

RADIOTHERAPY

Todd McNutt PhD
Associate Professor
Radiation Oncology
Johns Hopkins University

Radiation Therapy : Primer

- The use of radiation to eradicate a tumor
 - Optical light: a few eV
 - Diagnostic x-rays: 20 – 80 keV; $< \frac{1}{4}$ " of Pb
 - Therapeutic x-rays: 1 – 6 MeV; 2 ft of concrete, 7" of Pb
- Always try to kill the tumor but not the patient
- Conform dose to the target
- Fractionation: Delivery of dose over several weeks for better normal tissue repair
- Accuracy requirements: 5% change in dose can result in observable biological response

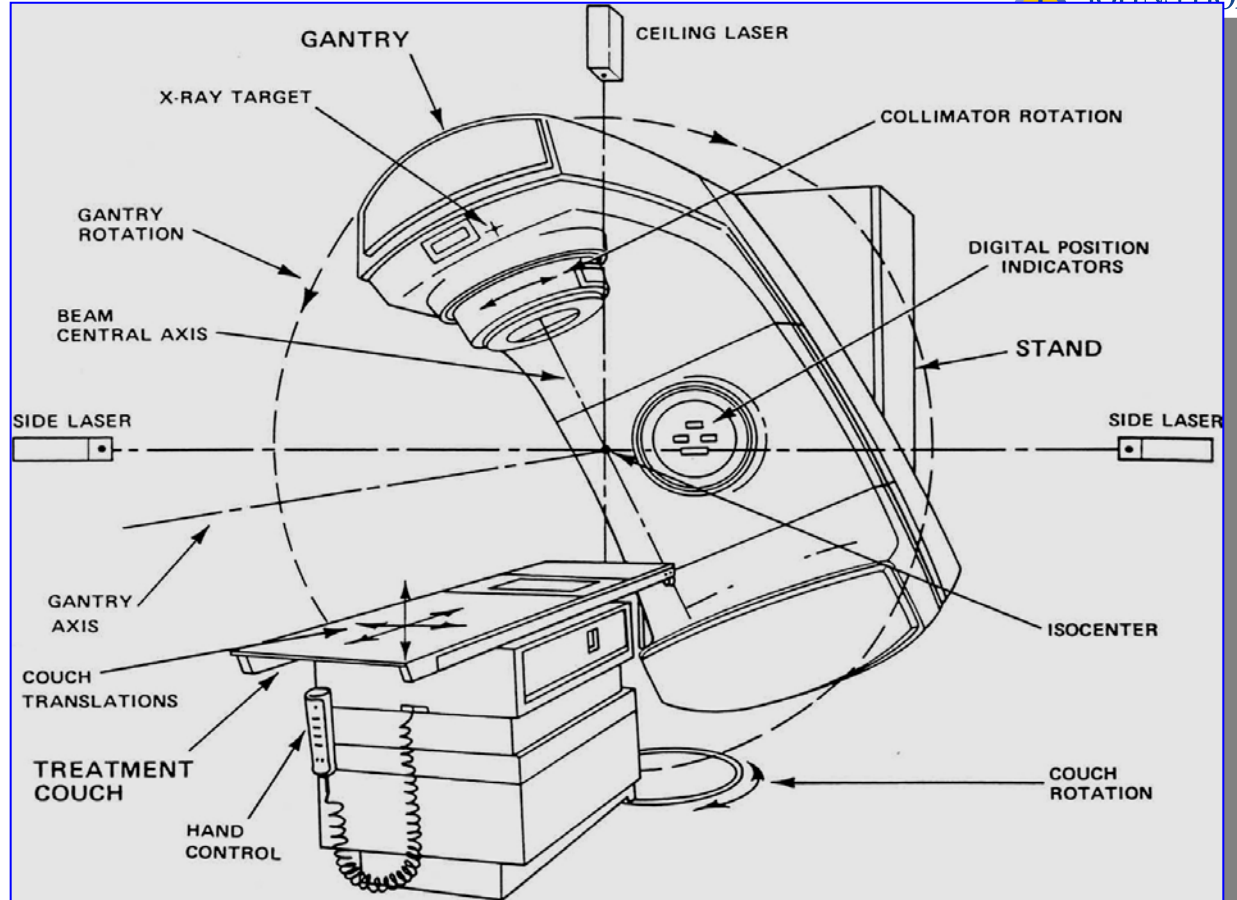
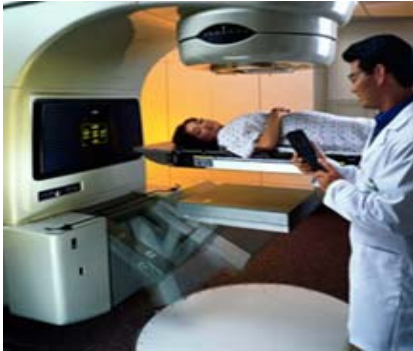
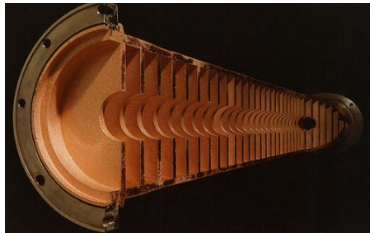


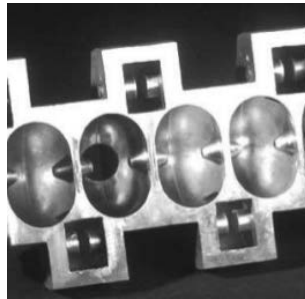
FIGURE 12-1 · Schematic view of a treatment unit emphasizing the geometric relationship of the linac and treatment couch motions. A pedestal type couch is illustrated.

Major Linac Components

- Electron gun: filament emits electrons into the waveguide
- Accelerating waveguide: uses high-energy microwaves to accelerate electrons to within 0.03% of the speed of light
- Bending magnet: steers high-energy electrons from a “waveguide” toward the patient



Travelling wave



Standing wave

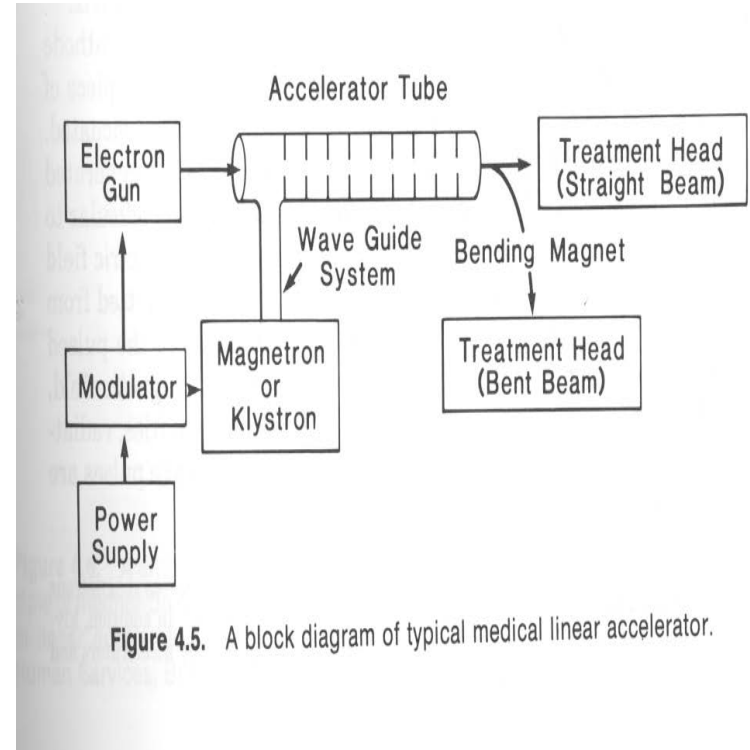
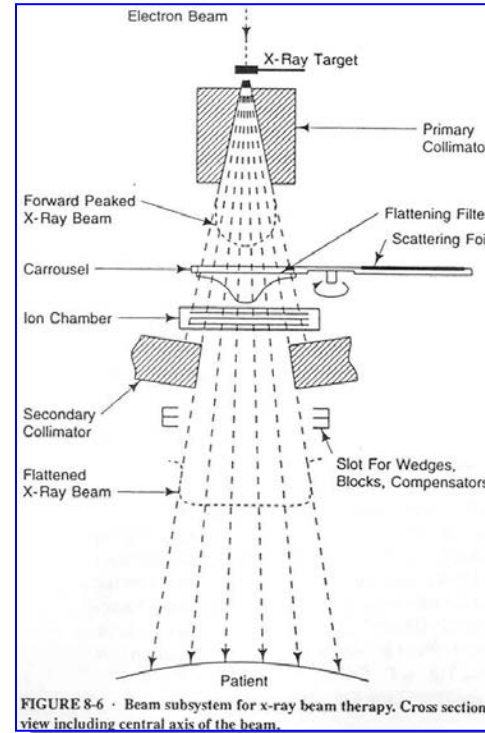


Figure 4.5. A block diagram of typical medical linear accelerator.

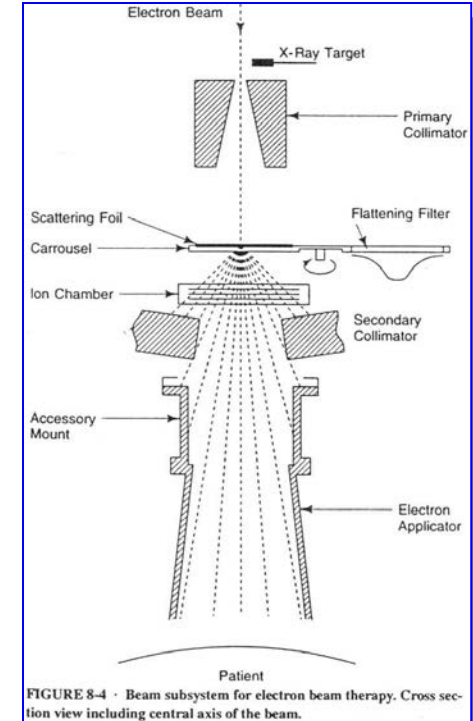
Major Linac Components

- **X-ray target:** heavy-metal target that absorbs electron energy to create photons via bremsstrahlung radiation
- **Carousel:** electron scattering foils and photon flattening filters for each beam energy
- **Monitor ion chambers:** measure the amount of radiation emitted from the carousel

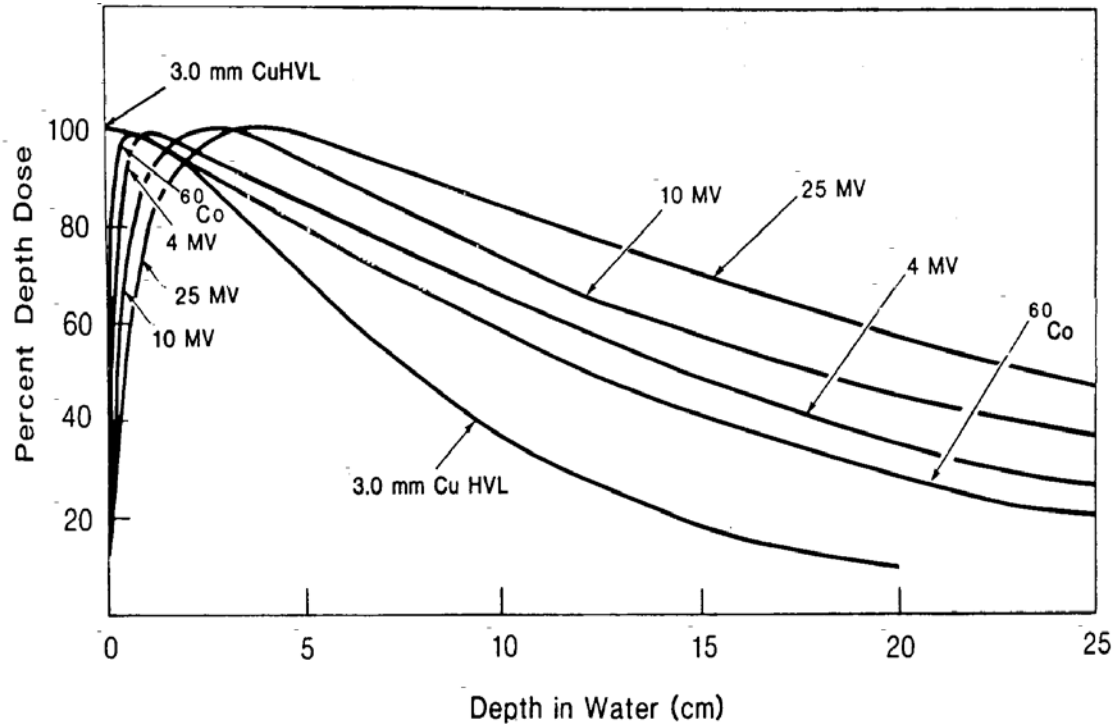
Photons



Electrons



Photon Dose vs Depth, Energy/Beam Quality



- Higher energy ~ Greater penetrating power ~ Higher PDD
- Build up is deeper with higher energy

Family of photon beam profiles

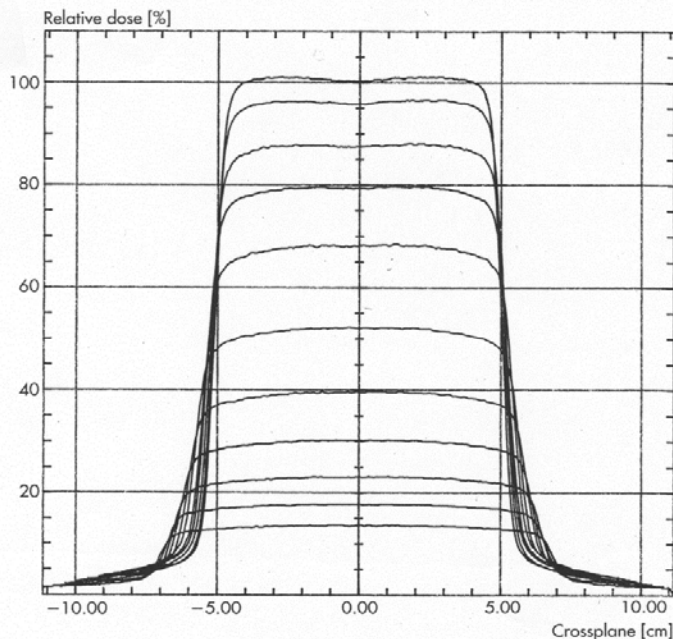
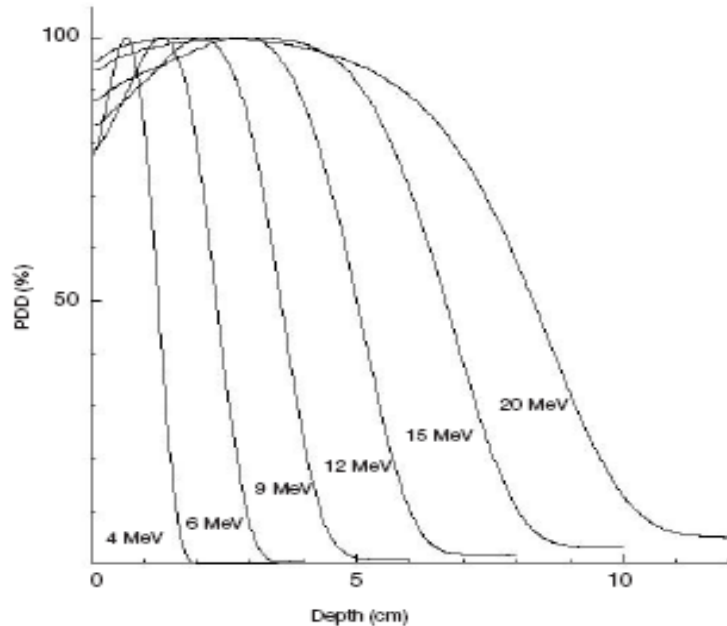


Figure 11-1 Graphic representation of several measured beam profiles of the type often entered into a treatment planning computer. The illustration shows a number of profiles made along lines perpendicular to the central axis at several depths in a water phantom.

- Dose greatest @ CAX
- Dose decreases @ beam edge
- “Horns” common near surface of accelerator beams
- Dose fall of near beam edge
 - Geometric penumbra
 - Reduced scatter

Electron Energy Dependence



- Lower surface dose (quick buildup) for lower energy beam
- Dose gradient steeper for lower energy electron
- More x-ray contamination for higher energy beams

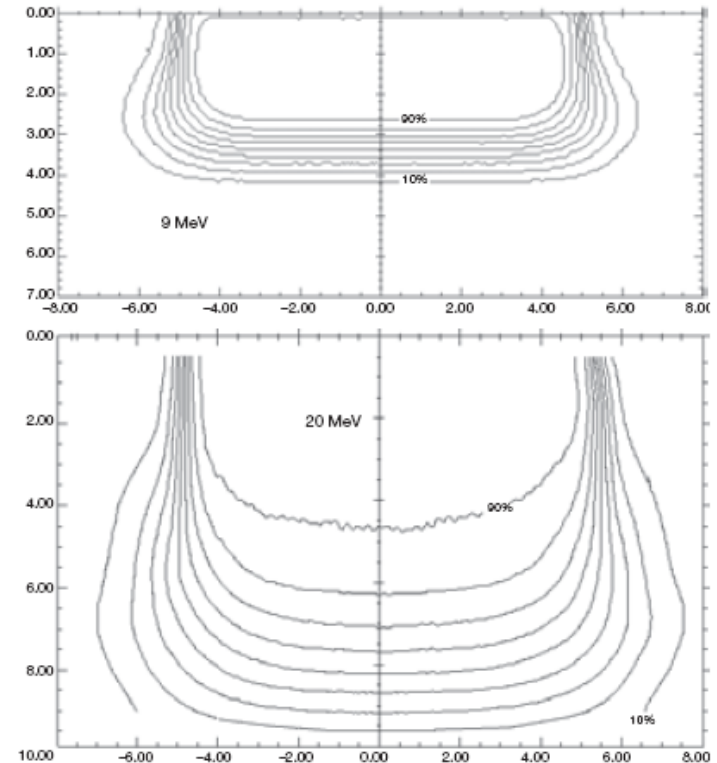
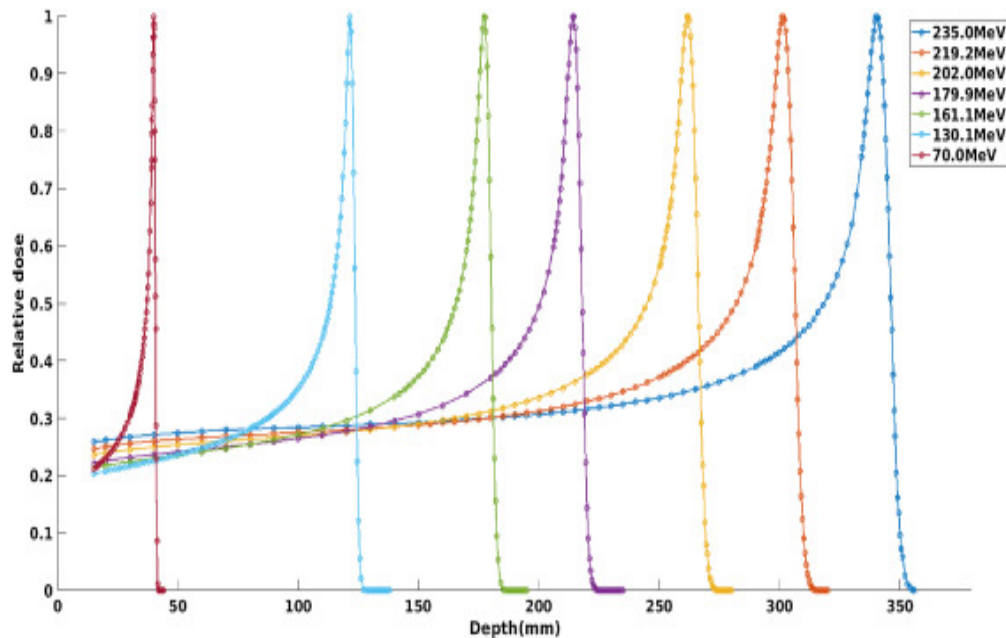


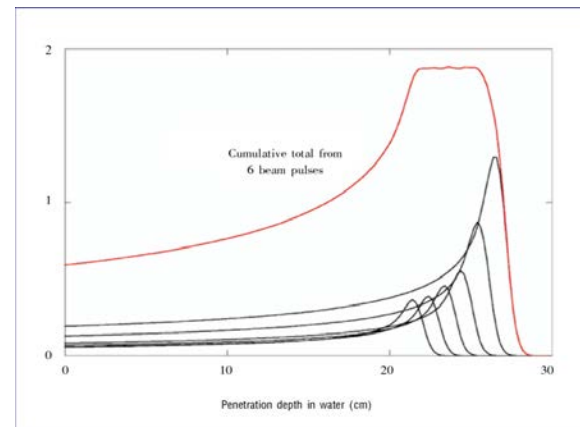
FIG. 8.7. Measured isodose curves for 9 and 20 MeV electron beams. The field size is $10 \times 10 \text{ cm}^2$ and $\text{SSD} = 100 \text{ cm}$. Note the bulging low value isodose lines for both beam energies. The 80% and 90% isodose lines for the 20 MeV beam exhibit a severe lateral constriction. The abscissa and the ordinate represent distance from the central axis and depth in a water phantom, respectively, measured in centimetres.

Proton depth dose

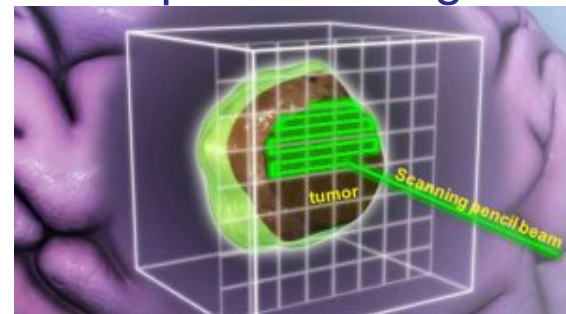
Bragg Peak vs Energy



Spread out Bragg Peak

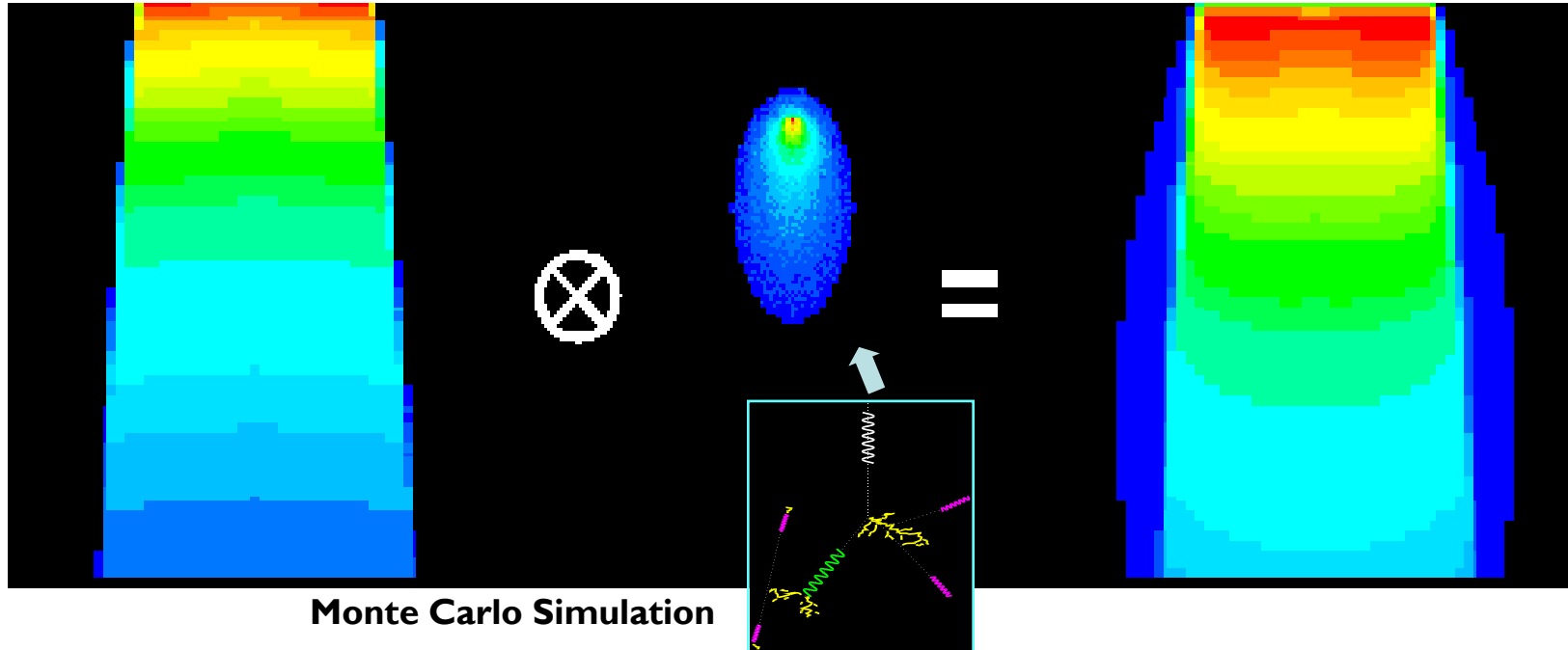


Spot scanning

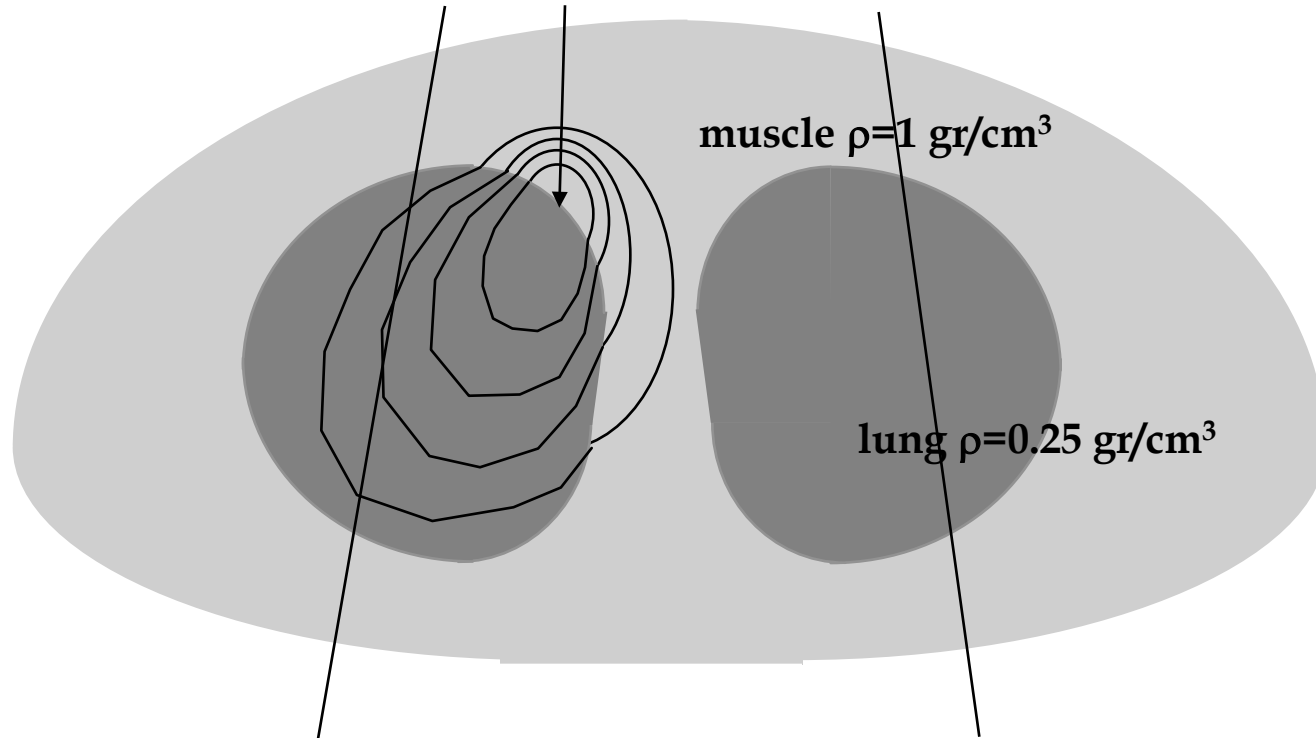


Method: Convolution/Superposition

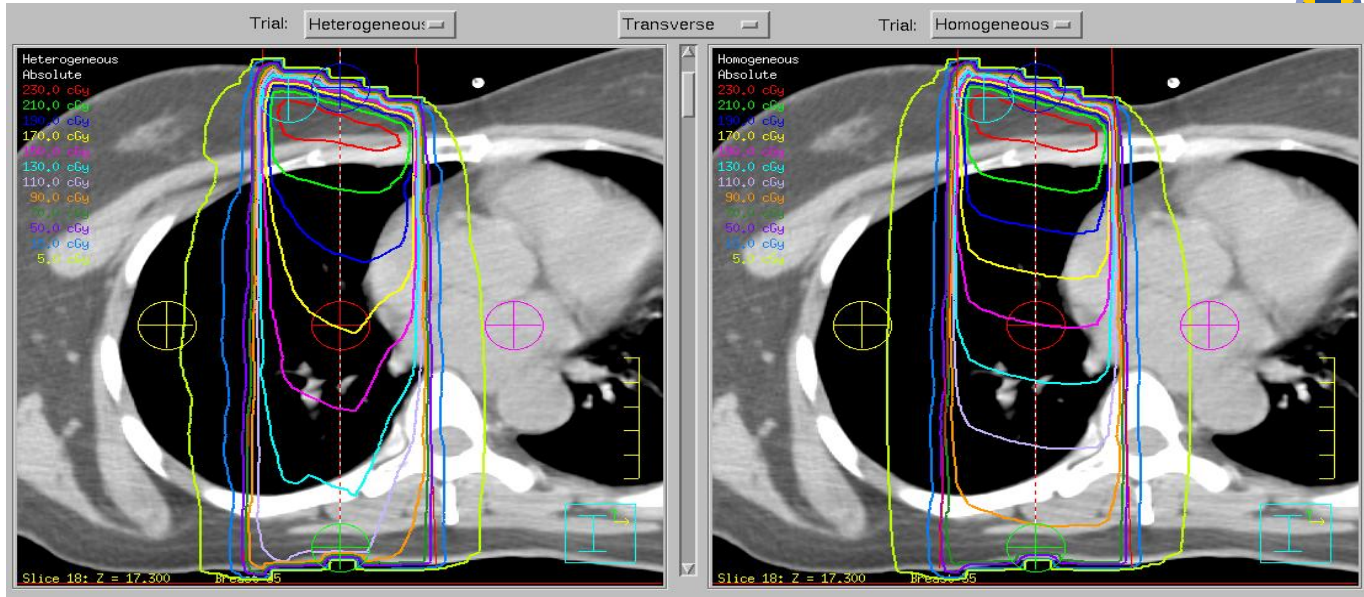
$$D(\vec{r}) = \int_V T(\vec{r}') \cdot A(\vec{r} - \vec{r}') d^3r'$$



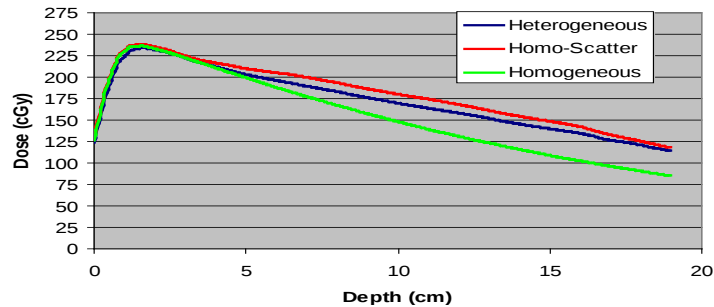
Convolution/Superposition: Heterogeneities



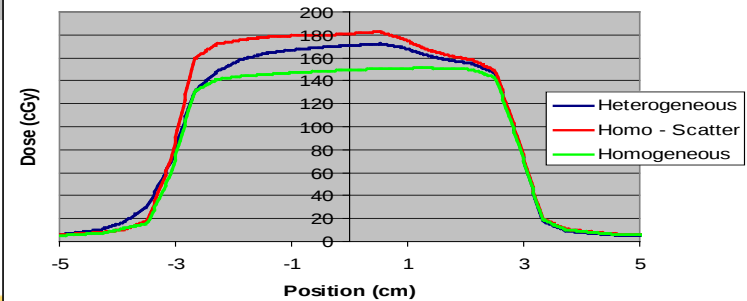
Open anterior beam



Depth Dose Lung



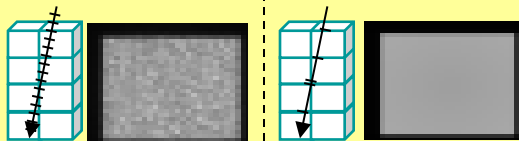
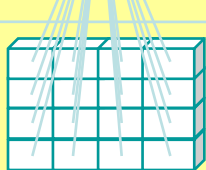
Cross Beam Profiles for Lung



Fast Convolution/Supersposition Dose Computation on GPU

TERMA

Invert ray casting on GPU



old new

Stepwise beam hardening

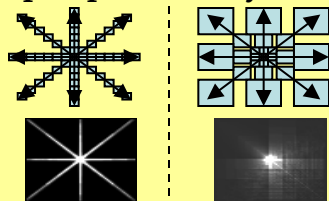
Superposition

Not Tilted

Tilted



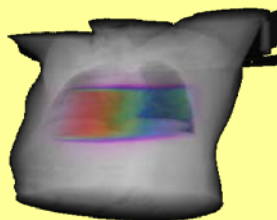
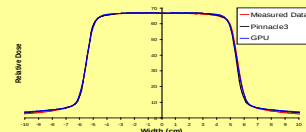
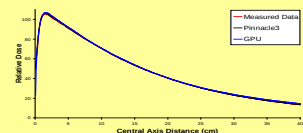
Mipmap kernel ray tracing



Performance

Engine	Kernel Type	Rays	64 ³			128 ³	
			Time (s)	VPS	Speedup	Time (s)	Speedup
GPU	CCK, Tilting*	72	0.198	5.051	41.8x	2.801	33.7x
GPU	CCK, Non-tilting	80	0.159	6.289	52.0x	2.254	41.9x
GPU	CCK, Tilting*	32	0.086	11.628	96.1x	1.246	75.8x
GPU	CCK, Multi-Reso	80	0.097	10.309	85.2x	0.963	98.1x
GPU	CCK, Multi-Reso	32	0.042	23.810	N/A	0.411	N/A
Pinna	CK, Non-tilting	80	8.268	0.121	1.0x	94.51	1.0x

Accurate



Target and Clinical Structure Definition

- Planning begins by defining the regions of interest within the patient

Manual Tools

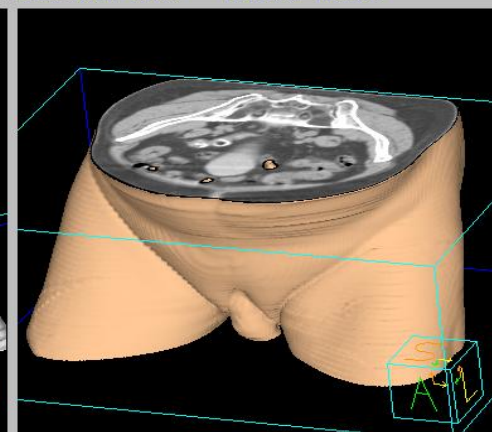
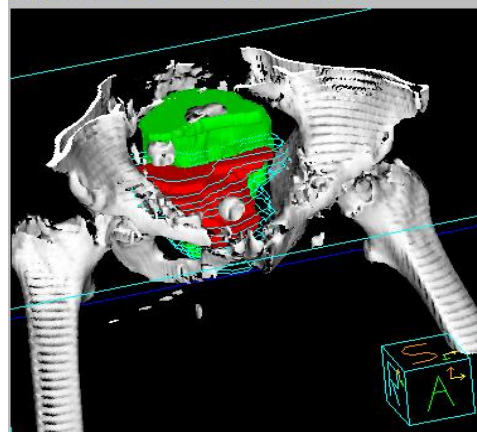
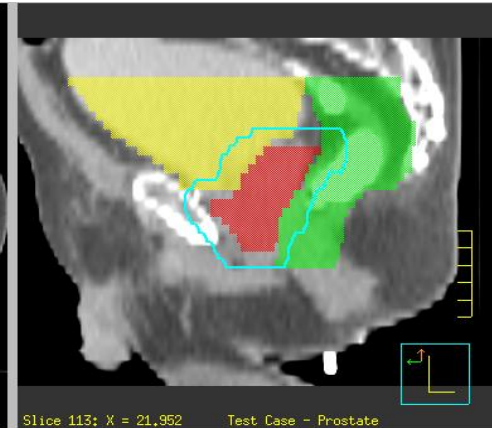
- Line Drawing
- Paint Brush
- 3D tools

Auto Contouring

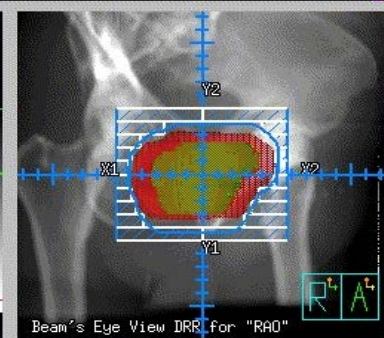
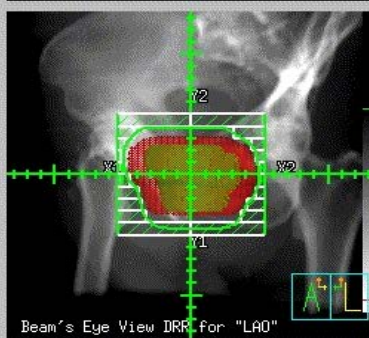
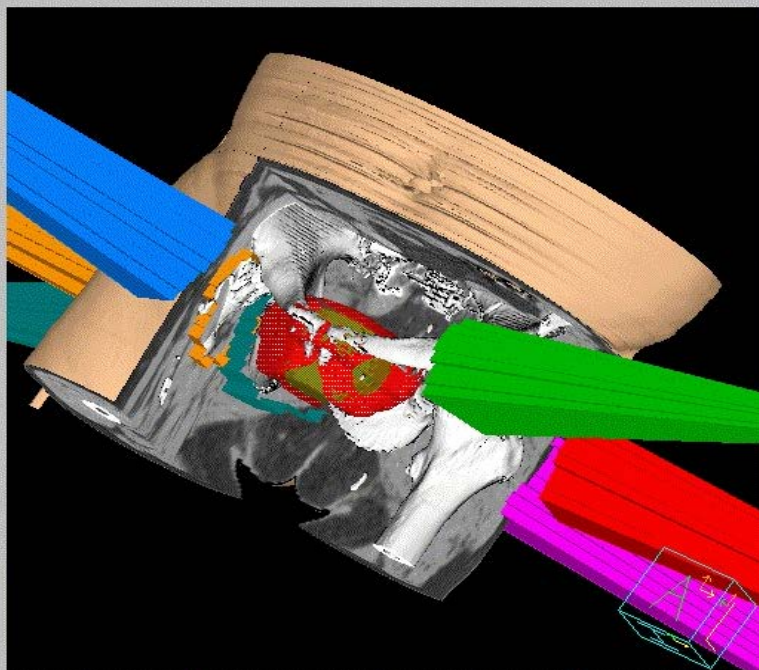
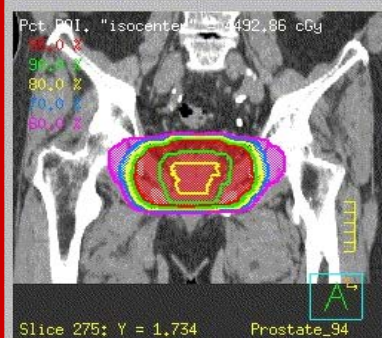
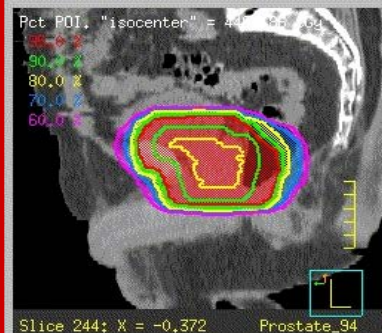
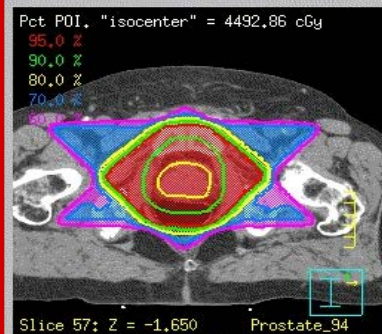
- Threshold
- Gradient/Edge detection
- Model based

Display

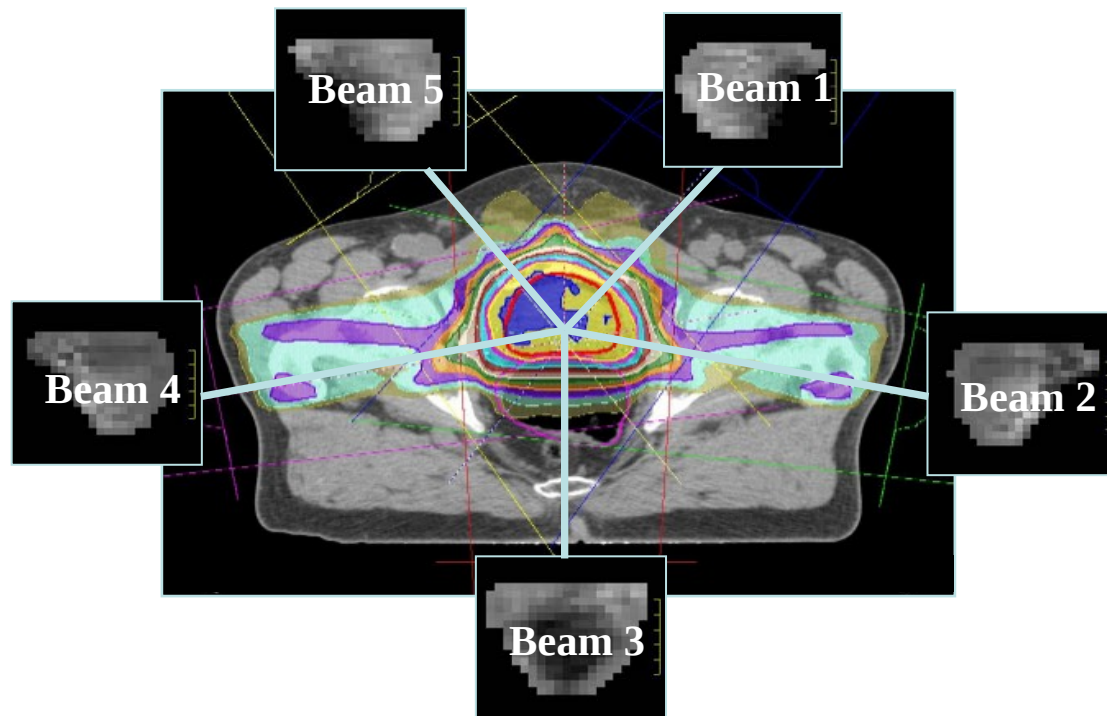
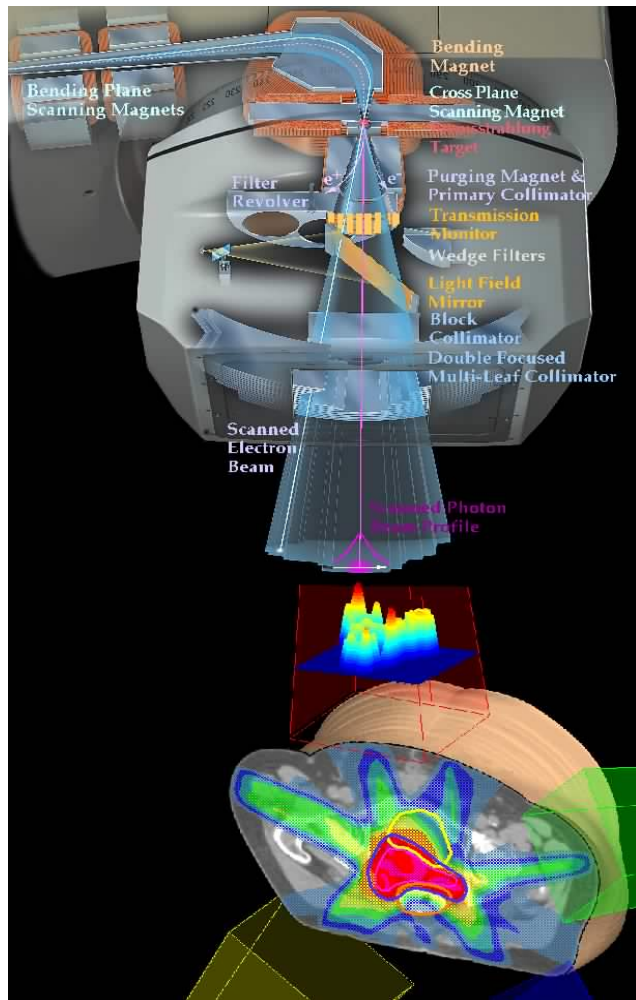
- Contours
- Colorwash
- Polygons (2D and 3D)



3D

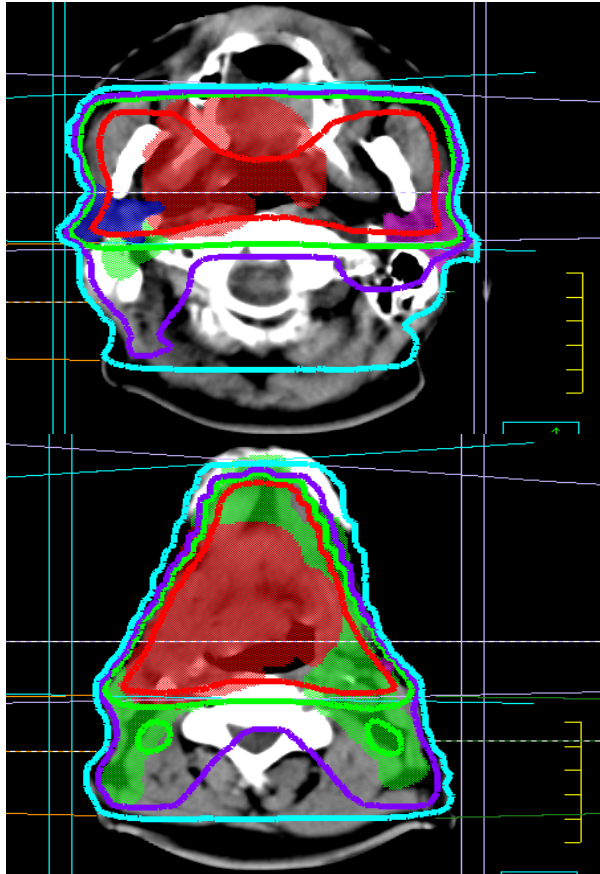


Modern Medical Accelerator and Intensity Modulation (IMRT)

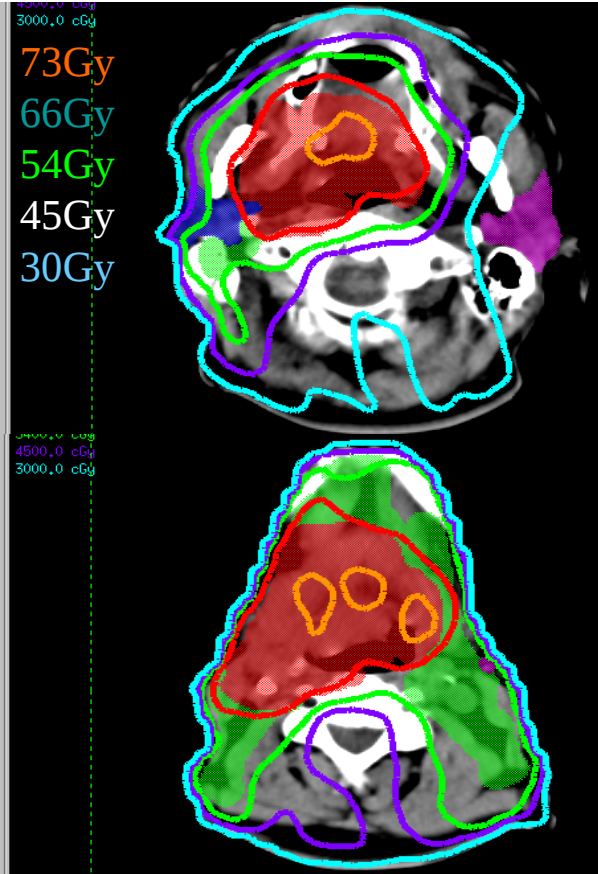


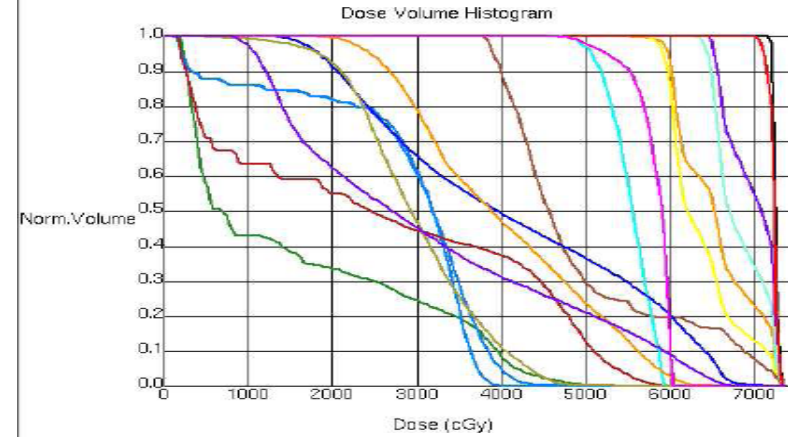
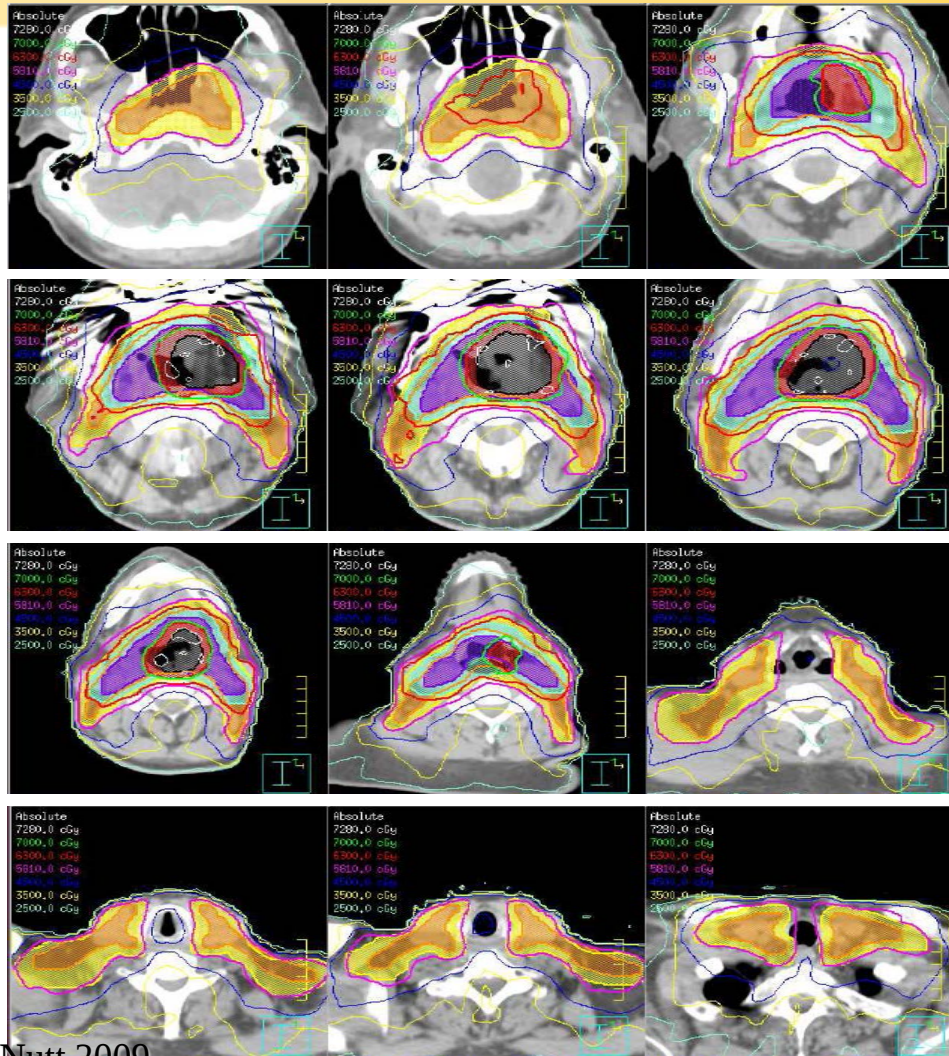
Isodose Lines Comparing 3D and IMRT

Conventional



IMRT





CTV58.1
CTV63
CTV70
PTV58.1
PTV63
PTV70
brainstem
cord
cord+4mm
esophagus
larynx for edema
lt brachial plexus
lt parotid
non-targ mand
oral mucLmt
rt brachial plexus
rt parotid

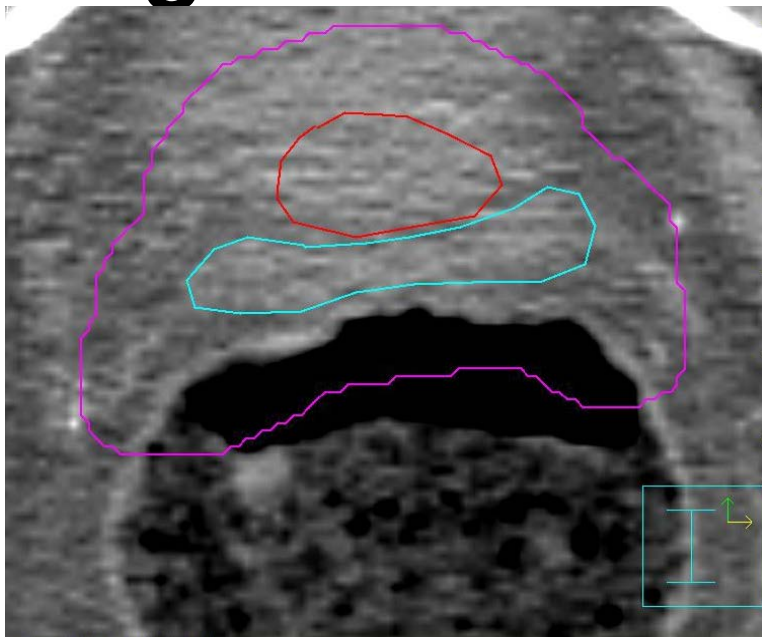
Dose Volume Histograms are used to analyze treatment plan quality by determining what percent of a region of interest receives how much dose.

Target Volume Specification (*late 80's*)

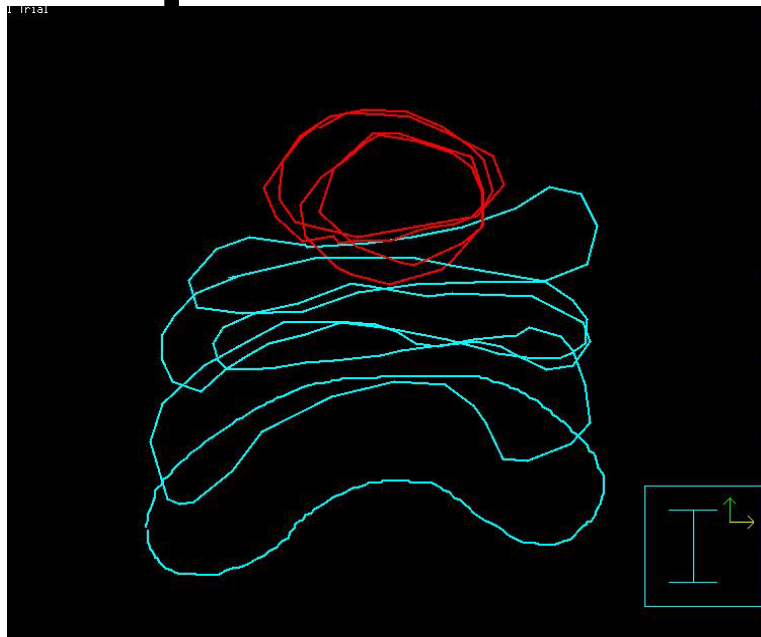
- GTV - Gross Tumor Volume
- CTV - Clinical Target Volume
- PTV - Planning Target Volume
 - Accounts for internal organ motion and patient setup variations during the course of treatment.
- All 'TVs are a statement of the uncertainties (or our ignorance)
---- research opportunities



Organ Motion : Repeat CTs



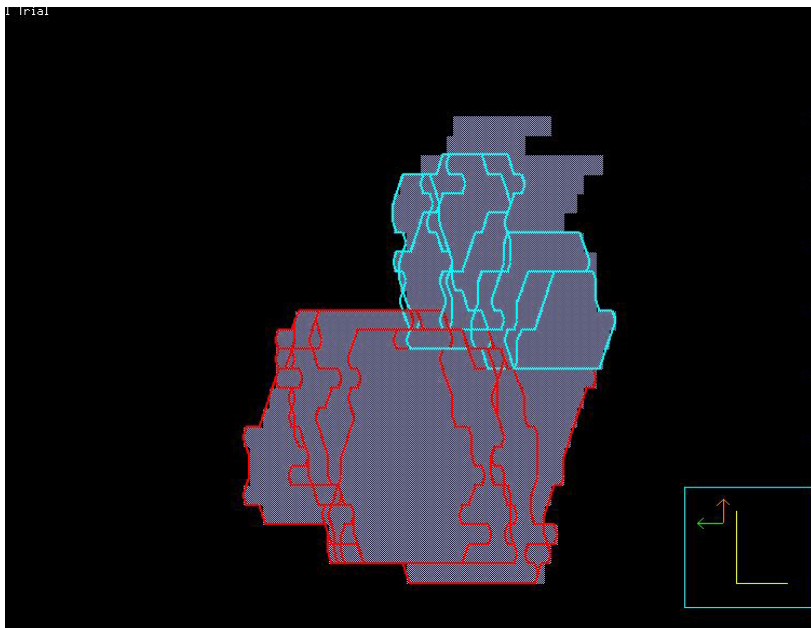
PTV prescribed
with 1st day CT



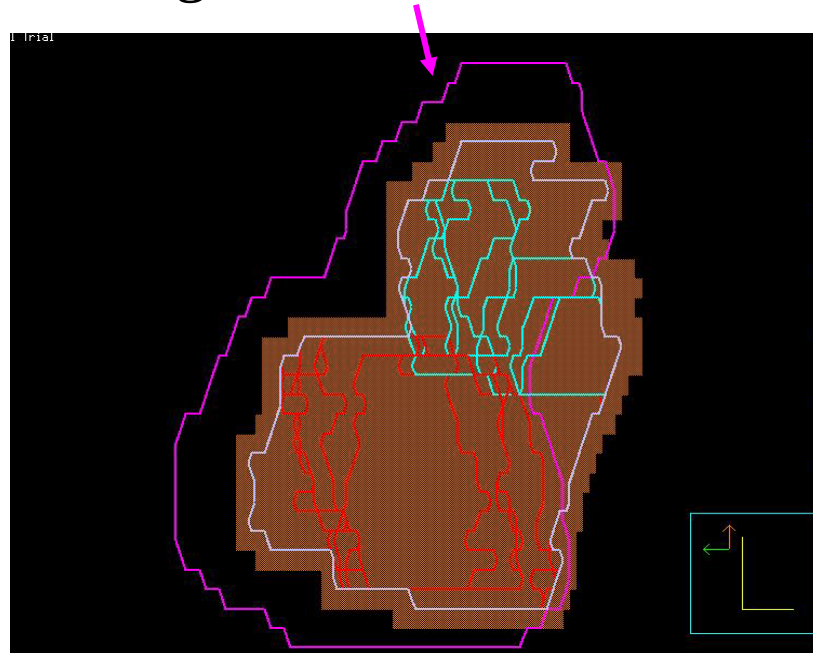
Organ motion detected
on first 5 days

Patient Specific cl-PTV after 5 days

Original PTV :CTV + 1.0 cm



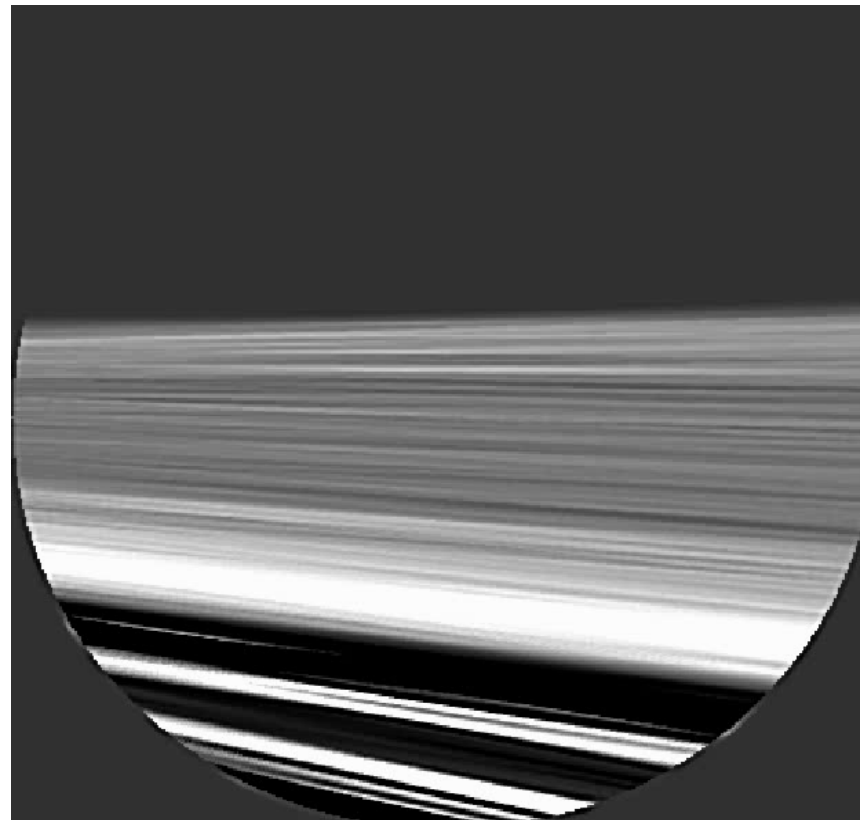
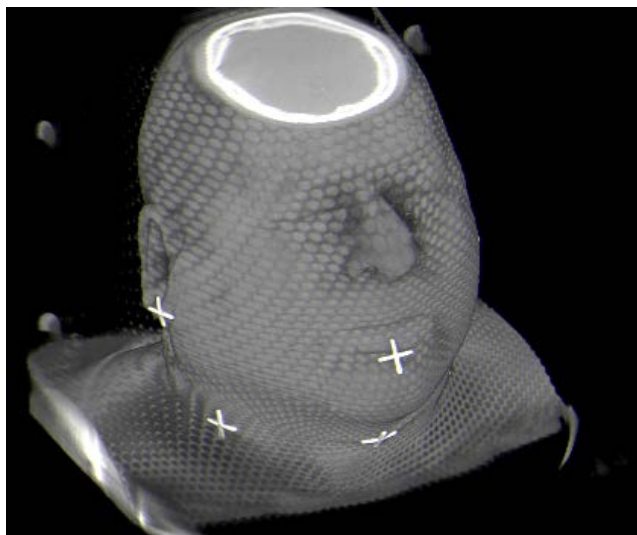
Convex-hull to account for
organ motion



Final PTV (setup and
organ motion)

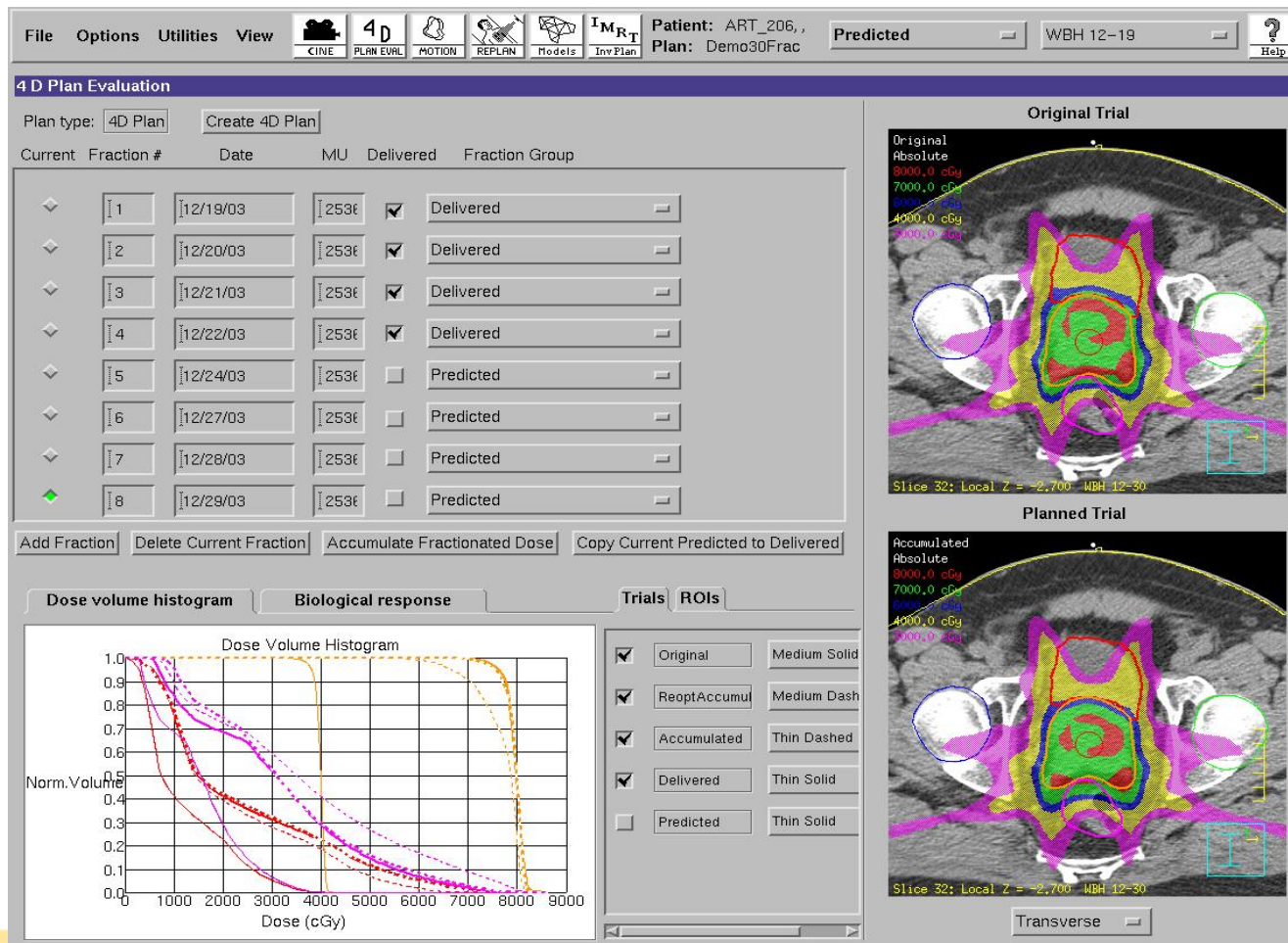
Cone Beam CT Accelerator for On-line intervention







Adaptive Planning Prototype



Commercial on-line adaptive



(a) MRIdian (ViewRay, Cleveland, OH, US)

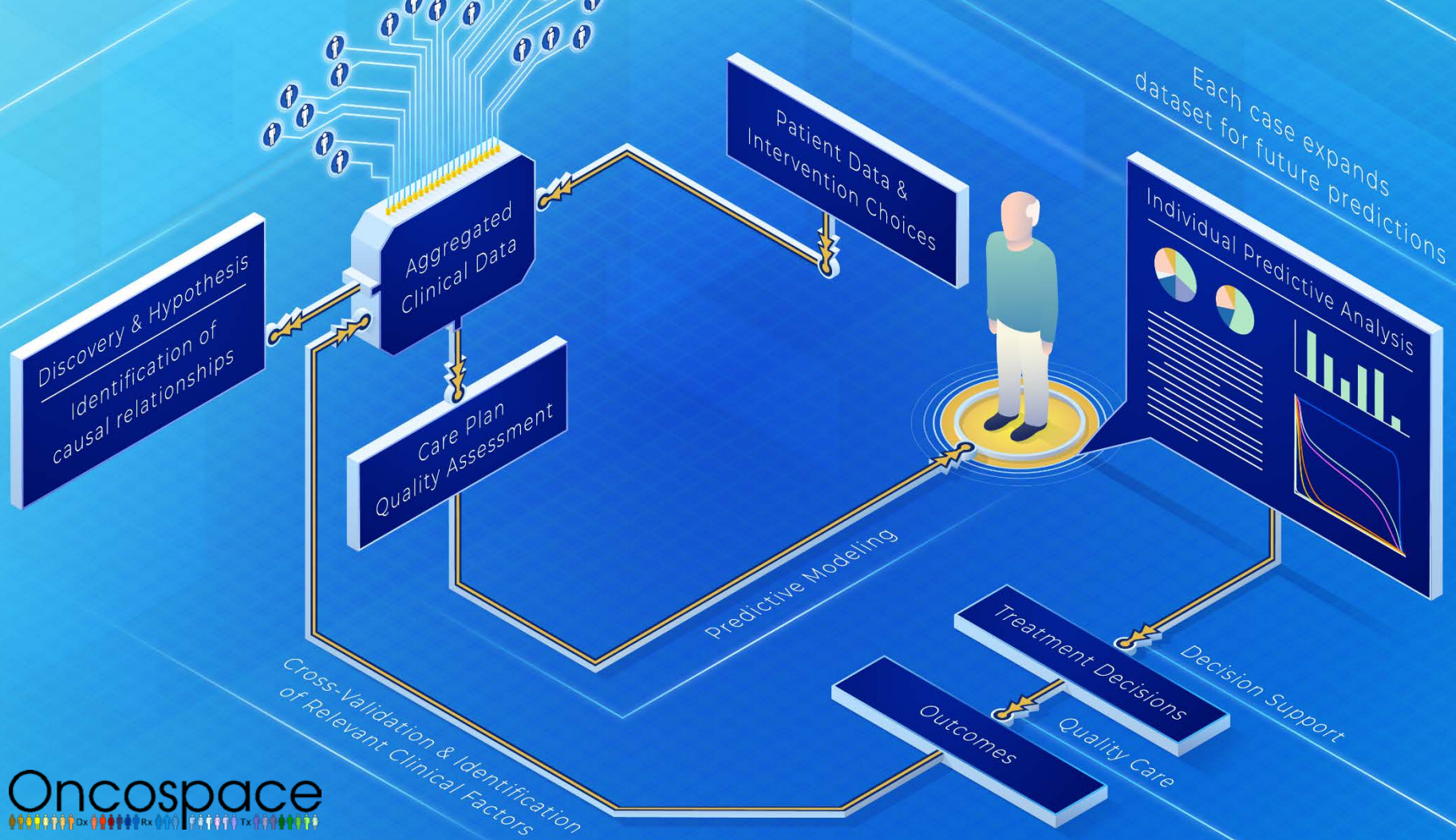


(b) Unity (Elekta AB, Stockholm, Sweden)

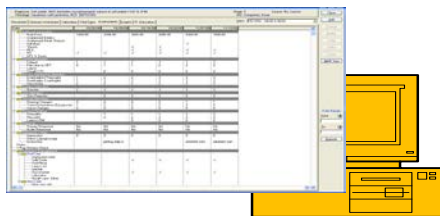


(c) Ethos (Varian Medical Systems, Palo Alto, CA, US)

Commercial online adaptive radiotherapy systems. **a** MRIdian (ViewRay, Cleveland, OH, USA), **b** Unity (Elekta AB, Stockholm, Sweden), **c** Ethos (Varian Medical Systems, Palo Alto, CA, USA)

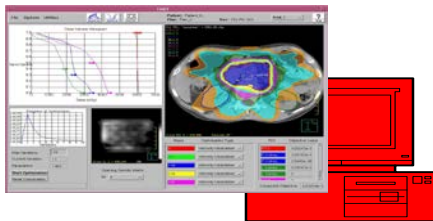


Extract, Transform, Load



MOSAIQ

DICO
M



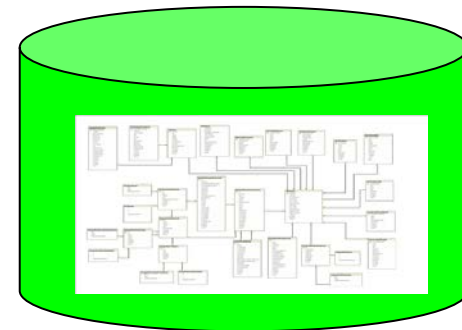
TPS

- SQL Query
- Lab, Toxicity, Assessments



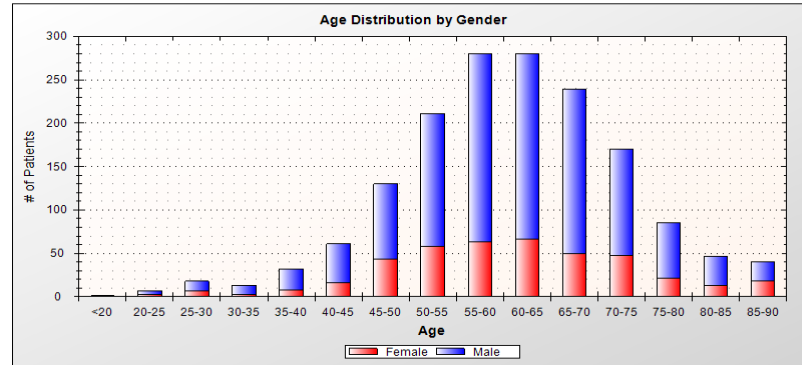
Oncospace

- Scripts, Python, DICOM
- DVH, OVH, Shapes



Head and Neck Inventory

Age Distribution



Totals:
 418 female
 1195 male
 1613 total

Targets

ptv_6300	723
ptv_7000	556
ptv_6000	435
ptv_5400	390
ptv_5425	234
ptv_6800	233
ptv_5810	230
ptv_6240	117
ptv_5940	115
ptv_5520	105
ptv_6720	97
ptv_6120	75
ptv_7200	70
ptv_5760	66
ptv_6996	60
ptv_5600	56

Normals

cord	1512	l_ear_inner	1932
brainstem	1499	esophagus	879
mandible	1457	cricopharyngeal_muscle	827
l_parotid	1448	r_ear_middle	758
r_parotid	1437	oral_cavity	756
r_eye	1436	l_ear_middle	746
l_eye	1431	soft_palate	688
brain	1411	cord_avoidance	637
r_lens	1382	glottis	600
l_lens	1373	constr_muscle_pharyngeal	575
chiasm	1358	ctv_6300	567
l_optic_nerve	1317	comb_parotids	566
r_optic_nerve	1314	l_cochlea	558
l_submandibular	1131	r_cochlea	543
r_submandibular	1108	endolarynx	527
thyroid	1022	midline_avoidance	493
		sublingual	476

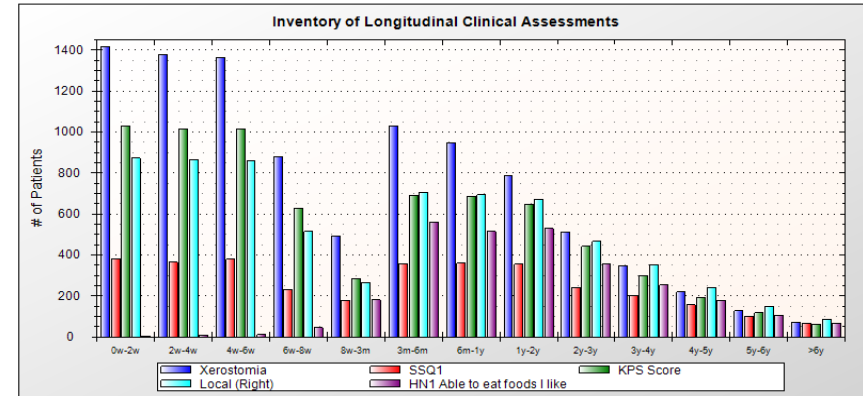
Select assessments:

- \$Esophagitis: NCI
- \$Voice Changes
- 4-D/CT
- Abs Lymphocyte Count
- Absolute Lymph Count(JH)
- Absolute Neut Count(JH)
- Act Partial Thromboplastin Tim
- Adenovirus NAT(JH)
- Admission Reason
- Admitted
- Admitted - Y/N
- AER Microscopic Exam(JH)

Select assessments to view:

- Xerostomia
- SSQ1
- KPS Score
- Local (Right)
- HN1 Able to eat foods I like

Reset
 Clear Selection
 Update



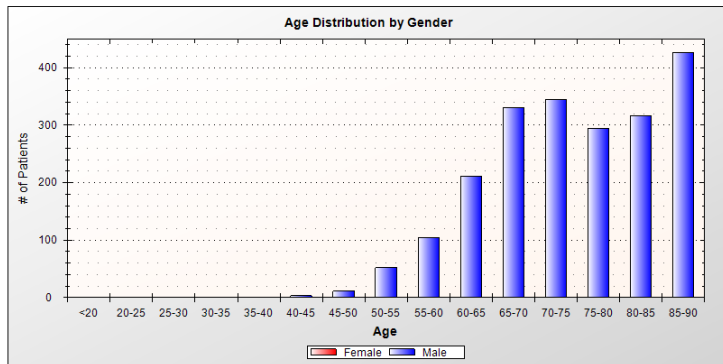
Total: 29579 assessments shown

>6 yrs

Prostate Inventory

~2100 pts - ~1500 with dose

Age Distribution



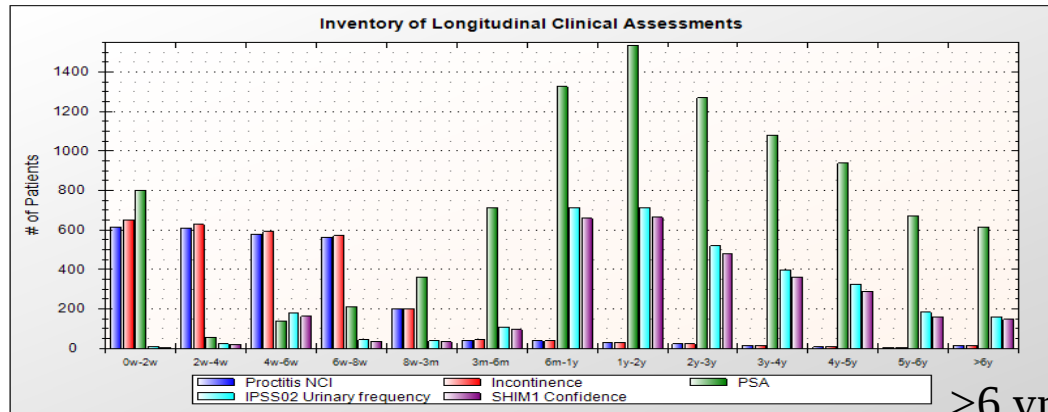
Totals:
0 female
2096 male
2096 total

Targets

ptv_prostate_sv	568
ptv_prostate_bed	448
ptv_prostate	387
ptv_nodes	349
ptv_prostate_brachy	237
ptv_prostate_bed_cd	207
ptv_prostate_sv_nodes	150
ptv_prostate_bed_nodes	87

Normals

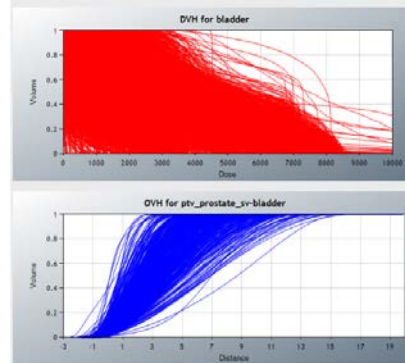
rectum	1798
bladder	1472
l_head_femur	1418
r_head_femur	1414
bowel	817
penile_bulb	511



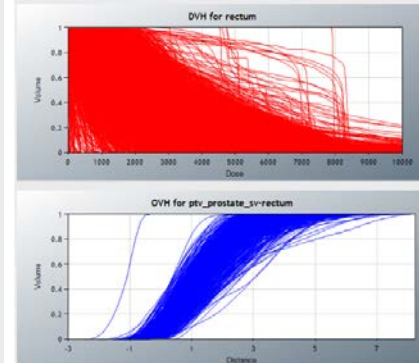
Total: 21743 assessments shown

>6 yrs

Bladder



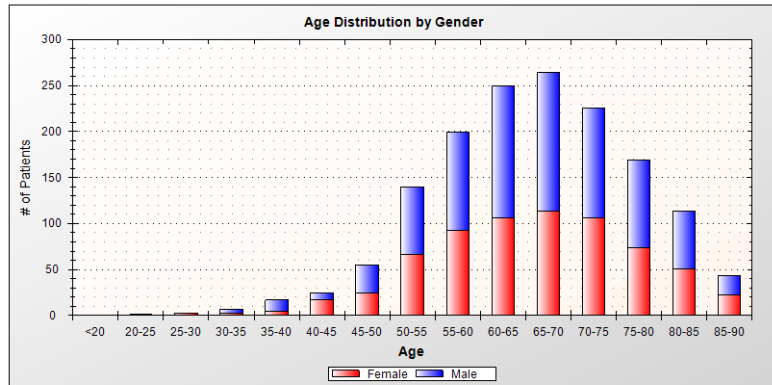
Rectum



Thoracic Inventory

~1700 pts

Age Distribution



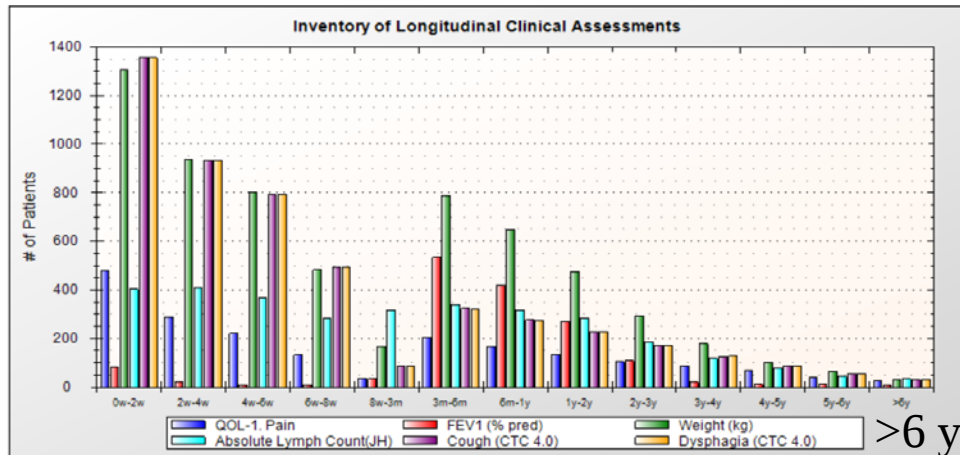
Totals:
682 female
831 male
1513 total

Targets

gtv_fb	675
gtv_0pct	549
PTV	418
ptv_final	323
gtv_60pct	311
gtv_50pct	215
GTV	211
ptvexp	178
ptv_5mm_exp	164
gtvrol	148
gtv_min	83
gtv_max	83

Normals

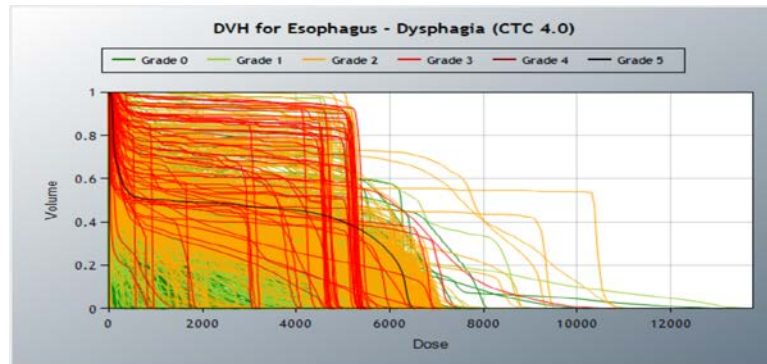
R_Lung	1633
L_Lung	1629
Esophagus	1452
Lungs	1385
Trachea	1322
Heart	836
SpinalCord	823
Pericardium	711
Liver	349
R_Kidney	267
L_Kidney	264
Thyroid	135



Total: 22894 assessments shown

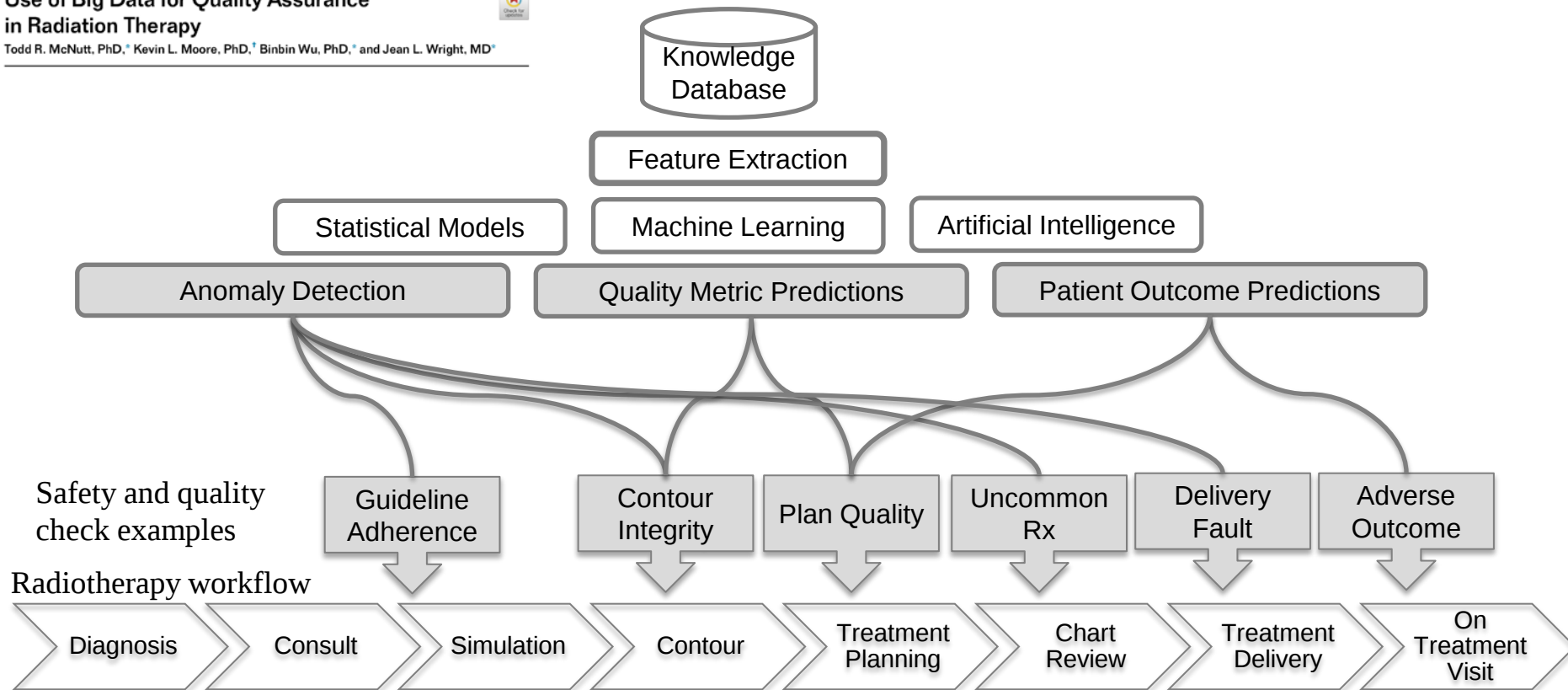
>6 yrs

Esophagus DVH vs Dysphagia CTCAE

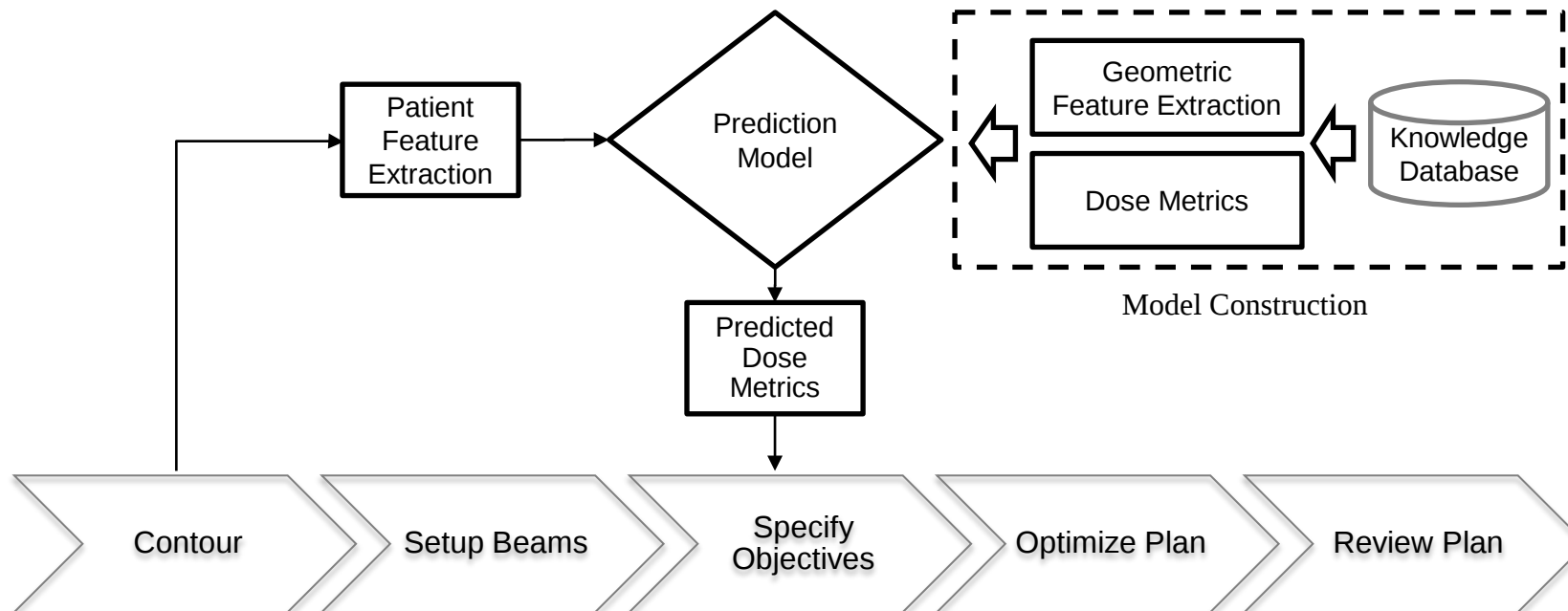


Use of Big Data for Quality Assurance in Radiation Therapy

Todd R. McNutt, PhD,* Kevin L. Moore, PhD,* Binbin Wu, PhD,* and Jean L. Wright, MD*

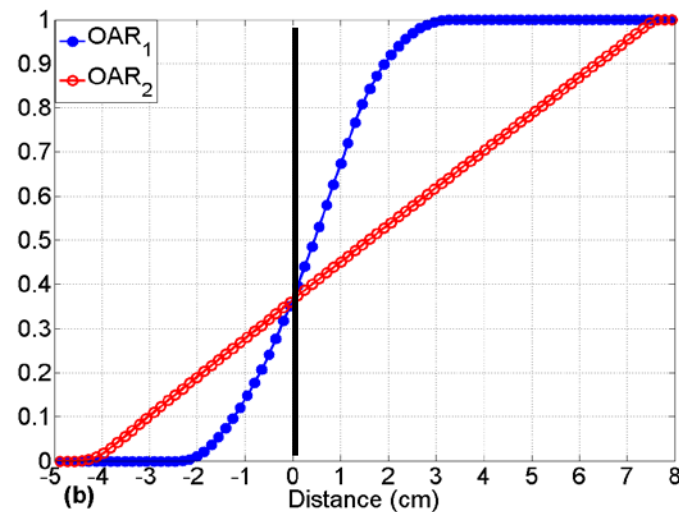
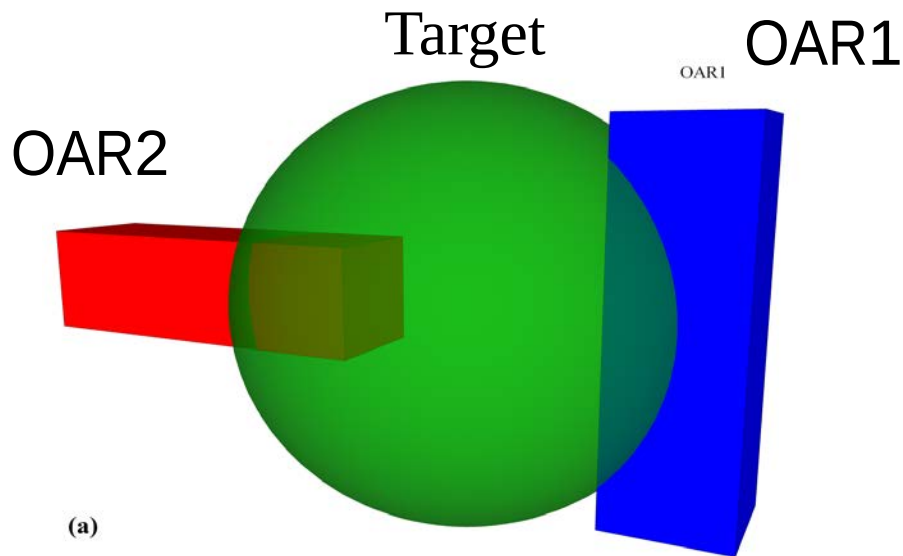


Knowledge based planning



Overlap Volume Histogram

OVH: serial vs parallel (Wu, Taylor, Kazhdan, Simari, McNutt)



For parallel organs, **OAR2** is more easily spared.
 For serial organs, **OAR1** is more easily spared.

S

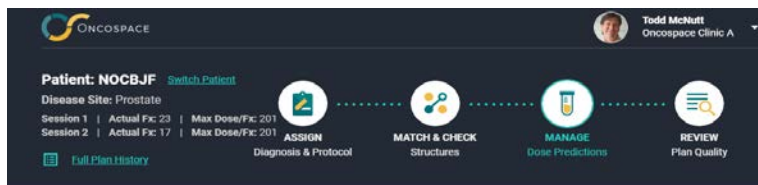


New model predictions with Random Forest

Features: OVH-xyz, OVH-xy, OVH-z, PTV-Volume, PTV-Concavity...

Lowest achievable = Predicted median of the 5th percentile of doses given a set of input features at each %v

Expected = Predicted value of prior similar plans



ONCOSPACE

Patient: NOCBJF [Switch Patient](#)

Disease Site: Prostate

Session 1 | Actual Fx: 23 | Max Dose/Fx: 201
Session 2 | Actual Fx: 17 | Max Dose/Fx: 201

[Full Plan History](#)

ASSIGN Diagnosis & Protocol

MATCH & CHECK Structures

MANAGE Dose Predictions

REVIEW Plan Quality

← Back Last updated: Jun 8, 2020, 11:38:29 PM

Next →

Manage Dose Predictions

PLAN VIEWER

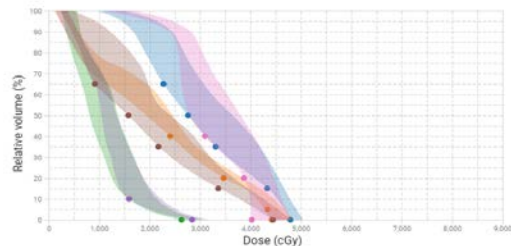
Course

Plan: initial

☐ View protocol goals

Plan: conedown

- ☒ Bladder ☒ Bowel_Bag ☒ L_Head_Femur ☐ PenileBulb ☒ R_Head_Femur
☒ Rectum ☒ Sigmoid_Colon



ONCOSPACE

Todd McNutt
Oncospace Clinic A

Manage Dose Predictions

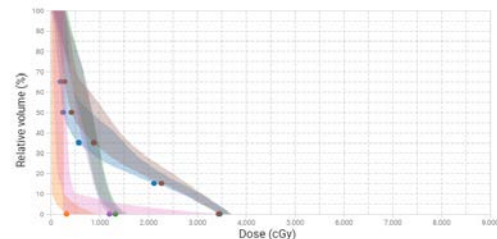
PLAN VIEWER

Showing:

Plan: conedown

☐ View protocol goals

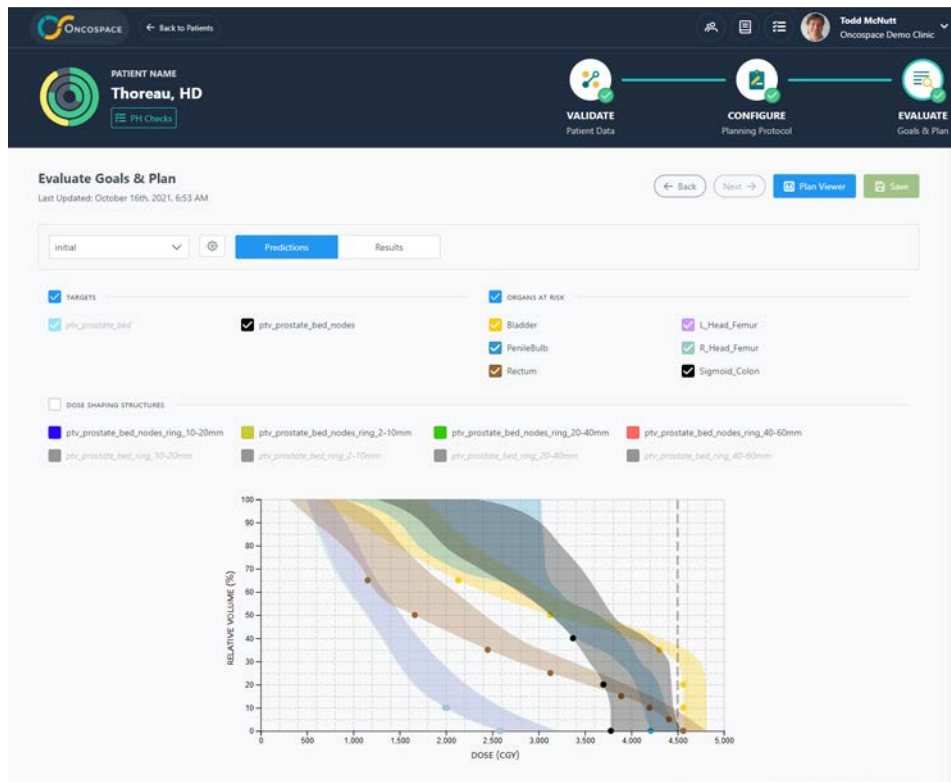
- ☒ Bladder ☒ Bowel_Bag ☒ L_Head_Femur ☐ PenileBulb ☒ R_Head_Femur
☒ Rectum ☒ Sigmoid_Colon



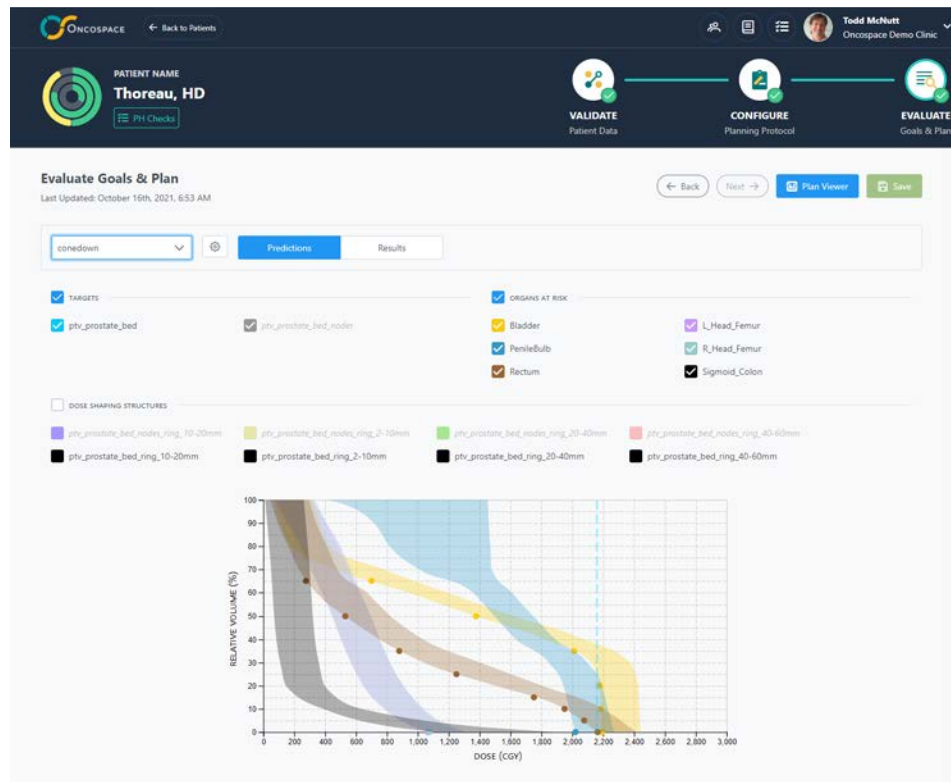
Bladder

Goal ↓	Protocol	Best Achievable	Expected
Max dose to 65% volume (cGy)	2000	200	399
Max dose to 50% volume (cGy)	2500	254	628
Max dose to 35% volume (cGy)	3000	577	1515
Max dose to 15% volume (cGy)	3400	2118	2669
Max dose to 0% volume (cGy)	3600	3462	3565

Predicted Plan objectives

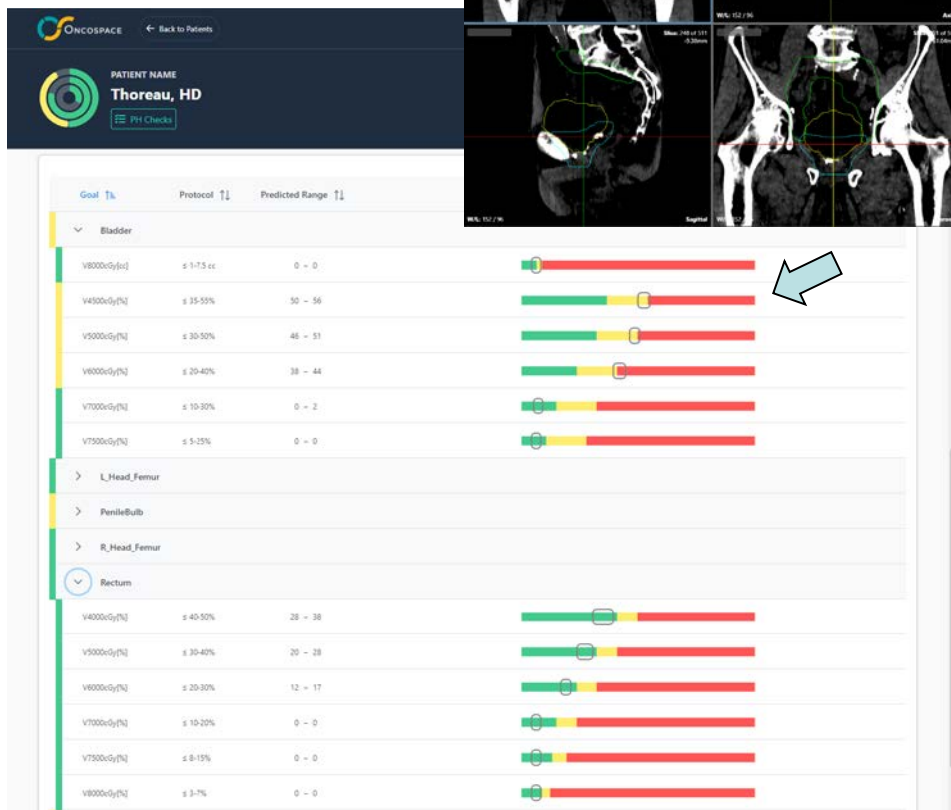
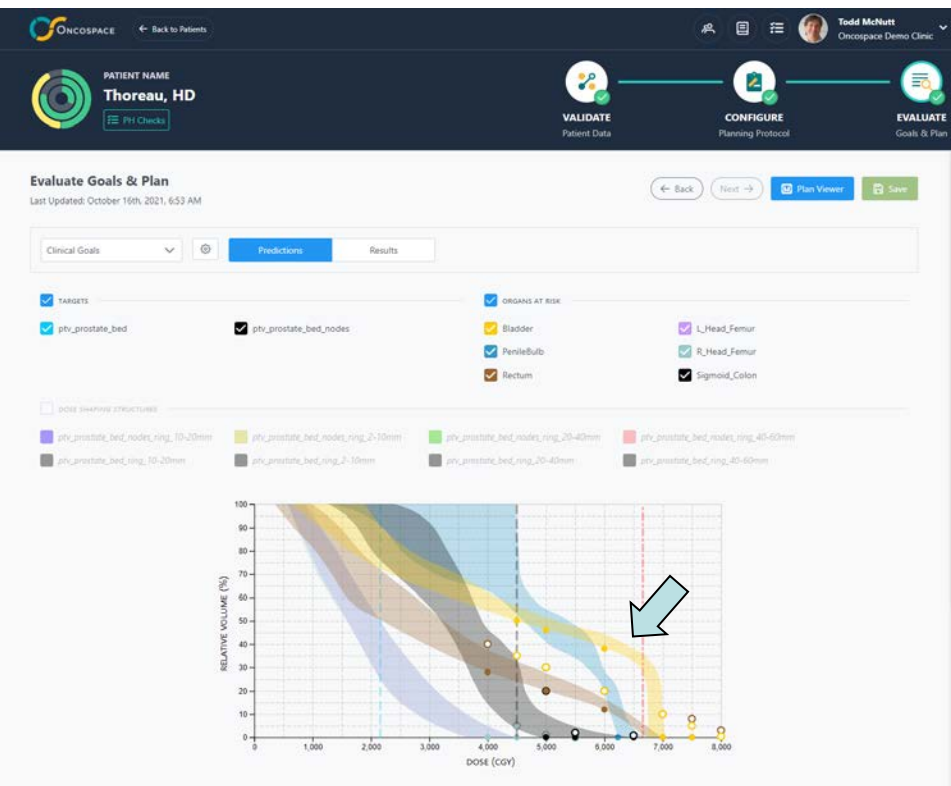


November 10, 2025

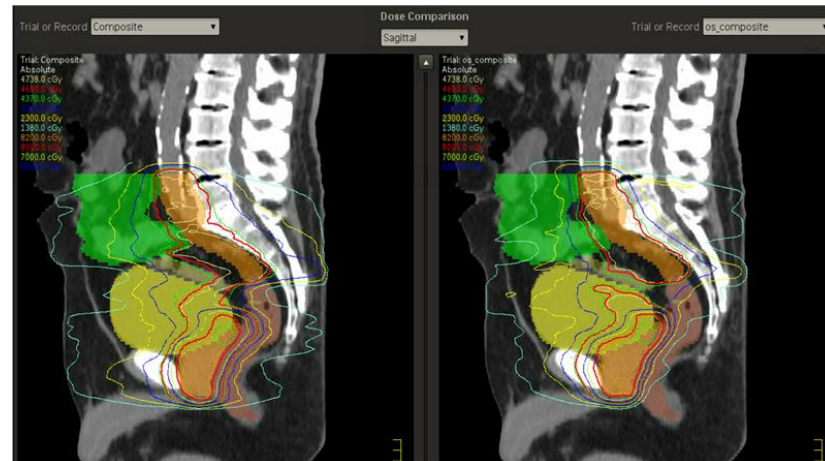
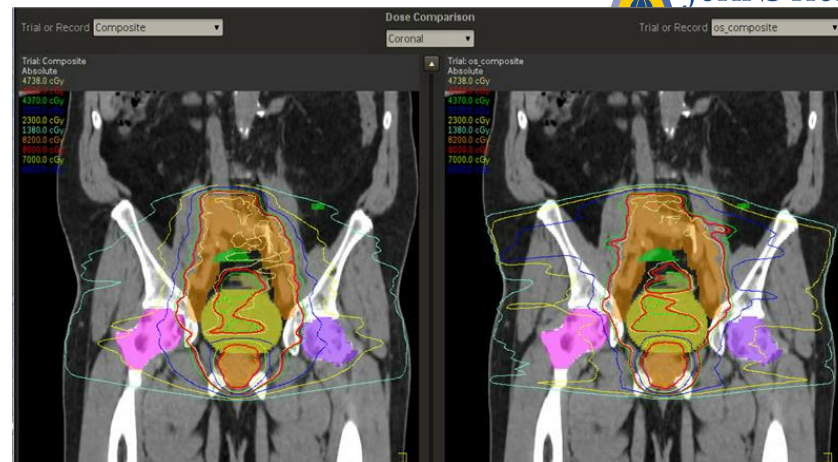
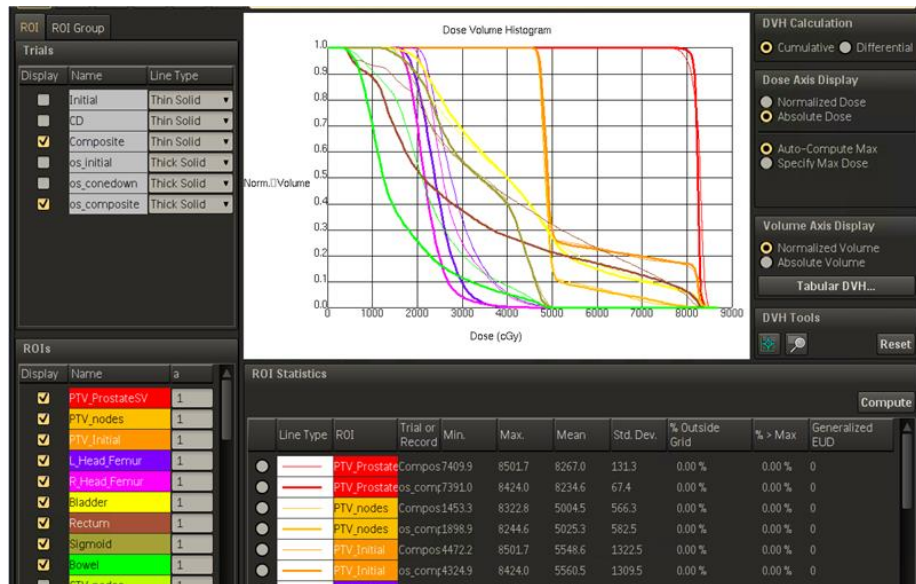


37

Course Predictions

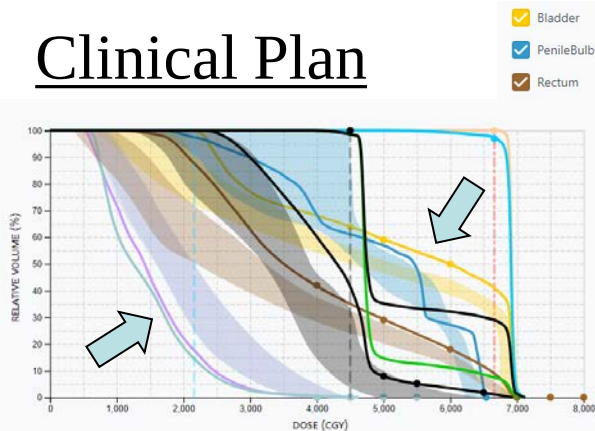


Autoplan result

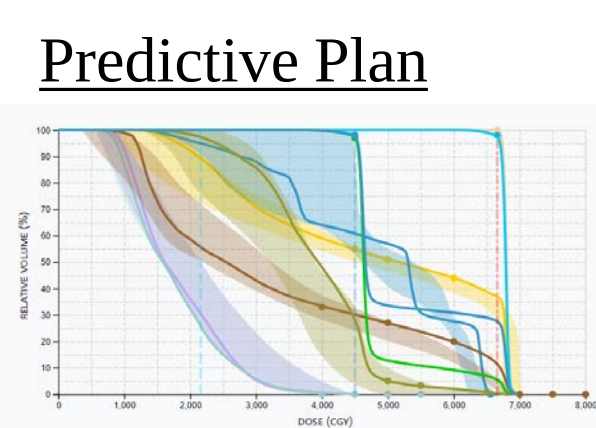


Comparison

Clinical Plan



Predictive Plan



Goal $\updownarrow$	Protocol $\updownarrow$	Predicted Range $\updownarrow$	Plan Value $\updownarrow$	Comparison
Bladder				
V8000cGy(cc)	$\leq 1-7.5$ cc	0 - 0	0	
V4500cGy(%)	$\leq 35-55\%$	50 - 56	64	
V5000cGy(%)	$\leq 30-50\%$	46 - 51	59	
V6000cGy(%)	$\leq 20-40\%$	38 - 44	50	
V7000cGy(%)	$\leq 10-30\%$	0 - 2	1	
V7500cGy(%)	$\leq 5-25\%$	0 - 0	0	

Goal $\updownarrow$	Protocol $\updownarrow$	Predicted Range $\updownarrow$	Plan Value $\updownarrow$	Comparison
Bladder				
V8000cGy(cc)	$\leq 1-7.5$ cc	0 - 0	0	
V4500cGy(%)	$\leq 35-55\%$	50 - 56	55	
V5000cGy(%)	$\leq 30-50\%$	46 - 51	51	
V6000cGy(%)	$\leq 20-40\%$	38 - 44	44	
V7000cGy(%)	$\leq 10-30\%$	0 - 2	0	
V7500cGy(%)	$\leq 5-25\%$	0 - 0	0	

AI prostate planning results

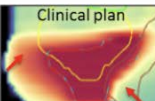
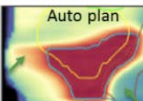
Song, Ennis, Showalter

RadOnc A, High Risk Patient #1

APFLDO (P1 High) Feature Ratings (1 worst – 5 best)			
Category	Feature	Score	Ave cat.
Overall	overall quality	3	3
Targets	tumor coverage	5	5
	tumor homogeneity	5	
OARs	bladder sparing	2	4.2
	rectum sparing	4	
	femur head sparing	5	
	bowel sparing	5	
	penile bulb sparing	5	
Non-ROIs	dose outside ROIs	2	2
Plan clinically acceptable?		marginal	
Comments: Dose extends anterior to pubic symphysis			

JCILHD (P1 High) Feature Ratings (1 worst – 5 best)			
Category	Feature	Score	Ave cat.
Overall	overall quality	4	4
Targets	tumor coverage	5	5
	tumor homogeneity	5	
OARs	bladder sparing	3	4.4
	rectum sparing	4	
	femur head sparing	5	
	bowel sparing	5	
	penile bulb sparing	5	
Non-ROIs	dose outside ROIs	3	3
Plan clinically acceptable?		yes	
Comments: Better than APFLDO, but high dose fully includes pubic bone			

Comparison of plan APFLDO vs JCILHD (P1 High)	
Which plan is preferable?	JCILHD
Which aspect was most relevant in that selection? Lower dose rectal volumes better; less anterior coverage beyond pubic bone	

Clinical plan	Auto plan
	

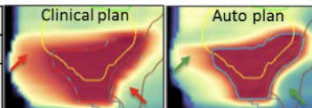
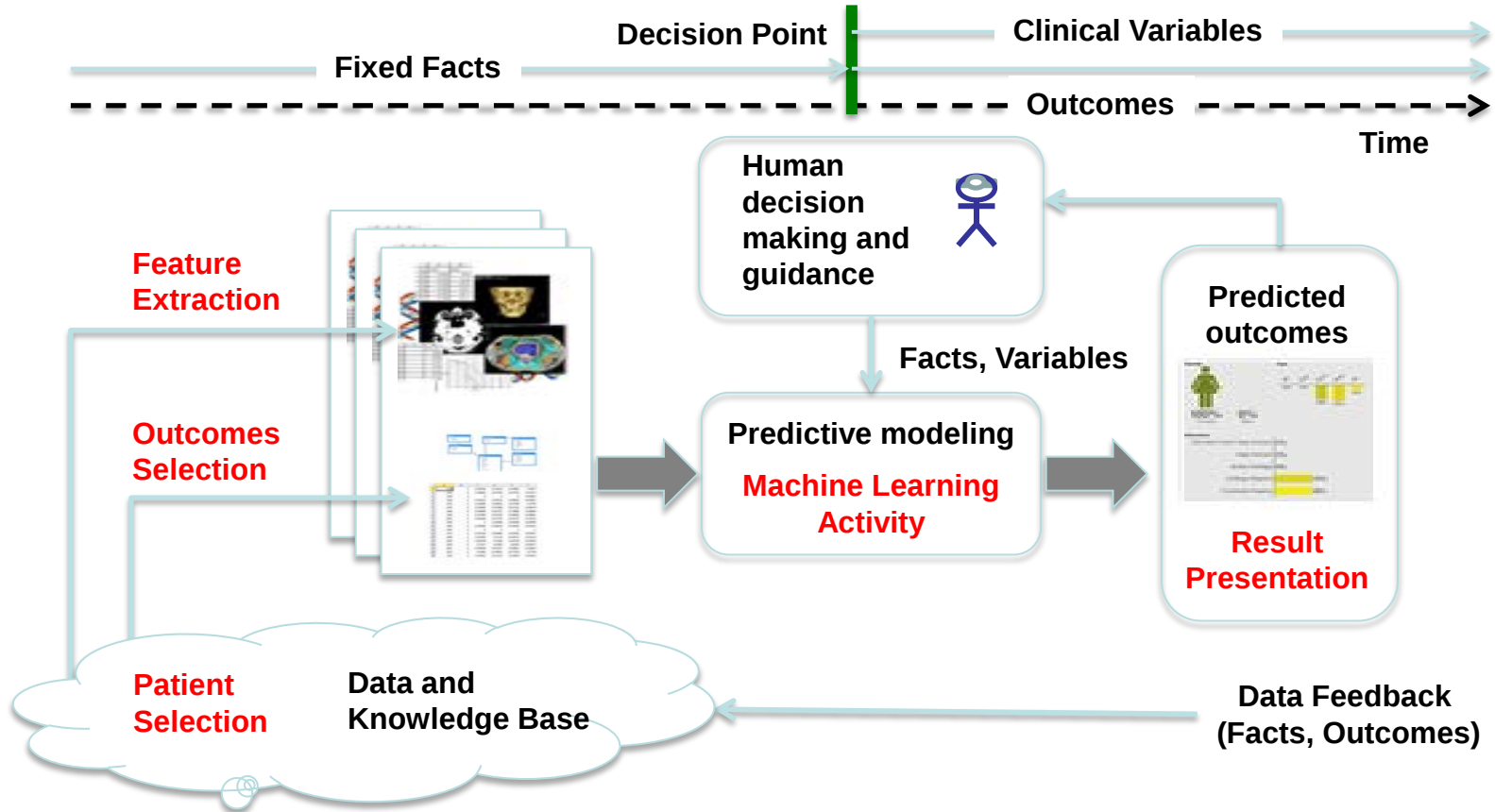


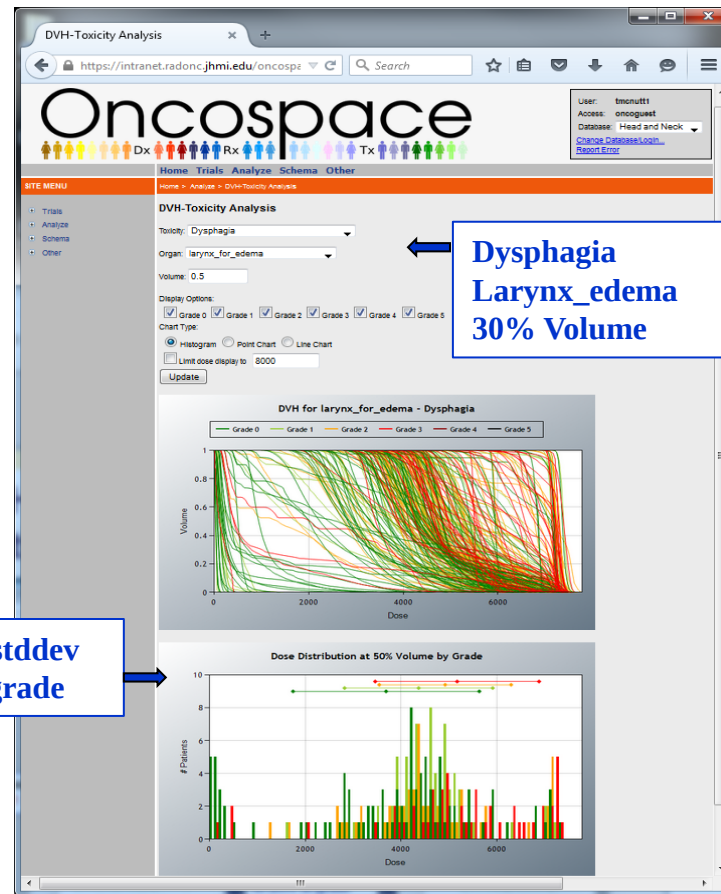
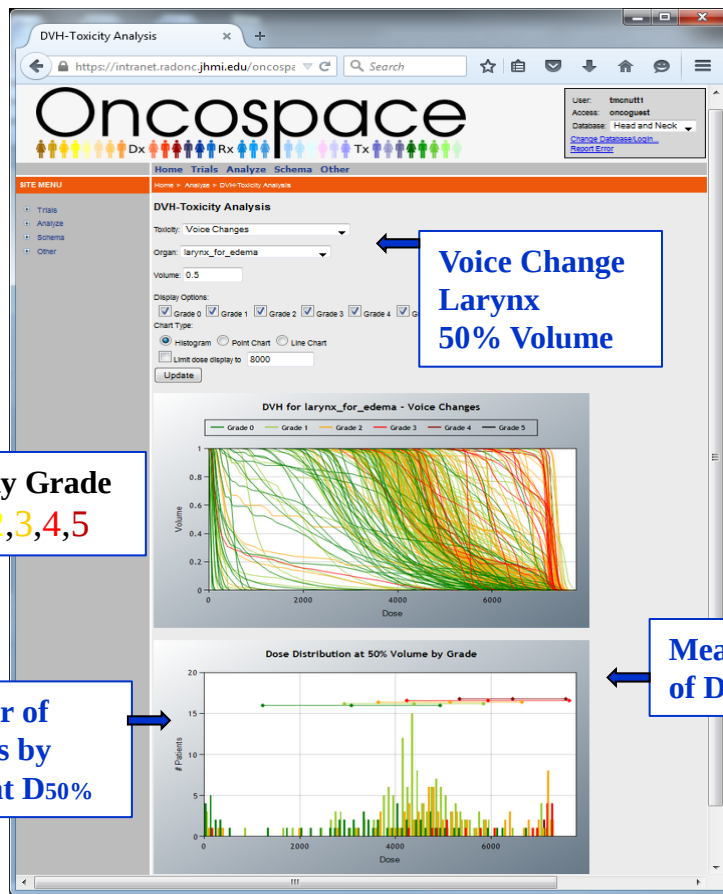
Figure 13. Example of ratings and overall preference for the pair of plans for high risk patient #1. Dose overlay indicates the advantages of the auto plan commented on in green.

	Clinical Acceptability of Plan						Preferable Plan			
	RadOnc A		RadOnc B		RadOnc C		RadOnc A	RadOnc B	RadOnc C	Overall
	Auto	Clin	Auto	Clin	Auto	Clin				
Pilot										
P1 Low	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Marginal	Yes	Clin	Auto	Clin	Clin
P1 Int	No	No	No	No	Marginal	Yes	Clin	Auto	Clin	Clin
P2 Int	Yes	Marginal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Auto	Clin	Auto	Auto
Test							Auto 12-0	Auto 10-2	Auto 9-3	Auto 12-0
P2 Low	Yes	Marginal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto
P3 Low	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Auto	Auto	Clin	Auto
P4 Low	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto
P3 Int	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Auto	Auto	Clin	Auto
P4 Int	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Marginal	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto
P5 Int	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto
P1 High	Yes	Marginal	Yes	No	Marginal	Marginal	Auto	Auto	Clin	Auto
P2 High	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Auto	Clin	Auto	Auto
P3 High	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Auto	Clin	Auto	Auto
P4 High	No	No	No	No	Marginal	No	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto
P5 High	Yes	Marginal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto
P6 High	Yes	Marginal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Auto	Auto	Auto	Auto

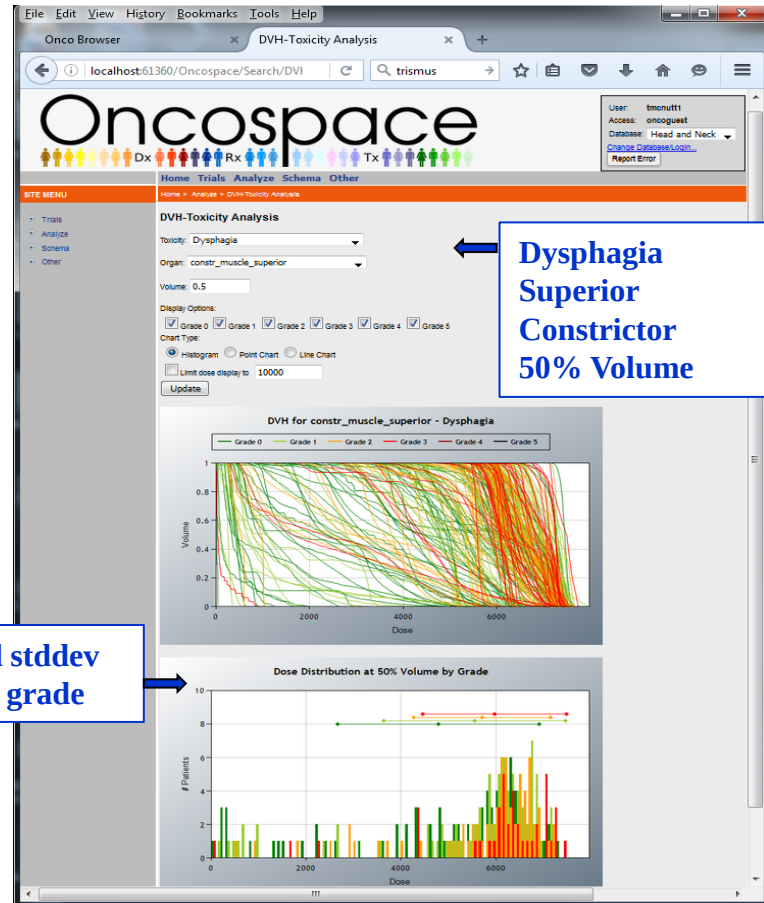
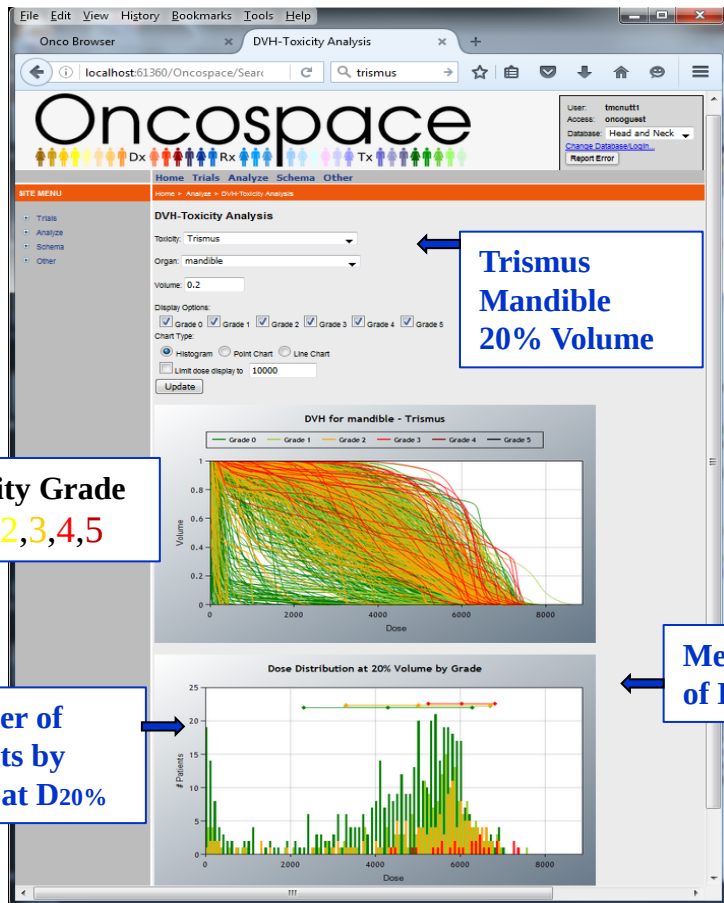
Learning health system – Decision Support



DVH, Toxicities and Grade distributions



DVH, Toxicities and Grade distributions



Longitudinal measures

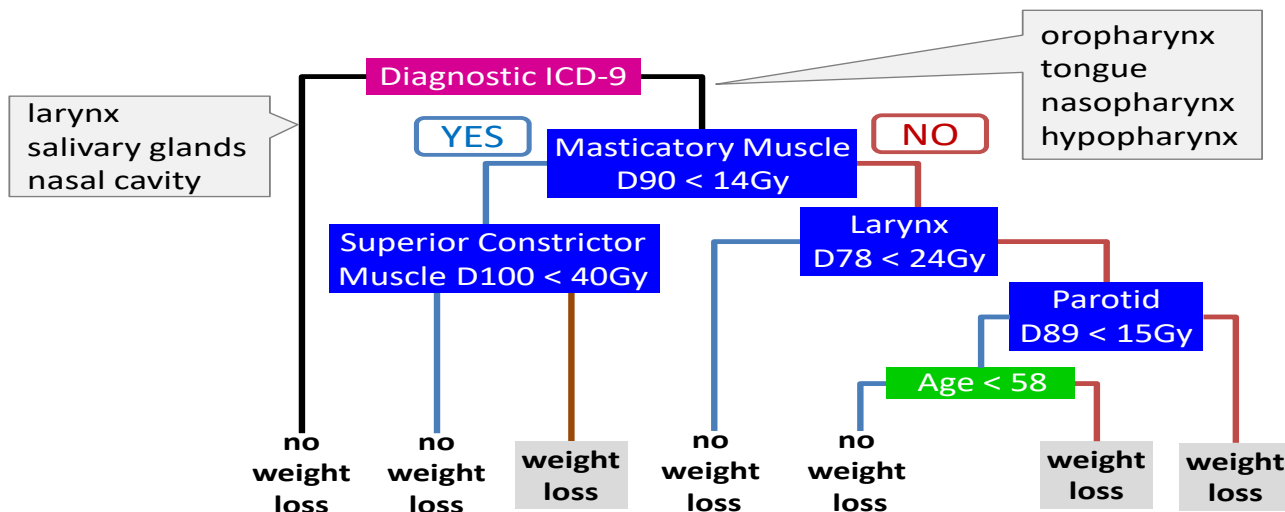


Results: Weight loss prediction at planning

Endpoint: > 5kg loss at 3 months post RT

- Predictors:
 - (1: **Diagnosis**) ICD-9 code
 - (2: **Dosimetry**) dose to swallowing muscles, larynx, parotid
 - (3: **Patient**) age
- Prediction result: High negative predictive value
 - The model can screen out patient without weight loss
 - Physicians can focus on patients with high probability of weight loss

Sierra Zhi Cheng MD MS
Minoru Nakatsagawa PhD



Prediction result

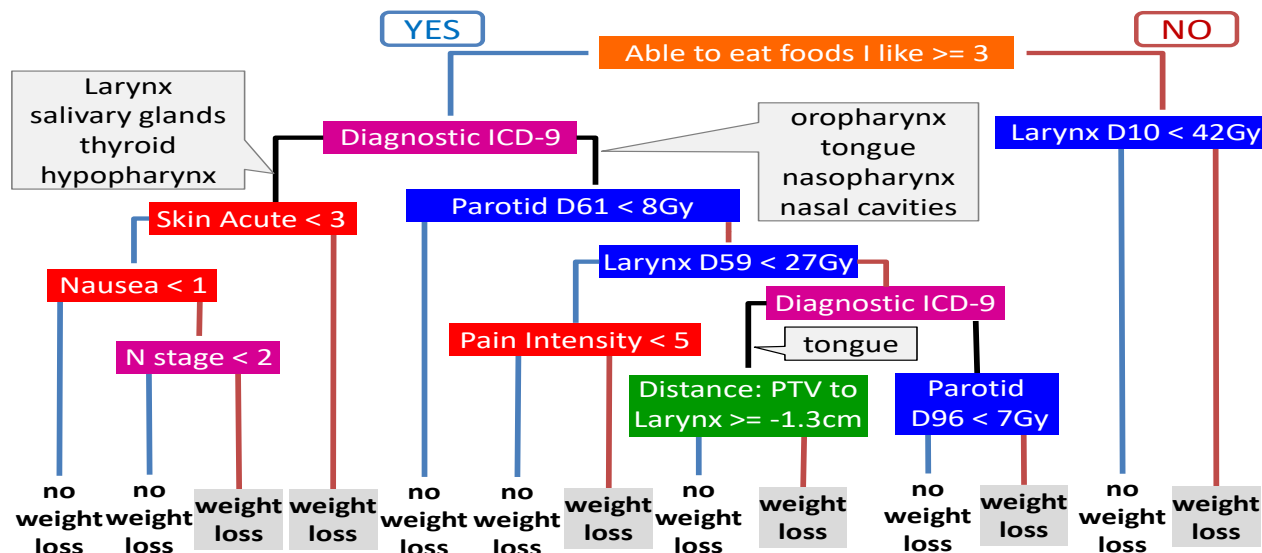
AUC	0.773
Sensitivity	0.766
PPV	0.426
NPV	0.901

Results: Weight loss prediction during RT

- Predictors: **Endpoint: > 5kg loss at 3 months post RT**

- (1: QOL) patient reported oral intake
- (2: Diagnosis and staging) ICD-9, N stage
- (3: Dosimetry) dose to larynx, parotid
- (4: Toxicity) skin toxicity, nausea, pain
- (5: Geometry) minimum distance b/w PTV, larynx

Sierra Zhi Cheng MD MS
Minoru Nakatsagawa PhD



Prediction result

AUC	0.821
Sensitivity	0.977
PPV	0.462
NPV	0.986

Length of circumferential esophageal dose vs weight loss P. Han et al.

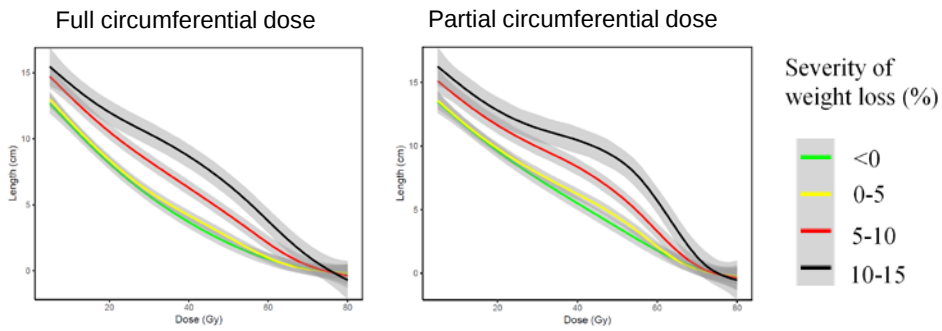
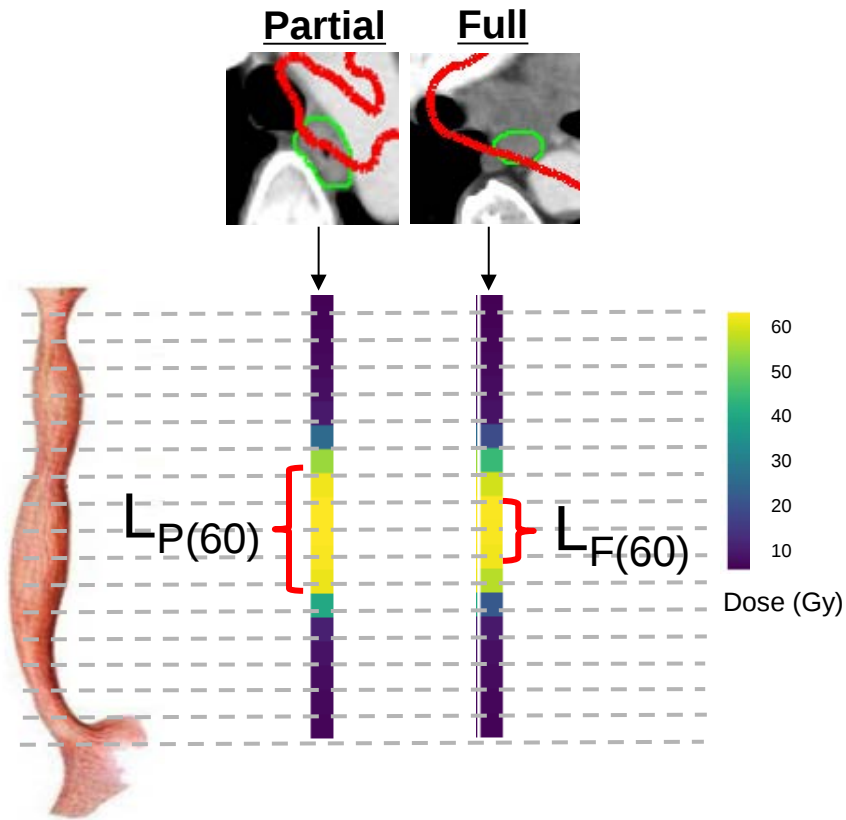


Table 2. Weight loss prediction using Ridge

Variable	importance*
Pre-treatment albumin	100
$L_{F(65)}$	85
Marital status	53
$L_{F(60)}$	45
$L_{P(65)}$	42
ECOG performance status	36
$L_{F(55)}$	35
Chemotherapy (full dose vs. none)	32
$L_{P(60)}$	31
Race	24

Our Xerostomia Story

an example of possibilities for data-driven outcome-based planning

Toxicity Prevalence

(P. Lakshminarayanan)

Prevalence

Select criteria:

Xerostomia

<

3

Add

Select trends to view:

Xerostomia < 1

Xerostomia < 2

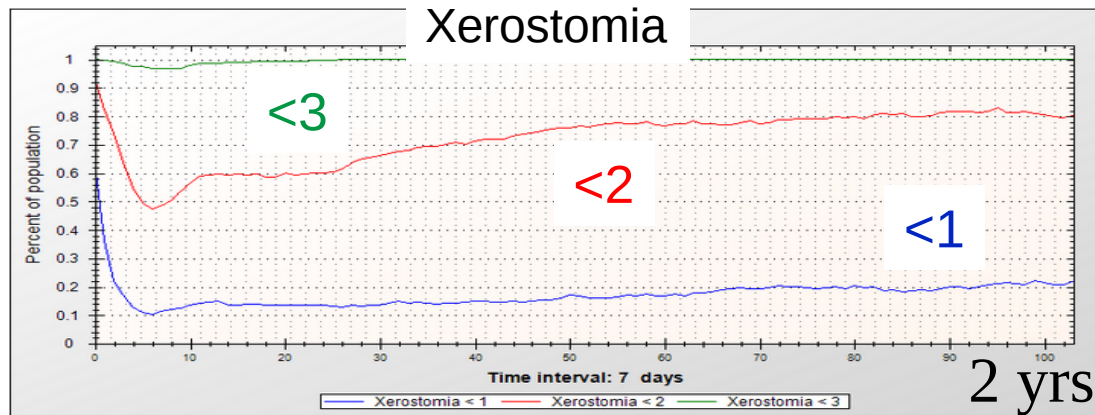
Xerostomia < 3

Remove

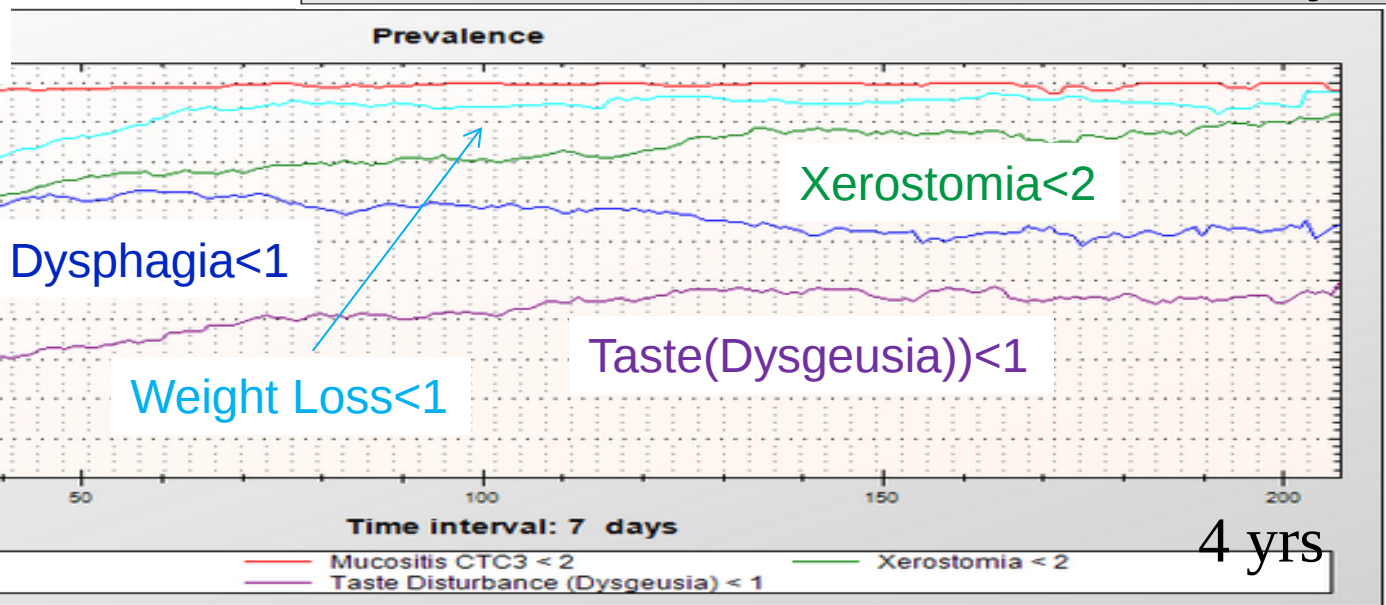
View

Time Interval: 7 days

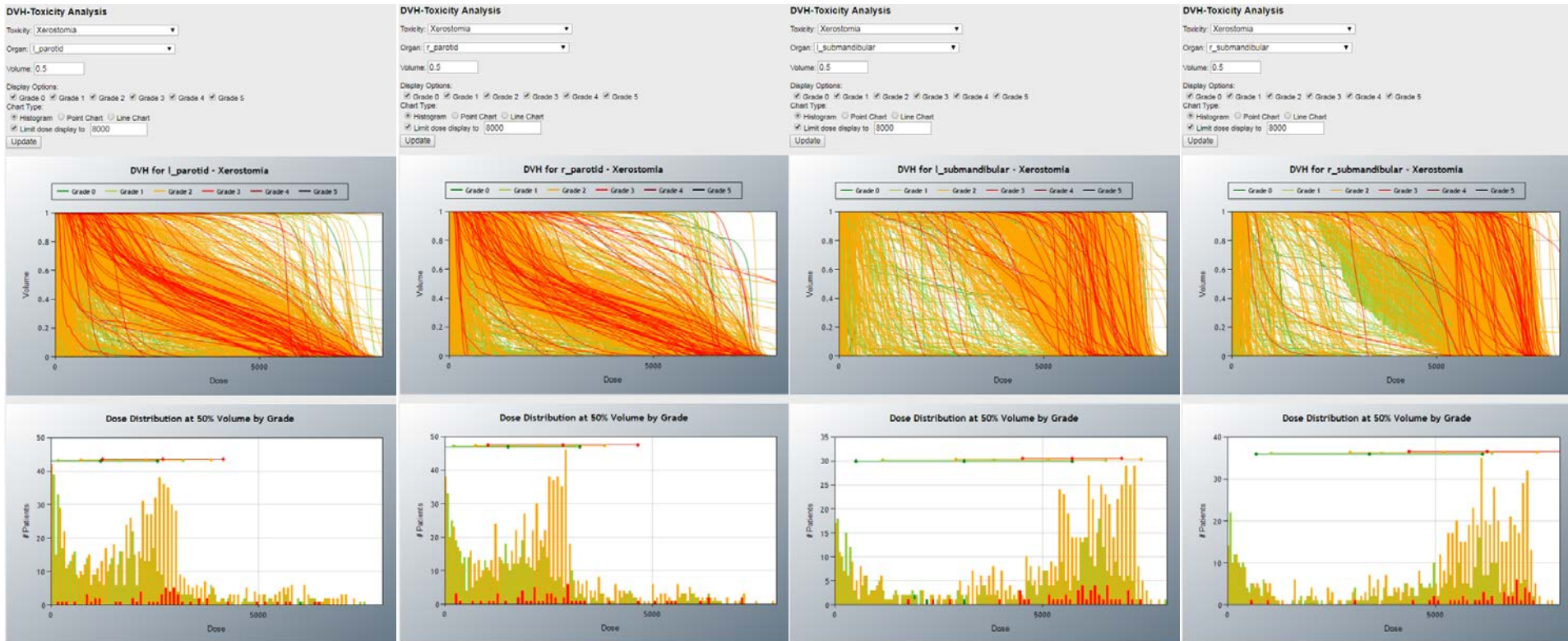
Timespan: 2 years



Mucositis<2

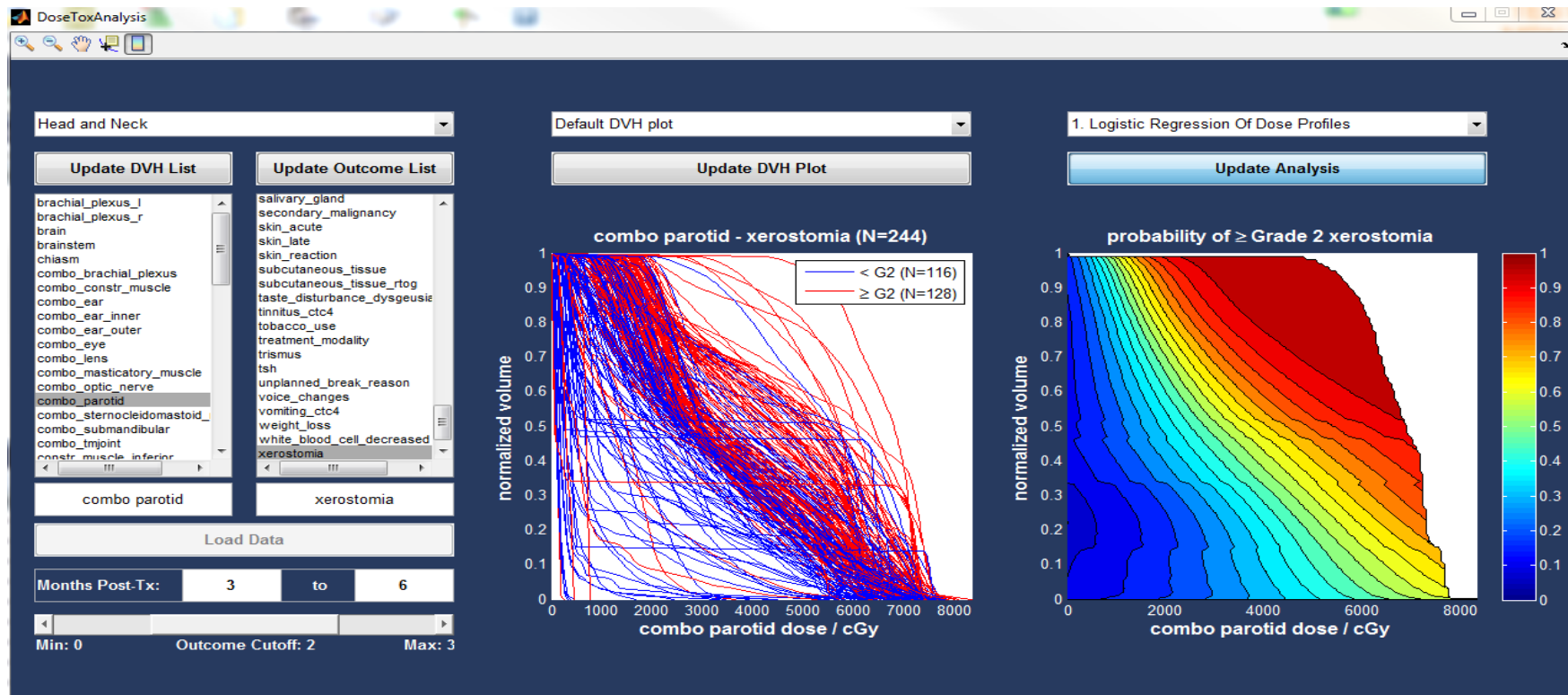


Raw DVH data for salivary glands

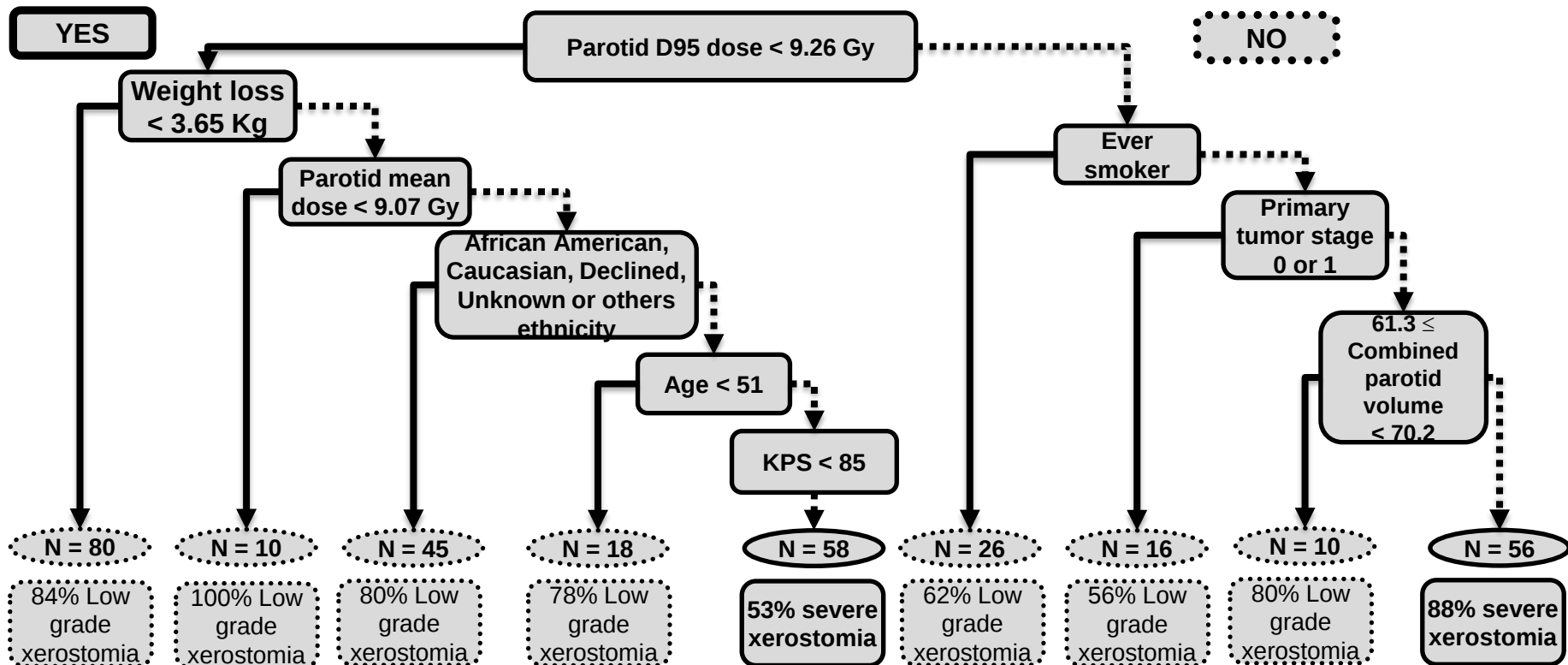


Toxicity and Dose Volume Histogram

(Scott Robertson et al...)



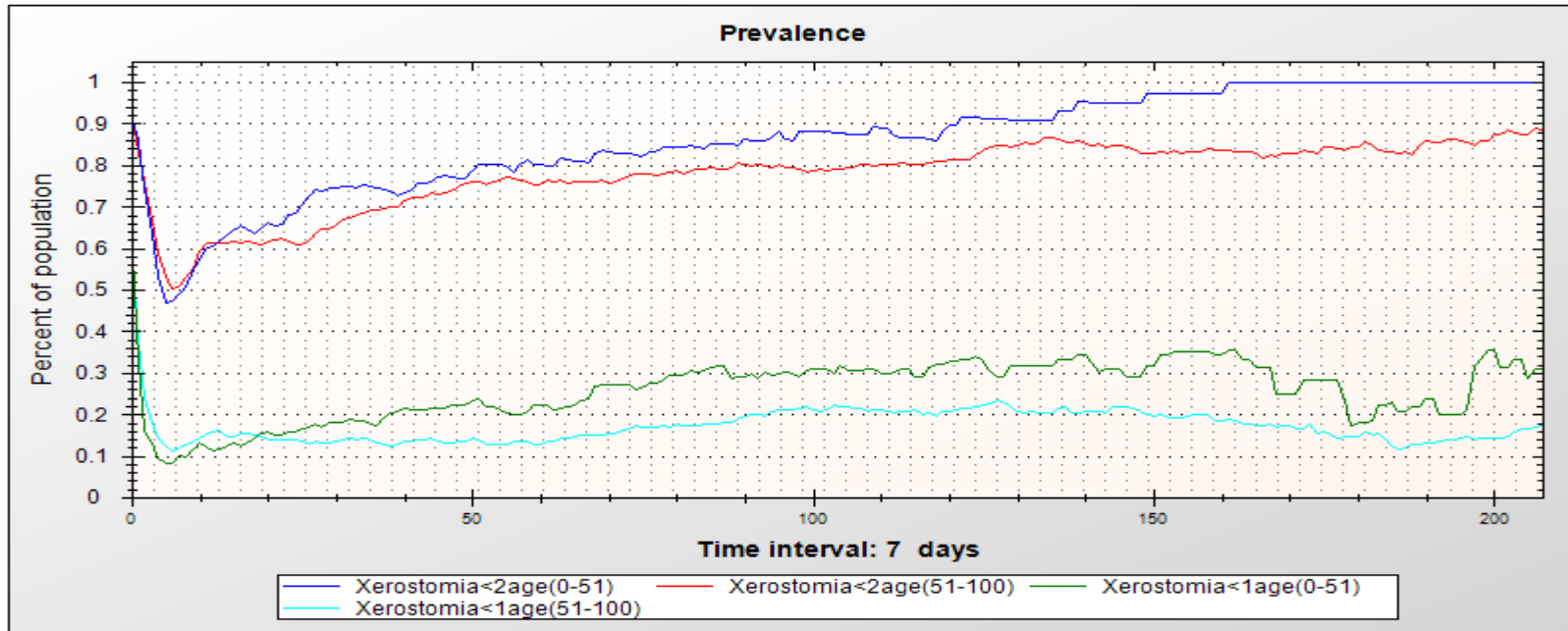
Xerostomia Prediction (3-6 Months post RT)



AUC	Accuracy	Sensitivity	Specificity
0.627	0.687	0.536	0.784

Xuan Hui MD MS

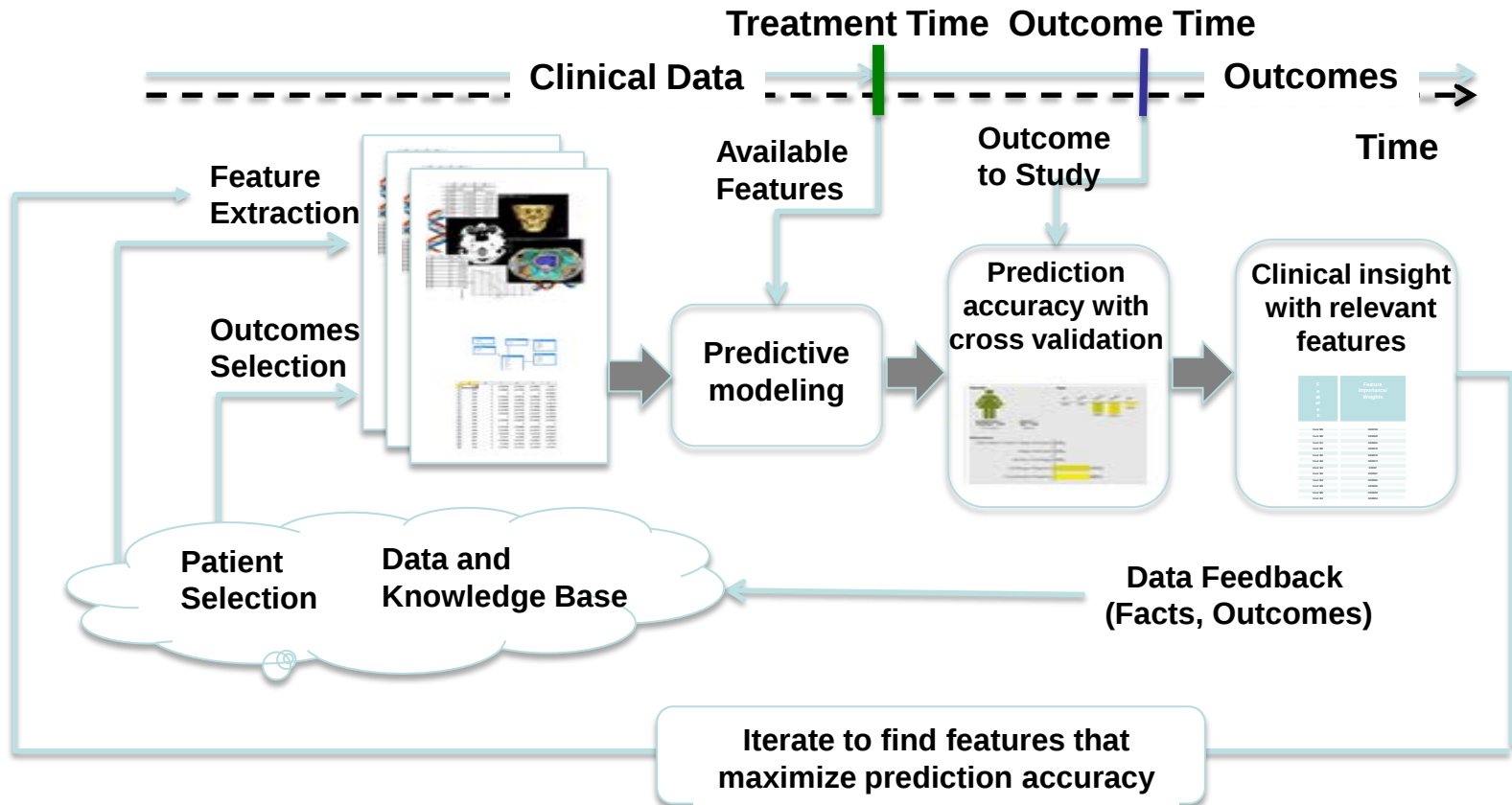
Xerostomia prevalence separated by age = 51



Xerostomia<2age(0-51) :
Initial size: 175
25% lost follow up at time: 26
50% lost follow up at time: 74

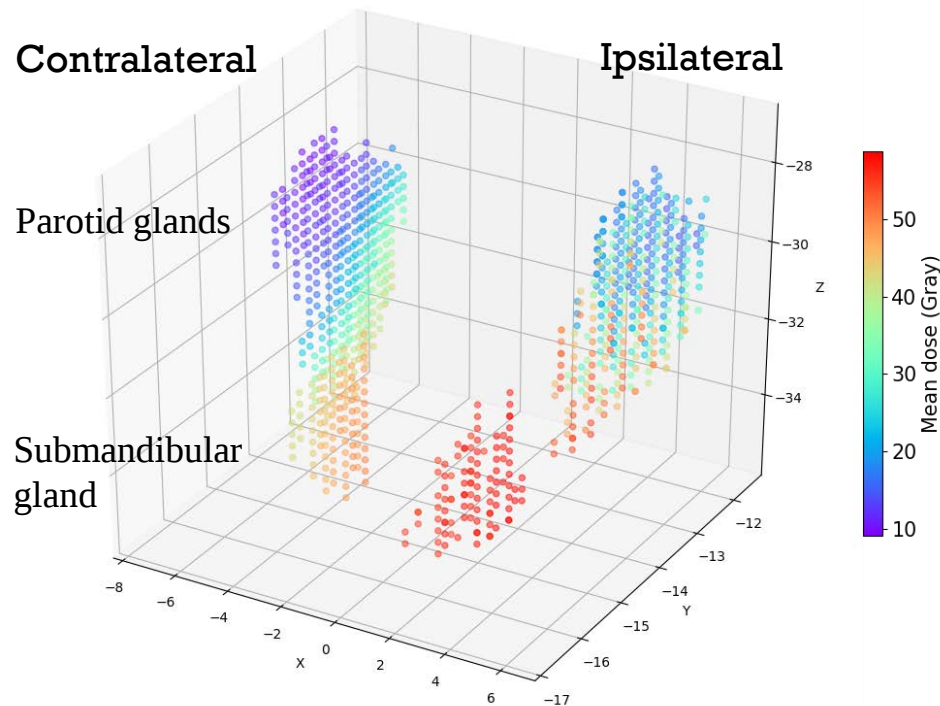
Xerostomia<2age(51-100) :
Initial size: 654
25% lost follow up at time: 27
50% lost follow up at time: 64

Learning health system – Hypothesis Derivation

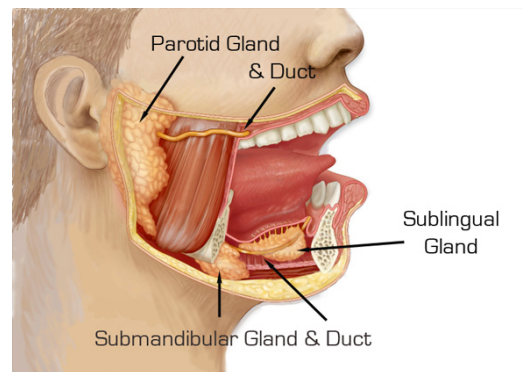
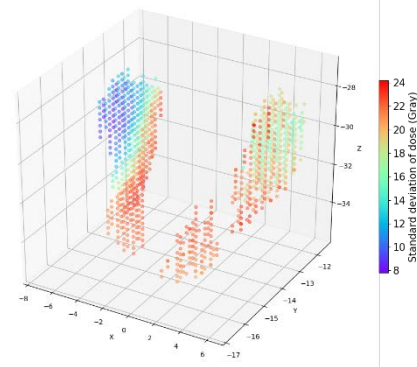


Radiation dose transformed to standard atlas

Average dose to each voxel

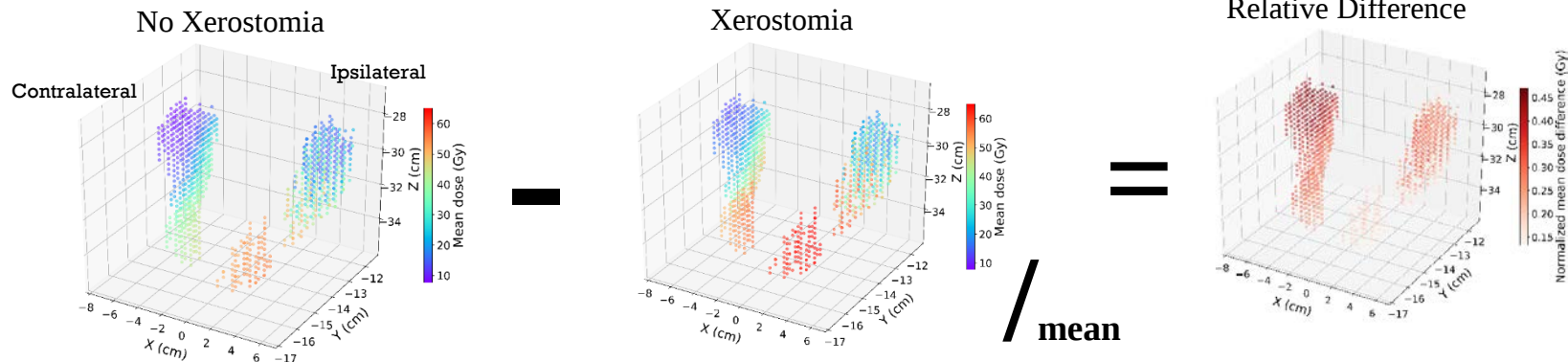


Standard Deviation of Dose

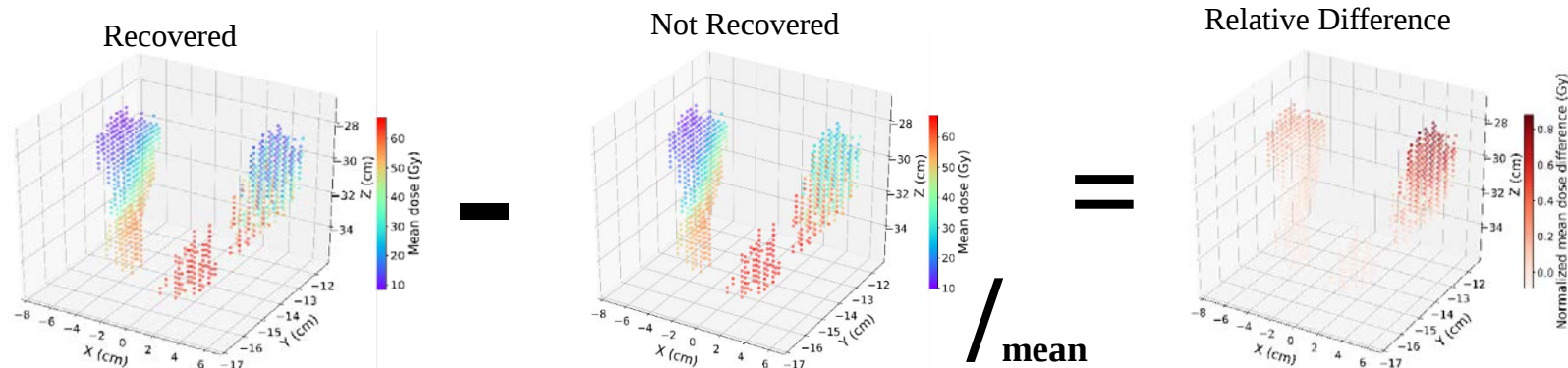


Mean voxel doses and normalized difference

Acute Xerostomia

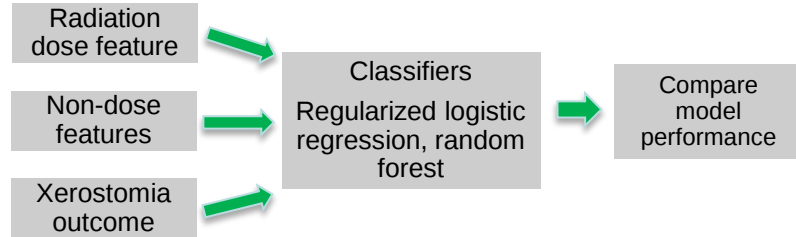


Recovery



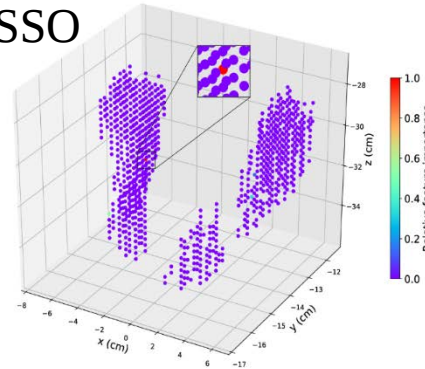
Voxel importance pattern comparisons by machine learning

Acute Xerostomia (Injury)



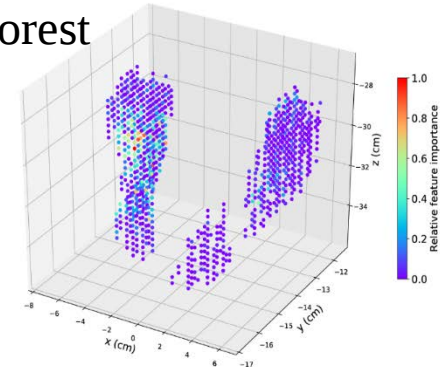
*** **Ridge** is most appropriate to handle correlated dose variable

LASSO



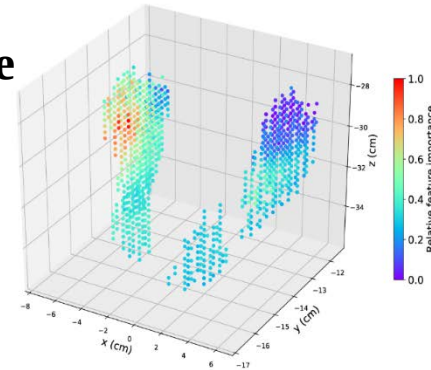
(a) Voxel importance pattern from lasso logistic regression

Random
Forest



(b) Voxel importance pattern from random forest

Ridge

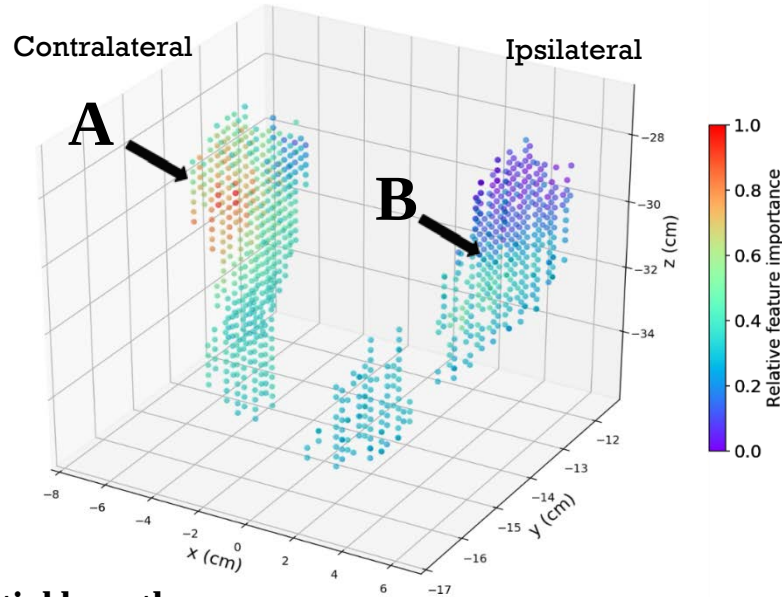


(c) Voxel importance pattern from ridge logistic regression

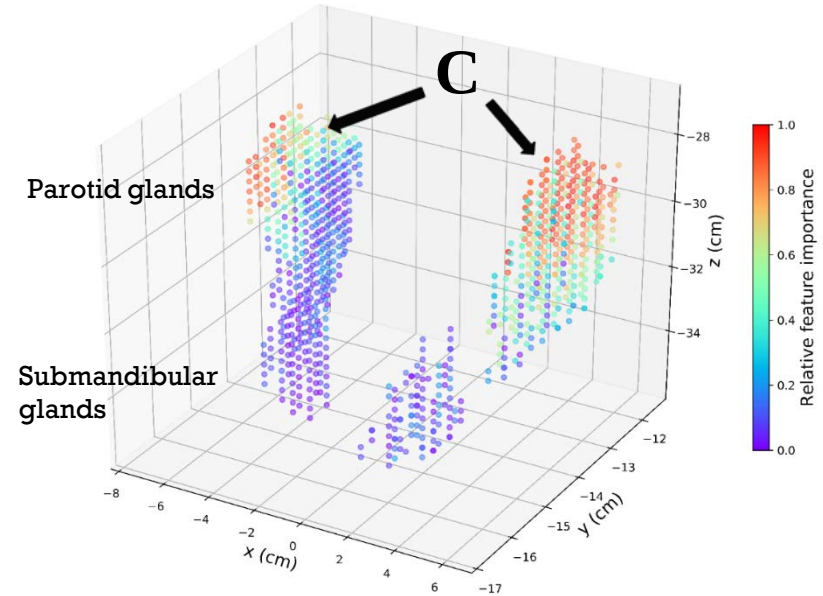
Models	Data set (dimension: 427*961)
	AUC (10-fold cross-validation) Out-of-sample score
Ridge logistic regression	0.70 ±0.04
Lasso logistic regression	0.67±0.04
Random forest	0.69±0.06

Voxels importance from Ridge logistic regression

Acute Xerostomia (Injury)



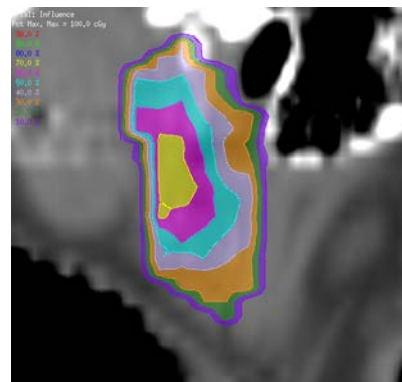
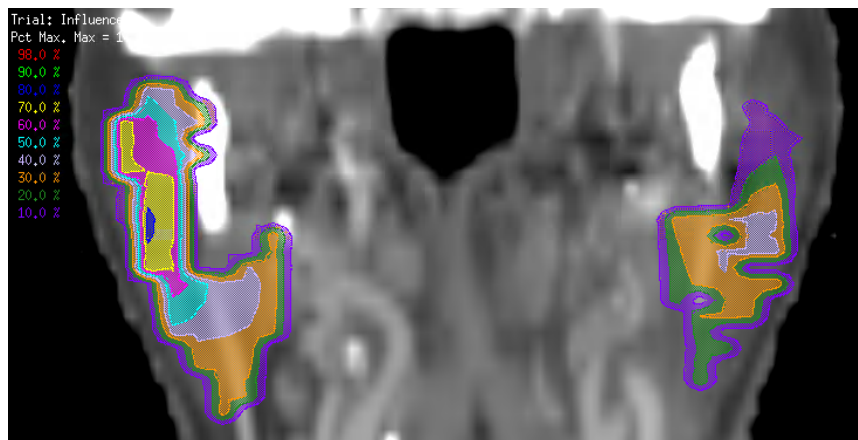
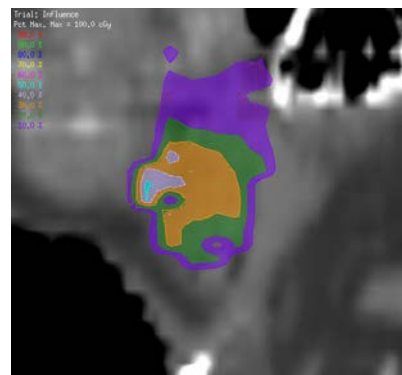
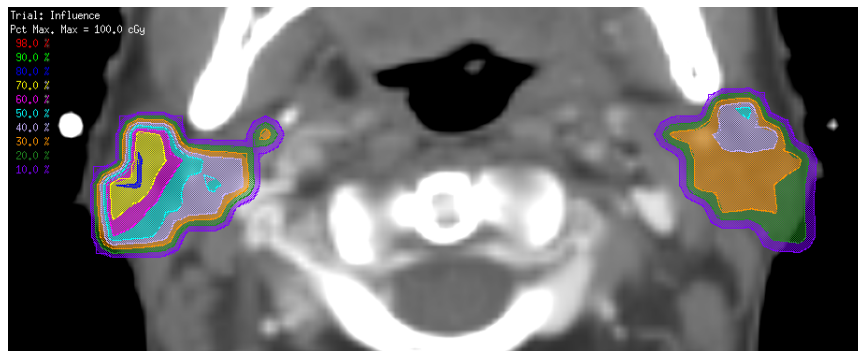
Recovery



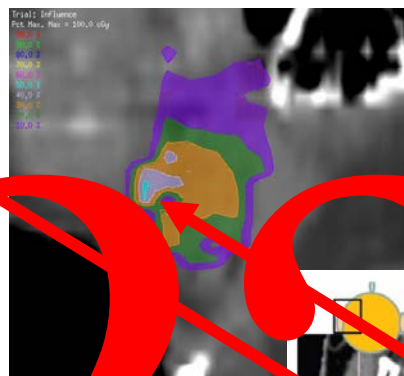
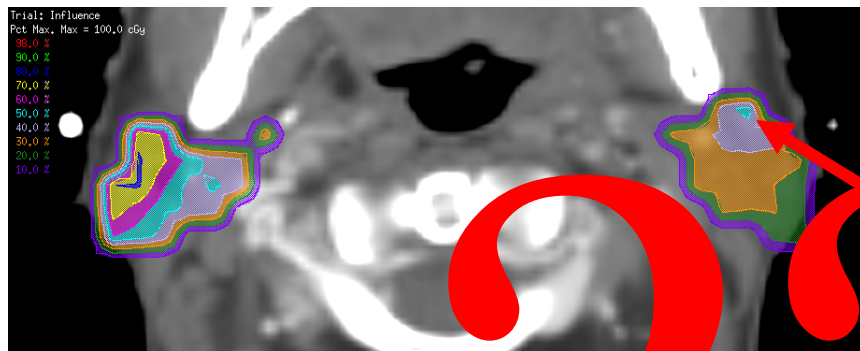
Potential hypotheses

- A. The superior portion of the contralateral parotid is the last region to be able to spare (lowest mean dose). If a high dose, there is likely high dose everywhere else, increasing xerostomia.
- B. Ductal region of ipsilateral parotid has high influence, where the superior portion has very low importance suggesting possible occlusion of duct or serial component of organ function related to injury.
- C. The superior (lower dose) portions of both parotids influence recovery whereas the higher dose regions have little influence. This suggests a lower dose threshold for preserving the ability to recover salivary function if injured.

Influence on CT for Injury



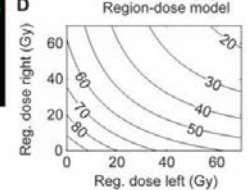
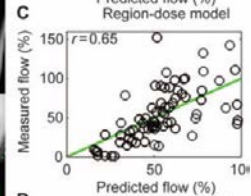
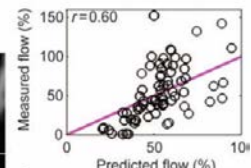
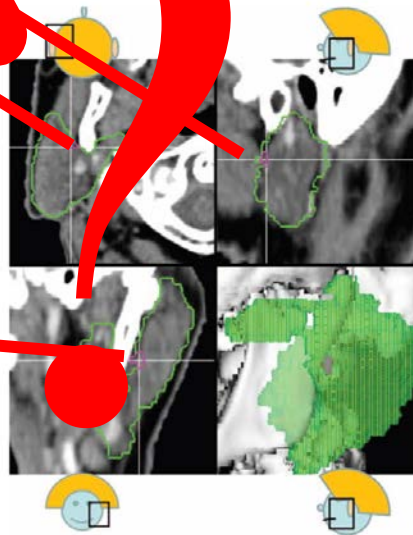
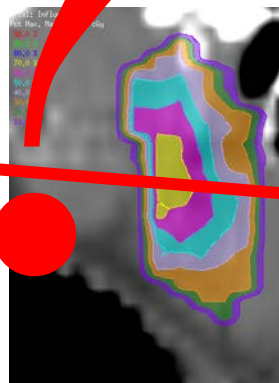
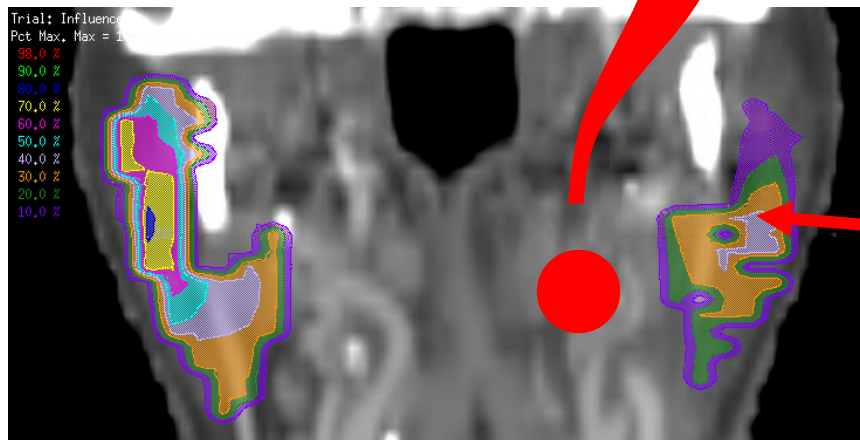
Influence on CT for Injury



Sci Transl Med. 2015 Sep 15;7(305):305ra147. doi: 10.1126/scitranslmed.aac4441.

Sparing the region of the salivary gland containing stem cells preserves saliva production after radiotherapy for head and neck cancer.

van Luijk S¹, Pimple S², Deshayet J³, Moseenko VV⁴, Faber LP⁵, Hovav A⁶, Baagstra M⁷, van der Laan LP⁸, Kerkhofs HG⁹, van der Schueren A⁶, Vliegenhart J¹⁰, Schreijers JF¹¹, Brandenburg S¹², Langendijk JS¹³, Vloeberghs P¹⁴, Goepels H¹⁵

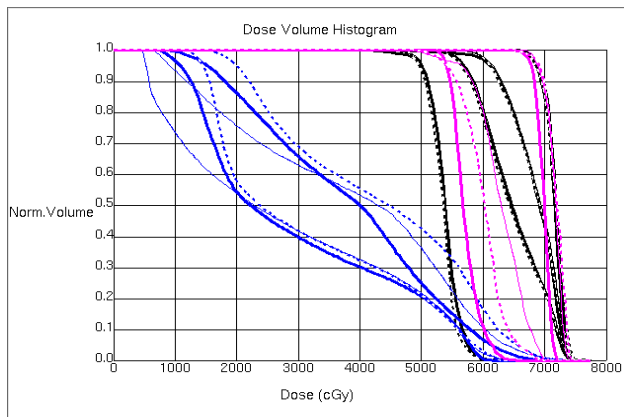


November 10, 2025



IMRT plans driven by predictions

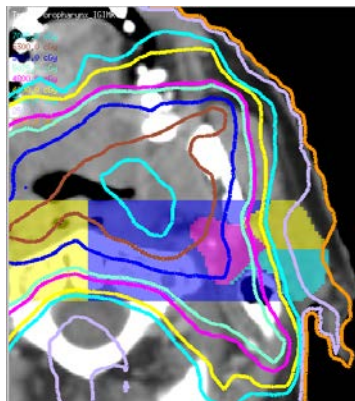
(McNutt, Lee, Sheikh, Quon)



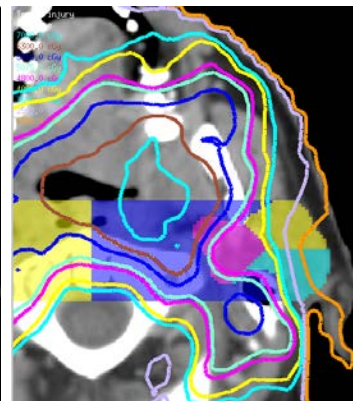
Original – dashed
 Injury – thick
 Recovery – thin

Targets – black
 Parotids – blue
 Submandibulars – pink

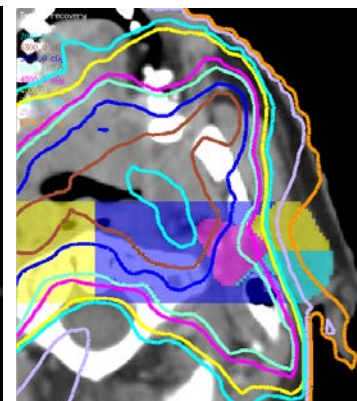
Original



Injury Weighted



Recovery Weighted



	Injury Percentile	Recovery Percentile
Original	81.8	13.5
Injury Wt	64.3	18.1
Recovery Wt	69.7	32.0

How to stay safe and maintain quality?

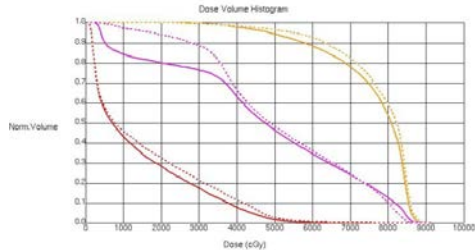
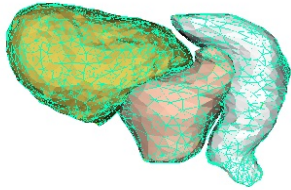
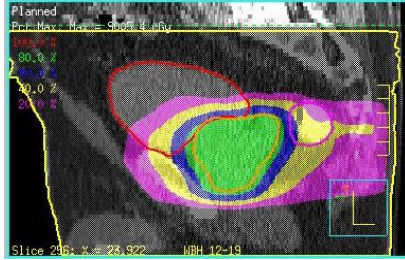
- Data is not always the highest quality – must make sure methods/models don't assume it is
- Data does not contain all knowledge. Existing knowledge is often absent
 - If all patients in database meet a dose goal, then there is no knowledge outside of that goal contained in the data.
 - Be wary of situations where you may be outside of the available data bounds
- Data gets old
 - How to keep models current?
 - Do we want to be treated the way patients were treated 2 decades ago?
 - The Rx anomaly may be using an old Rx that has been superseded.

Acknowledgments

- **JHU-RO**
 - Sierra Cheng MD
 - Michael Bowers BS
 - Joseph Moore PhD
 - Scott Robertson PhD
 - Pranav Lakshminarayanan
 - Xuan Hui MD
 - John Wong PhD
 - Theodore DeWeese MD
- GI Team
 - Joseph Herman MD
 - Amy Hacker-Prietz PA
- H&N Team
 - Harry Quon MD
 - Ana Keiss MD
- **Toronto-Sunnybrook**
 - William Song PhD
 - Patrick Kwok
- **JHU - CS**
 - Russ Taylor PhD
 - Misha Kazhdan PhD
 - Fumbeya Murango BS
- **Philips PROS**
 - Karl Bzdusek BS
- **Toshiba**
 - Minoru Nakatsugawa PhD
 - Bobby Davey PhD
 - Rachel-Louise Koktava
 - John Haller
- **Elekta**
 - Bob Hubbell
- **University of Washington**
 - Kim Evans MS
 - Mark Philips PhD
 - Kristi Hendrickson PhD

Deformable dose accumulation

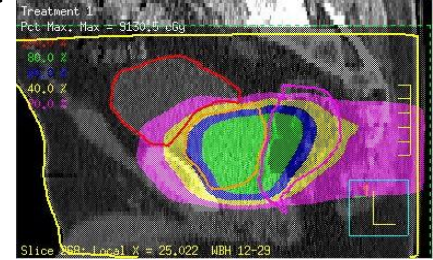
Primary dataset



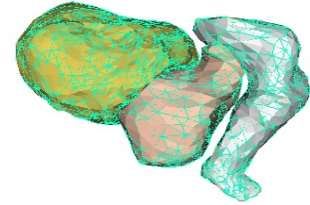
Secondary dataset with primary IMRT beam arrangement



Model-based segmentation

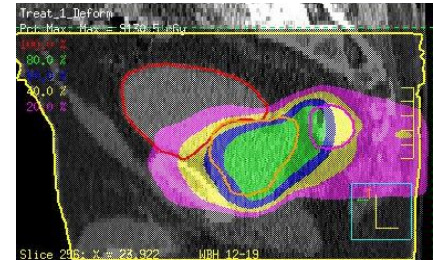


Deformable registration



Dose warping

Secondary dose deformed
back to primary plan

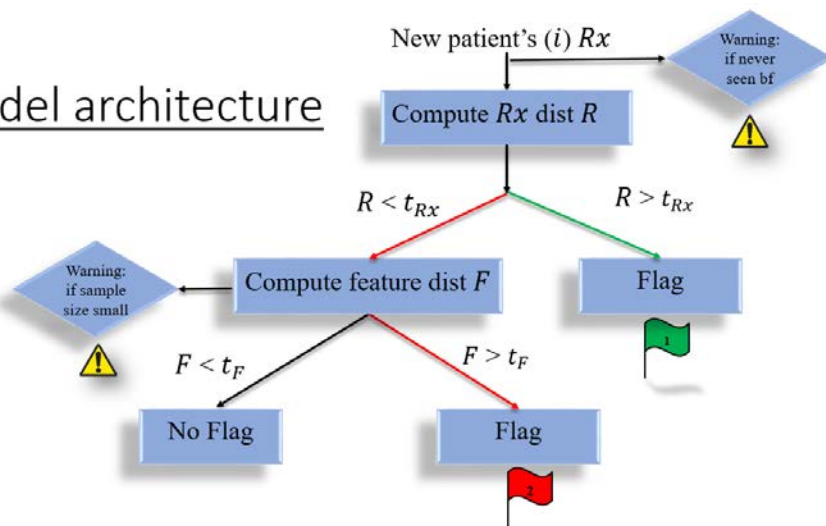


Radiation Prescription Anomalies

A novel data-driven algorithm to predict anomalous prescription based on patient's feature set

Qiongge Li, R. Voong, R. Hales, J. Wright, T. McNutt (Submitted)

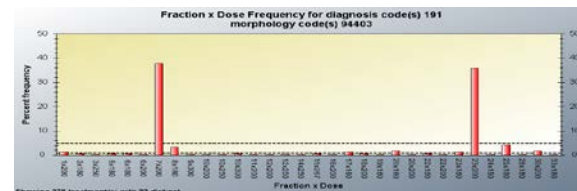
Model architecture



Automated Cross-Referencing of Radiation Prescriptions to Diagnosis: A Proposed Mechanism to Improve Patient Safety

A. Sharabi, T. McNutt, and T. DeWeese; *The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD*

191 Brain
AND
Pathology of
Glioblastoma



191 Brain
AND
Pathology of
Anaplastic
Astrocytoma

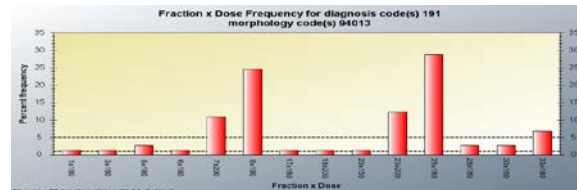


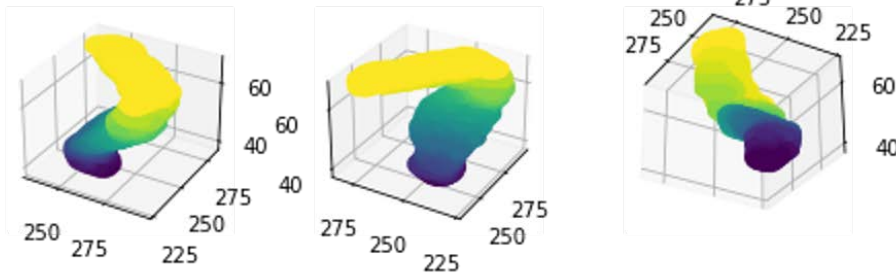
Table showing a list of radiation prescriptions and their corresponding diagnosis codes. The table has columns for 'Rx', 'Diagnosis', 'Fraction', 'Dose', 'Frequency', and 'Flag'. The 'Flag' column contains red and green flags, indicating the results of the model's predictions.

Contour Anomalies

Anomaly types:

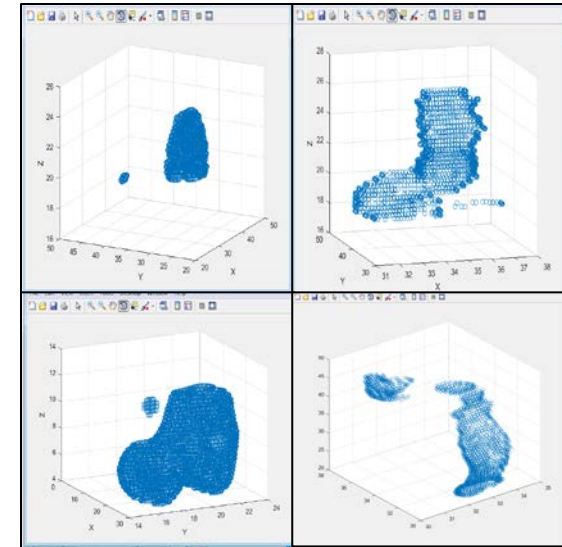
- Discontinuities
- Size/extent inconsistency
- Shape inconsistency
- Anatomic relationships

e.g. Rectum contoured into Sigmoid Colon



Kevin Gorman et. al.

November 10, 2025



RADIATION ONCOLOGY PHYSICS

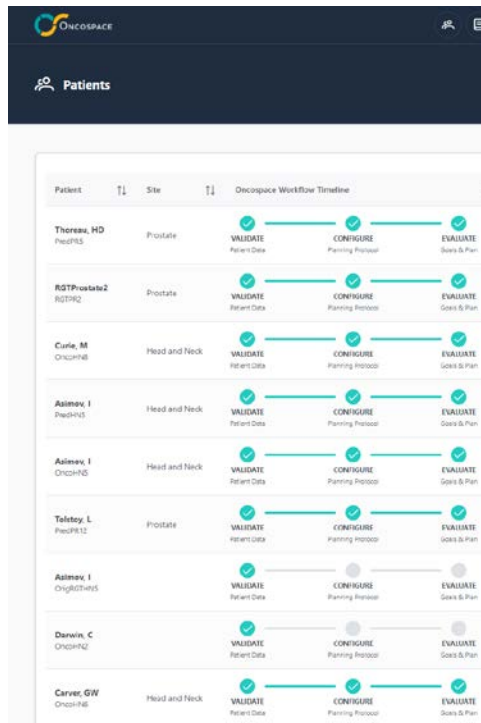
WILEY

Data integrity systems for organ contours in radiation therapy planning

Veeraj P. Shah¹ | Pranav Lakshminarayanan² | Joseph Moore³ | Phuoc T. Tran^{1,3} |
 Harry Quon¹ | Curtland Deville¹ | Todd R. McNutt¹

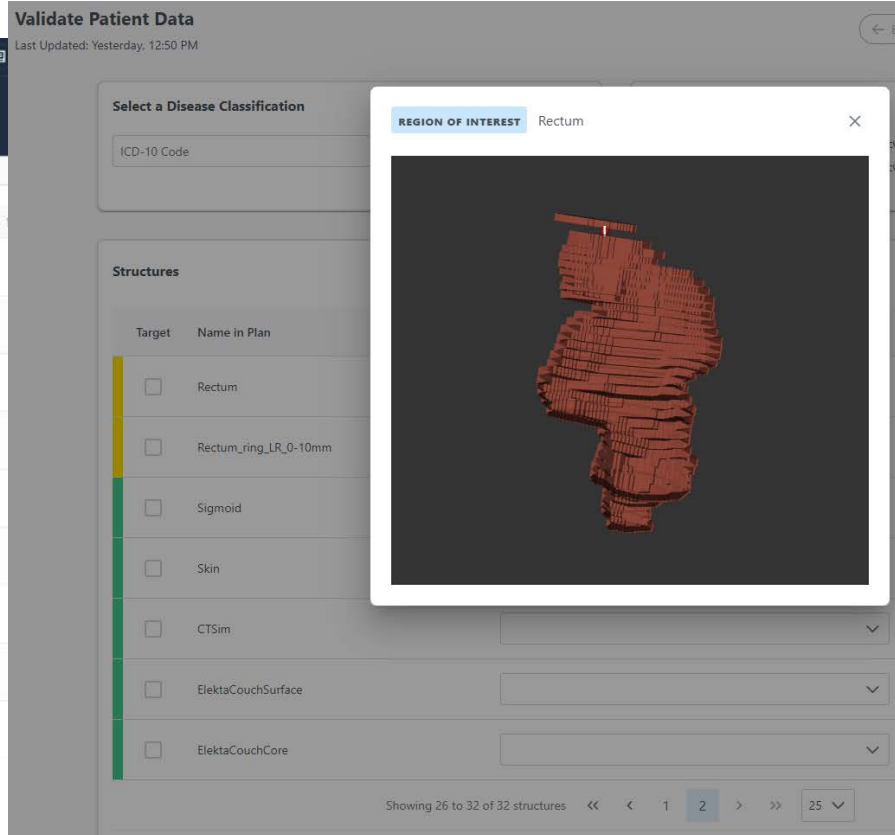
Putting it together...

- Send contours to system
- Map ROI names (auto)
- Evaluate contour integrity
 - Discontinuity
 - Unexpected volume
 - Unexpected shape
- Select Tx protocol



OncoSpace Patients

Patient	Site	OncoSpace Workflow Timeline
Therese, HD Prostate	Prostate	VALIDATE Patient Data ✓ CONFIGURE Planning Protocol ✓ EVALUATE Goals & Plan ✓
RSTProstate2 Prostate	Prostate	VALIDATE Patient Data ✓ CONFIGURE Planning Protocol ✓ EVALUATE Goals & Plan ✓
Curie, M Head and Neck	Head and Neck	VALIDATE Patient Data ✓ CONFIGURE Planning Protocol ✓ EVALUATE Goals & Plan ✓
Asimov, I Head and Neck	Head and Neck	VALIDATE Patient Data ✓ CONFIGURE Planning Protocol ✓ EVALUATE Goals & Plan ✓
Asimov, I Head and Neck	Head and Neck	VALIDATE Patient Data ✓ CONFIGURE Planning Protocol ✓ EVALUATE Goals & Plan ✓
Telesky, L Prostate	Prostate	VALIDATE Patient Data ✓ CONFIGURE Planning Protocol ✓ EVALUATE Goals & Plan ✓
Asimov, I Oncology		VALIDATE Patient Data ✓ CONFIGURE Planning Protocol EVALUATE Goals & Plan
Darwin, C Oncology		VALIDATE Patient Data ✓ CONFIGURE Planning Protocol EVALUATE Goals & Plan
Carver, GW Head and Neck	Head and Neck	VALIDATE Patient Data ✓ CONFIGURE Planning Protocol ✓ EVALUATE Goals & Plan ✓



Validate Patient Data
Last Updated: Yesterday, 12:50 PM

Select a Disease Classification

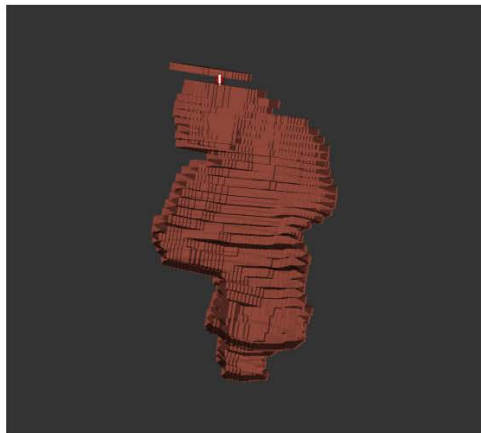
ICD-10 Code

Structures

Target	Name in Plan
☐	Rectum
☐	Rectum_ring_LR_0-10mm
☐	Sigmoid
☐	Skin
☐	CTSim
☐	ElektaCouchSurface
☐	ElektaCouchCore

Showing 26 to 32 of 32 structures

REGION OF INTEREST Rectum



Causality

(Shpitser)

Semi-Parametric Causal Sufficient Dimension Reduction Of High Dimensional Treatments

Razieh Nabi, T. McNutt, I. Shpitser • Published 2017 • Mathematics • arXiv: Methodology

Cause-effect relationships are typically evaluated by comparing the outcome responses to binary treatment values, representing cases and controls. However, in certain applications, treatments of interest are continuous and high dimensional. For example, understanding the causal relationship between severity of radiation therapy, represented by a high dimensional vector of radiation exposure values at different parts of the body, and post-treatment side effects is a problem of clinical interest... [Expand](#)

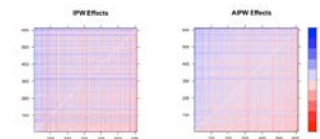


Fig. 4: Heatmaps to illustrate the causal effect of radiation on weight loss, where effects are computed by estimating β via (a) IPW estimator, and (b) APW estimator. Heatmaps are anti-diagonally symmetric with opposite color scales.

- Notion of Dimension Reduction with consideration of Causal Inference
 - DVH point is dimension reduction
 - Principle Components...
- Can we blend with anatomical/physiological understanding?
- Does it work with the inherently controlled treatment?
- Spawned interest with van Herk and Christie Hospital – Manchester, UK

Decision Support Efforts

- Weight loss prediction
 - Head and neck (PEG Tube ?)
 - Thoracic with Image features
- Alcorn BMETS example
- Challenges
 - Clinical decisions that impact trajectory of care