

ISMRM-AAPM Joint Symposia: MR Safety for Experts  
**Intraoperative & Interventional MRI**  
**Safety Considerations**

R. Jason Stafford  
 DEPARTMENT OF IMAGING PHYSICS  
 THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
**MD Anderson Cancer Center**



ISMRM Annual Meeting & Exhibition of AAPM, San Antonio, TX - 01/2016

**Why MRI for Image-Guided Intervention?**

- US
- CT/Fluoroscopy
- **MRI**

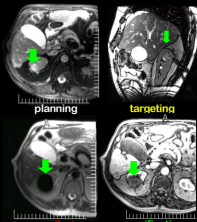
Radio-opaque marker placement in liver @ 1.5T      Biopsy @ 1.5T: Extremity

**Non-invasive**  
 Non-ionizing  
 Near real-time  
 Arbitrary 3D oblique plane orientation  
 Multiple *soft tissue contrast* mechanisms for  
 - anatomy  
 - function  
 - metabolism  
 - temperature

**What types of procedures?**  
 Intraoperative & endoscopic  
 Implant/device placement  
 Biopsy & aspiration  
 Local drug & cell delivery  
 Vascular  
 Ablation (radiation, chemical, thermal)

**Why MRI for Image-Guided Intervention?**

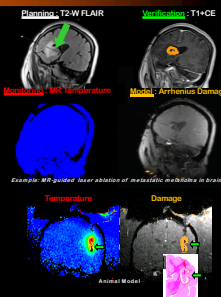
- Imaging for
  - planning
  - **targeting**
  - monitoring/control
  - verification
- Synergy with biological and physical modeling & simulation
- Endgame
  - 'close the loop'
  - increase procedure safety + efficacy
  - facilitate minimally invasive approaches previously not considered possible or safe



MRI-guided cryoablation of renal cell carcinoma illustrating ability to visualize, target, monitor progress of therapy and verify damage via post-treatment perfusion changes.

**Why MRI for Image-Guided Intervention?**

- Imaging for
  - planning
  - **targeting**
  - monitoring/control
  - verification
- Synergy with biological and physical modeling & simulation
- Endgame
  - 'close the loop'
  - increase procedure safety + efficacy
  - facilitate minimally invasive approaches previously not considered possible or safe



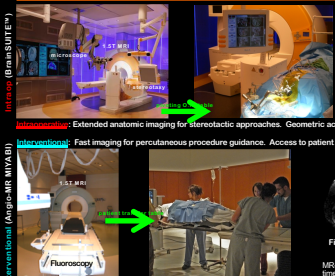
Example: MR-guided laser ablation of metastatic melanoma in brain

A Carpenter, RJ McNichols, RJ Stafford, et al. Neurosurgery 2008

**Intraoperative vs Interventional paradigms**

**Intraop (BeamLINE™)**  
 Extended anatomic imaging for stereotactic approaches. Geometric accuracy is critical.

**Interventional (Angio-ARK™/VFL)**  
 Fast imaging for percutaneous procedure guidance. Access to patient in magnet is helpful.



Fine needle aspiration      Core Biopsy

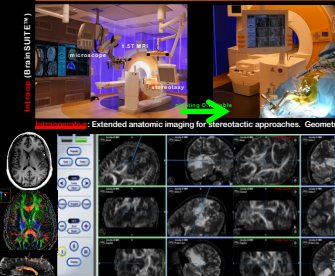
MRI-guided biopsy of mixed sarcoma: bSSFP + FS provides real-time imaging with T2-like contrast.

Review: Hushak SG, et al. J Magn Reson Imaging 27(2):253-66 (2008)

**Intraoperative vs Interventional paradigms**

**Intraop (BeamLINE™)**  
 Extended anatomic imaging for stereotactic approaches. Geometric accuracy is critical.

**Interventional (Angio-ARK™/VFL)**  
 Fast imaging for percutaneous procedure guidance. Access to patient in magnet is helpful.



Procedures:  
 • Craniotomy  
 • Laser Ablation  
 • Biopsy

Pre-Operative      Peri-Operative #2      Post-Operative

### Intraoperative vs Interventional paradigms

Biopsies: renal, liver, MSK, prostate and breast

Cryoblation: renal, liver, bone

**Interventional:** Fast imaging for percutaneous procedure guidance. Access to patient in magnetic environment.

**Fluoroscopy:** MR-guided biopsy of mixed sarcoma: bSSFP + FS provides real-time imaging with T2-like contrast.

Review: Hushak SG, et al. J Magn Reson Imaging 27(2):253-66 (2008)

JOURNAL OF MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING 37:501-530 (2013)

### Special Communication

#### ACR Guidance Document on MR Safe Practices: 2013

Expert Panel on MR Safety: Emanuel Kanal, MD,<sup>1\*</sup> A. James Barkovich, MD,<sup>2</sup> Charlotte Bell, MD,<sup>3</sup> James P. Borgstede, MD,<sup>4</sup> William G. Bradley Jr, MD, PhD,<sup>5</sup> Jerry W. Froelich, MD,<sup>6</sup> J. Rod Gimbel, MD,<sup>7</sup> John W. Gosbee, MD,<sup>8</sup> Ellisa Kuhn-Kaminski, RT,<sup>1</sup> Paul A. Larson, MD,<sup>9</sup> James W. Lester Jr, MD,<sup>10</sup> John Nyenhuis, PhD,<sup>11</sup> Daniel Joe Schaefer, PhD,<sup>12</sup> Elizabeth A. Sebek, RN, BSN,<sup>1</sup> Jeffrey Weinreb, MD,<sup>13</sup> Bruce L. Wilkoff, MD,<sup>14</sup> Terry O. Woods, PhD,<sup>15</sup> Leonard Lucey, JD,<sup>16</sup> and Dina Hernandez, BSRT<sup>16</sup>

The principles behind these MR Safe Practice Guidelines are specifically intended to apply not only to diagnostic settings but also to patient, research subject, and health care personnel safety for all MRI settings, including those designed for clinical diagnostic imaging, research, **interventional**, and **intraoperative** MR applications.

**Note:** Guidance specific to safe practices in the (IMR) or (MRI) environment not explicitly addressed.

### MR safety considerations begin during siting of the suite

- Suites increasingly embedded in departments outside diagnostic radiology (OR, IR, Cath lab, etc)
- Zoning & access considerations for patients and staff
  - Fringe field considerations
  - Multi-room design? Where will procedures be performed?
  - Appropriate training & credentialing
- In-room workflow + instrumentation + storage
- Anesthesia + patient management workflow
- Ancillary equipment in Zone IV
  - Procedure mix? Multi-modal? Integrated therapy devices?
- Emergent procedure considerations

### Ancillary equipment and room integration fringe field considerations

Distance from isocenter	Field Strength	Equipment
x = 2.00 m z = 2.80 m	30G	small motors, watches, cameras, magnetic disks/tapes, shielded monitors
x = 2.20 m z = 3.40 m	10G	hearing aids, processors, disk drives, oscilloscopes, CRT monitors, x-ray tube
x = 2.50 m z = 4.00 m	5.0G	cardiac pacemakers, insulin pumps, neurostimulators, magnetic data carriers
x = 2.70 m z = 4.80 m	2.0G	CT (Siemens), x-ray units, cyclotrons, ultrasound
x = 3.70 m z = 6.60 m	1.0G	photomultipliers, image intensifiers, gamma cameras, linear accelerators

### Ancillary equipment and room integration considerations

Need to address securing equipment in room, demarking regions of use and procedures for when used, power management issues and assessing MR conditional status.

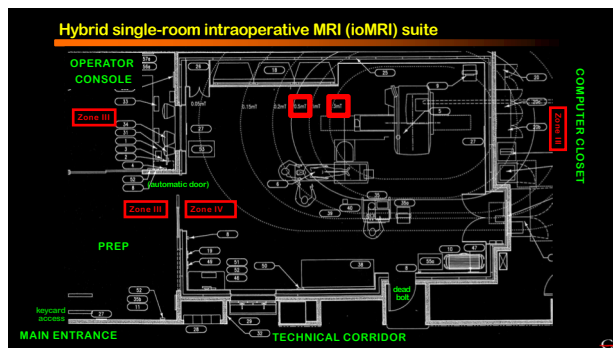
fluoroscopy, ultrasound, anesthesia, patient monitoring, mobile CT, medical procedure equipment, Instruments, needles, navigation, etc.

Assess, Label, SOP, Document, Train

ASTM F2593-05 Standard Practice for Marking Medical Devices and Other Items for Safety in the Magnetic Resonance Environment

### Hybrid single-room interventional MRI (iMRI) + fluoroscopy suite

Technical Corridor, Zone I, Zone II, Zone III, Zone IV, STORAGE, CYTOLOGY, Dead Bolt, Keycard Access



### Ancillary equipment and integration considerations: single room?

- Siemens Espree 1.5T Magnet
- VectorVision Sky and VectorVision Software Cranial
- Zeiss NC4 Multivision with advanced integration
- OR Table with integrated headclamp and coil
- Automatic Image Registration
- BrainSUITE Data Billboard
- Digital Data Management and OR Device and Room Control System
- BrainSUITE RF Shielded OR Cabin
- Telemedicine

Most integrated equipment cannot be on during procedure. Equipment power procedures needed.

### Hybrid MR Suites: Single vs Multi-Room solutions

Some safety concerns can be addressed via use of a multi-room option.

move patient

move magnet

Review: Hashish SG, et al. J Magn Reson Imaging 27(2):253-66 (2008) <http://www.imrisite.com>

### Patient transfer from procedure arena to MRI arena

- Remove surgical instruments/sharps/sponges from table + count
- Remove ground patches, leads and/or electrodes from patient/arena
- Remove MR unsafe navigation instruments
- Prepare patient drapes
  - remove metal clips, wire edges, drain plugs
  - secured & clear for transfer
- Prepare and manage sterile field and wound for transfer/imaging
- Anesthesia team
  - remove laryngoscope handles, blades, stylets, nerve stimulator + count
  - prepare IV, air, catheter and monitoring lines
  - patient management devices: warmers, compression boots, etc
  - position/secure infusion pumps
  - patient positioning and padding (longer OR procedure times)
- Patient Hearing Protection
- Position patient and RF coils for imaging
- Management/removal of conducting wires and skin-to-skin contacts
- Personnel MRI safety check (i.e., ferromagnetic objects, hearing protection, etc)
- Ferromagnetic screening (if available)
- MR time out, visual checks and audibles + assess room readiness

( Procedure specific CHECKLISTS strongly encouraged)

### Anesthetized patients in hybrid suites: concerns

- Careful patient screening for appropriateness of procedure
  - MRI compatible equipment, procedure times & limitations
  - Isolation of patient
- Patient inability to report sensations or pain during procedure
- Patient setup and positioning for MR
  - RF coils & conductors needed for monitoring
- Rapid removal of patient from Zone IV in case of an emergency
  - Isolation of suite and location

From an MR vendor safety manual:

**WARNING**  
Exposure to RF electromagnetic fields in the **First Level Controlled Operating Mode!**

**Patient burns**

- Do not examine patients with restricted thermoregulatory capability (e.g. small children, elderly, sick, or medicated patients).
- Do not examine patients unable to communicate potential overheating effects (e.g. small children, seriously ill, paralyzed, unconscious, sedated, or handicapped patients).
- Carefully monitor the patient during the MR examination.
- Ensure that patients wear light clothing (e.g. light pyjamas or nightgown).
- Remove all additional insulation, e.g. blankets or covers.

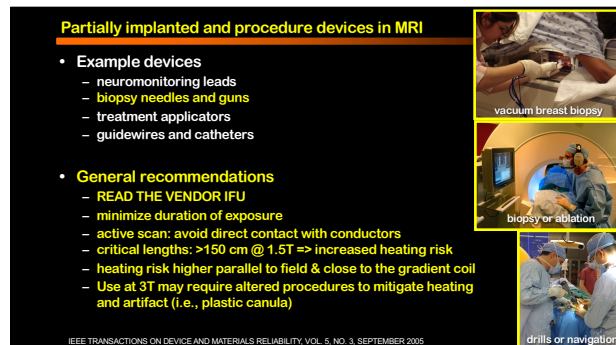
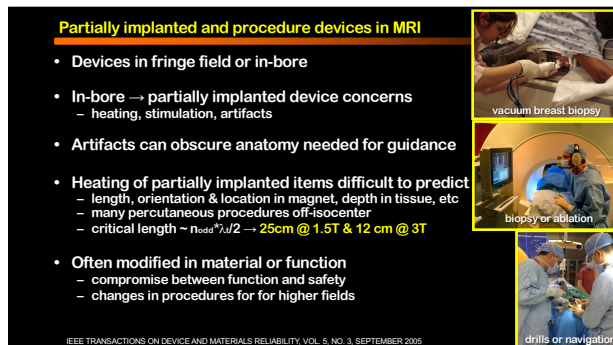
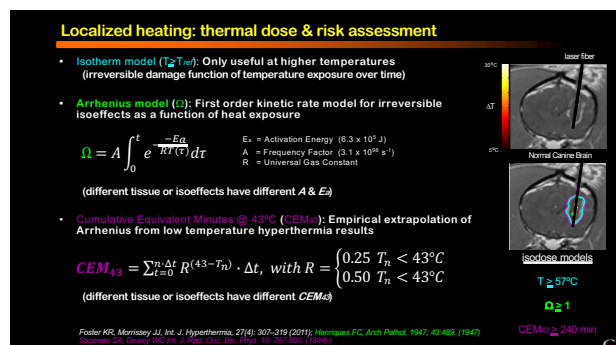
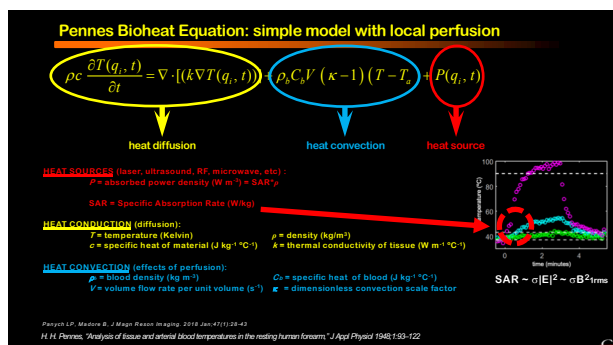
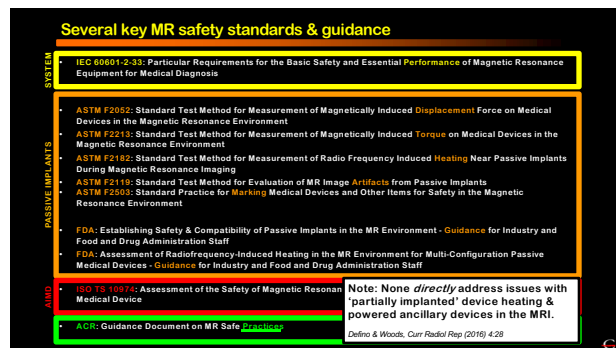
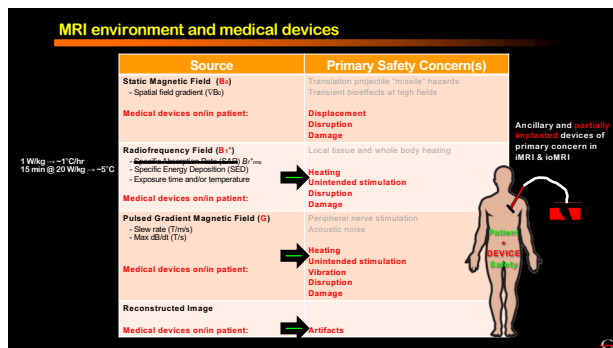
Journal of Clinical Anesthesia 54 (2019) 89–101

### MR environment and medical devices

Source	Primary Safety Concern(s)
Static Magnetic Field (B <sub>0</sub> ) - Spatial field gradient (V/m)	Translation projectile "missile" hazards Transient bioeffects at high fields
Radiofrequency Field (B <sub>1</sub> ) - Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) - Specific Energy Deposition (SED) - Exposure time and/or temperature	Local tissue and whole body heating
Pulsed Gradient Magnetic Field (G) - Slow rate (T/ms) - Max dB/dt (T/s)	Peripheral nerve stimulation Acoustic noise

1 W/kg → -1°C for 10 min @ 4 W/kg → -1°C

Patient Safety





### Partially implanted and procedure devices in MRI

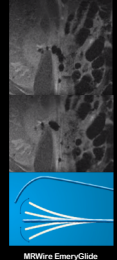
- Example devices
  - neuromonitoring leads
  - biopsy needles and guns
  - treatment applicators
    - cryotherapy needles have similar heating risk biopsy needles
    - multiple probes often placed at once
    - Close proximity of probes can promote unintended stimulation
  - guidewires and catheters



IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON DEVICE AND MATERIALS RELIABILITY, VOL. 5, NO. 3, SEPTEMBER 2005

### Partially implanted and procedure devices in MRI

- Example devices
  - neuromonitoring leads
  - biopsy needles and guns
  - treatment applicators
  - guidewires and catheters
    - primary safety concern regarding the long metallic guidewires, such as those made of Nitinol, used in image-guided vascular procedures is heating
      - new PTFE coated glass bead systems resistant to heat

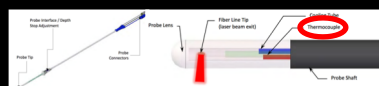


MRWire EmeryGlide (Nanosensing)

### Partially implanted and procedure devices in MRI

#### Monteris Medical NeuroBlate System Recalled Due to Unexpected Heating of Laser Delivery Probes

FDA October 5, 2017

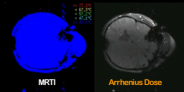


MR physicist can provide expertise in both MR protocol and MR device safety to minimize risks of these procedures.

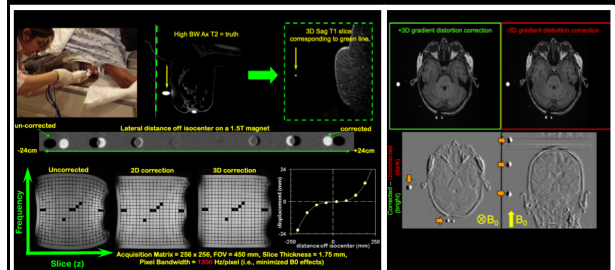
Note: this design has been changed to address heating issue.

#### Magnetic Resonance-guided Laser Interstitial Thermal Therapy (MRgLITT) Devices: Letter to Health Care Providers - Risk of Tissue Overheating Due to Inaccurate Magnetic Resonance Thermometry

FDA [Posted 04/25/2018]



### Geometric & signal distortions also safety issues in iMRI and imMRI



### Geometric & signal distortions also safety issues in iMRI and imMRI



For high precision applicator placement, an image-driven hardware & software solution is available.

#### Deep brain stimulation lead placement

In collaboration with Artisan Visions, Inc., MD

### Personnel training and screening in iMRI and imMRI suites

- MR Screening for employees
  - RN circulators, scrub personnel, housekeeping, surgeons, anesthesia
- MR Safety training (annually)
  - Level 1 versus Level 2 training
- Suite Orientations
  - Emergent procedure and patient transfer
  - Equipment operation and safety interlocks
- Procedure Orientations
  - standard operating procedures/checklists
  - special equipment, monitoring, etc
  - dry runs for new procedures
  - observations/supervision of new staff
- Access control and core MR procedure group supervision



### Summary

- Intraoperative and interventional MRI use expanding
- Systems often placed remote from MR department and resources with many traditionally non-MRI personnel involved
- Procedures can be complex and involve a variety of non-standard devices and instrumentation in the suite and patient
- Risk to staff and patient from missile effects and acoustic noise as well as heightened concern over patient heating and artifact management
- A small, highly trained team with clearly written and periodically reviewed policies and procedures is essential to both safety and long term success



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
**MD Anderson**  
**Cancer Center**

Thank you for your time!

Email: [jstafford@mdanderson.org](mailto:jstafford@mdanderson.org)

