



Deutsche  
Gesellschaft  
für Nuklearmedizin  
e.V.



**Translational Research  
in Molecular Imaging and Radionuclid Therapy**

August 25 – 27, 2016

**SPECT/CT**

Martin Gotthardt

Radboud University Medical Centre, Department of Radiology and  
Nuclear Medicine, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

## Overview:

### •Why SPECT?

- The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT
- Development of a radiotracer for SPECT imaging: from bench to bedside
- Quantitative imaging with SPECT: why not?

## SPECT/CT – why SPECT ?

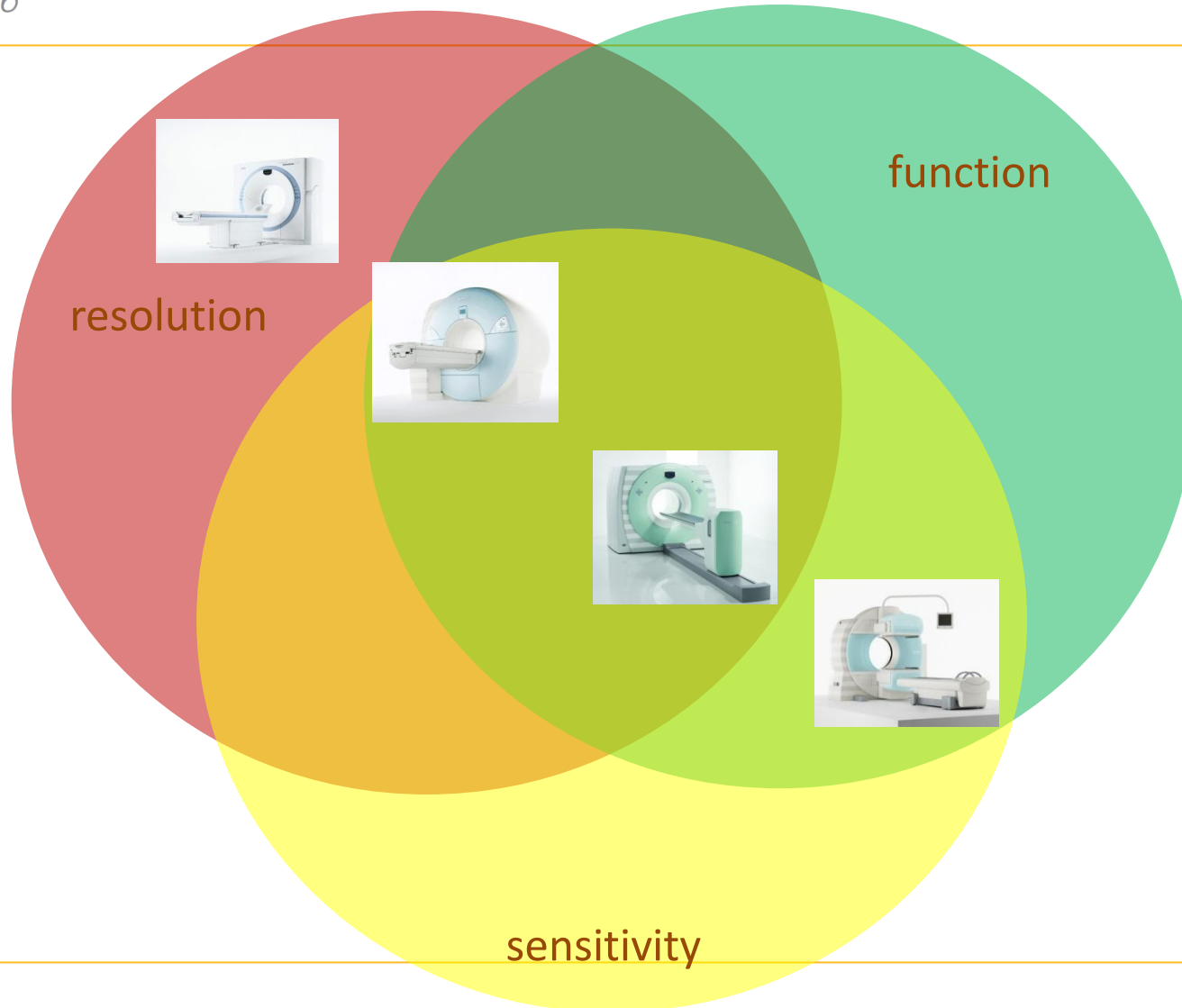
- We all know that PET is better, so why should anyone be interested in using SPECT???

- Availability
- Price
- Radiolabeling comparatively easy
- No cyclotrone needed
- Generator nuclides or nuclides with long half life available

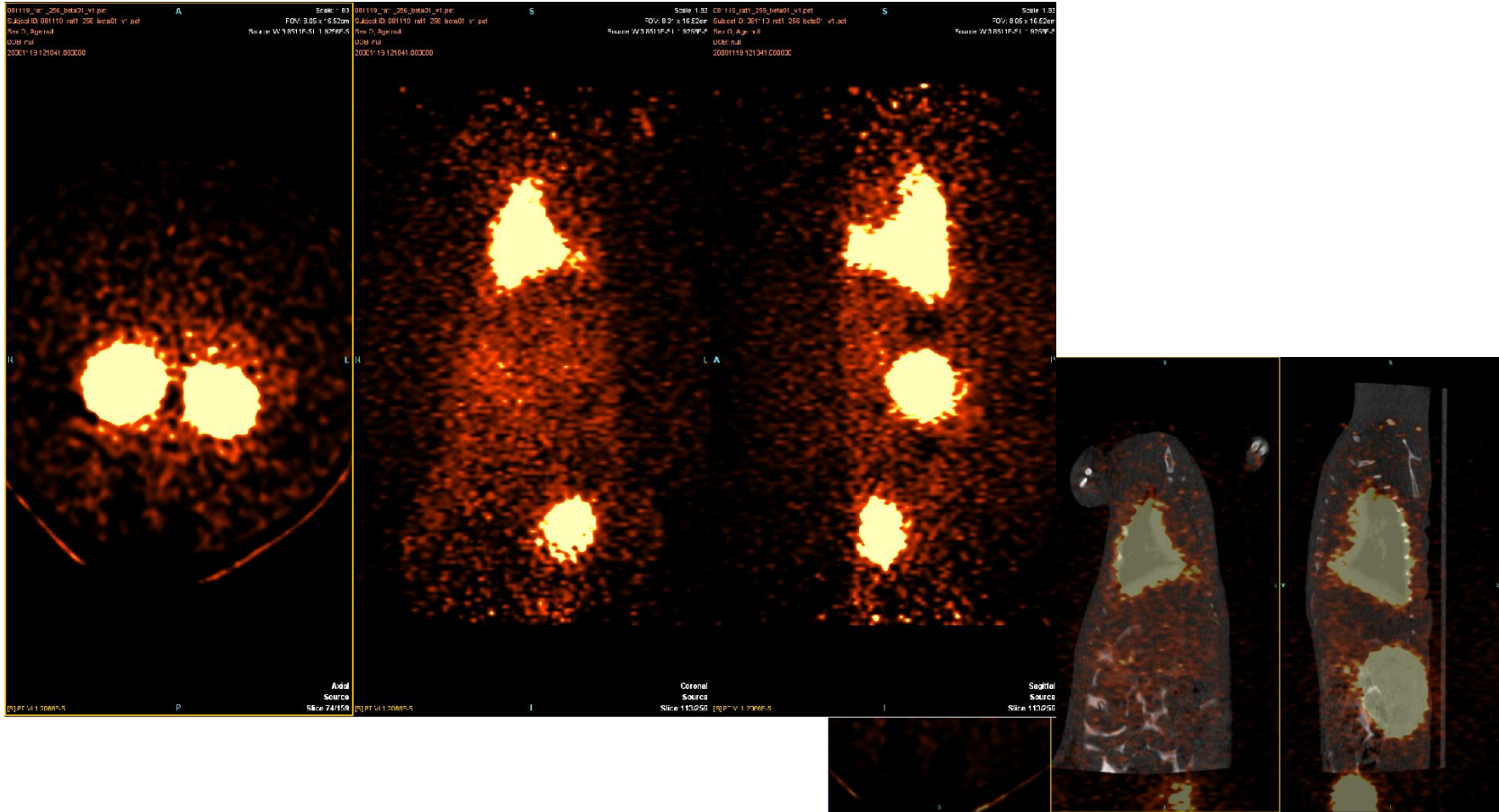
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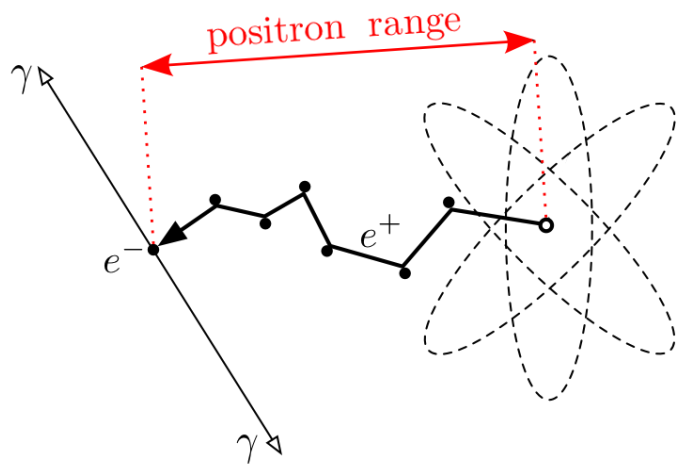
# The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT



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$e^+$  positron

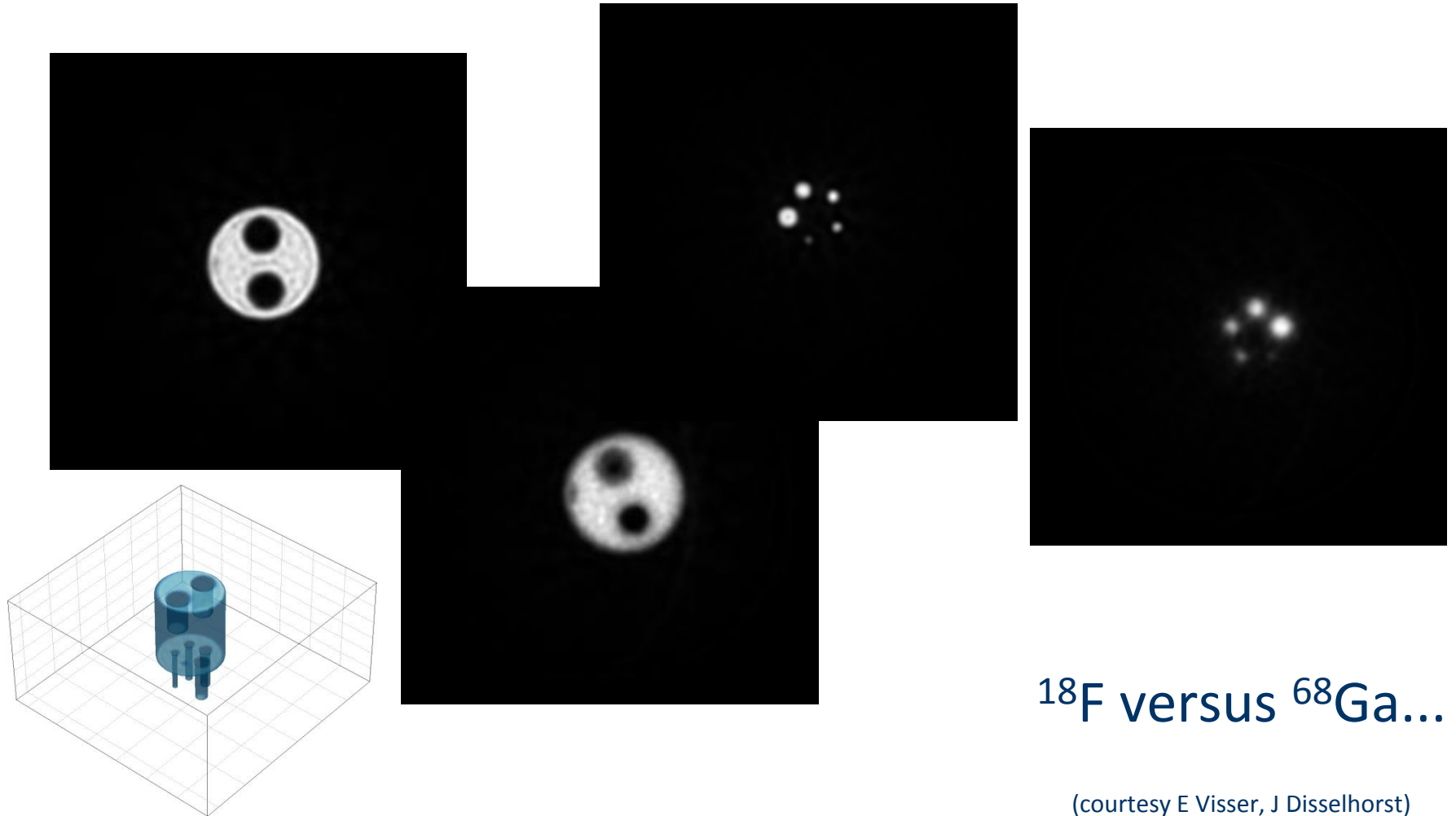
$e^-$  electron

$\gamma$  gamma (511keV)

Isotope	Mean Energy (MeV)	FWHM (mm)	FWTM (mm)
<b><math>^{18}\text{F}</math></b>	<b>0.250</b>	<b>1.67</b>	<b>3.11</b>
$^{64}\text{Cu}$	0.278	1.71	3.21
$^{52}\text{Fe}$	0.340	1.81	3.50
$^{11}\text{Cu}$	0.386	1.88	3.77
$^{89}\text{Zr}$	0.396	1.91	3.80
$^{13}\text{N}$	0.492	2.06	4.43
$^{61}\text{Cu}$	0.500	2.08	4.47
$^{73}\text{Se}$	0.564	2.22	4.94
$^{55}\text{Co}$	0.570	2.18	4.91
$^{86}\text{Y}$	0.661	2.27	5.38
$^{15}\text{O}$	0.735	2.50	6.30
<b><math>^{124}\text{I}</math></b>	<b>0.820</b>	<b>2.70</b>	<b>6.86</b>
<b><math>^{68}\text{Ga}</math></b>	<b>0.830</b>	<b>2.74</b>	<b>7.11</b>
$^{19}\text{Ne}$	0.963	2.96	8.27
$^{52}\text{Mn}$	1.172	3.50	10.20
$^{76}\text{Br}$	1.180	2.52	8.92
$^{134}\text{La}$	1.203	3.74	10.58
$^{38}\text{K}$	1.214	3.56	10.56
$^{62}\text{Cu}$	1.314	3.89	11.55
$^{82}\text{Rb}$	1.479	4.29	13.05
$^{120}\text{I}$	1.700	4.38	14.66

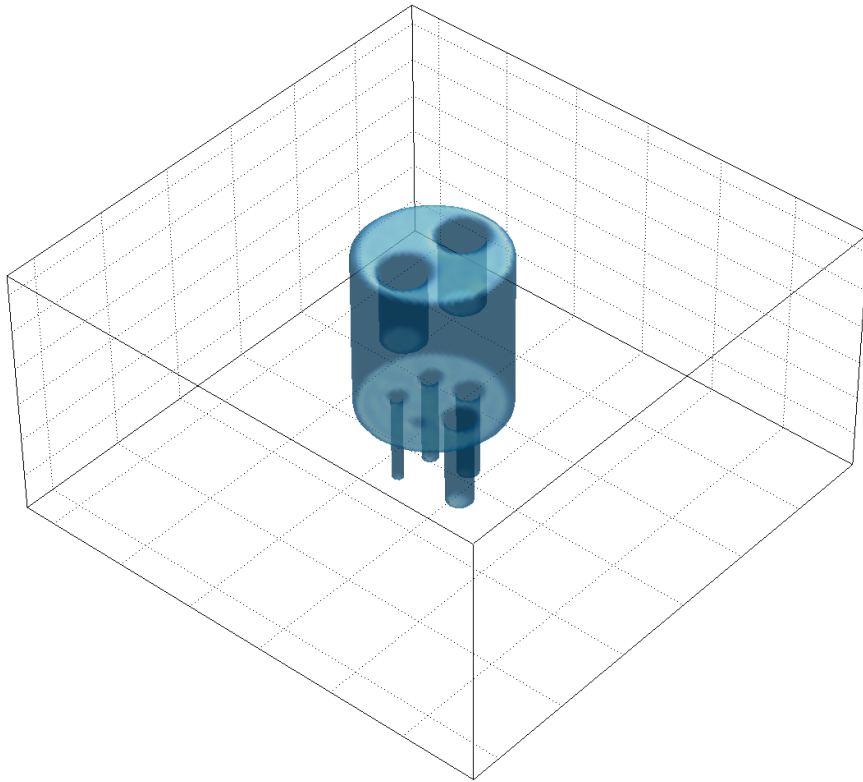


# The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT



(courtesy E Visser, J Disselhorst)

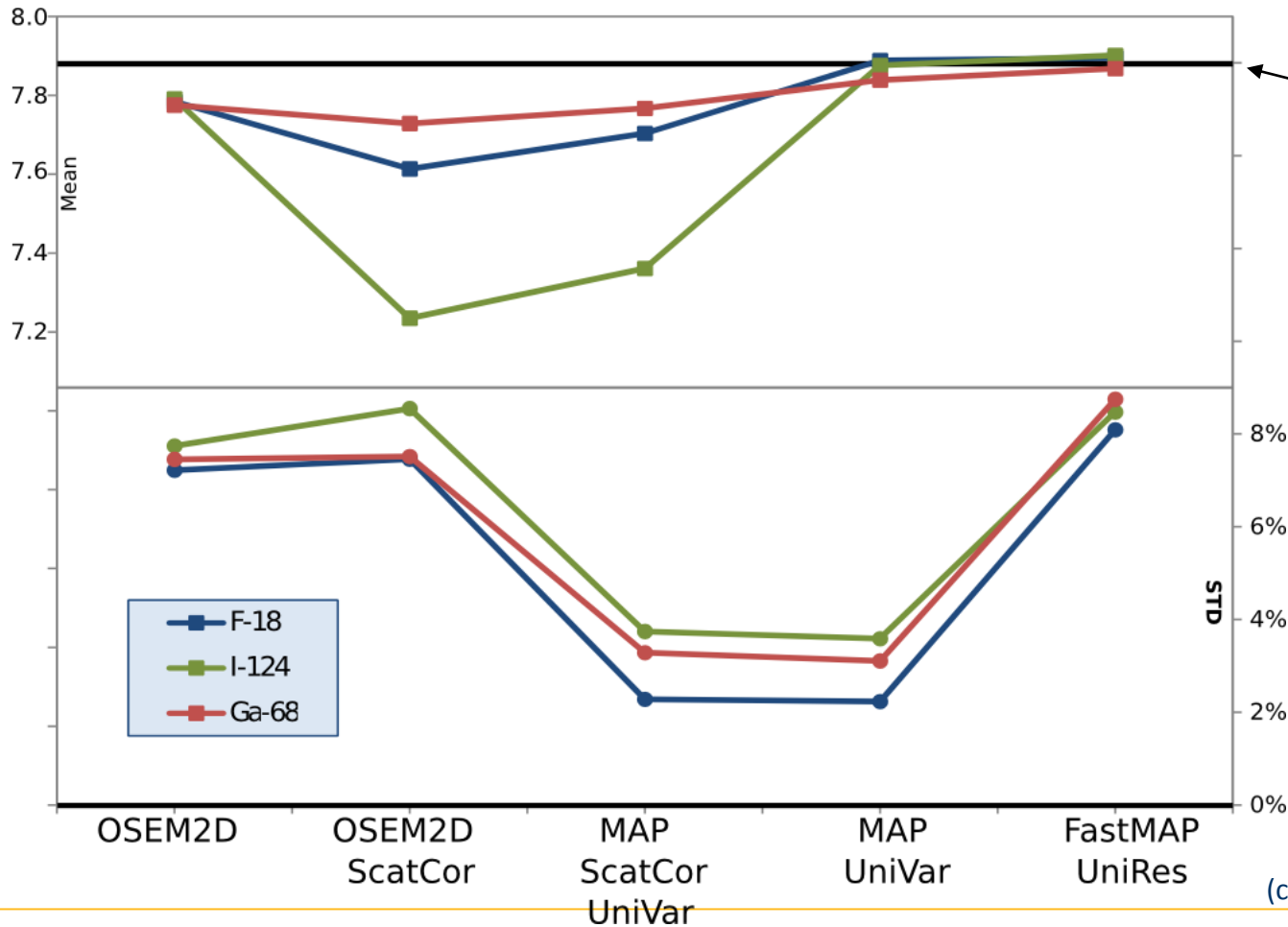
# The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT



Uniform Area  
Cylinder with uniform activity

(courtesy E Visser, J Disselhorst)

# The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT

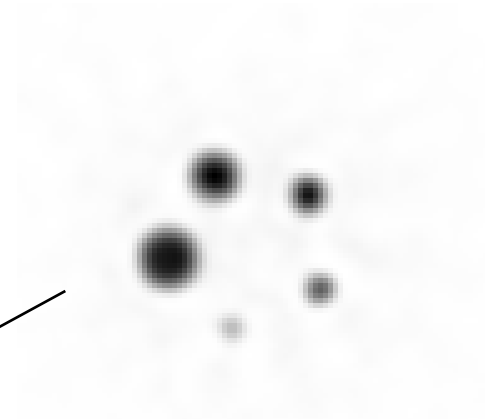
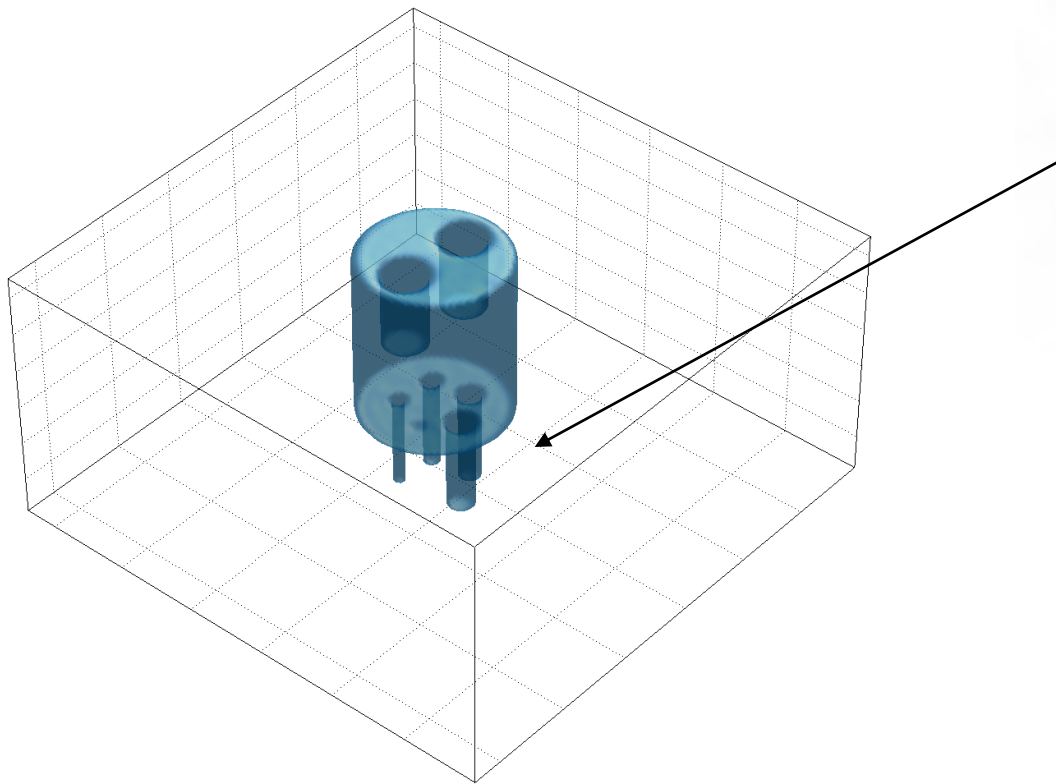


Closer to = Better

Lower = Better

(courtesy E Visser, J Disselhorst)

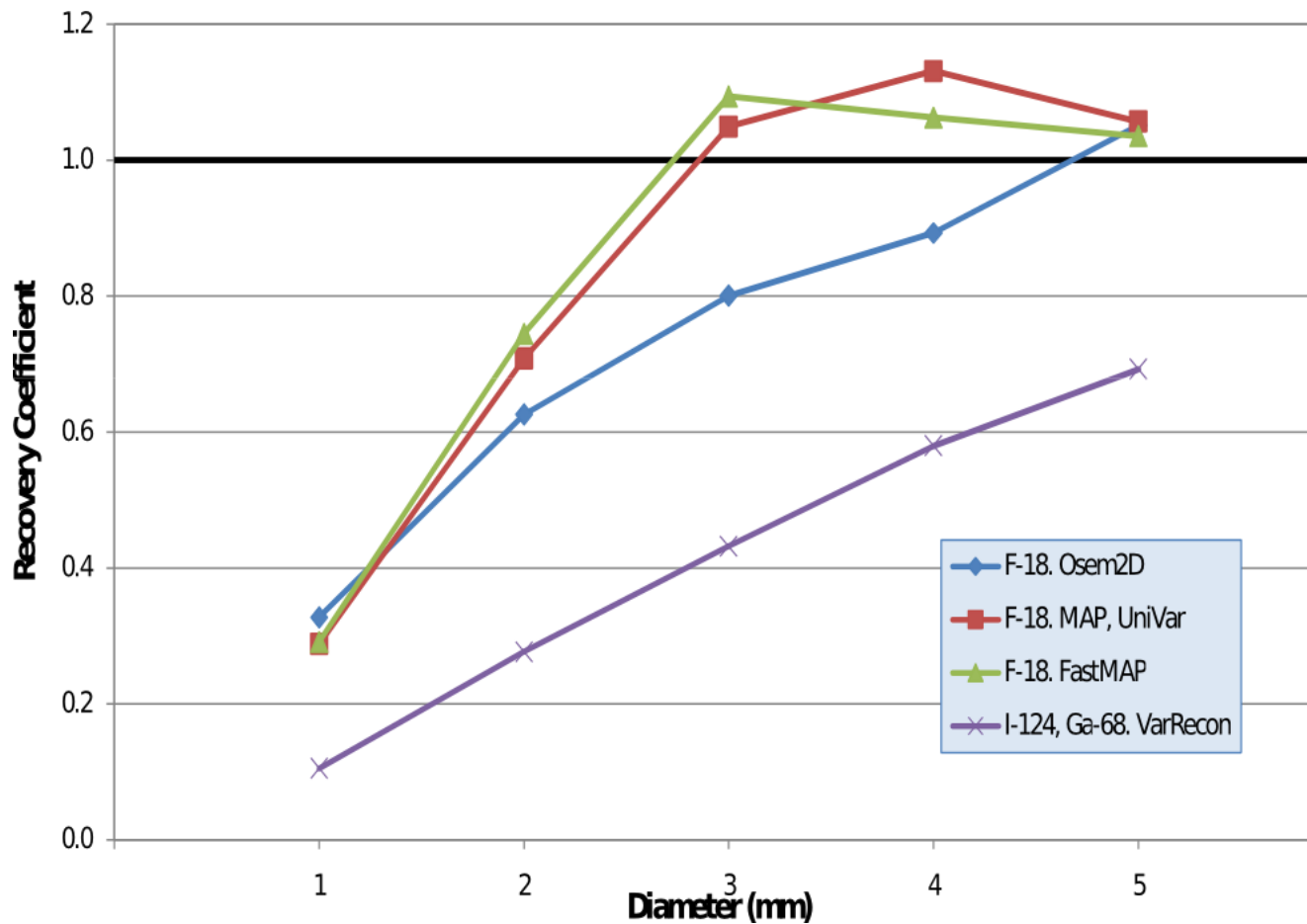
# The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT



**Recovery**  
**5 Rods (1-5 mm diameter)**  
**in cold background**

(courtesy E Visser, J Disselhorst)

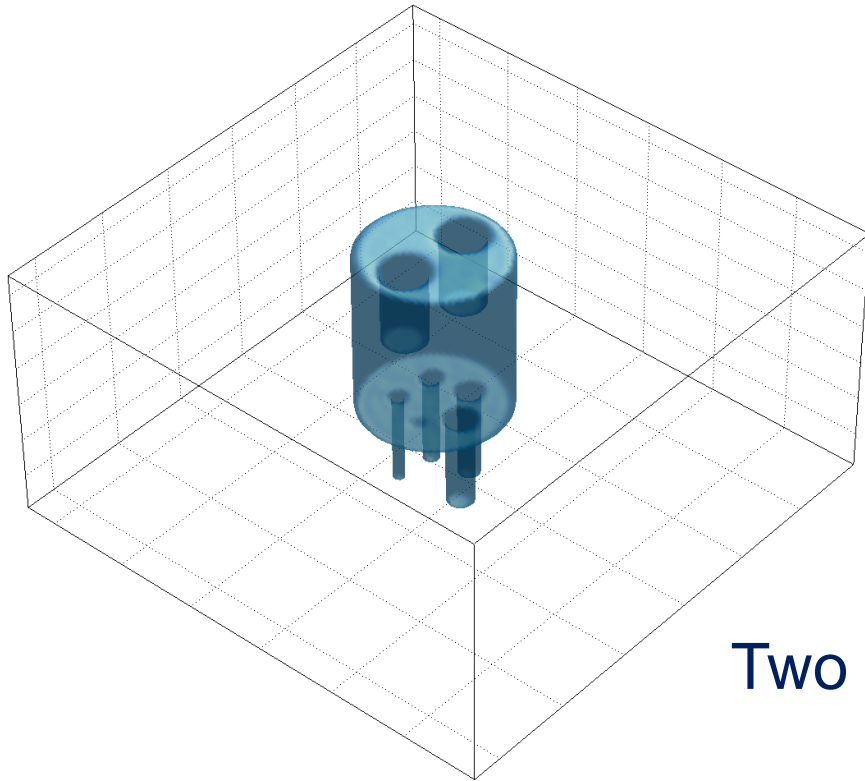
# The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT



Close to 1  
=  
Better

(courtesy E Visser, J Disselhorst)

# The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT

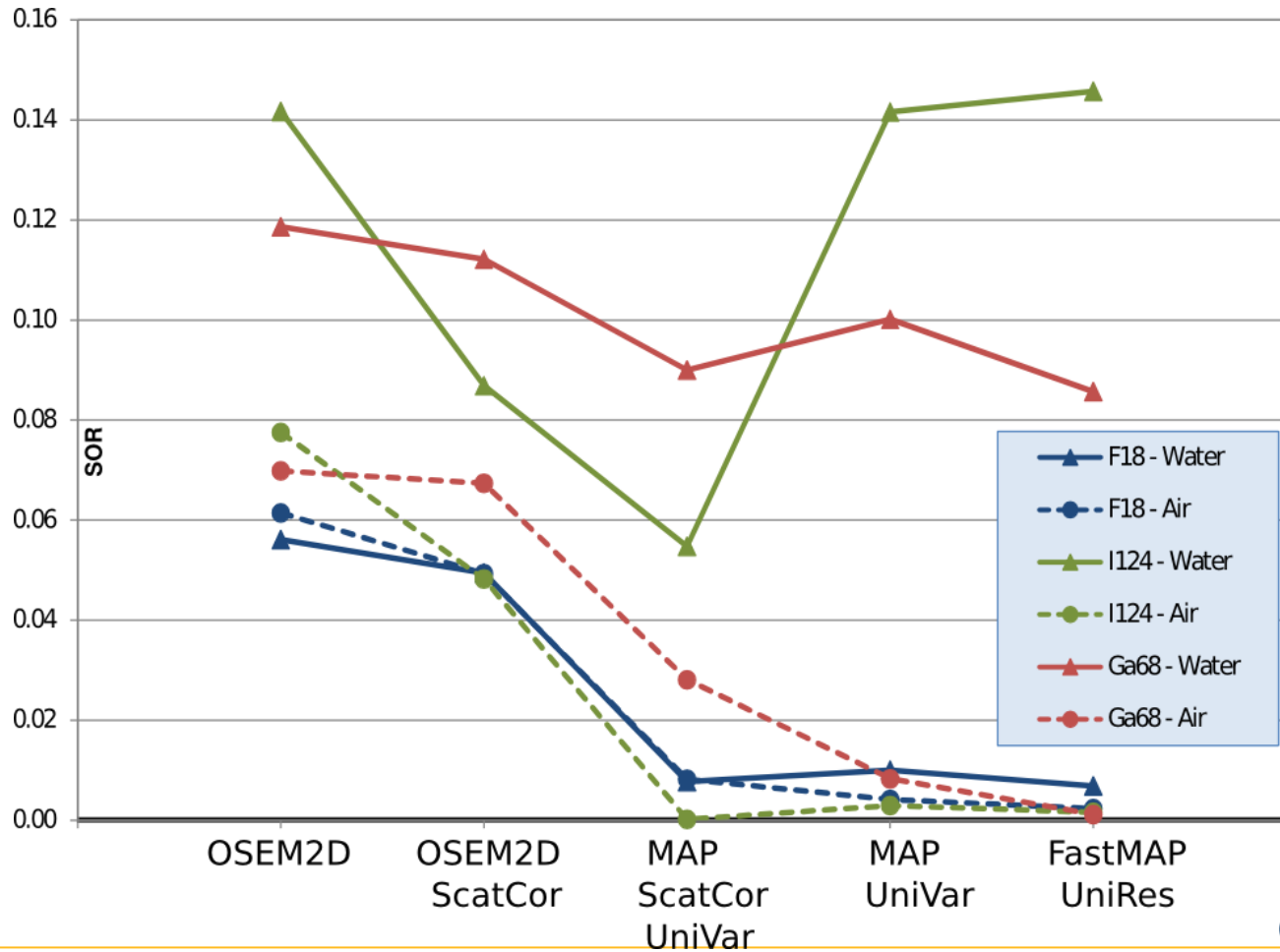


## Spill Over Ratio

Two cold cylinders (one water, one air),  
uniform background

(courtesy E Visser, J Disselhorst)

# The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT



Lower  
=  
Better

(courtesy E Visser, J Disselhorst)

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- Synthesis of the ligand
- Radiolabeling
  - Procedure, yield, pitfalls
- In vitro characterization
  - Stability, affinity, specificity, internalization
- In vivo characterization
  - Biodistribution, specificity of target uptake, physiologic uptake, dose effects, preclinical imaging
- Phase I studies
  - Safety, Radiation dose estimation, physiologic uptake, preliminary diagnostic evaluation

## Exendin-4 (1-39) for imaging of beta cells in diabetes



His- Ser- Asp- Gly- Thr- Phe- Thr-  
Ser- Asp- Leu- Ser- Lys- Gln-Met-  
Glu- Glu- Glu- Ala- Val- Arg- Leu-  
Phe- Ile- Glu- Trp- Leu-Lys- Asn-  
Gly- Gly- Pro- Ser- Ser- Gly- Ala-  
Pro- Pro- Pro- Ser-NH<sub>2</sub>

(homologies to GLP-1 in red)

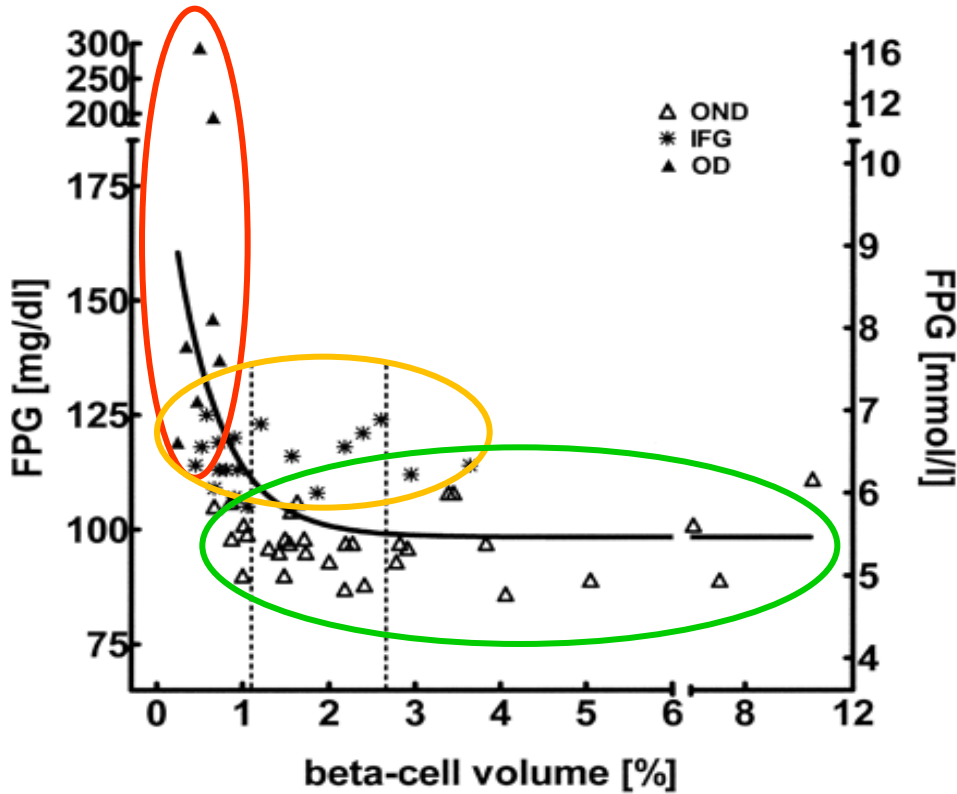
Radiometal labeling:

**Exendin-4-Lys<sub>40</sub>-[e-AHX-DTPA]**

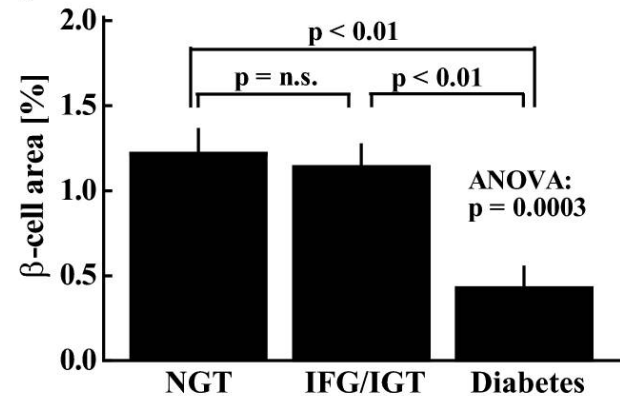
But first of all

**Why, oh why...?**

Diabetes is a clinical diagnosis in the end!



OGTT prior to pancreatectomy  
8 NGT, 14 IGT/IFG, 11 DM



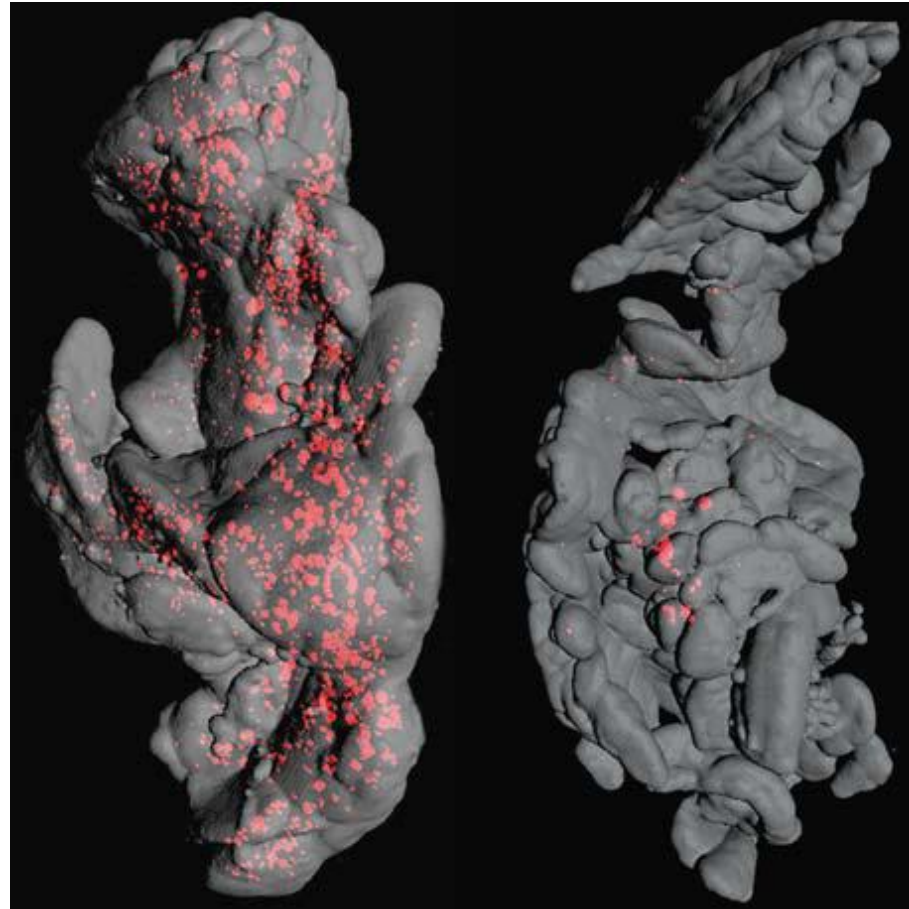
Juris J. Meier et al., Diabetes (2009) 58:1595-1603

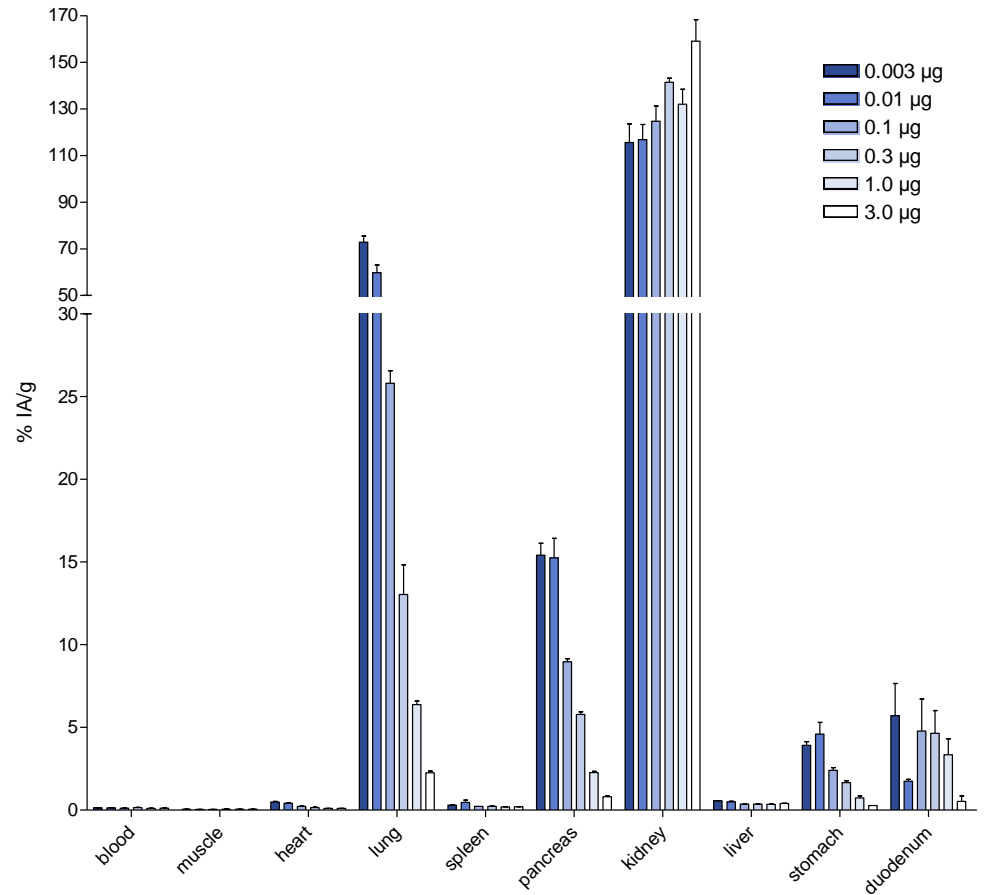
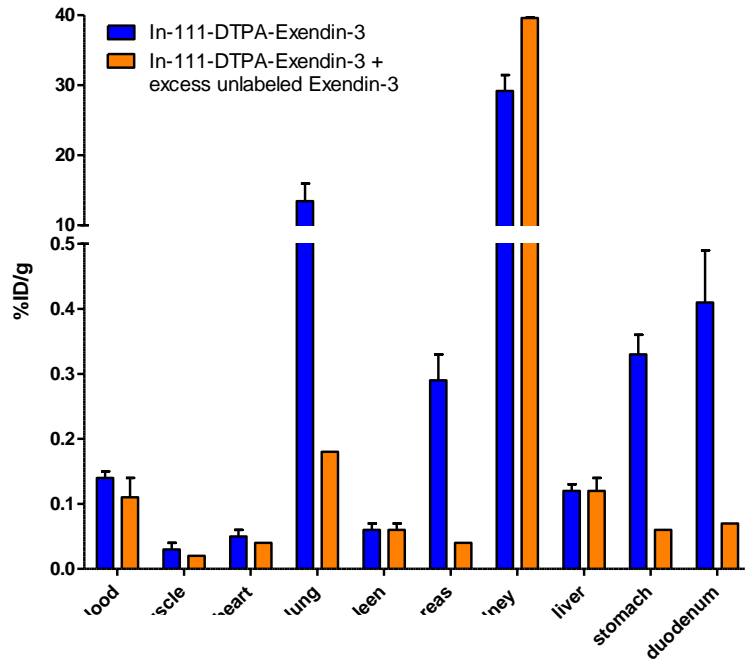
Ritzel RA et al., Diabetes Care. 2006 Mar;29(3):717-8.

# Development of a radiotracer for SPECT imaging: from bench to bedside **THE CHALLENGE**

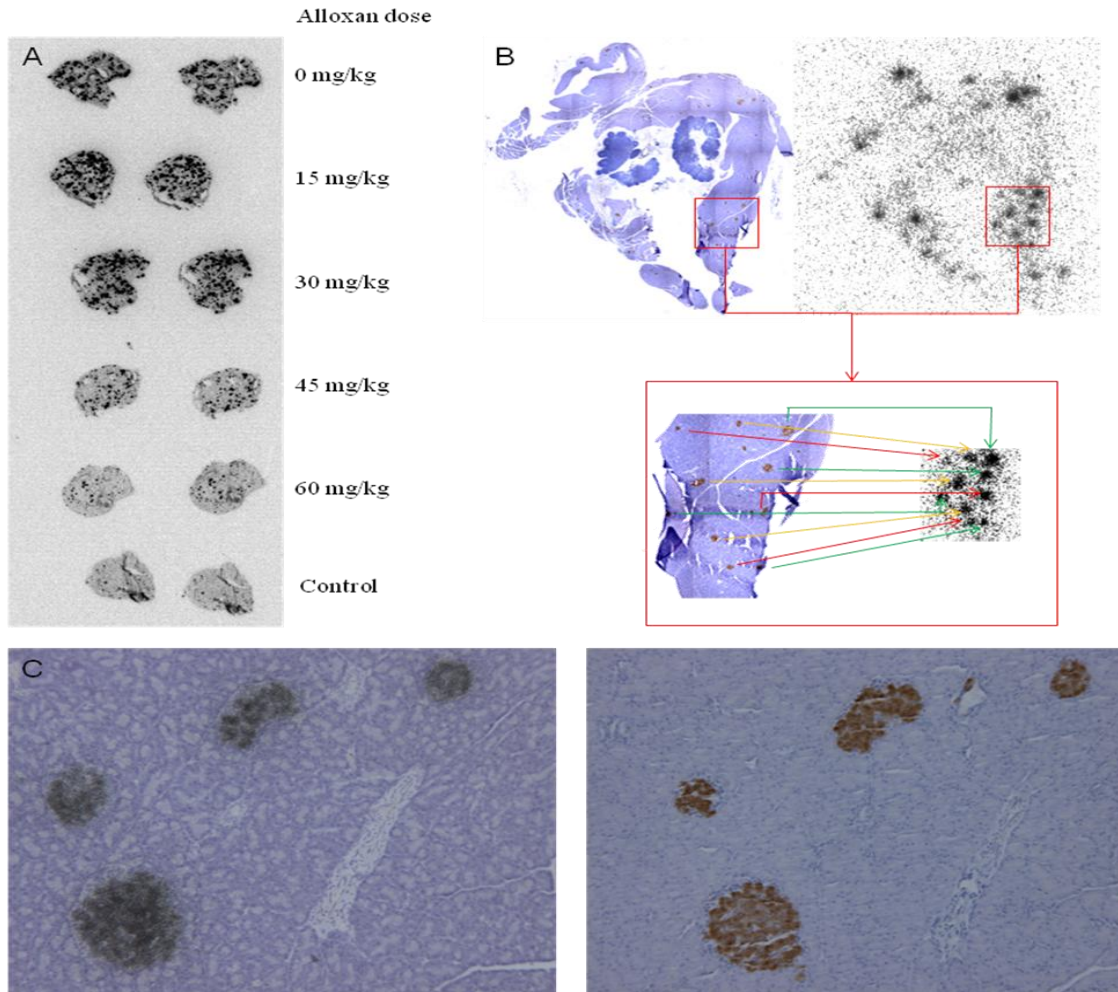
Ahlgren U, Gotthardt M. Approaches for imaging islets: recent advances and future prospects. *Adv Exp Med Biol* 2010;654:39-57

Image by T. Alanentalo and U. Ahlgren



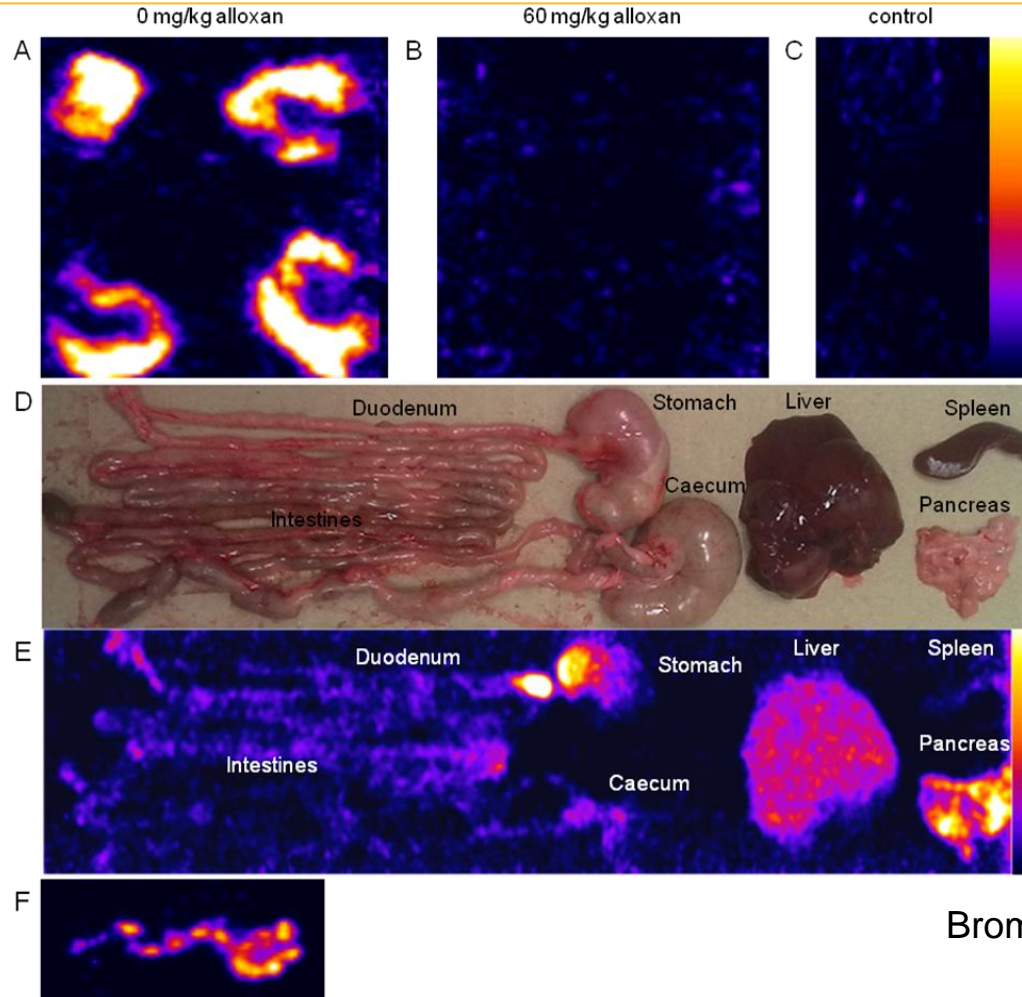


# Development of a radiotracer for SPECT imaging: from bench to bedside



Brom et al., Diabetologia 57, 950-959 (2014);

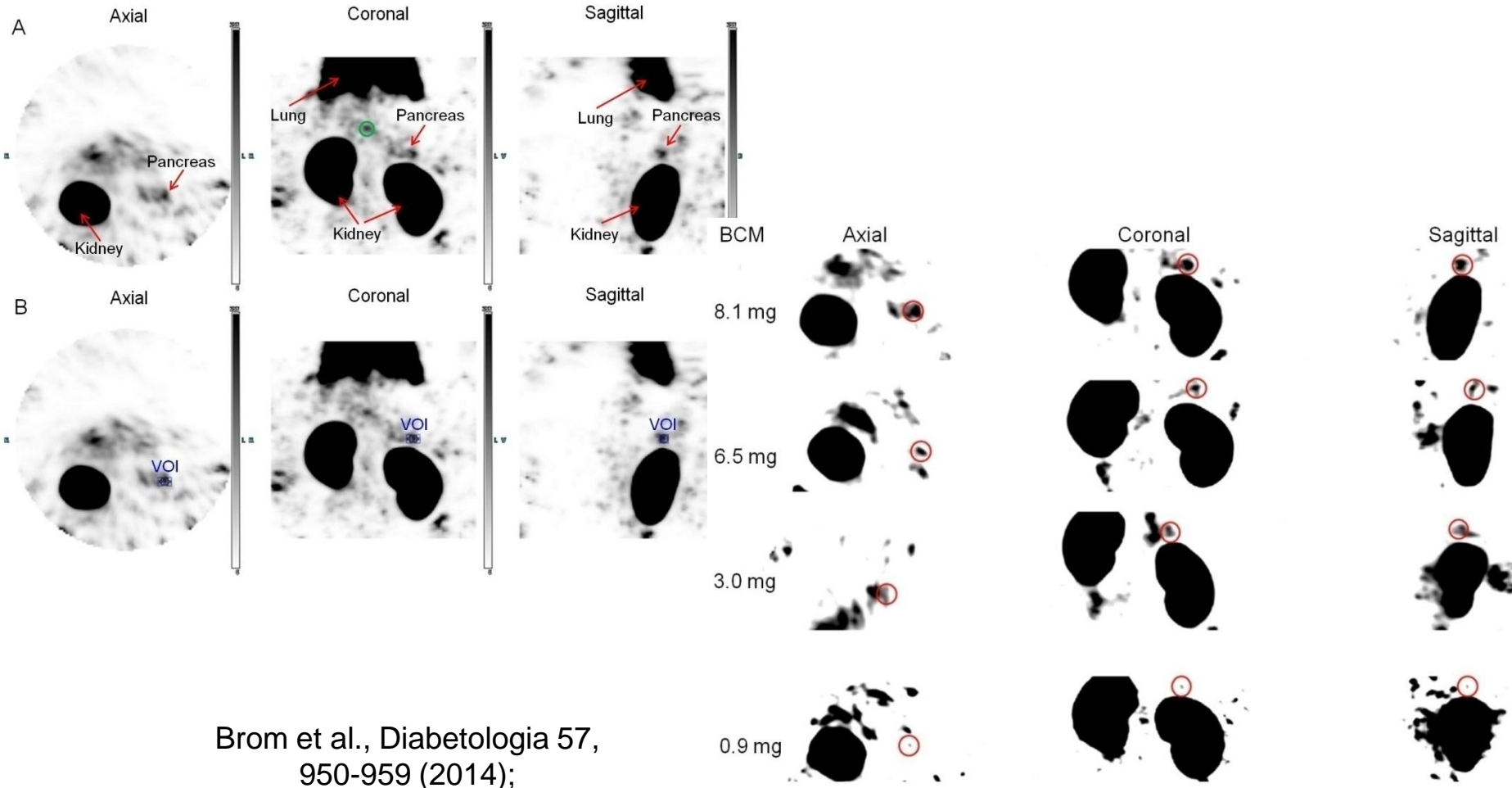
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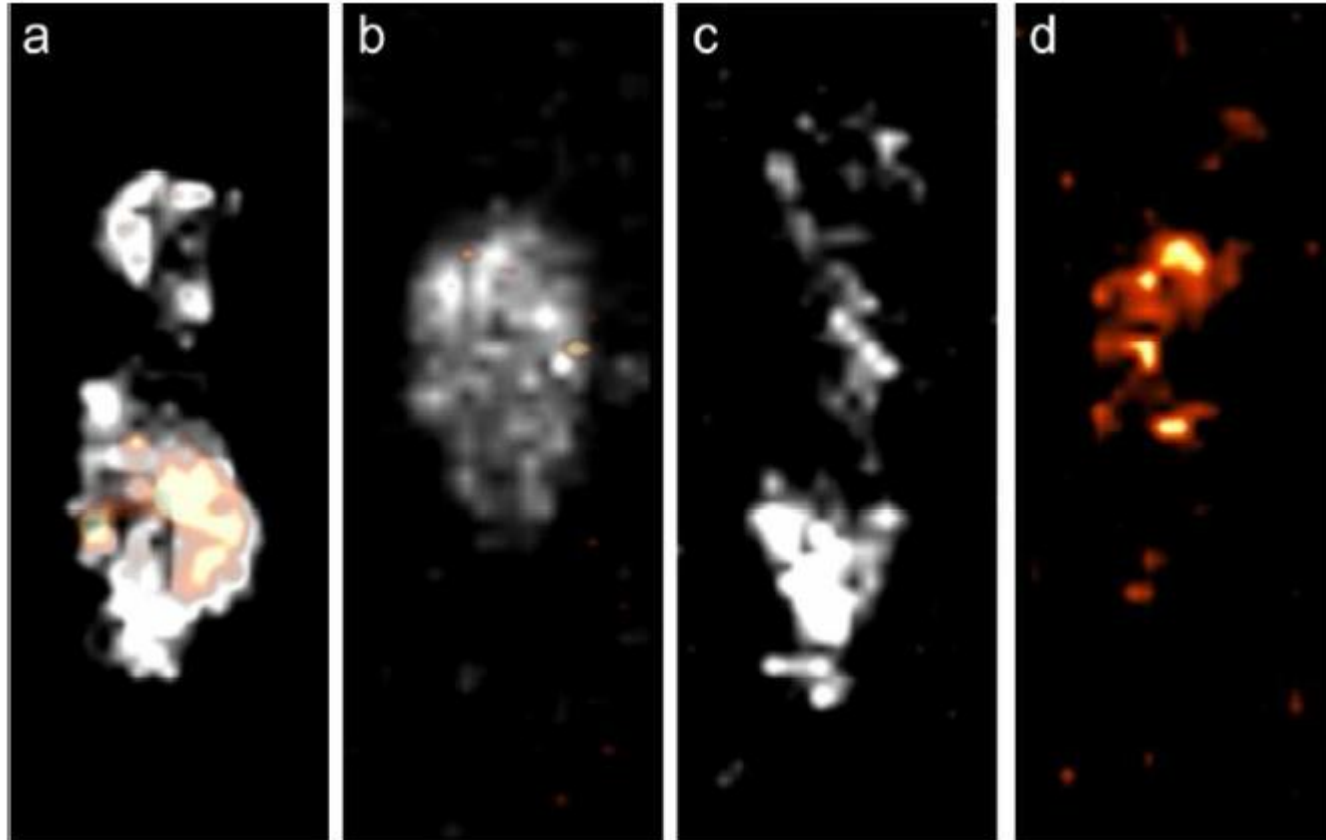


# Development of a radiotracer for SPECT imaging: from bench to bedside



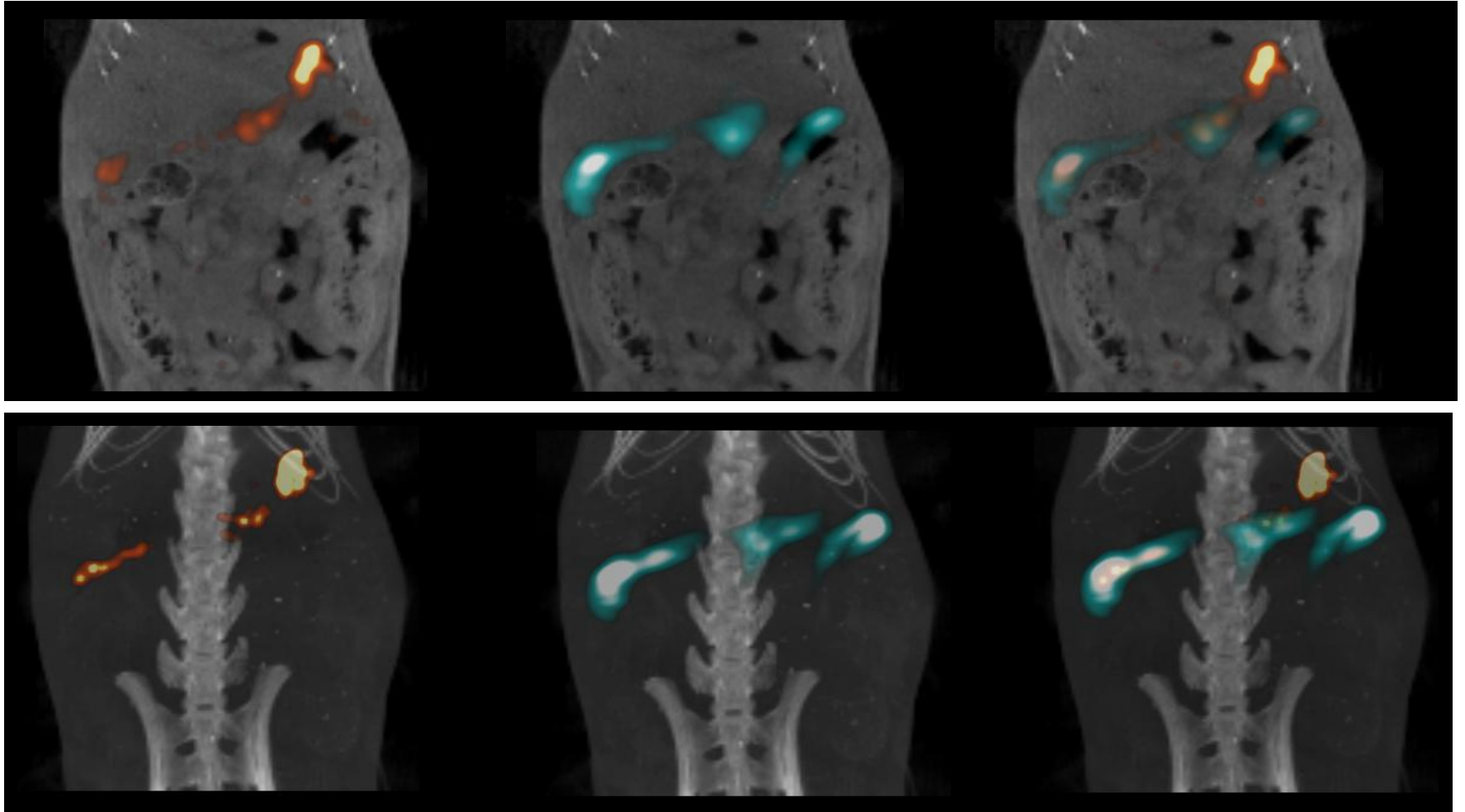
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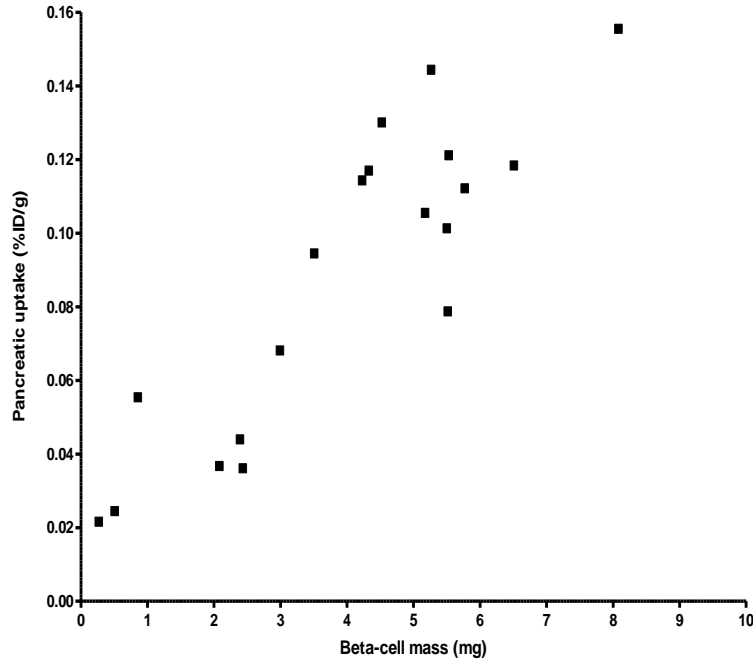
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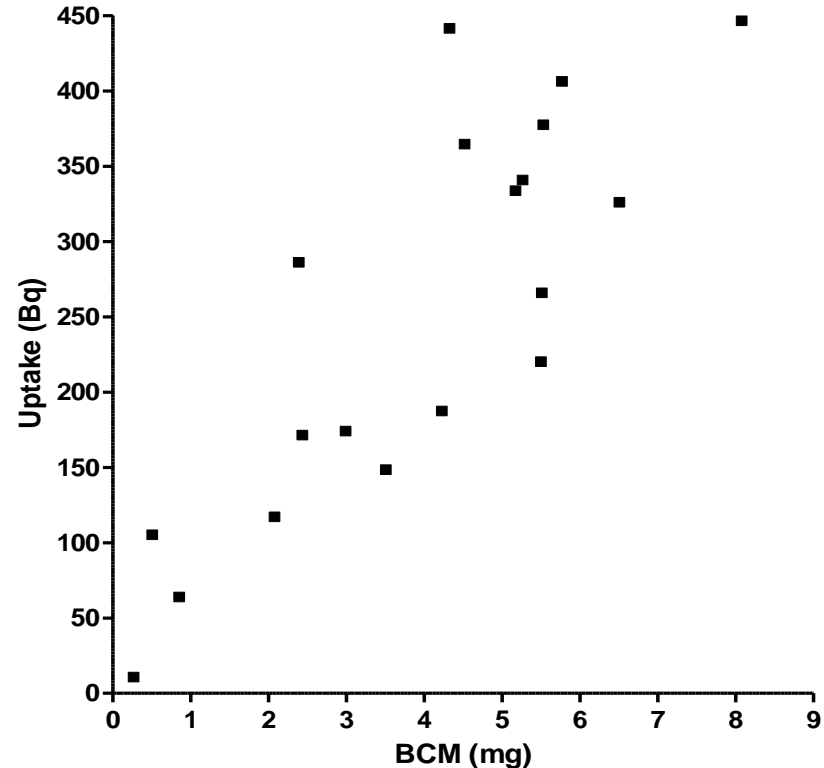
Kroon et al., Mol. Pharmaceutics, DOI: 10.1021/acs.molpharmaceut.6b00495 • Publication Date (Web): 18 Aug 2016

# Development of a radiotracer for SPECT imaging: from bench to bedside



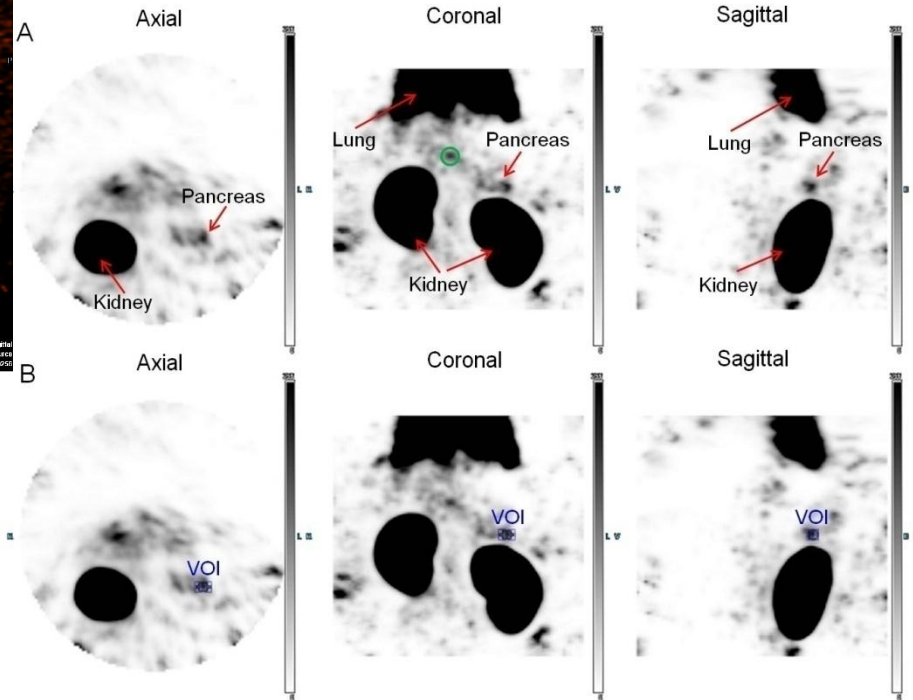
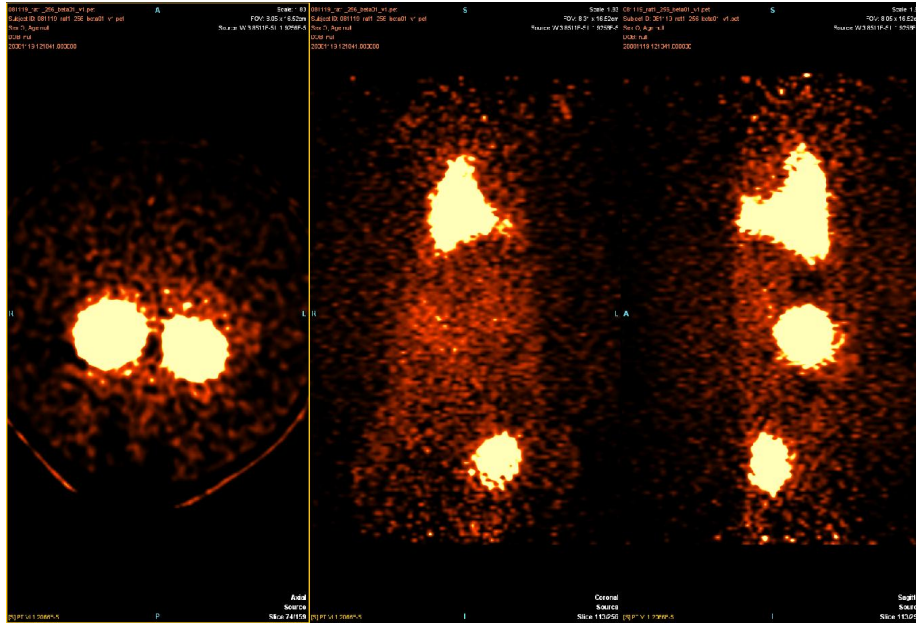


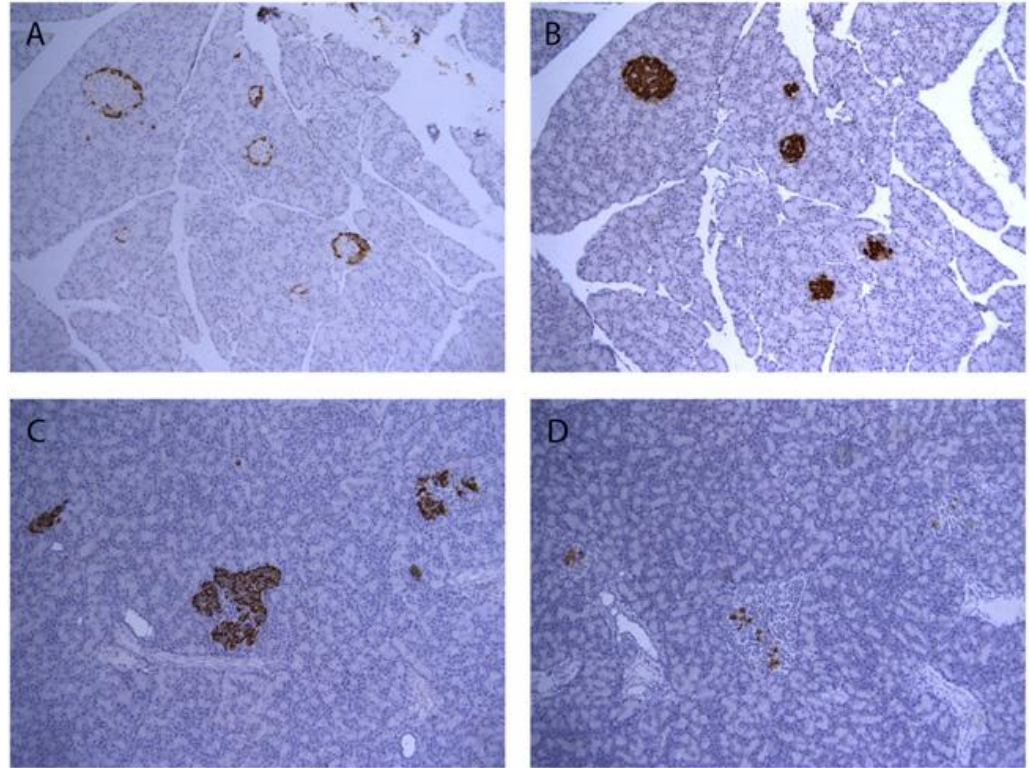
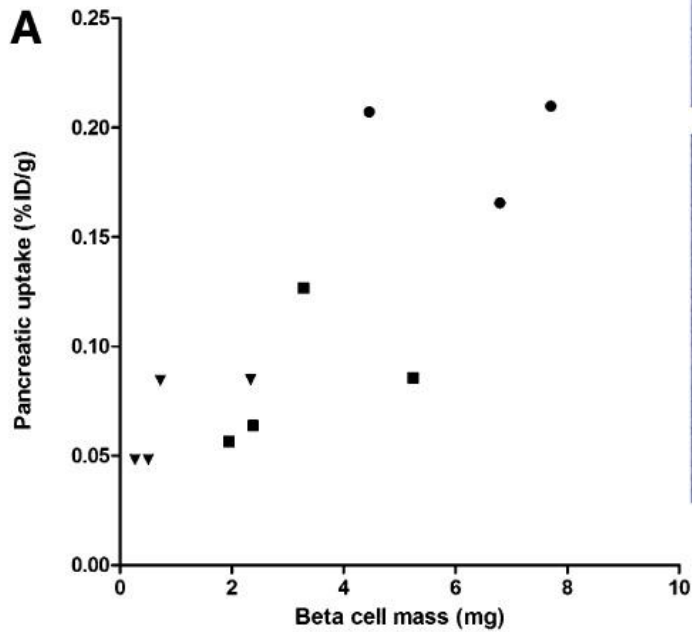
- Linear correlation of uptake and BCM,  $r=0.89$  (left)
- Linear correlation of in vivo SPECT quantification and BCM,  $r=0.83$  (right)



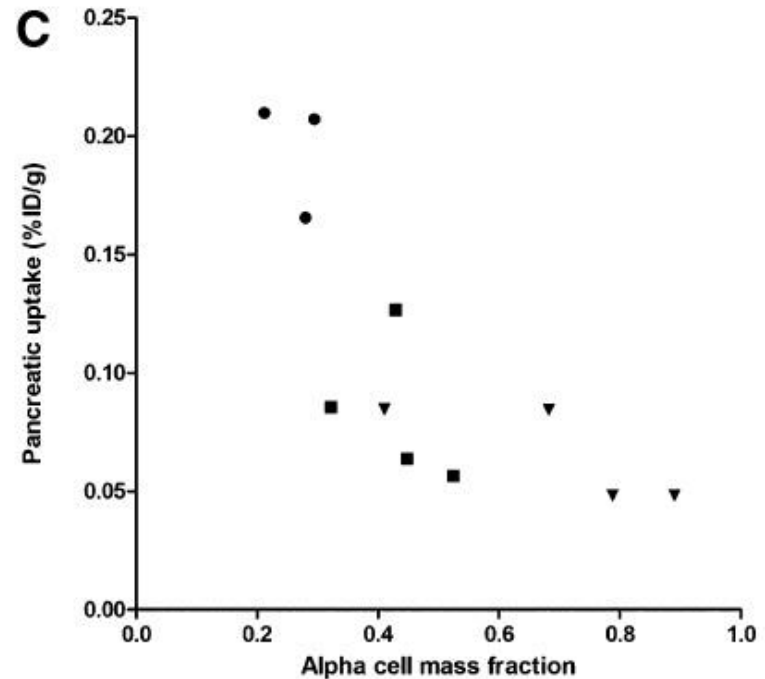
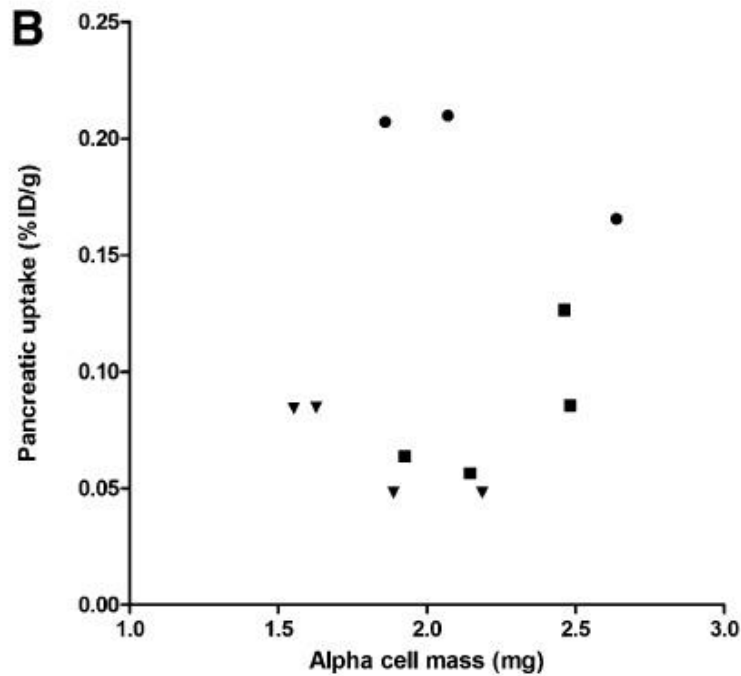
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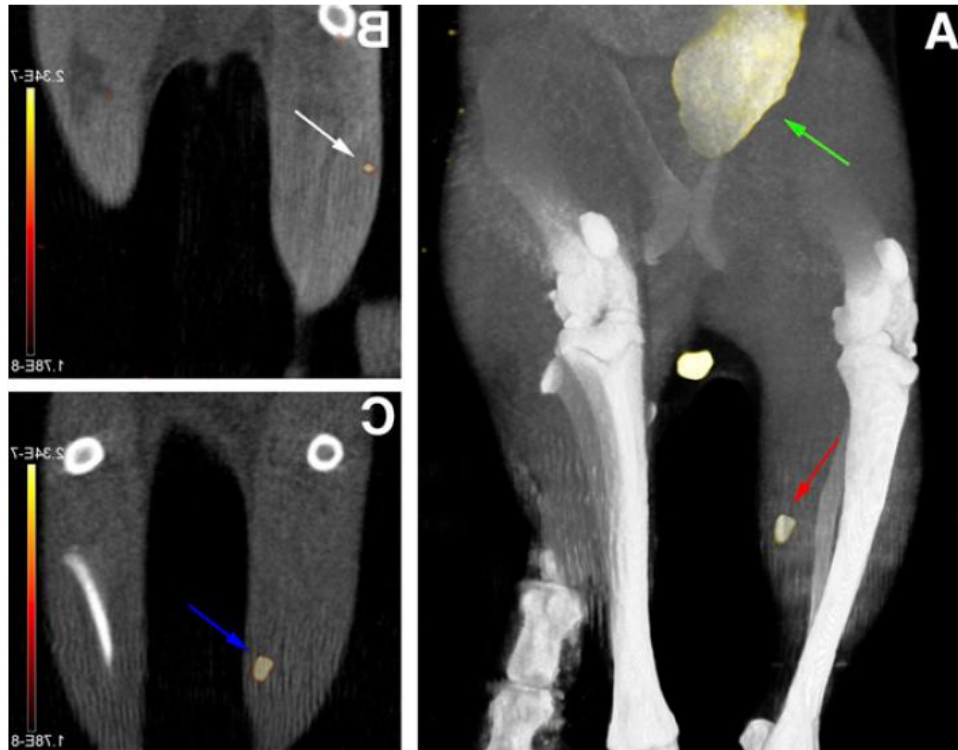




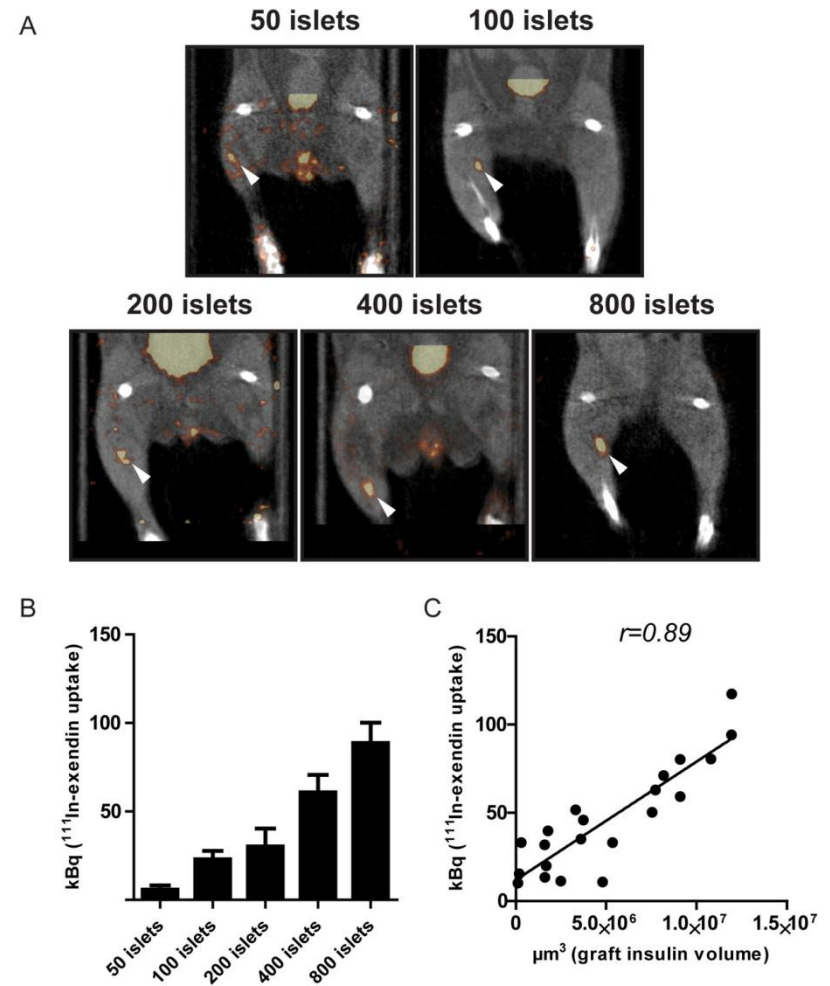
Brom et al, Diabetes 2015;64:1324–1328



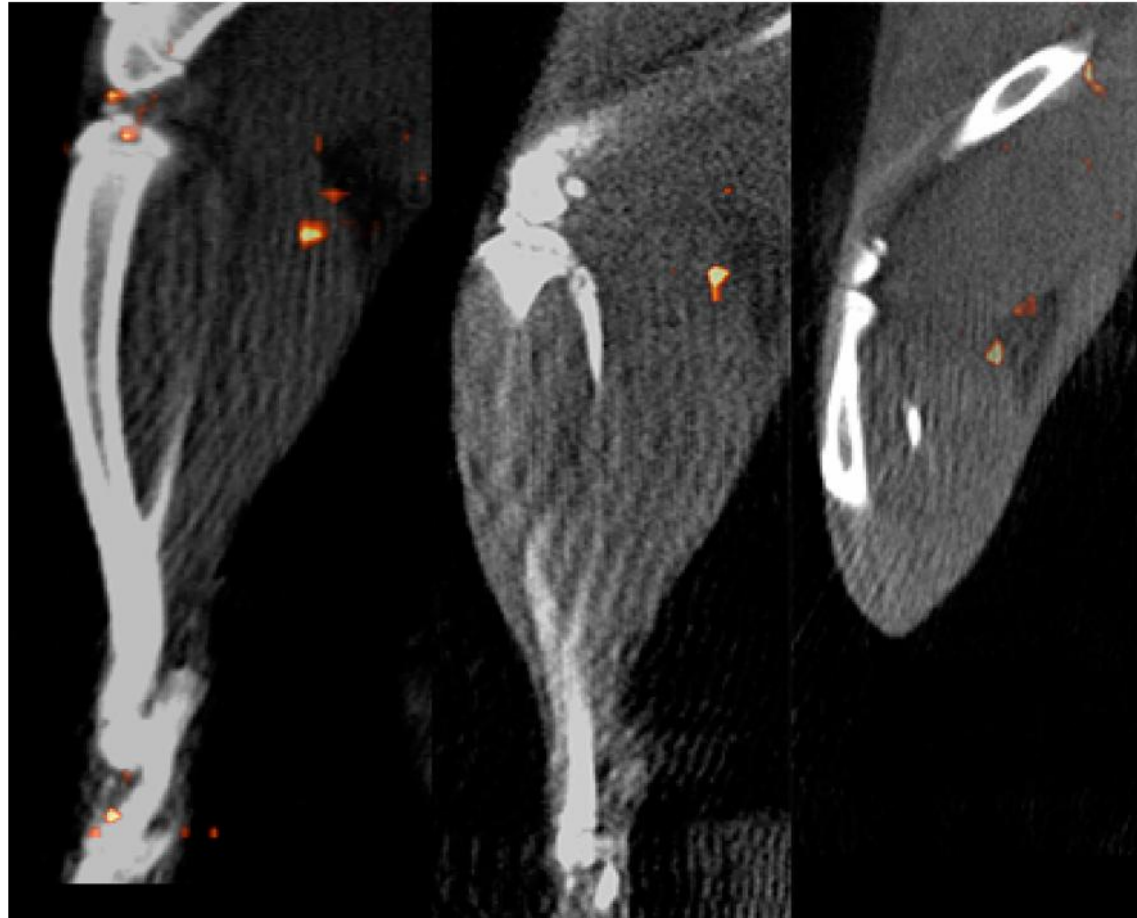
Brom et al, Diabetes 2015;64:1324–1328



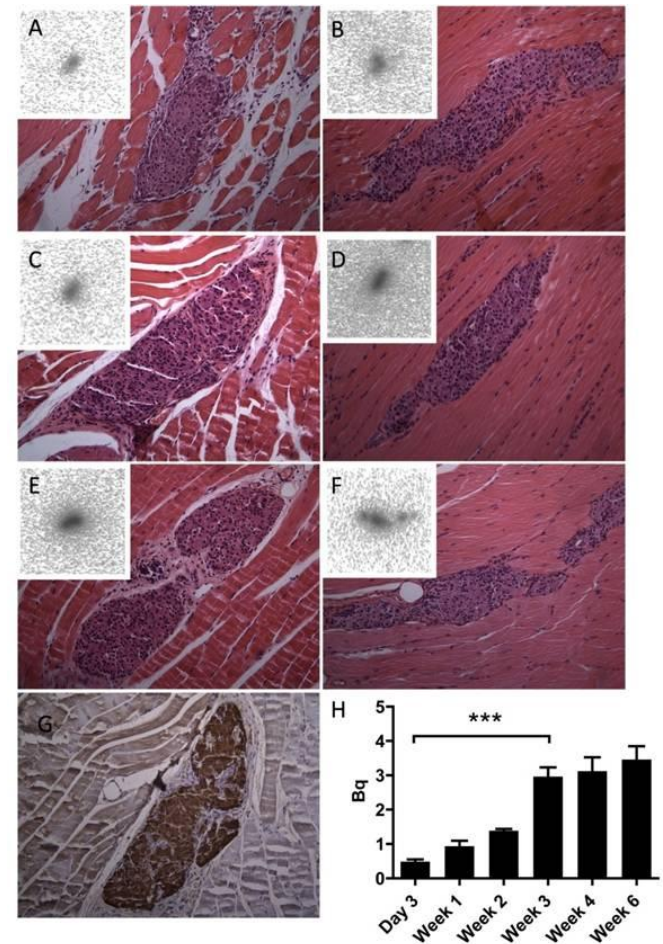
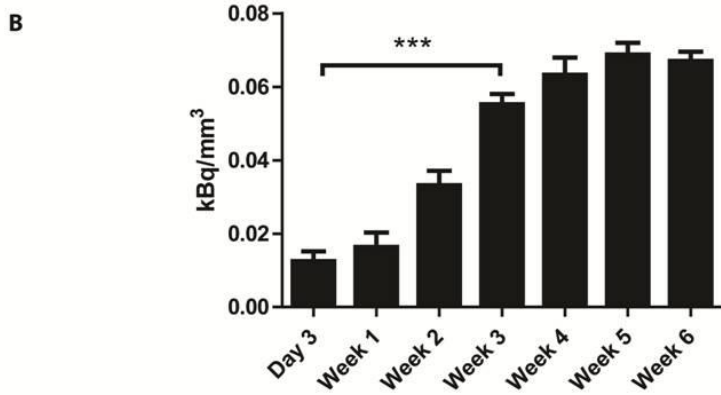
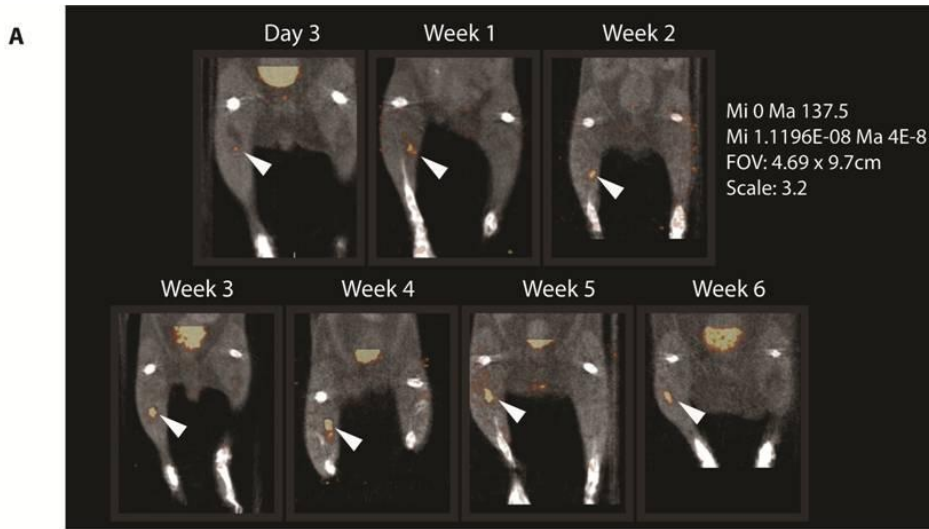
Kroon et al., J Nucl Med 2016; 57:799–804



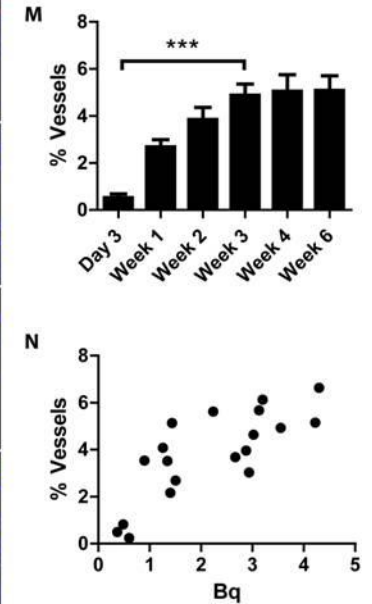
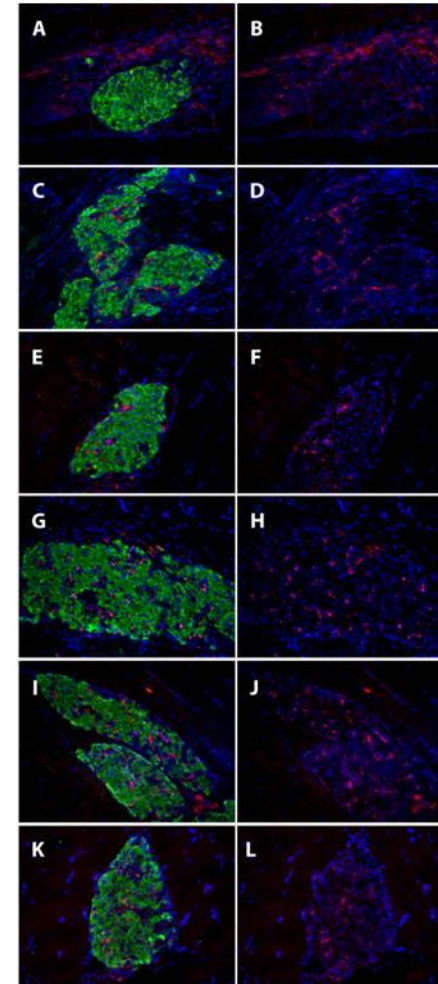
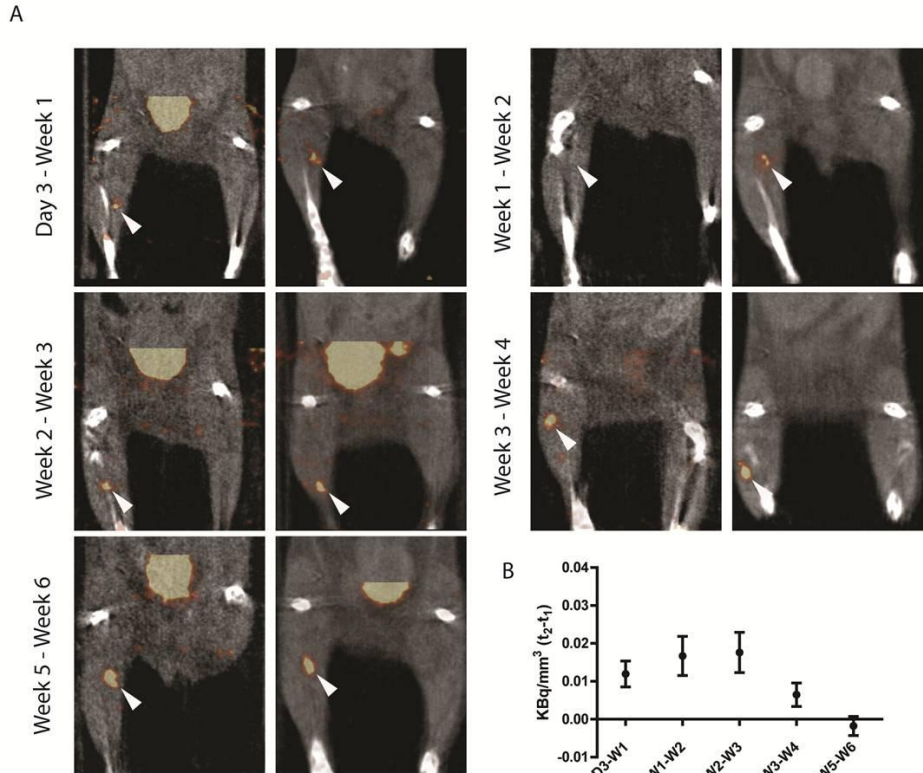




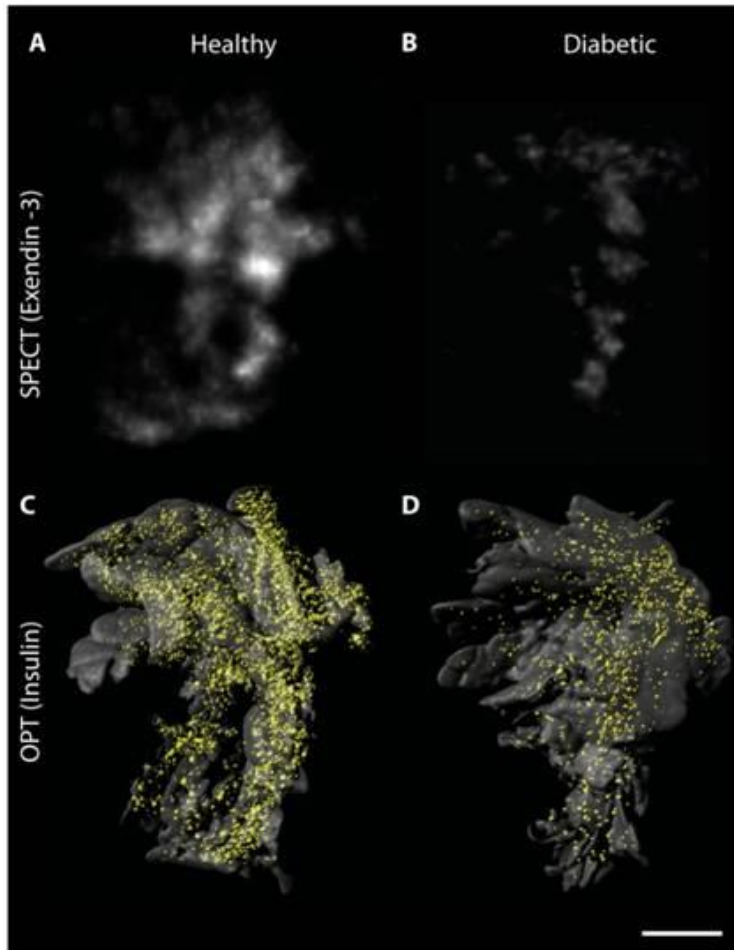
Willekens et al., *Molecular pharmaceutics* 13, 85-91 (2016)



Eter et al., Sci Rep. 2015 Oct 22;5:15521. doi: 10.1038/srep15521



Eter et al., Sci Rep. 2015 Oct 22;5:15521. doi: 10.1038/srep15521



SPECT and OPT reflect beta cell mass better than histology!

W. A. Eter, S. Parween, L. Joosten, C. Frielink, M. Eriksson, M. Brom, U. Ahlgren, M. Gotthardt, SPECT-OPT multimodal imaging enables accurate evaluation of radiotracers for beta-cell mass assessments. *Scientific reports* 6, 24576 (2016)10.1038/srep24576).

## Development of a kit for clinical imaging

- Requirements:

- GMP produced ligand

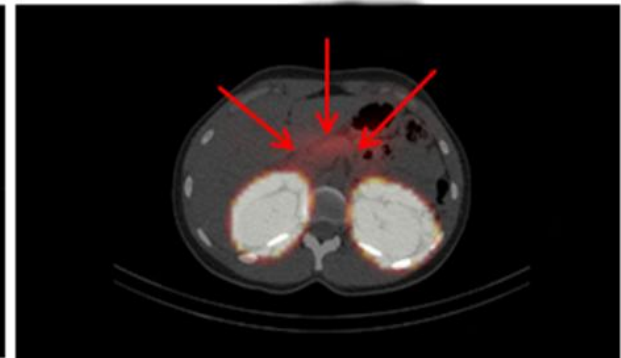
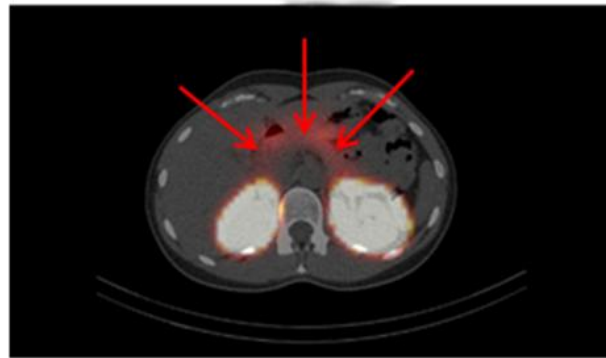
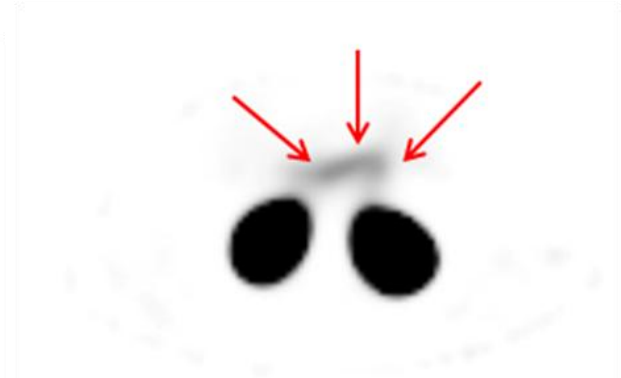
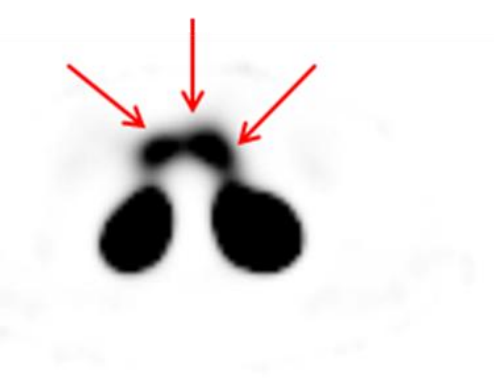
- IMPD

- GMP labeling procedure

- Kit formulation to which only  $^{111}\text{InCl}$  needs to be added, labeling by incubation at room temperature for 20 minutes

- Can be distributed within Europe for clinical imaging after approval by QP

# Development of a radiotracer for SPECT imaging: from bench to bedside



## Overview:

- Why SPECT?
- The shortcomings of clinical SPECT are the power of preclinical SPECT
- Development of a radiotracer for SPECT imaging: from bench to bedside
- Quantitative imaging with SPECT: why not?

**SPECT is not quantitative while ...**

**PET is quantitative by definition**



Phantom for **protocol optimization**, for enabling quantitative data analysis

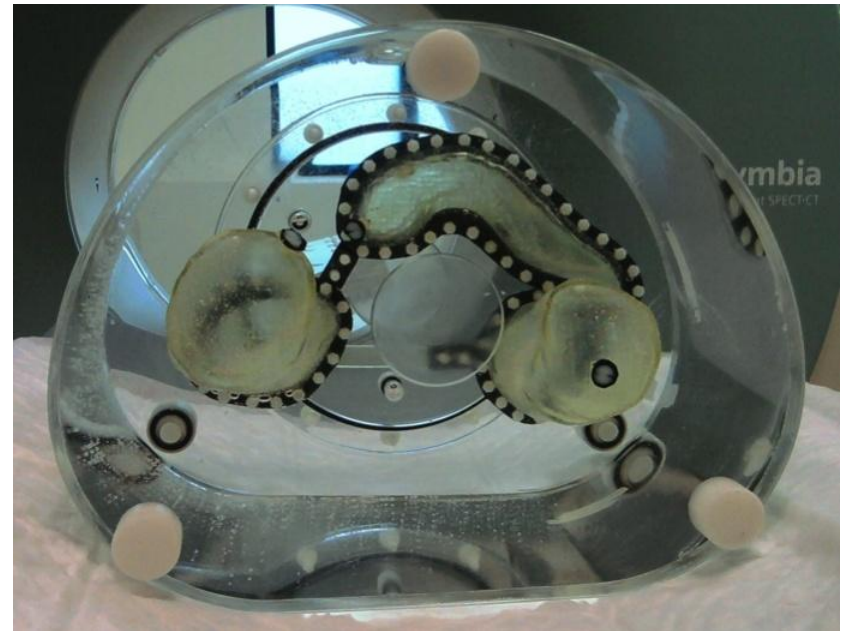
## **Reconstruction** (Hermes Hybrid Recon)

OSEM 16 iterations, 6 subsets

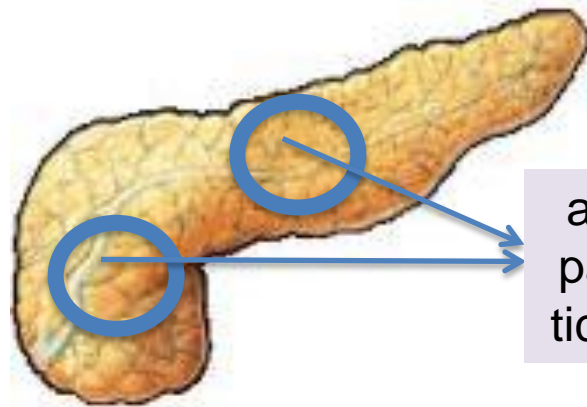
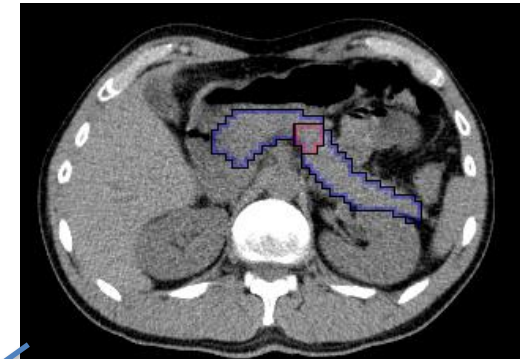
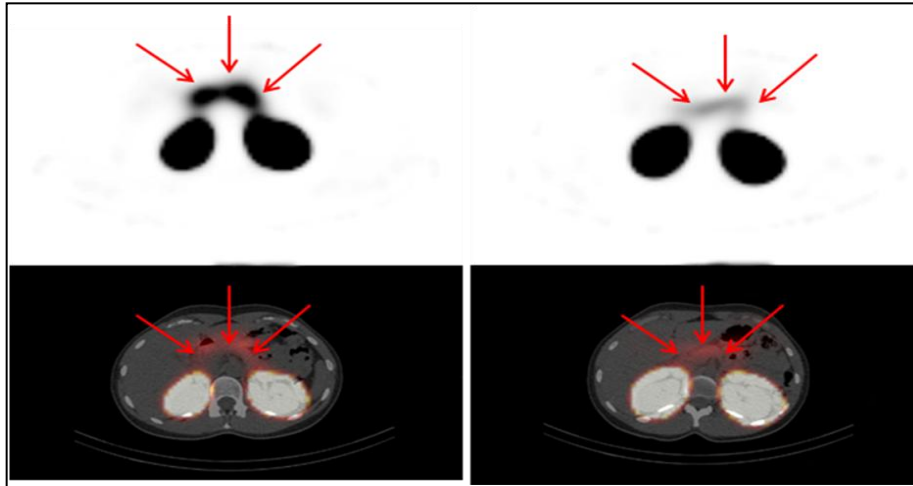
Attenuation correction

Scatter correction

Collimator correction



# Quantitative imaging with SPECT: why not?



average  
pancrea-  
tic uptake

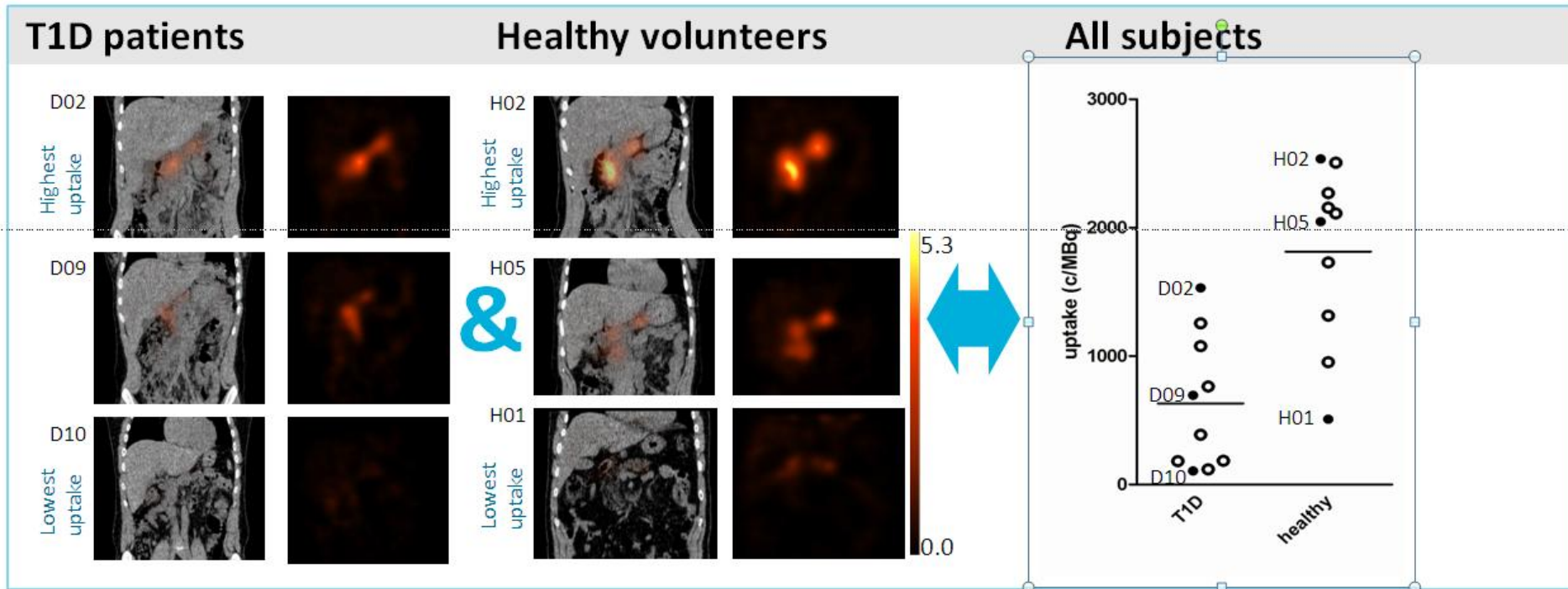


CT-based  
pancreas  
volume

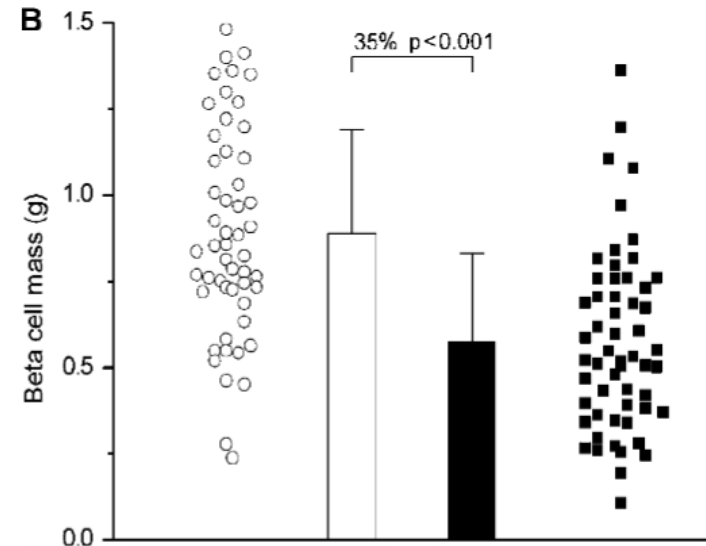


uptake  
whole  
pancreas

# Quantitative imaging with SPECT: why not?



- Pancreatic uptake varies by a factor of ~5 between individuals and there is an overlap between healthy and diabetic individuals (Rahier et al. 2008; Ritzel et al. 2006; Meier et al. 2009)



- T1D patients seem to have remaining (afunctional) BCM (Coppieters et al, J. Exp. Med. 2012) and 40% BCM reduction may already lead to overt T1D in adults (Klinke et al, PLoS ONE 2008)
- Stem cell transplantation can reverse T1D and render patients insulin-independent, suggesting the presence of functionally inactive BCM (Votarelli et al, JAMA 2007; Couri et al. JAMA. 2009)

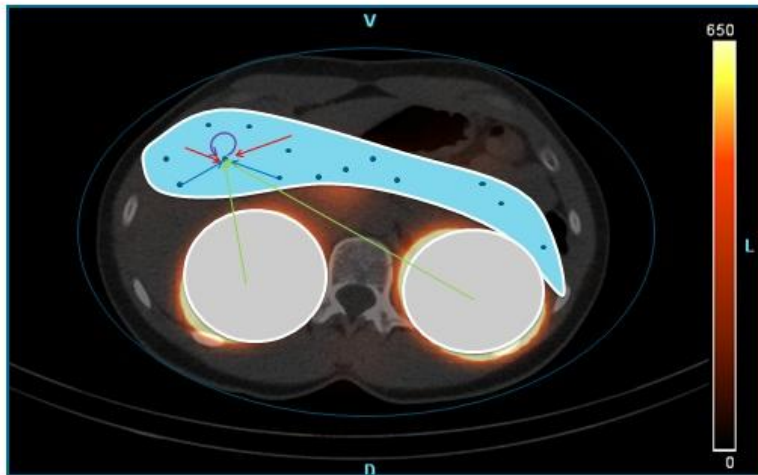
# Quantitative imaging with SPECT: why not?

How dangerous is GLP-1R scanning for the islets?

## Methods

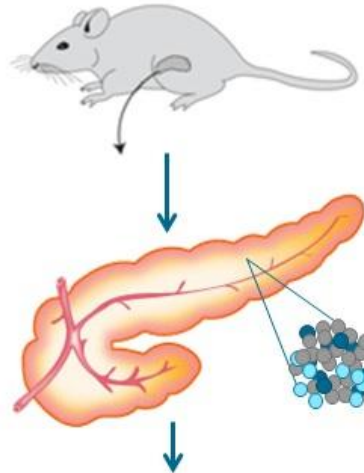
### The model

1. Selfdose islet
2. Dose due to other islets
3. Dose due to exocrine tissue
4. Dose due to kidneys

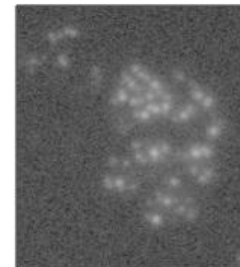
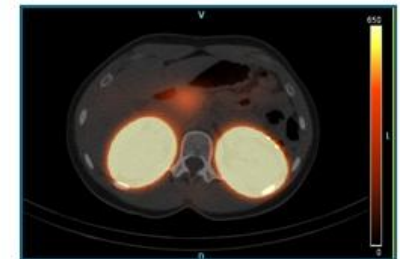


### Input

#### Rat:



#### Human:



### Calculations:

- Uptake ratio exocrine/islets
- Residence time each source
- Contribution each source to islet radiation dose

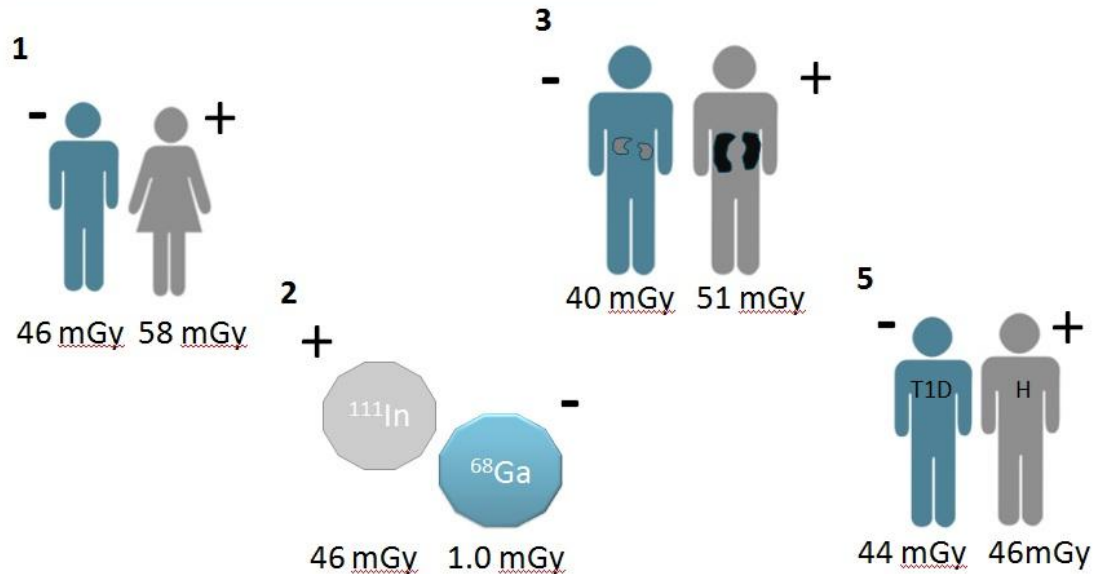
# Quantitative imaging with SPECT: why not?

GLP-1R scanning is not dangerous for islets!

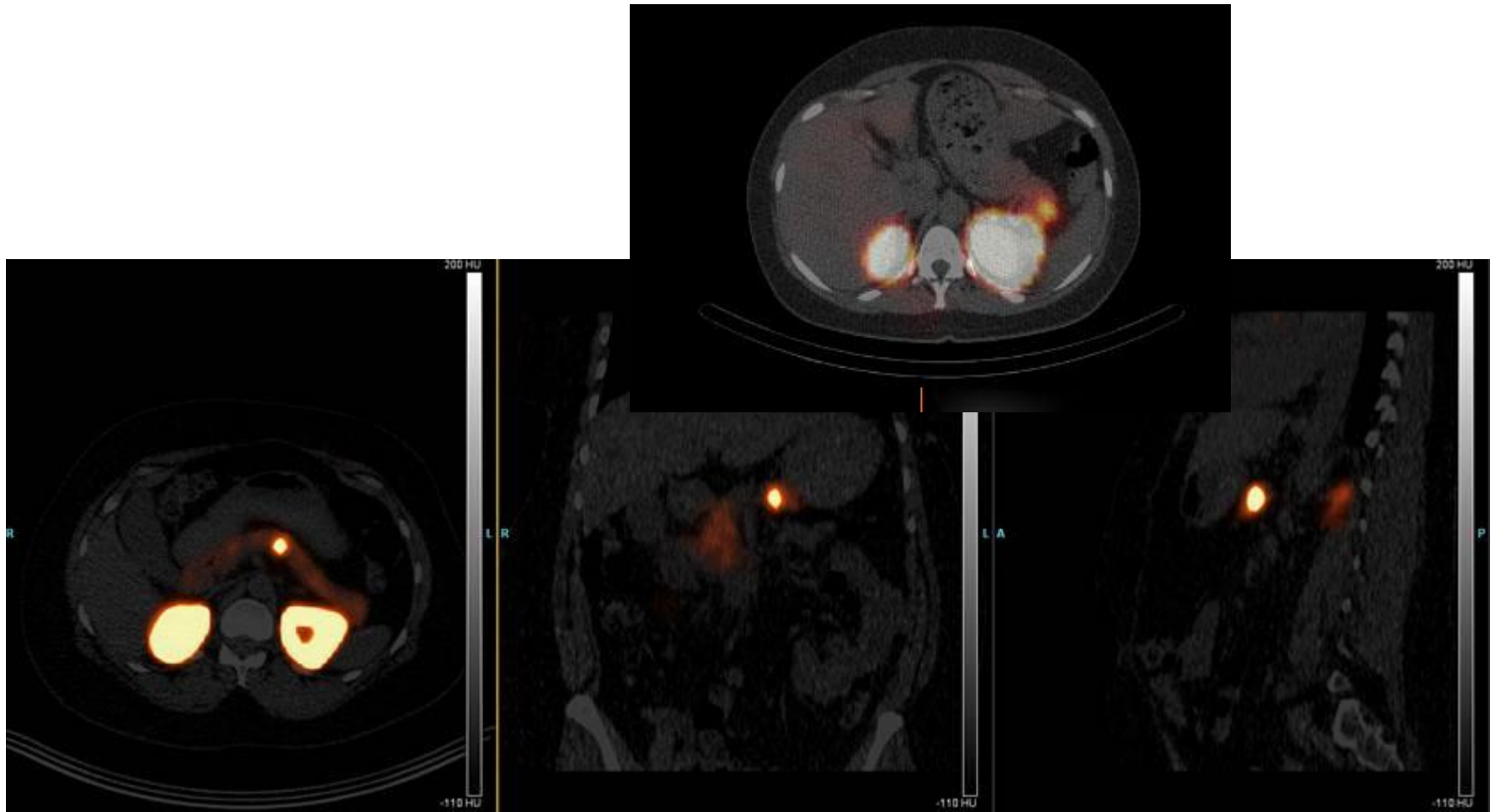
## Results

Here, we calculated radiation doses for:

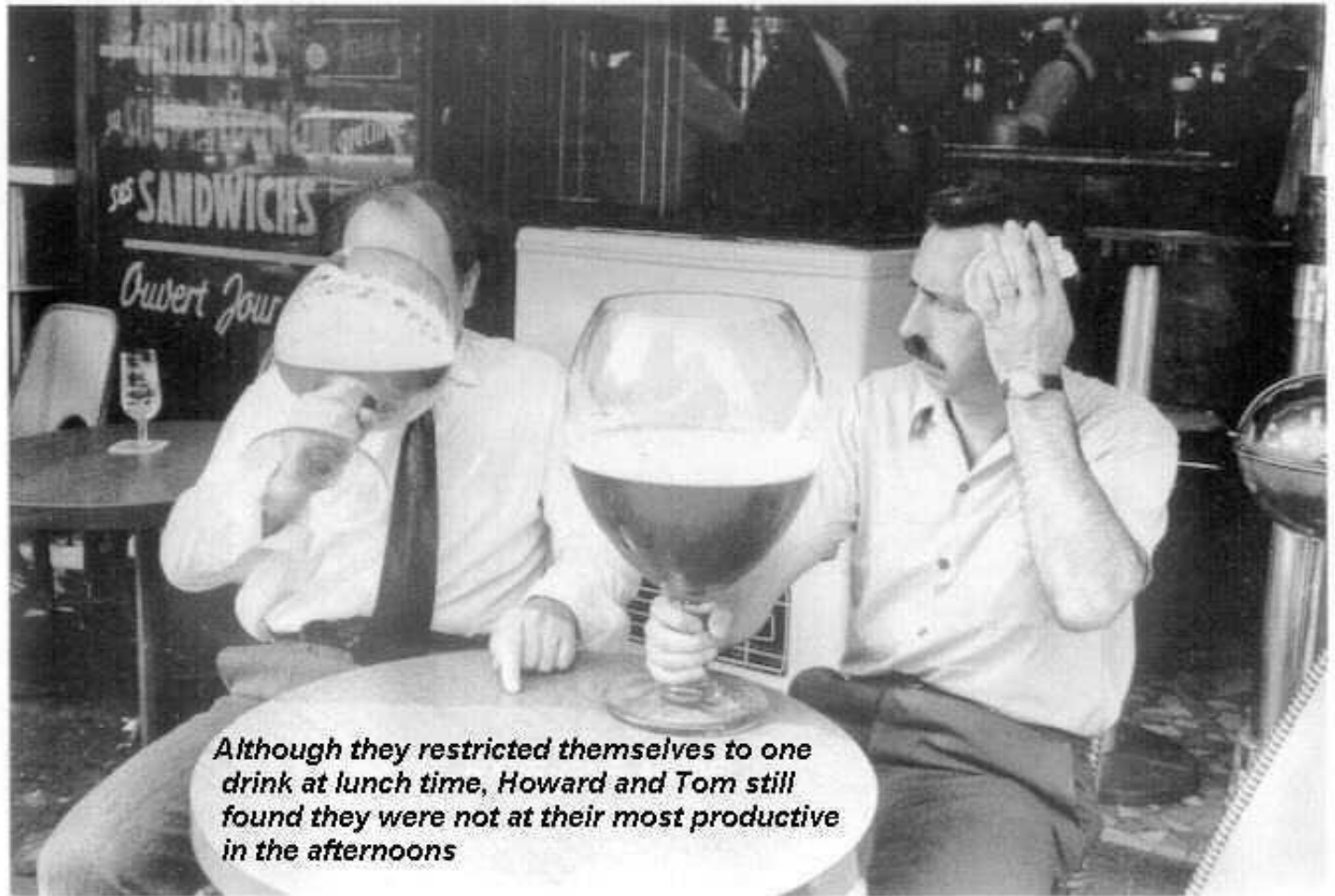
1. Male and Female
2.  $^{111}\text{In}$  and  $^{68}\text{Ga}$
3. High and Low kidney uptake
4. Small and Large islets
5. Healthy and Diabetic patients



# In the clinics, PET performs better.....



Thank you very much for your attention





# Acknowledgements

## Radboud University

### Medical Center:

Dept. of Radiology and  
Nuclear Medicine

Wietske Woliner-van der Weg

Marcel Janssen

Wael Arabi Eter

Maarten Brom

Lieke Claessens-Joosten

Otto Boerman

### Dept. of Internal Medicine

Cees Tack

Bastiaan de Galan

Heleen de Wit



## University of Twente:

MIRA – Institute for Biomedical  
Technology and Technical Medicine

Cornelis Slump

Maaïke Koenrades

Laura Peeters

Laura Deden

### Funded by

- *the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme FP7, project BetaImage, BetaTrain, BetaCure*
- *The National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, USA*
- *The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, New York, USA*
- *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*
- *Diabetes Fonds*



EU FP 7 No 222980



EU FP 7 No 289932



**BetaCure**

EU FP 7 No 602812

