

9/30/2005

# Imaging for Cancer Therapy

Wolfgang Schlegel

Department of Medical Physics  
in Radio-Oncology



**dkfz.**

DEUTSCHES  
KREBSFORSCHUNGSZENTRUM  
IN DER HELMHOLTZ-GEMEINSCHAFT

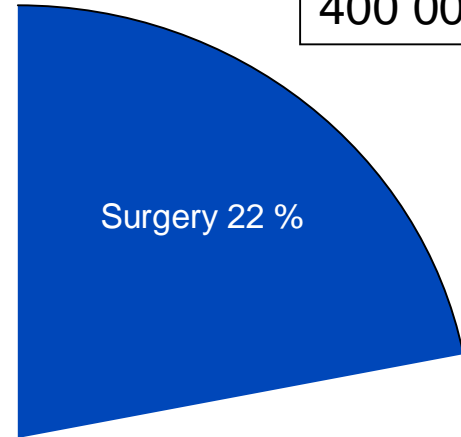
## State of the art in Cancer Therapy

Cancer incidence  
in Germany  
400 000 / y

## State of the art in Cancer Therapy

Cancer can  
be cured by:

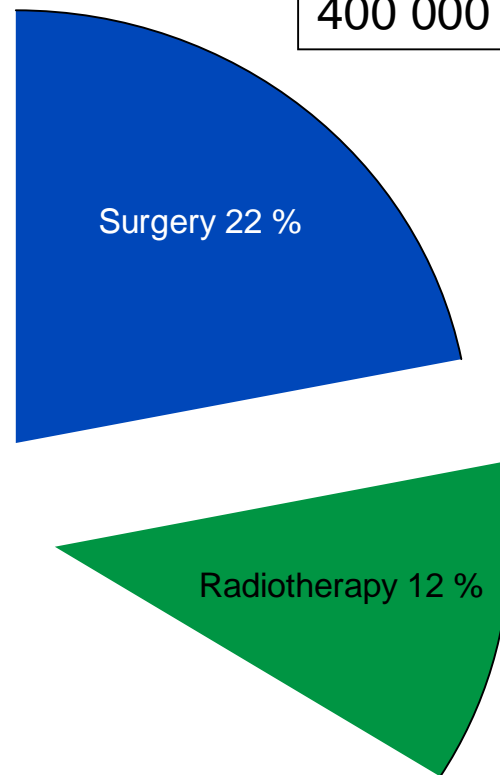
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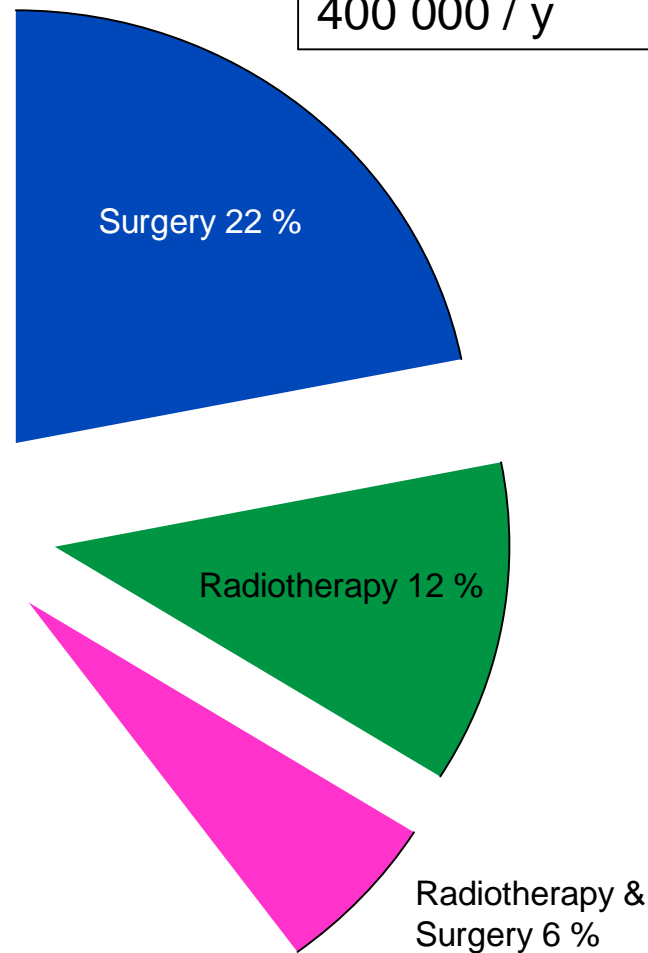
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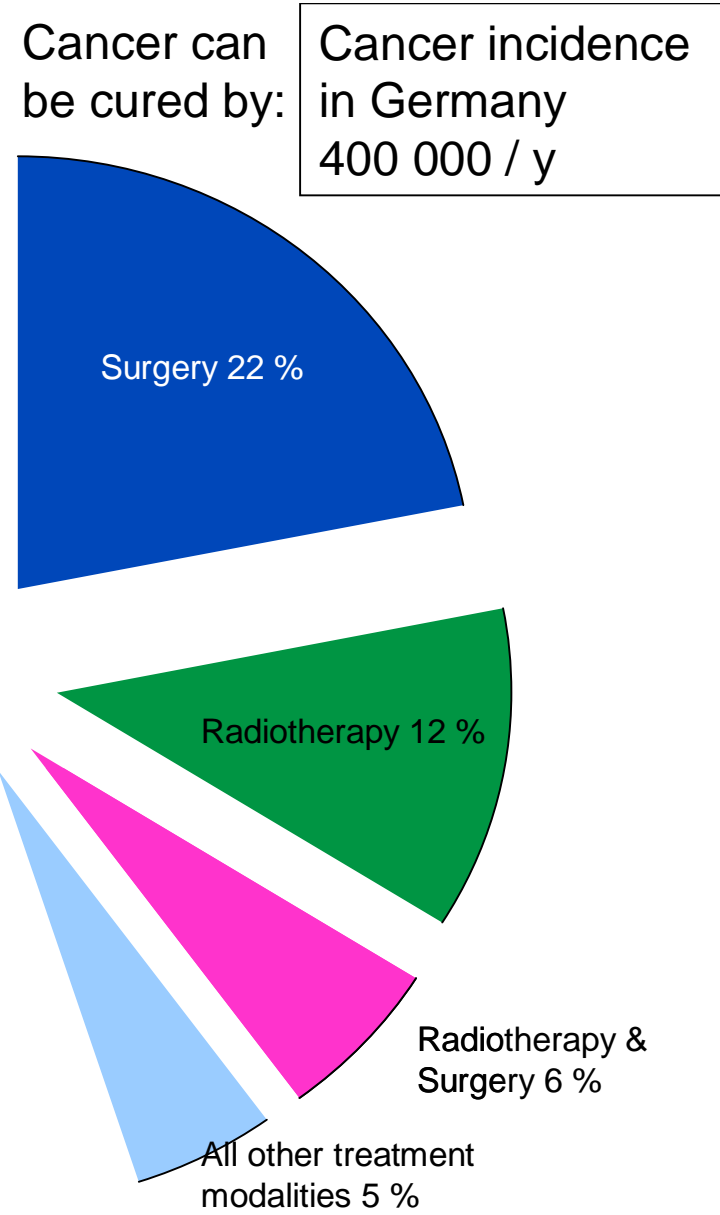
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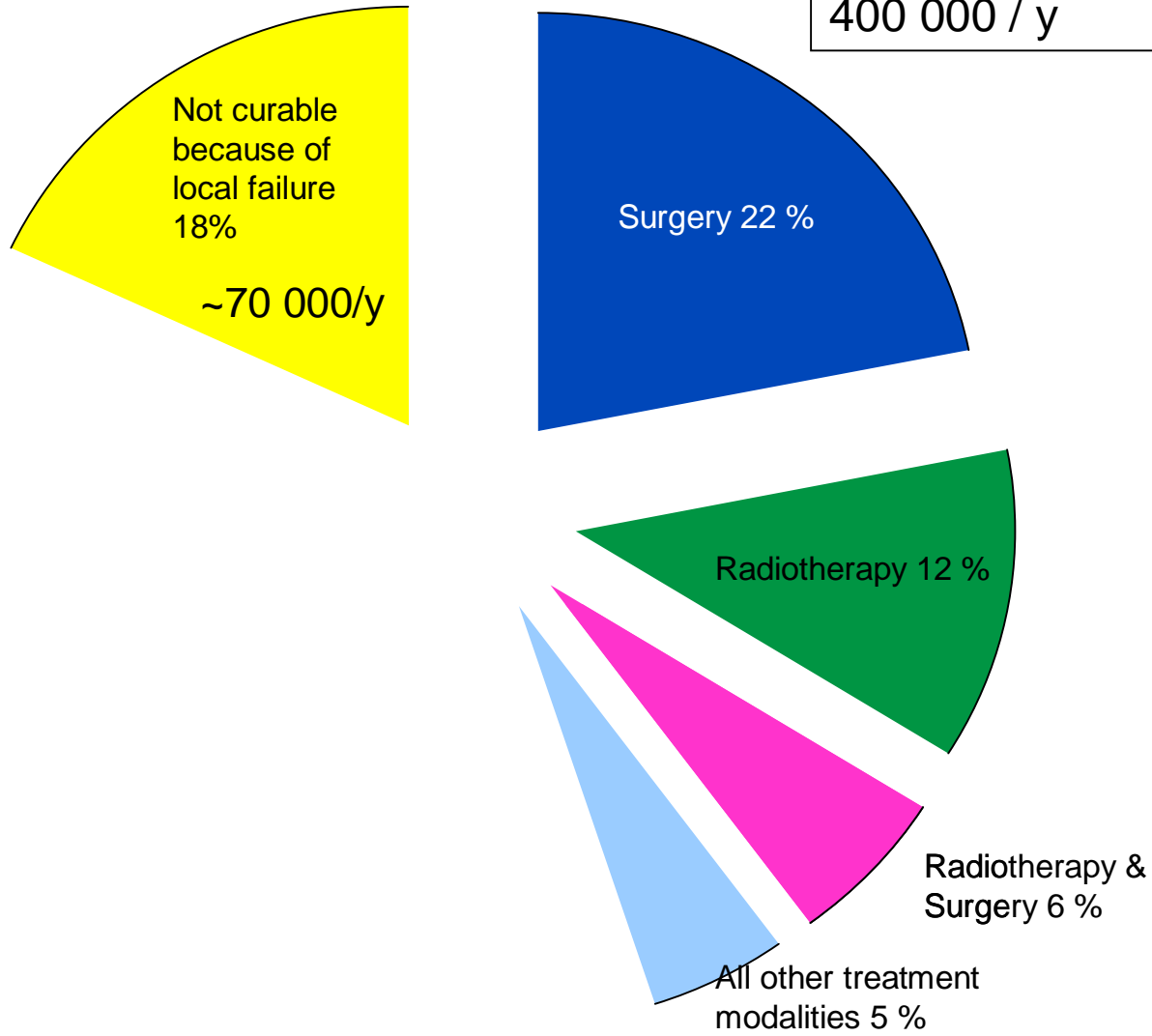
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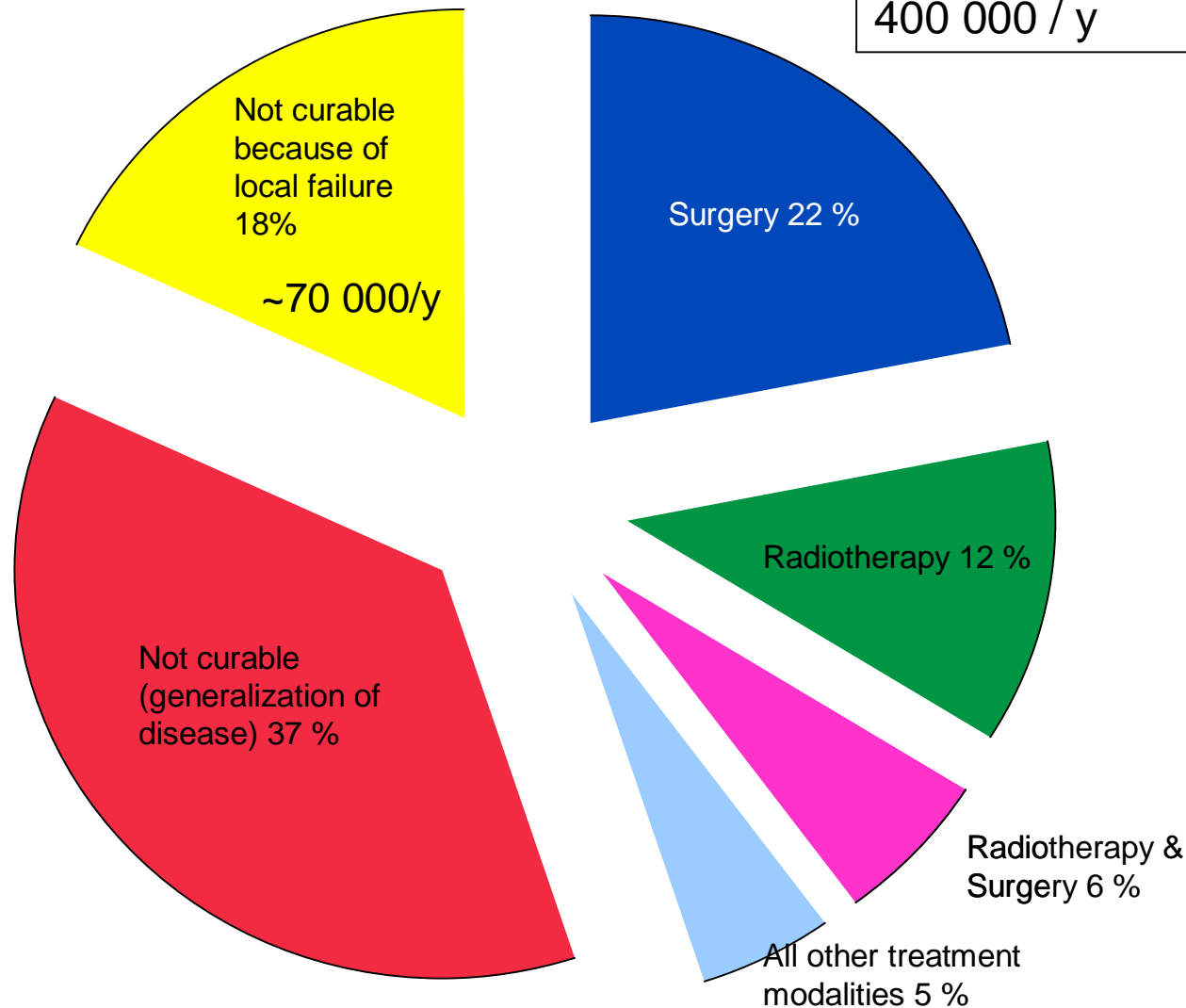
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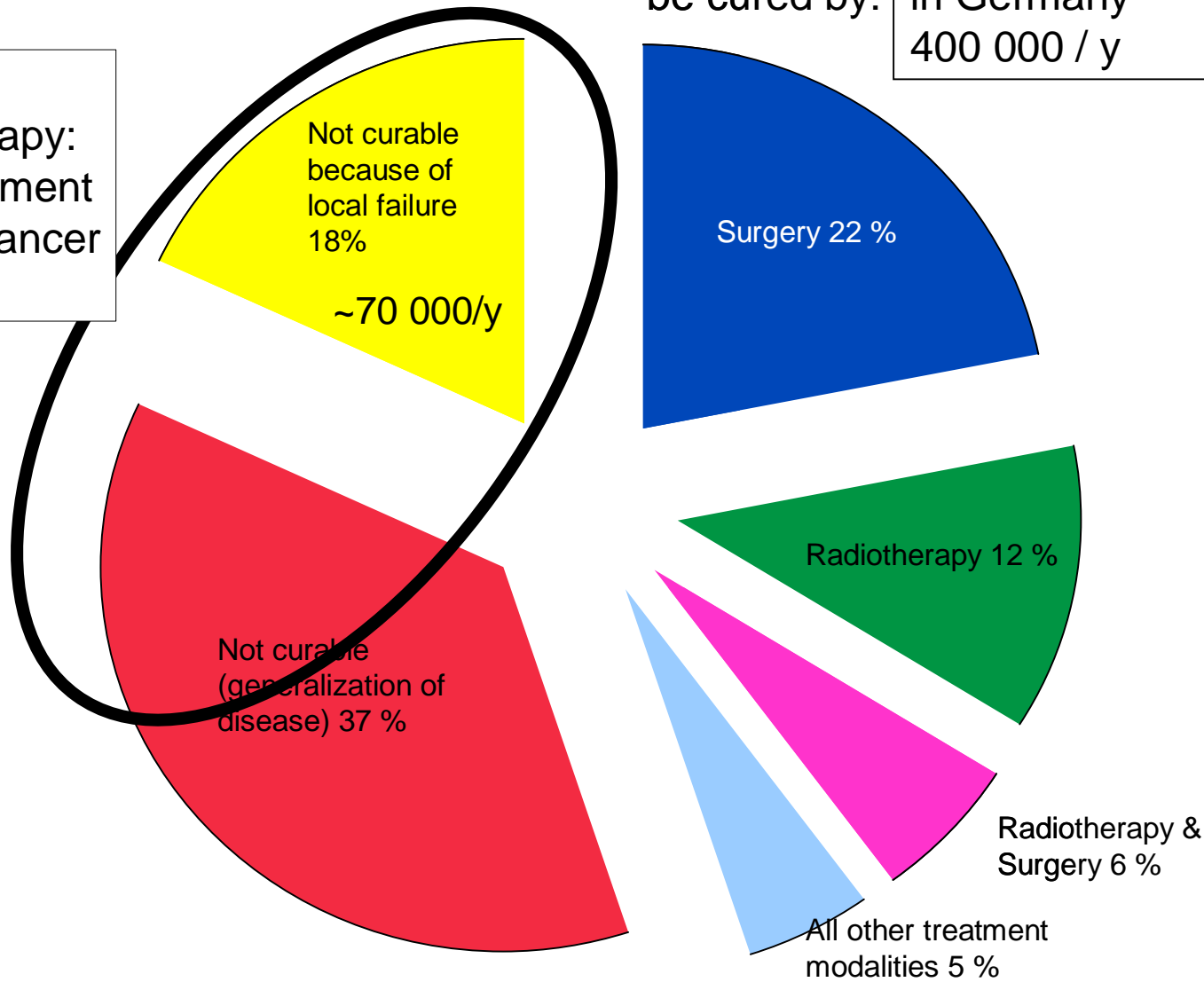
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# State of the art in Cancer Therapy

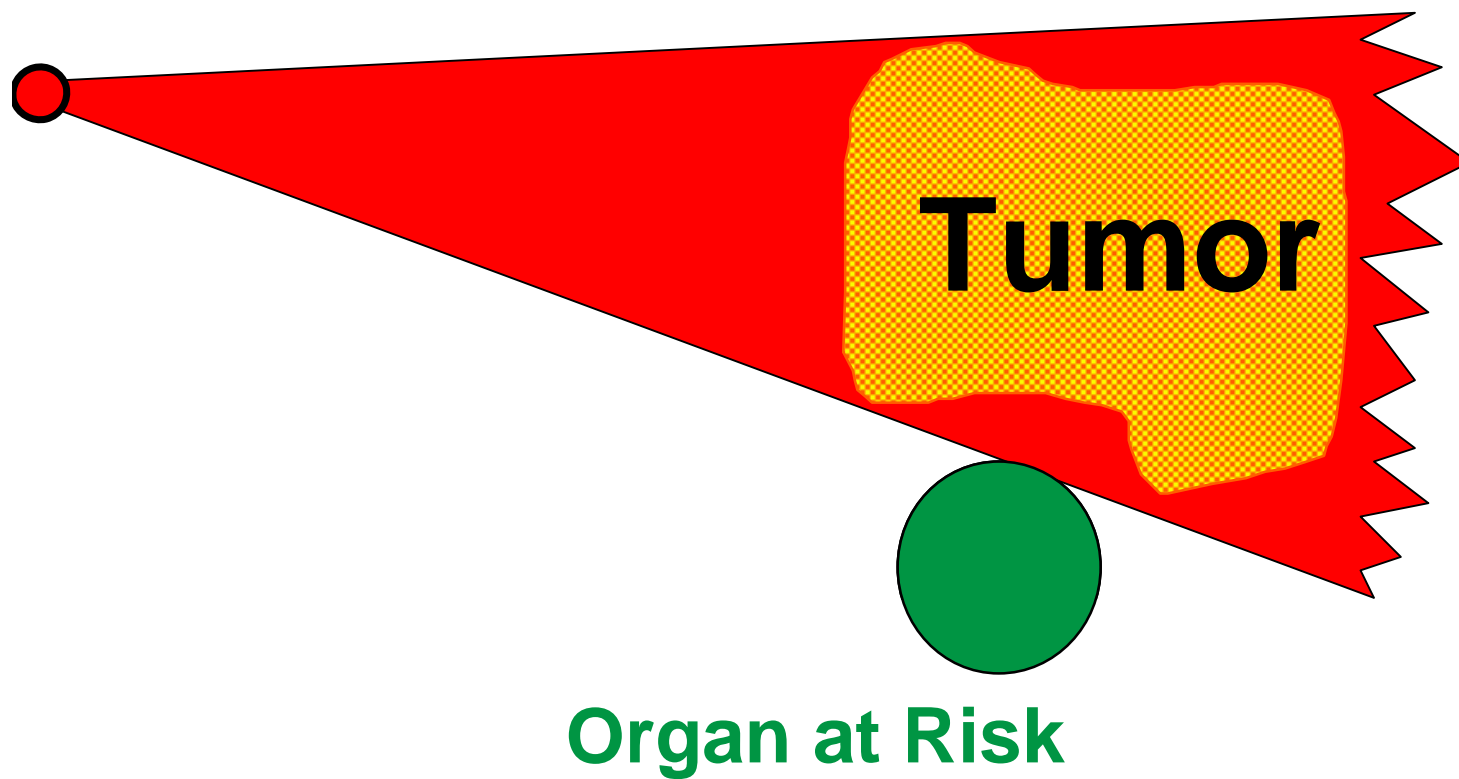
The goal of radiation therapy: Improve treatment of localized cancer



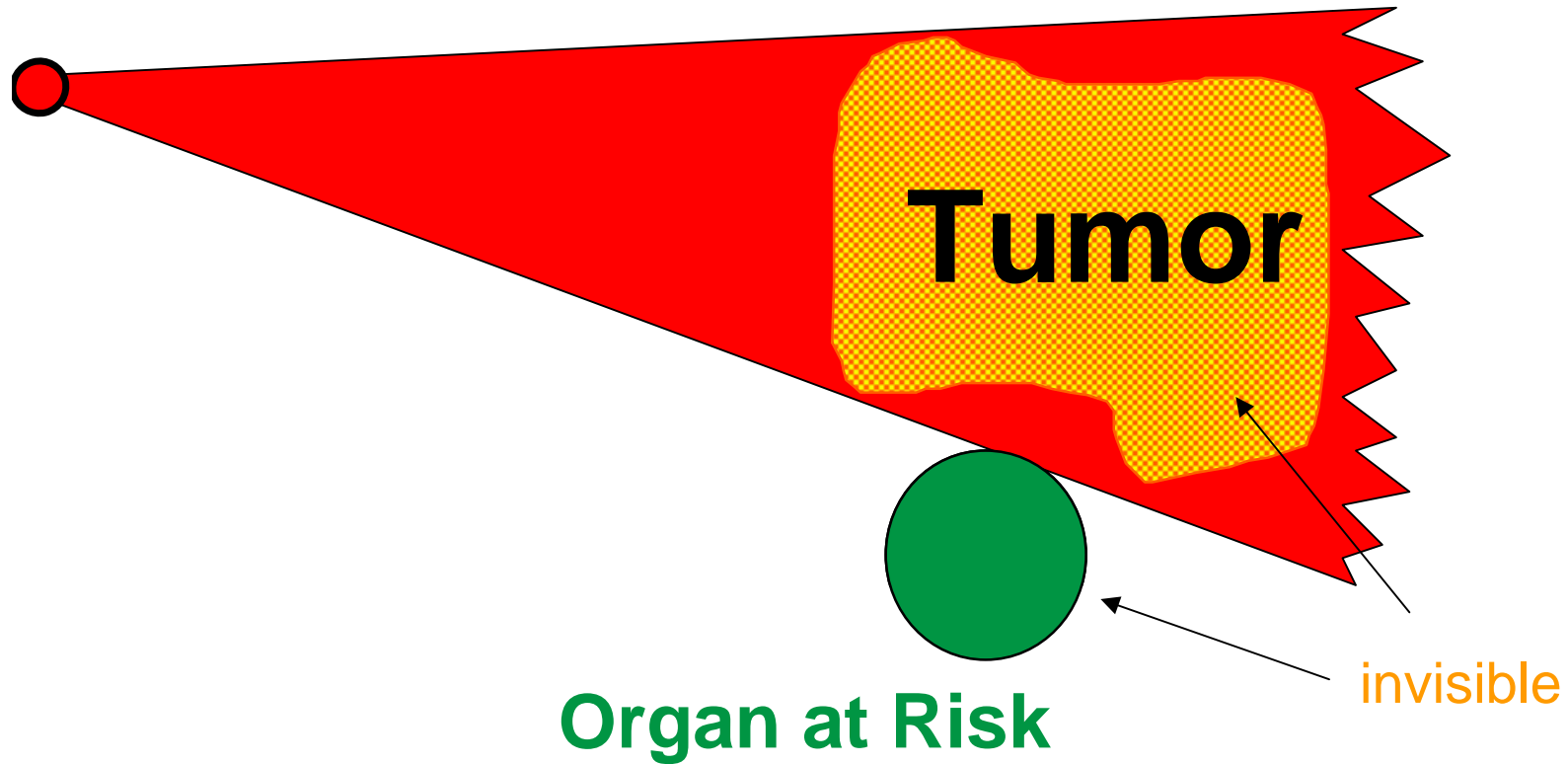
## The targeting problem in Radiotherapy



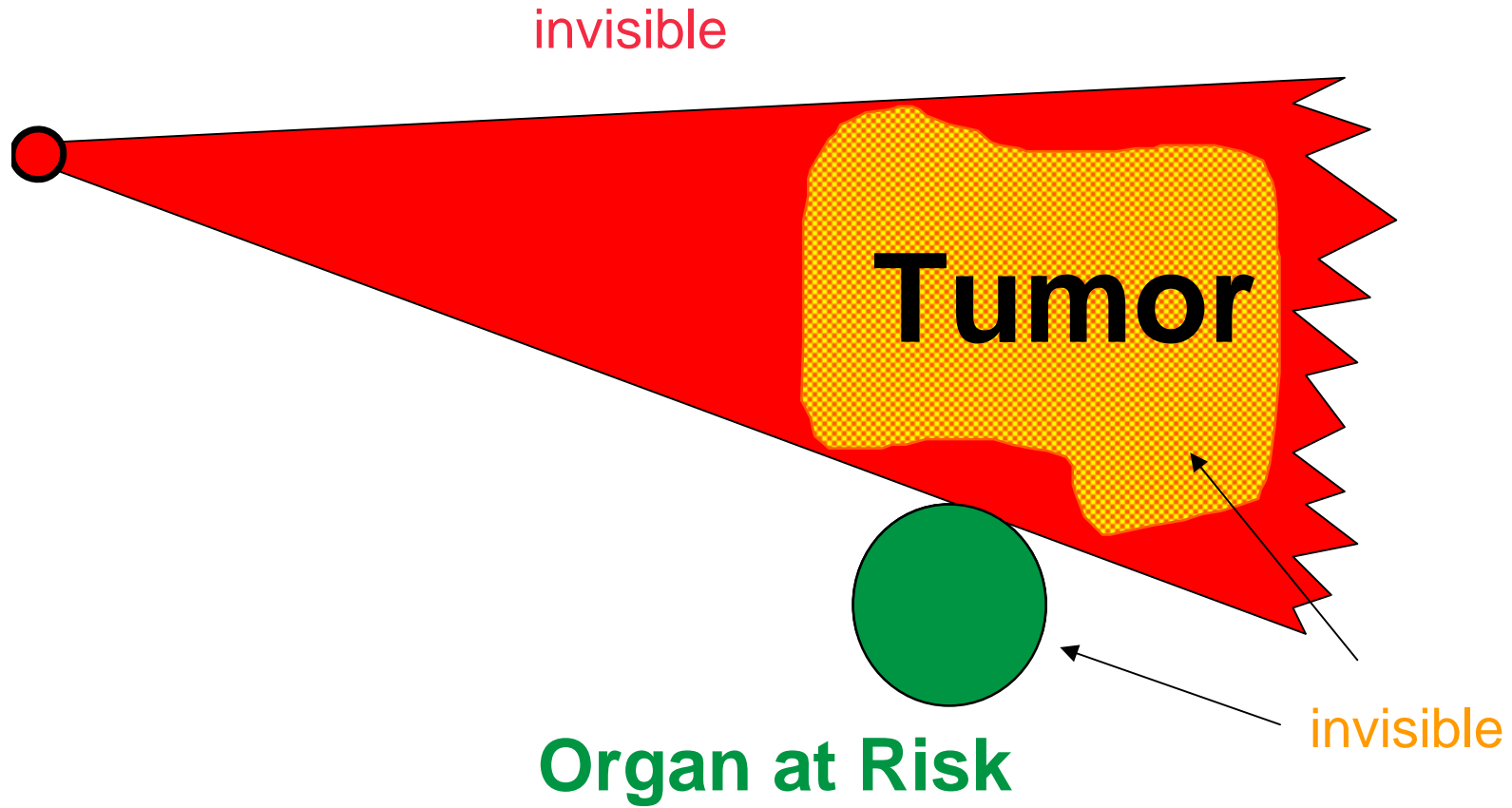
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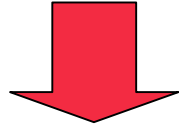


# The targeting problem in Radiotherapy



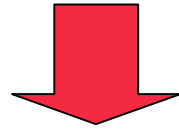
**Radiotherapy is the art of  
hitting an invisible target with invisible irradiation**

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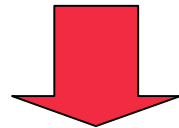


Targeting Problem

**Radiotherapy is the art of  
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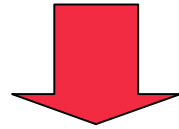
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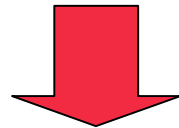
**Tumor**



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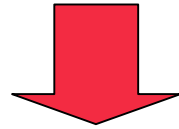
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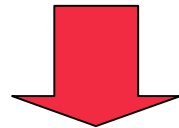
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**Organs at risk/  
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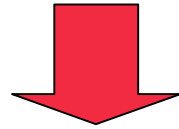


Dose as high  
as possible

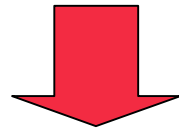
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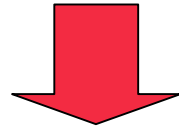
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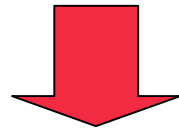
Dose as low  
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**Organs at risk/  
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# Radiotherapy is the art of hitting an invisible target with invisible irradiation



Targeting Problem



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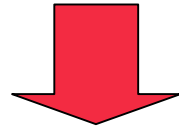
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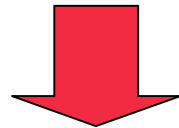
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Targeting Problem



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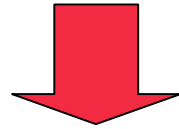
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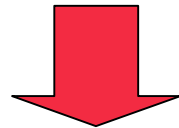
**Organs at risk/  
Normal tissue**

1. **Space**  
**(Morphology)**

# Radiotherapy is the art of hitting an invisible target with invisible irradiation



Targeting Problem



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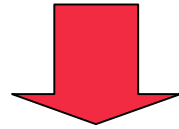
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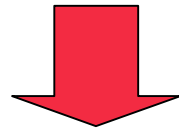
**Organs at risk/  
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- 1. **Space**  
(**M**orphology)
- 2. **Time**  
(**M**ovement)

# Radiotherapy is the art of hitting an invisible target with invisible irradiation



Targeting Problem



Dose as high  
as possible

**Tumor**

Dose as low  
as possible

**Organs at risk/  
Normal tissue**

- 1. **Space**  
(**M**orphology)
- 2. **Time**  
(**M**ovement)
- 3. **Biology**  
(**M**olecular Profiling)

The 3 tasks in

## **M**orphology

Where is primary tumour tissue ?

Where are affected lymph nodes  
and metastases ?

Where is radiosensitive normal  
tissue ?

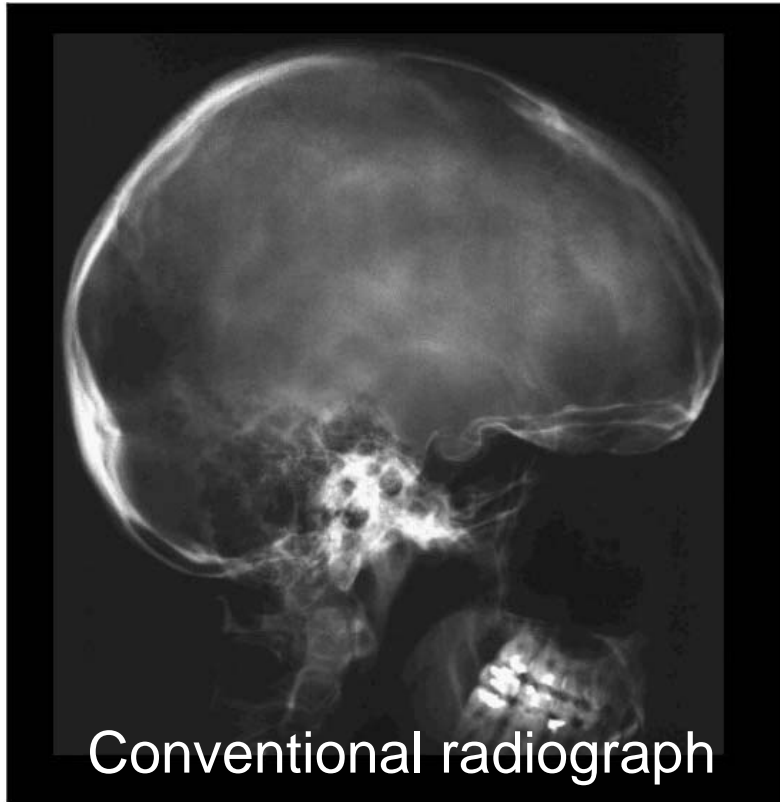


# Morphology

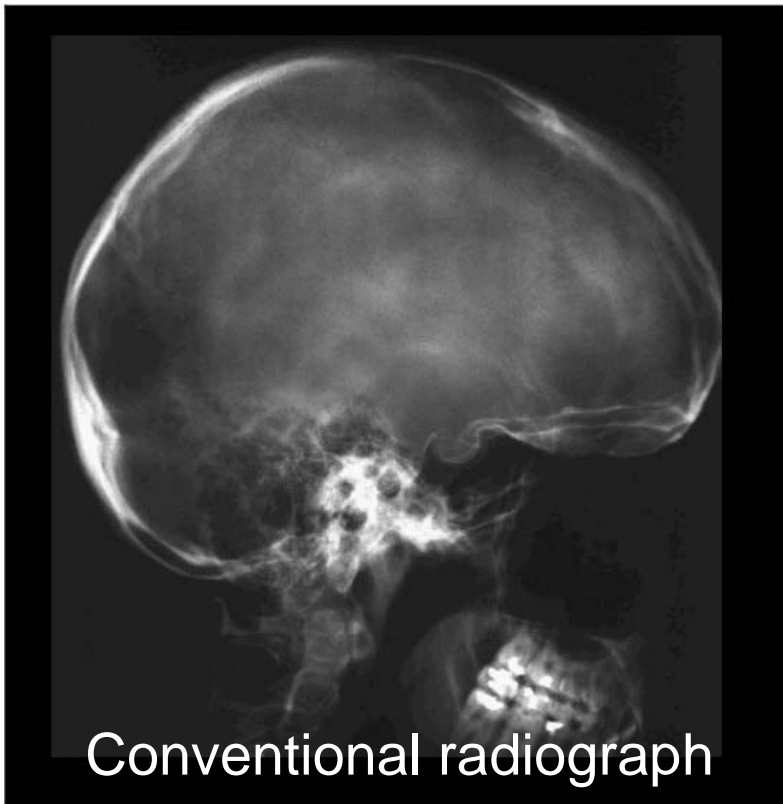
1. Detect the primary tumour  
(including all tumour extensions) !

# Morphology

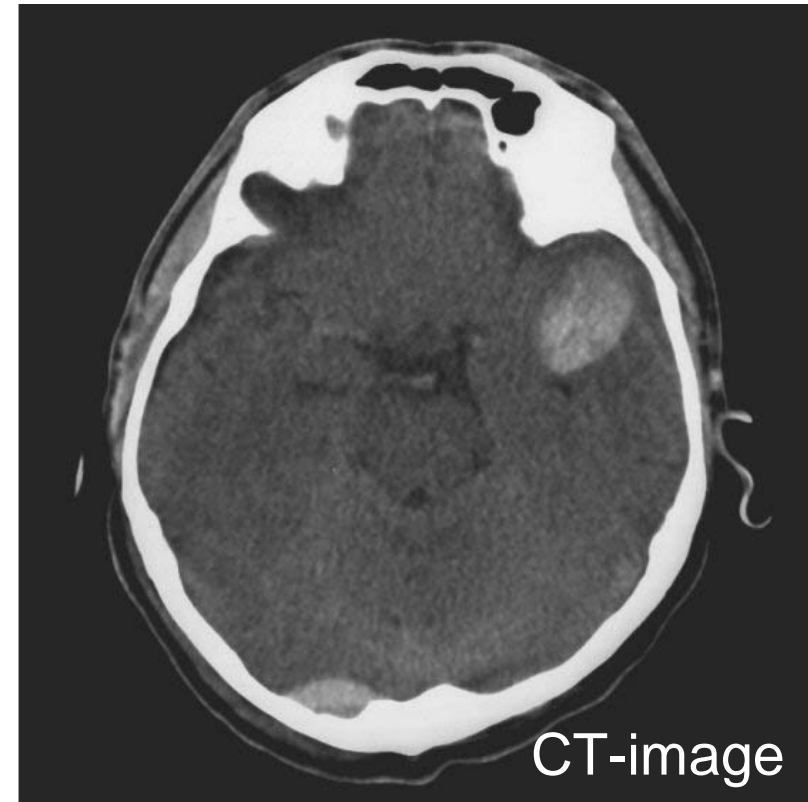
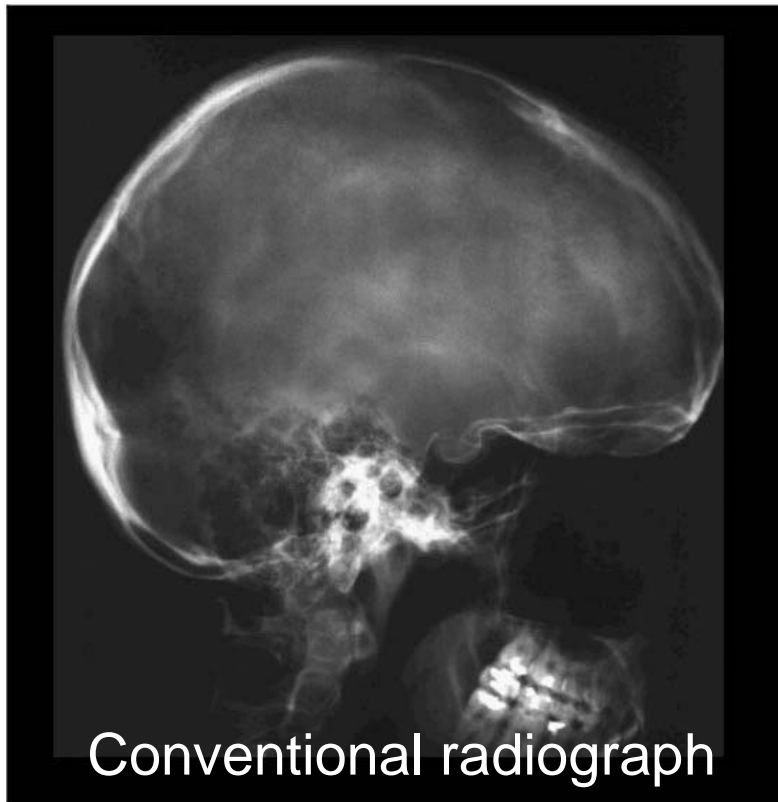
# Morphology



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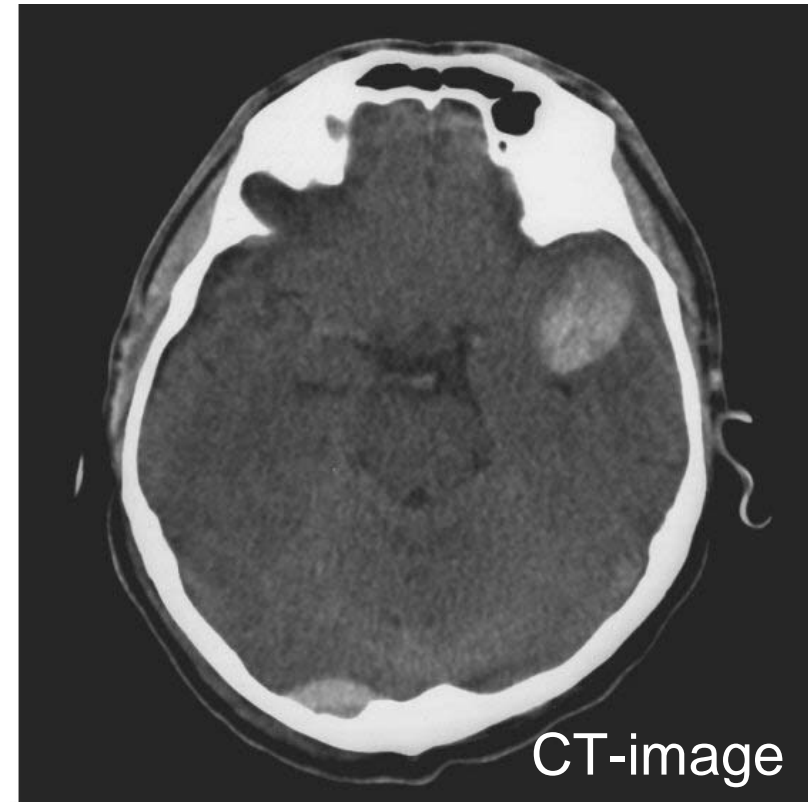
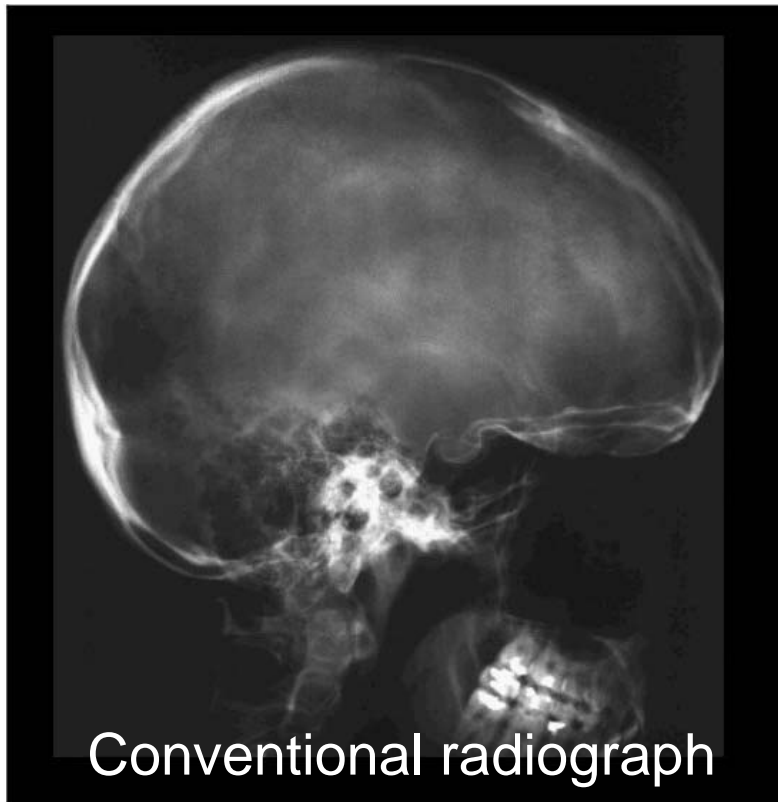


## Morphology



The 1st revolution in imaging for Radiation Oncology:  
from 2D (Radiography with X-rays)  
to 3D (Computerized Tomography, CT)!!

## Morphology

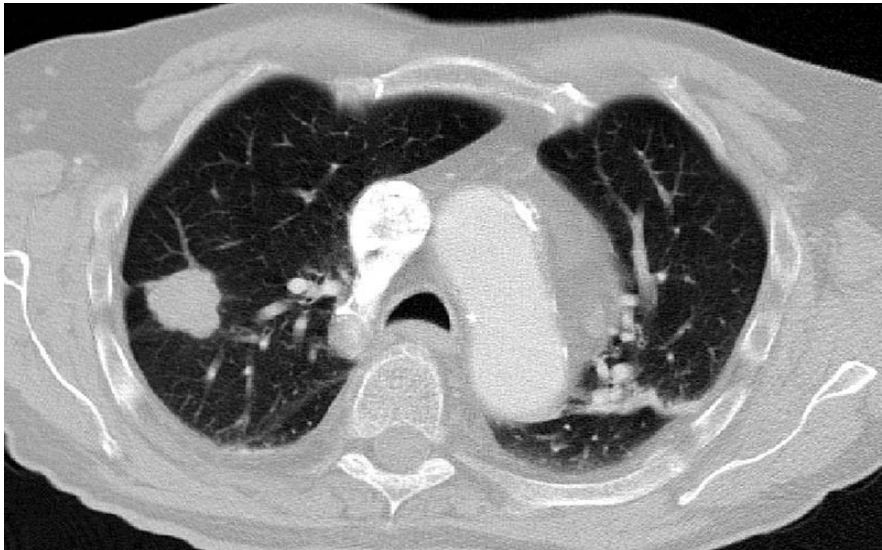


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➔ 1980-1990

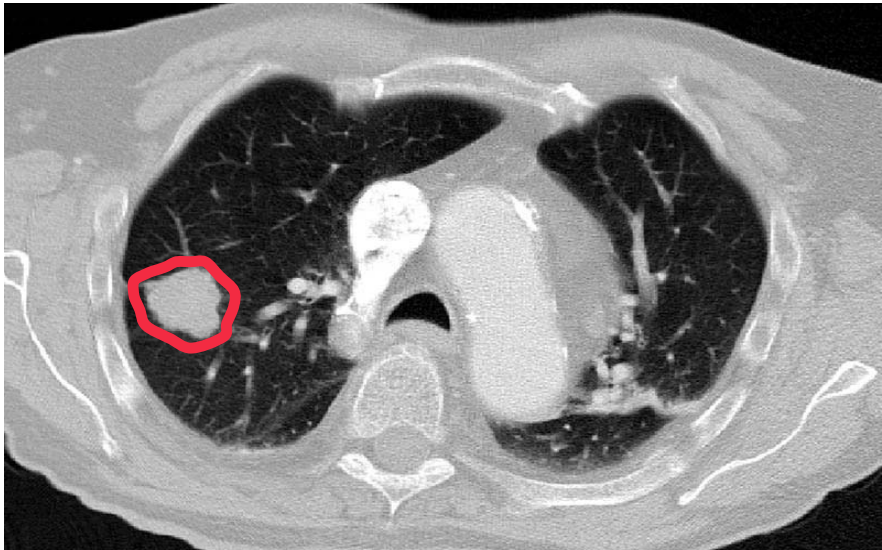
# Morphology

## Morphologic imaging with CT



# Morphology

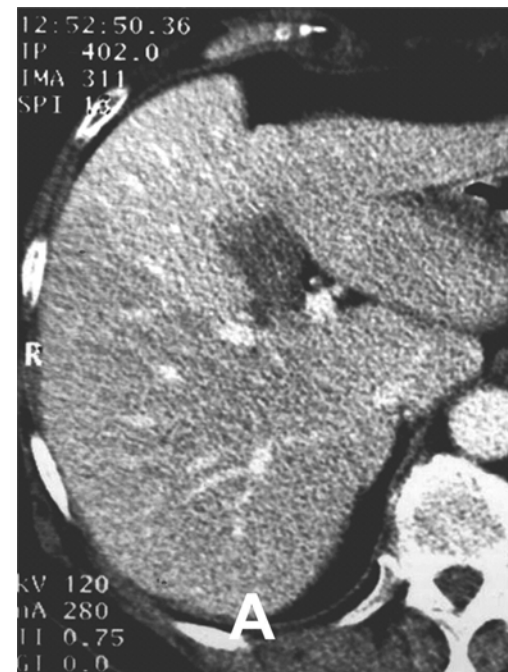
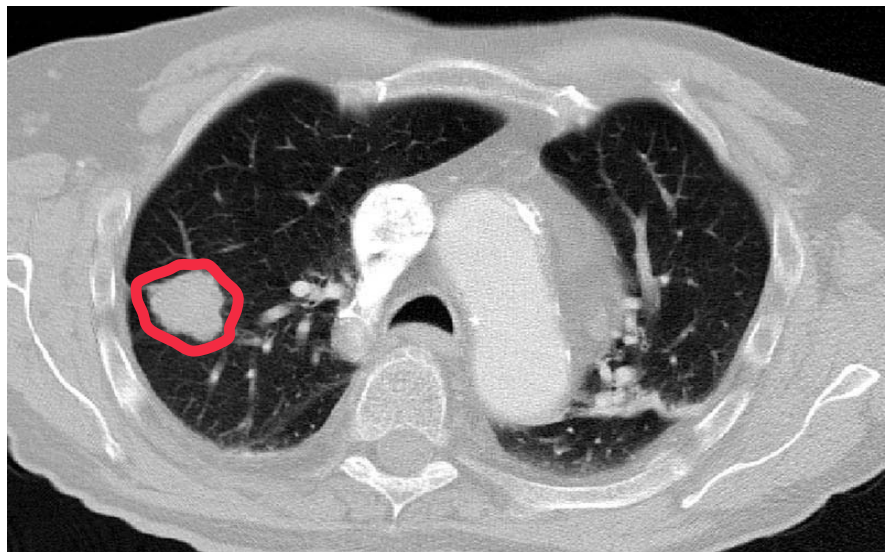
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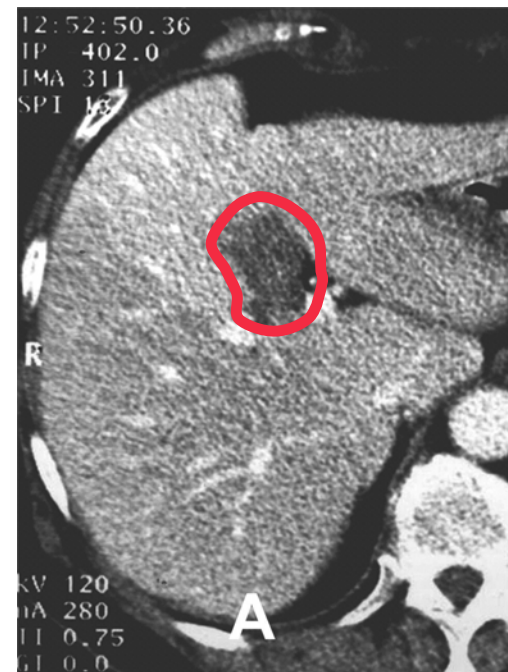
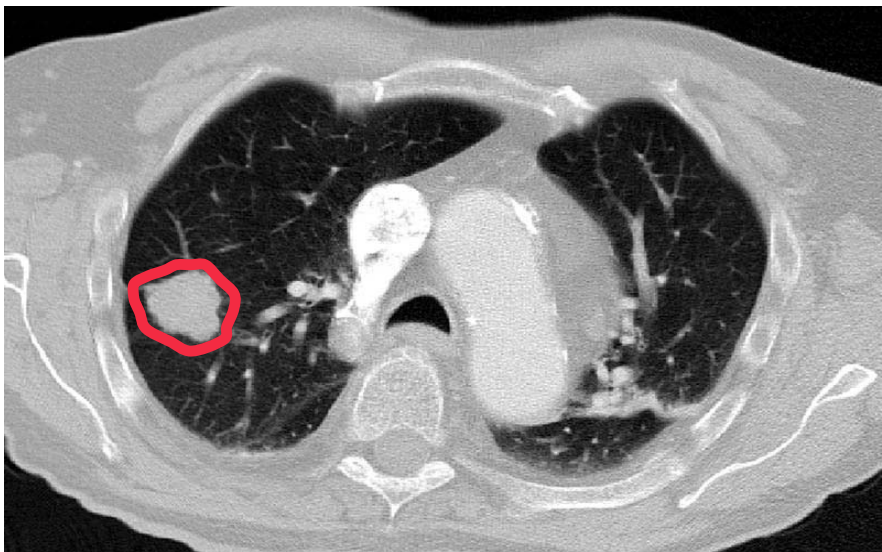
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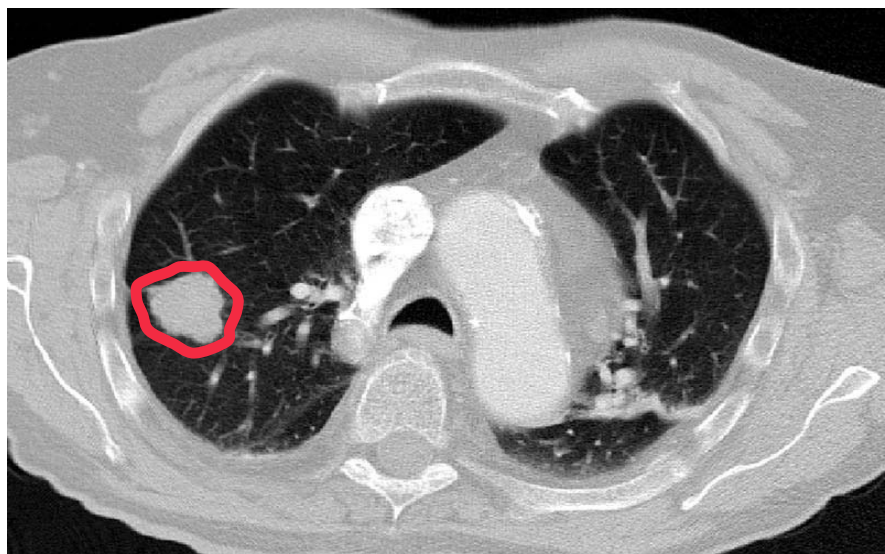
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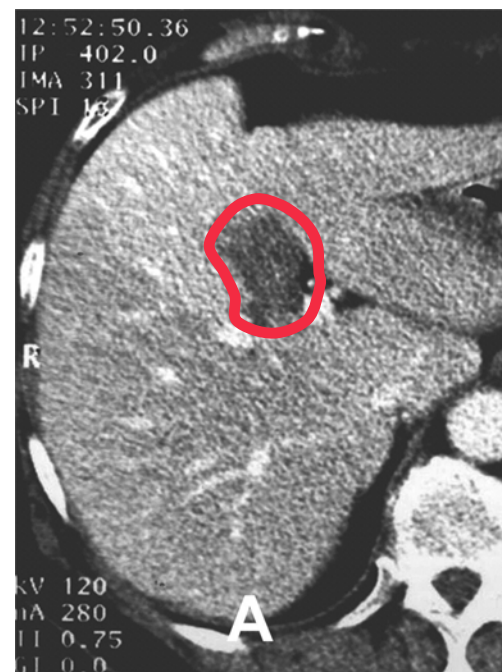


# Morphology

## Morphologic imaging with CT



Cancer can be detected by X-ray CT, if the tumour tissue has a lower or higher density than surrounding tissue

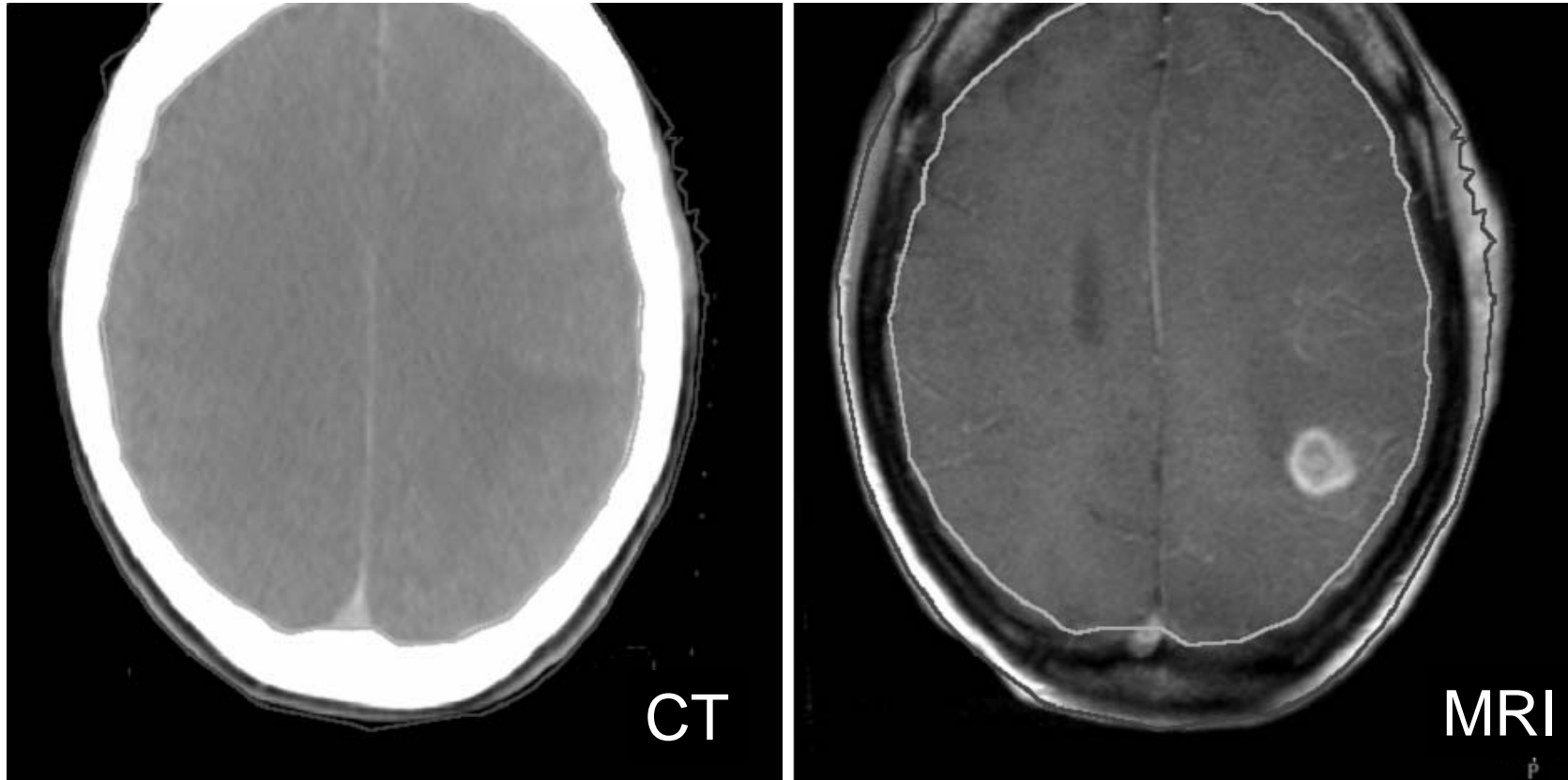


# Morphology



## Morphology

## The contribution of MRI



MRI-Brain image clearly demonstrates a lesion which is barely detectable on the CT.

# Morphology

1. Detect the primary tumour  
(including all tumour extensions) !

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2. Detection of
- Involved lymph nodes
  - Distant metastases

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Tumour staging



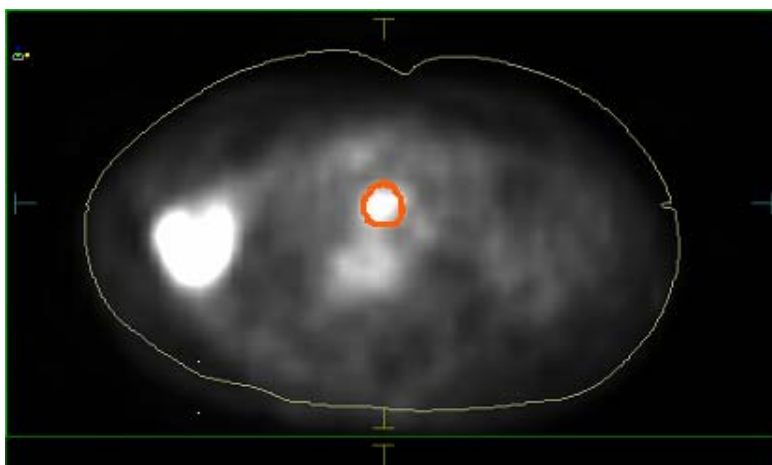
# Morphology



## Morphology



The contribution of PET

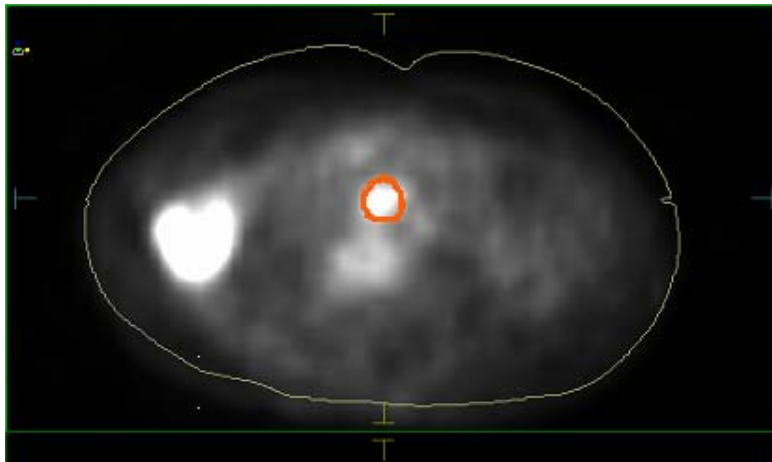


PET image showing metastases (a positive para-aortic lymph node)  
Which can not be detected in CT

## Morphology



The contribution of PET



PET image showing metastases (a positive para-aortic lymph node)  
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Tumour staging

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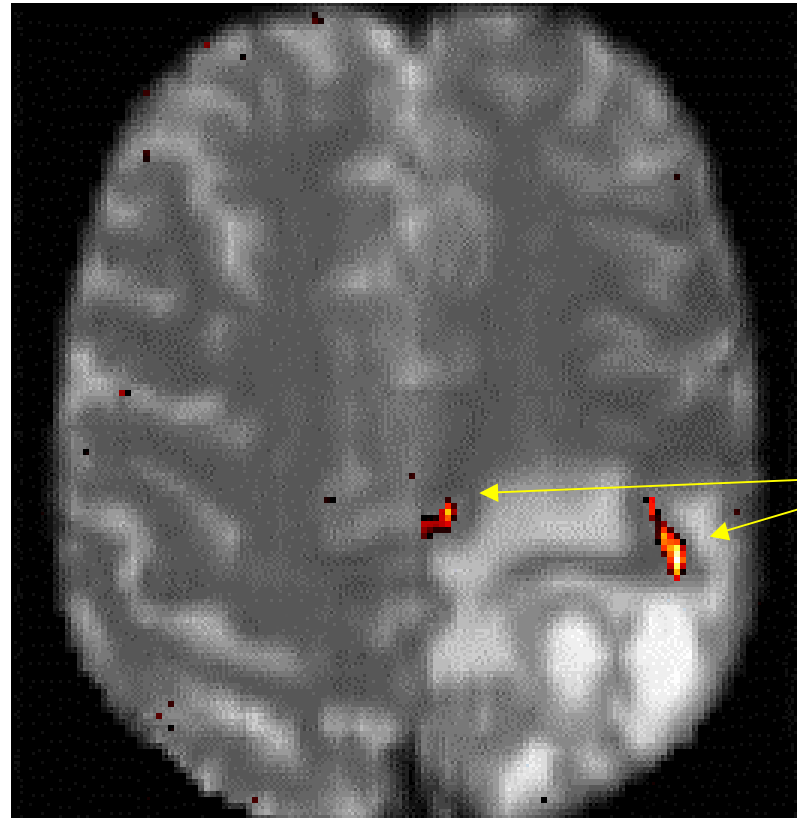
Tumour staging

3. Detect radiosensitive normal tissue  
(organs at risk) !

# Morphology

Imaging of  
Organs at Risk

Functional  
Magnetic  
Resonance  
Imaging  
fMRI



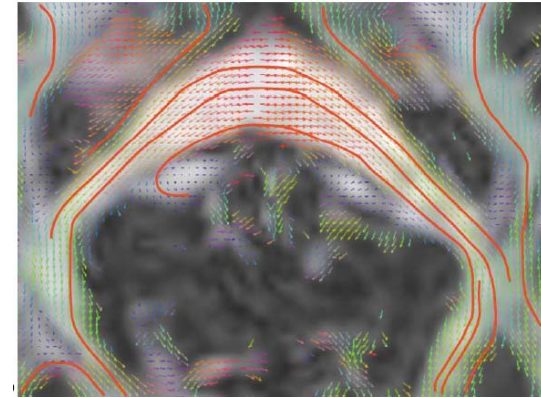
Movement  
cortexes

Patient with a glioblastoma: finger tapping fMRI EPI image  
(from Schad. NMR Biomed 2001;14:478-483)

# Morphology

Imaging of  
Organs at Risk

Diffusion  
tensor  
Imaging  
(DTI)

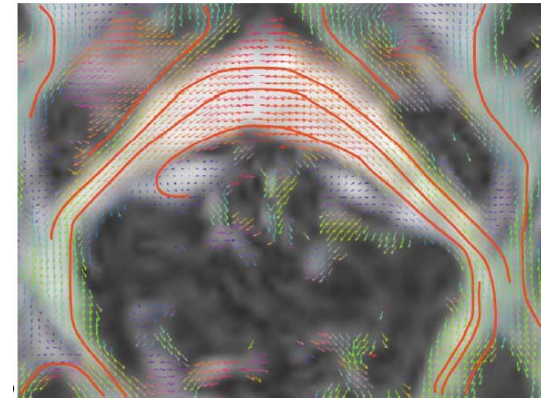


images from Stephen Correia, 2005

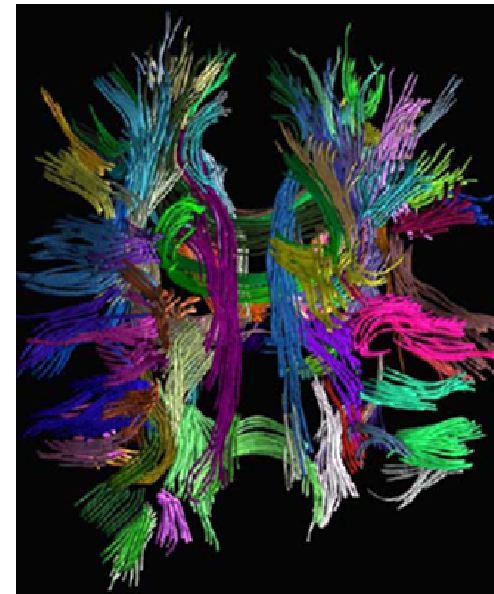
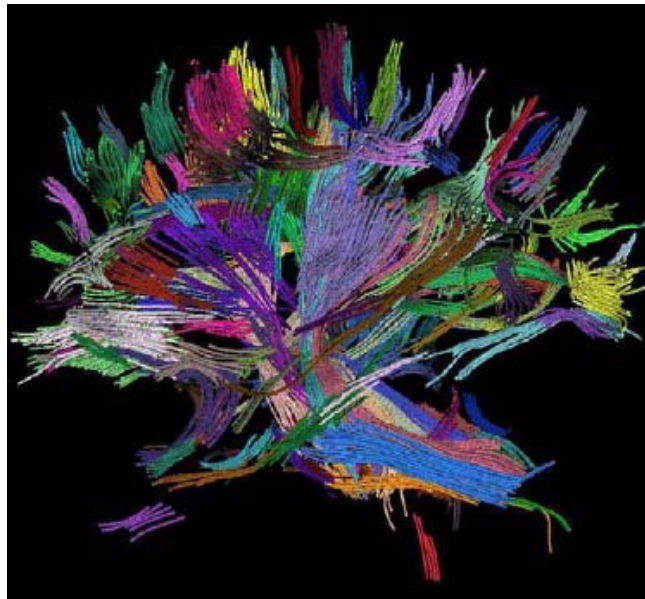
# Morphology

Imaging of  
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Diffusion  
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(DTI)



MR tractography



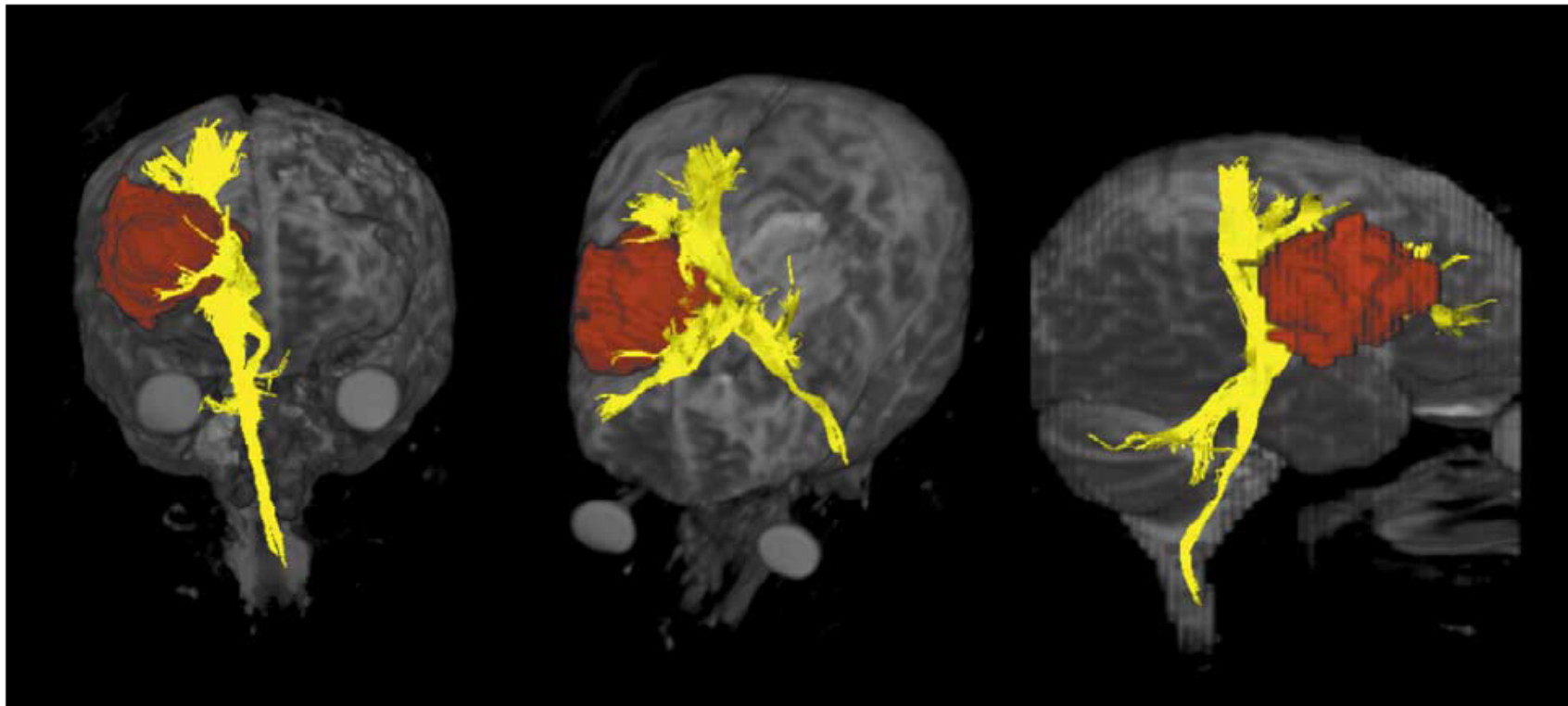
images from Stephen Correia, 2005



# Morphology

## Imaging of Organs at Risk

Patient with a brain tumour (glioblastoma) and white matter fiber tracts



(images from Dr. Sumu Mori, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore)

# Morphology

1. Detect the primary tumour  
(including all tumour extensions) !

2. Detection of

- Involved lymph nodes
- Distant metastases



Tumour staging

3. Detect neighbouring organs at risk !

# Morphology

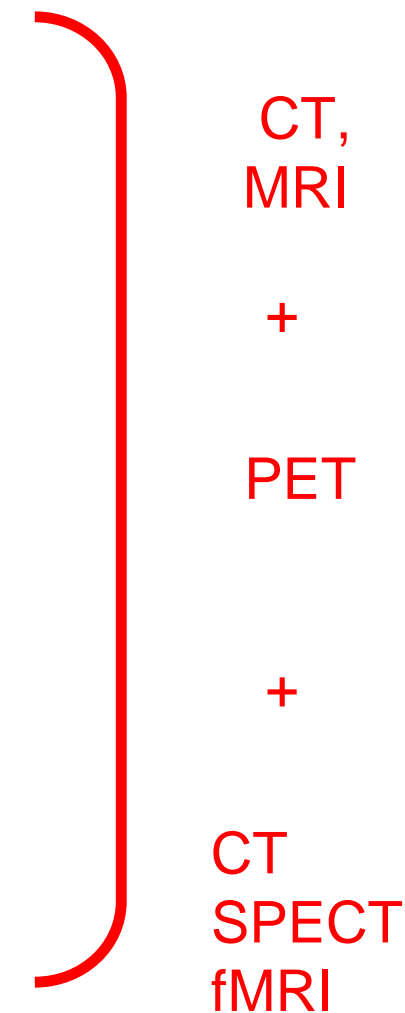
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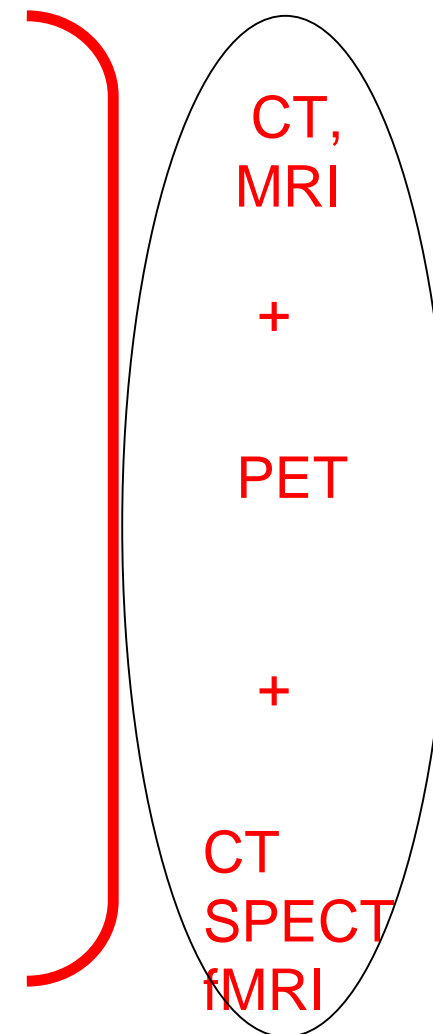
2. Detection of
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Tumour staging

3. Detect neighbouring organs at risk !

Image  
fusion



# Movement

# Movement

- How does the tumour shape and location change from day to day ?

# Movement

- How does the tumour shape and location change from day to day ?

Inter-  
fractional

# Movement

- How does the tumour shape and location change from day to day ?
- How does the tumour change during beam delivery ?

Inter-  
fractional



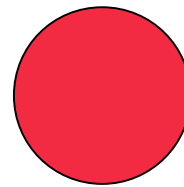
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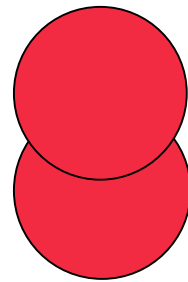
Inter-  
fractional

Intra-  
fractional

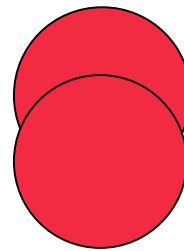
# The problem of moving tumours



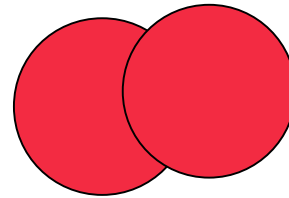
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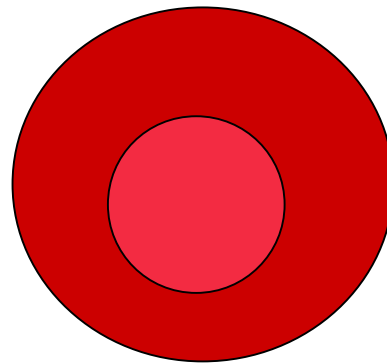
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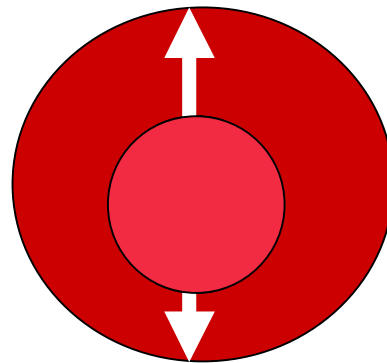


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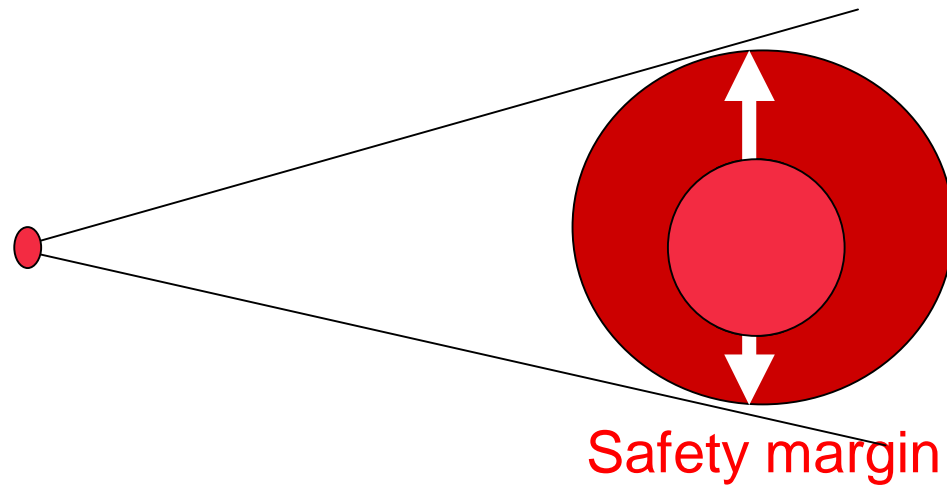
Safety margin

# The problem of moving tumours



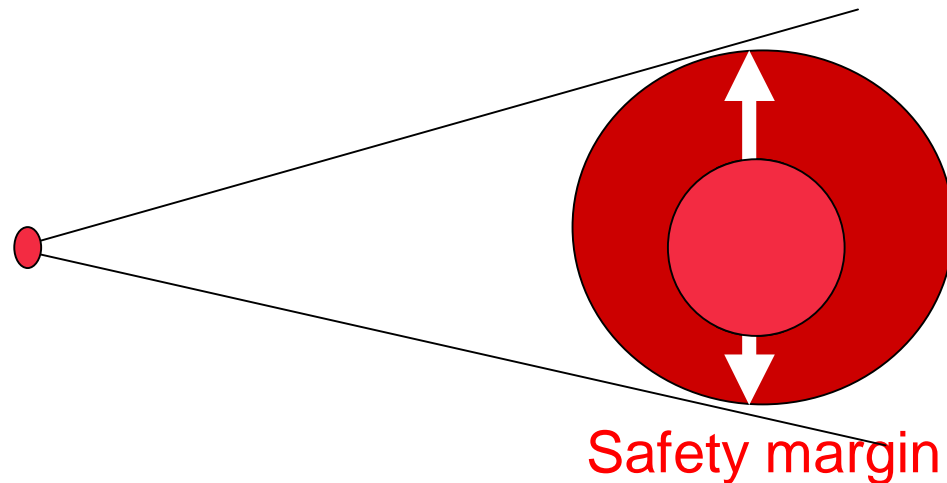
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# The problem of moving tumours

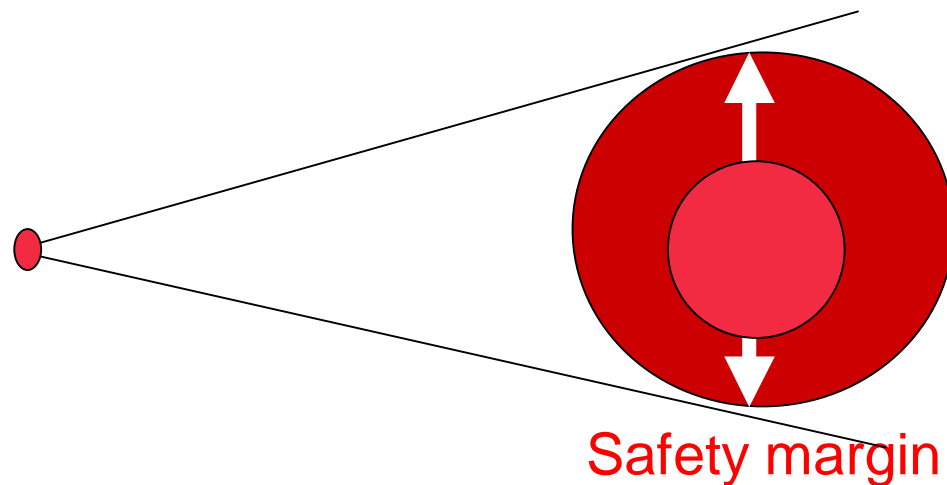


e.g.  
1 cm tumour  
with  
3 cm movement



Irradiated volume  
increases by a factor  
of ~ 50 !!

# The problem of moving tumours



e.g.  
1 cm tumour  
with  
3 cm movement



Irradiated volume  
increases by a factor  
of ~ 50 !!

Only 2% of the irradiated volume is tumour tissue !

## Movement

# Image Guided Radiotherapy/ Time adapted radiotherapy

Extension of 3D- Conformal Therapy to the 4th dimension:  
**time**

- Aim: Adapt treatment to patient- and organ- movements

## Movement

# Image Guided Radiotherapy/ Time adapted radiotherapy

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Patient is treated on up to 30 days !

## Movement

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Extension of 3D- Conformal Therapy to the 4th dimension:  
**time**

- Aim: Adapt treatment to patient- and organ- movements

Patient is treated on up to 30 days !

### Imaging of Movement

- Interfractional Imaging (day to day movement)
- Intrafractional Imaging (movement during beam delivery)

## Movement

# Image Guided Radiotherapy/ Time adapted radiotherapy

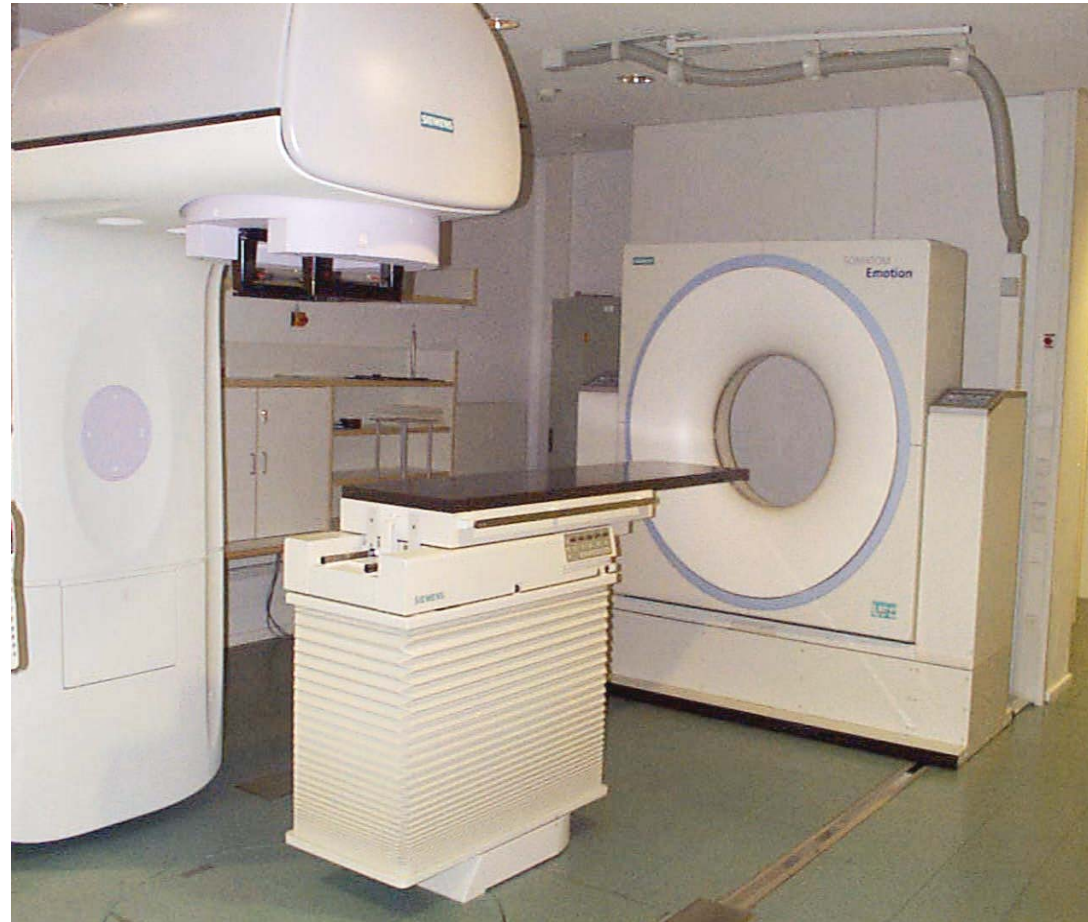
- CT in treatment room
- 3D Cone Beam CT integrated into a Linac
- Tomotherapy (see contribution of Rock Mackie)

**Movement**

# IGRT Hardware @DKFZ

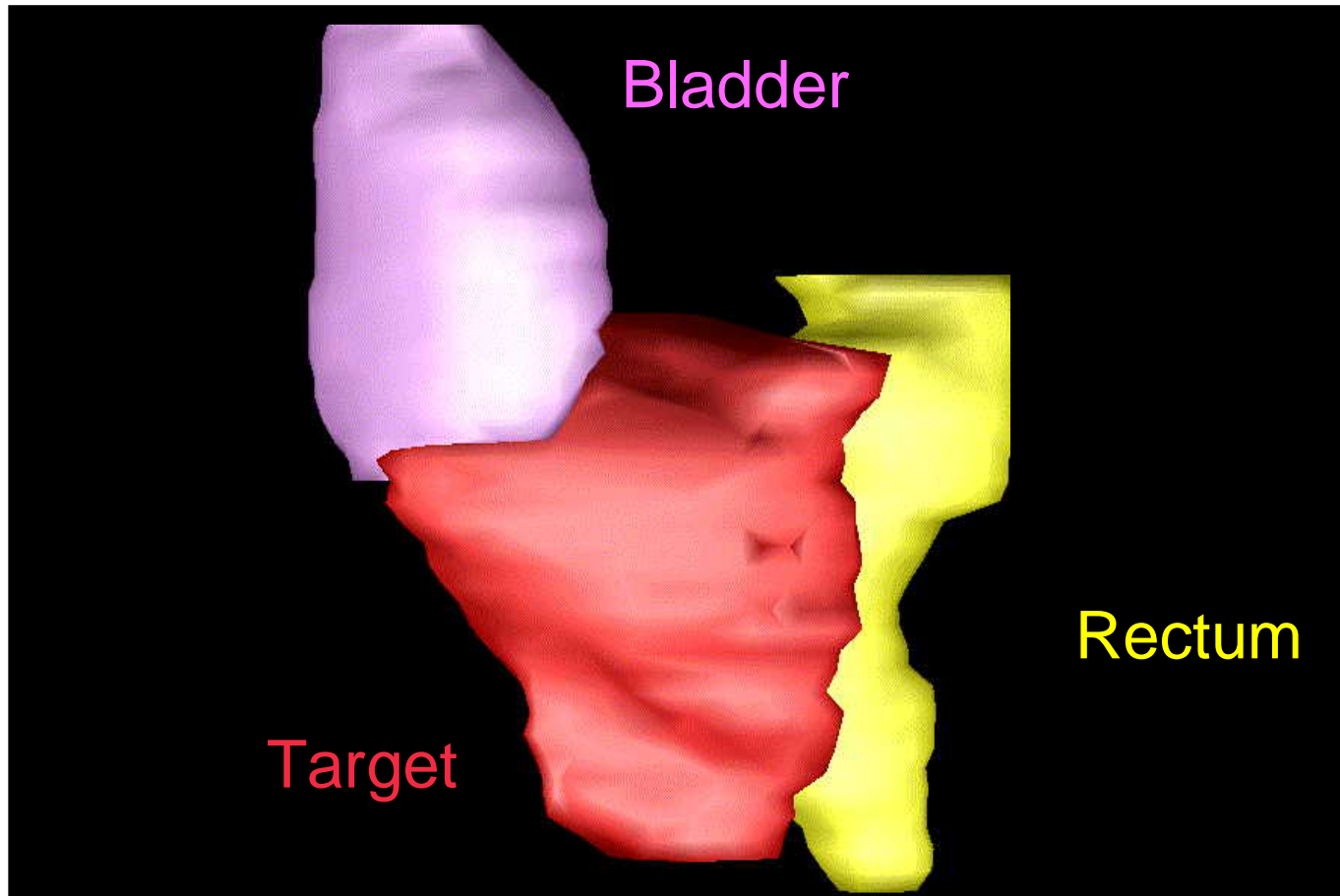
In-room CT:PRIMATOM

Interfractional  
imaging



# Movement

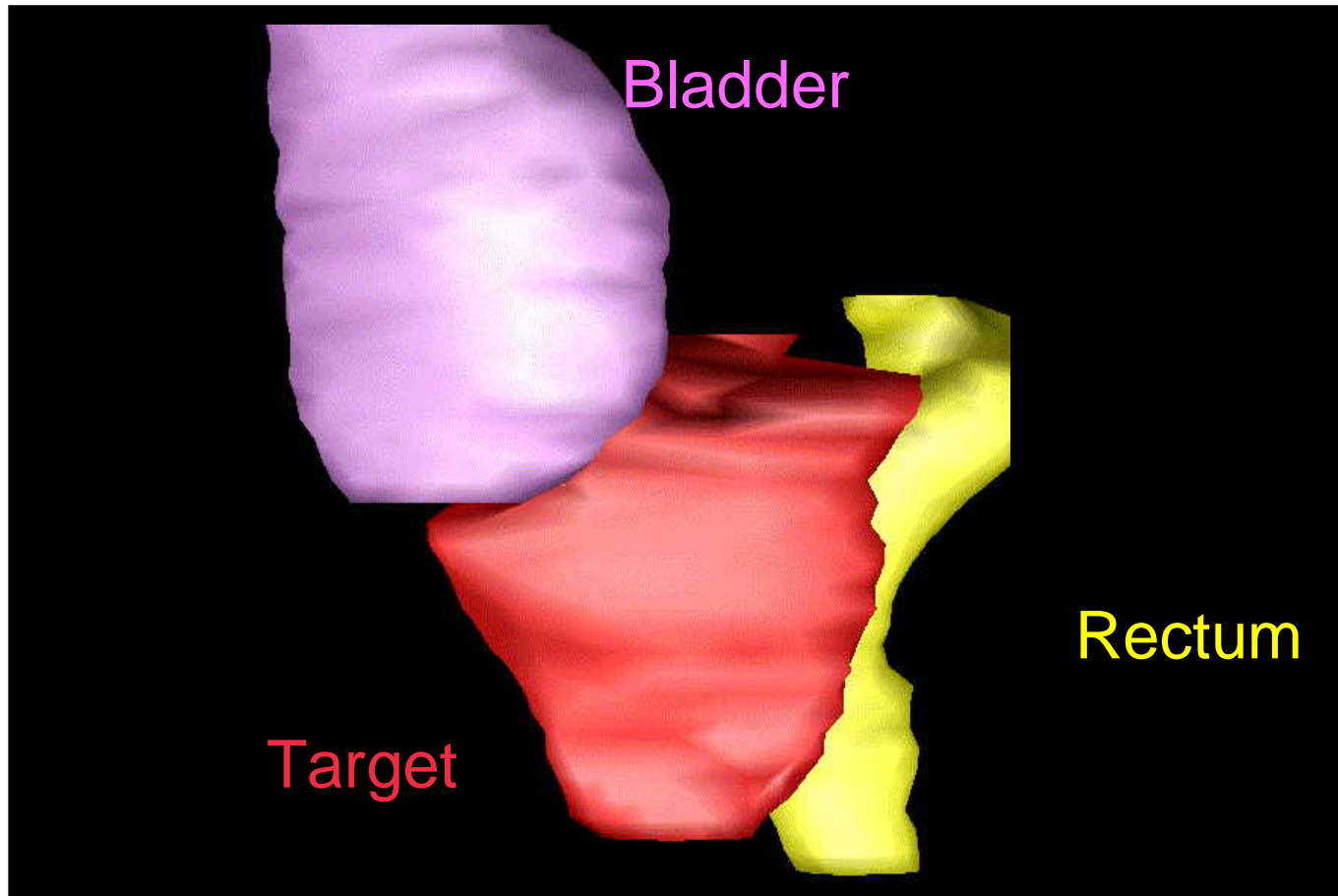
Example: Prostate – 1. Control - CT





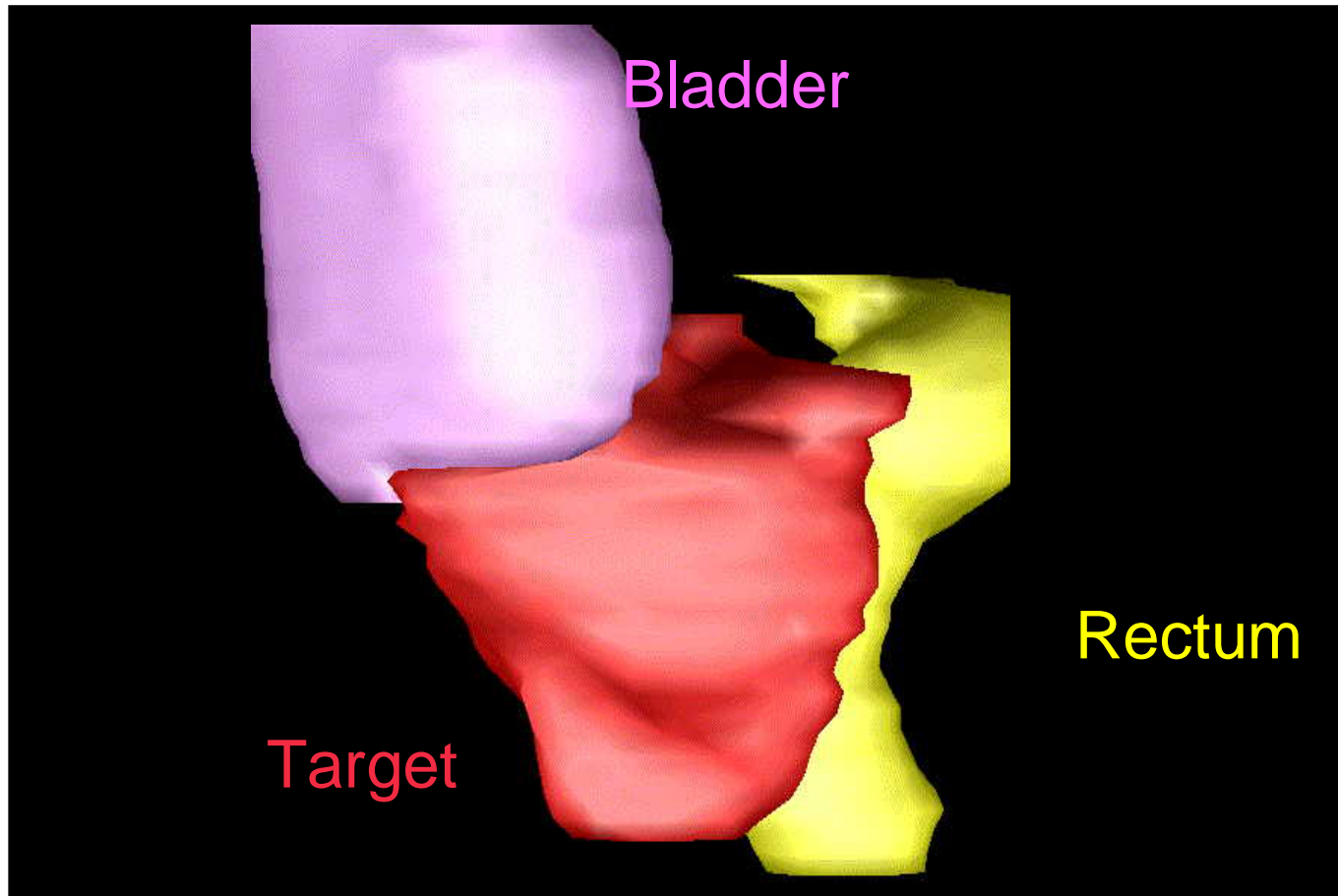
# Movement

Example: Prostate – 2. Control - CT



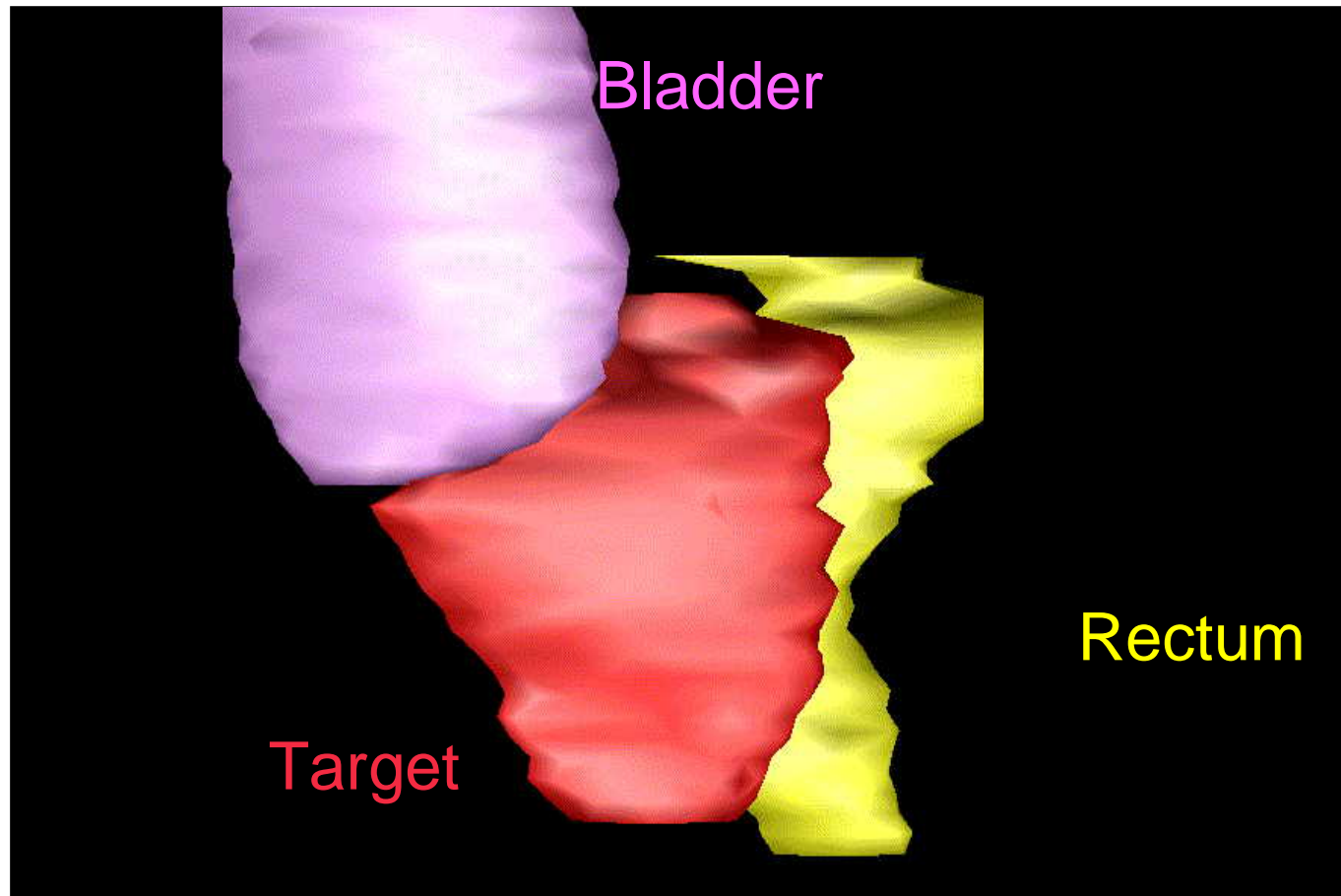
# Movement

Example: Prostate – 3. Control - CT

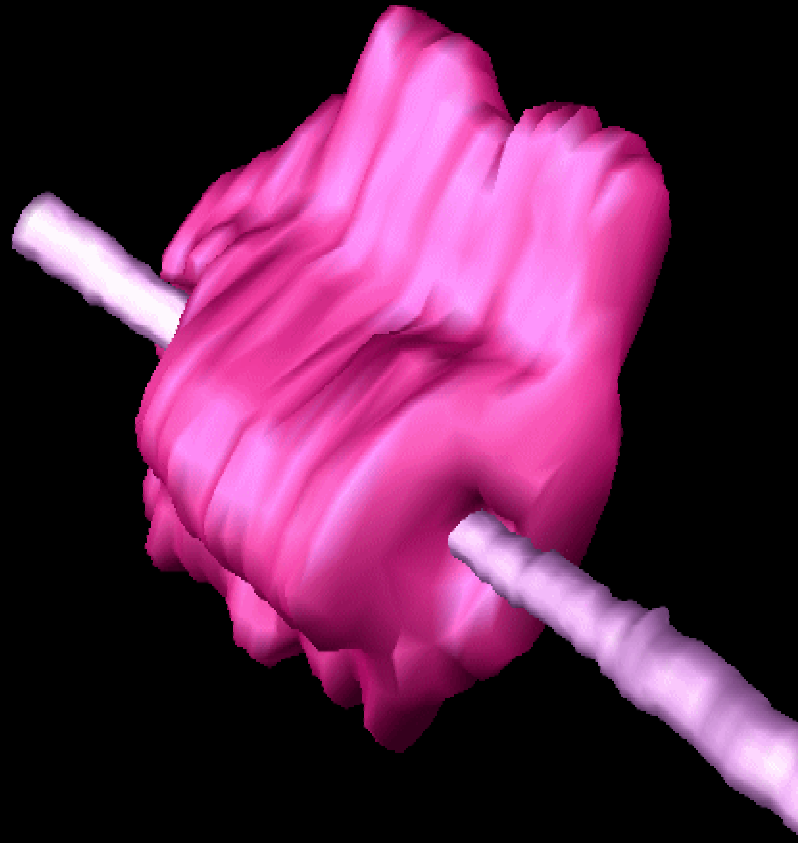


# Movement

Example: Prostate – 4. Control - CT



## Interfractional Movement: Paraspinal Tumor (29 CTs)



## Movement

# IGRT Hardware @DKFZ

- Prototype: In-line CT: PRIMUS + FPI + kV-source



# ARTISTE – SMS/OCS



## Interfractional Adaption

- Automatic patient positioning
  - 3D Cone Beam CT in treatment position
  - Matching with planning CT
  - Automatic determination of table shift
  - Repositioning + treatment
  - Extra time per patient: ca. 10 min.

# Movement

## kV-CBCT Short Scan: prostate

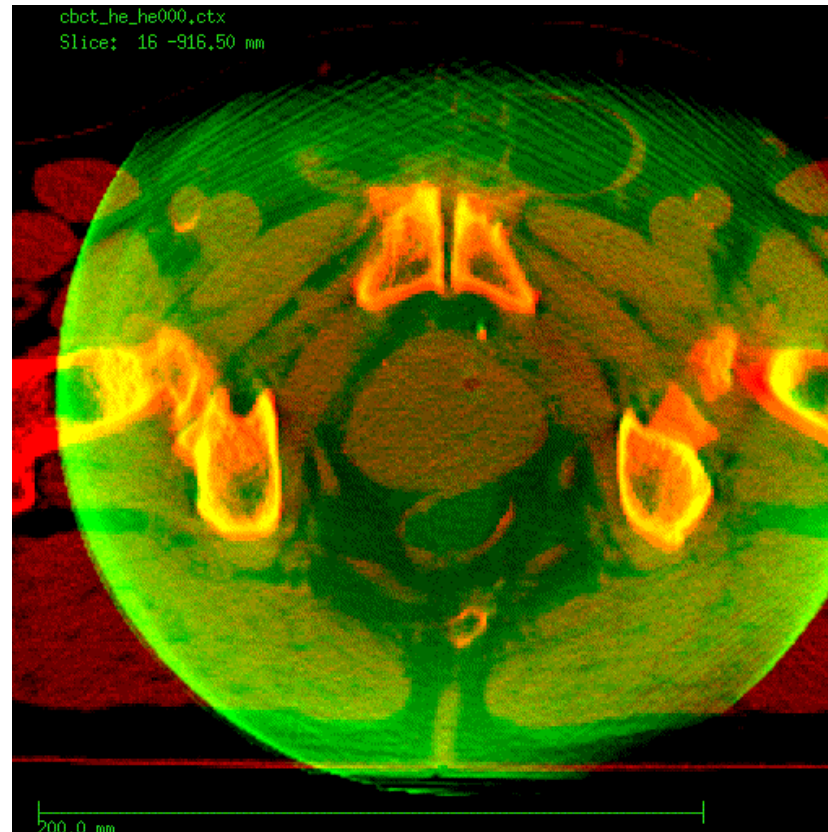


Reconstruction of data by M. Mitschke SMS/OCS



# Movement

## matching with planning CT



Result: shift the patients' couch with  $\Delta r = (0.1, 2.7, 2.2)$  mm

# Movement

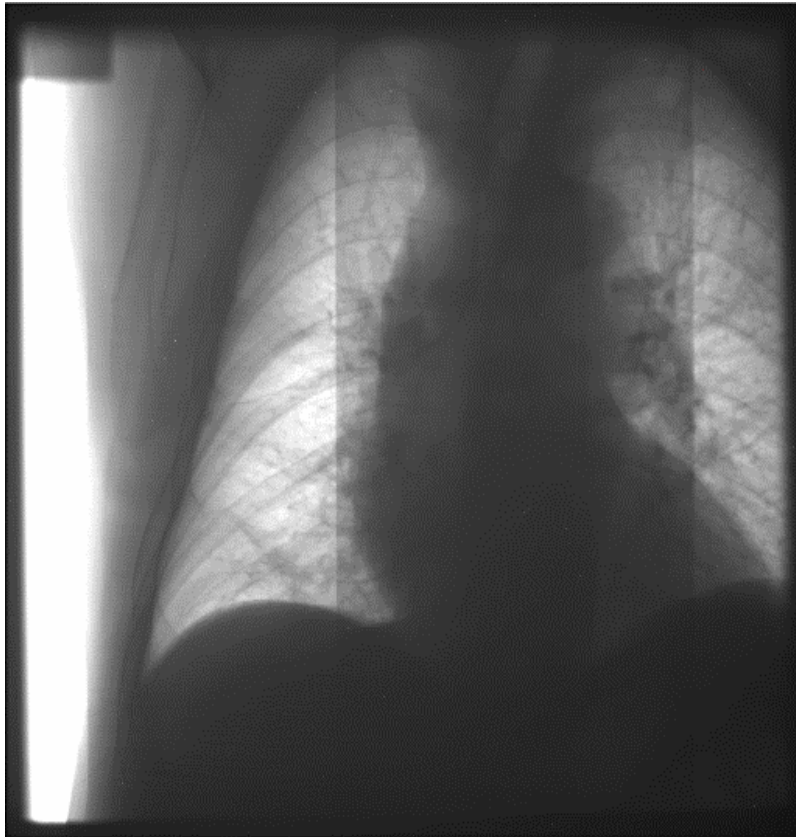
## Intrafractional Adaption: Gating

- ‚Gated Irradiation‘ of moving lung tumors
  - 4D Diagnostisc CT
  - 4D Cone Beam CT
  - Gating window around exhale phase (..)

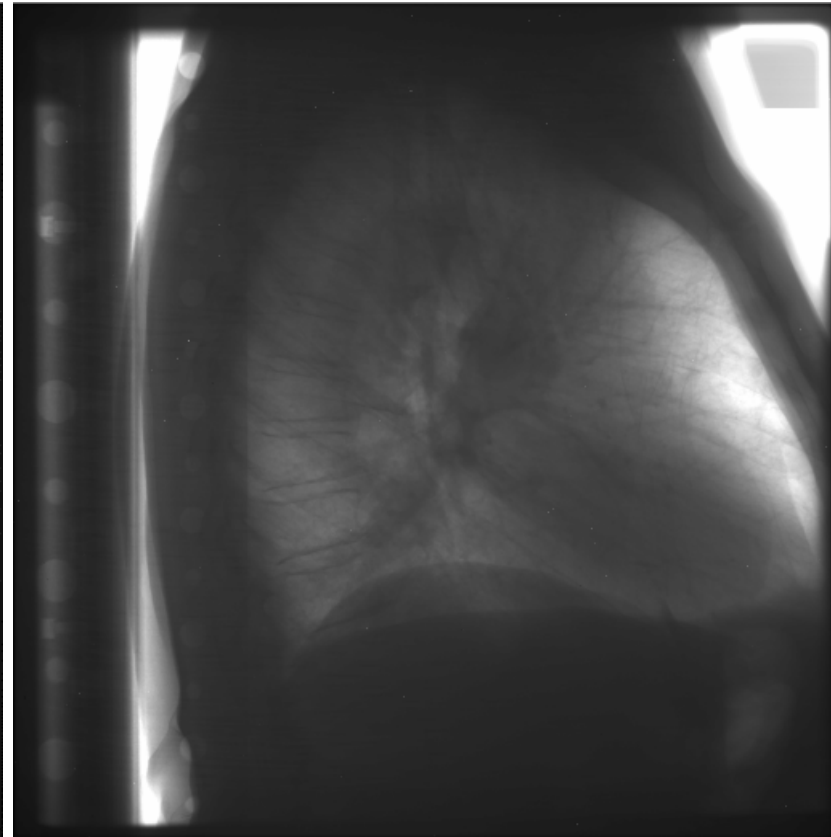
# Movement

## Ungated Fluoroscopy

0° Beam

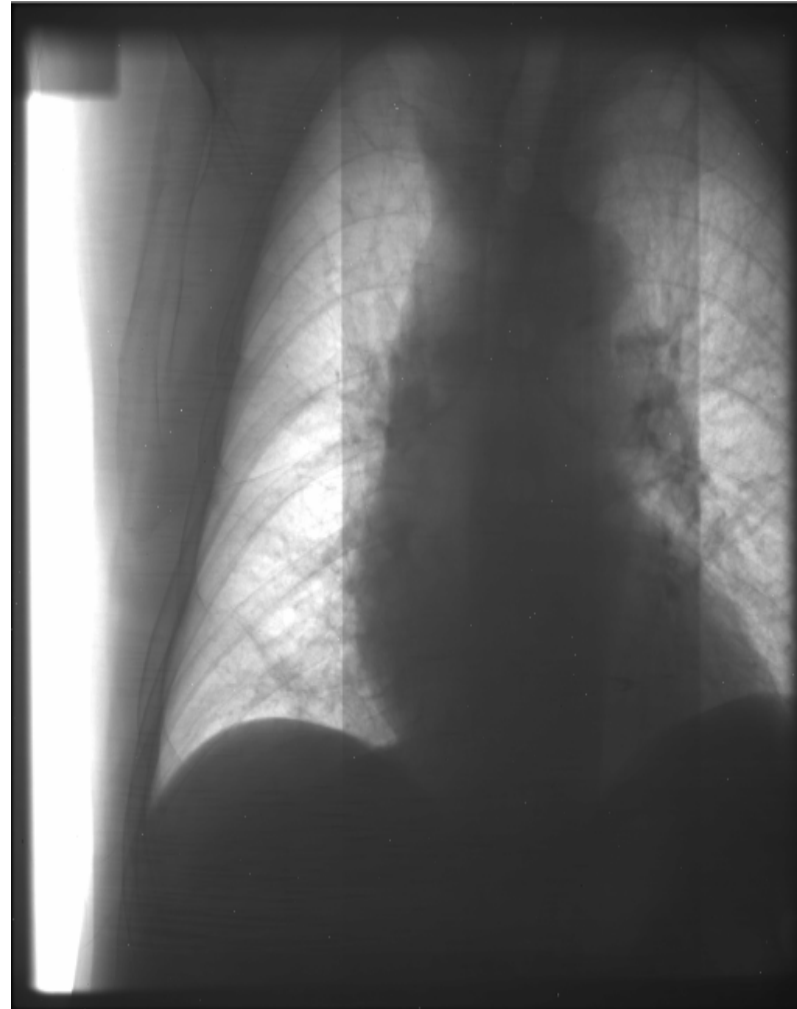


90° Beam



# Movement

## Gated Fluoroscopy: 0° Beam



# Movement

# Movement

- How does the tumour shape and location change from day to day ?

# Movement

- How does the tumour shape and location change from day to day ?
- How does the tumour changes during beam delivery ?

# Movement

- How does the tumour shape and location change from day to day ?
- How does the tumour changes during beam delivery ?

In room CT

Integrated Cone beam CT  
Tomotherapy



# Movement

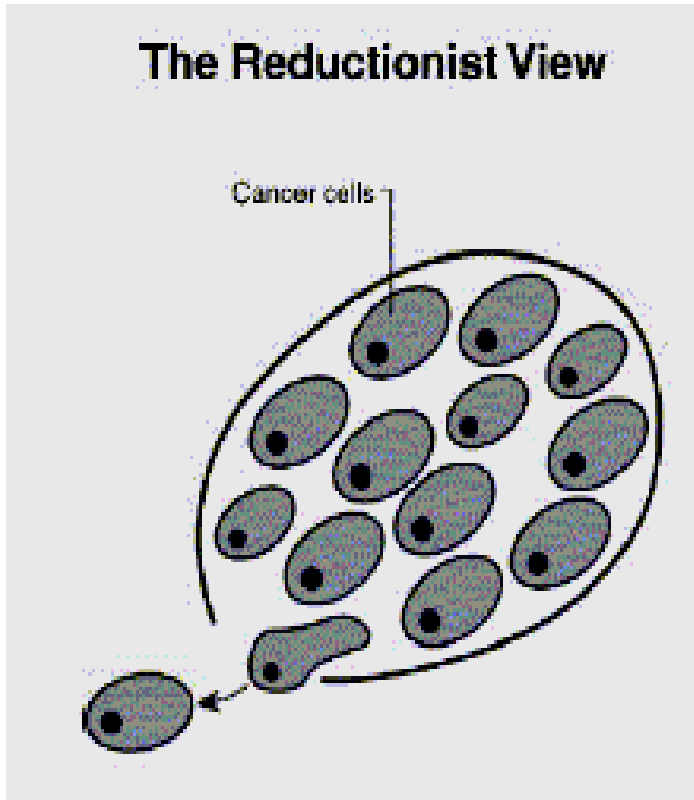
- How does the tumour shape and location change from day to day ?
- How does the tumour changes during beam delivery ?

In room CT

Integrated Cone beam CT  
Tomotherapy

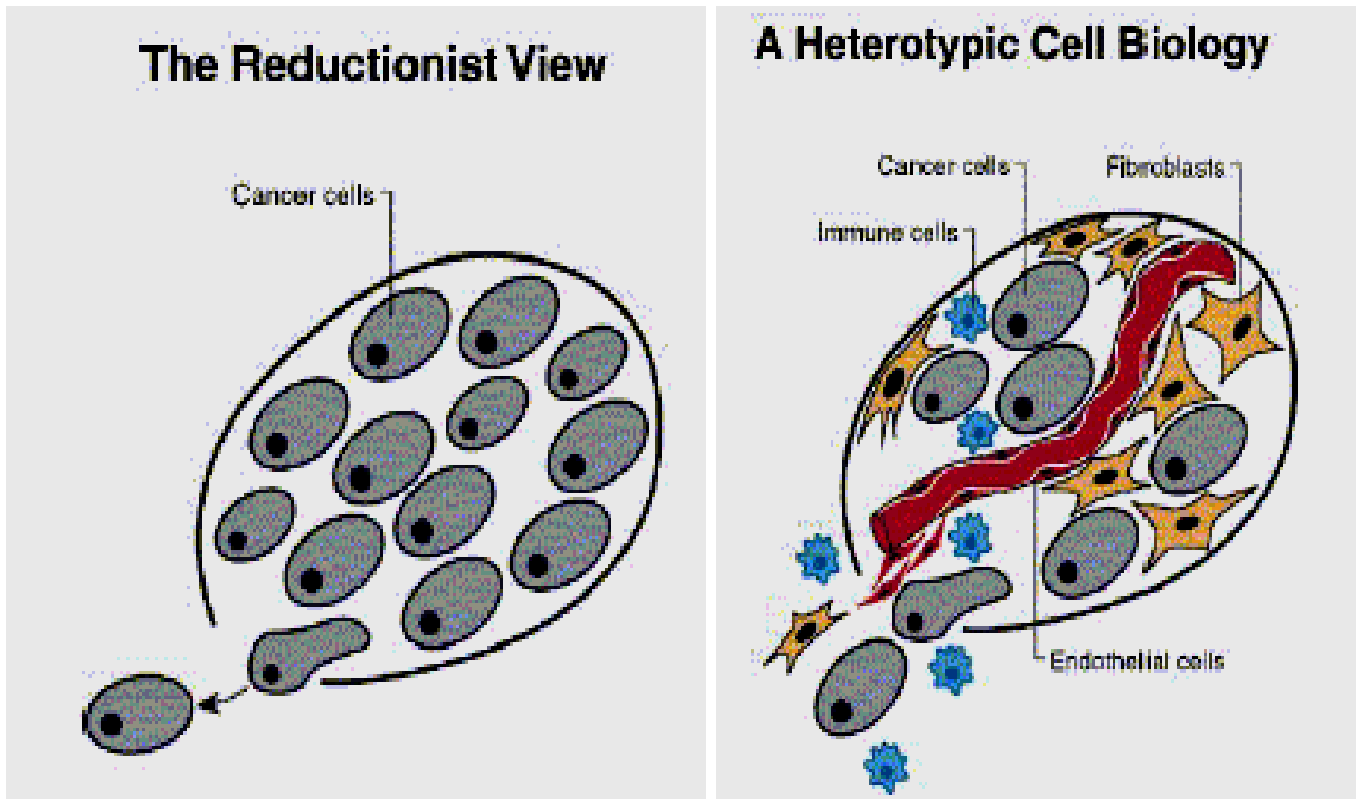
4D CT,  
X-Ray Fluoroscopy  
+ Markers

# Biology



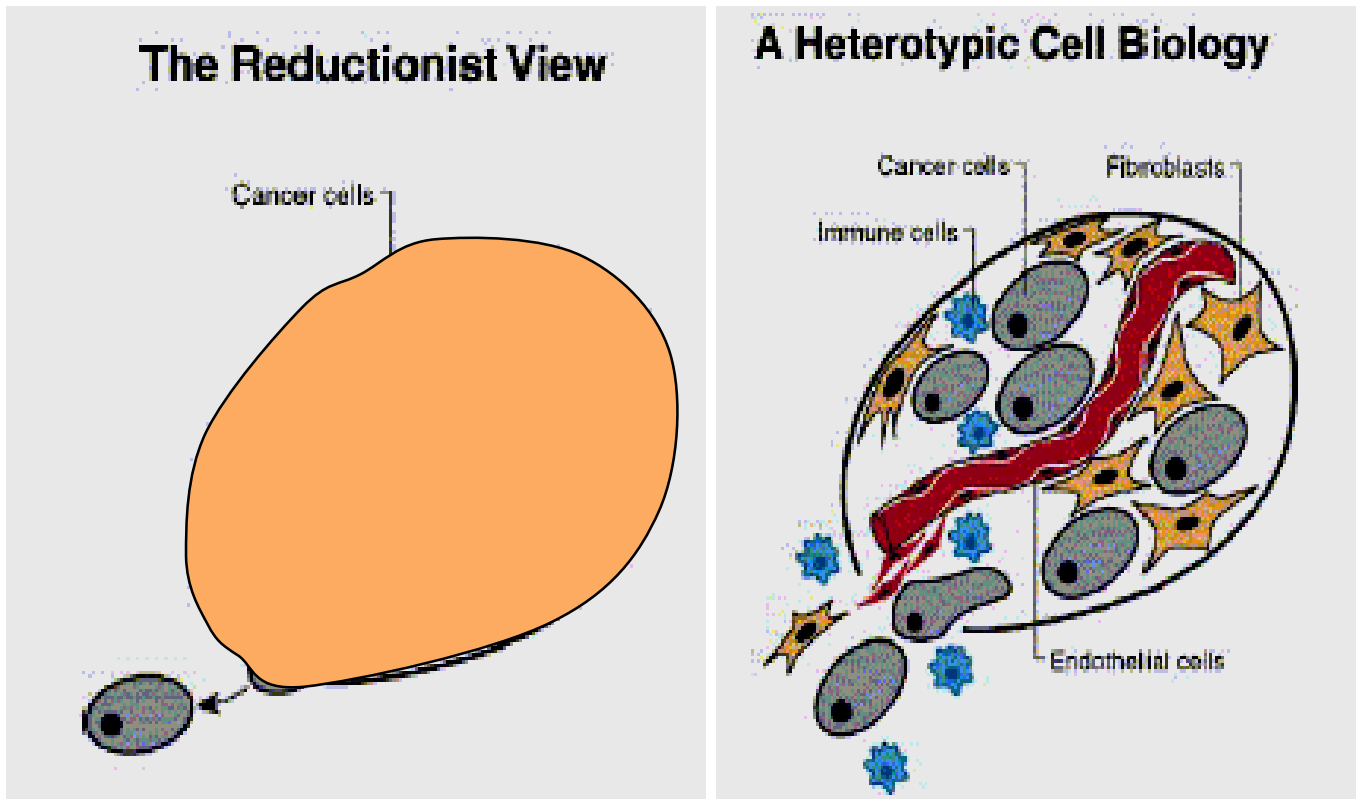
D. Hanaha, R. A. Weinberg, Cell, Vol. 100, 57-70, 2000

# Biology



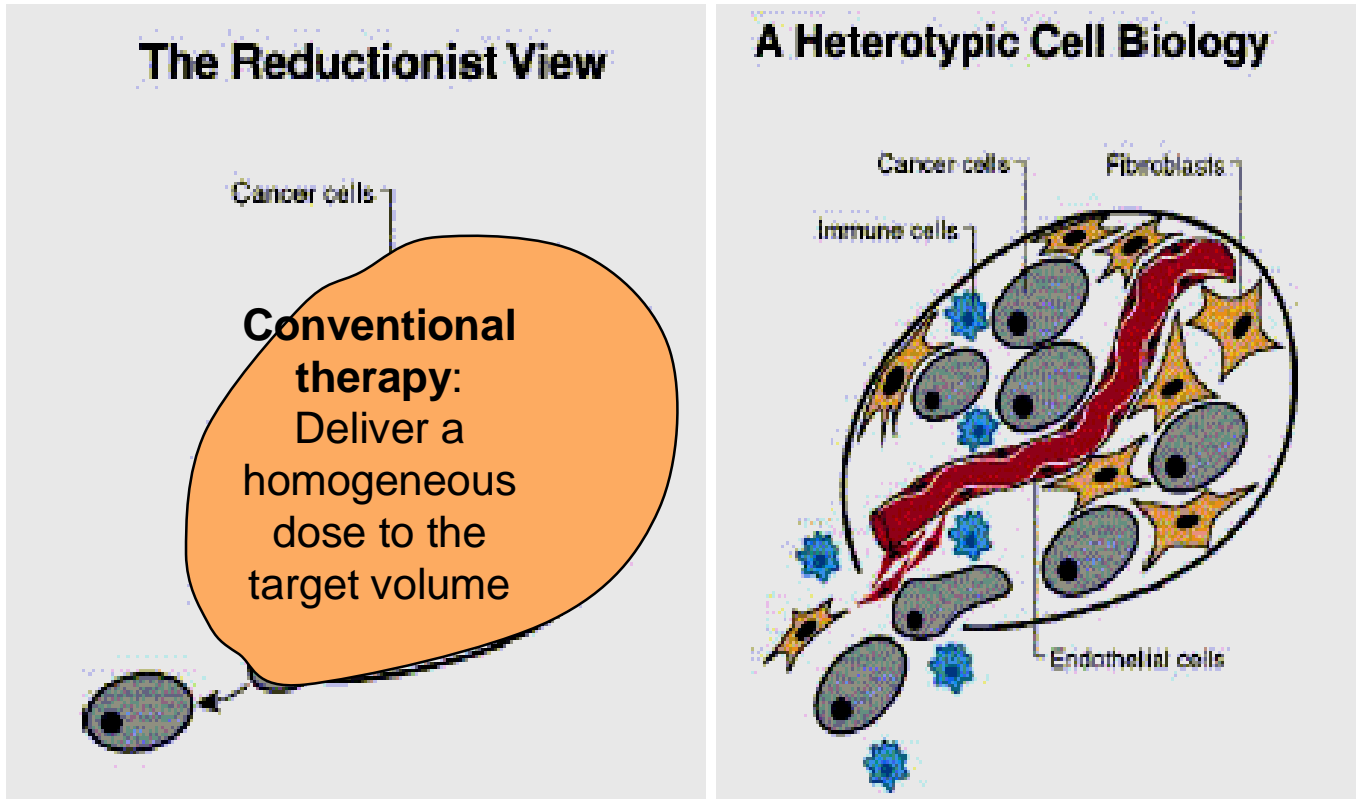
D. Hanaha, R. A. Weinberg, Cell, Vol. 100, 57-70, 2000

# Biology



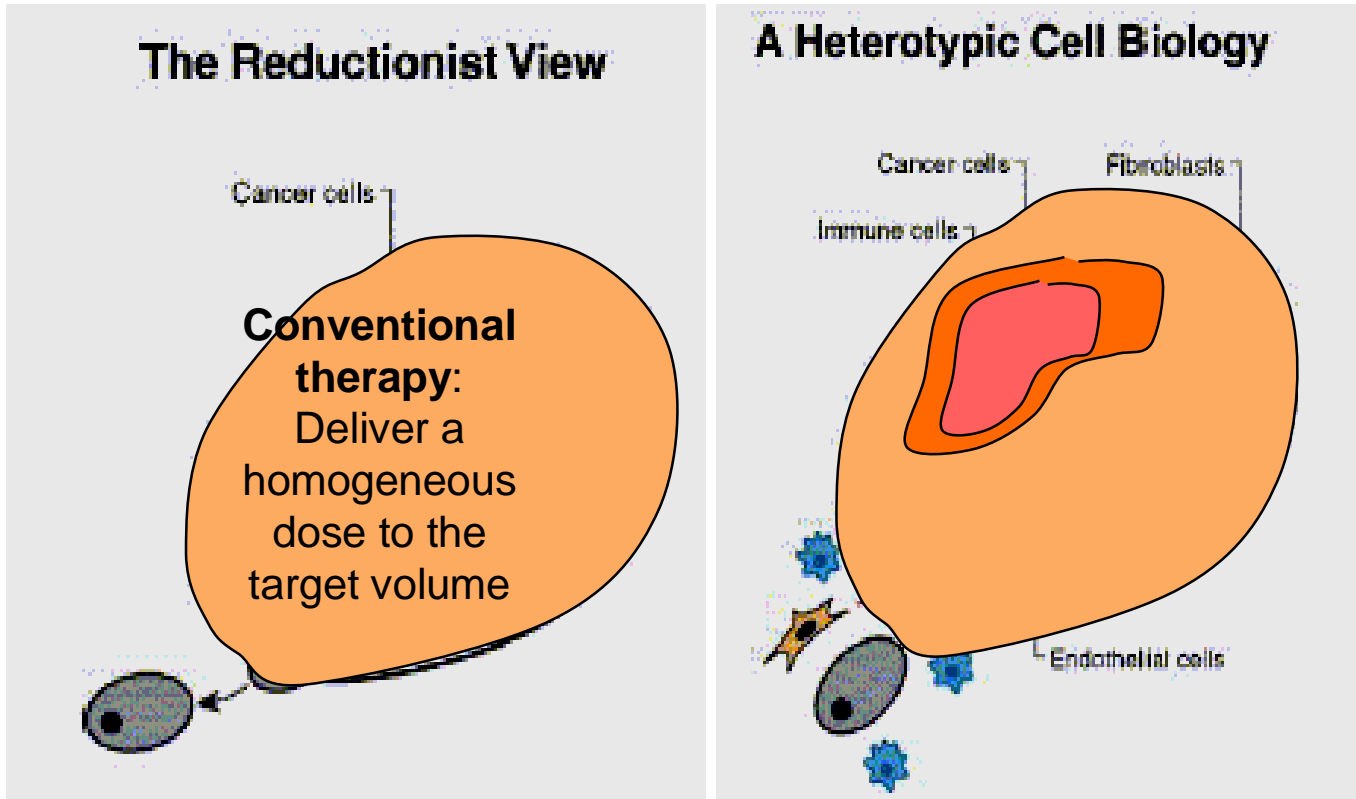
D. Hanaha, R. A. Weinberg, Cell, Vol. 100, 57-70, 2000

# Biology



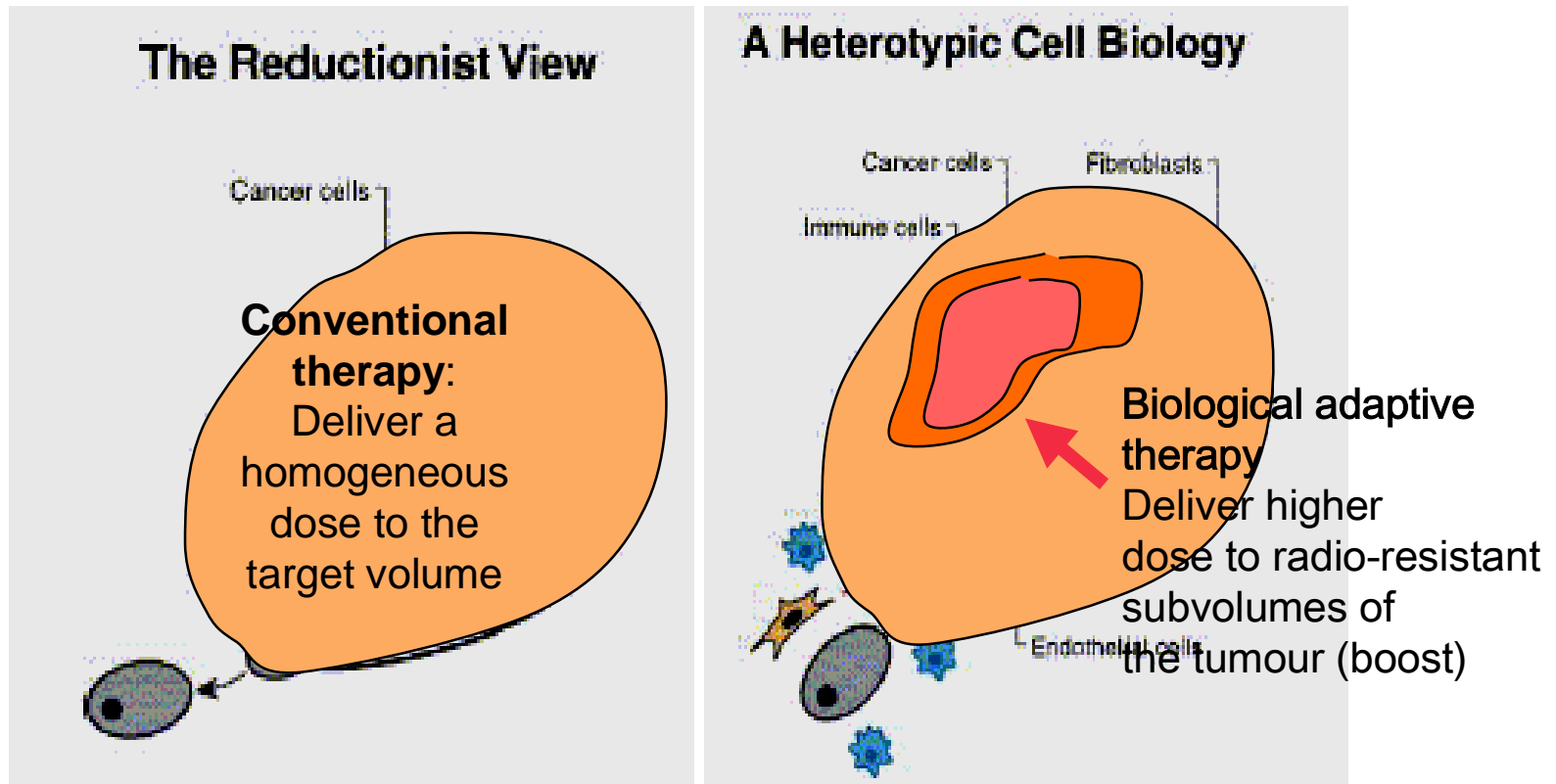
D. Hanaha, R. A. Weinberg, Cell, Vol. 100, 57-70, 2000

# Biology



D. Hanaha, R. A. Weinberg, Cell, Vol. 100, 57-70, 2000

# Biology



D. Hanaha, R. A. Weinberg, Cell, Vol. 100, 57-70, 2000

# Biology

Where are the radio-resistant areas within the tumour ?

Where are the radiosensitive areas within healthy tissue ?



## Molecular Profiling

### Hypoxia

Hypoxic areas within the tumour are highly radioresistant

### Cellular Proliferation

Uncontrolled cellular proliferation is one of the hallmarks of malignant tumours

### Apoptosis

Apoptosis („programmed cell death“) is the major form of cell death induced by radiation

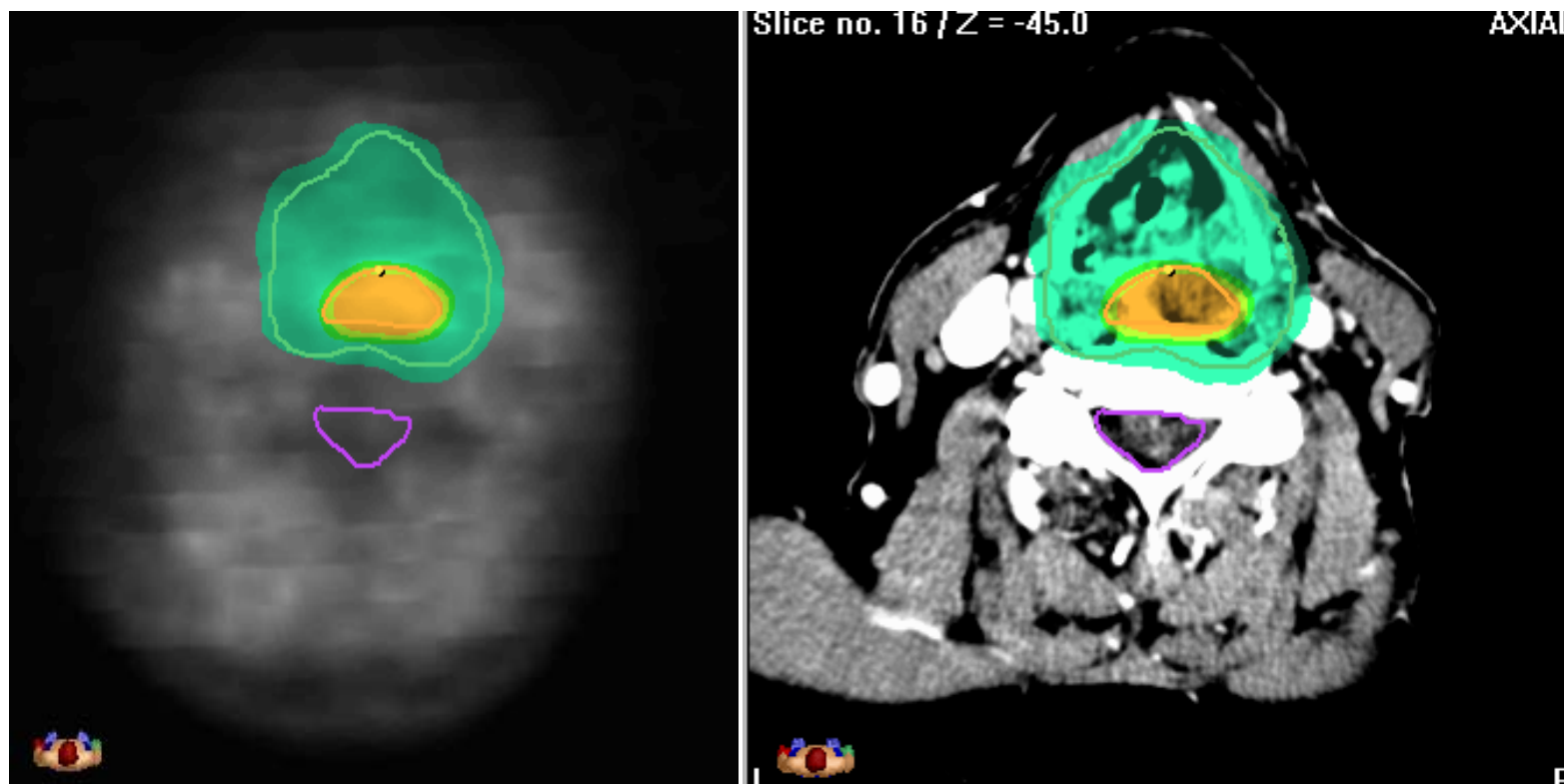
### Angiogenesis

The formation of new blood vessels from pre-existing vasculature is an essential step in tumour progression and metastasis

### Receptor status

Receptor molecules (growth factors and hormones) may affect radiosensitivity of tumour cells

## **Molecular Profiling:** Imaging of hypoxia with PET (18F-FAZA + CT)



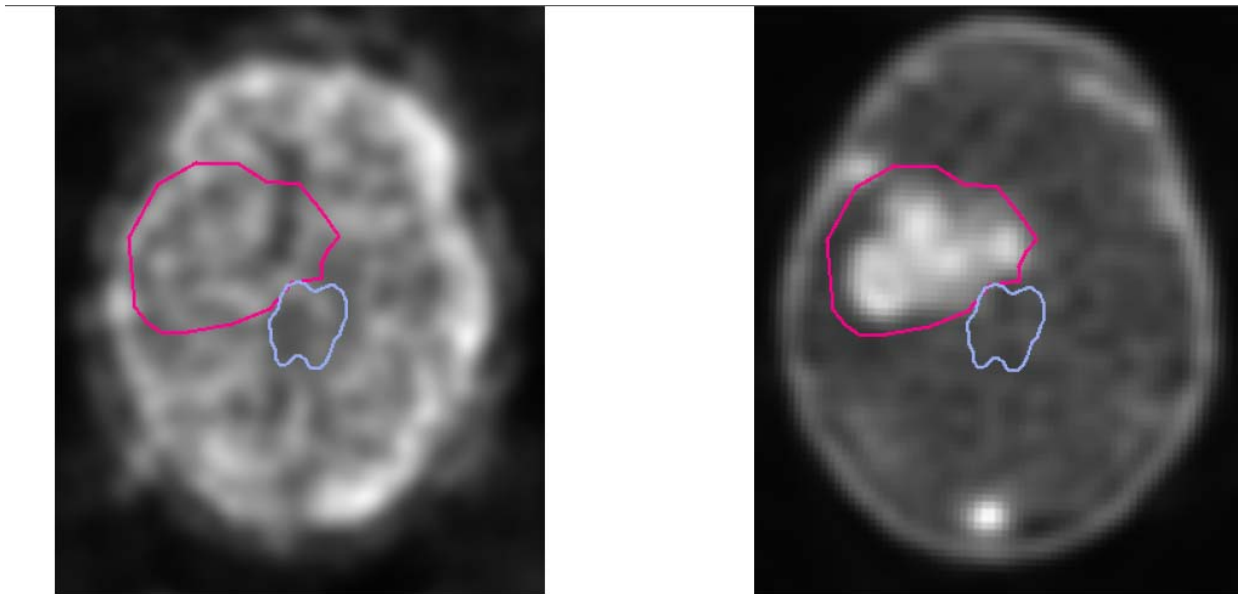
Patient with a laryngeal cancer.

(Courtesy of Dr. M. Piert, Nuclear Medicine Department, Technical University Munich, Germany).

## **Molecular Profiling:** Imaging of proliferation with PET (18FLT)

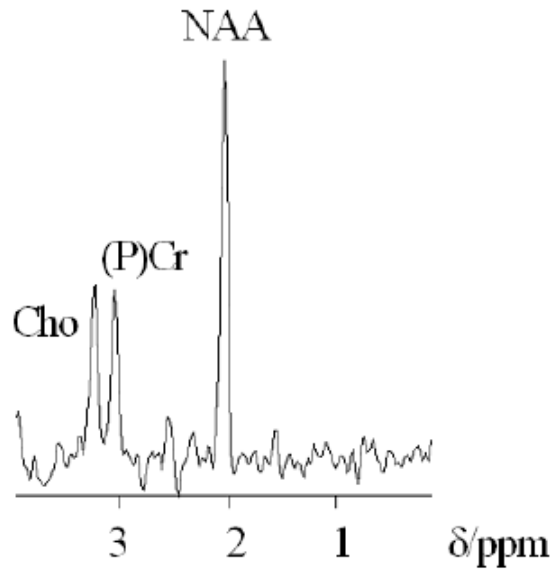
18-FDG

18-FLT

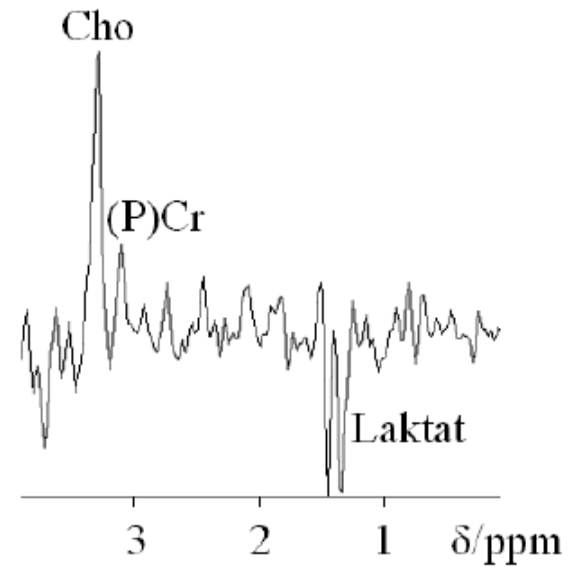


Patient with low grade glioma, PTV (pink) and OAR (brain stem, blue) from CT-based treatment plan

## **Molecular Profiling:** detecting proliferation with 1-H-MR-Spectroscopy

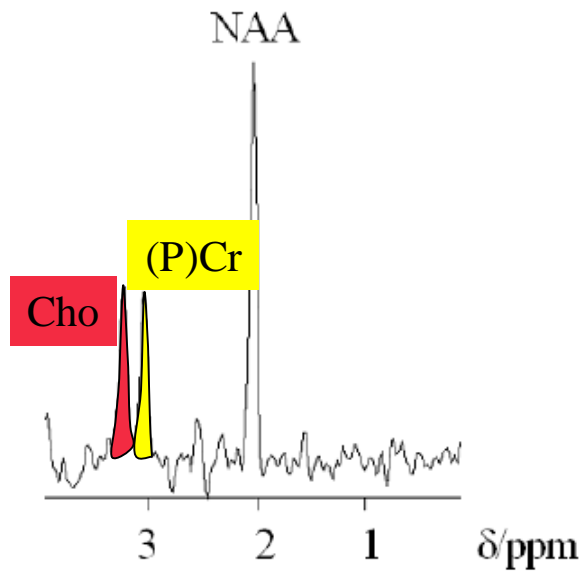


Healthy brain tissue

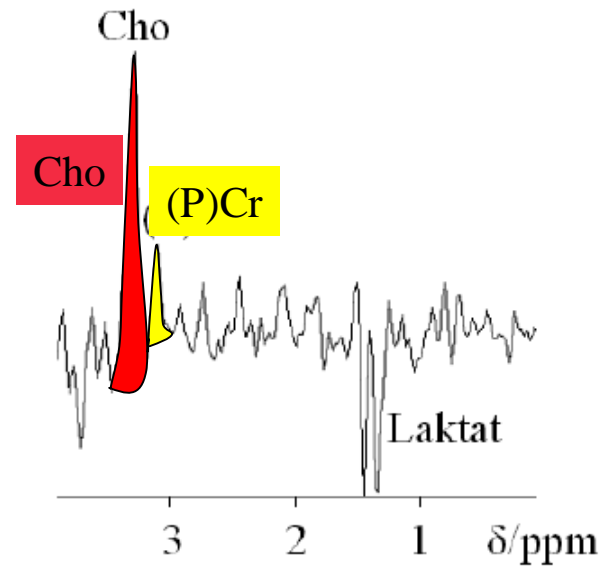


Brain tumour tissue

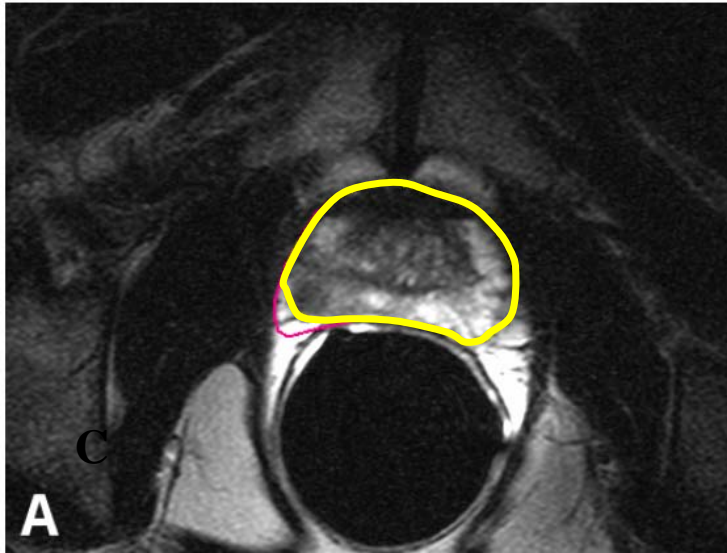
## Molecular Profiling: detecting proliferation with 1-H-MR-Spectroscopy



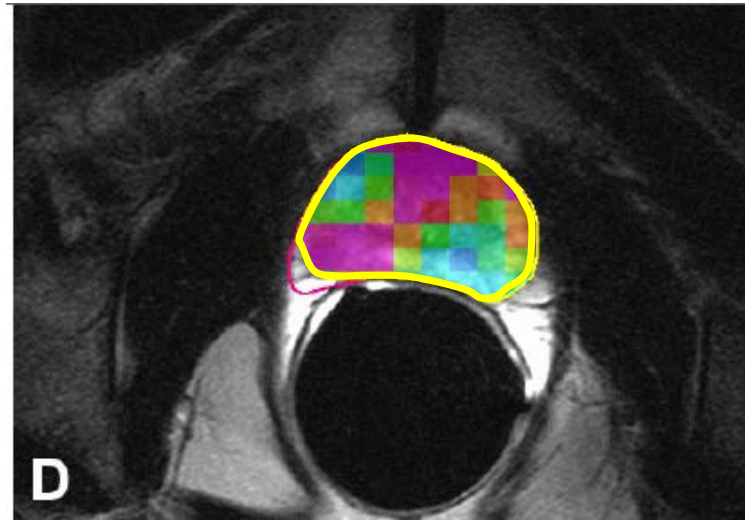
Healthy brain tissue



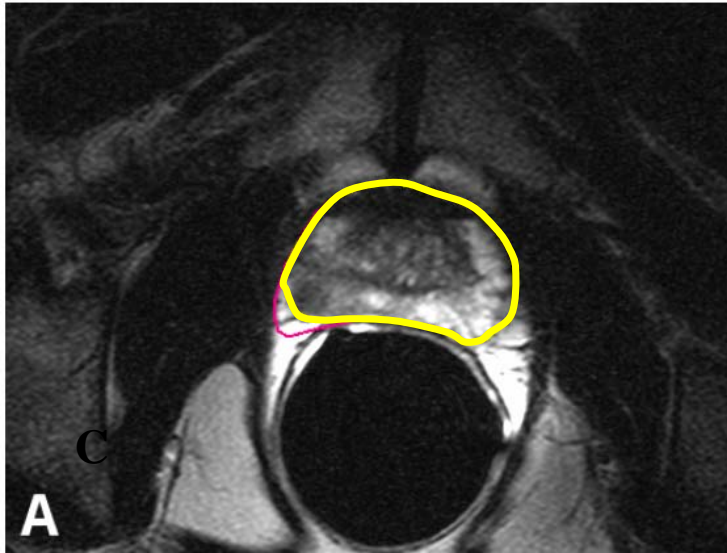
Brain tumour tissue



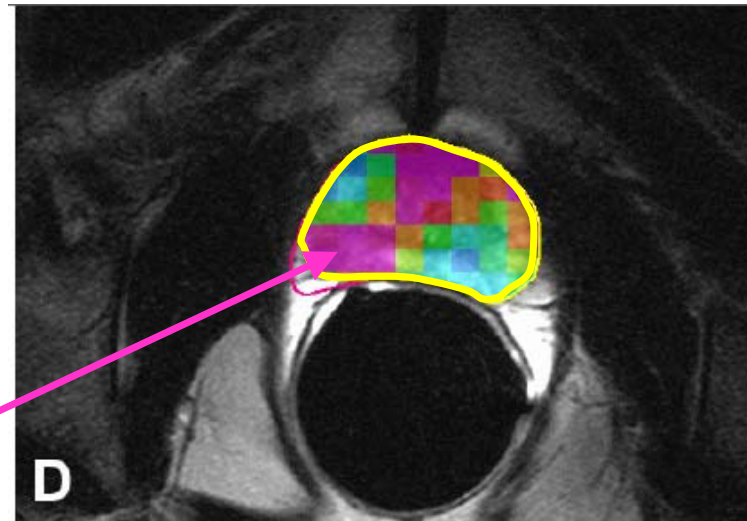
MRI: T2-Image with GTV (yellow)



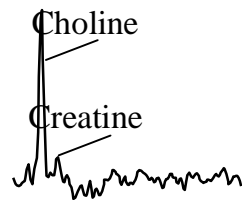
GTV (yellow) +  
Parameter mapping from MRS

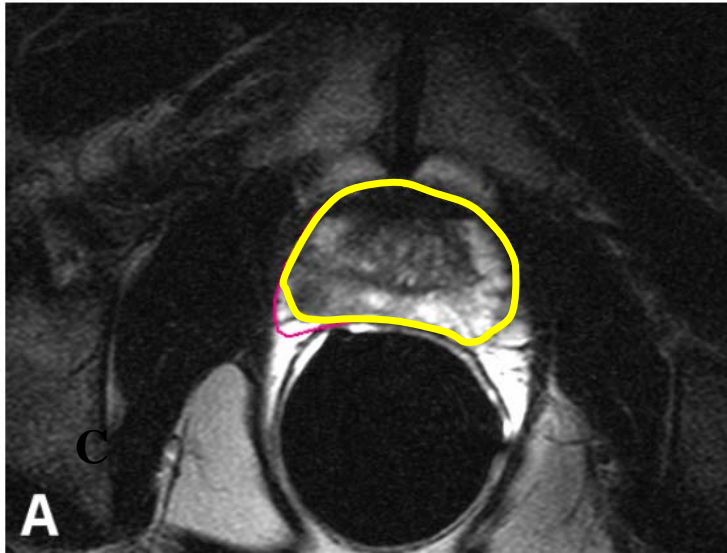


MRI: T2-Image with GTV (yellow)

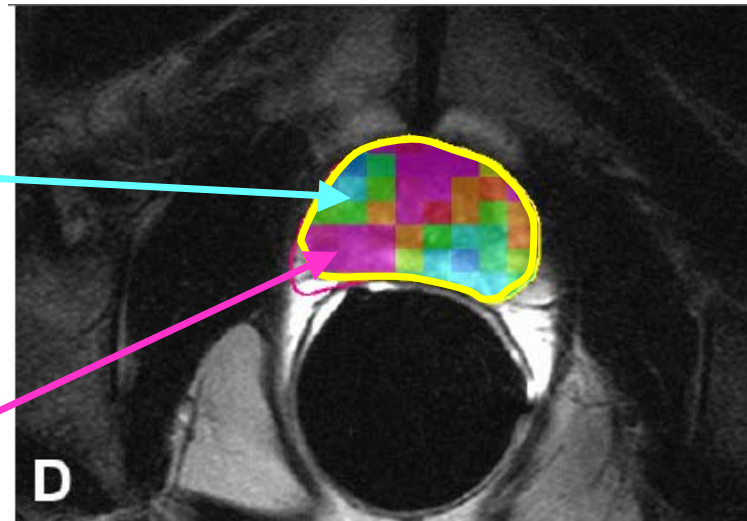
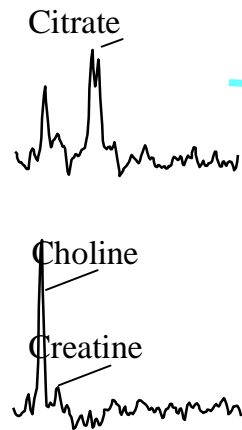


GTV (yellow) +  
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MRI: T2-Image with GTV (yellow)



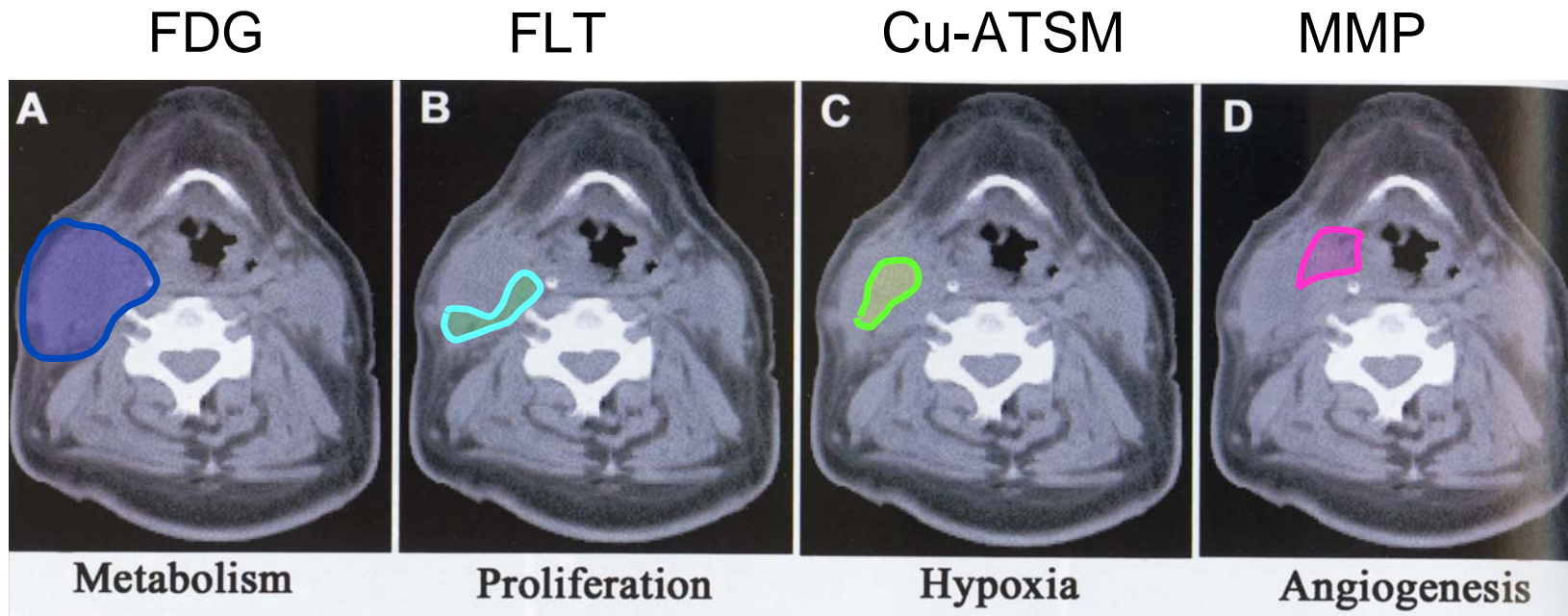
GTV (yellow) +  
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# The concept of a „biological target volume“

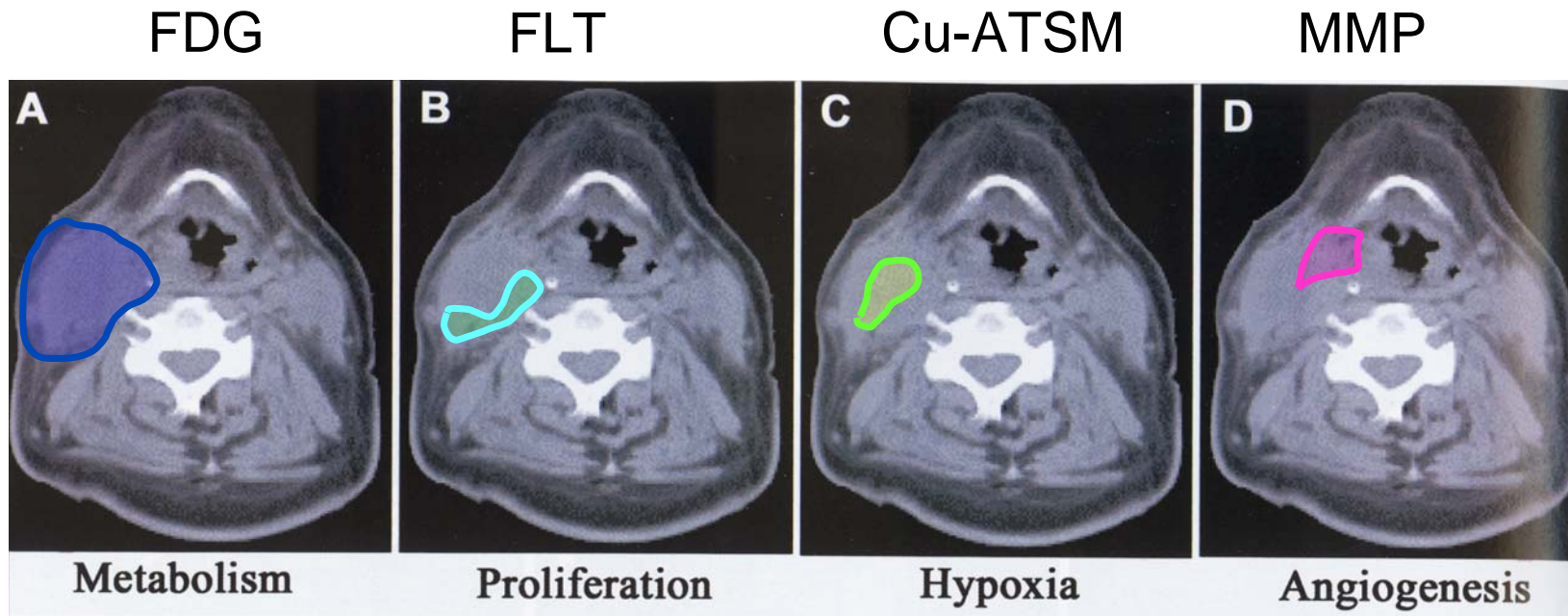
(From  
Apisathanrax,  
Rad. Res. 163, 2005)

# The concept of a „biological target volume“

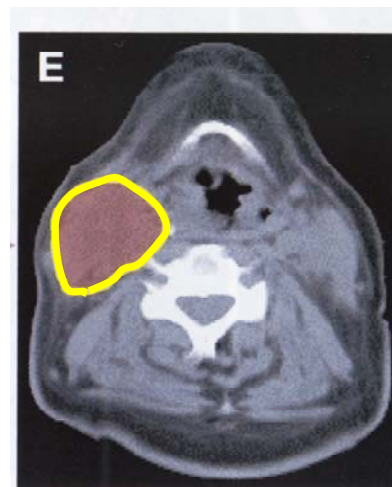


(From  
Apisathanrax,  
Rad. Res. 163, 2005)

# The concept of a „biological target volume“

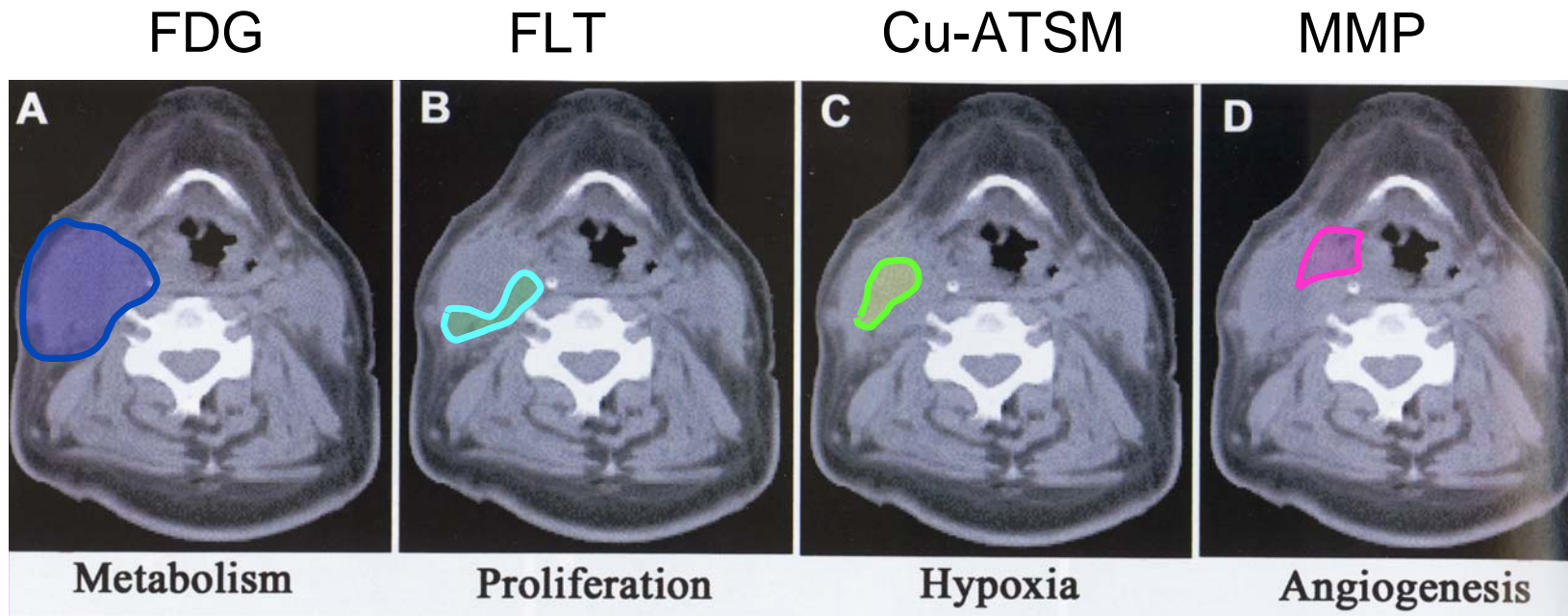


+ CT



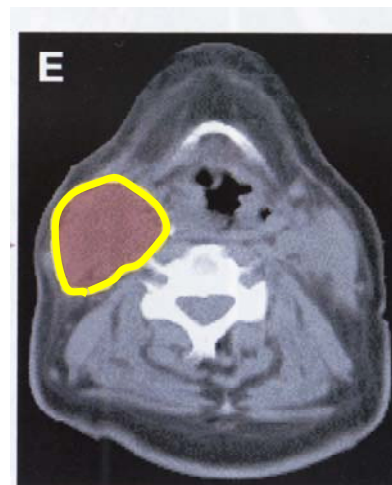
(From Apisanthanrax, Rad. Res. 163, 2005)

# The concept of a „biological target volume“

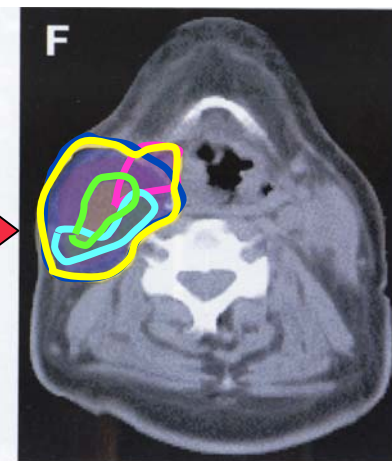


+ CT

(From Apisanthanrax, Rad. Res. 163, 2005)



Anatomical GTV



Biological Target Volume

## Molecular Profiling

Hypoxia

Cellular Proliferation

Apoptosis

Angiogenesis

Receptor status

### Most promising PET- or SPECT- markers<sup>1</sup>:

<sup>18</sup>F-FAZA  
<sup>60</sup>Cu-ATSM

<sup>18</sup>FLT  
<sup>11</sup>C-Met  
Choline

Annexin 5

<sup>18</sup>F-Galacto-RGD

<sup>18</sup>F-FES

### MRI/ MRS

BOLD

<sup>1</sup>H-Cholin-MRS

1= see Apisarnthanarax 2005

## Conclusions

Local tumour control and side effects in radiotherapy strongly depend on our ability to characterize

- Morphology
- Movement
- Molecular Profiling

## Conclusions

Local tumour control and side effects in radiotherapy strongly depend on our ability to characterize

- Morphology
- Movement
- Molecular Profiling

While conventional therapy was mainly based on morphology only, we are now starting to include movement and biology, leading to

- Time adapted radiotherapy  
and
- Biological adapted radiotherapy





## 2D/ 3D X-Ray imaging

## 2D/ 3D X-Ray imaging

- Integrated cone beam imaging/  
tomotherapy
- Real-time  
imaging

## 2D/ 3D X-Ray imaging

- Integrated cone beam imaging/  
tomotherapy
- Real-time  
imaging

MRI  
fMRI  
MRS

## 2D/ 3D X-Ray imaging

- Integrated cone beam imaging/  
tomotherapy
- Real-time  
imaging

## MRI fMRI MRS

- stronger  
magnetic fields  
(3T + 7T)
- Improved  
resolution
- faster  
sequences

## 2D/ 3D X-Ray imaging

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- stronger  
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(3T + 7T)
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## SPECT/ PET

## 2D/ 3D X-Ray imaging

- Integrated cone beam imaging/  
tomotherapy
- Real-time  
imaging

## MRI fMRI MRS

- stronger  
magnetic fields  
(3T + 7T)
- Improved  
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- faster  
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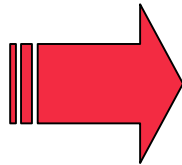
## SPECT/ PET

- New tracers  
→ Molecular Profiling

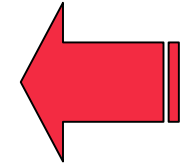
# The future: integration of morphological, functional and biological imaging into radiotherapy

## 2D/ 3D X-Ray imaging

- Integrated cone beam imaging/ tomotherapy
- Real-time imaging

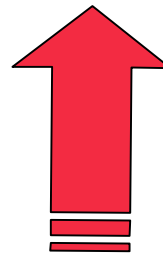


Radiation Therapy



MRI  
fMRI  
MRS

- stronger magnetic fields (3T + 7T)
- Improved resolution
- faster sequences



SPECT/  
PET

- New tracers  
→ Molecular Profiling

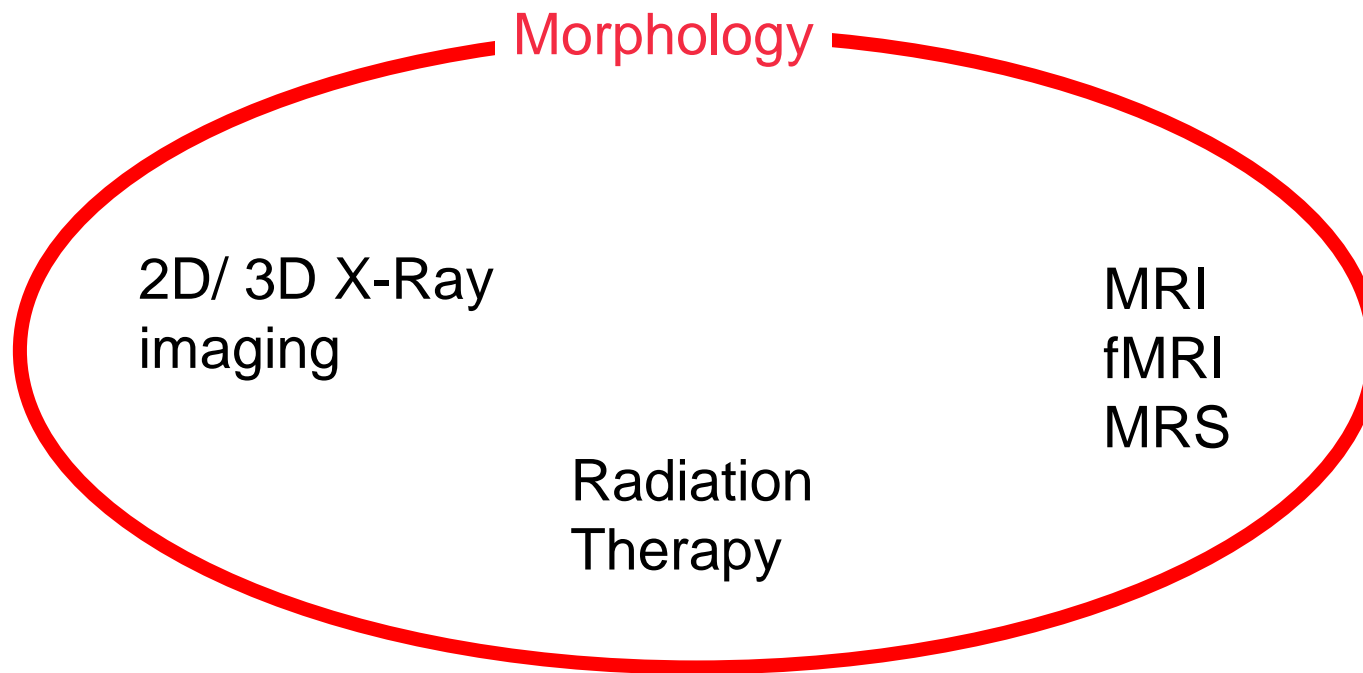
2D/ 3D X-Ray  
imaging

MRI  
fMRI  
MRS

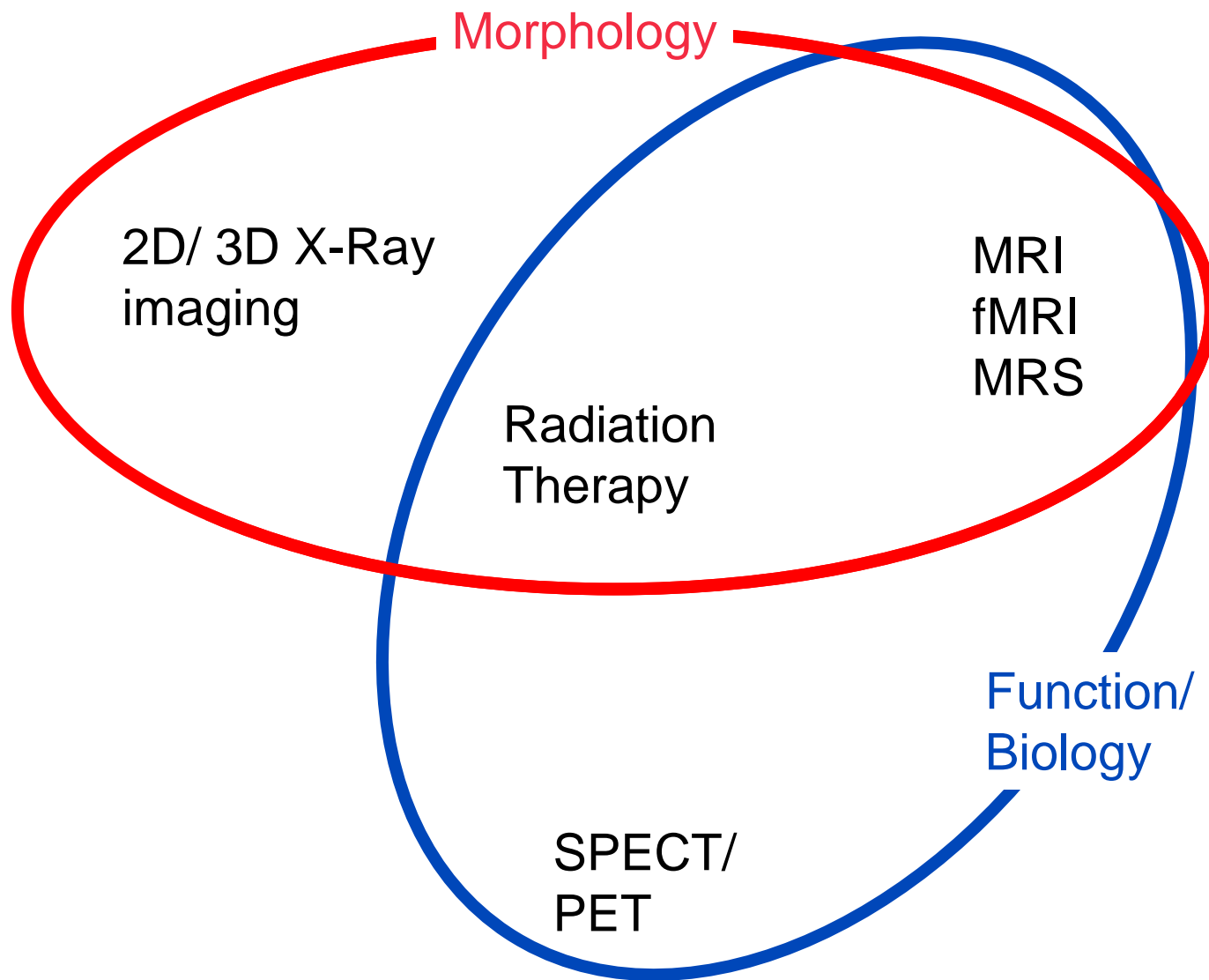
Radiation  
Therapy

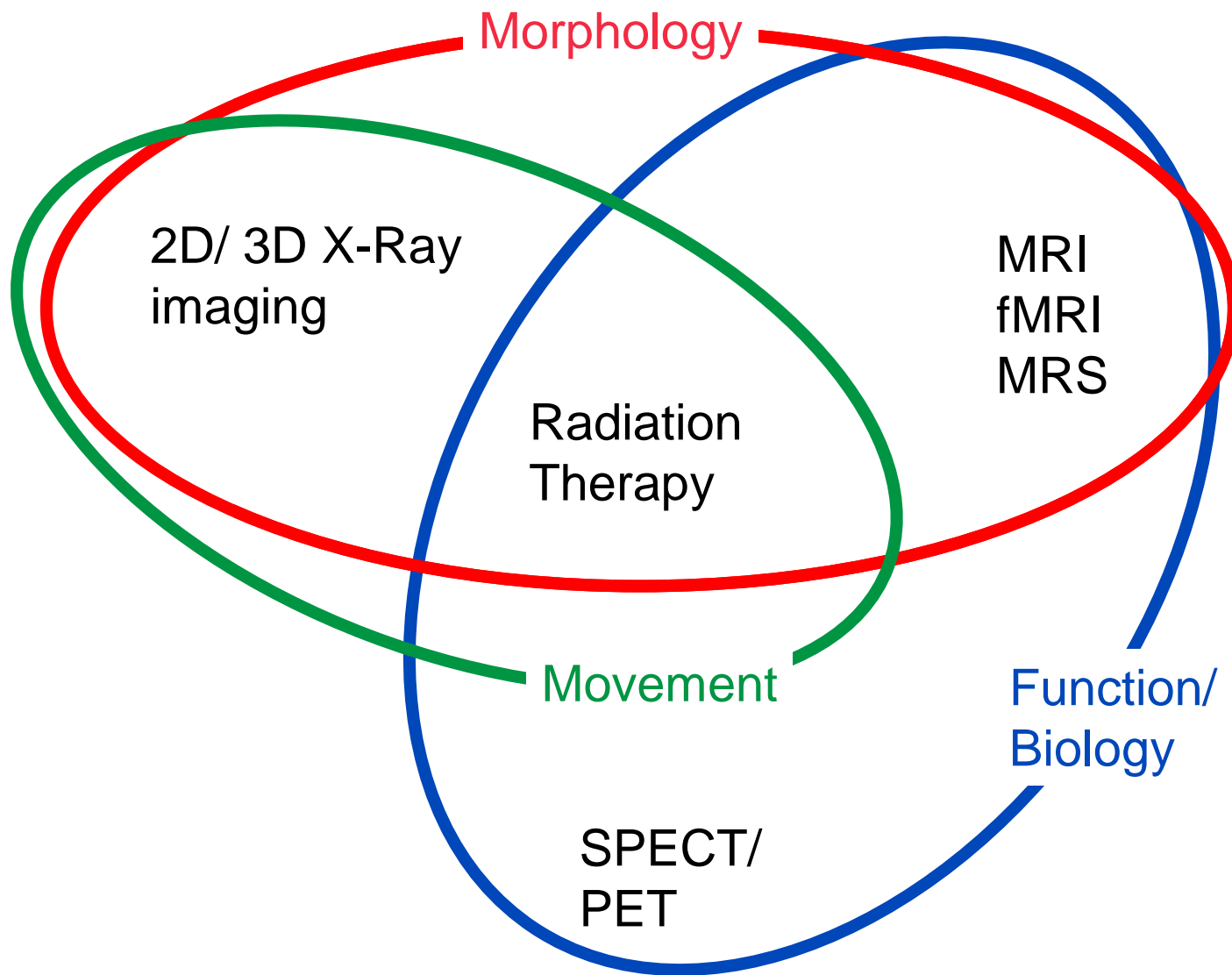
SPECT/  
PET

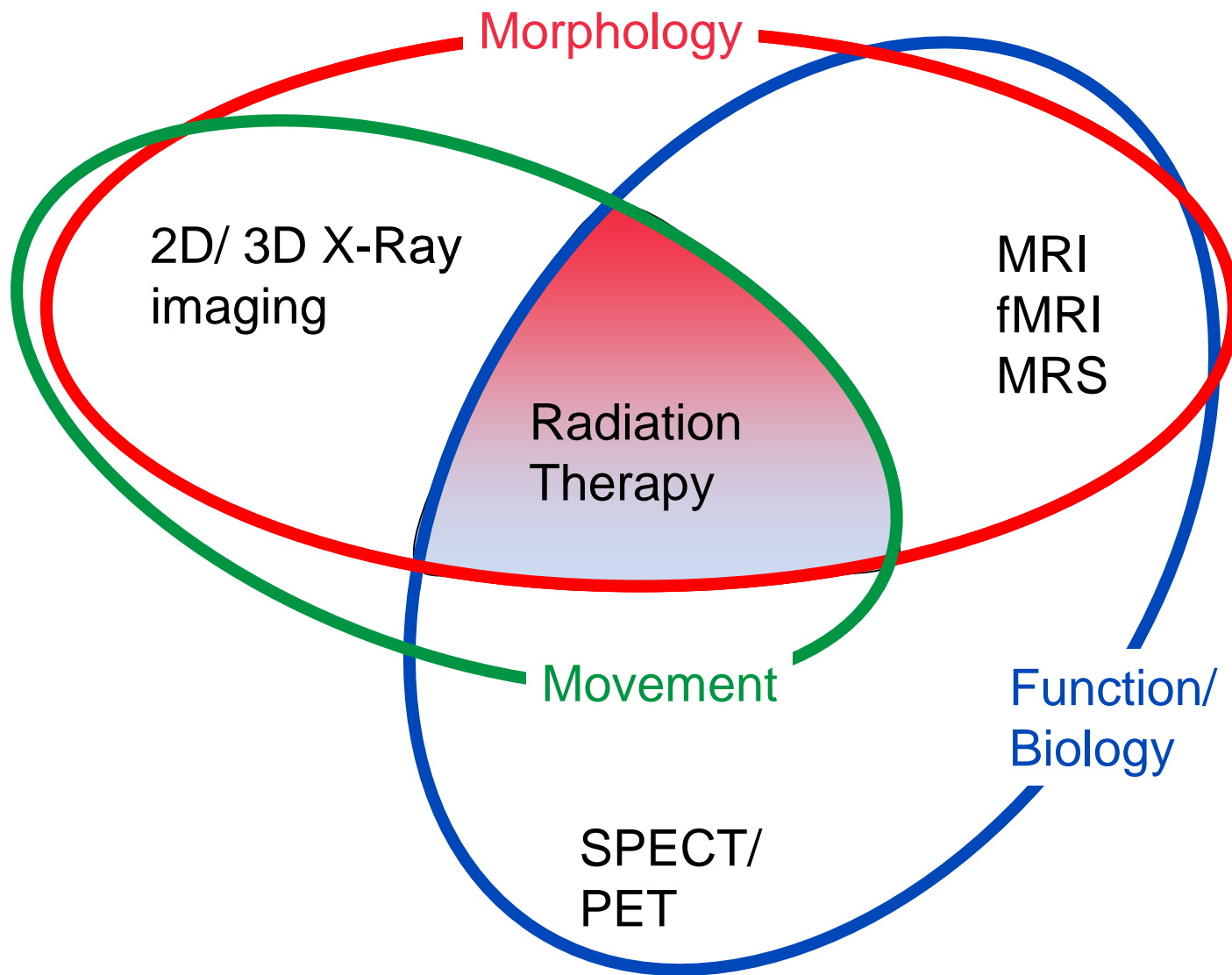




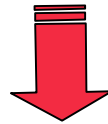
SPECT/  
PET







Integration of morphological,  
Functional & biological imaging



The 2nd imaging revolution in Radiation Oncology



Lower side effects



Improved local  
tumour control