

#### Translational Research in Molecular Imaging and Radionuclide Therapy

**Overview Molecular Imaging** 

**PET and SPECT** 





## Medical imaging and the pathology cascade



#### **Diagnostic approach**

#### Nuclear/Molecular Medicine

## Radiology

#### Molecular interactions of radiolabeled probes

In vivo imaging of biological processes with radiolabeled molecular probes



Visualization of overexpression or increased activity of:

- Receptors
- Enzymes
- Transporters



## **Nuclear Molecular Imaging**

In vivo imaging of biological processes with radiolabeled molecular probes



#### **Molecular Probes (Tracers)**



## **COMPARTMENT MODEL**



Berlin, August 25 - 27, 2016

## Steps to molecular image acquisition

1. Radionuclide



4. Application





5. Scan





6. Image









## **Planar Scintigraphy**



target-specific radiopharmaceuticals













#### **Bone-Scintigraphy (**<sup>99m</sup>**Tc-MDP)**





## Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography (SPECT)





#### **Myocardial SPECT**

#### Cardiovascular disease, ergometry until 75 Watt







#### **Positronen-Emissions-Tomographie (PET)**











#### <sup>18</sup>F-Fluoride PET





#### Fluordeoxyglucose-PET (Sarkoidosis)









#### SPECT/CT









#### SPECT/CT Prostate Cancer Bone Scan

Age 68 yrs., Post OP **PSA** increased Bone Scan, (745 MBq Tc-99m-HDP) SPECT/CT

Staging I

Staging II Pedicle of vertebral arch

Staging III Metastasis Os sacrum



## **MIBG SPECT/CT**



- 2 yrs., Neuroblastoma Stage IV, post therapy, Neuroplastoma recurrence with cerebral and abdominal metastases, Tumour progress under recurrence therapy
- Planar imaging and SPECT/CT with contrast agent 5 days post therapy



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#### PET/CT













#### **PSMA PET/CT**







# Bronchial carcinoid with sudden onset of blurry vision





## **Small animal imaging**

- Important for development of new tracer
- Final preclinical step in the process from bench to bedside
- µSPECT / CT
- $\mu PET / CT$



## **Small Animal Imaging / Model Examples**



Small Animal -PET/CT



Small Animal – SPECT/CT



Small Animal – PET/SPECT/CT



#### **Micro PET: Dedicated Small Animal System**



Micro PET Siemens Inveon





#### **Micro PET: Dedicated Small Animal System**

Micro PET Siemens Inveon

Micro PET - measurement of the glucose metabolism with <sup>18</sup>F-FDG and of the skeleton with the bone affine radiopharmaceutical <sup>18</sup>F-NaF in a mouse.

<sup>18</sup>F-Sodium fluoride



<sup>18</sup>F-Fluorodesoxyglucose





#### **Digital PET Sub-System**





- Digital PET = direct coupling of scintillator to solid-state detectors
- No light sharing between detectors (better image quality)
- Patented Fast 3D Tomographic Image Reconstruction (December 2013)
- => Improved detectability of small lesions
- = > High count rate capability from very low activity to 80MBq
- => Superior image quality with excellent contrast ratio

- Bore diameter: 15cm
- Transaxial FOV: User-selectable 46-100 mm
- Axial FOV: 30cm (continuous motion)
  - LabPET4
  - LabPET8

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DGN

LabPET12

- Quad-APD detector modules coupled with LYSO/LGSO phaswich scintillators
- · Individual readout, parallel signal processing
- · Fully integrated with SPECT and CT;
- field- upgradable

TriFoil

#### **PET/CT Cardiac Imaging - Mouse**

PET/CT: 0.7mCi of FDG, 20min. Post injection, 5 min. scan



Detail of gated cardiac images



Courtesy of Dr. Ren-Shyan Liu, National Yangming University, Taipei, Taiwan



#### **Excellent isotropical resolution: 185 g rat**



LabPET 8

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**Figure 10.** Volume-rendered images (a), (b) of a 185 g rat injected with 31 MBq of  $Na^{18}F$  and scanned 68 min post-injection on the LabPET8. Transaxial slices of the skull (c) and the ribcage (d) and a sagittal slice (e) are shown. The whole-body image was obtained by acquiring five overlapping decay-compensated scans with 3.78 cm steps for a total of 60 min. The image was obtained with a lower energy threshold of 350 keV and reconstructed using 80 3D MLEM iterations.



Reference: Imaging performance of LabPET APD-based digital PET scanners for pre-clinical research; M. Bergeron et al.; Universite de Sherbrooke, QC, Canada; Phys. Med. Biol. 59 (2014) 1–18

TriFoil



#### **Small Animal Imaging / Model Examples**



#### Small Animal -SPECT/CT

#### Small Animal -SPECT/CT



Micro SPECT: Measurement of the bone skeleton with <sup>99m</sup>Tc-HDP







## **U-SPECT-II**

<sup>99m</sup>Tc-MIBI



CARDIAC PMOD - 17 segment model





I. besal anterior 7. mid-anterior 13. apical anterior
2. basal anteroseptal 8. mid-anteroseptal 14. apical septal
3. basel inferoseptal 9. mid-inferoseptal 15. apical inferior
4. basel inferior 10. mid-inferoseptal 15. apical inferior
5. basel inferoslerent 11. mid-inferoseptal 17. apics
6. basel anterolaternal 12. mid-anterolaternal





## Multiplex Multi Pinhole (MMP) - S P E C T

- Micro SPECT: MMP-Technology with a clinically used SPECT gamma camera
  - Physical measuring principals
  - Characterisation and performance parameters



Siemens SPECT E.cam gamma camera



#### 7-Pinhole Aperture Plate









Micro SPECT: Measurement with MMP-Technology by a clinically used SPECT gamma camera

#### SPECT

<sup>99m</sup>Tc-HDP





Micro SPECT: Measurement of a mouse bone skeleton with <sup>99m</sup>Tc-HDP



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<sup>99m</sup>Tc-Hydroxy-Diphosphonat

**Fusion** 

CT - <sup>99m</sup>Tc-HDP SPECT



Biodistribution of <sup>123</sup>I-5-iodo-4´-thio-2´-deoxyuridine (<sup>123</sup>I-ITdU) in WiDr xenografted mouse models - MMP  $\mu$ SPECT, 10.0 MBq 60 min p.i.

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µSPECT [<sup>123</sup>I]-ITdU FdUrd-Appl.

Fusion µSPECT [<sup>123</sup>I]-ITdU + CT



# Examples for small animal imaging: biodistribution studies play a major role

- New tracer development
- New pharmaca development
- Therapy studies





#### Indomethacin derivates targeting COX2



#### **Biodistribution of nucleosid analogues**



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#### COX2-specific Inhibitors: PET-Tracer

Cellular uptake of COX2-PET Tracer: Competition study with cold standards and [I-125]Indo\_23 as COX2 Tracer und corresponding PhosphorImager and Western Blot Analysis



#### 

## Western Blot Analyse with COX2-spec. Ab 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 COX-2 Tetramer 1. HEK COX-2 mit [I-125]Indo\_23, Tet stimulated 2. HEK COX-2 [I-125]Indo\_23, unstimulated

HEK COX-2 mit [I-125]Indo\_23, let stimulated
HEK COX-2 [I-125]Indo\_23, unstimulated
HEK COX-2 mit [I-125]Indo\_23 + CX, Tet stimulated
HEK COX-2 mit [I-125]Indo\_23 + CX, unstimulated
HEK COX-2 mit [I-125]Indo\_23 + Indo\_21, Tet stimulated
HEK COX-2 mit [I-125]Indo\_23 + Indo\_21unstimulated
HEK COX-2 mit [I-125]Indo\_23 + Indo\_22, Tet stimulated
HEK COX-2 mit [I-125]Indo\_23 + Indo\_22, Tet stimulated



#### Berlin, August 25 - 27, 2016

Morgenroth, Zlatopolskiy, Mottaghy et al.



Fig. 3. Binding specificity and intracellular distribution of iodinated indomethacin derivatives. (A) SDS and western blot analysis od COX-1 and COX-2 expression in HUVEC, HEK hCOX-2nat and HEK hCOX-2del cells in dependency on PMA- and Tet-stimulation, respectively. GAPDH served as a loading control. (B) SDS gel electrophoresis of cell lysates obtained from HEK hCOX-2del cells incubated with <sup>125</sup>I-1 and <sup>125</sup>I-2 and visualized by phosphorimager (*left*); subsequent western blot analysis with COX-2 specific antibody. (C) Intracellular localization of <sup>125</sup>I-1 and <sup>125</sup>I-2 in HEK hCOX-2*del* cells detected by microautoradiography followed by a standard H&E staining.

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**Fig. 4.** Cellular uptake with <sup>125</sup>I-**1** and <sup>125</sup>I-**2** compounds in colon carcinoma cells after 1h and 4h incubation (in % of incubated dose (ID)/well). (A) Cellular uptake of <sup>125</sup>I-**1** in HT29 and HCT-116 cells w/o and with CX. (B) Cellular uptake of <sup>125</sup>I-**2** in HT29 and HCT-116 cells w/o and with CX.





**Fig. 5.** *In vivo* study with <sup>124</sup>I-**2** compound in colon carcinoma xenografted SCID mice. (A) µPET/CT molecular imaging of COX-2 with<sup>124</sup>I-**1** in HT29 (upper panel) and HCT-116 (lower pannel) xenografted SCID mice at 4h p.i.. (B) Uptake of <sup>125</sup>I-**2** in HT29 and HCT-116 tumors (in kBq/g tissue) (upper panel); tumor to muscle uptake ratio of <sup>125</sup>I-**2** in HT29 and HCT-116 tumor xenografted mice (lower panel). (C) immunhistological analysis of COX-1 and COX-2 in HT29 and HCT-116 xenografts.



#### New pharmaca development



Phosphodiesterase-10A (PDE10A) is implicated in several neuropsychiatric disorders involving basal ganglia neurotransmission, such as schizophrenia, obsessive–compulsive disorder and Huntington's disease.



S. Celen et al. NeuroImage 82:13–22, 2013

Deutsche Gesellichaft für Nuklearmedizin e.v. 2016

#### New pharmaca development



S. Celen et al. NeuroImage 82:13–22, 2013



#### **Glucose metabolism: therapy response**



Dose-response relationship in cyclophosphamide-treated B-cell lymphoma xenografts monitored with [<sup>18</sup>F]FDG PET

Lieselot Brepoels • Marijke De Saint-Hubert • Sigrid Stroobants • Gregor Verhoef • Jan Balzarini • Lue Mortelmans • Felix M. Mottaghy





→ [18F]FDG – Uptake represents doseeffect-dependency of Cyclophosphamid



#### **Proliferation: Therapy Response**





## Take home

- SPECT and PET
  - provide a broad spectrum of diagnostic approaches
  - help to understand biological processes
  - are an important link in the "bench to bedside" concept of probe development
- Molecular Imaging
  - is important for non-invasive monitoring of disease
  - supports development of new theranostic concepts

