

The role of Radiation Oncologist: Hi-tech treatments for liver metastases

Icro Meattini, MD

*Radiotherapy-Oncology Unit
AOU Careggi Hospital
Florence University, Italy*

Liver Metastases - Background

- The liver is a source of metastases from most common solid malignancies.
- Especially common for **GI cancers** (portal circulation).
- 25% of colorectal cancer (CRC) have liver metastases at diagnosis, another 50% will develop within 5 yrs.
- Although improvements in chemotherapy and targeted therapy have led to improved survival in CRC, **systemic treatment rarely eradicate liver metastases.**

Rationale for local therapies in metastatic cancer

1. Anecdotal experience

Low level evidence; e.g. rare tumors with long term disease remission

2. As consolidation

Residual bulky disease with better than expected response to CT (e.g.: breast, lung, colon, prostate)

Timmerman R et al, Ca Cancer J Clin, 2009

Hellman S, J Clin Oncol, 1995

3. Norton-Simon hypothesis

Assumption: effectiveness of typical CT agents is proportional to the growth rate of the tumor.

Rationale: a “**debulking**” procedure with a potent local therapy would result in:

- a **more chemo-sensitive** remaining tumor burden
- a **less pronounced** tumor-induced **immunosuppression**

Perez and Brady's Principles and Practice of Radiation Oncology 2007

Oligometastases Treatment - Rationale

- Cancer metastases were thought to represent an incurable state.
- Some patients with “oligo” or isolated site of metastases can be potentially cured with local therapy usually combined with effective systemic therapy.

Hellman et al, JCO, 1995

- The classic model of oligometastases in which local therapy can lead to a cure is in metastatic CRC patients (less clear for other tumors).

- For favorable group of CRC (<5cm, long DFS interval, low CEA, negative margins), resection series have yielded 5-yrs survival rate between 50-60%.

Shah et al, J Am Coll Surg, 2007

- Many patients are not suitable for resection because of medical or surgical reasons.

Schefter TE et al, Semin Radiat Oncol, 2011

Liver Metastases - Radiotherapy

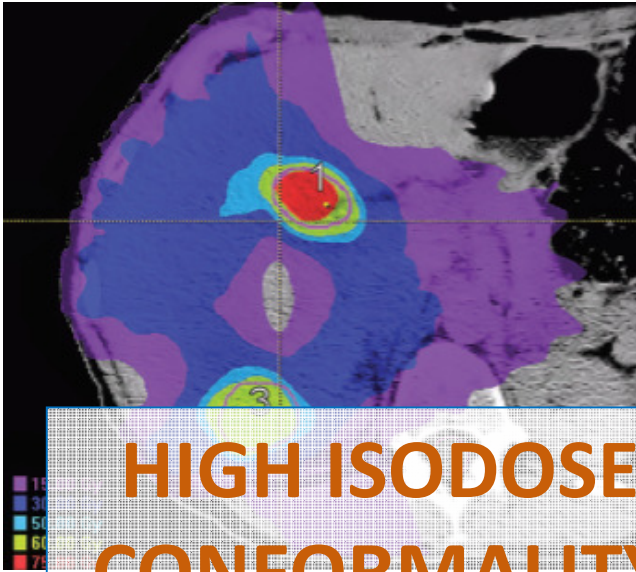
- Initially RT for liver metastases was viewed exclusively as a **palliative** treatment.

- The dose-limiting toxicity from whole-liver RT is radiation-induced liver disease (classic **RILD**).

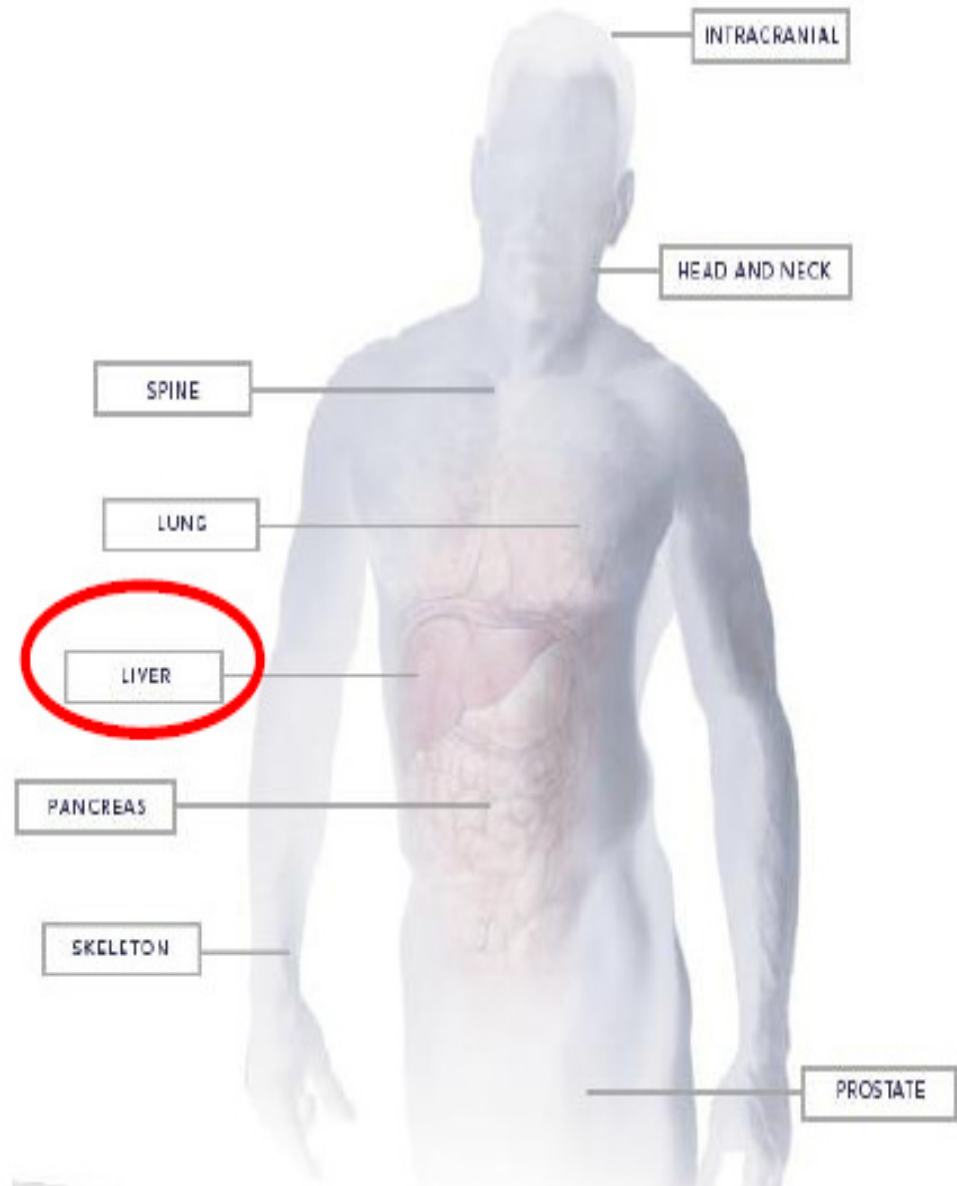
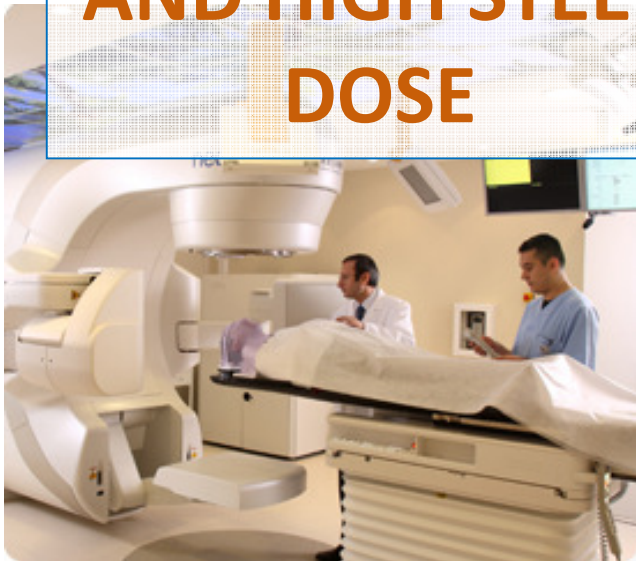
- Target movement/Multiple healthy tissue near the target.

- Advent of **3dCRT planning and delivery** technology → partial liver irradiation → higher dose delivered safely.

- The application of **SBRT** has allowed even more intensive tumor **dose escalation** in a **hypofractionated** schedule.



**HIGH ISODOSE
CONFORMALITY
AND HIGH STEEP
DOSE**



Irradiation of liver disease - Requirements

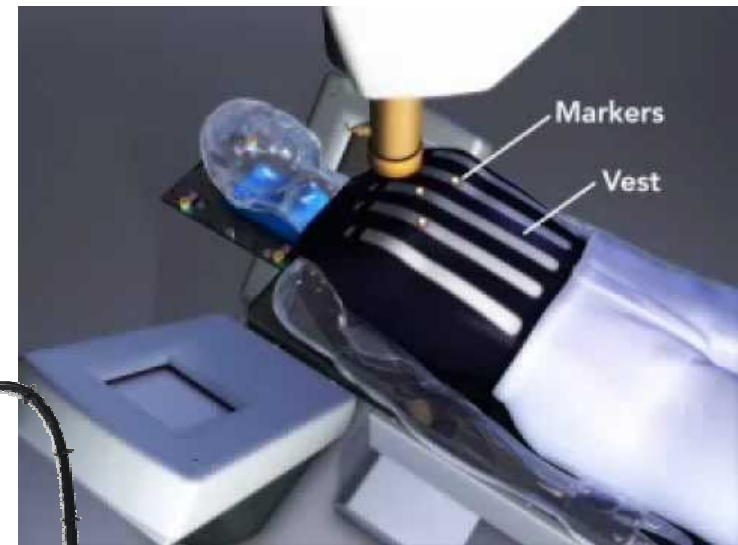
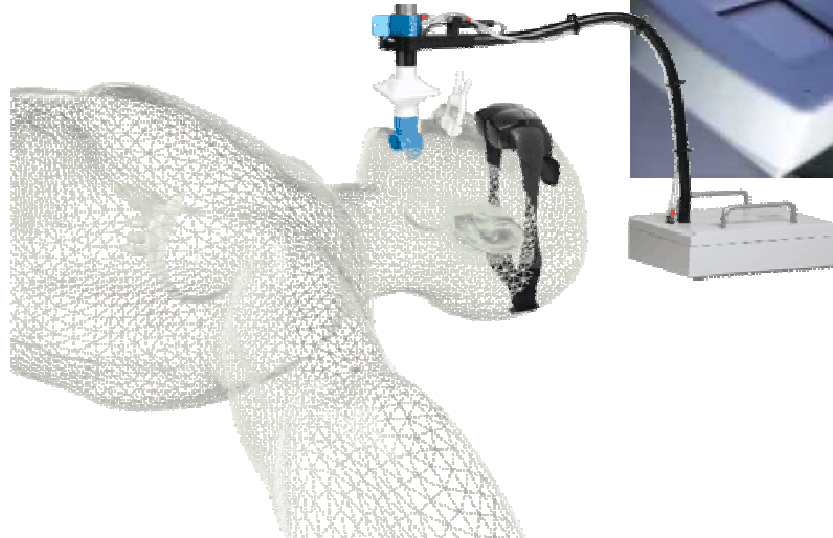
1) Optimize dose distribution

2) Reduce irradiated volume

-Gating

-Abdominal compression

-Tracking



Irradiation of liver disease - Requirements

3) Respect dose constraints

Organ at risk	Wulf <i>et al.</i> (36)	Rusthoven <i>et al.</i> (37)	Hoyer RAS-Trial (www.cirro.dk)	RTOG 0236 SBRT lung (www.rtog.org)	QUANTEC (48)
Liver (CTV excluded)	30% <21 Gy* 50% <15 Gy*	700 mL < 15 Gy	700 mL < 15 Gy	NA	700 mL ≤15 Gy D _{mean} < 15 Gy
Stomach	D _{5 mL} <21 Gy	D _{max} ≤30 Gy	D _{1 mL} <21 Gy	NA	D _{max} <30 Gy (D _{5 mL} <22.5 Gy)
Bowel	D _{5 mL} <21 Gy	D _{max} ≤30 Gy	D _{1 mL} <21 Gy	NA	D _{max} <30 Gy
Esophagus	D _{5 mL} <21 Gy	NA	D _{1 mL} <21 Gy	D _{max} ≤27 Gy	NA
Kidney	NA	Total kidney D _{35%} <15 Gy	Total kidney D _{35%} <15 Gy	NA	NA
Spinal cord	NA	D _{max} ≤18 Gy	D _{max} <18 Gy	D _{max} ≤18 Gy	D _{max} ≤20 Gy
Heart	D _{5 mL} <21 Gy	NA	D _{1 mL} <30 Gy	D _{max} ≤30 Gy	NA

Abbreviations: SBRT = stereotactic body radiotherapy; RTOG = Radiation Therapy Oncology Group; CTV = clinical target volume; NA = not available; Dx % = dose to x%; Dx mL = dose to x mL; D_{max} = maximum dose.

* Liver including clinical target volume.

Constraints proposed for 3-fraction SBRT schedule

Hi-tech treatments for liver metastases

IMRT delivered with MLC

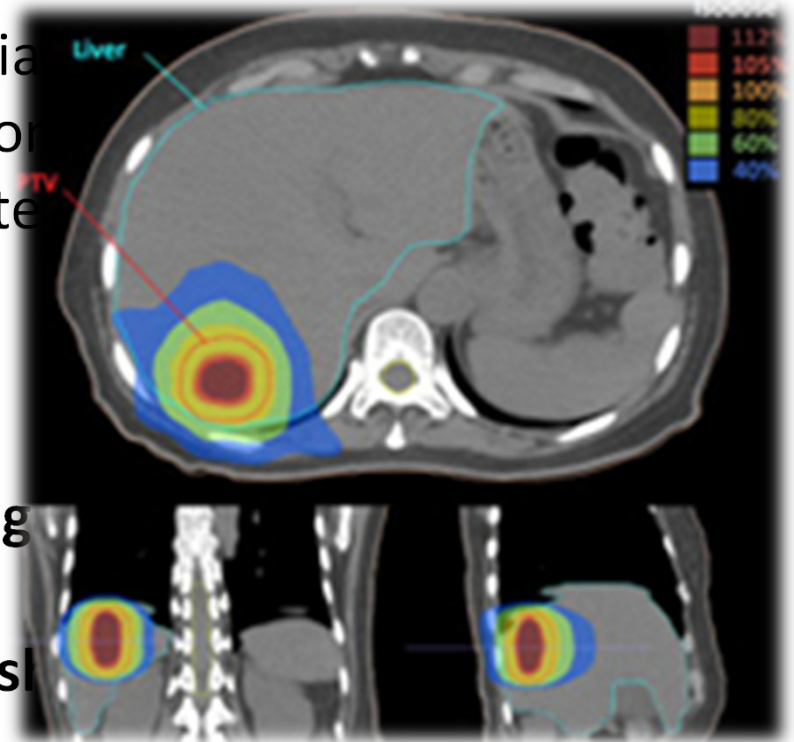
- Segmental IMRT (step-and-shoot)
 - Gantry does **not move** during irradiation
 - Each collimator shape is a subfield (segment)

- Dynamic IMRT (sliding window)

- Collimator shape **changes** during irradiation
- Gantry does **not move** during irradiation
- Leaf positions, speed, MU and dose rate

VMAT

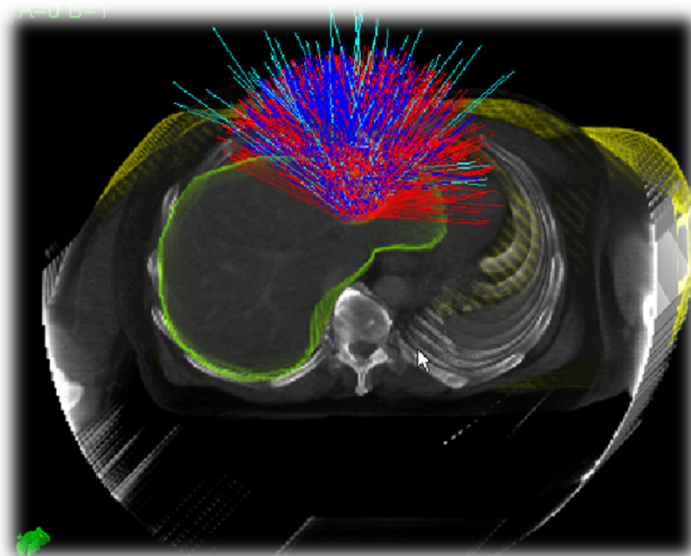
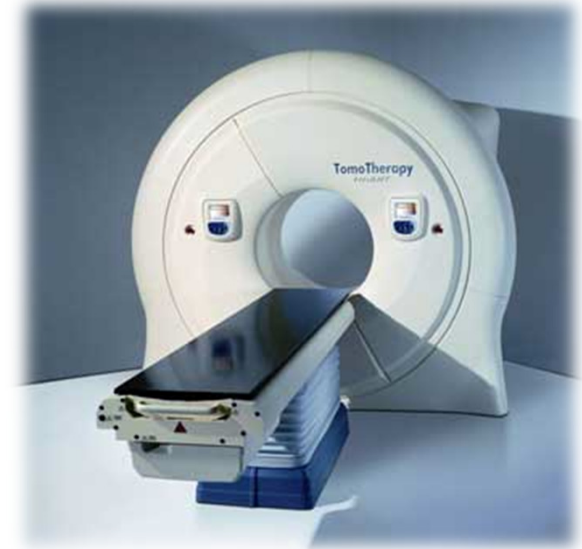
- One or more gantry arcs
- **Continuously varying beam aperture, gantry speed**
- Maximize benefit of IMRT
- Widest range of beam orientations in single arc



Hi-tech treatments for liver metastases

TomoTherapy

- Geometry of a **helical CT scanner**
- 6 MV linear accelerator in a slip **ring gantry**
- Beam passes through a primary collimator and is further collimated into a fan-beam shape-ring
- Gantry continuously rotates** during treatment
- The patient is continuously **translated** through the rotating beam plane



CyberKnife

- Compact LINAC in a robotic arm
- 6 degrees of freedom**
- Image guided system (intrafraction imaging)
- Non coplanar geometry**
- Use of **fiducials**
- Tracking movement system

Hi-tech treatments for liver metastases

	Imaging before fraction	Automatic Positioning	Non-coplanar beams	Intra-fraction imaging	Intensity modulation	Motion management
Linac + IGRT+ abdominal compression	Y	Y/N	Y (limited)	N	Y	Gating (CT-based)
Tomotherapy	Y	Y	N	N	Y	-
CyberKnife	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Real Time Tracking

Adapted by Mirabel X, Oral Communication at ESTRO 31, Barcelona

SBRT: retrospective studies

STUDY	PATIENTS	LESIONS	RT DOSE	OUTCOME
<i>Blomgren et al, 1995</i>	14	17	7.7/45 Gy in 1/4 fr	50% RR
<i>Wulf et al, 2006</i>	39	51	30/37.5 Gy in 3 fr 26 Gy in 1fr	1-year: 92% 2-year: 66%
<i>Katz et al, 2007</i>	69	174	30/55 Gy in 3-15 fr	2-year: 57%
<i>Van der Pool et al, 2010</i>	20 (only CRC)	31	30/37.5 Gy in 3 fr	2-year: 74%
<i>Vautravers-Dewas et al, 2011</i>	42 (CK)	62	40 Gy in 4 fr 45 Gy in 3 fr	2-year: 86%

SBRT: prospective studies

STUDY	PATIENTS	LESIONS	RT DOSE	OUTCOME
<i>Herfarth et al, 2004</i> <i>Phase I/II</i>	35	51	14/26 Gy in 1 fr	18 months: 67%
<i>Mendez et al, 2006</i> <i>Phase I/II</i>	17	34	30/37.5 Gy in 3 fr	2-year: 86%
<i>Hoyer et al, 2006</i> <i>Phase II</i>	44 (only CRC)	NA	45 Gy in 3 fr	2-year: 79%
<i>Lee et al, 2009</i> <i>Phase I/II</i>	68	140	28/60 Gy in 6 fr	1-year: 71%
<i>Rusthoven et al, 2009</i> <i>Phase I/II</i>	47	63	36/60 Gy In 3 fr	2-year: 92%
<i>Goodman et al, 2010</i> <i>Phase I</i>	19	33	18/30 Gy in 1 fr	1-year: 77%
<i>Rule et al, 2011</i> <i>Phase I</i>	26	35	30 Gy in 3fx 50 Gy in 5fx 60 Gy in 3fx	2-year: 56% 2-year: 89% 2-year: 100%

SBRT: prospective studies

STUDY	PATIENTS	LESIONS	RT DOSE	OUTCOME
<i>Herfarth et al, 2004</i> <i>Phase I/II</i>	35	51	14/26 Gy in 1 fr	18 months: 67%
<i>Mendez et al, 2006</i> <i>Phase I/II</i>	17	34	30/37.5 Gy in 3 fr	2-year: 86%
<i>Hoyer et al, 2006</i> <i>Phase II</i>	44 (only CRC)	NA	45 Gy in 3 fr	2-year: 79%
<i>Lee et al, 2009</i> <i>Phase I/II</i>	68	140	28/60 Gy in 6 fr	1-year: 71%
<i>Rusthoven et al, 2009</i> <i>Phase I/II</i>	47	63	36/60 Gy In 3 fr	2-year: 92%
<i>Goodman et al, 2010</i> <i>Phase I</i>	19	33	18/30 Gy in 1 fr	1-year: 77%
<i>Rule et al, 2011</i> <i>Phase I</i>	26	35	30 Gy in 3fx 50 Gy in 5fx 60 Gy in 3fx	2-year: 56% 2-year: 89% 2-year: 100%

SBRT and liver metastases - EBM

- **Significant heterogeneity** concerning:
 - Patients election (CRC vs other tumors)
 - Tumor volumes
 - Total dose; dose per fraction; dosimetric planning criteria
- **Difficult interpretation of results:**
 - Heavily pretreated patients
 - Limited life expectancy
 - Difficult to compare outcome with other local modalities
- **Local control: favorable**
 - 1-year: 70% - 100% 2-years: 60% - 90%
 - Results mainly dependent on tumor volume and RT dose

SBRT: toxicity

- \geq G3 toxicity: **uncommon**

- Rare: gastrointestinal and soft tissue/bone complications
- Radiation induced liver disease (RILD): very low risk

- Critical volume model:

- Up to **80% of the liver** can be safely removed in a patient with adequate liver function
- Minimum volume **of 700 mL** or 35% of normal liver should remain uninjured by SBRT
- Mandatory: **at least 700 mL of normal liver** (entire liver minus cumulative GTV) have to receive **less than 15 Gy**.

SBRT: Italian phase I/II study

- *Prospective, phase I/II study of SBRT not amenable to surgery.*
 - KPS > 70; adequate liver function
 - ≤ 3 hepatic lesions; maximum diameter 6 cm
- *Treatment procedures:*
 - 4DCT/gating procedures allowed
 - **Dose prescription: 75 Gy in 3 fractions with PTV covered by the 67% isodose**
- *Dose constraints:*
 - ≥ 700 cc of healthy liver should receive ≤ 15 Gy
 - Spinal chord Dmax: < 18 Gy
 - Kidneys V15: ≤ 35%
 - Stomach and duodenum Dmax: < 21 Gy
 - Rib cage V30: < 30 cc

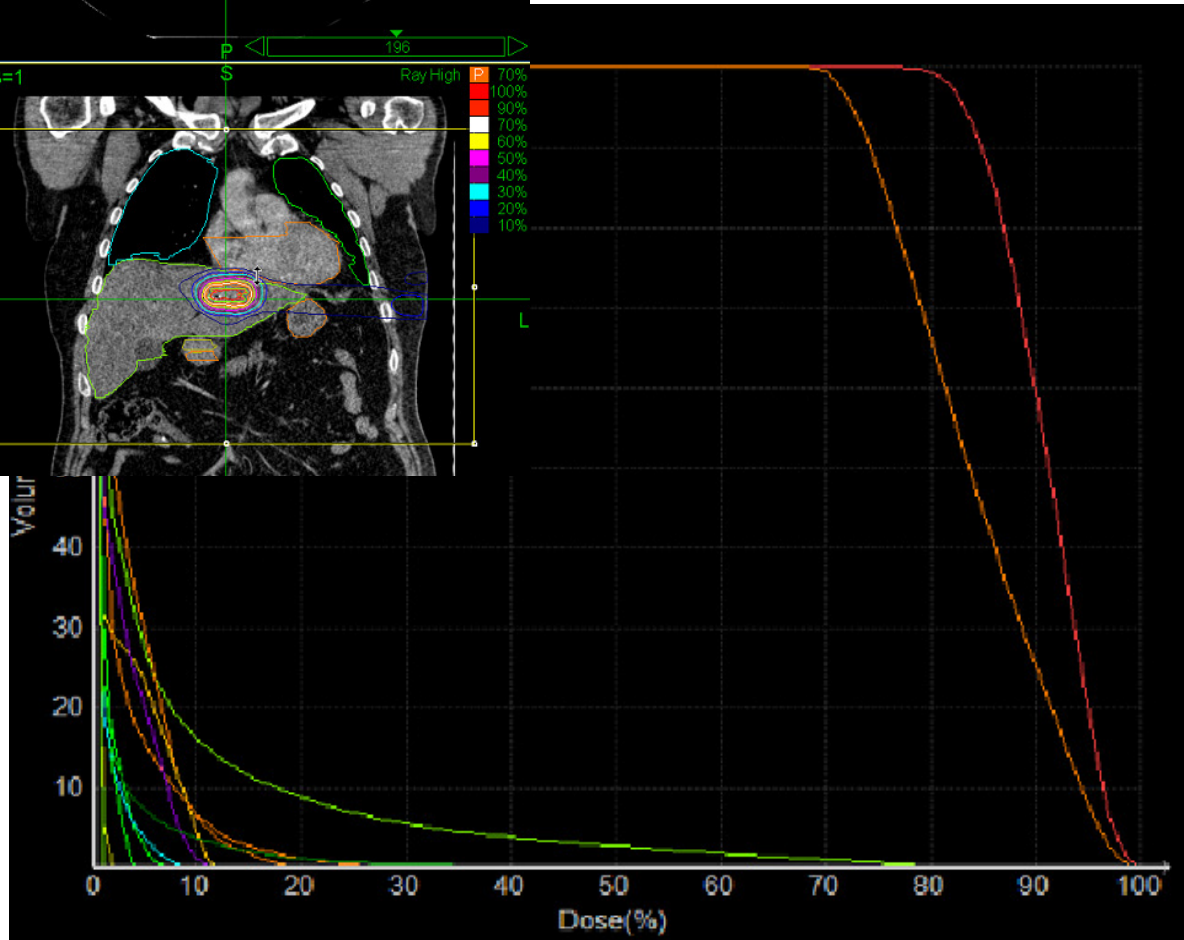
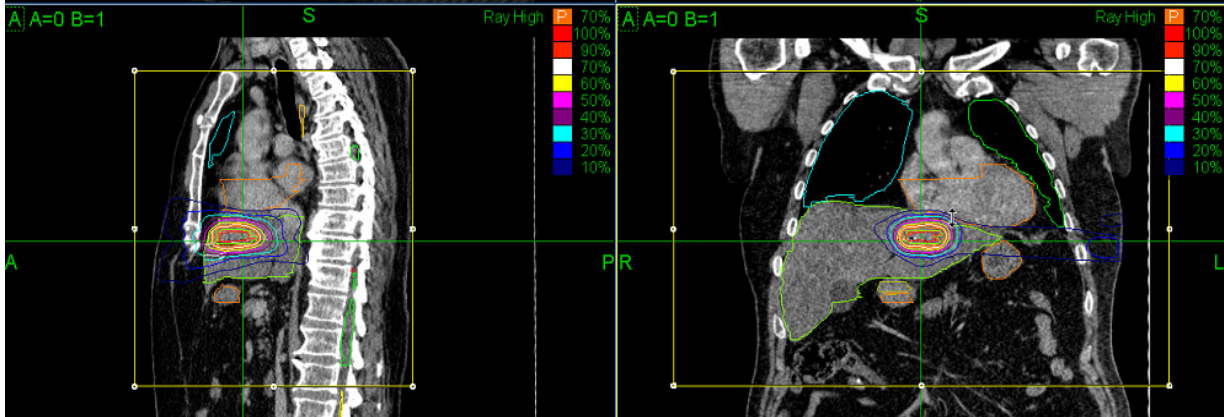
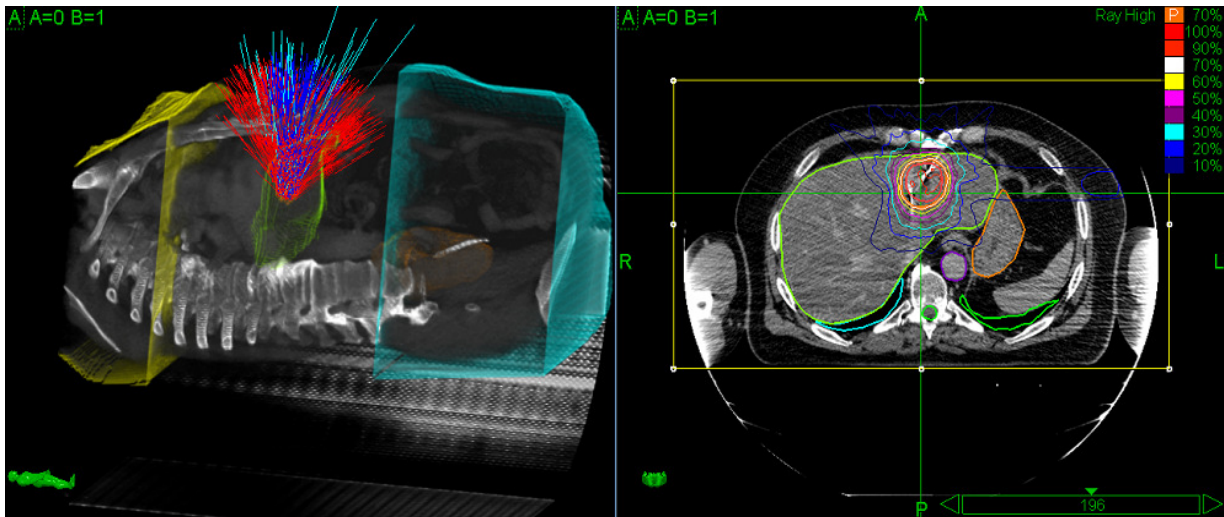
SBRT: future direction

- RAS – trial:
 - RDM trial of RFA VS SBRT for colorectal liver metastases
 - Primary endpoint: local progression free survival at 3 years
 - Max 1-4 liver metastases; diameter maximum of 4 cm
 - Expected end accrual (300 pts): December 2012

<http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT01233544>

- SLIM – trial:
 - Sorafenib + RT for liver metastases (phase I/II study)
 - Primary endpoint: MTD of sorafenib + RT; acute toxicity
 - Secondary endpoints: late toxicity, local control, OS
 - Study completion date (44 pts): January 2013

<http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00892424>



CyberKnife

Planning

File Options Utilities View

Setup Contours Points Beams Dose Eval IMRT Inv Plan Patient: P01.D01 Trial_1 Help

Isodose Lines

Isodose lines are Absolute

Max dose 3579.9 cGy

Add Line(s)... All Lines On

Remove Line... All Lines Off

Line Details...

Value	Color	2D Display	3D Display
3780	purple	Off	Off
3600	yellow	On	Off
3420	red	On	Off
3240	green	On	Off
3200	blue	On	Off

Dose Display & Analysis

2D Colorwash Display On Off

3D Colorwash Display On Off

Max dose point display... On Off

Point of Interest Dose Table...

Dose Volume Histogram...

Beam Weighting...

Absolute 3600.0 cGy
3420.0 cGy
3240.0 cGy
3200.0 cGy

Slice 159: Z = 7.400 IMZ11 VINC10

Absolute 3600.0 cGy
3420.0 cGy
3240.0 cGy
3200.0 cGy

Slice 262: X = 0.488 IMZ11 VINC10

Slice 159: Z = 7.400 IMZ11 VINC10

Primary Secondary Fusion Reset to T/S/C Secondary:

Plan Evaluation

Patient: P01.D01 Rev: R01.P01.D01 Help

Dose Volume Histogram

DVH Calculation

- Cumulative
- Differential

Dose Axis Display

- Normalized Dose
- Absolute Dose
- Auto-Compute Max
- Specify Max Dose

Volume Axis Display

- Normalized Volume
- Absolute Volume

Tabular DVH...

ROI List

Display	ROI	a
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stomach	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Esophagus	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Left Lung	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	midollo	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	cuore	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	aorta	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	cauda	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DUODENO	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Skin	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	ciambella	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	couch	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	liver-PTV	1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Right lung	1

ROI Statistics

Line Type	ROI	Trial	Min.	Max.	Mean	Std. Dev.	% Outside Grid	% > Max	Generalized EUD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DUODENO	Trial_1	29.3	193.5	86.6	44.9	0.00 %	0.00 %	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	Esophagus	Trial_1	1.8	1713.6	197.0	407.4	0.00 %	0.00 %	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	GTV	Trial_1	3393.0	3555.6	3518.5	15.8	0.00 %	0.00 %	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	Left Kidney	Trial_1	4.3	78.3	23.9	14.3	0.00 %	0.00 %	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	Left Lung	Trial_1	6.8	1017.3	82.9	121.1	0.00 %	0.00 %	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	PTV	Trial_1	3393.0	3572.2	3524.9	20.3	0.00 %	0.00 %	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	Right Kidney	Trial_1	4.9	60.4	16.9	10.4	0.00 %	0.00 %	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	Right lung	Trial_1	5.6	1353.8	87.9	122.3	0.00 %	0.00 %	--

VMAT

Planning Station

Plan Label: **Plan_01**
 Plan Status: **Unapproved**
 Plan Date: Oct 1, 2012 3:29:07 PM
 Position: HFS

Oncologist: 15837

User Name: **firmed**

What's Next
Optimization Complete
 Adjust treatment fractions on the **Fractionation** panel,
 OR
 Click **Resume** to continue optimization.

Save

Contouring ROIs Plan Settings Beam Angles Optimization Fractionation

Presets
 Lines
 Gy %

37.8 Gy
 36.0 Gy
 34.2 Gy
 32.4 Gy
 30.6 Gy
 28.8 Gy
 18.0 Gy
 10.8 Gy

Edit

Target
 Name PTV

Regions at Risk

Name	Color	Checked
GTV	Red	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Liver	Green	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Left Kidney	Blue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Right Kidney	Yellow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stomach	Orange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Esophagus	Purple	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Left Lung	Light Blue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
midollo	Pink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
cuore	Light Green	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
aorta	Purple	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
cauda	Light Blue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DUODENO	Yellow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Skin	Green	<input type="checkbox"/>
ciambella	Light Blue	<input type="checkbox"/>
couch	Light Blue	<input type="checkbox"/>
liver-PTV	Blue	<input type="checkbox"/>
Right lung	Light Blue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Iteration 500 received

Tuesday, October 2, 2012 11:26:05

User Name: **firmed**

What's Next
Optimization Complete
 Adjust treatment fractions on the **Fractionation** panel,
 OR
 Click **Resume** to continue optimization.

Save

Optimization Fractionation

Gy in 6 Fractions ROI contours have been resampled

Dose Pen. DVH Vol. DVH Dose [Gy] Min Dose [Gy] Min Dose Pen.

Gy	Max Dose Pen.	DVH Vol.	DVH Dose [Gy]	DVH Pt. Pen.
95.00		36.00	36.00	10
10	30.00	21.00	10	
10	5.00	19.00	10	
10	5.00	19.00	10	
10	5.00	19.00	10	
10	35.00	15.00	10	
10	35.00	15.00	10	
10	5.00	21.00	10	
1	5.00	5.00	1	
1	5.00	5.00	1	

Presets
 Lines
 Gy %

37.8 Gy
 36.0 Gy
 34.2 Gy
 32.4 Gy
 30.6 Gy
 28.8 Gy
 18.0 Gy
 10.8 Gy

Display Mode
 HU Density

Iteration 500 received

Tuesday, October 2, 2012 11:26:05

Optimize

Dose Calc Grid: **Fine**

Field Width: **1.05 cm - Jaw...**

Modulation Factor: **2.000**

Pitch: **0.287**

Batch Beamlets

Mode: **Beamlet**

Initiate Full Dose After 500 iterations.

Resume
 Get Full Dose
 Cancel

Copy Plan... Summation

Iteration 500 received

Tuesday, October 2, 2012 11:27:03

STANDARD Cumulative DVH Relative

Relative Volume (% Normalised)

Dose (Gy)

Vol Min: 0 Vol Max: 100 Gy Min: 0 Gy Max: 46.8

TomoTherapy

Planning Station

Path: [redacted] Plan Label: **Plan_01** User Name: firmed

No Photo Sex: **Male** Plan Status: **Unapproved**

ID: **10317** Plan Date **Oct 1, 2012 3:29:07 PM**

Oncologist: Position: **HFS**

Disease: **15837**

Save

What's Next

Optimization Complete

Adjust treatment fractions on the **Fractionation** panel,
OR
Click **Resume** to continue optimization.

Presets

Lines

Gy %

37.8 Gy

36.0 Gy

34.2 Gy

32.4 Gy

30.6 Gy

28.8 Gy

18.0 Gy

10.8 Gy

Edit

Target

Name

PTV

Regions at Risk

Name

GTV

Liver

Left Kidney

Right Kidney

Stomach

Esophagus

Left Lung

midollo

cuore

aorta

cauda

DUODENO

Skin

ciambella

couch

liver-PTV

Right lung

Iteration 500 received

Start

	<u>Liver</u> 700 mL < 15 Gy	Heart Dmax < 30 Gy	Bowel Dmax < 30 Gy	Kidneys D35 < 15 Gy	Stomach Dmax < 30 Gy	Time Spending
CyberKnife	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	60 min
VMAT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5 min
TomoTher	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	23 min

Resume

Get Full Dose

Cancel

Copy Plan...

Summation

Iteration 500 received

Relative

Dose (Gy)

Vol Min [0]

Vol Max [100]

Gy Min [0]

Gy Max [46.8]

Iteration 500 received

Tuesday, October 2, 2012 11:27:03

Start

Planning Station

CRS Admin Console (tom...

epatica1.bmp - Paint

11:27 AM

Conclusions

- Until recently, the liver was difficult to treat in routine with RT.

- Technologies development → new treatment approach

- Highly effective doses are deliverable to liver metastases

- With effective protection for healthy tissue

- Hi-technologies represent just a more refined tool in the hands of Clinical Oncologist.

Conclusions

- **Appropriate**: suitable for a particular person, condition, occasion, or place.
- The **optimal combination** of systemic and local therapies is yet to be determined.
- Future studies will hopefully include patients with **improved prognosis** who are more likely to benefit from ablation of their liver metastases (**appropriateness**).
- Studies with favorable patients are necessary to better determine the **late toxicity profile** and **long-term local control** in well defined patient populations.

Thanks for your attention...



Stromboli 2012