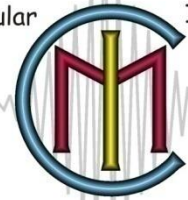




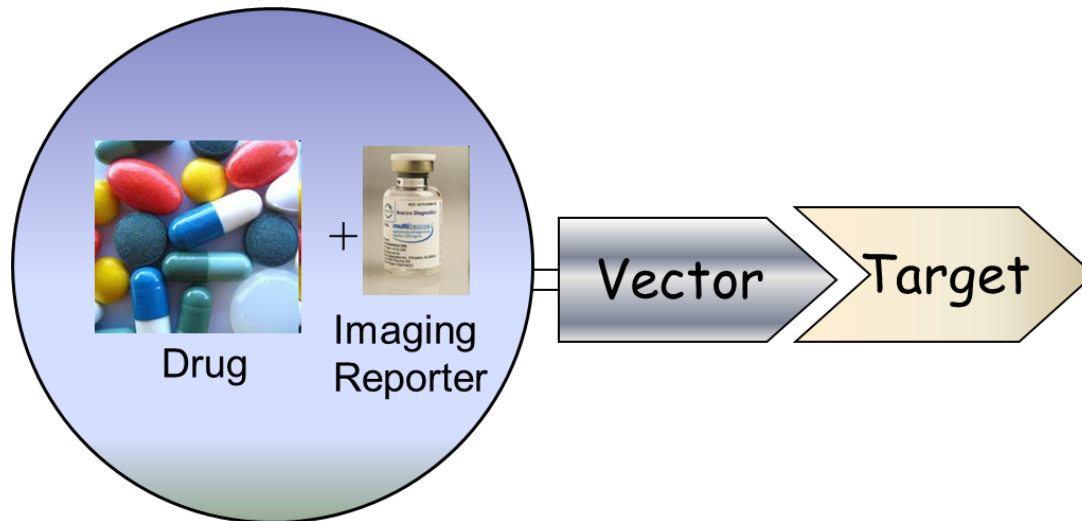
Molecular



Imaging

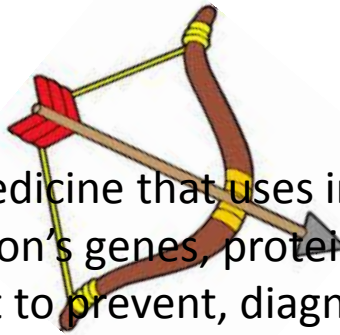
Center

In vivo preclinical Imaging Guided Therapy

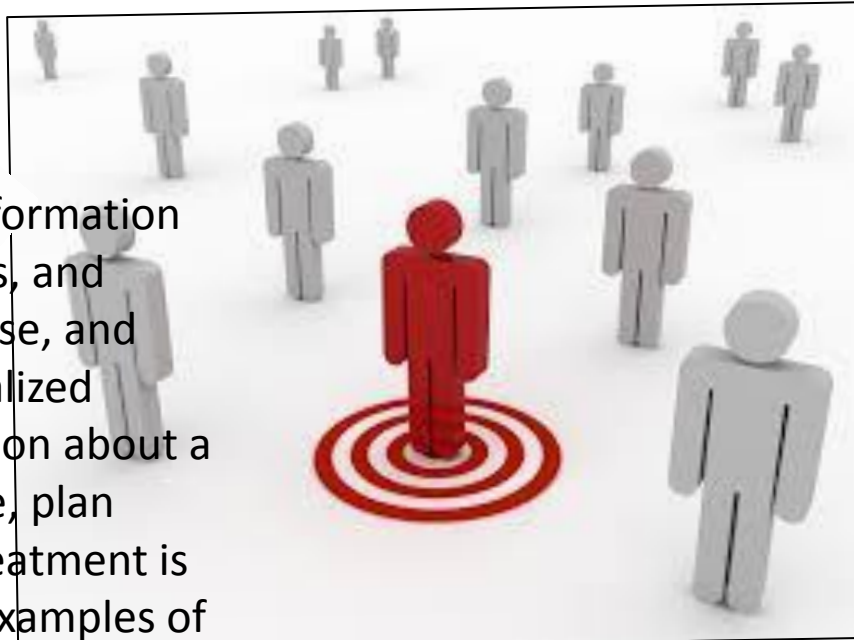


*Simonetta Geninatti Crich
University of Torino, (Italy)*

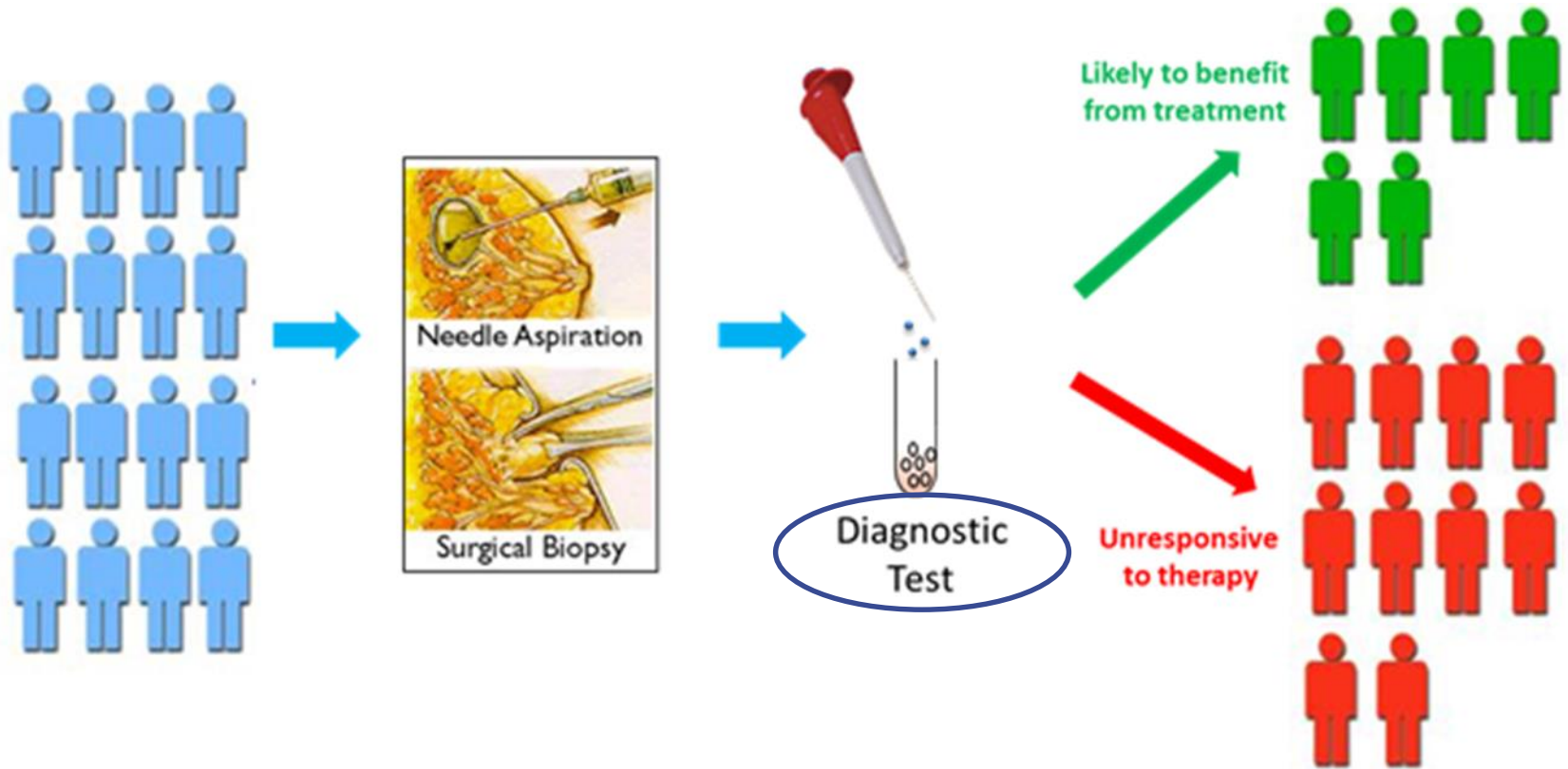
PERSONALIZED MEDICINE



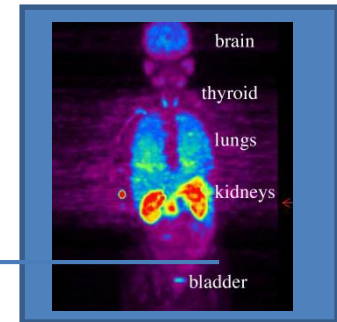
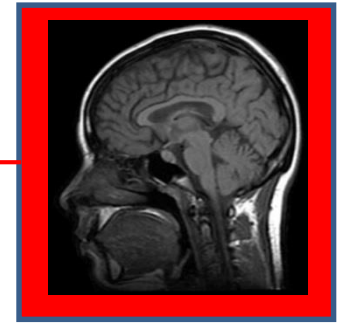
A form of medicine that uses information about a person's genes, proteins, and environment to prevent, diagnose, and treat disease. In cancer, personalized medicine uses specific information about a person's tumor to help diagnose, plan treatment, find out how well treatment is working, or make a prognosis. Examples of personalized medicine include using targeted therapies to treat specific types of cancer cells, such as HER2-positive breast cancer cells, or using tumor marker testing to help diagnose cancer. Also called precision medicine.



(1) Pre-treatment diagnostic test



(2) Imaging Guided Therapy



The current challenge for MRI contrast agents is in the field of Molecular Imaging

NANOTECHNOLOGY for IMAGING GUIDED DRUG DELIVERY

IMAGING



+

THERAPY

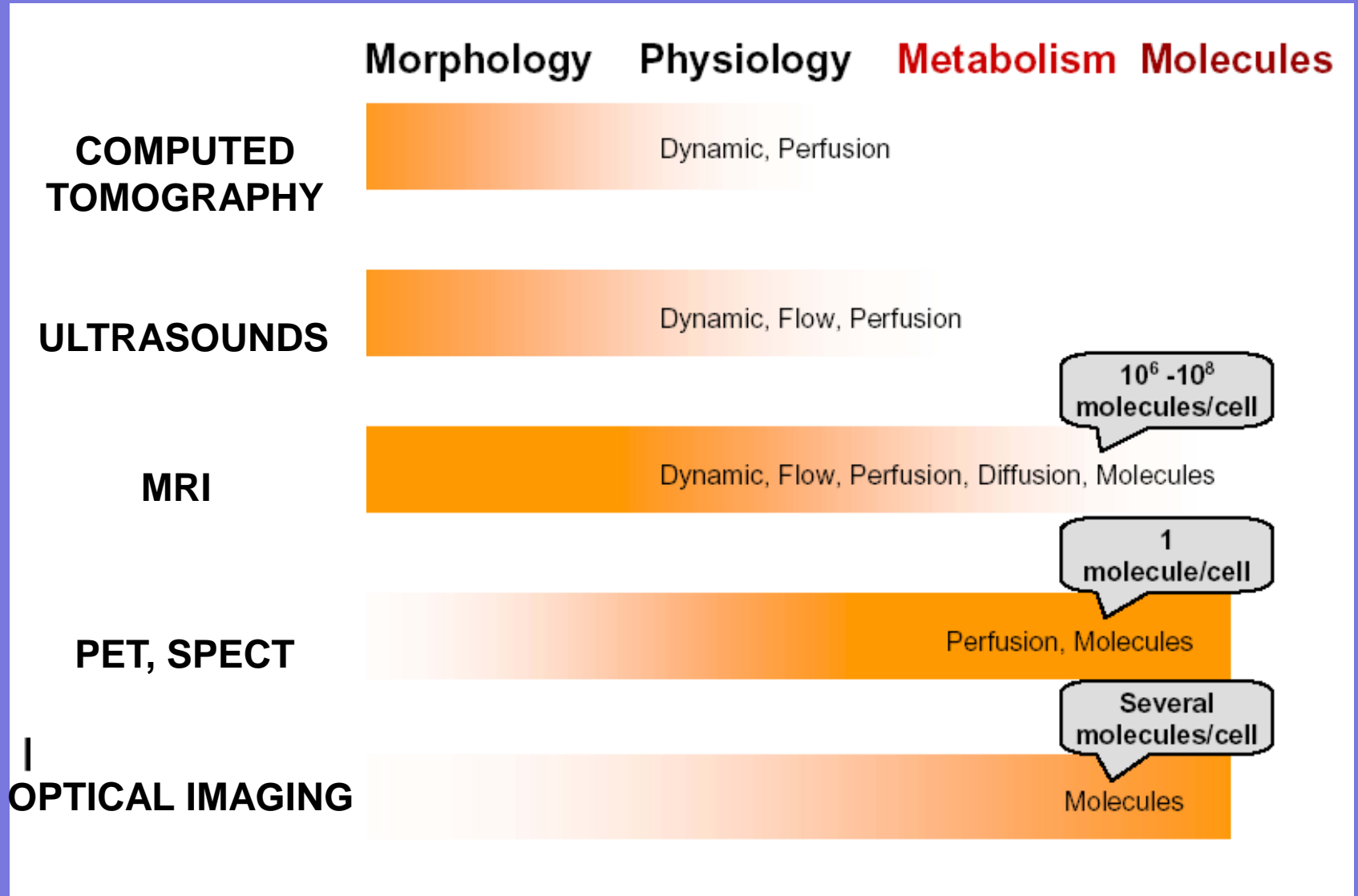


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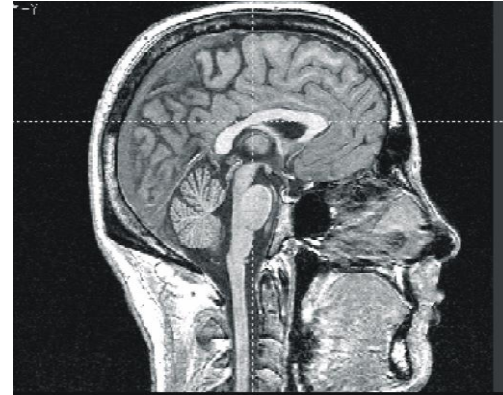
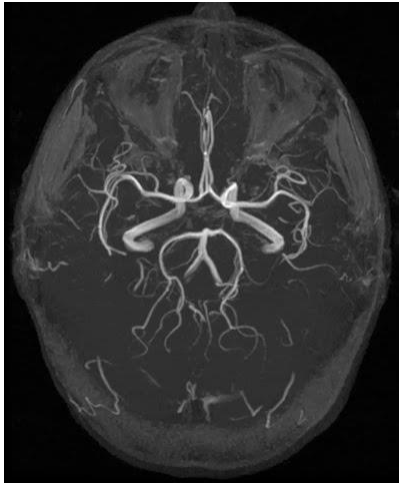
THERANOSTICS



Imaging Modalities: range of detection

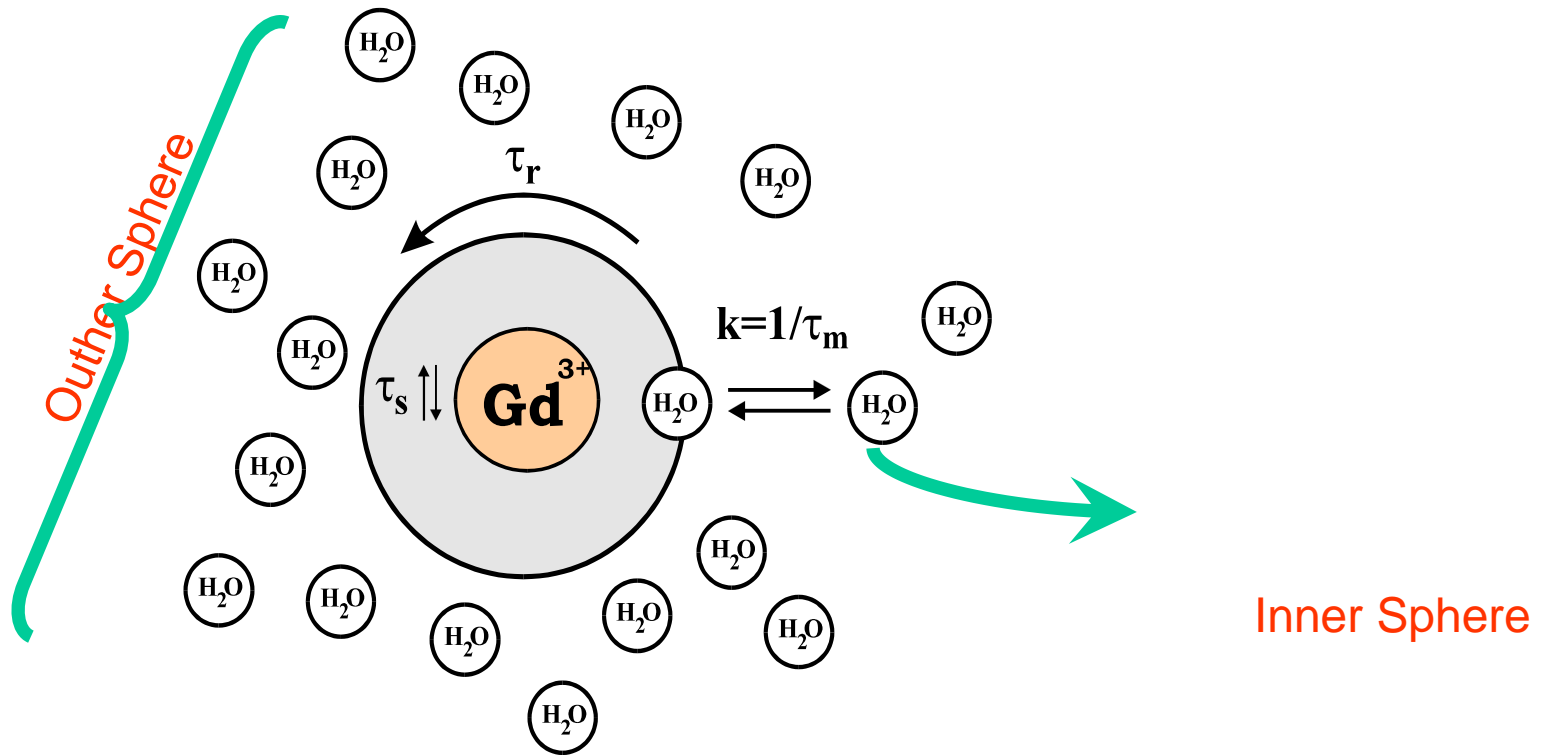


Magnetic Resonance Imaging



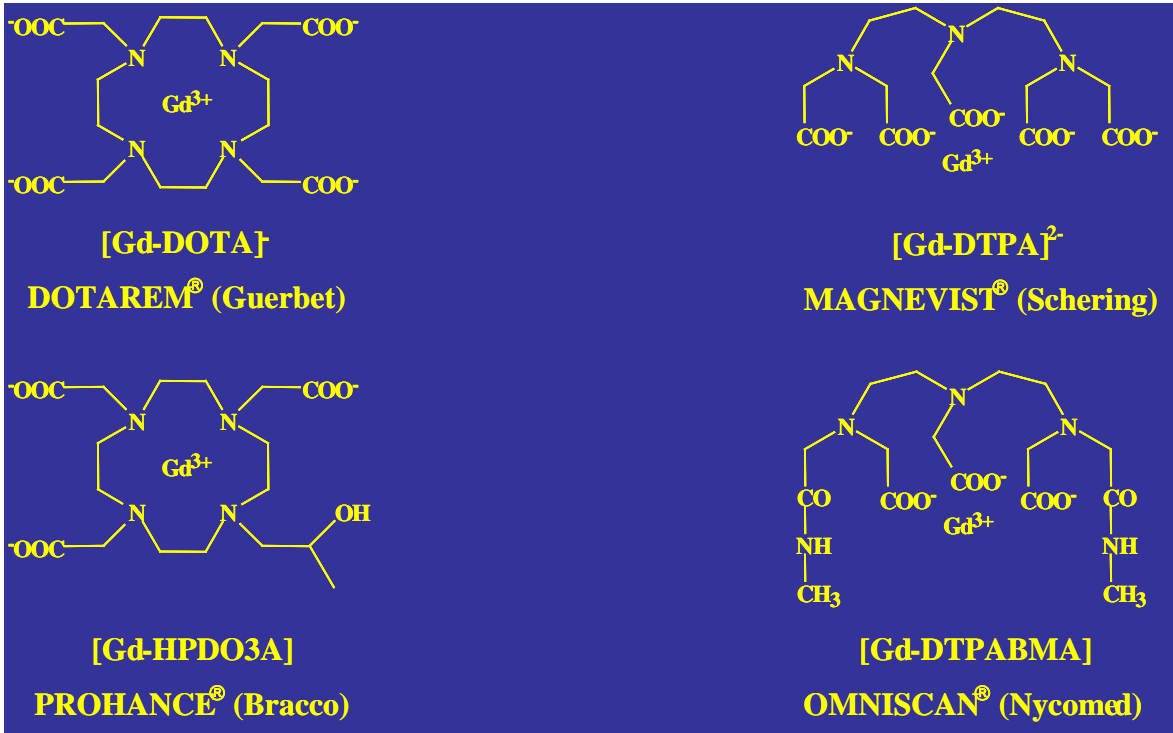
- Non invasive and repetitive imaging
- High resolution
- Absence of radiation
- Total tissue penetration
- Low sensitivity

MRI Contrast Agents

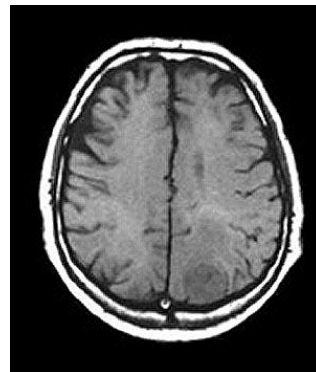


Clinical MRI Contrast Agents

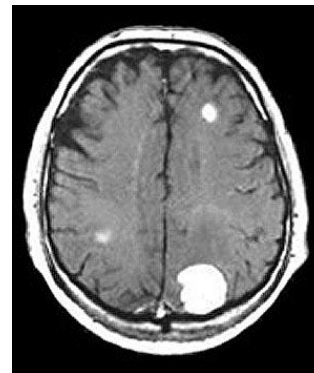
Clinical dose 0.1 mmol/Kg



BRAIN MRI
IMAGES



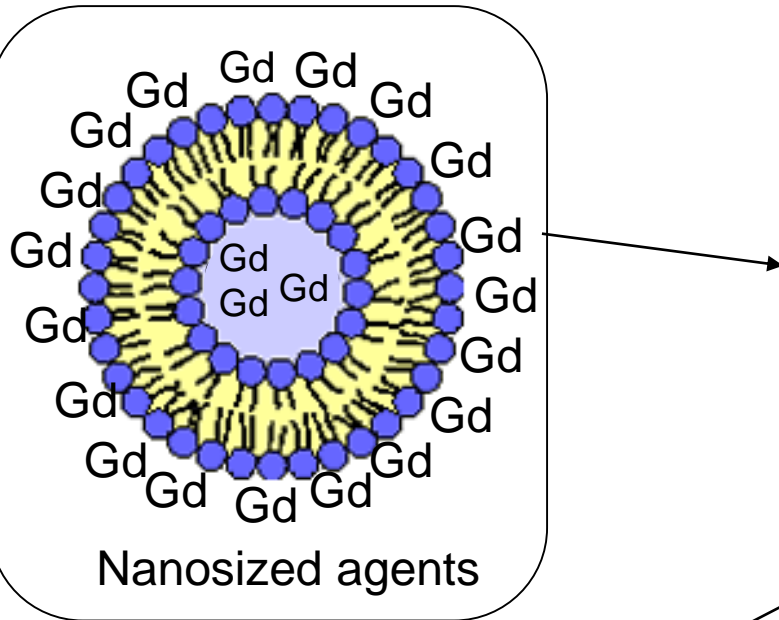
PRE



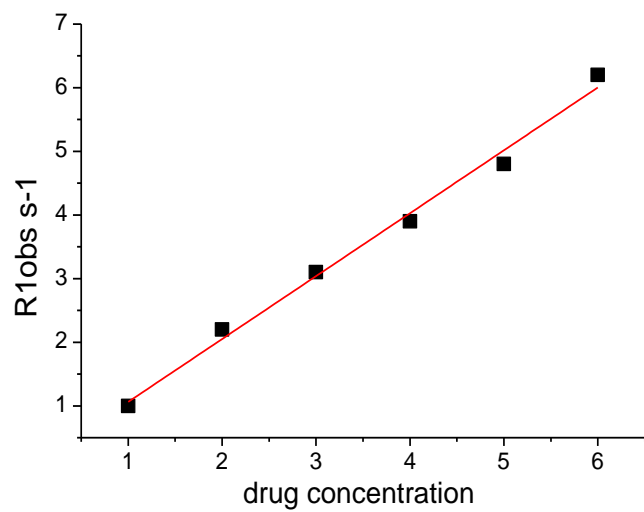
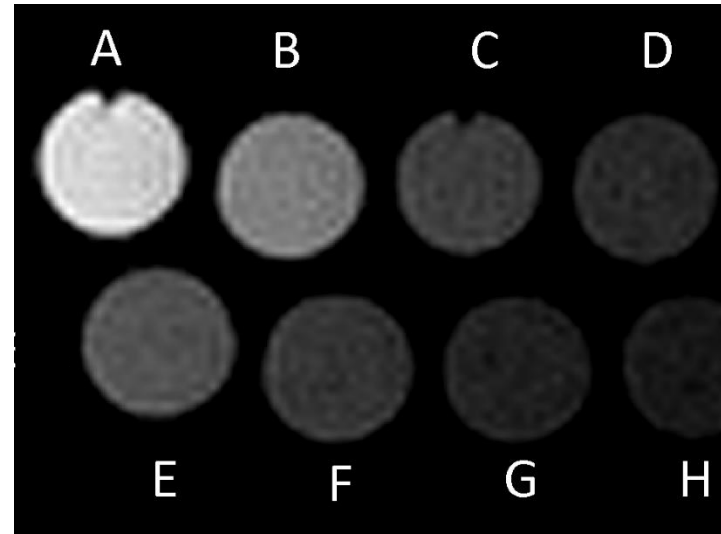
POST CA

$$SI \propto [CA]$$

Signal Intensity (SI) \propto [CA]

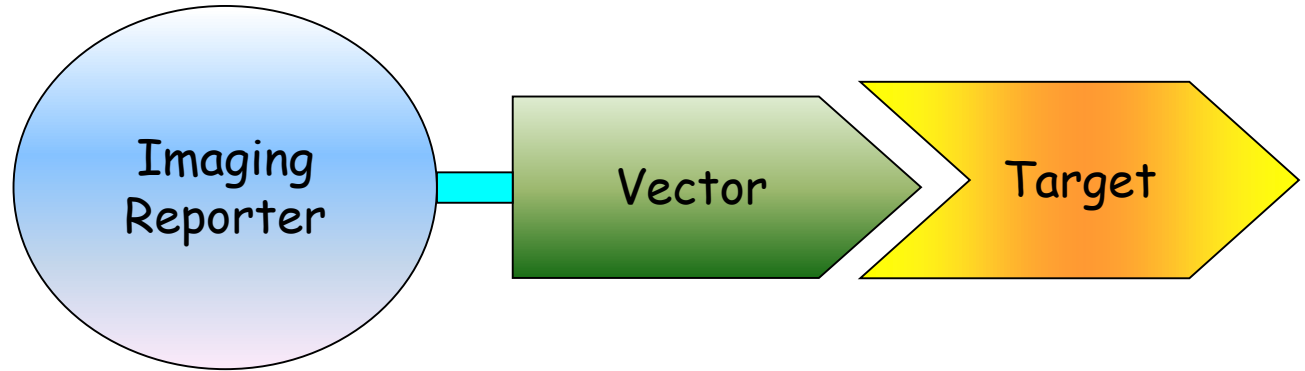


T1-weighted SE image

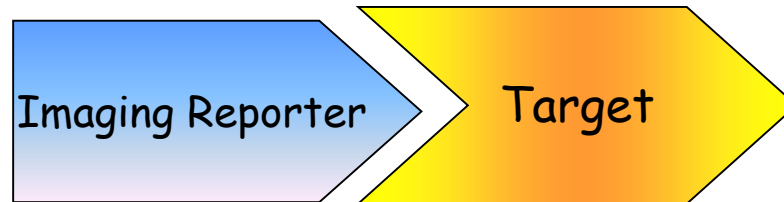


Nanoparticles for imaging guided drug delivery

- Liposomes
- micells
- PLGA polymers
- perfluoro nanoparticles



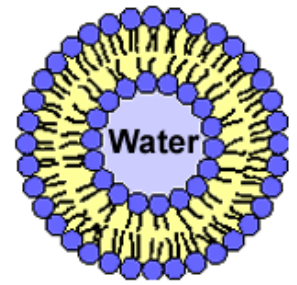
Natural Carriers
(Proteins)



NANOPARTICLES



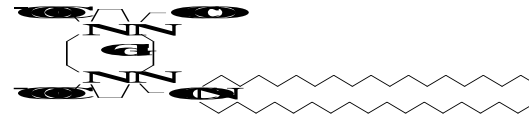
LIPOSOMES



IMAGING AGENT



Gd-DOTAMA(C₁₈)₂



DRUG



DOXORUBICIN



TARGETED EPITOPE



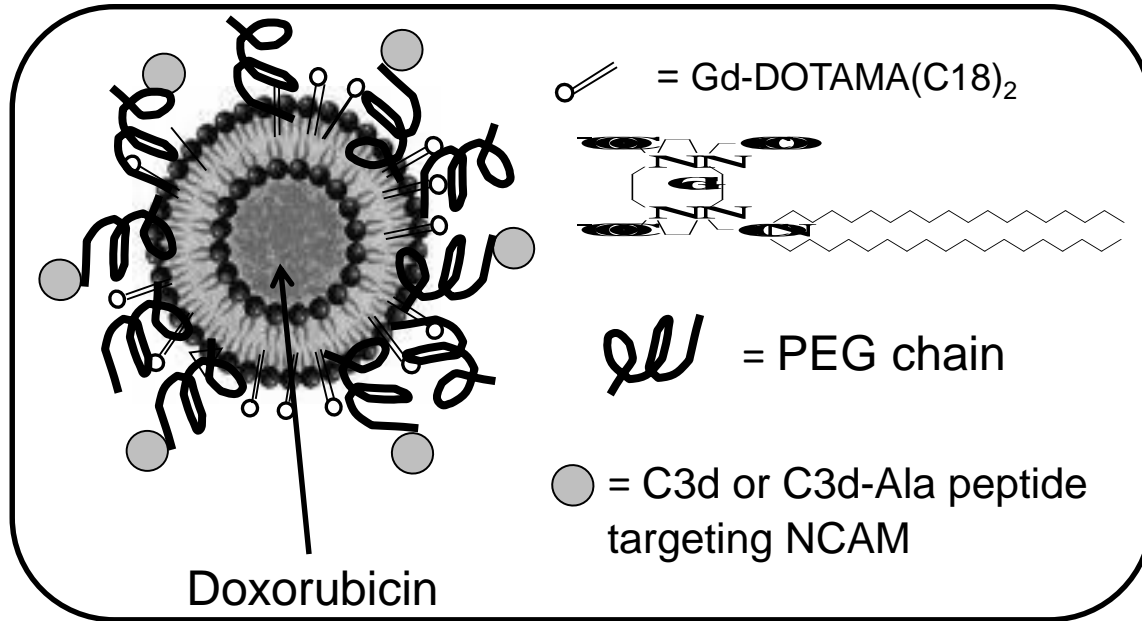
Neural Adesion Molecules
(Kaposi's Sarcoma)

CARRIER



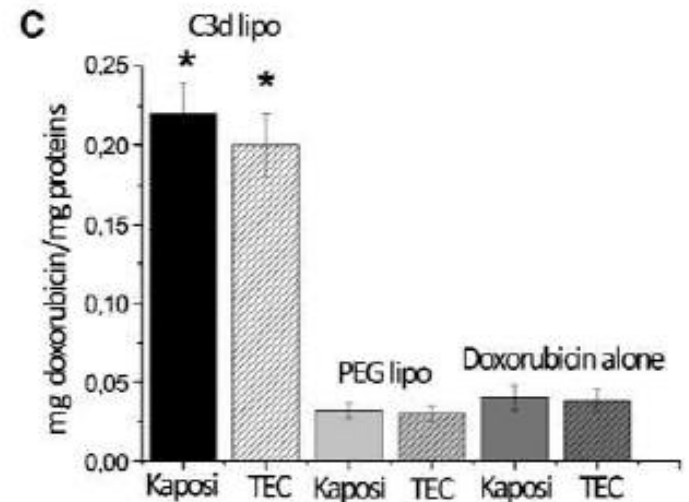
C3d peptide

Combined Delivery of MRI contrast agents and doxorubicin through in Experimentally Induced Kaposi's Sarcoma



T1 weighted MRI IMAGE of CELLS Incubated with different liposomes

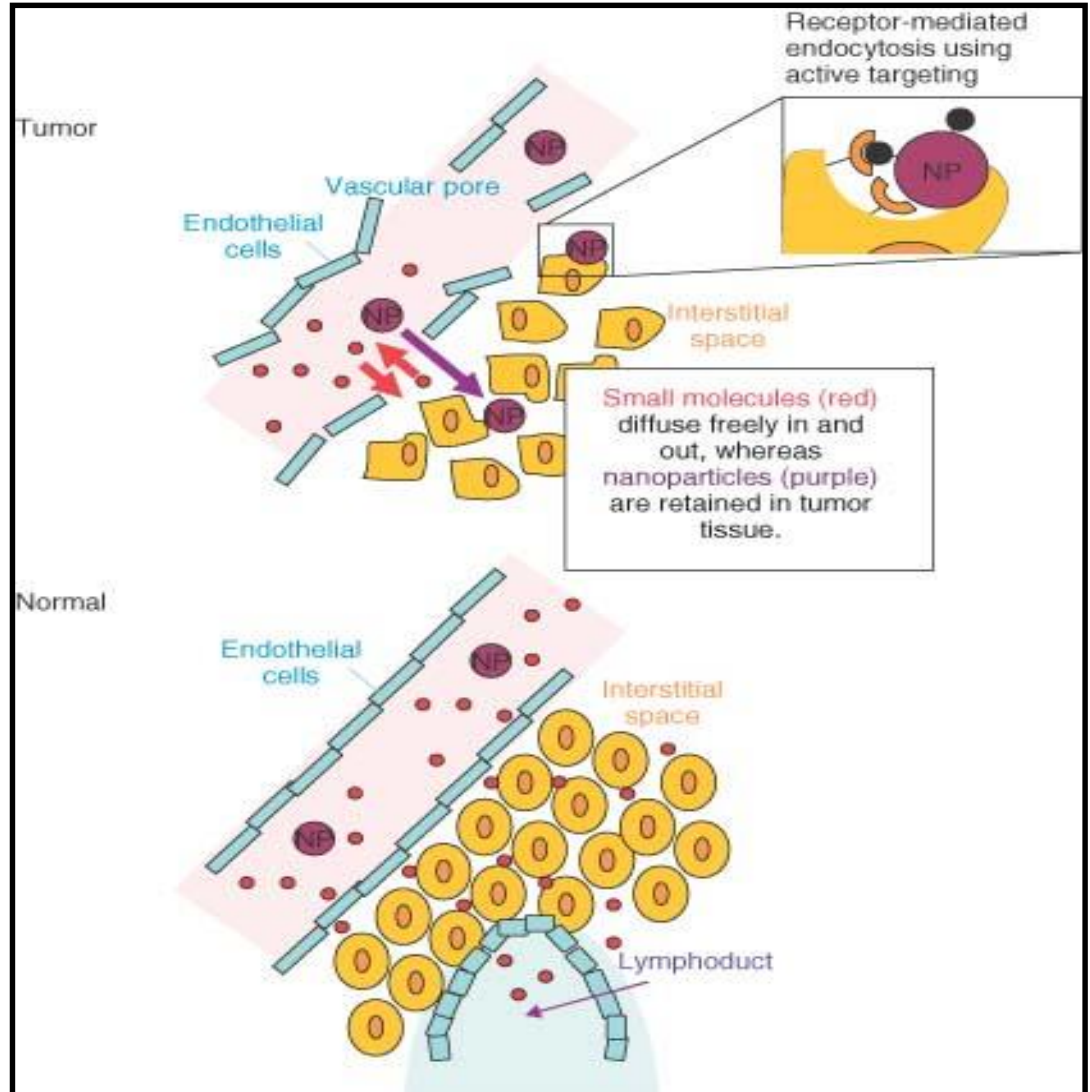
CTRL C3d C3d-ala peg



If the target receptor is expressed by cells in solid tumors the extravasation of the theranostic agent is needed

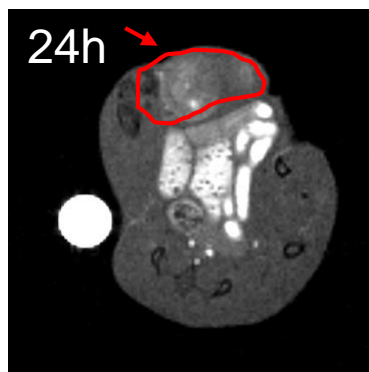
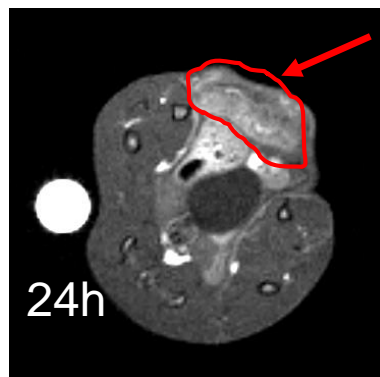
-In solid tumors the vessels formed by the process of angiogenesis show an increase in permeability due to large fenestrae (up to 400 nm)

-Normal vasculature endothelium consists of a continuous lining of endothelial cells tightly connected with each other.



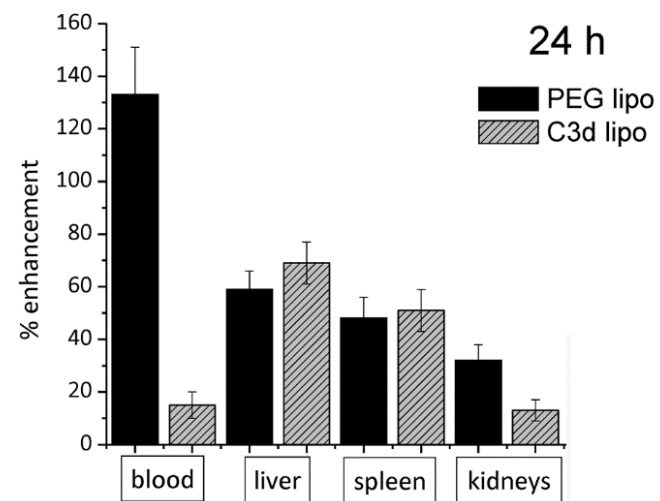
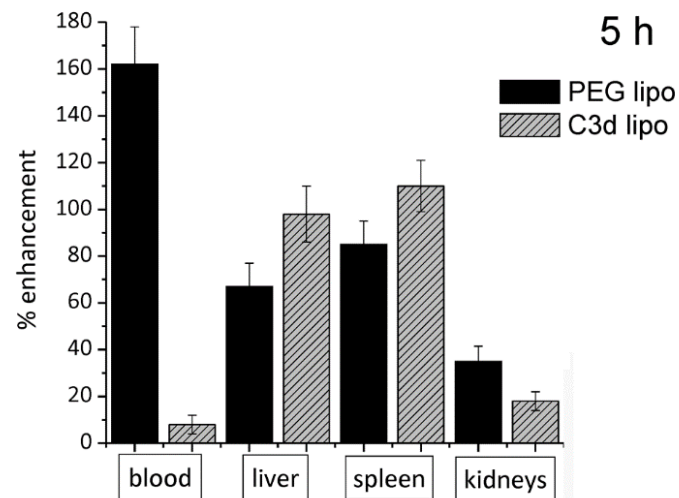
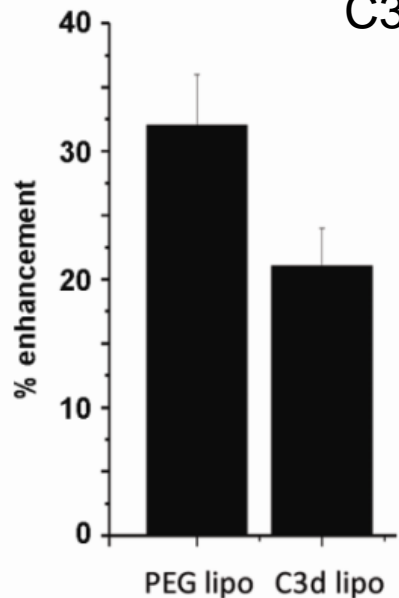
THERANOSTIC AGENTS BIODISTRIBUTION DETECTED BY MRI

TUMOR

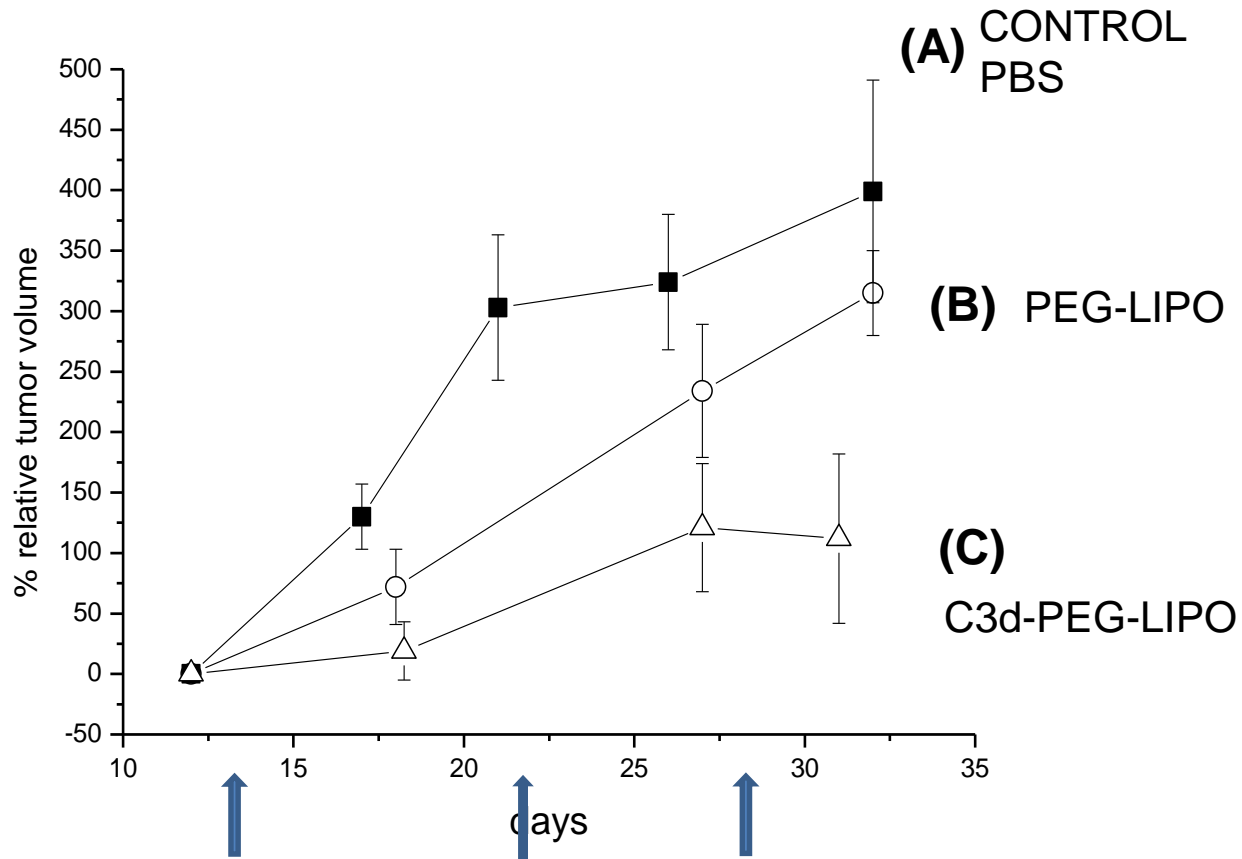


NOT TARGETED
PEG LIPO

TARGETED
C3d LIPO



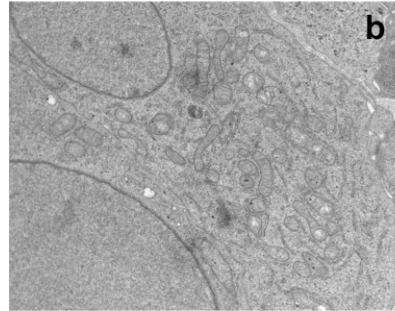
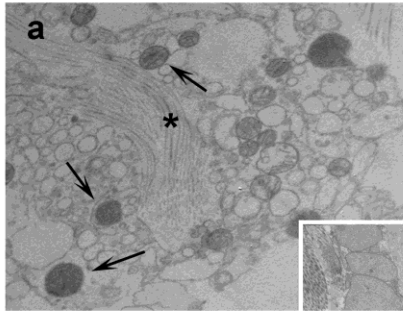
Therapeutic responses of SCID mice inoculated with Kaposi cells



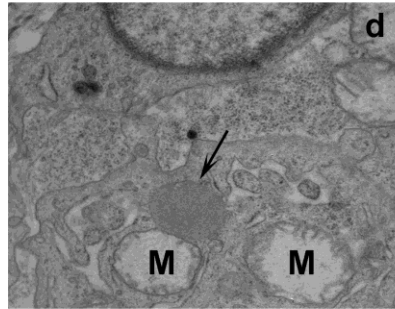
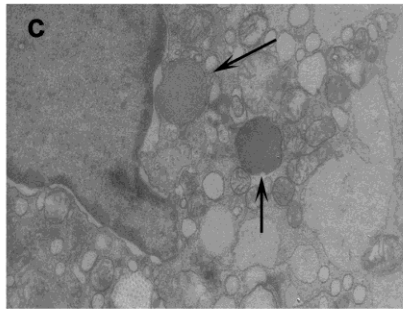
Treatments (5 mg/kg doxorubicin) were on days 12, 19, 26 (indicated by the arrows).

Electronmicroscopy analysis of tumors

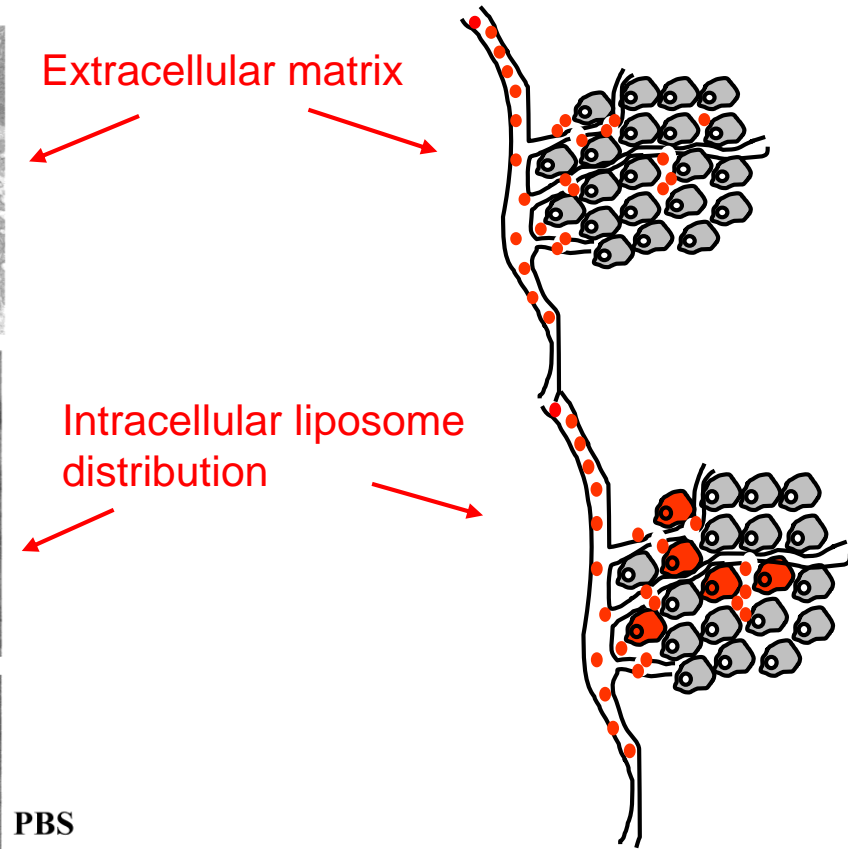
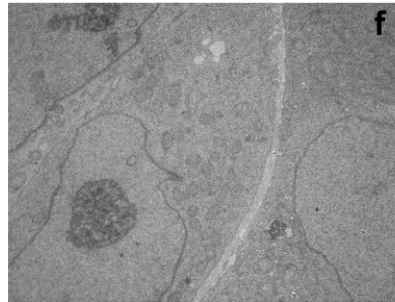
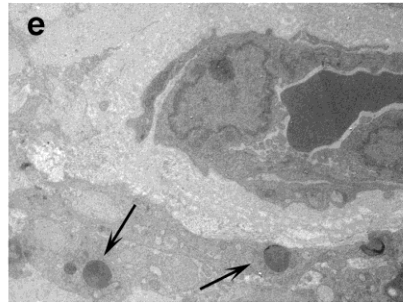
lipo PEG



lipo C3d

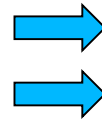


lipo C3d



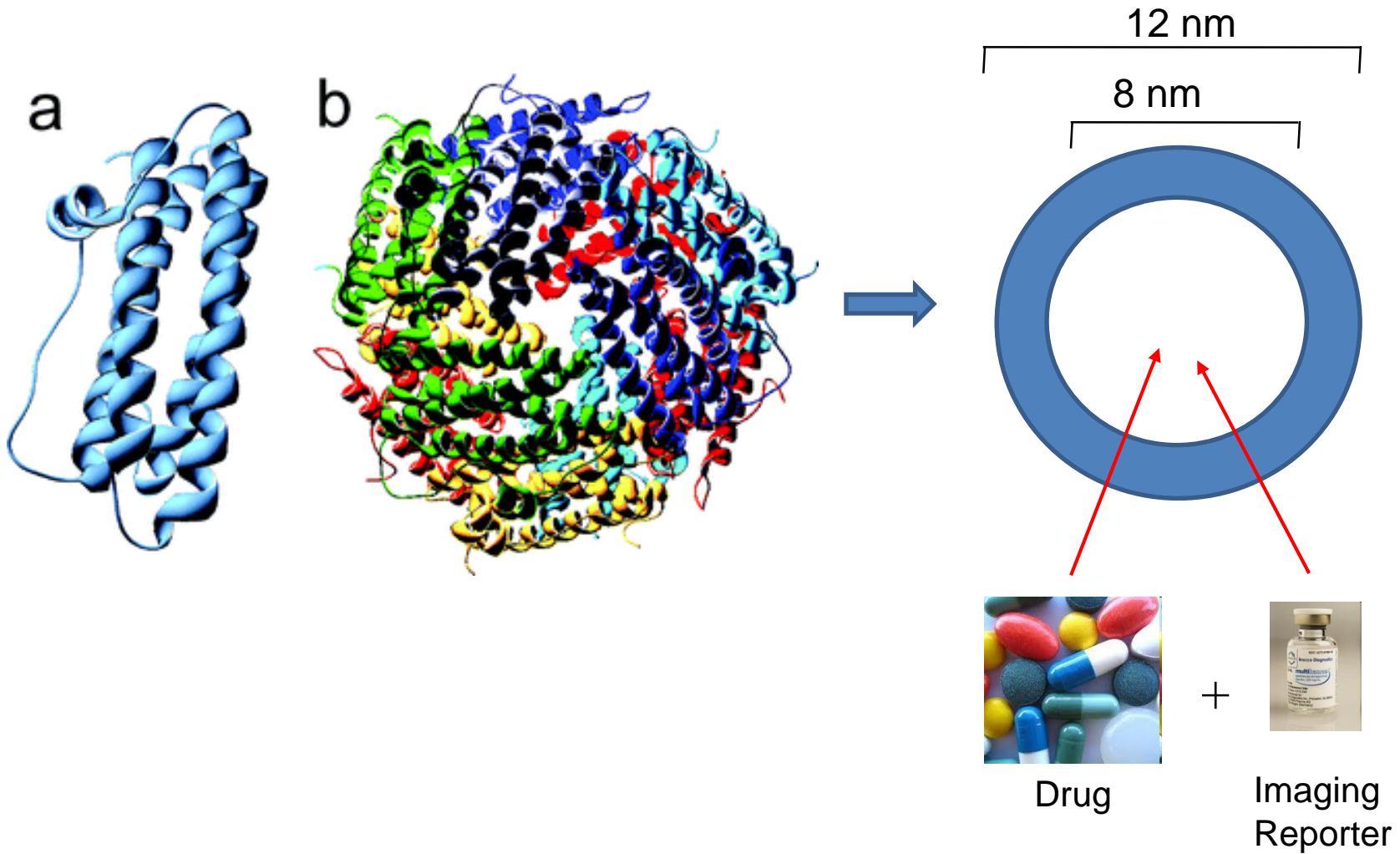
PBS

- TARGETED LIPOSOME
- NOT TARGETED LIPOSOME

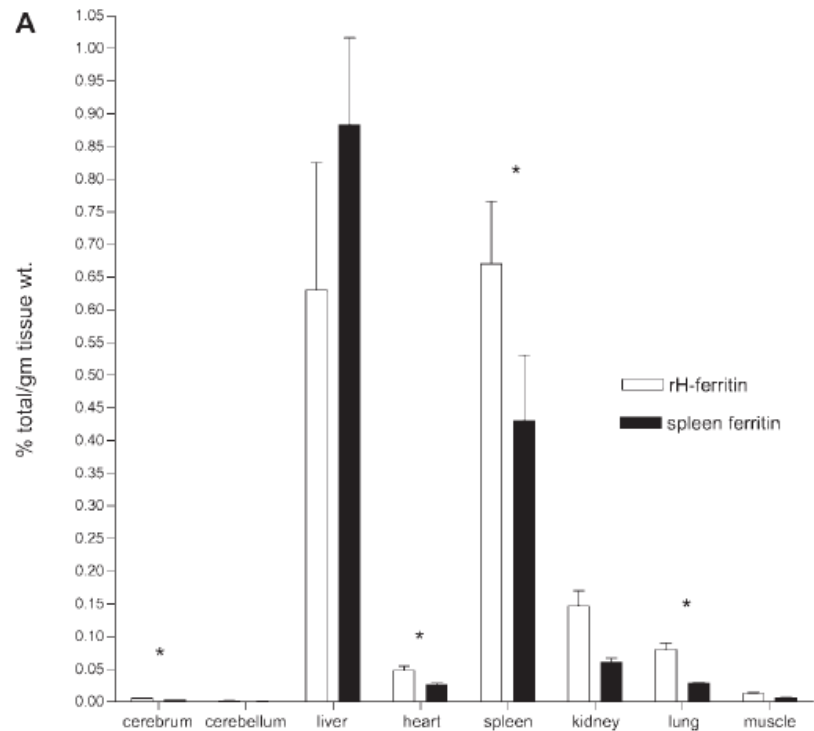
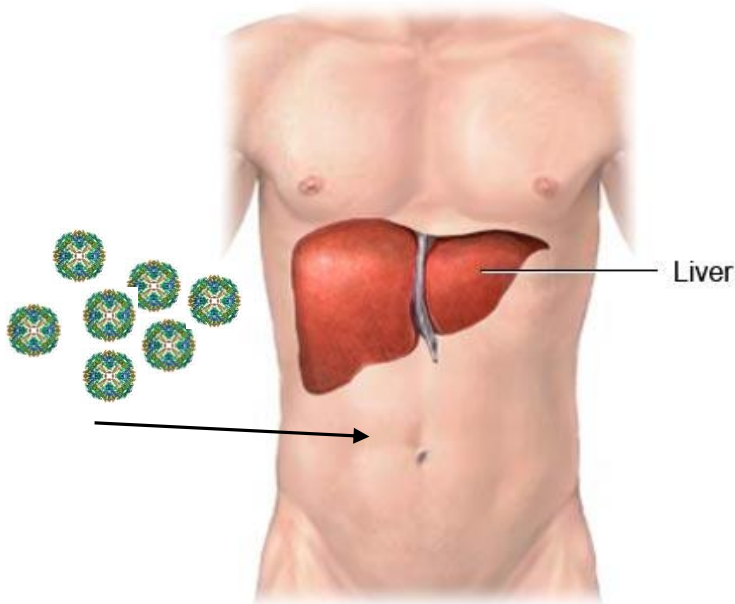


INTRACELLULAR
EXTRACELLULAR

Apoferritin as carrier for imaging and therapeutic agents



Ferritin receptors (SCARA-5) are highly expressed on hepatocytes

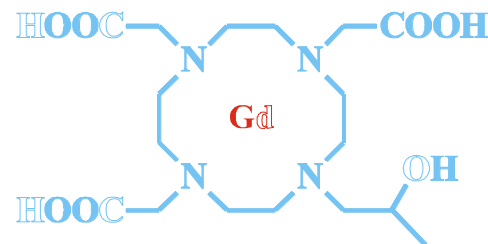
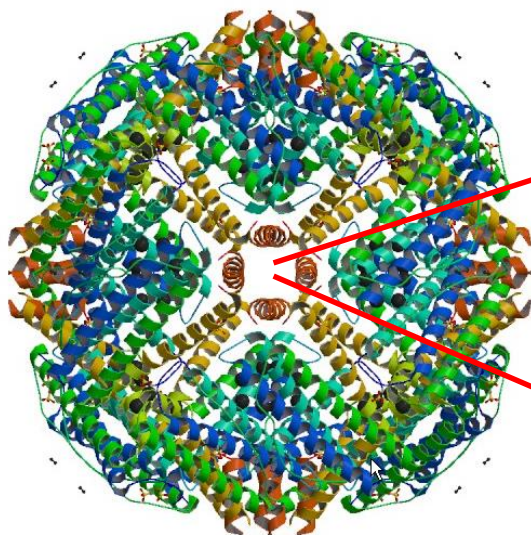


Fisher J et al *Am. J. Physiol. Cell. Physiol.*, 293, 2007.

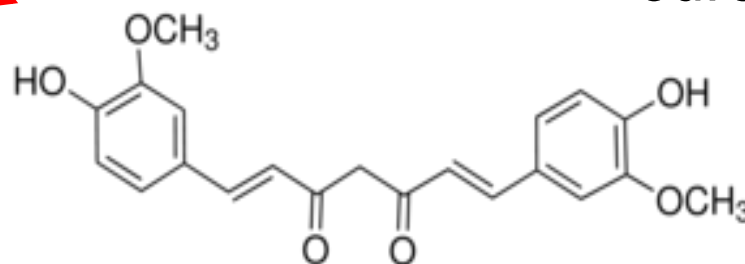
Jian Huang et al *The Journal of Clinical Investigation*, 120, 2010

Jau Yi Li et al, *Developmental Cell* 16, 35–46, January 20, 2009

Apoferitin



Gd-HPDO3A

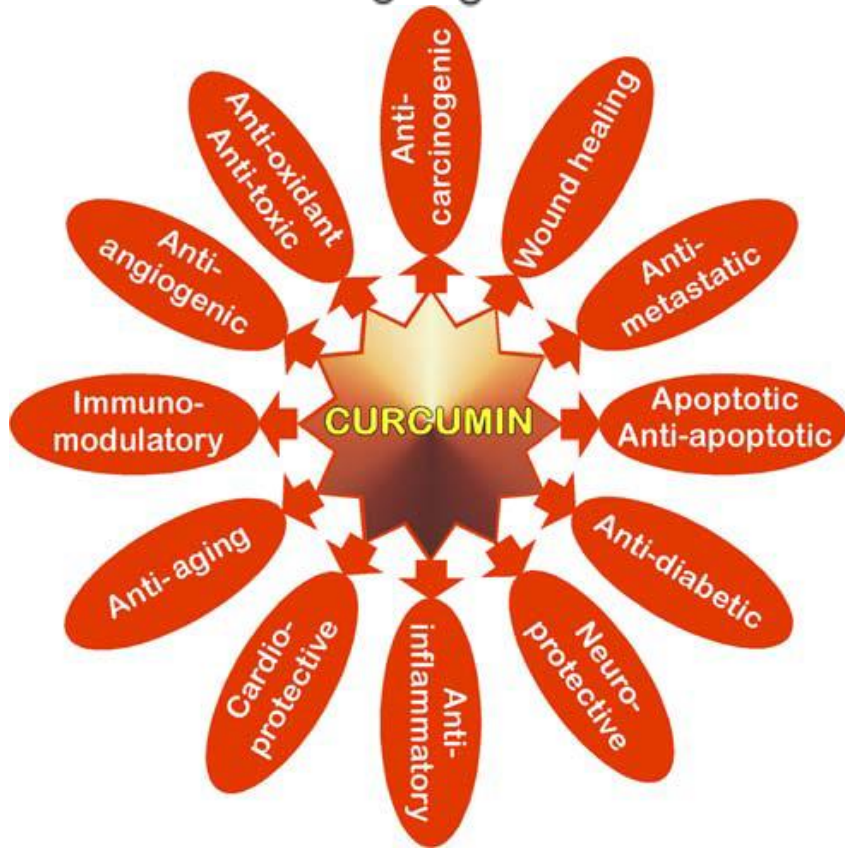
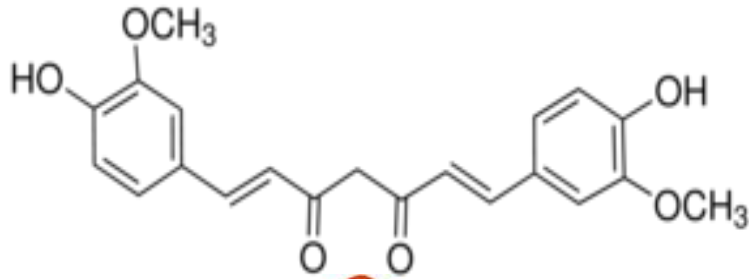


curcumin

Curcumin polyphenolic molecule extracted from the rhizomes of the plant *Curcuma Longa*.



Biological activities of curcumin



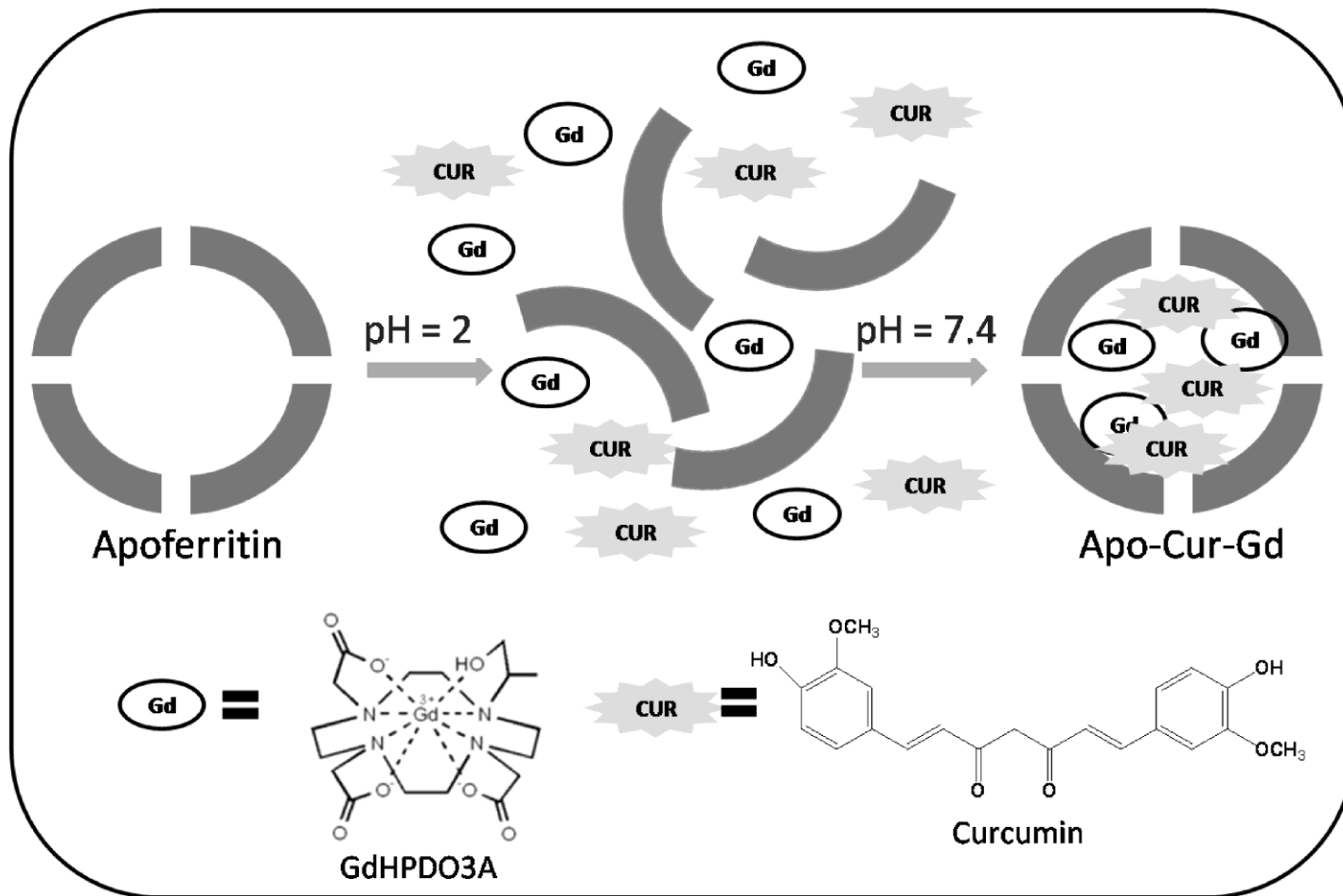
Advantages:

- Safety even at high doses (12 g/day)
- Good tolerability
- Multi-target compound with multiple therapeutic effect

Disadvantages:

- Low bioavailability
- Poor water solubility
- Low stability in water (in particular at neutral and basic pH)

How to include Gd-HPDO3A and Curcumin in Apoferritin?



The number of molecules that remained entrapped in the apoferritin after dissociation/reassociation procedure is 9.5 ± 2 and 0.4 ± 0.1 for subunit (24 subunits/protein in the native form) for curcumin and Gd-HPDO3A, respectively.

Attenuation of thioacetamide-induced hepatitis by curcumin

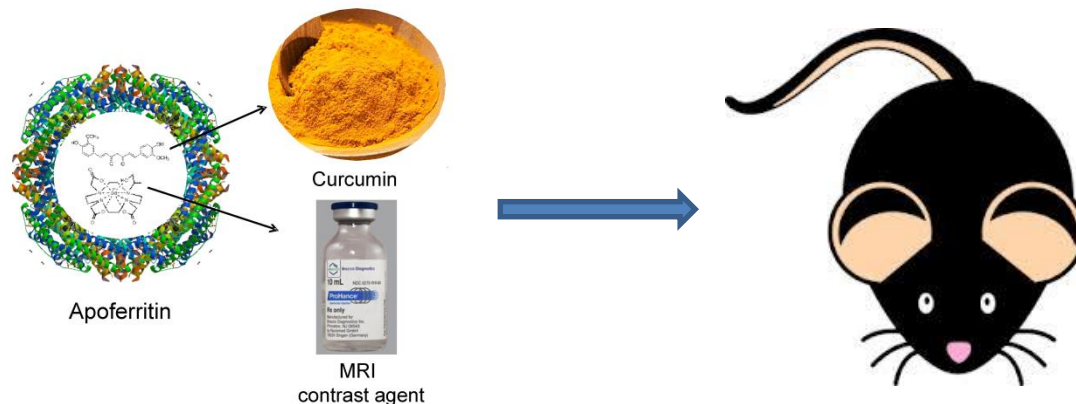
- Thioacetamide (TA) has been employed for several years in the development of a model of acute liver injury in rodents.
- The i.p. administration of high doses (60-100mg/kg) of TA causes fulminant hepatic failure as a consequence of enhanced ROS and lipid peroxides formation, and stimulation of NF-kb and resultant production of pro-inflammatory molecules.
(Rivera-Espinoza et al, Liver international 2009.)

-In this study mice were divided into three groups.

Group A received TA (60 mg/kg) intraperitoneal (ip)

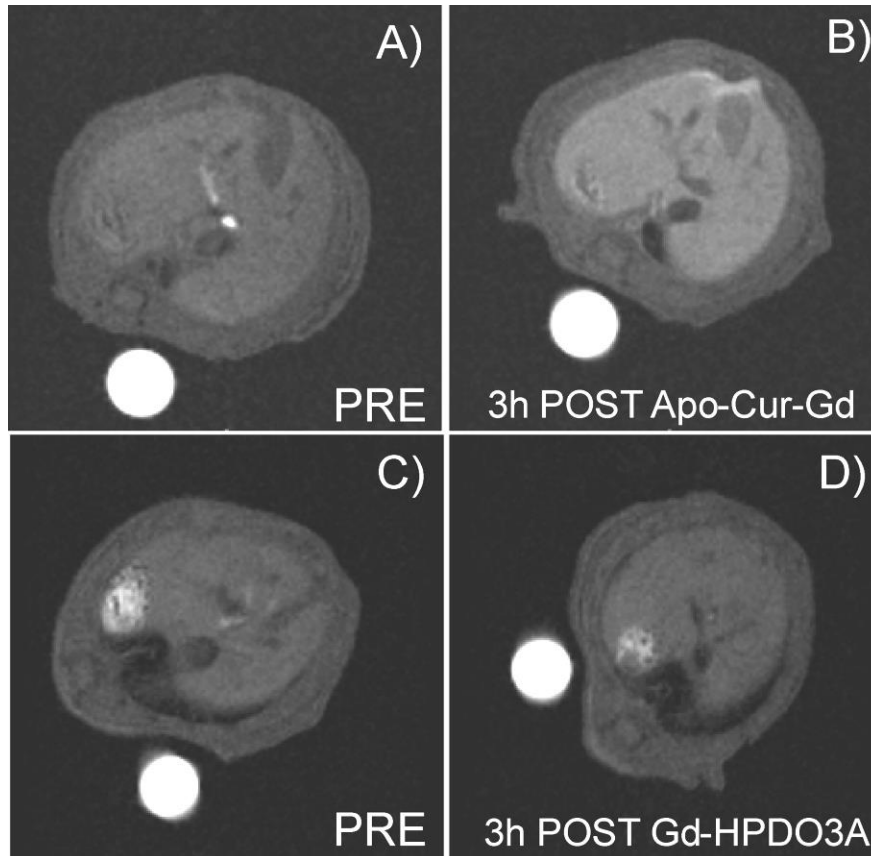
Group B was pretreated 24 h before TA ip administration (60 mg/kg) with APO-CUR-Gd ip (63 mg/kg)

Group C (control) received an equal volume of sterile 0.9% NaCl solution instead of TA

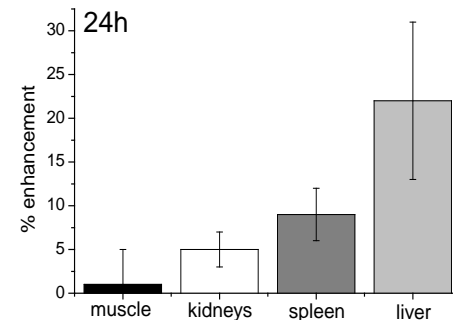
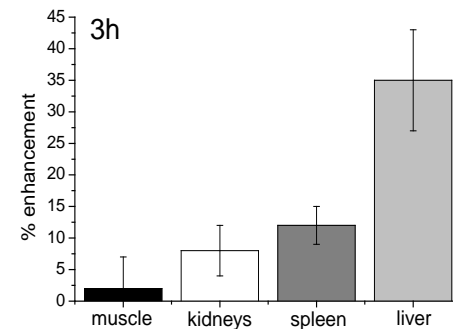


MRI evaluation of Apo-CUR-Gd biodistribution

$$\frac{SI_{PRE}}{SI_{POST}} = \frac{\{[1 - \exp(-TR - TE)R1_{PRE}]\} \exp(-TE \times R2)}{\{[1 - \exp(-TR - TE)R1_{POST}]\} \exp(-TE \times R2)}$$

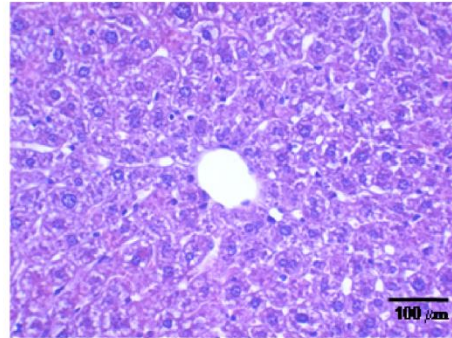
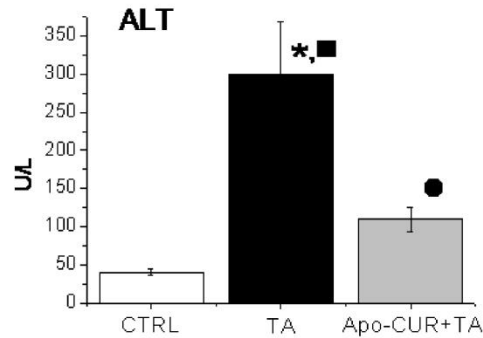


$$[Gd]mM = (R1_{(POST)} - R1_{(PRE)}) / r_{1p}$$

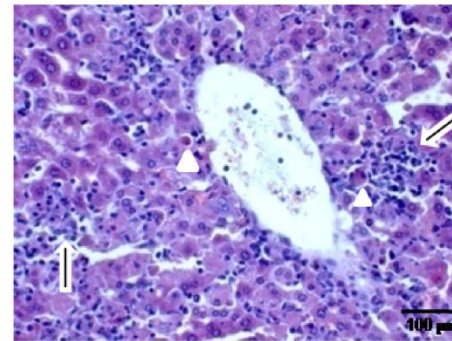
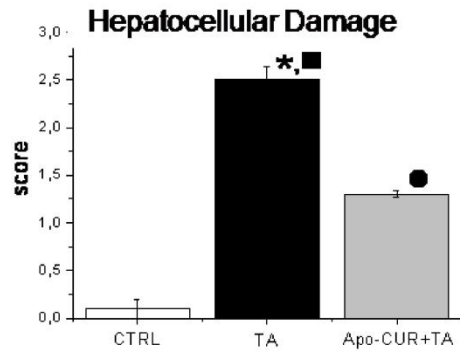


Liver [curcumin] = 250 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (8 times higher than the amount found after the i.p. administration of curcumin alone (A. Goel, *Biochemical pharmacology* 2008.))

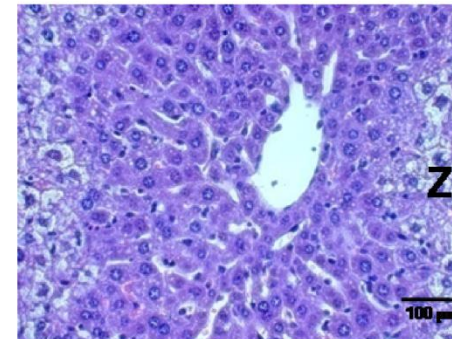
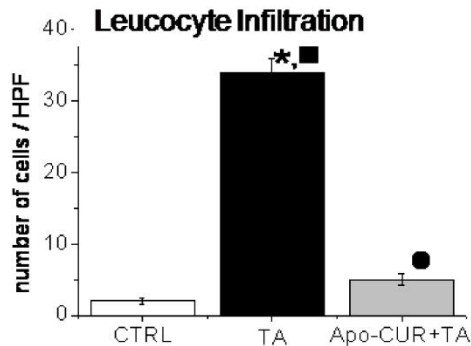
Hepatic Injury Evaluation 24h after TA administration



UNTREATED CTRL LIVER

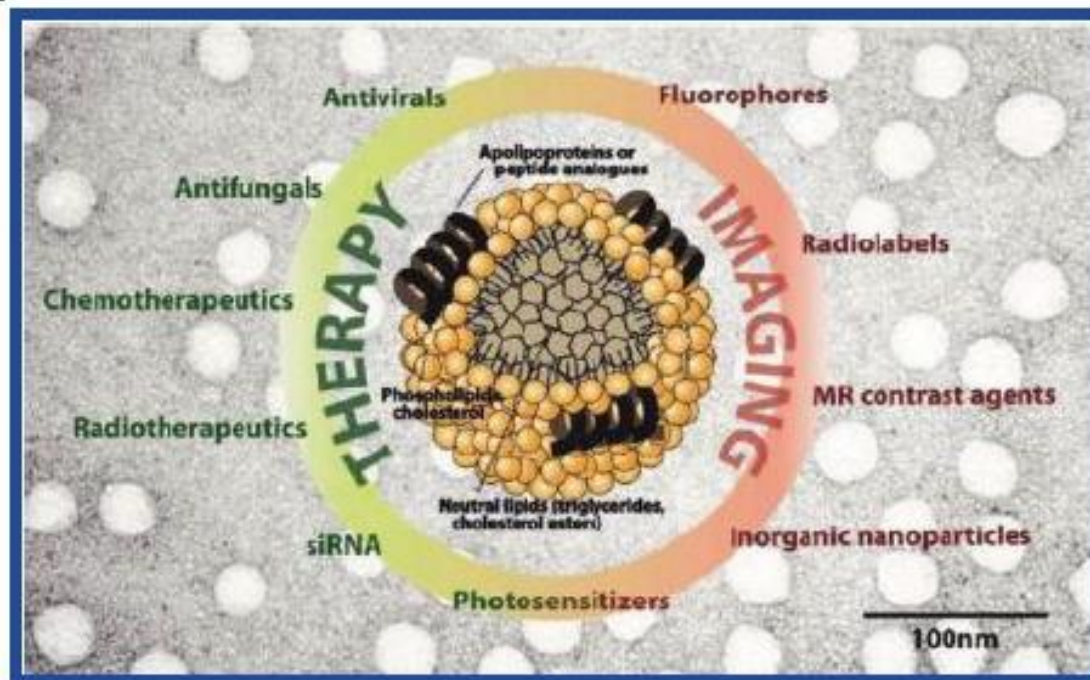


TA TREATED LIVER



TA + APO-CUR-Gd
TREATED LIVER

Low Density Lipoproteins as Theranostic Agents

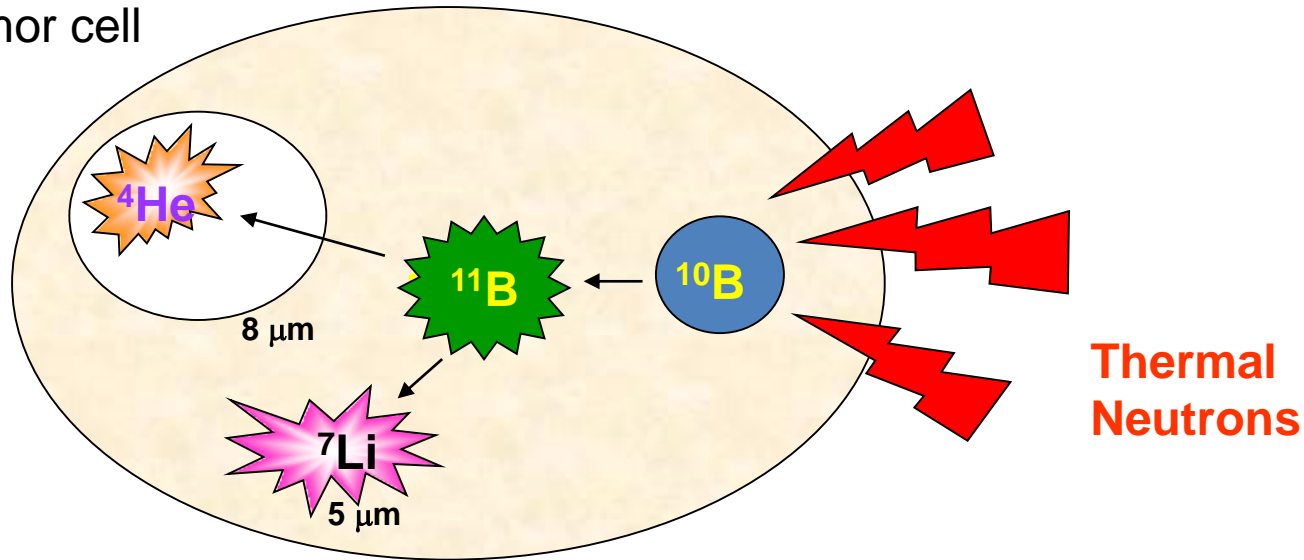


size = 20 nm

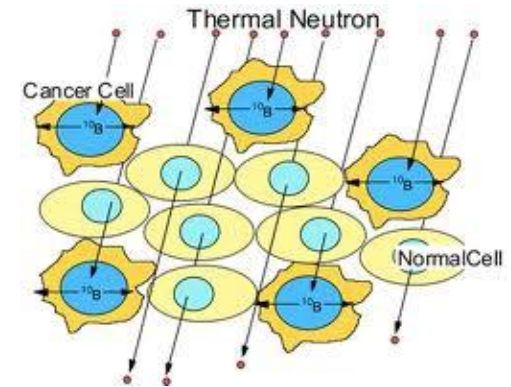
- Several examples of successful delivery of drugs and imaging agents through targeting of LDL receptors have already been reported.
- Altered LDLr levels are found in a variety of pathological conditions.
- Several rapidly dividing tumor cells over-express LDLr to supply the high cholesterol demand.

Boron neutron capture therapy (BNCT)

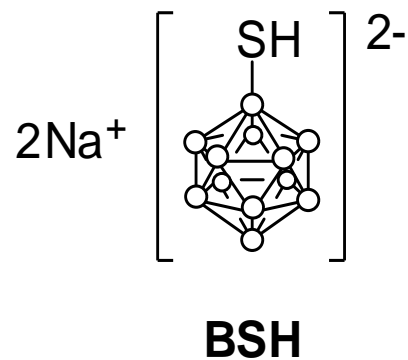
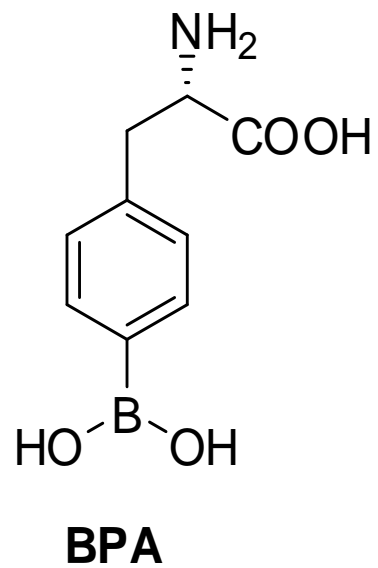
Tumor cell



In order to be successful, a sufficient amount of ^{10}B must be selectively delivered to the tumor (ca. 20-30 ppm) whereas ^{10}B concentration in the surrounding normal tissues should be low (<5 ppm).

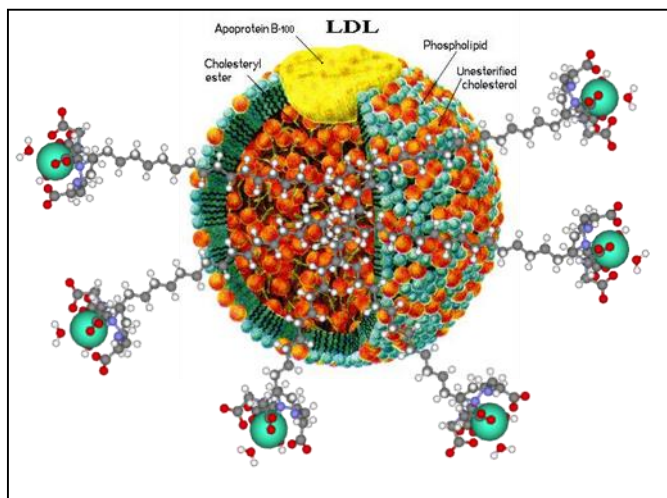
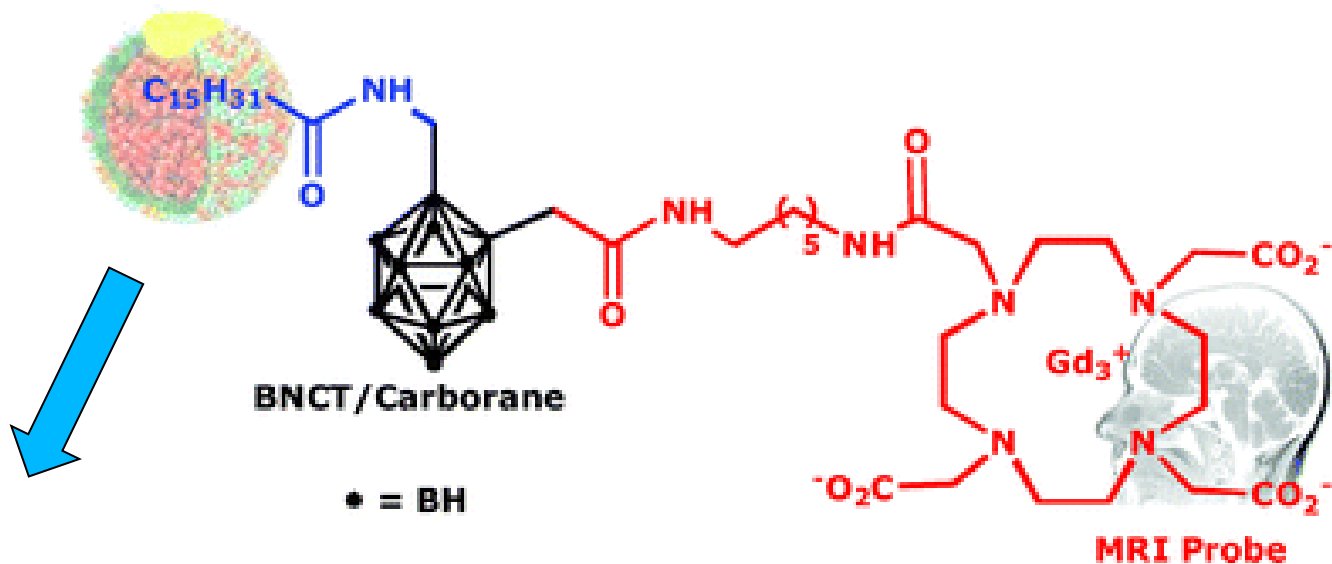


BNCT drugs available for clinical investigation



A Boron/Gd/LDL adduct for Imaging-guided Neutron Capture Therapy

Biological vector



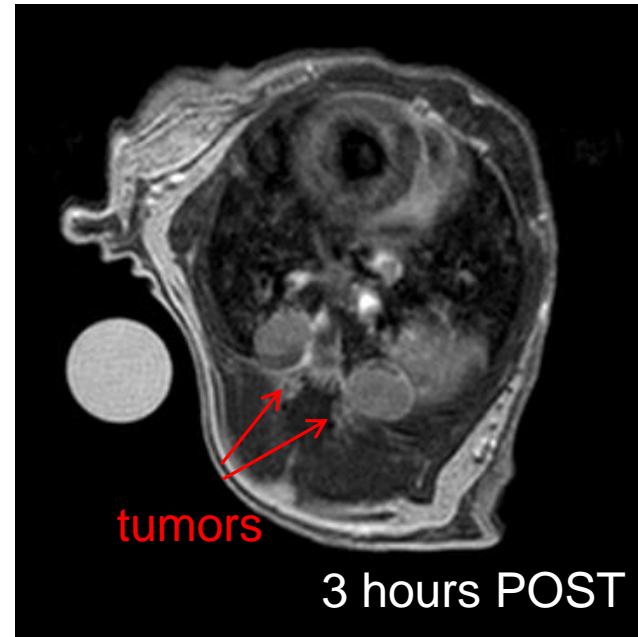
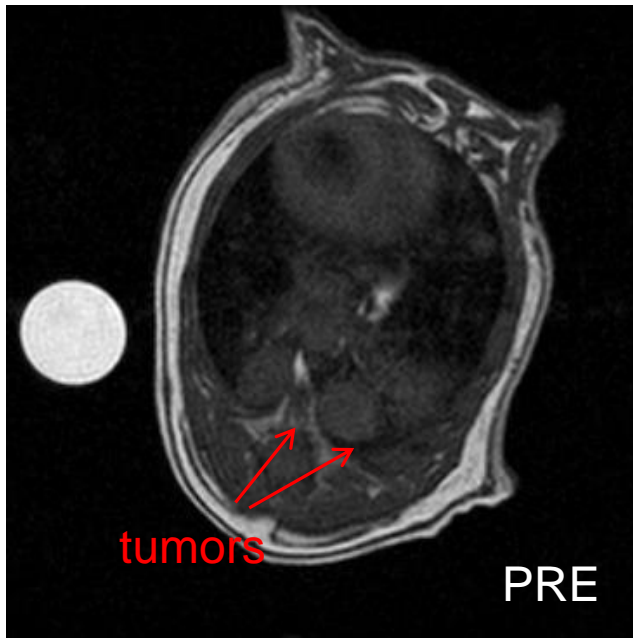
$B : Gd = 10 : 1$

S Aime, et al *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2008, 6, 4460–4466
Geninatti-Crich et al. *Chemistry*. 2011 Jul 18;17(30):8479-86.

MRI analysis (Bruker 7T) on Pulmonary Metastasis obtained injecting i.v. 50000 TUBO cells (mammary carcinoma) three weeks before irradiation



T1 weighted AXIAL IMAGES



Boron concentration
Tumor: 43 ug/g
Muscle: 16 ug/g

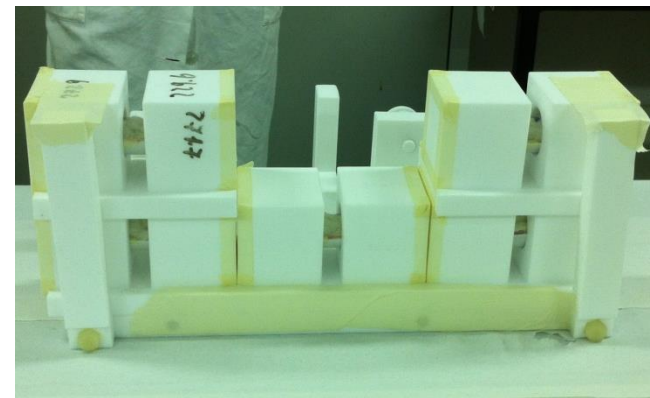
BNCT at the TRIGA-Mark-II reactor, LENA, Pavia



Neutron irradiation 7 minutes; Reactor Power 250 kW

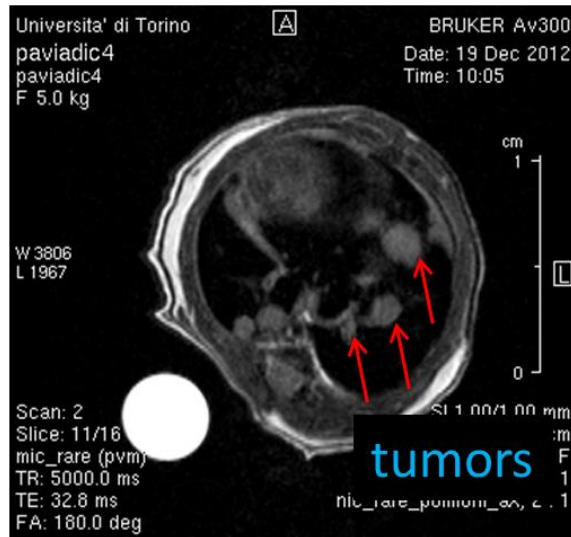
6h after Boron administration

95% ^6Li -enriched lithium carbonate



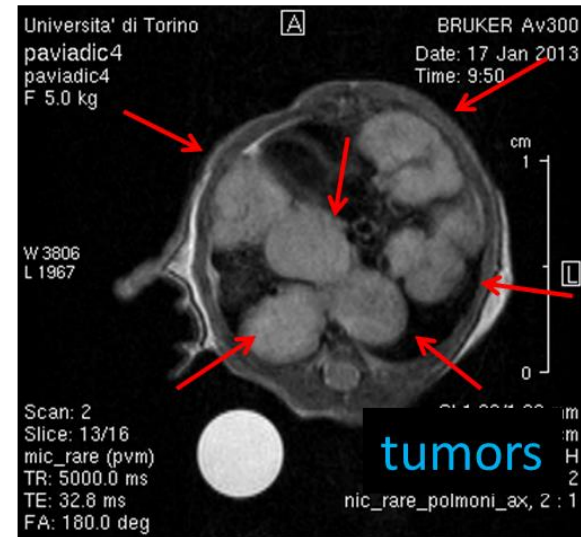
T2-weighted lung metastasis RARE images

Day 0

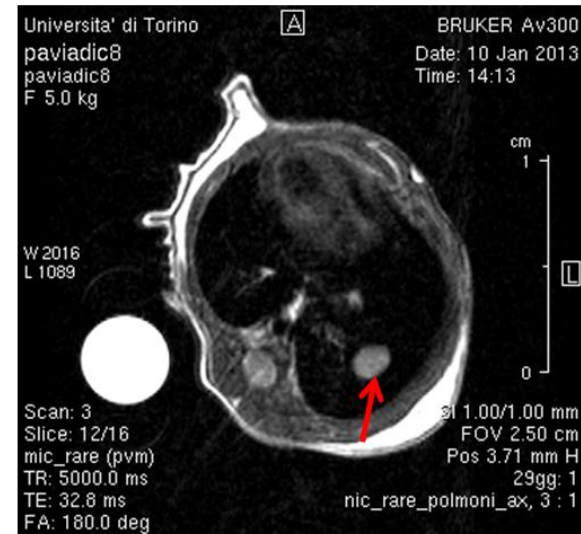
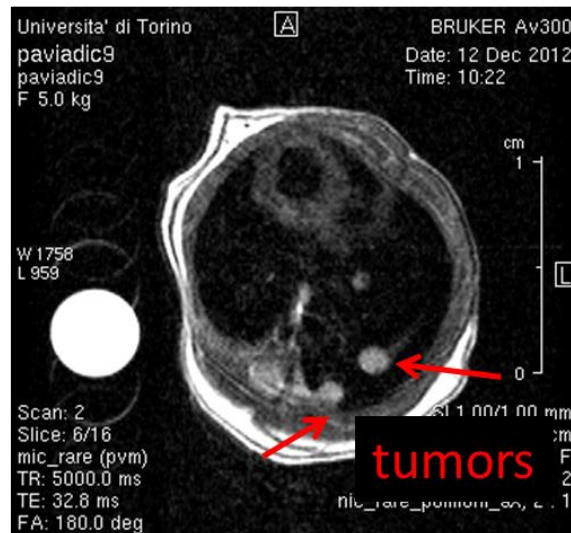


Irradiated
Ctrl mice
wo
boron

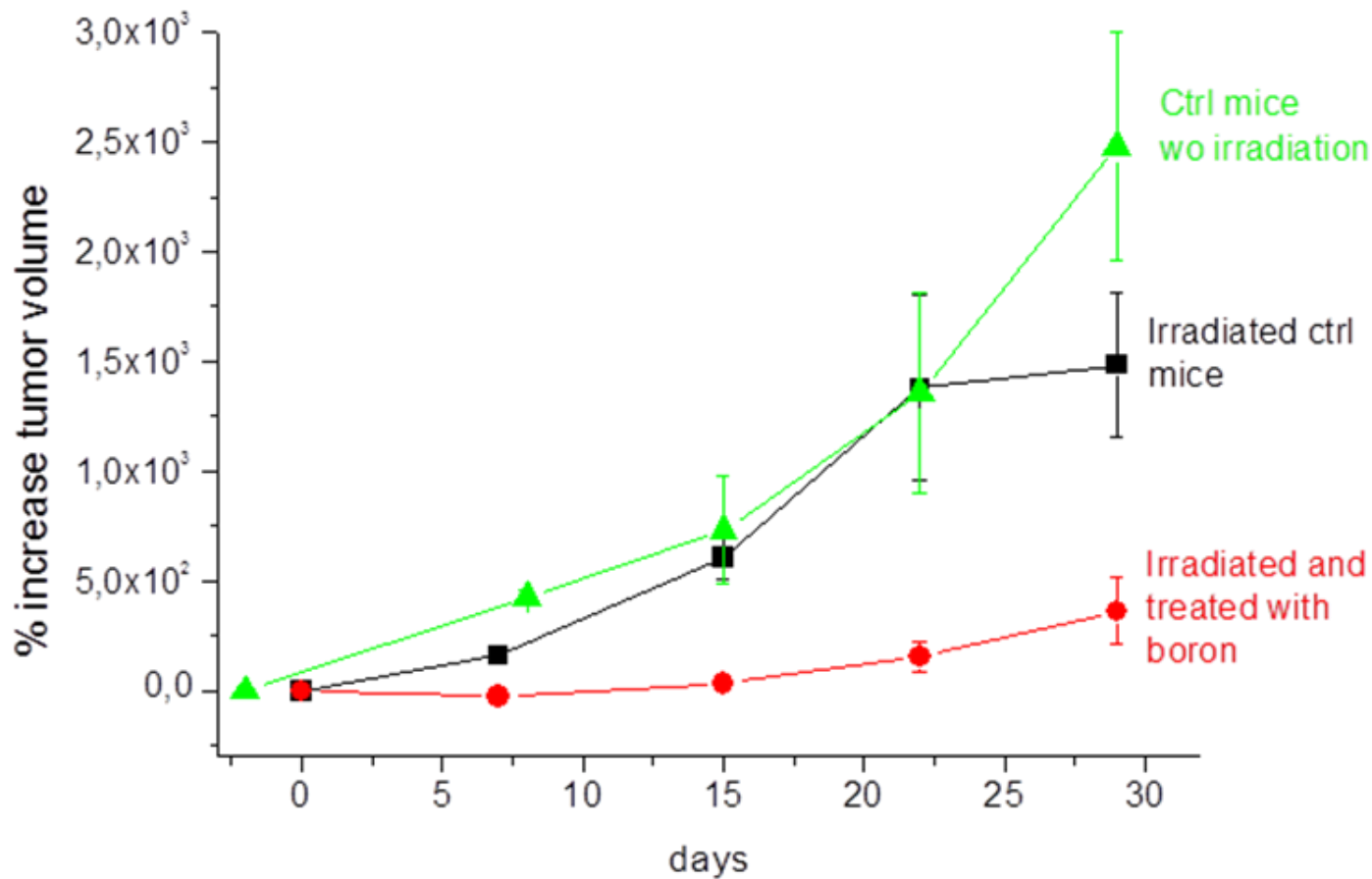
30 Days after BNCT



Irradiated
and boron
treated
mice



Relative tumor volume measured by MRI after irradiation (15 minutes, TRIGA-Mark-II reactor, LENA, Pavia)
Reactor power : 250 kW

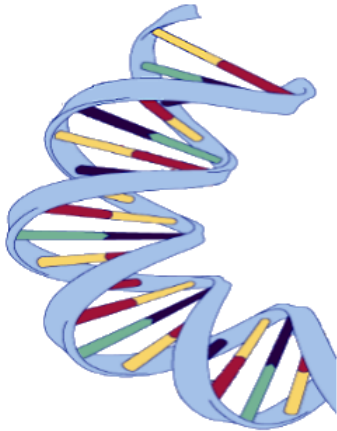


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S. Bortolussi

University of Pavia
*Department of Nuclear and
Theoretical Physics*



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