



Mooooo

## Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy (SAbR): Opportunities and Pitfalls

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## DISCLOSURES

### Industry Research Funding and/or Support:

Accuray  
Calypso  
Elekta  
Philips  
Varian  
VisionRT

### Ownership:

Global Radiosurgery Services, LLC



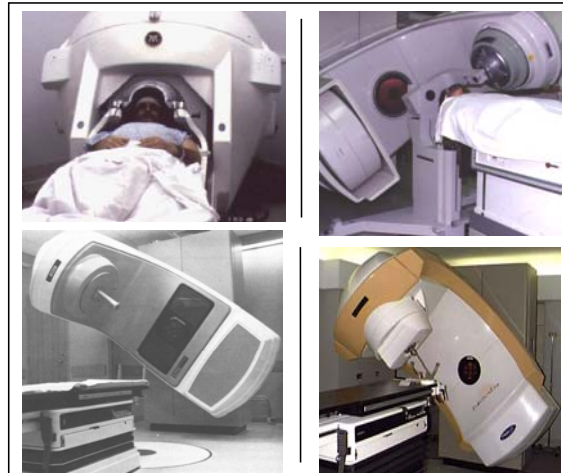
## DISCLOSURES



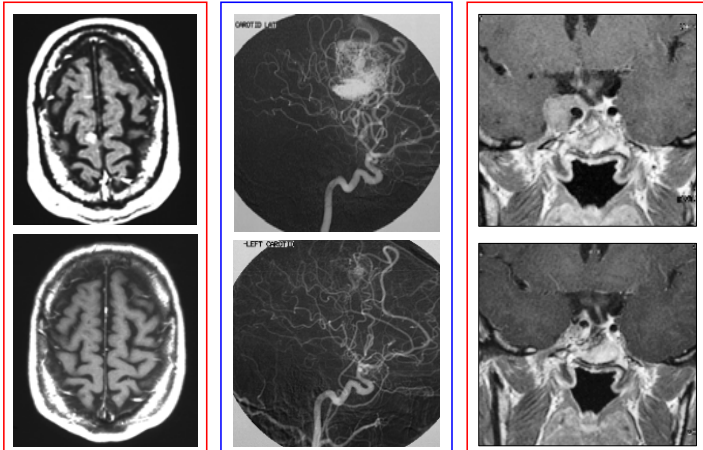
Technically, this guy is my boss .....



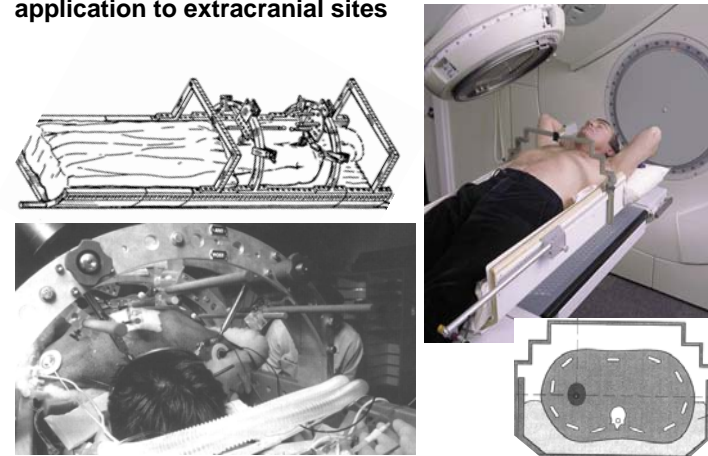
50+ years of technology development and clinical application established SRS as a successful therapy



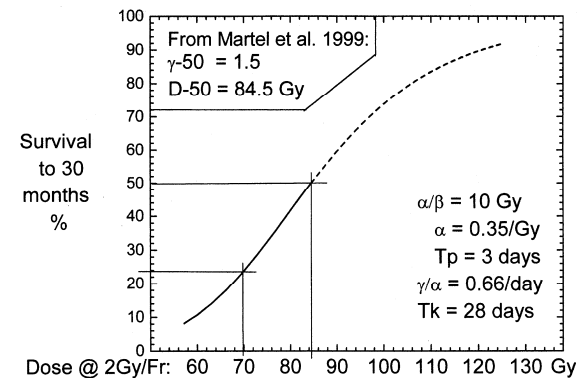
50+ years of technology development and clinical application established SRS as a successful therapy



And motivated technology and clinical application to extracranial sites



And motivated technology and clinical application to extracranial sites



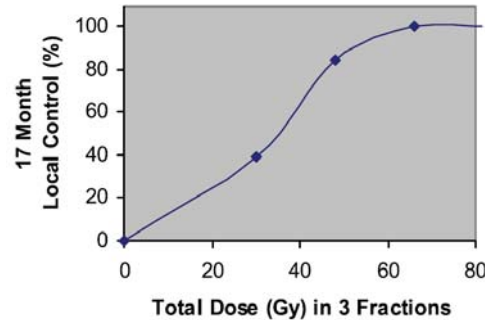
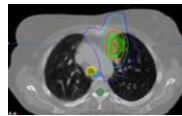
"If higher doses can be delivered to limited volumes using advanced conformal techniques such as IMRT, gated for breathing, together with on-line verification and adaptation, large increases of local control would be expected."

Mehta et al, IJROBP 49:23-33, 2001

## Indiana Phase I

47 patients with medically inoperable NSCLC  
Dose escalated from 3 x 8 Gy to 3 x 24 Gy

MTD (< 5 cm) was not reached  
MTD (> 5 cm) ~ 66 Gy

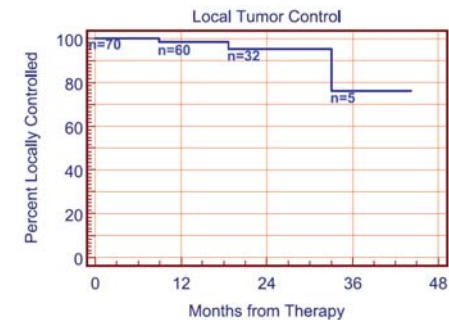
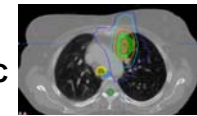


Timmerman et al, J Thoracic Onc, 2007

## Indiana Phase II

70 patients with medically inoperable NSCLC  
> 5 cm: 3 x 20 Gy < 5 cm: 3 x 22 Gy

< 20% Grade 2+ toxicity  
Risk of Grade 3+ toxicity 11 times greater for centrally located tumors



Timmerman et al, J Thoracic Onc, 2007

## RADIATION THERAPY ONCOLOGY GROUP RTOG 0236

A Phase II Trial of Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT) in the Treatment of Patients with Medically Inoperable Stage I/II Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

REGISTER

### SCHEMA

Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT),  
20 Gy per fraction for 3 fractions over 1½-2  
weeks, for a total of 60 Gy

| Organ                            | Volume                       | Dose (cGy)                   |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Spinal Cord                      | Any point                    | 18 Gy (6 Gy per fraction)    |
| Esophagus                        | Any point                    | 27 Gy (9 Gy per fraction)    |
| Ipsilateral Brachial Plexus      | Any point                    | 24 Gy (8 Gy per fraction)    |
| Heart                            | Any point                    | 30 Gy (10 Gy per fraction)   |
| Trachea and Ipsilateral Bronchus | Any point                    | 30 Gy (10 Gy per fraction)   |
| Whole Lung (Right & Left)        | (See table in Section 6.4.2) | (See table in Section 6.4.2) |

Lung volume receiving 20 Gy or more ( $V_{20}$ ) must be less than 10%, (or less than 15% for minor deviation)

## RTOG 0236

## Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy for Inoperable Early Stage Lung Cancer

Robert Timmerman, MD  
Rebecca Paulus, BS  
James Galvin, PhD  
Jeffrey Michalski, MD  
William Straube, PhD  
Jeffrey Bradley, MD  
Achilles Fakiris, MD  
Andrea Bozjak, MD  
Gregory Viotto, MD  
David Johnstone, MD  
Jack Fowler, PhD  
Elizabeth Gore, MD  
Hak Choy, MD

**Context** Patients with early stage but medically inoperable lung cancer have a poor rate of primary tumor control (30%-40%) and a high rate of mortality (3-year survival, 20%-35%) with current management.

**Objective** To evaluate the toxicity and efficacy of stereotactic body radiation therapy in a high-risk population of patients with early stage but medically inoperable lung cancer.

**Design, Setting, and Patients** Phase 2 North American multicenter study of patients aged 18 years or older with biopsy-proven peripheral T1-T2N0M0 non-small cell tumors (measuring < 5 cm in diameter) and medical conditions precluding surgical treatment. The prescription dose was 18 Gy per fraction × 3 fractions (54 Gy total) with entire treatment lasting between 1½ and 2 weeks. The study opened May 26, 2004, and closed October 13, 2006; data were analyzed through August 31, 2009.

**Main Outcome Measures** The primary end point was 2-year actuarial primary tumor control; secondary end points were disease-free survival (ie, primary tumor, involved lobe, regional, and disseminated recurrence), treatment-related toxicity, and overall survival.

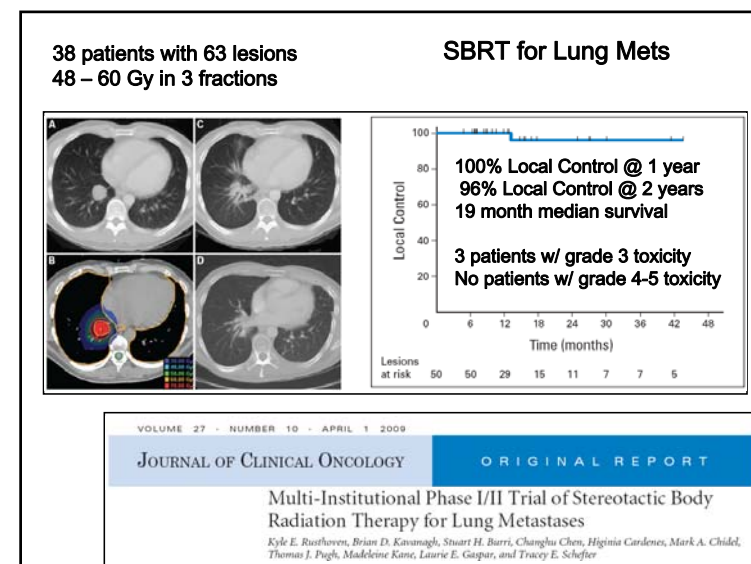
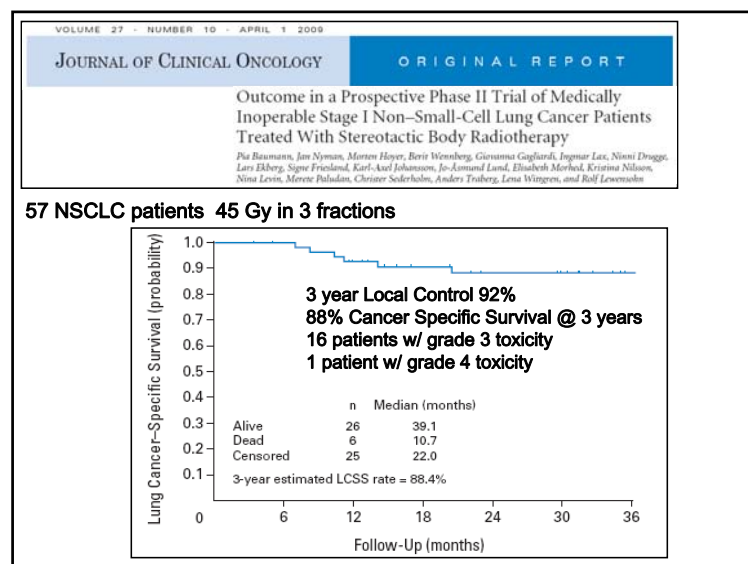
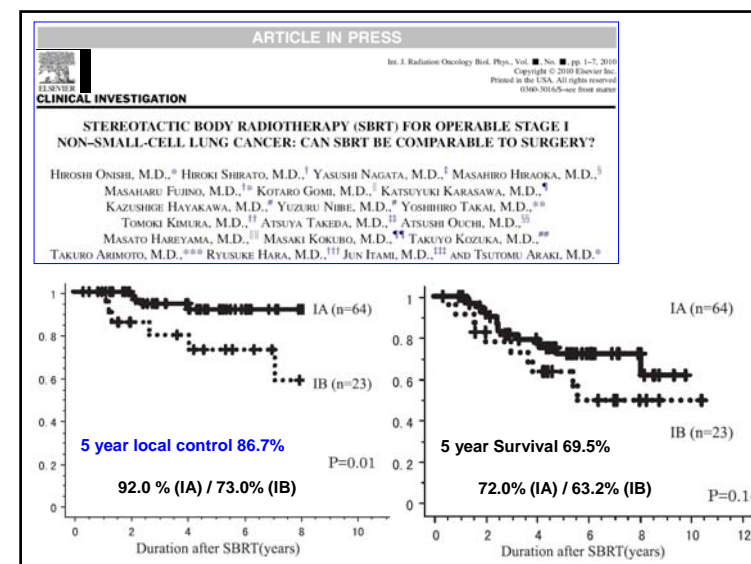
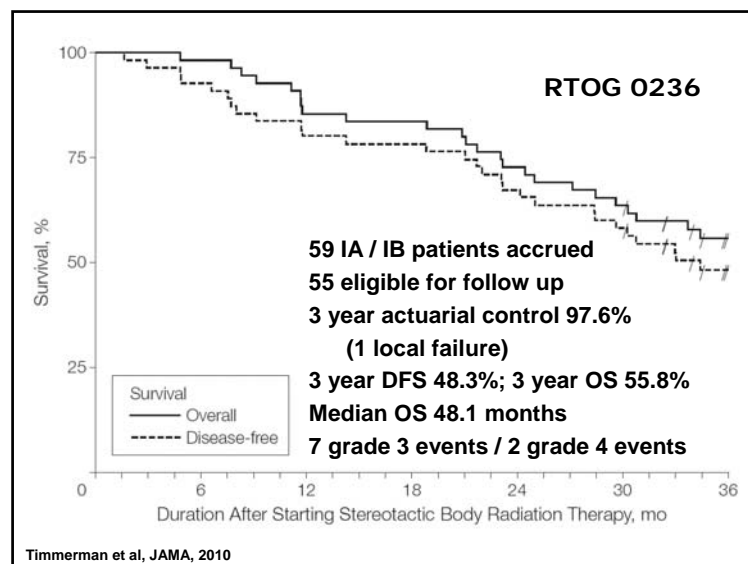
**Results** A total of 59 patients accrued, of which 55 were evaluable (44 patients with T1 tumors and 11 patients with T2 tumors) with a median follow-up of 34.4 months (range, 4.8-49.9 months). Only 1 patient had a primary tumor failure; the estimated 3-year primary tumor control rate was 97.6% (95% confidence interval [CI], 84.3%-99.7%). Three patients had recurrence within the involved lobe; the 3-year primary tumor and involved lobe (local) control rate was 90.6% (95% CI, 76.0%-96.5%). Two patients experienced regional failure; the local-regional control rate was 87.2% (95% CI, 71.0%-94.7%). Eleven patients experienced disseminated recurrence; the 3-year rate of disseminated failure was 22.1% (95% CI, 12.3%-37.8%). The rates for disease-free survival and overall survival at 3 years were 48.3% (95% CI, 34.4%-60.8%) and 55.8% (95% CI, 41.6%-67.9%), respectively. The median overall survival was 48.1 months (95% CI, 29.6 months to not reached). Protocol-specified treatment-related grade 3 adverse events were reported in 7 patients (12.7%; 95% CI, 9.6%-15.8%); grade 4 adverse events were reported in 2 patients (3.6%; 95% CI, 2.7%-4.5%). No grade 5 adverse events were reported.

**Conclusion** Patients with inoperable non-small cell lung cancer who received stereotactic body radiation therapy had a survival rate of 55.8% at 3 years, high rates of local tumor control, and moderate treatment-related morbidity.

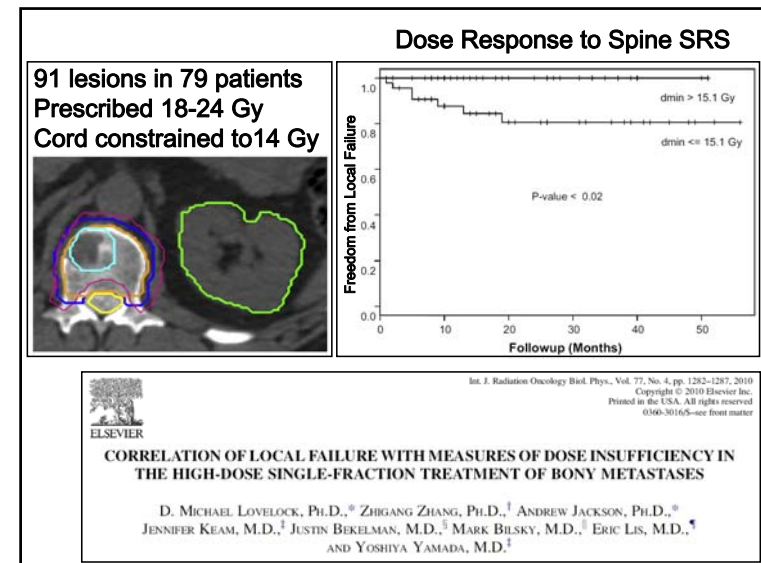
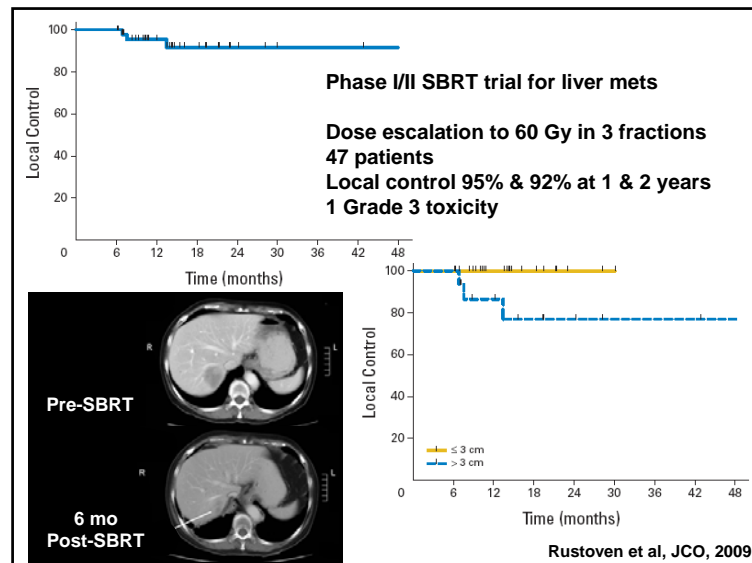
JAMA. 2010;303(11):1070-1076

www.jama.com

Timmerman et al, JAMA, 2010







**But with any aggressive approach, there may be complications**

**Three treatment-related deaths following SBRT for primary liver cancer**

**3 x 15 Gy for 57 cc tumor**  
**3 x 10 Gy for 293 cc tumor**  
**1 x 30 Gy for a "large" tumor**

Blomgren et al, Acta Oncol. 34:861-70, 1995

VOLUME 24 • NUMBER 30 • OCTOBER 20 2006

**JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY** ORIGINAL REPORT

**Excessive Toxicity When Treating Central Tumors in a Phase II Study of Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy for Medically Inoperable Early-Stage Lung Cancer**

Robert Timmerman, Ronald McGarry, Constantin Tsiammas, Leah Pappas, Kathy Tudor, Jill DeLucca, Marlene Erving, Ramzi Abdulrahman, Colleen DeRosiers, Mark Williams, and James Fletcher

Int. J. Radiation Oncology Biol. Phys., Vol. 77, No. 2, pp. 548-553, 2010  
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 0360-3016/\$-see front matter

**CLINICAL INVESTIGATION** Spinal Cord

**SPINAL CORD TOLERANCE FOR STEREOTACTIC BODY RADIOTHERAPY**

ARJUN SARGAL, M.D.,\* LILUN MA, Ph.D.,† IRIS GIBBS, M.D.,‡ PETER C. GERSzten, M.D.,\*\* SAM RYU, M.D.,‡ SCOTT SOLTYS, M.D.,‡ VIVIAN WEINBERG, Ph.D.,§ SHUN WONG, M.D.,§ ERIC CHANG, M.D.,‡ JACK FOWLER, D.Sc.,‡, Ph.D.,‡ AND DAVID A. LARSON, M.D., Ph.D.‡

We report 5 cases of radiation-induced myelopathy(RM) that occurred following spine SBRT

**And there is a significant burden on practitioners to minimize errors**

In 1997, between 44,000 and 98,000 patients died as a result of medical errors  
 - To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health System, Institute of Medicine

**Los Angeles Times** | ARTICLE COLLECTIONS

— Back to Original Article

**Wrong patient got kidney at**

University Hospital shut down its kidney transplant program last month after realizing the error. The hospital said transplants may resume as early as Friday.

February 18, 2011 | By Alvin Zarembo and Lisa Giron, Los Angeles Times

University Hospital halted kidney transplants last month after a kidney was accidentally transplanted into the wrong patient, according to a spokesman for the program that coordinates organ transplants in Los Angeles.

The patient who received the wrong kidney escaped harm, apparently because the kidney happened to be an acceptable match, said Bryan Stewart, spokesman for the program, OneLegacy, which was notified of the error by the hospital.

The hospital, which performs about two transplants a week, confirmed in a statement that it had voluntarily halted transplants Jan. 29 after a "process error" was discovered. The hospital did not detail the nature of the error and declined to answer questions. It said no patients were harmed.

**The Washington Post NATIONAL**

Most recent analyses suggest the situation has not improved significantly

### The Pain of Wrong Site Surgery

By Sandra G. Borden, Published: June 20

When the president of the Joint Commission, the Chicago-based group that accredits the nation's hospitals, unveiled mandatory rules to prevent operations on the wrong patient or body part, he did not mince words. "This is not quite 'Dick and Jane,' but it's pretty close," surgeon Dennis O'Leary declared in a 2004 interview about the "universal protocol" to prevent wrong-site surgery. These rules require preoperative verification of important details, marking of the surgical site and a timeout to confirm everything just before the procedure starts.

Mistakes such as amputating the wrong leg, performing the wrong operation or removing a kidney from the wrong patient can often be prevented by what O'Leary called "very simple stuff": ensuring that an "X-ray isn't flipped and that the right patient is on the table, for example. Such errors are considered so egregious and avoidable that they are classified as "never events" because they should never happen.

But seven years later, some researchers and patient safety experts say the problem of wrong-site surgery has not improved and may be getting worse, although equity reporting makes conclusions difficult. Based on state data, Joint Commission officials estimate that wrong-site surgery **occurs at least a week in U.S. hospitals and clinics. Last year 93 cases were reported to the accrediting organization, compared with 49 in 2004.** Reporting to the commission is voluntary and confidential — to encourage doctors and hospitals to come forward and to make improvements, officials say. About half the states, including Virginia, do not require reporting. In two states that track and intensively study these errors, 48 cases were reported in Minnesota last year, up from 44 in 2009; Pennsylvania has averaged about 64 cases for the past few years.

**More On This Story**

- Transcendental meditation practitioners sing the praises
- Survey reveals fear about vaccines
- Consumers get more aggressive power
- Study: Early exposure to pain isn't easy

**abcNEWS/u.s.**

### Medical Mistake: Surgeon Operates on the Wrong Eye of a 4-Year-Old Boy

By MICHAEL MURRAY  
April 13, 2011

James Marlock went to a doctor today to find out if he suffered any permanent damage when a surgeon performed corrective surgery on the wrong eye and then, without consulting the boy's parents, quickly operated on the correct eye.

"Right now we're in the dark about what this will be like in the future," Tasha Clark, mother of 4-year-old James, told ABC news. The doctor they saw today told her they will have to wait 5 weeks for his eye to completely heal before they can determine if there has been any permanent damage.

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## Our profession has certainly seen its share of errors

# health. DEVICES

### TOP 10 HEALTH TECHNOLOGY HAZARDS FOR 2011

Reprinted from Volume 39 Issue 11  
November 2010

**ECRI Institute**  
The Discipline of Science. The Integrity of Independence.

1. Radiation Overdose and Other Dose Errors during Radiation Therapy
2. Alarm Hazards
3. Cross-Contamination from Flexible Endoscopes
4. The High Radiation Dose of CT Scans
5. Data Loss, System Incompatibilities, and Other Health IT Complications
6. Luer Misconnections
7. Oversedation during Use of PCA Infusion Pumps
8. Needlesticks and Other Sharps Injuries
9. Surgical Fires
10. Defibrillator Failures in Emergency Resuscitation Attempts

For many of us, the awareness began with this series of articles

**The New York Times**

### Health

#### THE RADIATION BOOM

### Radiation Offers New Cures, and Ways to Do Harm

By VALENT BOGDANICH  
Published January 23, 2010

As Scott Jerome-Parks lay dying, he clung to this wish: that his fatal radiation overdose — which left him deaf, struggling to see, unable to swallow, burned, with his teeth falling out, with ulcers in his mouth and throat, nauseated, in severe pain and finally unable to breathe — be studied and talked about publicly so that others might not have to live his nightmare.

Sensing death was near, Mr. Jerome-Parks summoned his family for a final Christmas. His friends sent two buckets of sand from the beach where they had played as children so he could touch it, feel it and remember

**Well**  
Turn Parker-Pope on Health  
When Radiation Treatment Turns Deadly

**U.S.**

**Fatal Radiation**

Differs from problems and poor quality control at St. Vincent's Hospital cause a fatal overdose.

Decomposing the issue: The medicine problems a device of electronics that is assembled, gilded and laid down as a mask of tongue that connects the electronics into high-energy X-rays.

Electron beam

Bending magnet

Beam timing and data transmission

Beam shaping

X-ray beam

But accidents and the publicity surrounding them are nothing new

*A Special Reprint*

# THE PLAIN DEALER

OHIO'S LARGEST NEWSPAPER

FIRST OF A SERIES **LETHAL DOSES** RADIATION THAT KILLS

## Dangerous medicine, deadly mistakes

At age 9, Dwight's skin peeled, his tongue bloated and fluid leaked from his ear. "I made sure to hug and kiss him," says his mother. "He really looked grotesque and he knew it, but I wanted him to know we loved him."

Like little Dwight, scores of Americans have met horrible deaths due to medical blunders and overdoses of radiation. This Plain Dealer series tells their stories and unveils shocking facts about hospital cover-ups and government laxity.

Courtesy Yakov Pipman

## At least 40 people killed and the NRC doesn't know it

**PART 1** Published Dec. 13, 1992 — Sloppy radiation therapy procedures in America's hospitals have killed at least 40 people and maimed dozens of others. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the agency primarily responsible for protecting the public from radiation mistakes in medicine, can't name a single fatality. **Pages 3, 4.**

## The spill that shook the Cleveland Clinic

**PART 2** Published Dec. 14, 1992 — A series of blunders at the Cleveland Clinic in May 1991 led to a record third NRC fine and prompted a top clinic official to call the institution's safety program an embarrassment. **Pages 5, 6.**

## The nation's worst disaster — it happened in Ohio

**PART 3**, Published Dec. 15, 1992 — The nation's worst radiation therapy disaster occurred at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus in 1975-76. Although more than 400 people received radiation overdoses and at least 28 died, the NRC's medical consultant shut down his inquiry because he didn't want to expose the hospital to malpractice suits. **Pages 7, 8.**

Courtesy Yakov Pipman

and the reaction should be predictable .....

## Human tragedies, official coverups, government laxity

**PART 4**, Published Dec. 16, 1992 — Jean Matalik doesn't show up in NRC records as a radiation therapy casualty because she took her own life after her doctor burned a hole in her chest. Neither does Stella Johnson, even though a radiation overdose killed her. They are among hundreds of people who are overdosed in our nation's hospitals each year. **Pages 9-11.**

## Lies, deceit, convictions — and nobody's in jail

**PART 5**, Published Dec. 17, 1992 — NRC investigators have caught dozens of hospital officials lying, falsifying records and covering up radiation overdoses. Yet only three people have been convicted of crimes and no one has ever gone to jail. Some still work at the same hospitals. **Pages 11, 12**

## A promise from NRC, hearings before Congress

**FOLLOW-UPS**, Published Dec. 19-20, 1992 — After reading the Plain Dealer series, NRC Chairman Ivan Selin promised major reforms in the agency's medical licensure and inspection programs. Sen. John Glenn and Rep. Michael L. Synar also announced that congressional investigations would focus on the PD's findings. **Pages 12, 13.**

Courtesy Yakov Pipman

## RADIATION IN MEDICINE

### A NEED FOR REGULATORY REFORM

Committee for Review and Evaluation of the Medical Use Program of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

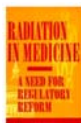
Kate-Louise D. Gottfried and Gary Penn, Editors

Division of Health Care Services

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

NATIONAL ACADEMY PRESS

Washington, D.C. 1996



## Several responses to congressional hearings

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INDUSTRY NEWS: MARCH 1, 2010

Congressional hearing: More oversight needed for medical radiation procedures

During testimony before a committee of the House of Representatives Friday, stakeholders from the medical imaging and radiation oncology communities voiced the life-saving virtues and safety of medical imaging procedures, but also agreed that more needs to be done to regulate the profession and protect patient safety.

"Image-guided medical procedures have replaced more invasive surgical options for many patients, while improving outcomes and reducing hospitalization and recovery times," E. Stephen Ames, Jr., MD, told the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee. "Furthermore, clinical trials and experience have demonstrated the benefits of radiation therapy in curing cancer, extending life, and alleviating pain and suffering for over one million patients each year."

Ames, former chair of the Board of Chancellors of the American College of Radiology (ACR), also told the subcommittee that a recent series of articles in the New York Times listing out several tragic cases of medical imaging radiation errors, was a reminder that the use of medical radiation has risks as well.

"As a profession, we can and must do a better job of preventing such errors — not only to ensure all patients get the best quality of care we can provide, but also to maintain the confidence of the public who rely on our care," Ames said.

## Errors in SRS / SBRT







# **RAPID COMMUNICATION**

## **ACUTE SKIN TOXICITY FOLLOWING STEREOTACTIC BODY RADIATION THERAPY FOR STAGE I NON-SMALL-CELL LUNG CANCER: WHO'S AT RISK?**

BRADFORD S. HOPPE, M.D.,\* BENJAMIN LASER, M.D.,\* ALEX V. KOWALSKI, B.A.,<sup>†</sup>  
SANDRA C. FONTENLA, B.A.,<sup>†</sup> ELIZABETH PENA-GREENBERG, R.N.,\* ELLEN D. YORKE, PH.D.,<sup>†</sup>  
D. MICHAEL LOVELOCK, PH.D.,<sup>†</sup> MARGIE A. HUNT, M.S.,<sup>†</sup> AND KENNETH E. ROSENZWEIG, M.D.\*



## **Errors in SRS / SBRT**



## **Who caught it, and what could have been done to prevent it?**

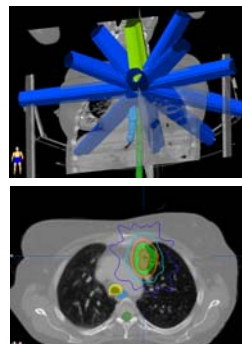
Patients “caught” it

Better training on SRS principles –  
Many beams from many directions!

Carefully evaluate plans

Develop dose constraints – understand  
normal tissue tolerance

Follow nationally accepted guidelines  
e.g., RTOG compactness criteria  
(PTV + 2 cm)



## **Compactness Constraints**

### **5) Intermediate Dose Spillage**

The falloff gradient beyond the PTV extending into normal tissue structures must be rapid in all directions and meet the following criteria:

#### **a) Location**

The maximum total dose over all 3 fractions in Gray (Gy) to any point 2 cm or greater away from the PTV in any direction must be no greater than  $D_{2cm}$ , where  $D_{2cm}$  is given by the table below.

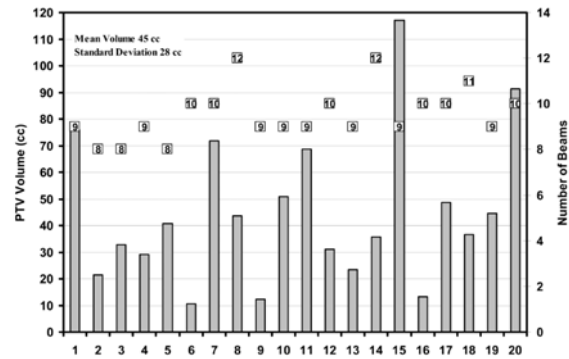
#### **b) Volume**

The ratio of the volume of the 30 Gy isodose volume to the volume of the PTV must be no greater than  $R_{30\text{ Gy}}$ , where  $R_{30\text{ Gy}}$  is given by the table below. This table is used for all prescription requirement in Section 6.4.2 irrespective of calculation algorithm and total treatment dose.

| Maximum PTV Dimension (cm) | Ratio of Prescription Isodose Volume to the PTV |         | Ratio of 30 Gy Isodose Volume to the PTV, $R_{30\text{ Gy}}$ |         |           |           | Maximum Dose 2 cm from PTV in any Direction, $D_{2\text{cm}}$ (Gy) |       | Percent of Lung receiving 20 Gy total or more, $V_{20}$ (%) |       | PTV Volume (cc) |
|----------------------------|---|---------|--|---------|-----------|-----------|--|-------|---|-------|-----------------|
|                            |   |         | Deviation  |         | Deviation |           | Deviation  |       | Deviation   |       |                 |
|                            | none  | minor   | none   | minor   | none      | minor     | none   | minor | none  | minor |                 |
|                            | 2.0   | <1.2    | 1.2-1.4  | <3.9    | 3.9-4.1   | <28.1     | 28.1-30.1  | <10   | 10-15   | 1.8   |                 |
| 2.5                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <3.9   | 3.9-4.1 | <28.1     | 28.1-30.1 | <10  | 10-15 | 3.8   |       |                 |
| 3.0                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <3.9   | 3.9-4.1 | <28.1     | 28.1-30.1 | <10  | 10-15 | 7.4   |       |                 |
| 3.5                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <3.9   | 3.9-4.1 | <28.1     | 28.1-30.1 | <10  | 10-15 | 13.2  |       |                 |
| 4.0                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <3.8   | 3.8-4.0 | <30.4     | 30.4-32.4 | <10  | 10-15 | 21.9  |       |                 |
| 4.5                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <3.7   | 3.7-3.9 | <32.7     | 32.7-34.7 | <10  | 10-15 | 33.8  |       |                 |
| 5.0                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <3.6   | 3.6-3.8 | <35.1     | 35.1-37.1 | <10  | 10-15 | 49.6  |       |                 |
| 5.5                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <3.5   | 3.5-3.7 | <37.4     | 37.4-41.7 | <10  | 10-15 | 69.9  |       |                 |
| 6.0                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <3.3   | 3.3-3.5 | <39.7     | 39.7-41.7 | <10  | 10-15 | 95.1  |       |                 |
| 6.5                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <3.1   | 3.1-3.3 | <42.0     | 42.0-44.0 | <10  | 10-15 | 125.8   |       |                 |
| 7.0                        | <1.2  | 1.2-1.4 | <2.9   | 2.9-3.1 | <44.3     | 44.3-46.3 | <10  | 10-15 | 162.6   |       |                 |



## How many beams?



### Dosimetric Evaluation of Heterogeneity Corrections for RTOG 0236: Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy of Inoperable Stage II/II Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Ying Xiao, Ph.D.<sup>1,\*</sup>, Lech Papiez, Ph.D.<sup>2</sup>, Rebecca Paulus, B.S.<sup>3</sup>, Robert Timmerman, M.D.<sup>2</sup>, William L. Straube, M.S.<sup>4</sup>, Walter R. Bosch, D.Sc.<sup>4</sup>, Jeff Michalski, M.D.<sup>4</sup>, and James M. Galvin, D.Sc.<sup>1</sup>

## Systematic Use of Dose Constraints

| Serial Tissue                     | Volume (mL)                 | Volume Max (Gy)                      | Max Point Dose (Gy)        | Endpoint (≥Grade 3)    |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>SINGLE-FRACTION TREATMENT</b>  |                             |                                      |                            |                        |
| Optic pathway                     | <0.2                        | 8                                    | 10                         | Neuritis               |
| Cochlea                           |                             |                                      | 12                         | Hearing loss           |
| Brainstem                         | <1                          | 10                                   | 15                         | Cranial neuropathy     |
| Spinal cord                       | <0.25                       | 10                                   | 14                         | Myelitis               |
|                                   | <1.2                        | 7                                    |                            |                        |
| Cauda equina                      | <5                          | 14                                   | 16                         | Neuritis               |
| Sacral plexus                     | <3                          | 14.4                                 | 16                         | Neuropathy             |
| Esophagus*                        | <5                          | 14.5                                 | 19                         | Stenosis/fistula       |
| Ipsilateral brachial plexus       | <3                          | 14.4                                 | 16                         | Neuropathy             |
| Heart/pericardium                 | <15                         | 16                                   | 22                         | Pericarditis           |
| Great vessels                     | <10                         | 31                                   | 37                         | Aneurysm               |
| Trachea and ipsilateral bronchus* | <4                          | 8.8                                  | 22                         | Stenosis/fistula       |
| Skin                              | <10                         | 14.4                                 | 16                         | Ulceration             |
| Stomach                           | <10                         | 13                                   | 16                         | Ulceration/fistula     |
| Duodenum*                         | <5                          | 8.8                                  | 16                         | Ulceration             |
| Jejunum/ileum*                    | <5                          | 9.8                                  | 19                         | Enteritis/obstruction  |
| Colon*                            | <20                         | 11                                   | 22                         | Colitis/fistula        |
| Rectum*                           | <20                         | 11                                   | 22                         | Proctitis/fistula      |
| Bladder wall                      | <15                         | 8.7                                  | 22                         | Cystitis/fistula       |
| Penile bulb                       | <3                          | 14                                   | 34                         | Impotence              |
| Femoral heads (right and left)    | <10                         | 14                                   |                            | Necrosis               |
| Renal hilum/vascular trunk        | <2/3 volume                 | 10.6                                 |                            | Malignant hypertension |
| <b>Parallel Tissue</b>            |                             |                                      |                            |                        |
|                                   | <b>Critical Volume (mL)</b> | <b>Critical Volume Dose Max (Gy)</b> | <b>Endpoint (≥Grade 3)</b> |                        |
| Lung (right and left)             | 1,500                       | 7                                    | Basic lung function        |                        |
| Liver (right and left)            | 1,000                       | 7.4                                  | Pneumonitis                |                        |
| Liver                             | 700                         | 9.1                                  | Basic liver function       |                        |
| Renal cortex (right and left)     | 200                         | 8.4                                  | Basic renal function       |                        |

Timmerman et al, Sem Rad Onc, 2008

## Systematic Use of Dose Constraints

| Serial Tissue                     | Volume (mL)                 | Volume Max (Gy)                      | Max Point Dose (Gy)        | Endpoint (≥Grade 3)    |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>THREE-FRACTION TREATMENT</b>   |                             |                                      |                            |                        |
| Optic pathway                     | <0.2                        | 15 (5 Gy/fx)                         | 19.5 (6.5 Gy/fx)           | Neuritis               |
| Cochlea                           |                             |                                      | 20 (6.67 Gy/fx)            | Hearing loss           |
| Brainstem                         | <1                          | 18 (6 Gy/fx)                         | 23 (7.67 Gy/fx)            | Cranial neuropathy     |
| Spinal cord                       | <0.25                       | 18 (6 Gy/fx)                         | 22 (7.33 Gy/fx)            | Myelitis               |
|                                   | <1.2                        | 11.1 (3.7 Gy/fx)                     |                            |                        |
| Cauda equina                      | <5                          | 21.9 (7.3 Gy/fx)                     | 24 (8 Gy/fx)               | Neuritis               |
| Sacral plexus                     | <3                          | 22.5 (7.5 Gy/fx)                     | 24 (8 Gy/fx)               | Neuropathy             |
| Esophagus*                        | <5                          | 21 (7 Gy/fx)                         | 27 (9 Gy/fx)               | Stenosis/fistula       |
| Ipsilateral brachial plexus       | <3                          | 22.5 (7.5 Gy/fx)                     | 24 (8 Gy/fx)               | Neuropathy             |
| Heart/pericardium                 | <15                         | 24 (8 Gy/fx)                         | 30 (10 Gy/fx)              | Pericarditis           |
| Great vessels                     | <10                         | 39 (13 Gy/fx)                        | 45 (15 Gy/fx)              | Aneurysm               |
| Trachea and ipsilateral bronchus* | <4                          | 15 (5 Gy/fx)                         | 30 (10 Gy/fx)              | Stenosis/fistula       |
| Skin                              | <10                         | 22.5 (7.5 Gy/fx)                     | 24 (8 Gy/fx)               | Ulceration             |
| Stomach                           | <10                         | 21 (7 Gy/fx)                         | 24 (8 Gy/fx)               | Ulceration/fistula     |
| Duodenum*                         | <5                          | 15 (5 Gy/fx)                         | 24 (8 Gy/fx)               | Ulceration             |
| Jejunum/ileum*                    | <5                          | 16.2 (5.4 Gy/fx)                     | 27 (9 Gy/fx)               | Enteritis/obstruction  |
| Colon*                            | <20                         | 20.4 (6.8 Gy/fx)                     | 30 (10 Gy/fx)              | Colitis/fistula        |
| Rectum*                           | <20                         | 20.4 (6.8 Gy/fx)                     | 30 (10 Gy/fx)              | Proctitis/fistula      |
| Bladder wall                      | <15                         | 15 (5 Gy/fx)                         | 30 (10 Gy/fx)              | Cystitis/fistula       |
| Penile bulb                       | <3                          | 21.9 (7.3 Gy/fx)                     | 42 (14 Gy/fx)              | Impotence              |
| Femoral heads (right and left)    | <10                         | 21.9 (7.3 Gy/fx)                     |                            | Necrosis               |
| Renal hilum/vascular trunk        | <2/3 volume                 | 18.6 (6.2 Gy/fx)                     |                            | Malignant hypertension |
| <b>Parallel Tissue</b>            |                             |                                      |                            |                        |
|                                   | <b>Critical Volume (mL)</b> | <b>Critical Volume Dose Max (Gy)</b> | <b>Endpoint (≥Grade 3)</b> |                        |
| Lung (right and left)             | 1,500                       | 10.5 (3.5 Gy/fx)                     | Basic lung function        |                        |
| Lung (right and left)             | 1,000                       | 11.4 (3.8 Gy/fx)                     | Pneumonitis                |                        |
| Liver                             | 700                         | 17.1 (5.7 Gy/fx)                     | Basic liver function       |                        |
| Renal cortex (right and left)     | 200                         | 14.4 (4.8 Gy/fx)                     | Basic renal function       |                        |

Timmerman et al, Sem Rad Onc, 2008

## Systematic Use of Dose Constraints

| Serial Tissue                     | Volume (mL)                 | Volume Max (Gy)                      | Max Point Dose (Gy)        | Endpoint (≥Grade 3)    |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>FIVE-FRACTION TREATMENT</b>    |                             |                                      |                            |                        |
| Optic pathway                     | <0.2                        | 20 (4 Gy/fx)                         | 25 (5 Gy/fx)               | Neuritis               |
| Cochlea                           |                             |                                      | 27.5 (5.5 Gy/fx)           | Hearing loss           |
| Brainstem                         | <1                          | 26 (5.2 Gy/fx)                       | 31 (6.2 Gy/fx)             | Cranial neuropathy     |
| Spinal cord                       | <0.25                       | 22.5 (4.5 Gy/fx)                     | 30 (6 Gy/fx)               | Myelitis               |
|                                   | <1.2                        | 13.5 (2.7 Gy/fx)                     |                            |                        |
| Cauda equina                      | <5                          | 30 (6 Gy/fx)                         | 34 (6.4 Gy/fx)             | Neuritis               |
| Sacral plexus                     | <3                          | 30 (6 Gy/fx)                         | 32 (6.4 Gy/fx)             | Neuropathy             |
| Esophagus*                        | <5                          | 27.5 (5.5 Gy/fx)                     | 35 (7 Gy/fx)               | Stenosis/fistula       |
| Ipsilateral brachial plexus       | <3                          | 30 (6 Gy/fx)                         | 32 (6.4 Gy/fx)             | Neuropathy             |
| Heart/pericardium                 | <15                         | 32 (6.4 Gy/fx)                       | 38 (7.6 Gy/fx)             | Pericarditis           |
| Great vessels                     | <10                         | 47 (9.4 Gy/fx)                       | 53 (10.6 Gy/fx)            | Aneurysm               |
| Trachea and ipsilateral bronchus* | <4                          | 18 (3.6 Gy/fx)                       | 38 (7.6 Gy/fx)             | Stenosis/fistula       |
| Skin                              | <10                         | 30 (6 Gy/fx)                         | 32 (6.4 Gy/fx)             | Ulceration             |
| Stomach                           | <10                         | 28 (5.6 Gy/fx)                       | 32 (6.4 Gy/fx)             | Ulceration/fistula     |
| Duodenum*                         | <5                          | 18 (3.6 Gy/fx)                       | 32 (6.4 Gy/fx)             | Ulceration             |
| Jejunum/ileum*                    | <5                          | 19.5 (3.9 Gy/fx)                     | 35 (7 Gy/fx)               | Enteritis/obstruction  |
| Colon*                            | <20                         | 25 (5 Gy/fx)                         | 38 (7.6 Gy/fx)             | Colitis/fistula        |
| Rectum*                           | <20                         | 25 (5 Gy/fx)                         | 38 (7.6 Gy/fx)             | Proctitis/fistula      |
| Bladder wall                      | <15                         | 18.3 (3.65 Gy/fx)                    | 38 (7.6 Gy/fx)             | Cystitis/fistula       |
| Penile bulb                       | <3                          | 30 (6 Gy/fx)                         | 50 (10 Gy/fx)              | Impotence              |
| Femoral heads (right and left)    | <10                         | 30 (6 Gy/fx)                         |                            | Necrosis               |
| Renal hilum/vascular trunk        | <2/3 volume                 | 23 (4.6 Gy/fx)                       |                            | Malignant hypertension |
| <b>Parallel Tissue</b>            |                             |                                      |                            |                        |
|                                   | <b>Critical Volume (mL)</b> | <b>Critical Volume Dose Max (Gy)</b> | <b>Endpoint (≥Grade 3)</b> |                        |
| Lung (right and left)             | 1,500                       | 12.5 (2.5 Gy/fx)                     | Basic lung function        |                        |
| Lung (right and left)             | 1,000                       | 13.5 (2.7 Gy/fx)                     | Pneumonitis                |                        |
| Liver                             | 700                         | 21 (4.2 Gy/fx)                       | Basic liver function       |                        |
| Renal cortex (right and left)     | 200                         | 17.5 (3.5 Gy/fx)                     | Basic renal function       |                        |

\*Avoid circumferential irradiation.

Timmerman et al, Sem Rad Onc, 2008

**Times** Patients exposed to high radiation levels  
Tampa Bay  
A machine's programming error caused the problem at Tampa's H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute for 10 months.  
April 1, 2005

**Errors in SRS / SBRT**

UT SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER AT DALLAS  
MONCRIEF RADIATION ONCOLOGY CENTER

A TG-51 Photon Calibration  
Date: 6 Mar 11

2a Ion Chamber:  
Manufacturer & model: PTW 31013  
Serial #: 1100  
N<sub>90</sub>(Gy): 9.52E-07  
Cavity inner radius: 0.275 cm

2b Electrometer:  
Manufacturer & model: CNMC 8602  
Serial #: 31015A  
Scale: 1.00E-08  
P<sub>acc</sub>: 0.996 Gy/kg

3 Measurement conditions:  
Date Performed: 09Mar2011 used SSD=100  
Ion Chamber: PTW 31013 (3.1x10<sup>-11</sup> C/1841180 CAL 130x0050)  
Electrometer: CNMC 8602 CAL 6A02055 Scale=101.6  
Detected by: JFO

4 Beam Quality:  
a. 5 MV  
Measure PDD(10)<sub>sc</sub>: 66.26 %  
b. 10 MV  
Measure PDD(10)<sub>sc</sub> with 1 mm lead foil at distance of 30 ± 1 cm from the water surface: N/A  
If P<sub>0</sub> distance = 30 cm:  
PDD(10)<sub>sc</sub> = 0.9116 ± 0.0004 PDD(10)<sub>sc</sub> PDD(10)<sub>sc</sub>: N/A

5 Determination of k<sub>Q</sub>:  
Chamber model used to get k<sub>Q</sub>: PTW 31013  
6 MV PDD(10)<sub>sc</sub>: 66.26 %  
k<sub>Q</sub>: 0.992  
10 MV PDD(10)<sub>sc</sub>: 73.26 %  
k<sub>Q</sub>: 0.98026

6 Temperature/Pressure Correction:  
Temperature: 21.2 °C  
Pressure: 751.2 mmHg  
P<sub>cor</sub>: 1.000

7 A & B Polarity & P<sub>acc</sub>:

| Energy | Polarity | M <sub>1</sub> (C) | M <sub>2</sub> (C) | M <sub>3</sub> (C) | M <sub>avg</sub> (C) | G <sub>acc</sub> | P <sub>acc</sub> |
|--------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 5 MV   | +300 V   | 0.693              | 0.693              | 0.693              | 0.693                | 0.996            | 1.002            |
|        | -300 V   | 0.695              | 0.696              | 0.696              | 0.696                |                  |                  |
|        | -150 V   | 0.694              | 0.694              | 0.694              | 0.694                |                  |                  |
|        | +300 V   | 0.766              | 0.766              | 0.766              | 0.766                |                  |                  |
| 10 MV  | -300 V   | 0.769              | 0.769              | 0.769              | 0.769                | 0.996            | 1.003            |
|        | -150 V   | 0.767              | 0.767              | 0.767              | 0.767                |                  |                  |
|        | +300 V   | 0.769              | 0.769              | 0.769              | 0.769                |                  |                  |
|        | -150 V   | 0.767              | 0.767              | 0.767              | 0.767                |                  |                  |

9 Corrected ion chamber reading:  
M<sub>1</sub> P<sub>acc</sub> P<sub>cor</sub> P<sub>acc</sub> P<sub>cor</sub> M<sub>avg</sub>  
5 MV/M: 0.9958 Gy/C  
10 MV/M: 7.733E-09 C

10 Dose to water per MU at d<sub>max</sub>:  
D<sub>max</sub> = 0.9958 Gy/MU  
5 MV/D<sub>max</sub>: 0.995 cGy  
10 MV/D<sub>max</sub>: 1.003 cGy

**Times** Patients exposed to high radiation levels  
Tampa Bay  
A machine's programming error caused the problem at Tampa's H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute for 10 months.  
April 1, 2005

**What Happened?**

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MONCRIEF RADIATION ONCOLOGY CENTER

A TG-51 Photon Calibration  
Date: 6 Mar 11

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N<sub>90</sub>(Gy): 9.52E-07  
Cavity inner radius: 0.275 cm

2b Electrometer:  
Manufacturer & model: CNMC 8602  
Serial #: 31015A  
Scale: 1.00E-08  
P<sub>acc</sub>: 0.996 Gy/kg

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Date Performed: 09Mar2011 used SSD=100  
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Measure PDD(10)<sub>sc</sub> with 1 mm lead foil at distance of 30 ± 1 cm from the water surface: N/A  
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Chamber model used to get k<sub>Q</sub>: PTW 31013  
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Temperature: 21.2 °C  
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7 A & B Polarity & P<sub>acc</sub>:

| Energy | Polarity | M <sub>1</sub> (C) | M <sub>2</sub> (C) | M <sub>3</sub> (C) | M <sub>avg</sub> (C) | G <sub>acc</sub> | P <sub>acc</sub> |
|--------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 5 MV   | +300 V   | 0.693              | 0.693              | 0.693              | 0.693                | 0.996            | 1.002            |
|        | -300 V   | 0.695              | 0.696              | 0.696              | 0.696                |                  |                  |
|        | -150 V   | 0.694              | 0.694              | 0.694              | 0.694                |                  |                  |
|        | +300 V   | 0.766              | 0.766              | 0.766              | 0.766                |                  |                  |
| 10 MV  | -300 V   | 0.769              | 0.769              | 0.769              | 0.769                | 0.996            | 1.003            |
|        | -150 V   | 0.767              | 0.767              | 0.767              | 0.767                |                  |                  |
|        | +300 V   | 0.769              | 0.769              | 0.769              | 0.769                |                  |                  |
|        | -150 V   | 0.767              | 0.767              | 0.767              | 0.767                |                  |                  |

"Basically, they were supposed to have a second physicist independently verify the calibrations of the first physicist," said Bill Passetti, the bureau's chief. "It looks like the second verification wasn't performed, which is a violation of the facility's protocol and procedures."

**Times** Patients exposed to high radiation levels  
Tampa Bay  
A machine's programming error caused the problem at Tampa's H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute for 10 months.  
April 1, 2005

**Who caught it, and what could have been done to prevent it?**

RPC caught it, but not until after 77 patients had been treated

Don't rely on Excel – perform hand calc

Perform independent checks

Use mailed dosimetry service as part of commissioning, before patients are treated

**wnn** world nuclear news

[Dosimetric stereotactic radiosurgical accident: Study of 33 patients treated for brain metastases.]  
Neurochirurgie. 56(5):368-73, 2010  
Borius PY, Debono B, Latorzeff I, Lotterie JA, Plas JY, Cassol E, Sousquet P, Loubes F, Duthil P, Durand A, Caire F, Redon A, Berry I, Sabatier J, Lazorthes Y.

**Front Page**  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT  
NEW NUCLEAR  
REGULATION & SAFETY  
NUCLEAR POLICIES  
CORPORATE  
EXPLORATION & NUCLEAR FUEL  
WASTE & RECYCLING

**Nuclear Event Reports**  
Why Nuclear Event Reports?  
The IAEA's rating system  
Significant events in history  
Consult independent experts

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WNA WNU

**33 patients with 57 brain mets**  
Mean volume: 3.2 cc [0.04 – 14.07]  
Mean prescribed dose: 20 Gy [10 – 23]  
Mean delivered dose: 31.5 Gy [13 – 52]  
Mean overdose: 61.2% [5.6 – 226.8]  
Local control: 80.7%  
No morbidity observed

RADIOPROTECTION - VOL. 43 - N° 5 (2008)  
The French radiation accident experience: emerging concepts in radiation burn and ARS therapies and in brain radiopathology  
P. Gournelon<sup>a</sup>, E. Bey<sup>b</sup>, T. De Revel<sup>b</sup>, Y. Lazorthes<sup>c</sup>, J.A. Lotteries<sup>c</sup> and J.-J. Lataillade<sup>d</sup>

**32 unilateral ACN patients**  
31% 12 month actuarial rate of trigeminal neuropathy

# LESSONS FROM RECENT ACCIDENTS IN RADIATION THERAPY IN FRANCE

S. Derreumaux\*, C. Etard, C. Huet, F. Trompier, I. Clairand, J.-F. Bottollier-Depois, B. Aubert and P. Gourmelon  
 Institut de Radioprotection et de Sûreté Nucléaire, Direction de la Radioprotection de l'Homme, IRSN, BP 17, F-92262 Fontenay-aux-Roses Cedex, France  
 Radiation Protection Dosimetry (2008), Vol. 131, No. 1, pp. 130–135

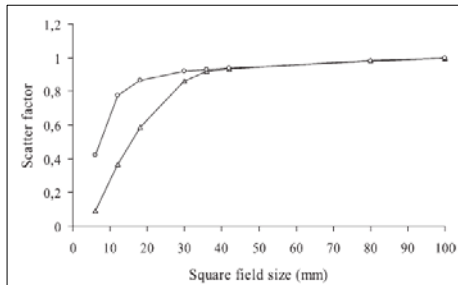


Figure 6. Scatter factors measured in 6 MV photon beams with a 0.65-cm<sup>2</sup> 'Farmer' chamber (triangles) and a 0.03-cm<sup>2</sup> 'Pinpoint' chamber (circles) (A. Lisbona, personal communication).

Who caught it, and what could have been done to prevent it?

Vendor caught it, but not until after 145 patients had been treated

Better training on small field dosimetric methods

Compare beam data with colleagues

Perform comprehensive commissioning including dosimetric verification of TP calculations

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## THE RADIATION BOOM A Pinpoint Beam Strays Invisibly, Harming Instead of Healing

By WALT BOGDANICH and KRISTINA REBELO  
 Published December 20, 2010



SRS treatment for a benign tumor  
 Overdoses ranging from 25 to 100%  
 Patient developed facial spasms, balance and memory problems

## Radiation Errors Reported in Missouri

By WALT BOGDANICH and REBECCA R. RUE

Who caught it, and what could have been done to prevent it?

New physicist caught it, after attending vendor training, but not until after 152 patients had been treated

Better training on small field dosimetric methods

Compare beam data with colleagues

Perform comprehensive commissioning including dosimetric verification of TP calculations

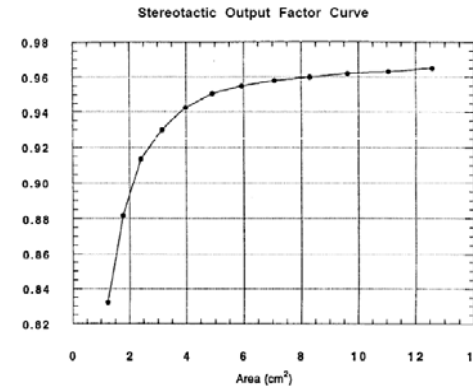


# Accurate measurement of small field output factors has challenged many physicists

Unnamed U.S. Institution, July, 2010

| Cone size (mm) | Original Output Factor | Re-measured Output Factor |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4.0            | 0.312                  | 0.699                     |
| 7.5            | 0.610                  | 0.797                     |
| 10.0           | 0.741                  | 0.835                     |
| 12.5           | 0.823                  | 0.871                     |
| 15.0           | 0.862                  | 0.890                     |
| 17.5           | 0.888                  | 0.904                     |
| 20.0           | 0.903                  | 0.913                     |
| 25.0           | 0.920                  | 0.930                     |
| 30.0           | 0.928                  | 0.940                     |

# There was ample opportunity to avoid these errors



AAPM REPORT NO. 54  
STEREOTACTIC RADIOSURGERY  
June 1995



# LESSONS FROM RECENT ACCIDENTS IN RADIATION THERAPY IN FRANCE

S. Derreumaux\*, C. Etard, C. Huet, F. Trompier, I. Clairand, J-F. Bottollier-Depois, B. Aubert and P. Gourmelon  
Institut de Radioprotection et de Sécurité Nucléaire, Direction de la Radioprotection de l'Homme, IRSN, BP 17, F-92262 Fontenay-aux-Roses Cedex, France  
Radiation Protection Dosimetry (2008), Vol. 131, No. 1, pp. 130–135

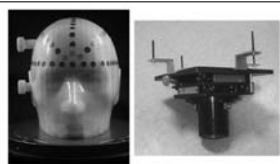


Figure 2. Stereotactic radiotherapy treatment delivery with successive beam entrance positions as a function of accelerator and table rotation angles (left). The plate used in the centre (Case 2) to hold the cylindrical additional collimator (right).

## Errors in SRS / SBRT

Single fraction SRS for AVM, November, 2004

Prescription dose not reported;  
plan/treatment used multiple isocenters,  
with collimators from 10 - 30 mm

Jaws set to 40 x 40 cm² instead of 40 x 40 mm². Physicist told therapist "40 x 40"

Some areas of normal brain received in more than dose to intended target

Severe complications: "fibrosis and oeso-tracheal fistula that required surgical operation." Patient died several days later as a result of a "brutal haemorrhage."

# A Pinpoint Beam Strays Invisibly, Harming Instead of Healing

By WALLY BOGDANSKI and CHRISTINA ROSSIGLI  
Published December 20, 2010

The initial accident report offered few details, except to say that an unidentified hospital had administered radiation overdoses to three patients during identical medical procedures.



Marci Faber is treated with a pinpoint beam.

It was not until many months later that the full import of what had happened in the hospital last year began to surface in urgent nationwide warnings, which advised doctors to be extra vigilant when using a particular device that delivers high-intensity, pinpoint radiation to vulnerable parts of the body.

## The Radiation Boom

Missing the Target

Articles in this series examine issues arising from the increasing use of medical technologies and the new technologies that deliver it.

## Multimedia



Interactive Graphic: Making a Complex Machine Even More Complex

Marci Faber was one of the three patients. She had gone to Evanston Hospital in Illinois seeking treatment for pain emanating from a nerve deep inside her head. Today, she is in a nursing home, nearly comatose, unable to speak, eat or walk, leaving her husband to care for their three young daughters.

Two other patients were overdosed before the hospital realized that the device, a linear accelerator, had inexplicably allowed radiation to spill outside a heavy metal cone attachment that was supposed to channel the beam to a specific spot in the brain. One month later, the same accident happened at another hospital.

The treatment Ms. Faber received, stereotactic radiosurgery, or SRS, is one of the fastest-growing radiation therapies, a technological innovation designed to target tiny tumors and other anomalies affecting the brain or spinal cord, while minimizing damage to surrounding tissue.

# Errors in SRS / SBRT

## Mistakes That Have Caused Injuries

If the opening made by the jaws is too large, the X-ray beam is sent spilling beyond the edges of the cone, overirradiating the patient.

In some cases, jaw-related mistakes were caused by personnel errors; others were setup or software problems.

Jaws

Beam too large

Beam

Target

Brain

Spinal cord

Neck

Head

Throat

Chest

Abdomen

Pelvis

Legs

Feet

Then, in what seemed like a blink of an eye, she disintegrated. "Four weeks later, she was like a vegetable," Mr. Kagan said. "It was mind-boggling to see one person who was not elderly deteriorate that quickly." Now, she can only blink her eyes and lightly squeeze her husband's hand. "It is very hard on the kids," Mr. Faber said. "It has been hard on me but really nothing compared to what Marci is going through." Doctors who deal with her type of radiation injury say the prognosis for any meaningful recovery is poor.



THE RADIATION BOOM  
A Pinpoint Beam Strays Invisibly, Harming Instead of  
Healing  
by MALT BODENBERG and STEPHEN KIDDER  
Published: December 28, 2010

Who caught it, and what could have been done to prevent it?

Patients / staff “caught” it

Better communication

Use of checklists

Machine Interlocks

Perform comprehensive, end-to-end commissioning of overall  
process, including R/V system

#### UCLA Radiation Oncology - Radiosurgery Check List

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

| Step | Isocenter Operations  | Isocenter 1 | Isocenter 2 | Isocenter 3 | Isocenter 4 | Isocenter 5 | Isocenter 6 |
|------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1    | Arrange sheet and pad on couch.                                       |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 2    | Set the couch to 0 & coll to 90.                                      |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 3    | Take photos of patient (3).   |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 4a   | Set backup jaws to 4.0 x 4.0cm. (2 initials & size).                  | /           | /           | /           | /           | /           | /           |
| 4b   | Install the cone. (2 initials & size).                                | /           | /           | /           | /           | /           | /           |
| 5    | Position isocenter templates on positioning box. 2 init.              |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 6    | Enable linac switches 1, 2, and 4. Unlock microadjusters/table locks. |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 7    | Fit ring onto patient head frame.                                     |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 8    | Attach large bolts (2) onto ring.                                     |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 9    | Assist patient onto couch.  |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 10   | Secure frame to couch mount. Tighten large bolts.                     |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 11   | Attach small bolts (2) onto ring.                                     |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 12   | Secure patient to couch w/ strap.                                     |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 13   | Attach positioning box to the frame.                                  |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 14   | Position positioning box to the isocenter.                            |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 15   | Tighten Lat & Long table locks and disable linac switches 1,2,4.      |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 16   | Use microadjusters, reposition box to isocenter, lock microadjusters. |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| 17   | Review of fields by physician.  |             |             |             |             |             |             |

#### Vendor Response

**BrainLAB AG**  
Kupferstraße 12 - 85622 Feldkirchen - Germany  
Phone: +49 89 90 15 68-1  
Fax: +49 89 90 15 68-30  
Email: info@brainlab.com

**SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION**

**Subject:** Stereotactic Radiosurgery/Radiosurgery Treatments using Conical Collimators in combination with Novalis  
**Date of Notification:** February 1, 2010  
**Individual Notification:** Markus Hofmann, MCR & Vigilance Manager  
**BrainLAB Member:** 09-05-29 (VIA2) (B)  
**Type of Action:** Supplemental Communication

This Supplemental Communication is intended for Novalis users and supplements BrainLAB's Field Safety Notice "09-05-29 (VIA2)" dated August 12, 2009 ("Field Safety Notice"), which addressed jaw settings and safety checks when using conical collimators.

In order to assist the customer in implementing the recommendations in the Field Safety Notice, a mandatory software modification that limits the field size to a maximum of 4.0cm when the conical collimators are inserted will be provided. This modification will be installed at no cost to the Novalis user and will include the necessary changes to product labeling to reflect the reduced maximum field size when using conical collimators. There are no other changes to hardware or performance in this software modification.

This Supplemental Communication does not alter or amend the Field Safety Notice. Users are strongly advised to be familiar with and implement the Field Safety Notice recommendations to enhance safe and effective use of conical collimators.

One of BrainLAB's authorized service providers will install the update. Accordingly, you will be directly contacted by a service representative within the next six weeks to schedule the update. If you require further clarification, please contact MCR & Vigilance Manager Markus Hofmann:

Customer Hotline: +49 89 90 15 68-44 or +1 800 367 5911 (for US customers) or by E-mail: [support@brainlab.com](mailto:support@brainlab.com)  
Fax: BrainLAB AG: +49 89 90 15 68-33  
Address: BrainLAB AG headquarters, Kupferstraße 12, 85622 Feldkirchen, Germany.

Thank you for paying attention to this information.  
February 1, 2010

**VARIAN** Medical Systems  
Radiology Systems  
One Varian Way  
Palo Alto, CA 94303-5009  
Tel: 650 241 2200  
Fax: 650 241 2201  
Email: [varian@brainlab.com](mailto:varian@brainlab.com)

**URGENT MEDICAL DEVICE CORRECTION**

**Subject:** Warning about the use of Conical Collimator Accessories for Stereotactic Radiosurgery Treatments  
**Reference:** C-series Clinac®, Trilogy™ and Novalis Tx™ used for SRS treatments  
**Affected Serial Numbers:** see attached list  
**File Reference:** CP-01891  
**Date of Notification:** October 8, 2009

We are writing to advise you about a risk that exists when using conical collimator accessories with C-Series Clinacs for Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS) treatments. These machines have no mechanism for verifying that:

1. The conical collimator mount accessory is installed.
2. The conical collimator is installed in the cone mount.
3. The correct size conical collimator is inserted in the cone mount.
4. The primary collimator (jaw size) or "field size" on the Clinac is set correctly to a size safety within the outside diameter of the conical collimator in use.

**Summary:**  
Varian has become aware of incidents in which SRS treatments have taken place with the intended conical collimator accessory not inserted at all, or with the conical collimator accessory correctly inserted, but with a primary collimator field size setting which exceeds the outside diameter of that conical collimator. In the case of the incorrect field size, unintended radiation is delivered to the patient outside the outer edge of the cone.

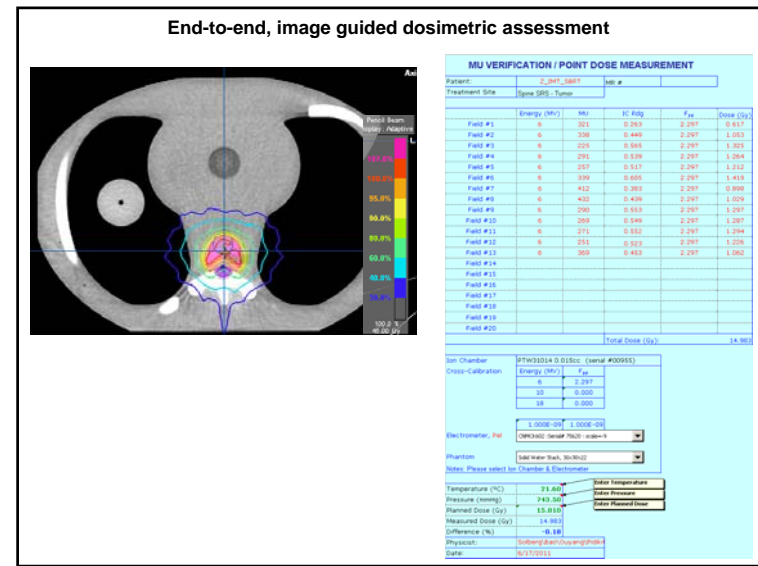
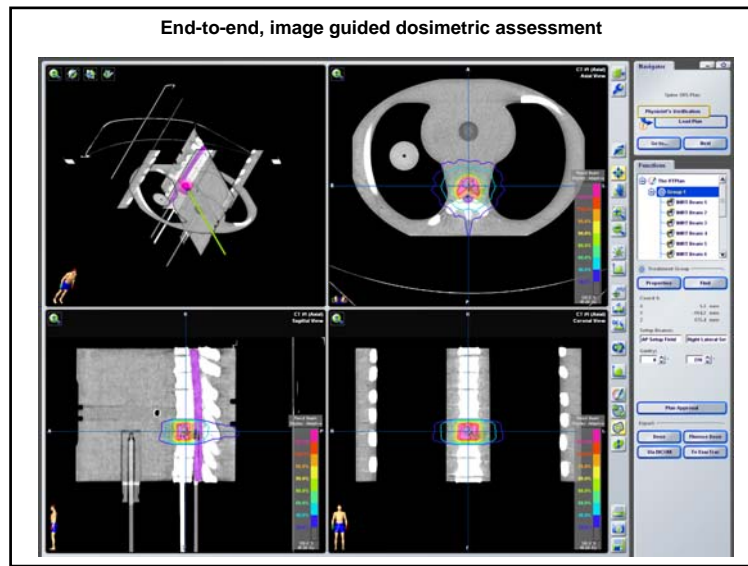
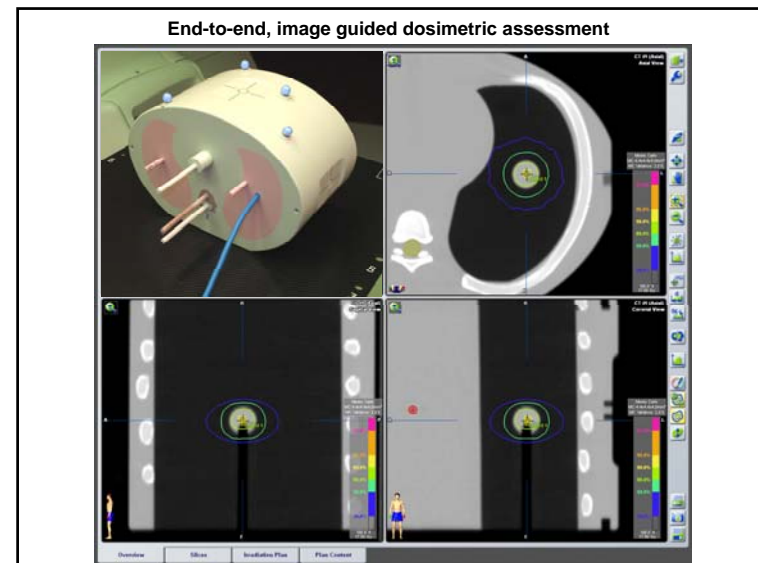
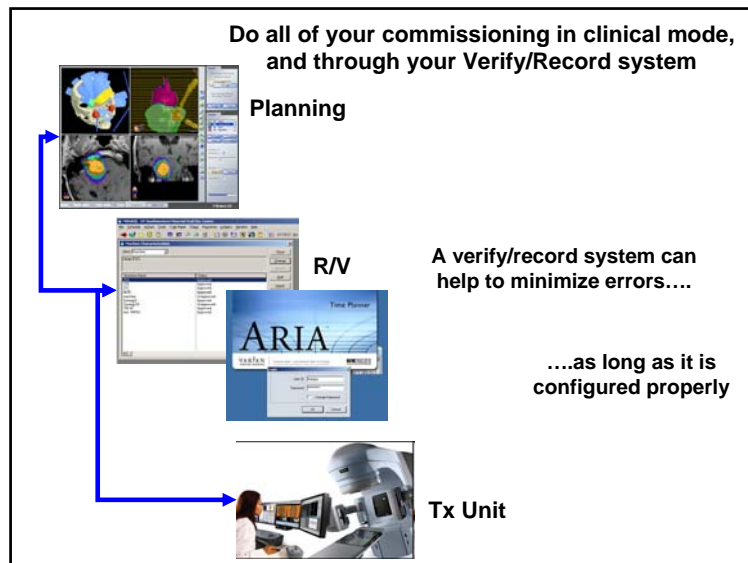
The following Figure 1 depicts the correct way for the field size to be configured with a cone:



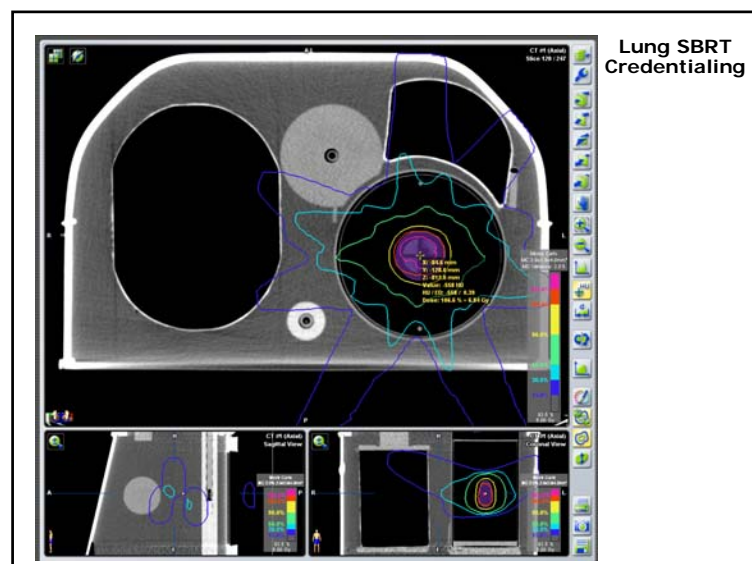
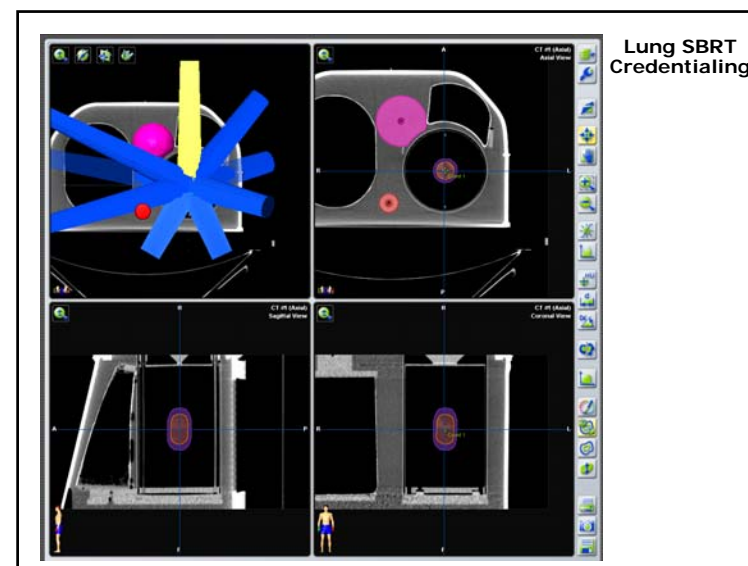
One vendor's solution

Figure 2: Recommended rear decal location for Varian conical collimator

| Bill Of Materials |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |              |                          |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|--------------------------|
| -08               | -07 | -06 | -05 | -04 | -03 | -02 | -01 | Part Number  | Description              |
| -                 | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 2   | 100050083-01 | Label Warning (English)  |
| -                 | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 2   | 100050083-02 | Label Warning (Chinese)  |
| -                 | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 2   | -   | 100050083-03 | Label Warning (French)   |
| -                 | -   | -   | -   | -   | 2   | -   | -   | 100050083-04 | Label Warning (Italian)  |
| -                 | -   | -   | -   | 2   | -   | -   | -   | 100050083-05 | Label Warning (Swedish)  |
| -                 | -   | -   | 2   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 100050083-06 | Label Warning (Spanish)  |
| -                 | -   | 2   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 100050083-07 | Label Warning (Japanese) |
| 2                 | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | 100050083-08 | Label Warning (German)   |







**Wrong site errors in SRS/SBRT**

abc NEWS / u.s.

Medical Mistake: Surgeon Operates on the Wrong Eye of a 4-Year-Old Boy

Surgeon Operates on Boy's Wrong Eye

By MICHAEL MURPHY / APRIL 18, 2011

Jesse Matlock went to a doctor today to find out if he suffered any permanent damage when a surgeon performed corrective surgery on the wrong eye and then, without consulting the boy's parents, quickly operated on the correct eye.

"Right now we're in the dark about what this will be like in the future," Tasha Gaud, mother of 4-year-old Jesse, told ABC news. "The doctor they saw today told her they will have to wait 3 weeks for his eyes to completely heal before they can determine if there has been any permanent damage."

| Event Description   | Treatment Implication                   |
|---|---|
| Patient orientation entered incorrectly at MR Scanner                     | Wrong location treated                  |
| Fiducial box not seated properly during CT imaging                        | Wrong location treated                  |
| Malfuction of automatic positioning mechanism following re-initialization | Wrong location treated                  |
| Right trigeminal nerve targeted instead of left                           | Wrong location treated                  |
| Facial nerve targeted instead of trigeminal nerve                         | Wrong location treated                  |
| Mistake in setting isocenter coordinates                                  | Wrong location treated                  |
| Head not secured to stereotactic device (2 events)                        | Wrong location treated                  |
| Selected collimators did not match planned                                | Wrong dose/distribution delivered       |
| Physician mistakenly typed 28 Gy instead of 18 Gy into planning system    | Wrong dose delivered                    |
| Physicist calculated prescription to 50% isodose instead of 40%           | Wrong dose delivered                    |
| Microphone dislodged, causing stereotactic device to break                | Treatment halted after 2 of 5 fractions |
| Couch moved during treatment  | None; personnel interrupted treatment   |

## A written checklist system can help minimize errors

**Trigeminal Neuralgia Treatment Time Out**  
This form is to be signed at the treatment console  
Physician, Physicist, ExacTrac Therapist and Treating Therapist all present  
Treatment cannot be initiated until all parties agree on treatment and sign this form

Affix Patient Label Here

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle One**

|   |                 |   |   |
|---|-----------------|---|---|
| Treatment side verbally confirmed with patient          | Treat Therapist | L | R |
| Treatment side visually confirmed by physicist (lasers) | Physicist       | L | R |
| Treatment side conformed with patient records           | Physician       | L | R |

**Patient on treatment matches 4DTC (ARIA) patient**

☐ Treat Therapist ☐ Physician

**Patient on ExacTrac matches 4DTC (ARIA) patient**

☐ Treat Therapist ☐ E-T Therapist ☐ Physicist ☐ Physician

**Jaw Size 4cm x 4cm (Linac Control Console)**

☐ Treat Therapist ☐ E-T Therapist ☐ Physicist ☐ Physician

## Other Sources of Information

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
**FDA U.S. Food and Drug Administration**

Home | Food | Drug | Medical Devices | Vaccines, Blood & Biologics | Animal & Veterinary | Cosmetics | Radiation-Emitting Products | Tobacco Products

FDA Home > Medical Devices > Databases

**MAUDE - Manufacturer and User Facility Device Experience**

- MAUDE data represents reports of adverse events involving medical devices. The data consists of voluntary reports since June 1993, user facility reports since 1991, distributor reports since 1993, and manufacturer reports since August 1996. MAUDE may not include reports made according to exemptions, variances, or alternative reporting requirements granted under 21 CFR 803.19.
- The on-line search allows you to search CDRH database information on medical devices which may have malfunctioned or caused a death or serious injury. MAUDE is scheduled to be updated monthly and the search page reflects the date of the most recent update. FDA seeks to include all reports received prior to the update. However, the inclusion of some reports may be delayed by technical or clerical difficulties.
- MAUDE data is not intended to be used either to evaluate rates of adverse events or to compare adverse event occurrence rates across devices. Please be aware that reports regarding device trade names may have been submitted under different manufacturer names. Searches only retrieve records that contain the search term(s) provided by the requester.

Search MAUDE Database

Product Problem: \_\_\_\_\_

Product Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Brand Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_

Event Type: \_\_\_\_\_

510K Number: \_\_\_\_\_

PMA Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Product Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Report Received by FDA (mm-dd-yyyy): [01/01/2011] to [01/01/2011]

Enter one or a combination of the MAUDE Search Values and select Search  
For full-text search, select Go To Simple Search button

MAUDE is voluntary

## Other Errors

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
**FDA U.S. Food and Drug Administration**

Home | Food | Drug | Medical Devices | Vaccines, Blood & Biologics | Animal & Veterinary | Cosmetics | Radiation-Emitting Products | Tobacco Products

FDA Home > Medical Devices > Databases

**MAUDE Adverse Event Report**

VARIAN MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC. VARIAN / ZMED STEREOTACTIC RADIOSURGERY

Back to Search Results

**Event Type** Injury

**Event Description**

An stereotactic radiosurgery patient at (b)(6) radiation oncology in (b)(6) was given treatment without the float device that limits the radiation beam to a relatively small -approximately 14 to 20mm- circular beam. The patient received a portion of her treatment with a 5cm by 5cm square beam before the error was recognized and the treatment stopped. The medical device used for the stereotactic radiosurgery treatment was sold by varian. The device was originally developed by (b)(6), a company that varian now owns. The device lacks a safety interlock which would prevent treatment without the circular beam limiting cone being in place. This is a glaring deficiency in the product design. Varian linear accelerators have many interlock safety systems. It's very odd, and in my opinion irresponsible, that varian would market a system without a basic, simple safety interlock when that system is designed to give a very high radiation dose in one treatment. This error occurred several years ago. (b)(6) radiation oncology has not treated very many stereotactic patients, so the patient's name should be relatively easy to find.

[Search Alerts/Recalls](#)

Circular collimator left off

## Other Sources of Information

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
**FDA U.S. Food and Drug Administration**

Home | Food | Drug | Medical Devices | Vaccines, Blood & Biologics | Animal & Veterinary | Cosmetics | Radiation-Emitting Products | Tobacco Products

FDA Home > Medical Devices > Databases

**MAUDE Adverse Event Report**

ELEKTA INSTRUMENT AB LEKSELL GAMMA KNIFE RADIATION THERAPY

Back to Search Results

**Catalog Number** ARC 904121

**Event Date** 08/09/2010

**Event Type** Injury **Patient Outcome** Required intervention.

**Manufacturer Narrative**

The customer will upgrade to counter-scale to increase accuracy of the system.

**Event Description**

Leksell stereotactic neurology system was installed in 2008, (b)(6). From the beginning, the accuracy was not correct according to the (b)(6) target coordinates. By experience, the system shows 1.5 mm errors in x and 0.5-0.7 mm in y. The doctor manually adjusts the coordinates accordingly and then comes to correct position for implantation of dba electrode - this is confirmed by post operative mr-images. No mistreatment but potential for mistreatment due to the incorrect settings.

[Search Alerts/Recalls](#)

## Efforts to Improve Safety



Many European countries have legislatively-mandated reporting of radiation incidents

## Radiation Oncology Safety Information System



Funded by ESTRO, began in 2001

Voluntary, anonymous, web-based reporting system

~20 countries participating, ~700 incidents reported

Courtesy Peter Dunscombe

[www.rosis.info](http://www.rosis.info)

## Efforts to Improve Safety

BILL NUMBER: SB 1037 CHAPTERED  
BILL TEXT

CHAPTER 521  
FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE SEPTEMBER 29, 2010  
APPROVED BY GOVERNOR SEPTEMBER 29, 2010  
PASSED THE SENATE AUGUST 30, 2010  
PASSED THE ASSEMBLY AUGUST 26, 2010  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 26, 2010  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 23, 2010  
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 28, 2010

INTRODUCED BY Senator Padilla  
(Coauthor: Senator Alquist)

FEBRUARY 19, 2010

An act to add Sections 115111, 115112, and 115113 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.



**Must provide dose form every CT scan by 2012 (and must be accurate within 20%, verified annually by a medical physicist)**

**Must credential all CT facilities by 2013**

**New reporting requirements for radiotherapy misadministrations**



## Recent U.S. Efforts

TABLE II. ASTRO six point action plan.

| ASTRO six point action plan   |
|---|
| Creation of an anonymous national database for event reporting  |
| Enhance and accelerate the ASTRO/ACR Practice Accreditation Program   |
| Expand education and training programs to include intensive focus on quality and safety   |
| Develop tools for cancer patients to use in discussions with radiation oncologists  |
| Accelerate development of the IHE-RO (Integrated Health Enterprise—Radiation Oncology) program  |
| Advocate for passage of the CARE (Consistency, Accountability, Responsibility, Excellence in Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy) act |

Hendee WR, Herman MG. Improving patient safety in radiation oncology. Med Phys 38(1): 78-82, 2011



## Efforts to Improve Safety

### Online self-assessment module on QA (90 minutes)



## Recent U.S. Efforts



### Series of 5 safety white papers

IMRT  
IGRT  
**SRS/SBRT**  
HDR  
Peer Review

Written by 8 “experts”  
Reviewed by 8 independent “experts”  
Endorsed by AAPM, ACR, AAMD, ASRT  
Reviewed by AANS, MITA, public



## Recent U.S. Efforts



### SRS/SBRT White Paper

SRS/SBRT as a well thought out program, not an addition/afterthought  
Team approach, plan ahead

SRS/SBRT specific training

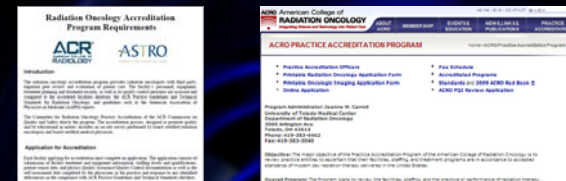
SRS/SBRT expertise/competence, including personnel certification  
Follow nationally accepted standards, clinical and physics

SRS/SBRT accreditation / credentialing

Adequate resources:

Time, equipment, personnel  
Quality management system, including reporting and ongoing  
quality improvement, and peer review  
Physician and physicist supervision for each procedure

## Practice Accreditation Programs – should be MANDATORY



And, specific accreditation programs for specialized programs  
such as SBRT should be developed, and required



Board certification is a minimum requirement for physicists

“Finally, it may be time to acknowledge that some radiotherapy procedures, including perhaps SRS and SBRT, share more in common with other specialized medical procedures (e.g., heart or liver transplants), and should perhaps be performed only by highly experienced personnel at recognized centers of excellence.”

### Vendor Responsibility

There must be dialogue and communication between equipment manufacturers and end-users on the approaches, system design, QA methodology, and clinical implementation of SRS and SBRT. The vendors need to understand the needs and requirements of the clinicians, medical physicists, radiotherapists relative to the systems and processes of SRS and SBRT. With such understanding they must exert all the necessary efforts to incorporate features and safeguards to assure efficacious and safe operation of their products. By the same token, the end-users need to work with the manufacturers in developing commissioning, safety and quality assurance tools, programs and procedures for SRS and SBRT systems.

### Vendor Responsibility

Vendors must provide additional opportunities for specialized training, emphasizing implementation, clinical and quality assurance in addition to technical aspects, and the home institution must make available resources and time for such training. It is not adequate to train users on the basic aspects of system operation if the systems are sold and used for specialized purposes such as SRS and SBRT.

Vendors must do more to emphasize all QA aspects, not only equipment QA, but process QA. SRS / SBRT systems consist of multiple components, and vendors must ensure and demonstrate full mechanical, electronic and information connectivity of these components. In situations where components or subsystems come from more than one manufacturer, it is the responsibilities of the manufacturers to collaboratively demonstrate compatibility of the various subsystems, and their safe operation when used in combination.

### Vendor Responsibility

Finally, while a turn-key approach to the use of complex clinical systems is appealing in terms of procedural simplicity, inadequate understanding of the internal workings of such complex systems by the end-users is of concern. Rather, vendors should take an "all-inclusive" approach of safe equipment design, understanding the need for QA equipment and procedures, and emphasizing commissioning, safety and quality assurance requirements and procedures.

**SAbR will completely change the practice of radiation oncology and management of cancer**

**Doing so requires a systematic approach to clinical practice and technology**

**complete diligence on the part of both physicians and physicists**

**and adherence of a culture of safety on the part of all stakeholders**



**Thank you**