

# **Non-Invasive Image-guided Breast Brachytherapy (NIBB)**

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**AAPM Annual Meeting**

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# Disclosures

- Travel expenses subsidized by ART Corporation

# Learning Objectives

- Discuss the NIBB method
- Discuss updated clinical results of NIBB for APBI
- Discuss acute toxicity and toxicity avoidance for NIBB
- Future direction for APBI using NIBB

# Non-invasive Image-guided Breast Brachytherapy (AccuBoost)

- Novel technique for partial breast irradiation
  - Non-invasive
  - Image-guidance
  - Precision Targeting
  - Breast immobilization
    - No need for large PTV margins
  - Collimated photon emissions using Tungsten alloy applicators
  - Utilizes HDR  $^{192}\text{Ir}$  source



# AccuBoost

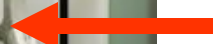
X-ray Tube

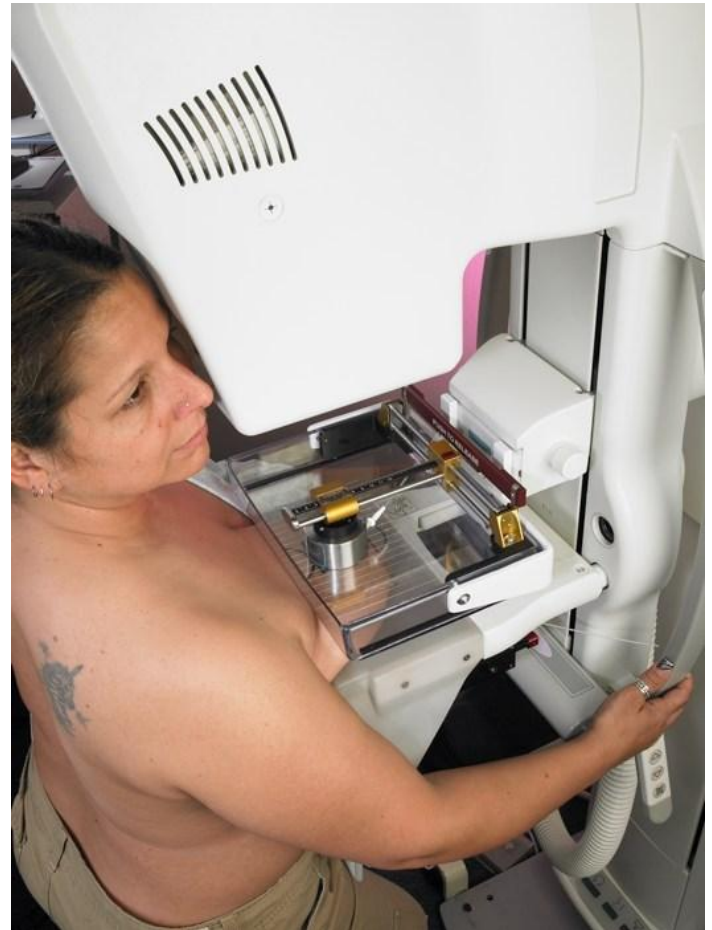


Compression  
Plates



Imaging Cassette

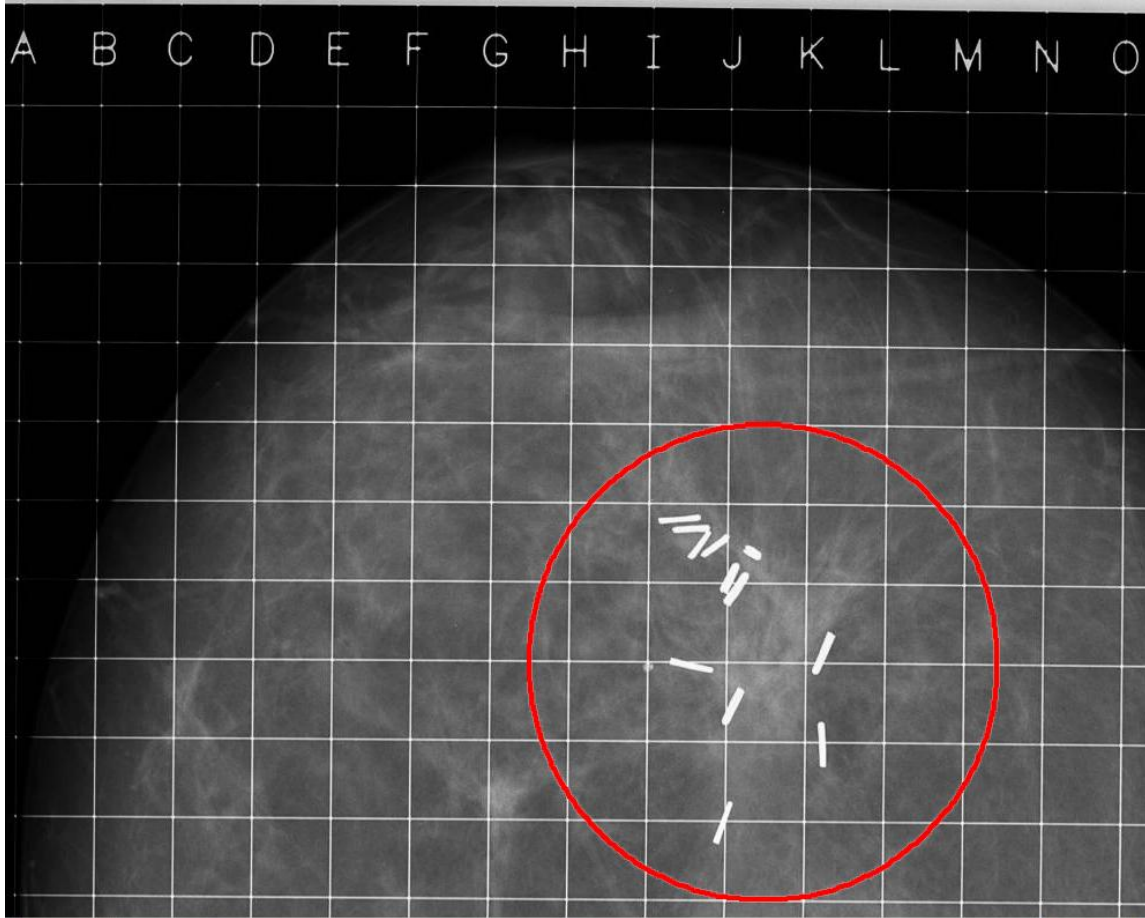




Breast Compression

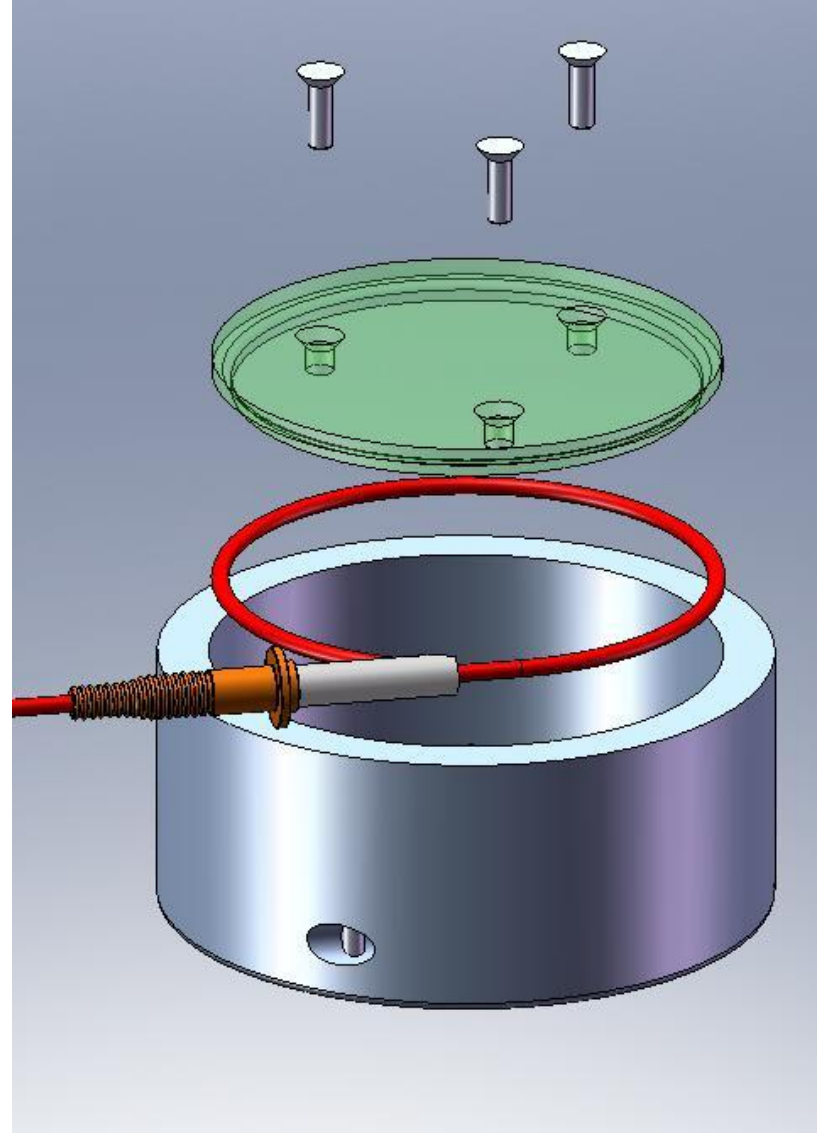
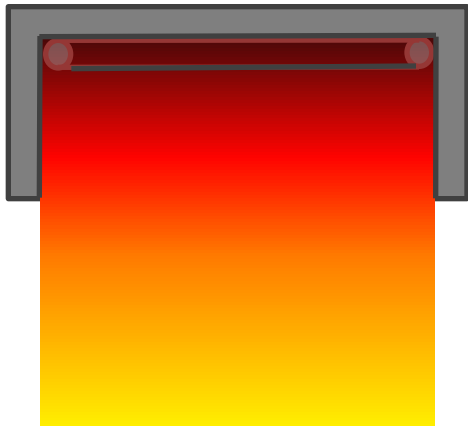
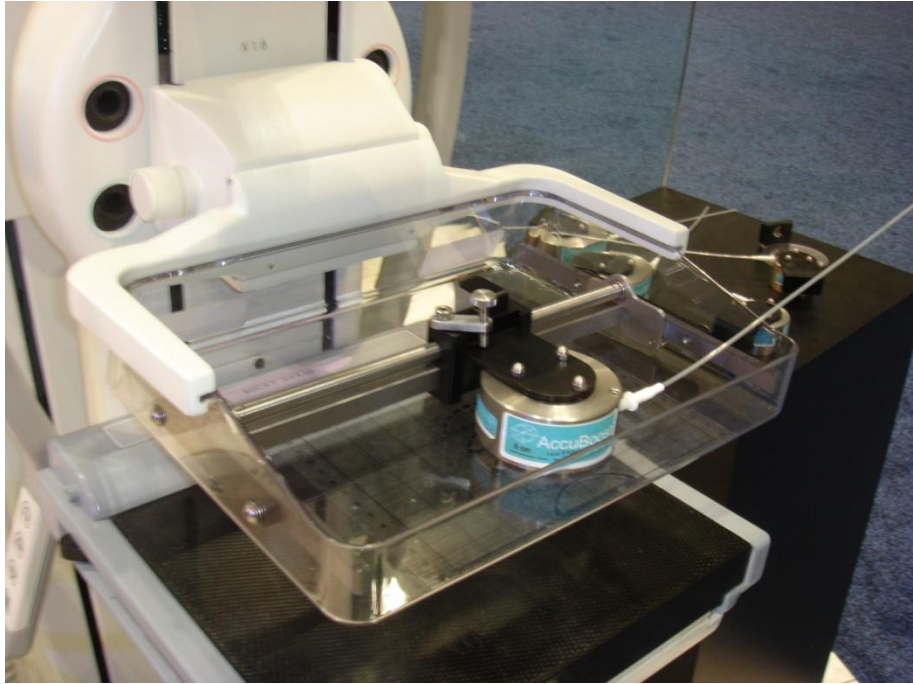
kV imaging  
in immobilized position

# Applicator Selection



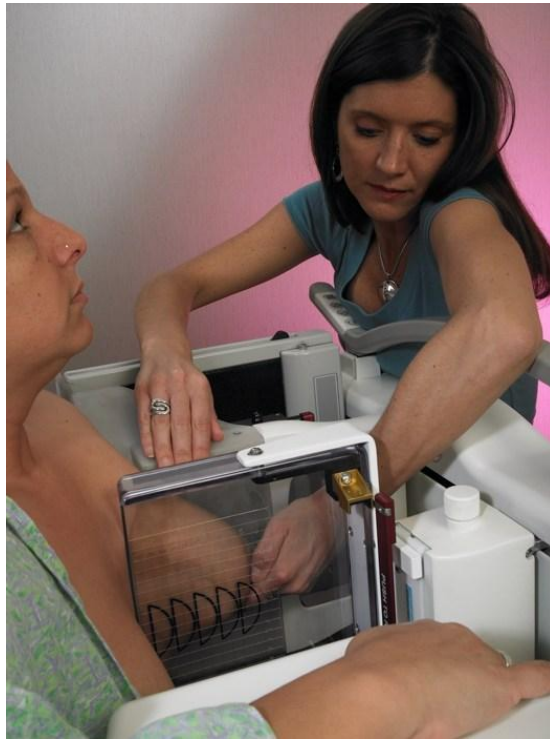
Tumor bed with 1 cm margin  
6 cm Round Applicator



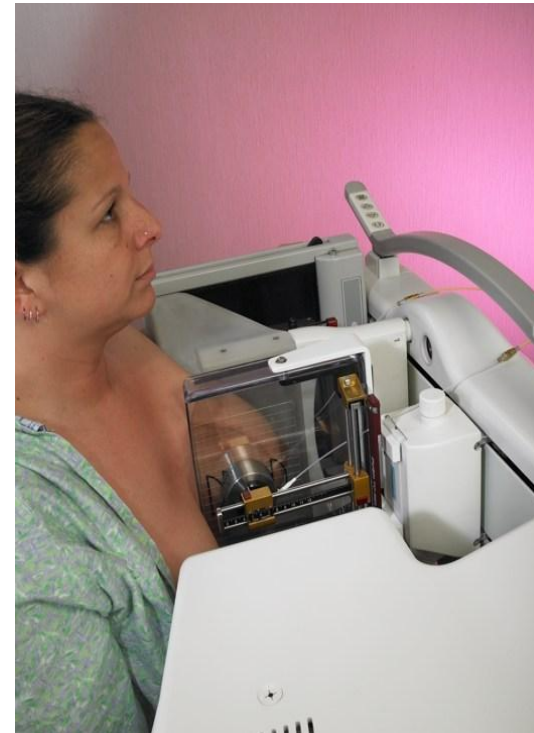
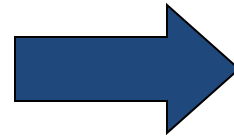




# Process is repeated in an orthogonal axis

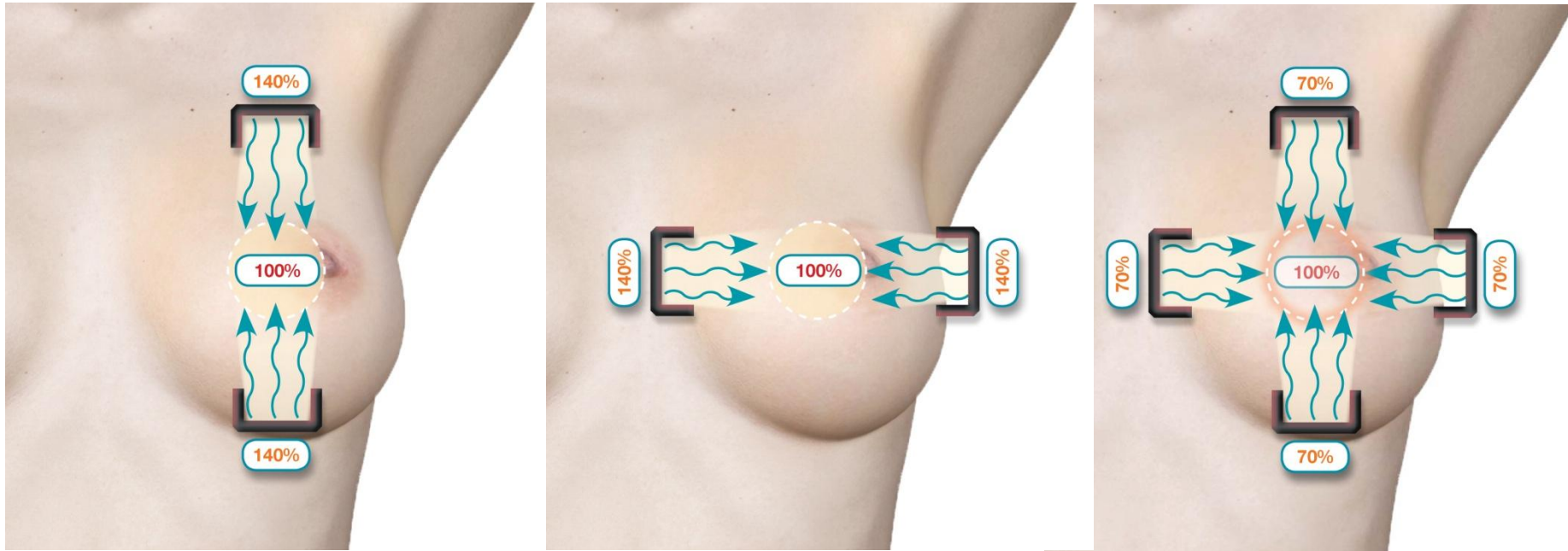


Breast  
Compression



kV imaging  
in  
immobilized  
position

# Two Orthogonal Treatment Axes

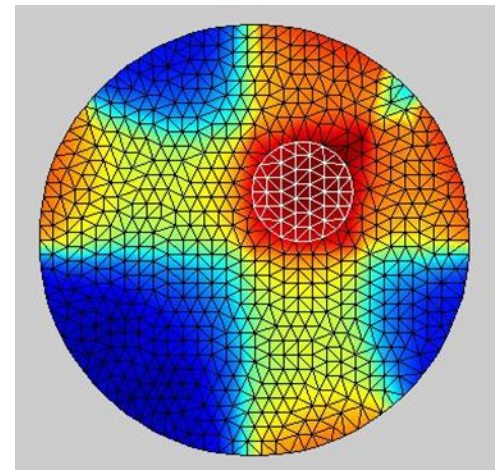
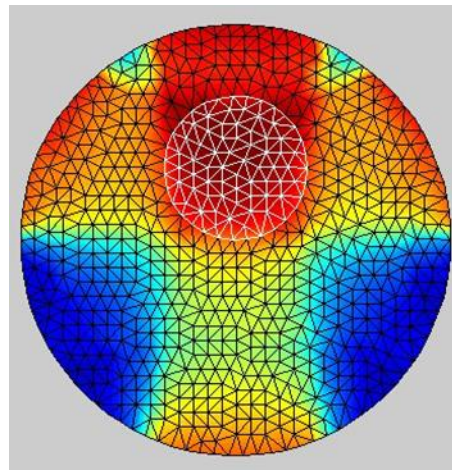
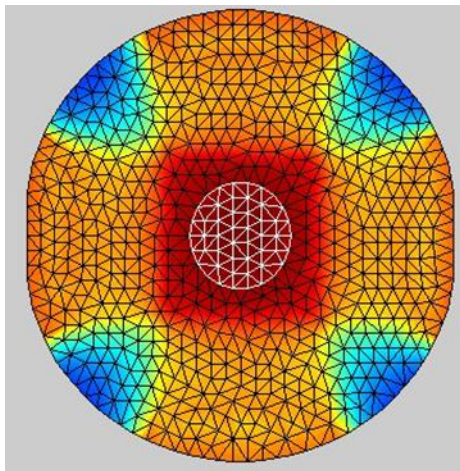
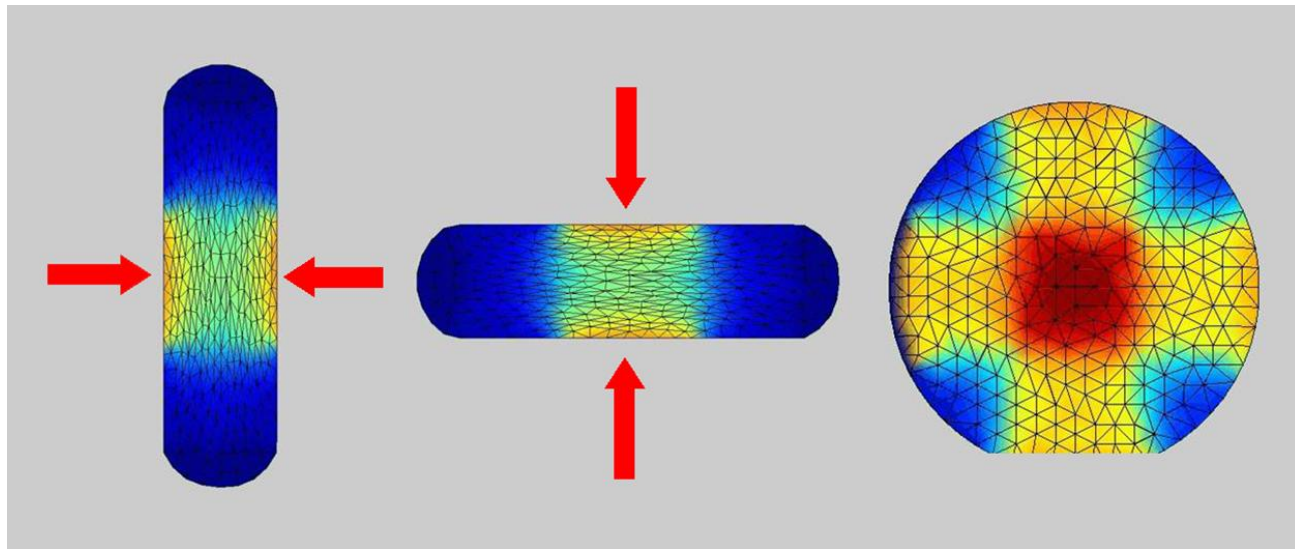


Reduced Skin dose

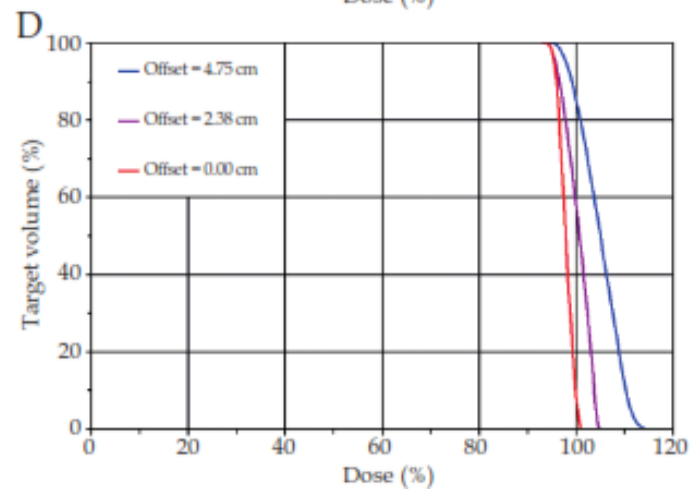
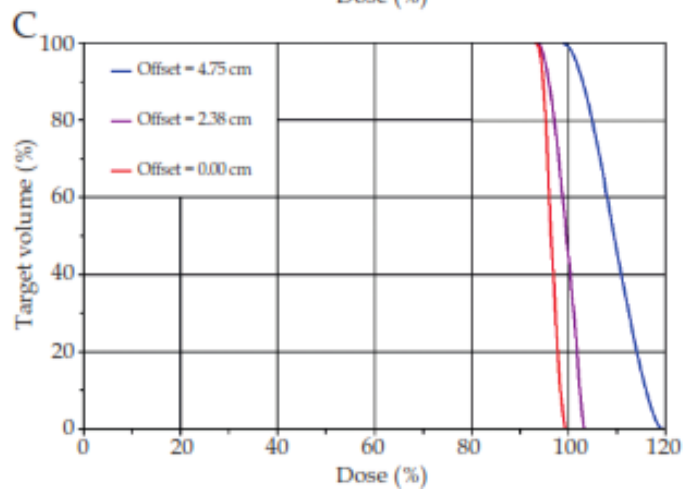
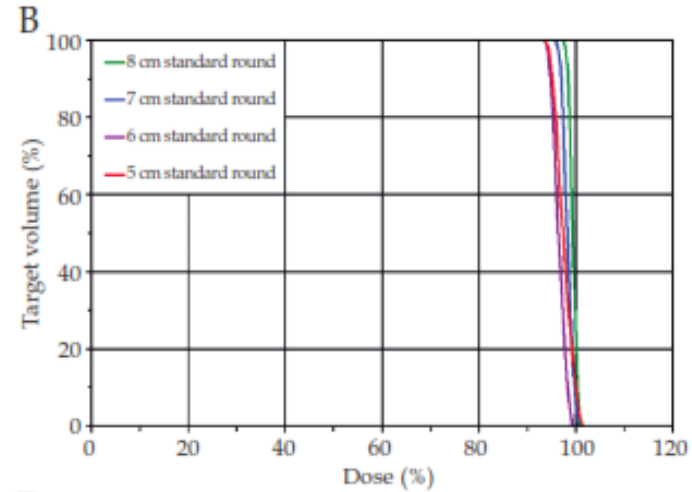
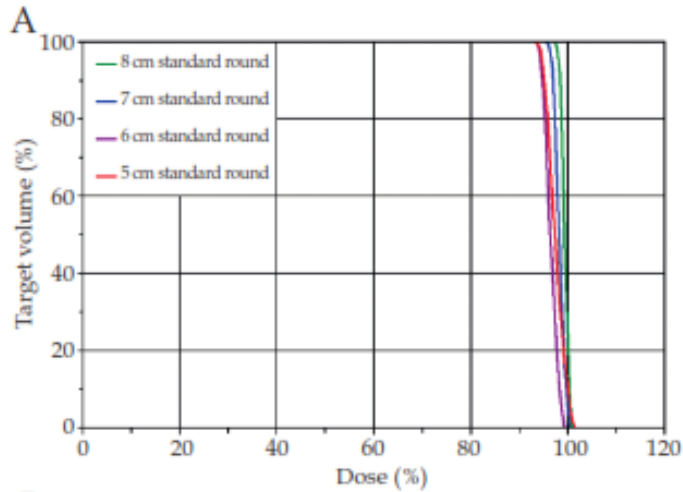
# Benefits of Breast Compression

- Breast compression achieve 3 very important functions:
  - Breast immobilization.
  - Decrease separation reduced skin dose.
  - Displaces non-target breast tissue out of the radiation field.

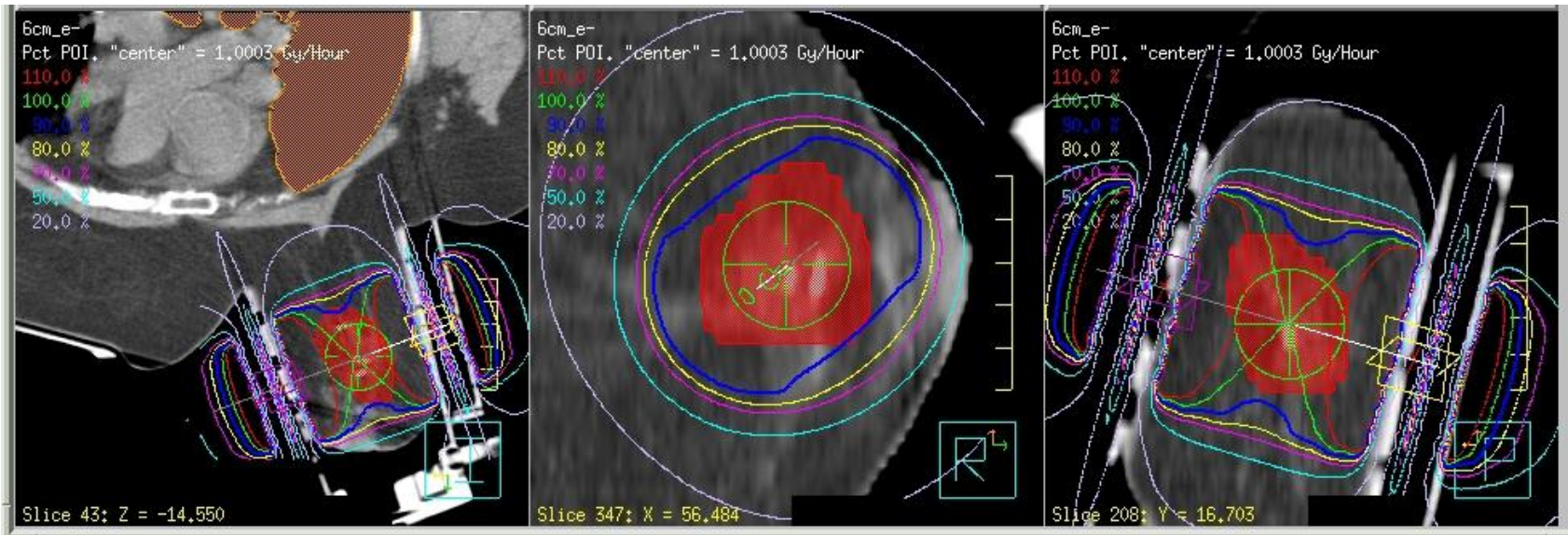
# Fine Element Analysis (FEA) Deformable Model



# Fine Element Analysis (FEA) Deformable Model



# Dosimetric Comparison of APBI using 3D-CRT and NIBB



NIBB

3D-CRT



# Results: PTV Dose Comparison

<b>APBI</b>	<b>PTV Vol (cc)</b>	<b>PTV D<sub>max</sub> (Gy)</b>	<b>PTV D<sub>min</sub> (Gy)</b>	<b>PTV D<sub>mean</sub> (Gy)</b>
<b>Median AccuBoost [p25-p75]</b>	77.9 [58.2, 118.7]	45.5 [42.7, 48.6]	33.9 [29.3, 35.5]	39.5 [37.1, 40]
<b>Median 3D-CRT [p-25-p75]</b>	221.6 [202, 360.2]	40 [39.7, 40.6]	31.4 [28.6, 32.7]	38.6 [38, 38.6]
<b>p-value</b>	0.01	0.06	0.25	0.64



No difference in  
target coverage

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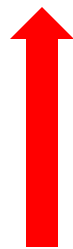


NIBB more heterogeneous  
like other brachytherapy  
techniques



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Target volume  
decrease → 1/3!!

# Normal Tissue $D_{max}$ Comparison

<b>APBI</b>	<b>CW Max (cGy)</b>	<b>Lung Max (cGy)</b>	<b>Skin Max (cGy)</b>
Median AccuBoost [p25-p75]	32.4 [27.4, 88.4] <b>x3</b>	18.7 [17.6, 25.4] <b>x4.5</b>	94.8 [76.5, 101] <b>x1.1</b>
Median 3D-CRT [p-25-p75]	99.9 [95.1, 100.5]	91.9 [88.4, 98]	104 [103.5, 106]
p-value	0.01	0.02	0.04

According to Sioshansi et al., the planning target volume defined for an NIBB APBI treatment is \_\_\_\_\_ the volume of a 3DCRT APBI treatment.

6%

1. 3 times

6%

2. double

18%

3. equivalent to

60%

4. one third

10%

5. half

# Correct answer: 4 – one third

**Sioshansi S, Rivard MJ, Hiatt JR, Hurley AA, Lee Y, Wazer DE.**

[Dose modeling of noninvasive image-guided breast brachytherapy in comparison to electron beam boost and three-dimensional conformal accelerated partial breast irradiation.](#)

Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys. 2011 Jun 1;80(2):410-6

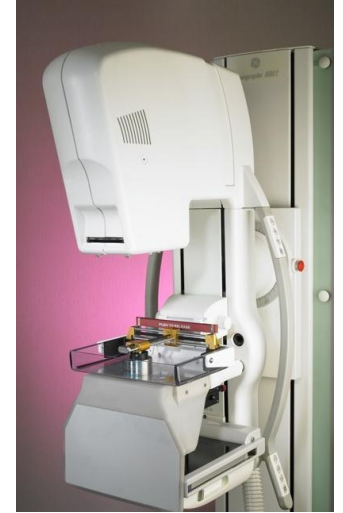


## NIBB to deliver APBI: Potential Advantages



- Non-invasive
  - More acceptable to many patients
- Oncoplastic reconstruction OK and no need for indwelling balloon catheter
  - No increased risk of persistent seroma
- Breast immobilization and image-guidance
  - No need for large PTV margins
  - Potential for decrease in fibrosis
- Potential for improved cosmetic outcomes over existing APBI techniques

# NIBB to deliver APBI: Potential Disadvantages



- Long treatment times
  - ➔ Treatment of each axis could take up to 30 minutes depending on compression and source strength
- Resource intense
  - ➔ Physicist and MD at console for entire treatment (1hr+)
- Potential for error
  - ➔ Manual transfer of data from nomogram to console

# Methods

- Prospective Phase II trial. IRB approved and monitored by the BrUOG data safety monitoring board. (BrUOG trial Br-251; NCT01463007)
- Enrolled patients received APBI using NIBB.
- 34Gy in 10 fractions using Ir-192 HDR source was delivered to the CTV/PTV which included the lumpectomy cavity with a 1 cm margin.
- 2 orthogonal axes were treated for each fraction and separation was limited to  $\leq 8$ cm.
- Treatment was either daily or BID based on pt preference.
- Patients are followed clinically at regular intervals. Mammography is performed yearly. Photographs for cosmetic assessment are taken at baseline and at each f/u visit.
- Toxicity assessment is based on CTCAE v3.0. Cosmetic outcome is assessed based on the Harvard scale.

# NIBB for APBI

- Prospective clinical trial completed accrual
- 40 patients completed protocol treatment

Table 1. Patient, Tumor, and Treatment Characteristics.

Age	
Mean	68 yrs
Range	50 - 92 yrs
Histology	
	n (%)
IDC	22 (55%)
Inv. Mucinous	2 (5%)
Inv. Tubular	1 (2.5%)
DCIS	15 (37.5%)
Tumor size	
Mean	1.1 cm
Range	0.3 – 3.0 cm
Lymph Node Status	
Positive	0 (0%)
Receptor status	
ER positive	39 (97.5%)
Her-2-Neu positive	0 (0%)
ASTRO Guidelines (ref)	
Suitable	19 (47.5%)
Cautionary	21 (52.5%)
Unsuitable	0 (0%)
Volumes (cc)	
Whole breast	Mean (range) 1591 (365 - 3569)
Tumor bed	22.4 (1.1 – 69.6)
Breast compression	
Mean	6.5 cm
Range	3.4 – 9.4 cm
Applicator Type	
1 <sup>st</sup> Generation	8 (20%)
Mixed	18 (45%)
2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Generation	14 (35%)
Treatment schedule	
Daily	29 (72.5%)
BID	11 (27.5%)

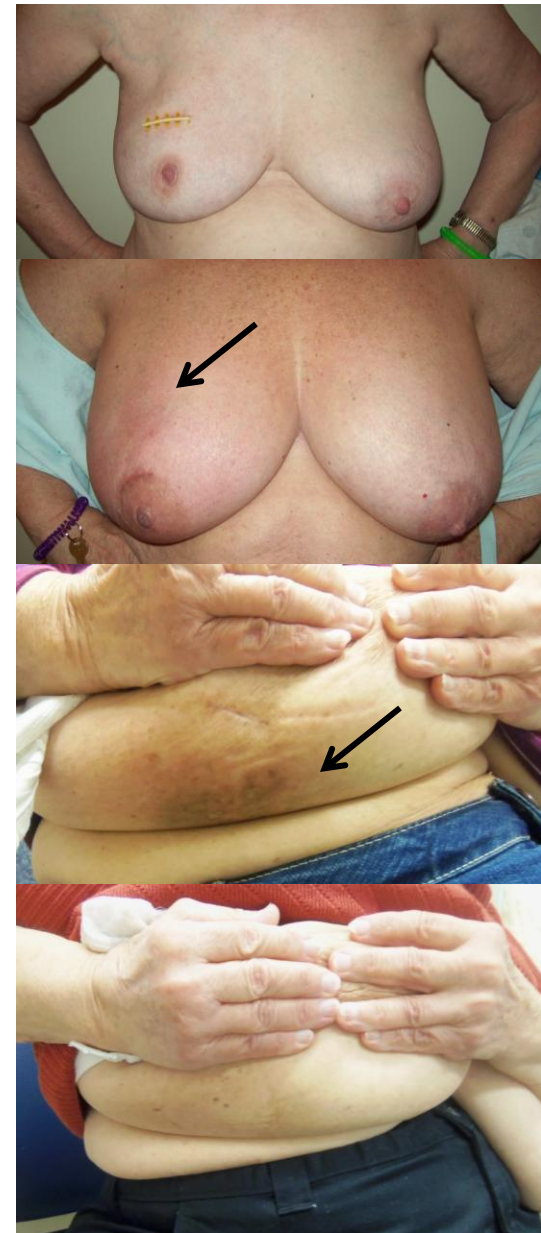


# Results – Treatment tolerability

- Treatment was well tolerated by all patients
- Treatment time
  - Average treatment time per axis: 14 min (range 5-20 min)
  - Average time from start of first axis to completion of orthogonal axis: 43 min (range 30-63 min)
- Discomfort during breast compression
  - Median score: 1 (range 0-7) (10 point pain scale)
- Treatment related fatigue
  - 95% No to mild fatigue (Grade 0-1)

# Results – Acute Skin Reaction

- No skin reaction (Gr 0): 8pts (20%)
- Faint erythema (Gr 1): 21pts (53%)
- Moderate erythema (Gr 2): 11pts (28%)
- No pt developed Gr 3 skin reaction or moist desquamation.
- Maximum skin reaction typically seen after completion of treatment to 2 weeks.



Grade 0

Grade 1

Grade 2

Resolved  
2 weeks  
later

# First vs. Second Generation Applicators

- Second generation round applicators have conical center which reduces skin dose compared to first generation round and D-shaped applicators.
- Rate of Grade 2 acute skin reaction was associated with both applicator type and breast compression.



# Acute Skin Reaction by Applicator Type

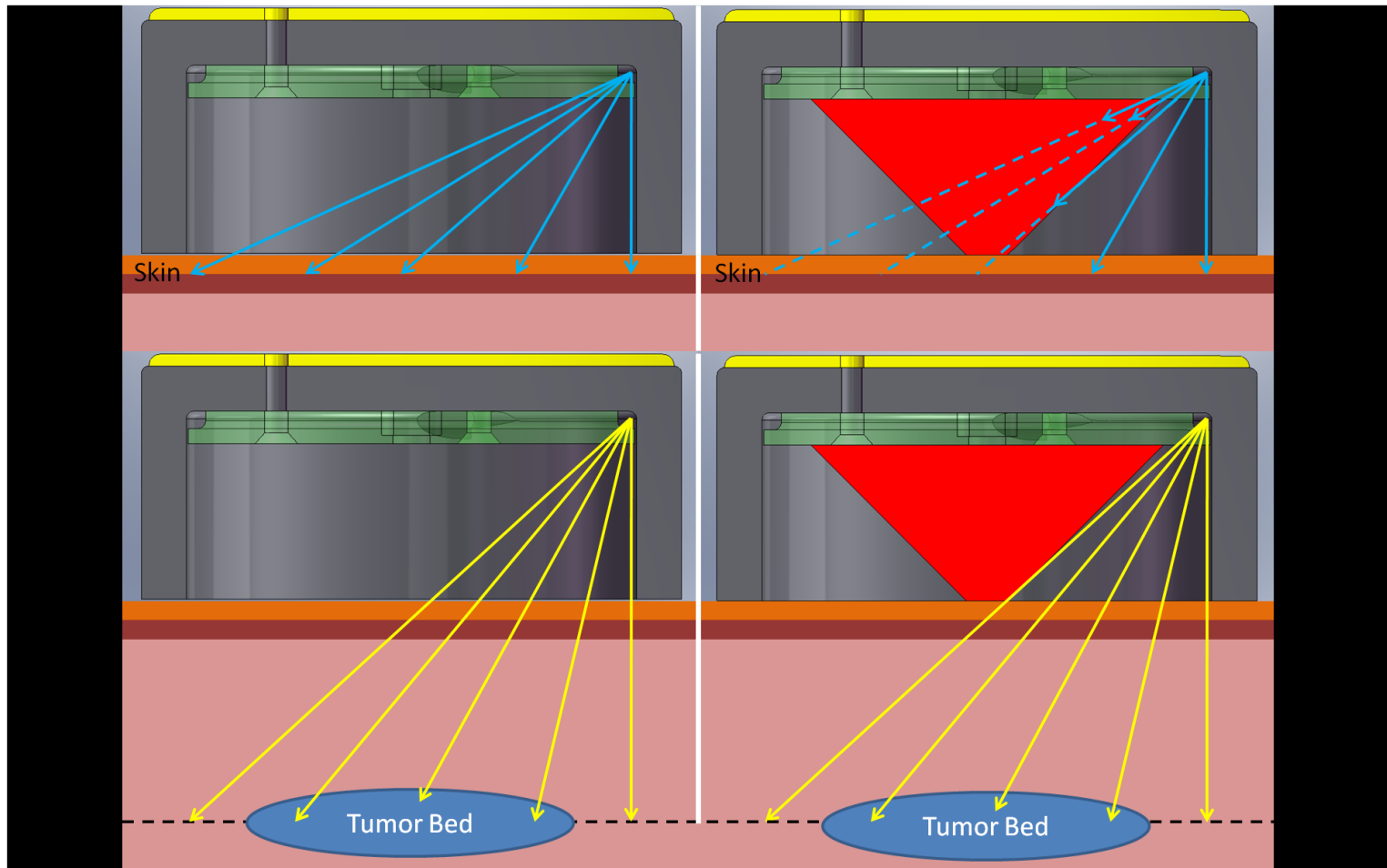
Table 3. Acute Skin Toxicity by Applicator Type

<b>Applicator</b>	<b>Grade 2 Toxicity % (n)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Generation	62.5% (5/8)
Mixed	33.3% (6/18)
2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Generation	0% (0/14)

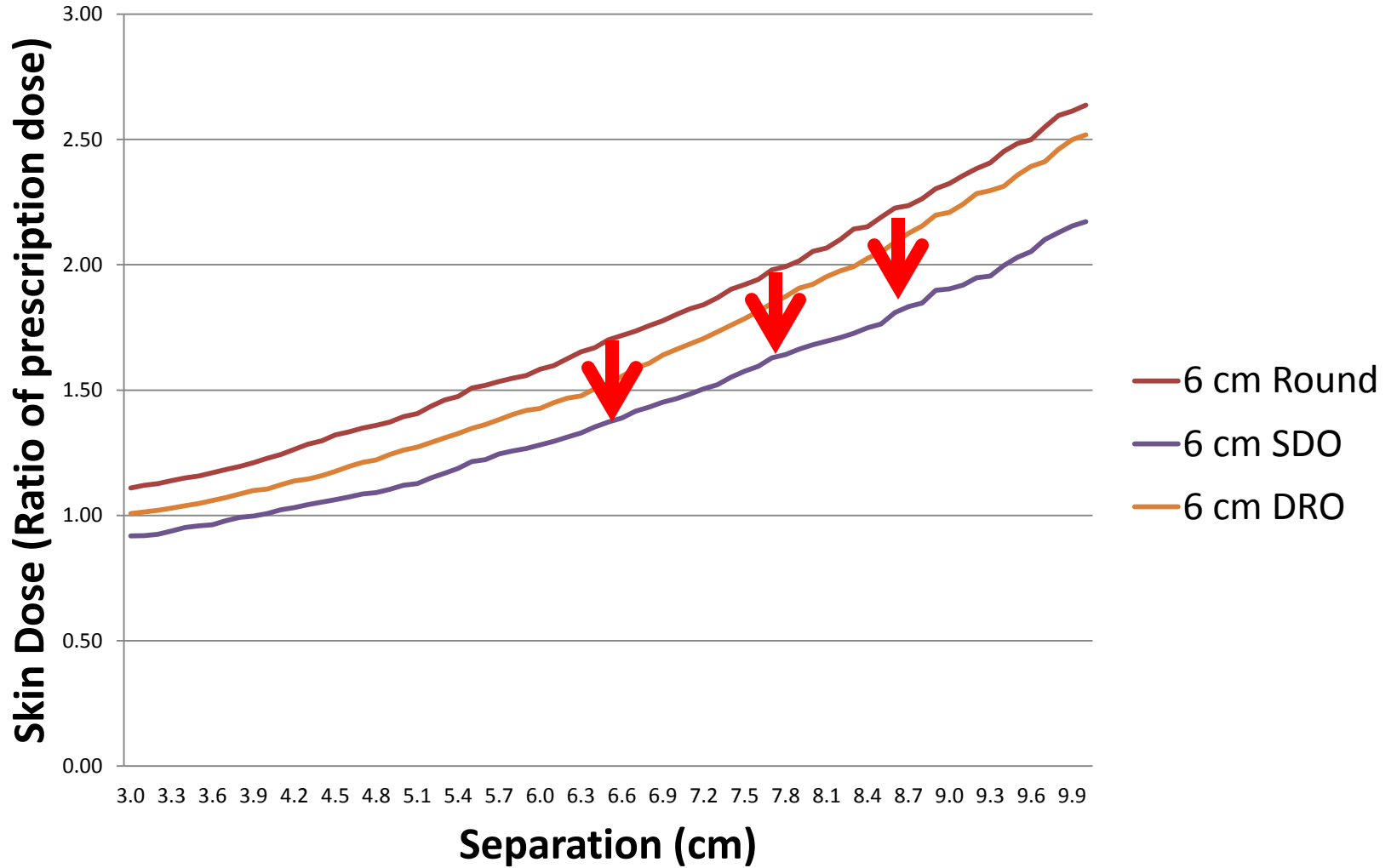
p=0.001



# Schematic Comparison of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Applicators



# Average Skin Dose by Applicator Type



# Results – Late Side Effects and Cosmetic Outcome

- Early results are very favorable
- Median f/u 1 year
- IBTR: 2.5%
- E/G Cosmesis: 97.5%
- SubQ Fibrosis Gr 2-3: 0%
- No Grade 2 or greater late toxicity.

Late Toxicity CTCAE v3.0
Hyperpigmentation
Telangiectasia
Skin Atrophy
Skin/Subcutaneous Tissue Induration/fibrosis
Fibrosis-cosmesis
Soft tissue necrosis
Seroma
Breast Pain
Deformity Nipple/areolar
Breast volume/hypoplasia
Fat Necrosis (Lovey et al, IJROBP 2007)

# Future Directions: NIBB ABPI Fast trial

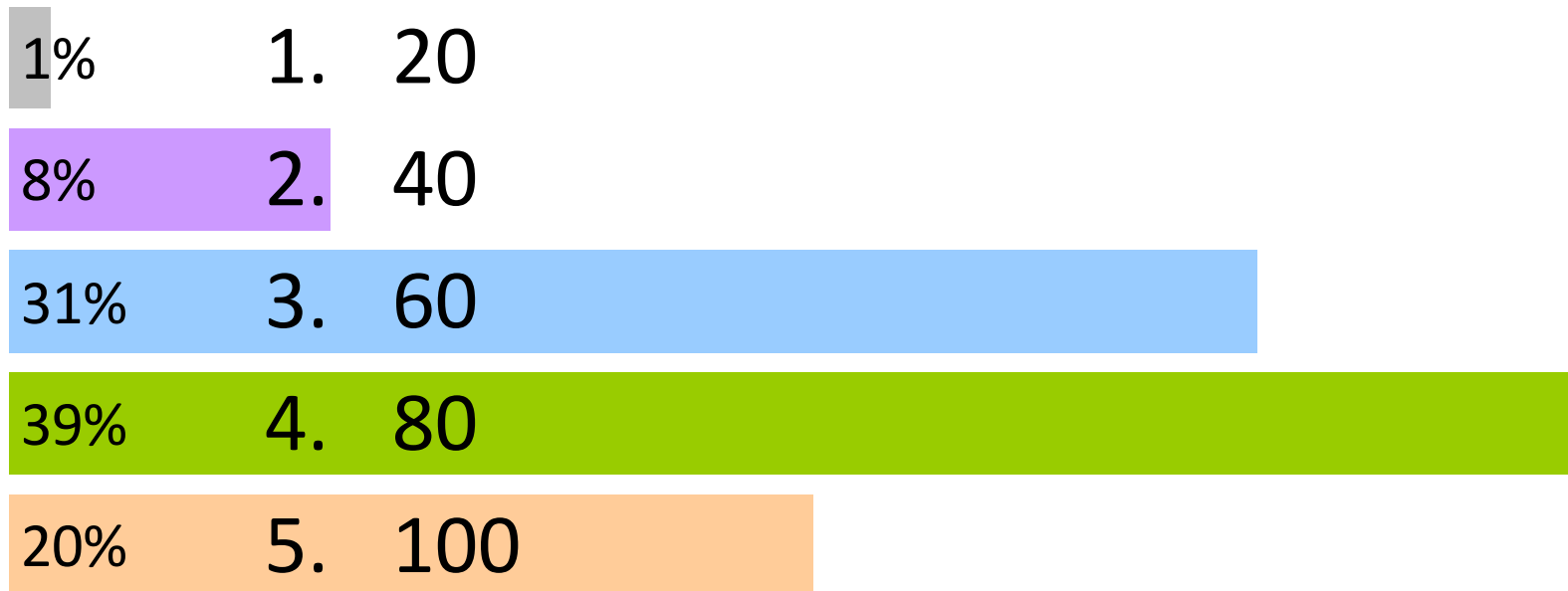
- Rationale:
  - $\frac{3}{4}$  of patients elected for once daily treatment
    - patients don't like BID.
  - However, this results in treatment delivered over 2 weeks
    - not ideal in regards to convenience.
- NIBB APBI Fast trial → 5 daily fractions
- Dose: 28.5Gy (5.7Gy per fraction)



# Patient Selection/Eligibility

- NIBB feasible in most patients.
- Patients with larger breast size more likely to be good candidates.
- Posterior tumor beds can be challenging to reach.
- Surgical clips helpful in defining tumor bed and increase eligibility likelihood.

Hepel et al. found that nearly \_\_\_\_% of patients with surgical clips were able to be treated using the NIBB technique.



Correct answer: 4 – 80%

**Hepel** JT, Leonard KL, Hiatt JR, DiPetrillo TA, Wazer DE.

Factors influencing eligibility for breast boost using noninvasive image-guided **breast** brachytherapy.

Brachytherapy. 2014 Nov-Dec;13(6):579-83

# Conclusions

- NIBB to deliver boost and APBI is feasible and well tolerated by patients.
- Acute skin reaction is mild and infrequent.
- Virtually no skin reaction is seen with 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> generation applicators.
- Early results of late outcomes are encouraging.
  - no significant late toxicity, and good cosmetic outcomes.
  - Freedom from IBTR 97.5%.
- Additional patients and longer follow up is needed to confirm these late endpoints.

