



# Molecular imaging-based adaptive treatment for locally advanced head and neck cancers: where are we?

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# This house believes that ...

- RO will be (even more) multidisciplinary...
- RO will be conformal (e.g. IMRT, proton, hadrons)...
- RO will be tailored (based on imaging and molecular profiling) and adaptive ...
- RO will be associated with targeted agents ...



# The current practice: Conformality...?



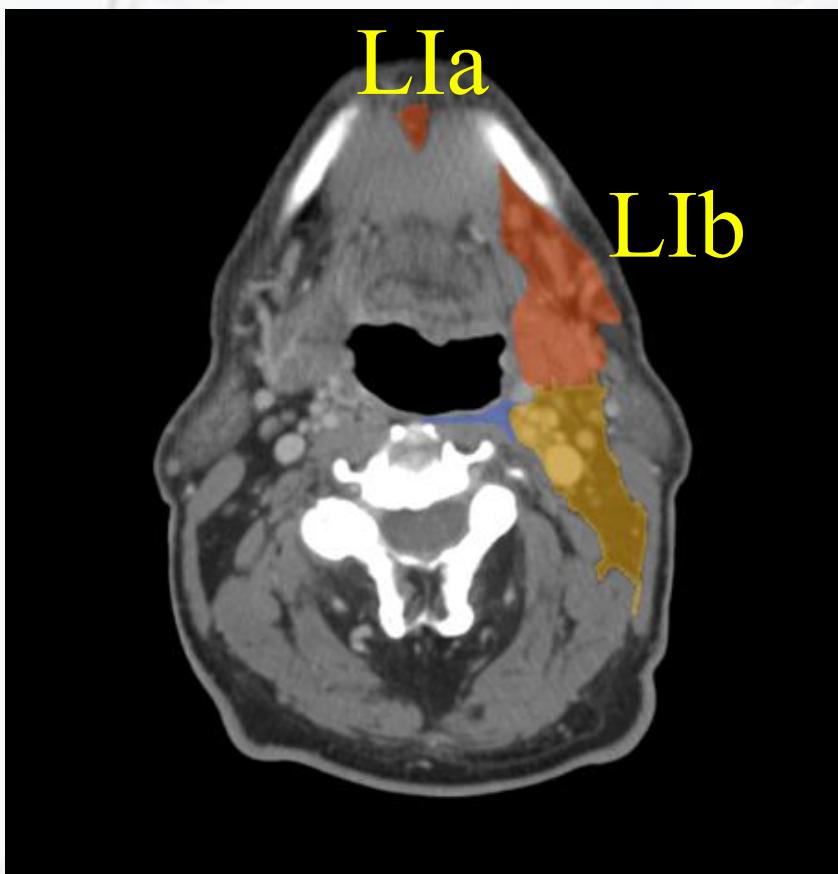
# Radiotherapy in HNSCC



2

Adaptive IMRT

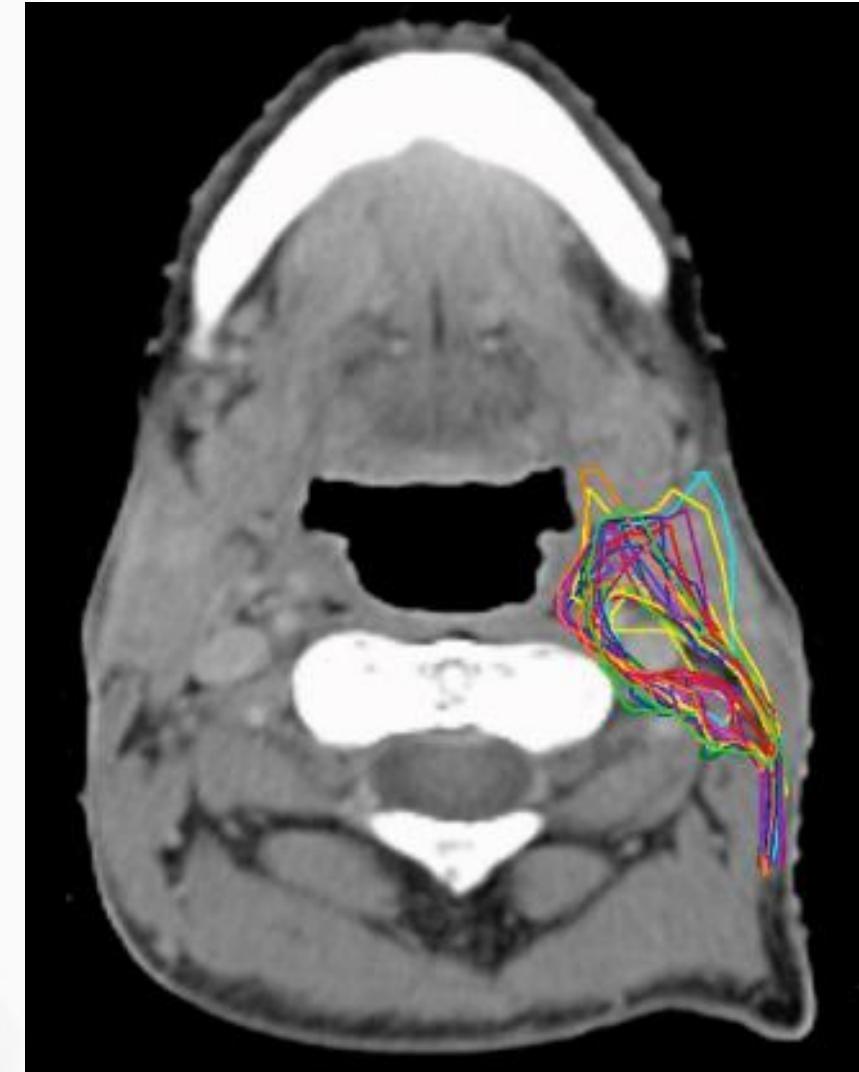
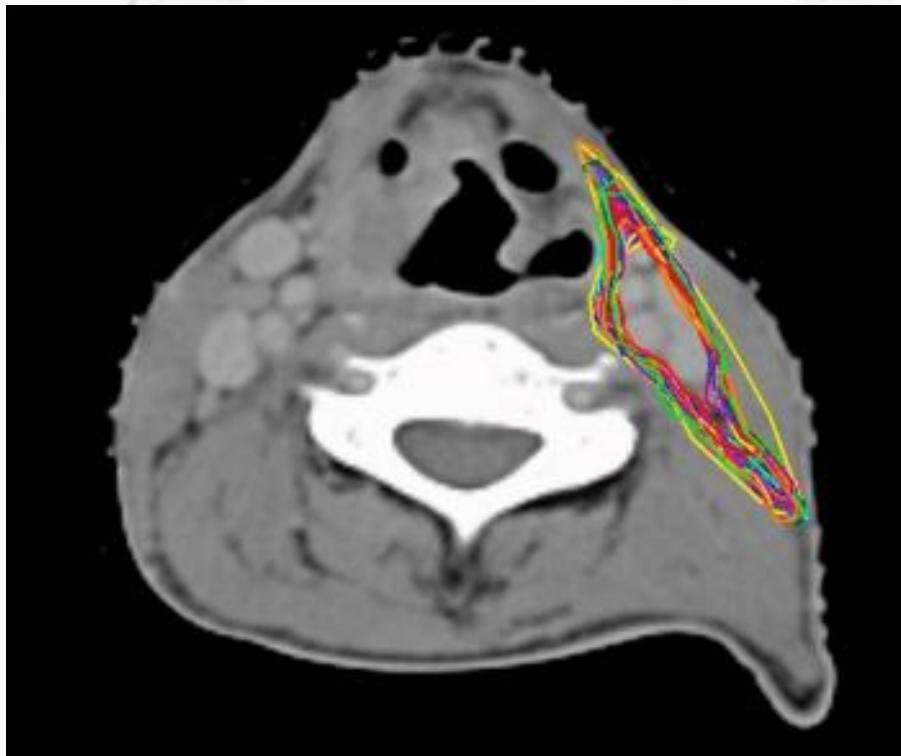
# CT-based delineation of lymph node levels in the neck: Brussels- Rotterdam consensus guidelines



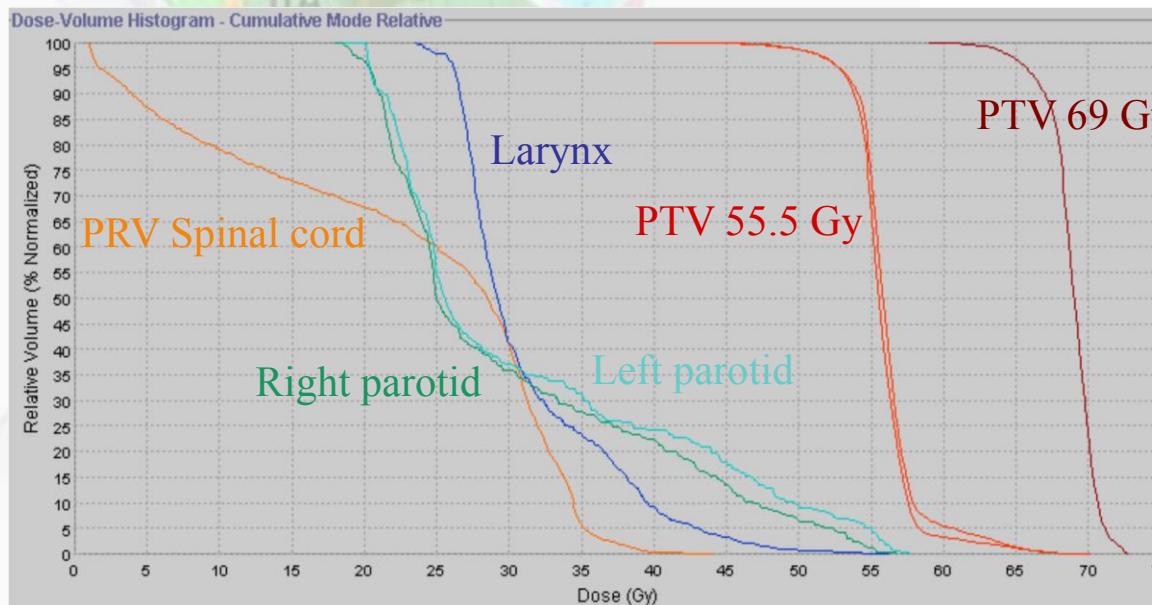
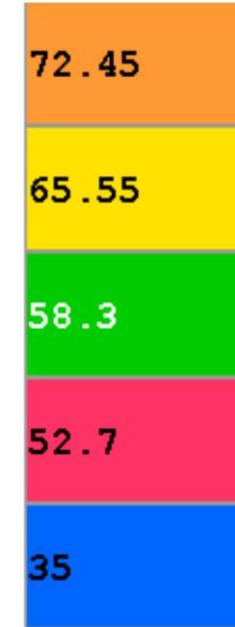
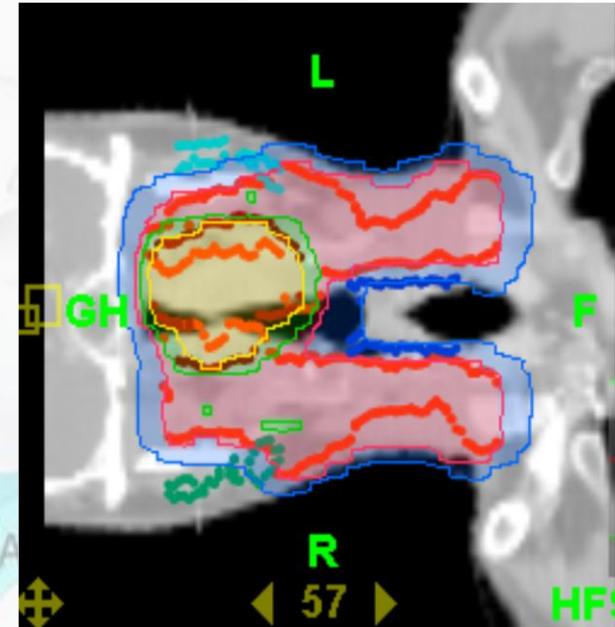
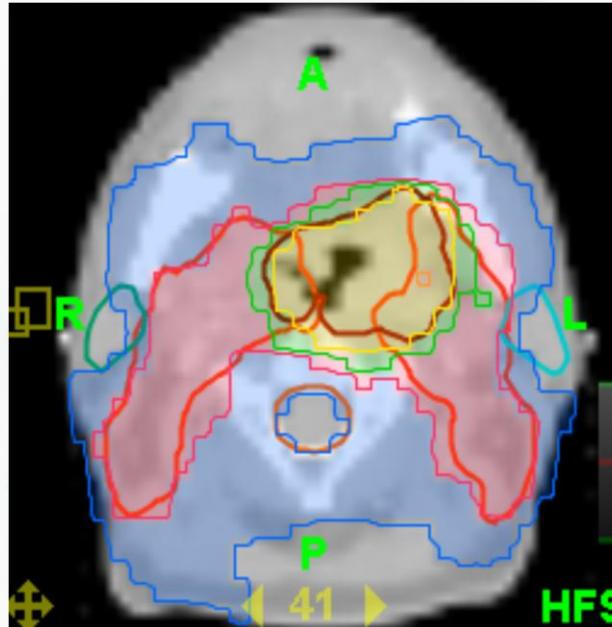
## Level Ia and Ib

- Ant. symphysis menti / platysma
- Post. hyoid bone / submandibular gland
- Lat. ant. belly of digastric m. (Ia)  
mandible / platysma (Ib)
- Med. ant. belly of digastric m. (Ib)
- Cra. geniohyoid m./mandible (Ia)  
mylohyoid m, submandibular gland (Ib)
- Cau. hyoid bone

# H&N IMRT practice heterogeneity among Dutch Radiation Oncologists



# IMRT for Head and Neck Tumors

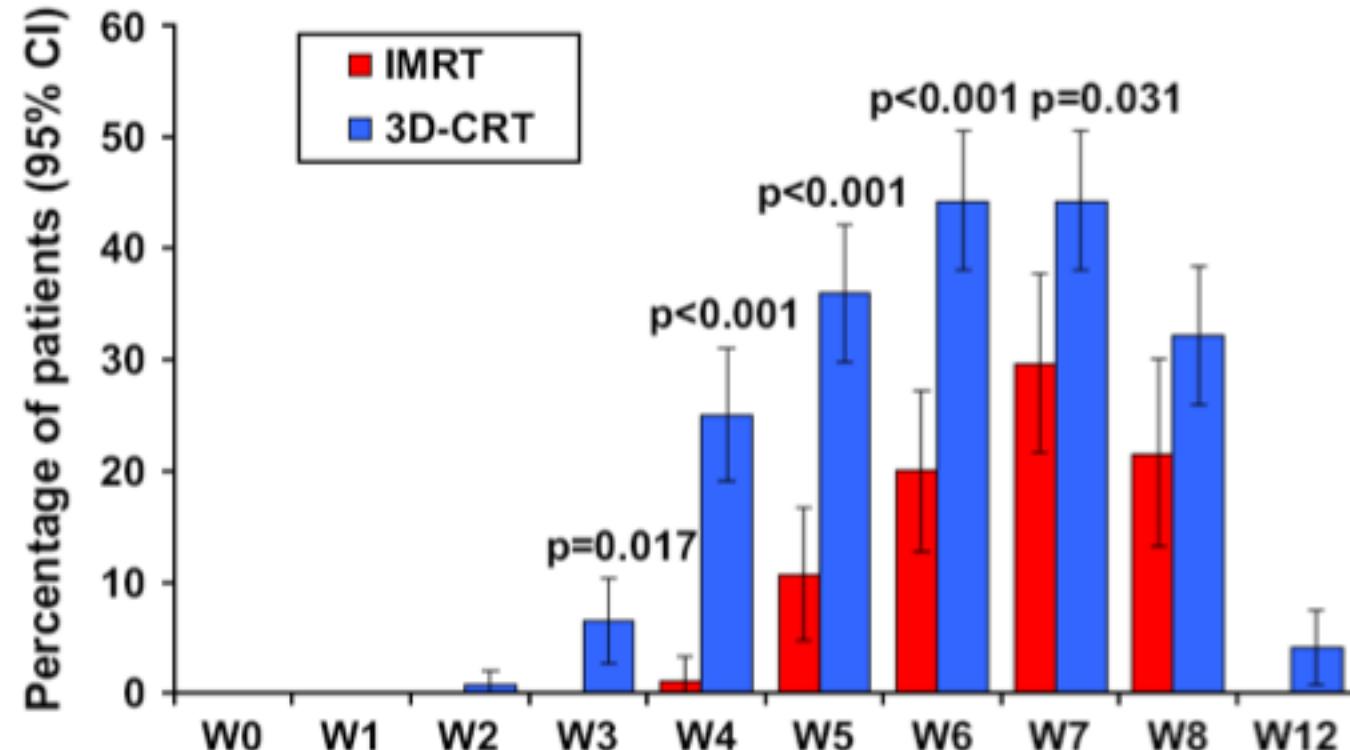


Oropharyngeal SCC  
T2-N0-M0  
SIB-IMRT: 30x2.3 Gy  
30x1.85 Gy



# Acute toxicity with IMRT

## $\geq$ grade 3 mucositis: IMRT vs 3D-CRT

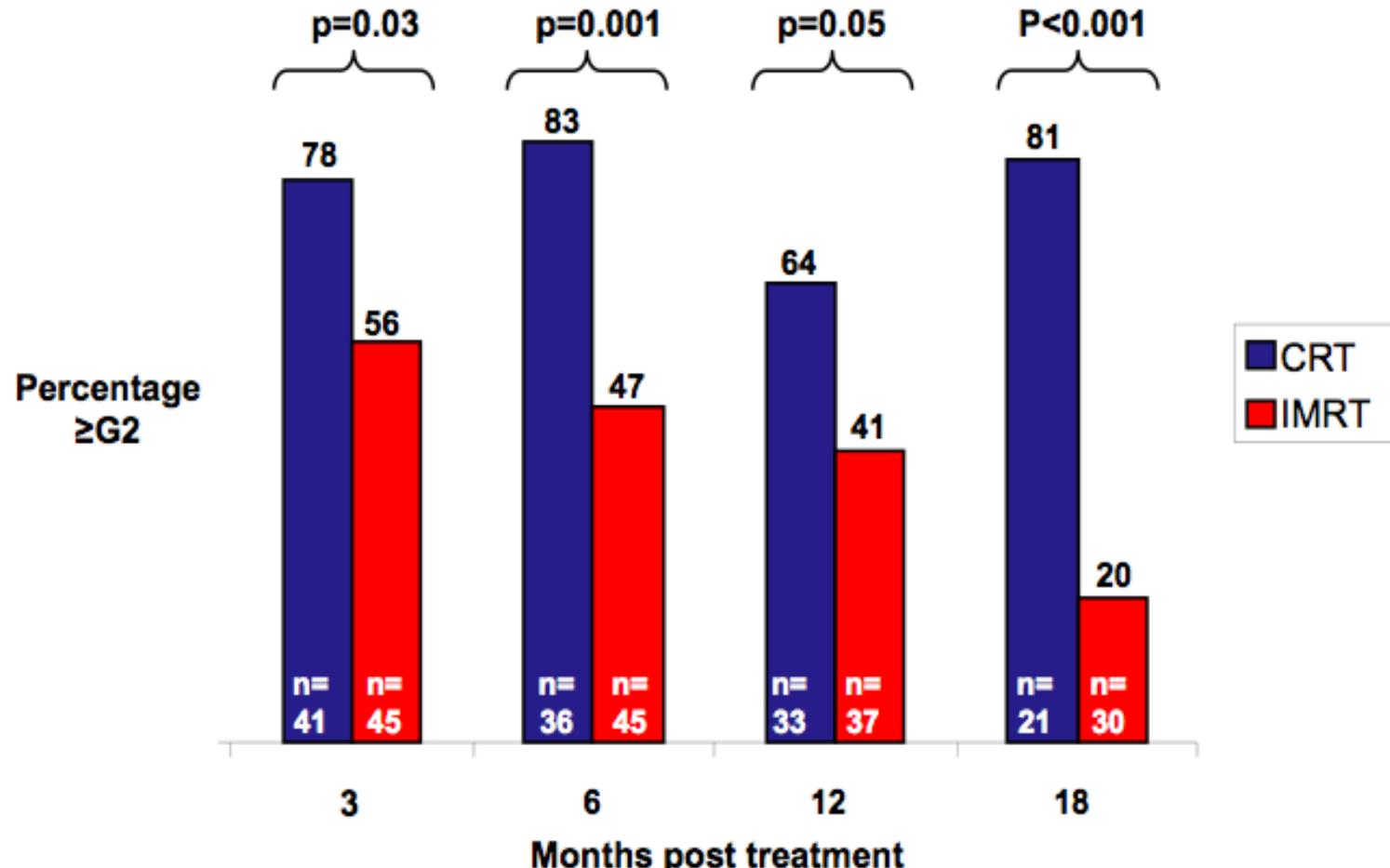


Note: The prevalence of grade 3 or higher mucositis was significantly lower among IMRT-treated patients. This is most likely due to the SIB-technique used with a lower dose per fraction and a longer overall treatment time of radiation for the elective part of the target volume.

# Parotid gland sparing in IMRT for HNSCC



## RTOG Subjective Salivary Gland toxicity $\geq G2^*$



\*Moderate or complete dryness of mouth  
poor or no response on stimulation



# IMRT: revisiting the fractionation dogma?

- Option 1: 2-phase IMRT
  - elective PTV:  $25 \times 2.0$  Gy
  - therapeutic PTV:  $35 \times 2.0$  Gy
- Option 2: high dose per fraction SIB-IMRT
  - elective PTV: e.g.  $30 \times 1.85$  Gy
  - therapeutic PTV: e.g.  $30 \times 2.3$  Gy
- Option 3: low dose per fraction SIB-IMRT
  - elective PTV: e.g.  $35 \times 1.55$  Gy
  - therapeutic PTV: e.g.  $35 \times 2.0$  Gy

# The current practice: Conformality...?

Yes !

# The current practice: Tailoring...?



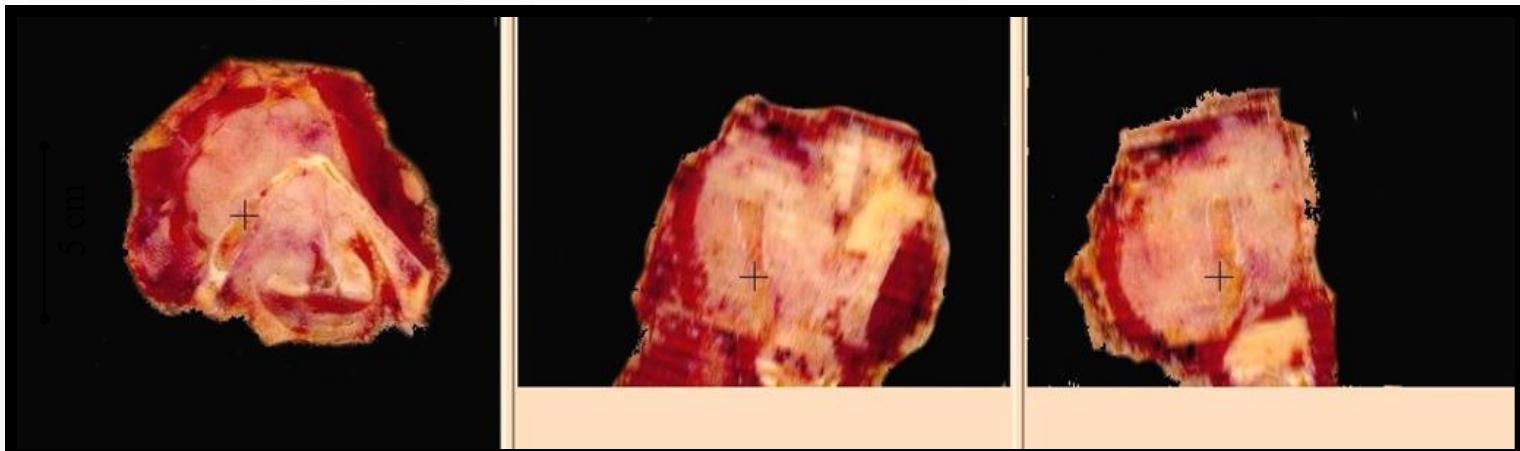
# The Gross Tumor volume (GTV)

Jean-François Daisne, MD  
Thierry Duprez, MD  
Birgit Weynand, MD  
Max Lonneux, MD, PhD  
Marc Hamoir, MD  
Hervé Reyhler, MD, DDS  
Vincent Grégoire, MD, PhD

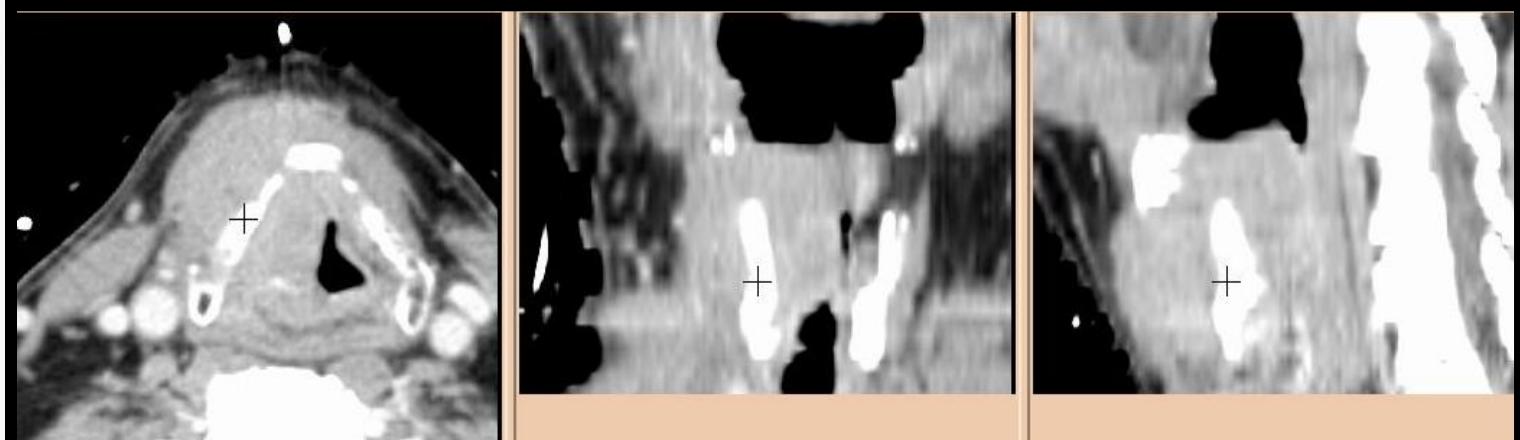
**Index terms:**

Head and neck neoplasms, CT,  
26.1211, 27.1211  
Head and neck neoplasms, MR,

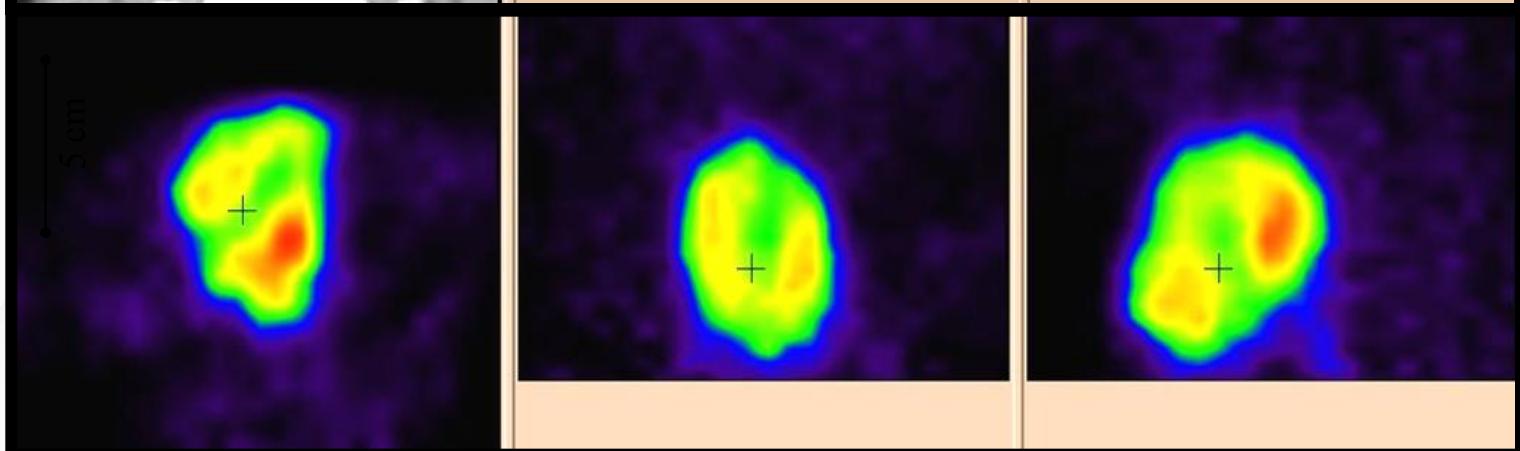
## **Tumor Volume in Pharyngolaryngeal Squamous Cell Carcinoma: Comparison at CT, MR Imaging, and FDG PET and Validation with Surgical Specimen<sup>1</sup>**



Macroscopy



CAT Scan



$^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG  
PET



# The “ground truth” GTV

	Vol (ml)	Mismach <sub>x/CT</sub>	Mismach <sub>x/MR</sub>	Mismach <sub>x/PET</sub>	Mismach <sub>x/macro</sub>
CT	20.8	-	26%	48%	81%
MR	23.8	45%	?	67%	107%
FDG-PET	16.3*	17%	15%	-	47%
Macro	12.6*	10%	9%	13%	-

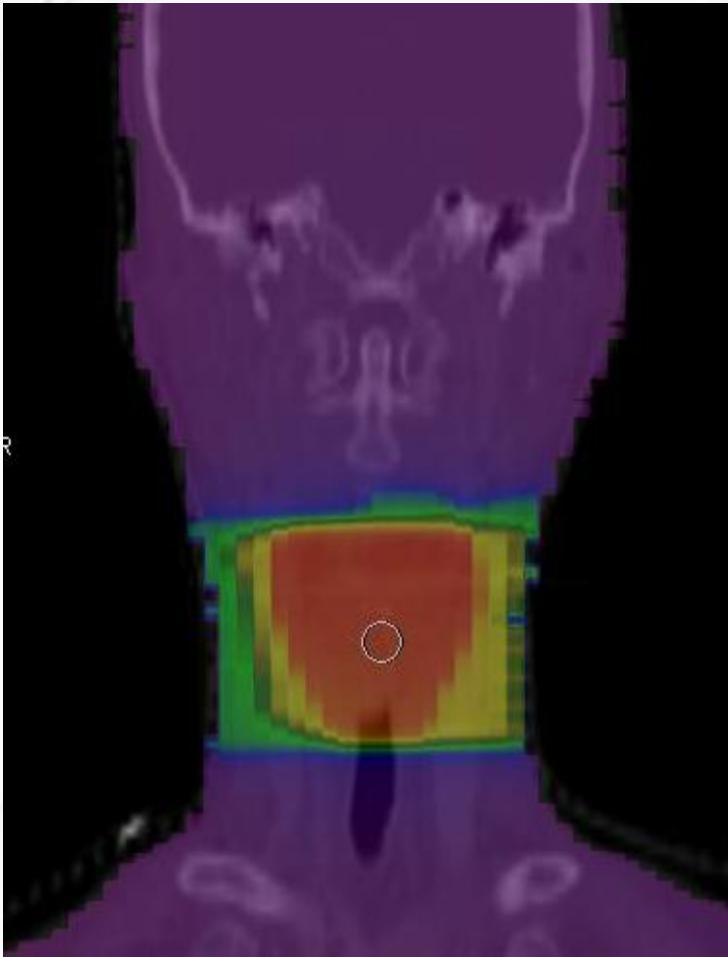
\*p<0.05 (Wilcoxon rank test)



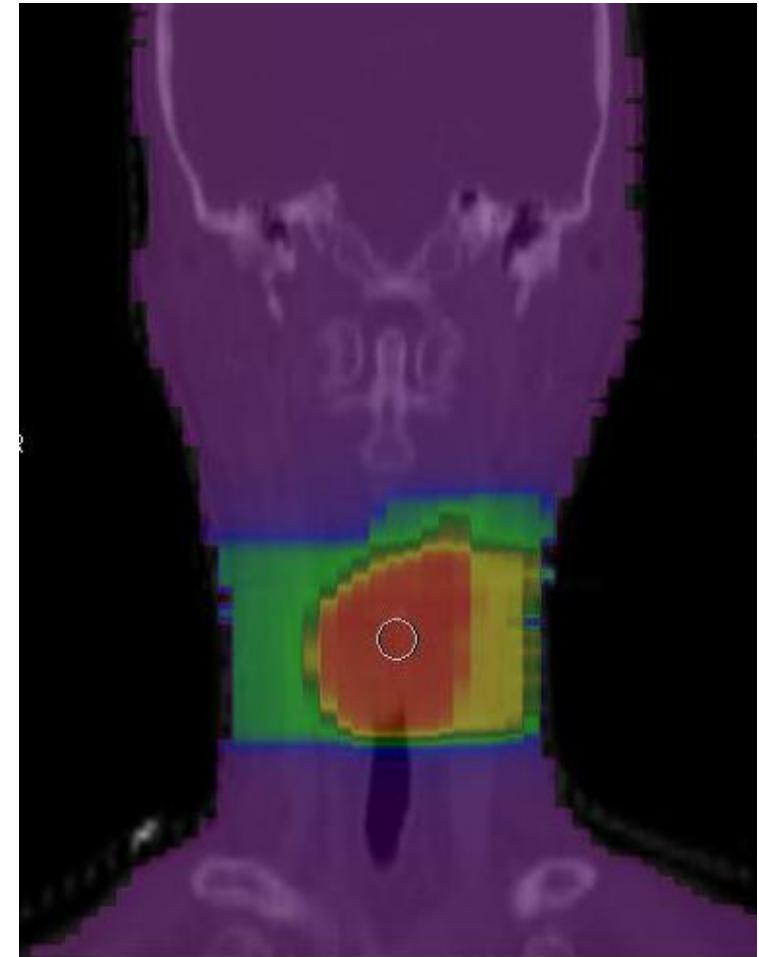
# Image-Guided Radiation Therapy in HNSCC

Impact of imaging modality on dose distribution

CT-based target volume



FDG PET-based target volume





# Validation protocol in locally advanced HNSCC



Apport de l'imagerie fonctionnelle par Tomographie par Emission de Positrons (TEP) dans le ciblage biologique par radiothérapie de conformation (3D-CRT) et par modulation d'intensité (IMRT) de tumeurs ORL

Use of functional imaging with PET for target volume delineation in 3D-CRT/IMRT for head and neck tumors

Prof. V. Grégoire, UCL St-Luc, Brussels, Belgium

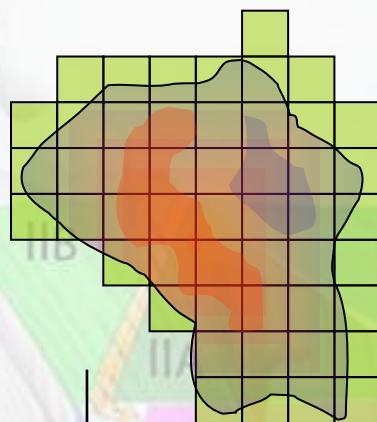
Prof. E. Lartigau, COL, Lille, France

Dr. JF Daisnes, Cliniques St-Elisabeth, Namur, Belgium

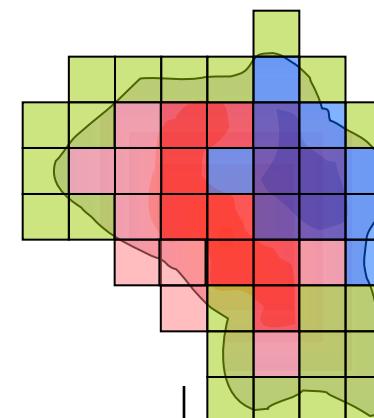


# “Dose painting” by number...

Flat dose



Non-flat dose



Far more efficient use of dose

Mean Tumor Dose = 2 Gy

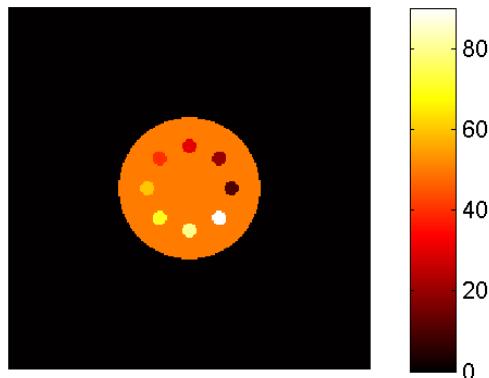
Survival is non-flat  
(higher in resistant areas)

More similar survival  
across entire tumor

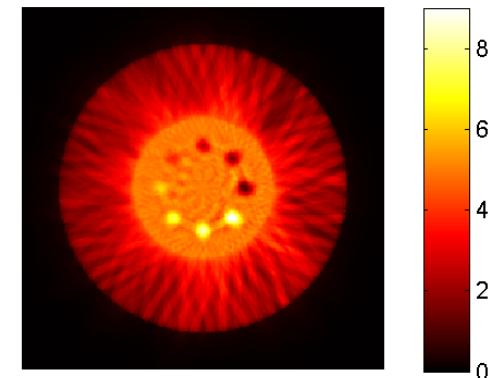
# “Dose painting”: the physics issue



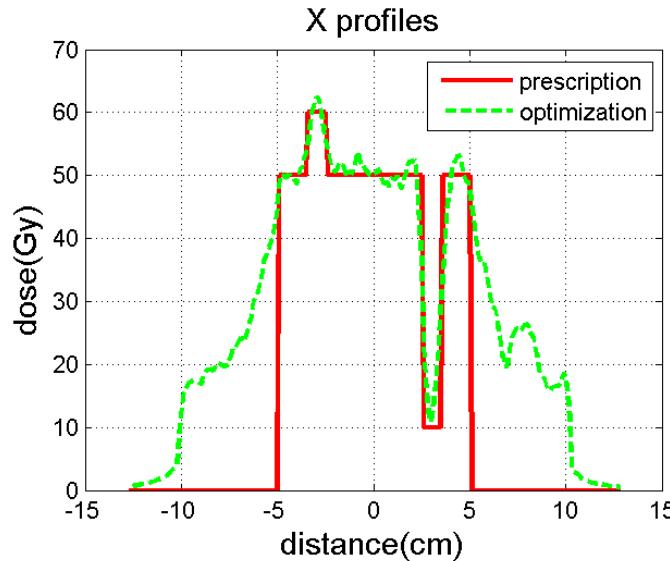
prescription



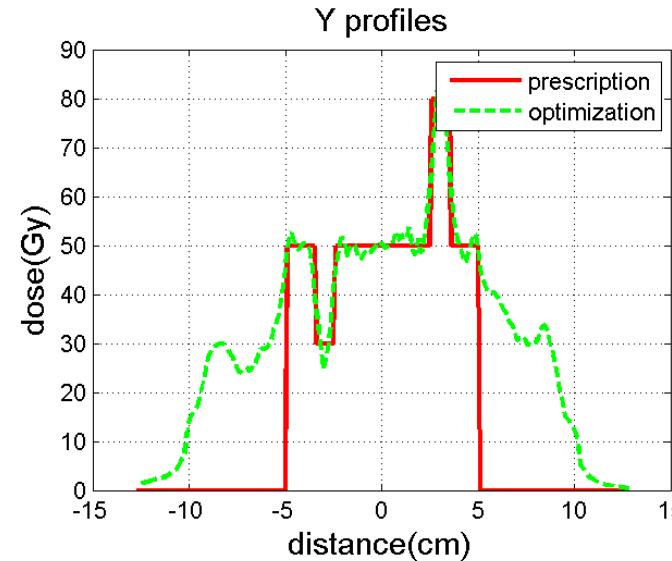
optimization



X profiles



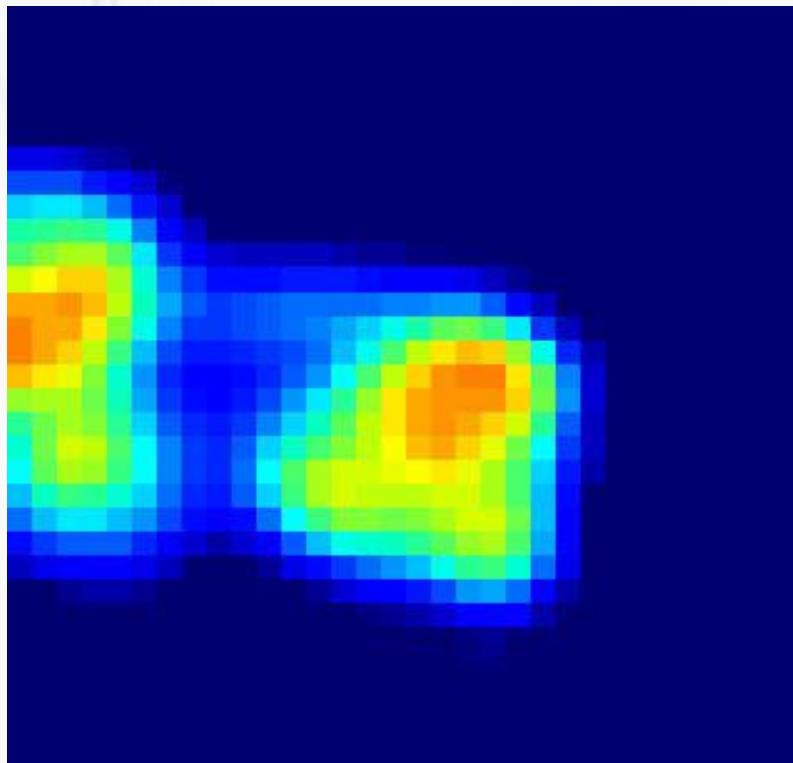
Y profiles





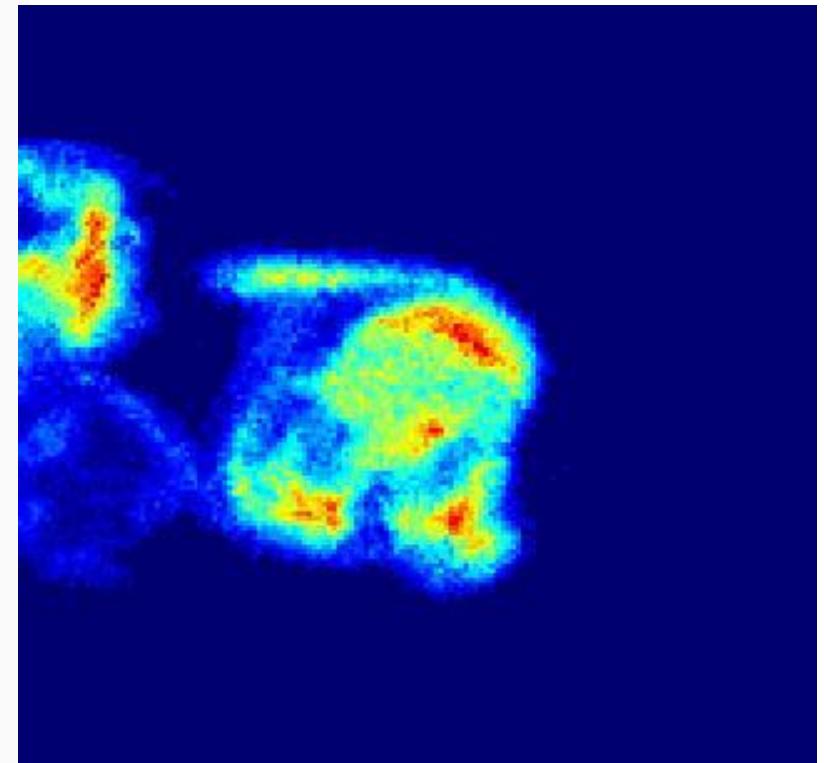
# Biological heterogeneity

[<sup>18</sup>F]-FDG TEP



Résolution 2.3 mm

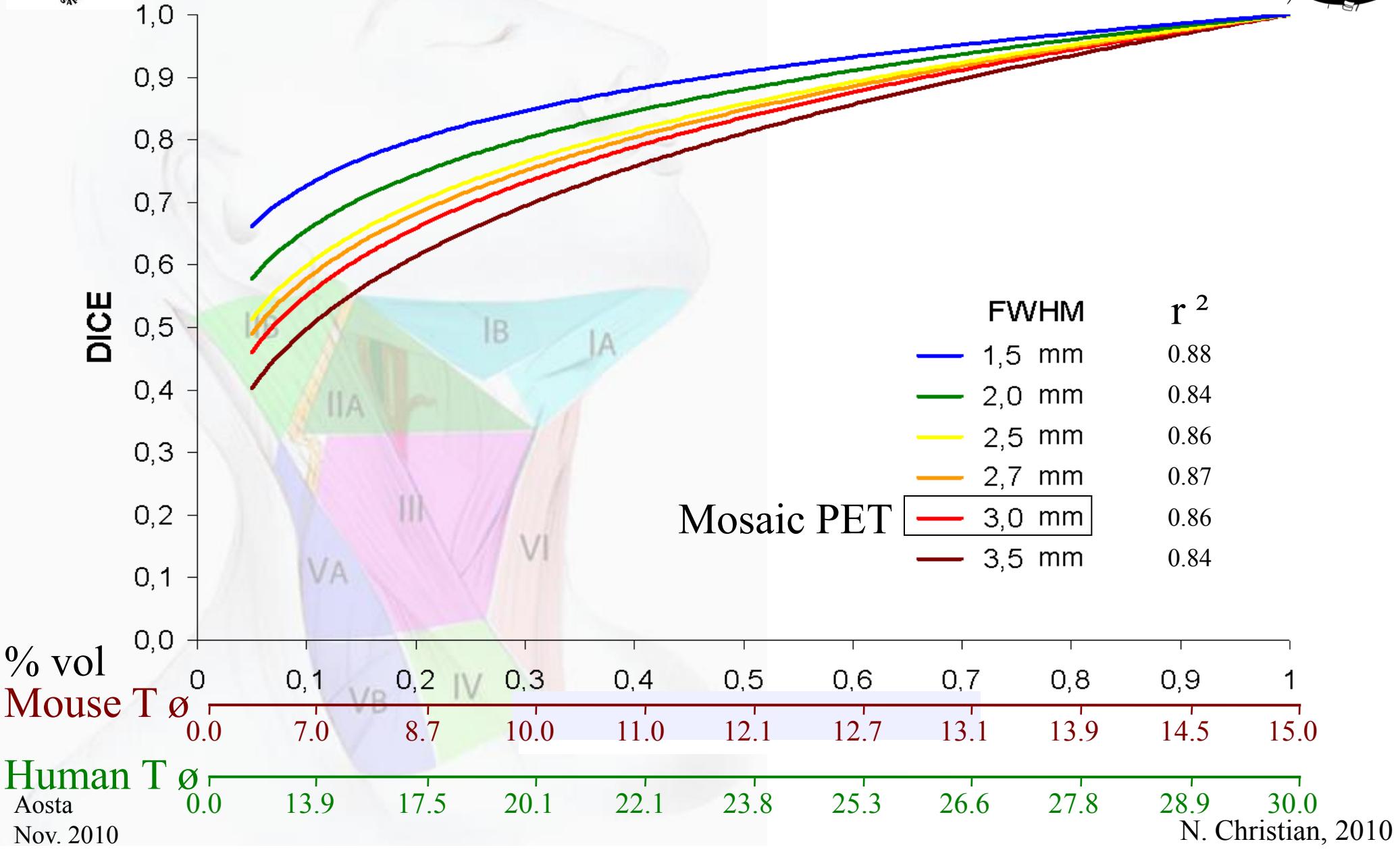
Registered  
autoradiography



Résolution 0.1 mm



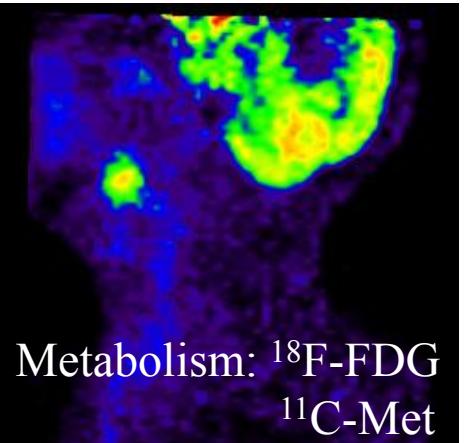
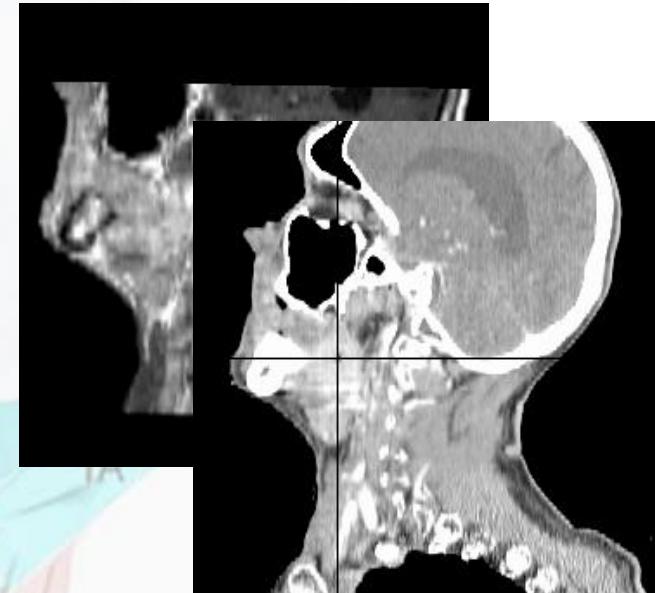
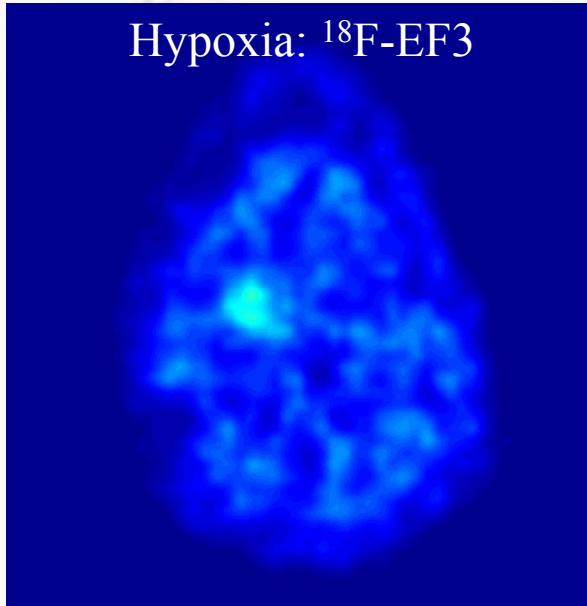
# Effect of resolution



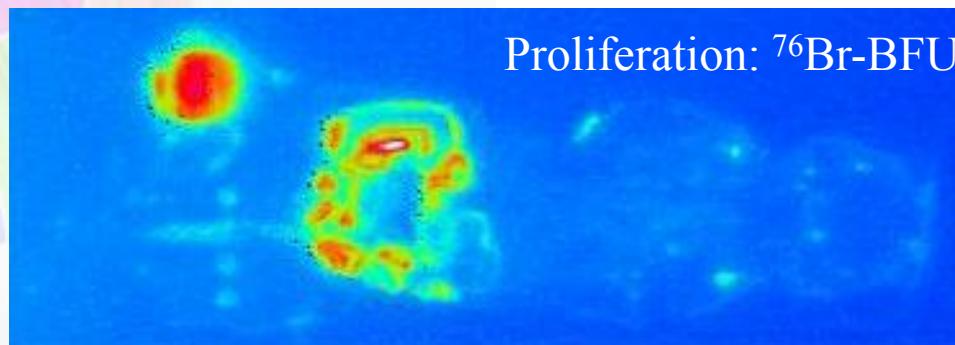


# Which biological pathways? ...

Hypoxia:  $^{18}\text{F}$ -EF3

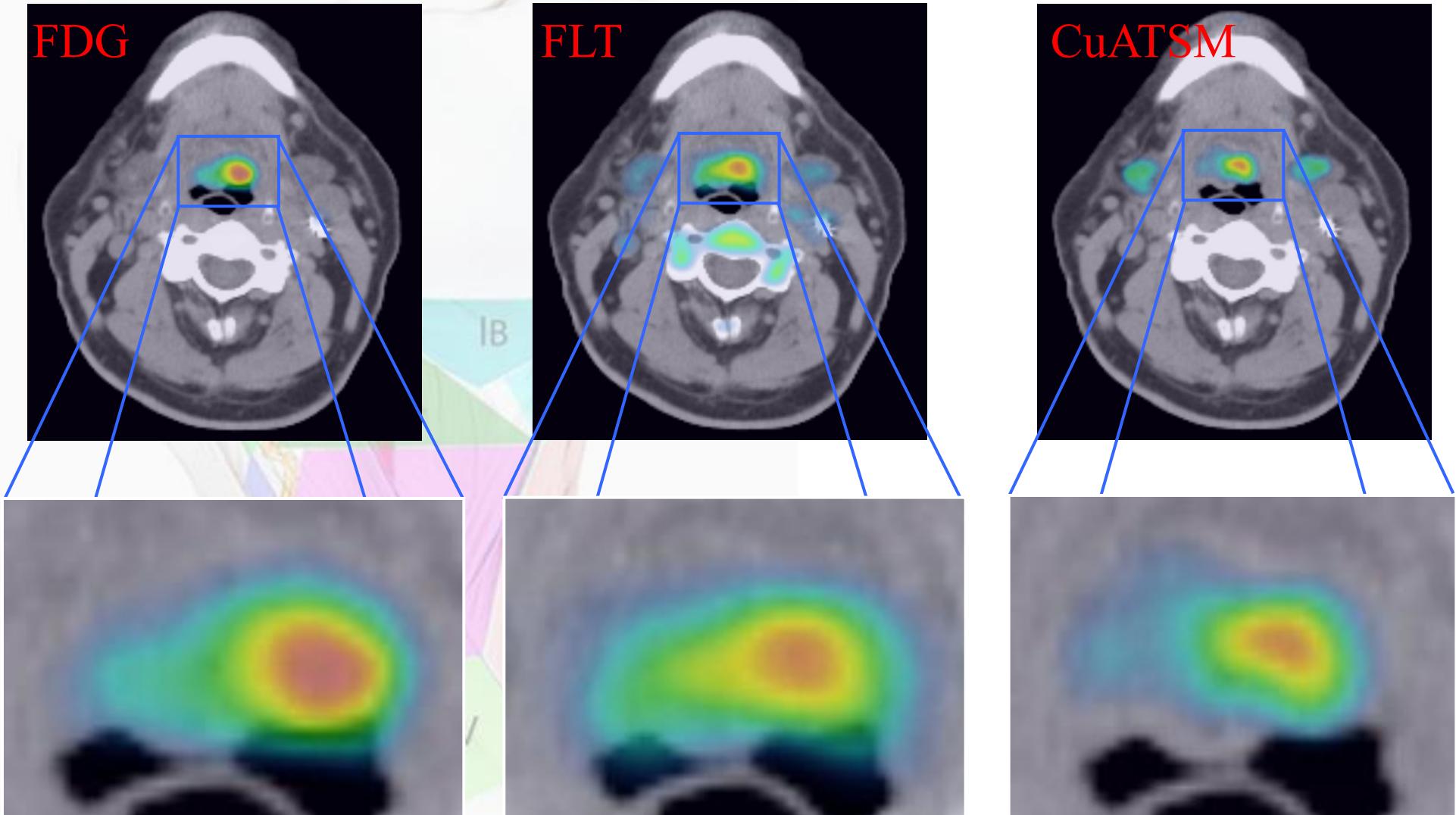


Proliferation:  $^{76}\text{Br}$ -BFU



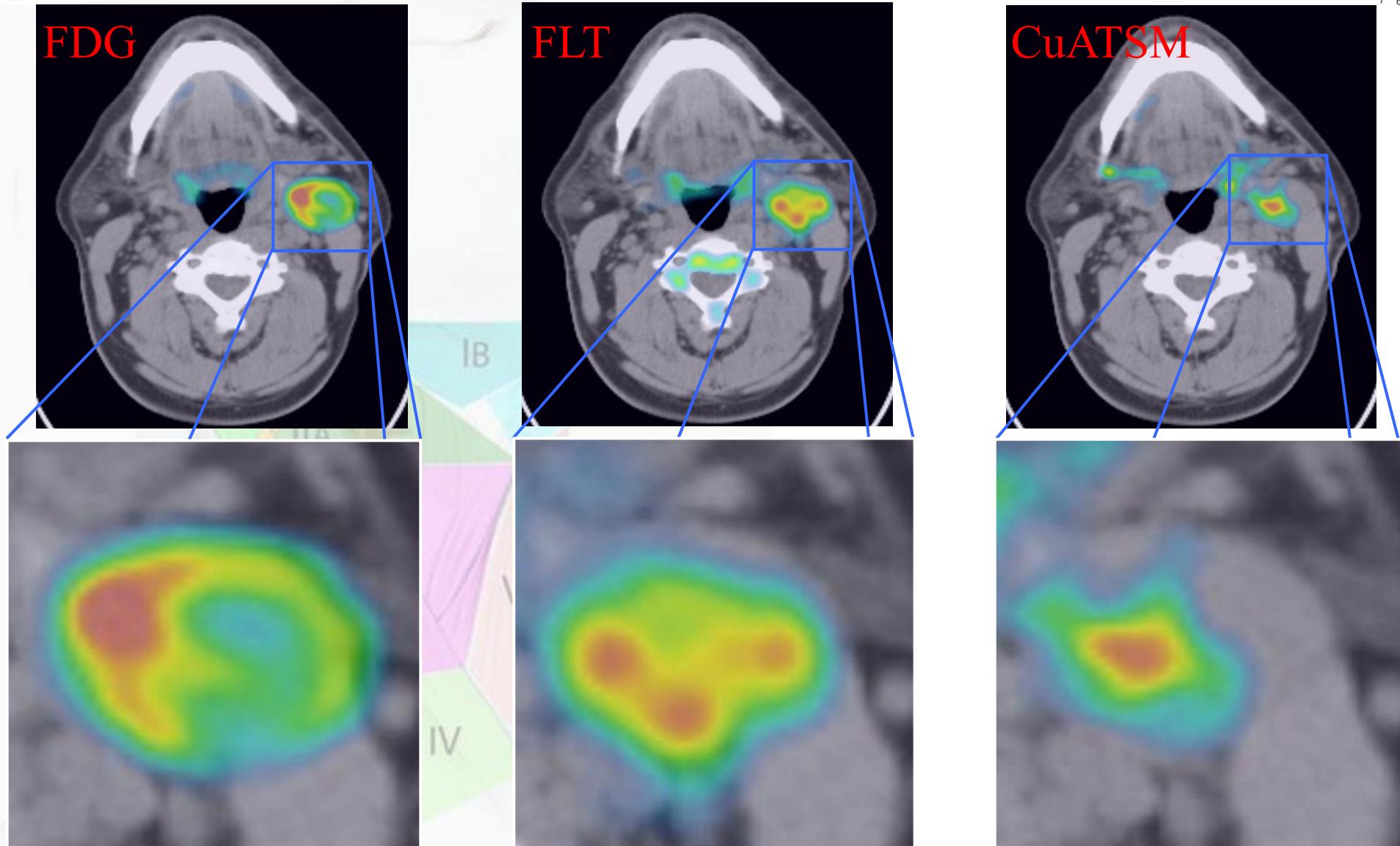


# Spatially “similar” target





# Spatially “complex” target





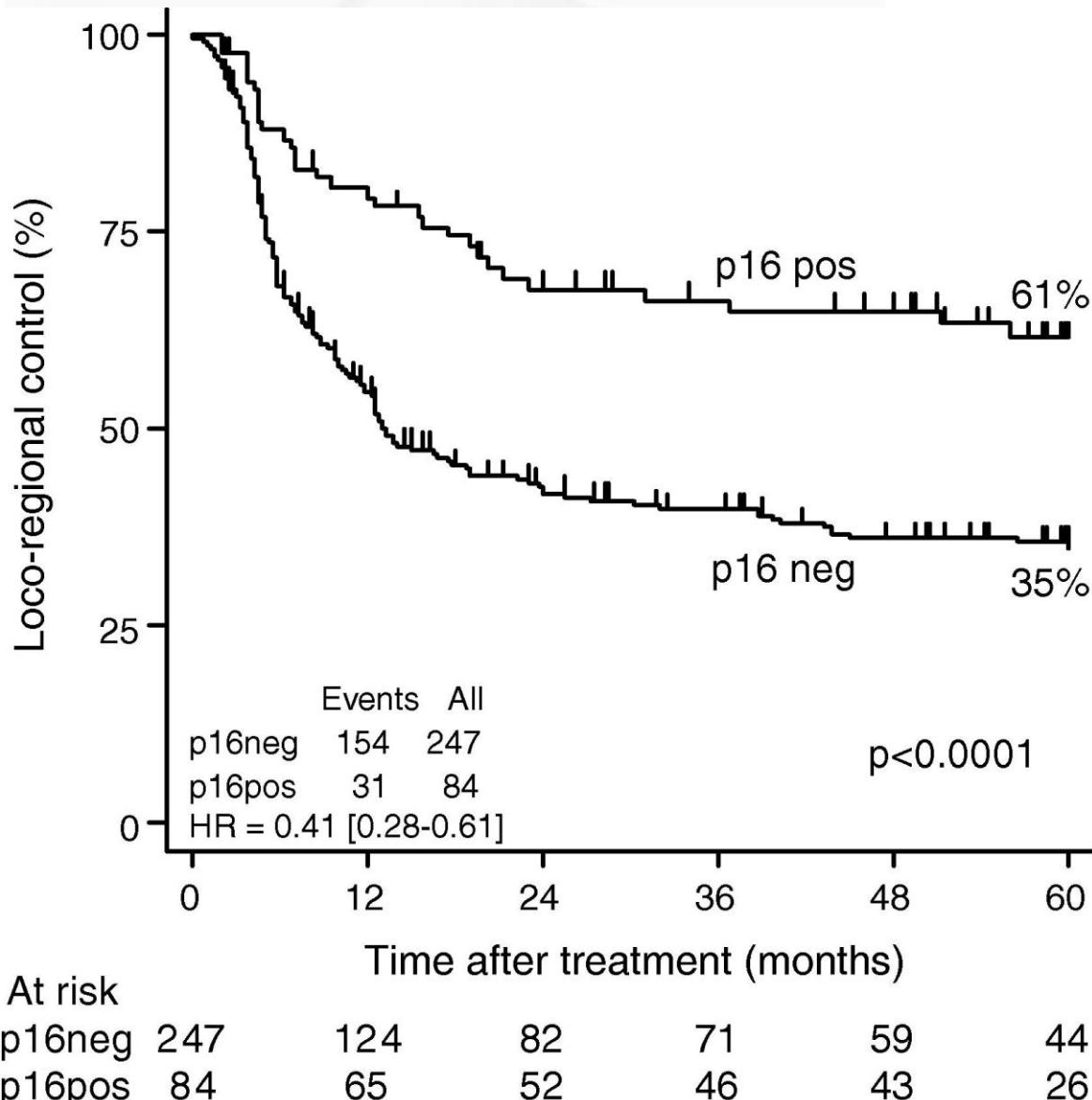
# Molecular personalization (tailoring)

Molecular and epidemiological evidence suggest that HPV is associated with a distinct subset of HNSCC

- palatine and lingual tonsils
- p53 WT
- low Rb expression
- basaloid
- less alcohol and tobacco exposure
- correlation with HIV+ and ano-genital HPV+ cancer



# Molecular profiling: HPV in HNSCC



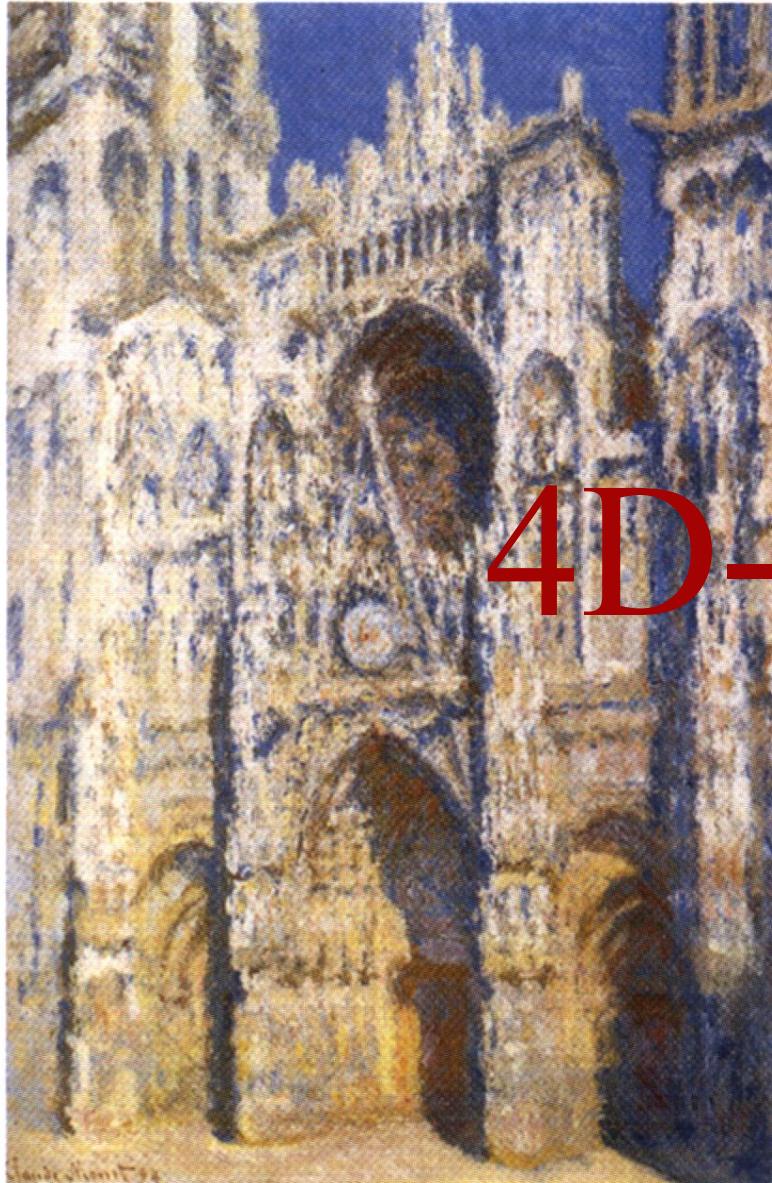
Pharyngo-laryngeal SCC  
RxTh: 66-68 Gy  
p16 IHC



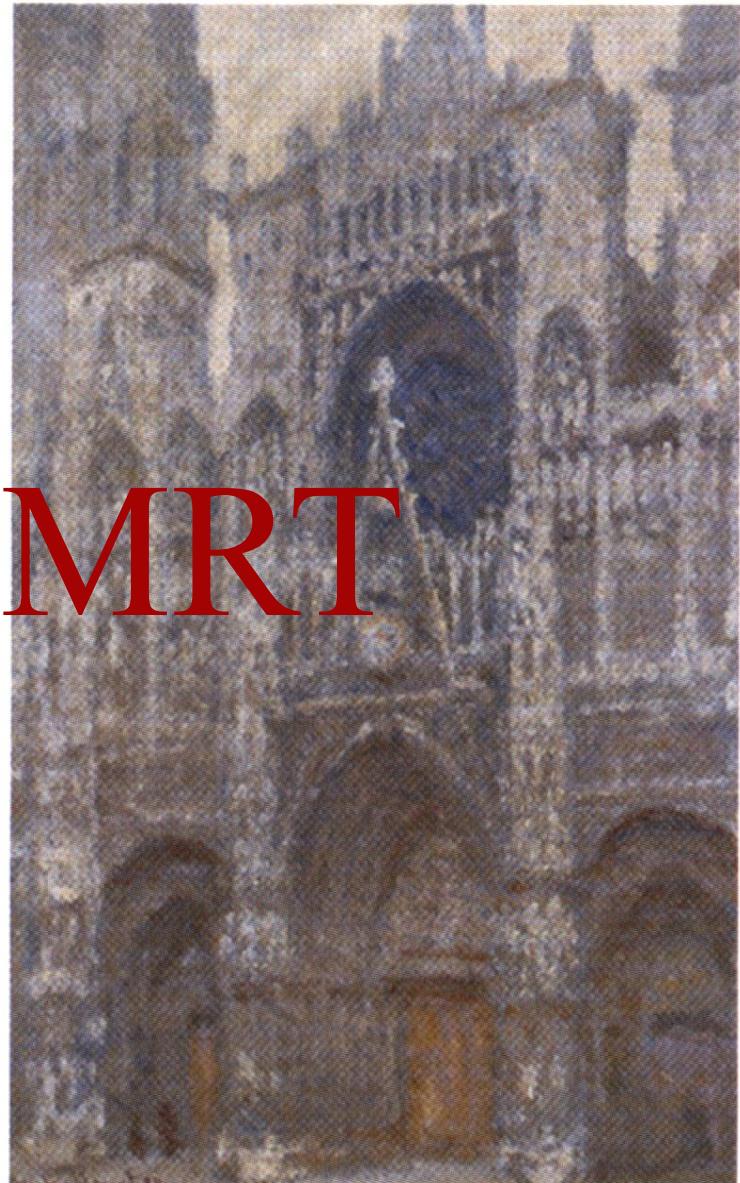
# The current practice: Tailoring...?

# Great hope but still in the research arena!

# The current practice: Adaptation...?



4D-IMRT

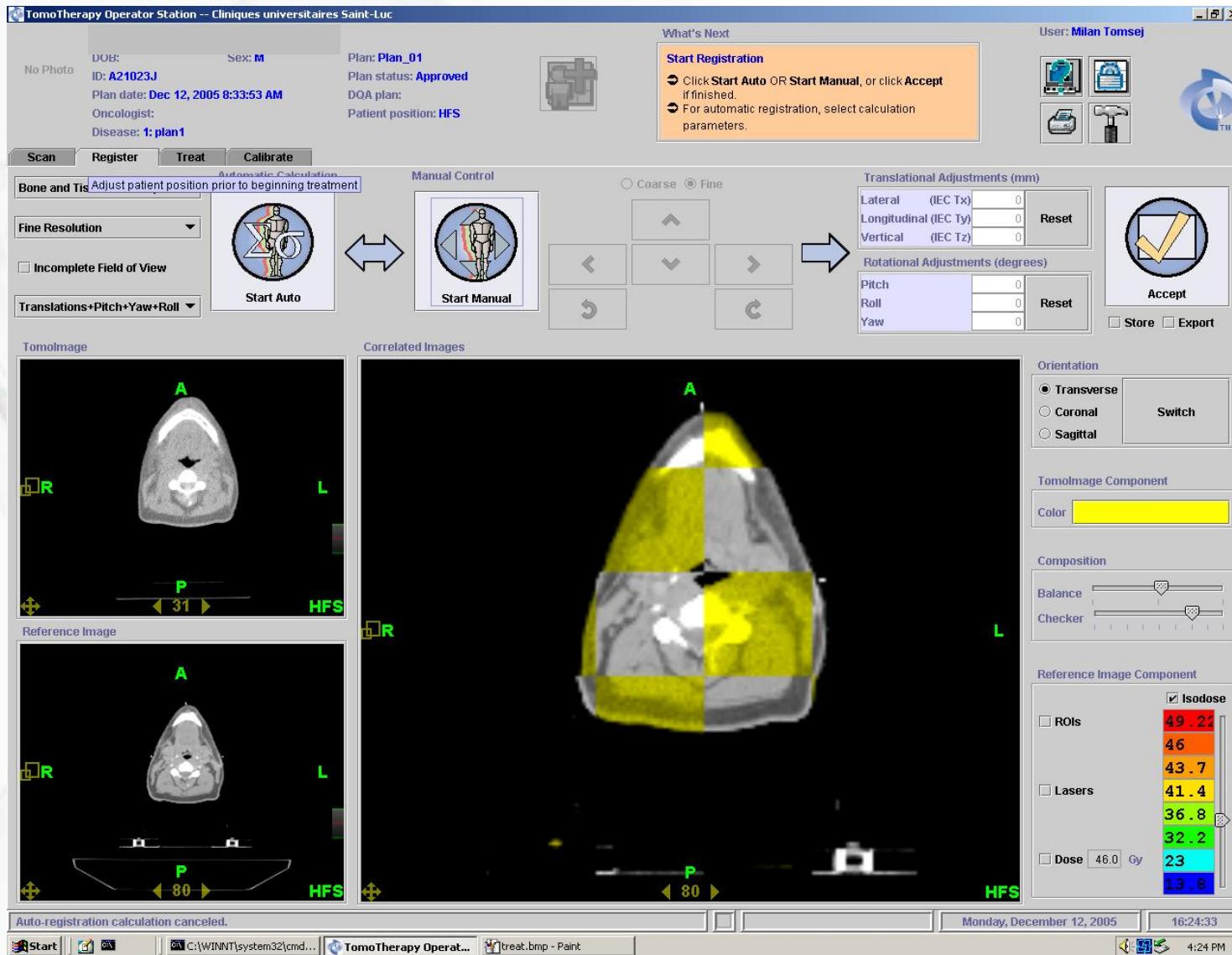


The Cathedral of Rouen

C. Monet, 1894



# Geometric 4D-IMRT



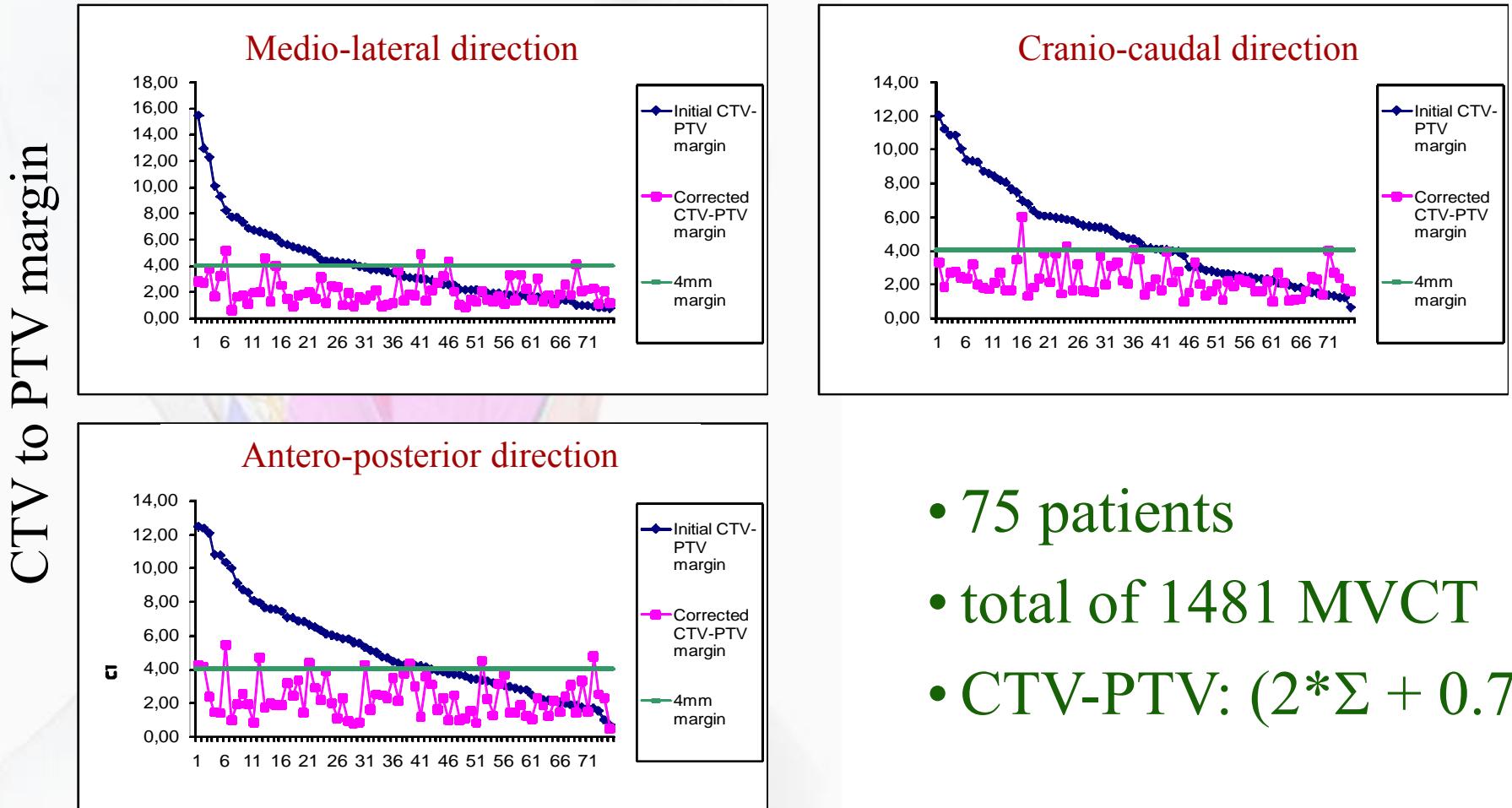
MVCT

kVCT

# Geometric 4D-IMRT



## Alternate week MVCTs: CTV-PTV margins

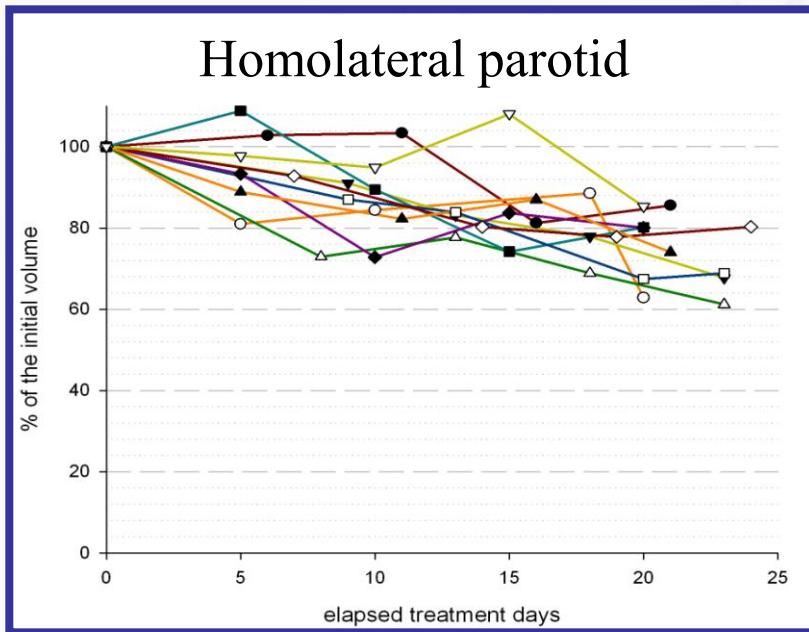


- 75 patients
- total of 1481 MVCT
- CTV-PTV:  $(2 * \Sigma + 0.7\sigma)$



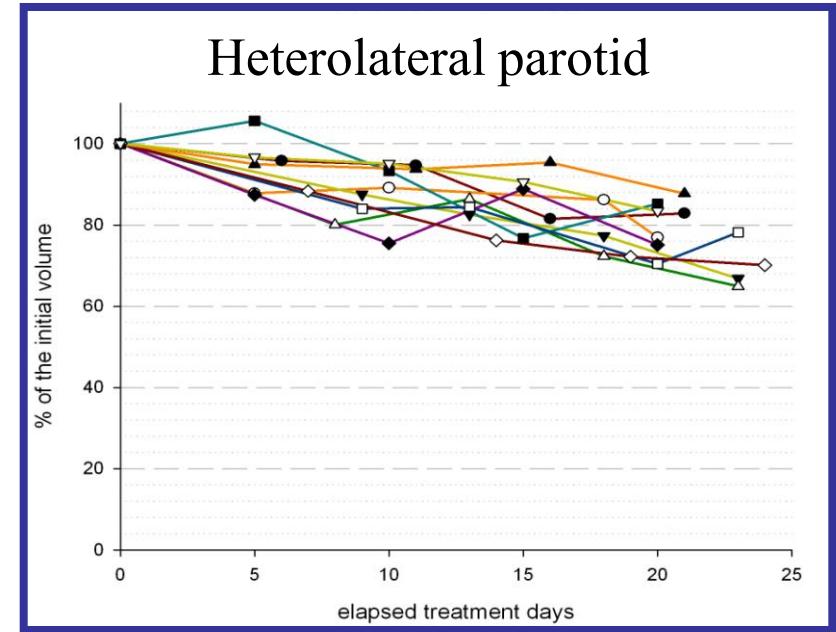
# Variation in parotid volumes during RT-CH...

(70 Gy – 3 courses on w1, w4, w7)



Mean slope: -0.93% / treat day ( $p<0.05$ )

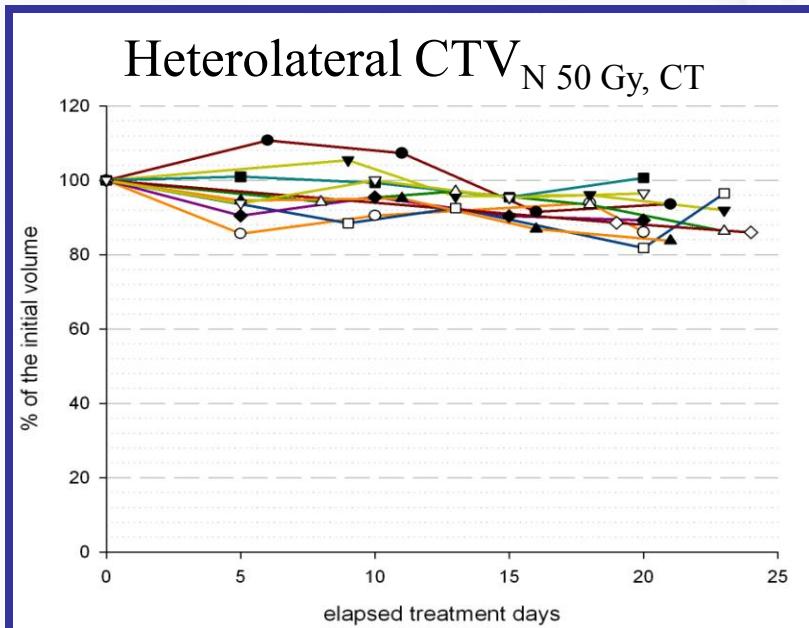
Medial shift: 3.21mm after 25# ( $p<0.05$ )



Mean slope: -1.03% / treat day ( $p<0.05$ )

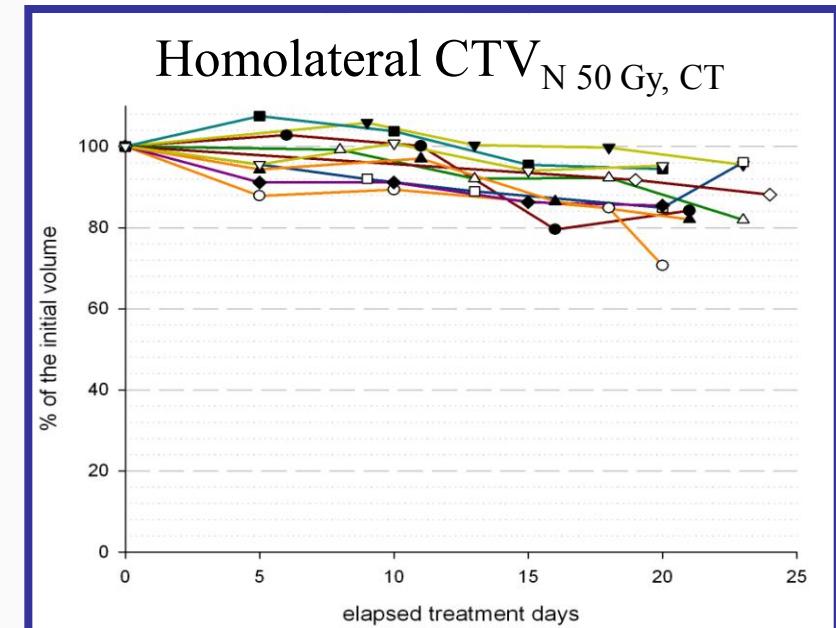
No shift

# Variation in prophylactic CTVs during RT-CH... (70 Gy – 3 courses on w1, w4, w7)



Mean slope: -0.47% / treat day ( $p<0.05$ )

No shift



Mean slope: -0.41% / treat day ( $p<0.05$ )

Medial shift: 1.76mm after 25# ( $p<0.05$ )



KATHOLIEKE  
UNIVERSITEIT  
LEUVEN

PRE-R/

(Week 2)

WEEK 3

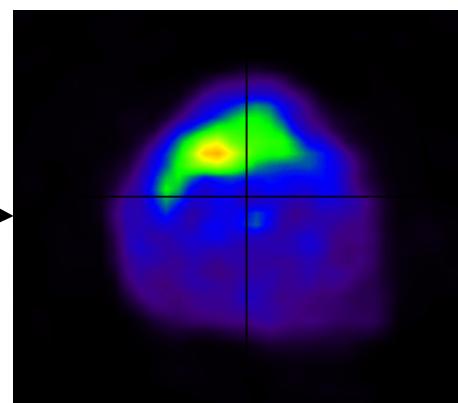
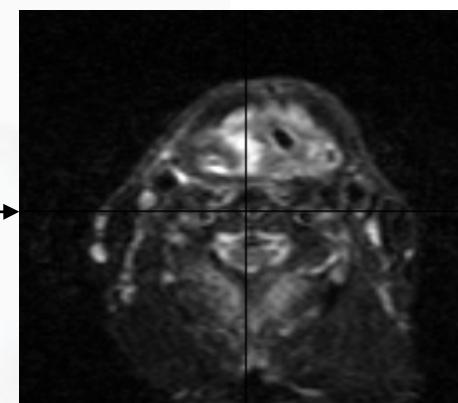
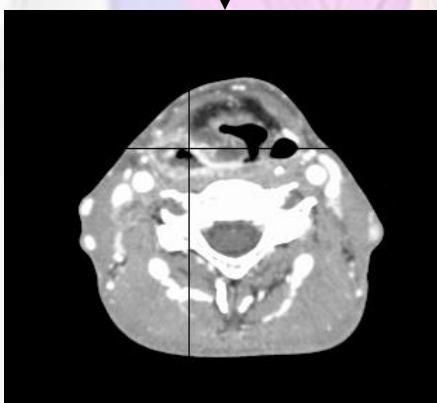
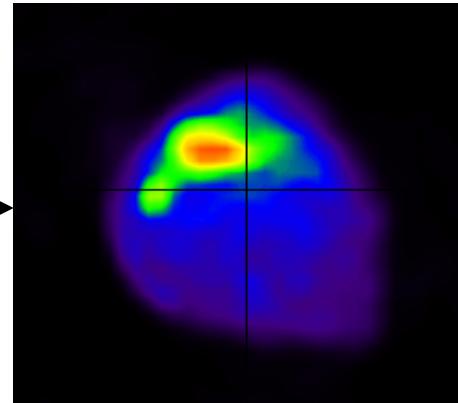
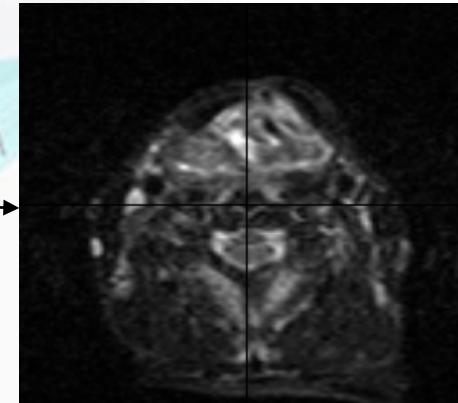
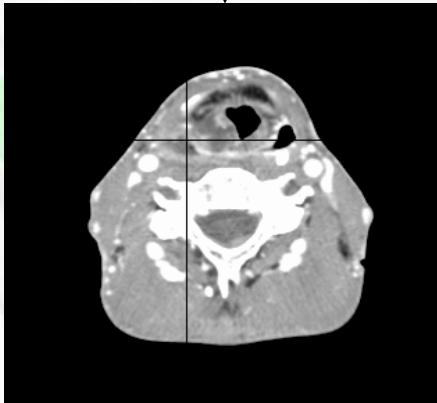
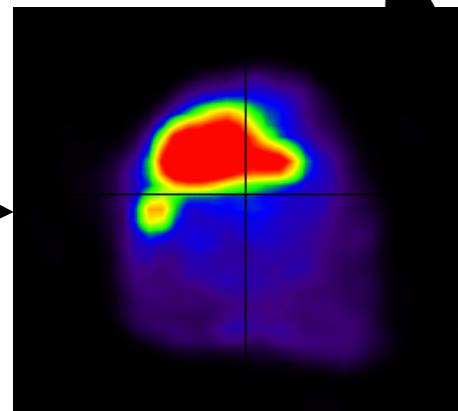
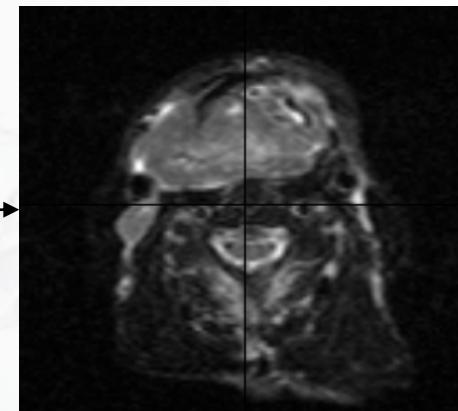
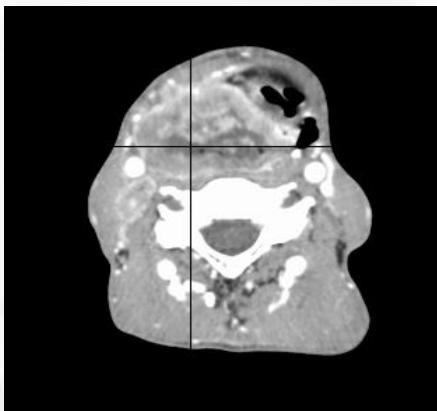
(Week 4)

WEEK 5

CT

MRI (T2)

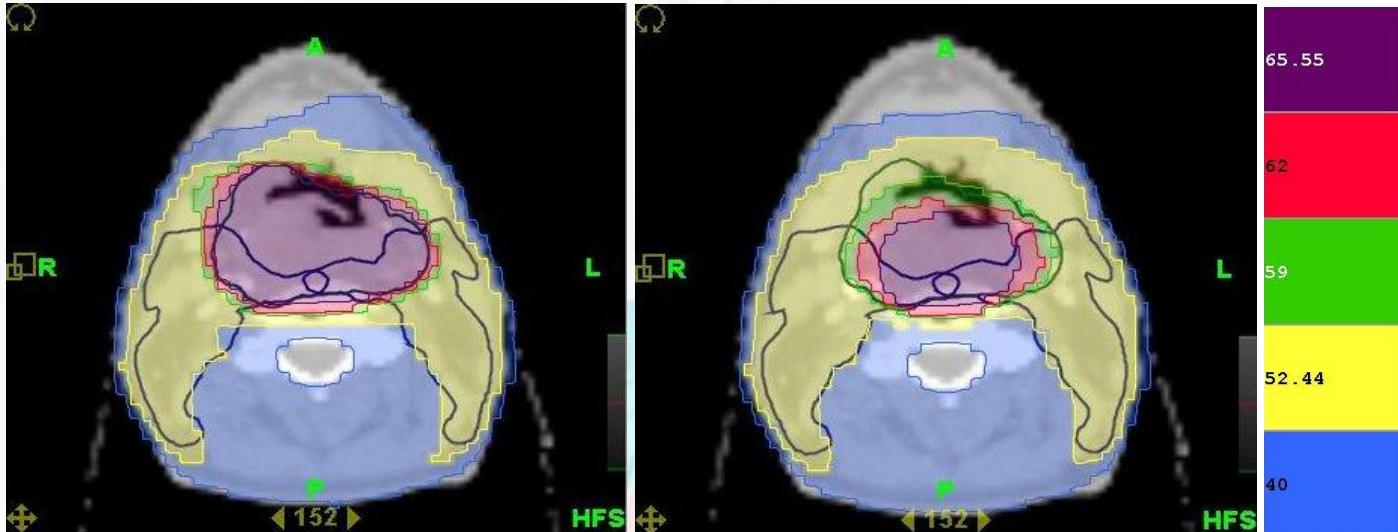
FDG-PET





# Impact on dose distribution

Classic CT-based planning   Adaptive PET-based planning



Planning	V <sub>10</sub>	V <sub>50</sub>	V <sub>80</sub>	V <sub>90</sub>	V <sub>95</sub>	V <sub>100</sub>
Classic CT-based	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Adaptive CT-based	99%	100%	100%	85%	80%	66%
Classic PET-based	99%	99%	98%	83%	82%	81%
Adaptive PET-based	99%	100%	98%	73%	67%	58%



# Dose distribution after biological adaptive IMRT

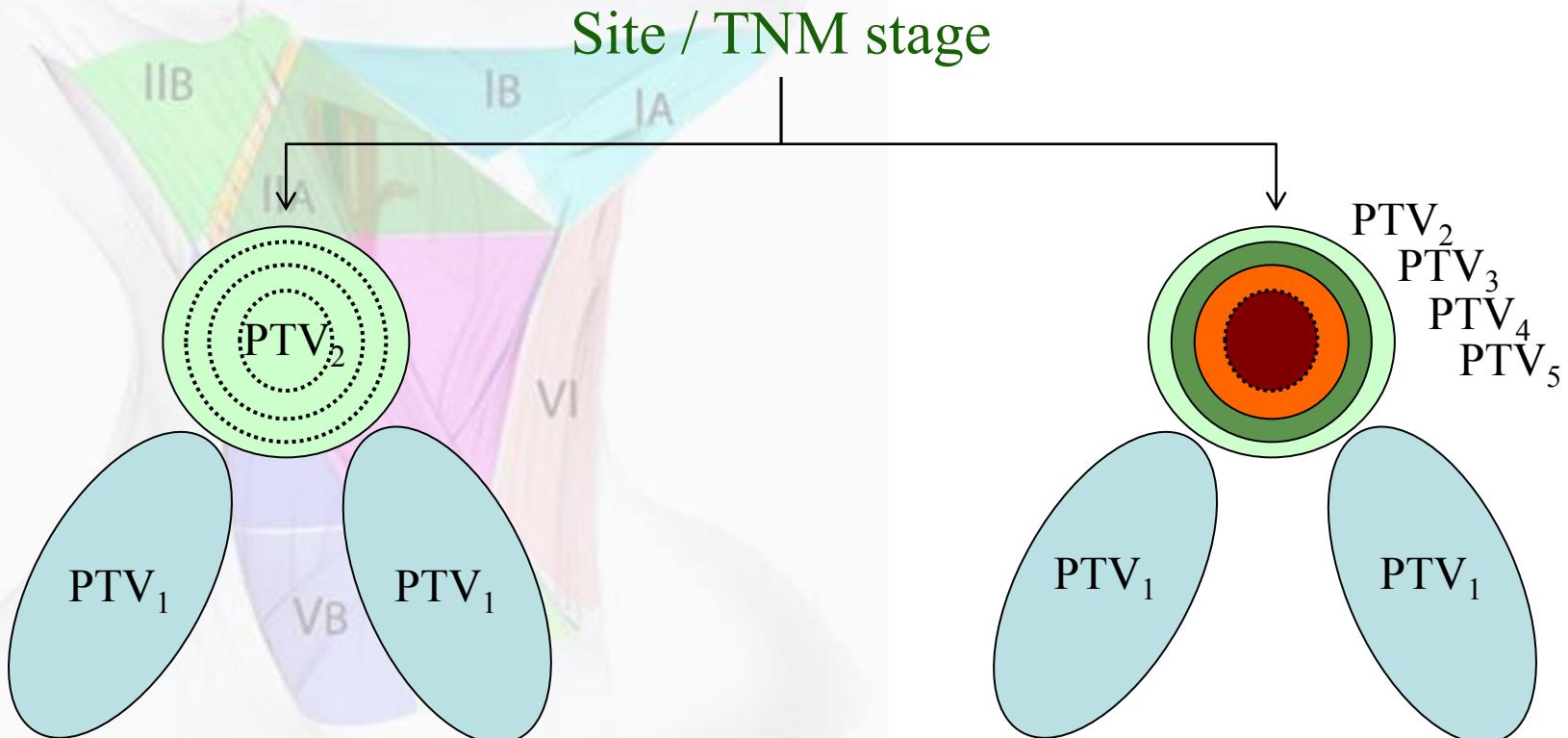
	« Classical » CT-based	« Classical » PET-based	« Real » CT-based	« Real » PET-based	Adaptive CT-based	Adaptive PET-based
Homolat Parotid $D_{mean}$ (Gy)	22.05	21.63	23.80	23.27	22.91	22.09
Heterolat Parotid $D_{mean}$ (Gy)	18.15	20.00	18.52	19.34	18.57	18.40
SC $D_2$ (Gy)	39.49	39.76	41	42.04	37.90	38.26
Larynx $D_5$ (Gy)	65.63	66.33	65.37	66.35	65.57	65.37
Oral cavity $D_{mean}$ (Gy)	37.80	35.18	38.79	36.16	36.01	33.35
Mandible $D_2$ (Gy)	60.59	57.51	59.52	56.77	58.30	57.27
Homolat Submax gl $D_{mean}$ (Gy)	65.04	62.96	65.52	63.59	64.57	63.09
Heterolat Submax gl $D_{mean}$ (Gy)	54.92	53.77	54.97	53.63	55.11	54.58
Skin $V_{65Gy}$ (cc)	11.66	8.78	12.08	9.25	10.25	7.24
$V_{95\%}$ (cc)	308.89	297.00	400.11	327.56	311.39	254.40

# Concept validation: a clinical trial ?



IMRT >< geometrical adaptive IMRT ?

Geometrical adaptive IMRT >< biological adaptive IMRT ?

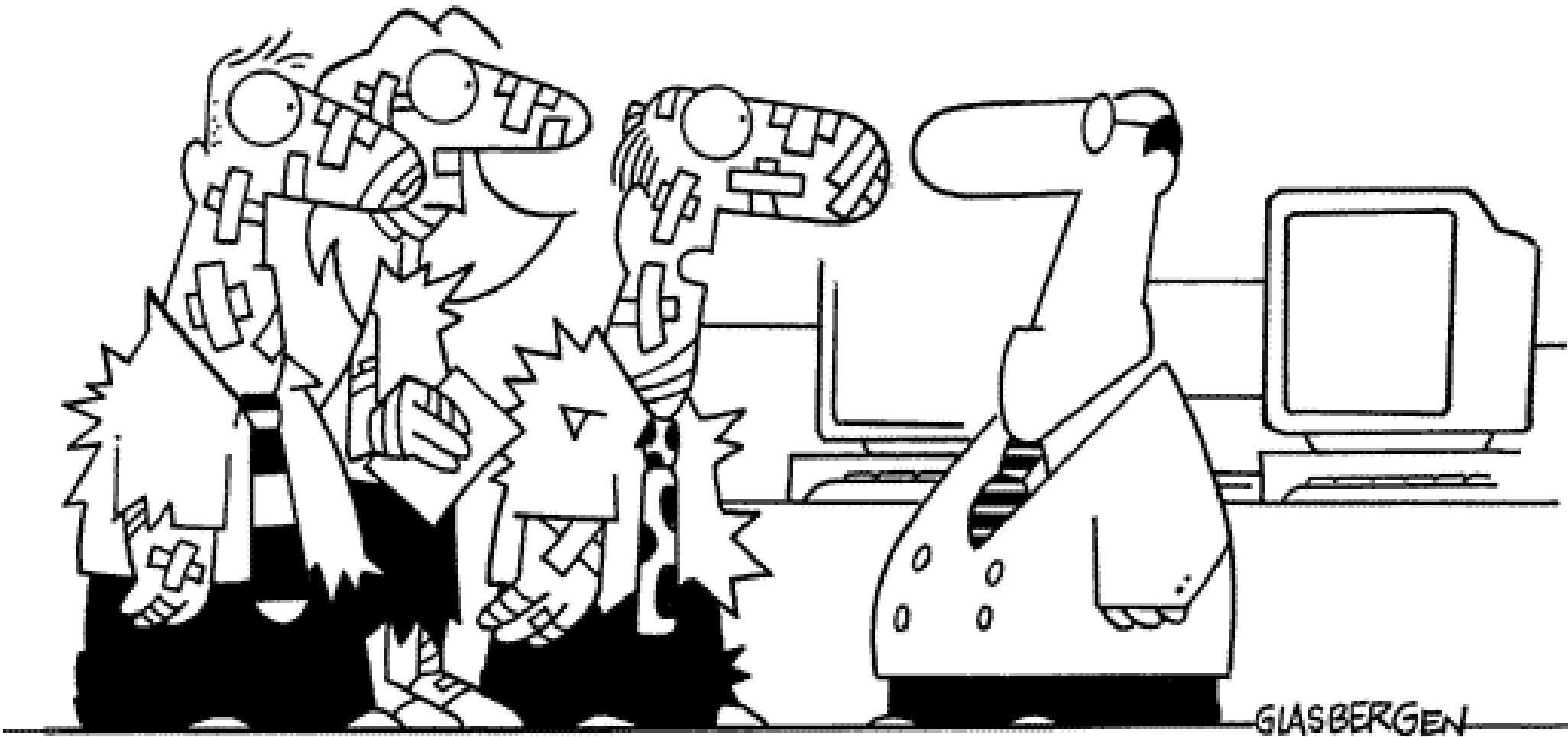




# The current practice: Adaptation...?

Geometric adaptation, yes!

Biologic & dosimetric adaptation,  
under validation!



**“Frankly sir, we’re tired of being  
on the cutting edge of technology.”**



This house believes that ...

... conformal ..., tailored ..., and adaptive ...

Where comes in the adaptivity?

But don't jump to quickly into routine  
practice...

Wait for validation!