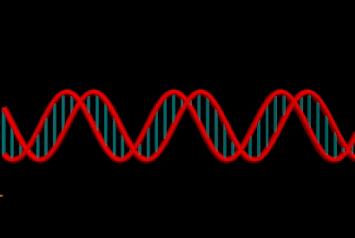




# Ion Beams for Cancer Therapy

Joao Seco PhD DABR  
Division of BioMedical Physics in Radiation Oncology, DKFZ



**dkfz.**

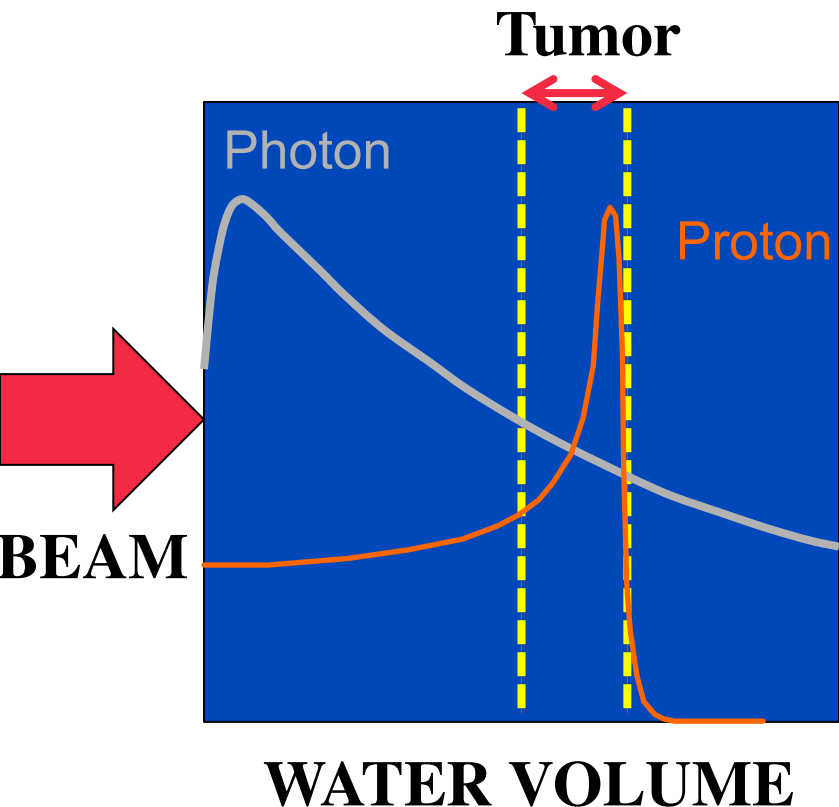
GERMAN  
CANCER RESEARCH CENTER  
IN THE HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION



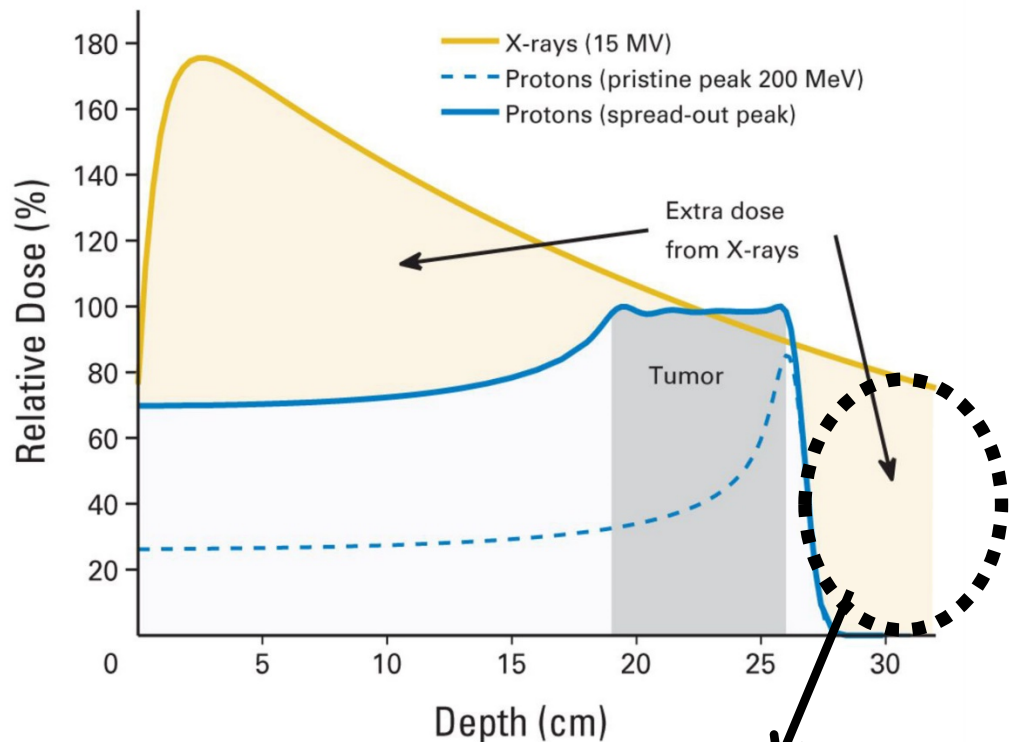
Research for a Life without Cancer

# Why Ion Beam Therapy (IBT)?

## “Bragg Peak”

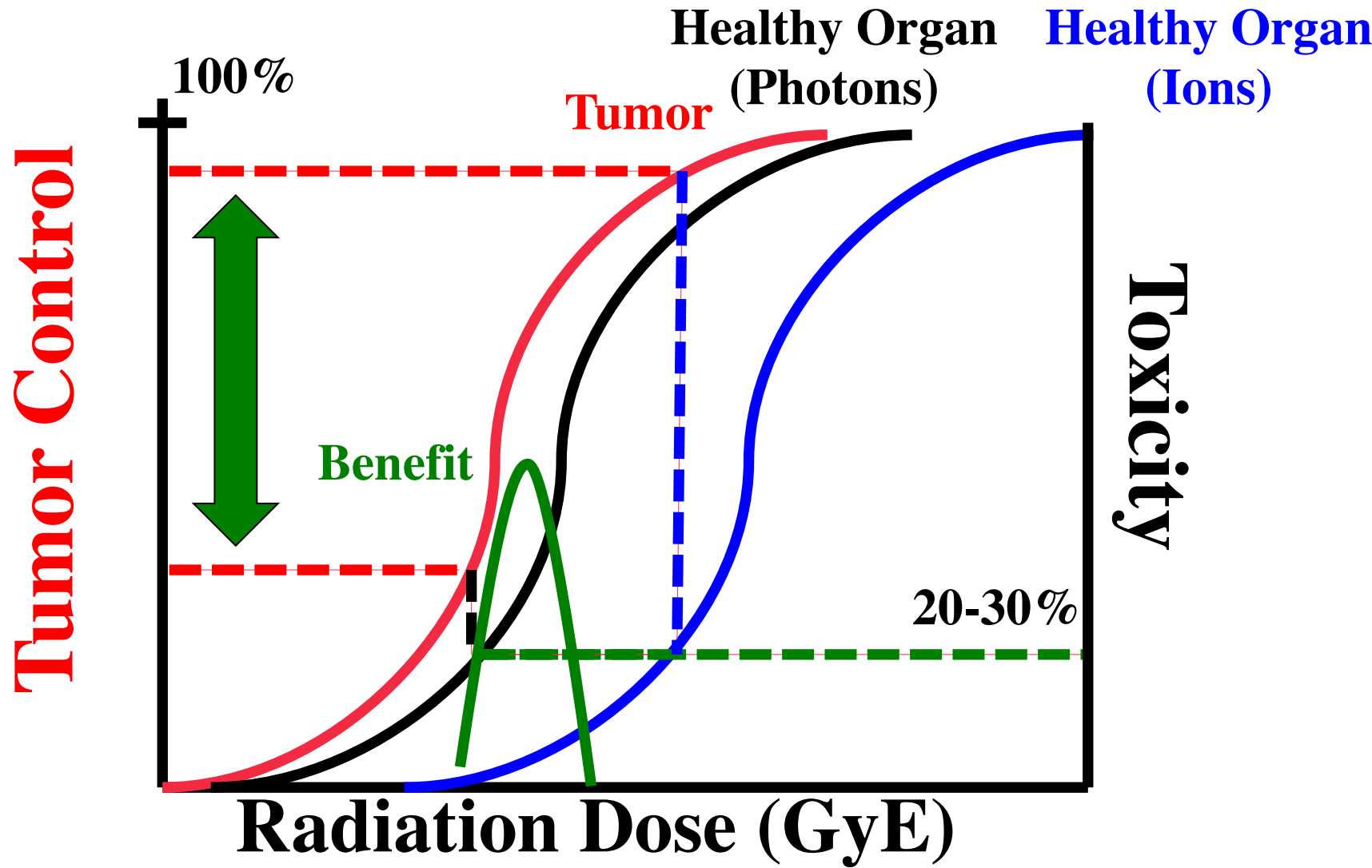


Particle vs photon beam dose penetration



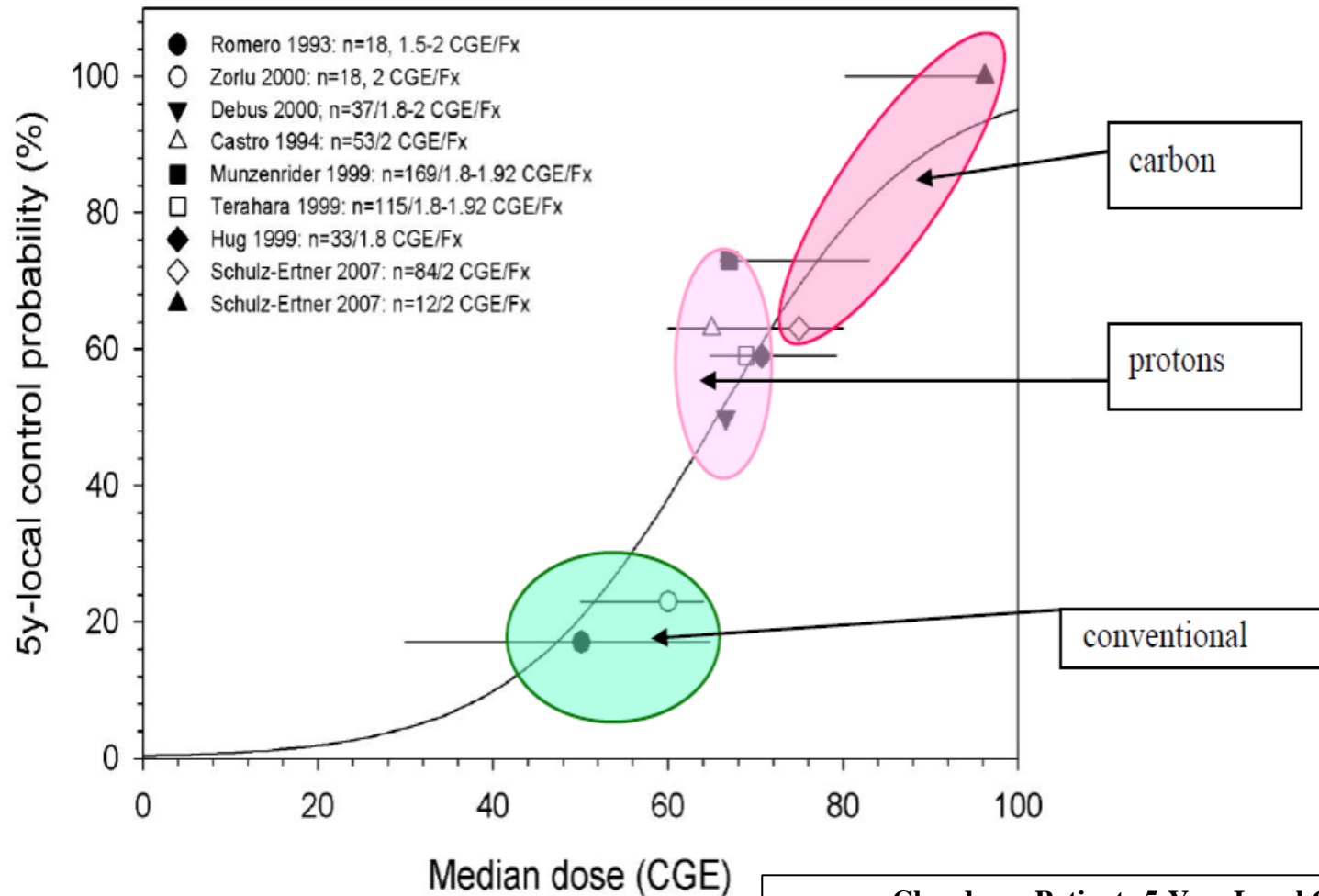
**Organ Sparing Region**

# Quantifying Advantage of IBT



# Advantage of Ion Beam Therapy

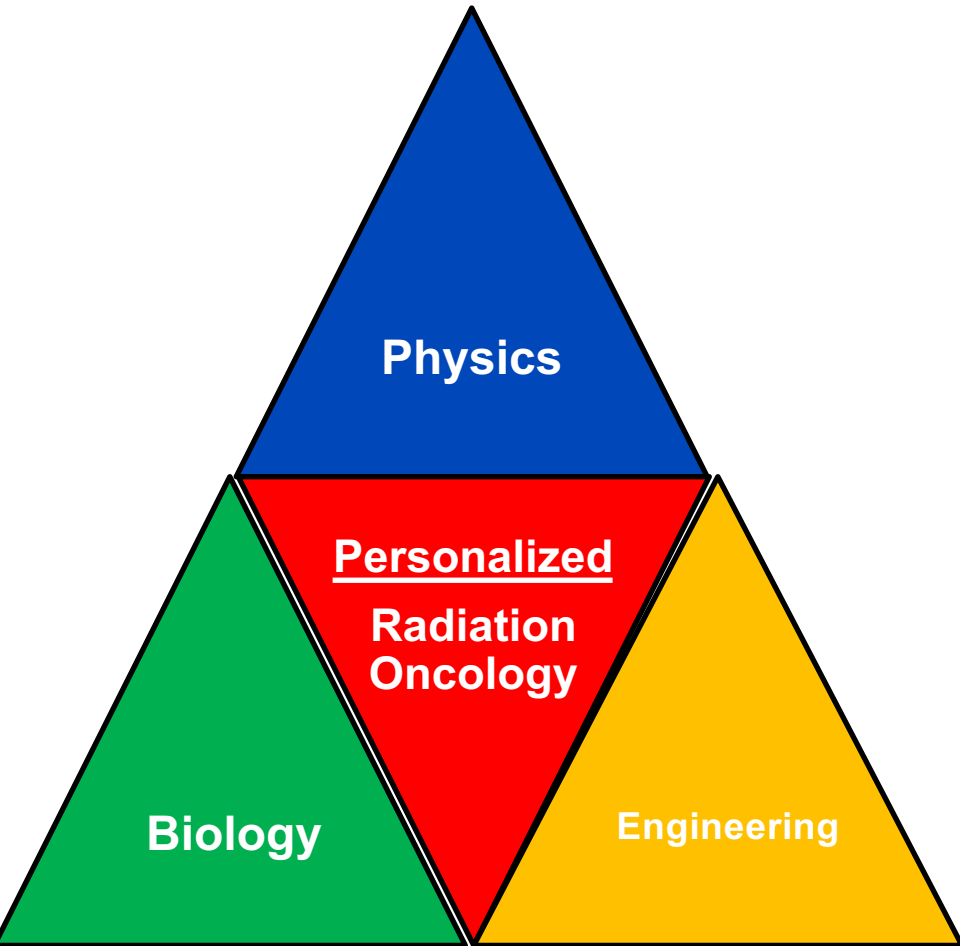
**GSI – Darmstadt/Heidelberg Hospital, Germany**



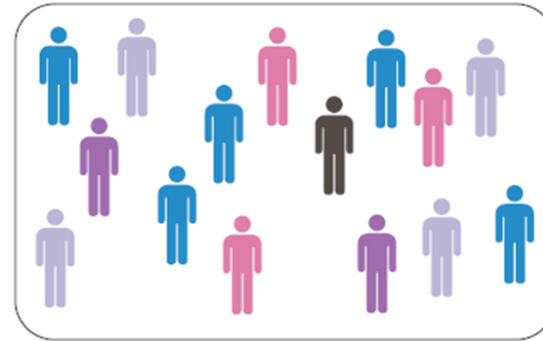
**Chordoma Patients 5-Year Local Control**  
(source: Schulz-Ertner, Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys. 2007)

# Research Directions in Ion Beam Therapy (IBT)

## FUTURE: “Personalized” Radiation Therapy and IBT



### “Non-Personalized”



- Patients with the same tumour disease and stage have typically received similar treatments
- Large clinical trials possible

### “Personalized”



# PHYSICS / ENGINEERING

- **PRE-Treatment**

- Dual Energy CT (DECT) for stopping power estimation and better estimation before treatment
- Functional Imaging with PET-MRI for better staging

- **DURING-Treatment**

- Prompt Gamma real-time Range Monitoring
- FLASH Radiation Therapy (also **BIO**)
- Mini-Beams Radiation Therapy (also **BIO**)
- Adaptive Radiation Therapy with in-room 4D MRI

- **POST-Treatment**

- Improved follow-up with PET-MRI or Whole Body PET to evaluate treatment response. (also **BIO**)

# BIOLOGY

- **PRE-Treatment**

- Genetic/Epi-Genetic Characterization and stratification of Tumor using biopsies or liquid-biopsies;
- Whole-Body PET for improve tumor staging for Hypoxia and radio-resistant regions within tumor. “Novel Tracers”

- **DURING-Treatment**

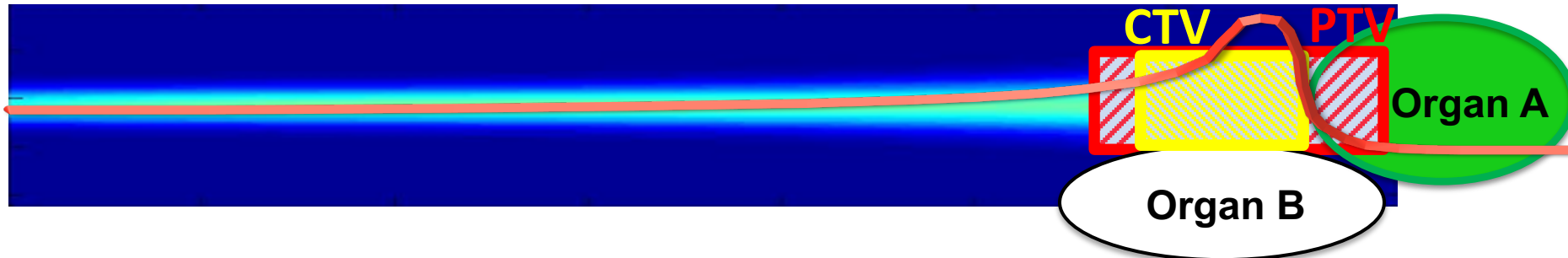
- During treatment functional characterization of Tumor to allow early treatment response assessment;
- During treatment liquid-biopsy for genetic/epi-genetic characterization to assess treatment impact.

- **POST-Treatment**

- Improved follow-up with PET-MRI and other functional imaging technology to evaluate treatment response.

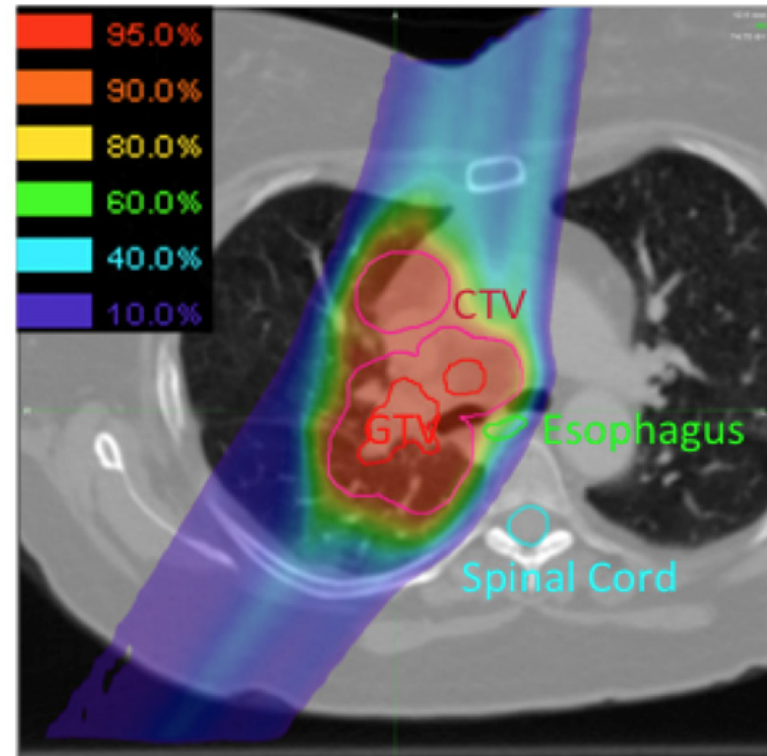
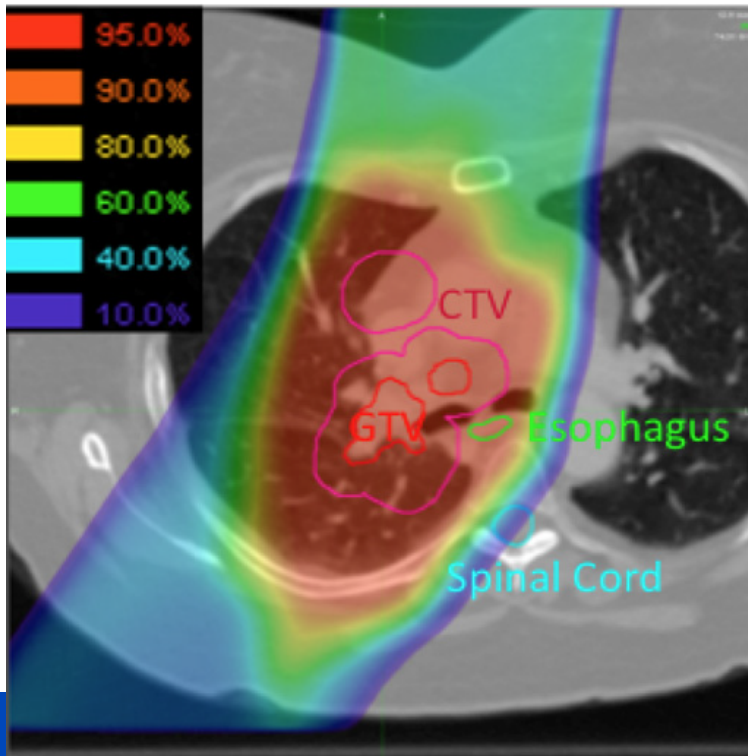
## “Bragg Peak” Range Uncertainty

To treat the **TUMOR (CTV)** I need a dose distribution that's larger (**PTV**)



Proton therapy today...

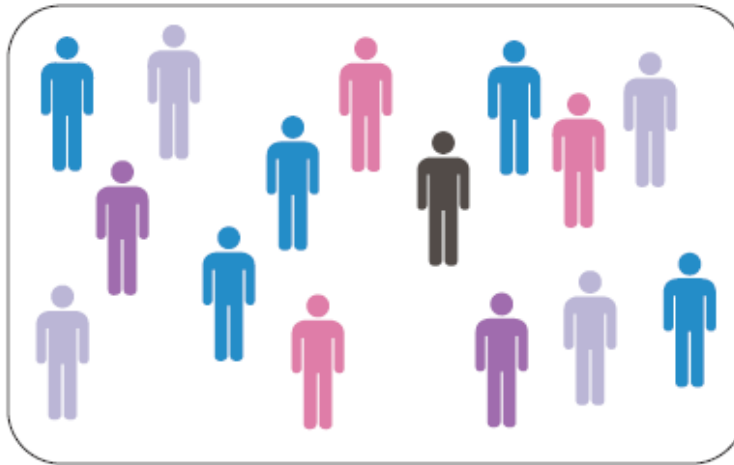
and tomorrow with range control





# BIOLOGY

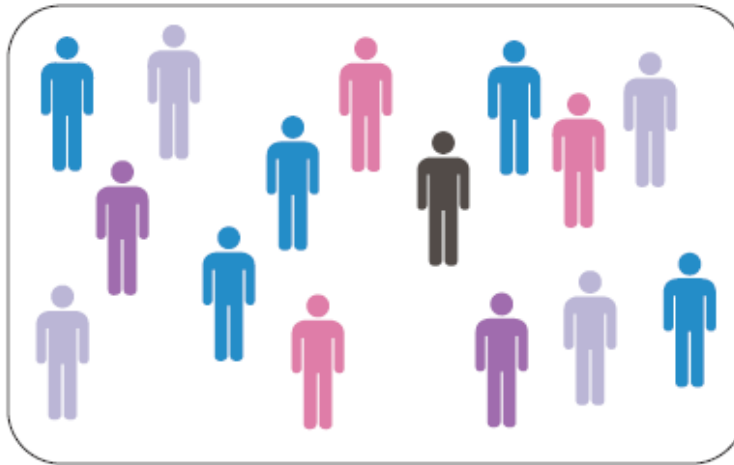
## Exploiting Biological Knowledge to Stratify Patient Population



- Patients with the same tumour disease and stage have typically received similar treatments
- Large clinical trials possible

# BIOLOGY

## Exploiting Biological Knowledge to Stratify Patient Population



- Patients with the same tumour disease and stage have typically received similar treatments
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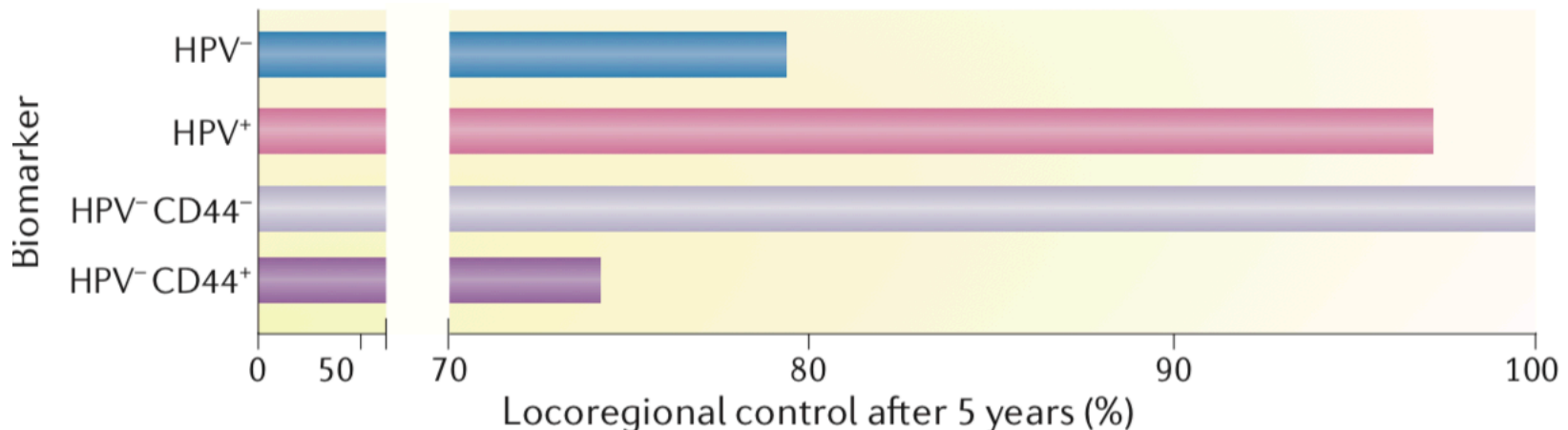
- Biomarkers allow stratification into small subgroups
- Trials for treatment individualization

# Exploiting Biological Knowledge to Stratify Patient Population



- Biomarkers allow stratification into small subgroups
- Trials for treatment individualization

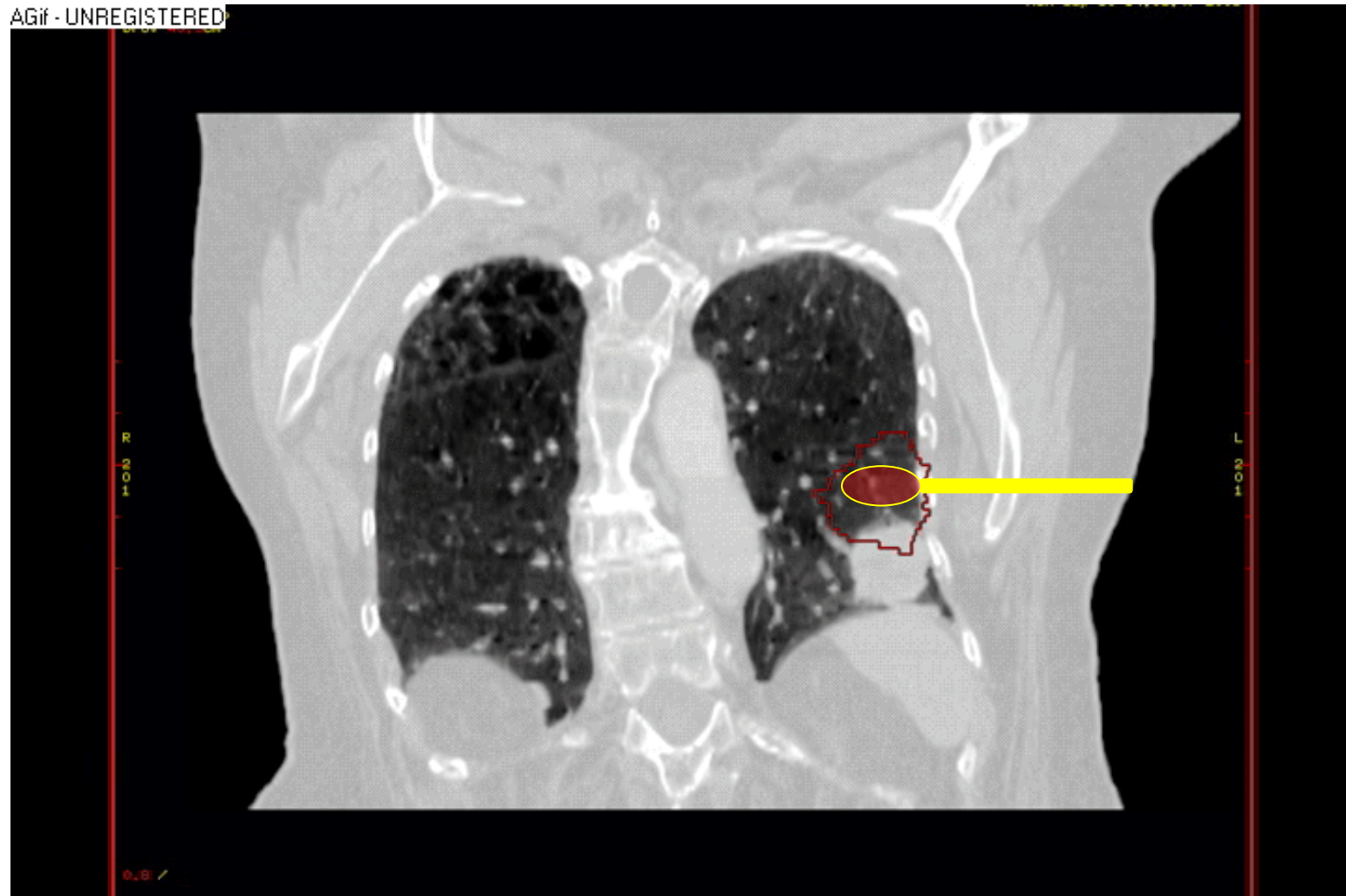
## HPV - Human PapillomaVirus, CD44 - STEM Cell Marker



# ENGINEERING

## Addressing Movement of Tumors during Treatment

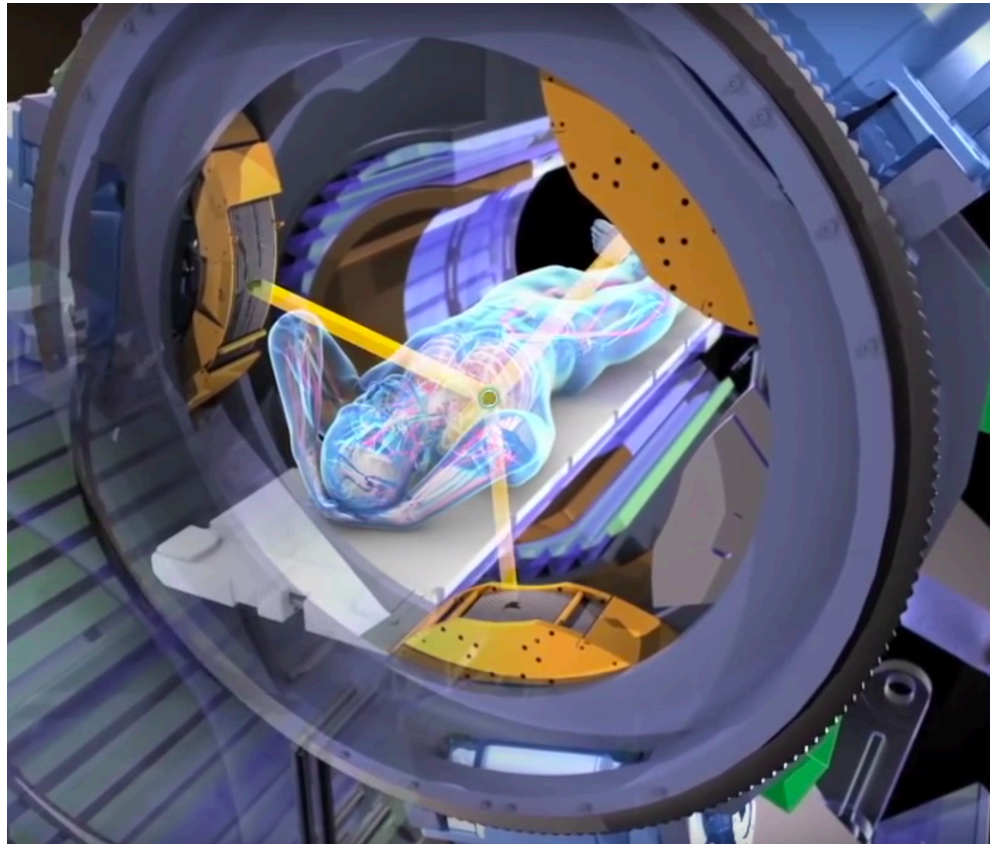
### 4D CT of Moving Lung Tumor



# ENGINEERING

## Addressing Movement of Tumors during Treatment

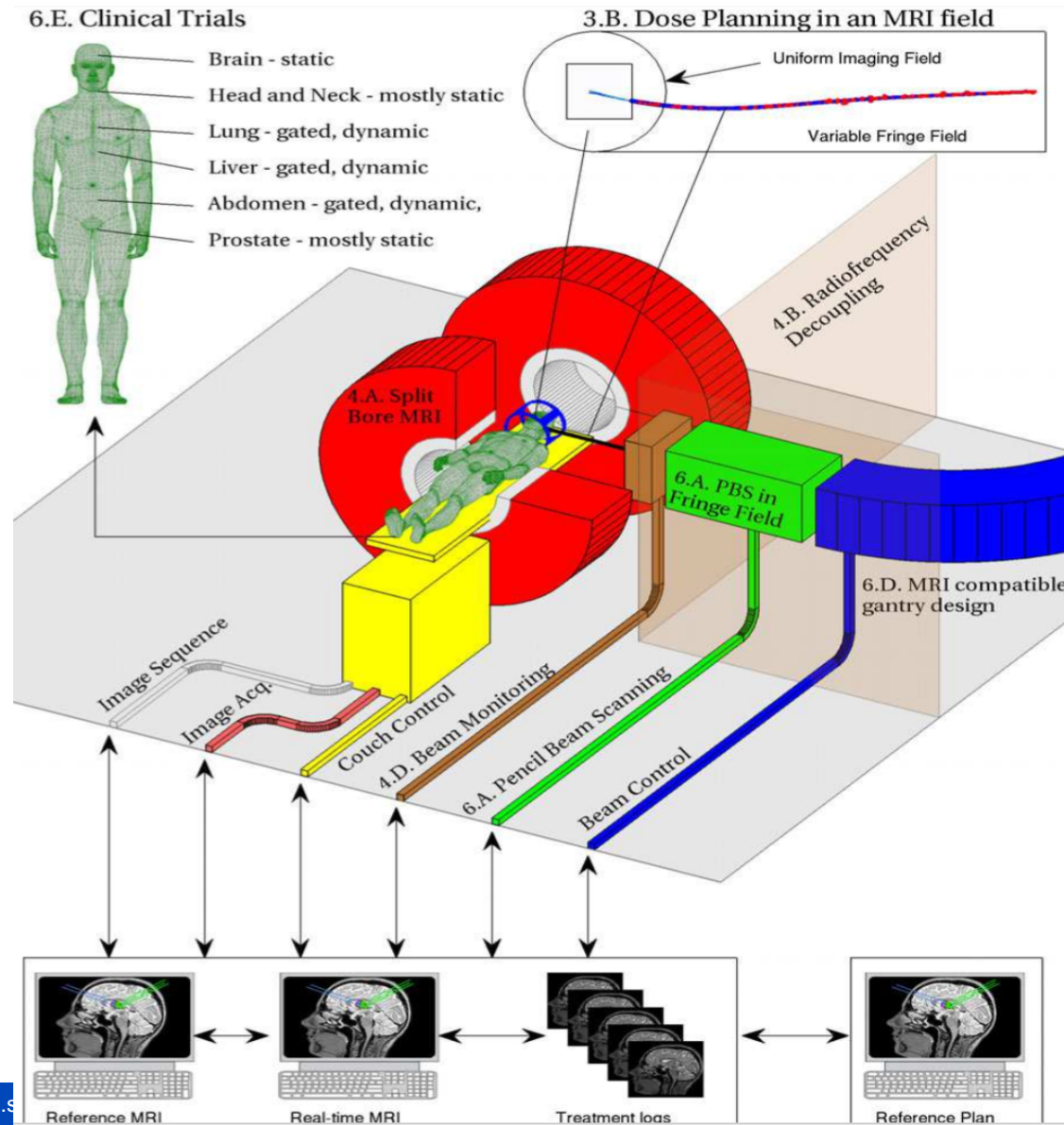
### ViewRay MRIdian



### MRI of Moving Liver/Lung

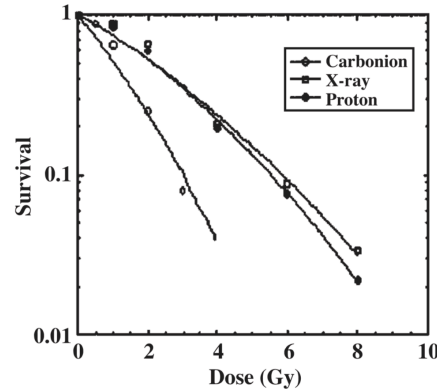


## Addressing Movement with Proton MRI

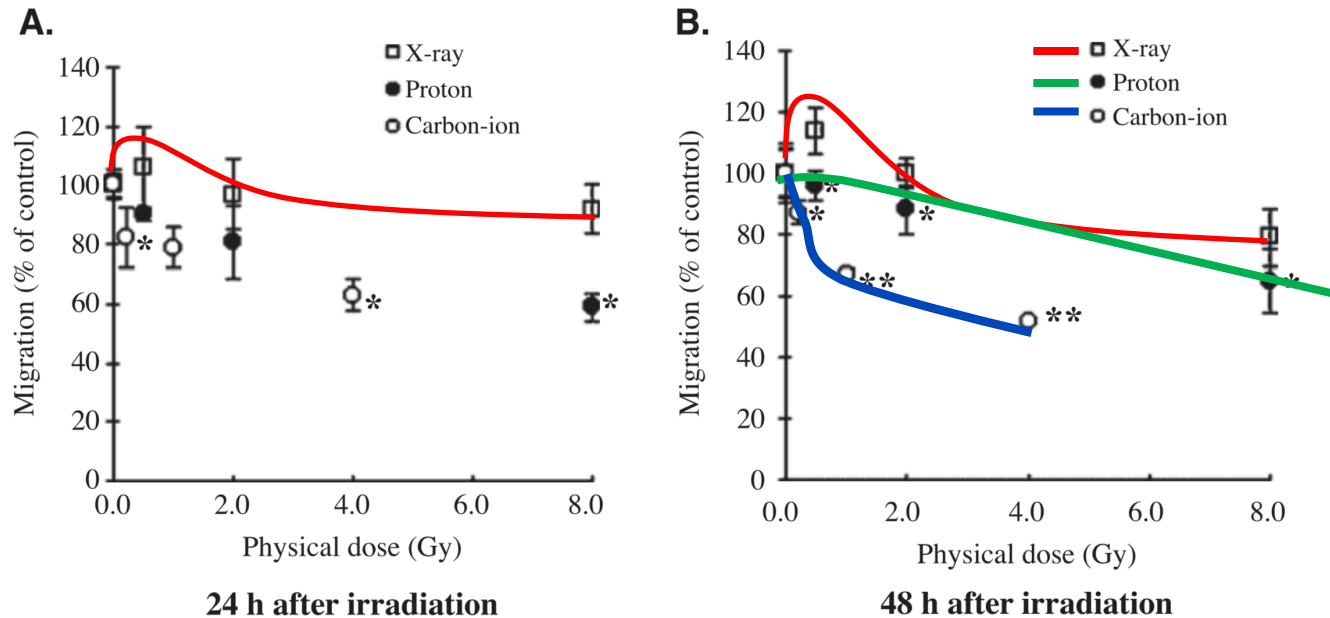


## 1) Reducing Metastatic/Migration Capacity

HT1080



**HT1080**  
**Human**  
**Fibrosarcoma**

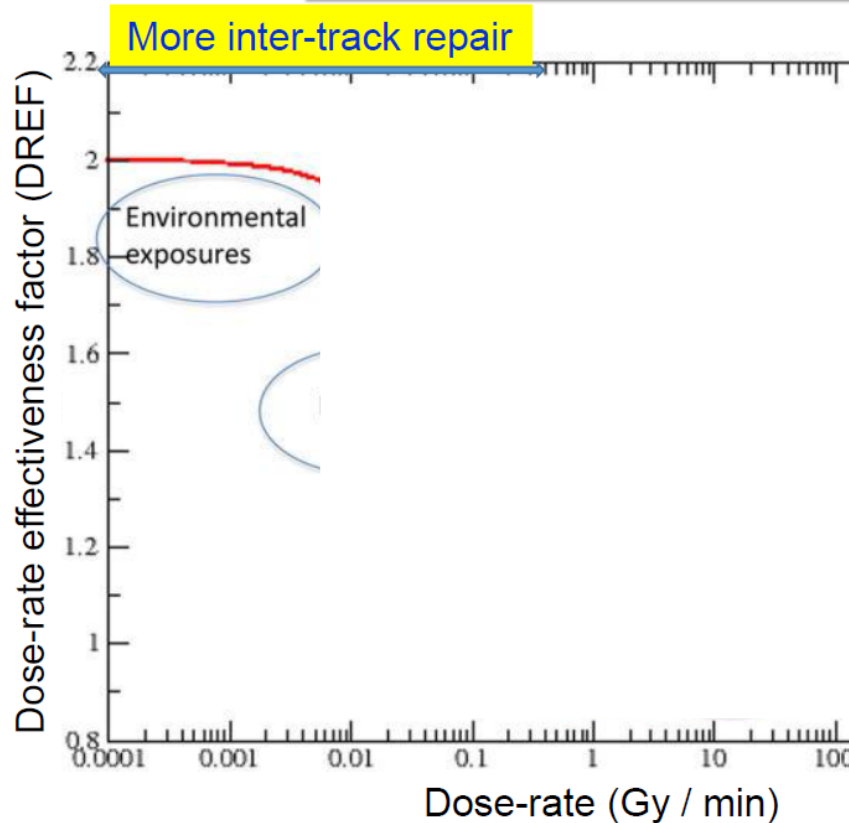


Ogata, et al. Particle irradiation suppresses metastatic potential of Cancer Cells. Cancer Res.. 2005, 65(1)

# BIOPHYSICS

## 2) FLASH Radiation Therapy

### Dose Rates Effects



Durante *et al.*, BJR 2018, 91: 20170628



# FLASH: Reduces Normal Tissue Toxicity

---

- **4.5 MeV electron** or  $\gamma$ -ray irradiated thorax of C57/B6 mice
- The two radiation qualities had similar effectiveness in lung fibrogenesis when delivered at the same **conventional dose rate of 1.8 Gy min<sup>-1</sup>**.

Favaudon et al., Sci Trans Med 2014; Commentary in Durante et al., BJR 2018

# Building Evidence for FLASH

Clinical Oncology 31 (2019) 407–415



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journal homepage: [www.clinicaloncologyonline.net](http://www.clinicaloncologyonline.net)



## Overview

### Biological Benefits of Ultra-high Dose Rate FLASH Radiotherapy: Sleeping Beauty Awoken

M.-C. Vozenin <sup>\*†</sup>, J.H. Hendry <sup>‡</sup>, C.L. Limoli <sup>§</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>Laboratory of Radiation Oncology/CHUV, Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

<sup>†</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology/Department of Oncology/CHUV, Lausanne University Hospital and University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

<sup>‡</sup>Department of Medical Physics and Engineering, Christie Hospital, Manchester, UK

<sup>§</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California, Irvine, California, USA

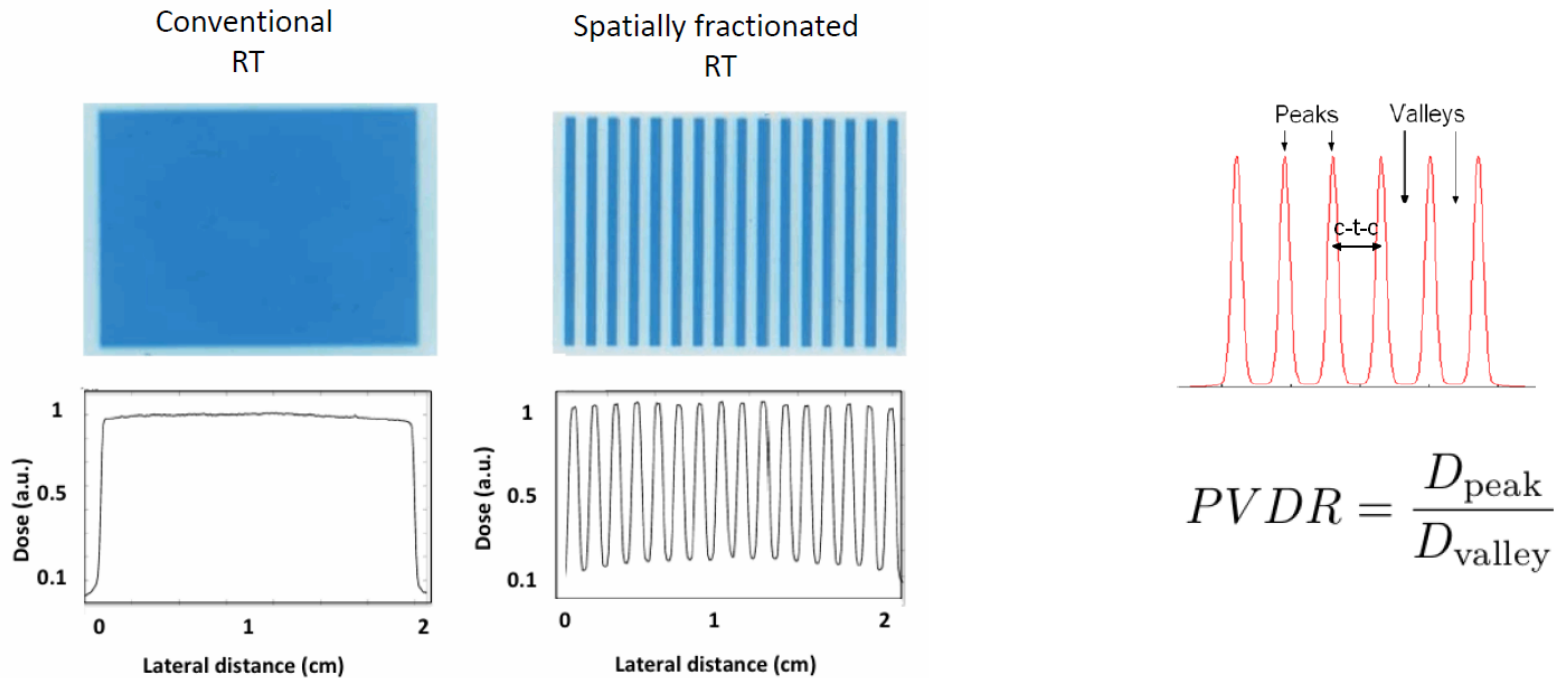
Received 27 February 2019; received in revised form 8 March 2019; accepted 12 March 2019

**Table 1**  
In vivo studies of FLASH response for various normal tissues

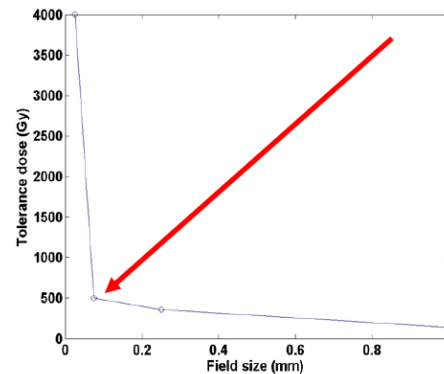
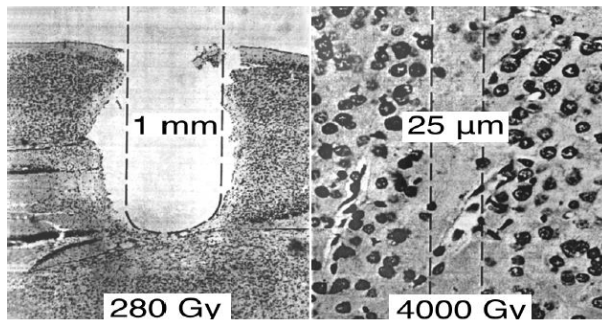
Dose (Gy) at conventional dose rates	FLASH dose rate (Gy/s)	Dose modifying factor	System	Anaesthetic	Assay	Reference
Normal tissues						
11.9	17–83	1.3	Mouse intestine	Nembutal	LD50/5	[3]
14.7	70–210	1.3–1.24	Mouse intestine	?	LD50/5	[14]
24	56–83	1	Mouse foot skin	Sodium amytal	Early and late reactions	[4]
50	17–170	1.6	Mouse tail skin	None	Necrosis ND50	[5]
22–34	300	2.36	Minipig and cat skin	General anaesthesia	Early and late reactions	[13]
15–17	40	1.3	Mouse lung	Ketamine/xylazine/acepromazine	Fibrosis	[9]
10	100–10 <sup>6</sup>	1.4	Mouse brain	Isoflurane	Memory	[10] Montay-Gruel et al. (in revision)



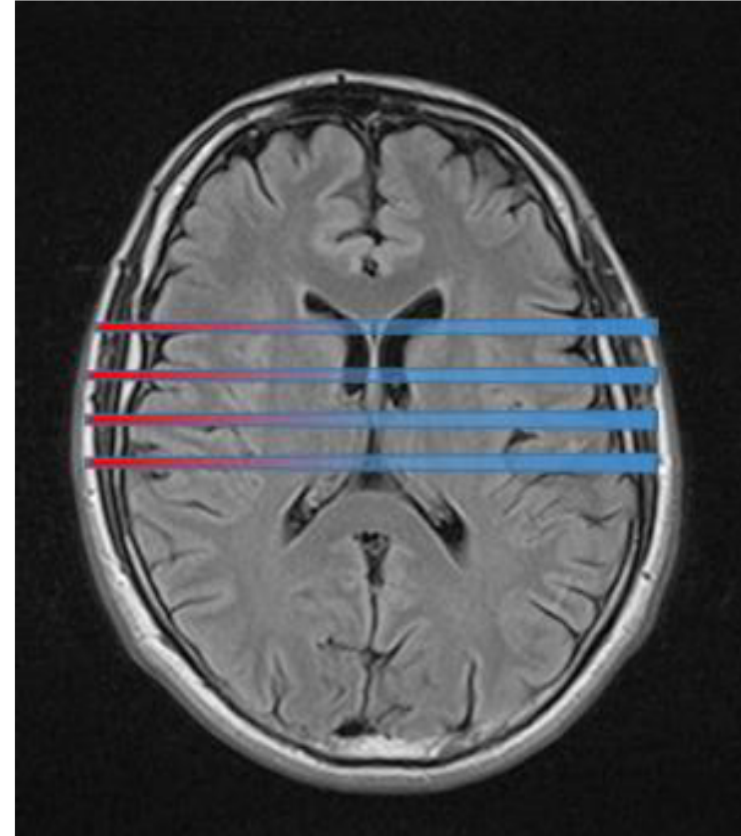
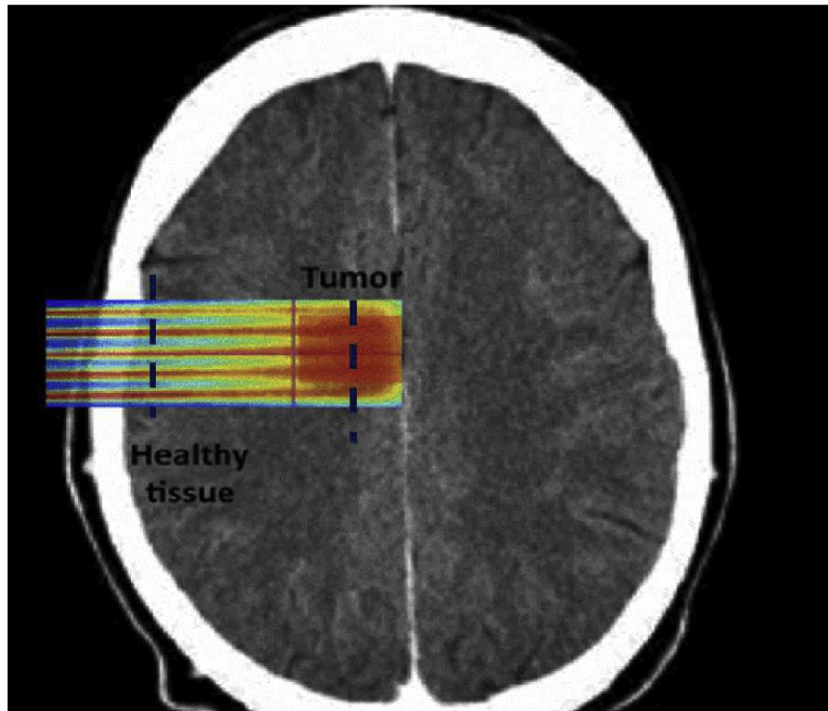
## 3) Mini-Beam Radiation Therapy



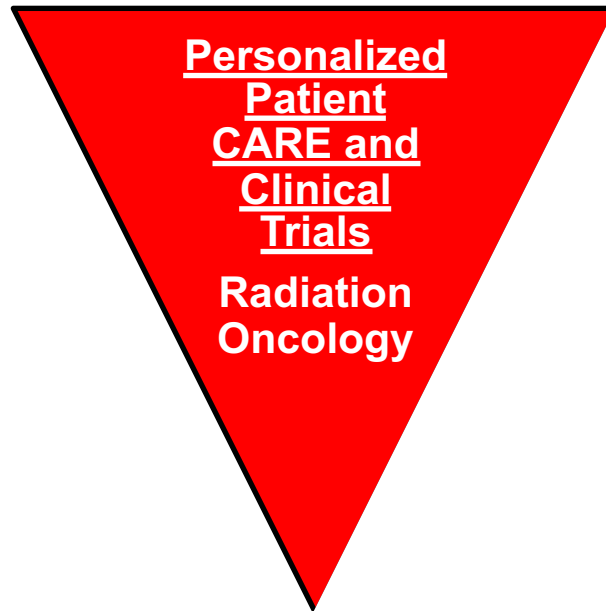
Dose-volume effect: the smaller the field size is, the higher the tolerance



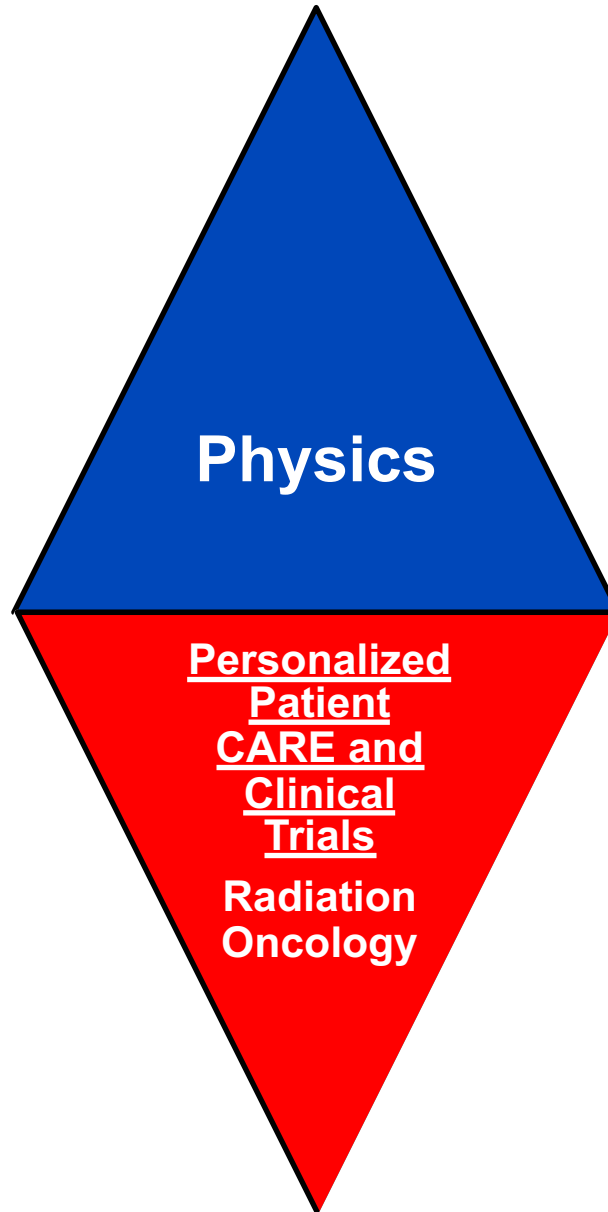
## 4) Mini-Beam Radiation Therapy



# Conclusions: 20 Year Vision Ion Beam Research



# Conclusions: 20 Year Vision Ion Beam Research



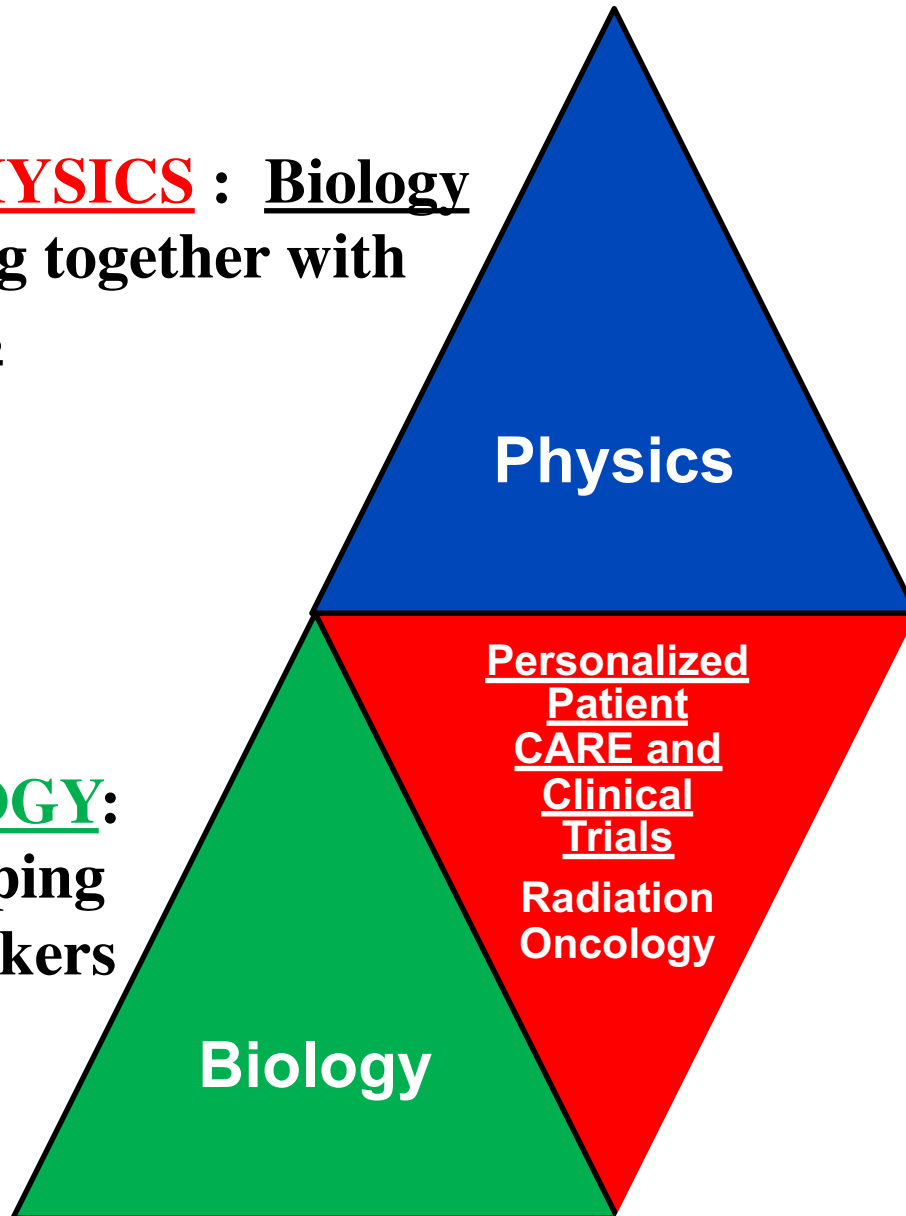
**PHYSICS**: Dealing with imaging and range issues real-time during treatment

# Conclusions: 20 Year Vision Ion Beam Research

**BIOPHYSICS** : Biology  
working together with  
Physics

**PHYSICS**: Dealing  
with imaging and  
range issues real-  
time during  
treatment

**BIOLOGY**:  
Developing  
biomarkers



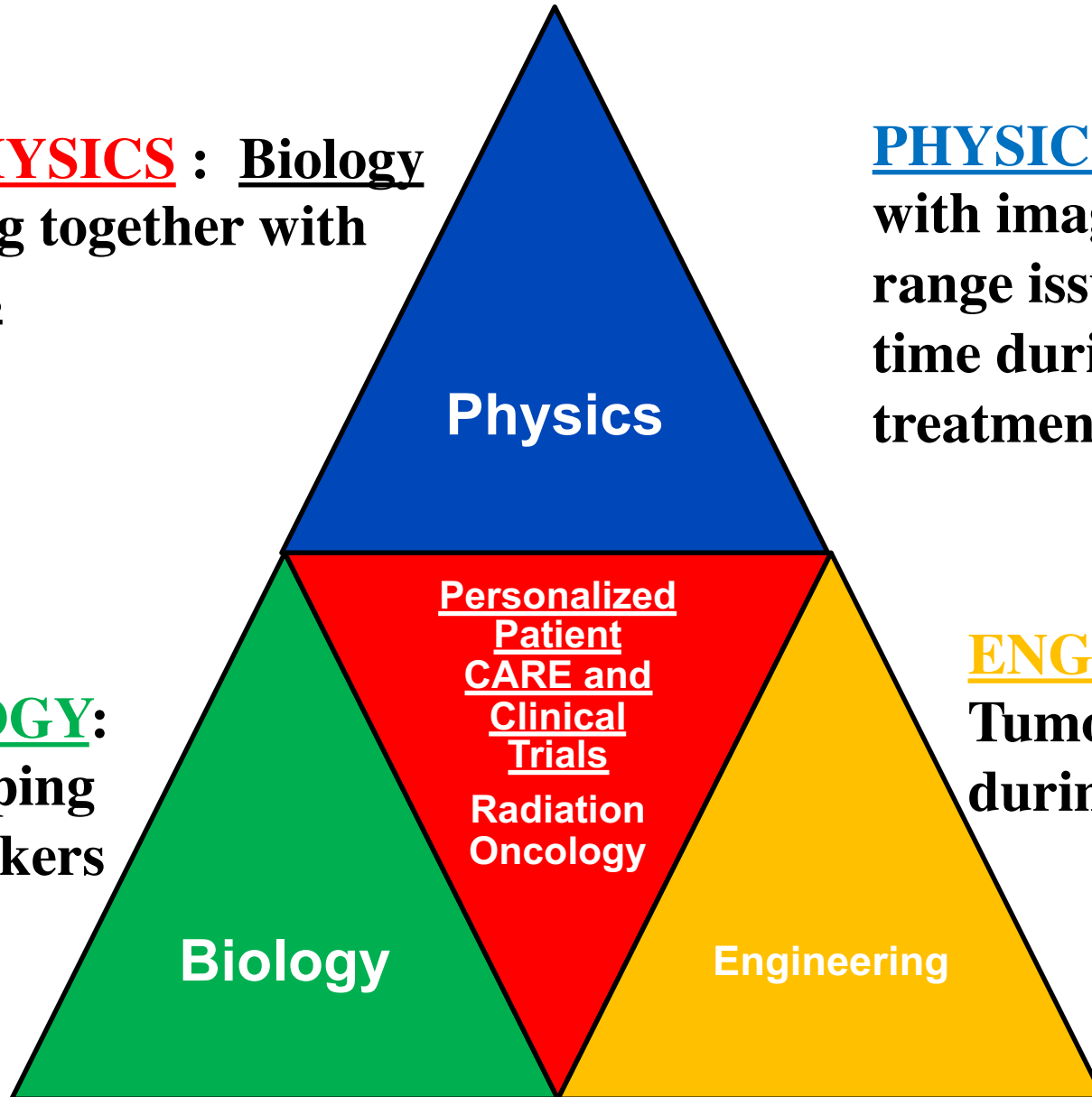
# Conclusions: 20 Year Vision Ion Beam Research

**BIOPHYSICS** : Biology  
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**BIOLOGY**:  
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biomarkers

**ENGINEERING**:  
Tumor Movement  
during Treatment



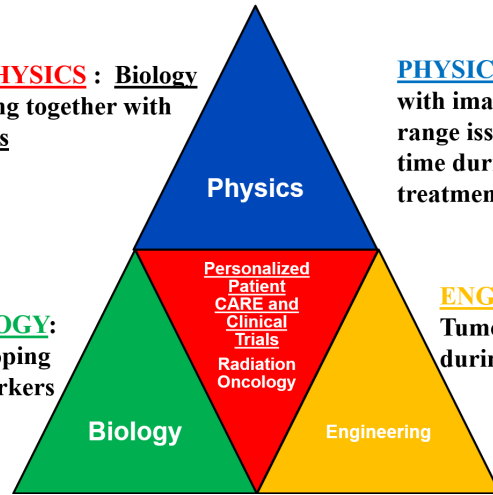


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during Treatment



# Relaxing!

# DKFZ Group



Thank You for Your Attention 😊

# QUESTIONS....

