

## SAM Imaging Education Course 90Y-Microsphere Therapy: Emerging Trends and Future Directions

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1

### Disclosures

- Research Grant Support
  - SCK: BTG Biocompatibles Ltd, GE Healthcare

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AAPM 2017 2

### Outline

- Rationale for 90Y-microsphere therapies – SCK
- 90Y-microsphere devices – MV
- Imaging for treatment planning – VG
- Planning dosimetry – MV
- Post-therapy dosimetry – SCK
- Compare dosimetry models – SCK
- Treatment efficacy and dose response – VG, SCK
- Closing remarks – ALL

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## ▪ Rationale for Liver Directed Therapy

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## Rationale for Liver Directed Therapy

- Primary site of disease in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) and cholangiocarcinoma
- Dominant organ of metastases in colorectal and neuroendocrine tumors
- Resection improves survival in HCC, colorectal and neuroendocrine tumors
- Colorectal cancer patients: ~50% with liver metastases, dominant cause of death
- Control of liver disease should increase survival

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## Liver Directed Therapies

- Ablation
  - Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA)
  - Microwave Ablation
  - Irreversible Electroporation (IRE)
- Chemoinfusion
  - Ports
  - HAI
- Trans-arterial Therapies
  - TAE / Bland Embolization
  - TACE
    - Conventional
    - Drug Eluting Bead
  - Radioembolization/SIRT
  - Percutaneous Hepatic Perfusion

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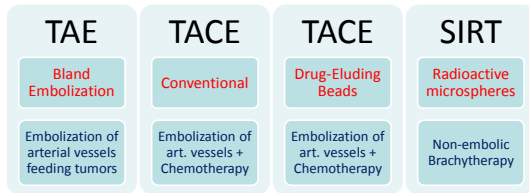
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## Trans-Arterial Therapy Options

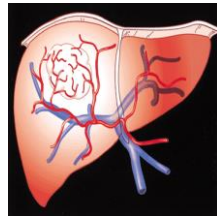


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## Rational For Trans-Arterial Therapy

- Normal liver blood flow
  - 75% portal vein
  - 25% hepatic artery
- Hepatic neoplasm, >3mm metastases
  - 80-100% supply from hepatic artery
- Greater vascular density in neoplasm



## Indications

- Non surgical candidate
- Not amenable to ablative therapy
- Bridge to transplant or operative resection
- Palliative for liver only or liver dominant disease

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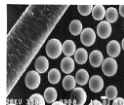
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## $^{90}\text{Y}$ -microsphere Therapy

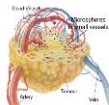
- Trans-arterial delivery of radioactive  $^{90}\text{Y}$ -labeled microspheres via a catheter directly at disease sites (targeted infusion)
- Microspheres (20-30  $\mu\text{m}$ ) trapped in tumor capillary vessels due to their embolic size and targeted delivery



© SIRTEx



© TheraSphere



- $\beta$  emissions from trapped  $^{90}\text{Y}$ -microspheres are capable of delivering lethal radiation doses to (proximal) neoplastic tissue while sparing (more distal) surrounding normal tissue

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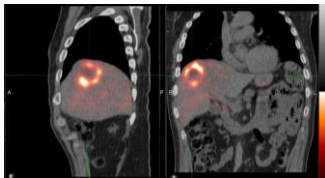
- Post-therapy dosimetry

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## $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -MAA SPECT/CT

- Extra-hepatic deposition of MAA is evaluated most frequently by SPECT/CT imaging
- SPECT based distribution of  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -MAA with liver (normal liver and tumors) is also being used to evaluate (predict) the distribution of  $^{90}\text{Y}$  microspheres



Detection of Extra-Hepatic  
MAA Shunting

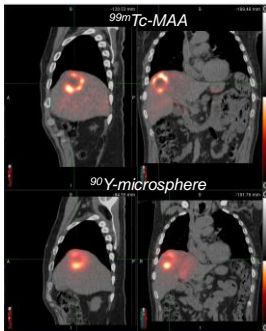
|          | Sensitivity | Specificity |
|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Planar   | 32          | 98          |
| SPECT    | 41          | 98          |
| SPECT/CT | 100         | 93          |

(Ahmadzadehfar et al, JNM, 2010)

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Does  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -MAA represent the distribution of  $^{90}\text{Y}$ -microspheres after therapy?



- ☒ MAA uptake shown to predict tumor response and survival in HCC  
(Ho et al., EJNM 23, 1997)  
(Garin et al., JNM 53, 2012)
- ☒  $\Delta$  uptake between  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -MAA &  $^{90}\text{Y}$  >20% in 43% (97/225) cases  
(Wondergem et al., JNM 54, 2013)
- ☒ Differences in catheter location, embolic load, flow dynamics, etc. contribute to differences in MAA &  $^{90}\text{Y}$

on post-therapy  $^{90}\text{Y}$  SPECT/CT and  $^{90}\text{Y}$    
ngful for dosimetry  
(J., JNM 51, 2010; Kappadath et al., SNMMI, 2014)  
Med Comm 33, 2013; Kao et al., EJNM 3, 2013)

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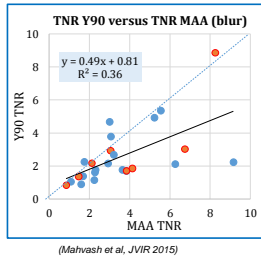
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## $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -MAA versus $^{90}\text{Y}$ caveats

Quantifying Differences in Tumor Uptake Between Planning  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -MAA and Post-Therapy  $^{90}\text{Y}$  Microsphere SPECT/CT Using the Balloon Occlusion Technique for Common Hepatic Artery Administration

Authors: Mahesh, Ashu, Mahesh, Venky, Sankar, Bharu, Odia, Ravu, Murthy, P. Chitra, Ramakrishna  
JGIM Annual Meeting 2016  
April 6, 2016

|  | MAA            | $^{90}\text{Y}$ versus MAA | $^{90}\text{Y}$ versus MAA |
|--|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
|  |                | W / Filtering              |                            |
| MAA TNR (min, mean, max)   | 1.5, 4.4, 10.1 | 0.5, 3.4, 9.2              |                            |
| SPECT TNR (min, mean, max)   | 0.8, 2.6, 8.9  | 0.8, 2.6, 8.9              |                            |
| Linear Correlation Coefficient                                     | 0.56 (p<0.004) | 0.60 (p<0.003)             |                            |
| TNR SPECT / MAA (SD)   | 0.70 $\pm$ 3   | 0.79 $\pm$ 3               |                            |
| SPECT TNR 50% Prediction Interval Based on MAA TNR                 | $\pm 3.0$      | $\pm 3.0$                  |                            |
| Number of tumors with SPECT TNR within 20% of MAA TNR (n=1)        | 6/25 (24%)     | 10/25 (40%)                |                            |
| Number of tumors with SPECT TNR within 20% of MAA TNR (n=68)       | 7/25 (28%)     | 7/25 (28%)                 |                            |
| Number of tumors under-treated by >20% dose based on MAA TNR (n=1) | 1/25 (4%)      | 1/25 (4%)                  |                            |

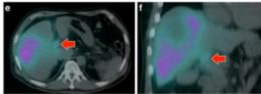


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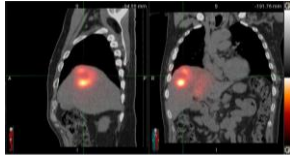
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## Post-therapy: $^{90}\text{Y}$ -SPECT/CT

- $^{90}\text{Y}$ -bremsstrahlung SPECT/CT imaging
  - Evaluate delivery and in vivo distribution of  $^{90}\text{Y}$ -microspheres
  - No standardized SPECT acquisition & reconstruction established
  - Monte Carlo reconstruction – good accuracy but difficult implementation
- Practical  $^{90}\text{Y}$ -SPECT/CT reconstruction with quantification
  - CT-AC, Scatter, Collimator-response, optimized iterative recon/filtration
  - Total  $^{90}\text{Y}$  activity inside liver can be determined with high accuracy (<10%)
  - Post-therapy  $^{90}\text{Y}$ -SPECT/CT images can be quantified via self-calibration



(Kao et al, EJNMMI 2013)

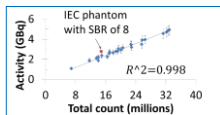
MDACC  $^{90}\text{Y}$ -SPECT/CT

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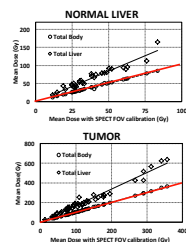
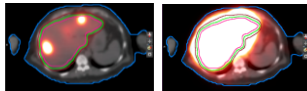
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## $^{90}\text{Y}$ -SPECT/CT Quantitative Accuracy

- Self-calibration approach may introduce systematic bias
  - IEC Phantom calibration errors ~25%
  - Signal outside liver from scatter
- Quantitative  $^{90}\text{Y}$  SPECT/CT
  - statistical error < 10% but systematic biases exist



(Siman et al, Med Phys 2017)



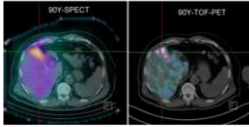
(Balagopal et al, Med Phys 2017 submitted)

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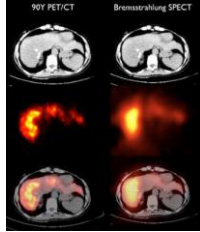
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## Post-therapy $^{90}\text{Y}$ -PET/CT

- $^{90}\text{Y}$  also emits  $\beta^+$  ( $E_{\text{max}} \sim 800 \text{ keV}$ ) with  $\text{BR} = 32 \times 10^{-6}$ 
  - Internal pair-production in the  $0^+ - 0^+$  transition of  $^{90}\text{Zr}$  from  $^{90}\text{Y}$  decay (first works circa 1955; Selwyn et al, App Rad Iso 65, 2007)
- First clinical  $^{90}\text{Y}$  PET image published in 2009 (30 min/bed)
- PET/CT provides “quantitative  $^{90}\text{Y}$ ” images with superior spatial resolution
  - Recent papers focus on acquisition parameters and quantitative accuracy



(Carlier et al, EJNMMI Res. 3, 2013)



(Lhomel et al, EJNMMI 36, 2009)

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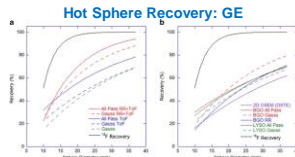
## $^{90}\text{Y}$ -PET/CT Quantitative Accuracy

QUEST Study (69 scanners):

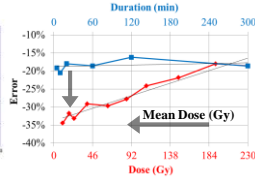
- Background activity within 10%
- Spheres > 2cm underestimated by 20%
- TOF superior to non-TOF PET systems

GE D690 PET/CT:

- 10%-35% bias in mean dose as function of  $^{90}\text{Y}$  dose or count rate
- independent of total counts



(Willowson et al, EJNMMI Physics, 2015)



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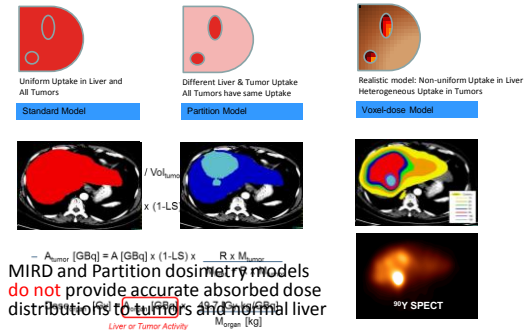
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- Compare different dosimetry models

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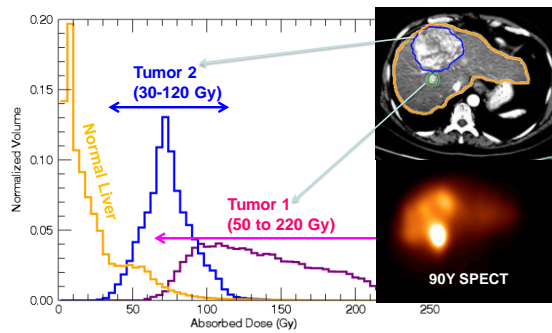
## Spatial Representation of Dosimetry Models



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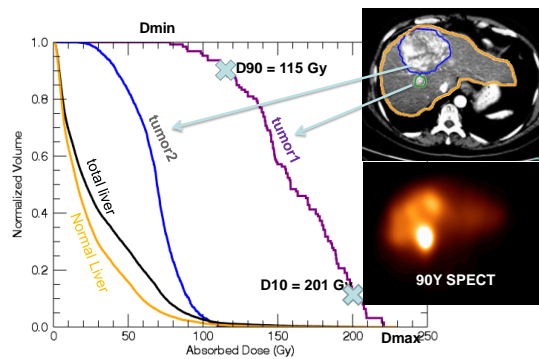
## Differential DVH: voxel-level doses



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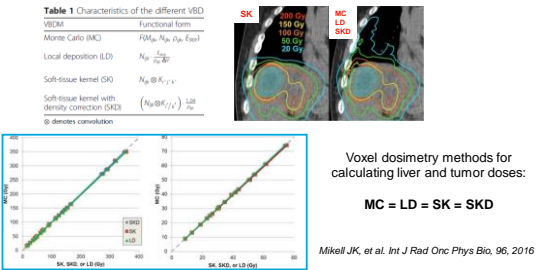
## Cumulative DVH: voxel-level doses



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Voxel Dosimetry: Model Comparison

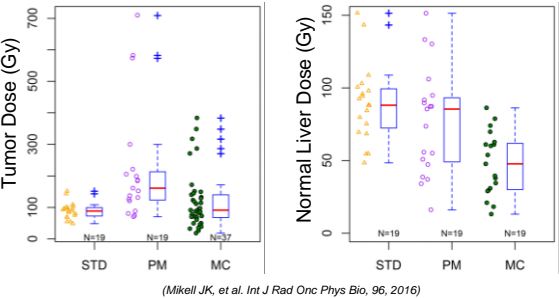


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<sup>90</sup>Y-SIRT for HCC

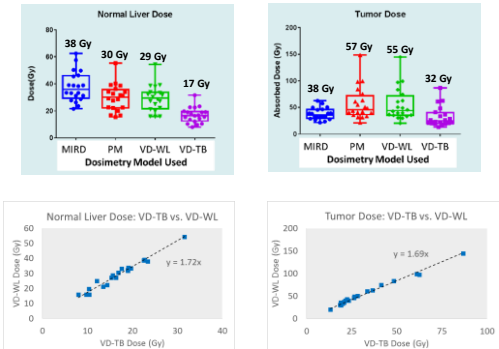
Different dosimetry models on the same patients with matched VOIs result in large differences for absorbed dose estimates



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<sup>90</sup>Y-SIRT for mNET

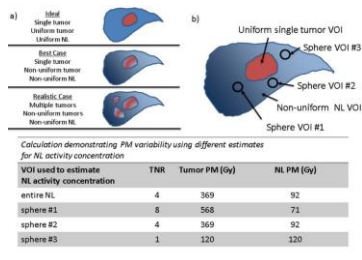


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TNR variability effects accuracy of  
PM dosimetry

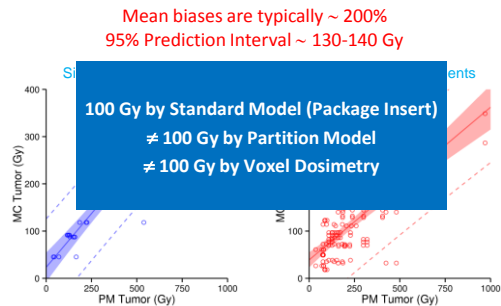


Mikell JK, et al. Int J Rad Onc Phys Bio, 96, 2016

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Partition model prediction of voxel-level doses have  
large biases and errors

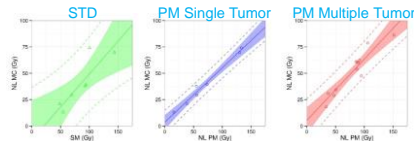


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(Mikell JK, et al. Int J Rad Onc Phys Bio, 96, 2016)

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Normal Liver Dose Correlations



- Differences for mean absorbed doses to normal liver are less sensitive to dosimetry model compared to tumor dosimetry
- Dose prediction intervals larger for STD and PM multiple tumor cases

(Mikell JK, et al. Int J Rad Onc Phys Bio, 96, 2016)

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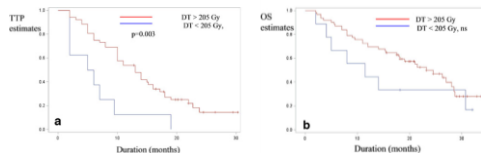
- Treatment efficacy and dose response

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## HCC Response Studies

- Ho et al, EJNM 1997 (SIR-Spheres for HCC)
  - Threshold tumor dose > 225 Gy
  - Increase in OS (4.4 months) with >300 Gy
- Garin et al, EJNMMI 2013 (TheraSphere for HCC)
  - Threshold tumor dose > 205 Gy, Sensitivity=100%, Accuracy=90%
  - Increase in TTP (7.7 months) and OS (11.7 months)



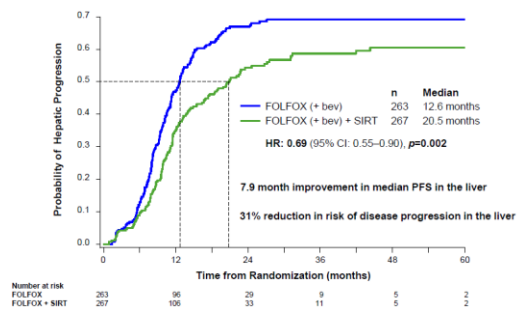
Partition Model based on MAA uptake

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## SIRFLOX – Phase III RCT in CRC

### Progression-Free Survival in the Liver

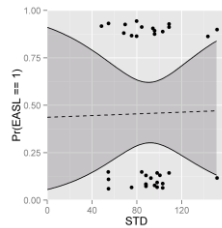


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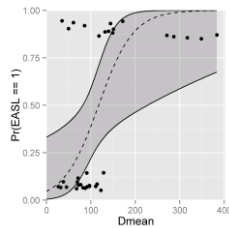
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## HCC Tumor Dose Response

Standard Model Doses



Voxel Dosimetry Doses

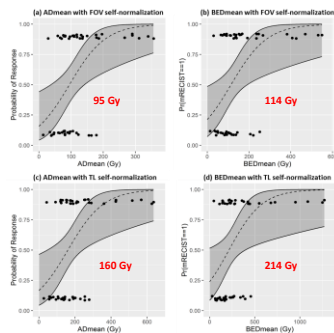


Standard model dosimetry used in therapy planning cannot predict tumor response

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## 90Y-SIRT HCC Tumor Dose Response



Knowledge of the tumor-dose response will be useful in planning treatment prior to therapy

Knowledge of the tumor dose will be useful in prediction of response status after therapy

Kappadath S, et al. J Nucl Med. 2015;56(suppl 3): Abstract 572.

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## Response Summary: HCC with mRECIST

| Study                       | Patients Tumors        | Device Used              | Voxel Dose Image               | Dosimetry Model | Threshold Dose             |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Strigari 2010 <sup>1</sup>  | 73 Patients >73 Tumors | SIR-Spheres <sup>a</sup> | <sup>90</sup> Y SPECT          | Voxel           | AD50 >97 Gy                |
| Kao 2013 <sup>2</sup>       | 6 Patients 9 Tumors    | SIR-Spheres <sup>a</sup> | <sup>90</sup> Y PET/CT         | Voxel           | AD70 >100 Gy               |
| Kappadath 2017 <sup>3</sup> | 34 Patients 53 Tumors  | TheraSphere <sup>a</sup> | <sup>90</sup> Y SPECT/CT       | Voxel           | AD50 >94 Gy (AD50 >154 Gy) |
| Garin 2013 <sup>4</sup>     | 71 Patients >71 Tumors | TheraSphere <sup>a</sup> | <sup>99m</sup> Tc-MAA SPECT/CT | Partition       | AD50 >205 Gy               |
| Chiesa 2015 <sup>5</sup>    | 52 Patients 60 Tumors  | TheraSphere <sup>a</sup> | <sup>99m</sup> Tc-MAA SPECT    | Voxel           | AD50 >390 Gy               |

Patient selection (BCLC stage) and treatment volume (whole liver vs lobar vs segmental) have large affects on patient response

1. Strigari L, et al. J Nucl Med. 2010;51:1377-1385. 2. Kao Y-H, et al. J Nucl Med Mol Imaging Res. 2013;3(56):1-13. 3. Kappadath S, et al. J Nucl Med. 2015;56(suppl 3): Abstract 572. 4. Garin E, et al. Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging. 2013;40:1057-1068. 5. Chiesa C, et al. Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging. 2015;42(11):1758.

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## Closing Remarks

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## Discussion

- Lung Shunt Estimates with Planar imaging has bias and errors
- MAA is the approved surrogate but it is not a consistently reliable indicator of microsphere distribution
- MIRD (package insert) and partition models for dosimetry are rudimentary
- Current therapy planning not designed to deliver specific dose to target lesions
- Post-therapy imaging is not routine clinical practice. Improvements in emission image quality desired.
- Image segmentation and dosimetry models used has a profound influence on estimated dose values

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## Summary

- Dosimetry models have different levels of bias/uncertainty  
– **100 Gy with STD ≠ 100 Gy with PM ≠ 100 Gy with VD**
- Caution is warranted when comparing 90Y-SIRT dosimetry between different clinical studies
- Quantitative post-therapy <sup>90</sup>Y-imaging can provide tumor and normal liver DHVs
- The radioembolization community needs standardization to aid in interpretation and translation of dose-response relationship between institutions

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