



NUCLÉAIRE
& PARTICULES

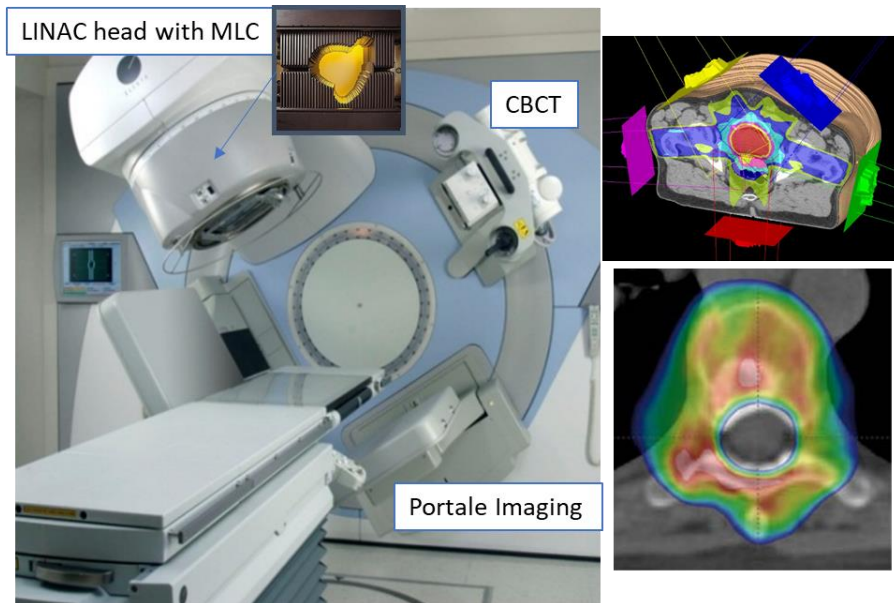
New Approaches in Radiation Therapy

Rachel DELORME on behalf of the community



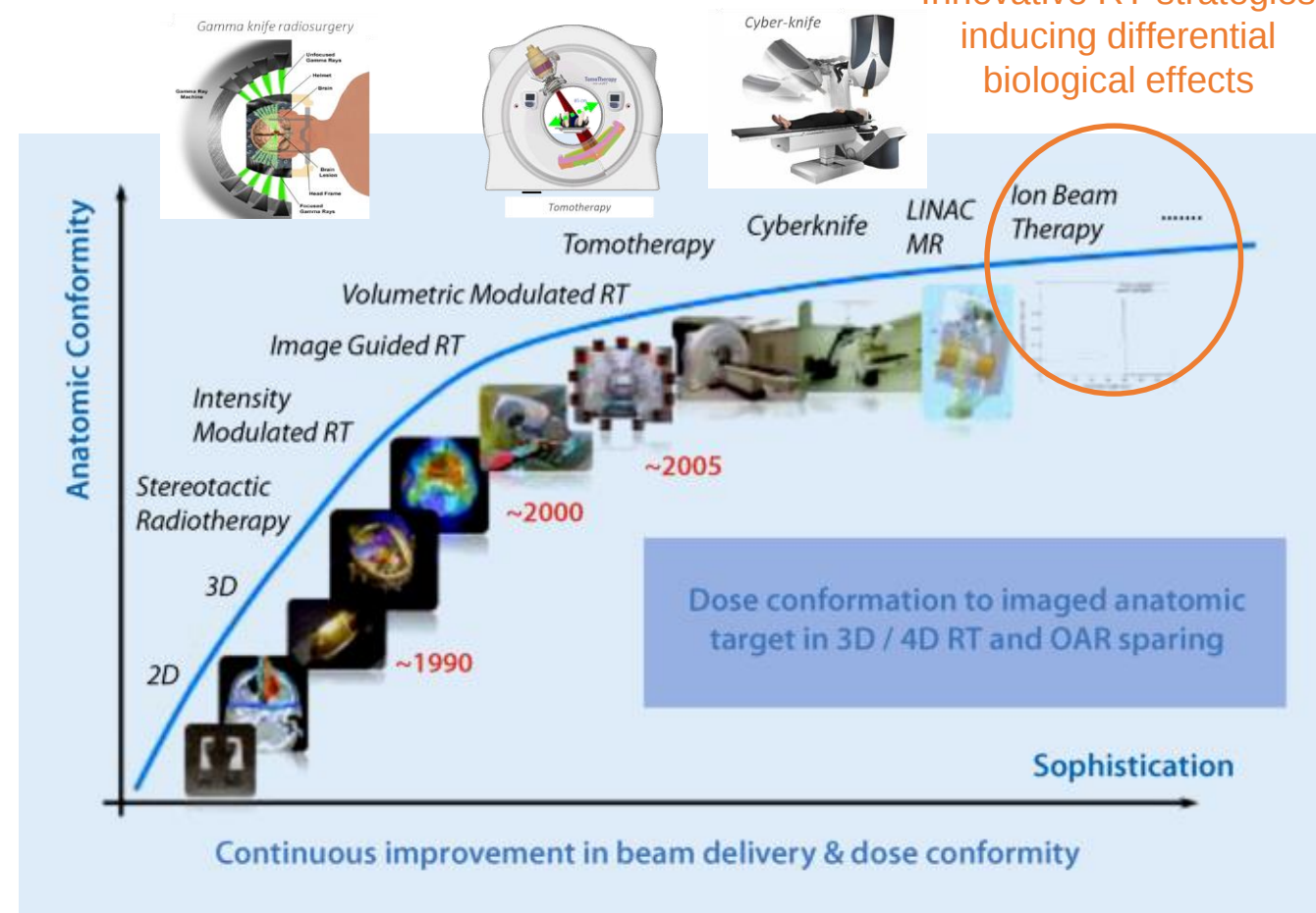
« Conventional » external beam radiotherapy (EBRT)

- The technological evolution of X-rays EBRT improved the dose conformation to the tumor through advanced techniques of **radiation intensity modulation** (IMRT, VMAT..) and **image guidance** (IGRT):



Standard clinical accelerator (IMRT, VMAT) with embedded imaging systems

Innovative RT strategies inducing differential biological effects



Typical treatment characteristics:

Particles: X-rays 6-25 MV (all tumors), electrons 3-25 MeV (surface)

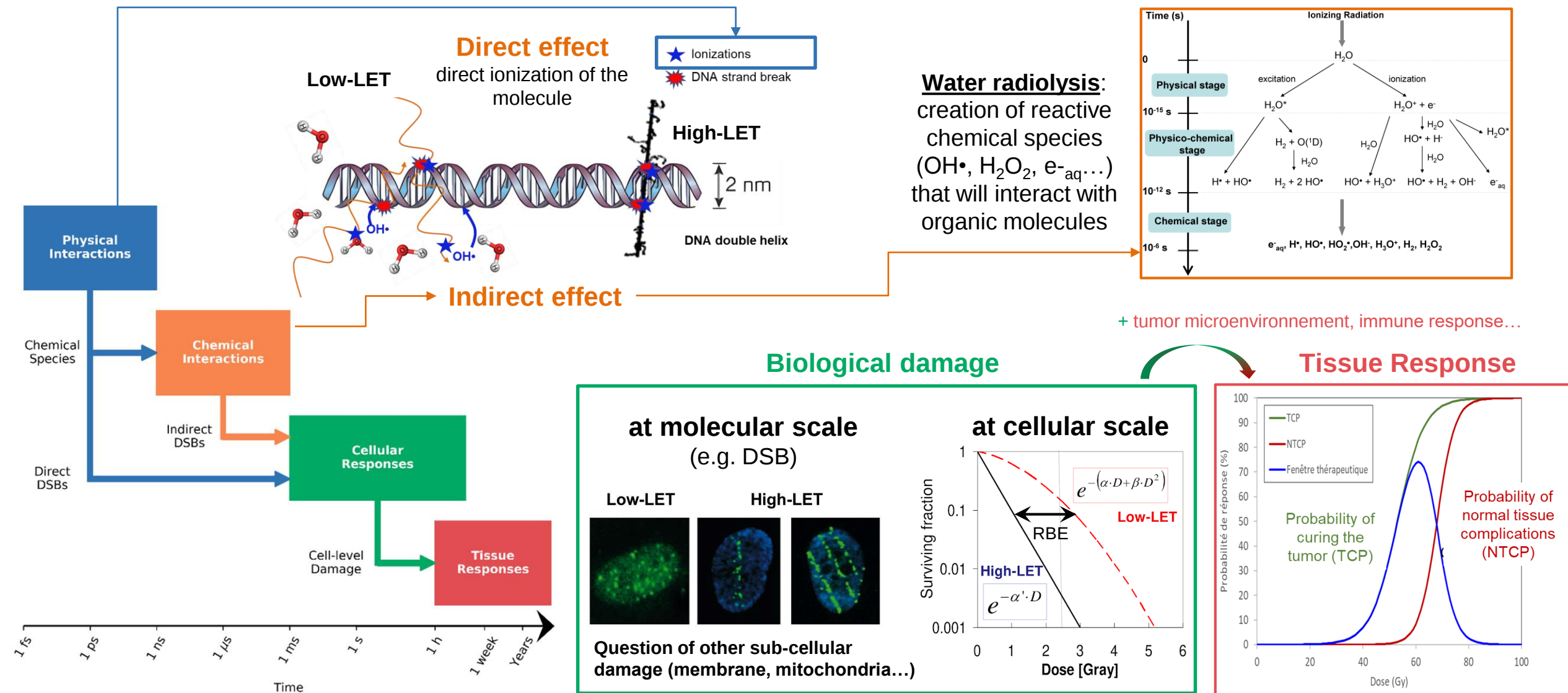
Time fractionation: 2 Gy/session, 5 session/week

Dose: 40-70 Gy

Dose rate: 30-70 mGy/s (2 Gy/min)

Field sizes: 2 - 40 cm² (homogeneous dose coverage)

Basic of radiobiology: from physical to biological effects



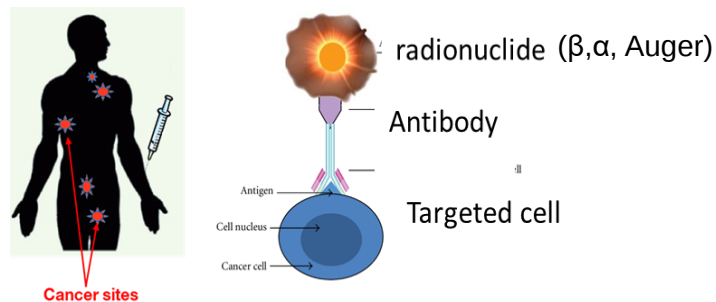
Limitations and other therapeutic strategies

- The **toxicity to healthy tissue** still limits the dose delivered and the curative use of RT :
- In particular for very **radioresistant**, **bulky** and **diffuse cancers** (e.g. glioblastoma...), and for **non-localized tumors** (multiple metastasis)

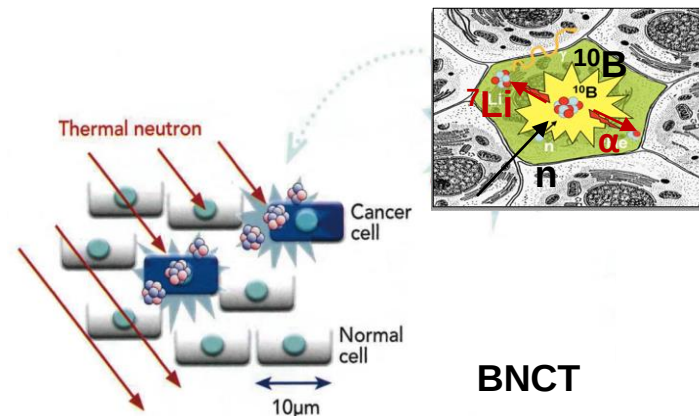
	α -TRT	BNCT	NP
Radionuclide/particle	^{223}Ra , ^{225}Ac , $^{212/213}\text{Bi}$, ^{211}At , ^{212}Pb ...	$^{10}\text{B}/^{11}\text{B}$	e- (PE, Auger)
Energies α (et ^7Li) or e-	5-9 MeV	0.8-1.7 MeV	0-100 keV
Range α (and ^7Li) or e-	40 – 100 μm (<i>few cells</i>)	5 – 9 μm (<i><cell</i>)	0-100 μm
LET (<i>keV/μm</i>)	60 – 100	≥ 200	0.5-20

➤ **How to improve the treatment?**

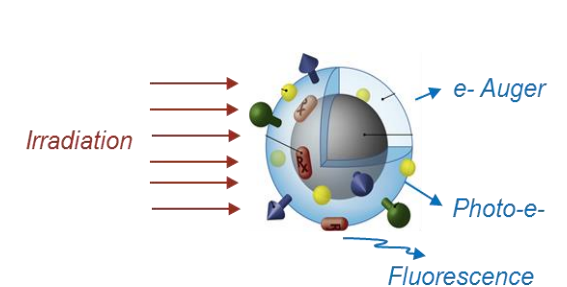
- Induce a more efficient tumoral irradiation
 - **High-LET particles**: hadrontherapy (p, α , ^{12}C , ions)
 - **Targeted radiotherapies** (using molecular targeting or sensitizers)+**high-LET**: radionuclide therapy (TRT), BNCT, nanoparticles...



Targeted Radionuclide Therapy (TRT)



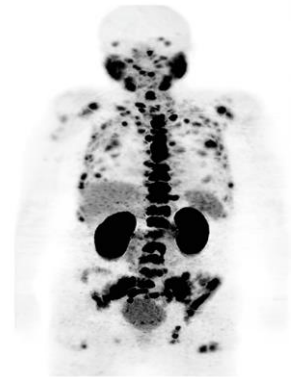
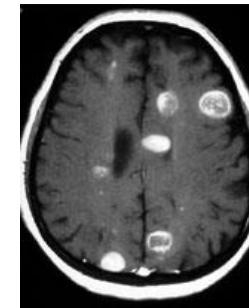
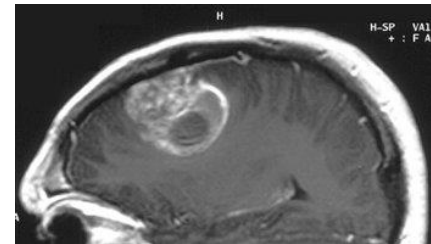
BNCT



Nanoparticle-enhanced RT
(radiosensitizers)

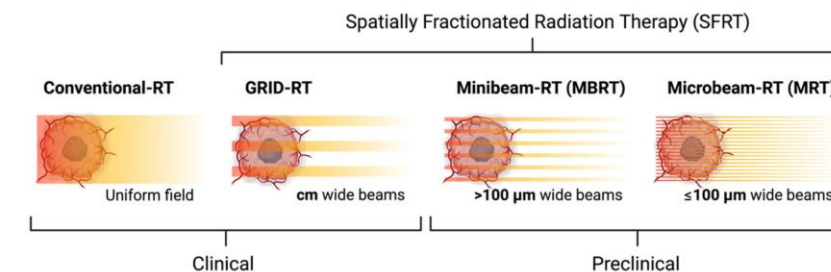
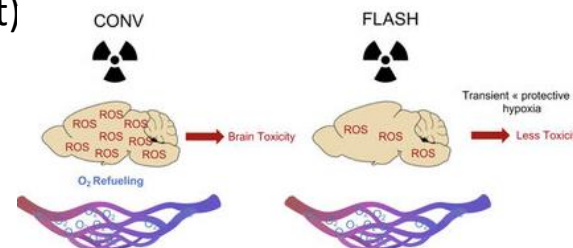
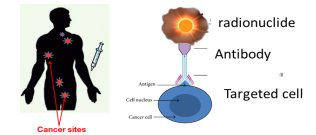
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- **How to improve the treatment?**

- Induce a more efficient tumoral irradiation
 - **High-LET particles:** hadrontherapy (p, α , ^{12}C , ions)
 - **Targeted radiotherapies** (using molecular targeting or sensitizers)+**high-LET:** radionuclide therapy (TRT), BNCT, nanoparticles...
- Preserve the healthy tissues:
 - **Improve ballistics** with different particle/energy/molecular targeting: hadrontherapy, VHEE, TRT (α /Auger)
 - **Dose delivery mode:** spatial fractionation of dose (**SFRT**) (beam size < mm), Ultra-high dose-rate (UHDR, “**FLASH**” effect)



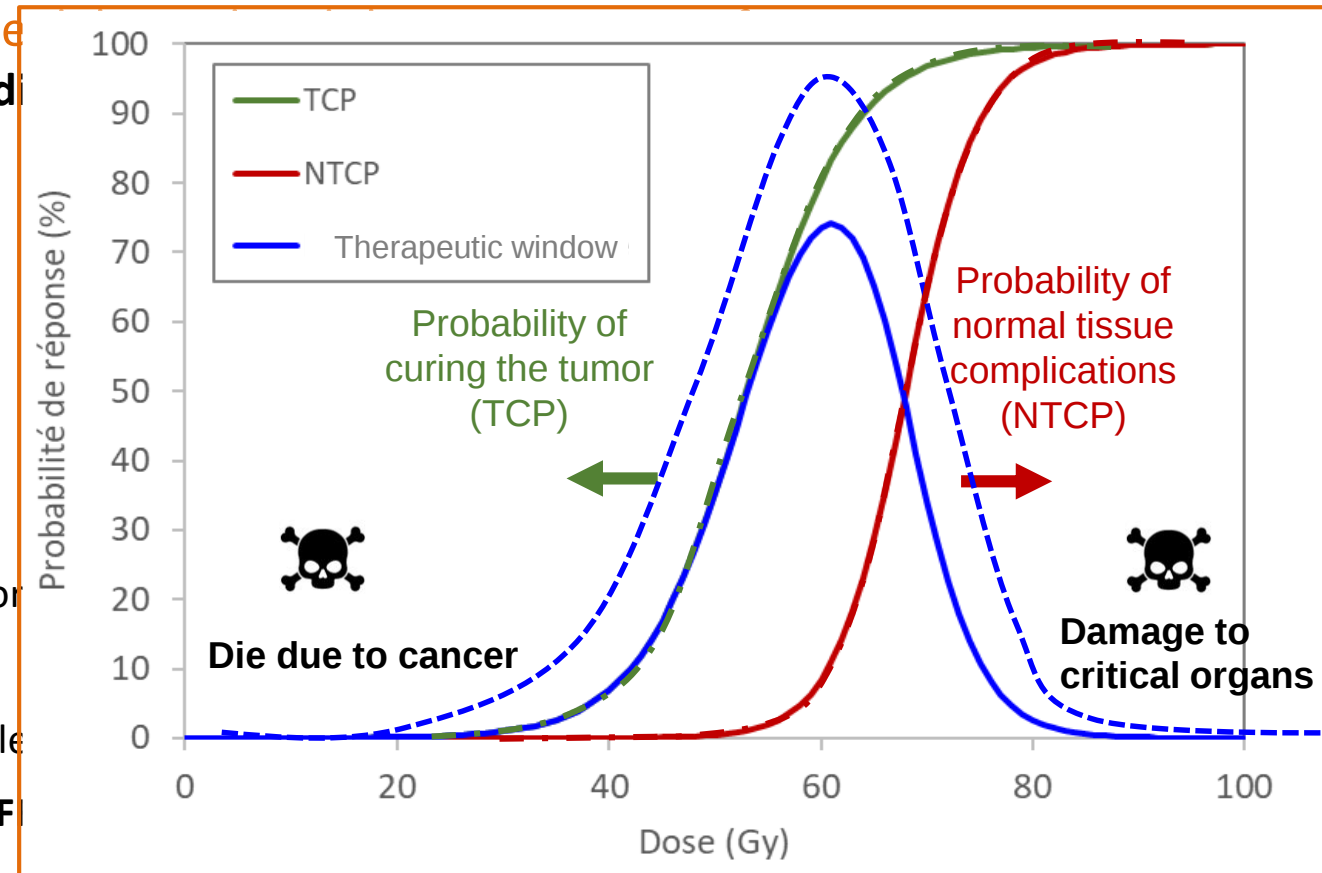
Limitations and other therapeutic strategies

➤ The **toxicity to healthy tissue** still limits the dose

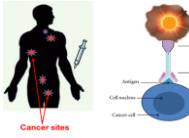
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➤ **How to improve the treatment?**

- Induce a more efficient tumoral irradiation
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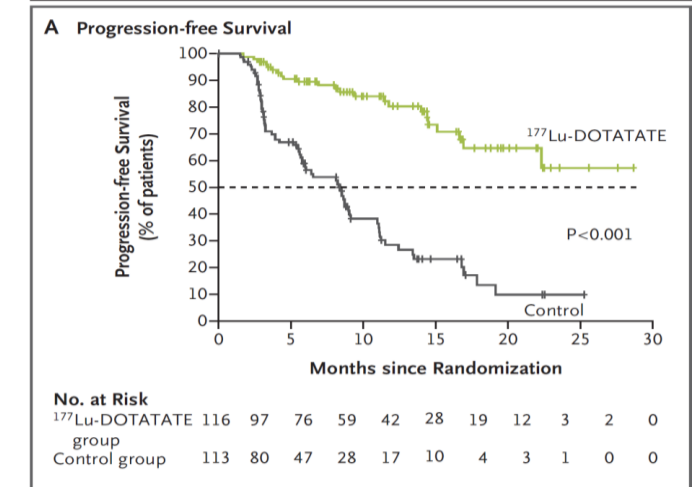
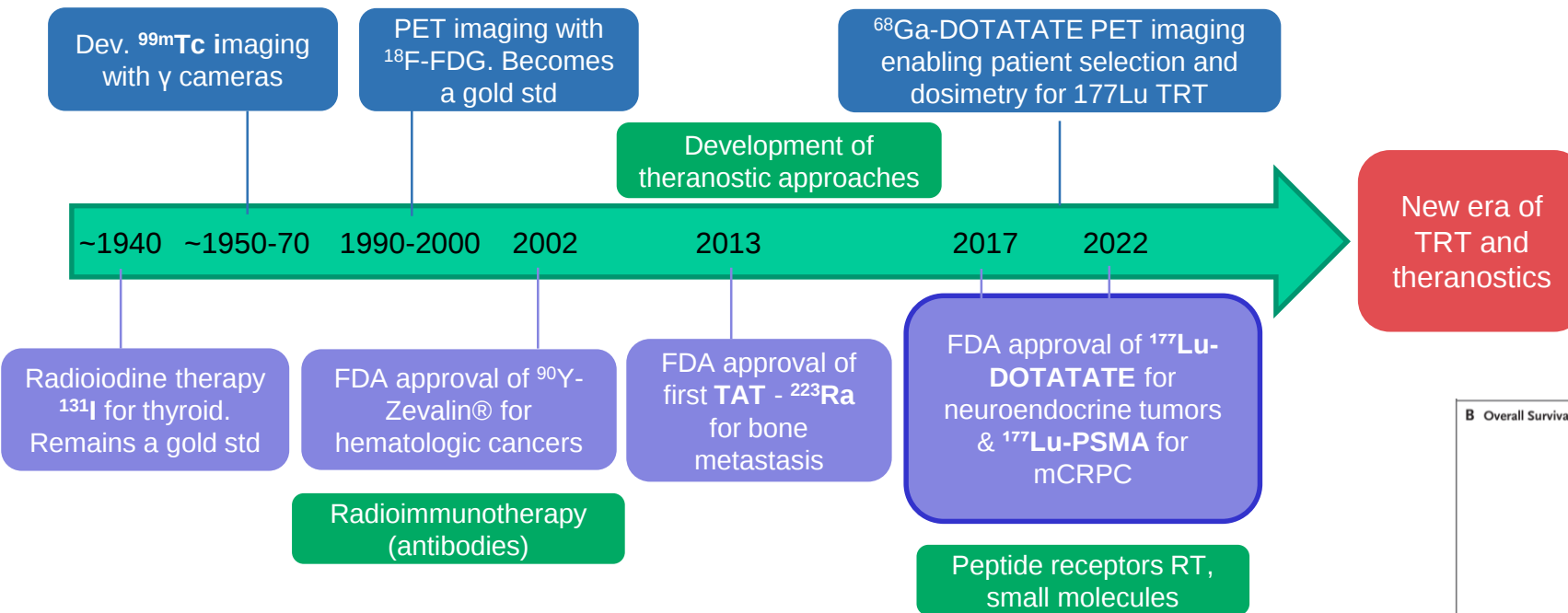
➔ Play on physical parameters to induce a different biological effect



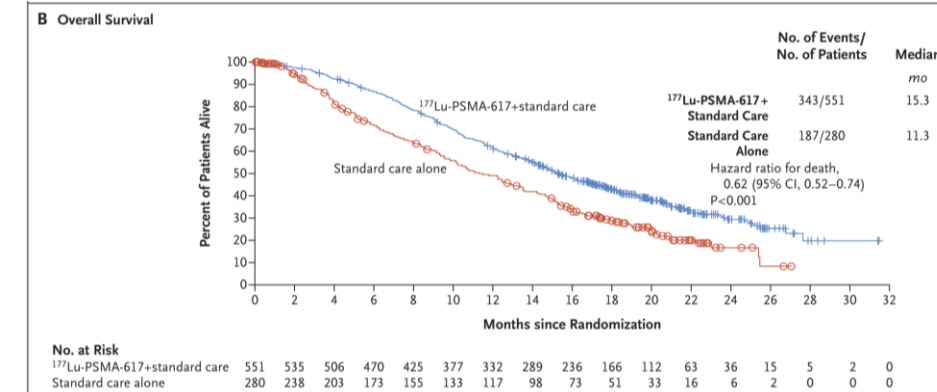
Targeted Radionuclide Therapy (TRT)

➤ TRT uses unsealed sources for selectively target cancer cells thanks to radiopharmaceuticals (RP).

Rapid evolution of diagnostics and TRT over the past 20 years :



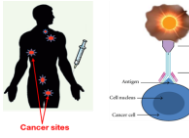
Strosberg et al. Phase 3 Trial of ^{177}Lu -Dotatate for midgut Neuroendocrine tumors, *N. Engl. J. Med.* 376;2, 2017



Sartor et al., ^{177}Lu -PSMA-617 for metastatic castration resistant prostate cancer, *N. Engl. J. Med.* 385; 12, 2021

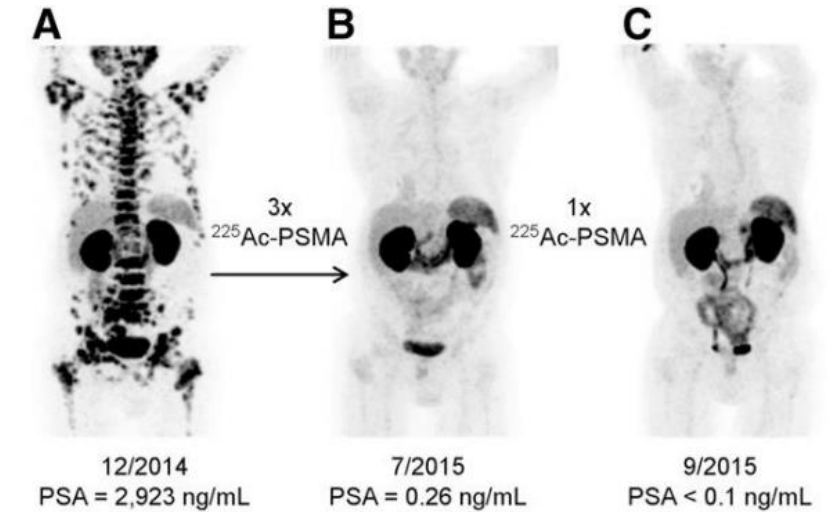
*PET: Positron Emission Tomography ; FDA: Food and Drug Administration

PSMA: Prostate-Specific Membrane Antigen ; mCRPC: metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer

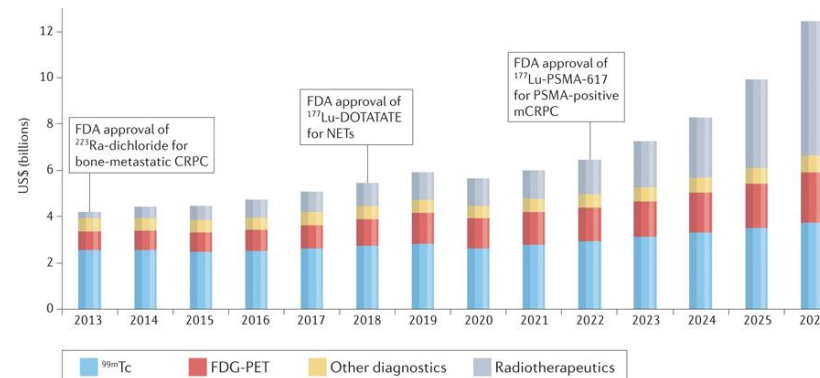
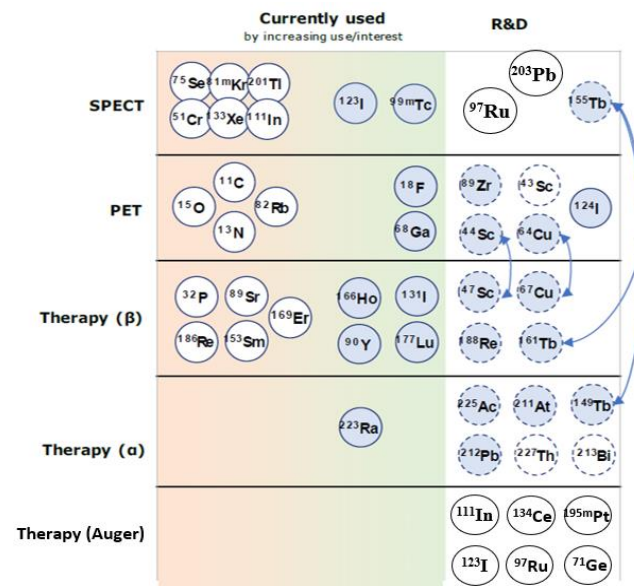


Targeted Radionuclide Therapy (TRT)

- **Interest in Targeted Alpha Therapy (TAT)** with various emitters (^{225}Ac , ^{211}At , ^{213}Bi , ^{212}Pb ...) and ligands. ~30 clinical trials ongoing
- **Novel targets & ligand development** to expand TRT applications with theranostic pairs
- **Expansion of TRT to earlier treatment indications**, and proposition of combined β/α /Auger TRT
- ➔ Increasing demand for new isotopes with reliable production routes



Spectacular response of Metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer patient using ^{225}Ac -PSMA-617 TAT, Imaging performed with ^{68}Ga -PSMA.
From Kratochwill J. Nucl Med, 57(12), 2016



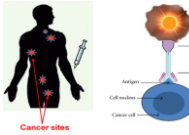
The predicted global nuclear medicine market 2013–2026, from Bodei L, et al... Nat Rev Clin Oncol. 2022 Aug;19(8):534-550.



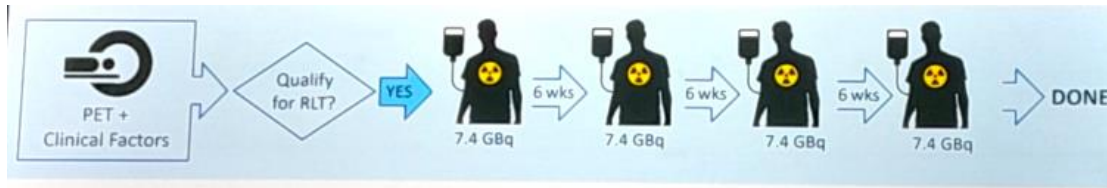
Financial interest, most pharmaceutical companies launched nuclear medicine programs

Adapted from Co-ordinated Approach to the Development and Supply of Radionuclides in the EU - N°ENER/D3/2019-231 - Final Report

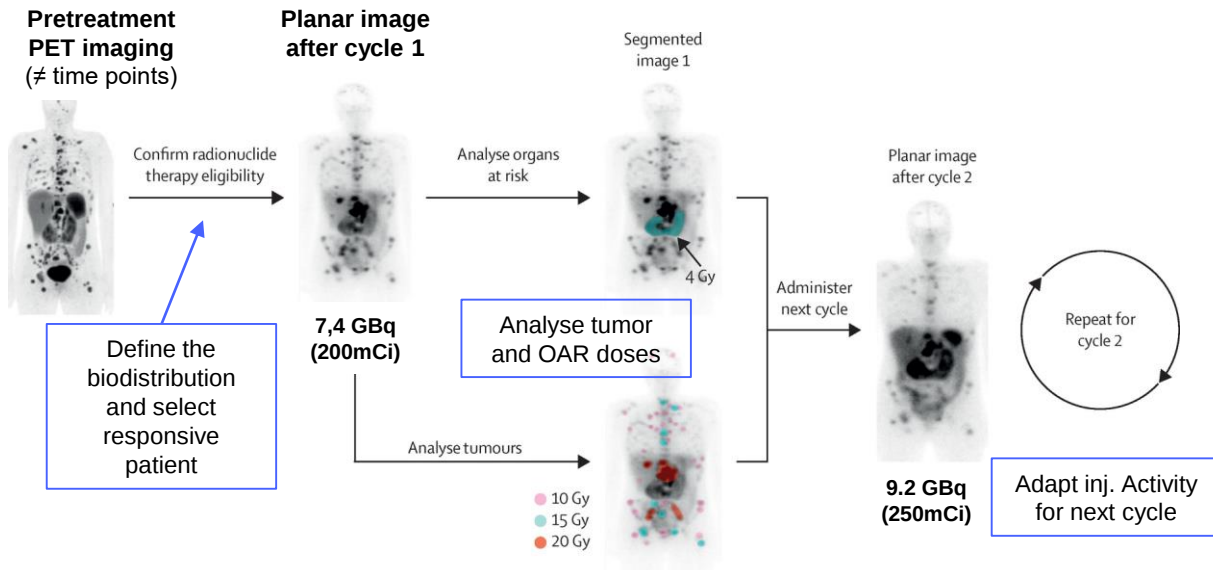
TRT: Theranostic and Dosimetry



- Despite effective palliation of tumor growth, current fixed activity is applied, sub-optimal for curative treatment:

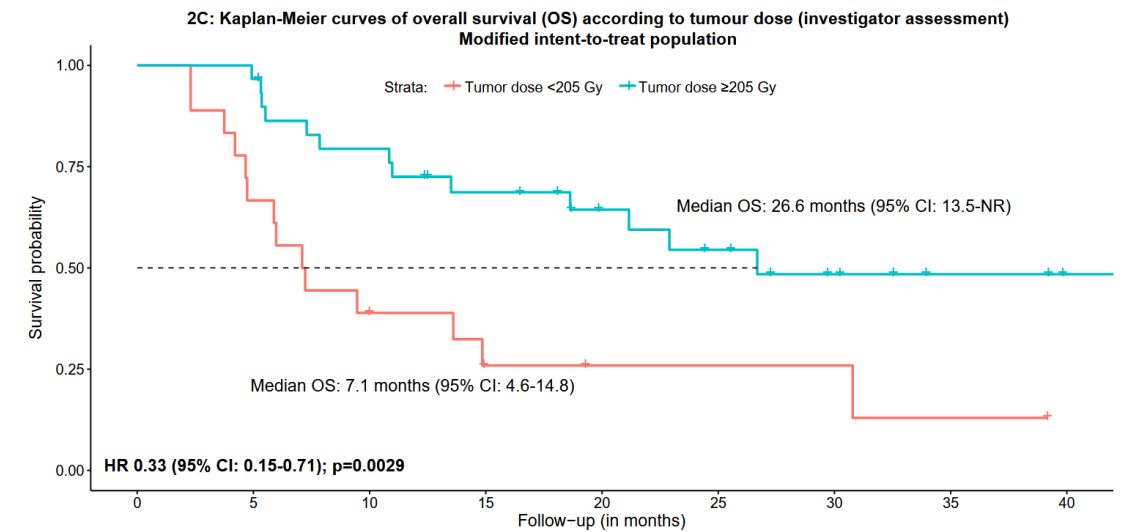


- Dosimetry may guide personalization to achieve durable complete response by adapting activity / cycle



Dosimetry in radionuclide therapy: the clinical role of measuring radiation dose. Lawhn-Heath C, et al. Lancet Oncol. 2022; 23:e75-e87.

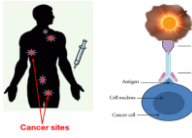
- Demonstration of personalize dosimetry benefit



Garin et al., SIRT using personalised dosimetry for locally advanced hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) patients: multicenter randomised phase 2 study (DOSISPHERE-01 trial). Lancet, 6(1),2021

- TRT is not systematically performed in clinics due to heavy protocol, additional cost and patient's discomfort
- Need to simplify dosimetric protocols with the improvement of imaging systems and reconstruction algorithm (e.g. AI-based)

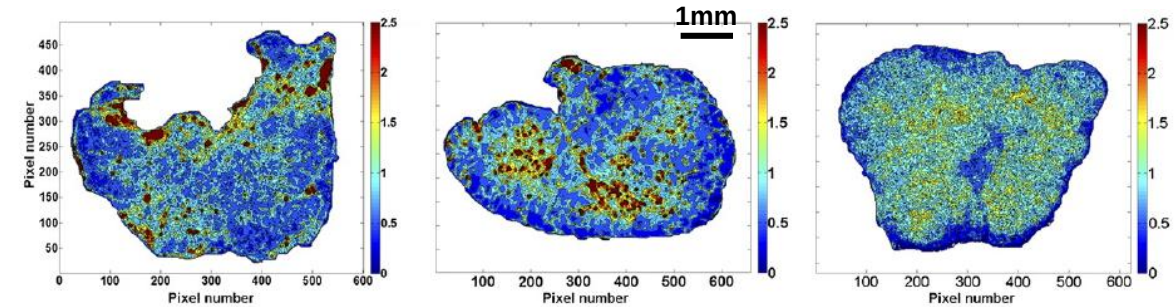
TRT: Theranostic and Dosimetry in TAT



➤ Additional difficulties with alpha emitters or high-LET/short range emitters:

Difficulty to observe clear “dose-effect relationship”.

- **High heterogeneity** at micro/tissue scale (range < 100 μm), often unknown
→ *homogeneous hypothesis may lead to errors*
- **High (and variable) RBE**
- **Complex direct (role of sub-cellular target damage), bystander and systemic biological response.**

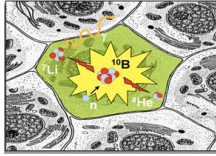


Example of heterogeneous activity distribution in tumor after 7min, 7h, and 21h after injection, via alpha-camera method. From Bäck T & Jacobsson L. J Nucl Med. 2010;51(10):1616-23.

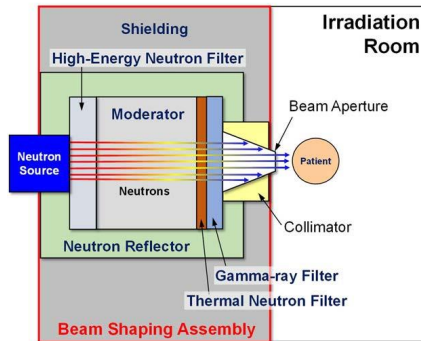
➤ TAT personalize (bio)dosimetry requires:

- **Theranostic radionuclide pairs** with alpha emitters
- **Gamma camera adapted to high-energy** (> 300 keV)
- **Multiscale modeling tools** to account for heterogeneities in bio-dose prediction and quantify uncertainties
- **Dedicated controlled radiobiological experiments** (*in vitro* / *in vivo*) to characterize complex TAT biological effects
- Identify the relevant metrics to characterize TAT efficacy (beyond absorbed dose)

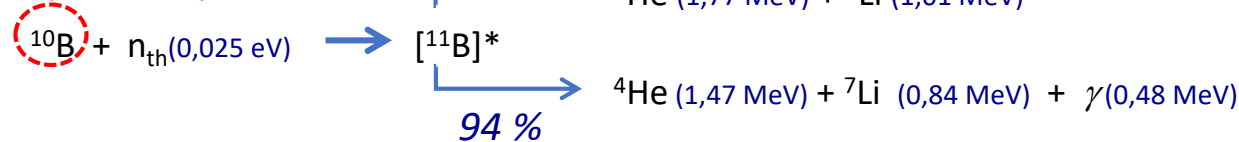
BNCT: combined therapy



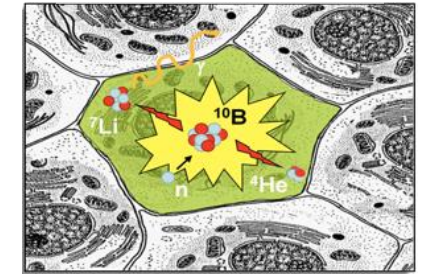
- **BNCT Principle:** combine external **epithermal neutron irradiation** with injected **^{10}B -based compound** to **maximize neutron capture cross section at tumor location** → lead to local emission of very high LET-ions (α , $^7\text{Li}^{3+}$)



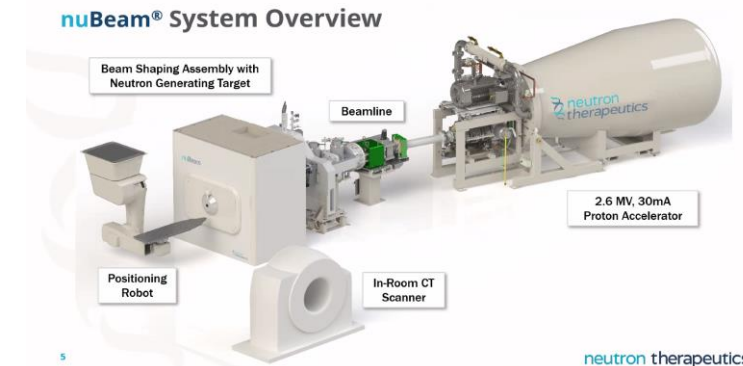
Enriched boron isotope,
delivered in cancerous
cells (BPA or BSH)



Max range ~5-9 μm ;
LET > 200 keV/ μm



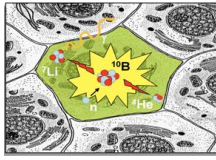
- Several clinical trials (*Barth et al. 2012; Shen S et al. 2024*: promising results for **high-grade glioblastoma** and recurrent **Head & Neck cancers**. Historically delivered on nuclear facilities...
- **Accelerator-based BNCT:** new era for clinical trials as compact accel neutron sources (CANS) allow **performing BNCT in hospital**.
- About **26 new AB-BNCT** facilities world-wide, 9 in Japan (*IAEA**). Clinical trial started in **Finland 2025**, **BNCT accepted in clinical routine for recurrent H&N cancers in Japan**.
 - Companies proposing integrated systems (*e.g. neutron therapeutics, TAE life science...*)



NuBeam® system (ex. installed in Finland, Japan, UK...)

*IAEA report 2023 "advances in boron neutron capture therapy"; <https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/accelerators/Pages/default.aspx>

Accelerator-based BNCT



➤ **AB-BNCT**: improved patient care and beam spectra for treating deeper tumors.

➤ **IAEA recommendations** for neutron beam quality:

	Epithermal Flux $\Phi_{\text{epi}} \ 0.5\text{eV} < E_n < 10\text{keV}$ (n/cm ² /s)	Fast Neutron Contamination D_F/Φ_{epi} (Gy/cm ² /n)	Thermal Neutron Contamination $\Phi_{\text{thermal}}/\Phi_{\text{epi}}$	Gamma Contamination $D_\gamma/\Phi_{\text{epi}}$ (Gy/cm ² /n)	Beam Collimation J/Φ
IAEA Reference Value	$\geq 1 \times 10^9$	$\leq 7 \times 10^{-13}$	$\leq 5\%$	$\leq 2 \times 10^{-13}$	≥ 0.7

➤ **Some Challenges:**

- **Production targets**: possible reactions ${}^7\text{Li}(p,n){}^7\text{Be}$, ${}^9\text{Be}(p,n){}^9\text{B}$, ${}^9\text{Be}(d,n){}^{10}\text{B}$, ${}^{13}\text{C}(d,n){}^{14}\text{N}$

High power (30-75 kW) degrades targets. Residual radioactivity with ${}^7\text{Li}$, needs frequent change.

➔ **Design optimal targets.**

- **Online monitoring**: need for real time monitoring : target aging (neutron flux $\searrow$) and delivered dose

➔ **Develop n & γ (480 keV) detectors.**

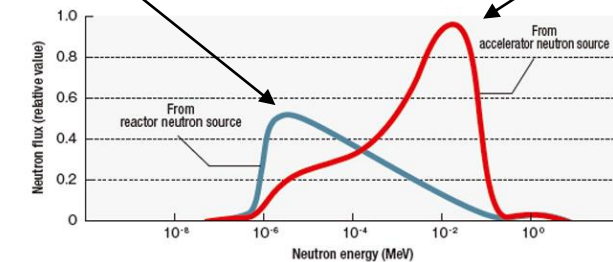
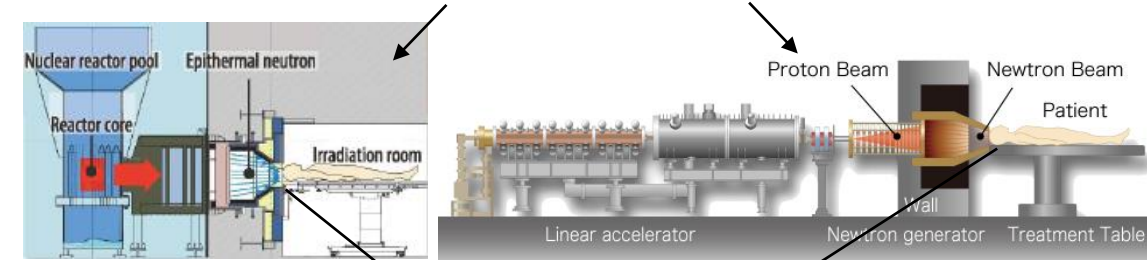
- **Beam shaping assembly**:

➔ **Find optimal moderation to maximize penetration in tissue** with high-enough intensity.

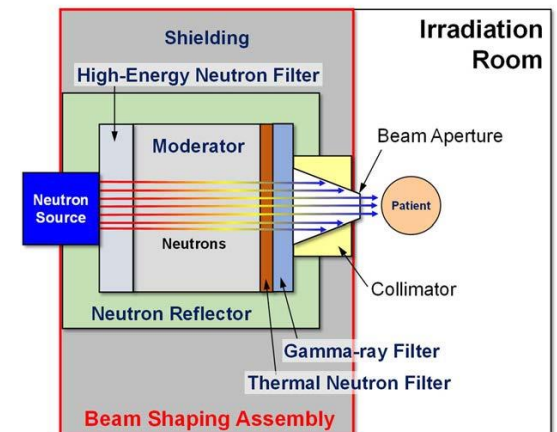
- **Lack of standardization** : complexify treatment comparisons.

➔ **Neutron field spectral and fluence characterization** with adapted detectors.

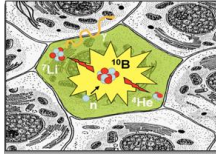
Produced in **reactors** or **accelerators** :



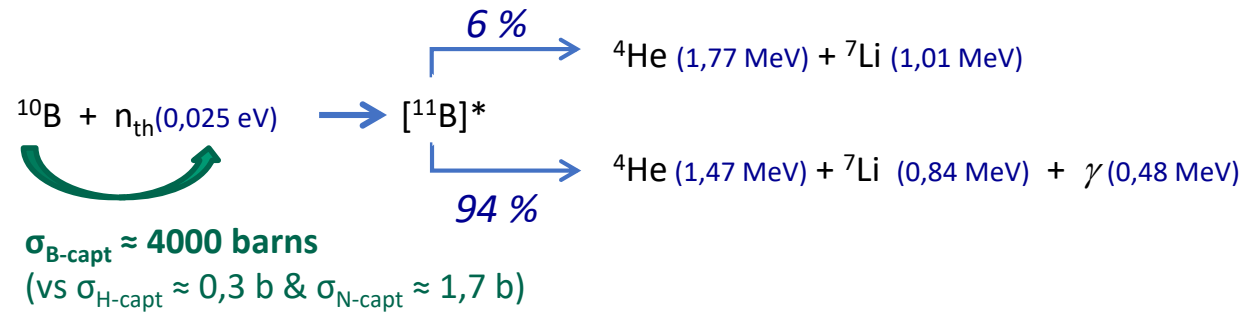
Neutron energy spectra as a function of the source



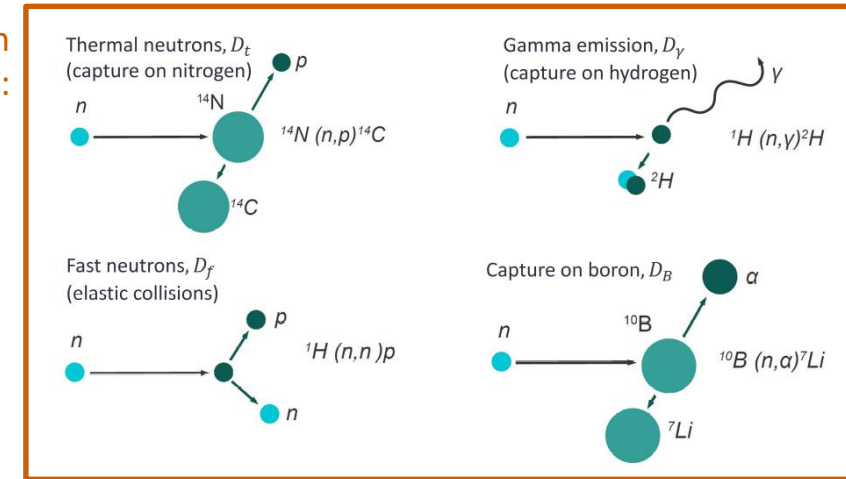
BNCT dosimetry



- **BNCT dosimetry:** complex cumulation of several components due to **neutron thermalization, neutron capture in normal tissue and gamma component** (from source and capture) in addition to the **desire boron dose** → **MC based TPS**



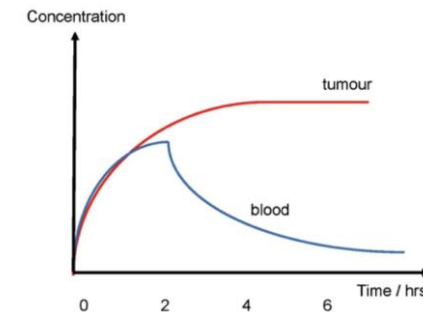
Main neutron interaction of interest in BNCT:



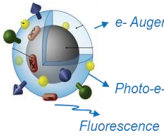
- **Biological dose:** based on boron concentration measurement and cumulation of **weighted** components by **fix RBE** (or CBE) factors.

$$D_W = w_f D_f + w_t D_t + w_\gamma D_\gamma + w_B D_B$$

Insufficient: high variation in RBE according to cell line, neutron spectra, particle type and dose, in addition to **high dose heterogeneity** due to compound biodistribution and very low-range/high RBE of He/Li ions.



Minimum required tumor/tissue uptake ratio = 3.5



Nanoparticle-enhanced therapy

➤ **Metallic / Oxide NP can enhance radiosensitization of RT:** local dose boost due to Auger/PE electron emission cascades.

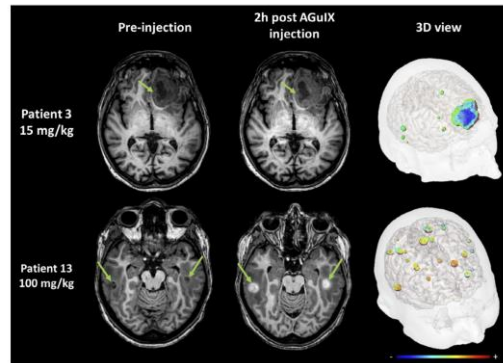
- First showed by Hainfeld *et al.* in 2004: Gold NP + RX
- Confirmed in numerous studies with different NP/beams
- 2 clinical trials in France: AGuIX® (Gd), NBTXR3® (Hf oxide)

Clinical Trial > Radiother Oncol. 2021 Jul;160:159-165. doi: 10.1016/j.radonc.2021.04.021. Epub 2021 May 5.

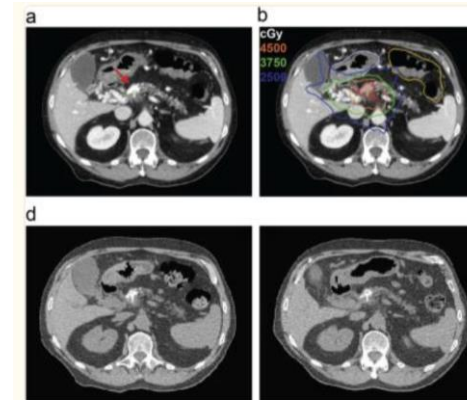
Theranostic AGuIX nanoparticles as radiosensitizer: A phase I, dose-escalation study in patients with multiple brain metastases (NANO-RAD trial)

Camille Verry¹, Sandrine Dufort², Julie Villa³, Marylaure Gavard⁴, Carole Iriat³, Sylvie Grand⁵, Julie Charles⁶, Benoit Chovelon⁷, Jean-Luc Cracowski⁸, Jean-Louis Quesada⁸, Christophe Mendoza⁹, Lucie Sancey⁹, Audrey Lehmann¹⁰, Florence Jover³, Jean-Yves Giraud³, François Lux⁹, Yannick Crémillieux¹¹, Stephen McMahon¹², Petrus J Pauwels¹³, Daniel Cagney¹⁴, Ross Berbeco¹⁴, Ayal Alizer¹⁴, Eric Deutsch¹⁵, Markus Loeffler², Géraldine Le Duc², Olivier Tillent⁹, Jacques Balosso³

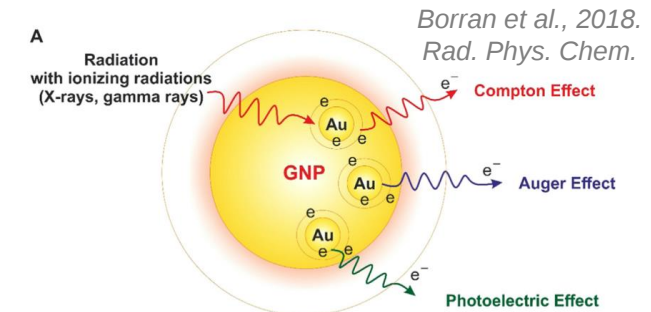
Affiliations + expand
PMID: 33961915 DOI: 10.1016/j.radonc.2021.04.021
Free article



Verry C. *et al.*, *R&O*, 2021



Bagley F.B. *et al.*, *Clin Transl Radiat Oncol*, 2021 Pancreatic adenocarcinoma



Borran *et al.*, 2018. *Rad. Phys. Chem.*

Clinical Trial > Lancet Oncol. 2019 Aug;20(8):1148-1159. doi: 10.1016/S1473-0145(19)30326-2. Epub 2019 Jul 8.

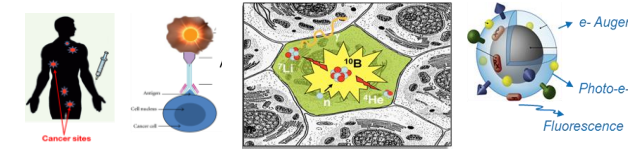
NBTXR3, a first-in-class radioenhancer hafnium oxide nanoparticle, plus radiotherapy versus radiotherapy alone in patients with locally advanced soft-tissue sarcoma (Act.In.Sarc): a multicentre, phase 2-3, randomised, controlled trial

Sylvie Bonvalot¹, Piotr L Rutkowski², Juliette Thariat³, Sébastien Carré⁴, Anne Ducassou⁵, Marie-Pierre Sunyach⁶, Peter Agoston⁷, Angela Hong⁸, Augustin Mervoyer⁹, Marco Rastrelli¹⁰, Victor Moreno¹¹, Rubi K Li¹², Béatrice Tiangco¹³, Antonio Casado Herraez¹⁴, Alessandro Gronchi¹⁵, László Mangel¹⁶, Teresa Sy-Ortin¹⁷, Peter Hohenberger¹⁸, Thierry de Baere¹⁹, Axel Le Cesne²⁰, Sylvie Helfre²¹, Esma Saada-Bouid²², Aneta Borkowska²³, Rodica Anghel²⁴, Ann Co²⁵, Michael Gebhart²⁶, Guy Kantor²⁷, Angel Montero²⁸, Herbert H Loong²⁹, Ramona Vergés³⁰, Lore Lapeire³¹, Sorin Dema³², Gabriel Kacso³³, Lyn Austen³⁴, Laurence Moureau-Zabotto³⁵, Vincent Servois³⁶, Eva Wardelmann³⁷, Philippe Terrier³⁸, Alexander J Lazar³⁹, Judith V M G Bovée⁴⁰, Cécile Le Péchoux⁴¹, Zsuzsanna Papai⁴²

➤ **High complexity to optimize NP-based treatments**

- Radiosensitization is cell-line and NP-type dependent: standardization
- Treatment efficacy may depend on tumor targeting and cell-uptake
- Macroscopic dose-enhancement cannot explain alone observed biological effects

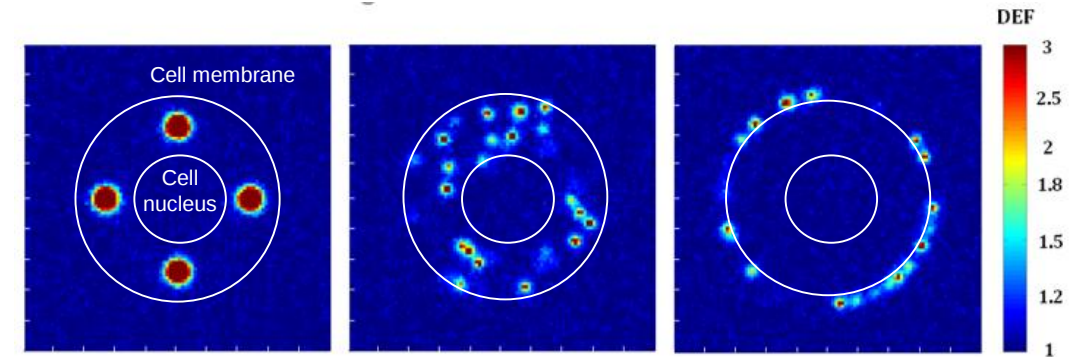
Targeted therapies: dosimetric issues



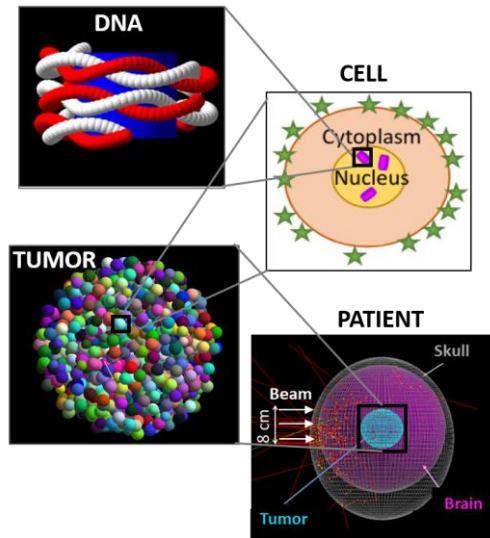
➤ Common difficulties in dose calculations and biological response prediction:

- « **Local** » (cell scale, larger? lower?) **dose** due to **low-range particles of potential high-LET** (Auger e-, α , ions)
- **Heterogeneity ++ of energy deposition at nano / micro /tumor scale**
- **Question of the relevant sensitive target at cell scale**
to consider biological damage

DNA, Cell nucleus, Cytoplasm, Membrane, tumor...? How?



Exemple of heterogeneous dose deposition at cellular scale according to internalization case of Gd-NP (Delorme et al. (2017), Med. Phys. 44 (11):5949)



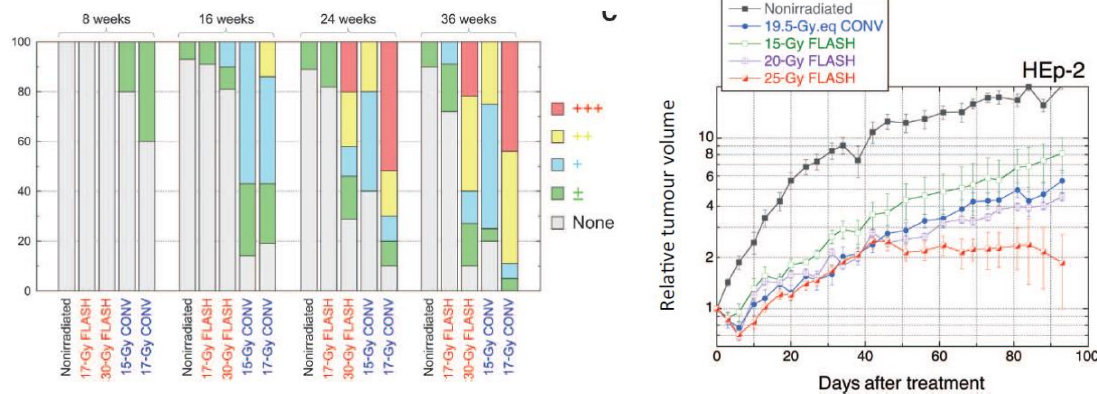
- **Physical, chemical and biological mechanisms** involved in **NP-radiosensitization** ?
- **Lack of precise biological/clinical data of such heterogeneities:**
→ But can be simulated to quantify the impact of such « unknown » heterogeneous distributions.

Multiscale modeling tools

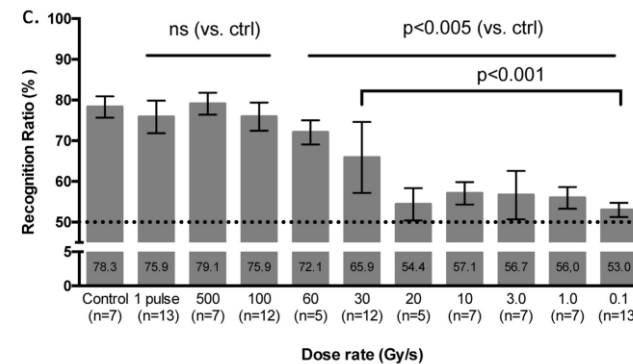
UHDR irradiation: « FLASH » therapy

➤ Very-high dose rates (> 40 Gy/s) protect normal tissues:

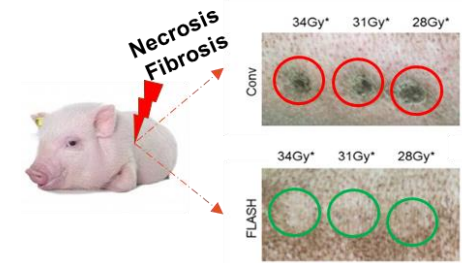
- Pioneer work of Favaudon *et al.* 2014: observed **lower normal tissue toxicity** (lung fibrosis) using **high-dose rate e- beam (> 40 Gy/s, E~6 MeV)** with **similar tumor control** to conv. (~0.03 Gy/s)



First demonstration of **lung fibrosis reduction (twice more dose)** on mice treated with FLASH compared to CONV irradiation, with comparable tumor response (Favaudon *et al.* 2014).



Memory sparing in mice after **whole brain irradiation** for dose rates > 100 Gy.s⁻¹ (Montay-Gruel *et al.* 2017)



Vozenin *et al.* 2018
Rohrer-Bley *et al.* 2022

- FLASH-effect confirmed with **e-/γ/p beams** in several *in vivo* experiments. Recently demonstrated with **scattered and PBS proton beam** (Diffenderfer *et al.* 2019).
- **First patient treated** in Lausanne (Bourhis *et al.* 2019).
- **Several clinical trials planned/started** (on electron beam UHDR facilities, < 10 MeV)

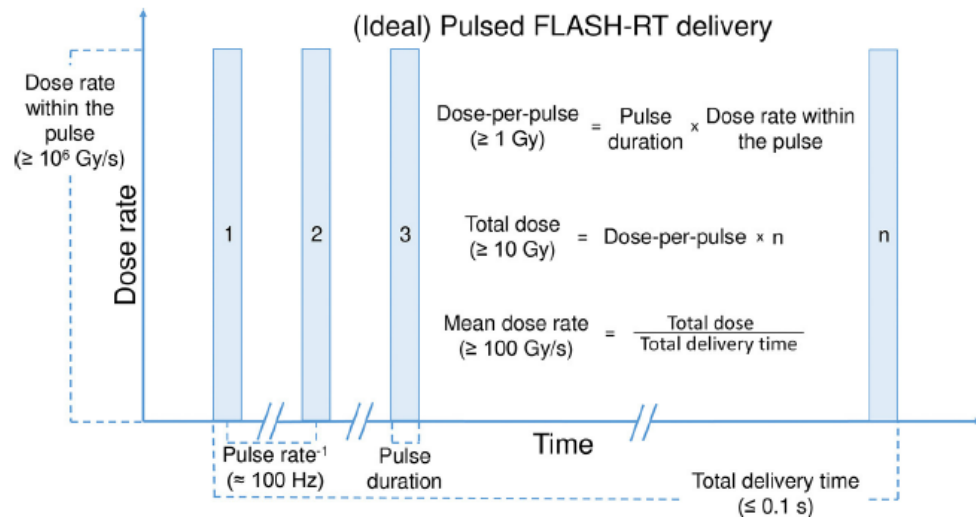
High and fast enthusiasm with FLASH therapy... Sometimes forgetting the basic rules of protection in RT

➔ Some negative results in veterinary trials on cats (Vozenin *et al.*) or dogs (Børresen B. *et al.*, *Front Onc* 2023) with osteonecrosis



UHDR irradiation: « FLASH » therapy

➤ What physical parameters are needed to have a “Flash” effect ?

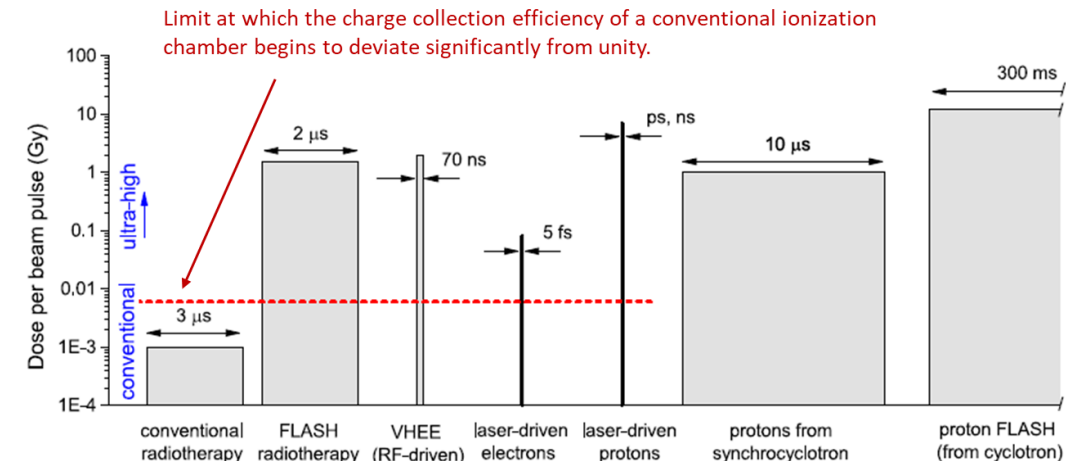


From Wilson et al. (2020), *Frontiers in Oncology*, volume 9:1563.

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fonc.2019.01563>

	FLASH	CONV
• Mean dose rate ($\dot{D}$)	≥ 100 Gy/s	$\sim 0,03$ Gy/s
• Total irradiation time (t)	≤ 100 ms	$> \text{min}$
• Dose per pulse (DPP)	≥ 1 Gy	~ 1 mGy
• Pulse dose rate ($\dot{D}_p$)	$\geq 10^6$ Gy/s	$\geq 10^3$ Gy/s
• Pulse duration (t_p)	?	~ 1 μs

➤ Which beams: different time-structures



From Schuller et al. (2020), *Physica Medica* 80 (2020) 134–150.

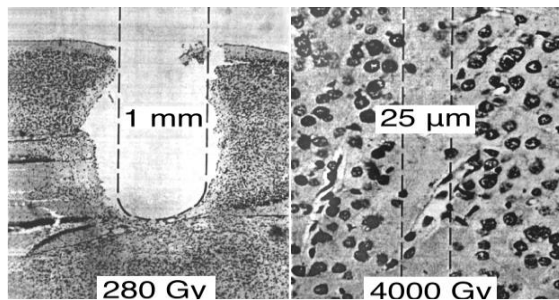
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejmp.2020.09.020>

➤ Challenges/Questions:

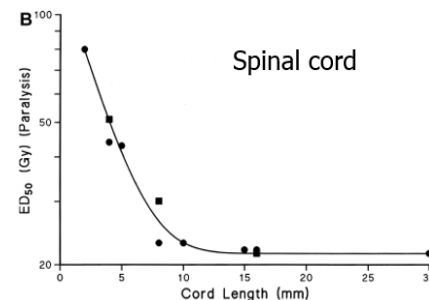
- **Limits of physical parameter's impact on FLASH biology:** pulse duration/intensity, mean or instantaneous dose-rate, beam size, total dose...
- **Chemical and biological mechanisms of FLASH-effect ?**
Is it observable in vitro ? → **need for FLASH-compatible irradiation platforms & multidisciplinary teams**
- **Need for Adapted dosimetry solutions** for very-high dose rates needed

Spatially Fractionated RT

- SFRT can (also) protect normal tissue, with equivalent tumor control efficiency.
 - Combines **submillimetric beam sizes** with **spatial fractionation of the dose**

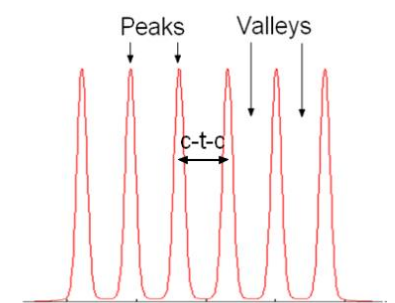
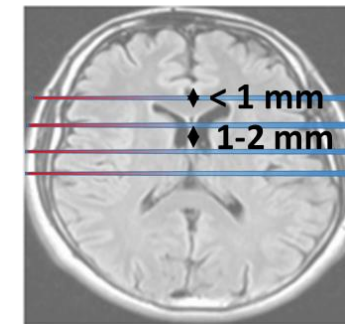


Dose-Volume effect (Zeman et al. 1959)



Hopewell et al., Radioth. Oncol. (2000)

+



Heterogeneous dose profiles

➔ Dose-volume effect = the smaller the beam size, the higher the tolerance dose in healthy tissues.

- **MRT:** Beam < 200 μm (synchrotron) ;
- **MBRT:** 400-700 μm (accessible compact sources)
- **Grid (or Lattice):** ~0.5-1 cm (used clinically)



➤ Challenge/questions:

- Explore the terra incognita of influence parameters
- Biological processes induced in normal and cancerous cells/tissues ?
- **Reliable dosimetry protocols for very small beam size**

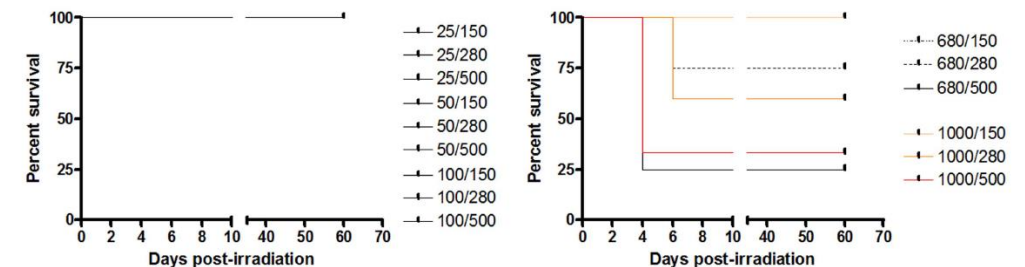
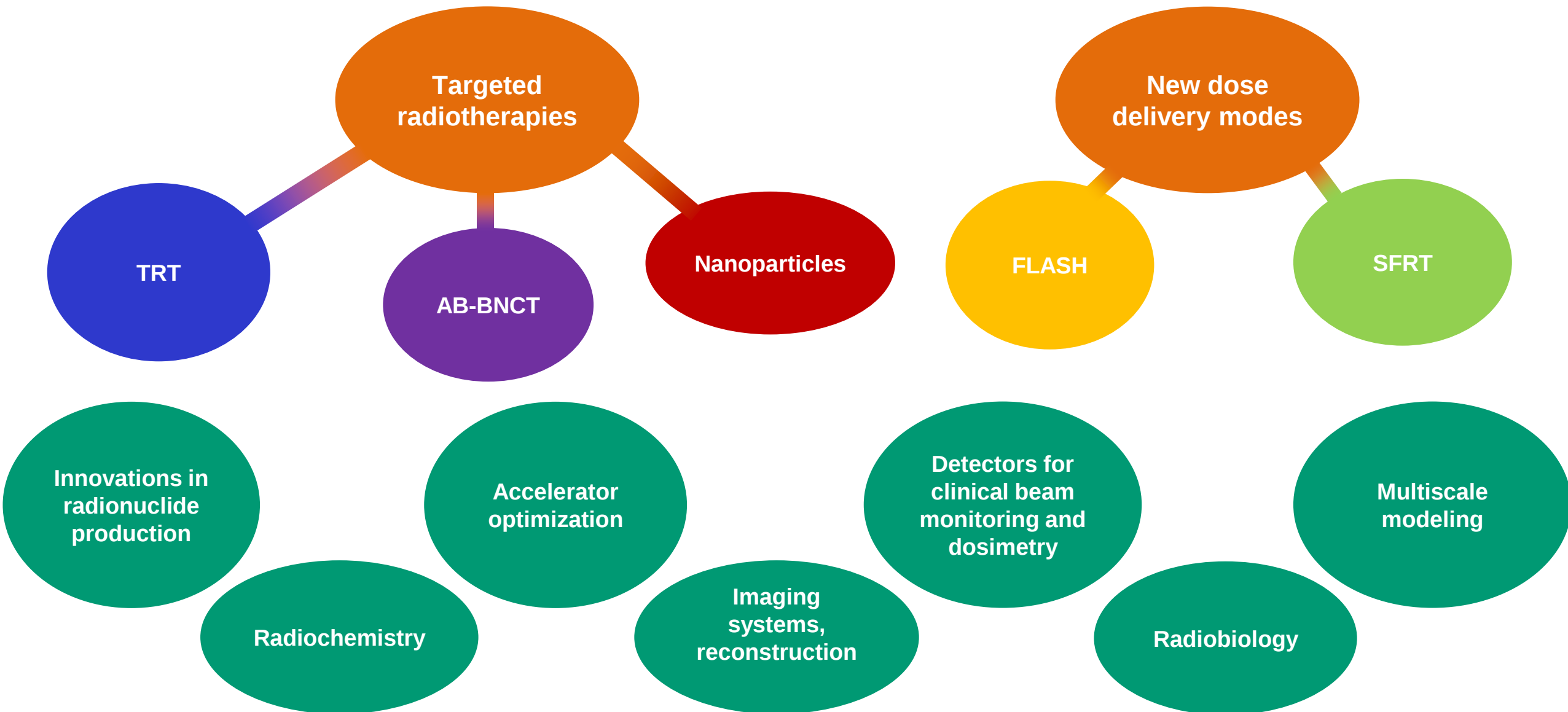


Figure 2. Survival curves of normal rats as a function of the configurations for irradiation. The first number in the legend denotes the width (μm) of the beamlets, the second, the dose (Gy), for instance: 25 μm/150 Gy. All surviving rats were culled at day 60 after exposure. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0088244.g002

IN2P3 contributions for innovative radiotherapies (RT)



IN2P3 contributions in TRT – Radionuclides

Innovations in radionuclide production

Optimal production routes for high-LET and theranostic pairs

Subatech
EUROPA

GANIL
REPAIRE

IPHC
Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curie
Strasbourg

UC Lab
Irène Joliot-Curie
Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis
PRALINE

Clinical
almost all are for clinical application... mid/long term

Targetry: explore projectiles/materials, high power...

UC Lab
Irène Joliot-Curie
Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis

Subatech

GANIL

REPAIRE

Nuclear data cross section

Subatech

GANIL

UC Lab
Irène Joliot-Curie
Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis

Develop selective, fast and robust chemical processes

UC Lab
Irène Joliot-Curie
Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis

Subatech

SMILES

PRALINE

Explore novel ligands, radiolysis impact

UC Lab
Irène Joliot-Curie
Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis

PRALINE

IPHC
Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curie
Strasbourg

Subatech

Bio-conjugation methods for diverse vectors (antibody, peptides...)

UC Lab
Irène Joliot-Curie
Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis

PRALINE

Improve radiolabeling and vectorization

Advance separation chemistry, ligands

Multimodal & multi-isotope imaging systems

IPHC
Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curie
Strasbourg

PET/SPECT

Subatech

XEMIS

CENTRE DE PHYSIQUE DES PARTICULES ET DES RAYONNEMENTS
CPPM

CLEARMIND

THIDOS

UC Lab
Irène Joliot-Curie
Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis

Preclinical and clinical imaging evaluation

Preclinical evaluation of radiopharmaceuticals

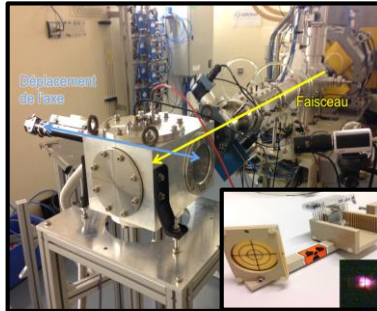
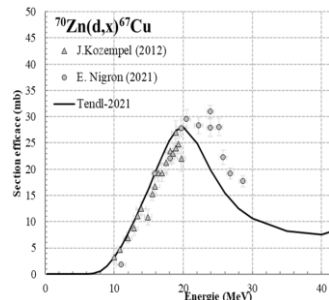
Radionuclide production @ Subatech - PRISMA

Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~11

2020 – 2025 highlights: develop non-conventional methods for producing radionuclide with high purity



- Numerous cross-section meas.** (~20y exp), especially based on **d** (and α) **beams**: $^{211}\text{At}(\alpha)$, $^{64}\text{Cu}(\gamma)/^{67}\text{Cu}(\beta)$, $^{117\text{m}}\text{Sn}(\text{CE})$, $^{186}\text{Re}(\beta)$, $^{161}\text{Tb}(\beta)$...
- Used for **nuclear code constraints**.



^{67}Cu production σ meas. ; Stacked foils for reaction monitoring

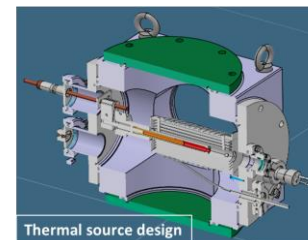
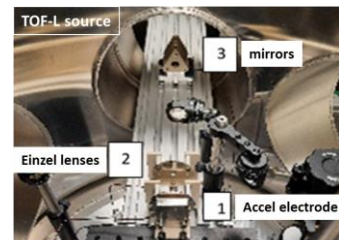


Ni-Gd Co-deposition

- Develop innovative targets** resistant to **high current** (~150 μA): enriched vs natural. E.g. **co-deposition** methods of Gd on Ni

- Advance separation: SMILES project (2023-*):** Mass separation devices using electrostatic or magnetic fields coupled to laser ionization. 3 phases:

- Charged particle optics simulations (SIMIONS):** achieved setup optimization.
- Analytical mass separator development:** construction of a TOF system coupled with Laser/thermal ionization sources (*1st exp 2025*)
- Magnetic mass separation:** completion ~2028



TOF-L desorption-ionization source ; Thermal source design

- Understanding chemical speciation:** radiolysis study on astatine (Ghalei et al. 2022)

5-year prospects:

- Collecting new nuclear data (5y):** monitor reactions (^{61}Cu , ...), contaminants ($^{177\text{m}}\text{Lu}$, ...), alpha route..
- Optimizing production (5y):** focus on Auger emitters ($^{197\text{m}}\text{Hg}$ with d, ^{71}Ge with p, d and α ...)
- Developing new targets :** molecular plating (2y), molten salts techniques (5y). Pelletizing (2y)
- Collecting fundamental chemistry data (5y):** speciation studies on Pa, Ru and Rh
- Explore alternative method** for purification and acceleration of particles: launched of **SMILES** facility (2y) and operations (5y), **Laser Plasma Acceleration (5y)** → **EUROPA** (European call) project launched in 2025 to demonstrate feasibility of RI production for medicine.

Main articles

Cross section	Nigron E. et al (2023), ARI, vol. 200, 110927
Targetry	Bigourdan T. et al (2023), doi:10.1051
Theranostics	Sounalet T. et al (2024), ARI, Vol. 205, 111190
Mass separation	Formento R et al (2020), NIM B, 463: 468-471
Speciation studies	Ghalei M. et al (2022) , Rad.Phys.Che 198 110224

Collaborations

- **Local:** CRCI²NA, LS²N, CHU Nantes, ICO, radiochemistry subatech
- **IN2P3:** IPHC, IJCLab, GANIL



- **International:** INFN Milano, INFN Legnaro, Univ. Granada, Oslo university, VUB, LARISSA (DE)
- **Industry:** AI4R, ORANO

REPAIRE@GANIL

Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~1
(15 persons in collab)

2020 – 2025 highlights: REPAIRE ANR (2019-2024): R&D for Production of innovAtive RadioElements

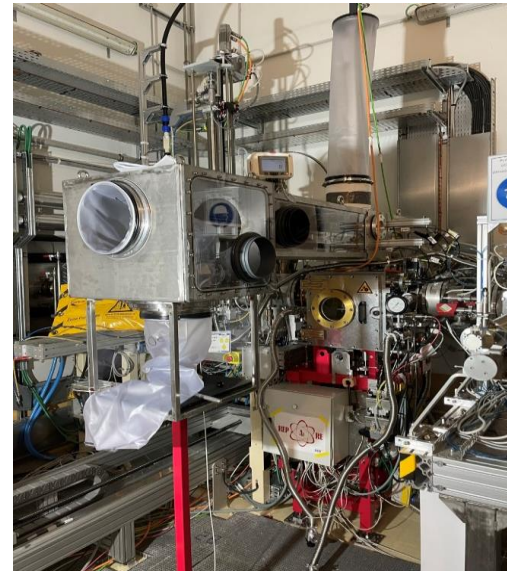
Project focused on the **production of ^{211}At** , as a pilot study. Aims to develop innovative technologies, later being adapted to industrial production.

- **Innovative targets:** main achievements:

1. Conception of a **high-power target based on solid Bismuth**.
→ Built and **tested (2023/2024)** at the Neutron for Science (NFS) facility at GANIL.
→ **Two Bi targets of ~1 GBq**, irradiated with $^4\text{He}^{2+}$ beams of 28 MeV, **shipped to ARRONAX**.
2. Investigation of **liquid bismuth target**: no go for prototype.

- **Cross-section measurements of $^{210,211}\text{At}$:**

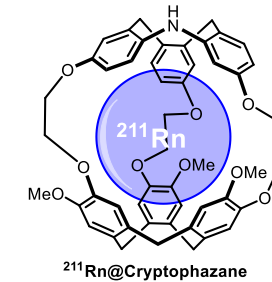
Measurement of the **^{211}At production cross section**, and this of ^{210}At in the $\alpha+^{209}\text{Bi}$ reaction at threshold energies, a contaminant for ^{211}At production that is important to characterize.



The REPAIRE target station installed in the converter room of the NFS facility at GANIL

5-year prospects:

- **Conception of a $^{211}\text{Rn}/^{211}\text{At}$ generator** with regional partners (GANIL, CERMN, IMOGERE). Work on **Rn cage molecules**:



- **Repeated production of ^{211}At** : 1 or 2 irradiations per month on SPIRAL2 beam (within PRISMAP+ network)
- **Investigation of new alpha and Auger emitter production.**
- **SIMS station pre-project install @GANIL**

Collaborations

- **IN2P3:** GANIL, Subatech, ARRONAX
- **Local:** CYCERON, CERMN, IMOGERE
- **International:** CERN

Funds



Main article

Ansari-Chaveau et al. 2025, Optimizing ^{211}At production cross section by studying the rise of ^{210}At cross section: First measurement using Linac SPIRAL2, submitted

2020 – 2025 highlights: new methodology for theranostic pair radioisotope developments

ANR TTRIP (2021-2025): Tools for Tb Radiolabeling Production for nuclear medicine :

• Target production:

- **co-electrodeposition technique for Gd target**
- **pure ^{155}Gd (> 99.9%) target production** by implantation on SIDONIE electromagnetic separator of IJCLab.

• Cross section measurements:

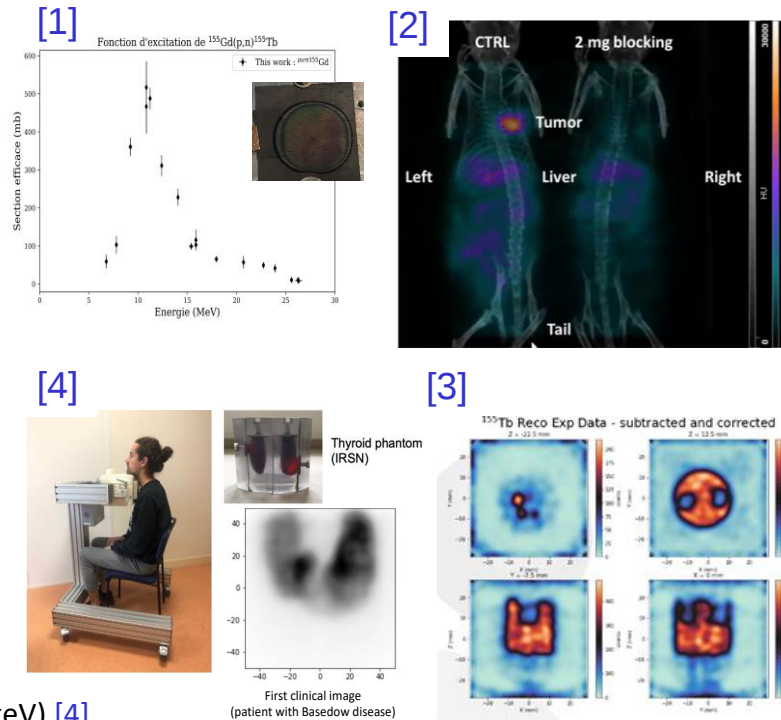
- **pure $^{155}\text{Gd(p,n)}^{155}\text{Tb}$ (Auger + SPECT) and Tb contaminants [1]**

• Complexation studies, radiolabeling :

- **new chelator compatible with Tb and antibody;**
- **^{161}Tb (β^- , Auger) biolabeling with antibody [2]**

• Preclinical & clinical imaging evaluation:

- **Impact study of ^{156}Tb pollution on ^{155}Tb SPECT image quality [3]**
- **Clinical validation of THIDOS camera (^{131}I therapy, 365 keV) [4]**



3-year prospects:

New production/chelation solutions for use of theranostic Sc (^{43}Sc -PET, ^{47}Sc - β^-) and Tb pairs:

- Exploration of other **Tb isotope production** (^{149}Tb (α) and ^{152}Tb (PET)).
- **Production of ^{43}Sc** (minimizing ^{44}Sc contaminant). Sc(III) complexation

Imaging :

- Study **3y imaging** possibilities with ^{44}Sc
- **γ camera** (THIDOS evolution) for imaging isotopes (**Eg $\lesssim 250$ keV**)

Collaborations

➤ **IN2P3:** IJCLab, Subatech, ARRONAX, GANIL

- **National:** ICMub (Dijon), IC-UNISTRA (Strasbourg), ASNR, ICR (Toulouse)
- **Clinique:** ICR (Toulouse), CHU Lausanne, Bordeaux
- **International:** NPI-CAS (Czech republic), Catholic Uni. KAERIS (south korea)

Funds

Main articles

- Wang et al. ARI, 2022, 186, pp.1102
 - Wang et al., ARI, 2023, 201, pp.110996
 - Bouteculet et al., ARI, 2024, 213, pp.111485
 - Bossis et al., IEEE TRPMS, 2024, vol. 8, no. 5, pp. 556-570
 - Bossis, et al., NIM A 2023, 1048 : 167907.
- 3 PhD:** M.Bouteculet & S.Lam (defense: fall 2025), M.Hussein (2nd year).

Instruments and methods for preclinical theranostic @ IPHC IMR

2020 – 2025 highlights:

Instrumental development for preclinical imaging:

Past decade: several **design of PET and SPECT imaging systems**, especially in collab with Inviscan company (FPGA dev, PET design...).

→ *evaluate possible transfer with SATT & CNRS innov.*

- **Primate imaging, pharmacokinetics:** Performance evaluation of the IRIS XL-220 PET/CT new camera dedicated to non-human primates. (Boisson *et al.* 2022). [1]

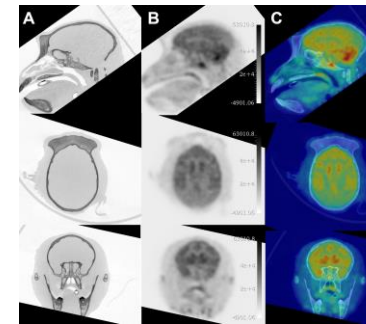
Preclinical imaging studies :

investigate **tumor characterization at both molecular and functional levels.**

- **Macroscopic radiobiology rpPET INCA project:** Comparison of the [18F]-FDG and [18F]-FLT PET tracers in the evaluation of the preclinical proton therapy response in hepatocellular carcinoma. (Brasse *et al.* 21) [2]
- **Radiomarker for breast cancer:** $^{64}\text{CuCl}_2$ PET imaging of 4T1-related allograft of triple-negative breast cancer in mice. (Latgé *et al.* 2023) [3]

The $^{64}\text{CuCl}_2$ is produced at Cyrcé.

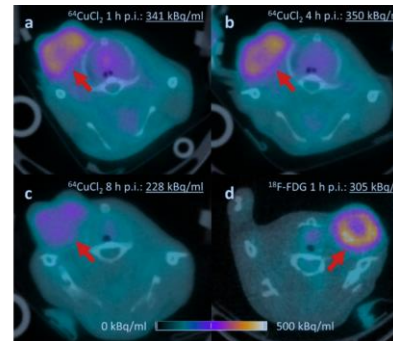
[1]



[2]



[3]



5-year prospects:

Instrumental & methods developments:

1. **Dose delivery optimization** (hypofractionation, flash) with protons → TEL & dose rate biol impact
2. **Dedicated preclinical instrumentation:** Whole-body & Brain mouse PET, High-efficiency SPECT
3. **Dedicated reconstruction and quantification algorithms** (AI based)

Innovative combination therapies and companion trials (glioblastoma, pancreatic cancer)

1. **Proton beam irradiation + activation molecules:** chemotherapy (1y), or nanoparticles (3y)
2. **TRT + activation molecules** (chimio, nanoparticles): first with ^{67}Cu (β) (1y), then with theranostic pairs (Cu, Tb) (3-5y)

Main articles

- Latgé, A., et al. (2023). $^{64}\text{CuCl}_2$ PET imaging of 4T1-related allograft of triple-negative breast cancer in mice. *Molecules* 2022, 27, 4869.
- Brasse, D. et al. (2021) *Molecular Imaging and Biology*. 2021 Oct;23(5):724-732
- Boisson et al. (2022), *EJNMMI Physics* 9, 10.

Collaborations

- **IN2P3:** IPHC (DSA, DEPE, Cyrcé), LPC Caen, Arronax
- **National:** CINAM, LATIM
- **Clinical:** CLCC Paul Strauss, ITI Institut du Médicament de Strasbourg
- **Industry:** Inviscan SA

Funds

Université de Strasbourg



Imaging systems

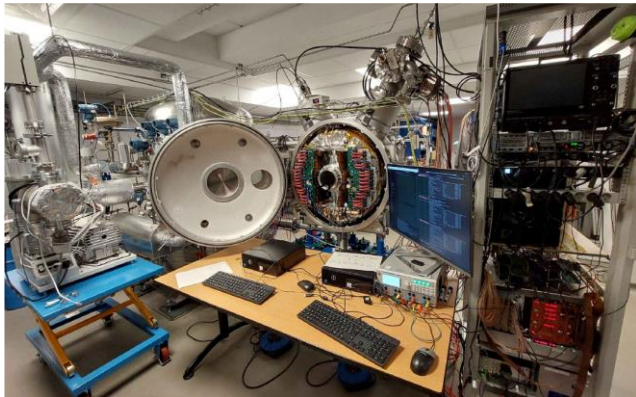
→ See Etienne Testa talk for details



2020 – 2025 highlights: several imaging systems for theranostic applications developed in IN2P3 labs, that can have an important role in the development of personalized dosimetry in TRT

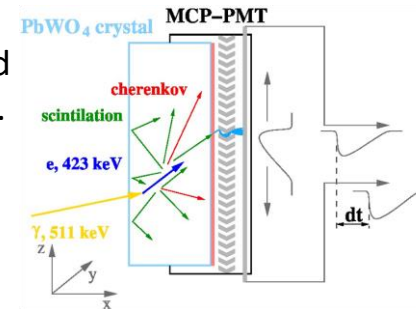
XEMIS:

Compton camera based on liquid Xe detection material → fast and sensitive, allowing very low injected activity imaging, + possible meas. of 3 γ emissions ($\nearrow$ resolution).
→ **1st Preclinical prototype installed at the Nantes University Hospital**, for diag.



CLEARMIND:

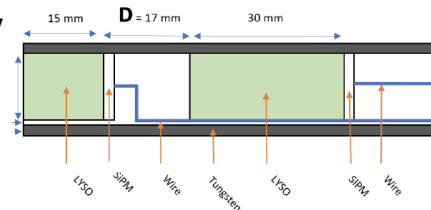
“scintronic” detector concept with TOF <100ps to improve PET imaging sensitivity and resolution (to ~1 mm).



CCP: Compton collimated probe intraoperative probe for radio-guided surgery.

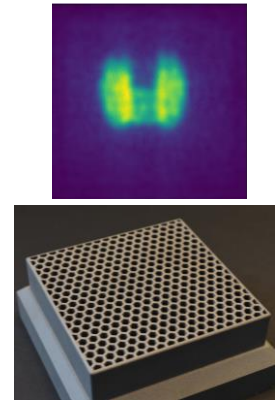
Valo “Déclic” ongoing

Livable: Preclinically testable probe prototype (pork)



THIDOS:

New portable **gamma camera** to control the dose delivered during radioactive iodine treatment for thyroid diseases.
Adaptation to high-energy emitters to apply TAT dosi



IN2P3 contributions in « Targeted RT » (MP)

Clinical

Innovative production targets



Neutron beam characterization

Optimal moderation

(?)

Experimental microdosimetry

Accelerator optimization & field characterization in BNCT
(BSA, target, design, meas...)

Modeling at sub-cell, cell and multicell (2D/3D) scales



Preclinical (in vivo) and clinical (patient) modeling/dosimetry

Multiscale modeling of physical dose and biological response

For in vitro/in vivo radiobiological studies



THIDOS

XEMIS



AIDER

For clinical dose monitoring (TRT, BNCT)

Monitoring of dose delivery

Sub-cell (nucleus, mitochondria, membrane...), cell and multicell (immunogenicity...) biological responses



Vector (or NP)/irradiation combination

Understanding the biological mechanisms

Accelerator Based-BNCT @ LPSC

GRENOBLE | MODANE

Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~1.6
(~9 persons in collab)

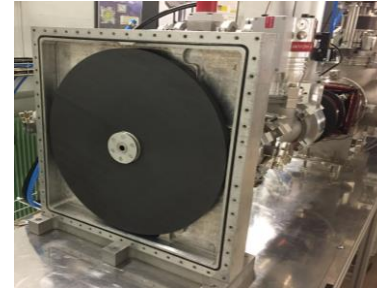
2020 – 2025 highlights: Master projet AB-nCT (2024-2027)

Project aims at proposing an optimal set of accelerator-based BNCT systems, including:

1. Innovative targets for intense epithermal neutron:

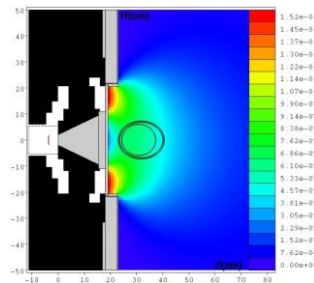
- **Develop** a rotating target on a graphite wheel + ^9Be (or ^{13}C) deposit [1]
- **Design** of a recycling liquid ^7Li -based target (patent ghetta 2020)
- Development of an e- thermal test beamline (3 kW/cm²)
→ graphite wheel held up to 500°C

[1]



2. Neutron field detection: develop 2 detector types.

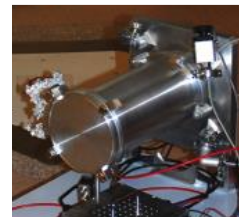
- NFM[2] : Gas detector (Ar/CO₂) with ^{10}B -coated foil for field monitoring
- MIMAC-FastN[3]: used as **neutron spectrometer in epithermal and fast ranges** or as **microdosimeter**, meas. 3D ion tracks after ^{10}B capture in tissue-equivalent gas.



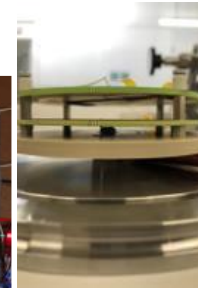
[4]

3. Design of optimal moderator (BSA) [4]:

inverse topological optimization algorithm.
Optimal BSA design for BNCT, reach treatment depth up to ~10cm (std ref ~7.6cm).



[3]



[2]

3-year prospects:

All dev aims at proposing an **optimal AB-BNCT facility** based on Argentina Deuteron accel design (*reflexion in the frame of BNCT-GLOBAL*)

1. **Targets:** demonstrator of the ^{13}C target deposited on the graphite wheel by sputtering method. (with Argentina collab)
2. **Detectors:** neutron angular distrution + NFM neutron meas. @ GANIL + TANDAR
3. **Microdosimetry:** validate μdosi meas. With tissue-eq. Gaz + compare Geant4 ionization
4. **Moderator:** design and construct the moderator for the metrological epithermal neutron beamline at LMDN. + TANDAR

Main article/patents

N. Sauzet, D. Santos et al., NIMA 2020, arXiv: 1906.03878
M. Hervé et al. Phys. Medica 88 (2021) 148–15
S. Chabod et al., Phys. Med. Biol 67(2022) 105009 .
C. Beaufort et al., 2024 JINST 19 P05052.
S. Chabod et al., Phys Med Biol. 2025 70(3).
Patents “Fast neutron detector and spectrometer”, Santos et al.. 2021, FR GB DE 36525633 ; “Liquid target for the production of nuclear particles” Ghetta et al. FR 1906353

Collaborations

- **National:** LMDN-ASNR, IAB
- **International:** TANDAR (CNEA, Argentina), BNCT-GLOBAL (Germany)

➤ IN2P3: IP2I

Funds



MITI-CHEMINS



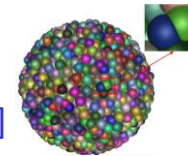
Multiscale modeling in TAT and BNCT

2020 – 2025 highlights: PICTURE PCSI (2021-25) + MP BioALTO (2024-2027) + MITI AlphaBioDose

Project aims at **developing flexible multi-scale models**, based on **Geant4-based MC codes** and **NanOx***, for biological dose prediction in TAT & BNCT considering source heterogeneity, RBE and cell geometry.

1. **TAT:** - **CPOP-Geant4-NanOx** calculation chain in spheroid geometries evaluate impact of **intra-cell** and **intra-tumor source heterogeneities** on **cell Survival** and **TCP**. [1]
- Analysis and CPOP code on **github** (CPOP will be in GATE soon).

[1]



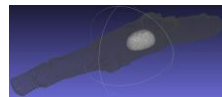
2. **BNCT:** - preliminar TCP calculation showing **huge impact of boron internalization** (factor 5-6 on $D_{TCP=0.5}$)
- Collab with **Univ.of Granada** to compare on ILL experiments.

3. **Experiments:**

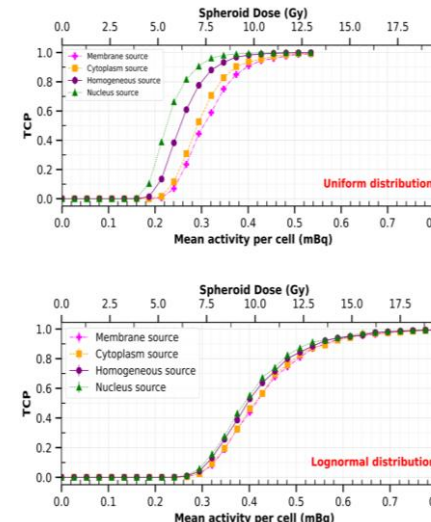
- instrumentation of the **BioALTO*** beamline (MP) for low-energy ion radiobiology - **LPSC diamond monitor**.

- **MITI collab** (GANIL, ISTCT, LITO) to perform **in vitro dose-controlled** cell survival with α -emitters + alpha@Silab.

- with LIRIS: **3D cell microscopy images** →



Objective to **characterize and quantify cellular lethal mechanisms** (DNA and other cytoplasm or membrane targets...) to constraint models.



5-year prospects:

***see E. Testa presentation**

TAT:

- Benchmark TAT **cell survival** + study impact of **cell geometry** + scale-up to **in vivo biological-dose maps**.
- Include in **NanOx extra-nuclear cell damage**. *Fit on BioALTO + α emitters experiments. (+ μ beams?)*
- **Create digital database** of various cell lines

BNCT:

- **Confirm heterogeneity impact** on TCP. Extend **multi-scale approach** including full BNCT dose components. IAB collab to **constraint BNCT model** and study **cell-biological mechanisms**
- **Collab Univ. Granada** → BNCT dose formalism comparison & inclusion in TPS.

Availability in open-source codes G4-DNA/GATE:

TAT/BNCT BioDose actor in GATE, BioALTO digital twin

Extend modeling to tumor response models

Collaborations

- **IN2P3:** IP2I, LPCA, GANIL, IJCLab
- **National:** LIRIS, ISTCT, LITO, IAB, Baclesse
- **International:** Univ. Granada, AMA/NASA, Argentina

Funds



Main articles

1. Levrague et al., 2025, Med. Phys., in proof
2. Alcocer-avila et al., 2024, Med. Phys. 51(12):9358-9371.
3. Levrague et al. 2024, hal-04775893 hal-04775900
Github: <https://github.com/lpc-umr6533/cpop.git> ;
https://github.com/VictorLevrague/py_nanox_package.git

Dose control in radiobiology

Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~1
(~4 in2p3 persons)

2020 – 2025 highlights: complementary solutions for dose-control in biology exp

TAT dosimetry:

Started 2018

4-Si detector [1] develop for TAT dosimetry, to qualify the **dose delivered** in **2D in vitro** irradiation experiments with dedicated cell supports [2]. Part of a program that studies multiscale biological effects for the treatment of brain metastasis.

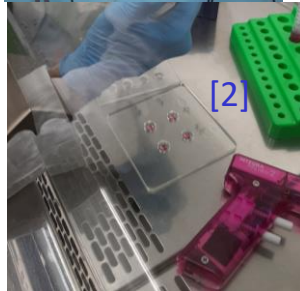
New deconvolution method developed for alpha energy spectra reconstruction (Doudard et al.)

From 2024: collab with LPSC/IP2I and LITO (MITI AlphaBioDose) to **provide exp.**

Data constraining the models.

+ **preclinical in vivo dosimetry** with multimodal-imaging data to evaluate treatment efficiency and toxicity.

GANIL



Microscintillator for TRT:

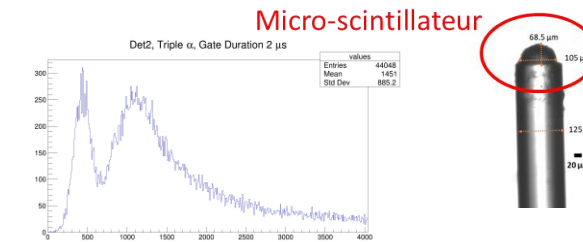
Objective:

Preclinical liquid source microdosimetry from isotope production to biodistribution studies:

- meas. activity at a **micrometer scale**
- Detecting **low activity levels**
- Implantation **near** (in vitro) or **within** structures of interest (in vivo)

Results:

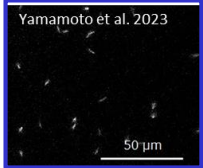
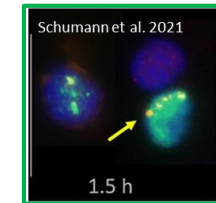
Efficacy and energy measurement with sealed α -sources.



5-year prospects:

TAT Dosimeter @ GANIL objectives:

- **Short-term:** - **Dose-effect relationships in TAT** (survival and DNA break) on metastatic breast cancer cells irradiated with ^{223}Ra (or available α emitters)
- **Benchmark biological effect models** (collab LPSC/LITO)
- **Medium/long-term:** In vitro dosimetry at the cellular level. Joint measurements of **α particle interactions...** → **Microscopy + Scintillator...** and the **rate of DSB** at the cellular level



μscintillator @ LPC:

- **Short-term:** test various organic scintillators. Control reproducibility of detector sizes and shapes. Study response as function of β/α
- **Deliverable 3-4 y:** functional and dose-calibrated detector

Collaborations

- **IN2P3:** LPSC, IP2I, IPHC
- **National:** ISTCT, LITO, Baclesse, CINAM

Funds



Main articles

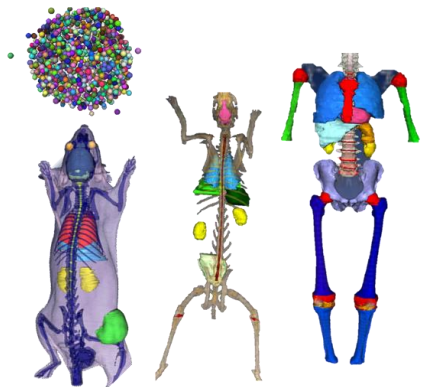
- A. Doudard* et al.. Med. Phys. 2023; <https://doi.org/10.1002/mp.16279>
A. Corroyer-Dulmont et al. Front. Oncol. 2021; <https://doi.org/10.3389/fonc.2021.714514>
Frelin-Labalme A-M et al. Med. Phys. 2019; <https://doi.org/10.1002/mp.13969>
Corroyer-Dulmont A et al.. Neuro-Oncology 2019; <https://doi.org/10.1093/neuonc/noz169>

Preclinical and clinical dosimetry of TRT

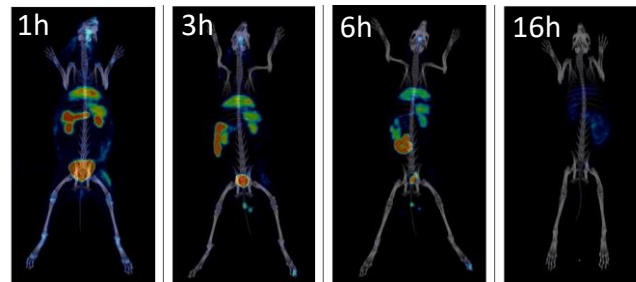
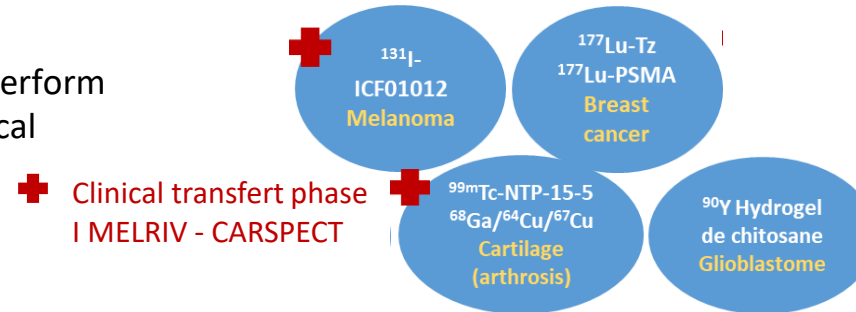
2020 – 2025 highlights: Over 15 years of partnership IMOST- Jean Perrin cancer center

Several projects, **studying the dosimetric and microdosimetric impact of innovative targeted radionuclide radiotherapy treatments** or radiopharmaceuticals dedicated to SPECT or PET imaging using the GATE simulation platform.

Demand from medical centers & INSERM lab to perform the dosimetry to accompagny Radiopharmaceutical developement and clinical transfert.



3D reconstruction (spheroid, mouse, rabbit and human) from microscopic or CT imaging. Definition of ROIs



Biodistribution study of radiopharmaceuticals by SPECT, PET imaging and dosimetric calculation

5-year prospects:

General:

- LPCA will continue dosimetry studies for preclinical and clinical treatments to **support the market introduction of innovative radiopharmaceuticals**.
- Development & validation of **GATE 10** simulation platform and **Geant4-DNA**.

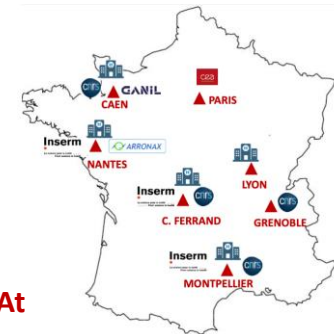
ANR IRHydroBRAIN (2025-2028) :

- Strategy for intraoperative TRT in glioblastome with radiolabeled hydrogel with ⁹⁰Y or ¹⁷⁷Lu.

Apply to TAT : FANTαSTIC

Development and testing of new biophysical models for biological dose predictions.

²²⁵Ac, ²¹²Pb, ²¹¹At



Main articles

- Thivat E et al. *BMC Cancer*. 2022;22(1):417. doi:10.1186/s12885-022-09495-3
- Jouberton E et al.. *Med Phys*. Published online 2018. doi:10.1002/mp.13165
- Chanchou M et al. *Méd. Nucl. - IFM*. 2021;45(4):175. doi:10.1016/j.mednuc.2021.06.008
- Fois GR et al. *Med Phys*. 2020. doi:10.1002/mp.14603
- Thivat E et al. *Front Med*. 2022;9:993151. doi:10.3389/fmed.2022.993151

Collaborations

- **Local:** IMOST, CLCC Jean Perrin
- **National:** CRAN
- **International:** OpenGate Collab

➤ **Industry:** NanoH

Funds



Clinical dose control systems

→ see E. Testa presentation

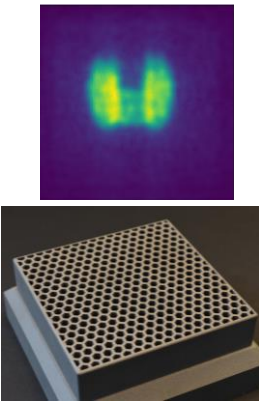
Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~10
(++ persons in collab)

2020 – 2025 highlights:

THIDOS:

New **portable γ camera** of 10x10cm field of view, to control the **dose delivered** during ^{131}I (β 364 keV) treatment for thyroid diseases.

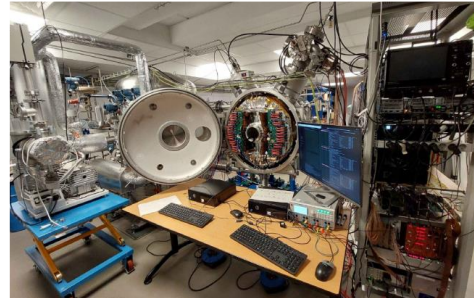
Evaluate accuracy and robustness of the quantification protocol.



XEMIS:



→ **Medium (4-5y)** : apply for **TRT dosimetry planification** for preclinical appy



→ **Long (>5y)**: patient-scale prototype.

5-year prospects:

Complementary Compton camera solutions to guide TRT dosimetry:

THIDOS → 2025: test in 3 clinical centers: IUCTO, Baclesse, Cochin for thyroid.

→ 2025-27: adapt to ^{123}I (160 keV) for plan dose + exploit possible applications for ^{177}Lu (

→ >2026... Develop a DL-enhanced **Compton camera** to allow dosimetric monitoring of **TAT** (Eg $\geq$ 400 keV). ^{149}Tb , ^{213}Bi , ^{225}Ac or ^{212}Pb



AIDER

European-horizon 25-29: develop Compton cameras for radiopharmaceutical dose control.

→ In charge of optimizing the CC prototype by MC simulation and image reconstruction

Collaborations

- **IN2P3**: IJCLab, Subatech, IP2i
- **Clinical/national**: IUCTO, Baclesse, Cochin, CREATIS
- **International**: Korea (thidos) + European (AIDER)

Funds



NUCLÉAIRE
& PARTICULES



IMT Atlantique
Bretagne-Pays de la Loire
Ecole Mines-Télécom



Main articles

- Bossis et al., IEEE TRPMS, 2024, vol. 8, no. 5, pp. 556-570
- Bossis, et al., NIM A 2023, 1048 : 167907.
- Lequertier, V. et al.. PMB, 70:045001.
- Lainé et al.. Sensors, 2024, 24 (17), pp.5826.

Nanoparticles and radiosensitization

Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~2.7

2020 – 2025 highlights: explores radiobiology with an emphasis on radiosensitization (NP)

5-year prospects:

Development of mitochondria-targeted gold NP



The team develop since several years innovative NP specifically targeting the cell mitochondria.

→ Despite effective targeting, **no significant radiosensitizing effect** was observed on prostate tumor cells. → abandon

Investigate radioprotective effect :

Key molecular pathways highlighted in mitochondria DNA mechanisms involved in radioprotective effect in hibernation thanks to advanced instrumentation & analysis developments.



Other NP studies @ in2p3:

- NP radiobio: **IP2I** C. Rodriguez's team have 15 y experience in NP research, especially with **AGuIX® NP** and radiosensitization mechanisms implying **extra-nuclear cell organelles**.
- **LP2IB – IRIBIO**: radiosensitization quantification studies performed on metallic/oxide NP with AIFIRA μbeam & analysis tools
- NP modeling: **IP2I** Beuve's team (F. Poignant PhD) + R. Delorme:

Innovative approaches and metabolism impact

1. Dose enhancement using nanoparticles

- 2025-2028 : **Mitochondrial / metabolism** impact of dose enhancement of well characterized **metal nanoparticles**.
- Complementary analyses from IP2I partner



2. Hibernation: a bio-inspired approach to radiosensitize human cells

- 2025-2027: Deciphering specific mechanisms involved in radiosensitization
- 2026-2028: Characterization of bear serum specific compounds



3. Follow-up of irradiation impact on cells

- Dev of prototype of an **epifluorescence microscope coupled with a mini-irradiator** (X-rays)
- Development of related dosimetry



Collaborations

- **IN2P3**: IPHC, IP2I
- **National**: UNH, LNHB, CIRCI2NA
- **International**:

Funds

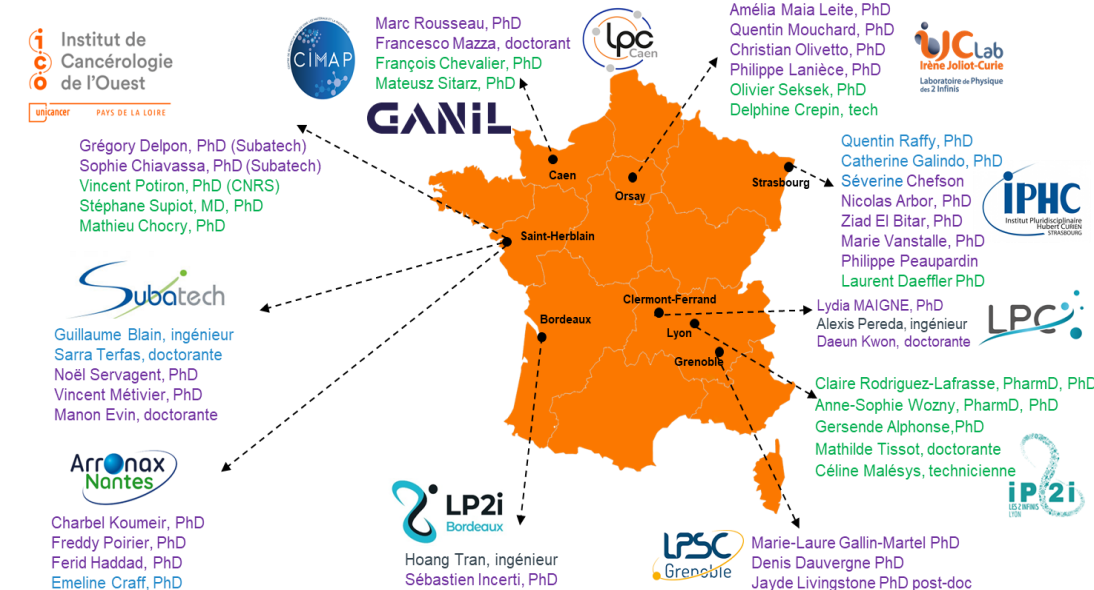
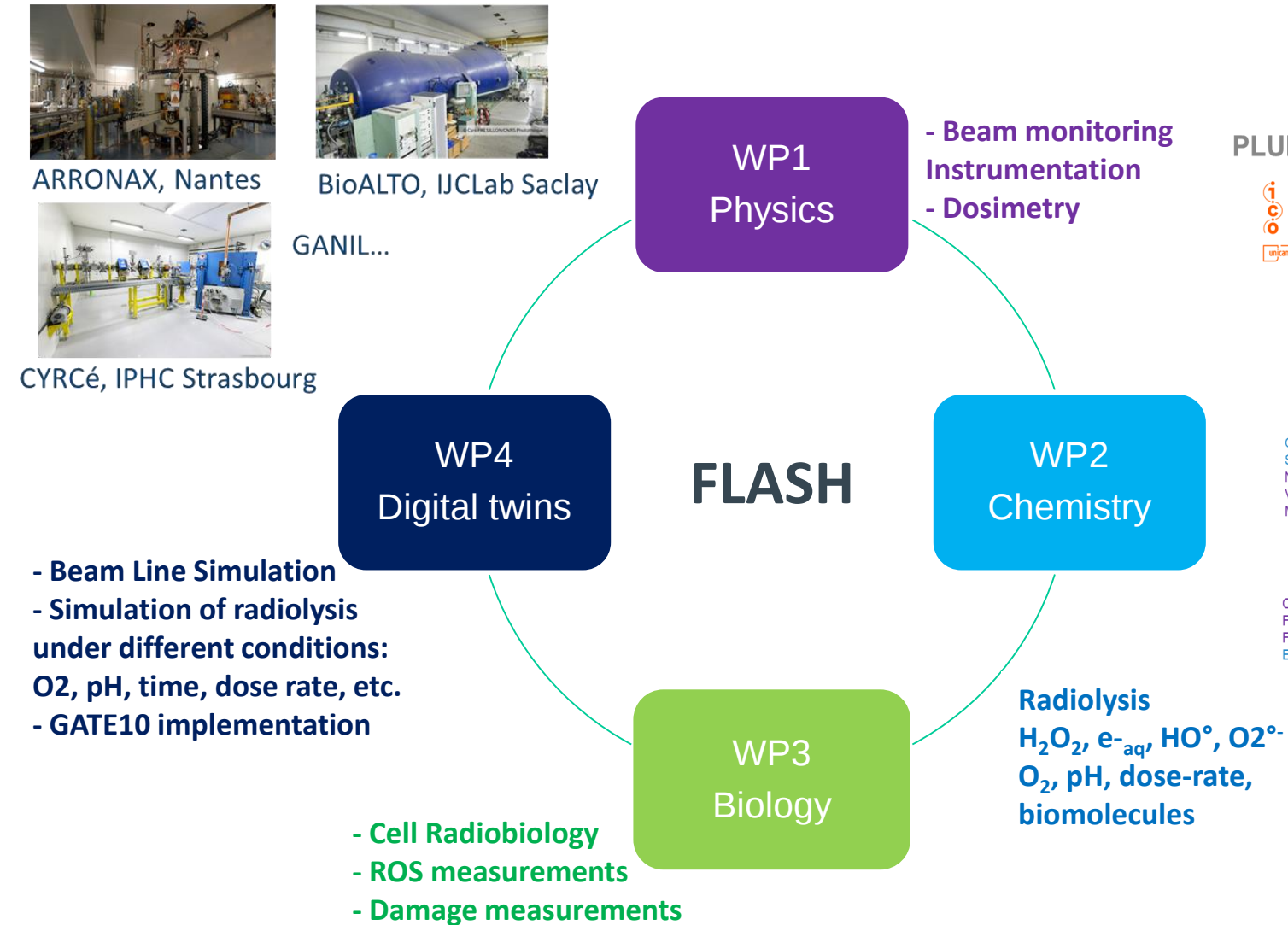


80 | PRIME

Main articles

Debar L et al.(2023). Mitochondrion., 71:93-103.
 Martucci M et al. (2023). Methods Mol Biol., 2615:121-137.
 Martucci M et al. (2024). Nucleic Acids Res., 52(10):5912-5927.
 Mehmedović M et al. (2022). Biochim Biophys Acta Mol Basis Dis.,1868(10):166467.

IN2P3 contributions in « FLASH therapy » (MP)



Understanding mechanisms of FLASH therapy

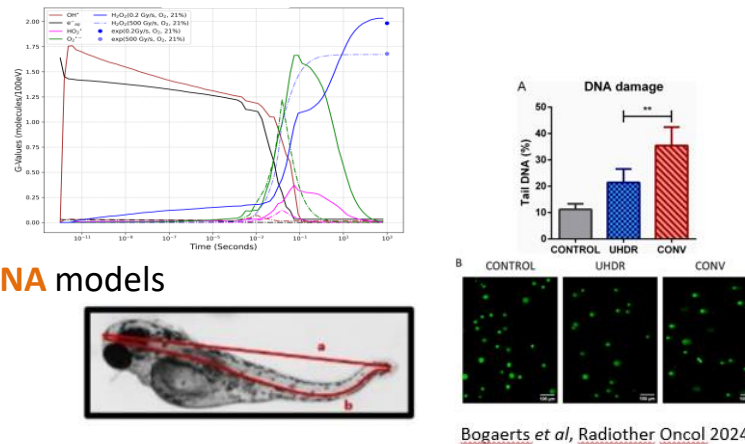
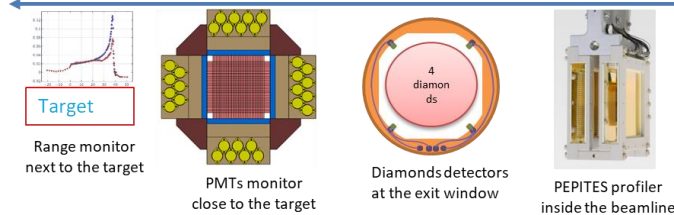
Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~10

2020 – 2025 highlights: FLASHMOD & beyond...



FLASHMOD aimed to develop a comprehensive environment around the **ARRONAX** proton beam to study the **FLASH effect** [0,1 Gy/s – 300 kGy/s].

- Arronax FLASH beamline adaptation**: developed pulsed irradiation modes allowing $\dot{D} = 1 \text{ mGy/s to } 1 \text{ MGy/s}$ + innovative beam monitoring instrumentation:
- Beamline modeling with GATE*** (digital twin) and dosi validation.
- Radiochemistry studies**: Measurements of production yields of several ROS in CONV and UHDR, including H_2O_2 and e^-_{aq}
- Modeling of radiolysis in GATE***, validate Geant4-DNA models against experiments.
- Biological zebrafish embryos** and endothelial cells experiments. New small animal holder.



5-year prospects:

*see E. Testa presentation

- Fruitful & interdisciplinary collab within IN2P3 (LPCA, Subatech, Arronax, LP2IB) → **being continue within next "FLASH MP" + AAP**:
- Measurement of **ROS in cellular environments** (until now pure water).
 - LPCA** will continue **validation of G4-DNA** + implementation in **GATE*** (Chemistry Actor)
 - Subatech** investigate exp. chemistry of FLASH, targeting LET influence, time structure effect and superoxide species.
 - FLASHDANZE** project submitted to PIANOFORTE call (with ASNR)

Main articles

Fois GR, et al. *Med Phys*. Published online 2024.
doi:10.1002/MP.17281
 Evin M et al. (2024), *Physica Medica*, 120, 103332
 Ghannam Y et al. *Radiother Oncol*. 2023 Oct;187:109820.
 Terfas et al. (2025) *J. of Physical Chemistry A*, DOI: 10.1021/acs.jpca.5c00629

Collaborations

- **IN2P3**: Subatech, LPCA, LP2I, soon IPHC
- **National**: CLCC, ICO Nantes, INSERM US2B, CIMAP/GANIL
- **International**: Dredse Flash team (Germany)

Funds



Radiolysis of Biomolecules for FLASH irradiation

Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~1.5

2020 – 2025 highlights:

This project aims at developing a **systematic study**, at the **molecular scale**, of the **radiolysis of protein biomolecules by accelerated ions** studying LET, Ph and the **dose-rate effect** on radiolytic yields.



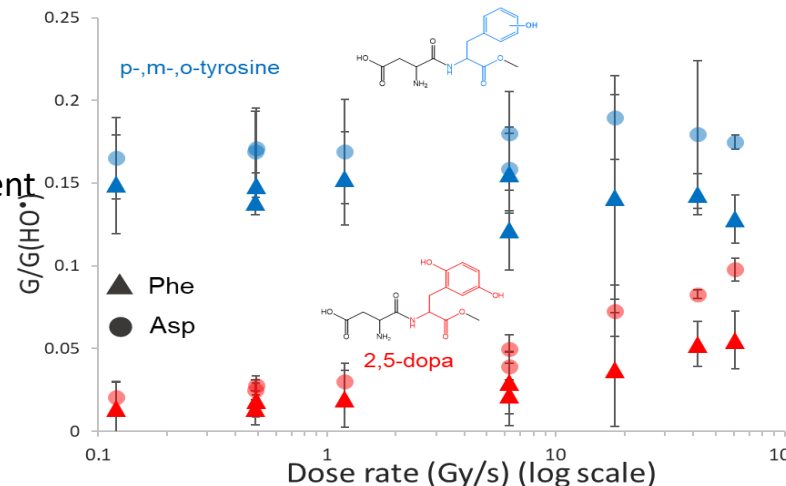
Other Objective: to deliver robust experimental data for simulation codes Geant4-DNA).

1. **Results:** - **In water:** radiolytic yields of $\cdot\text{OH}$ and e_{aq}^- remain unaffected by dose rate under 24 MeV proton from dose rates (0.1 Gy/s) up to 200 Gy/s (300ns), but **decreased above several kGy/s**.

- **In biomolecules:** 2,5-DOPA and aspartame analog yields increased clearly with D.

2. Another applied project:

Dev of **thin dosimetry films** for **skin dose** measurement during treatment → **CNRS Prématuration**, **Q. Raffy, 2023–2025** → continues with SATT.



5-year prospects:

- Study dose-rate effects on radiolysis of **water and biomolecules** under **electron and X-ray** (Aerial-CRT), **UHDR μ pulses H^+** @ ARRONAX and at HIMAC (Japan).
- Study of the impact of **O2 concentration** on dose-rate effects in **biomolecule** radiolysis.
- Study **more complex peptides** to identify **potential intramolecular radical–radical transfer** processes that may occur in proteins.
- Investigation of the **evolution of radicals** formed in **proteins** under irradiation, using low-temperature (26 K) irradiation conditions.

Collaborations

- **IN2P3:** Subatech, Arronax
- **National:** Icube, the platform Acacia, G4-DNA collab, G. Baldacchino.
- **International:** NIRS-QST (Japan) and CNAO (Italy), ICANS, Aerial-CRT (Illkirch) platform

Funds

2 PCSI plan cancer projects
PHC Sakura Project (2021-23)

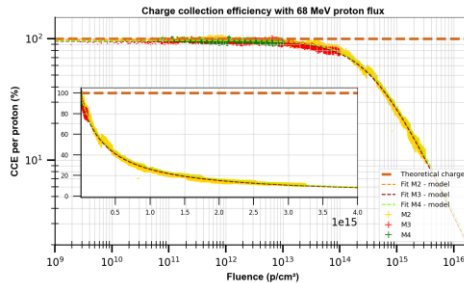
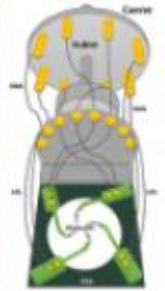
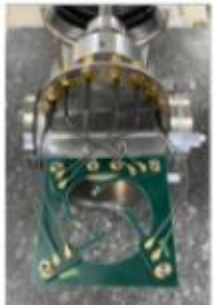
Dose monitoring for FLASH & microbeams

Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~2.6

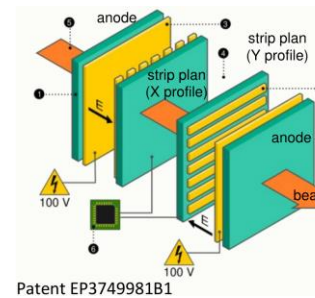
2020 – 2025 highlights: Find solutions to monitor ion beams at **UHDR** [1-1MGy/s] ...

and **SFRT**

DIAMONI:

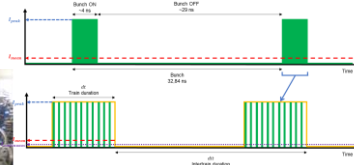
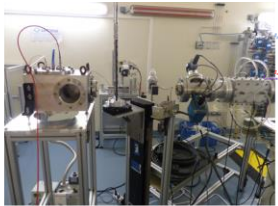


PEPITES:



***see E. Testa presentation**

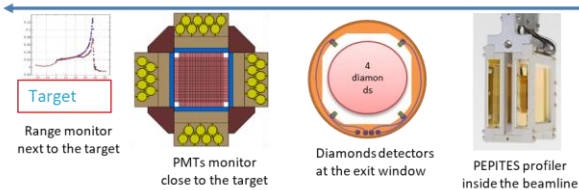
Irradiation platforms



CYRCé



BioALTO



ARRONAX

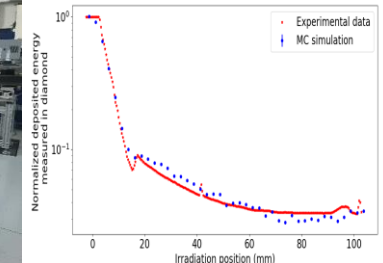
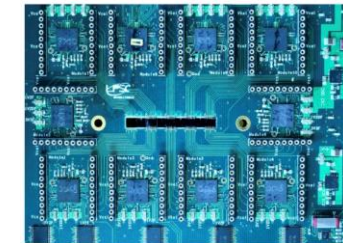
Dose monitoring for FLASH beam is a hot topic: UHDPulse (2019-2023) European project from metrological labs dedicated to FLASH detector development to support the FLASH clinical transfer challenge



Diamond detector for MRT



MRT is progressing toward clinical application. At **ESRF synchrotron**, a veterinary trial has started, very promising for resistant/diffuse tumors.
→ LPSC developed a stripped diamond detector to monitor the irradiation.



→ Transfer on Australian synchrotron and other compact sources.

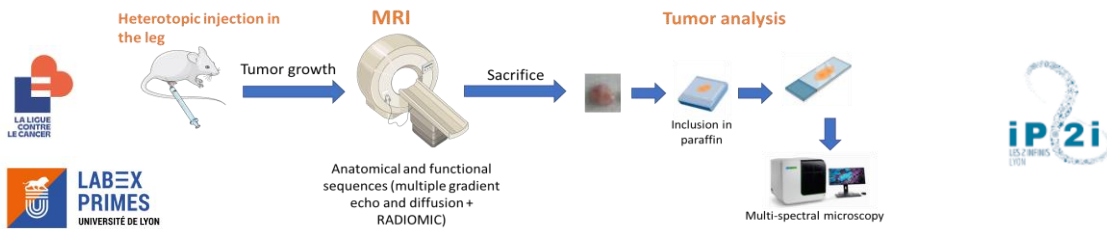
Radiobiology & Patient based models

Permanent IN2P3
FTE ~

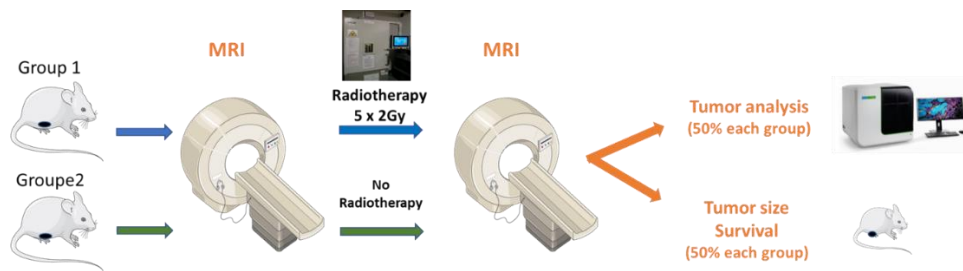
2020 – 2025 highlights:

Correlation of RADiomic and RADiobiological parameters to predict tumor response of oral cavity and oropharyngeal cancers to RADiotherapy

Validation of the mouse model, calibration of MRI images and tumor sections

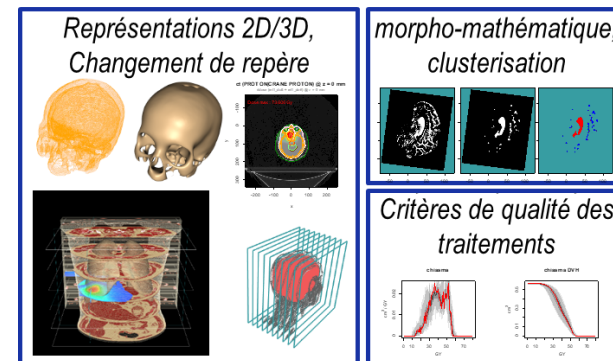


Correlation of radiobiological datas and radiomics parameters

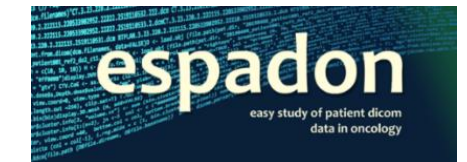


	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Pre-clinical model: Mouse model and acquisition of biological datas and radiomics					
Correlation of biological and MRI datas					
Validation of pre-clinical parameters on human tumoral samples					
Clinical validation of the parameters					

Numerical tool developments for patient-based modeling (PMRT program), analysis and treatment choice



librairie logicielle R

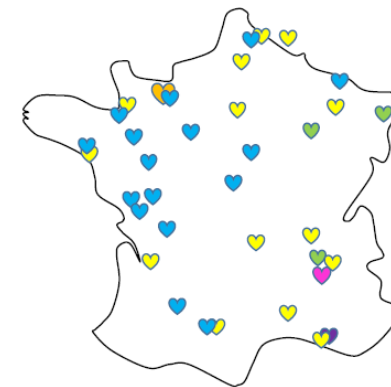


<https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=espadon>

Information sur <https://espadon.cnrs.fr>

~350 ⬇️/mois en 2024

Spécification du Parcours Médical (SPaM)



Clinical collaborations

Study of comparative toxicity with Xrays or proton treatments at CLCC Baclesse

Summary – FLASH MP perspective (in construction)



WP1 - Contrôle qualité et dosimétrie des lignes faisceaux UHDR H^+ , He^{2+} , C, e^- , RX (Resp: Charbel Koumeir, Ziad El Bitar)

- TASK 1 – Contrôle de la structure temporelle du faisceau
- TASK 2 - Développement instrumental spécifique UHDR
- TASK 3 - Protocole dosimétrique ions et validation
- TASK 4 – Protocole dosimétrique électrons et validation

WP2 – Effet du débit de dose sur la radiolyse de l'eau expérimentale (Resp: Quentin Raffy, Guillaume Blain)

- TASK 1 – Effet du débit de dose en fonction du TEL
- TASK 2 – Effet de la structure temporelle des faisceaux
- TASK 3 – Influence du pH et de O_2
- TASK 4 – Radiolyse de biomolécules

WP3 - Irradiations de populations cellulaires (Resp: François Chevalier, Claire Rodriguez-Lafrasse)

- TASK 1 – Effet du débit de dose en fonction du TEL
- TASK 2 – Effet de la structure temporelle des faisceaux
- TASK 3 – Influence du pH et de O_2

WP4 – Jumeaux numériques multi-échelles (Resp: Lydia Maigne, Nicolas Arbor)

- TASK 1 – Simulations des lignes/faisceaux d'irradiation avec GATE 10
- TASK 2 – Simulations de la chimie de la radiolyse avec Geant4-DNA
- TASK 3 – Simulations des dommages biologiques (modèles biophysiques)
- TASK 4 – Création d'une base de données ouverte

Summary – FLASH MP perspective (in construction)

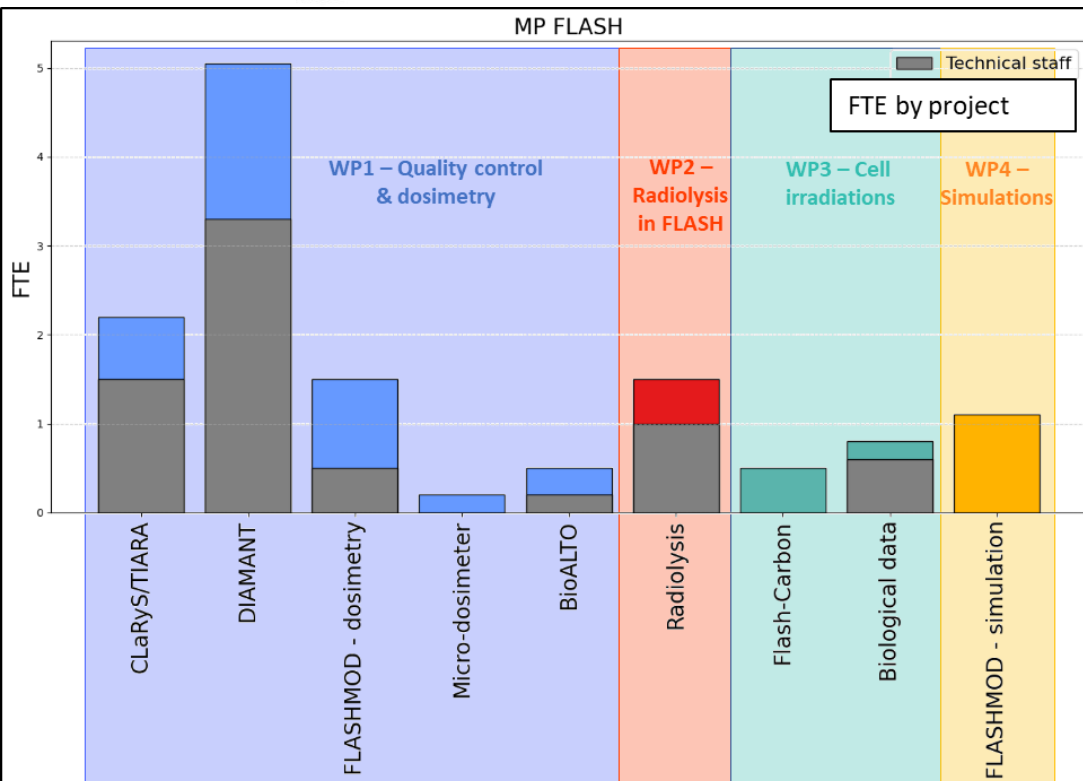


WP1 – Quality control & dosimetry

WP2 – Radiolysis in FLASH

WP2 – Cell irradiations

WP3 – Simulations



Total FTE – in2p3:

- 6.25 researchers,
- 7.2 technical staff
- 10 PhD defended
- 7 PhD ongoing
- 5 CDD researchers
- 1,5 CDD techn. staff

Total articles: 40

Total funds:

- 185 K€ in2p3,
- 818 K€ non-in2p3

Scientific Objectives of the MP :

Better understand the fundamental mechanisms in FLASH by studying the FLASH phenomenon

- on different types of beams (ions and e-)
- Combine UHDR and TEL / pH / biological model
→ **Multidisciplinary approach**
- Dosimetry and implementation of UHDR ion beams
- Understanding chemical mechanisms
- Understanding biological mechanisms
- Developing innovative predictive digital twins

Summary – Targeted RT MP perspective (in construction)



WP1 – Multiscale modeling of physical dose and biological response

Task 1.1: Modeling at the subcellular, cellular, and multicellular scales (*2D and 3D*)

Task 1.2: Preclinical and clinical modeling (*in vivo, patient*)

WP2 – Optimization and control of dose delivery

Task 2.1: Optimization and characterization of neutron fields in BNCT

Task 2.2: Dose delivery control in in vitro and preclinical radiobiology

Task 2.3: Clinical dose delivery control in internal radiotherapy (*personalized dosimetry*)

WP3 – understanding the biological mechanisms

Task 3.1: Studies of subcellular (*nucleus, mitochondria, membrane...*), cellular, and multicellular (*immunogenic...*) responses

Task 3.2: Vector (or NP) /irradiation combination studies

Total FTE – in2p3:

- 10.3 researchers,
- 11.4 technical staff
- 12 PhD defended
- 4 PhD ongoing
- 6 CDD

Total articles: 25

Total funds:

- 162 k€ in2p3,
- 1.44 M€ non-in2p3

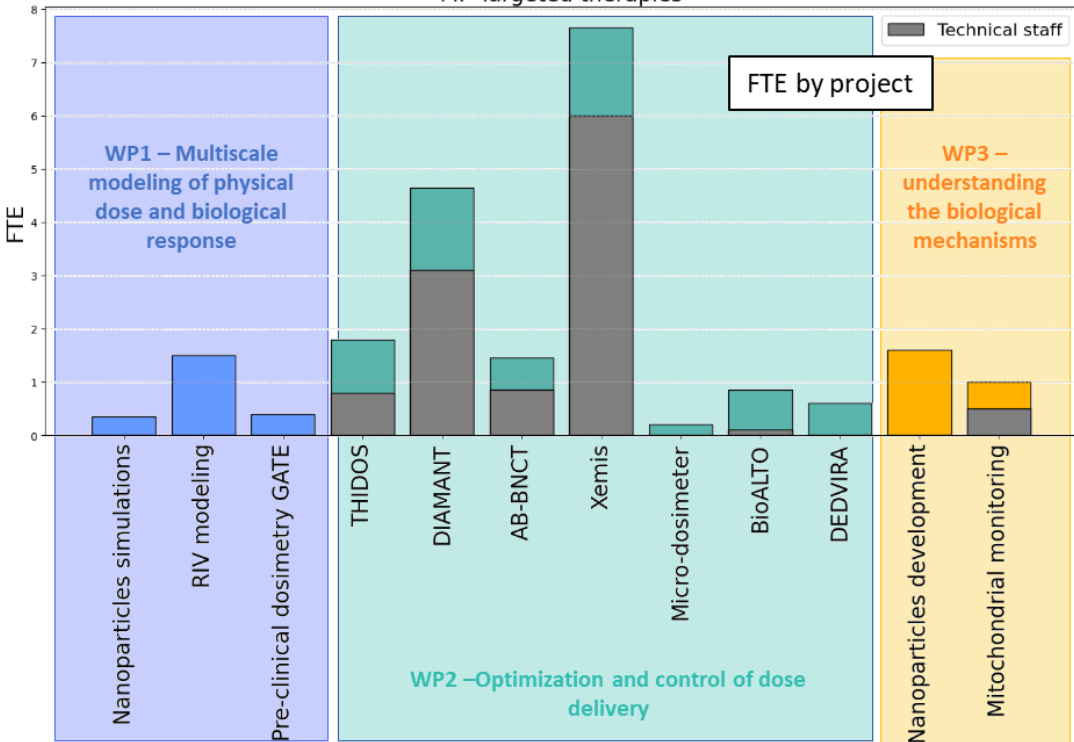
Scientific Objectives of the MP :

Optimize therapeutic efficacy, improve personalized dosimetry

1. Optimize dose delivery and radiation control
2. Determine the physical dose delivered and predict a biological response to treatment.
3. Understand the mechanisms involved in therapeutic efficacy and how to quantify them

Necessary multidisciplinary collaborations (physical, biological, chemical and clinical)

MP Targeted therapies



Summary – Radionuclide MP perspective (in construction)



WP1 – High-LET particles

Optimizing the therapeutic use of alpha and Auger emitters.

WP2 – Theranostic approaches

Designing effective theranostic pairs.
→ Lanthanides, transition metals, biological and chemical compatibility

WP3 – Innovative radionuclide production

Exploring laser-plasma acceleration and mass separation

WP4 – Separation and formulation chemistry

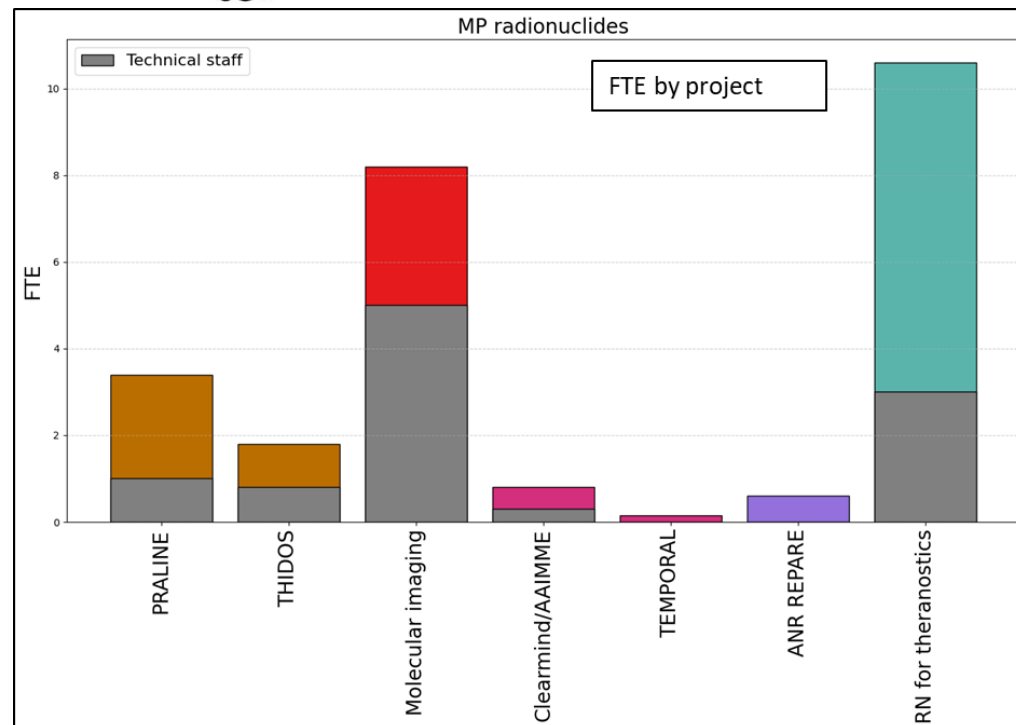
Developing rapid and selective chemical processes

WP5 – Vectorization, radiolabeling

Efficiently coupling radionuclides and biological vectors

WP6 – Imaging & Dosimetry

Evaluating the spatiotemporal distribution of radiopharmaceuticals



Total FTE – in2p3:

- 15.5 researchers,
- 10.1 technical staff
- 13 PhD defended + 11 PhD ongoing
- 5.2 CDD

Total articles: 69

Total funds:

- 152 kEuros in2p3,
- 1.3 MEuros non-in2p3

Scientific Objectives of the MP Project:

1. Innovate in the production of radionuclides
2. Master chemical and biological transformation
3. Evaluate, visualize, and optimize clinical efficacy

Conclusion

- Highly dynamic activity in the very interdisciplinary field of “innovative therapies” :
 - Some **fundamental researches** : understanding/modeling biological or chemical effects, technological breakthrough in instrumentation, cross section measurements...
 - Others **pushed up to clinics / valorization** → importance of large variety of profiles and projects. Offer flexibility
- Significant number of peer-reviewed publications and successful calls for proposals attest to the relevance of the research conducted.
- Structuration:
 - **Strong local collab** with numerous INSERM/clinical and other academic partners (Labex...)
 - **National** with consolidated intra-in2p3 and inter-institute (INSERM, ASNR, CNRS, CEA...) collab, notably thanks to the **MI2B GdR**, MITI programs, “IN2P3” platform activities, scientific networks (FLI, PRISMA...) and **project call opportunities**.
 - **International** through important scientific and technical collabs (e.g. Radionuclide PRISMAP, BNCT, CNAO, major role within the GATE and Geant4DNA collaborations...)
- Next 4 (?) in2p3 MP construction to come in fall 2025...



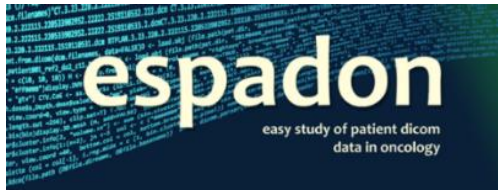
NUCLÉAIRE
& PARTICULES

Thank you

Rachel DELORME on behalf of the community



Appendix

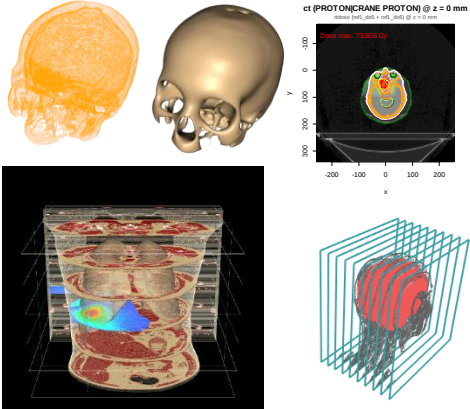


<https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=espadon>
Information sur <https://espadon.cnrs.fr>

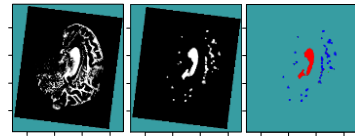
librairie logicielle R

- lecture fichiers DICOM
- pseudonymisation
- contrôle qualité : représentation 2D-3D, lien entre les données
- calcul de métriques usuelles + nouvelles
- automatisation des analyses et des études cliniques
- exploration

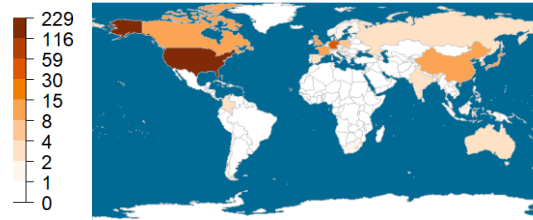
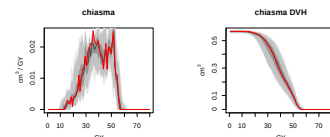
Représentations 2D/3D, Changement de repère



morpho-mathématique, clusterisation

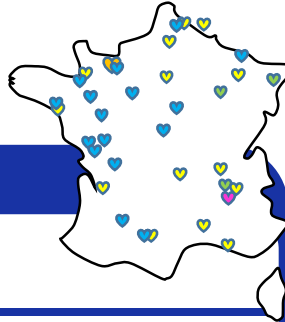


Critères de qualité des traitements



~350 ↓/mois en 2024

C. & J.M. Fontbonne



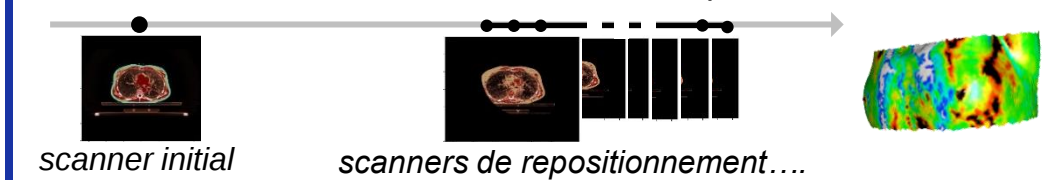
Collaborations



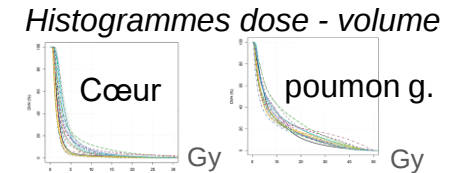
Thèse de Nathan Azémar



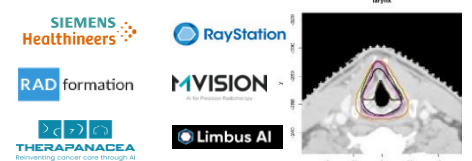
Etude des corrélations dose / dermites radiques & œdèmes.



Comparaison multicentrique d'un traitement du cancer du sein



Comparaison des délinéations automatiques des OAR TPS / délinéations manuelles de référence.



Comparaison des CT et synthetic CT (←IRM), + conséquence sur la dosimétrie.



Développement d'outils pour le calcul de la dosimétrie en cas de ré-irradiations (cancer secondaire).

Spécification du Parcours Médical (SPaM) J.Hommet, D.Cussol



- Formalisme permettant la spécification des pratiques médicales et la description des parcours médicaux.
- Implantation en langage ADA
- Utilisations de SpaM

- Etude des toxicités comparées de traitements avec des RX et des protons au CLCC Baclesse

- PREFERENCE** (J.Balosso) : Irradation des tumeurs de l'encéphale
- PIOTOX** (J.Thariat, J.M.Fontbonne, N.Azémar) : toxicités oculaires
- MOPROS** (C.Laurent, A.Corroyer-Dulmont) : toxicités cutanées

- Utilisation d'**ESPADON** (C.Fontbonne, J.M.Fontbonne, N.Azémar) pour la lecture et la manipulation des images

➔ Présentation Thao PHAM à 11h30



Exemple de spécification d'un parcours médical

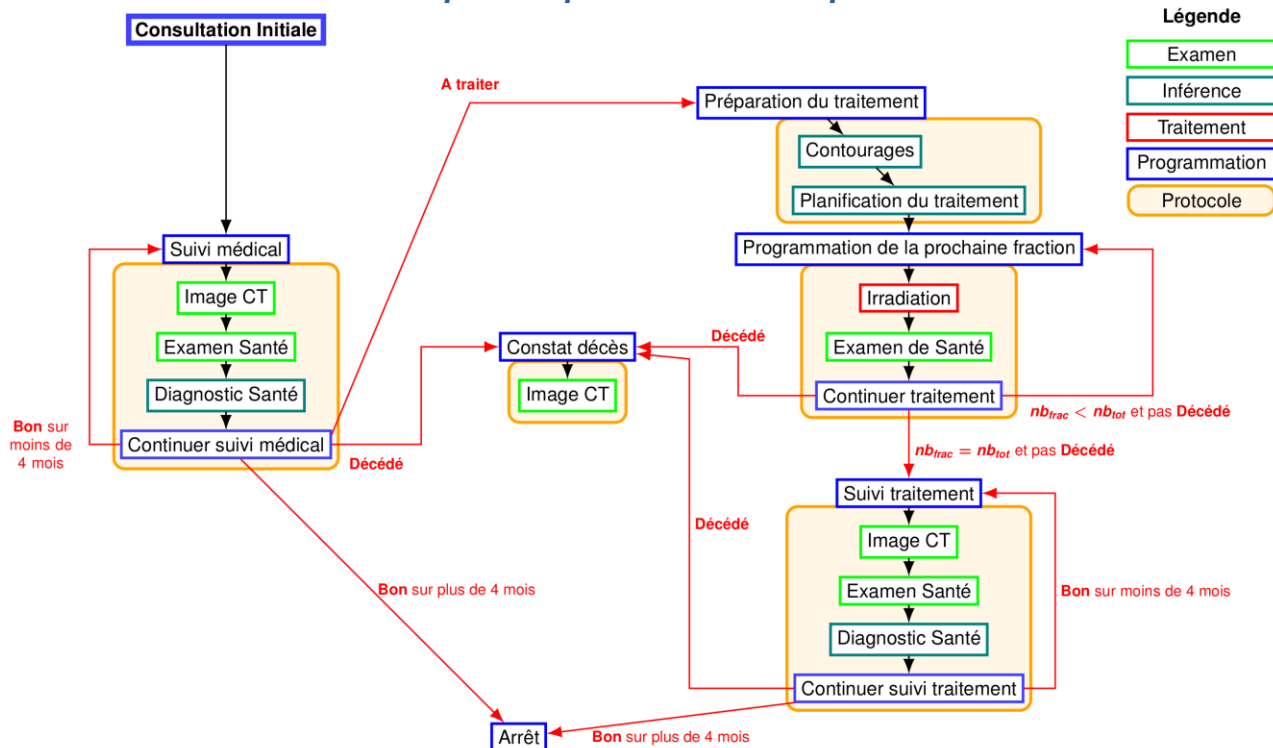
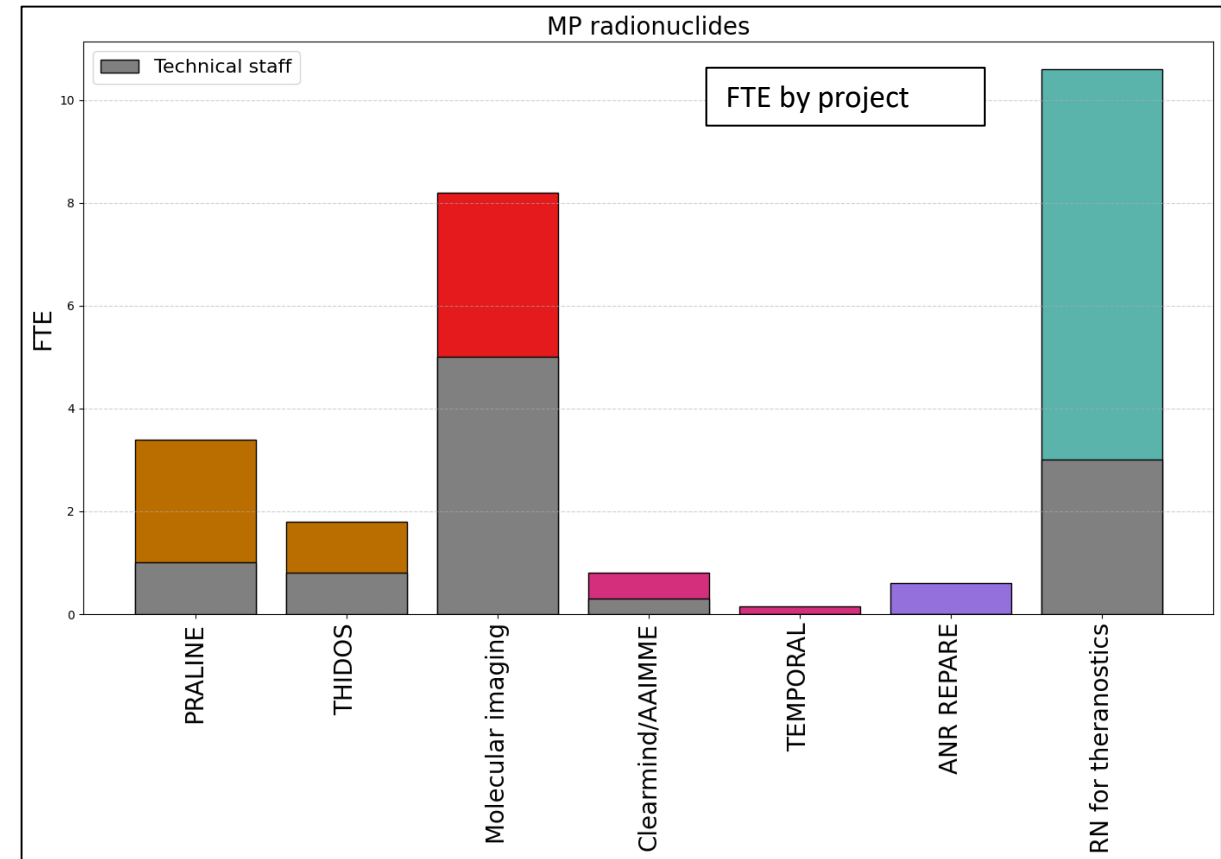
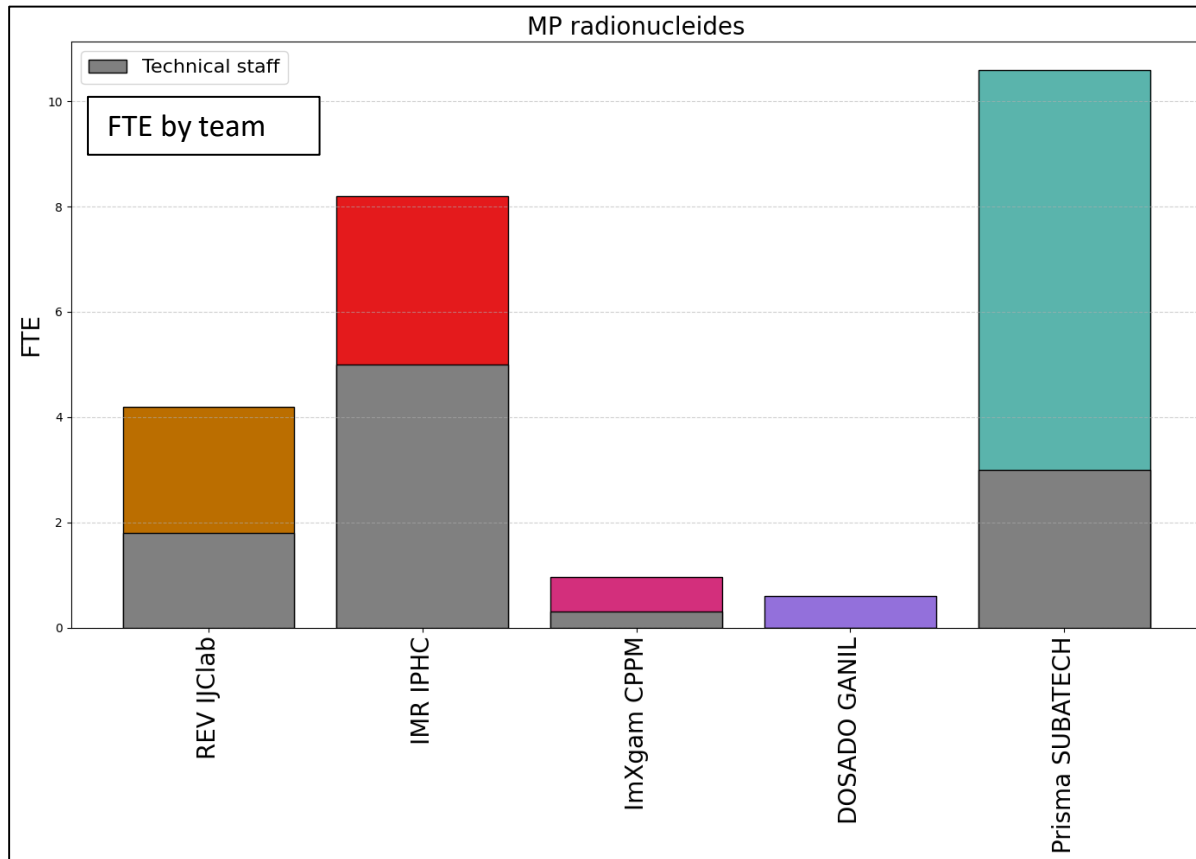


Tableau Comparatif des NTCPs

ROI/NTCP	RX Dosimetry		Proton Dosimetry	
Brain				
Mental Disorder	:	0.01 % (1.09643E-04)	0.02 % (2.35200E-04)	
Mental Trouble	:	23.43 % (2.34299E-01)	37.17 % (3.71662E-01)	
Necrosis/Infarction	:	0.00 % (1.19209E-07)	0.00 % (1.78814E-07)	
Chiasma				
Altered view	:	35.55 % (3.55547E-01)	60.20 % (6.02040E-01)	
Blindness	:	0.71 % (7.05943E-03)	2.18 % (2.17566E-02)	
Eye L				
Altered view	:	1.71 % (1.71446E-02)	0.55 % (5.48735E-03)	
Blindness	:	0.10 % (1.01840E-03)	0.04 % (3.62009E-04)	
Dryness	:	65.56 % (6.55623E-01)	35.65 % (3.56519E-01)	
Eye R				
Altered view	:	1.81 % (1.81056E-02)	0.45 % (4.53568E-03)	
Blindness	:	0.11 % (1.07208E-03)	0.03 % (3.06368E-04)	
Dryness	:	67.02 % (6.70154E-01)	31.34 % (3.13374E-01)	
Lens L				
Cataract requiring intervention	:	45.98 % (4.59847E-01)	0.68 % (6.77693E-03)	
Lens R				
Cataract requiring intervention	:	56.35 % (5.63454E-01)	1.54 % (1.53589E-02)	
Optic Nerve L				
Altered view	:	9.00 % (9.00496E-02)	3.28 % (3.27869E-02)	
Blindness	:	0.09 % (8.86589E-04)	0.03 % (2.57760E-04)	
Pain	:	62.45 % (6.24523E-01)	37.20 % (3.71984E-01)	
Optic Nerve R				
Altered view	:	18.37 % (1.83733E-01)	11.93 % (1.19270E-01)	
Blindness	:	0.24 % (2.38827E-03)	0.13 % (1.29005E-03)	
Pain	:	81.11 % (8.11137E-01)	70.04 % (7.00353E-01)	

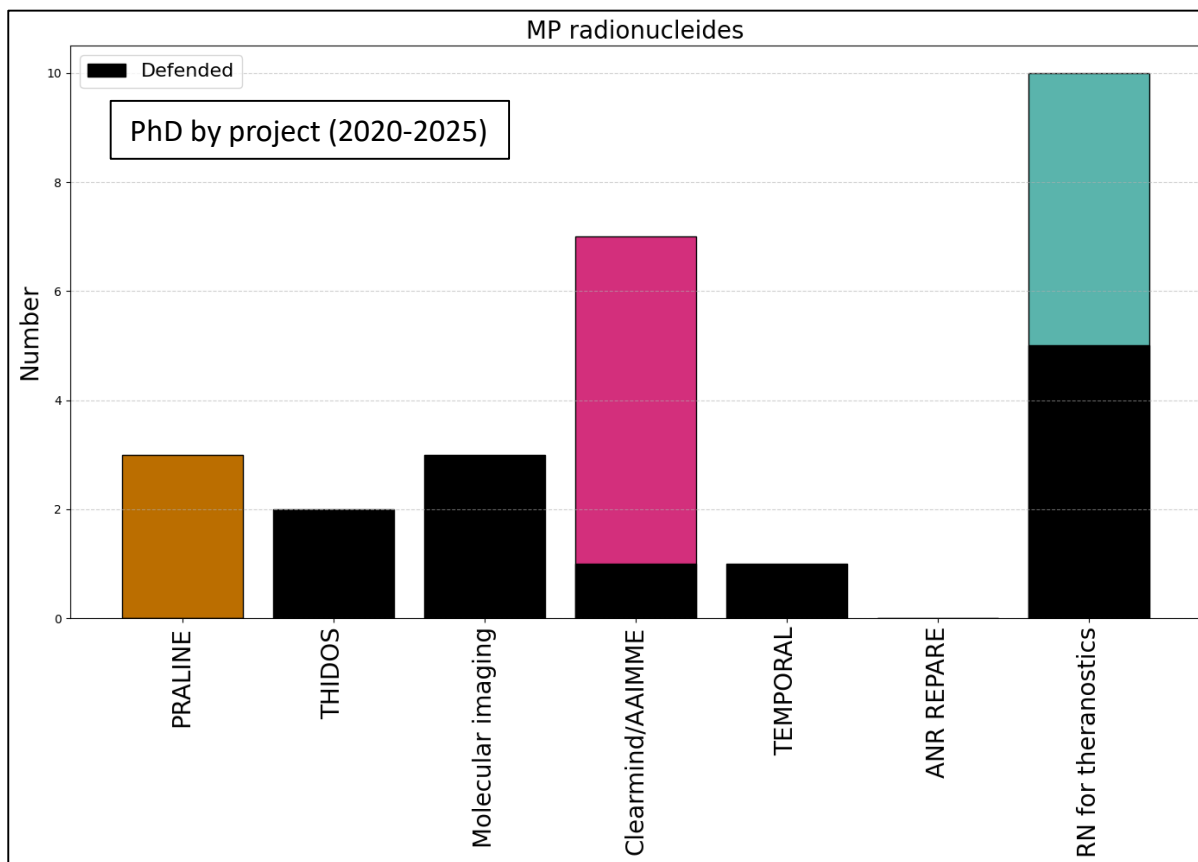
Radionuclides

FTE in the radionuclides Master-project of in2p3

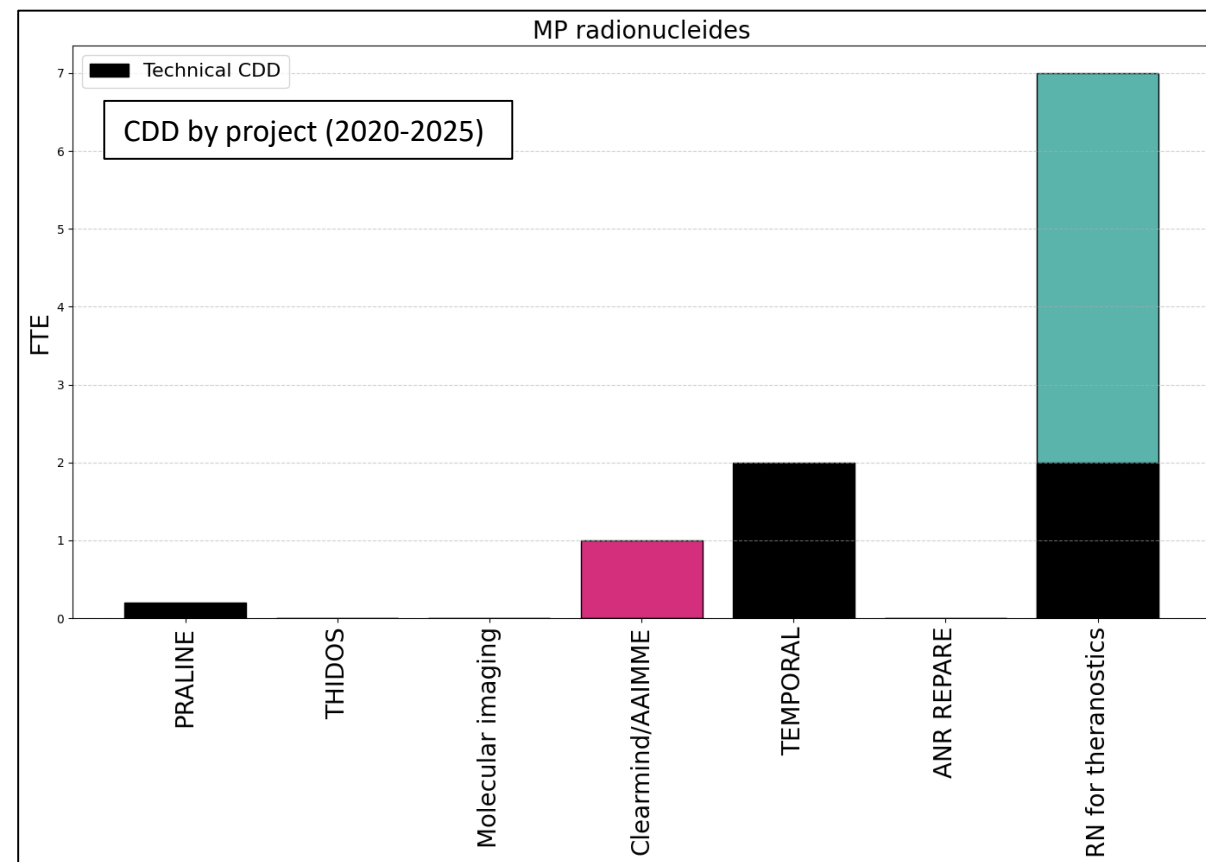


Total FTE in radionuclides MP: 15.46 researchers, 10.10 technical staff

FTE in the radionuclides Master-project of in2p3

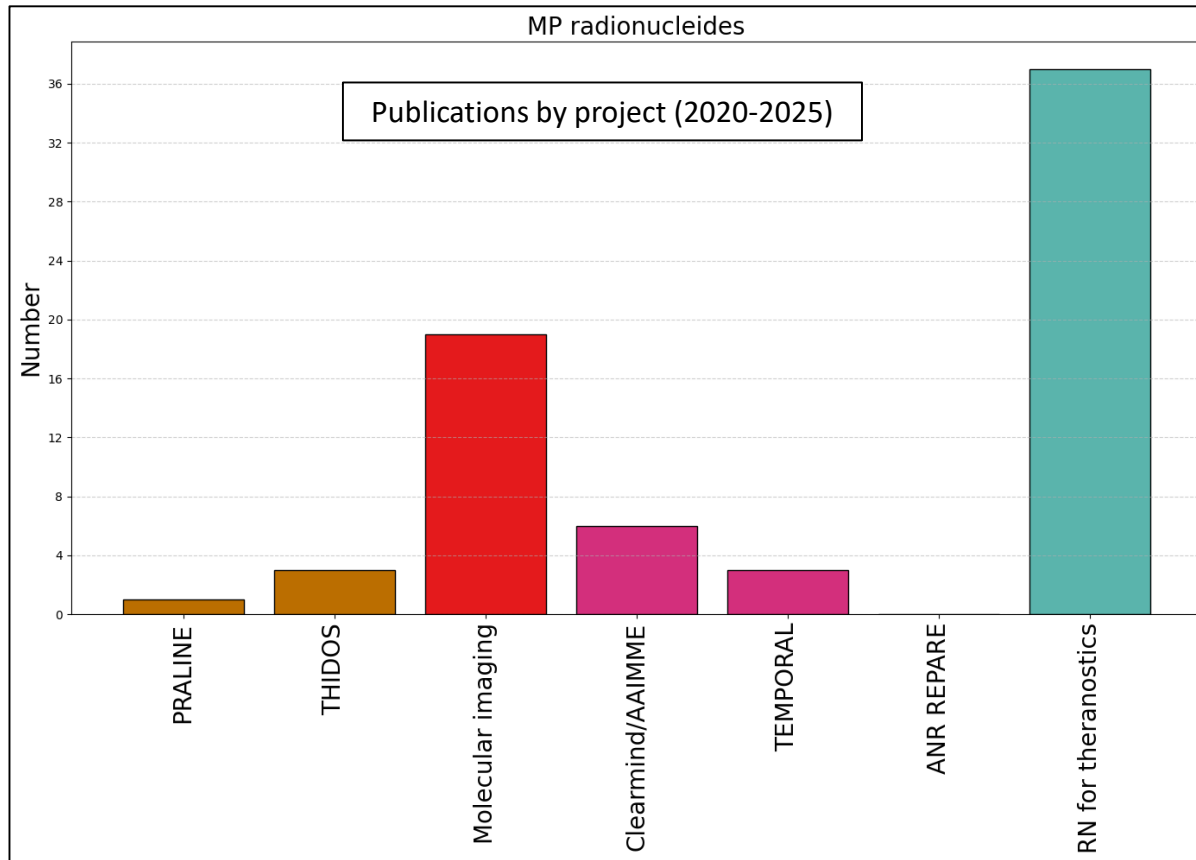


Total PhD in RN MP: 13 defended, 11 on-going

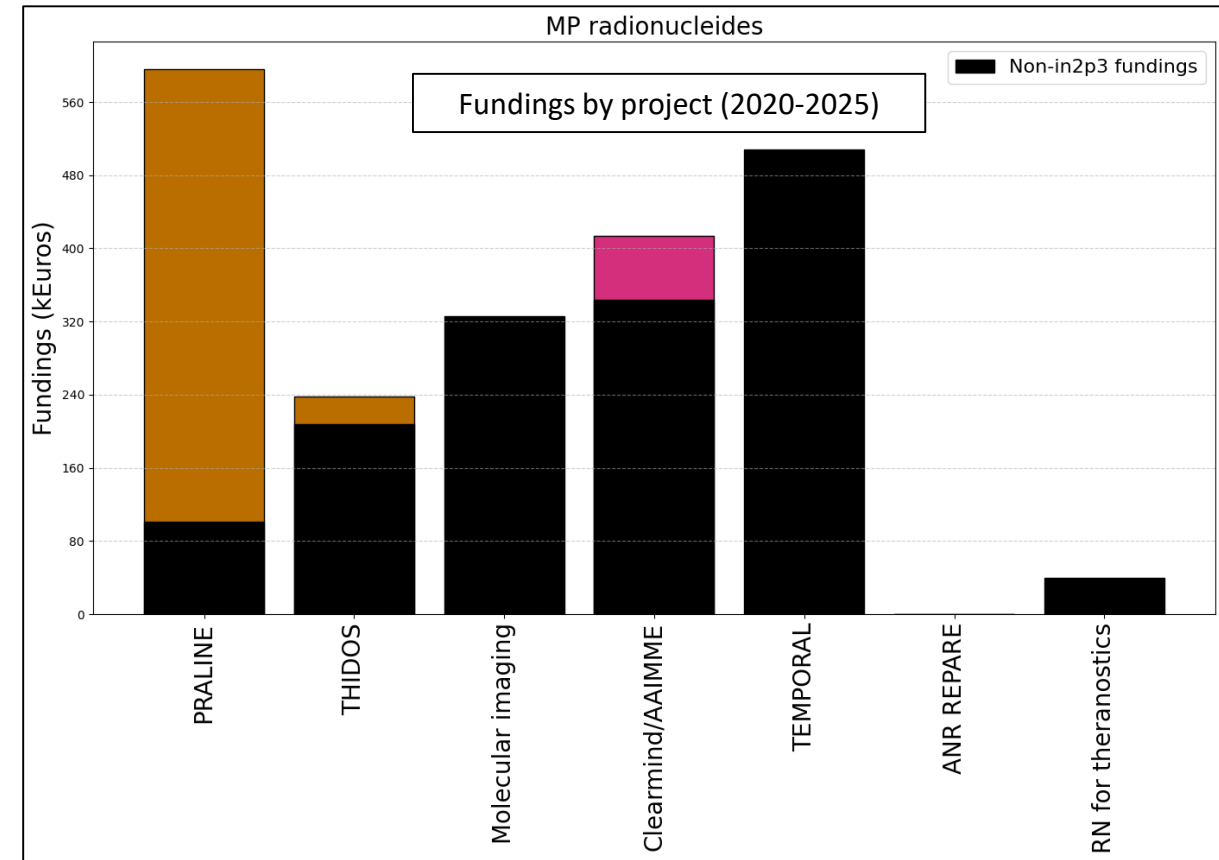


Total CDD in RN MP: 3 FTE researchers, 2.2 FTE technical staff

Publications & fundings in the radionuclides Master-project of in2p3

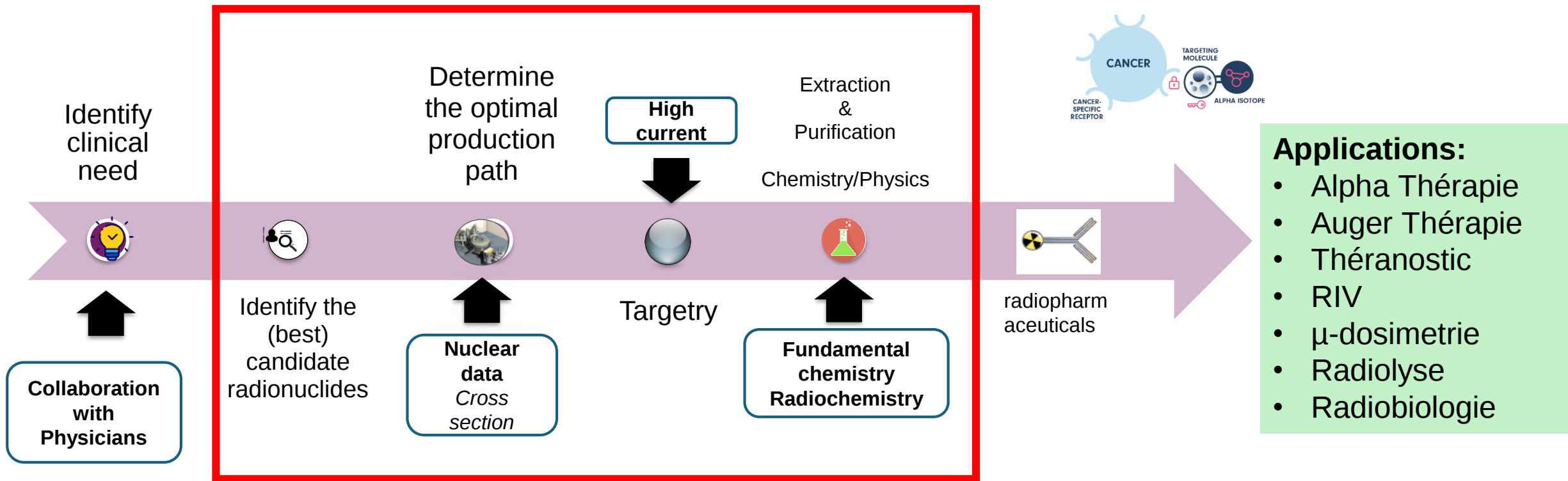


Total publications in FLASH MP: 69



Total fundings in FLASH MP: 152 kEuros in2p3, 1267 kEuros non-in2p3

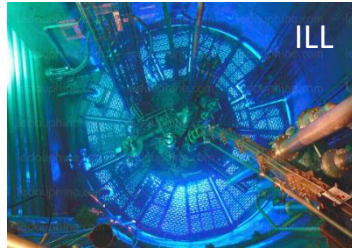
Les radionucléides sont au Cœur des activités de Médecine Nucléaire



Contour de Master Projet “Radionuclides”

Radionuclide production scheme

Nuclear reactor



Arronax



Particle accelerator

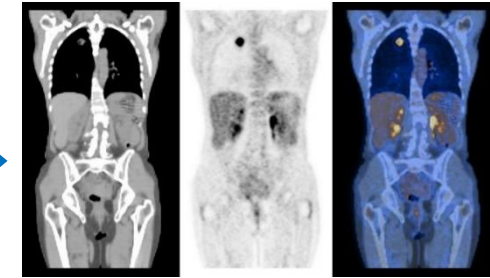
production



Extraction/
Purification



Radiolabeling



radiopharmaceutical

- Identification and evaluation of production routes
- Production cross section measurements for radionuclide of interest and contaminants
- Target preparation (thin and thick targets, enriched targets)
- High power targetry (10kW or more)

- Fundamental chemistry on radionuclides
- Dry and wet extraction and purification methods
- Impact of radiolysis on the chemistry (speciation)
- Automation

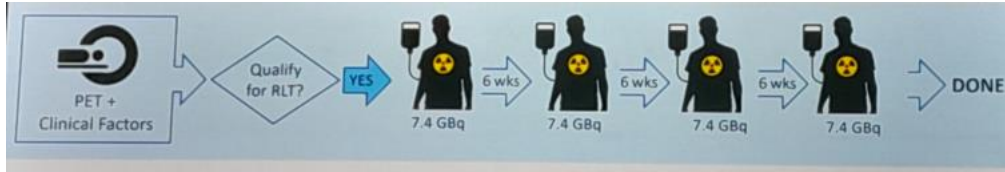
- Impact of radiolysis on radiolabelling
- Impact of radiolysis on the stability of radiolabelled molecules

For the next 5 years

- Production routes and cross section measurements for
 - radionuclide production using neutrons and alpha particles
 - Auger emitters (^{97}Ru , $^{197\text{m}}\text{Hg}$, ^{71}Ge ...), lanthanides (^{155}Tb , ^{152}Tb , ^{134}La , ^{134}Ce ...),
 - Theranostic imaging radionuclides (^{203}Pb , ...)
- Better understanding of ^{211}At production using high power targetry
 - Internal target at Arronax
 - 10 kW targetry at GANIL
- Studies of generators
 - Development of a $^{44}\text{Ti}/^{44}\text{Sc}$ for PET and 3 photons imaging
 - $^{103}\text{Ru}/^{103\text{m}}\text{Rh}$
 - $^{230}\text{U}/^{226}\text{Th}$
- Study of radiolysis effect on radionuclides
 - Speciation of Ruthenium and Rhodium
 - Stability of ^{211}At in different solution

Dosimetry

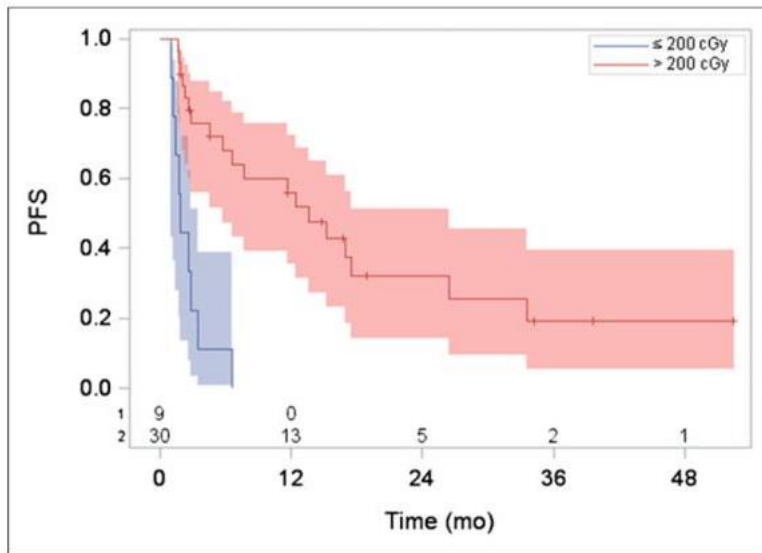
Current procedure in targeted therapies:



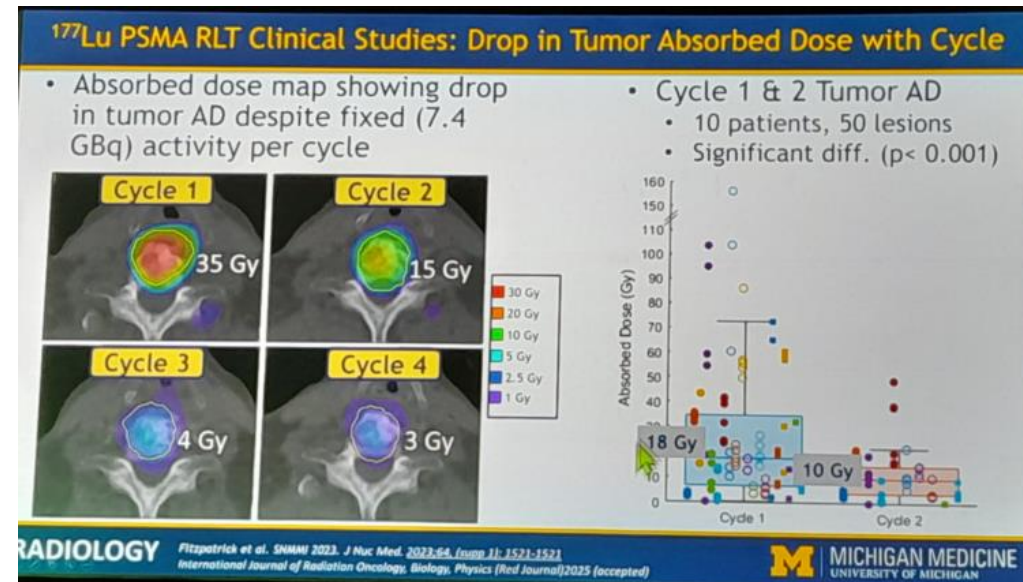
Despite effective palliation of tumour growth, current fixed activity is not curative

Dosimetry may guide personalization to achieve durable complete response

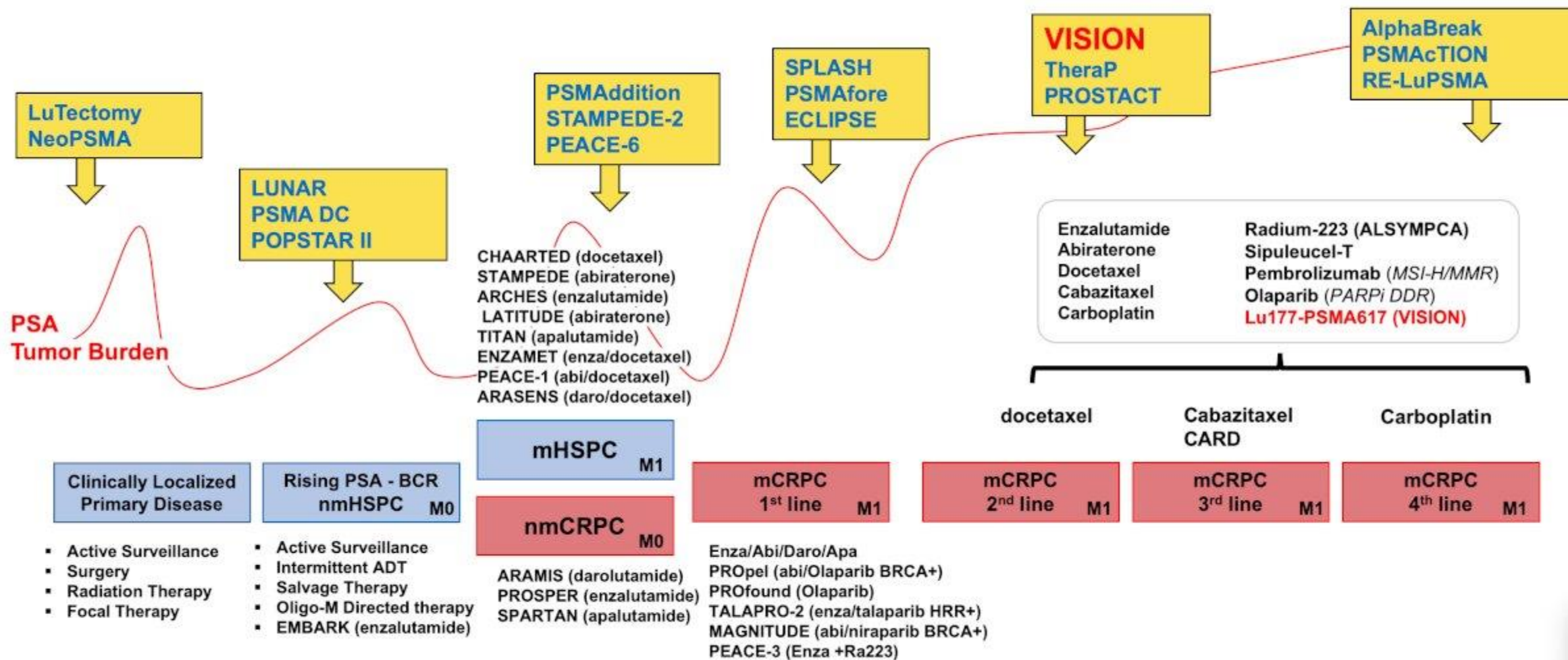
Dosimetry may allow to adapt activity/cycles to enhance efficacy while ensuring safety



^{131}I therapy for NHS
(Dewaraja et al, J.Nuc. MED. 2014)



Dose to the tumour is different among cycles
Dewaraja et al, SNMMI 2025



Hormone Sensitive

Castration Resistant

Targeted RT

TRT: main challenges in2p3 can adress

➤ Innovate in the production of RN and radiopharmaceuticals(RP) to expand TRT applications:

- Identify and produce high-LET emitters of interest (*alpha*: ^{225}Ac , ^{211}At , ^{212}Pb ..., *Auger*: ^{111}In , ^{123}I , ^{97}Ce ...) and theranostic pairs (e.g. $^{64}\text{Cu}/^{67}\text{Cu}$, $^{44}\text{Sc}/^{47}\text{Sc}$, $^{155}\text{Tb}/^{149}\text{Tb}(\alpha)/^{161}\text{Tb}(\beta)$...) with optimal and alternative production routes.
- Scale-up production addressing high-power target issues
- Contribute in nuclear metrology (cross section measurements, model validations...)
- Advanced extraction, separation and characterization techniques for off trace-level radionuclides

➤ Understanding and optimizing vector biodistribution:

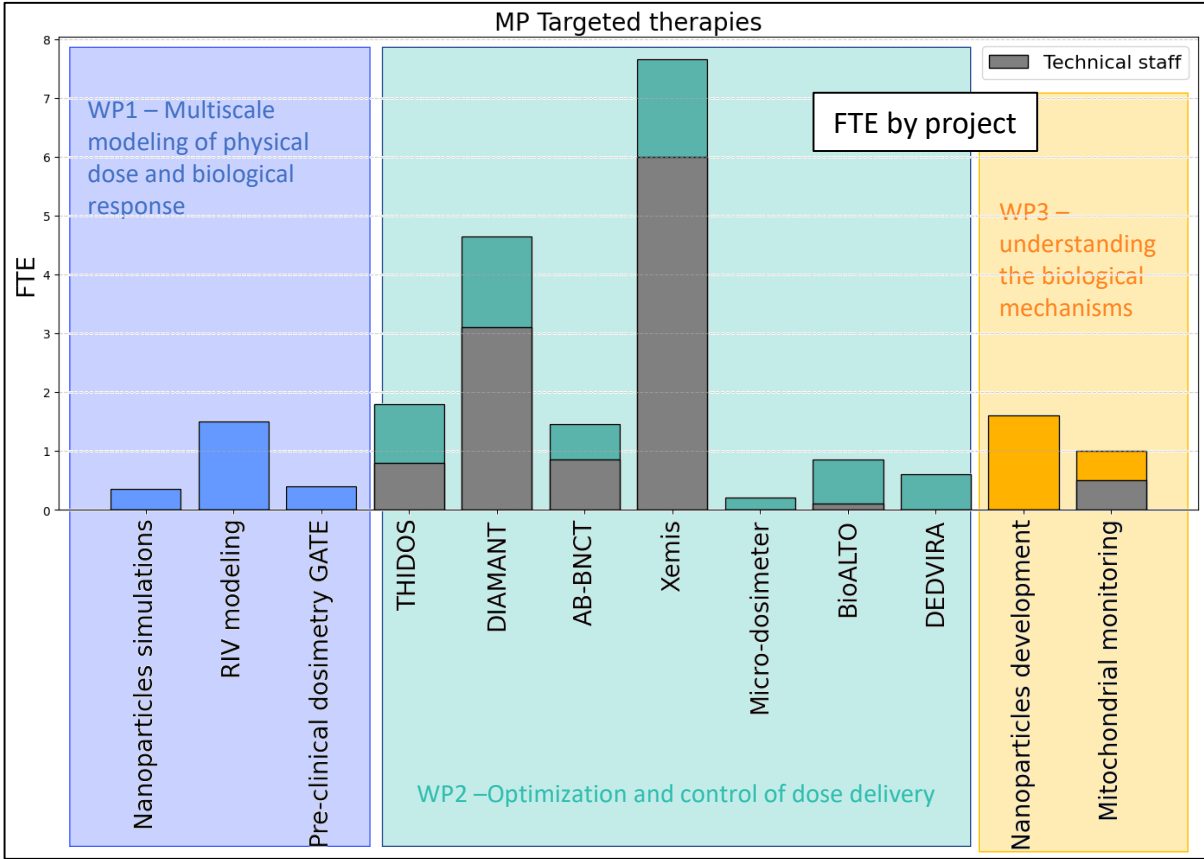
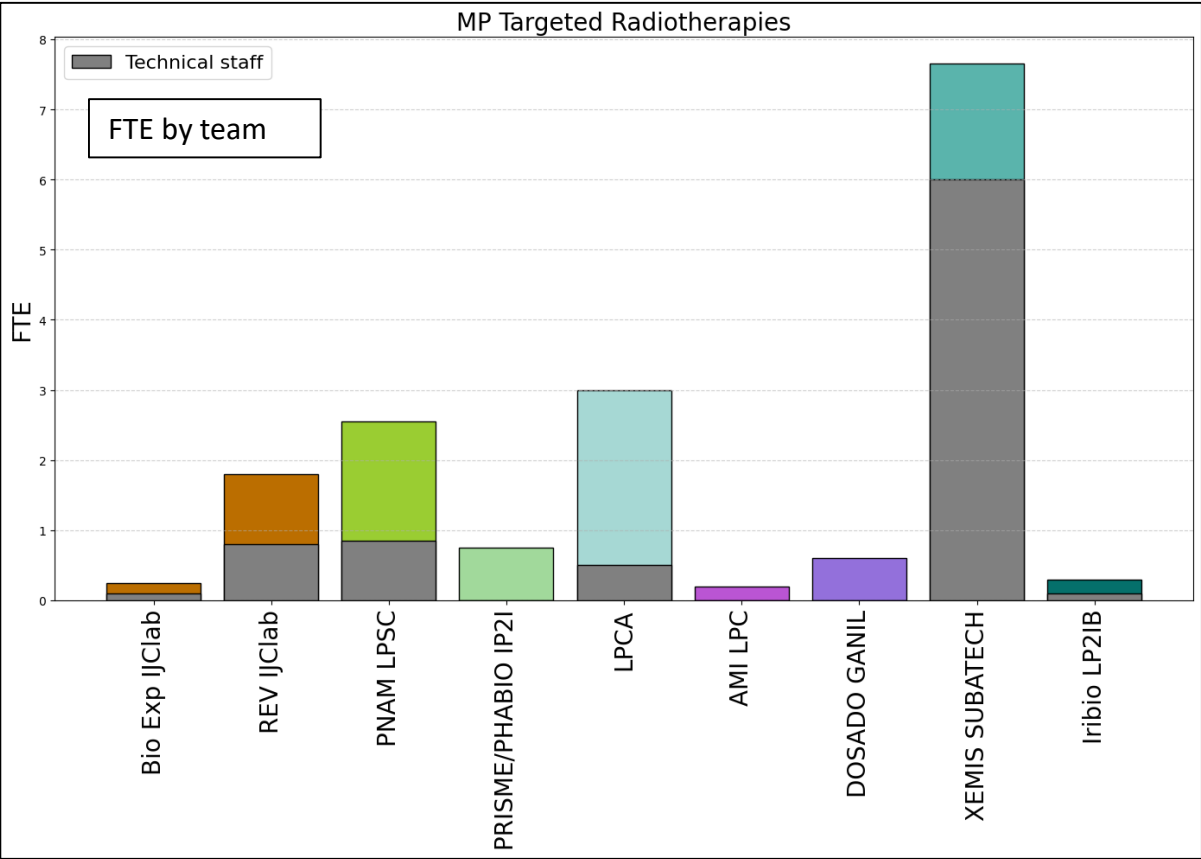
- Bio-chemistry: develop innovative ligands with enhanced stability and kinetics, radiolabeling strategies and radiolysis impact on it, site-specific bioconjugation
- Dedicated in vitro and preclinical studies to characterize microscopic biodistribution of RPh

➤ Developing advance imaging (PET/SPECT) to track RP and gamma cameras for personalized patient dosimetry

➤ Understand and model radiobiological mechanisms specific to TRT (especially α , Auger):

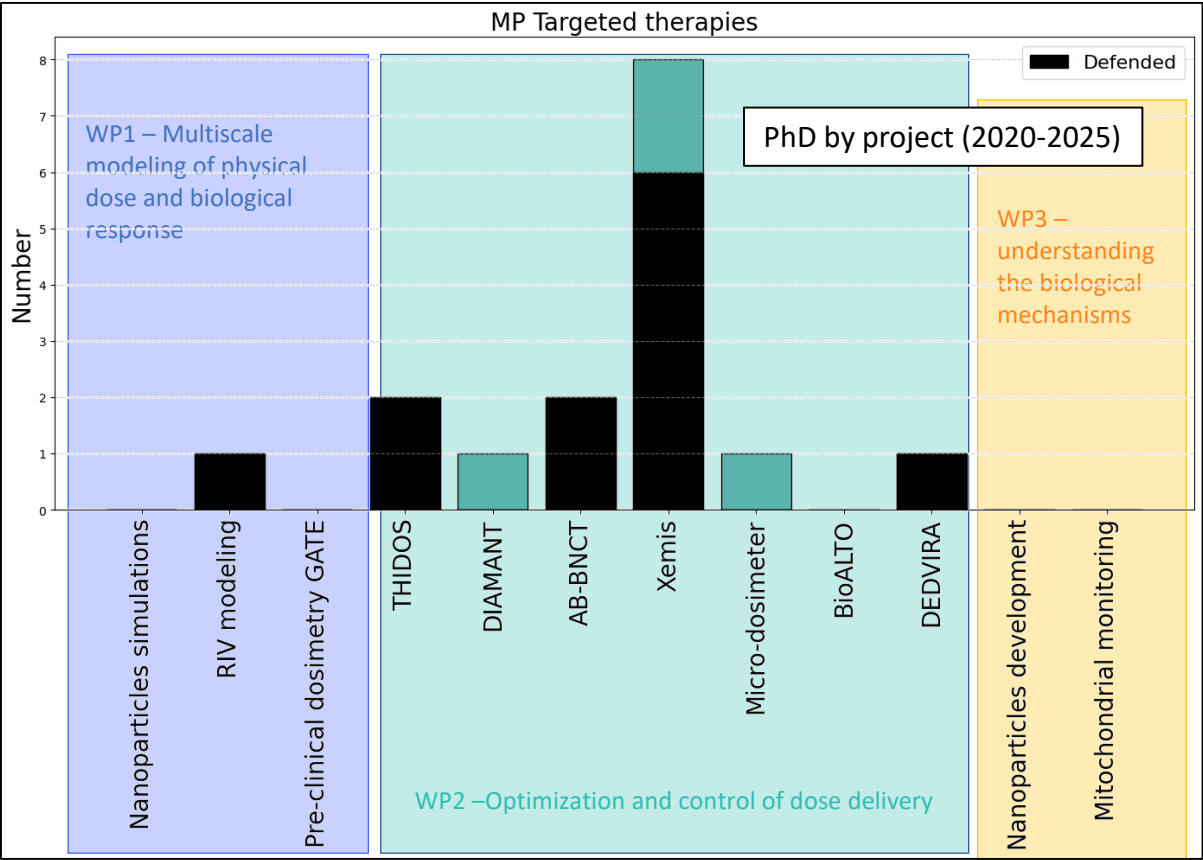
- Instrumental development to control/measure the delivered dose in radiobiological experiments with unsealed sources
- Produce quantified biological data to evaluate the role of sub-cellular or multicellular structures
- Develop multiscale methodology and modeling to evaluate TAT biological dose distribution in vivo.

FTE in the targeted radiotherapies Master-project of in2p3

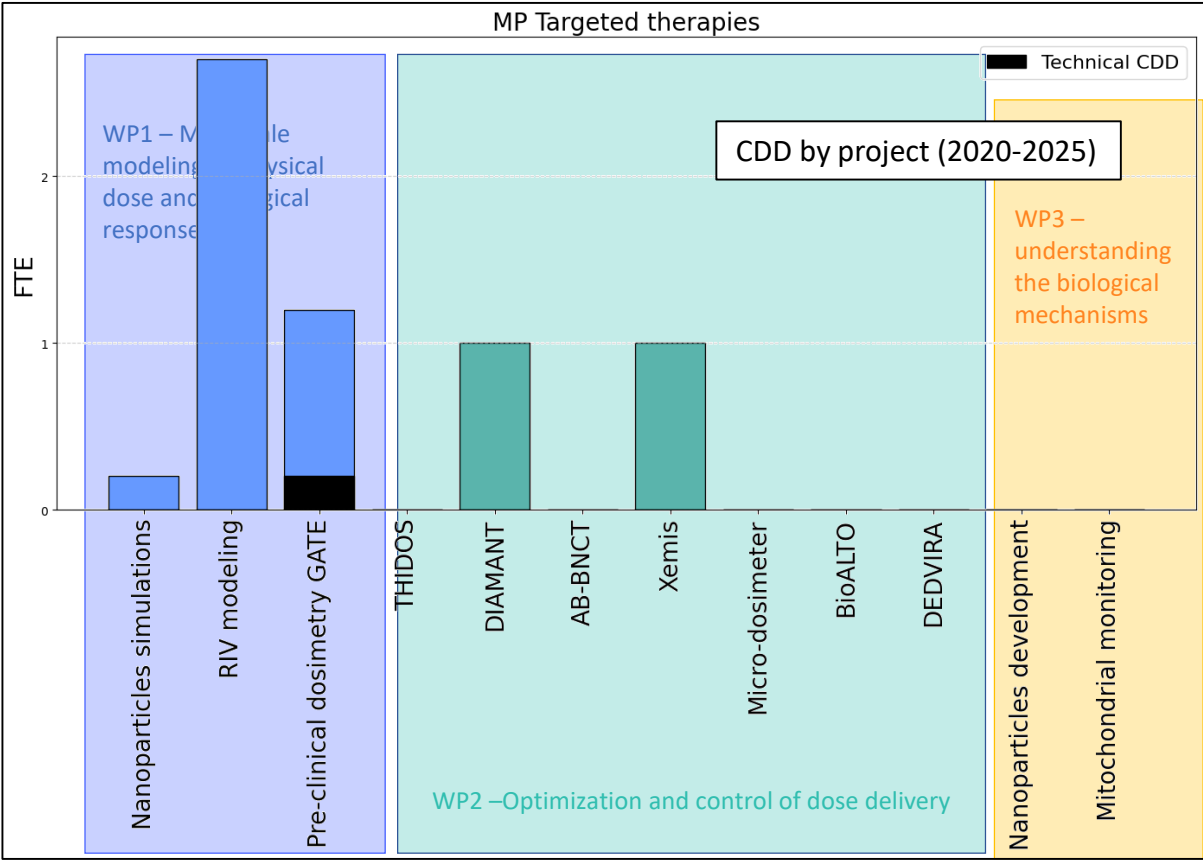


Total FTE in targeted radiotherapies MP: 10.3 researchers, 11.35 technical staff

FTE in the targeted radiotherapies Master-project of in2p3



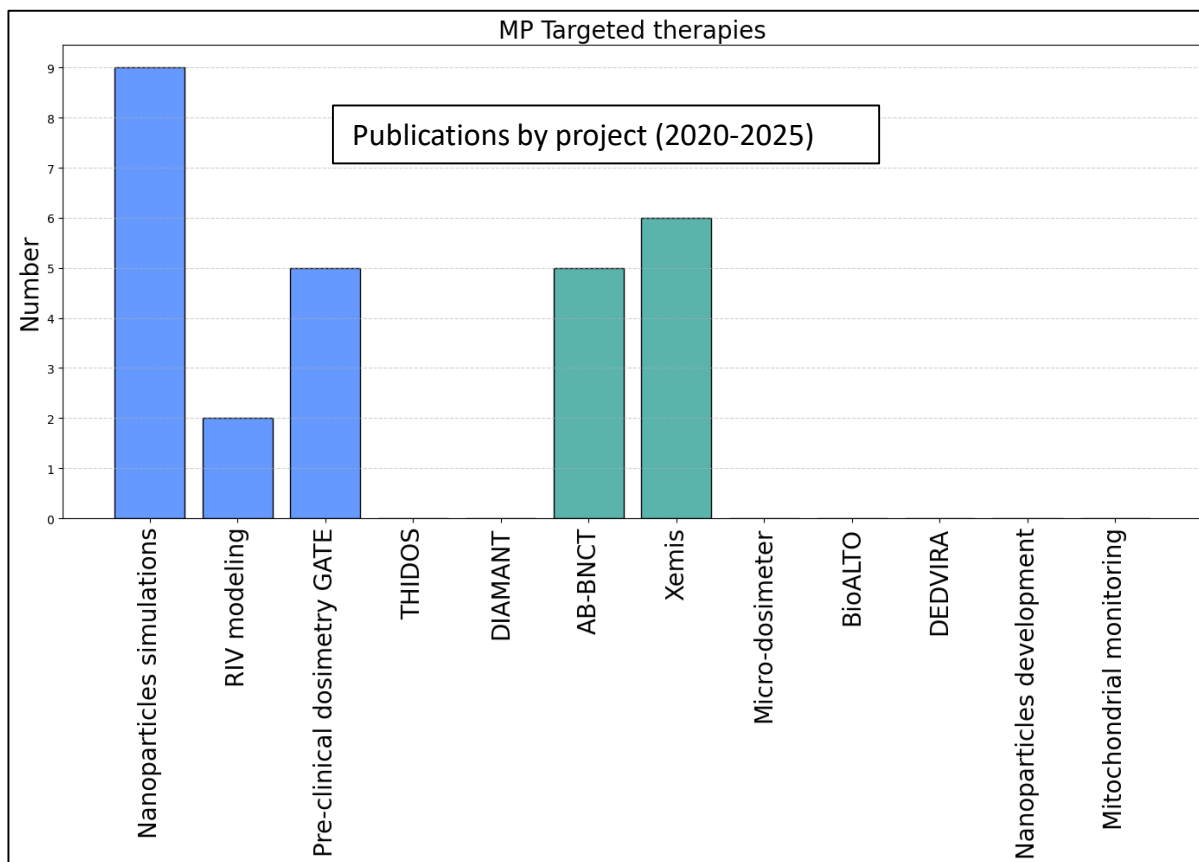
Total PhD in Targeted radiotherapies MP: 12 defended, 4 on-going



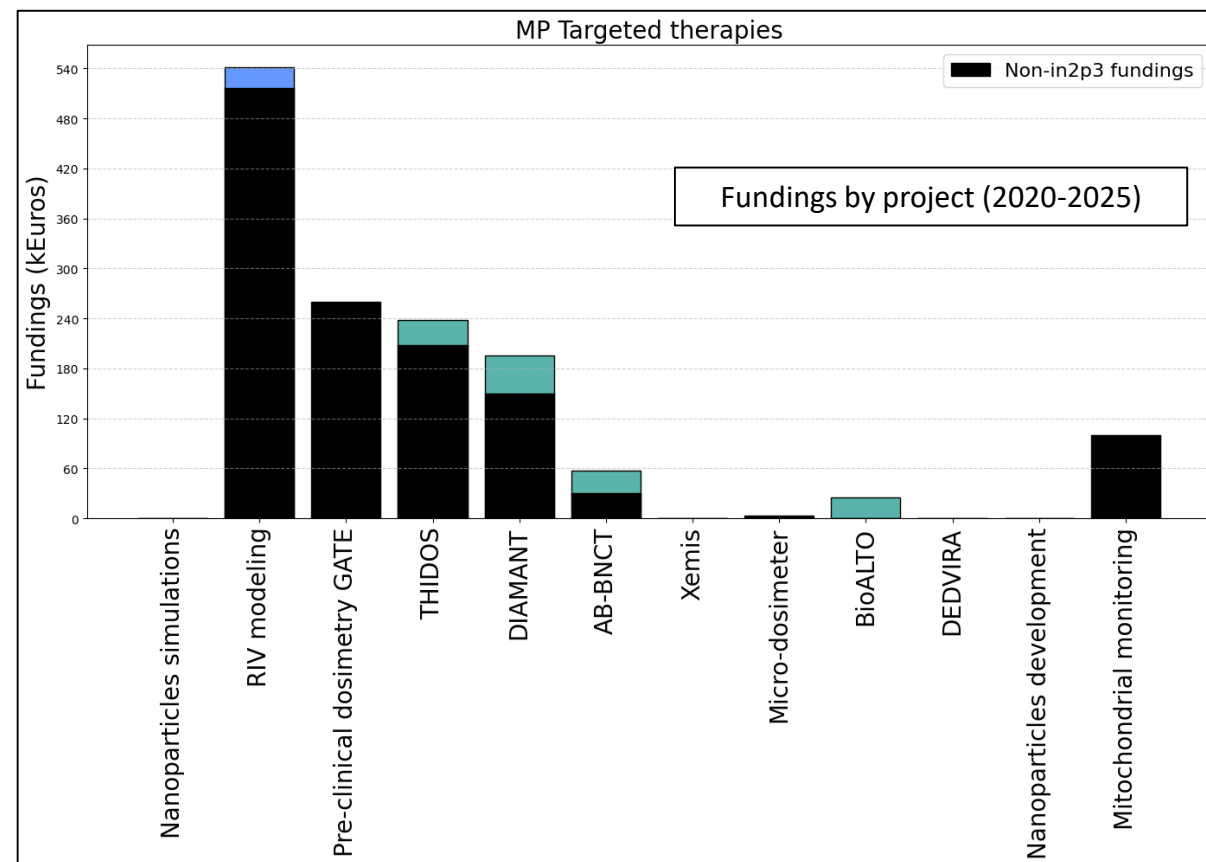
Total CDD in Targeted radiotherapies MP: 5.7 FTE researchers, 0.2 FTE technical staff

Publications & fundings in the targeted radiotherapies

Master-project of in2p3



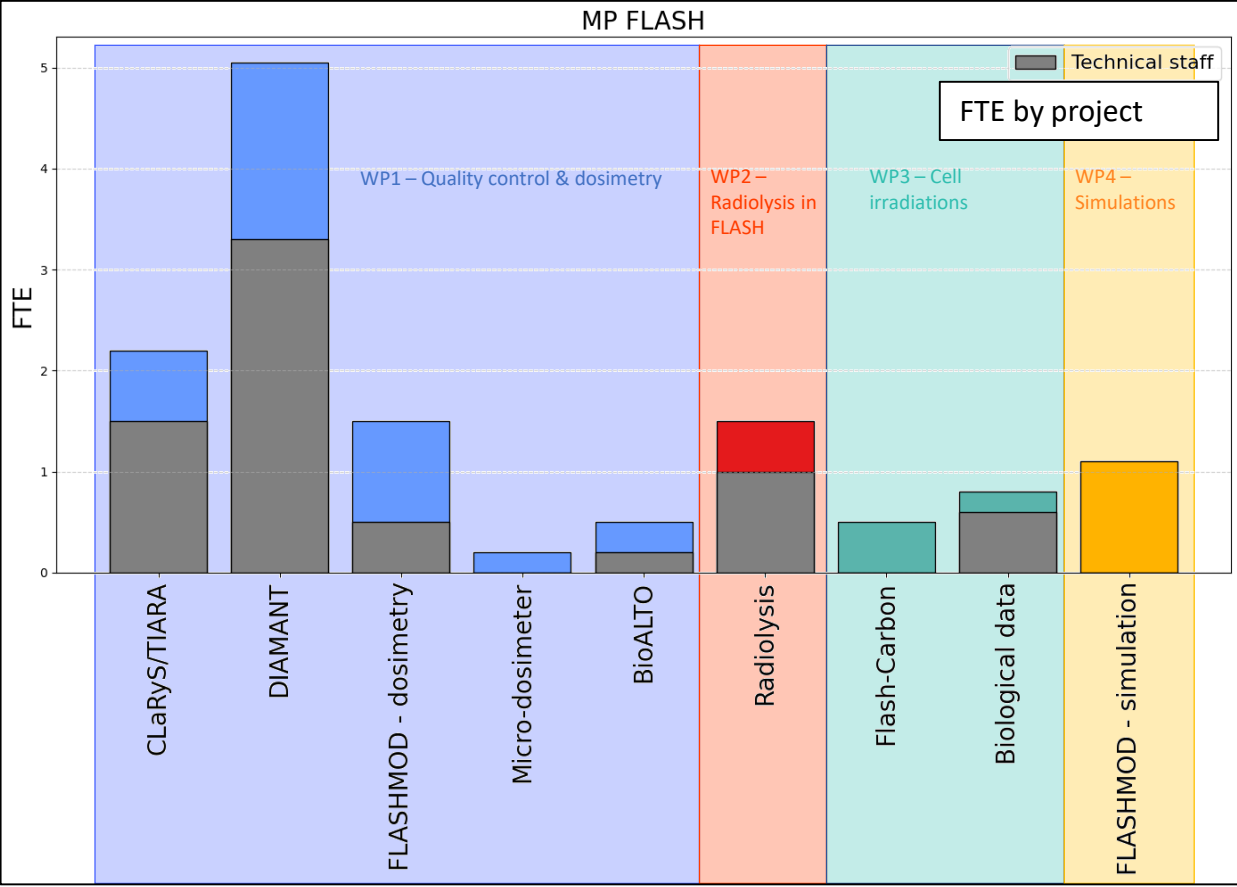
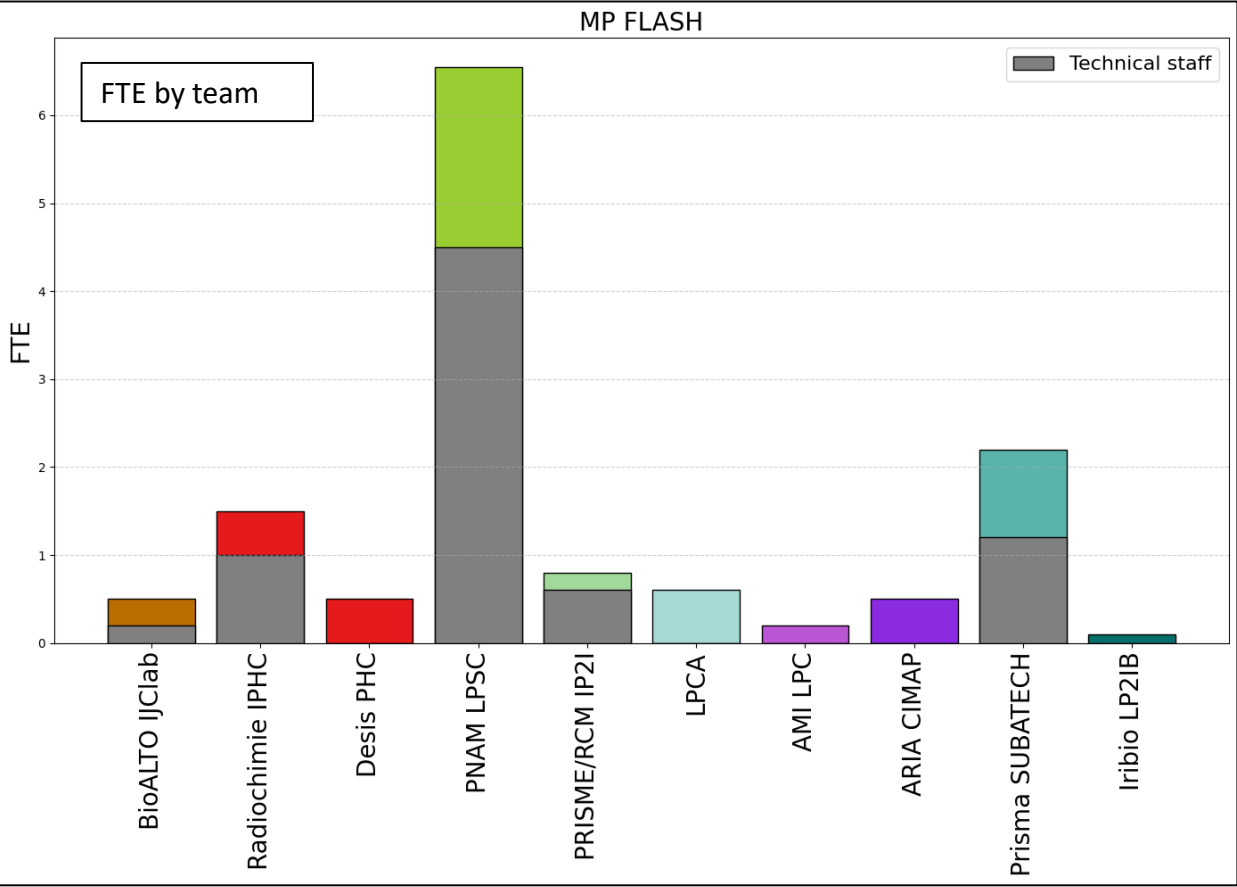
Total publications in FLASH MP: 25



Total fundings in FLASH MP: 152 kEuros in2p3, 1267 kEuros non-in2p3

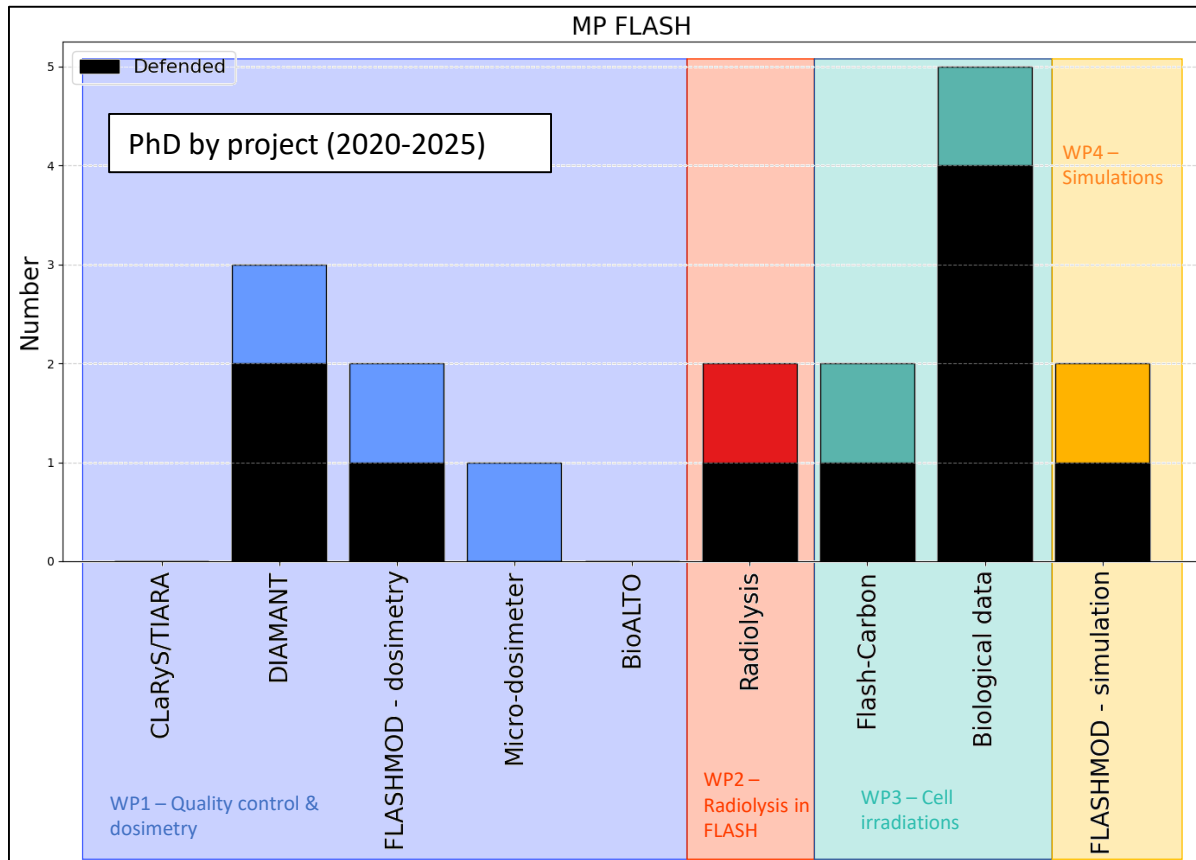
FLASH/SFRT

FTE in the FLASH Master-project of in2p3

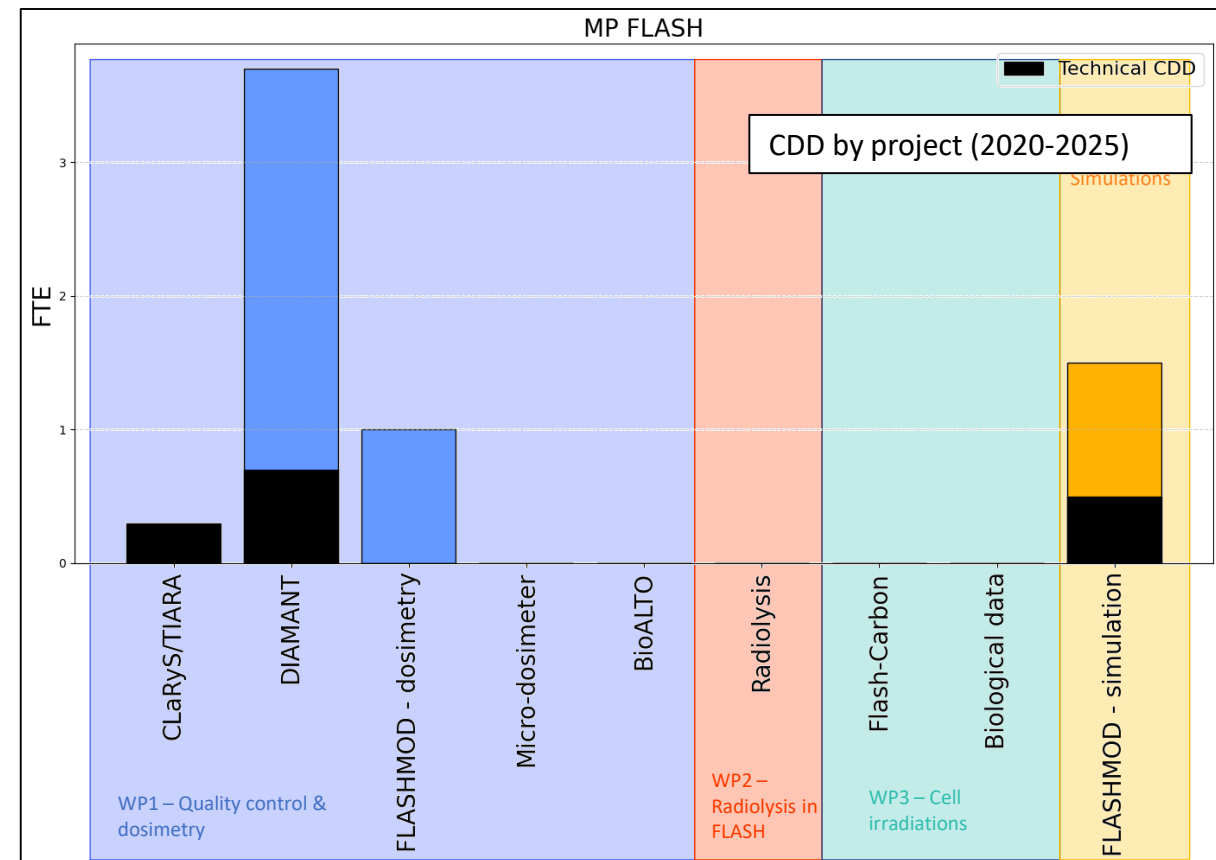


Total FTE in FLASH MP: 14.13 researchers, 19.70 technical staff

FTE in the FLASH Master-project of in2p3

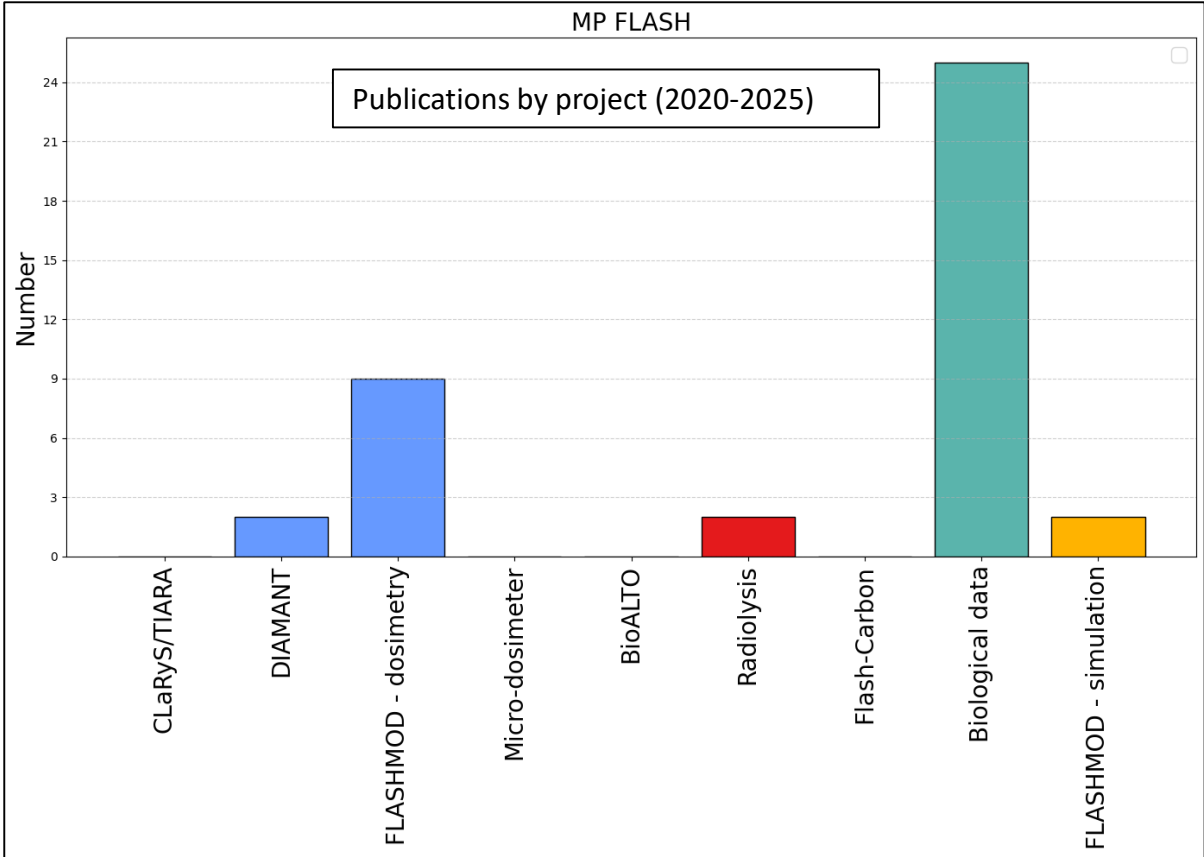


Total PhD in FLASH MP: 6 defended, 6 on-going

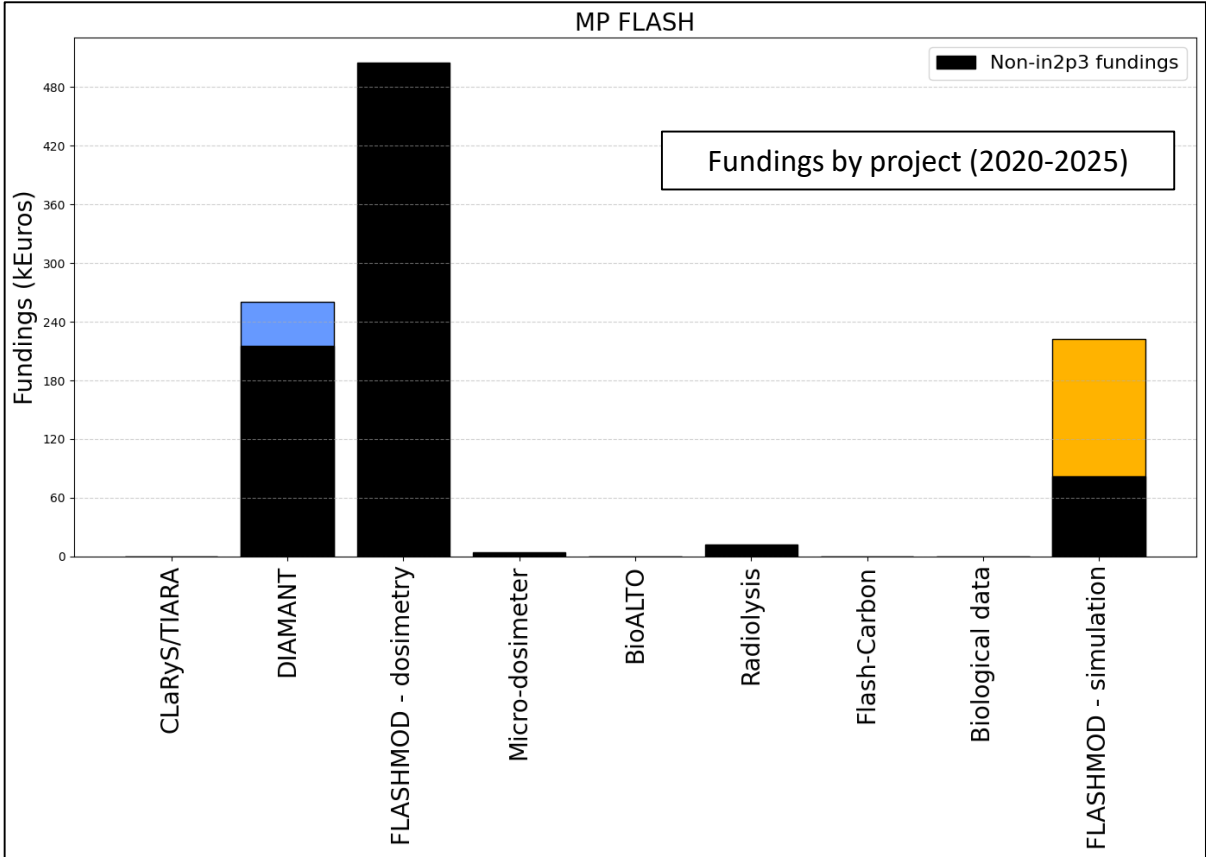


Total CDD in FLASH MP: 5 FTE researchers, 1.5 FTE technical staff

Publications & fundings in the FLASH Master-project of in2p3



Total publications in FLASH MP: 40



Total fundings in FLASH MP: 185 kEuros in2p3, 818 kEuros non-in2p3

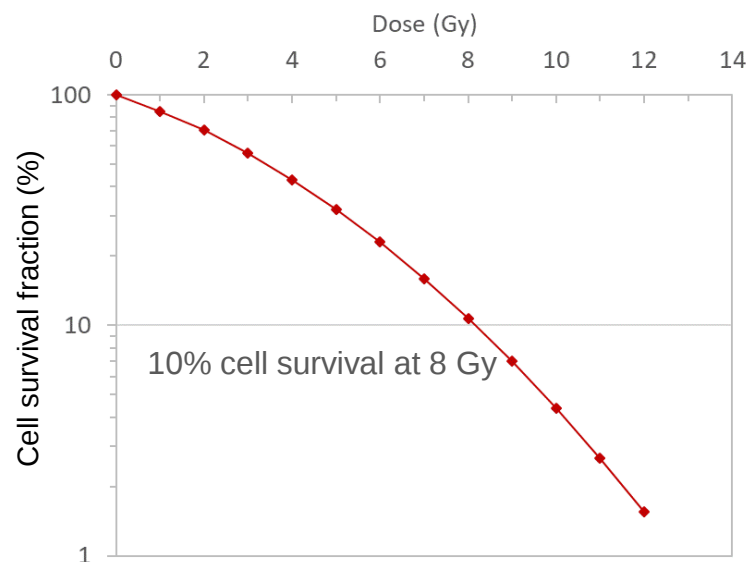
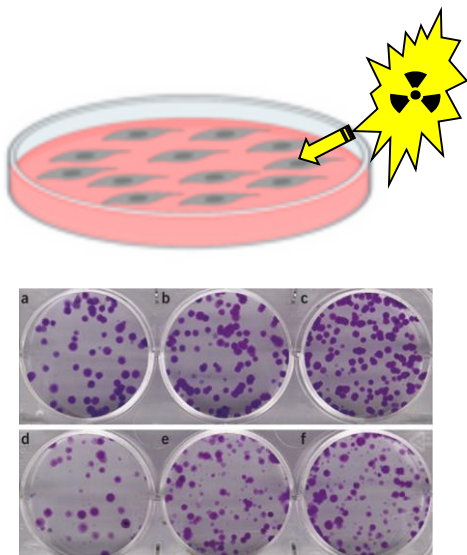
General

Biological effects – quantification at cell scale

- **Cell survival:** To compare irradiation protocols and RT approaches, we can use **clonogenic cell survival** which **quantify biological effects** at cell level (*elementary constituent of living matter*)

Curve linking dose to cell survival: Linear Quadratic Model

« Macroscopic" description using **mathematical models**

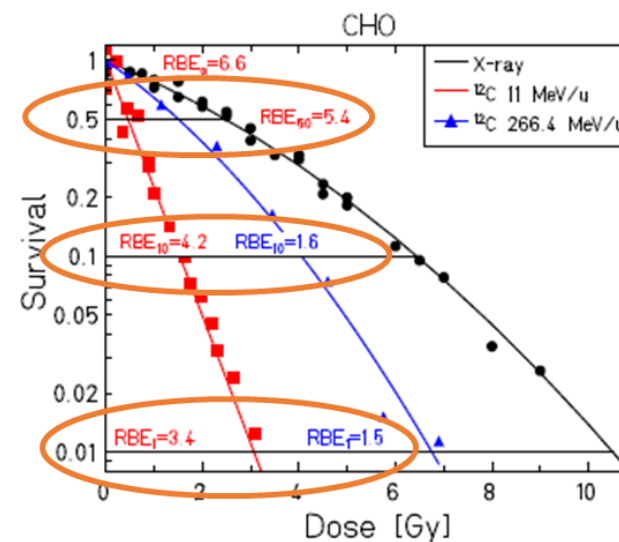


$$S(D) = e^{-(\alpha D + \beta D^2)}$$

Linear (lethal) component

Quadratic (sublethal) component

Radiobiological parameters:
 α (Gy^{-1})
 β (Gy^{-2})



RBE depend on many parameters
(cell line, oxygenation, % survival considered...)

M. Krämer, NIM-B. Vol.267 I.6 (2009)

Different particles: VHEE (50-250 MeV)

➤ Advantages vs MV photons

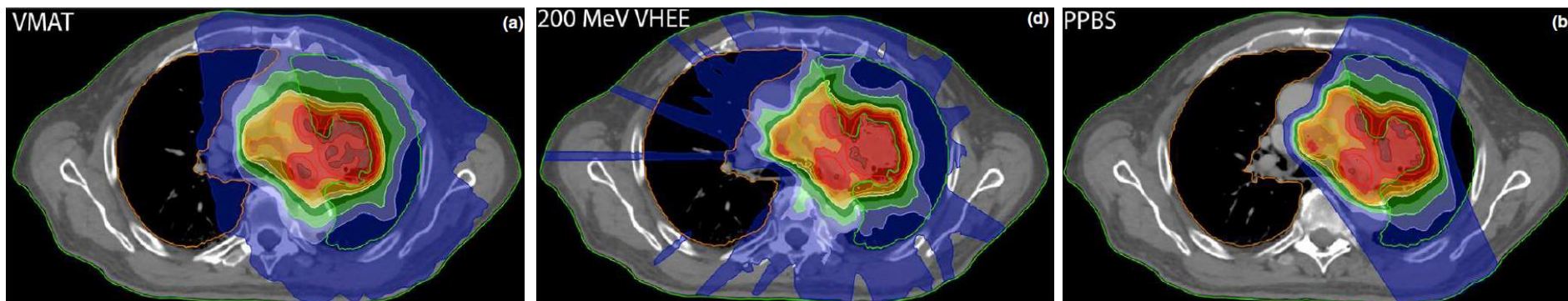
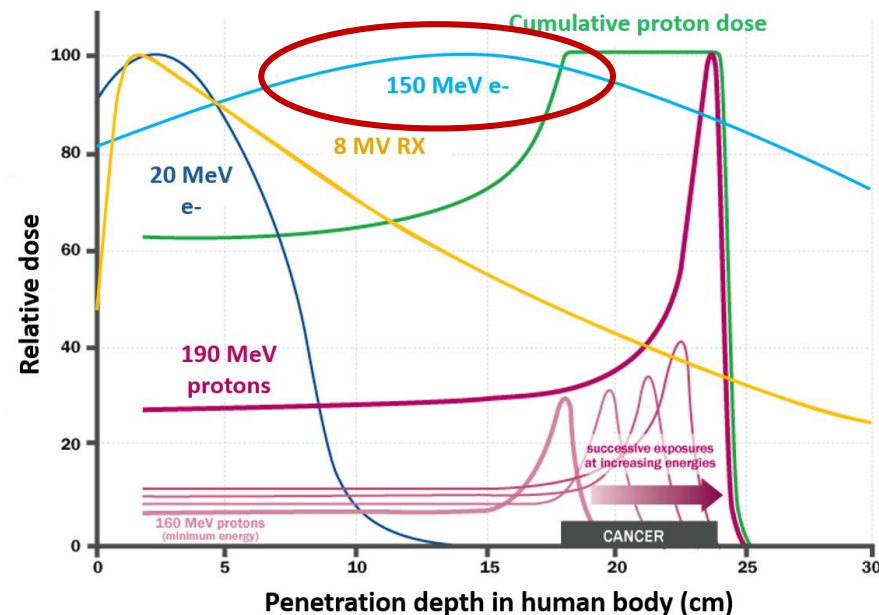
- Flatter depth dose profile: deep tumors
- Relative insensitivity to heterogeneities
- Magnetic collimation
- “Flash” dose rate accessible

➤ Advantages vs protons

- Potential reduced cost, compactness and beam shaping

➤ Current challenges:

- Radiobiology of VHEE and pulsed-regime unknown
- Reliable VHEE dosimetry protocols (potential ultra-short pulses, high-dose rates)



Clinical case VHEE compared to VMAT → Better protection of OAR (prostate, Lung, brain, H&N...)

Schuler et al. 2017