

# DIVA

## Dutch Isotopes Valley



Om te garanderen dat met een toenemende vergrijzing voldoende en geschikte medische isotopen beschikbaar blijven in de Nederlandse ziekenhuizen zijn URENCO, de Technische Universiteit Delft (TUDelft) en NRG het samenwerkingsverband Dutch Isotopes Valley (DIVA) aangegaan. DIVA richt zich op het ontwikkelen van betere medische isotopen voor nauwkeurigere diagnoses en therapieën voor de behandeling van meer vormen van kanker.



Instituut Delft (RID), neemt Nederland met de drie betrokken bedrijven wereldwijd een bijzondere positie in. "Eigenlijk vind je een dergelijke situatie waarbij zich de

partners binnen een complete keten relatief korte afstand van elkaar bevinden alleen in Rusland. Maar daarnaast anders en betreft het bedrijf puur commerciële relaties onderstaan. Wolterbeek legt uit dat Nederland de DIVA-partners beschikt over een combinatie van faciliteiten en expertise nodig is om in toekomstige ontwikkelingen en productie van medische isotopen kunnen blijven voorzien. "De hoogste precursors, ofwel verrijkte stabiele isotopen van een aantal belangrijke medische isotopen worden slechts binnen een aantal faciliteiten wereldwijd geproduceerd. URENCO is de enige westerse producent van deze bijzondere materialen. NRG is de exploitant van de Hoge Flux Reactor die momenteel voorziet in circa de helft van de wereldwijde productie van de medische radio-isotopen. Mede vanwege dit grote belang voor de realisatie van de Pallas-reactor die de rol van de HFR in de toekomst overnemen. "De TU Delft levert momenteel een combinatie van wetenschappelijke expertise en de Hoger Onderwijs Reactor (HOR) een nationaal en internationaal een belangrijke bijdrage aan het fundamenteel en toepasselijk onderzoek op het gebied van de ontwikkeling van medische isotopen. Hiermee vormt de TU Delft de verbinding tussen de ontwikkeling en productie van precursors en de uiteindelijke productie van nieuwe en/of verbeterde medische isotopen", licht Wolterbeek toe.

### VAN EEN GEDEGEN NAAR EEN INTENSIEVE SAMENWERKING

Het initiatief voor DIVA ontstond twintig jaar geleden toen Wolterbeek tezamen met Huub Rakhorst, algemeen directeur van URENCO Nederland en Niels van der Steene, algemeen directeur van NRG, voor de eerste maal aanwezig waren bij de pre-industriële voorbereiding voor de officiële Nuclear Industry Show.



# DIVA

Dutch Isotopes Valley

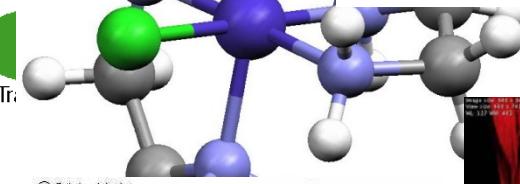
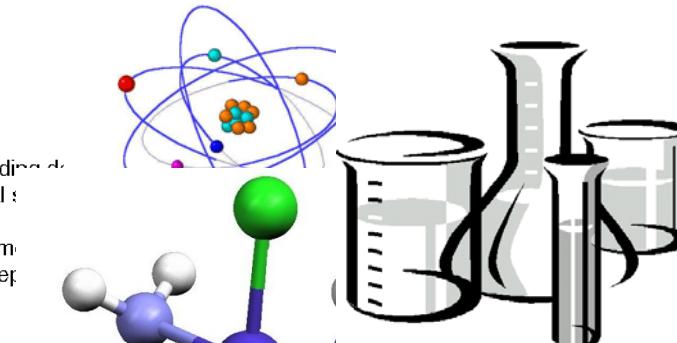
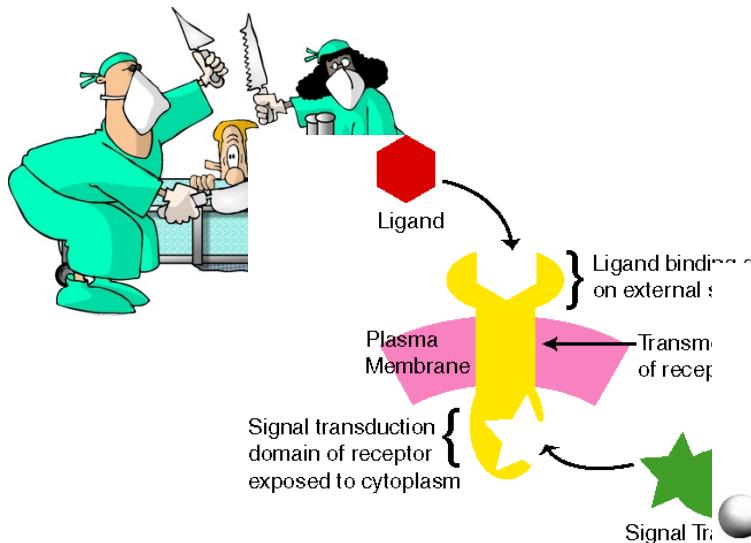


## Patient-hospital: how to recognize the disorder?

# How to find a “targeting”molecule?

# How to make new radionuclides?

# How to combine?



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# How to test stability?

# How to assess distribution?

# How to bring the result to the market?



# Hospital

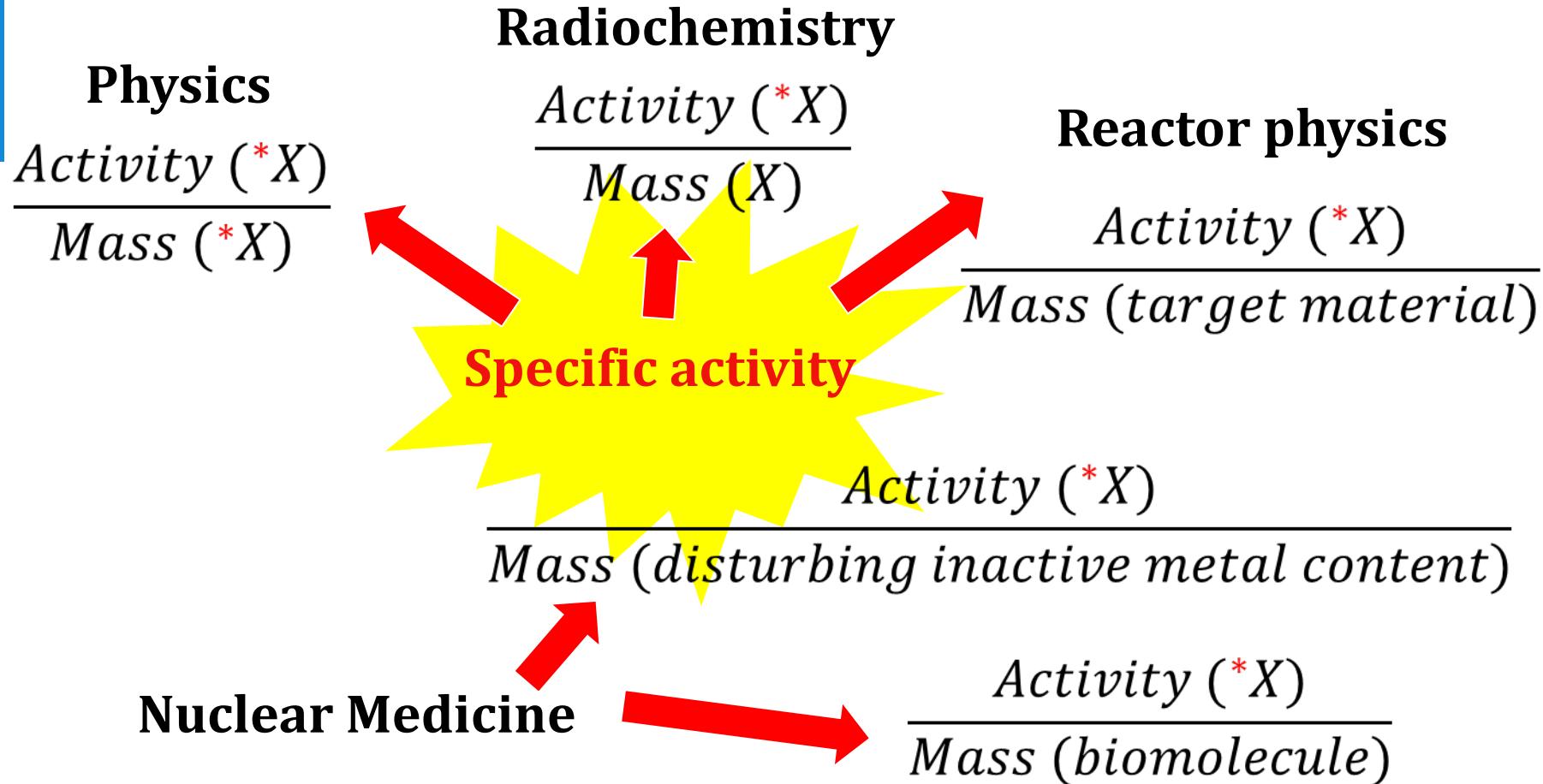
Disorder recognition  
Selectivity  
Sensitivity  
Treatment volume



# Production site

Purity  
Yield  
Specific Activity  
Range  
Chain products  
Half life  
Type and Energy

# Aspects of Specific Activity

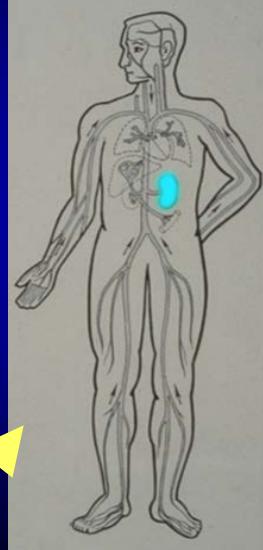


# Internal radio Isotopes: Endo-Radiotherapy or -diagnostics

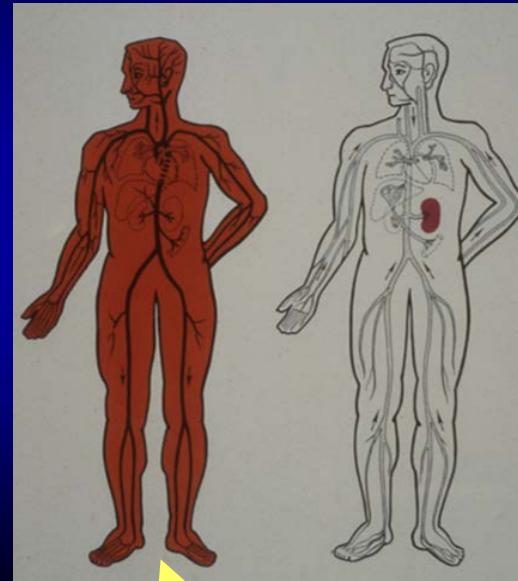


## Targeting

Diseased site



Free compound



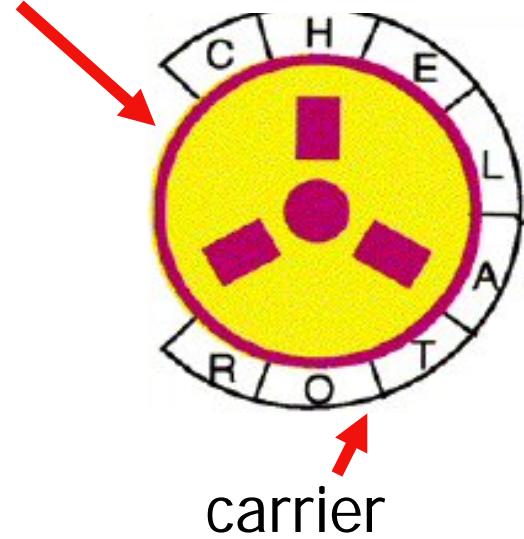
Targeted compound

Disorder

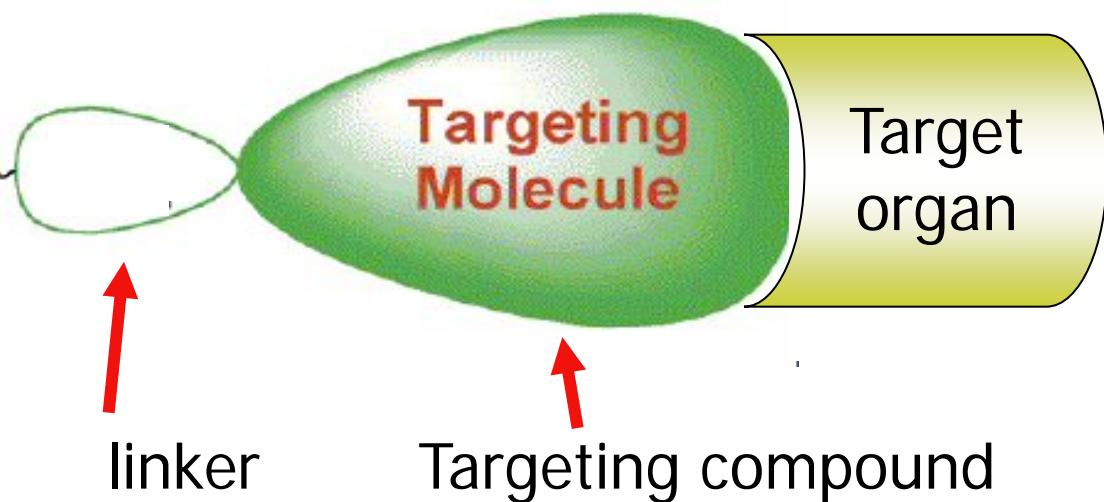
Distribution after “non-targeted” injection

Targeted distribution

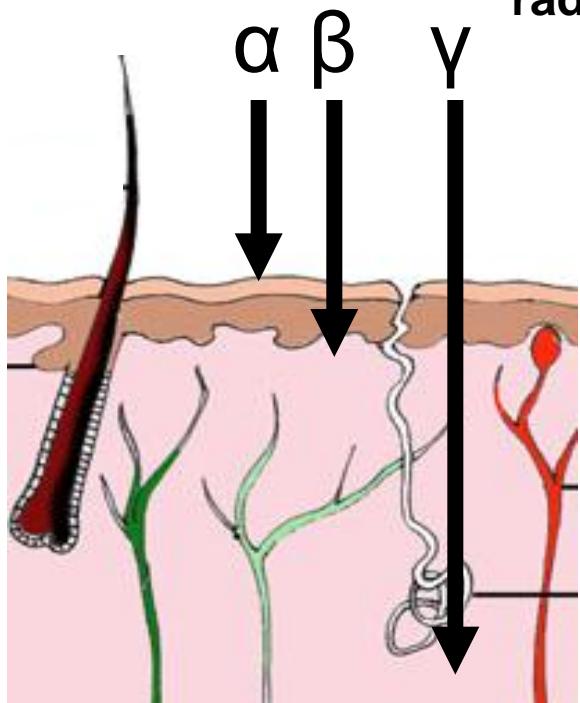
Radionuclide



carrier

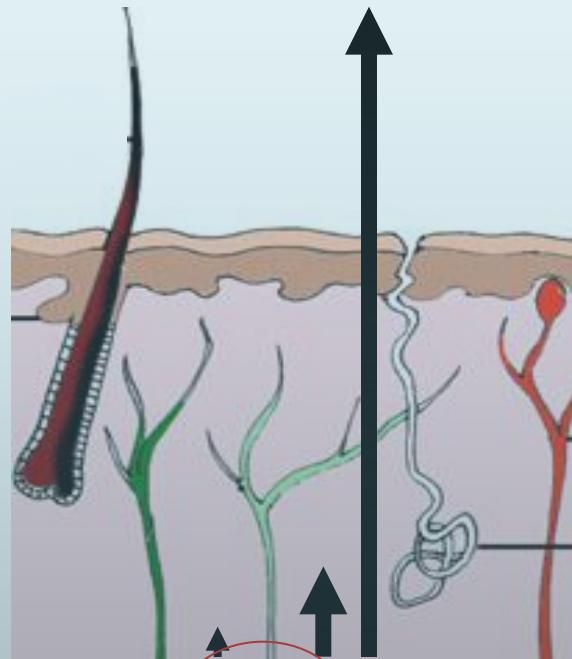


## External Radiation Source



Anatomical  
CT/X-ray imaging,  
radiotherapy

## Internal Radiation Source



Funktional  
PET, SPECT  
imaging

Skin surface

Endo-radiotherapy

# Most important radionuclides for nuclear medicine

## Reactor-produced

$^{64}\text{Cu}$   $^{67}\text{Cu}$   $^{90}\text{Sr}$   $^{90}\text{Y}$   $^{99}\text{Mo}$   $^{103}\text{Pd}$   
 $^{114\text{m}}\text{In}$   $^{117\text{m}}\text{Sn}$   $^{125}\text{I}$   $^{131}\text{I}$   $^{153}\text{Sm}$   $^{166}\text{Ho}$   
 $^{169}\text{Yb}$   $^{177}\text{Lu}$   $^{186}\text{Re}$   $^{188}\text{Re}$   $^{188}\text{W}$   $^{191\text{m}}\text{Ir}$   
 $^{191}\text{Ir}$   $^{195\text{m}}\text{Pt}$   $^{199}\text{Au}$

## Accelerator-produced

$^{11}\text{C}$   $^{13}\text{N}$   $^{15}\text{O}$   $^{18}\text{F}$   $^{22}\text{Na}$   $^{26}\text{Al}$   $^{28}\text{Mg}$   
 $^{38}\text{K}$   $^{44}\text{Ti}$   $^{57}\text{Co}$   $^{67}\text{Ga}$   $^{67}\text{Cu}$   $^{68}\text{Ge}$   $^{72}\text{As}$   
 $^{72-73}\text{Se}$   $^{75-77}\text{Br}$   $^{81}\text{Rb}$  ( $^{81}\text{Kr}$ )  $^{82}\text{Sr}$   $^{111}\text{In}$   
 $^{123-124}\text{I}$   $^{140}\text{Nd}$   $^{201}\text{Tl}$

# Some Reactor-radionuclides for endo-therapy

Nuclide	Range	Radiation
$^{90}\text{Y}$ , $^{188}\text{Re}$	> mm	high-energetic $\beta$
$^{153}\text{Sm}$ , $^{186}\text{Re}$	mm	medium-energetic $\beta$
$^{177}\text{Lu}$ , $^{131}\text{I}$	< mm	low-energetic $\beta$
$^{212,213}\text{Bi}$ , $^{211}\text{At}$	<<mm	$\alpha$ -radiation
$^{103\text{m}}\text{Rh}$ $^{195\text{m}}\text{Pt}$	subcellulair	low-energetic Auger-electrons

# Radionuclide production

Replacing the number of target nuclei  $N_0$  by  $(N_{Av} \theta w)/M$   
we get the 'activation formula':

$$A = \Phi_{th} \sigma_{eff} \left[ \frac{N_{Av} \theta w}{M} \right] (1 - e^{-\lambda t_{ir}})$$

with

$N_{Av}$  = Avogadro's number, mol<sup>-1</sup>

$\theta$  = isotopic abundance of the target isotope  $N_0$

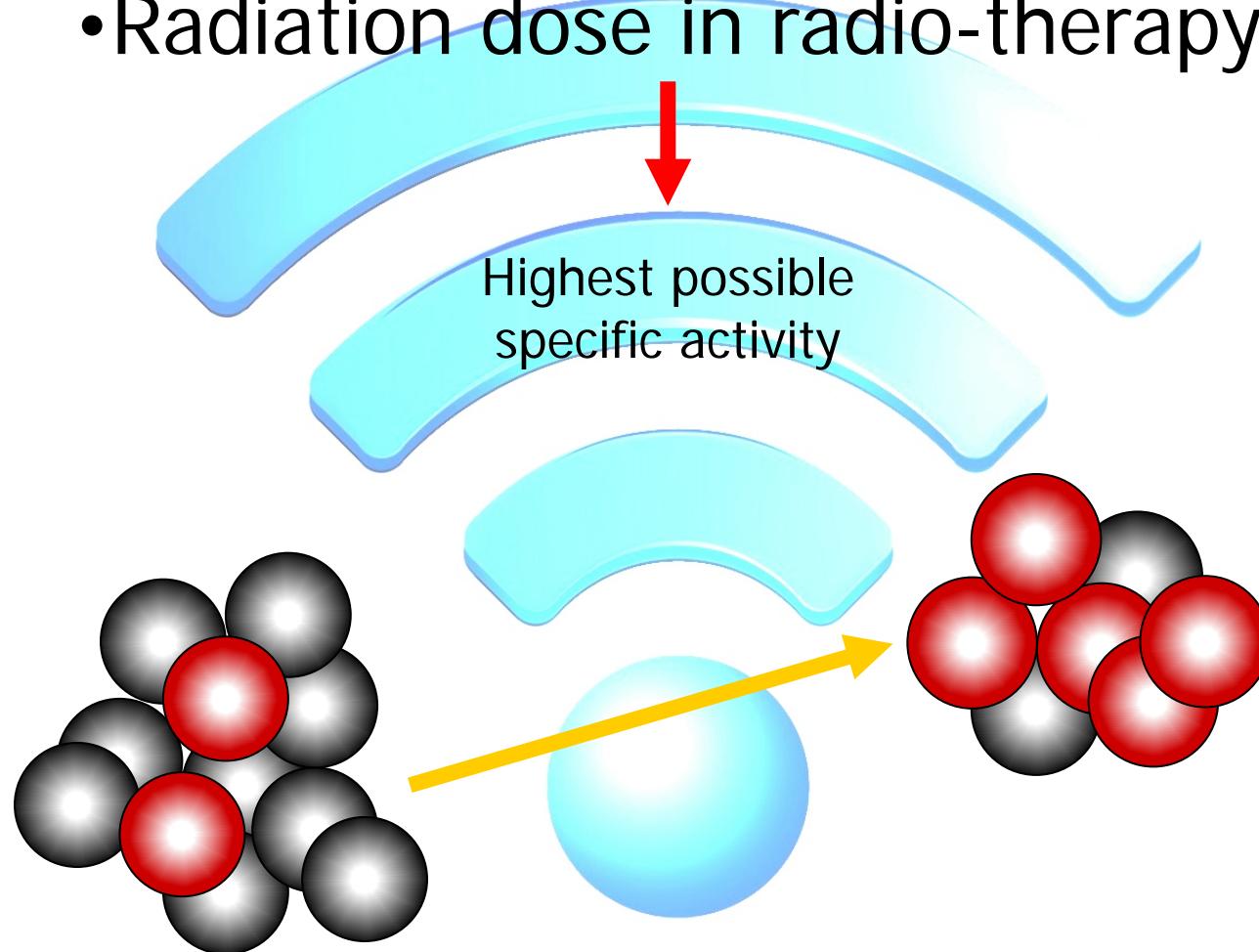
$w$  = mass of the irradiated element, g

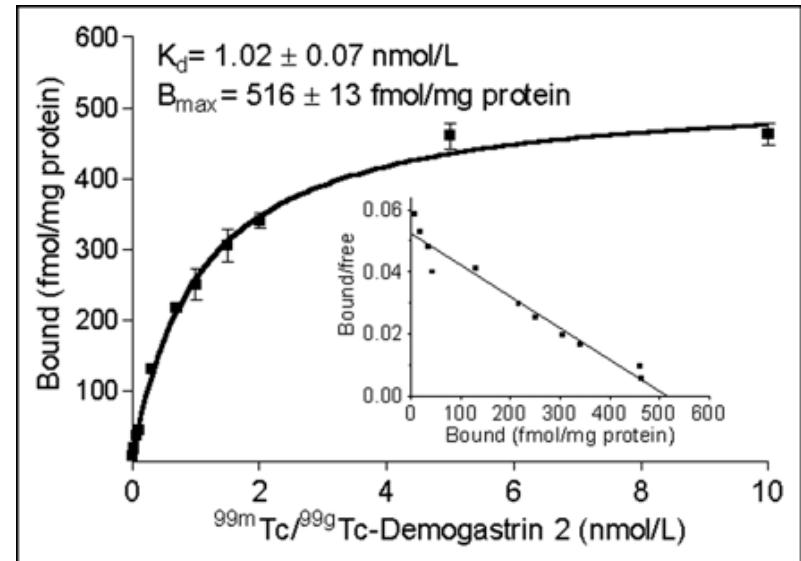
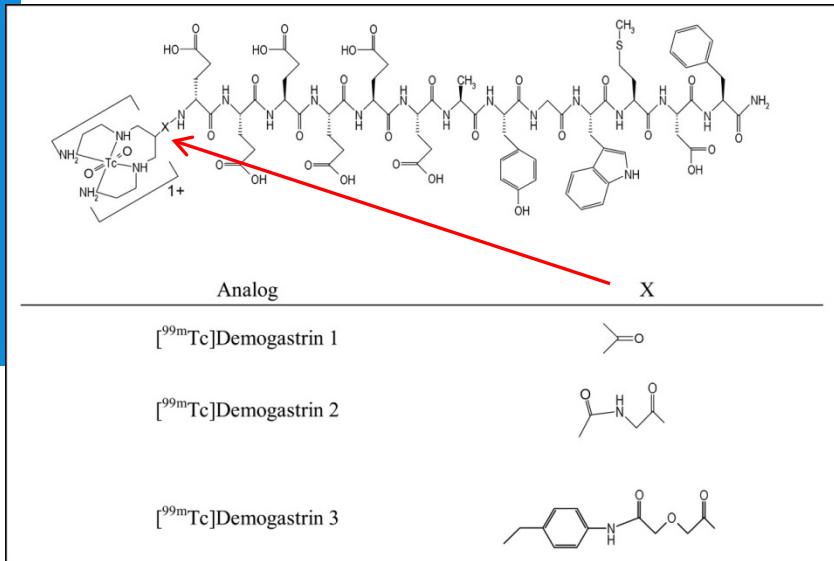
$M$  = atomic mass, g.mol<sup>-1</sup>

$\Phi$  = particle density cm<sup>-2</sup>.sec<sup>-1</sup>

$\sigma$  = cross section cm<sup>2</sup> (1 barn = 10<sup>-24</sup> cm<sup>2</sup>)

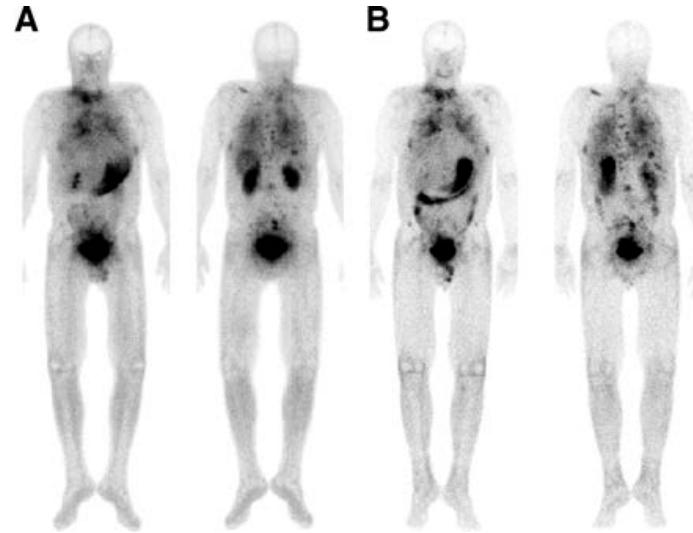
- Signal strength in imaging
- Radiation dose in radio-therapy





Breeman et al. Nucl Med and Biol. 35, 834-839 (2008)

250 MBq  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$  per nanomol Demogastrin-2



15

# $^{117m}\text{Sn}$ for palliative bone tumor therapy



# $^{117m}\text{Sn}$ for palliative bone tumor therapy

To be coupled to bone (tumor)-seeking phosphate-compounds



Why  $^{117m}\text{Sn}$ ?

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Auger electrons

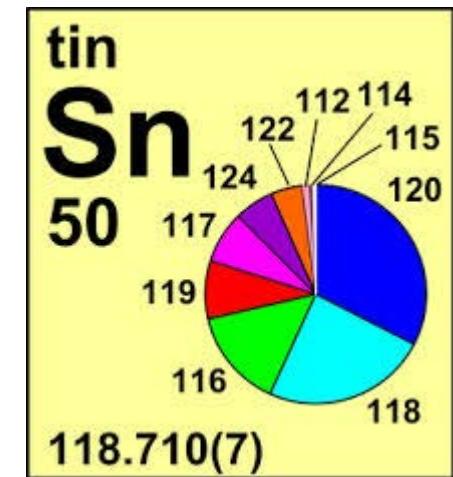
0.2-0.3 mm range

Less bone marrow damage than from  $^{153}\text{Sm}$  or  $^{166}\text{Ho}$   
(beta ranges 0.55 mm and 2.7 mm respectively)

# DIVA

URENCO  
RID  
NRG/PALLAS

Sn enrichment  
production research  
industrial scale up



I 113 5,9 s	I 114 5,7 s	I 115 1,3 m	I 116 2,9 s	I 117 2,2 m	I 118 ~8.5 m 13 m	I 119 19 m	I 120 53 m	I 121 135 h 2,12 h	I 122 3,6 m	I 123 13,2 h	I 124 4,15 d	I 125 60,14 d	I 126 13,0 d	I 127 100	I 128 25,0 m								
$\beta^+$ α 2,610 $\gamma$ 463; 622; 351; 567... $\gamma$ 103...	$\beta^+$ 2,1 s $\beta^+$ 6,5 $\gamma$ 709; 682; 775; 1091...	$\beta^+$ $\gamma$ 6,7... $\gamma$ 679; 540'	$\beta^+$ 3,5... $\gamma$ 326; 274...	$\beta^+$ 4,9... $\gamma$ 258... $\gamma$ 1047	$\beta^+$ 5,5... $\gamma$ 605; 600; 614... $\gamma$ 1338...	$\beta^+$ 2,4... $\gamma$ 258... $\gamma$ 9...	$\beta^+$ 3,8... $\gamma$ 560; 601; 614... $\gamma$ 564...	$\beta^+$ 4,6... $\gamma$ 560; 561; 563... $\gamma$ 564...	$\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\gamma$ 9...	$\beta^+$ 3,1... $\gamma$ 159... $\gamma$ 564...	$\beta^+$ no $\beta^+$ $\gamma$ 159... $\gamma$ 723...	$\beta^+$ 2,1... $\gamma$ 603; 1691; 723...	$\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 389; 666... $\gamma$ 5960	$\beta^+$ 2,1... $\gamma$ 443; 527...									
Te 112 2,0 m	Te 113 1,6 m	Te 114 15,2 m	Te 115 6,7 m	Te 116 5,7 m $\beta^+$ 2,7... $\gamma$ 724; 770; 1381; 1327; 1099... $\gamma$ 1072...	Te 117 2,5 h	Te 118 6,0 d	Te 119 4,7 d	Te 120 16 h	Te 120 0,096	Te 121 154 d $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,6... $\gamma$ 644; 700...	Te 121 16,8 d	Te 122 2,60	Te 123 19,7 d $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,24... $\gamma$ 104...	Te 124 0,908	Te 125 4,816	Te 126 5,74 d $\gamma$ 35(...) $\beta^+$ 0,406...	Te 127 7,14	Te 127 109 d $\beta^+$ 0,88...					
Sb 111 75 s	Sb 112 53,5 s	Sb 113 6,67 m	Sb 114 3,5 m	Sb 115 32,1 m	Sb 116 60 m	Sb 116 16 m	Sb 117 50 h	Sb 118 3,5 m	Sb 119 38,5 h	Sb 120 5,76 d $\gamma$ 24...	Sb 120 15,9 m	Sb 121 57,3	Sb 122 4,2 m $\gamma$ 61; 76...	Sb 123 42,7	Sb 124 20 m $\beta^+$ 1,6 m $\gamma$ 203...	Sb 125 2,77 a $\beta^+$ 0,3... $\gamma$ 428; 601;	Sb 126 ~11 s $\beta^+$ 1,9... $\gamma$ 666; 898...						
Sn 110 4,0 h	Sn 111 35,3 m	Sn 112 1,0	Sn 113 21,4 m $\gamma$ 1151; 1915; 762; 1610... $\gamma$ 283 g	Sn 114 0,7	Sn 115 0,4	Sn 116 14,7	Sn 117 13,6 d $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 0,2...	Sn 118 7,7	Sn 119 24,3	Sn 119 293 d	Sn 120 8,6	Sn 121 32,4	Sn 121 ~50 a $\gamma$ 61; 35...	Sn 122 4,6	Sn 123 40,1 m $\beta^+$ 1,3... $\gamma$ 160...	Sn 124 5,6	Sn 125 9,5 m $\beta^+$ 2,4... $\gamma$ 1057; 1089; 823; 916...						
In 109 1,34 m	In 110 4,2 h	In 110 69,1 m	In 111 7,6 m	In 112 2,81 d	In 113 20,8 m $\beta^+$ 1,4 m $\gamma$ 192... $\beta^+$ 2,0... $\gamma$ 245; 171... $\beta^+$ 2,3... $\gamma$ 658...	In 114 49,5 d $\gamma$ 192... $\beta^+$ 0,7... $\gamma$ 245; 171... $\beta^+$ 1,6... $\gamma$ 617; 605... $\beta^+$ 2,0... $\gamma$ 558; 1300... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 115 49,5 h $\beta^+$ 4-10 <sup>14</sup> a $\gamma$ 336... $\beta^+$ 0,5... $\gamma$ 1097; 445...	In 116 4,49 h $\beta^+$ 0,5... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 116 2,2 s $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 0,5... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 117 1,94 h $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 117 43,1 m $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 118 8,5 s $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 119 4,4 m 5 s 18 m	In 119 1,94 h $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 120 1,94 h $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 120 2,3 m $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 121 3,8 m $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 121 23,1 s $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 122 3,8 m $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 122 23,1 s $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 123 3,8 m $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 124 47,8 s $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497	In 124 5,98 s $\beta^+$ 1,8... $\gamma$ 159... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,0... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 1,1... $\gamma$ 212... $\beta^+$ 0,8... $\gamma$ 497
Cd 108 0,89	Cd 109 453 d	Cd 110 12,51	Cd 111 49 m	Cd 112 12,81	Cd 113 14,6 a $\beta^+$ 0,6... $\gamma$ 264...	Cd 114 12,22 $\beta^+$ 0,3... $\gamma$ 910 a	Cd 115 28,72	Cd 116 44,8 d $\beta^+$ 0,7... $\gamma$ 934...	Cd 117 4,4 m 5 s	Cd 118 18 m 2,3 m	Cd 119 2,2 m 2,7 m	Cd 119 50,3 m	Cd 119 2,2 m 2,7 m	Cd 120 4,8 s $\beta^+$ 0,7... $\gamma$ 1025...	Cd 121 4,8 s $\beta^+$ 0,7... $\gamma$ 293...	Cd 122 12,8 s $\beta^+$ 0,7... $\gamma$ 324...	Cd 122 5,5 s						
$\sigma$ 1,1	$\sigma$ no $\gamma$ $m$ 650	$\sigma$ 0,10 + 11	$\sigma$ 245; 151	$\sigma$ 0,43	$\sigma$ 0,04 + 2,2	$\sigma$ 0,036 + 0,300	$\sigma$ 0,008 + 0,043																

# Reduce the mass?



Szilard (1898-

Szilard & Chalmers  
**Szilard-Chalmers reaction (1934)**



Recoil-energy is usually larger than the binding energy



The recoil nuclei come free from their environment

# Recoil energy $E_R$

$$E_R = \frac{(E_\gamma)^2}{1862 \cdot A}$$

$E_R$  in MeV  
 $E_\gamma$  in MeV  
A in a.m.u.

$$E_{R(\text{average})}^{99\text{Mo}} \pm 190 \text{ eV}$$

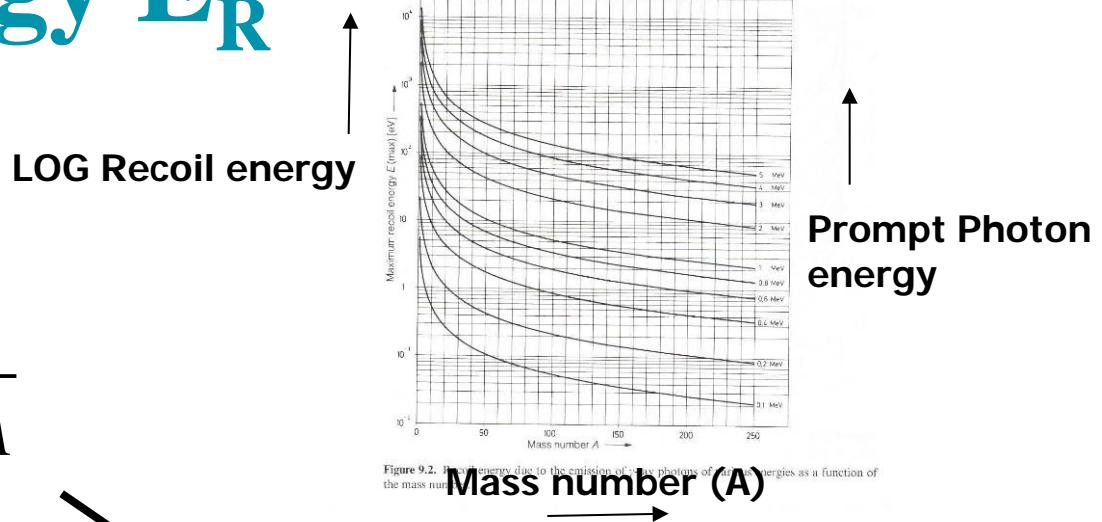
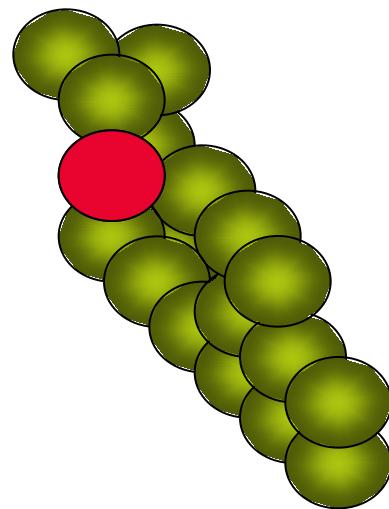
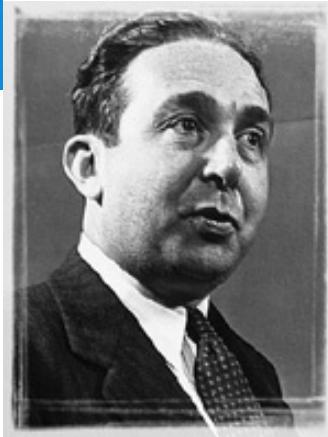


Figure 9.2. Recoil energy due to the emission of  $\gamma$ -ray photons of various energies as a function of the mass number (A)

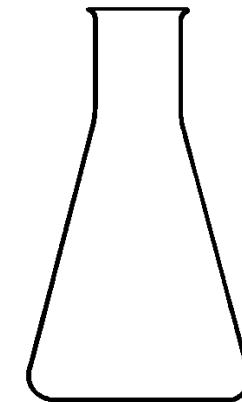
Binding energy e.g. Mo-O: ~ 6 eV

# The mass problem

## Szilard-Chalmers reactions



- Take  $^{99}\text{Mo}$ , leave target
- Take target, leave  $^{99}\text{Mo}$



# The yield problem

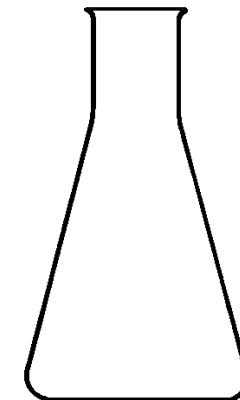
# Szilard-Chalmers reactions



## Theory and practice

### Mass and yield

- Metal compounds (target)
- Escape of recoil isotopes
- Catcher-media
- Irradiation conditions
- Waiting time with off-line production
- Target integrity problems
- Annealing-effects
- Target recovery



# Szilard-Chalmers reactions



## Theory and practice Mass and yield

Enrichment Factor EF (target T en catcher C)

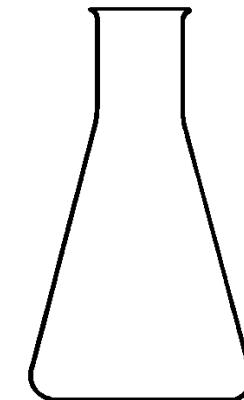
$$EF = \frac{[*X_C]}{\frac{[X_C]}{[*X_T]}} = \frac{[*X_C]}{[*X_T]} \cdot \frac{[X_T]}{[X_C]}$$

But concentrations include volume effects,  
so towards absolute data:

$$EF = \frac{^*X_C}{^*X_T} \cdot \frac{X_T}{X_C}$$

### Boundary conditions

- Target isotope mass transfer: not more than allowed
- Product isotope yield: not less than necessary



# Nuclear Reactions: Energetics



Mass $^{212}\text{Po}$	211.98886 amu
Mass $^{208}\text{Pb} + ^4\text{He}$	<u>211.97925 amu</u>
$\Delta m$	000.00961 amu
Q	008.95 MeV

But  $E_{He}$  is 8.78 MeV

$$E_{He} : E_{Pb} = m_{Pb} : m_{He} \text{ thus } E_{Pb} = \frac{m_{He}}{m_{Pb}} \cdot E_{He}$$

$$Q = E_{He} + E_{Pb} = E_{He} \left(1 + \frac{m_{He}}{m_{Pb}}\right) = 8.95 \text{ MeV}$$

$$E_{He} = 8.95 / \left(1 + \frac{4}{208}\right) = 8.78 \text{ MeV}$$

# $^{117m}\text{Sn}$ for palliative bone tumor therapy



SA = 23 MBq/mmol available

inelastic neutron scattering  
high energy neutrons  
very high neutron flux necessary  
highly enriched  $^{117}\text{Sn}$   
few reactors (o.a. Dimitrograd)



# RECOIL APPROACH

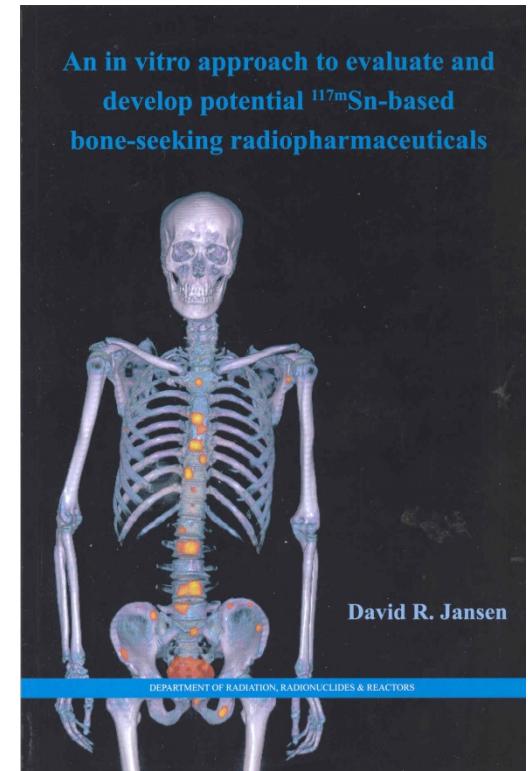


Target Sn            =  $\text{Sn}^{4+}$

Product Sn        =  $\text{Sn}^{2+}$

MT-25 microtron JINR Dubna  
solvent extraction  
anion exchange chromatography  
electrolysis

$3 \text{ kBq} \cdot \mu\text{A}^{-1} \cdot \text{h}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg}^{-1}$  160 keV  $\gamma$



# RECOIL APPROACH



SnO and SnO<sub>2</sub> targets

$\sigma=0.14$  barns

carbon/graphite catchers

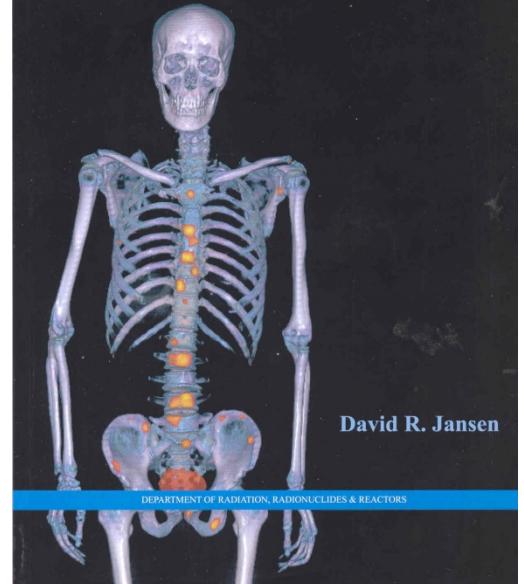
10 h HOR RID/TUDelft

HCl extraction

EF= 34

SA=2.5 MBq/mmol

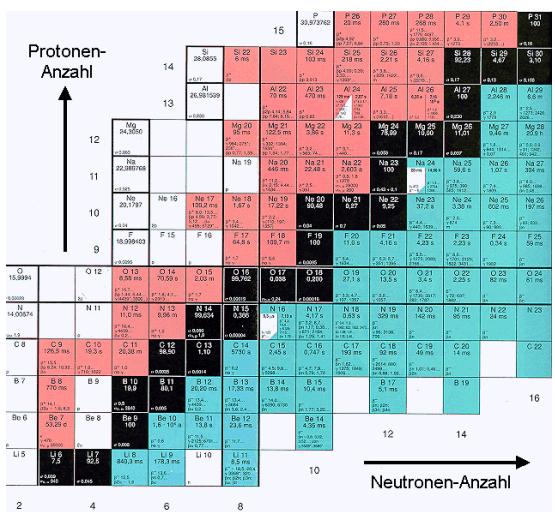
An in vitro approach to evaluate and  
develop potential <sup>117m</sup>Sn-based  
bone-seeking radiopharmaceuticals



David R. Jansen

DEPARTMENT OF RADIATION, RADIONUCLIDES & REACTORS

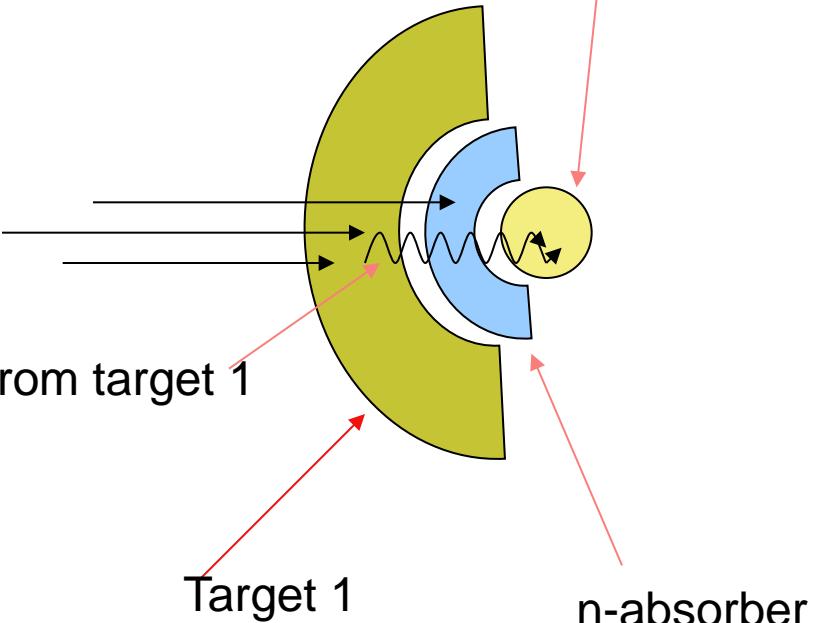
# Reactor-production via ( $\gamma$ ,n)



n-beam

$\gamma$  from target 1

Target 2 for ( $\gamma$ ,n) reaction



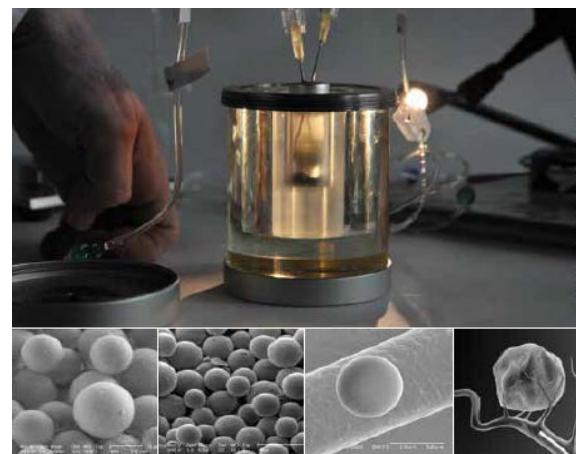
Target 1

n-absorber

# $^{166}\text{Ho}$ for (liver) tumor therapy



**K** MICROSFEREN MET  
HOLMIUM VOOR  
BEHANDELING VAN  
LEVERKANKER



# $^{166}\text{Ho}$ for (liver) tumor therapy

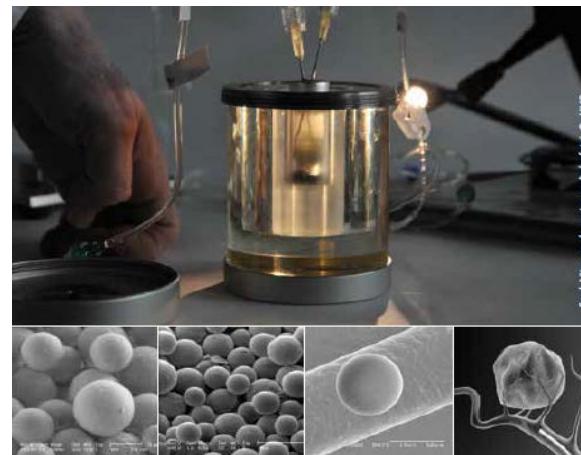


**MICROSFEREN MET  
HOLMIUM VOOR  
BEHANDELING VAN  
LEVERKANKER**



# DIVA

RID                    production research  
NRG/PALLAS      industrial scale up



# <sup>166</sup>Ho production

Tm 165 30,06 h $\beta^+$ $\gamma$ 243; 47; 297; 807...	Tm 166 7,70 h $\beta^+$ 1,9... $\gamma$ 779; 2052; 184; 1274...	Tm 167 9,25 d $\beta^-$ $\gamma$ 532... m	Tm 168 93,1 d $\beta^-$ $\gamma$ 198; 816; 447...	Tm 169 100 $\sigma$ 103
Er 164 1,61 $\sigma$ 13	Er 165 10,3 h $\beta^-$ no $\gamma$	Er 166 33,6 $\sigma$ 15 + 5	Er 167 2,3 s $\beta^-$ $\gamma$ 208 $\sigma$ 670	Er 168 26,8 $\sigma$ 1,95
Ho 163 1,1 s $\beta^-$ no $\gamma$ ly 298	Ho 164 37 m $\beta^-$ 1,0 1,91 1,73 $\sigma$	Ho 165 100 $\sigma$ 3,5 + 63,0	Ho 166 1200 a $\beta^-$ 0,07 $\gamma$ 184; 810; 712... $\sigma$	Ho 167 3,1 h $\beta^-$ 0,3; 1,0... $\gamma$ 347; 321... g; m
Dy 162 25,5 $\sigma$ 180	Dy 163 24,9 $\sigma$ 130	Dy 164 28,2 $\sigma$ 1700 + 1000	Dy 165 1,3 m ly 108; $\sigma$ $\beta^-$ 0,9; 1,0... $\gamma$ 515... $\sigma$ 2100	Dy 166 81,5 h $\beta^-$ 0,4; 0,5... $\gamma$ 82; (426...) g
Tb 161 6,90 d $\beta^-$ 0,5; 0,6... $\gamma$ 26; 49; 75... $\sigma$	Tb 162 7,76 m $\beta^-$ 1,4; 2,4... $\gamma$ 260; 808; 888...	Tb 163 19,5 m $\beta^-$ 0,8; 1,3... $\gamma$ 351; 390; 494...	Tb 164 3,0 m $\beta^-$ 1,7; 3,0... $\gamma$ 169; 755; 215; 688; 611...	100
Gd 160 $\sigma$ 100	Gd 161 $\sigma$ 60	Gd 162 $\sigma$ 20		

# $^{166}\text{Ho}$ for (liver) tumor therapy



**K Utrechtse spin-off Quirem Medical de markt op met innovatieve holmiumtherapie**

Quirem Medical, een spin-off bedrijf van het Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht, brengt een nieuwe therapie voor leverkanker naar de Europese markt. Het gaat om een innovatieve behandeling met radioactieve holmiumbolletjes die onlangs het Europees CE-koumark heeft gekregen. De volgende stop is het verkrijgen van een FDA-goedkeuring voor de Amerikaanse markt.

Met zo'n vijftig klasse medische halfradioden en CE-toekenning is er zoiets van een bedrijf. Quirem Medical met Nijewier als CEO en medeoprichter Jan Sijger als Chief Executive Officer (CEO) dat innovatieve product ontwikkelen op de markt brengen. Nijewier: "Dat betekent nog niet dat het direct beschikbaar is voor alle ziekenhuizen, maar de markt ligt in ieder geval open voor ons."

**K Jan Sijger (l) en Frank Nijewier (r)**

Wetenschappers als (l) of (r) zijn anders gestopt. Valortola wordt daarom steeds meer gericht op de oogstel gezet in de medische accadeemische wereld. Als spin-off ondernemend Nijewier reikt border niet het UMC Utrecht: "Een groot voordeel is dat we graanmerklike omringing en ondersteuning kunnen doen en dat is super interessant omdat instellingen zoals STW, maar ook RIVM, steeds

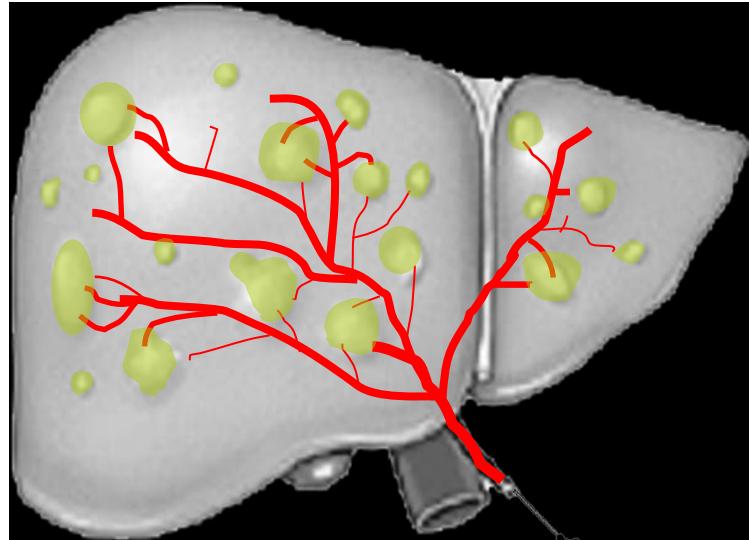
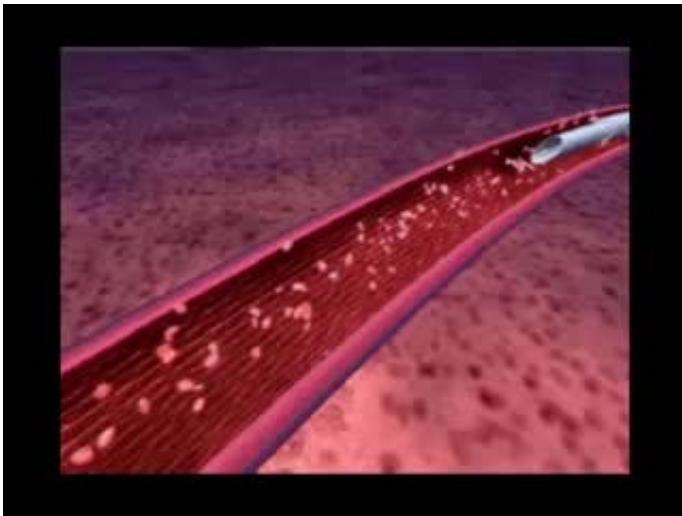
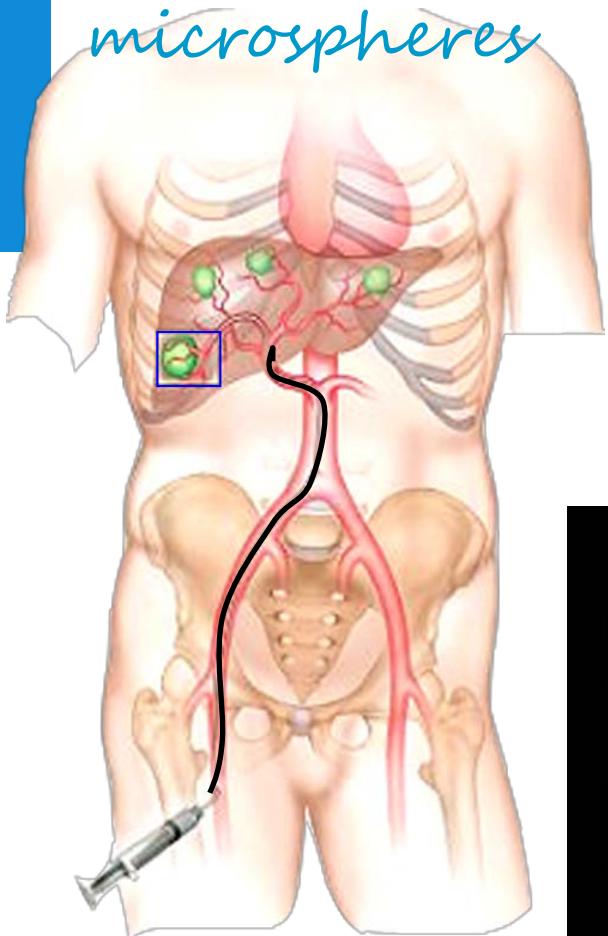
**K Fons Nijewier op kerntoxicologisch laboratorium**

**K Schermafbeelding weergave van een tumor**

**K Holmium bolletjes**

# $^{166}\text{Ho}$

## Treatment procedure



Liver:

- 70% portal vein
- 30% hepatic artery

Tumor:

- 99% hepatic artery

# Radiochemistry

## $^{166}\text{Ho}$ production

### Direct ( $n, \gamma$ ) method:



max. 0.3% of the  $^{165}\text{Ho}$  atoms absorb a neutron to change into  $^{166}\text{Ho}$ : this is not enough for receptor-targeting compounds  
("no problem" for microspheres or liposomes )

### Indirect method:



$^{166}\text{Dy}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 81.6 \text{ h}$ ). Separation with column of lanthanides-specific resin.

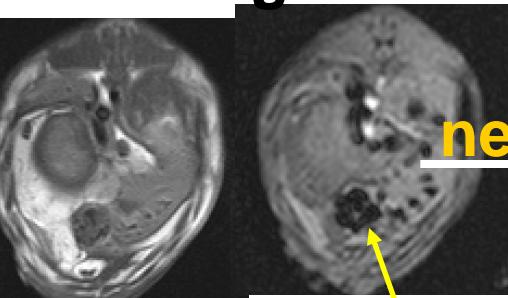
### Szilard-Chalmers method:



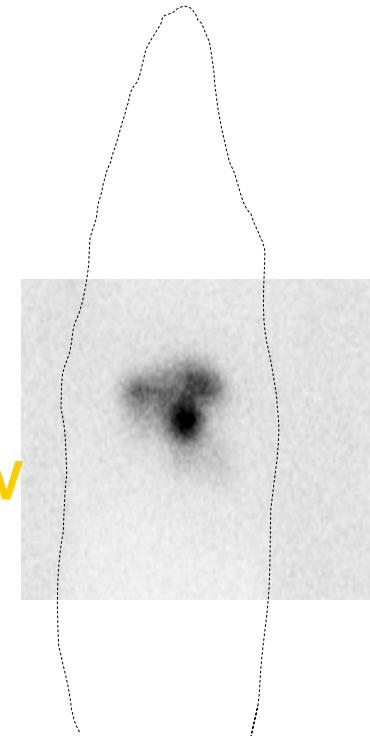
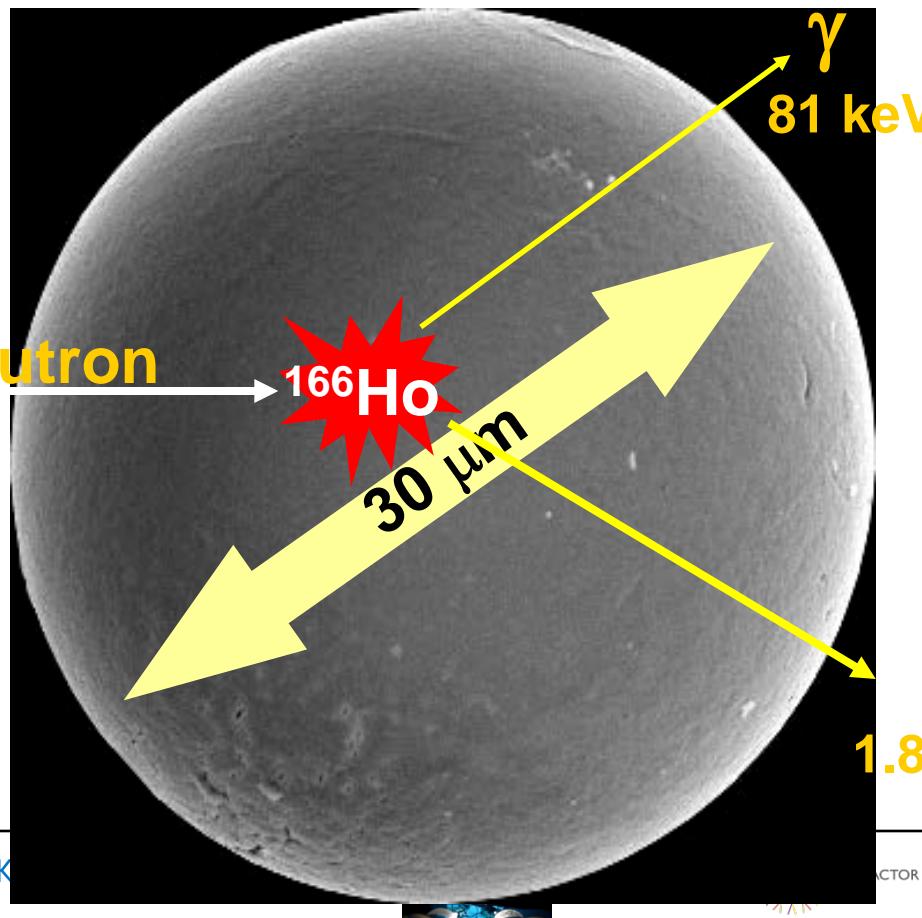


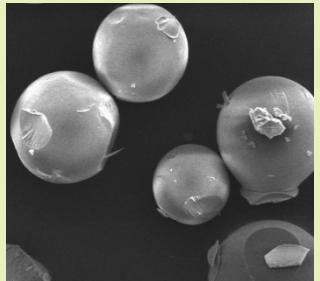
## Holmium poly(L-lactic acid) microsphere

Paramagnetic

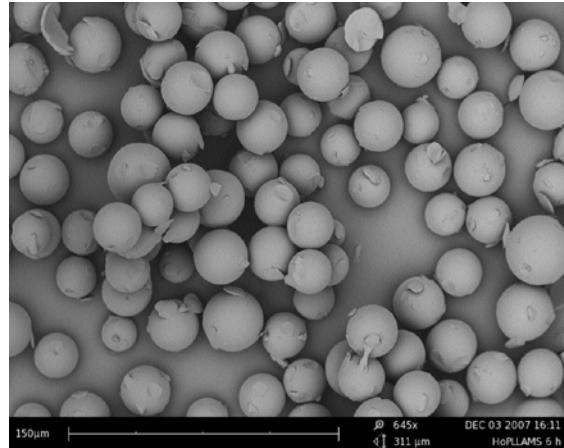


Accumulation of MS in  
and around tumor

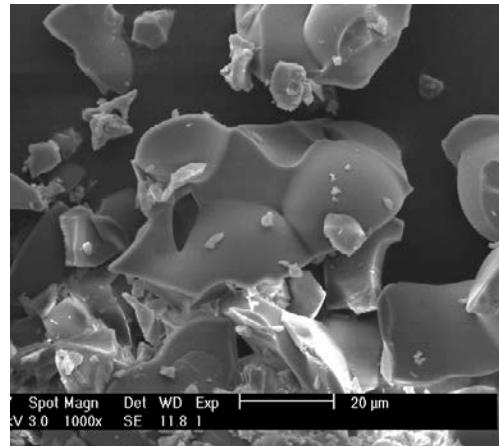
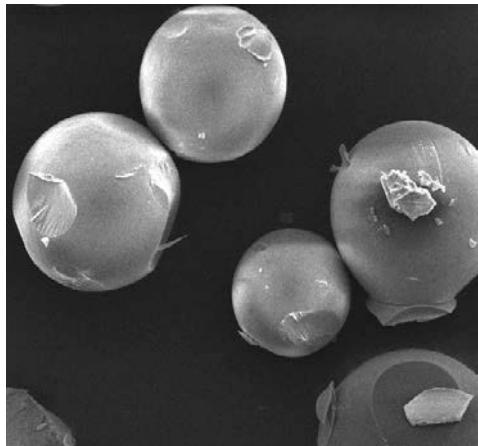




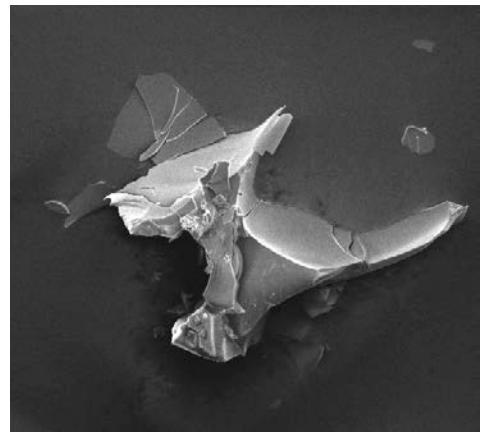
Delft 6 h,  $5 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ n.cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$



Petten 1 h,  $3 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ n.cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$



Petten 1 h,  $2 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ n.cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$

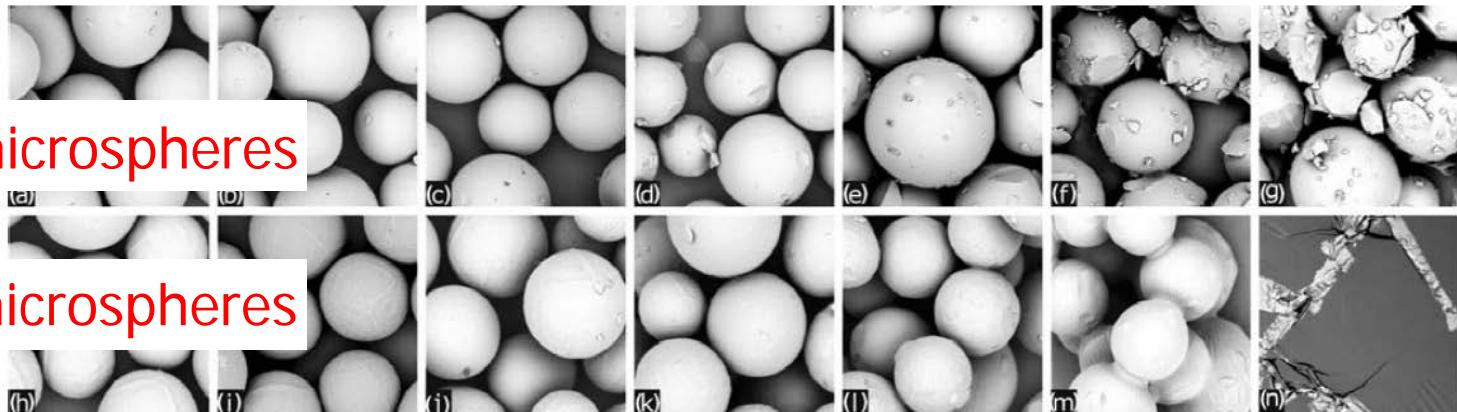


0      2      4      6      7      8      10 h

768

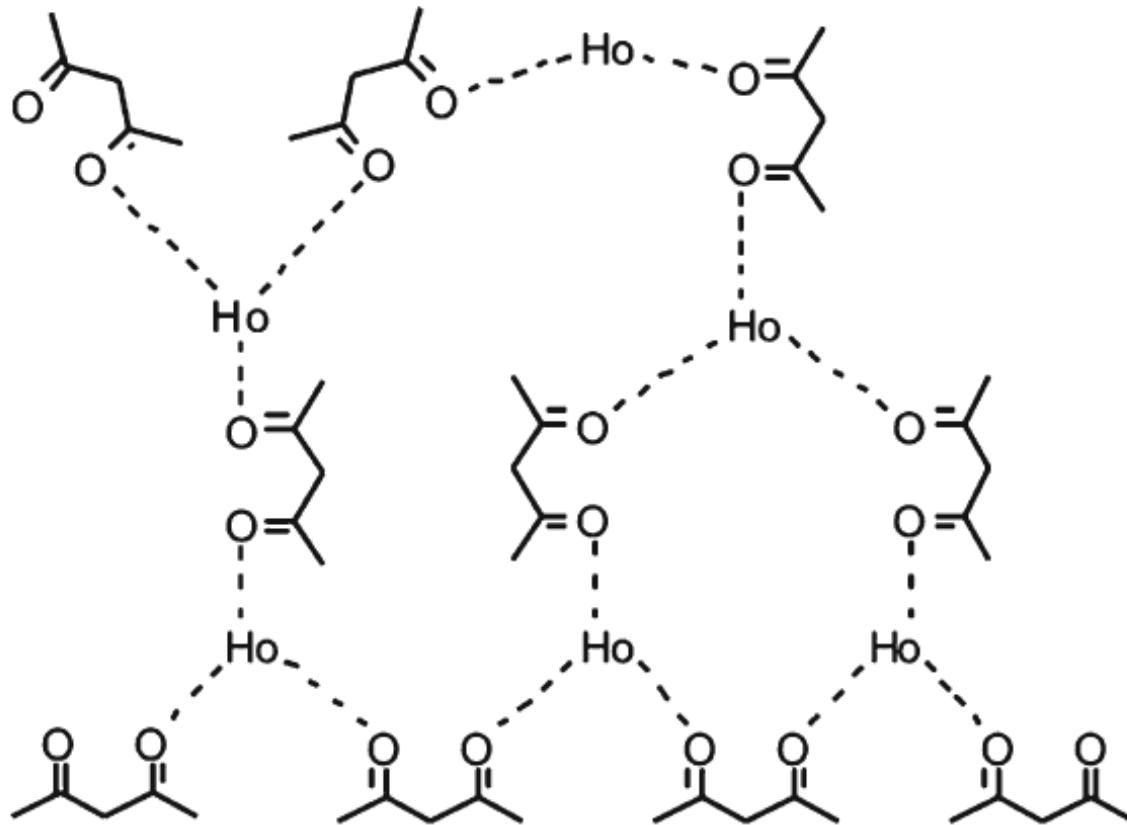
Biomed Microdevices (2009) 11:763–772

Ho-microspheres  
microspheres



**Fig. 4** (a–g) Scanning electron micrographs of Ho-PLLA-MS, neutron-irradiated for 0, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, or 10 h. In samples irradiated up to 7 h damage is absent or minor (a–e). On the dented surface of the 8-h irradiated microspheres small microsphere fragments are seen (f). Disintegration has progressed in the 10-h irradiated microspheres with many microspheres actually having been broken into several large chunks, and many smaller fragments visible as well (g); (h–n)

scanning electron micrographs of PLLA-MS, neutron-irradiated for 0, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, or 10 h. In samples irradiated up to 6 h damage is absent (h–k). In the 7-h irradiated samples a tendency to interfusion is observed (l). Microsphere fusion is more frequently seen in the 8-h-irradiated samples (m). In the 10-h irradiated samples microspheres had completely melted, and no identifiable remnants of microspheres were found (n)



**Fig. 3.** The proposed interaction of acetylacetone with holmium(III) ion in HoAcAc microspheres (coordinated water molecules not shown). Each acetylacetone carbonyl oxygen coordinates with a separate holmium(III) ion, linking two holmium(III) ions.

# Delft new facility

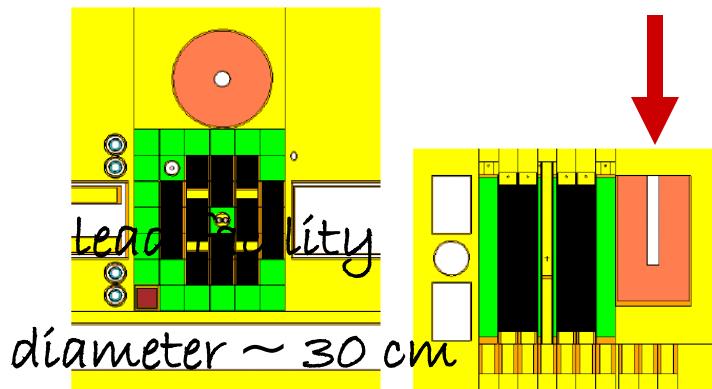


Fig. 1. Boven- en zij-aanzicht van de Ø30 cm loodpot boven het experimenteerrooster. De kleurcodering is: geel=water, groen = Be, wit = lucht/vacuüm, zwart= element, roze=lood, oranje =aluminium

Factor 100 decrease in gamma  
Factor 10 increase in neutrons

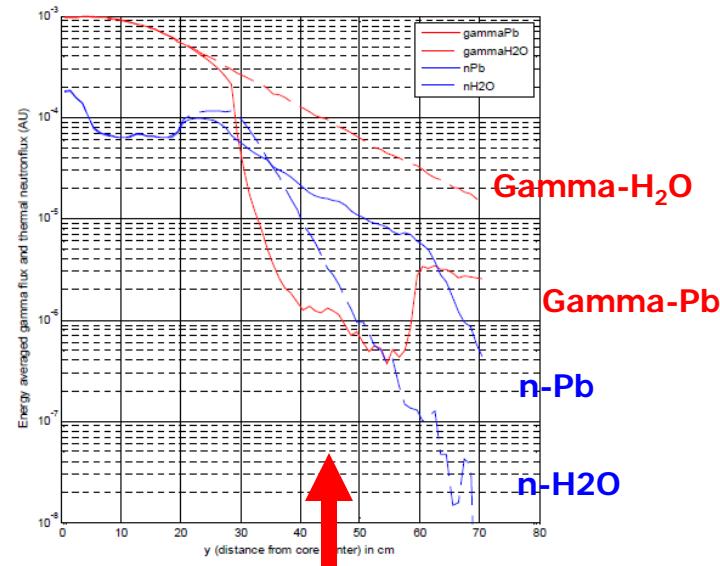


Fig. 2. Het effect van de loodpot op de energie-gemiddelde gammaflux en op de thermische neutronenflux als functie van de y coordinaat door het centrum van de kern. De loodpot (en de holte) is gecentreerd op  $y=44$  cm.



# Shielded facility

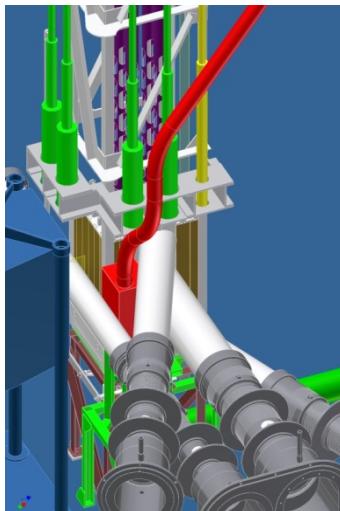
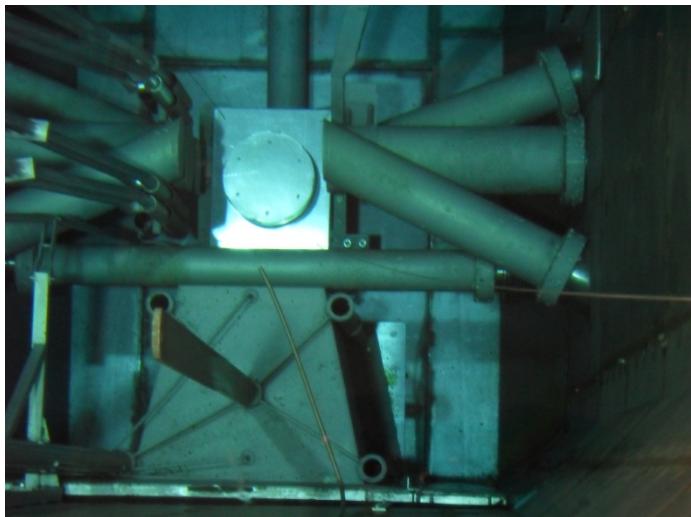
Reducing E deposition in targets (reducing  $\gamma$ )

increase in target mass

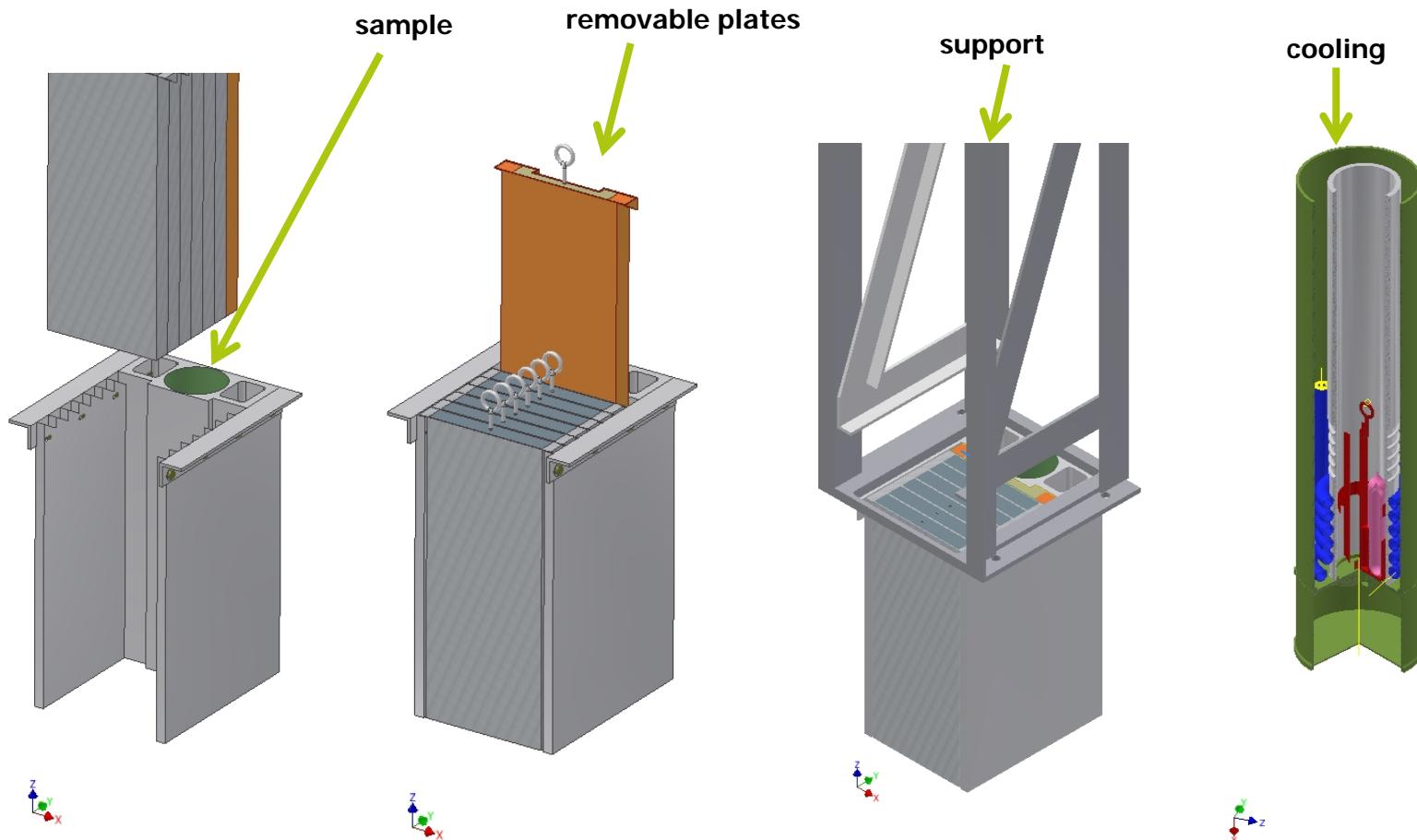
decrease in damage

Increasing  $\phi_{th}$  neutrons

increase in yield per unit of mass



# FLEXBeBe – semi-permanent facility



- Removable sheets composed of: Cd, Pb, Sc etc depending on the needs



# DIVA | Dutch Isotopes Valley