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Opportunities for International Collaboration in Laser Driven Ion Therapy (Turkey and Rumania) Ken Ledingham

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Towards Laser Driven Hadron Cancer Radiotherapy: A Review of Progress Applied Sciences, 4, 402-443,2014

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C-M Ma et al

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The Turkish Team consists of :

- 1) 3 Physicists,
- 2) 3 Inorganic and Biochemists,
- 3) 2 Pathologists
- 4) 5 Surgeons of different specialities
- 5) 2 Tissue biologists
- 6) 2 Oncologists

Before this kind of research is permitted, this must be passed by Ethics committee which was passed on the 26th November 2013 I lead an International Consortium trying to site a centre for laser driven proton/heavy ion therapy somewhere in the world

Last year I was invited to lead a Russian site in Nizhny Novgorod but finally we were not funded

I have a contract to help site this in Turkey

Cancer Statistics

- 4% of people in developed countries are diagnosed with cancer each year
- 50% of these receive radiotherapy (X-rays) and surgery or both
- 100,000 patients have been treated with hadron therapy (protons and carbon ions)

Two Important Quotes

- Ugo Amaldi NIM A620, 563, 2010
- If 200 MeV proton accelerators would be as cheap and small as the 10 MeV electron linacs used in conventional radiotherapy, at least 90% of the patients would be treated with proton beams.
- Charlie Ma Med.Phys.33, 571-573, (2006)
- Within the Next Decade Conventional Cyclotrons for Proton Therapy will become obsolete and replaced by far less expensive Machines using Compact laser systems for the Acceleration of the protons.

There are 39 Conventional **Accelerator Proton-Heavy Therapy Centres around the** World

Proton and ion therapy in Europe







Ion Therapy is a tissue sparing therapy

Bragg peak



At present 99% of radiotherapy is done with photons What proton energy do we need for deep sited tumours e.g. in stomach? 250 MeV

For Ocular tumours

70 MeV

Dose distribution

With X ray radiotherapy

By protontherapy



Tissue Sparing

Dose Difference Between Xrays and Carbon lons



Ultrahard X-rays



Carbon ions

Orbital Rhabdomyosarcoma

X-Rays

Protons



Courtesy T. Yock, N. Tarbell, J. Adams

Example of proton therapy for a rare orbital tumour in a child. The xray comparison shows that the beam deposits radiation in a much wider area with consequent risks of future toxicity such as bilateral blindness.

The Story of Ashya King

Ashya King (5 years old) lives in Southampton UK and was being treated for a brain tumour in the UK.

He was removed from the hospital by his parents a year ago and fled to Prague for proton therapy



Ashya King Family. Ashya is one of seven siblings aged 5



Proton Cyclotron in Prague for proton therapy



Milestones

1999 – Vision to build a Proton Center in Prague, The Czech Republic.

2004 – Initiation of preparation and planning for the project 2006 – Initiation of design work

2007, April – Municipal decision (05/04/2007)

2008, June – Building permit (09/06/ 2008)

2009, May – Building started (01/05/ 2009)

2010, June – Fabric completed (24/07/2010)

2011, April – Installation of the cyclotron

2012, December – 1st treatment room became operational and treatment of first patients commenced

2013, January – 2nd treatment room became operational 2013 – Gradual operation of the 3rd, 4th and 5th treatment rooms and continuous



The proton treatment in the Czech republic was partially funded by the UK charity Kids "n" Cancer for £100,000



Diagnostics at the proton therapy Centre in Prague

Proton therapy Centre Prague. The patient is fixed and proton beam is rotated around the patient to irradiate all sides of a tumour





Ashya King: Inside the Prague Proton Therapy Centre where British five-year-old was treated



Difference between conventional X-ray therapy and proton therapy showing tissue and organ sparing



Ashya leaving hospital after proton treatment lasting six weeks

Laser Driven Proton Beams Beams

Where are we?

Laser particle acceleration mechanisms Protons: Target Normal Sheath Acceler (TNSA)



The laser light:

- focused to $(10 \ \mu m)^2$
- creates a plasma at the front surface of the foil (Ti: 2 μm)

The electrons:

- propagate through the foil
- exit the foil
- build up a quasistatic electric field

The electric field:

- ionizes the rear surface of the foil
- accelerates the protons

Proton Spectra from 100TW



TNSA proton acceleration from micron foils leads to a continuous spectrum with upper energy levels of about 70 MeV and this has not changed for more than ten years.

Research on laser particle acceleration Radiator target development

- Increase of proton energy at given laser power
- From exponential to (quasi) monochromatic energy spectra
- Low divergence beams



H. Schwoerer et al.: Nature 439 (2006) 445

Snow Targets

Zigler et al

PRL 110, 215004 2013

Snow Targets on Sapphire Substrates





Snow targets look like pillars and when the laser strikes the pillars/teeth the proton acceleration is not typically TNSA in nature

Proton Energy as a function of Laser Power





Gantries for conventional accelerator 100 tons and an optical gantry which is very compact, light using mirrors Opportunities for International Collaboration in Laser Ion Therapy

You need clinicians, physicists, pathologists, tissue scientists all working in concert The first potential research project in Turkey by the Turkish/Strathclyde Collaboration is using a laser to differentiate between healthy and cancerous tissue.

This will be carried out using laser desorption mass spectrometry and principal component analysis



The edges of the tumour in blue are clear against the green healthy tissue

The edges of the tumour in blue against the green healthy tissue



Diagram of the stomach and esophagus









Tumour Removed from Stomach and Esophagus operation in Selcuk Hospital, Konya



The surgeon removed about a 1mm section of the esophagus and sent to pathologists. It takes about 30 mins to check whether the tissue is cancerous or healthy.

The Surgeon wants an intraoperative real time technique to reduce time under anaesthetic or to reduce number of resections.



Laser Desorption of Molecules which are then vacuumed up and analysed by Mass Spectrometer and the Principal Components measured

Zoltan Takats et al Anal Chem 2011,83,1632 IC



Laser Desorption Mass Spectra of Healthy and Cancerous Tissue



A liver spectrum taken at 355 nm showing prominent peaks at m/z =700, 723, 749 and 885. These are the Principal Components. The PC ratios are calculated



Principal Component Differences between Healthy Tissues



Principal Component Differences between Healthy and Cancerous Tissue

Thank you for listening

Content of Talk







- 1. Conventional accelerators for proton therapy
- 2. Recent Laser particle acceleration mechanisms and results
- 3. Intraoperative Laser Desorption of healthy and cancerous











