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# Practice and prospects of PET/CT guided interventions

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## ***Outline: PET/CT guided interventions***

### ***Real-time, intra-procedural PET/CT guided***

1. General procedure flow
2. Advantages and limitations
3. Radiation safety
4. Developments and research opportunities



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## Interventional radiology procedures

Interventional Radiology

Edt. R. Uberoi, 2009

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PET/CT guided

- Tumor Biopsies
- Tumor Ablations



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## Intra-procedural PET/CT guidance



PET/CT in the Interventional Radiology Suite  
Center for Image Guided Interventions, MSKCC



Lesion not seen in  
CT image



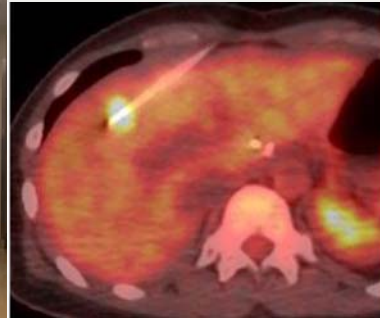
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## Intra-procedural PET/CT guidance



PET/CT in the Interventional Radiology Suite  
Center for Image Guided Interventions, MSKCC



Fused PET/CT with  
the needle in place

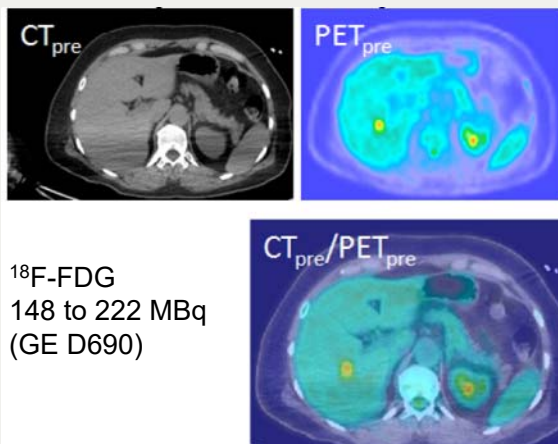


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## Imaging flow of a PET/CT guided biopsy

PET/CT scan before needle insertion



$^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG  
148 to 222 MBq  
(GE D690)

Initial PET/CT scan:

- 1 or 2 bed positions PET scan
- scan time: 2-5 min
- 148-222 MBq (~4 to 6 mCi) injection
- injection to scan times: 30 min to 4 h

Fanchon et al, Med. Phys, 2017

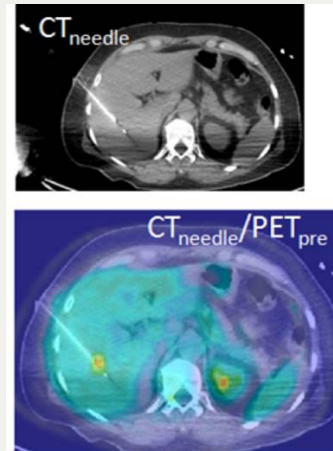
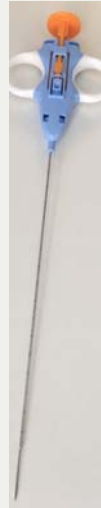
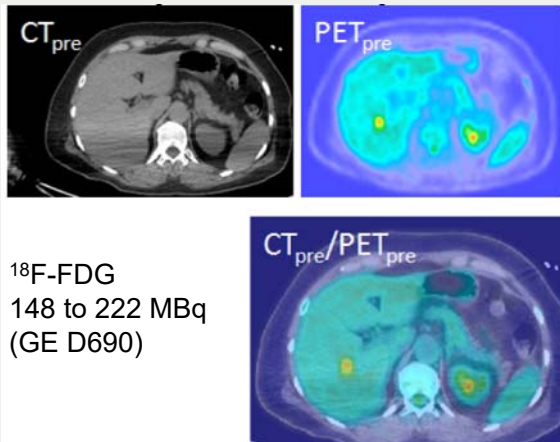


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## Imaging flow of a PET/CT guided biopsy

PET/CT scan before needle insertion



Fanchon et al, Med. Phys, 2017

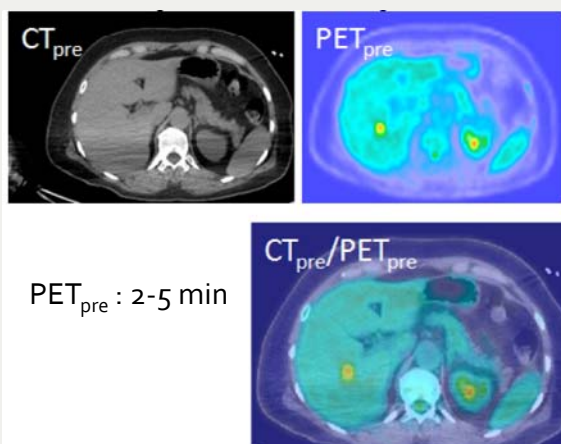


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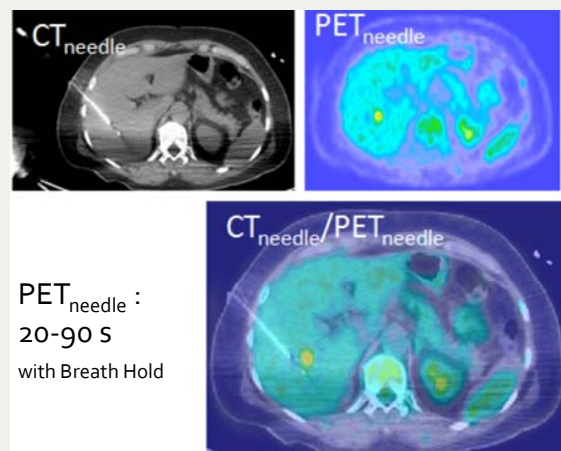


## Imaging flow of a PET/CT guided biopsy

One PET scan before needle insertion



Second PET scan after needle insertion



PET<sub>needle</sub> :  
20-90 s  
with Breath Hold

Fanchon et al, Med. Phys, 2017

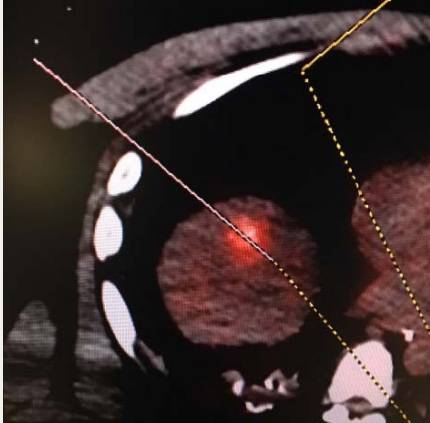


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## PET/CT guided ablations

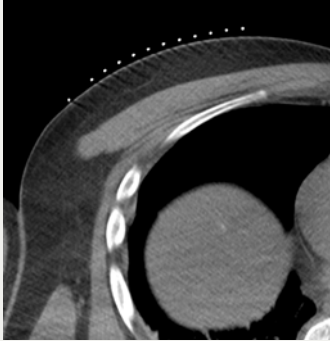
Planning on fused PET/CT



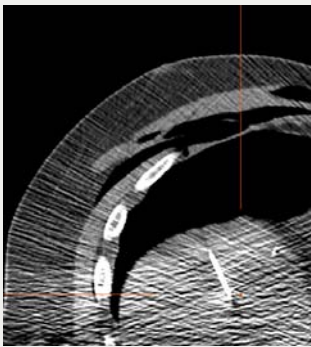
<sup>18</sup>F-FDG  
148 MBq pre-ablation  
(GE D690)


Ablation probe placement

Short CT with BB grid




Insertion in CT fluoroscopy mode



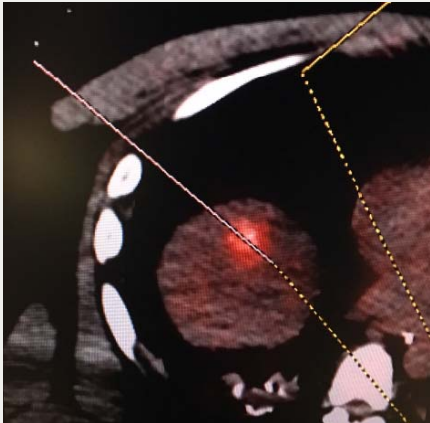


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## PET/CT guided ablations

Planning on fused PET/CT




RF probe placement





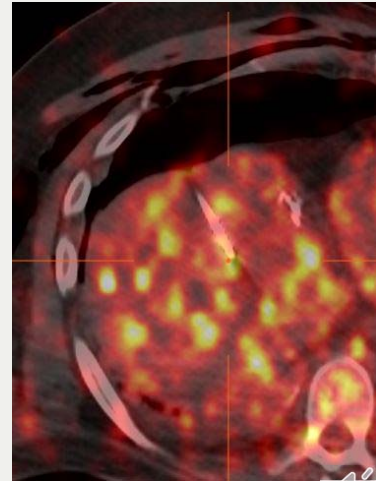
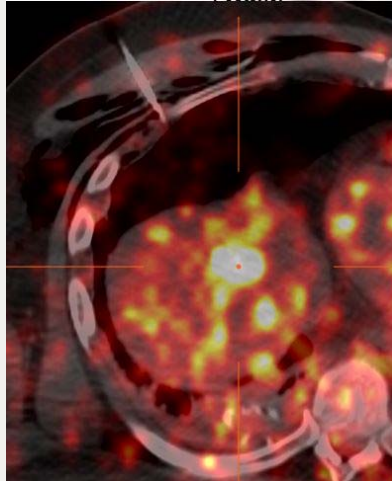
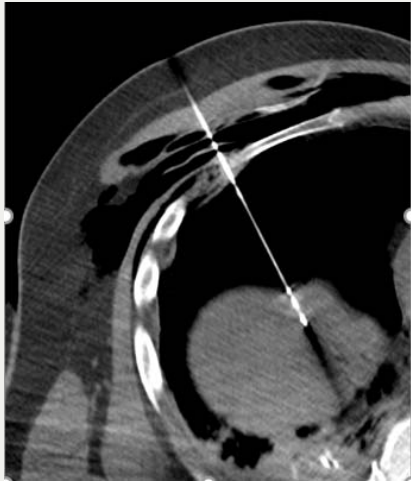
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## PET/CT guided ablations

Probe placement verification on CT and 1 min breath hold PET



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## Ablations: 2<sup>nd</sup> FDG injection for verification

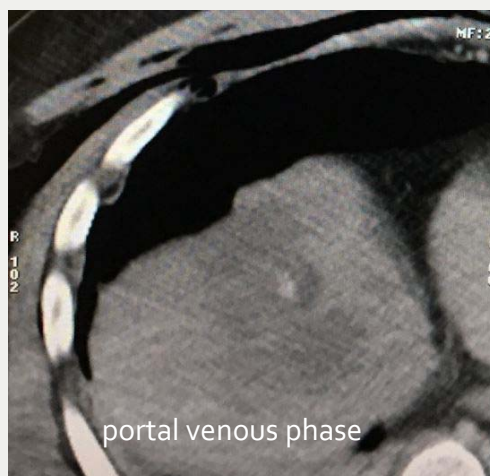
2) Three phase CE-CT

3) Second ablation

4) post ablation PET/CT

Post ablation:

1) 296 MBq  
<sup>18</sup>F-FDG



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## On-line PET/CT guidance vs Previous PET/CT

- Issues with using a previous PET/CT:
  - Misregistration (different body & organ position)
  - Tumor evolution from the time of the PET
  - Can't use in-OR post-ablation PET for ablation verification
- Intra-procedural PET/CT
  - Registered PET and CT at time of procedure
  - Account for tumor displacement by the needle
  - Reduce breathing artifacts (breath hold PET)
  - Allows ablation verification by second FDG injection

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## Radiation safety: $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG guided

Personnel: Ryan et al, CIR 2013: from 12 cases, detector: OSL under Pb apron,

Median Effective Dose from **448 MBq**

0.02 mSv - operator

0.01 mSv - nurse anesthetist

0.02 mSv - radiology technologist

0.32 mSv - extremity dose equivalent for operator

Current injections:  
**148 to 222 MBq**

Gazzato et al 2016 (386 MBq split dose): operator's right hand max ~ 0.15 mSv

Patient ED: From 6 mCi inj.: 222 MBq x 0.019 mSv/MBq = 4.2 mSv

vs. 2.4 mSv/a nat. bkg

CT guidance: 24.0 mSv (*Leng et al, 2011*)

PET/CT guidance(222 MBq): 28.2 mSv

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## Radiation safety: $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG guided ablations

Current injections for ablations: ~ **270 to 444 MBq**

- Personnel ED: only from pre-ablation injection if no ablation after second inj.
- Patient ED:

- Estimate for 444 MBq (12 mCi) total injected (split dose):

$$444 \text{ MBq} \times 0.019 \text{ mSv/MBq} \sim 8.4 \text{ mSv}$$

CT guidance: 24.0 mSv (*Leng et al, 2011*)

PET/CT guided (444 MBq): 32.4 mSv

- Estimate for 270 MBq (189-357 MBq range) in 117 procedures, Hu et al, 2020:

Added dose for same radiologist :  $7.8 \pm 2.8 \text{ mSv}$

corrected for confounding factors :  $6.2 \pm 2.9 \text{ mSv}$

mean patient dose from PET/CT guidance :  $41.9 \pm 21.5 \text{ mSv}$

Hu et al, J Vasc Interv Radiol 2020; 31:1052–1059



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## Benefits of PET/CT guidance

### Biopsies:

- Visibility of PET tracer avid lesions not seen otherwise
- Allows to target the most metabolically active area
- Resolve previously inconclusive biopsies
- Detect cancer recurrence - post surgery, ablation or radiation therapy
- Not limited to FDG:  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDOPA (NETs),  $^{68}\text{Ga}$ -DOTATOC

### Ablations:

- Prolonged visualization of the lesions
- Verification of ablation and prediction of local recurrence

Solomon & Cornelis, JNM 2016

Gazzato et al, Min. Inv Ther & Allied tech, 2018

Kaye et al, Eur. Rad, 2019



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## Limitations for $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG PET/CT guided Int.

### Limitations:

- Availability of an interventional PET/CT
- Very small lesions not seen in PET due to PVE
- Slightly longer procedure times
- Increased patient doses
- Tumors not avid with  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG PET

### Not a limitation

- Benign inflammatory lesions – PET guides for accurate biopsy

Solomon & Cornelis, JNM 2016

Gazzato et al, Min. Inv Ther & Allied tech, 2018

Hu et al, J Vasc Interv Radiol 2020; 31:1052–1059

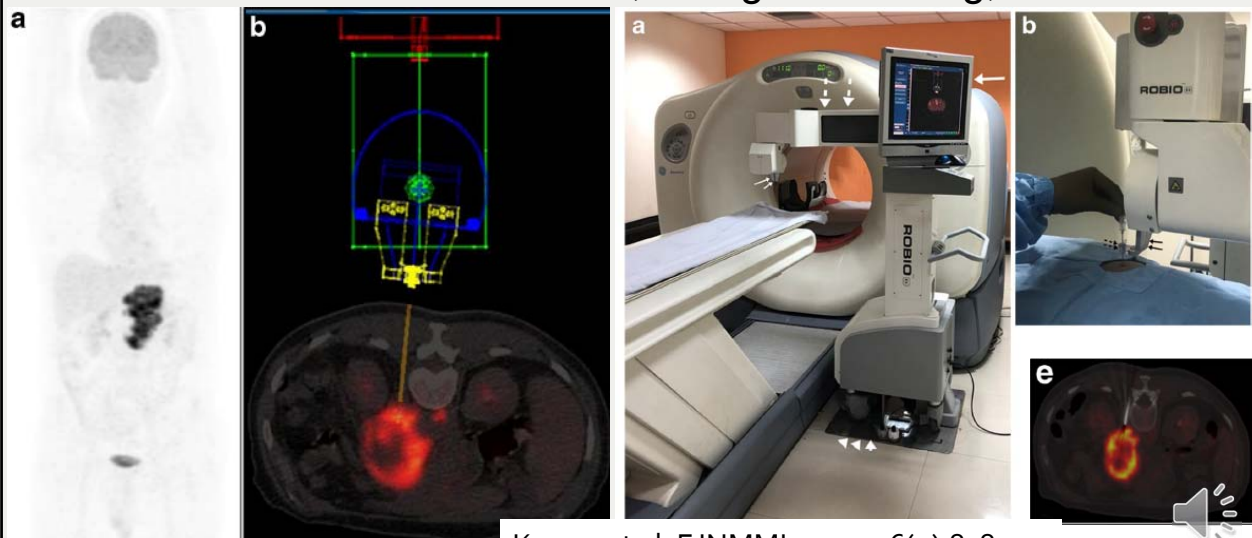


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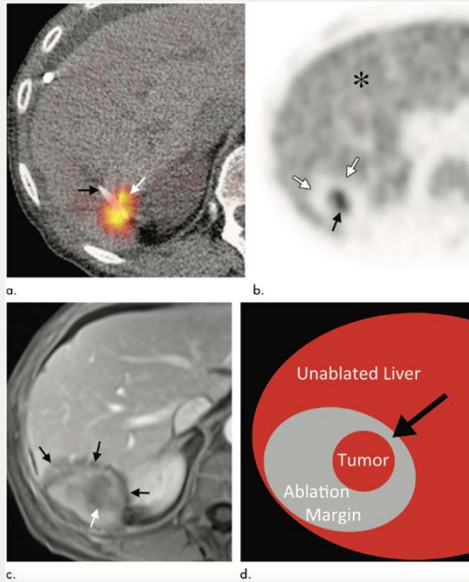
## Robotic arm assisted PET/CT guided biopsy

Kumar et al: EJNMMI 2019; Diag Interv Imag; 2020



Kumar et al, EJNMMI, 2019;46(4):838-47.

## ***<sup>13</sup>N-ammonia perfusion imaging of ablation margin***

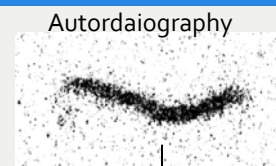
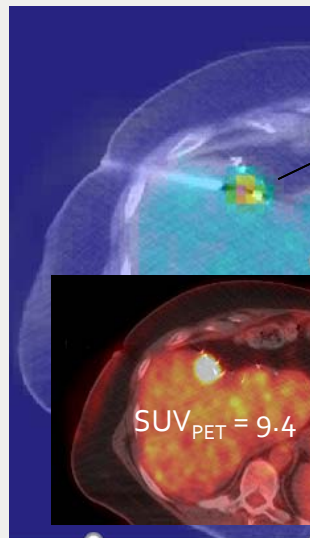


- ~ 374 MBq <sup>18</sup>F-FDG 45-60 min before first PET/CT
- ablation
- ~ 338 MBq <sup>13</sup>N-ammonia 5-15 min post ablation
- Width of photopenic anulus  
→ measure of ablation margin

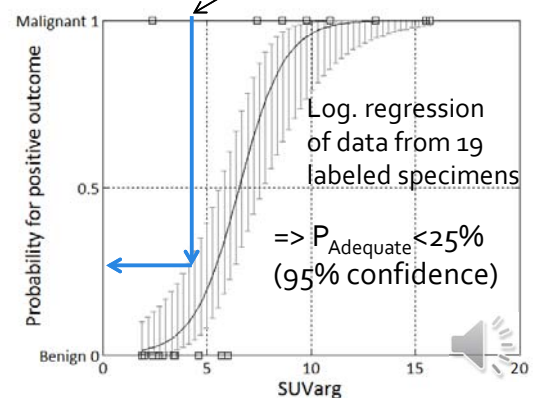
Shyn et al, Radiology, 288 138-145 2013

## ***Biopsy adequacy evaluation: Colorectal cancer liver metastases***

Complications:  
pneumothorax



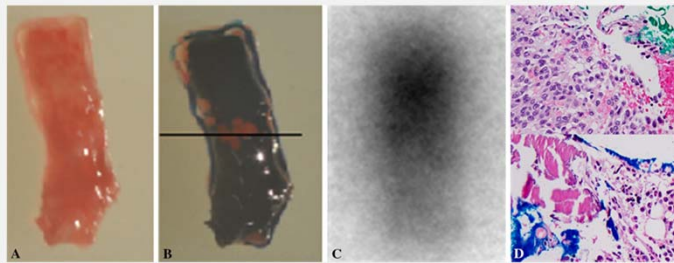
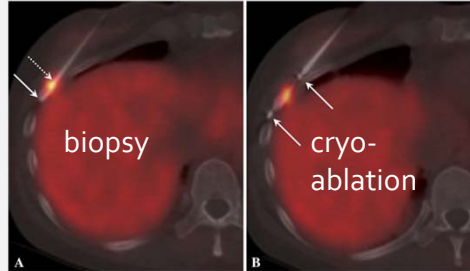
$SUV_{ARG} = 3.9$



Fanchon L et al, JNM, v 56, 4, p538, 2015

## In situ validation of new tracers

Fig. 2 A Ga-68 DOTATOC PET/CT-guided biopsy. The arrows depict the first biopsy specimen within the needle. The specimen ends were stained green (dotted arrow) and blue (solid arrow) to retain orientation between this image, autoradiography, and surgical pathology. B Ga-68 DOTATOC PET/CT-guided cryoablation. A new PET acquisition is used for this fused image. The arrows depict the markers at both ends of active tip of cryoapplicator. The ice ball properly covered the lesion and intended margin during both freeze cycles (not shown)



Cardiovas Intervent Radiol  
DOI 10.1007/s00270-016-1350-1

C RSE

### CASE REPORT

### Ga-68 DOTATOC PET/CT-Guided Biopsy and Cryoablation with Autoradiography of Biopsy Specimen for Treatment of Tumor-Induced Osteomalacia

Majid Maybody<sup>1</sup> · Ravinder K. Grewal<sup>2</sup> · John H. Healey<sup>3</sup> · Cristina R. Antonescu<sup>4</sup> · Louise Fanchon<sup>5</sup> · Sinchun Hwang<sup>6</sup> · Jorge A. Carrasquillo<sup>2</sup> · Assen Kirov<sup>5</sup> · Azeez Farooki<sup>7</sup>



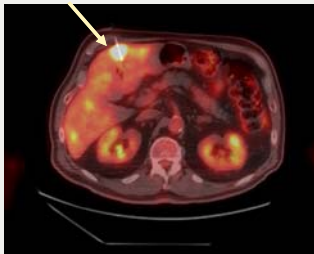
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## Benefit of PET/CT g. bx for Radiogenomics

=> Correlation of uptake with genomic profile of same lesion

KRAS+ :  $SUV_{max} = 17.5$



other lesions  $SUV_{max} < 12.2$

Colorectal adenocarcinoma liver metastases  
60 lesions of which 31 with "on the spot" gen. profile

Predicting CRC KRAS+ missense mutations using the  
PVE and uptake time corrected tumor-to-blood ratio,  $SUR_{max}$

Student's T-test  $p < 0.001$

$SUR_{MAX}$  AUC=0.76

Popovich, Talarico, van den Hoff, ...Kirov, submitted  
Kirov et al, SNMMI 2019



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## ***Intra-procedural PET/CT guidance***

### Biopsies

- MGH, Boston – Tatli, Shyn et al, 2011: breath hold (BH)
- Curitiba, Brasil – Cerci, Bogoni et al, 2013: 126 pancreatic ca. cases
- New York – Ryan, Solomon et al, lung, liver, bone, soft tissue
- Bologna, Italy – Nanni, Tabacchi, Zanoni et al, bone, soft tissue, lymphoma
- Chandigarh, India – Kumar et al robotic arm,  $^{18}\text{F}$ ,  $^{68}\text{Ga}$  labeled tr.
- Xiamen, China – Nana et al, 2018, FDG avid prostate lesions

### Ablations

- BWH, Boston – Shyn et al 2017-18: BH image reg.;  $^{13}\text{N}$  perfusion: abl. margin
- New York – Ryan, Sofocleous et al: split dose technique
- Strasbourg, – Gazzato, Gangi et al:  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDOPA liver ablations of NETs
- JH, Baltimore – Pasciak et al:  $^{90}\text{Y}$  PET/CT for post-RE percutaneous RFA

## ***Summary: Intra-proc. PET/CT guidance***

- A well equipped interventional suite is needed
- PET/CT guided biopsies
  - Promise to improve diagnostic success rate and reduce complications
  - Quantifying radioactivity in biopsy specimens:
    - allows high res. in situ validation of new radiopharmaceuticals
    - promising for evaluation of biopsy adequacy
- PET/CT guided ablations
  - Split dose technique: pre- ablation and post- ablation tracer injections
  - Allow targeting, treatment assessment and recurrence prediction
- The doses added to personnel and patients are low

## Published reviews

- Shyn PB. Interventional positron emission tomography/computed tomography: state-of-the-art. Tech Vasc Interv Radiol. 2013;16(3):182-90.
- Solomon SB, Cornelis F. Interventional Molecular Imaging. J Nucl Med. 2016;57(4):493-6.
- Fei B, Schuster DM. PET Molecular Imaging-Directed Biopsy: A Review. AJR Am J Roentgenol. 2017;209(2):255-69.
- Cazzato RL, Garnon J, Shaygi B, Koch G, Tsoumakidou G, Caudrelier J, et al. PET/CT-guided interventions: Indications, advantages, disadvantages and the state of the art. 2018;27(1):27-32.
- Book: "Oncological PET/CT with Histological Confirmation" J. Cerci, S.Fanti, D. Delbeqe editors, Springer, 2016



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## Interventional Radiology team



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