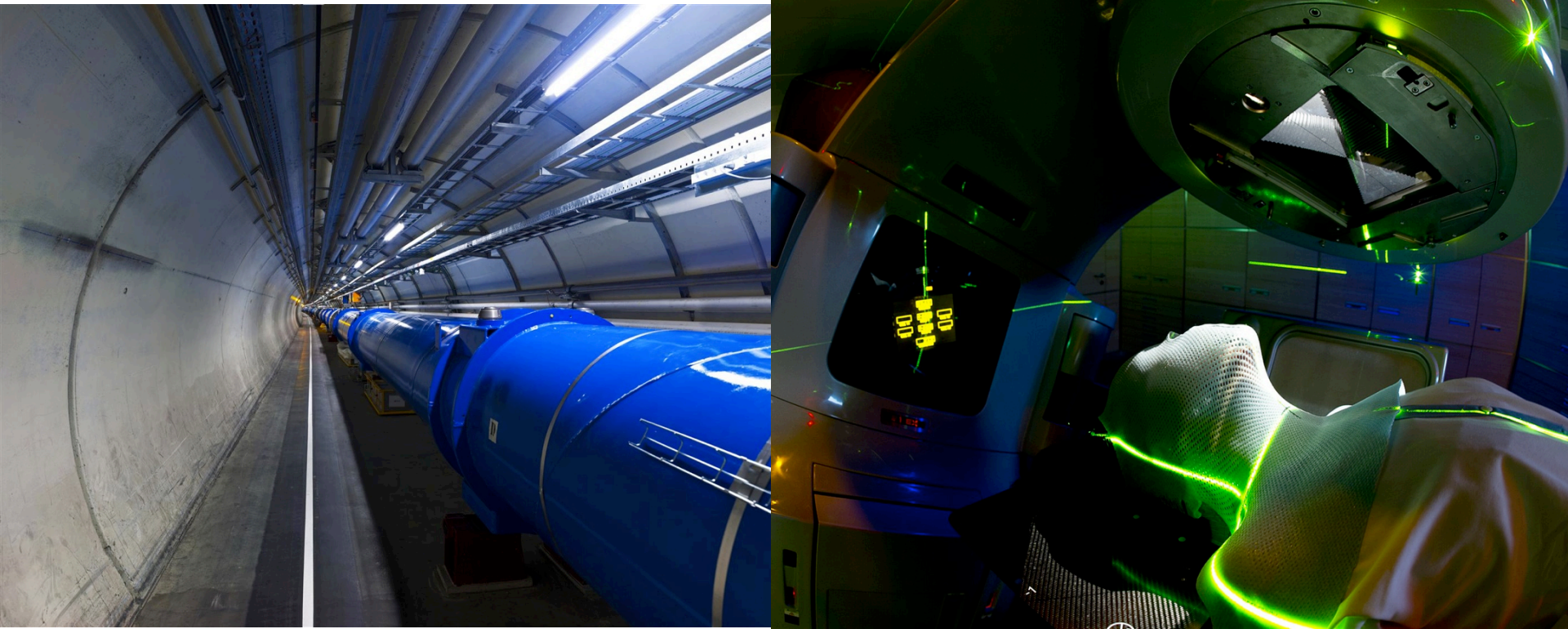


# Medical Applications from Physics-1

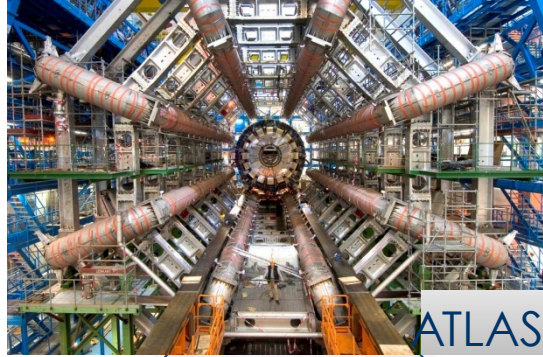


CERN Summer School Student Lectures, 2018

Manjit Dosanjh, CERN  
manjit.dosanjh@cern.ch

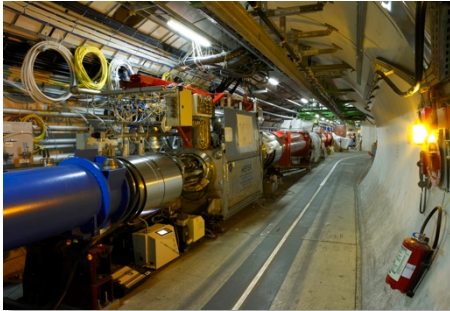


# Physics Technologies



Detecting particles

Accelerating particle beams



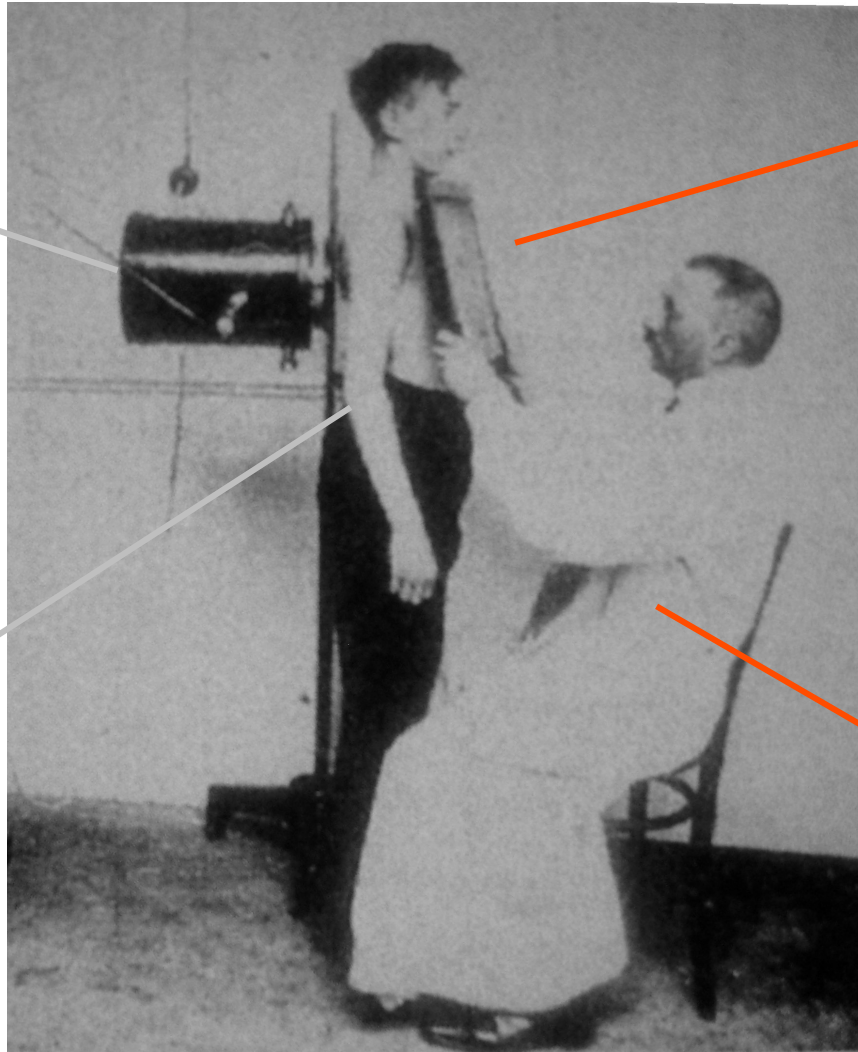
Higgs

Large-scale computing (Grid)



**X-ray  
source**

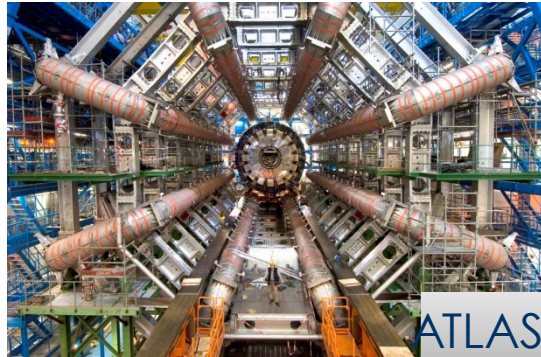
**Object**



**Detector**

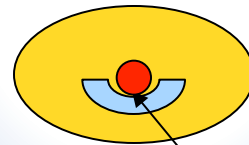
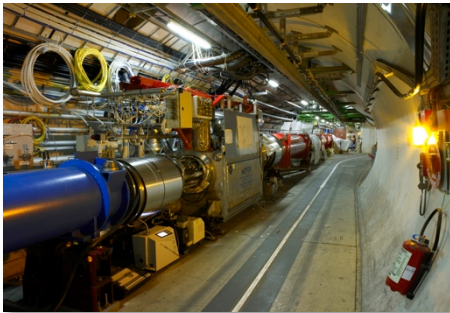
**Pattern  
Recognition  
System**

# Physics technologies for cancer



Detecting particles

Accelerating particle beams



**CANCER**

Large-scale computing (Grid)



# Why Cancer and physics technologies?

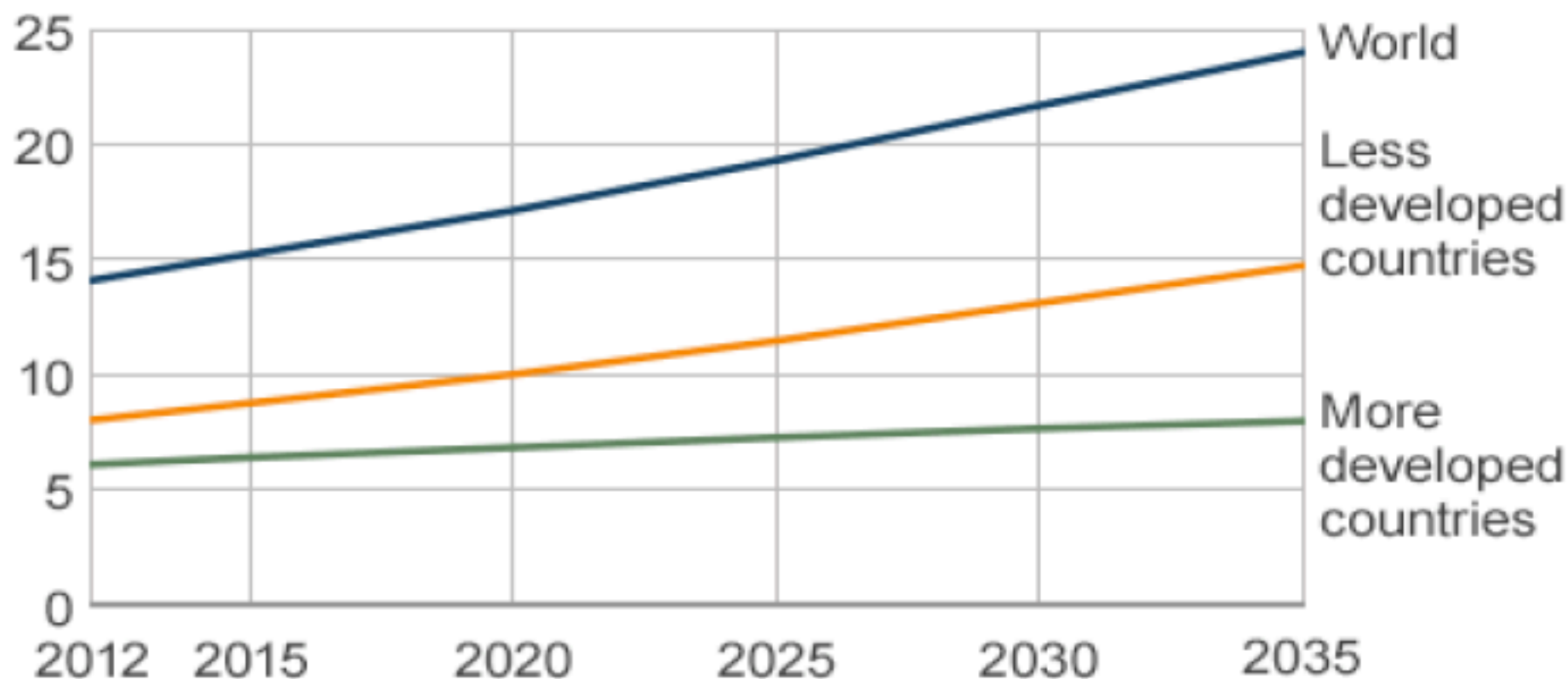
It is a large and a growing societal challenge:

- More than 3 million new cancer cases in Europe in 2015
- Nearly 15 million globally in 2015
- This number will increase to 25 million in 2030
- Currently around 8 million deaths per year

## How can physics help?

## Predicted Global Cancer Cases

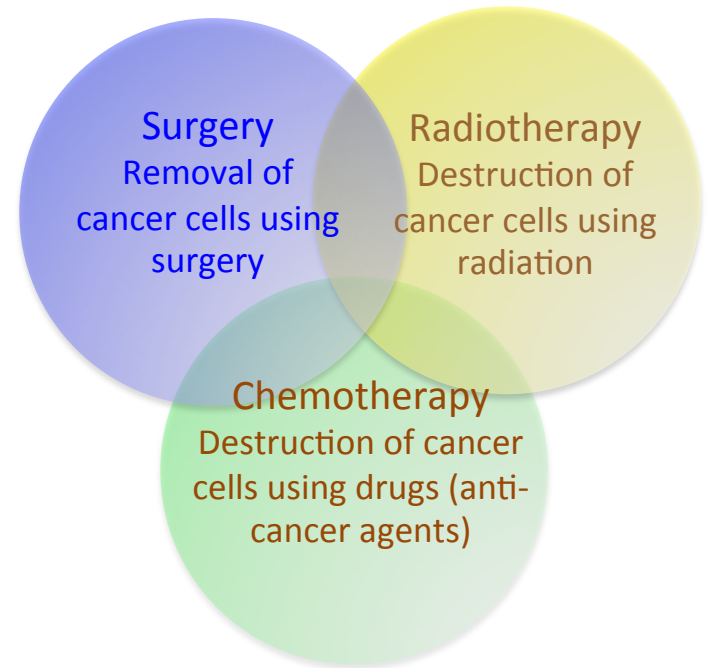
Cases (millions)



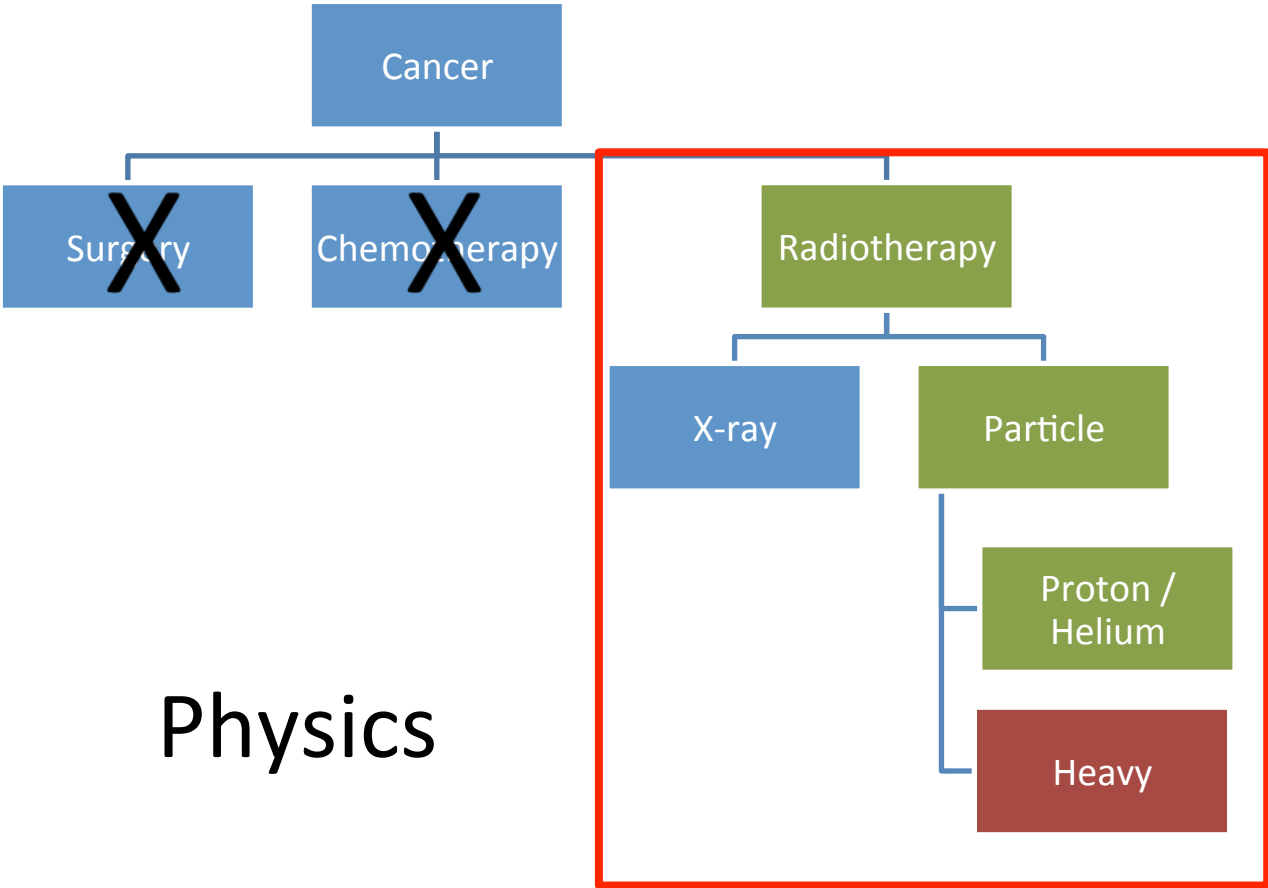
Source: WHO GloboCan

# Some facts about Cancer

- Tumour: why?
  - Abnormal growth of cells
  - Malignant: uncontrolled, can spread → cancer
  - Age expectancy
- Treatment: how?
  - Surgery
  - Radiation
  - Chemotherapy



# Cancer treatment





# The Challenge of Treatment

Ideally one needs to treat:

- The tumour
- The whole tumour
- And nothing BUT the tumour”

Radiotherapy has **two equally important goals** to **destroy** the tumour and **protect** the surrounding normal tissue. Therefore **“seeing”** in order to know where and precise **“delivery”** to make sure it goes where it should are **key**.

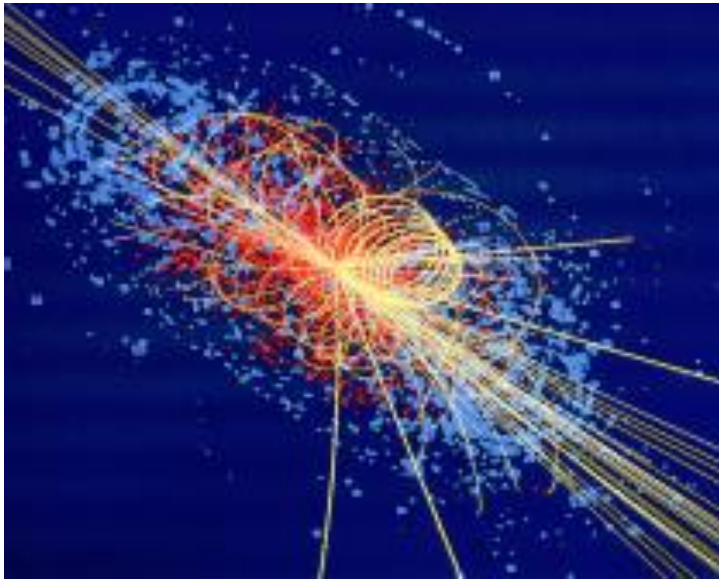
# Improving Cancer Outcome

*Earlier diagnosis, better tumour control, fewer side-effects*

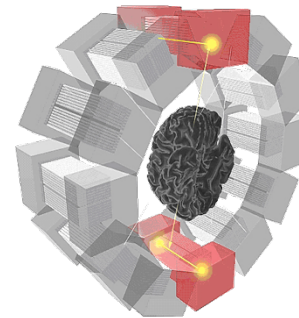
- **Imaging**: accuracy, multimodality, real-time, organ motion
- **Accelerator technologies**: higher dose, more localised, real time targeting
- **Data**: analysis, image fusion/reconstruction, treatment planning, sharing, screening, follow-up patient ....
- **Biology**: basic research, fractionation, radio-resistance, radio-sensitization, immunotherapy

# No treatment without detection!

## Particle Detection

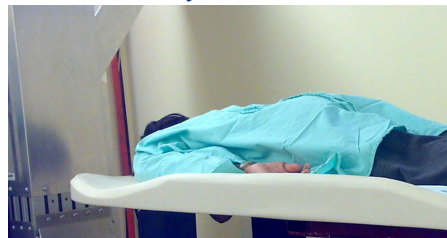


## Imaging

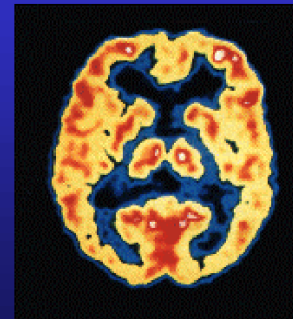


PET Scanner

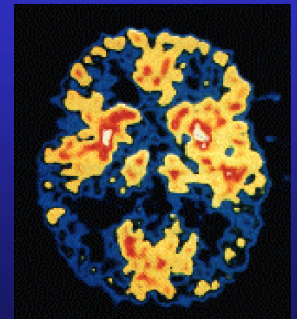
Breast imaging  
(ClearPEM)



Brain Metabolism in Alzheimer's  
Disease: PET Scan



Normal Brain



Alzheimer's Disease

[cds.cern.ch/record/1611721](https://cds.cern.ch/record/1611721)



European NoVel Imaging Systems  
for ION therapy

# CERN's role in detection and imaging...

## Continuous development in particle physics:

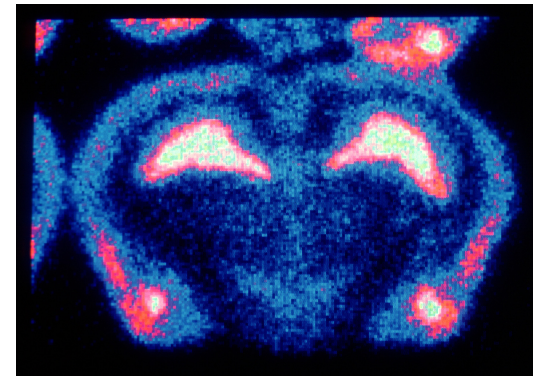
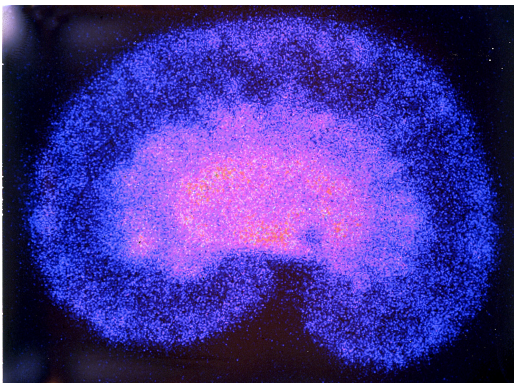
- Scintillating crystals (David Townsend .....
- Pixel detectors (Medipix collaboration)
- Diamond detectors
- Multi-wire proportional chambers/ GEMS (Charpak...)
- Resistive Plate Chambers for imaging

# Low dose digital X-Ray Imaging

1968

## Physics Nobel Prize 1992

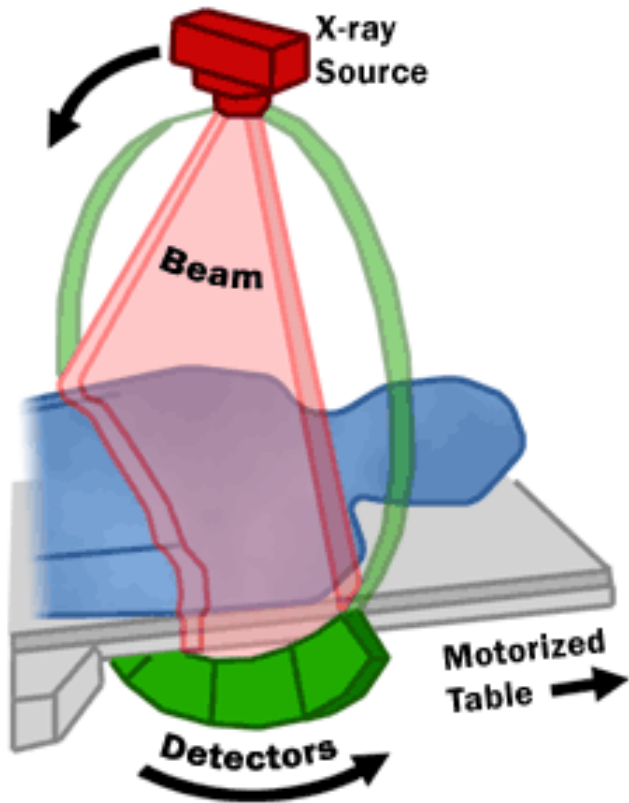
Georges Charpak



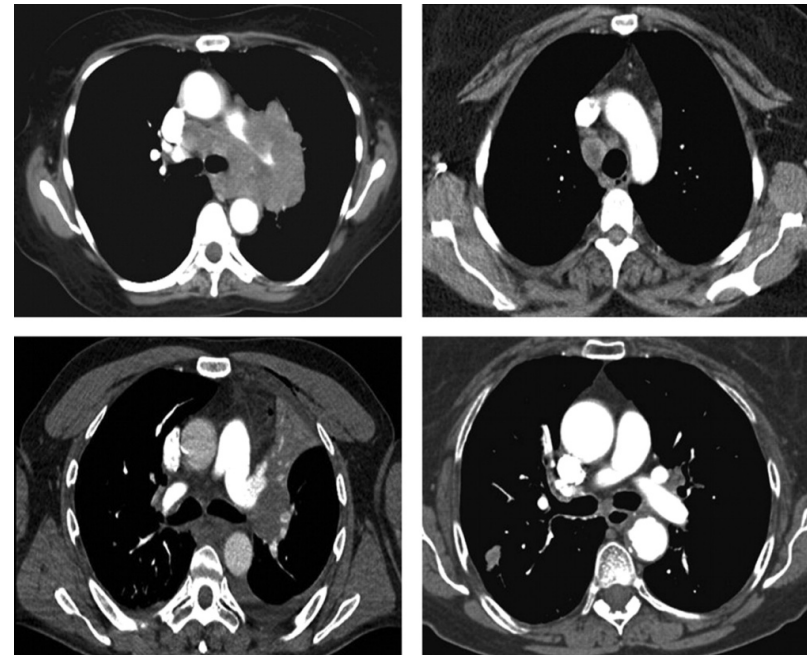
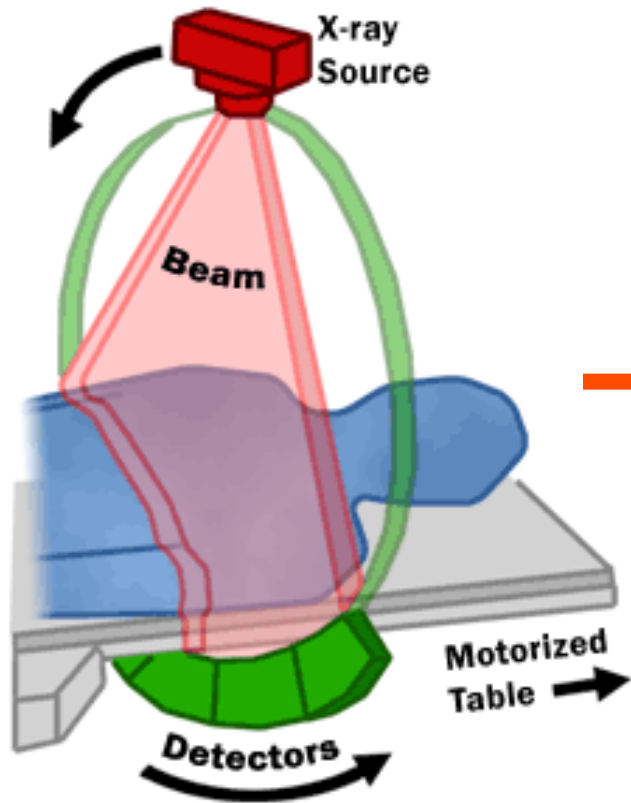
*Low dose X-ray image of rat brain and kidney the use of MWPC*

# CT – Computed Tomography

*“3d X-rays”*



# CT – Computed Tomography



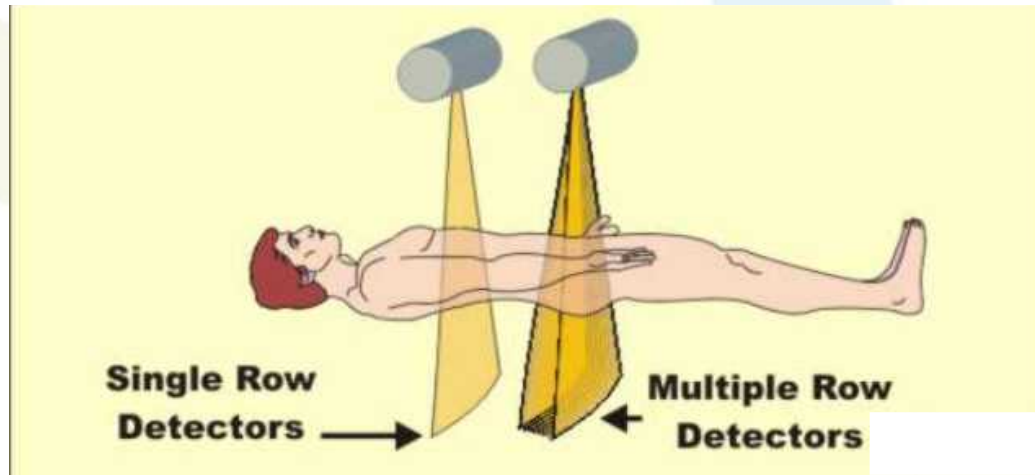
***“3D-imaging”***



# CT is a key driver of change in the medical field

2000-2008 “CT Slice War”

- ***CT became very fast with small voxel / pixels***
  - 2000: acquire a single transverse slice per rotation
  - 2012: acquire up to 64-500 slices per rotation

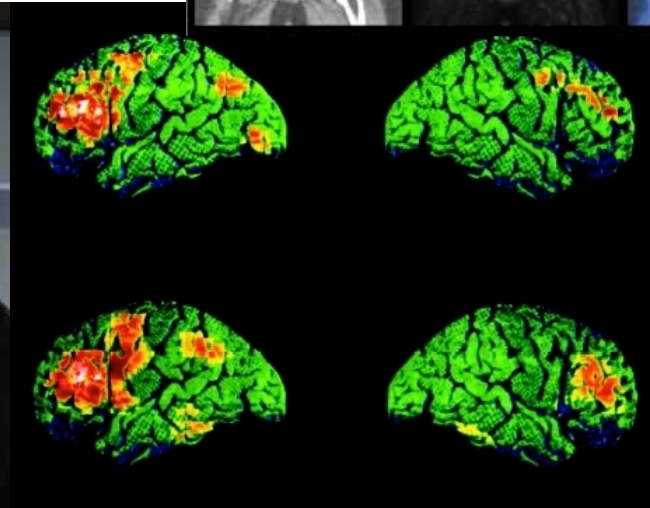
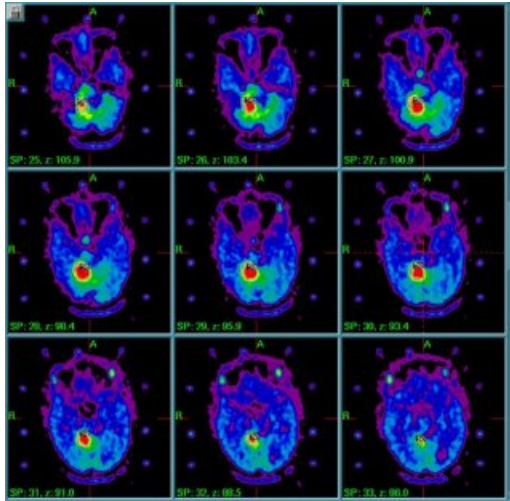
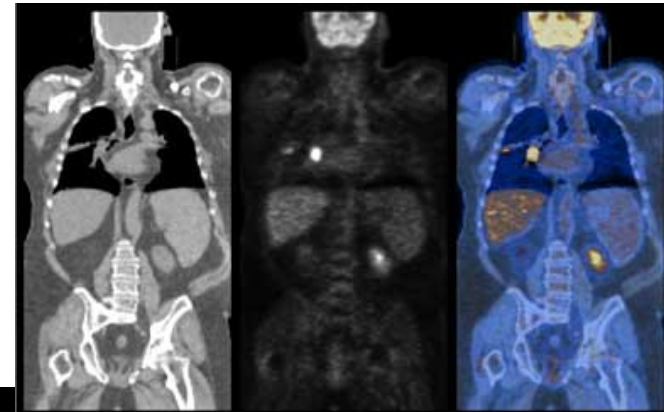


# PET: antimatter for clinical use



- Not only science-fiction

- ✦ Positrons are used in PET:
- ✦ PET = Positron Emission Tomography

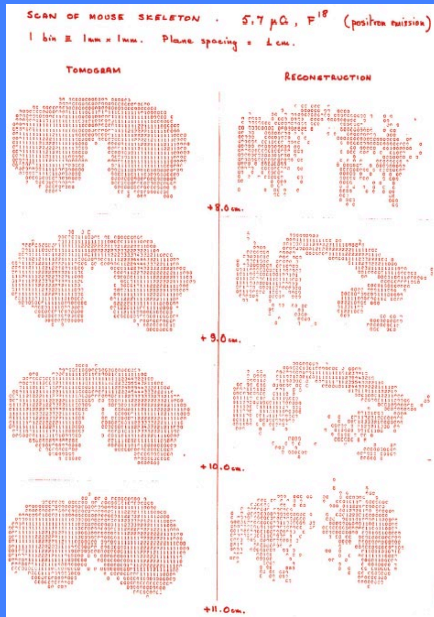


# PET Imaging activities at CERN

Alan Jeavons and David Townsend

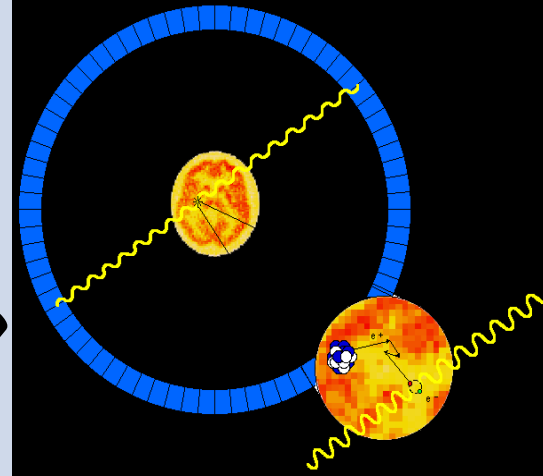
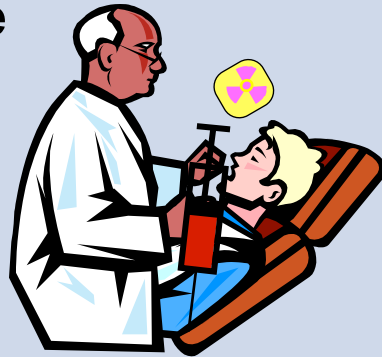
built and used in Geneva Hospital

a PET system based on  
high-density avalanche gas  
chambers  
HIDACs



# PET Principle

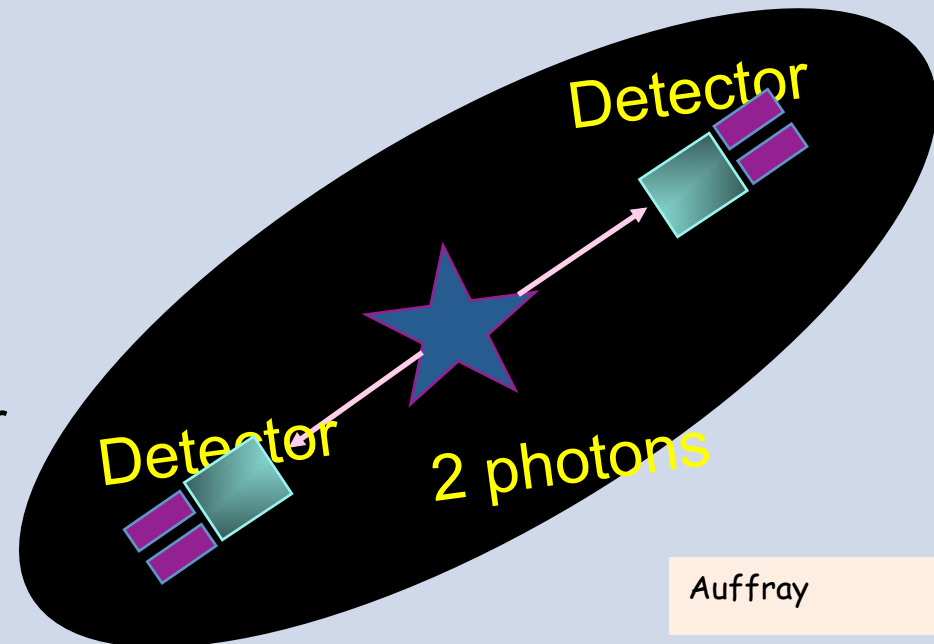
A positron emitting radiopharmaceutical is injected into the patient: the distribution



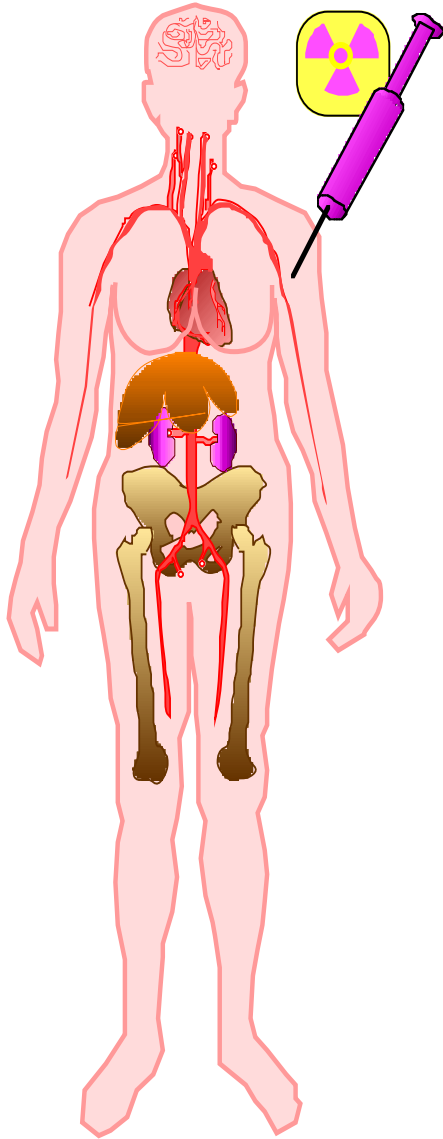
The emitted positrons annihilate with electrons in the tissue producing back-to-back photons detected by scintillating crystals



The patient is placed in the imaging scanner



# PET: how it works

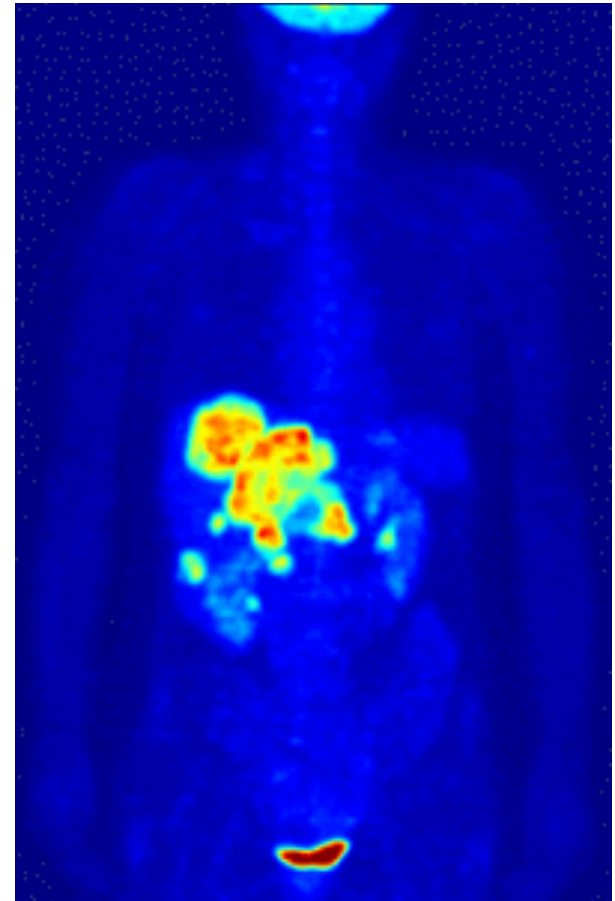
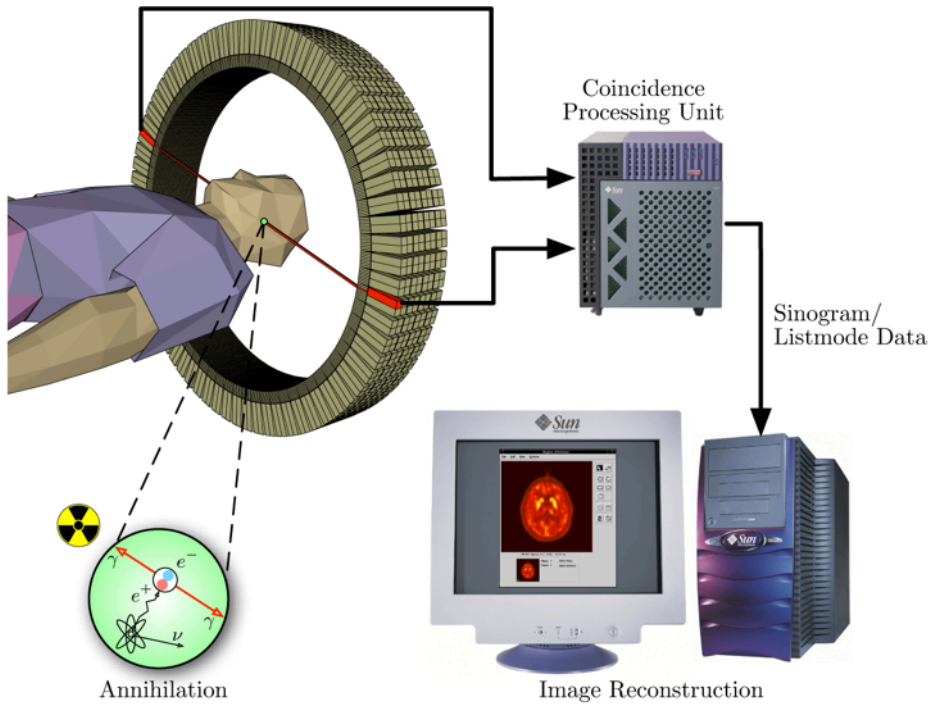


- Drug is labeled with positron ( $\beta^+$ ) emitting radionuclide.
- Drug localizes in patient according to metabolic properties of that drug.
- Trace (pico-molar) quantities of drug are sufficient.
- Radiation dose fairly small (<1 rem = 0.01 Sv).

# PET – How it works

<http://www.nymus3d.nl/portfolio/animation/55>

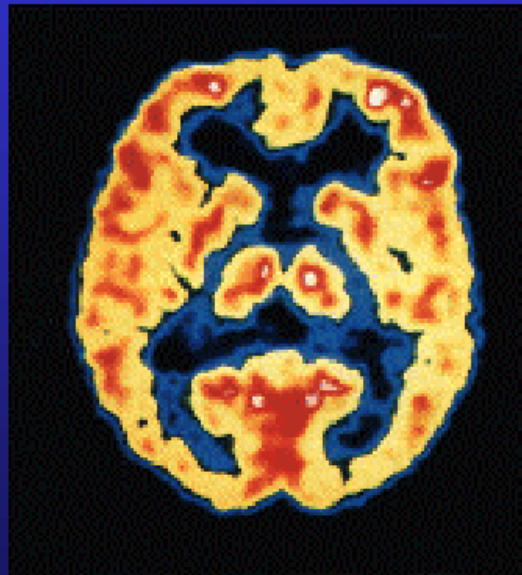
# Positron Emission Tomography



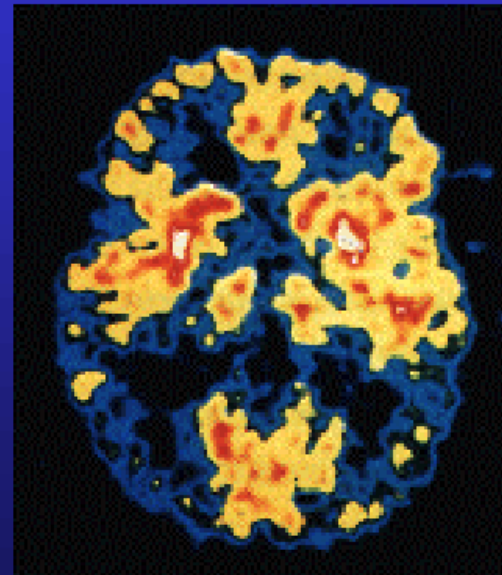
- $^{18}\text{F}$ FDG carries the  $^{18}\text{F}$  to areas of high metabolic activity
- 90% of PET scans are in clinical oncology
- 3D - image

PET measures tissue activity: can be up or down

## Brain Metabolism in Alzheimer's Disease: PET Scan



Normal Brain



Alzheimer's Disease





# Crystal Clear Collaboration



Photos: Crystal Clear Collaboration

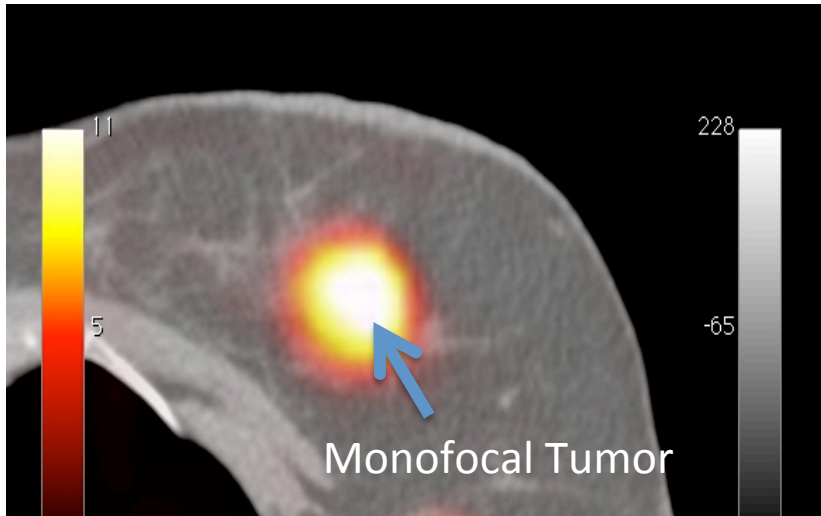
# ClearPEM



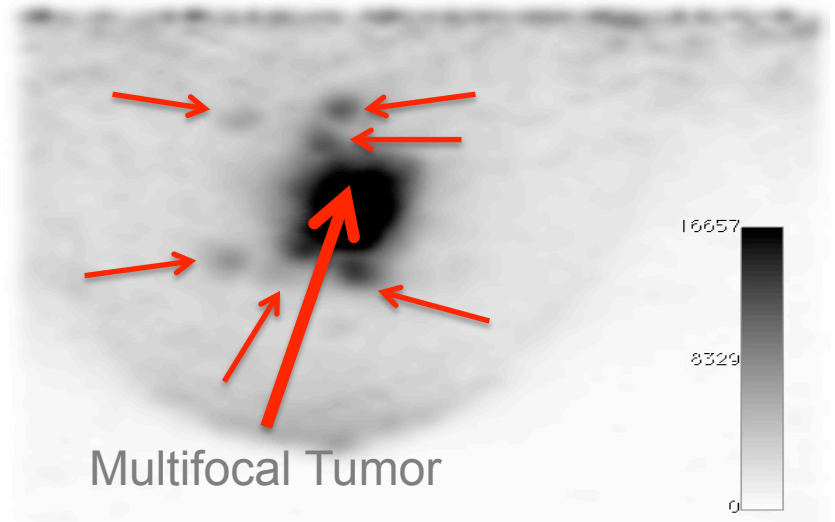
Photos: Crystal Clear Colaboration

PET for mammography: Crystal Clear Collaboration

# Breast Cancer Detection



**PET Wholebody**



**ClearPEM dedicated Breast imaging**

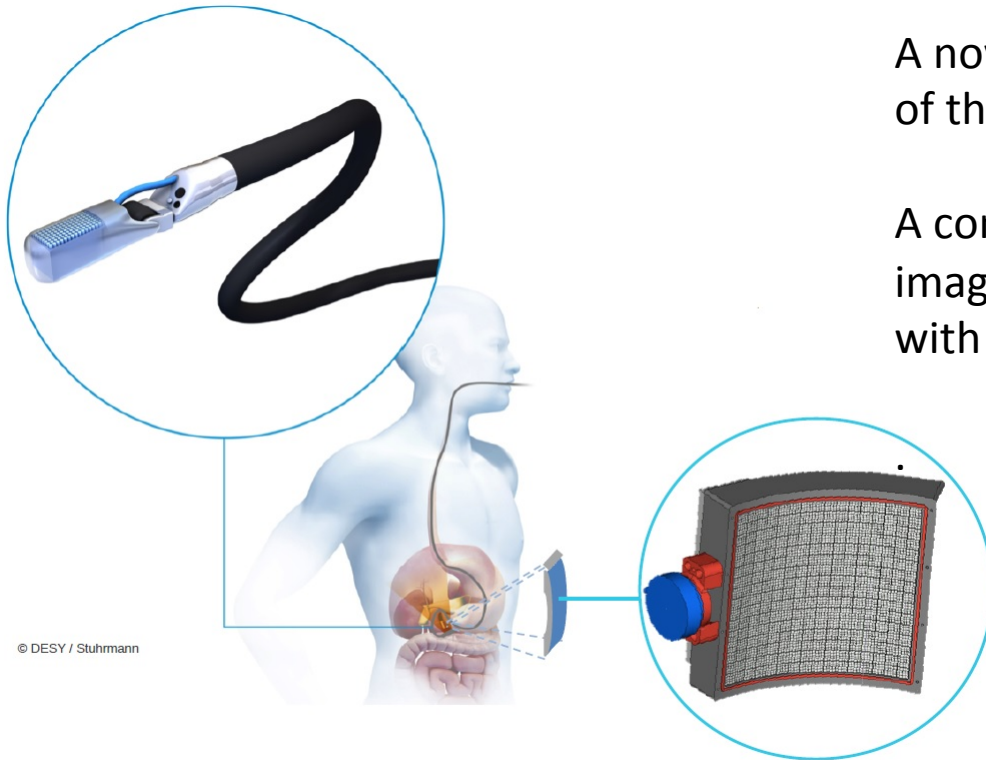
# Endo TOFPET-US

a novel multimodal tool for endoscopy and positron emission tomography

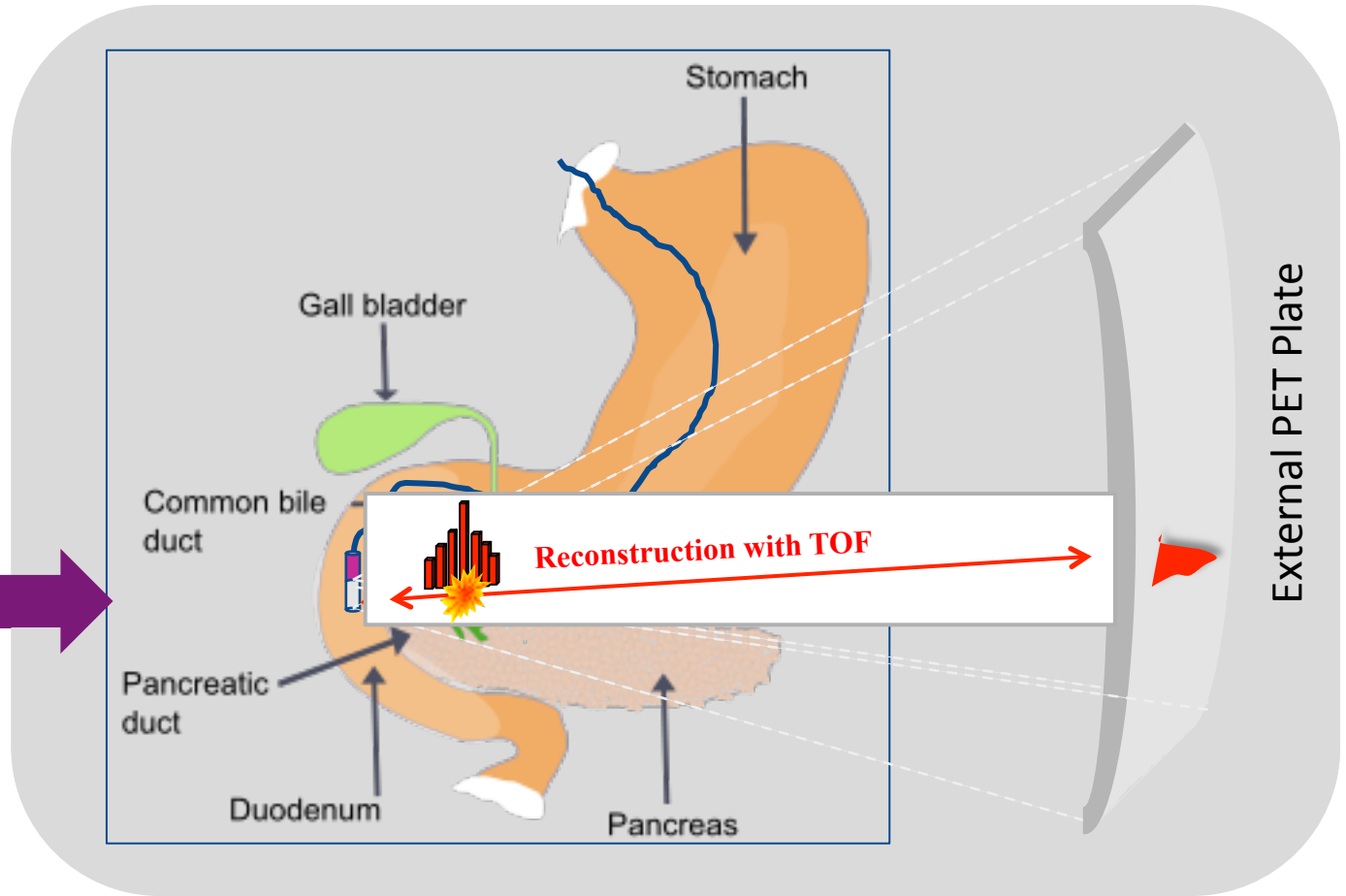
A novel imaging system for endoscopic exams of the pancreas or the prostate.

A combination of high resolution metabolic imaging with TOFPET and anatomical imaging with ultrasound.

Endo = Endoscopic  
TOF = Time of Flight PET  
US = Ultrasound



# The Principle



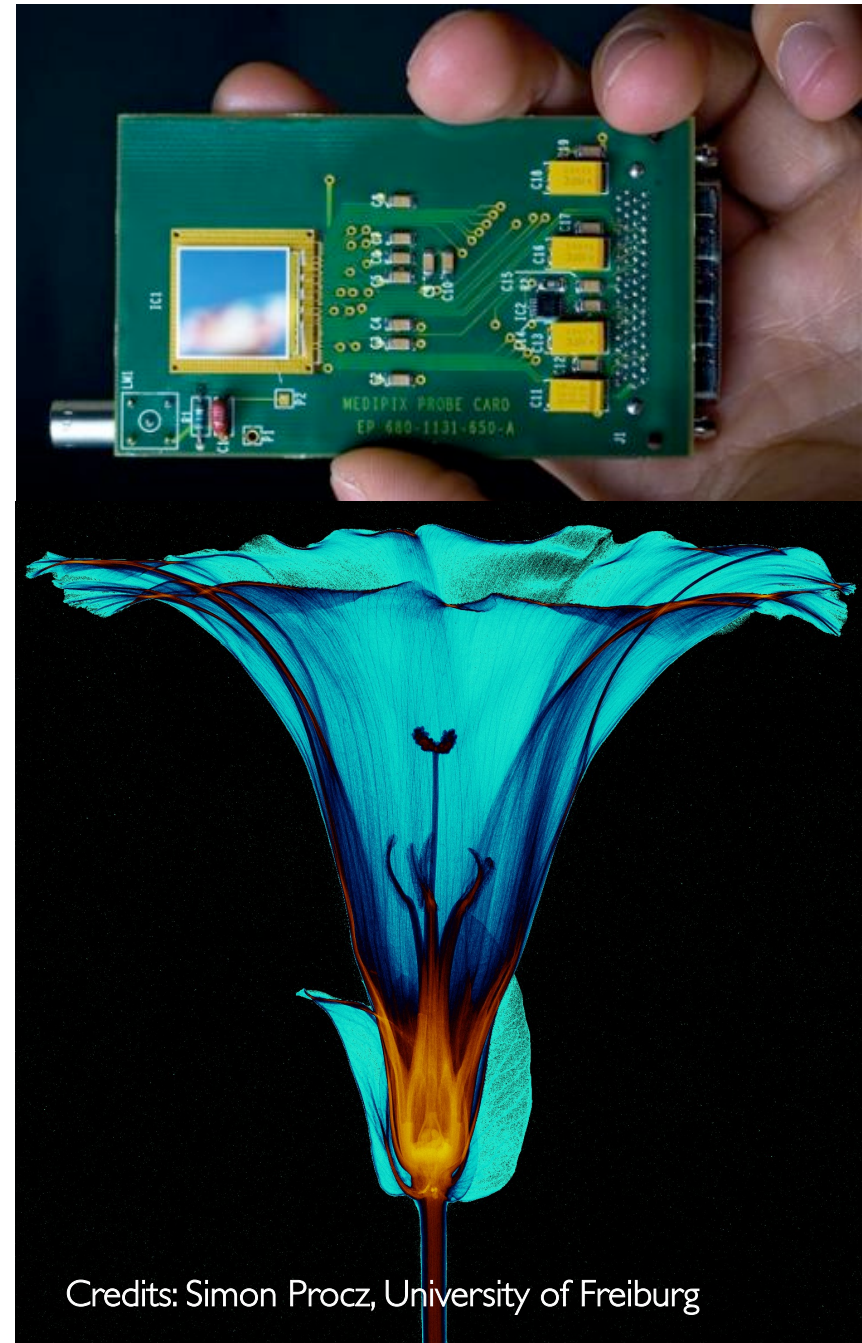
# Medipix

- High Energy Physics original development:

- Particle track detectors
- Allows counting of single photons in contrast to traditional charge integrating devices like film or CCD

- Main properties:

- Fully digital device
- Very high space resolution
- Very fast photon counting
- Good conversion efficiency of low energy X-rays



Credits: Simon Procz, University of Freiburg

# ***Anatomical imaging is now really good***

## Molecular imaging is the future

What is the tissue?

What is its behaviour?

Is the treatment working?

*(not just size, shape, location)*

What the researcher wants to know

- *Constituents (fat, water, calcium, iron)*
- *Cancer and pathogen labels*
- *Physiological markers*
- *etc*

# ***Anatomical imaging is now really good***

Molecular imaging is the future

What is the tissue?

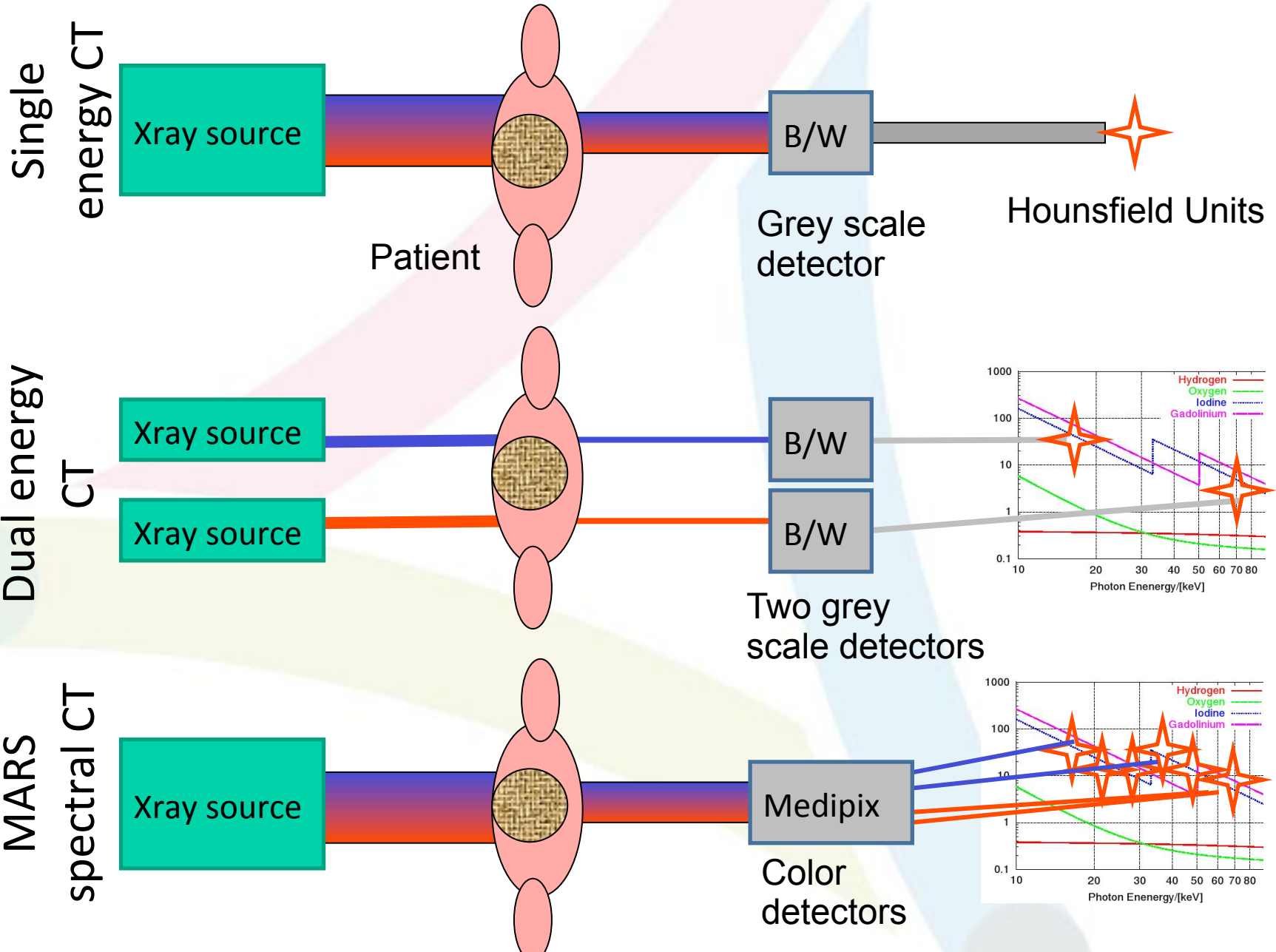
What is its behaviour?

***We need a fundamental change in  
the information provided by x-rays***

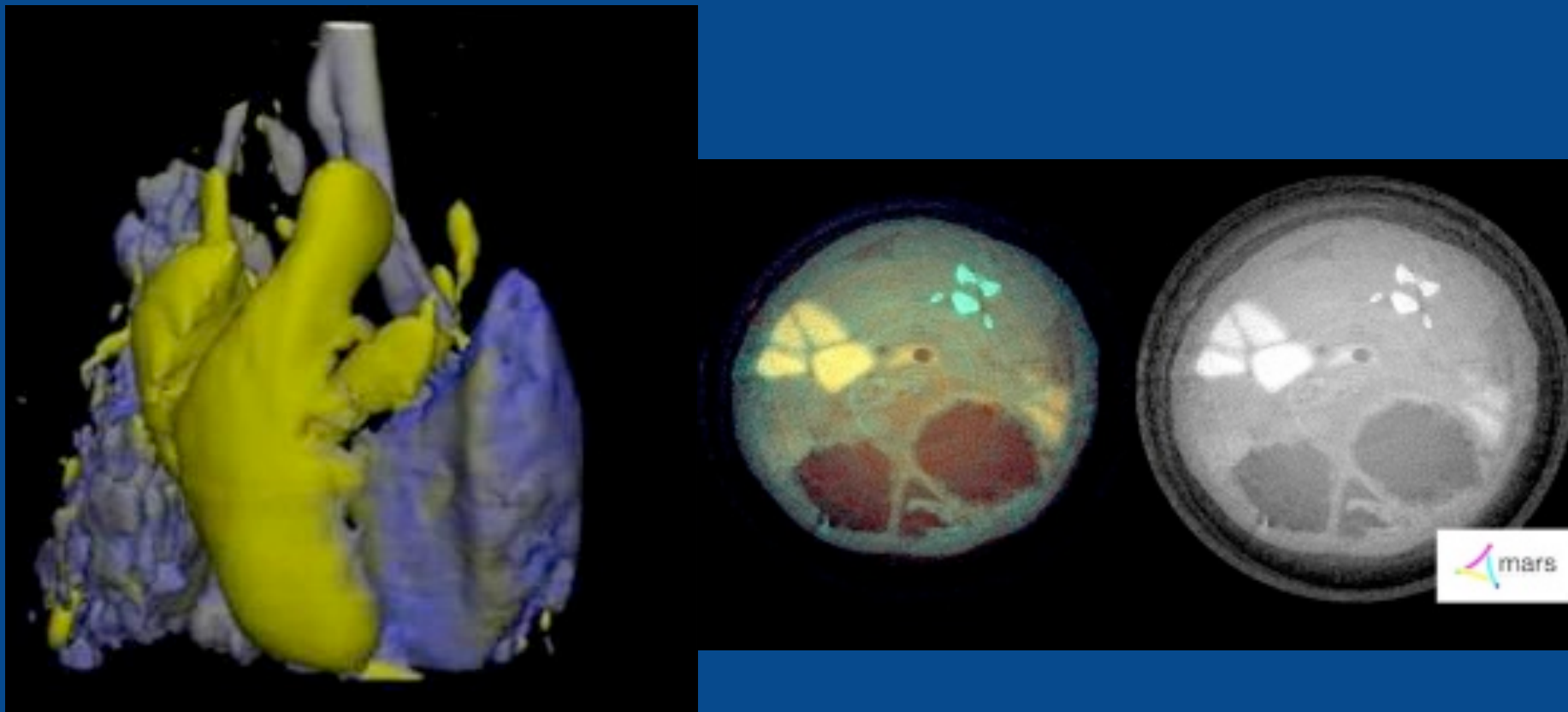
- *Constituents (fat, water, calcium, iron)*
- *Cancer and pathogen labels*
- *Physiological markers*
- *etc*



# Single-, dual-, and spectral CT



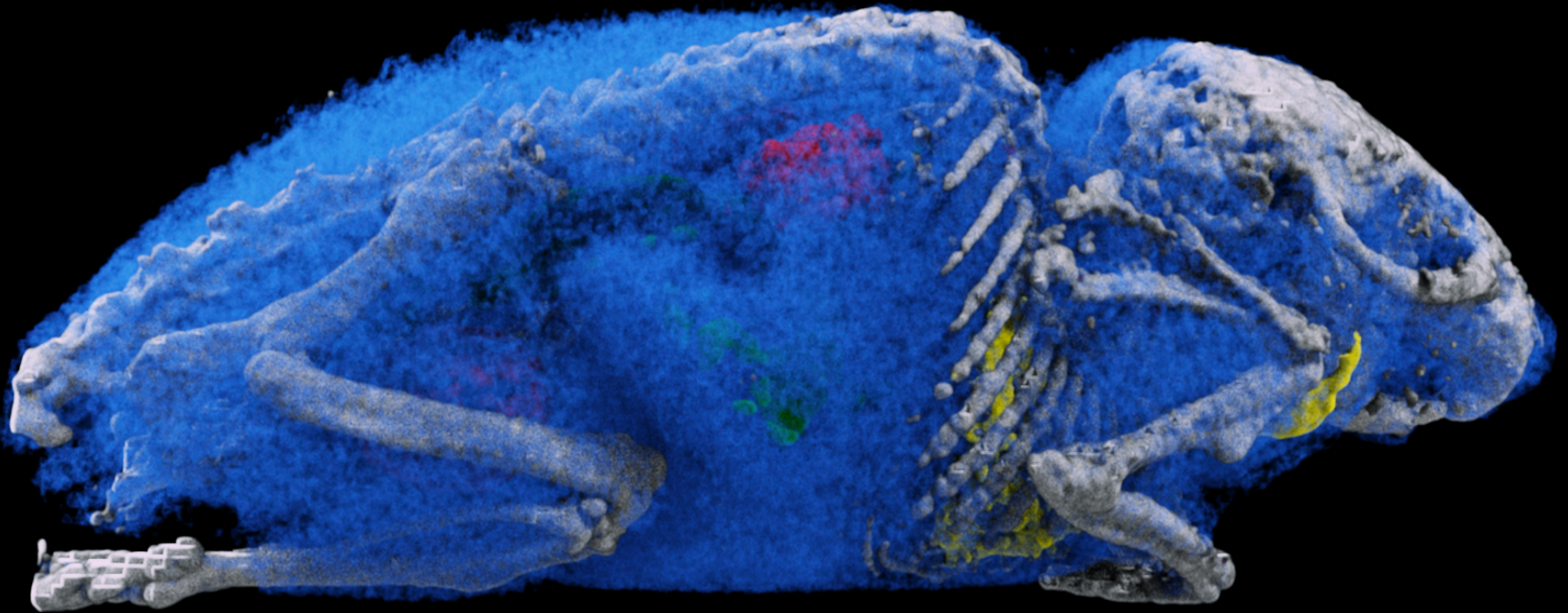
# MARS – MEDIPIX ALL RESOLUTION SYSTEM



courtesy of MARS Bioimaging Ltd)

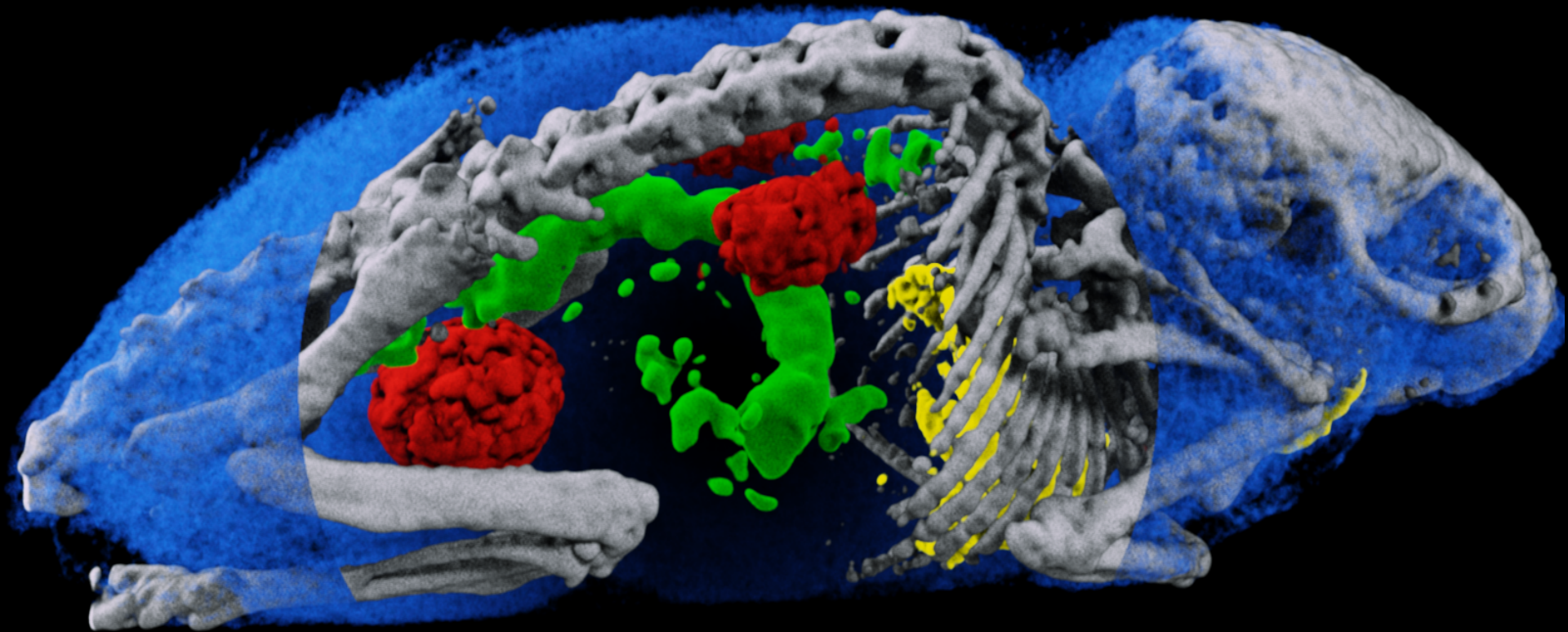
# Greyscale to Material Imaging

A mouse containing, gold, gadolinium, and iodine



All materials are shown in this image

# Greyscale to Material Imaging



The water has been partly cut away to reveal the  
bone, gold, gadolinium and iodine

# Spectral CT is now possible

## Medipix All Resolution System

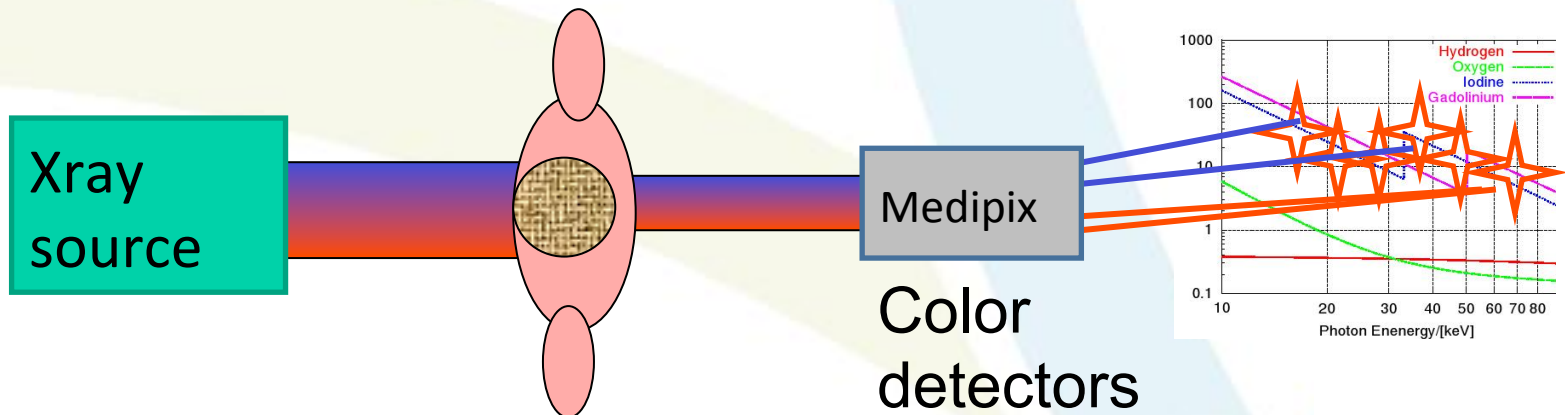
Energy resolution

Spatial resolution

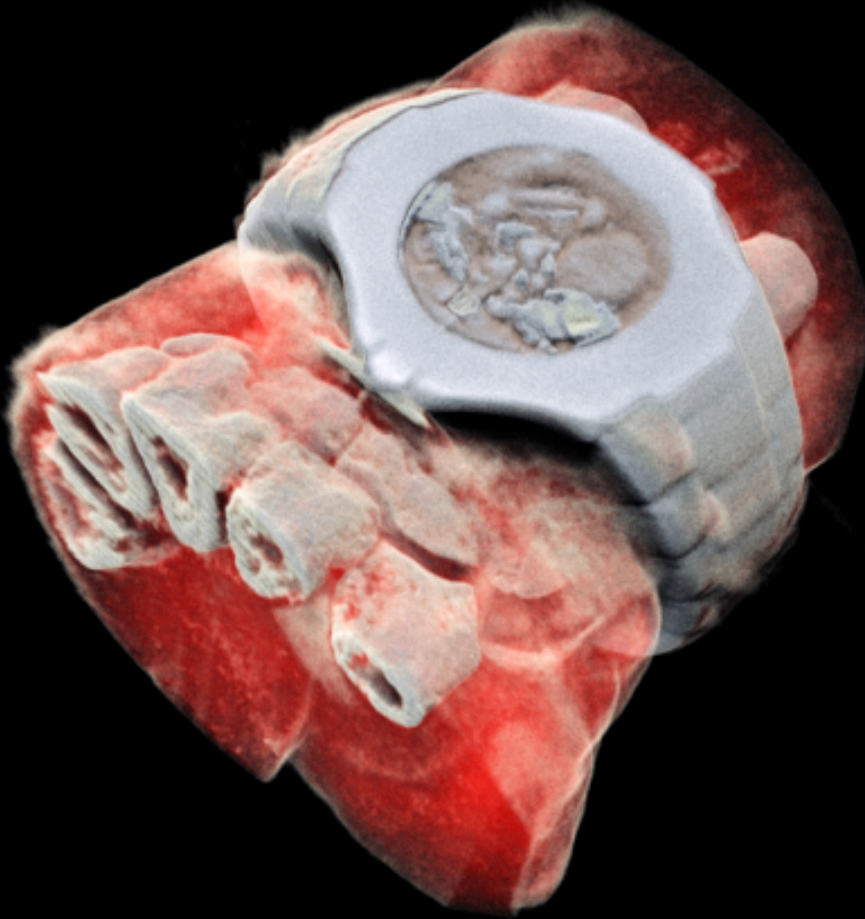
Temporal resolution



MARS  
spectral CT



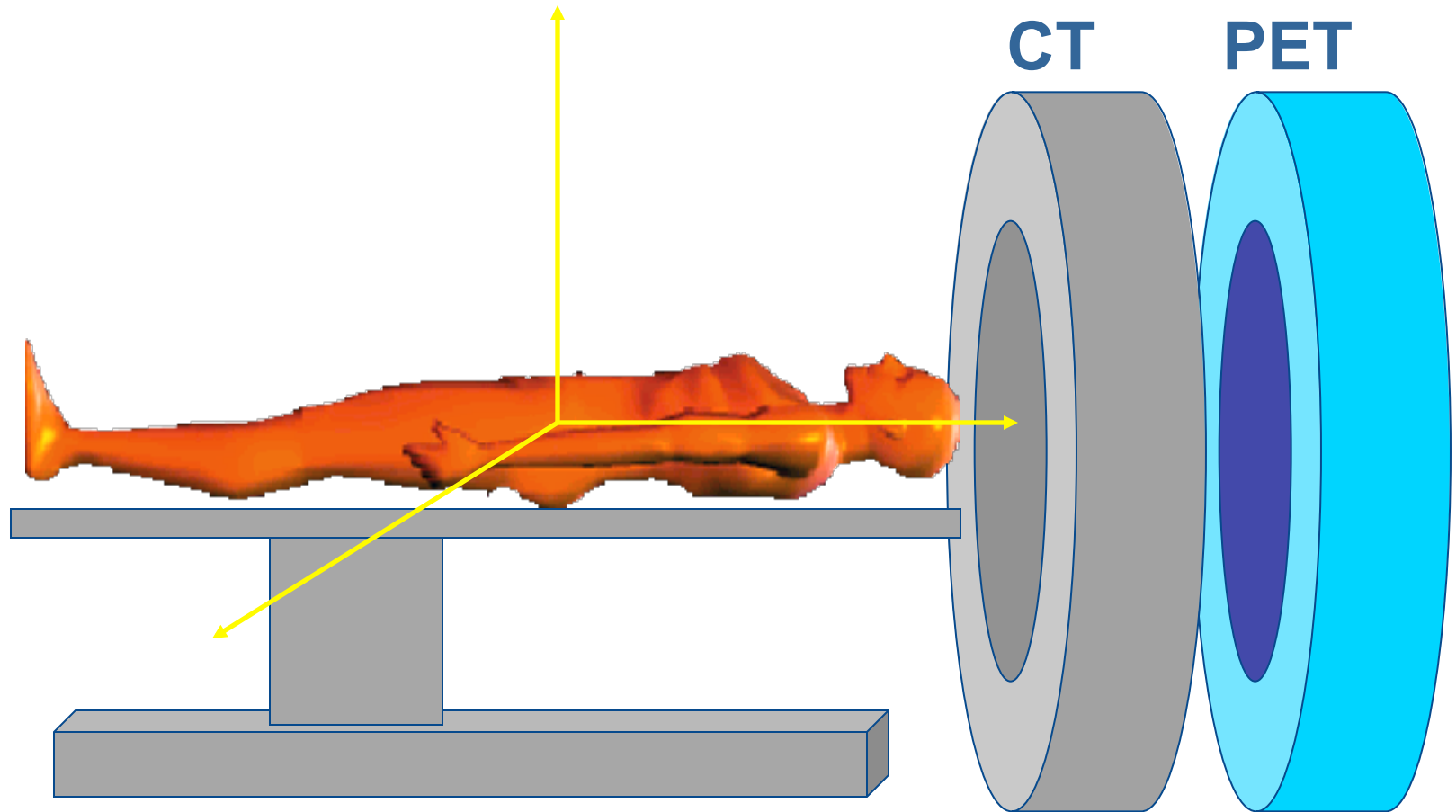
# First 3D colour x-ray image of human



A 3D image of a wrist with a watch showing part of the finger bones in white and soft tissue in red. couples the spectroscopic information generated by the Medipix3 with powerful algorithms to generate 3D images (Image: MARS Bioimaging Ltd)

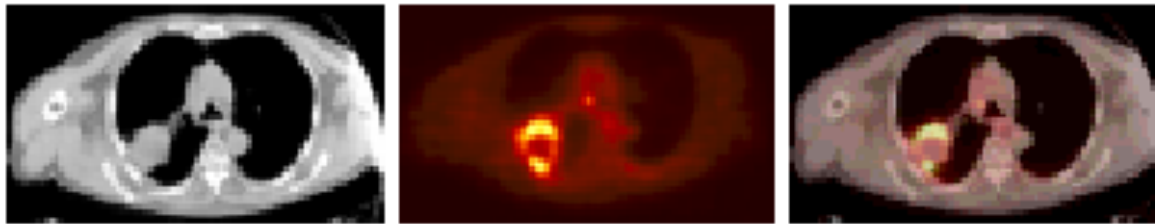
# Concept of PET-CT

*David Townsend*



# Multi-modality imaging

Primary lung cancer imaged with the Dual/Commercial scanner. A large lung tumor, which appears on CT as a uniformly attenuating hypodense mass, has a rim of FDG activity and a necrotic center revealed by PET.



*Courtesy of David Townsend*

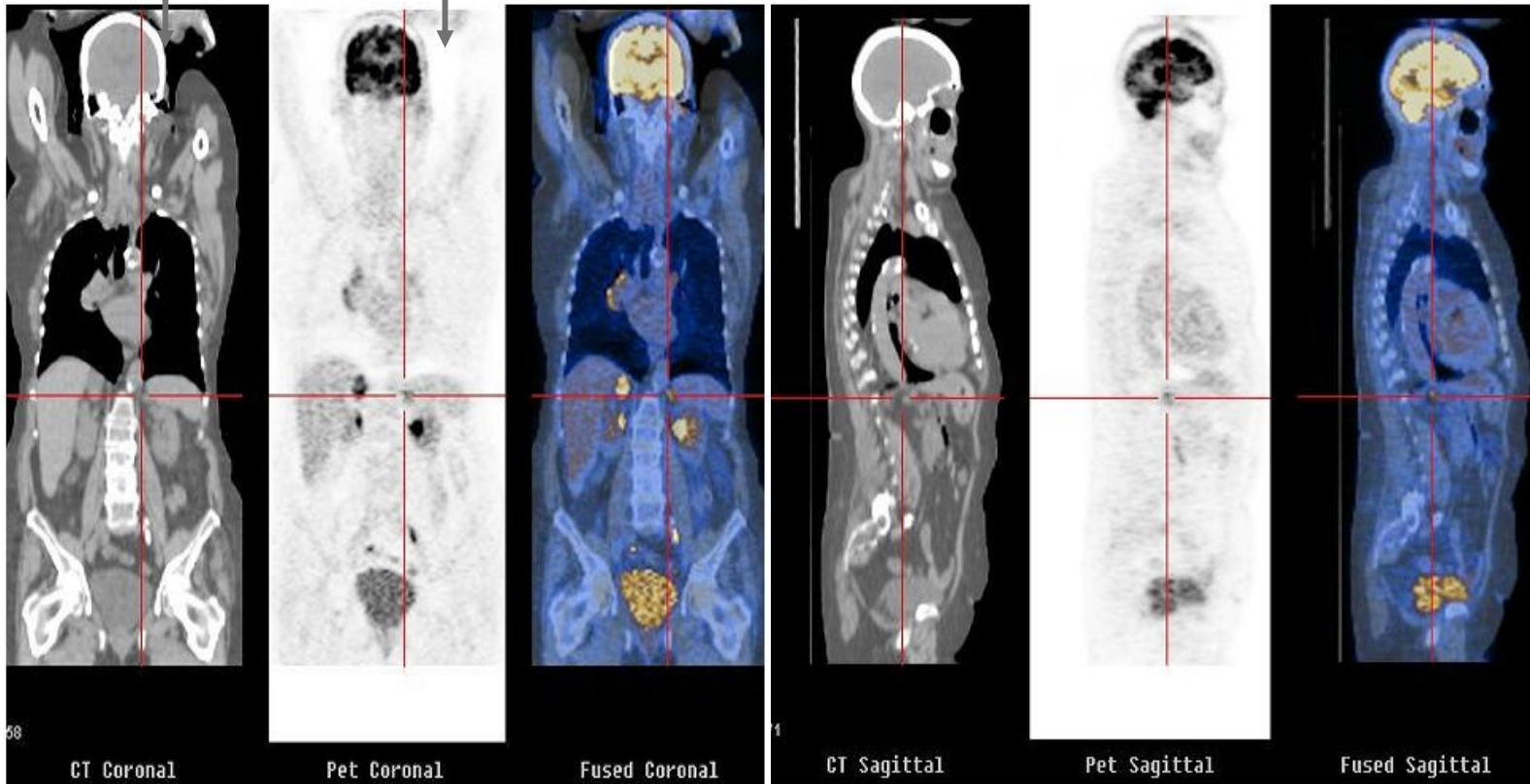


# Multimodality imaging: CT with PET

## Combining anatomic and functional imaging

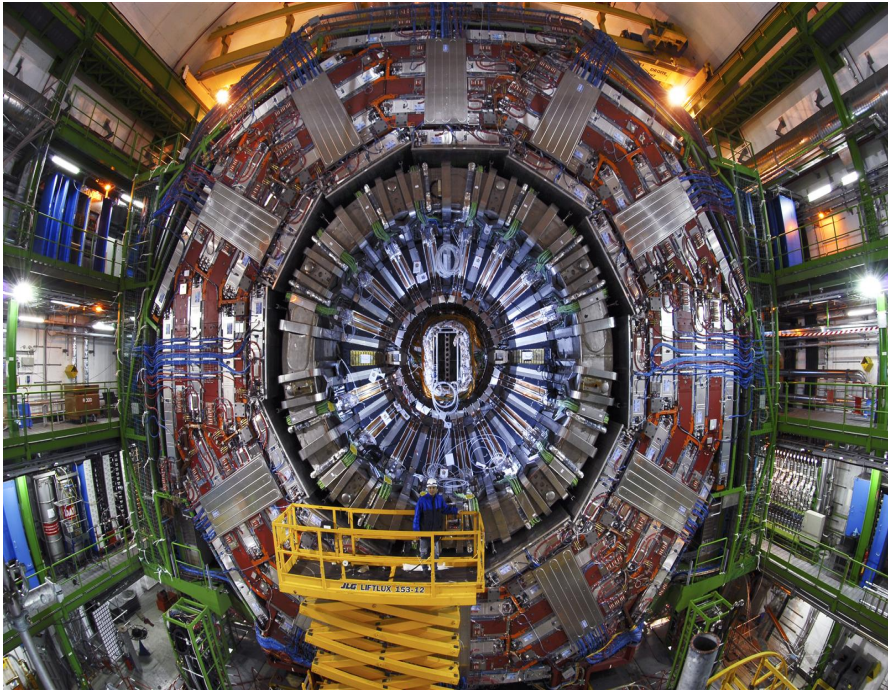
morphology

metabolism



David Townsend, Former CERN Physicist

# The next challenge: PET + MRI



**Detectors in magnetic field**

# The Challenge of Treatment

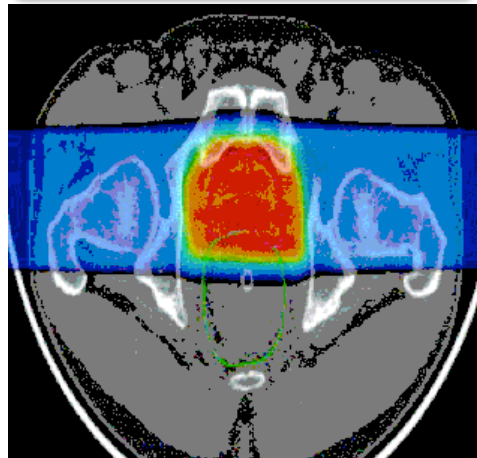
- The tumour
- The whole tumour
- And nothing BUT the tumour

# Treatment options

Surgery



Radiotherapy

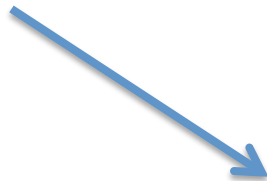


X-ray, IMRT, Brachytherapy,  
Hadrontherapy

Chemotherapy (+ others)



Hormones; Immunotherapy;  
Cell therapy; Genetic treatments; Novel  
specific targets (genetics..)



AIM:  
Survival, Quality of life

# Radiotherapy in 21st Century

## 3 "Cs" of Radiation

**Cure** (40-50% cancer cases are cured)

**Conservative** (non-invasive, fewer side effects)

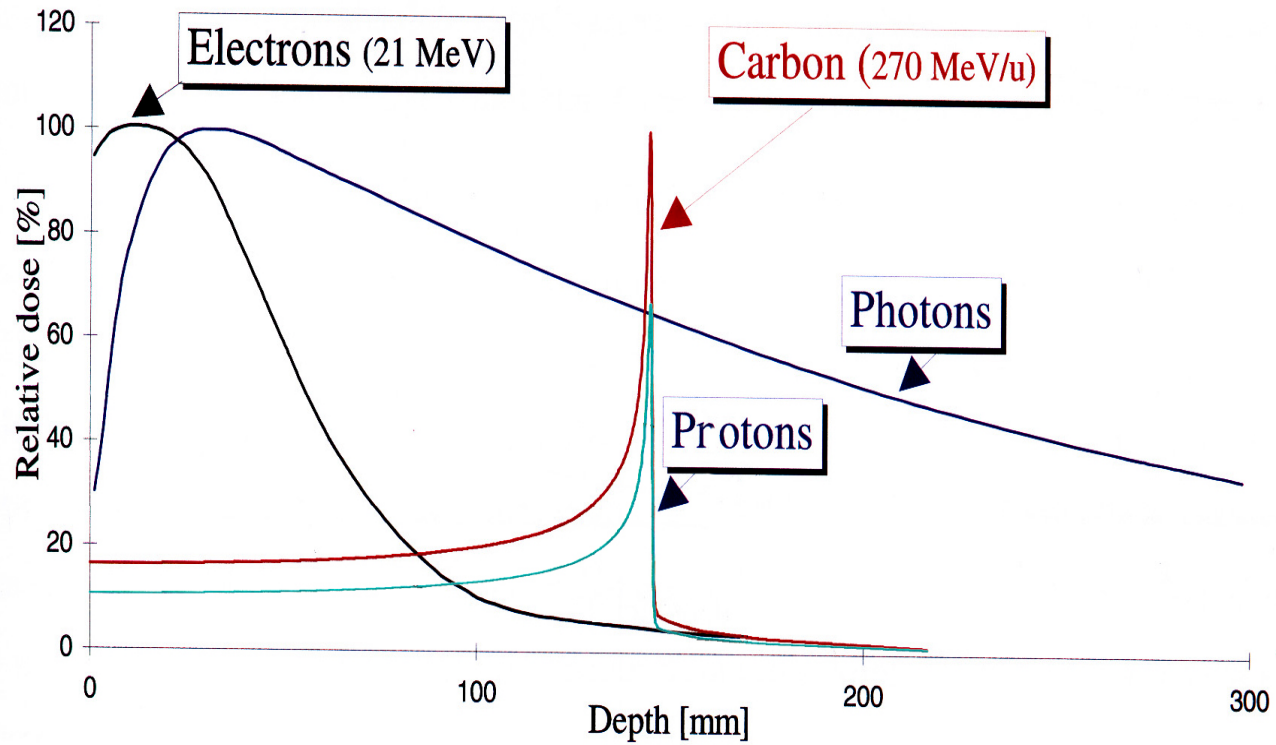
**Cheap** (about 10% of total cost of cancer on radiation)

*(J.P.Gérard)*

- About 50% patients are treated with RT
- No substitute for RT in the near future
- No of patients is increasing

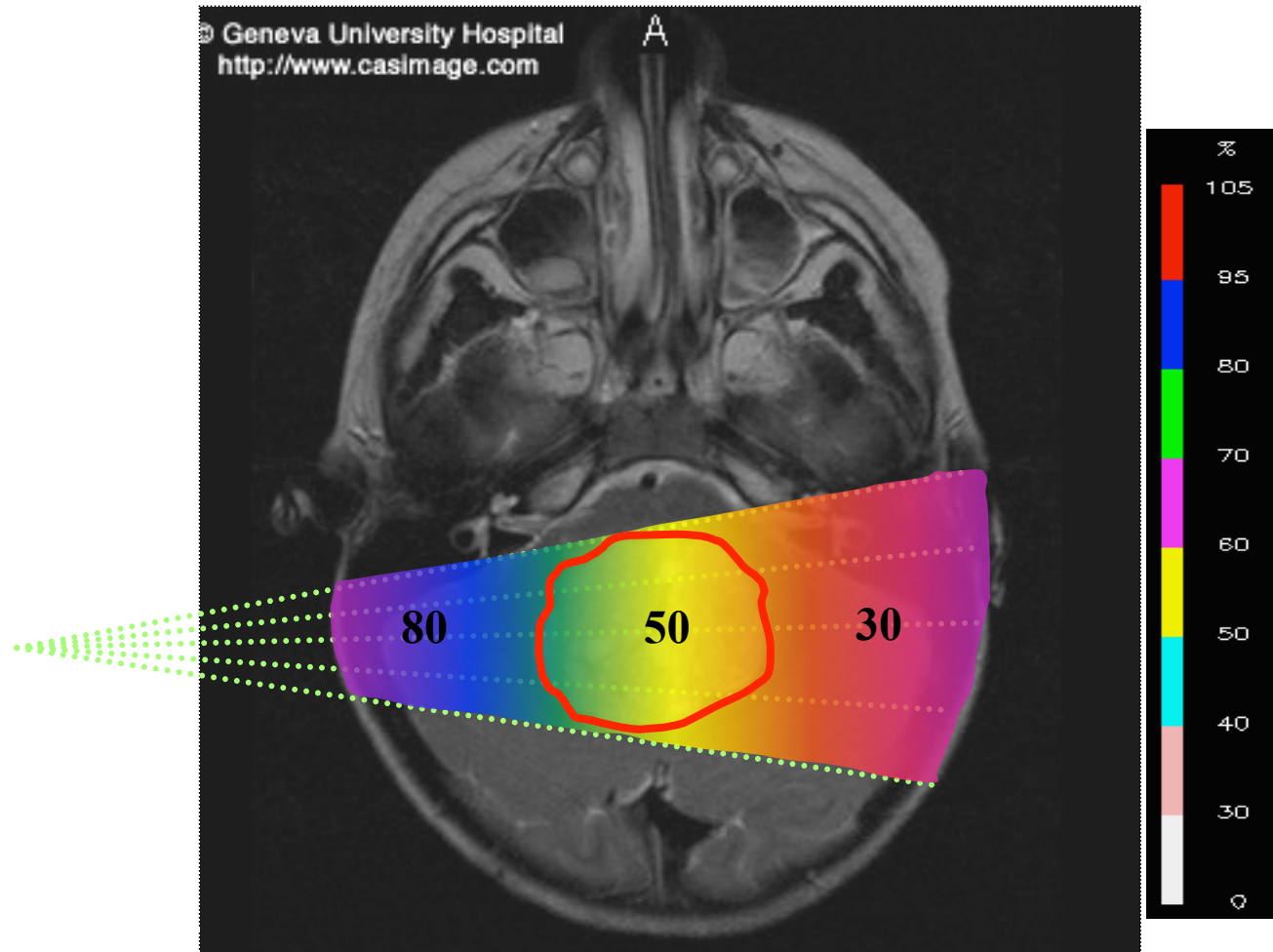


# Radiation therapy

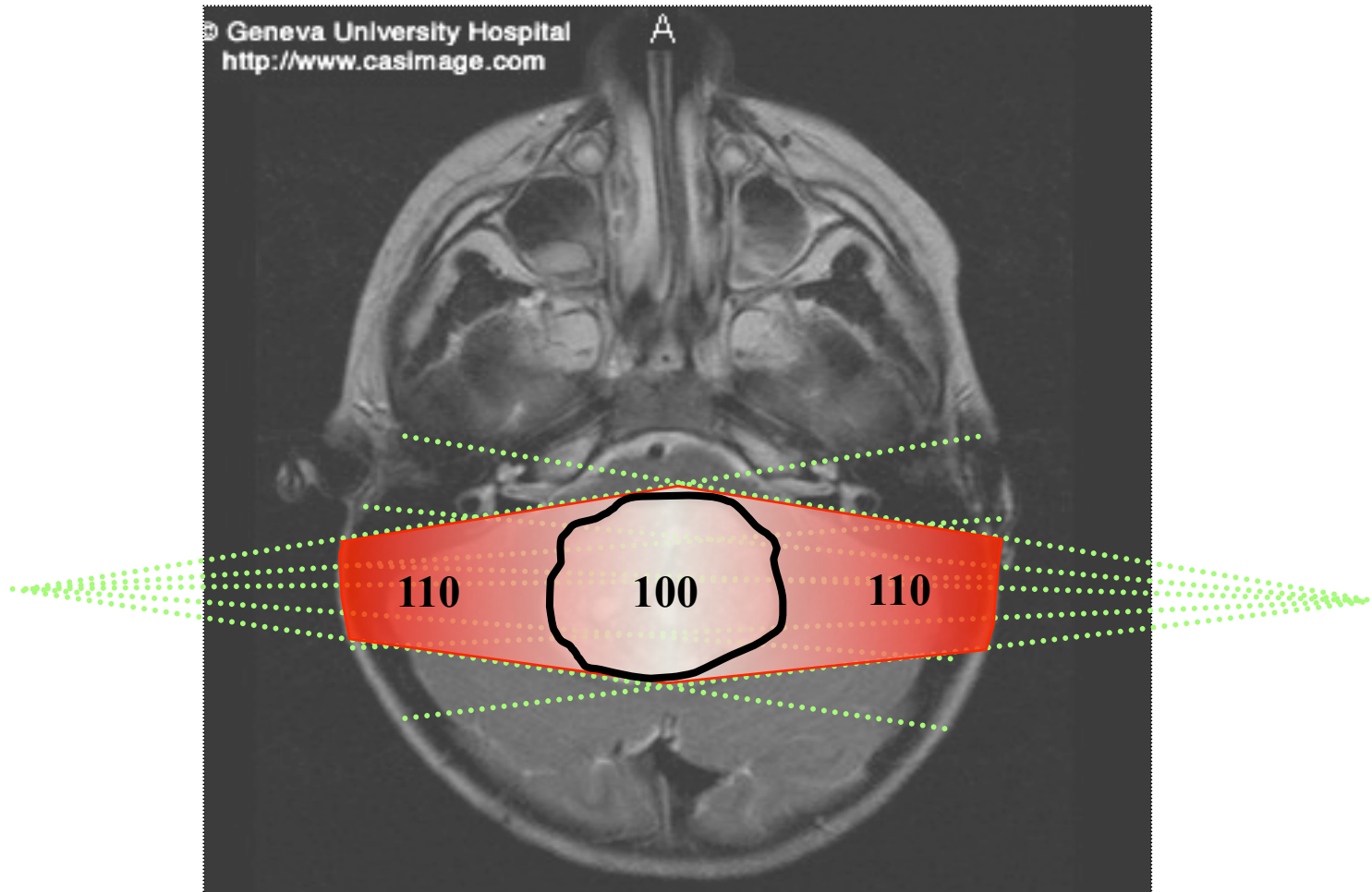


Depth in the body (mm)

# Single beam of photons

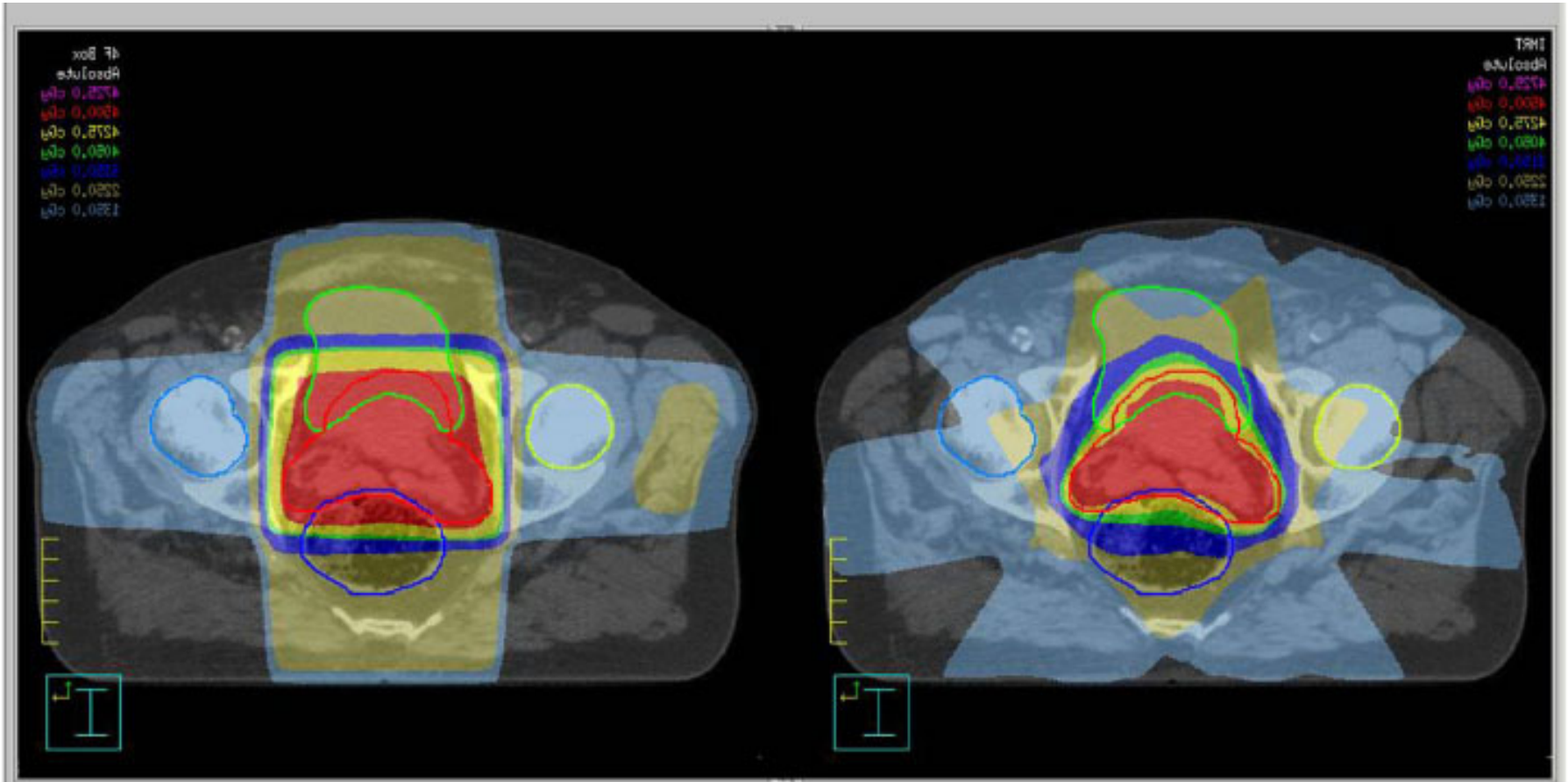


# 2 opposite photon beams





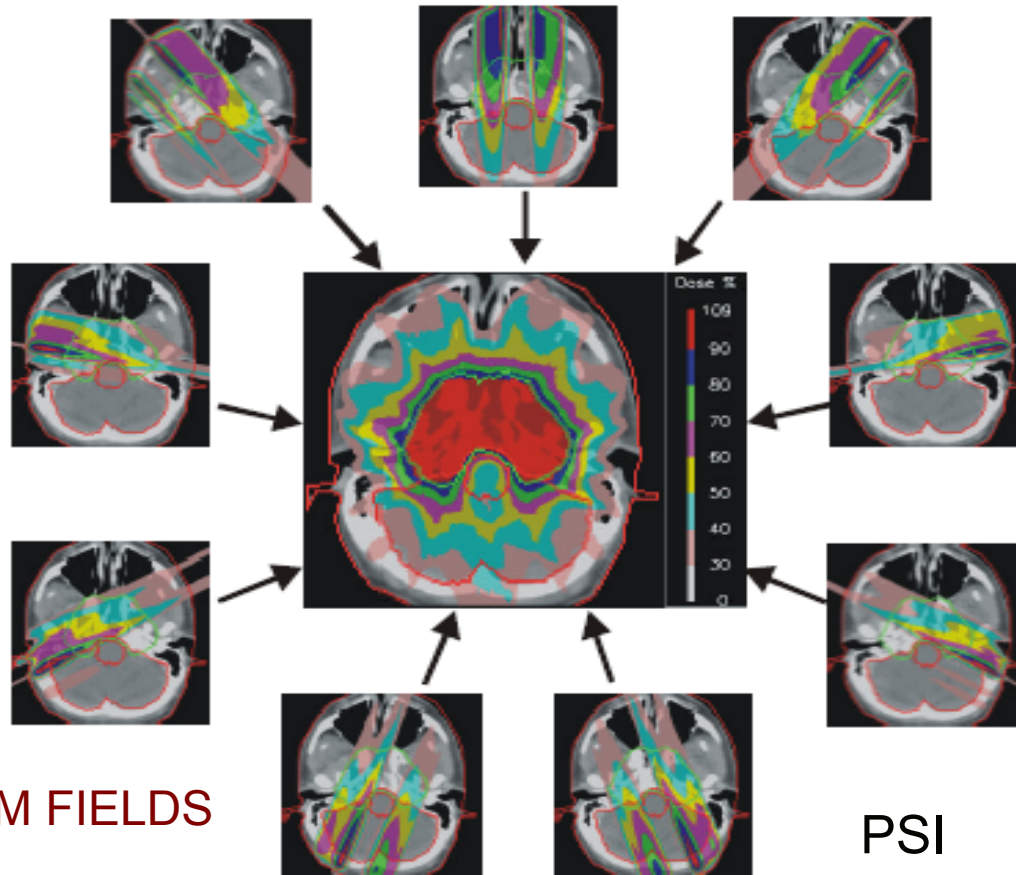
# Improved Delivery



1990s: 4 constant intensity fields

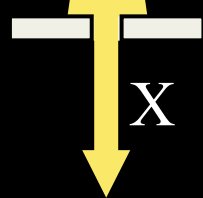
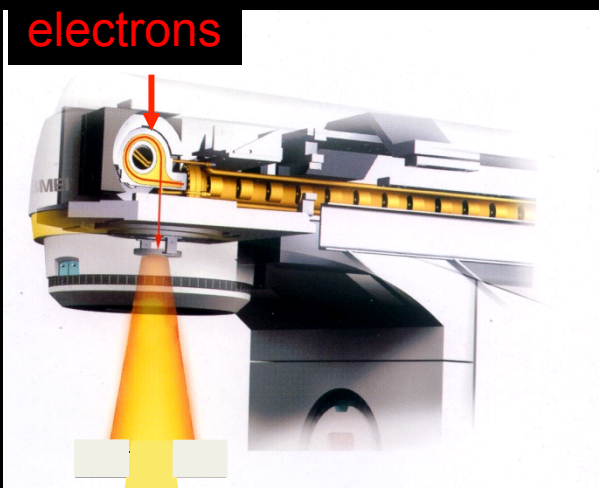
Current state of RT: **Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT)** – Multiple converging field with planar (2D) intensity variations

# Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy

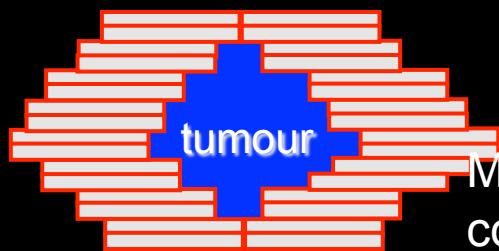


# 'Conventional' radiotherapy: LINACS (linear accelerators) dominate

Courtesy of Elekta



Linac for electrons  
@3 GHz  
5-20 MeV

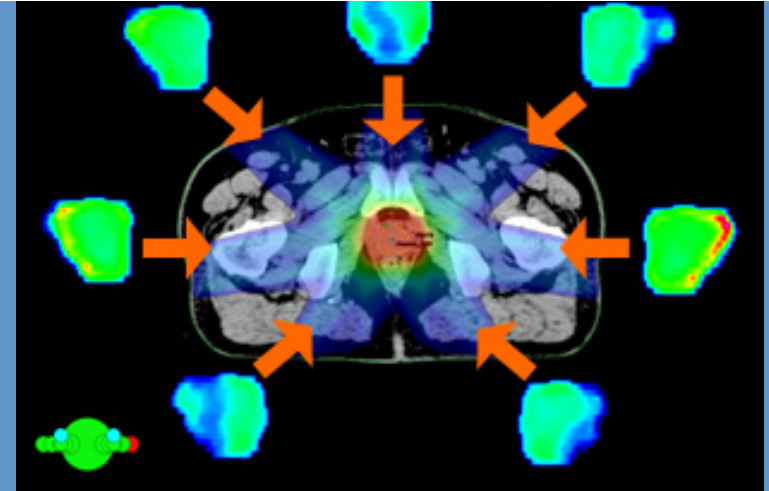
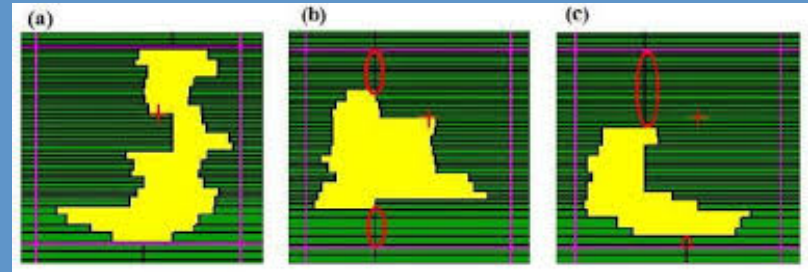


Multileaf  
collimator



5 linacs for 1 million inhabitants needed

# Modern Conventional Therapy



Current accelerator system with gantry, patient positioner and X-ray panels to acquire CBCT and planar X-rays.

Intensity modulation is achieved by changing the multi-leaf collimator (MLC) patterns (right), gantry rotation and dose rate. Thus, intensity modulation is achieved through mechanical (slow) means.

# Advances in Radiation Therapy

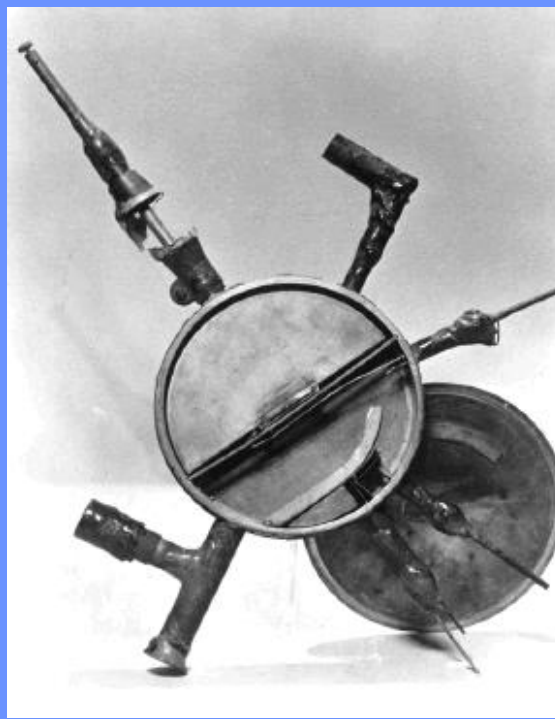
In the past two decades due to:

- improvements in imaging modalities,
- powerful computers and software and delivery systems have enabled:
  - Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT),
  - Image Guided Radiotherapy (IGRT),
  - Volumetric Arc Therapy (VMAT) and
  - Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT)
- Is Particle Therapy the future since the physics of X-rays cannot be changed?

# Beginnings of HT

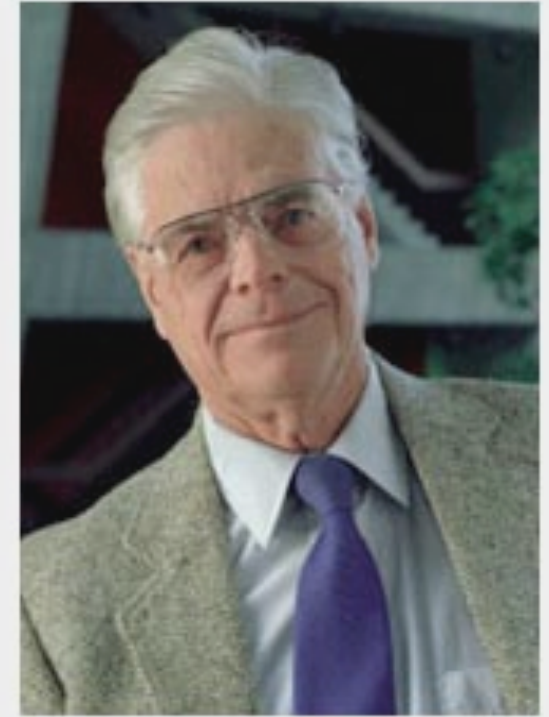


Lawrence, Nobel Prize 1939



First Cyclotron

1946: Wilson proposes the use of Bragg Peak



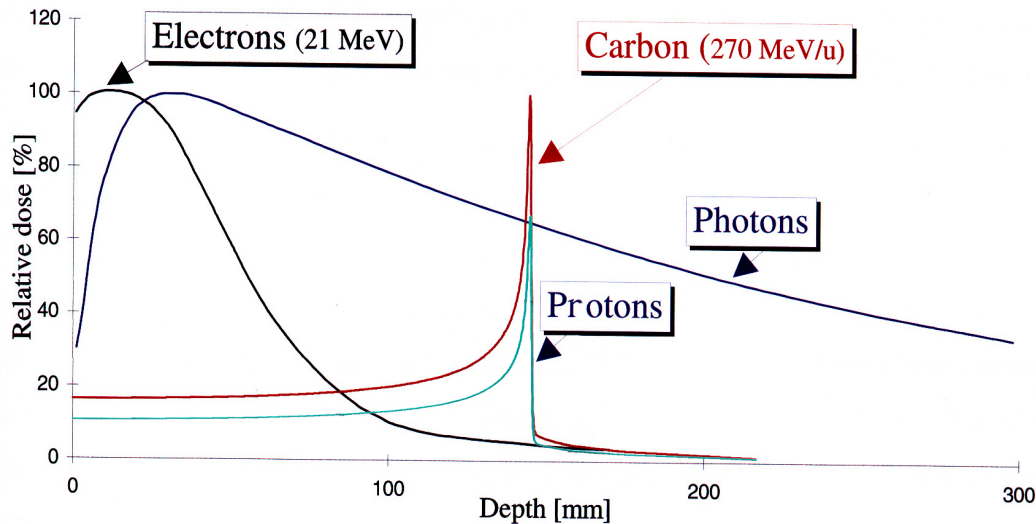
Founder and first director  
of Fermilab - 1990

# Hadron Therapy

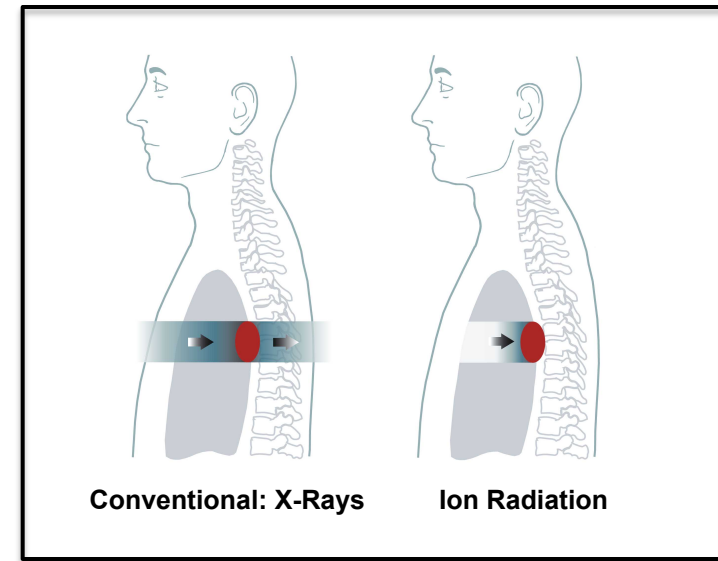
In 1946 Robert Wilson:

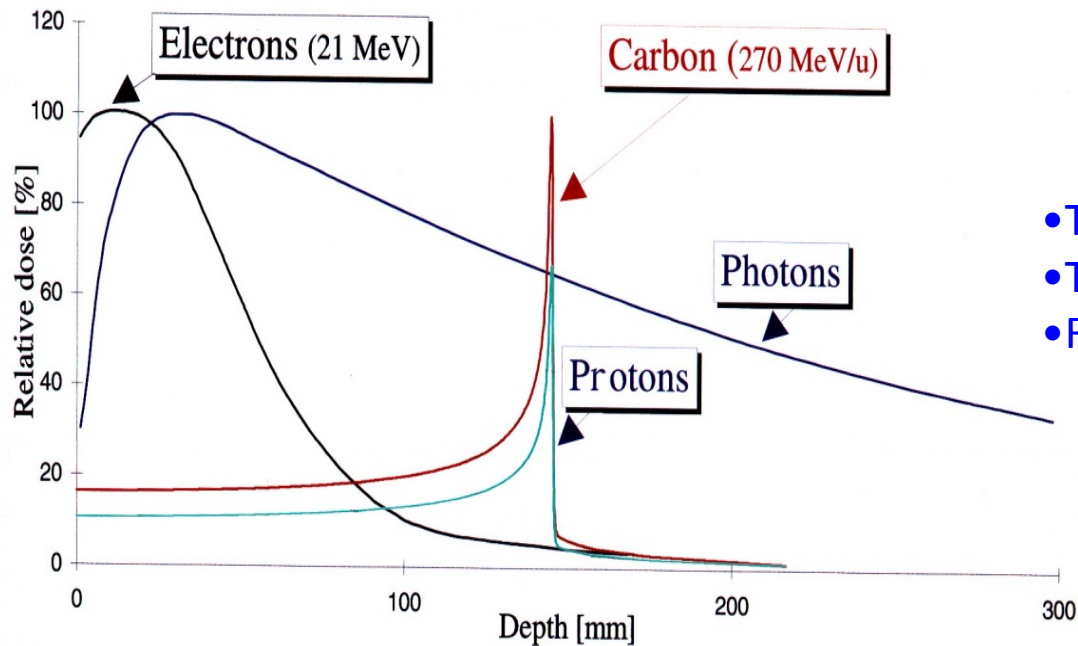
- Hadrons can be used clinically
- Accelerators are available
- Maximum radiation dose can be placed into the tumour
- Particle therapy provides sparing of normal tissues

- Tumours close to critical organs
- Tumours in children
- Radio-resistant tumours



Depth in the body (mm)





- Tumours close to critical organs
- Tumours in children
- Radio-resistant tumours

## Energy deposition

### Photons and Electrons vs.

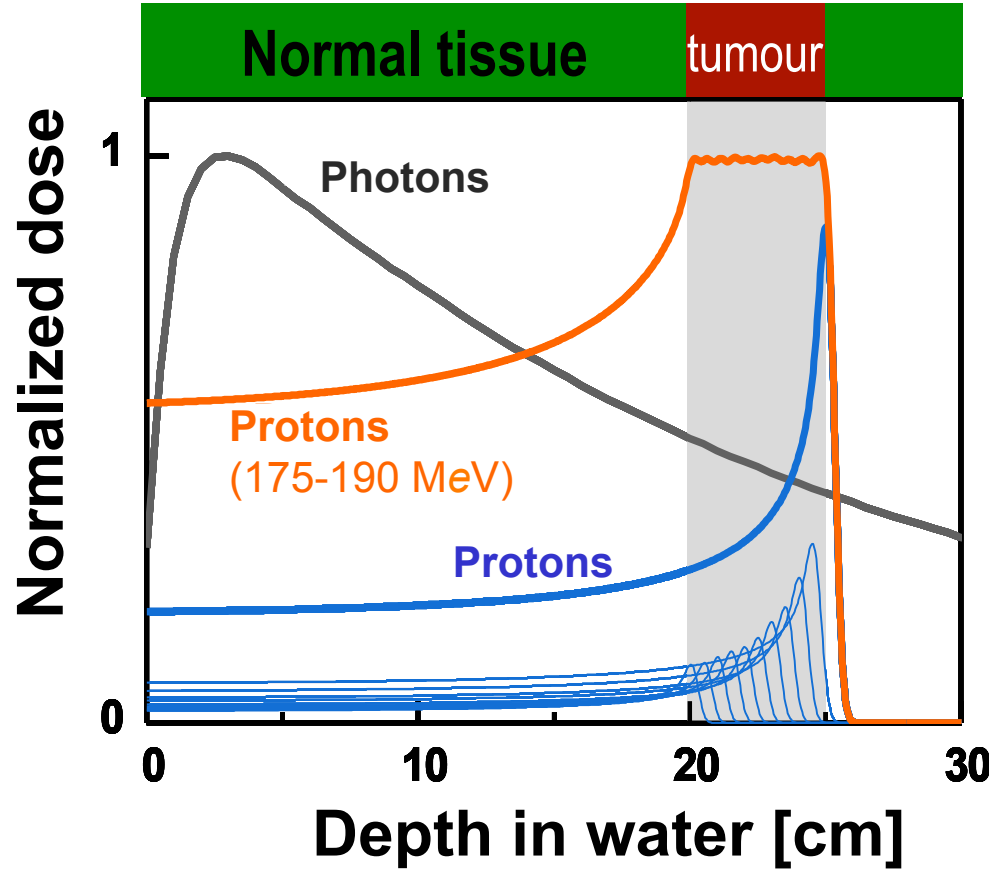
- Physical dose high near surface
- DNA damage easily repaired
- Biological effect lower
- Need presence of oxygen
- Effect not localised

### Hadrons

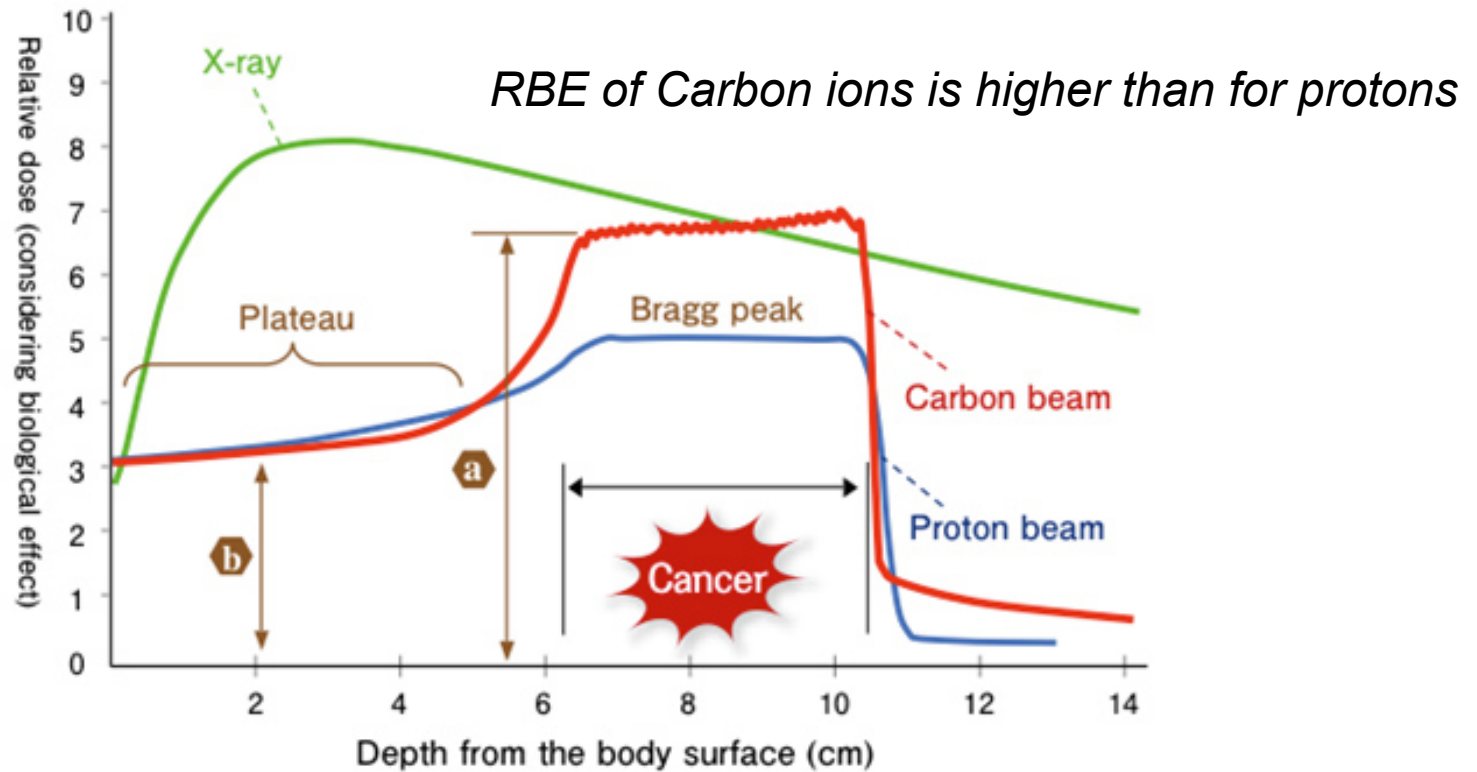
- Dose highest at Bragg Peak
- DNA damage not repaired
- Biological effect high
- Do not need oxygen
- Effect is localised



# Physical basis



# Why carbon ions?



# DNA

# X-rays

# Protons

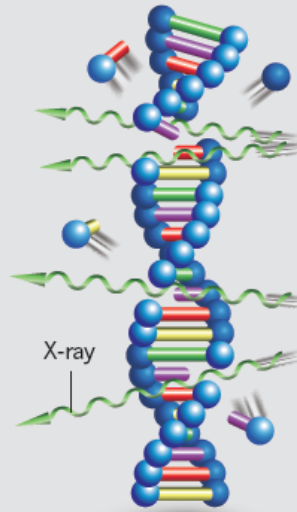
# Carbon ions

## GREATEST HITS

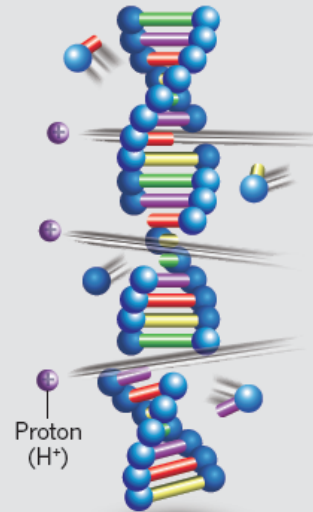
Radiation can kill cancer cells by damaging their DNA. X-rays can hit or miss. Protons are slightly more lethal to cancer cells than X-rays. Carbon ions are around 2-3 times as damaging as X-rays.



DNA

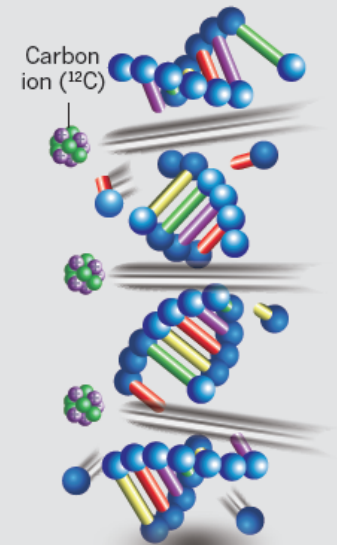


X-ray



Proton (H<sup>+</sup>)

Proton beam



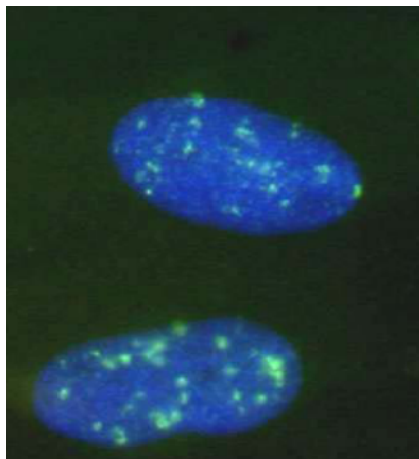
Carbon ion (<sup>12</sup>C)

Carbon-ion beam

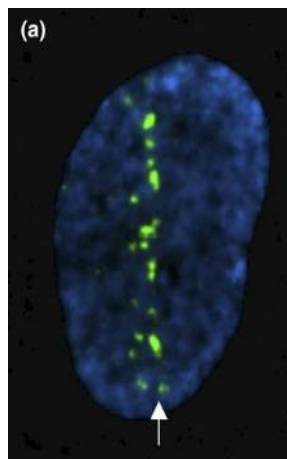
**Marx, Nature, 2014**

# Dose, LET and RBE

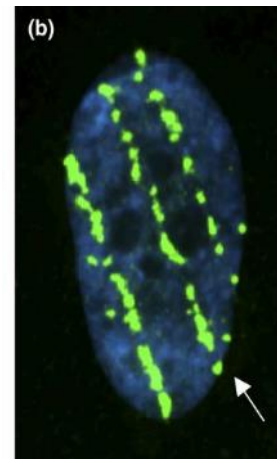
- Cellular response is determined by the level and **quality of DNA damage**, which reflects the energy deposition pattern.



X-rays



54 keV/μm Si ions



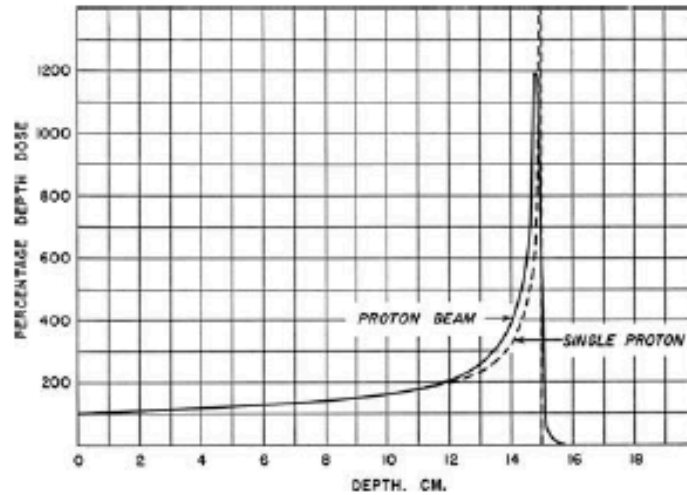
174 keV/μm Fe ions

- Severity of DNA damage** depends on lesion proximity and repairability, hence **it is not a constant value** but depends on physical (particle type, LET, dose) and biological (cell type, oxygenation status, repair capacity) parameters.
- RBE varies with the particle energy and the change of the beam composition (SOBP and nuclear fragmentations): its distribution is **not homogenous** across a treatment field.

1932 - E. Lawrence  
First cyclotron



1946 – proton therapy  
proposed by R. Wilson



1954 – Berkeley treats  
the first patient



From physics...

# 3 Landmark Years for Hadron Therapy

In the years 1992-1994 the rate of progress changed:

- 1992 at Loma Linda first proton patient
- 1993 MGH (Boston) orders the first commercial protontherapy centre
- 1993 GSI starts the carbon ion 'pilot project'
- 1994 HIMAC, NIRS, Chiba first carbon ion patient

# Key Milestones of Hadron Therapy

1991 — First hospital based *Proton* facility  
Loma Linda University Medical Center, CA, USA



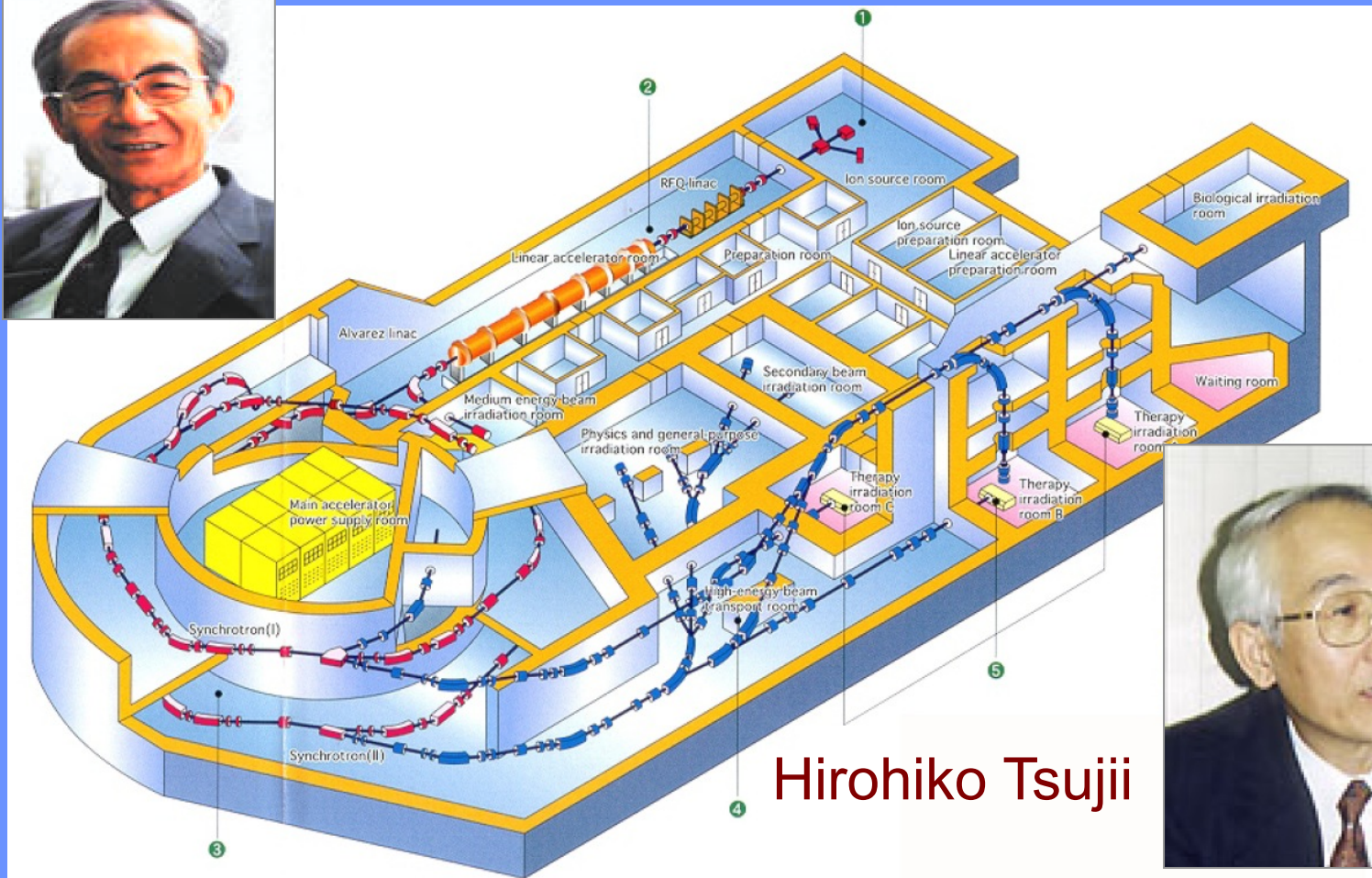
**360<sup>0</sup> Gantry**



# HIMAC, Chiba is the pioneer of carbon therapy (1994)

Yasuo Hirao

First patient 1994



Since the cells do not repair. less fractions are possible  
**HIMAC: reduced fractions! Even single fraction**



# The Darmstadt GSI 'pilot project' (1997-2008)



G. Kraft

**450** patients treated  
with carbon ions  
J. Debus (Heidelberg Univ.)

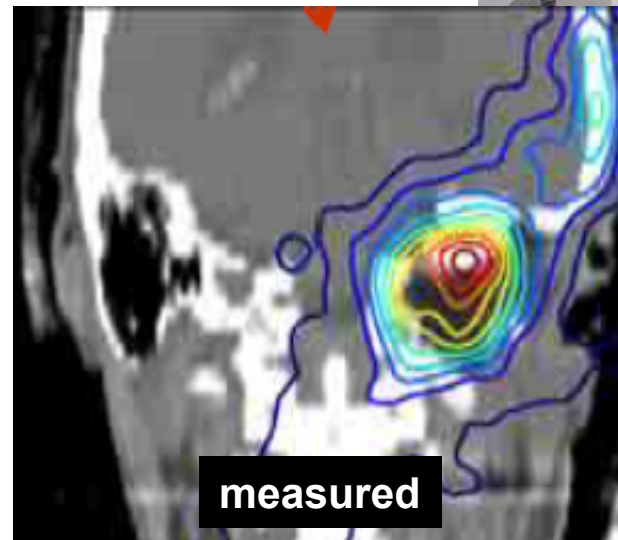
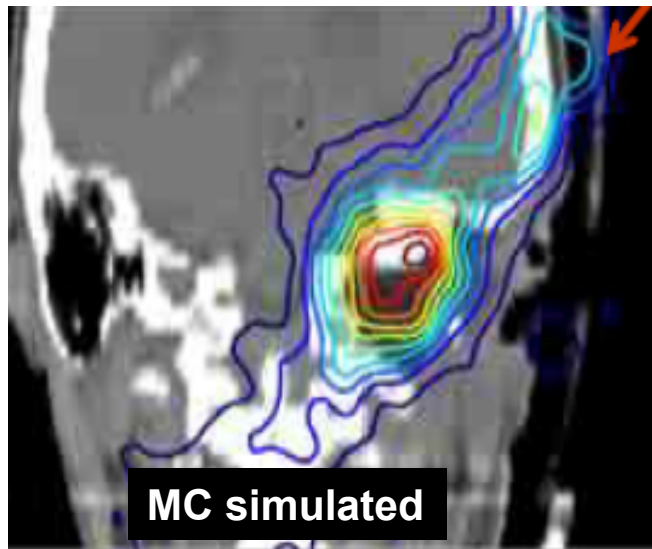


J. Debus

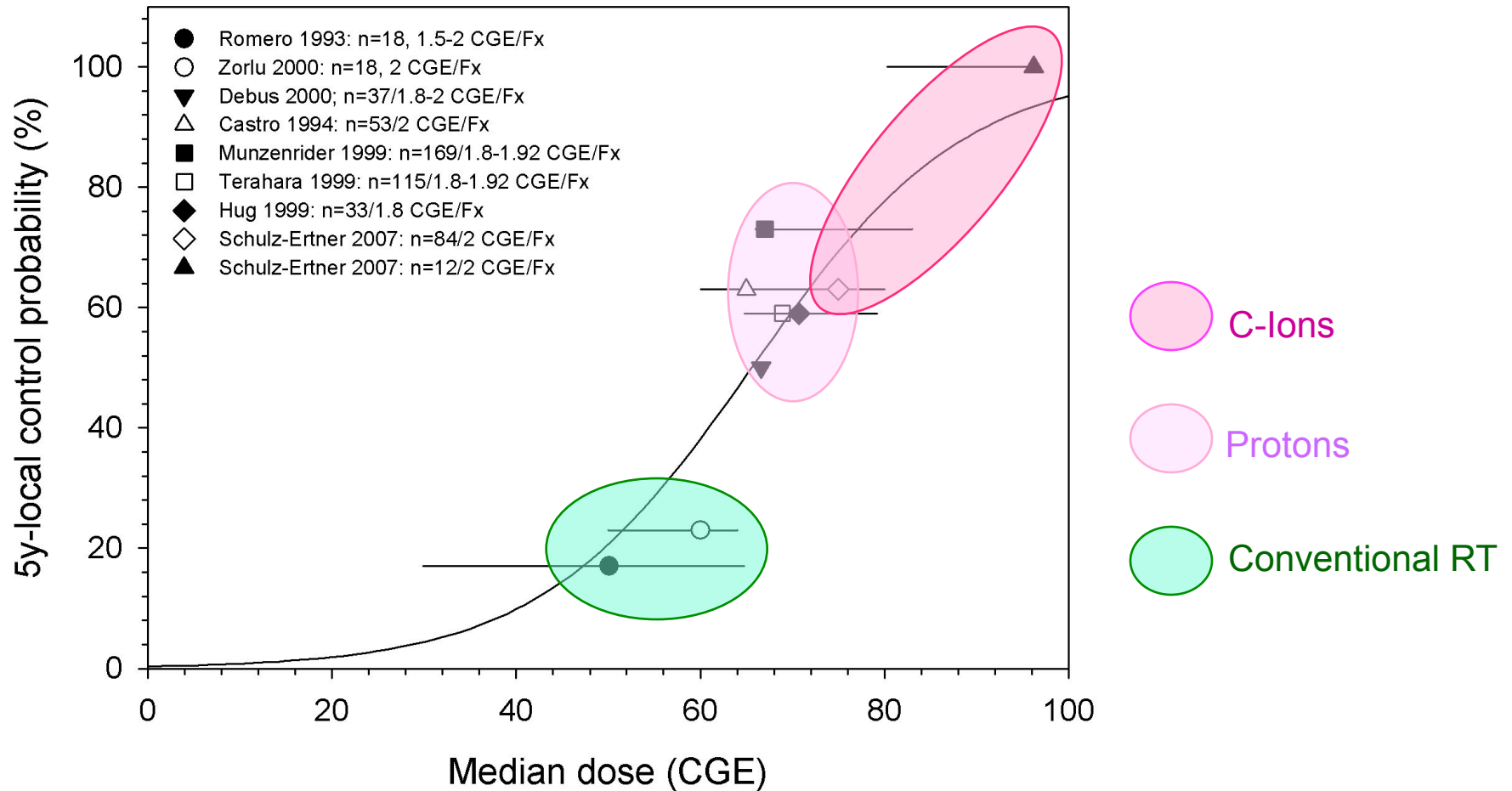


# Real-time monitoring

- In-beam PET @ GSI (Germany)
- MonteCarlo simulations
- Organ motion

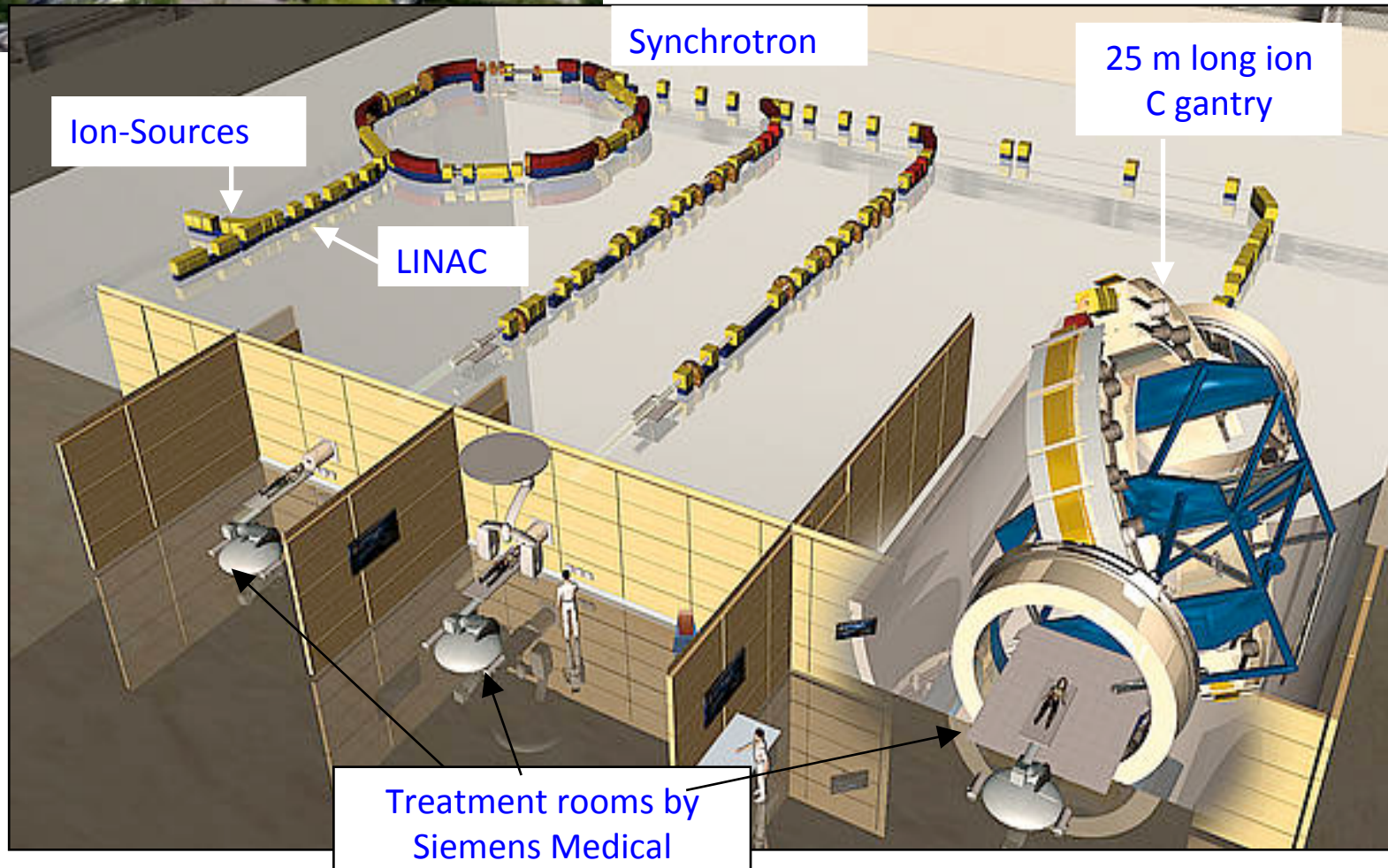


# Tumour Control Rate: Chordomas

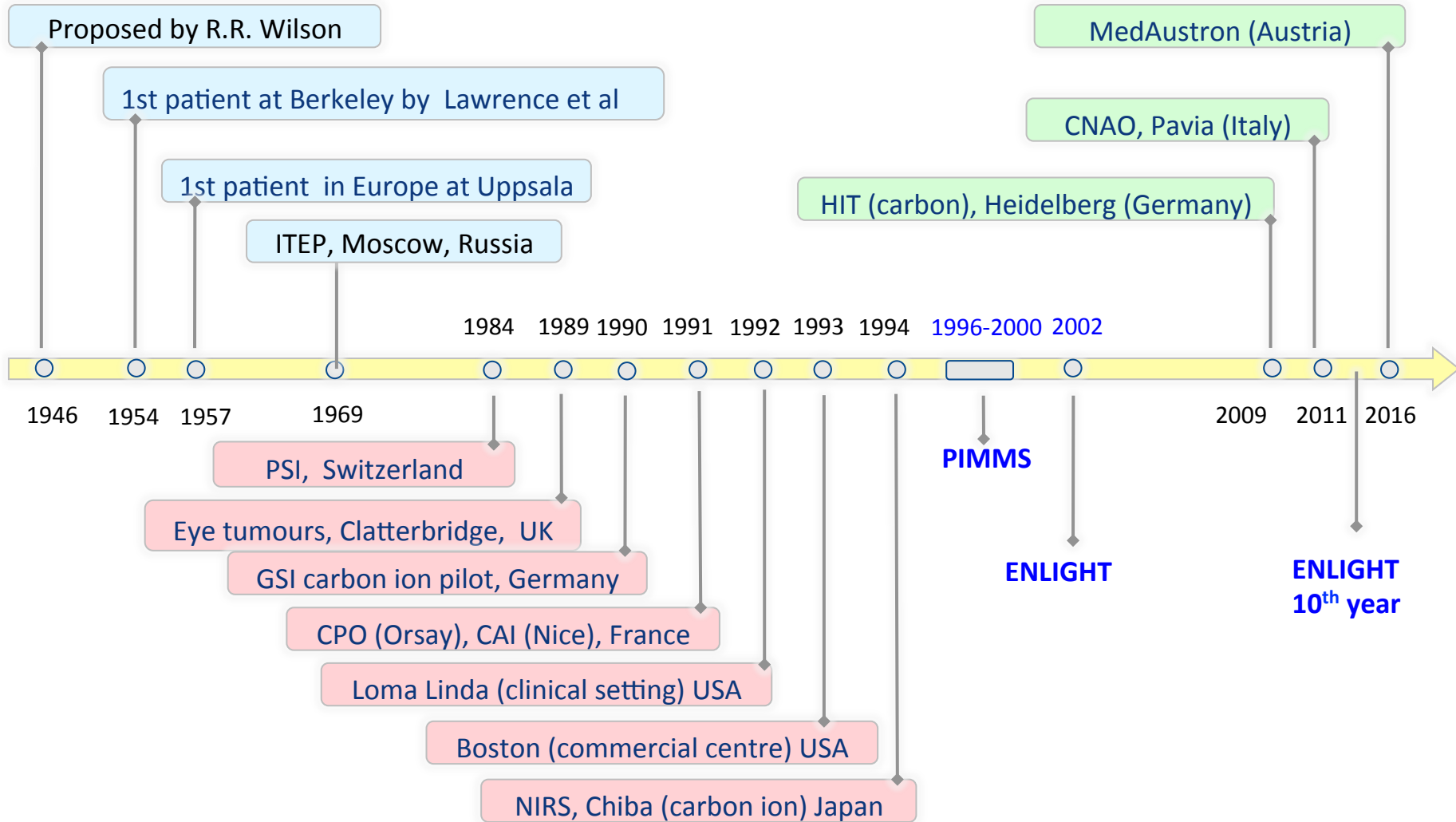


# HIT at Heidelberg

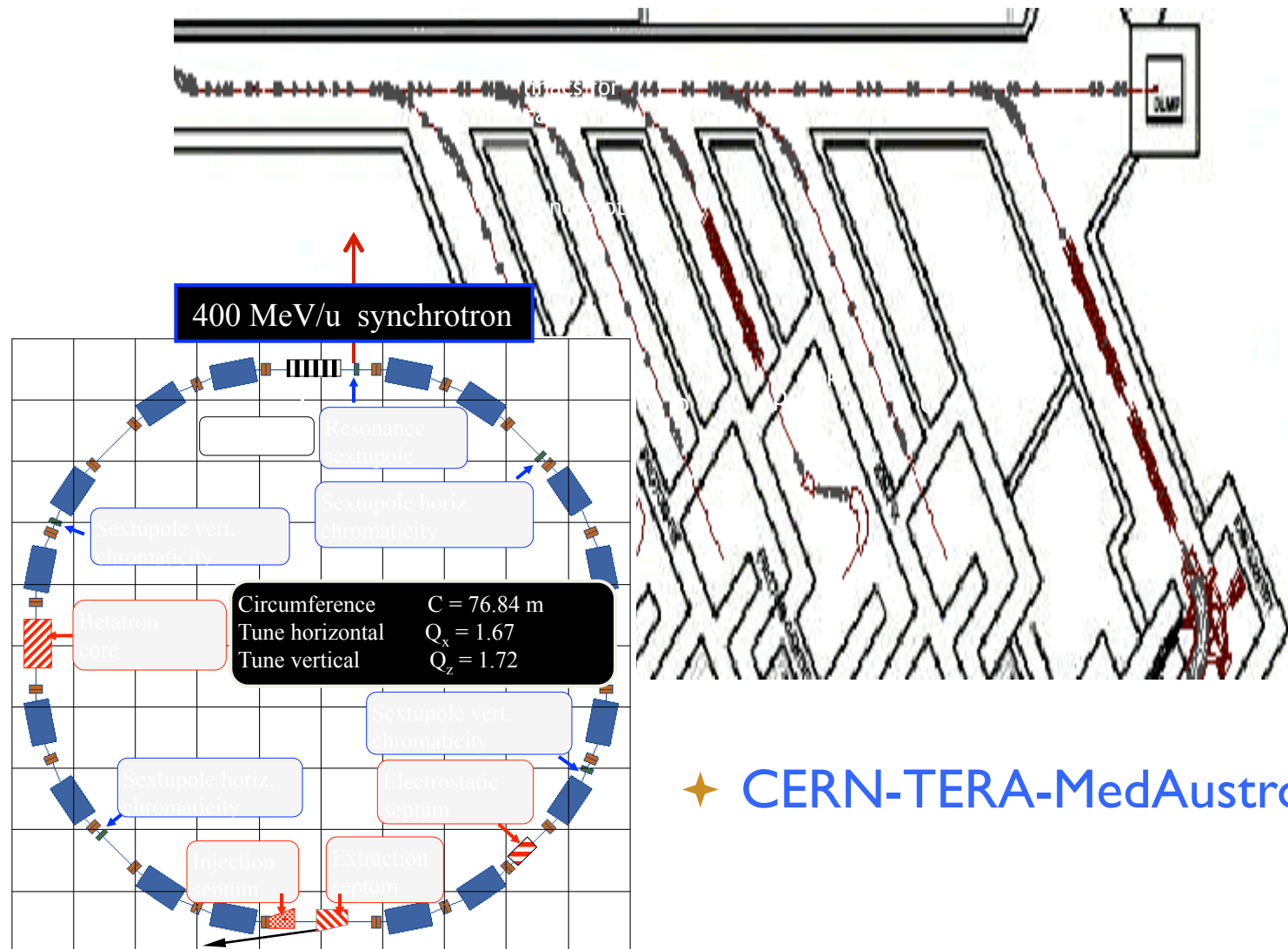
First patient: September 2009



# Particle therapy: a short history



# PIMMS at CERN (1996-2000)



✦ CERN-TERA-MedAustron

# Facilities in operation then – Europe (2002)

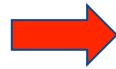
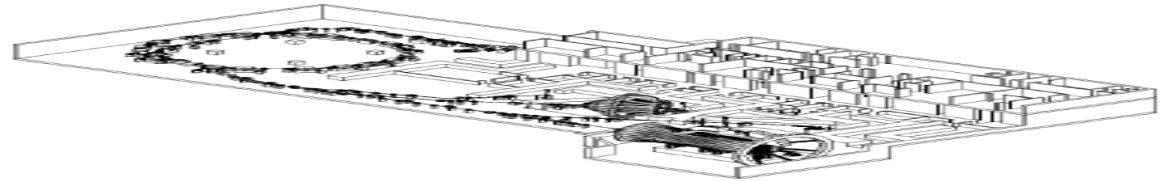
- P centres
- C-ion centres
- ▲ Dual-ion centres



Source: PTCOG

# Accelerator Technologies

PIMMS 2000  
(coordinated by  
CERN) has led to:



fondazione CNAO

Treatment centre in Pavia, Italy.

**First patient treated with in 2011**

ebg MedAustron

Treatment centre in Wiener Neustadt, Austria,  
foundation stone in 2011, installation moved to  
MedAustron at beginning of 2012, first patient treated  
in 2016



# From PIMMS study to clinical reality

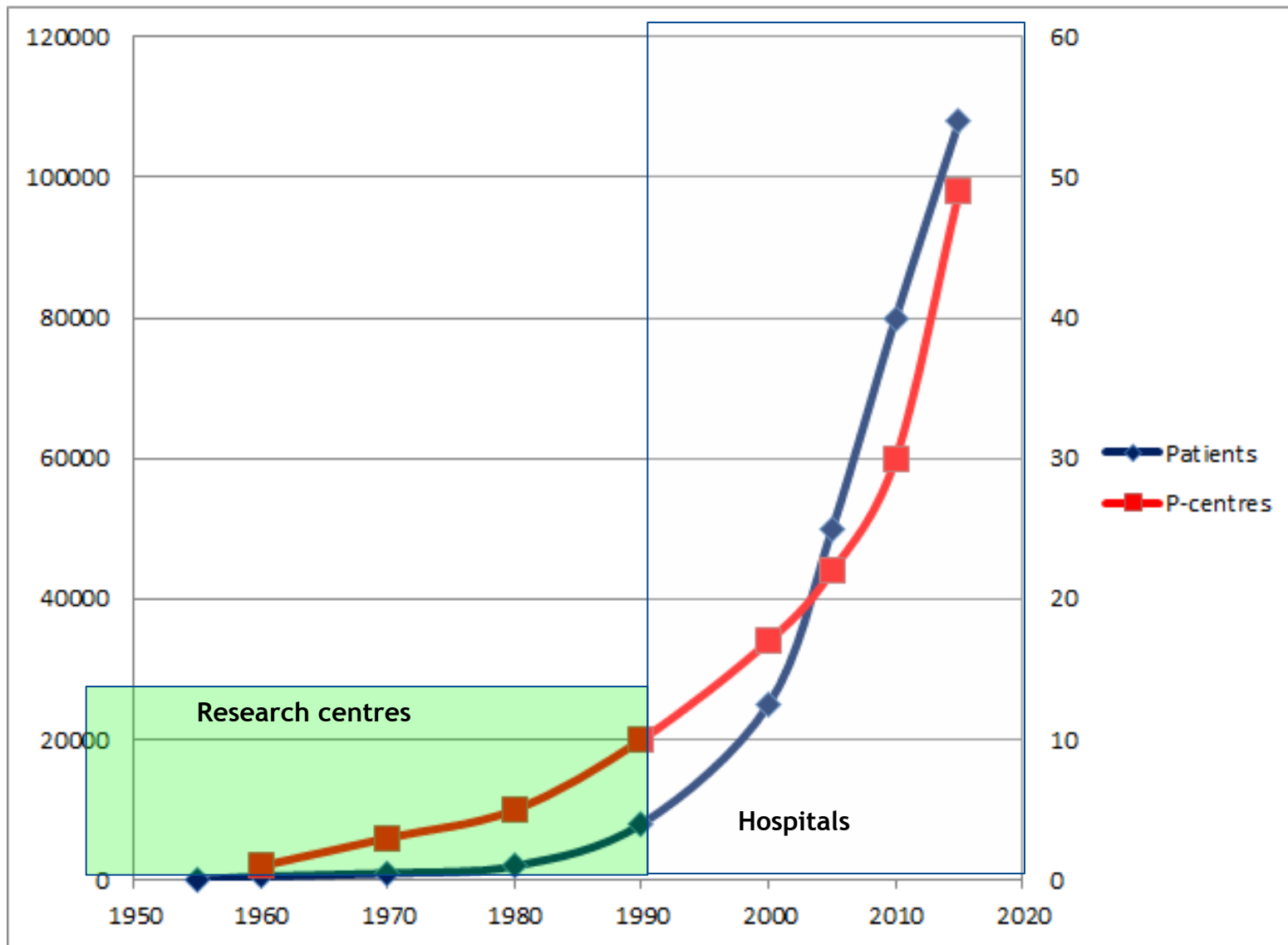


First patient with carbon ions Nov 2012

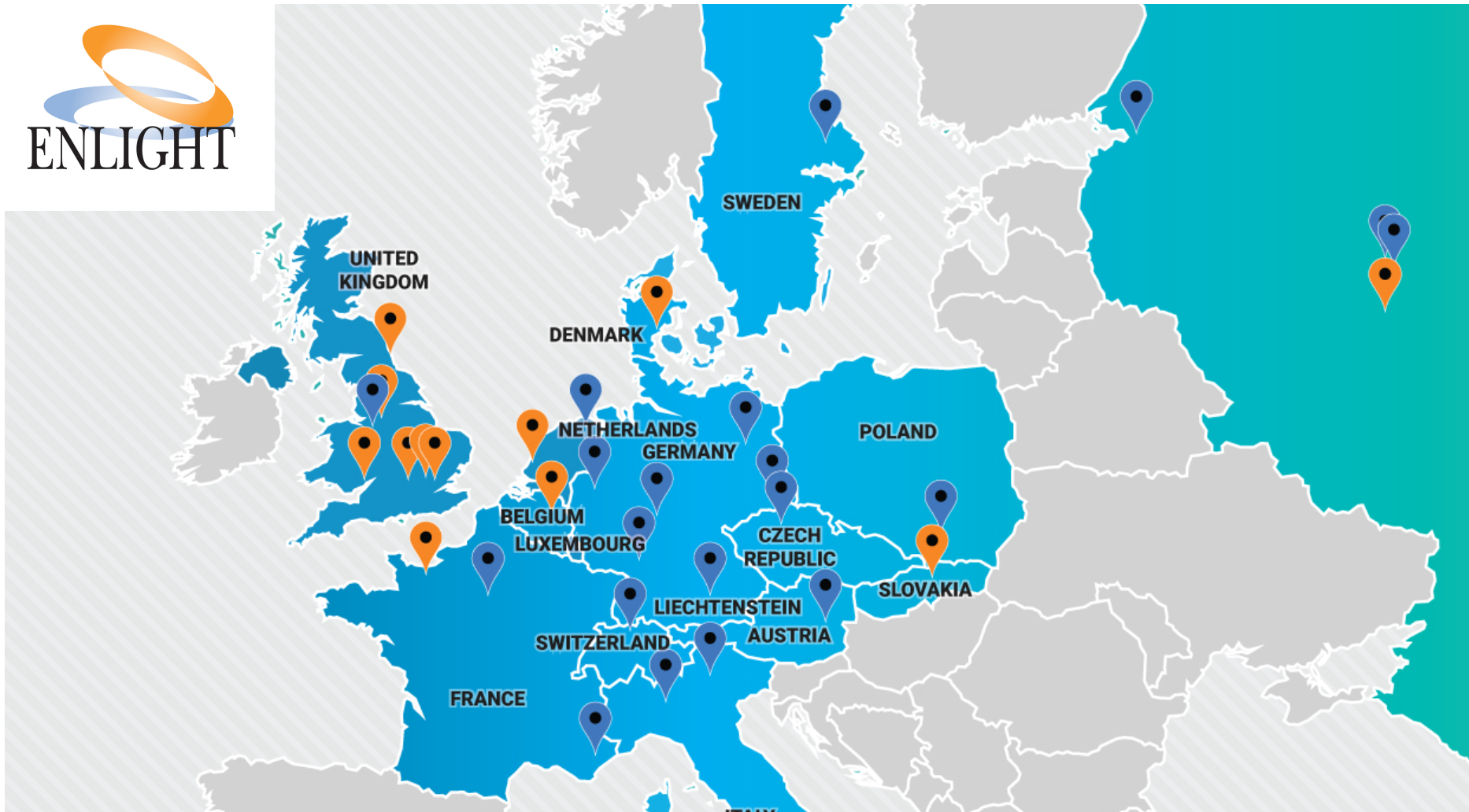


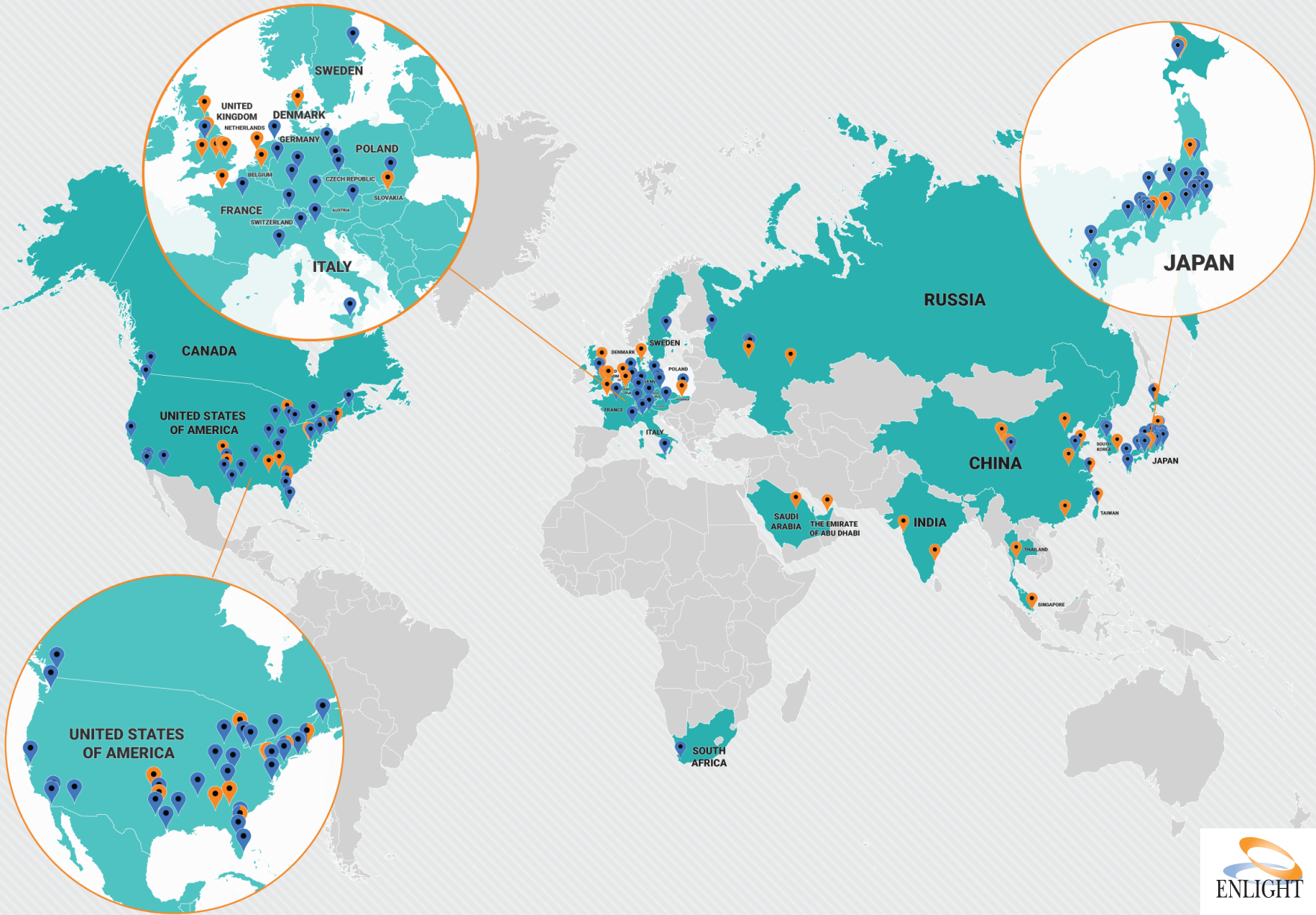
Treatment started in 2016

[Data from [www.ptcog.ch](http://www.ptcog.ch)]

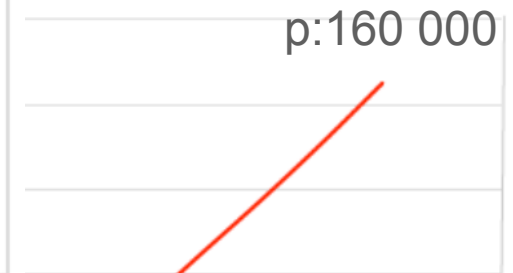
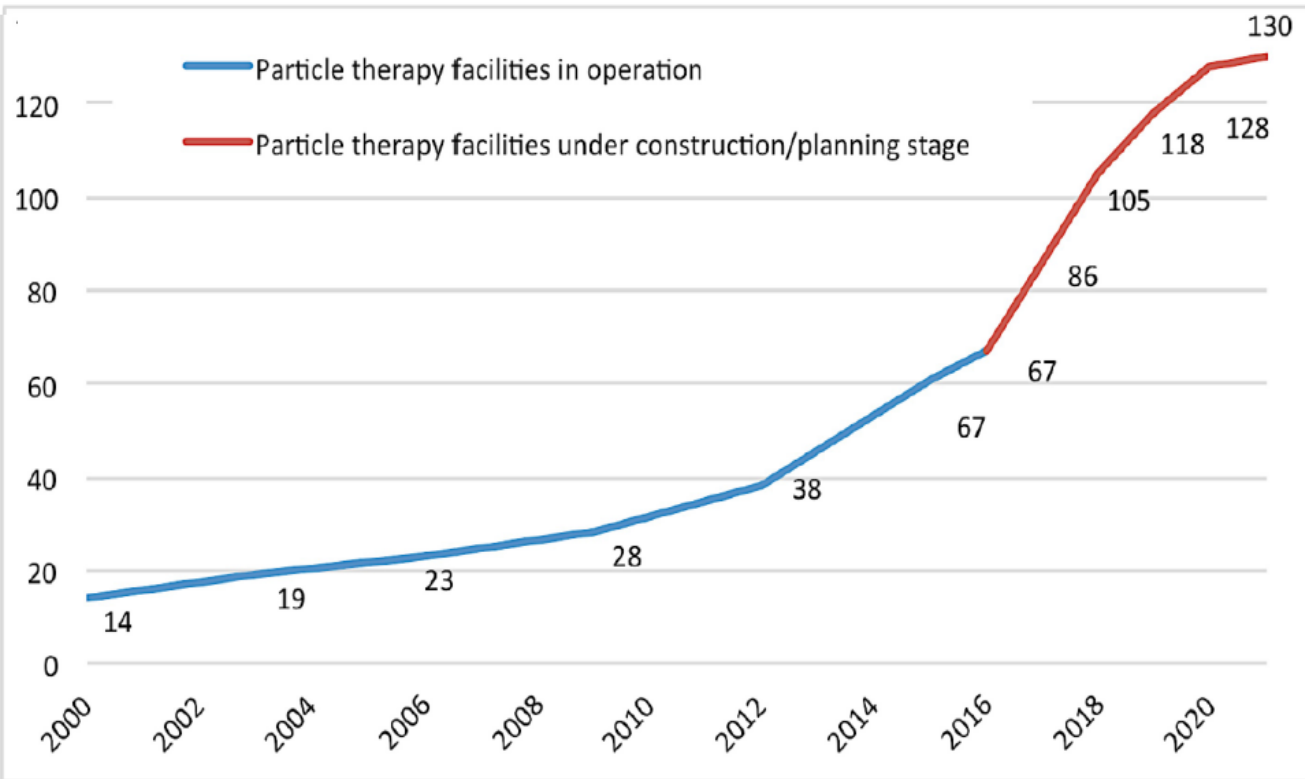


# Facilities in operation now – Europe (2018)





# Centres and patients worldwide





[cern.ch/virtual-hadron-therapy-centre](https://cern.ch/virtual-hadron-therapy-centre)

## Many thanks to:

- U. Amaldi, CERN & TERA
- E. Blakely, LBNL, USA
- M Durante, GSI, Germany
- HIT, CNAO, MedAustro, PSI and ENLIGHT colleagues
- MARS BiImaging Ltd

## Useful links

- [\*cern.ch/crystalclear\*](http://cern.ch/crystalclear)
- [\*cern.ch/enlight\*](http://cern.ch/enlight)
- [\*cern.ch/virtual-hadron-therapy-centre\*](http://cern.ch/virtual-hadron-therapy-centre)
- [\*http://cds.cern.ch/record/1611721\*](http://cds.cern.ch/record/1611721)
- [\*cern.ch/knowledgetransfer\*](http://cern.ch/knowledgetransfer)
- [\*cern.ch/medipix\*](http://cern.ch/medipix)
- [\*cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AXIALPET\*](http://cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AXIALPET)
- [\*cern.ch/medaustro\*](http://cern.ch/medaustro)
- [\*cern.ch/fluka/heart/rh.html\*](http://cern.ch/fluka/heart/rh.html)
- [\*www.fluka.org/fluka.php\*](http://www.fluka.org/fluka.php)
- [\*cern.ch/wwwasd/geant\*](http://cern.ch/wwwasd/geant)
- [\*cern.ch/wwwasd/geant/tutorial/tutstart.html\*](http://cern.ch/wwwasd/geant/tutorial/tutstart.html)
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