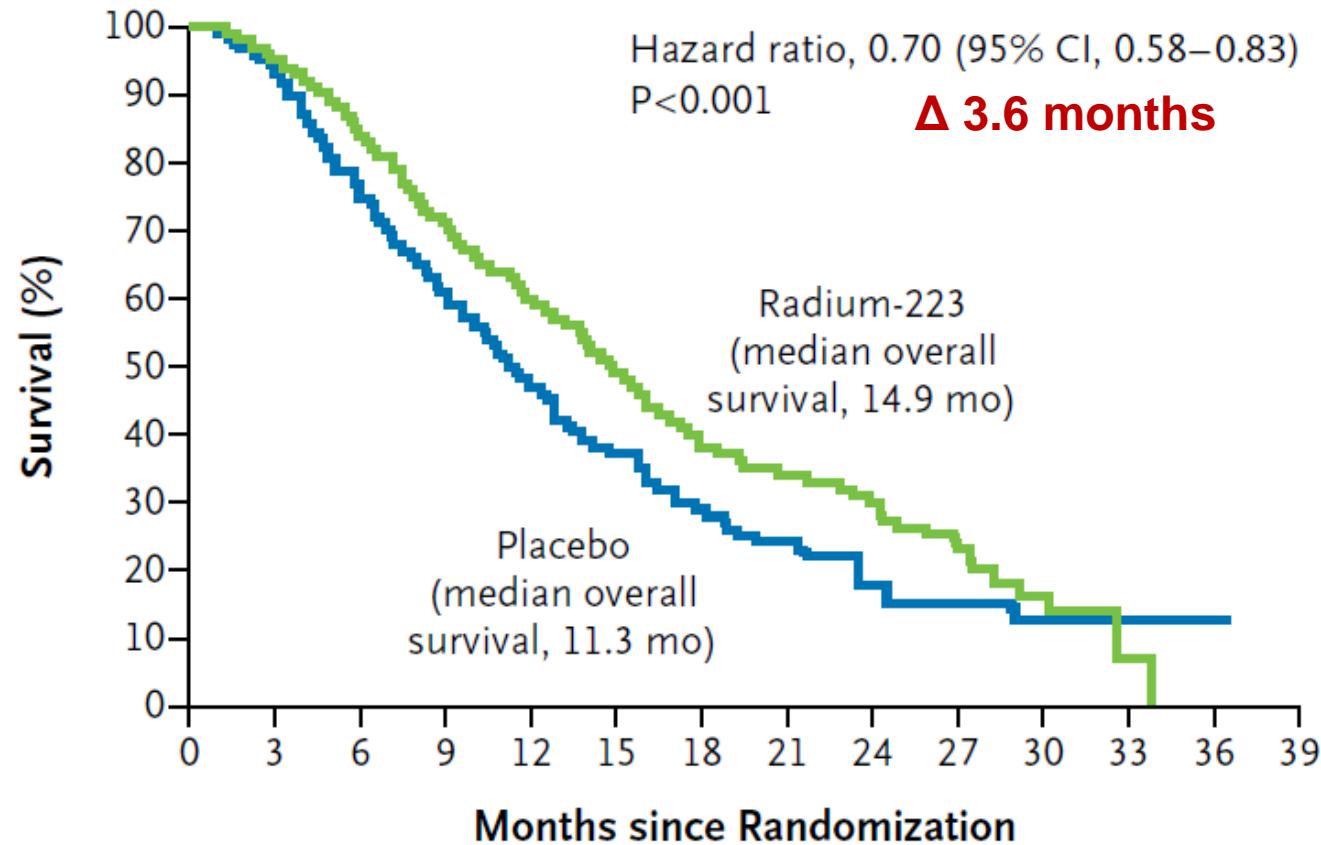
# Alsypca – Inclusion criteria

## Inclusion Criteria:

1. Histologically or cytologically confirmed adenocarcinoma of the prostate
2. Known hormone refractory disease defined as:
  - Castrate serum testosterone level:  $\leq 50 \text{ ng/dL}$  ( $1.7 \text{ nmol/L}$ )
  - Bilateral orchectomy or maintenance on androgen ablation therapy with LHRH agonist or polyestradiol phosphate throughout the study
  - Serum PSA progression defined as two consecutive increases in PSA over a previous reference value, each measurement at least 1 week apart
3. Serum PSA value  $> 5 \text{ ng/mL}$  ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )
4. Multiple skeletal metastases ( $\geq 2$  hot spots) on bone scintigraphy within previous 12 weeks
5. No intention to use cytotoxic chemotherapy within the next 6 months
6. Either regular (not occasional) analgesic medication use for cancer related bone pain or treatment with EBRT for bone pain within previous 12 weeks
7. Age  $\geq 18$  years
8. ECOG Performance status (PS): 0-2
9. Life expectancy  $\geq 6$  months
10. Laboratory requirements:
  - a. Absolute neutrophil count (ANC)  $\geq 1.5 \times 10^9/\text{L}$
  - b. Platelet count  $\geq 100 \times 10^9/\text{L}$
  - c. Hemoglobin  $\geq 10.0 \text{ g/dL}$  ( $100 \text{ g/L}$ ;  $6.2 \text{ mmol/L}$ )
  - d. Total bilirubin level  $\leq 1.5$  institutional upper limit of normal (ULN)
  - e. ASAT and ALAT  $\leq 2.5$  ULN
  - f. Creatinine  $\leq 1.5$  ULN
  - g. Albumin  $> 25 \text{ g/L}$
11. Willing and able to comply with the protocol, including follow-up visits and examinations
12. Must be fully informed about the study and signed the informed consent form

# Alsypca – Overall Survival (update)

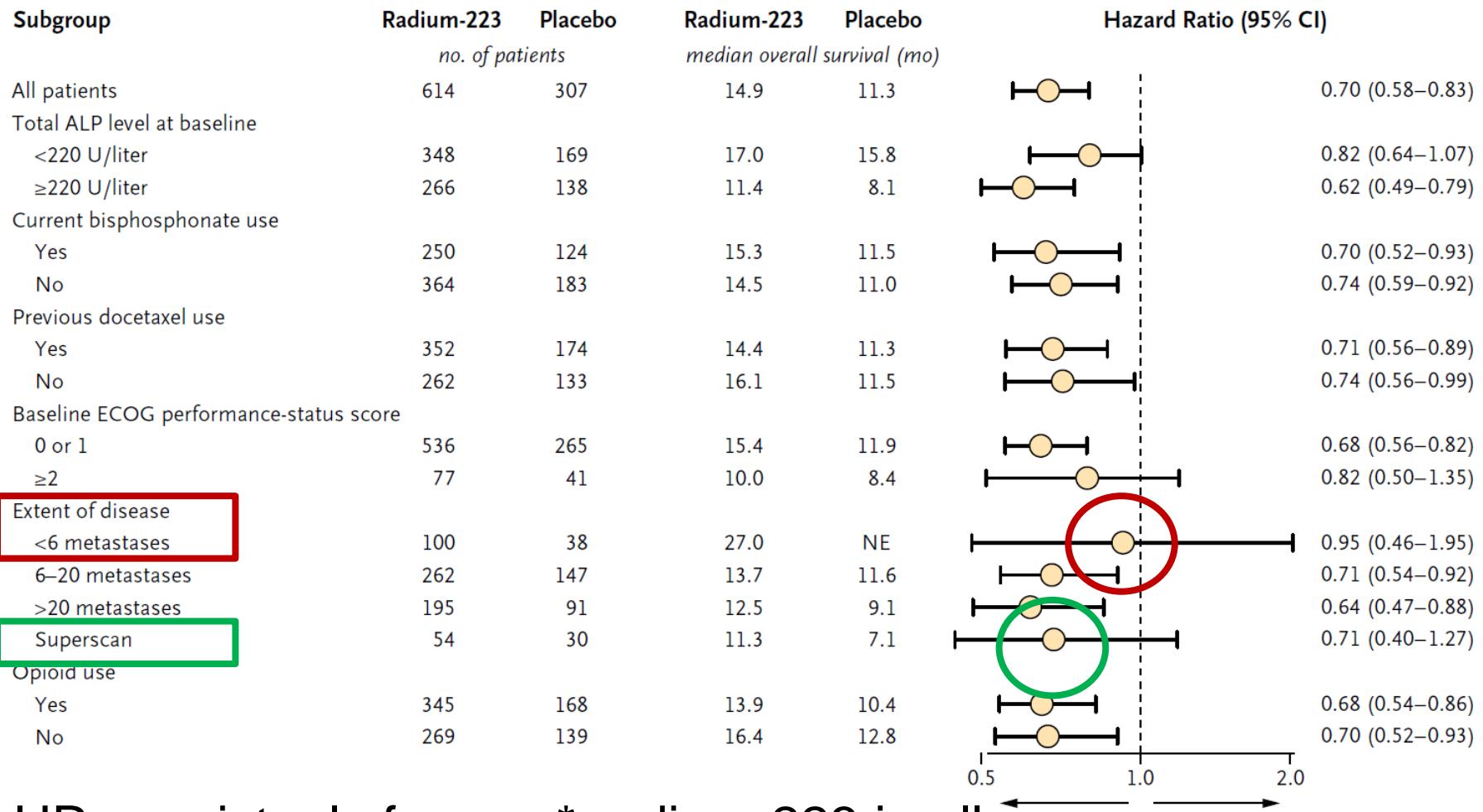
## A Overall Survival



### No. at Risk

Radium-223	614	578	504	369	274	178	105	60	41	18	7	1	0	0
Placebo	307	288	228	157	103	67	39	24	14	7	4	2	1	0

# Alsypca – OS Subgroup Analysis



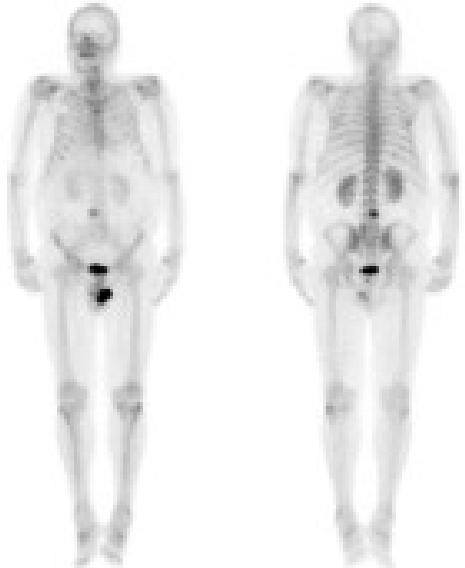
HR consistently favours\* radium-223 in all subgroups, except 1-5 metastases group

\*: but not always statistically significant due to lack of power

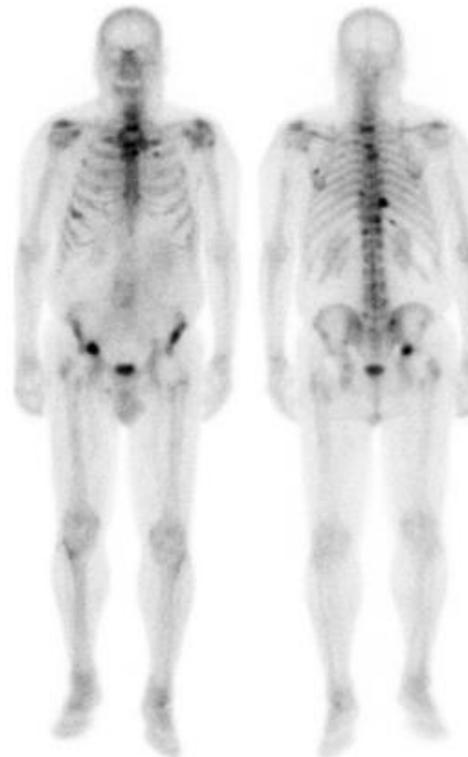
Parker, NEJM, 2013

# Bone scans images prostate cancer metastases

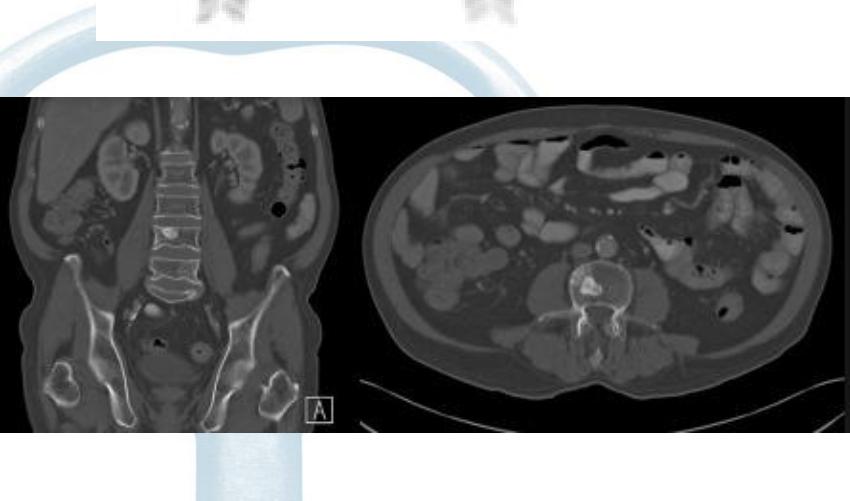
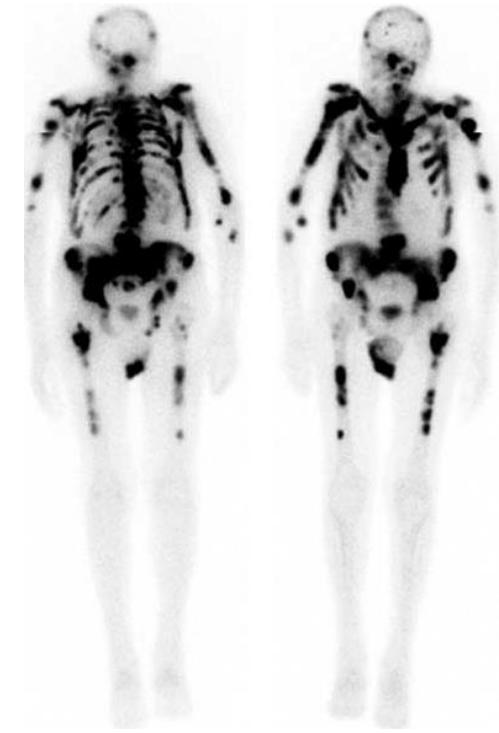
Solitary lesion



Multiple lesions



Diffuse lesions



Candidate for Ra-233

# Treatment planning Radium-223



- 55 kBq/kg



# Overview

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  - <sup>131</sup>I-MIBG
  - Peptide receptor radionuclide therapy (PRRT)
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  - Radium-223 for bone metastases
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- **Conclusions**

# Take Home Messages

- RNT is **DIFFERENT** from EBRT
- RNT is in most cases a **systemic radiation** treatment
- Imaging is currently used for many therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals (**theranostic concept**)
- Preparation can range from **basic** antropometric parameter collection to **full-blown** pre-therapeutic “dosimetry”
  - **Post-therapy dosimetry** can be seen as the preparation of the next treatment (cycle) and is full methodological development



Henry N. Wagner Jr

1927 - 2012

“Forefather of Nuclear Medicine”

“The future of nuclear  
medicine is PET....

...and Therapy”

# Questions?

## Leuven City Hall

