

# Calculation methods in Hermes Medical Solutions' dosimetry software

Helena McMeekin MSc. Clinical Applications Scientist, Hermes Medical Solutions

*MRTDosimetry Scientific Workshop*

*“The Principals and Clinical Implementation of Dose Calculation in Molecular Radiotherapy”, 26th-27th September 2018, Prague, Czech Republic*

# About me

- Disclosure: I work for Hermes Medical Solutions!
  - Clinical applications scientist
  - State registered clinical scientist, trained and worked in London NHS hospitals prior to appointment at Hermes
  - Specified and validated new features of Hermes' dosimetry software
  - Not a sales pitch, please ask me scientific questions!  
Constructive criticism welcome

# Summary

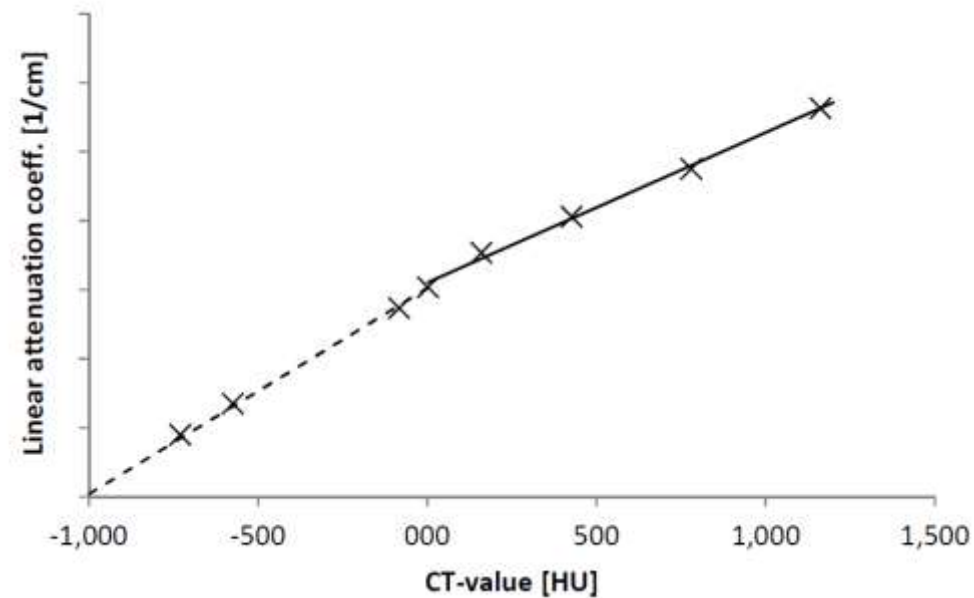
- Quantitative imaging
  - SUV SPECT®
- Hermes' dosimetry applications
  - Hybrid Viewer Dosimetry™ with Olinda/EXM®
  - Hybrid3D SIRT™
  - In development: voxel-based dosimetry

# SUV SPECT®

- Reconstruct SPECT data from any camera with any radionuclide with voxel values in Bq/ml or SUV
- Requires reconstruction algorithm with accuracy compensations
  - CT attenuation correction  
*HU to linear attenuation coefficient can be measured or taken from manufacturer specifications*
  - Monte Carlo scatter correction
  - Resolution recovery  
*Collimator geometry can be measured or taken from manufacturer specifications*

# SUV SPECT<sup>®</sup> *CT attenuation correction*

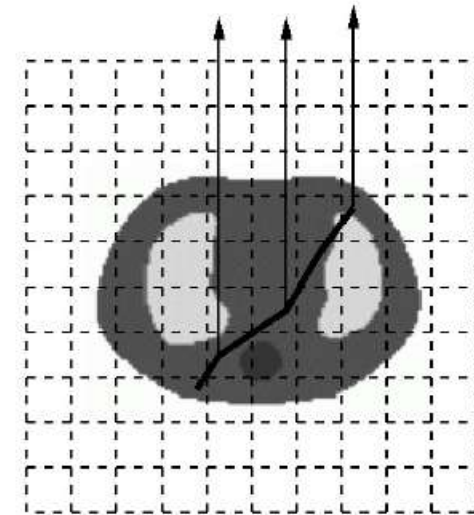
- Bilinear conversion of HU to linear attenuation coefficients, CT kV dependant
  - Dashed line = soft tissue, continuous line = bone tissue



# SUV SPECT<sup>®</sup> *Monte Carlo scatter correction*

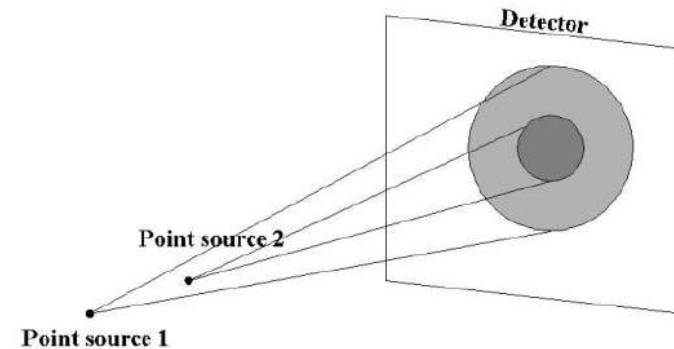
- Challenging! Dependent on several factors: activity distribution; attenuation map; camera energy resolution; energy window settings
- Scatter inside the patient is simulated during forward projection with Monte Carlo modelling according to a convolution-based forced detection algorithm<sup>1,2</sup>

At each scattering site, the photon is forced to scatter towards the collimator/detector and the subprojection map with current energy is updated. At the end of the simulation, subprojection maps are convolved with the Gaussian or Monte Carlo simulated point-spread functions and attenuation is modelled.



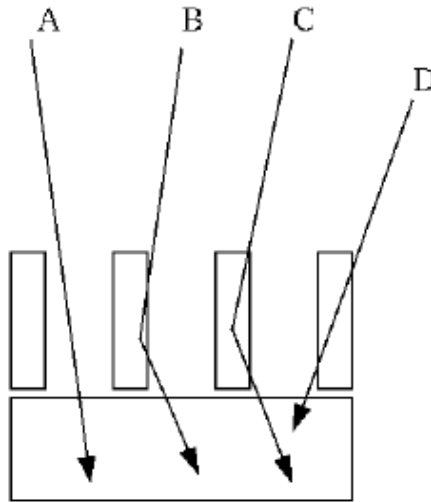
# SUV SPECT<sup>®</sup> *Resolution recovery - Gaussian*

- Image blur: gamma camera intrinsic resolution 3-4 mm + finite size of the collimator holes
- Model collimator resolution during forward and back projections: convolve the reconstruction voxel with the camera's PSF before projection
- Gaussian point-spread-function model: combined collimator-detector response is a 2D Gaussian function, FWHM depends on:
  - intrinsic camera resolution
  - collimator hole length
  - collimator hole diameter
  - distance to the front face of the detector



# SUV SPECT<sup>®</sup> *Resolution recovery - Monte Carlo*

- Gaussian model suitable where there is little collimator septal penetration or collimator scatter e.g. Tc-99m



The MC model is based on detailed MC simulations of the collimator and detector

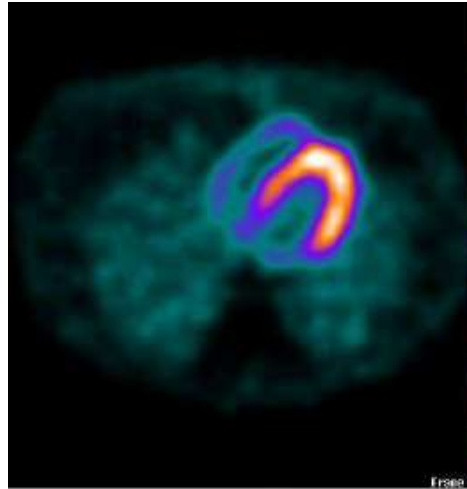
- A. Geometric collimation
- B. Scatter off collimator septa
- C. Absorption by collimator septa and emission of K-edge x-ray
- D. Septal penetration

- Good for isotopes with high energy emissions e.g. I-123, I-131, and Y-90

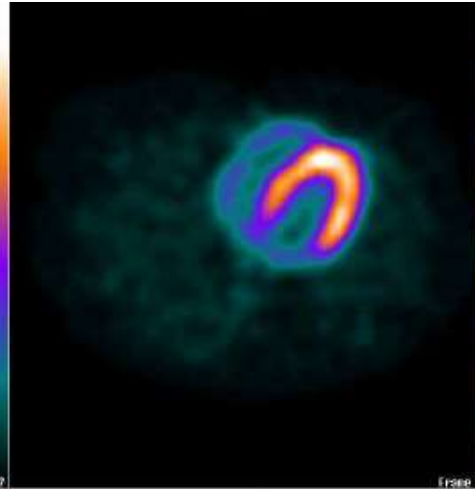


# SUV SPECT<sup>®</sup> *Clinical images*

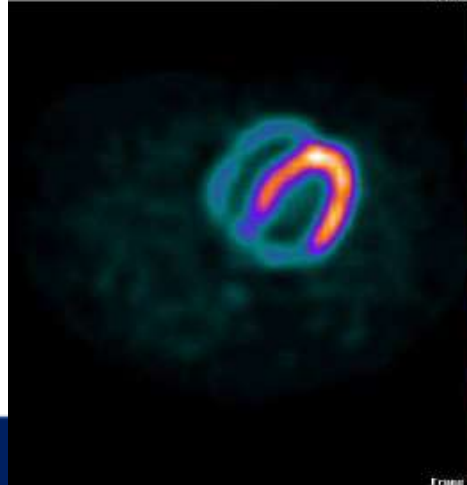
No compensation



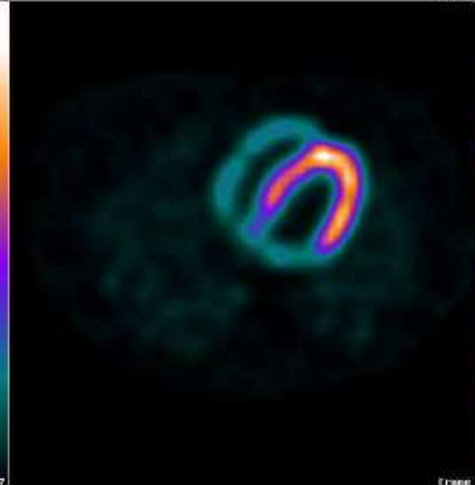
Attenuation correction



Attenuation correction  
+ resolution recovery



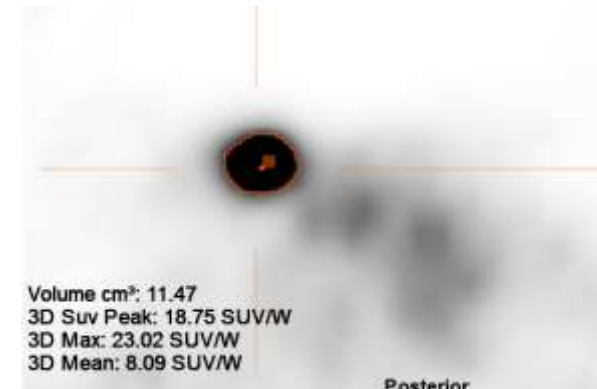
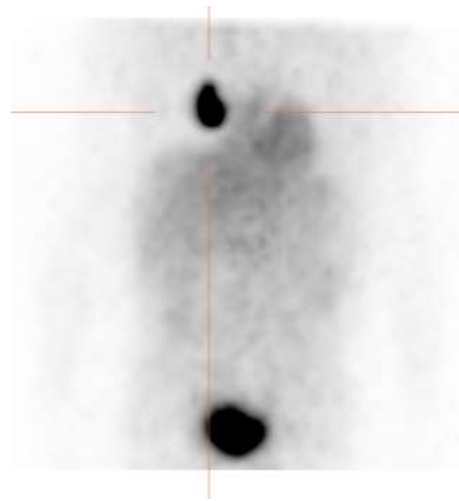
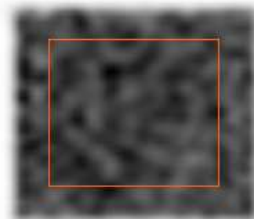
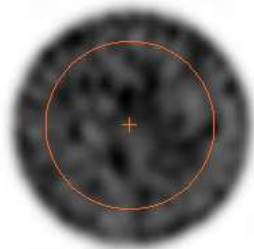
Attenuation correction  
+ resolution recovery  
+ scatter correction



# SUV SPECT<sup>®</sup> *Sensitivity calibration*

- Calibration phantom scan for camera + collimator + radionuclide needed to measure sensitivity → voxel values Bq/ml
- Details of injection activity and patient weight/height for SUVs

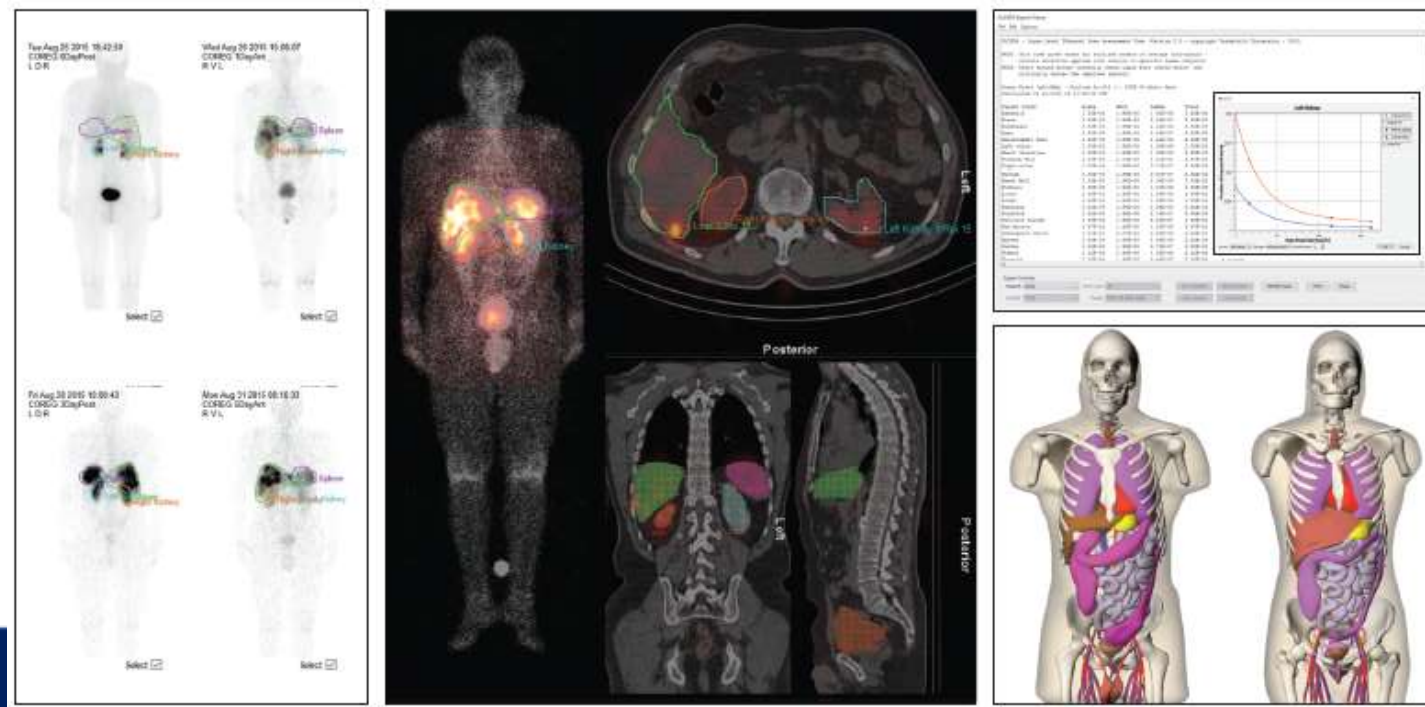
Calibration  
phantom



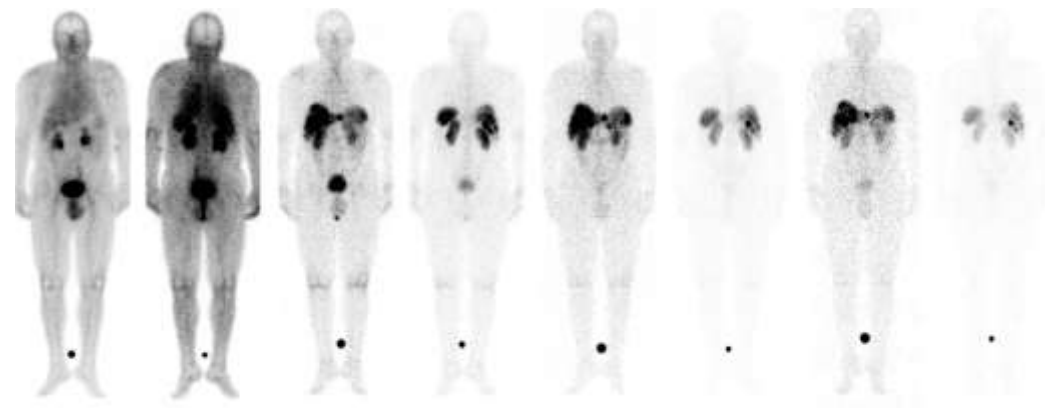
Paediatric neuroblastoma I-123 MIBG

# Hybrid Viewer Dosimetry™ with Olinda/EXM®

- Olinda: MIRD model s-factor dosimetry calculation
- Hybrid Viewer Dosimetry: calculate residence time, pass to Olinda



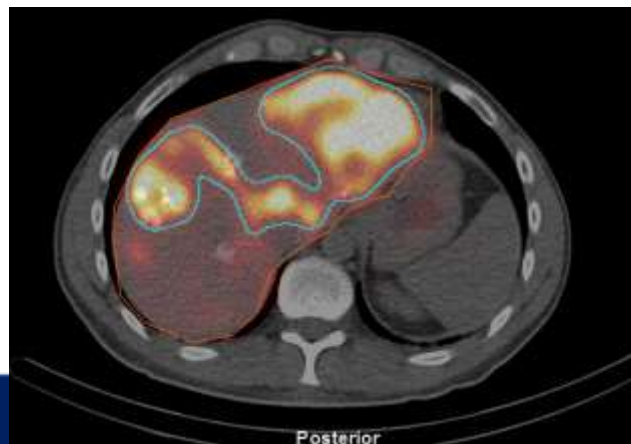
# Hybrid Viewer Dosimetry™ with Olinda/EXM®



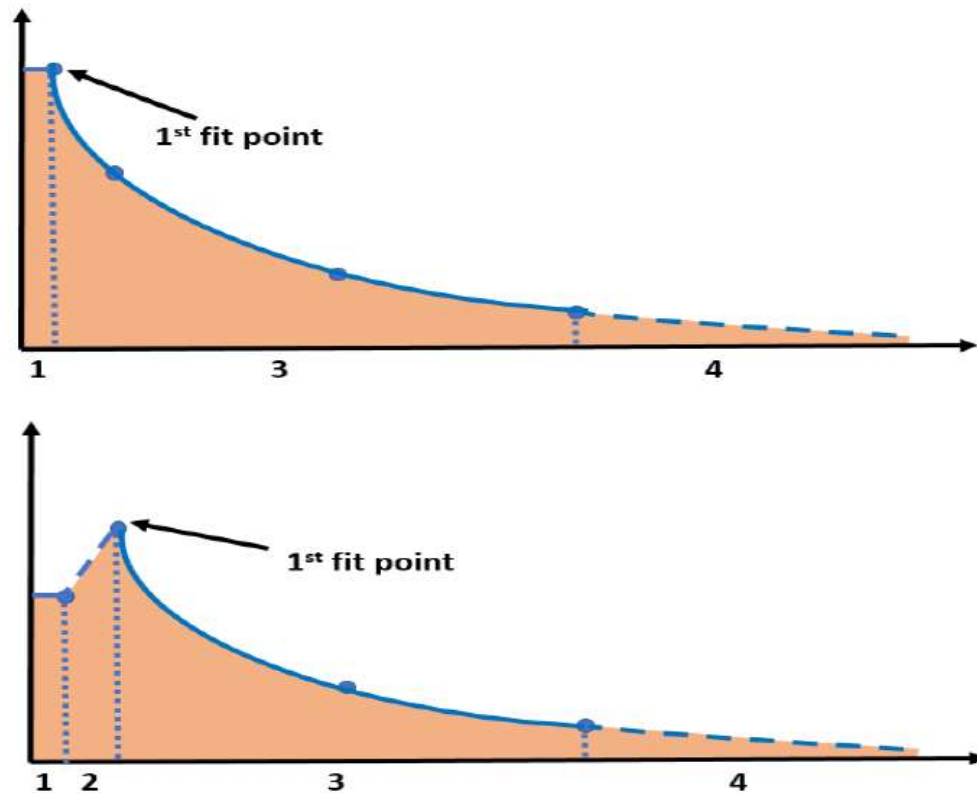
- Input datasets
  - Multiple WBs
  - Multiple WBs + SPECT
  - Multiple SPECT
  - 1 WB + external dose rate measurement
  - 1 SPECT + external dose rate measurement
- Calibration methods
  - First time point = administered activity (- excreted before first measurement)
  - Planar sensitivity factor cps/MBq
  - SPECT sensitivity factor cps/MBq or SUV SPECT recon

# Hybrid Viewer Dosimetry™ with Olinda/EXM®

- Accuracy improvements
  - Change target organ mass
  - Enter recovery coefficients for organs and tumours
  - Sphere model for tumours, self dose only
  - Remove tumour activity from healthy organ activity



# Hybrid Viewer Dosimetry™ with Olinda/EXM®

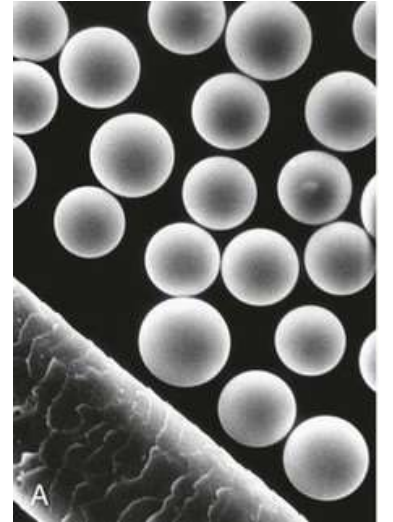


## Fitting the TAC

1. Assume instantaneous uptake
2. Trapezoidal integration
3. Exponential or bi-exponential fits using Levenberg-Marquardt technique
4. Extrapolate fit in (3) unless effective  $T_{1/2}$  greater than radionuclide  $T_{1/2}$ , use radionuclide physical  $T_{1/2}$  if so

# Hybrid3D SIRT™

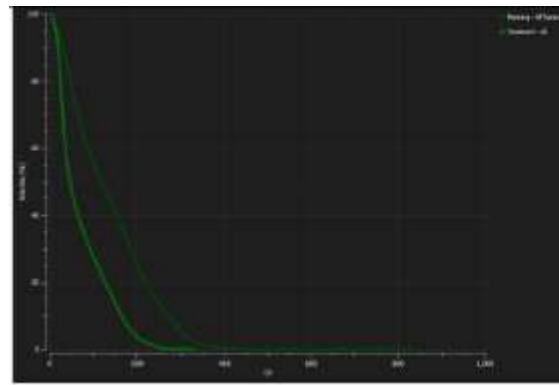
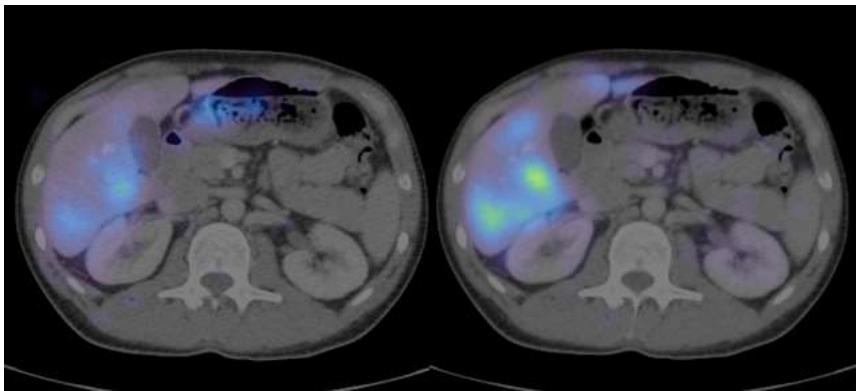
- Planning
  - Resin microspheres: Body surface area or partition model
  - Glass microspheres: Planning tumour volume
  - *Volumetric: voxel-based scaling directly from Tc-99m MAA SPECT*
  - Lung shunt: Planar (2D) *or SPECT/CT (3D)*
- Verification: Y-90 activity calibration
  - Quantitative PET/SPECT
  - All counts in field of view = implanted activity
  - All counts in liver VOI = implanted activity



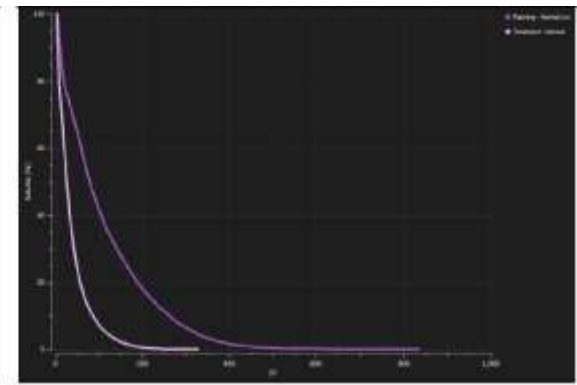
# Hybrid3D SIRT™ *Dose map comparison*

Create dose maps from Tc-99m MAA SPECT and Y-90 Bremsstrahlung SPECT or PET using local absorption multiplying factor for Y-90 <sup>4</sup>

$$D(Gy) = \frac{A(MBq)}{m(g)} \times 49.8 \left( \frac{Gy}{GBq/kg} \right)$$



All Tumors



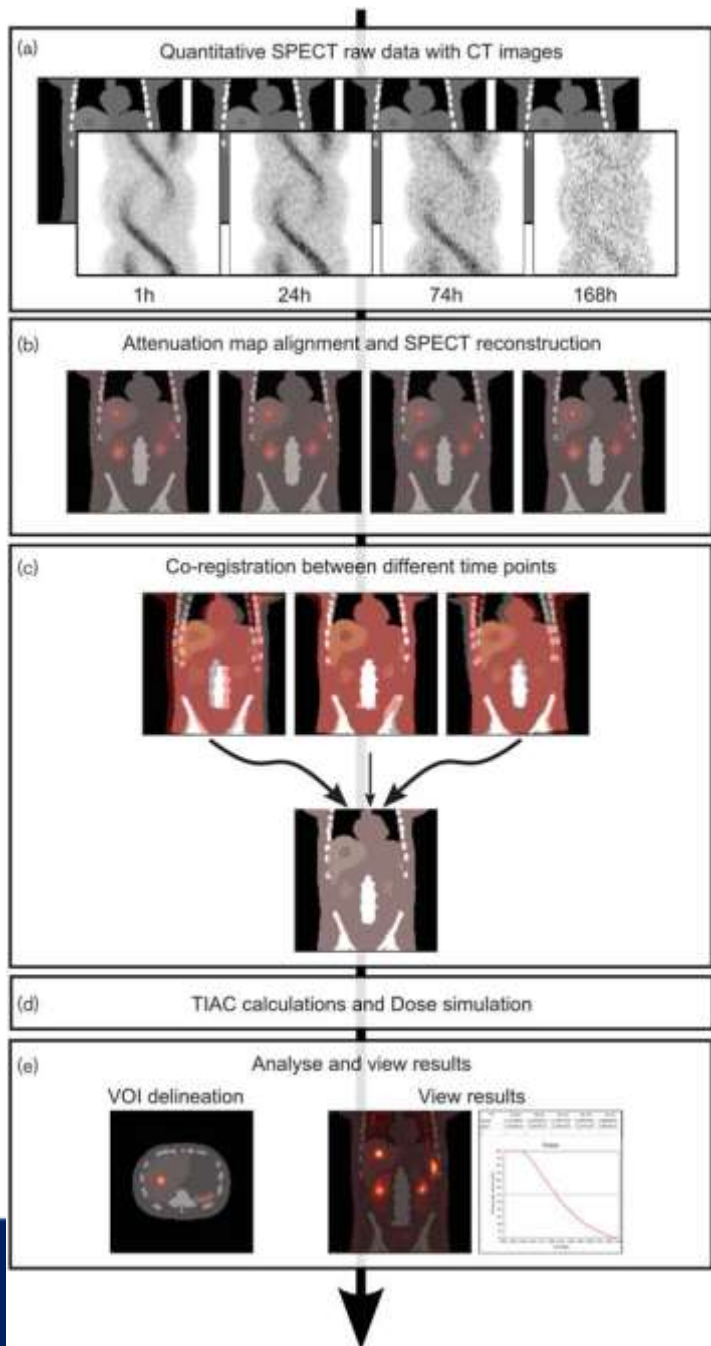
Normal Liver



# In development: voxel-based dosimetry

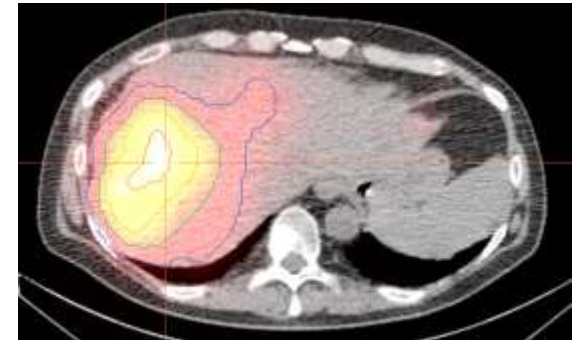
## Workflow

- Input multiple raw SPECT with CT
- Align mu-map and perform quantitative SPECT recon
- Coregistration (NM-NM or CT-CT)
- TAC calculation for each voxel and simulate dose
- Output 3D dose map with VOIs + DVHs



# In development: voxel-based dosimetry

- TAC calculation and dose simulation algorithm
  - Trapezium rule integration for each voxel through time points
  - ‘Semi’ Monte Carlo: simulate photon interaction through CT mu-map until energy  $< 15$  keV, assume local absorption for electrons<sup>5</sup>
    - Delta-scattering algorithm<sup>6</sup> tracks photons
    - Cross-section tables by Berger et al<sup>7</sup> used to sample interactions
    - Recoil electrons produced in Compton scattering are locally absorbed
  - Validated for Lu-177 vs Olinda for kidney dosimetry<sup>8,9</sup>



# Future requirements

- Automated organ segmentation methods ?machine learning
- Faster/better registration algorithms for multiple time point data  
?deformable registration

# References

1. de Jong H, Slijpen E, Beekman F. Acceleration of Monte Carlo SPECT simulation using convolution based forced detection. IEEE Trans Nucl Sci. 2001; 48:58-64.
2. Sohlberg A, Watabe H, Iida H. Acceleration of Monte Carlo-based scatter compensation for cardiac SPECT. Phys Med Biol. 2008; 21:N277-285.
3. Sohlberg A, Kajaste M. Fast Monte Carlo-simulator with full collimator and detector response modelling for SPECT. Ann Nucl Med. 2012; 26:92-98.
4. Stabin M G, Sparks R B and Crowe E OLINDA/EXM: the second-generation personal computer software for internal dose assessment in nuclear medicine J. Nucl. Med. 46 (2005) 1023–7
5. Hippeläinen E, Tenhunen M, Sohlberg A. Fast voxel-level dosimetry for  $^{177}\text{Lu}$  labelled peptide treatments. Phys. Med. Biol. 60 (2015) 6685–6700
6. Woodcock E, Murphy T, Hemmings P and Longworth S 1965 Techniques used in the GEM code for Monte Carlo neutronics calculation Proc. Conf. on Applications of Computing Methods to Reactor Problems p 557
7. Berger M J, et al. XCOM: Photon Cross Section Database (version 1.5). 2010; (Gaithersburg, MD: NIST) (<http://physics.nist.gov/xcom>)
8. Hippeläinen E et al. Dosimetry software Hermes Internal Radiation Dosimetry: from quantitative image reconstruction to voxel-level absorbed dose distribution. Nuclear Medicine Communications 2017, 38:357–365
9. Hippeläinen E. Voxel-level dosimetry of  $^{177}\text{Lu}$ -octreotate: from phantoms to patients, PhD thesis, University of Helsinki, 2017, 43 pages. University of Helsinki, Report Series in Physics, HU-P-D255