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Point/Counterpoint:

The more important heavy charged particle RT of the future is more likely to be with heavy ions rather than protons AAPM 55, Indianapolis

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Opening statement:

(I) With regard to Physics:

Everything that can be done with protons, can be done also with heavy ions, but in a better way.

(II) With regard to Radiobiology:

Heavier ions have the potential to significantly improve clinical results esp. for radioresistant tumors (e.g. Hypoxia, Heterogeneity, Genetic resistance ...) Physical advantages of heavier ions vs. protons

- Reduced angular scattering: sharper penumbra
- Reduced range straggling: sharper distal fall-off
- Better targeting due to better in-vivo monitoring
- There is a whole variety of heavy ions

Pencil beams for Protons vs. Helium

Ströbele et al., Z. Med. Phys. 2012



Improved peak to plateau ratio and reduced lateral penumbra for Helium

Helium offers excellent dose conformation, only slightly elevated RBE (~1.3); similar costs as p

Clinical relevance of lateral penumbra TP for scanned beams Carbon (O. Jäkel) Protons (A. Trofimov)





H. Suit et al, Radiat. Oncol. 2010

Lateral penumbra alone may justify to use heavier ions

Reduced lateral penumbra



H. Suit et al, Radiat. Oncol. 2010

The penumbra of protons is worse than for photons at larger depth

Reduced energy straggling

80%-20% distal fall-off



Ströbele et al., Z. Med. Phys. 2012

PET Imaging with ion beams

Peripheral nucleus-nucleus-collisions, low momentum transfer





Courtesy of W. Enghardt

Potential range probing with radioactive beams: C11,Ne19

In vivo PET Monitoring in C-12 vs. p-RT





Treatment plan





Combs BMC Cancer 2012

Parodi et al IJROBP 2007

Tracking of prompt protons from a Carbon beam



Measurement of peak position, beam width with 1mm resolution

Biological Advantages of high LET RT



Relative dose

Low LET dose

Durante, Loeffler, *Nature Rev Clin Oncol* 2010





Carbon tracks in nucleus

Tumor dose >> normal tissue Effective for radioresistant tumors Effective in hypoxic tumor cells

Which tumors might be better treated by lons?



LET Painting for hypoxic tumors **Planned target** SFUD **LET-Painting**



Scanning and IMPT offers additional degrees of freedom for adapting high LET to hypoxic areas

LET

Clinical Trials at HIT see www.clinicaltrials.gov

- 1. SB Chordome: H1 vs. C12 recruting
- 2. SB Chondrosarkome: H1 vs. C12 recruting
- 3. CLEOPATRA (H1 vs. C12 im Boost; prim. Glioblastom) recruting
- 4. CINDERELLA (C12 bei Gliobastom Rezidiv) recruting
- 5. MARCIE (C12 Boost bei malignen Meningeomen) recruting
- 6. COSMIC (C12 Boost bei Speicheldrüsen Ca) finished
- 7. TPF-C HIT (Kopf-Hals-Tumor RChT mit C12 Boost) recruting
- 8. IMRT HIT-SNT (Sinu-nasale Tumore, IMRT mit C12 Boost) recruting
- 9. ACCEPT (C12 + Erbitux bei ACC) BFS cleared
- 10. PROMETHEUS (C12 bei primärem HCC) recruting
- 11. OSCAR (inoperables Osteosarkom) recruting
- 12. PANDORA (C12 bei Rektum Ca Lokalrezidiv) BFS cleared
- 13. IPI (C12/H1 bei Prostata Ca) BFS cleared

Carbon + GEM for loc. adv. Pancreatic Cancer S. Yamada, NIRS, Rochester May 2nd, 2013

Ieal		Traatmont		Survival	
		псаннени	Dose	1yr	2yr
2008	34	GEM+RT	50.4Gy	50%	12%
2008	37	GEM	-	32%	4%
2010	50	GEM	-	64%	14%
2011	34	S-1+RT	50.4Gy	71%	25%
2011	28	GEM+BZ*+ RT	36Gy/15fr.	45%	17%
2011	20	GEM+SBRT	25Gy/1fr.	50%	20%
	47	GEM+CIRT	45.6-55.2 GyE	74%	54%
	2008 2010 2011 2011 2011	34 2008 37 2010 50 2011 34 2011 28 2011 20 2011 20 47	34GEM+RT200837GEM201050GEM201134S-1+RT201128GEM+BZ*+ RT201120GEM+SBRT47GEM+CIRT	34 GEM+RT 50.4 Gy 37 GEM - 2010 50 GEM - 2010 50 GEM - 2010 50 GEM - 2011 34 S-1+RT 50.4 Gy 2011 34 S-1+RT 50.4 Gy 2011 24 $S-1+RT$ 50.4 Gy 2011 24 $S-1+RT$ 50.4 Gy 2011 28 $GEM+BZ^{*+}$ RT 36 Gy/15 fr. 2011 20 GEM+SBRT 25 Gy/1 fr. 47 GEM+CIRT $45.6-55.2$ GyE GyE	$\frac{11}{11}$ 11

Incidence (Mortality) of pancreatic Ca. 2012 (US): 43 920 (37 390)

Protons are not per se superior to modern IMRT Tomotherapy vs. IMPT (Stuschke, Radiother. Oncol, 2013)



Excess dose of IMPT in RED Modern IMRT has come close to IMPT The small benefit may not justify higher price for protons

Clinical potential for ion beams

- Clinical data from prospective phase I/II and phase II trials support the strong potential of heavy ions
- Randomized studies are underway
- Radiobiological research will be crucial for patient selection and targeting
- Protons offer limited benefit compared to X-rays
- Why should be stop the development with the easiest and least beneficial ion, i.e. protons?

Heavier ions will be more important than protons ... maybe not in the next few years ... maybe not in the US



"If we are satisfied, we are lost"

William J. Mayo, MD 1935

Robert C. Miller, Dept. Radiat. Oncology Rochester May 2nd, 2013

Treatment costs

Costs for p-RT in the US: Av. Reimbursement by CMS: \$35,917 Upper range for pediatric patients up to 250 000 \$

Carbon RT is reimbursed in the EU with 19k€

Investment costs account for < 50% treatment costs!

Hypofractionation will change these numbers: C-12 for lung tumors at NIRS: 10'040 €

Cost-effectiveness is more relevant than costs! Technical develoment and hypo-Fx will reduce costs

Carbon therapy in Heidelberg plus extras is cheaper than p-RT in the US ...

ufthansa

Carbon Gantry in clinical operation

world-wide first ion gantry

2D parallel scanning

± 180° rotation 3° / second

13m diameter25m length600 to rotating(145 to magnets)



Required engineering technology is available Btw: some providers for p-RT offer fixed beamlines ?!

Dependence of RBE on LET 855 survival curves



The spread reflects the cell types but also uncertainty of RBE

Uncertainty of RBE

RBE(p)= 1.1 ??

There is not a single determination of RBE(p) from clinical data

RBE(p) may have an uncertainty of ~ 20-30%

Using a model helps to reduce the uncertainty. Using a fixed RBE does not.

Normal tissue damage after carbon RT:

dose response for contrast enhancement in the temporal lobes

n=59, 2002-2003, FU 2,5 years



Schlampp et al., Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys, (2011) 80: 815ff

No signs of any increased normal tissue damage

Clinical evidence for OER effect in C-RT

Nakano et al: Clin. Cancer Rev. 2000 Patients w. uterine cervical cancer



Reoxygenation is less important in high LET Hypofractionated proton-RT will reduce this effect

Depth dose curves for various ions



There is no tail for Helium The dose in the tail is 10-20%

Fragmentation of Carbon ions 400MeV/u in water



Most of the particles in the tail are protons! Dose and RBE are included in the TPS No clinical observation questioning this approach

Clinical evidence for protons

For brain tumors, despite reduced integral doses, no reduction of adverse events could be demonstrated. S. E. Combs, N. Laperriere, M. Brada, Semin. Radiat. Oncol. 2013.

There are only a few sites potentially to benefit from the use of Proton Beam Therapy.

The report of ASTRO's emerging technology committee: An evidence based review of proton beam therapy"

Proton Beam Therapy is not associated with an increased risk for secondary malignancies"
Chung et al. IJROBP 2013 Incidence of 2nd malignancies of patients treated with p and photons

There is little clinical evidence for protons Are they cost-effective ??

Clinical evidence for Carbon ions Skull base chordoma

C12 as primary RT: 60-70 Gye in 20 Fx



Clinical evidence for Carbon ions Adenoid cystic carcinoma

Local Control Rate after IMRT vs. IMRT+C12 (54Gy+ 18 Gye)



Open question: can Chemo-RT reduce distant metastasis ?

Ion beam Therapy worldwide in 2013



Japan: Tokyo Bay, Yokohama, Obu-City France, China (2), South Korea, Thailand, Russia

Availability of Ion Beam RT is increasing worldwide

HIT in the middle of a unique campus

Dep. Radiat. oncology

Natl. Cancer Center

Physics institute

Internal medicine

German Cancer Research center

Surgical clinic

Childrens hospital

Womens hospital

Neutron production Carbon vs. protons



At the same beam line, n-doses are lower for Carbon

Out of field dose



Loeffler and Durante, Nat. Rev. Clin. Oncol, 2013

Scanned Carbon offers lowest out-of-field dose

Ion beam Therapy in Japan



Patient Distribution Enrolled in Carbon Ion Therapy at NIRS (Treatment: June 1994~July 2011)



Protocols and Time Line of Carbon Ion Clinical Trials (1994-



Depth dose profile of a Neon beam



FIG. 9. (Color online) Bragg curve for 670 MeV/u ²⁰Ne ions in water measured at GSI (circles) and calculated contributions of primary ions, secondary and tertiary fragments. Adapted from Sihver *et al.* (1998).

No conformation of high LET to the target region

Which is the best ion for RT?

RBE for a fractionated irradiation of jejunal crypt cells of mice (SOBP of 8 cm)



The differential RBE peak/plateau is optimal for Li...O

Radioactive beams: Pet imaging with Ne-19



Stopping Region Determined by PEBA

Idea:

- Use Ne-19 for range probing
- Use Ne-20 for treatment

Images: Courtesy of Bill Chu, Berkeley



Scattering at inhomogeneities

Scattered dose behind an inhomogeneity (bone) in water



Image: Weber 2009

Mayo Clinic Light Ion Therapy Program – Phase II

Structure



Robert C. Miller, Dept. Radiat. Oncology Rochester May 2nd, 2013

Mayo Clinic Light Ion Therapy Program – Phase II

Technical Specifications

- **Ions** Protons, Carbon, (He? Li? O?)
- Beam Pencil beam scanning, 50-450 MeV/nucleon
- **Range** from 1 g/cm² to 30 g/cm² in H_20
- Field size 30x30 cm²
- Rooms Three rooms with robotic patient positioners, two with fixed horizontal and oblique angle beams and single room with a small field, fixed horizontal beam. (New gantry technology?)



The Rationale for Oxygene: OER

OER as function of LET



Rasterscan @ HIT-R+D-Room



Furusawa et al Rad. Res. (2000)

Oxygen maybe more used for hypoxic areas

Re-oxygenation

- Will not work for hypo-fractionated Tx
- Less important for Carbon (increased vascular damage; antiangiogenetic effects, decreased latency)
- Other factors also important intratumor heterogeneity (stem cells, highly repairing subpopulations enhanced metabolism)



Thank you !

Check out our online Master program: http://www.apmr.uni-hd.de



The Past: Pioneering work at LBNL-UCSF, 1975–1992



Joseph Castro, MD, UCSF Radiation Oncologist, who conducted the LBNL clinical trials.

CH

CH

Courtesy of Bill Chu, Berkeley

Treatment plan for a lesion in the Esophagus using Neon beams (Chen,IJROBP 1979)



Depth dose distributions of RT beams



- Similar absorbed dose for protons ad Carbon
- Lower biological effective doe for Carbon
- Small tail of fragents behind the BP of Carbon

Influence of Scattering in Tissue



Influence of Scattering in Tissue



LET Painting for hypoxic tumors







C-12 dose optimized

C-12 w. LET painting

O-16 w. LET painting

Bassler et al. LET painting increases TCP n hypoxic tumors. Acta Oncol 2013

COSMIC Study:ResponseAt treatment planningFU @ 6 weeks after C12





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Nakano et al: Clin. Cancer Rev. 2000 Patients w. uterine cervical cancer



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S. Yamada, NIRS, Rochester May 2nd, 2013

GEM + CIRT for locally advanced Pancreatic Cancer

	Total dose	n	12mo	24mo
Local Control	45.6GyE<	47	67 %	58%
	43.2GyE	24	68%	28%
Overall Survival	45.6GyE<	47	74%	54%
	43.2GyE	24	71%	21%



Treatment verification for gated TxInitial TP4 weeks after RT12 weeks after RT



D. Habermehl

RT: 4 x 10Gy (RBE) Prometheus study

Activation study Using PET-CT @ HIT (J. Bauer)



Arguments against protons

Proton RT is less robust as photon plans and may lead to worse coverage in reality

Photon RT has made great progress, so that the benefit of proton becomes less important

Given the higher price, protons may not offer enough benefit for the higher price

Cheap single room, passive beam facilites may yield sub-optimal results