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Introduction to Radiation Oncology - Clinical

Ted Lawrence, MD, PhD

Department of Radiation Oncology

Winter 2009

University of Michigan



Who Cures Cancer?

- Surgery - 150,000 patients per year
- Radiation - 85,000 patients per year
- Chemotherapy - 15,000 patients per year!



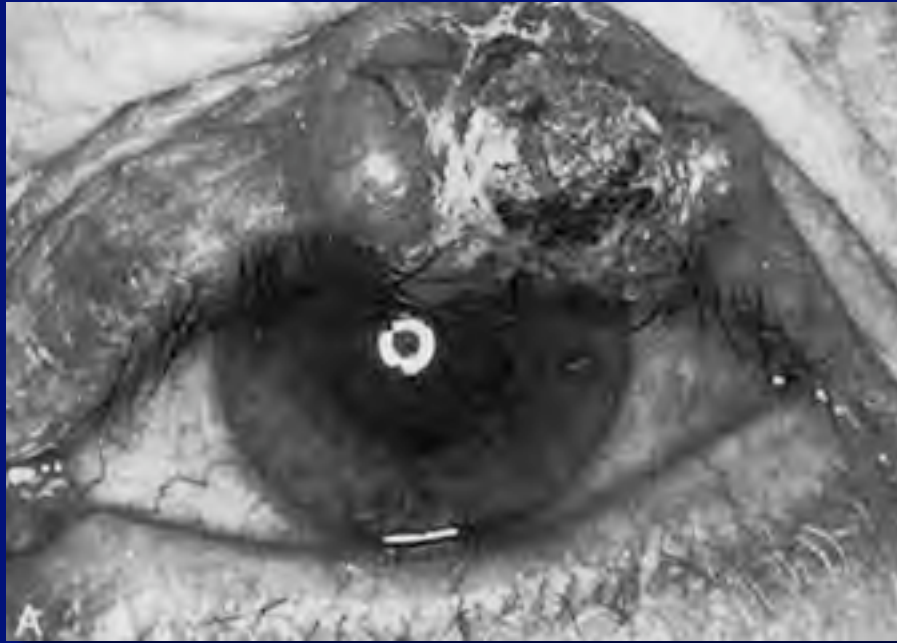
SOLD!

Vincent DeVita, NCI Grant Rounds, 1983

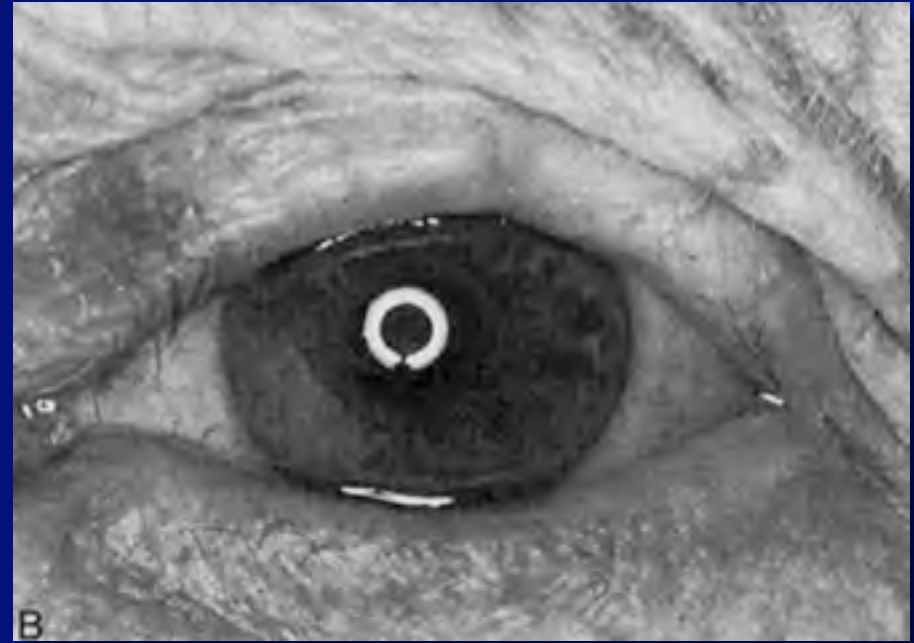
Standard radiation alone can cure

- **Brain tumors (low grade)**
- **Head and neck cancers (early stage)**
- **Skin cancers (all)**
 - Especially lip, eyelid, nose, and ear
- **Lymphomas (all but advanced stage)**
- **Seminoma (all but advanced stage)**
- **Soft tissue sarcoma (any stage)**
- **Lung cancer (early stage)**
- **Cervix and endometrial cancer (early stage)**

Treatment of Skin Cancer



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And has an important role in palliation

- **Brain metastases**
- **Lung metastases**
 - Producing airway obstruction or superior vena cava syndrome
- **Bone metastases**
 - Producing spinal cord compression
- **Esophageal obstruction**
- **Bile duct obstruction**



Improving outcome: Individualizing Therapy

- **By improving our ability to hit the tumor and miss the normal tissue**
- **By customizing combinations of radiation with chemotherapy or molecularly targeted therapy**
- **By assessing tumor and normal tissue response during treatment and tailoring therapy to these responses**

Radiation therapy: *The process*

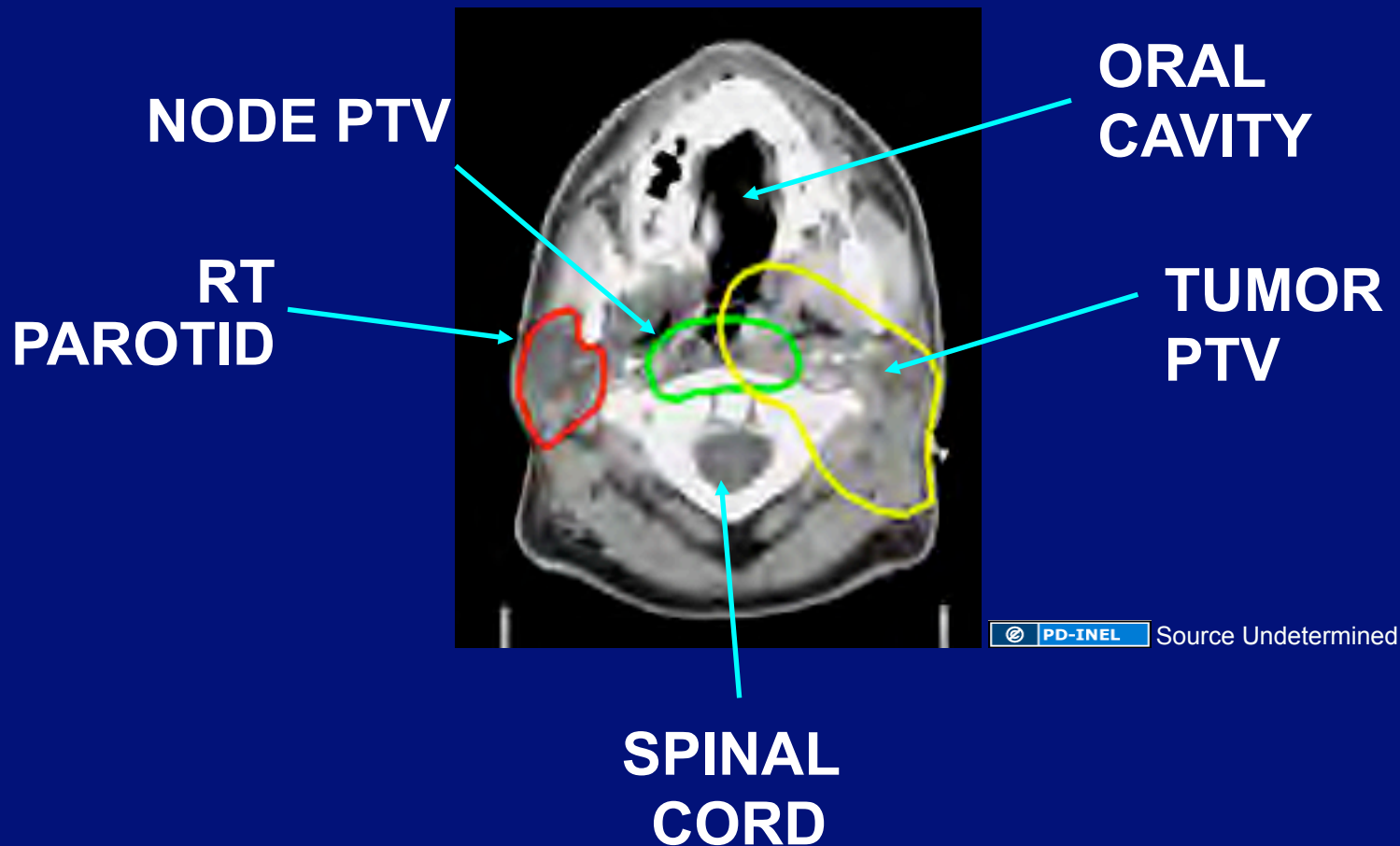
- **Treatment planning**
 - Determine 3D orientation of tumors and normal tissues
 - Planning radiation
 - Conformal treatment
 - Tools to quantify dose (dose-volume histograms)
- **Position patient and tumor**
 - Localize patient on treatment machine
 - Account for organ motion
- **Treatment delivery**

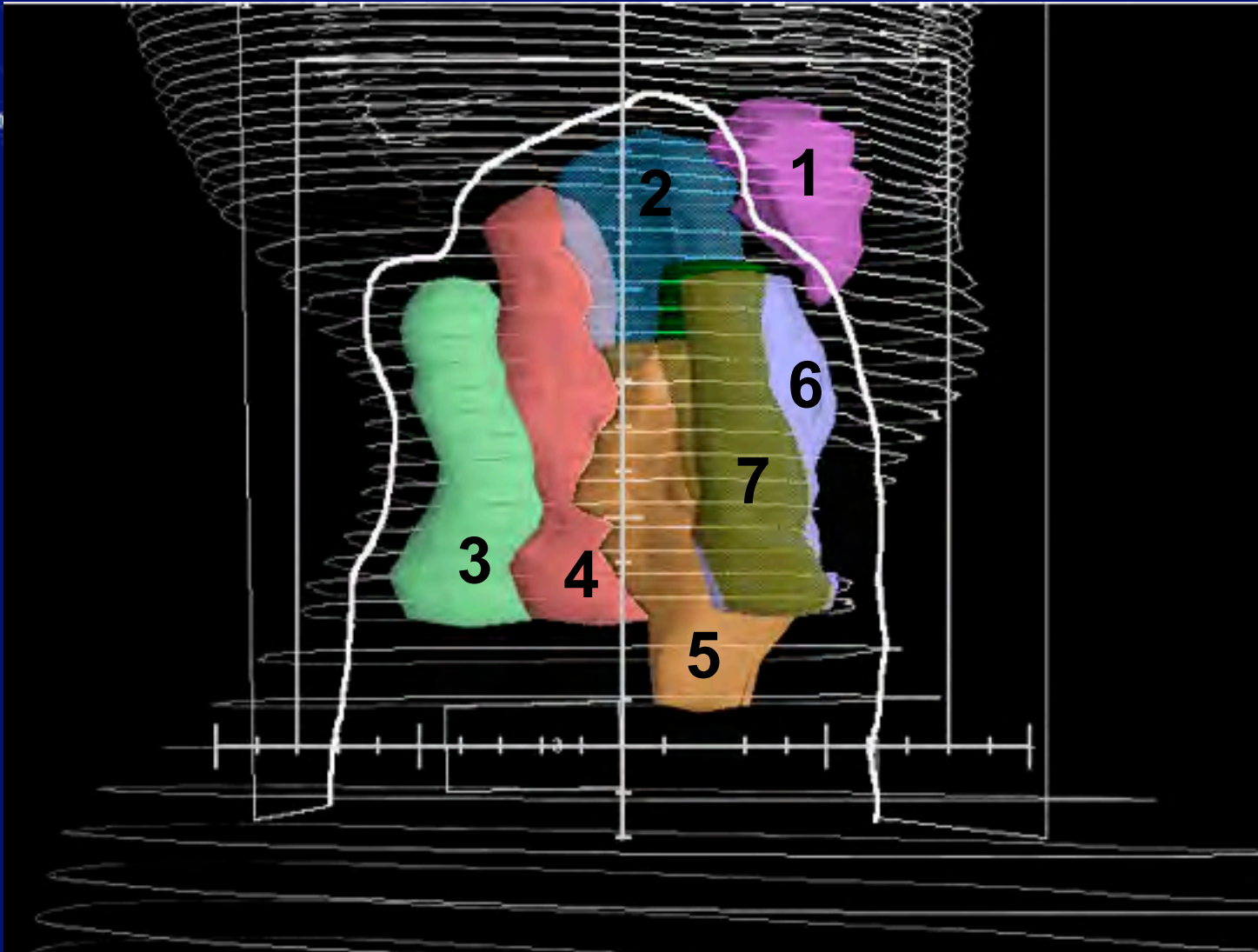
“Standard” Radiation Therapy

- Treatment based on population estimate of what might control a tumor
- Estimate the risk of normal tissue damage base on the most sensitive 5% of the population
- Treatment delivered to initially prescribed dose
 - Stop only for unacceptable acute toxicity
- Emphasis making isodose lines conform more tightly to the tumor

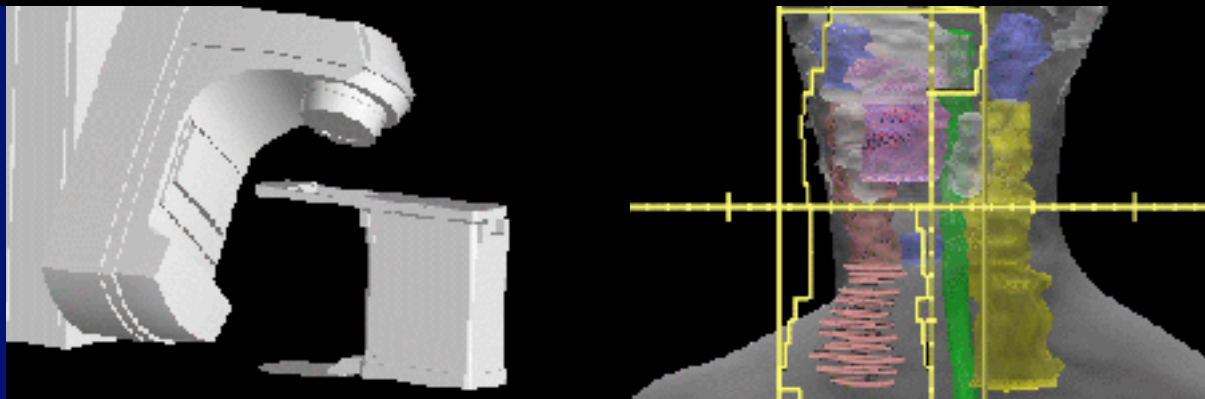
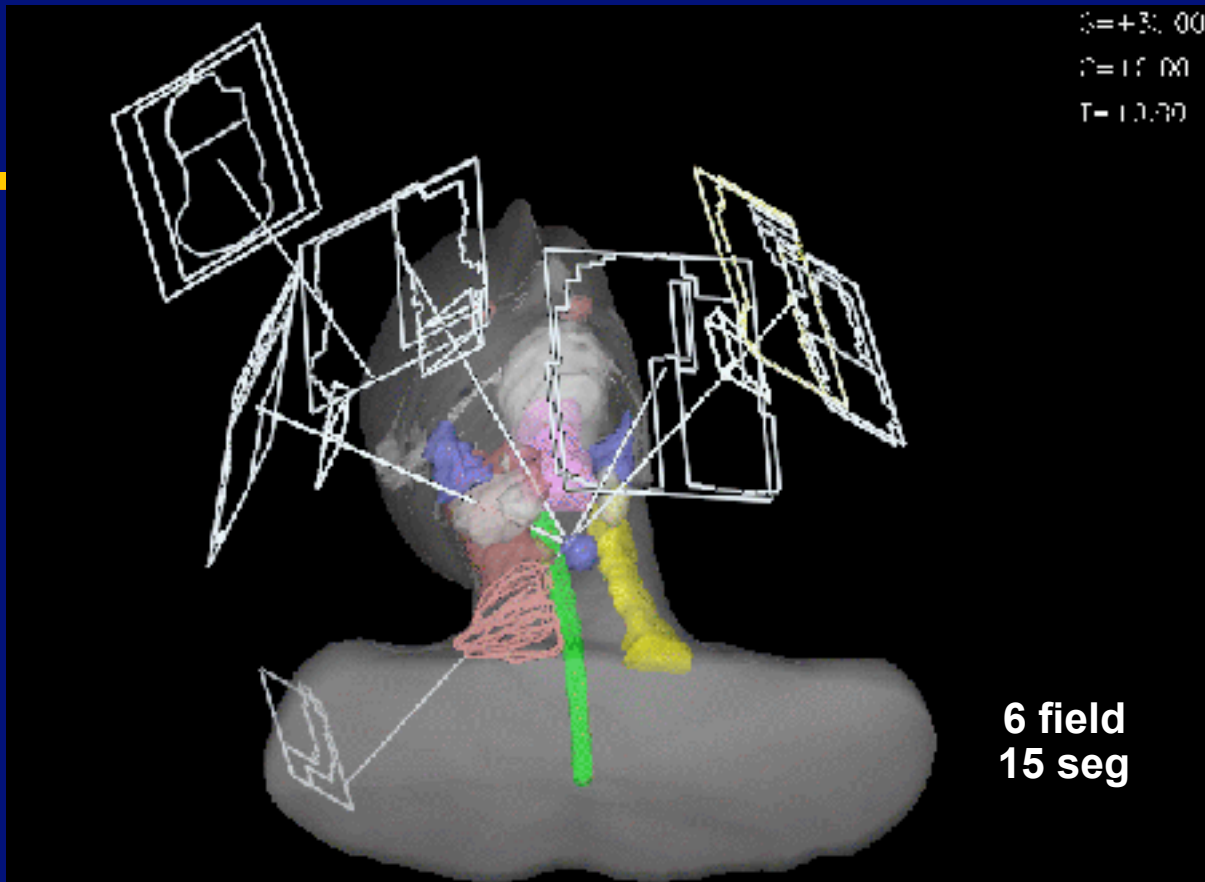
Partial Parotid Gland Sparing:

Conformal Techniques in Patients Undergoing Bilateral Neck Irradiation

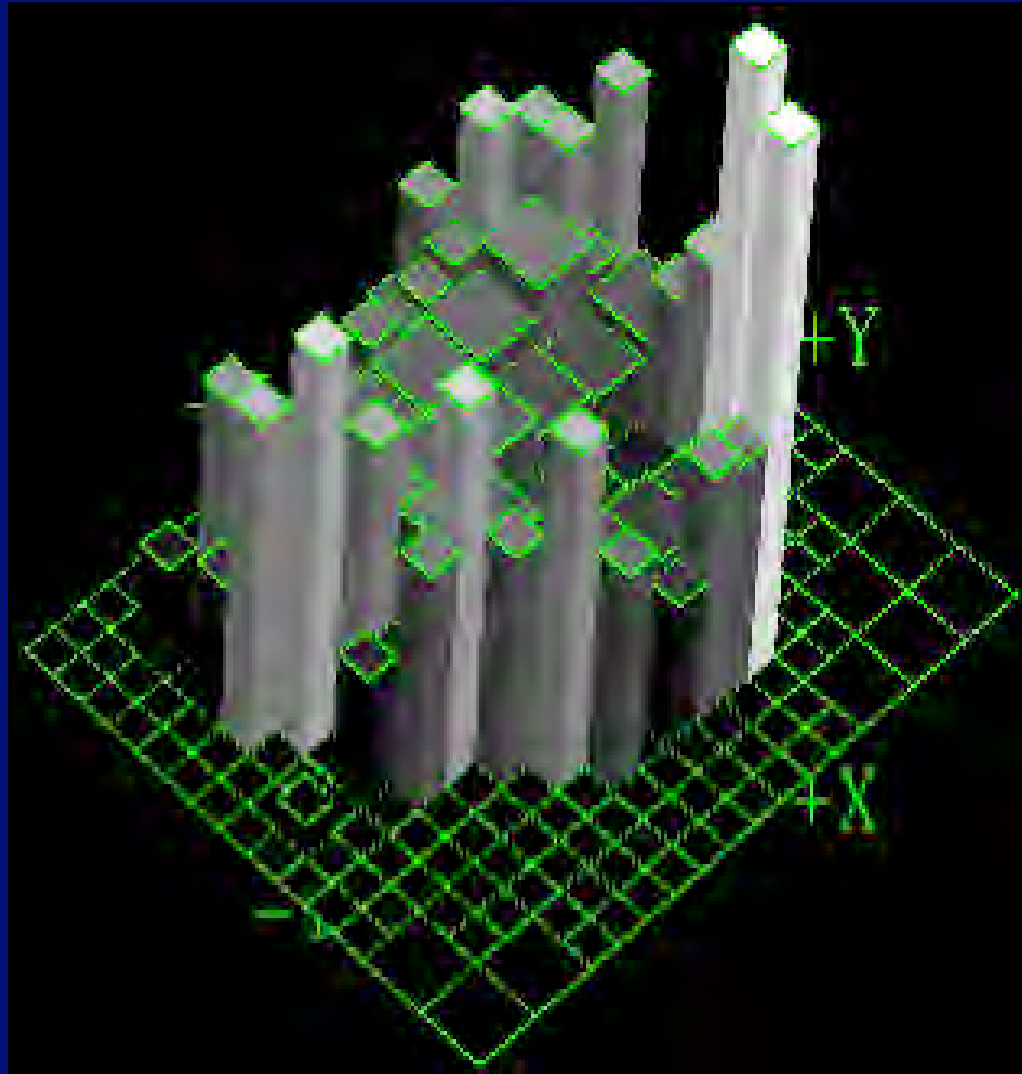


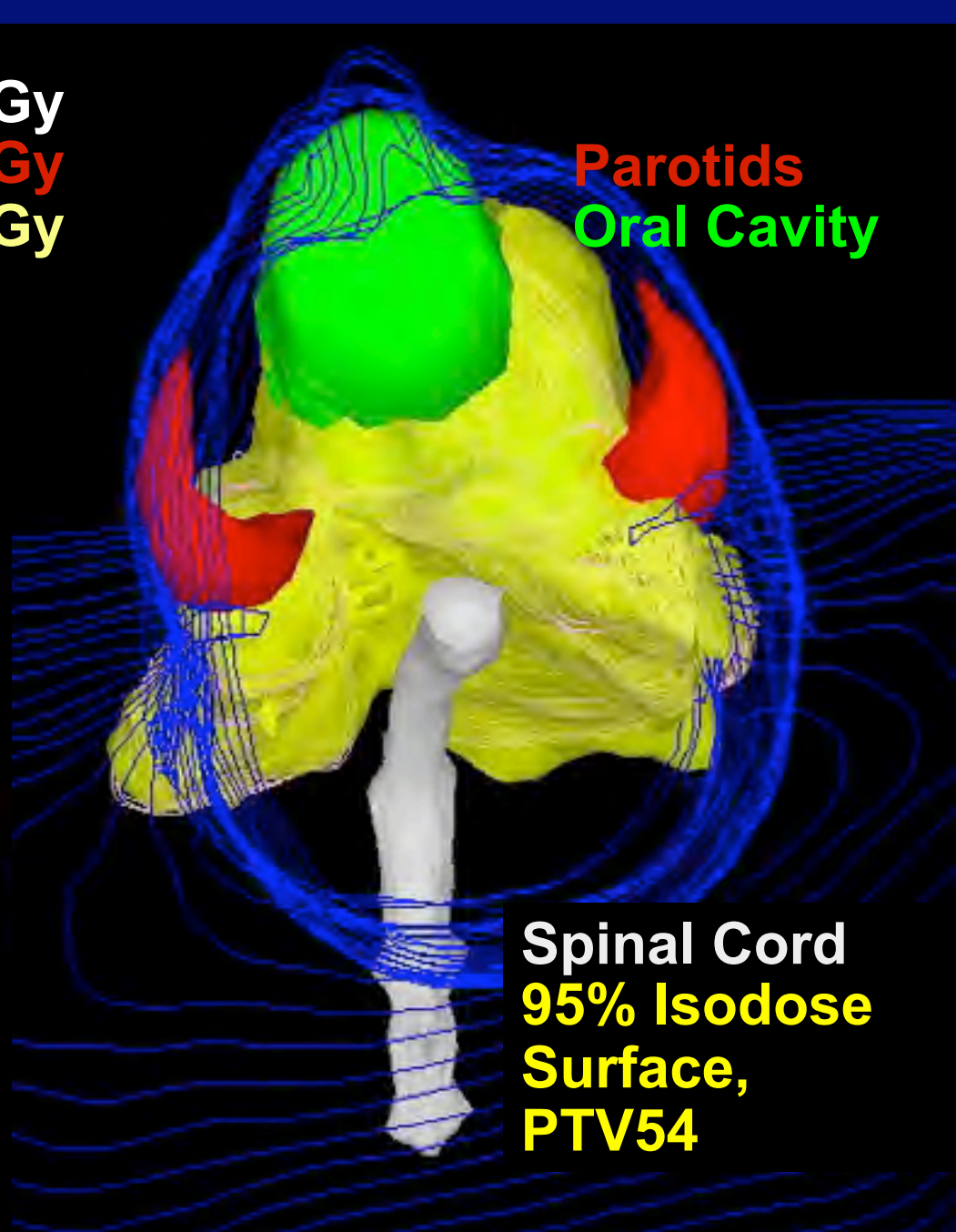
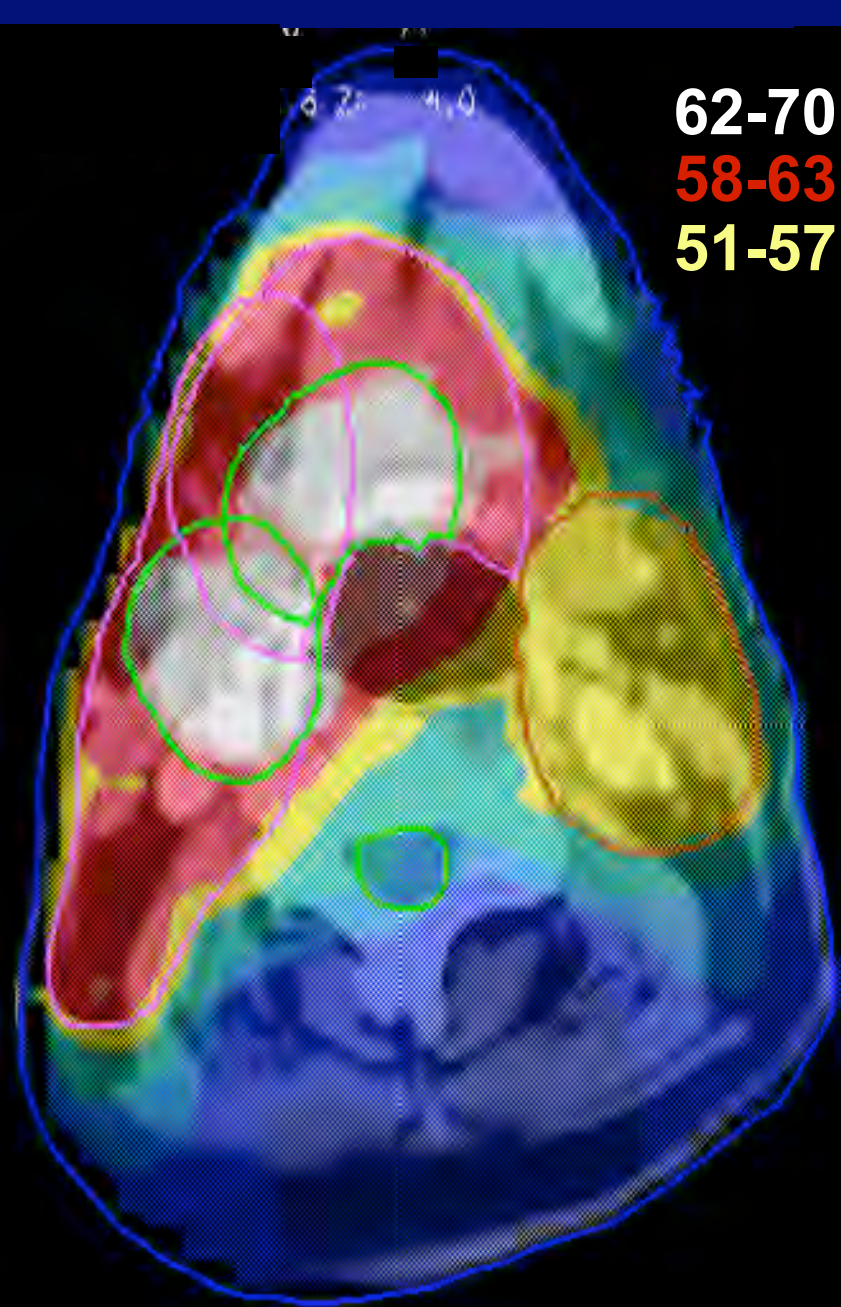


Target Volumes and Normal Structures

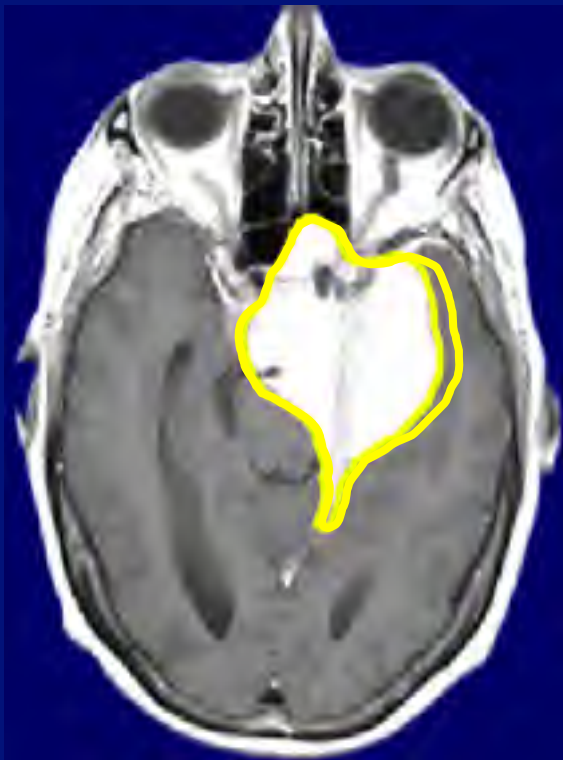


Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)





Move info between MR and CT



regions



doses

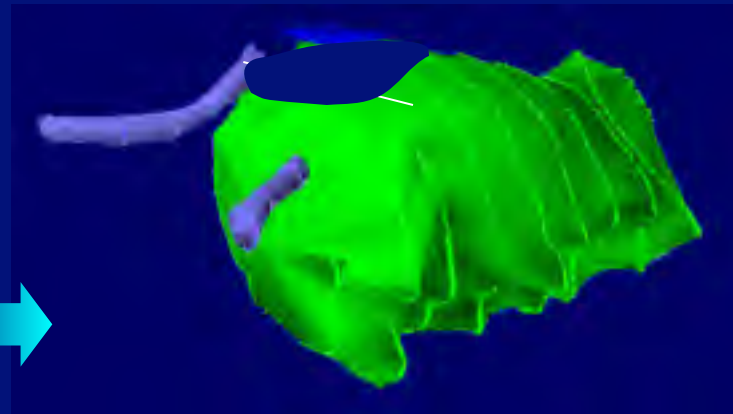


Target Volume Definition

Define volumes on MR



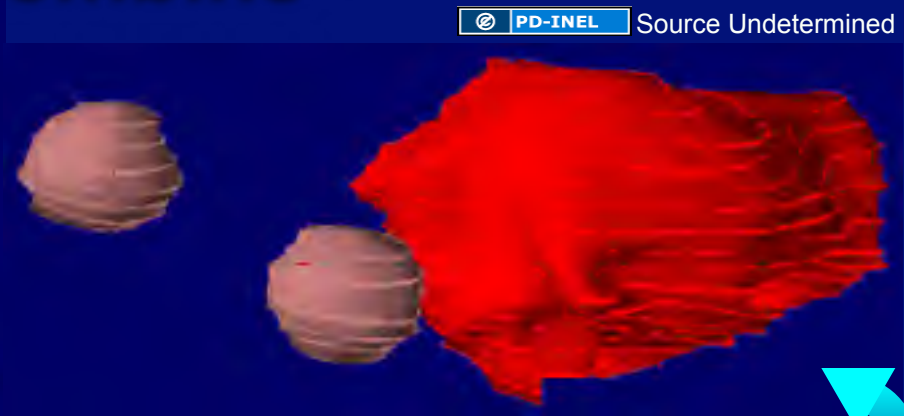
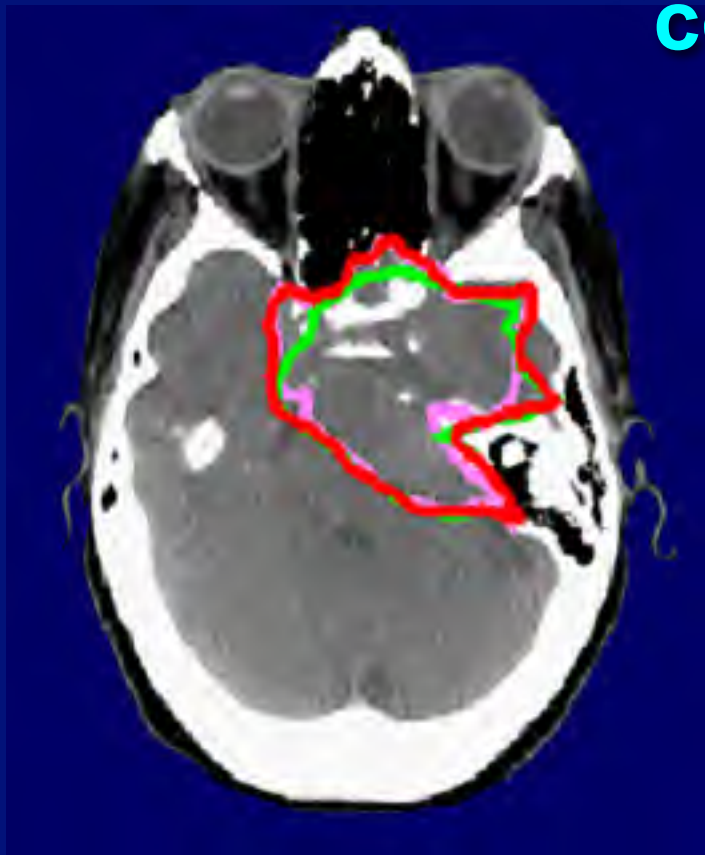
**Axial
"Target"**



**Coronal
"Target"
+
Optic
Structures**

Target Volume Definition

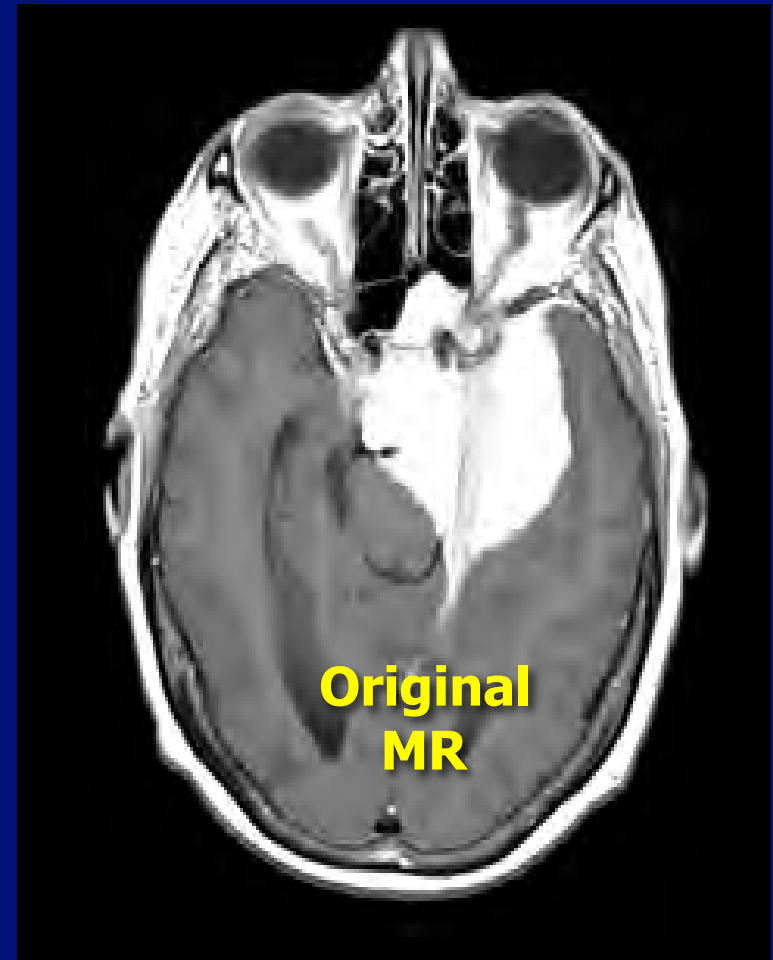
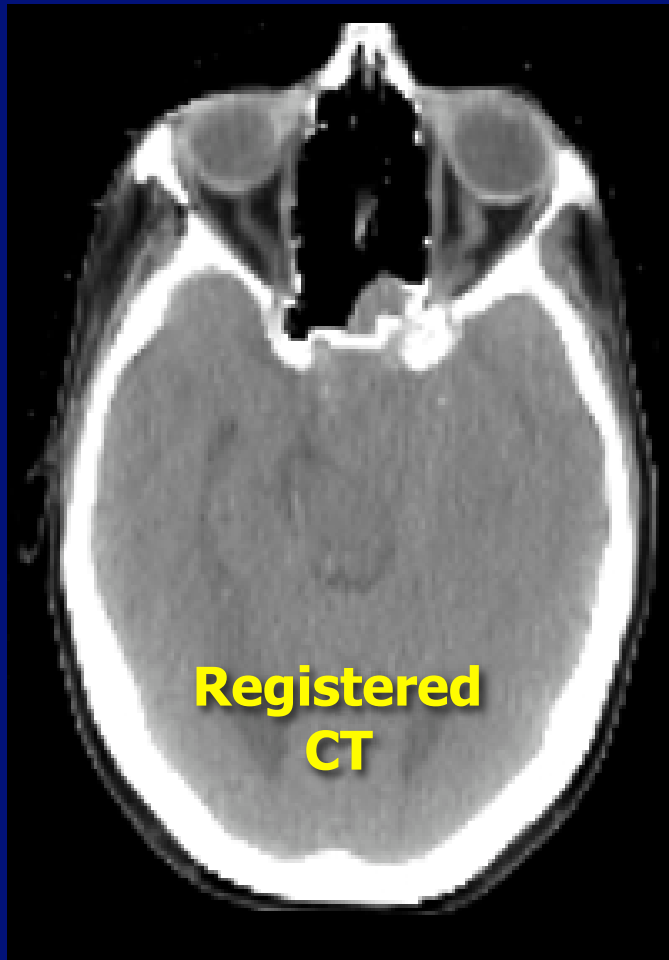
Map to CT data and
combine



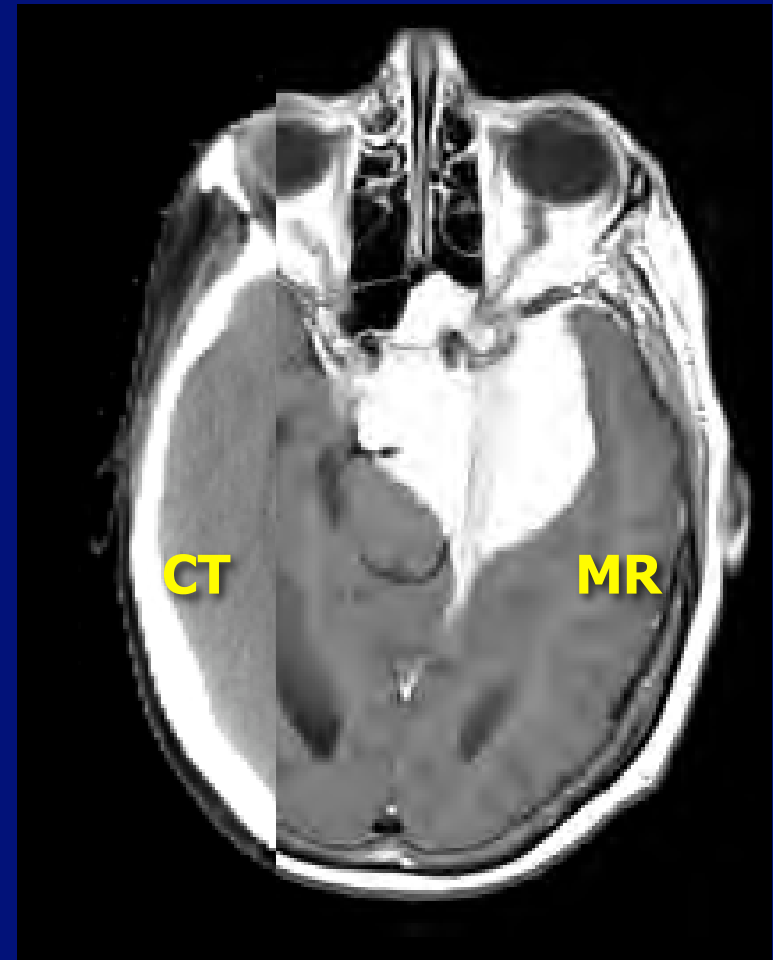
*MR-derived
CT target volume !*



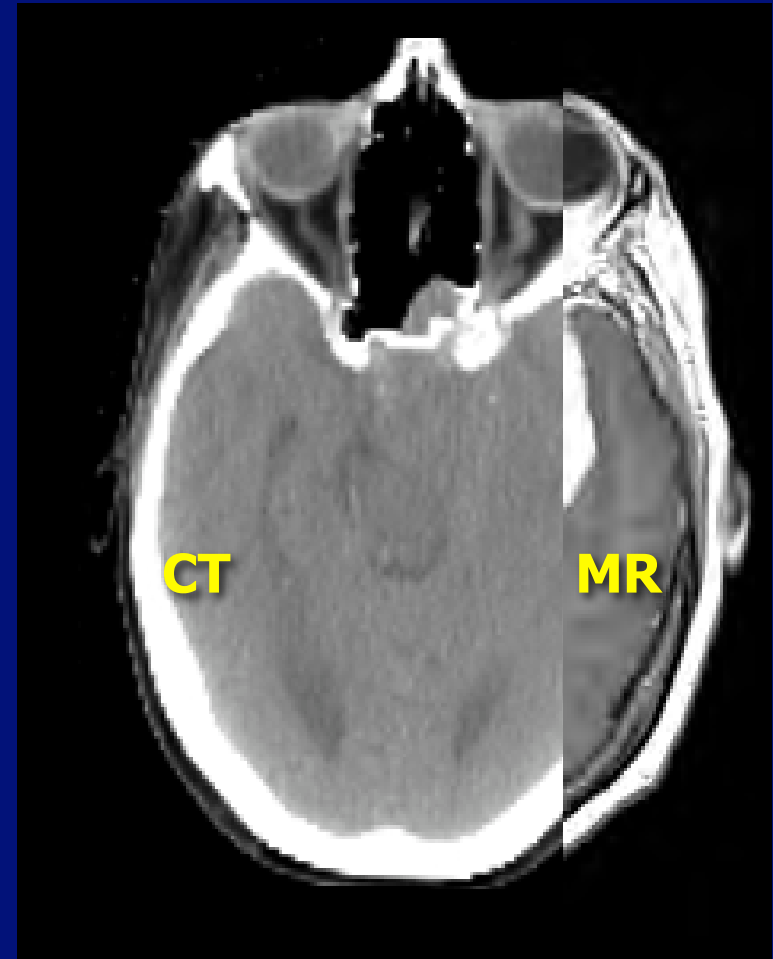
Brain Example



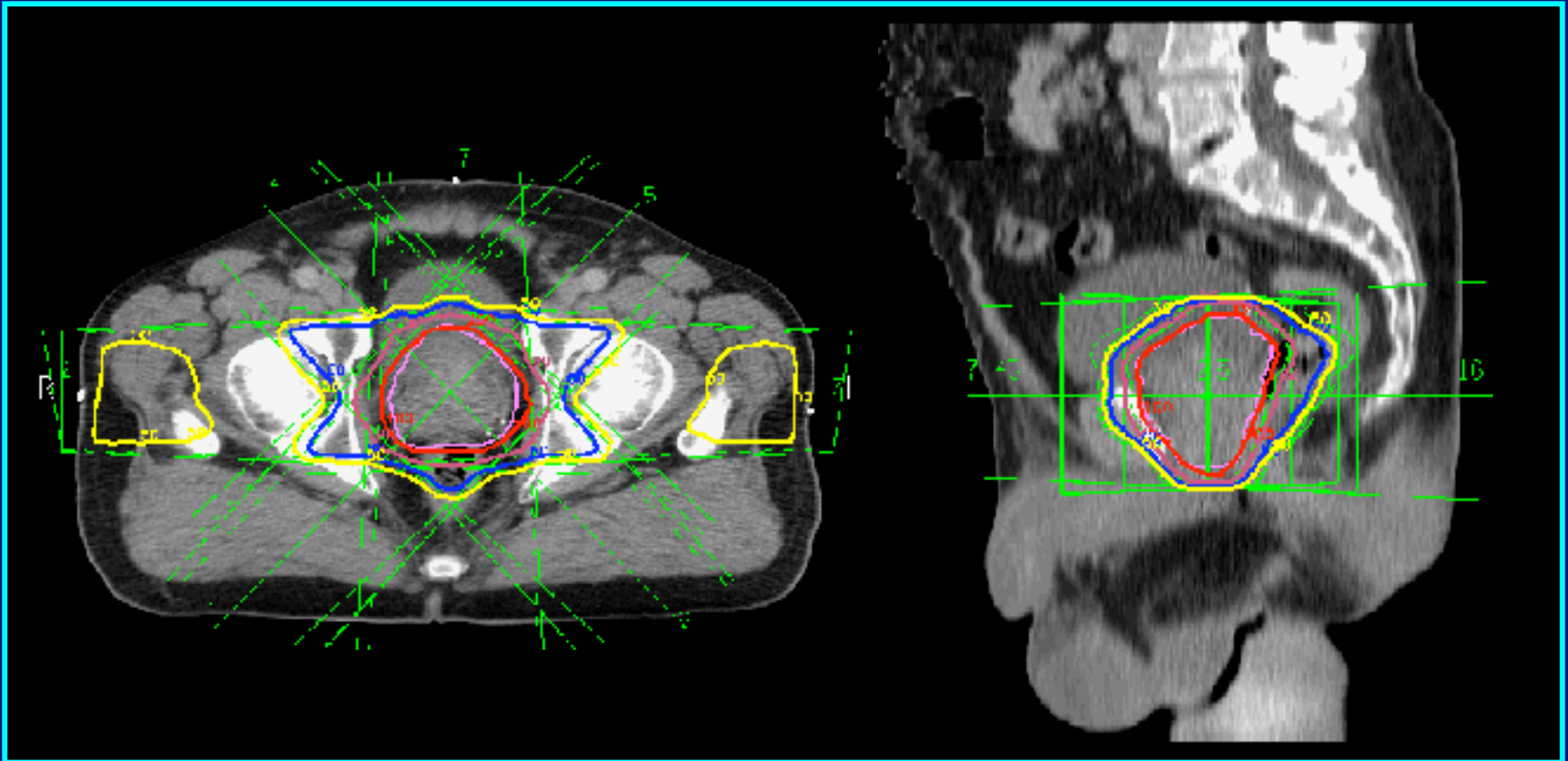
Brain Example



Brain Example

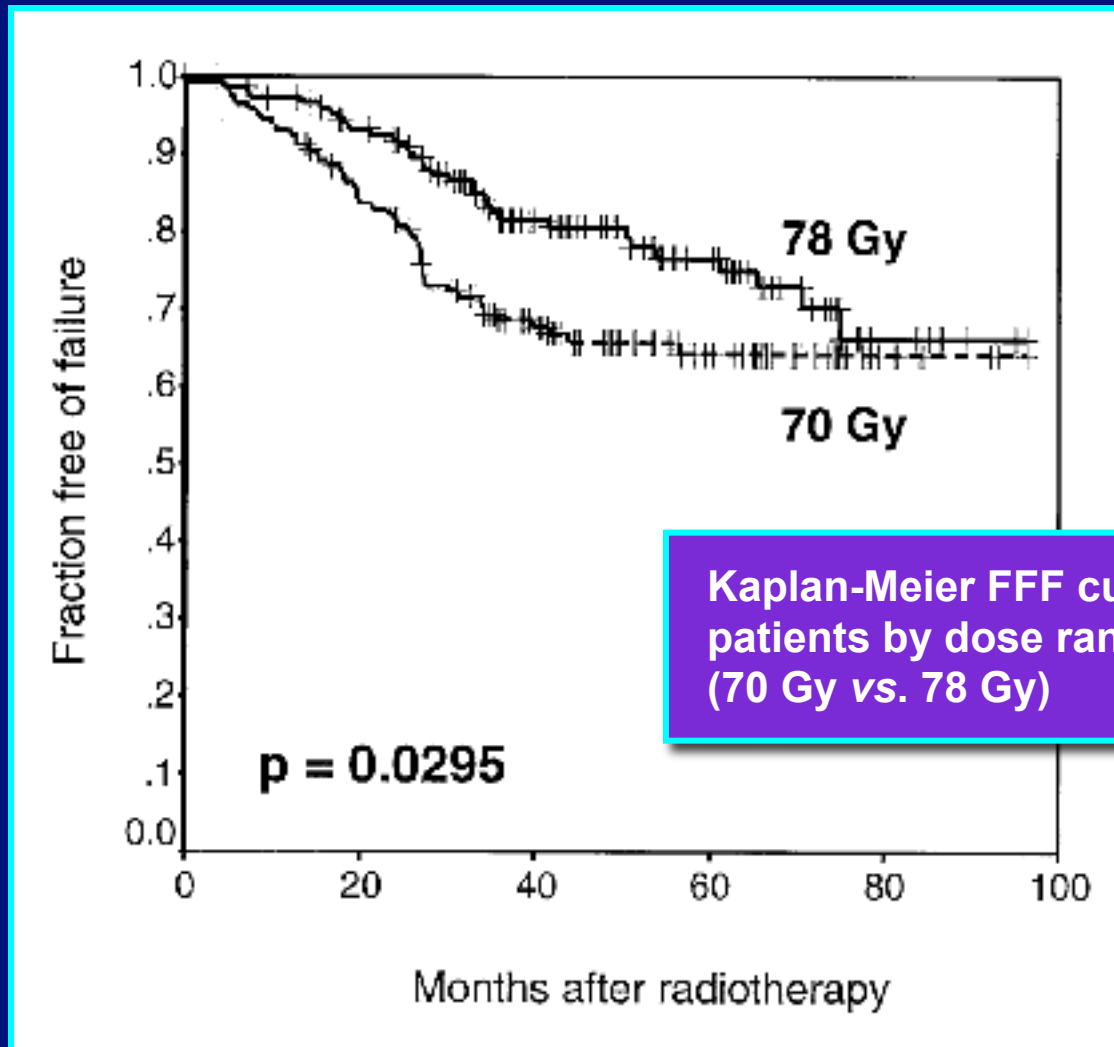


Six Field Prostate



© PD-INEL Ten Haken et al Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 16:193, 1989

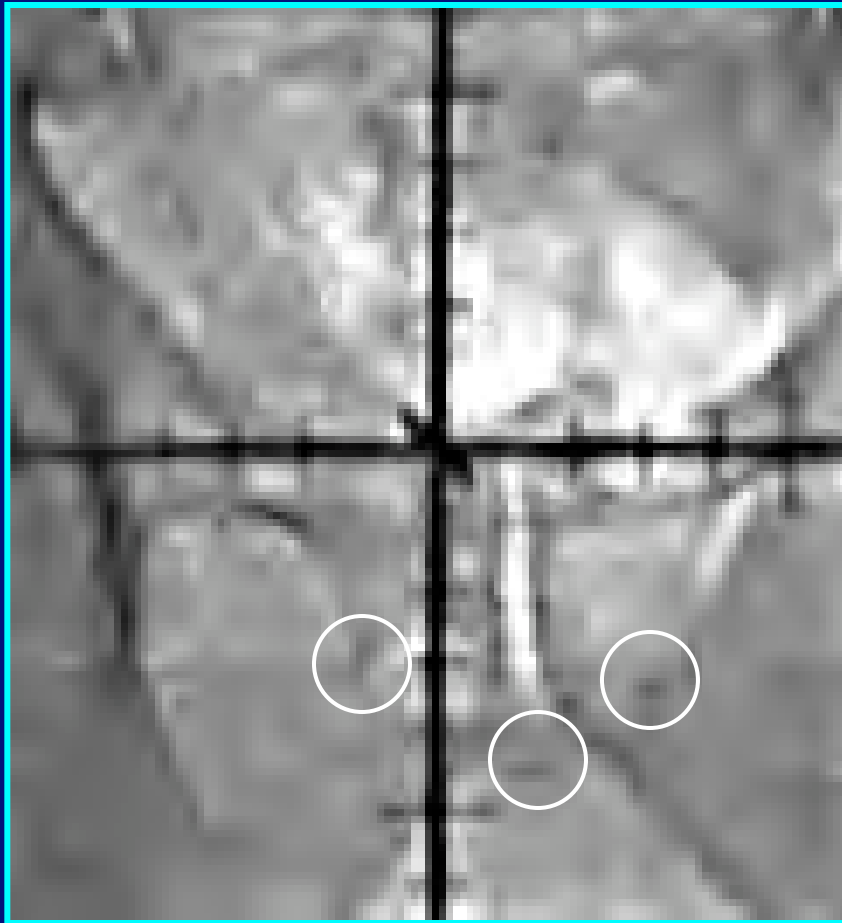
All Patients by Dose Randomization



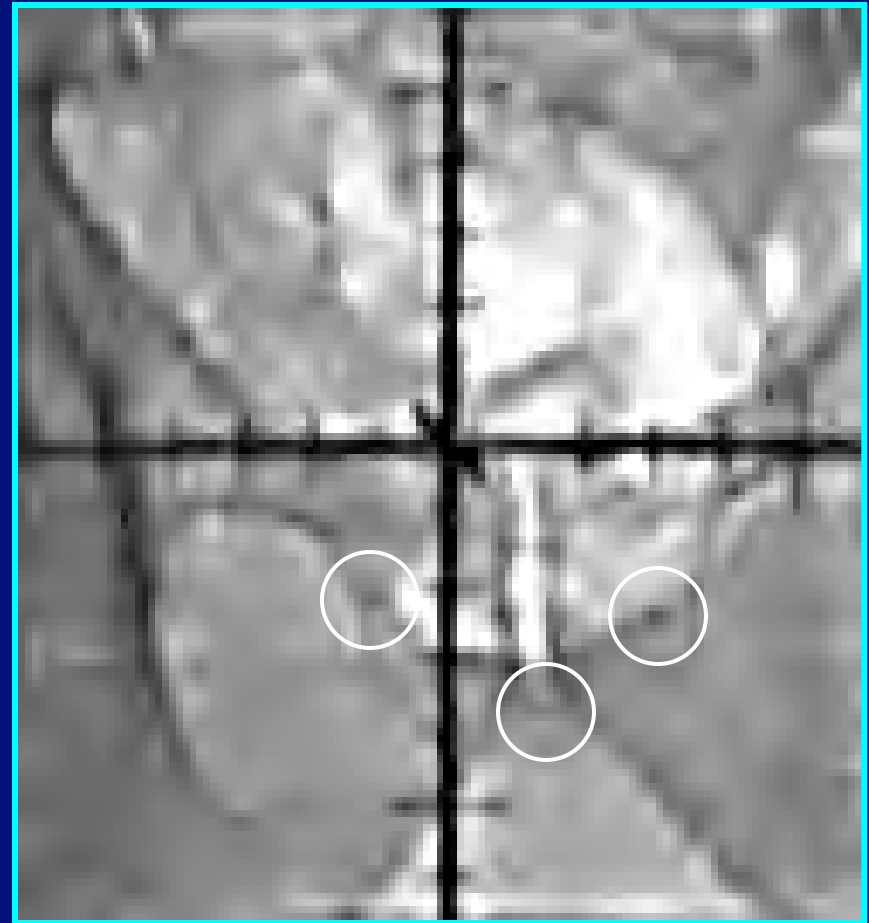
Prostate Motion

Inhale

Exhale

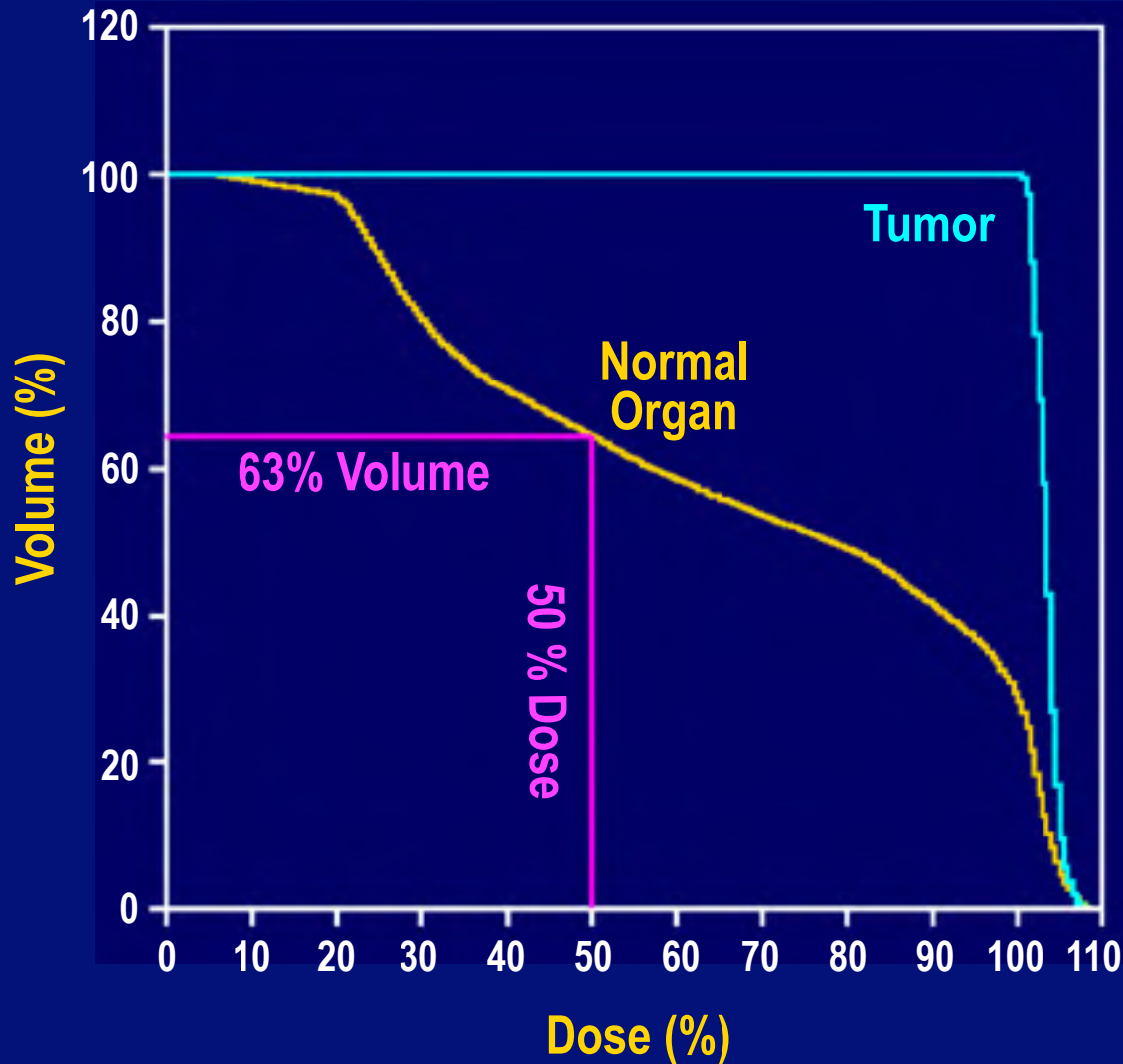


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Dose Volume Histogram (DVH)



Two hypotheses

- **Unresectable intrahepatic cancer could be cured by radiation (\pm chemotherapy) if a high dose could be given**
- **A high dose could be safely given if we**
 - **Limited the dose to the normal liver**
 - **Understood how much of the liver could be irradiated safely**
 - Requires knowing the relationship between the risk of complication and the DVH of the normal liver

Retrospective Analysis of RILD

- **Dose prescribed by volume of normal liver irradiated**
 - Of 9 of 79 patients developed radiation-induced liver disease (RILD)
- **Fit data to an NTCP model**
 - Clinical guesses greatly overestimated the risk of partial liver radiation
 - Recalculated the parameters and fit the data to the model

Lawrence TS, et al, Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys, 23:781, 1992

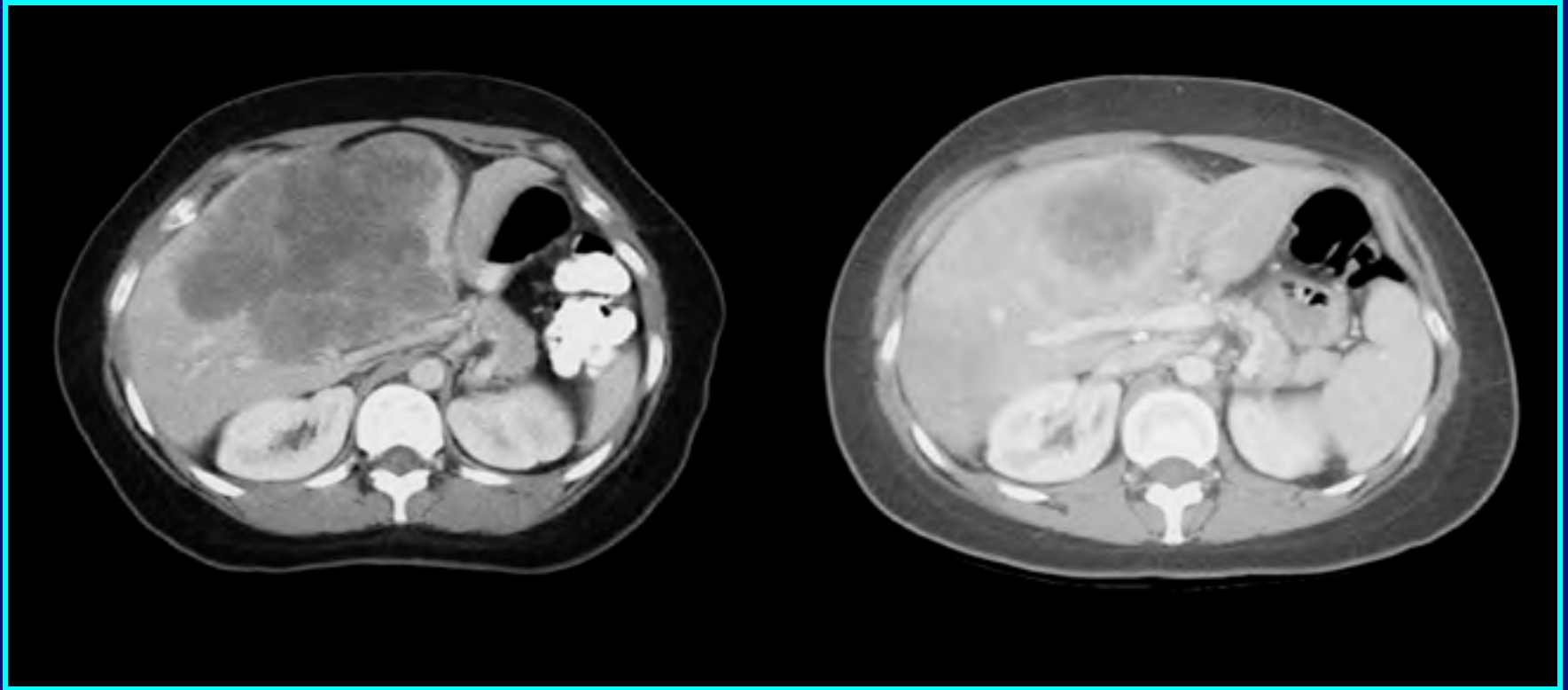


New Dose Escalation Trial

- **Designed a prospective trial to test the model parameters**
- **We were able to deliver a median dose of 57 Gy**
- **The actual rate of complications (1/21 patients or 4.8%) was close to the calculated rate (9%)**

McGinn CJ, et al, J Clin Oncol, 16:2246, 1998

Radiographic Response

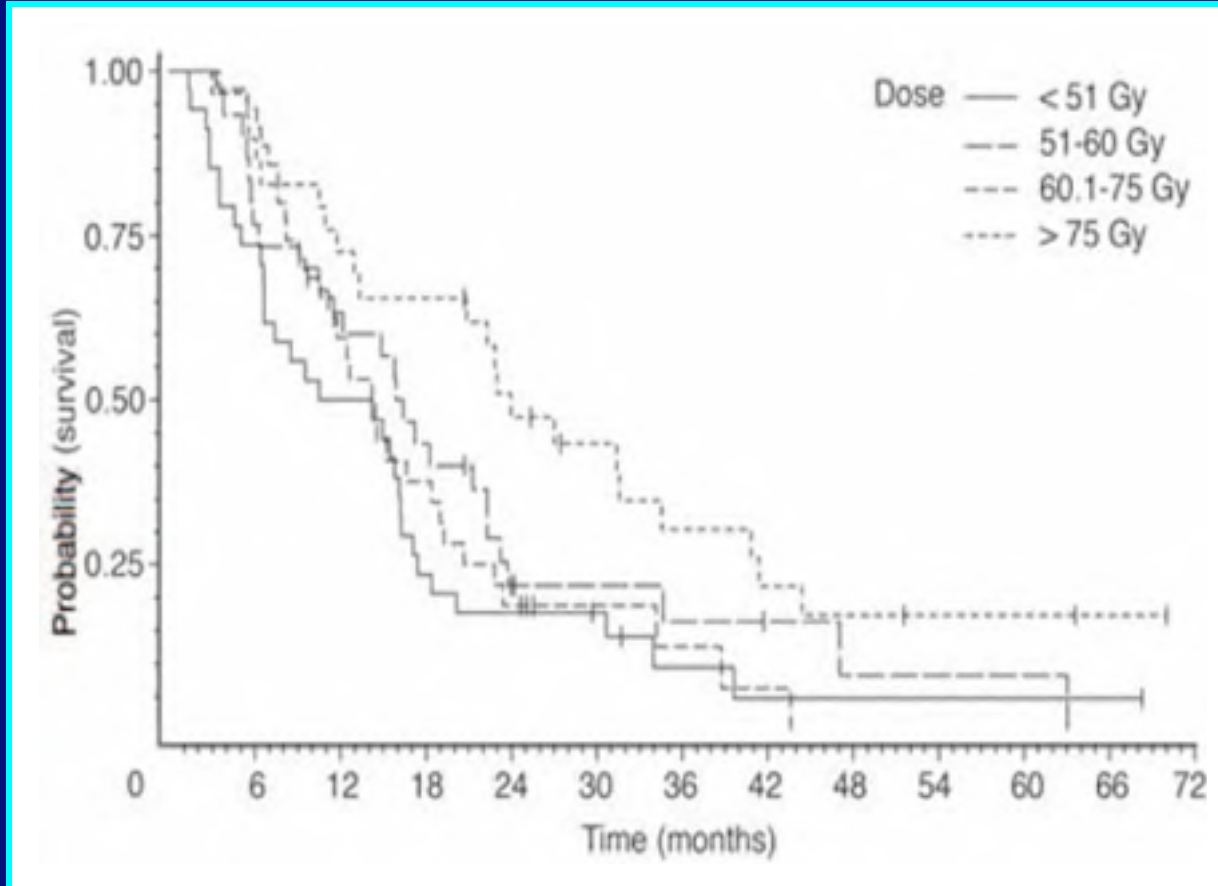


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Pre-radiation

**6 months
post-radiation**

Overall Survival of Patients by Dose Quartile



© PD-INEL Ben-Josef E., et.al, J Clin Oncol 23:8747, 2005



Improvements Over 2D Produced by Highly Conformal Therapy: 2007

Organ	2D Max dose (Gy)	3D Max dose (Gy)	Benefit
Lung	60-70	102	1%/Gy 2 yr PFS
Prostate	68-70	78-86.4	1-2%/Gy increase in 5 year PFS
Liver	30	90	24 vs 6-10 mos OS for ≥ 70 Gy vs less
Head & Neck	70-76	70-76	↓ Xerostomia

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Improving outcome: Individualizing Therapy

- By improving our ability to hit the tumor and miss the normal tissue
- **By customizing combinations of radiation with chemotherapy or molecularly targeted therapy**
- By assessing tumor and normal tissue response during treatment and tailoring therapy to these responses



Chemotherapy with Radiation is Superior to Radiation Alone

- **High grade glioma**
- **Locally advanced head and neck cancer**
- **Stage III non-small cell lung cancer**
- **Esophageal cancer**
- **Pancreas cancer**
- **Cervix cancer**
- **Adjuvant therapy**
 - **Rectal cancer**
 - **Stomach cancer**



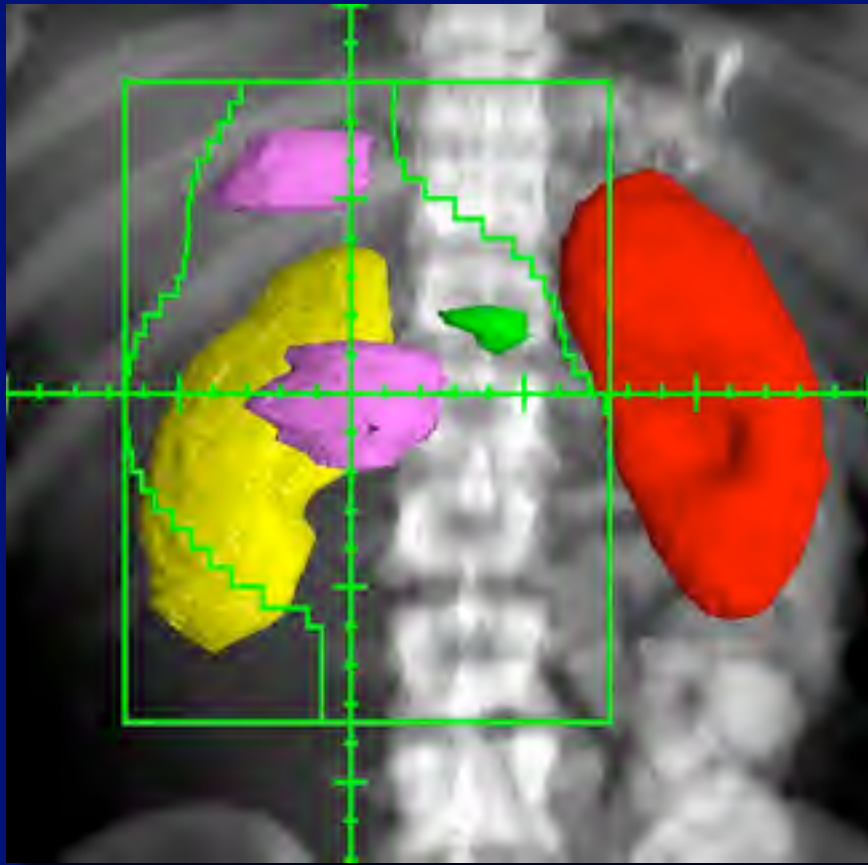
Chemotherapy with Radiation Permits Organ Conservation

- **Concurrent**
 - **Locally advanced laryngeal cancer**
 - Avoids laryngectomy
 - **Anal cancer**
 - Avoids colostomy
- **Sequential**
 - **Breast cancer**
 - **Extremity sarcoma (\pm chemotherapy)**

Unresectable Pancreas Cancer

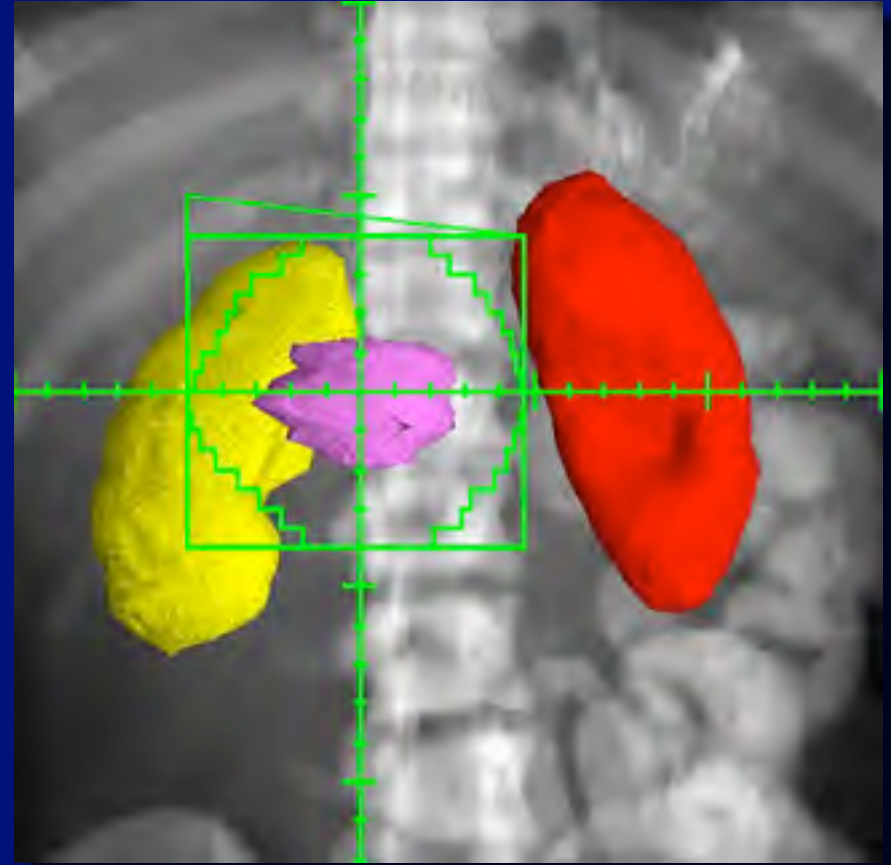
- **Address both local and distant disease**
- **Full dose gemcitabine with concurrent dose escalating radiation**
 - **To do this safely, needed to decrease the irradiated volume**
 - **Radiation dose escalation trial**

Treatment Volumes with Concurrent Full Dose Gemcitabine



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Prophylactic irradiation



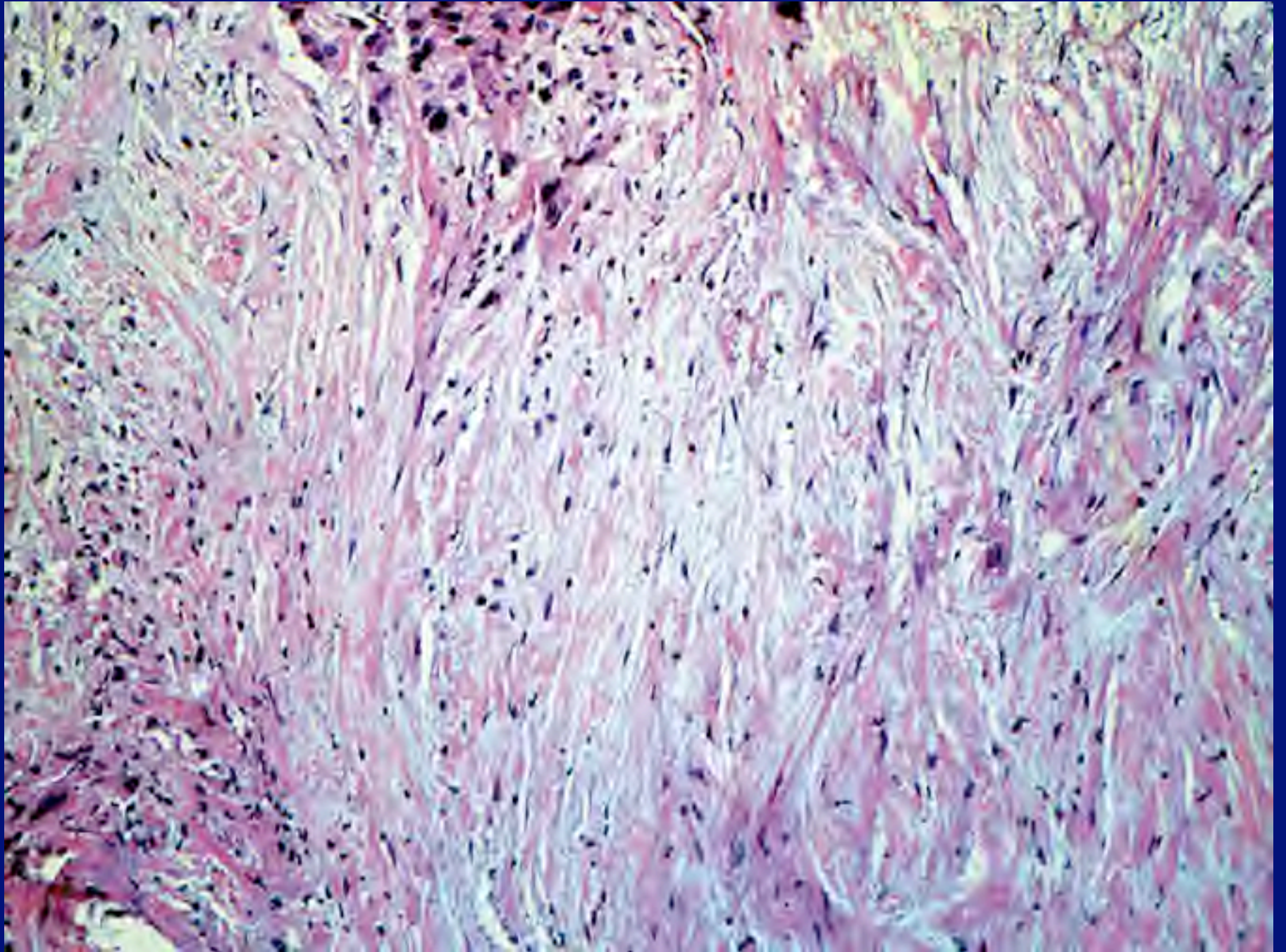
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No prophylactic irradiation

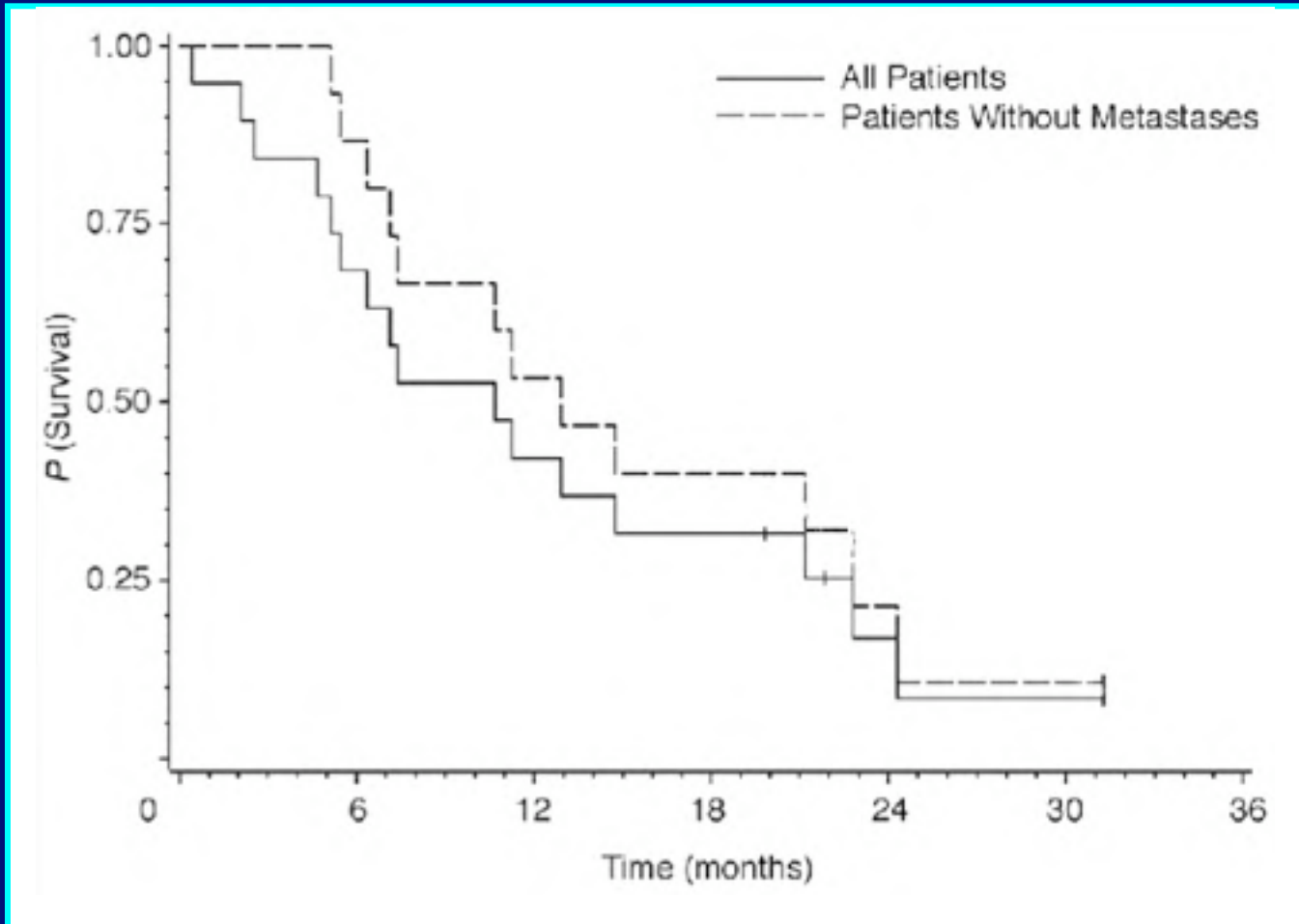
Response to Gem-RT



© PD-INEL McGinn et al. J Clin. Oncol. 19: 4202, 2001

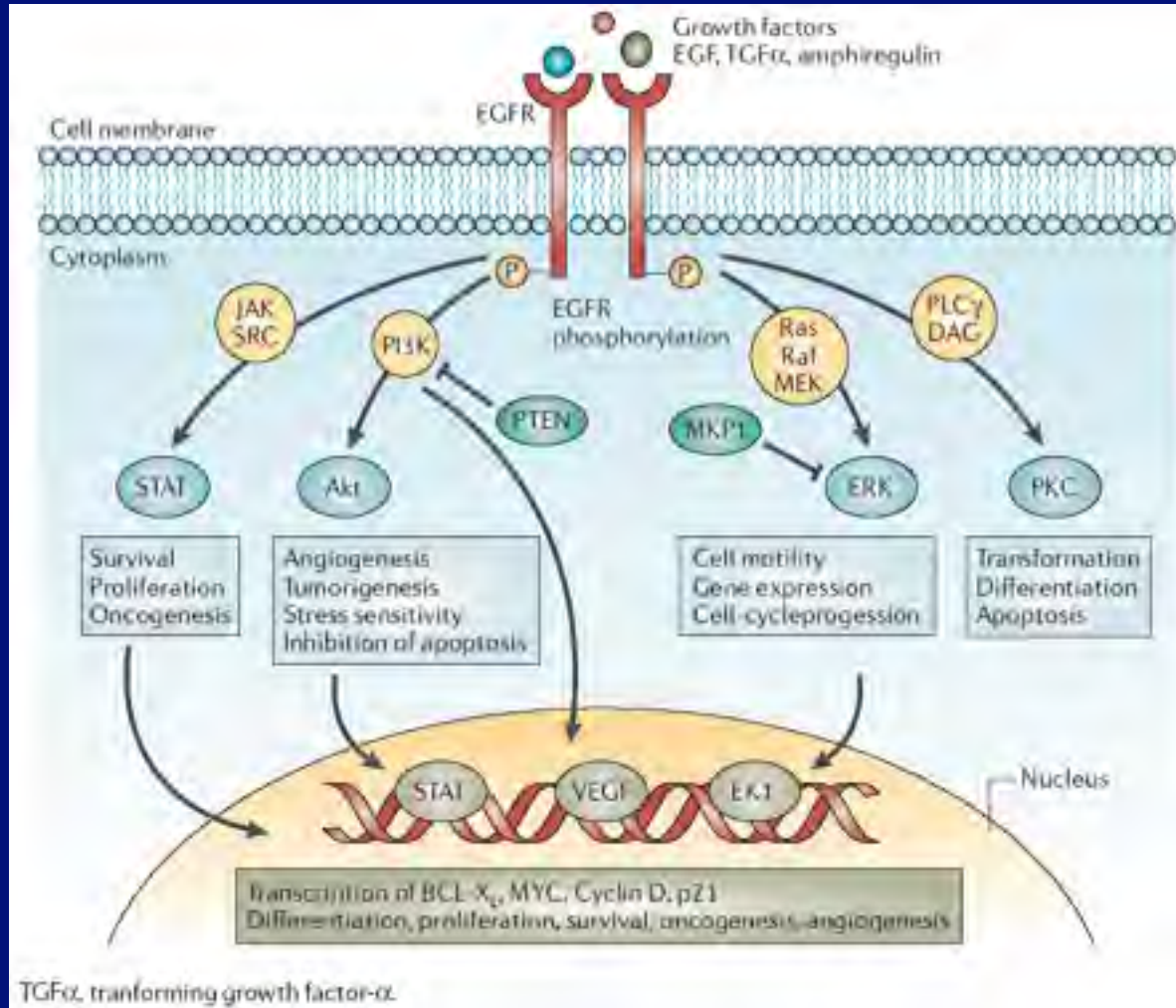


Gemcitabine + Cisplatin + Radiation



© PD-INEL Muler et al J. Clin. Oncol 22:238, 2004

Growth Factor Receptors



© PD-INEL Nyati MK et al Nature Reviews Cancer Nov 2006

Phase III Study Design

Stratify by

- Karnofsky score:
90-100 vs. 60-80
- Regional Nodes:
Negative vs. Positive
- Tumor stage:
AJCC T1-3 vs. T4
- RT fractionation*:
Concomitant boost
vs. Once daily
vs. Twice daily

R
A
N
D
O
M
I
Z
E

Arm 1

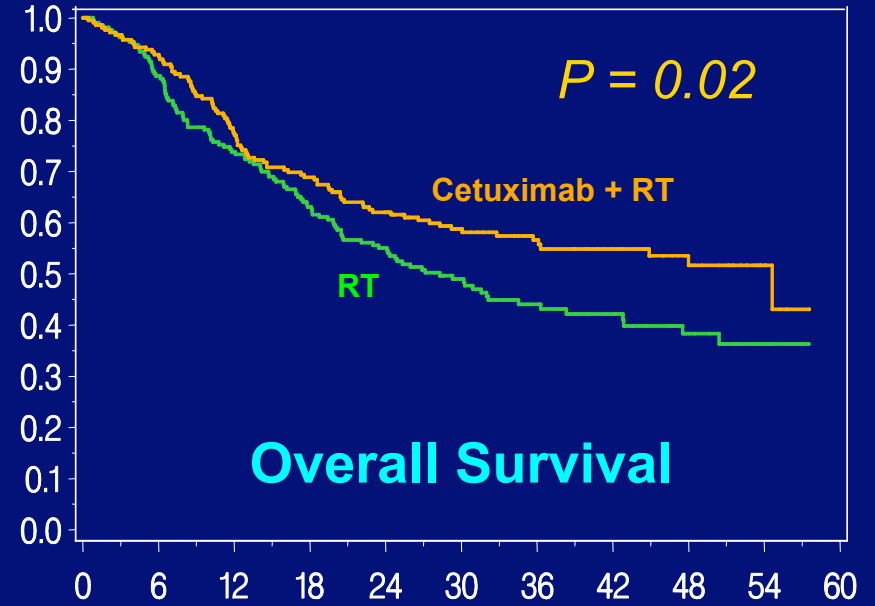
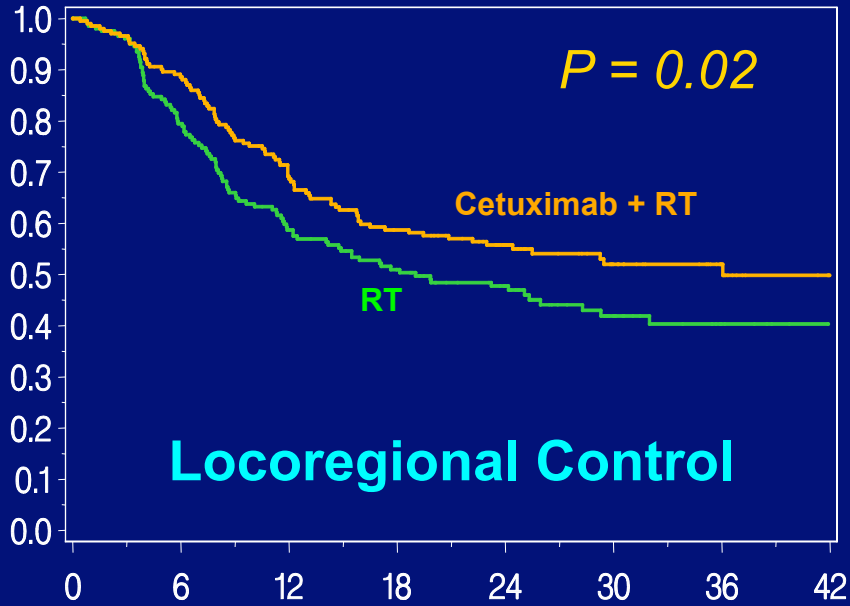
Radiation therapy

Arm 2

Radiation therapy +
Cetuximab, weekly**

* Investigators' choice

Cetuximab + RT vs RT Alone



Time (months)

Improving outcome: Individualizing Therapy

- **By improving our ability to hit the tumor and miss the normal tissue**
- **By customizing combinations of radiation with chemotherapy or molecularly targeted therapy**
- **By assessing tumor and normal tissue response during treatment and tailoring therapy to these responses**

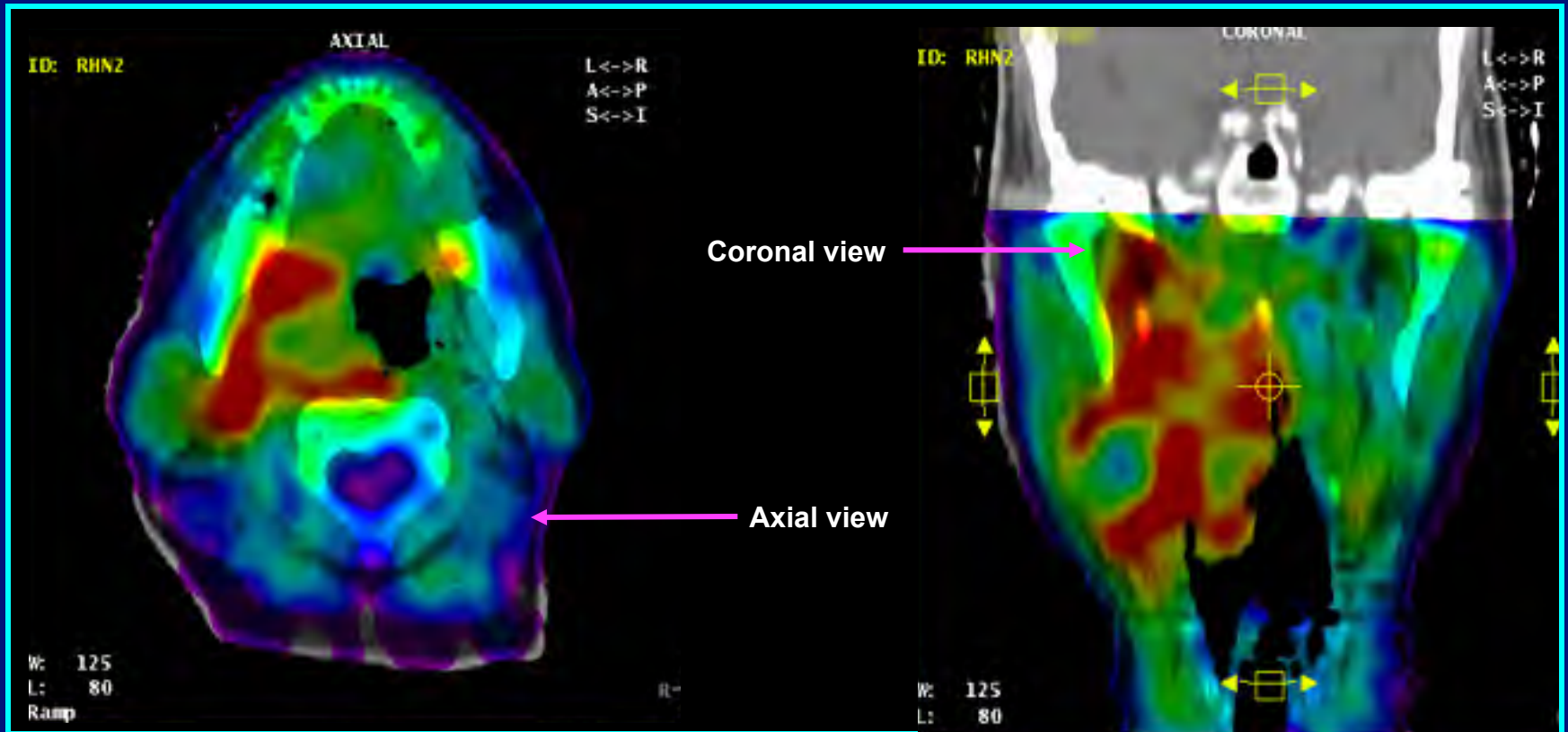
Normal Tissues

- **TGF β 1 is a marker for lung damage**
- **Prospective trial to select patients for dose escalation**
 - Eligibility escalate dose above 73.6 Gy only if TGF β 1 level suggested they were not experiencing lung damage
- **Only 2/14 patients treated at 80 Gy or above developed dose limiting toxicity (at 86.4 Gy)**
- **Further follow-up, grade 4 and 5 complications occurred, but only in patients who were NOT dose escalated (because of high TGF β 1)**

Anscher et al J. Clin Oncol 19:3758, 2001

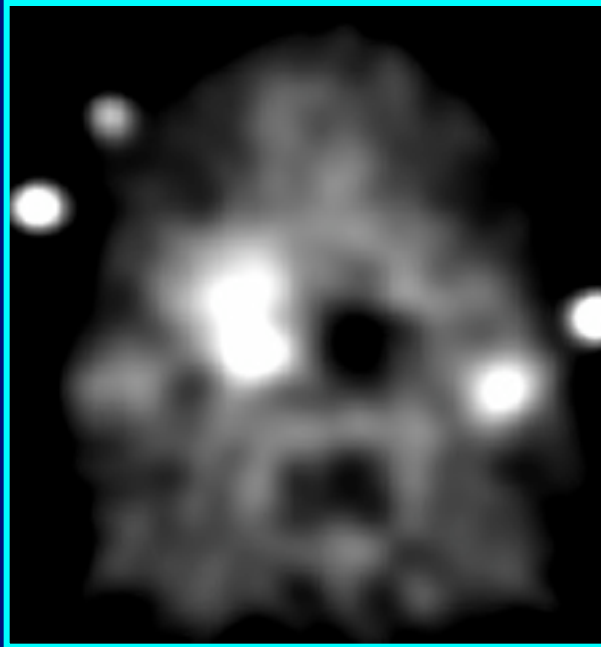
Anscher et al Int. J. Radiat. Oncol. Biol. Phys. 56:988,2003

Cu-ATSM PET to Image Hypoxia

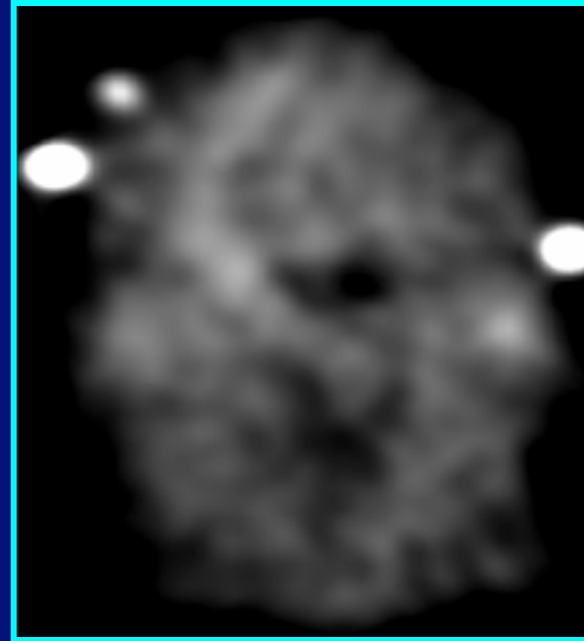


© PD-INEL Chao, IJROBP 2001; 49(4): 1171-1182

Change in Hypoxic GTV During RT



Before Radiation

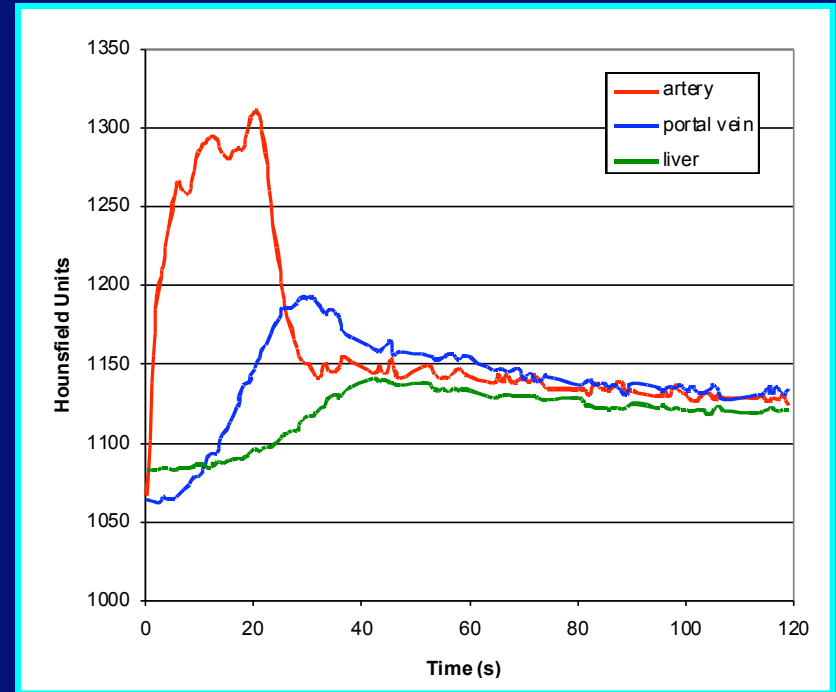
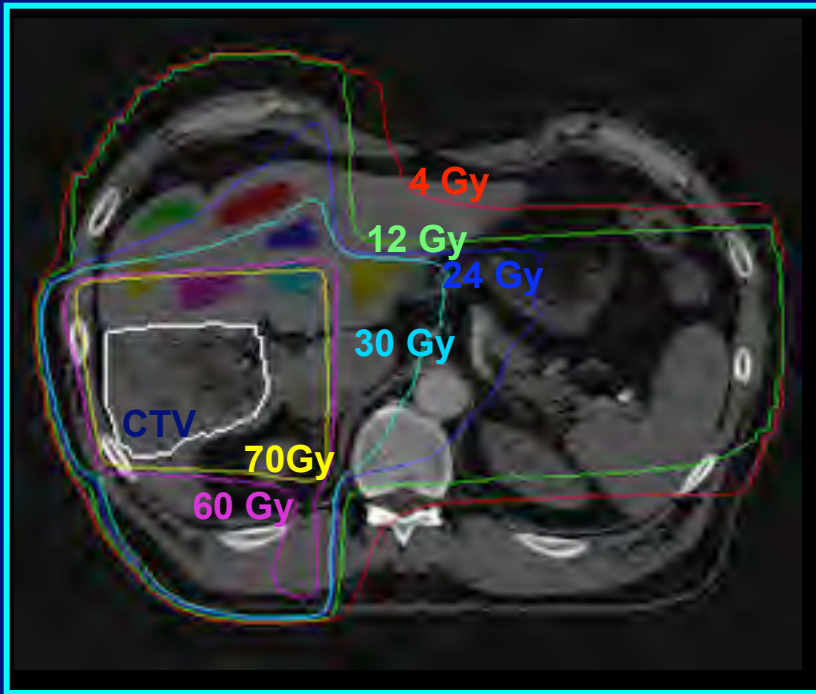


After 20 Gy

DCE-CT to predict liver injury

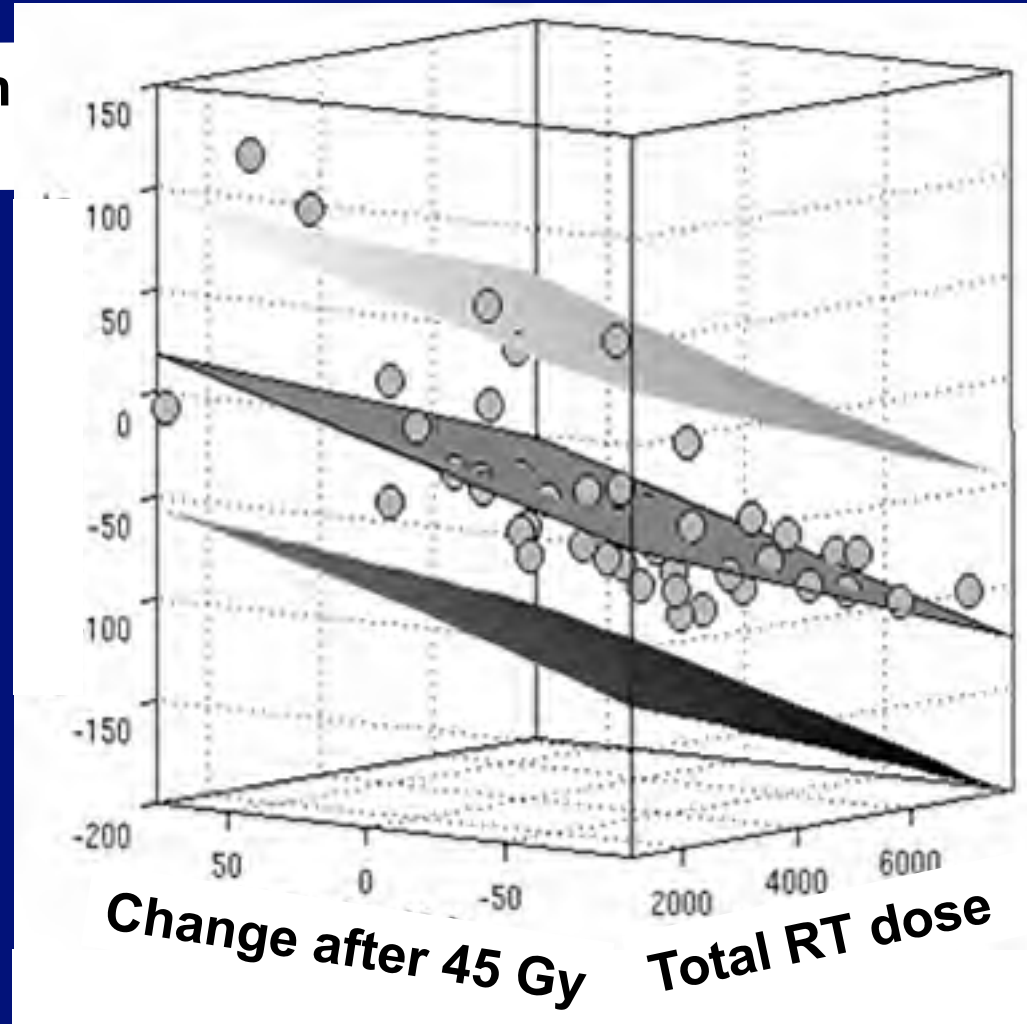
- **Radiation-induced liver disease (RILD) occurs 2 weeks to 3 months after treatment**
 - Too late to adjust radiation dose
- **RILD is caused by veno-occlusive disease**
- **Hypothesis: can decreased blood flow during a course of radiation be detected?**
 - Dynamic contrast-enhanced CT

Time Courses of Contrast Uptake



Predicting Changes in Portal Venous Perfusion

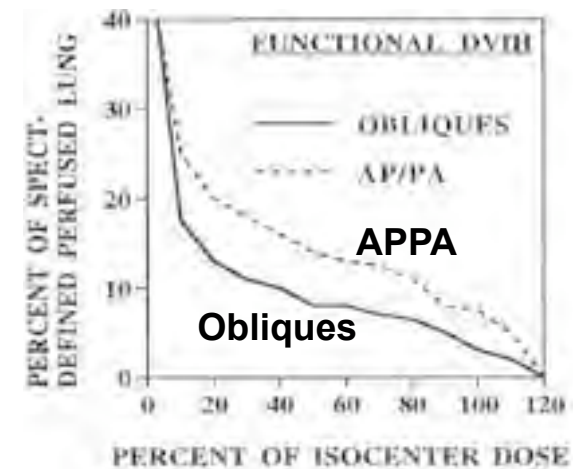
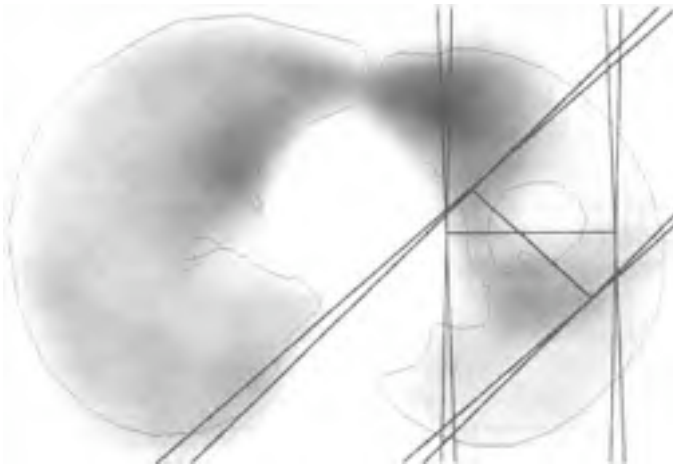
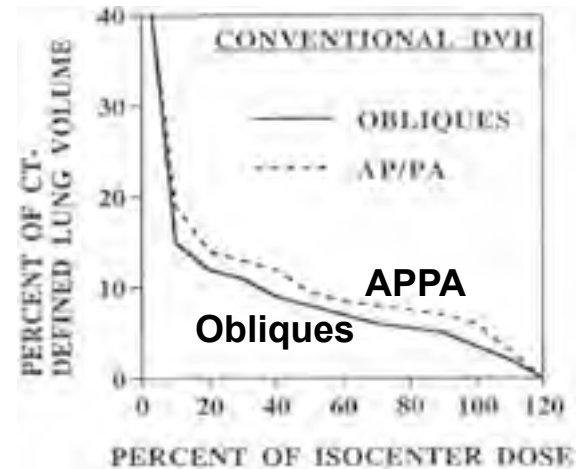
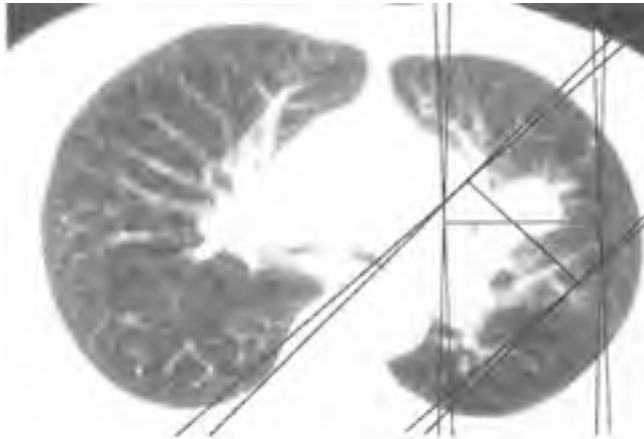
**Change 1 month
after treatment**



Functional lung DVH

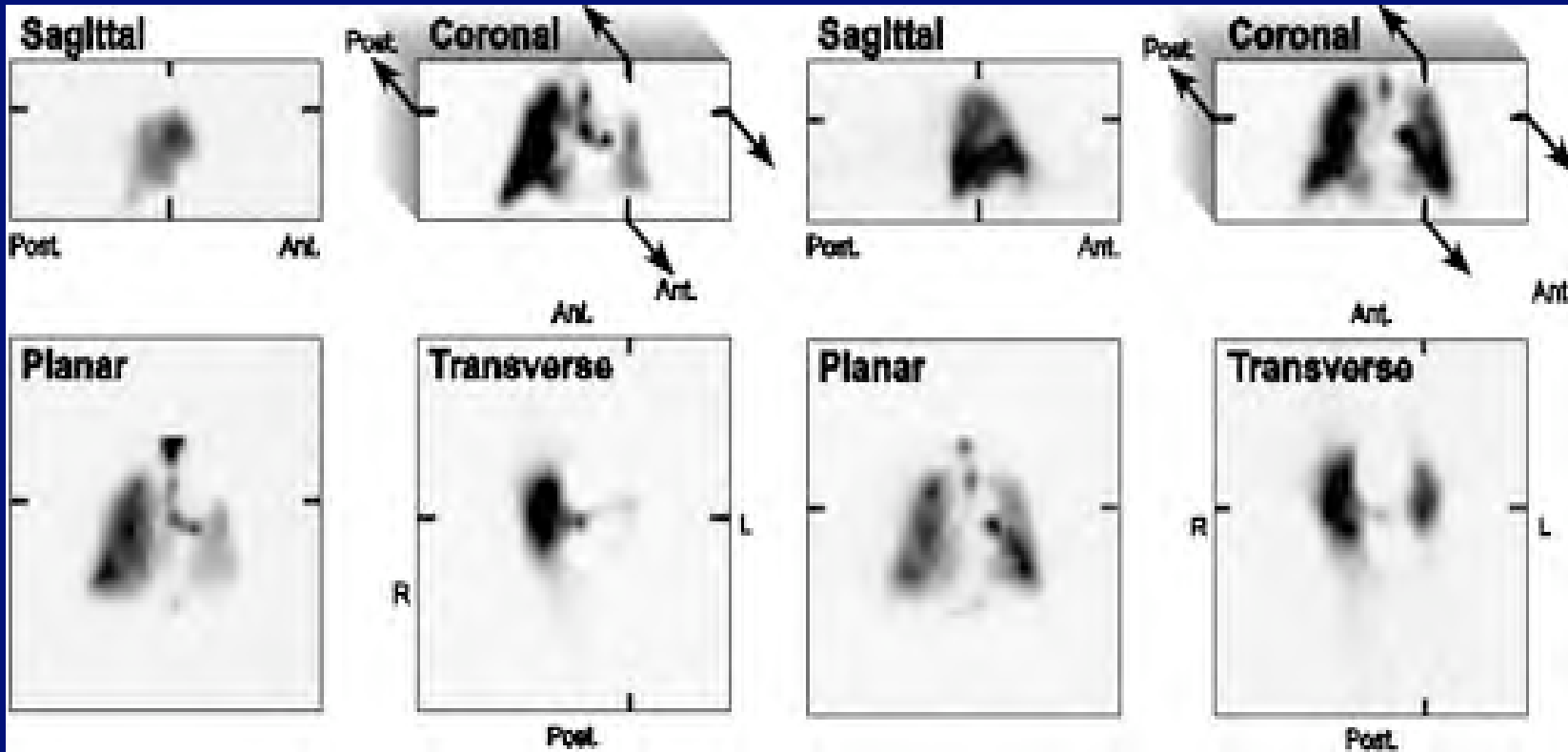
- Lung cancer typically occurs in patients with damaged lungs due to smoking
- In contrast to liver, in which volume can act as a surrogate for function, not all parts of the lung may be equal
- “Functional lung DVH” - take into account which parts of the lung work

Functional normal lung DVH



© PD-INEL Marks LB et al Sem Oncol 13:333, 2003

Ventilation changes after 50 Gy

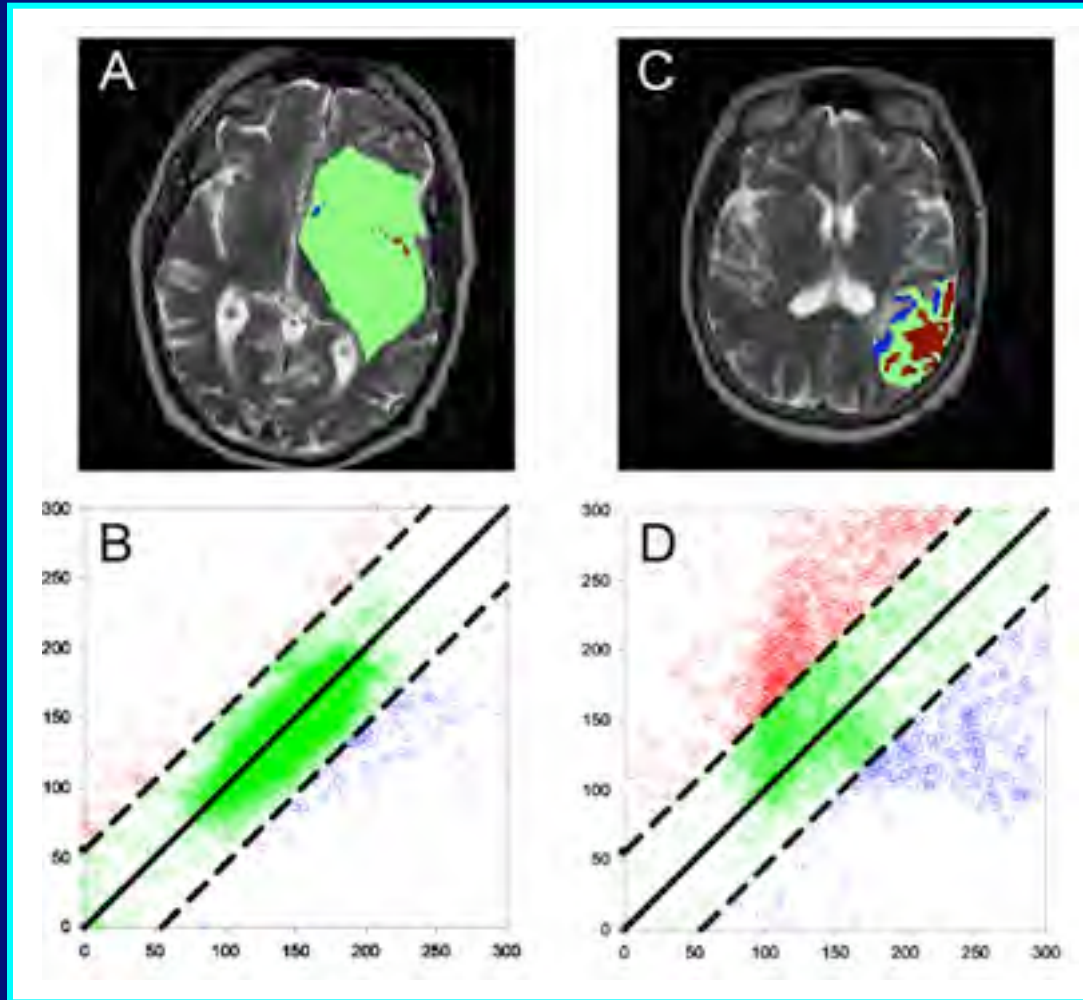


© PD-INEL Kong F, unpublished, 2005

Diffusion MRI predicts brain tumor response

- **Diffusion MRI measures water mobility**
- **Hypothesis**
 - **In a responding tumor**
 - Mobility could increase when cells die
 - Mobility could decrease if cells shrink before dying
 - **In a non-responding tumor**
 - No change in mobility
- **Tumors were imaged pretreatment and again 3 weeks into treatment**
 - **How did the change in mobility correlate with response?**

Diffusion MRI predicts response

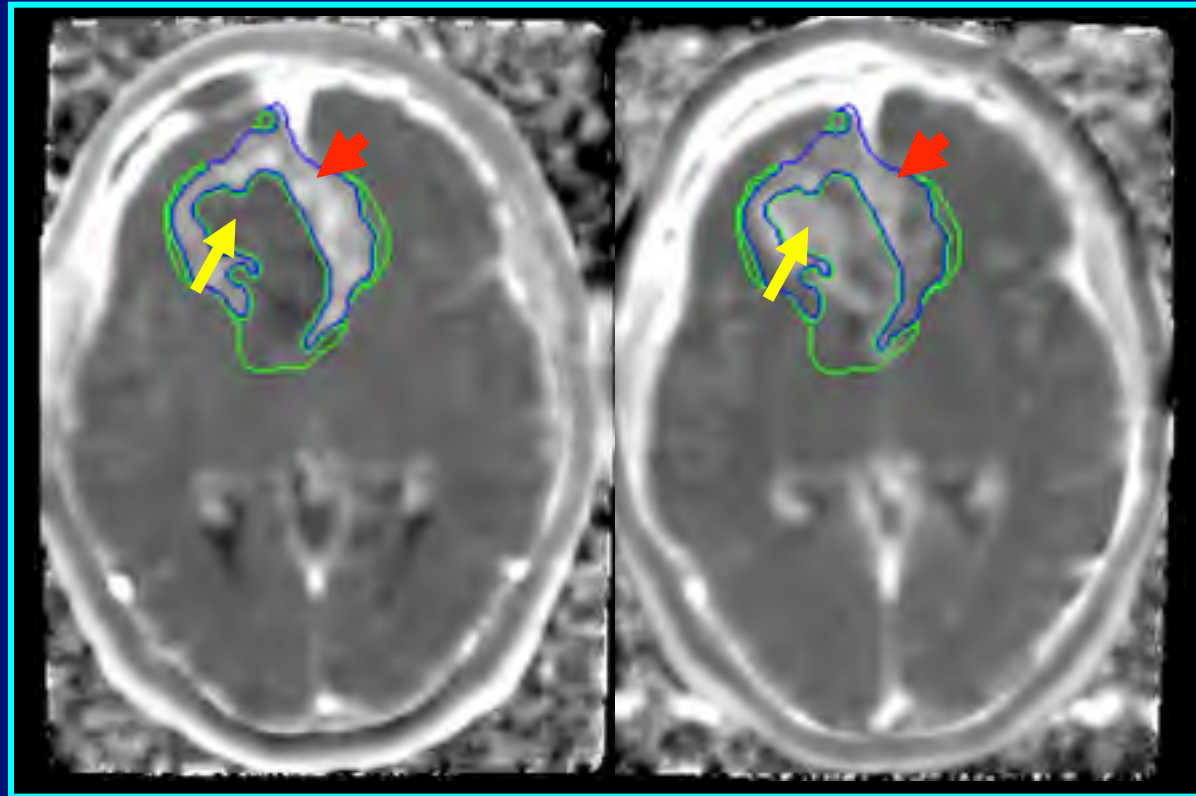


© PD-INEL Hamstra DA et al , Proc Nat Acad Sci USA 102: 16759, 2005

RT affects brain tumor blood flow

- **MRI can measure brain tumor blood flow**
- **Although high grade brain tumors show regions of increased blood flow, some parts have little flow**
- **Hypothesis**
 - **Radiation might increase blood flow to regions with poor initial flow**
 - **If this were true, radiation might increase delivery of systemic chemotherapy into a tumor**
 - Might partially explain why concurrent chemotherapy and radiation benefits patients with glioblastoma

Blood-Brain/Tumor Barrier Opening During RT



Pre RT

Week 3 during RT

Red: initially enhanced region; Yellow: initially non-enhanced tumor region

“Standard” Radiation Therapy

- Treatment based on population estimate of what might control a tumor
- Estimate the risk of normal tissue damage base on the most sensitive 5% of the population
- Treatment delivered to initially prescribed dose
 - Stop only for unacceptable acute toxicity
- Emphasis making isodose lines conform more tightly to the tumor

New Radiation Therapy

- Treatment based on **molecular targeting of aberrant growth pathways**
- Estimate the risk of normal tissue damage base on the **individual patient** using functional and metabolic imaging with **adjustments during treatment**
- Emphasis on
 - Multimodality research
 - Multimodality therapy
 - Continued technical advances, but in a broader context

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Slide 19: Kessler, University of Michigan
Slide 20: Ten Haken et al Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 16:193, 1989
Slide 21: Pollack, et. al., IJROBP, 53:5, 2002
Slide 22: Sources Undetermined
Slide 23: Theodore Lawrence
Slide 27: Source Undetermined
Slide 28: Ben-Josef E., et.al, J Clin Oncol 23:8747, 2005
Slide 29: Theodore Lawrence
Slide 34: Sources Undetermined
Slide 35: McGinn et al .J Clin. Oncol. 19: 4202, 2001
Slide 36: Source Undetermined
Slide 37: Muler et al J. Clin. Oncol 22:238, 2004
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