

Isotopes for Science and Medicine: The Pursuit, Study and Application of Medical Isotopes at TRIUMF

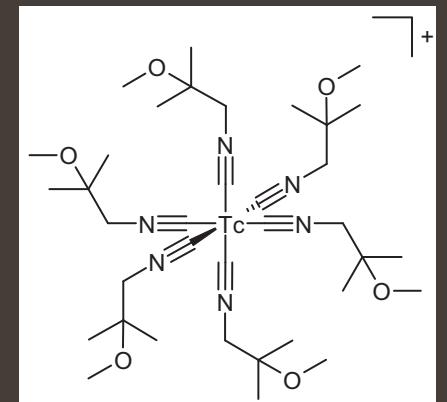
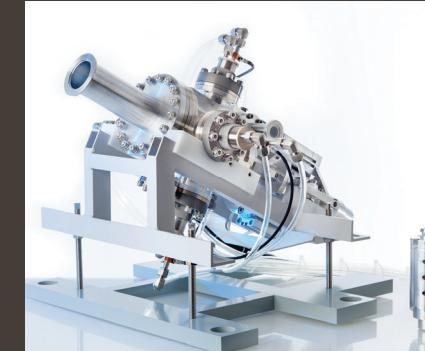
HIAT 2015

September 7th, 2015

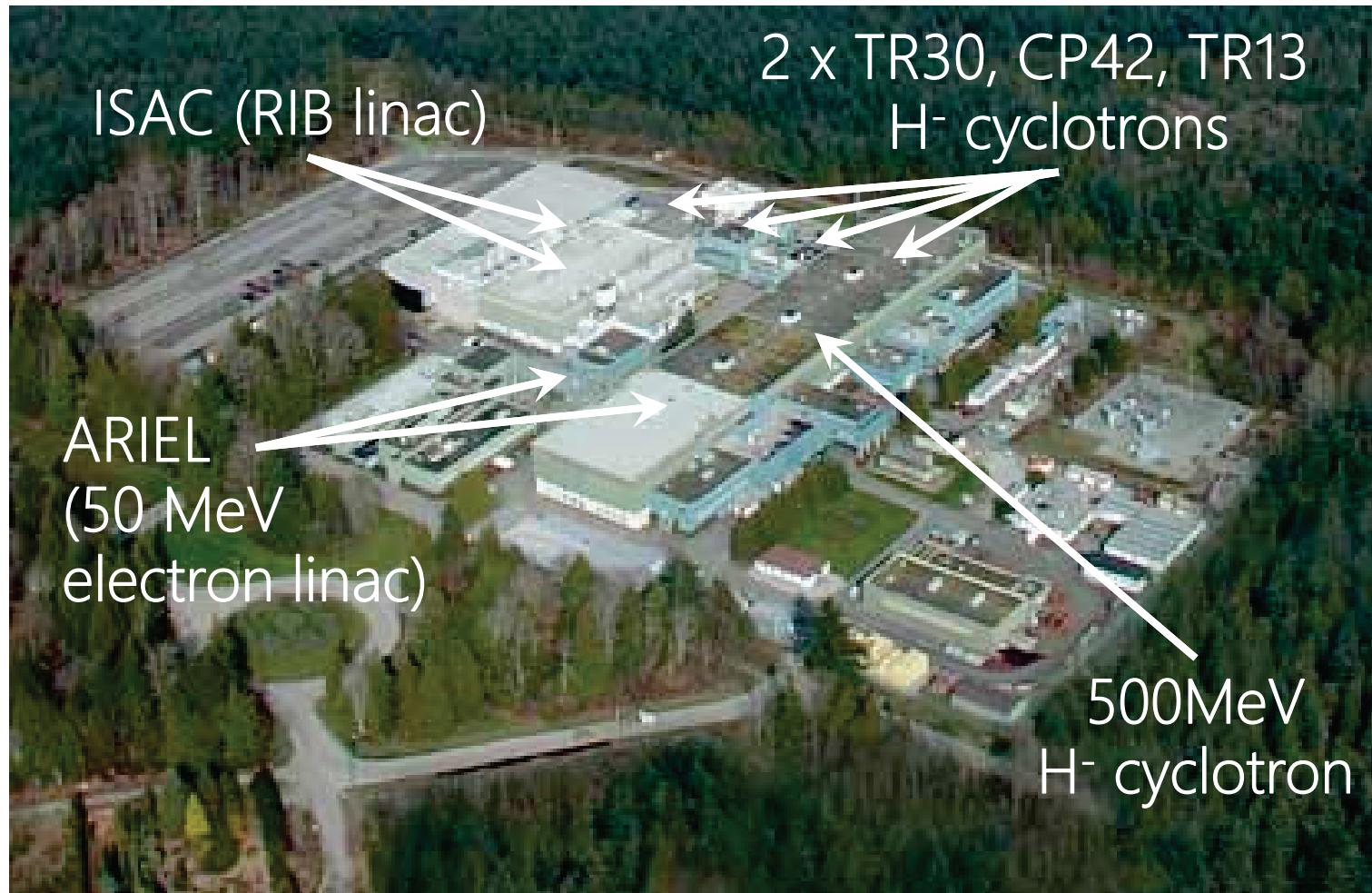
Paul Schaffer
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Accelerating Science for Canada
Un accélérateur de la démarche scientifique canadienne

Owned and operated as a joint venture by a consortium of Canadian universities via a contribution through the National Research Council Canada
Propriété d'un consortium d'universités canadiennes, géré en co-entreprise à partir d'une contribution administrée par le Conseil national de recherches Canada

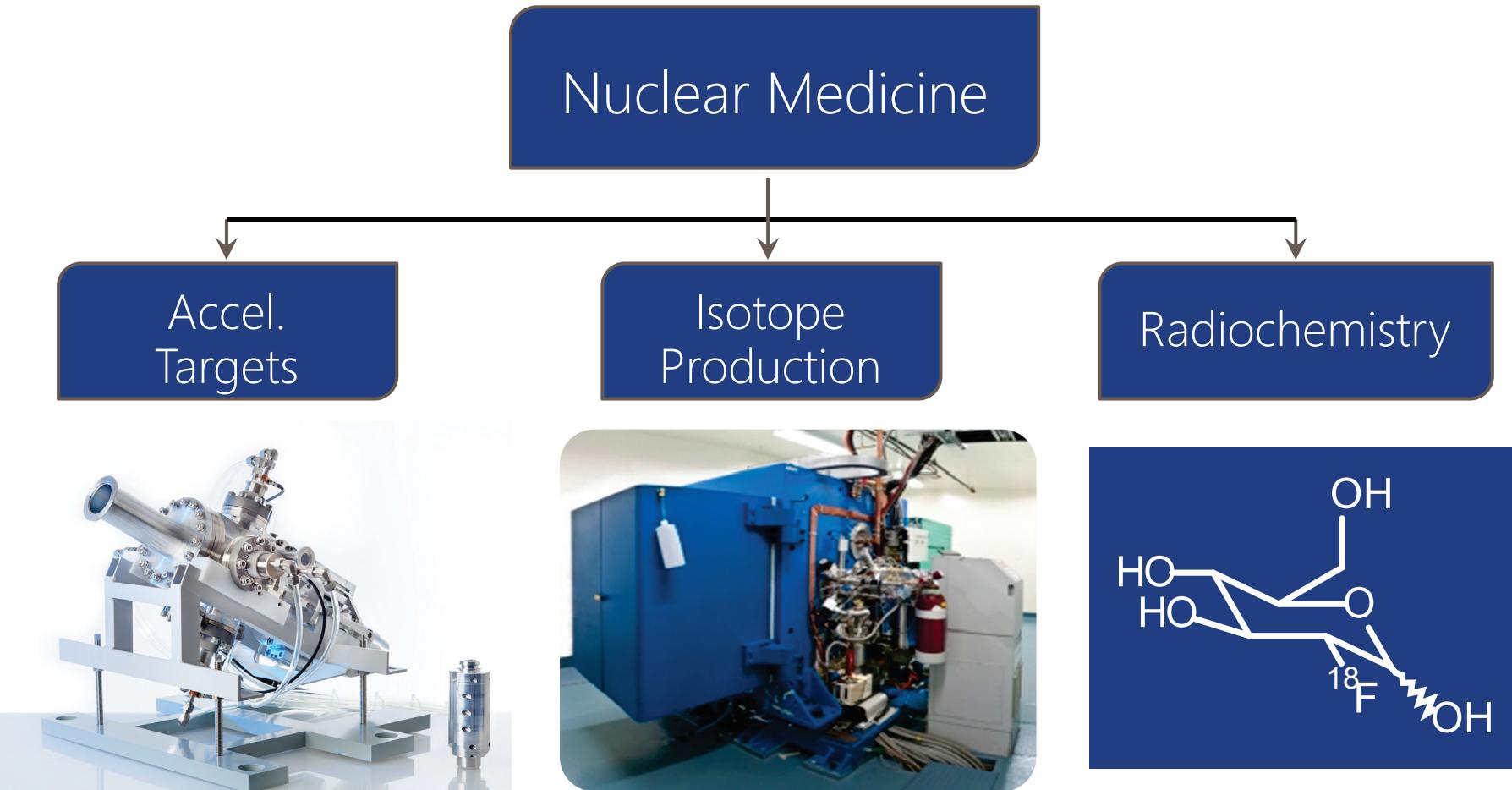


Accelerators at TRIUMF



New addition: TR24; to be installed

Three Pillars of Nuclear Medicine at TRIUMF



CP42, TR30, TR13 Operations

TRIUMF Capabilities:

- CP42: up to 42 MeV and 200 μA , installed 1980
- TR30-1: up to 30 MeV and 900 μA , installed 1990
 - first TR30 designed, assembled by TRIUMF, components manufactured by EBCO, commissioned by TRIUMF
- TR30-2: up to 30 MeV and 1000 μA , installed 2003
 - Manufactured, installed by EBCO, commissioned by TRIUMF
- TR13: 13 MeV, 25 μA , installed 1986 (UBC Neurology)
 - Capable of ^{11}C , ^{18}F , ^{13}N , ^{68}Ga , ^{89}Zr , ^{64}Cu , ^{44}Sc , ^{86}Y , ^{55}Co , ^{52}Mn ...solid, liquid, gas targets
- TR24: 24 MeV, >400 μA , to be installed

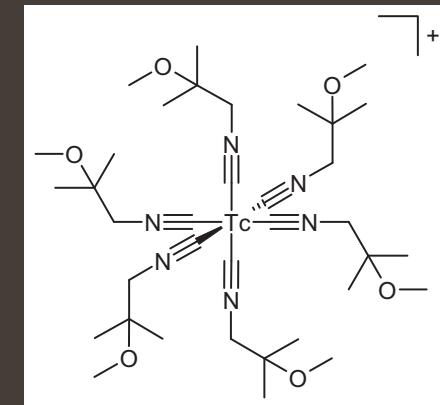
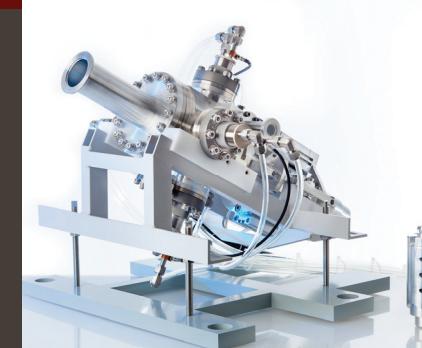
Overall

- 5 solid target, 3 gas stations operating at 30 MeV
 - Commercial production: ^{67}Ga , ^{111}In , ^{123}I , ^{103}Pd , ^{201}Tl
 - Future commercial production: $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$

Direct, multi-Curie production of ^{99m}Tc on three different cyclotrons

K Buckley, F Bénard, M Kovacs, J Valliant, T Ruth,
P Schaffer

- 1) TRIUMF
- 2) University of British Columbia;
- 3) BC Cancer Agency;
- 4) Lawson Health Research Institute;
- 5) Centre for Probe Development and Commercialization



Tc-99m Alternatives: Many options



- $^{99}\text{Mo}/^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ in high demand (~ 40M doses/yr)
- Gov't owned reactors produce majority of ^{99}Mo supply
- NRU going offline Oct. 2016 (~40% of global supply)
- Capacity emerging (existing reactors, new technology)
- Projections range from oversupply to shortages¹
- Must move to full-cost recovery

Alternatives:

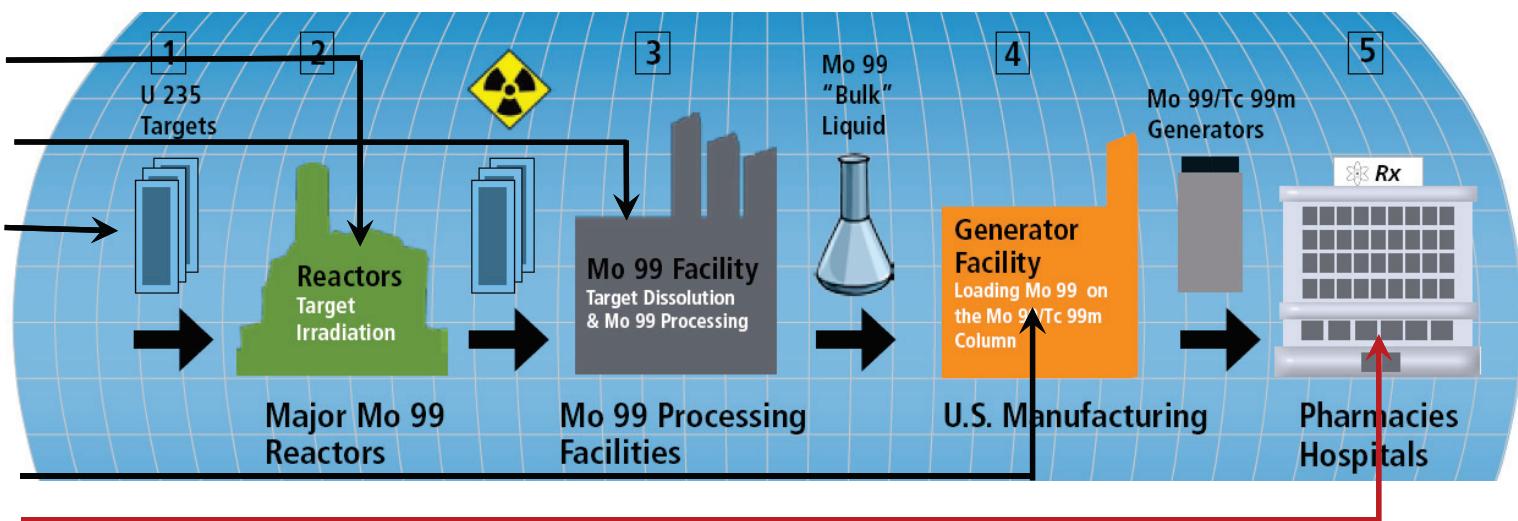
$^{98}\text{Mo}(n,\gamma)^{99}\text{Mo}$

$^{238}\text{U}(\gamma,\text{F})^{99}\text{Mo}$

LEU $^{235}\text{U}(n,\text{F})$

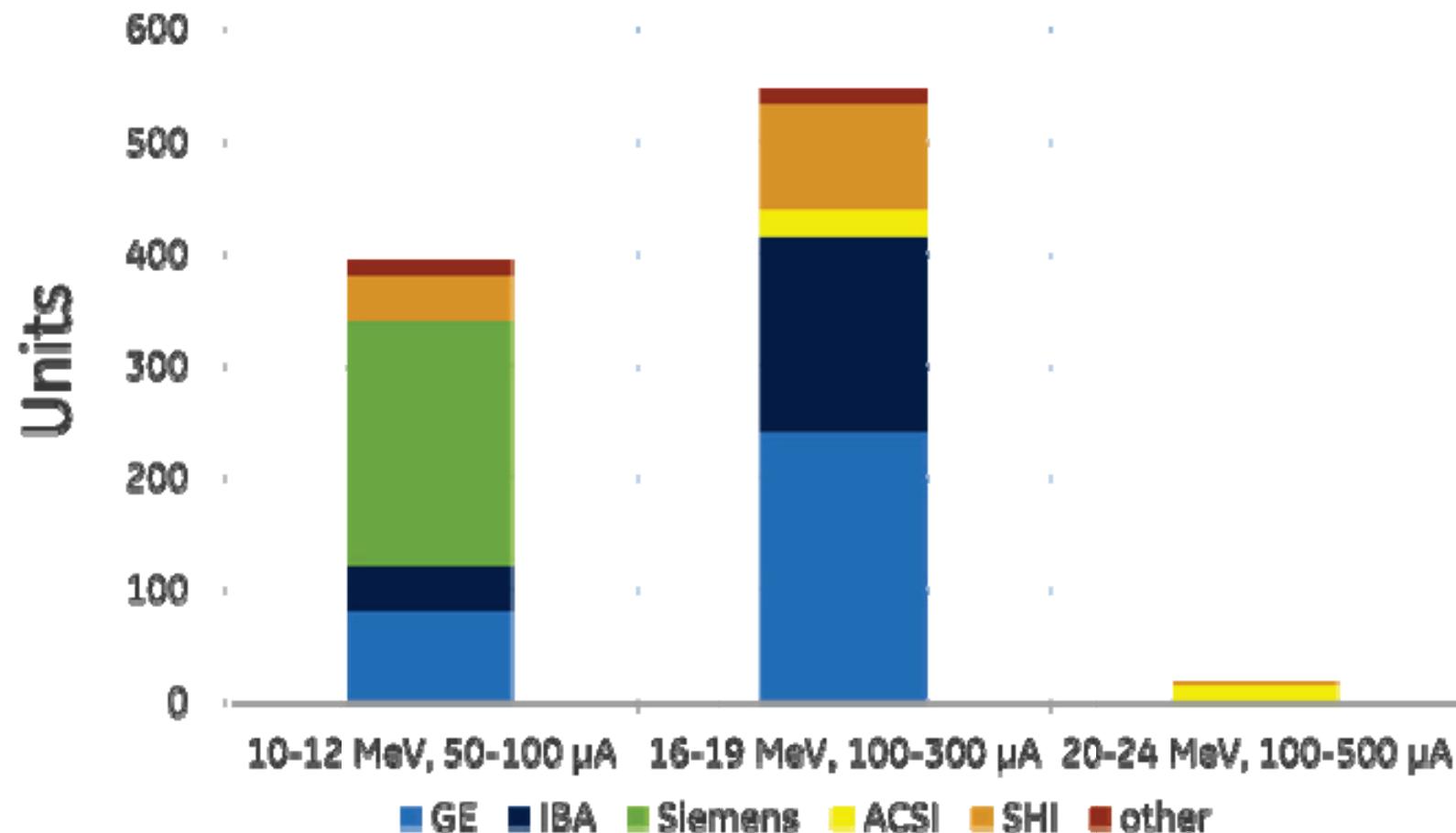
$^{100}\text{Mo}(\gamma,n)^{99}\text{Mo}$

$^{100}\text{Mo}(\text{p},2\text{n})^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$



1) OECD - NEA/SEN/HLGMR(2014)
graphic from <http://www.covidien.com/>

Cyclotrons By the Numbers



Estimated global cyclotron numbers by various manufacturers
(with data from ACSI, GE, IBA and Siemens, Sumitomo data estimated)

Direct Production of ^{99m}Tc

^{100}Mo
Target

Cyclotron
Modification

Optimize
Irradiation

Purify
 $^{99m}\text{TcO}_4$

Regulatory
QA/QC

^{100}Mo
Recovery

Goals:

- Demonstrate routine, reliable, commercial-scale production of ^{99m}Tc via $^{100}\text{Mo}(\text{p},2\text{n})$ at multiple sites, multiple brands;
- Obtain regulatory approval for clinical use in humans;
- Establish a business plan;
- Disseminate, commercialize the technology

Hypothesis: Future production will be from variety of sources (neutron, proton, electron) and market driven

Target Manufacturing

¹⁰⁰Mo
Target

Cyclotron
Modificatio
n

Optimize
Irradiation

Purify
^{99m}TcO₄

Regulatory
QA/QC

¹⁰⁰Mo
Recovery

Goals:

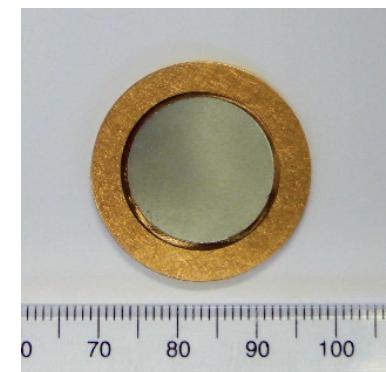
- Maximize ^{99m}Tc production, minimize impurities
- Withstand up to 24 MeV, 500 μA, 6 hr irradiation
- Balance thermal conductivity with post irradiation dissolution
- Compatible with existing cyclotron infrastructure



Bénard et al., J. Nucl. Med. 2014, 55, 1017-1022

Results:

- Oblique ACSI 'TR19' (5.4 kW) and
- Oblique ACSI 'TR24' (10.8 kW) targets
- Orthogonal PETtrace (2.1 kW)
- Demonstrated yields:
 - >1110 GBq (>30 Ci) @ 24 MeV, 450 μA, 6 hrs
 - 420 GBq (11.3 Ci) @ 18 MeV, 300 μA, 6 hrs
 - 170 GBq (4.7 Ci) @ 16.5 MeV, 130 μA, 6 hrs,



Schaffer et al. Phys. Proc. 2015, 66, 383
Zeisler et al. WTTC 2014

Retrofit Existing Infrastructure

^{100}Mo
Target

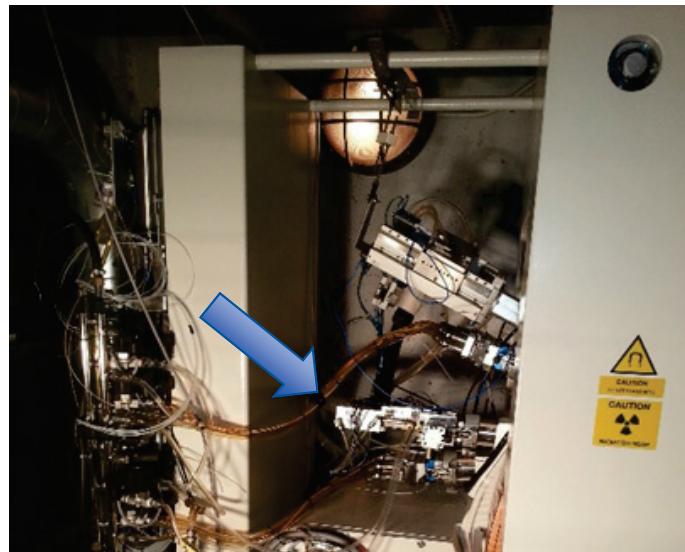
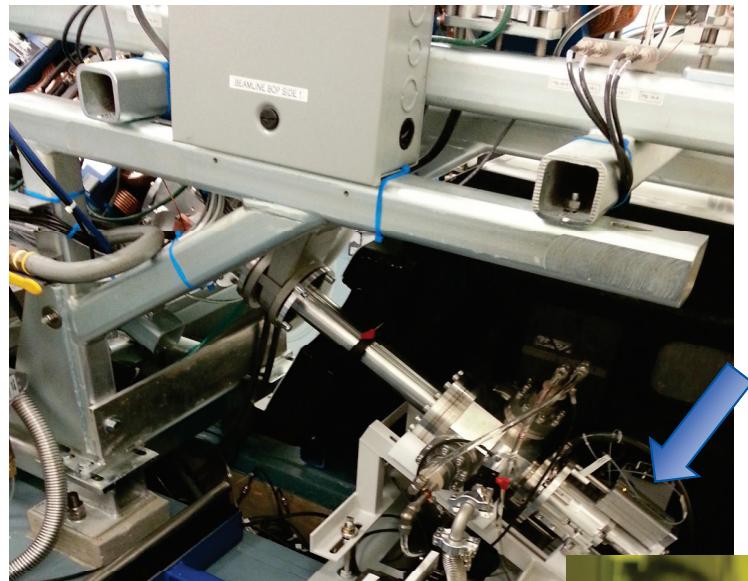
Cyclotron
Modificatio
n

Optimize
Irradiation

Purify
 $^{99\text{m}}\text{TcO}_4$

Regulatory
QA/QC

^{100}Mo
Recovery



Purification of ^{99m}Tc

^{100}Mo
Target

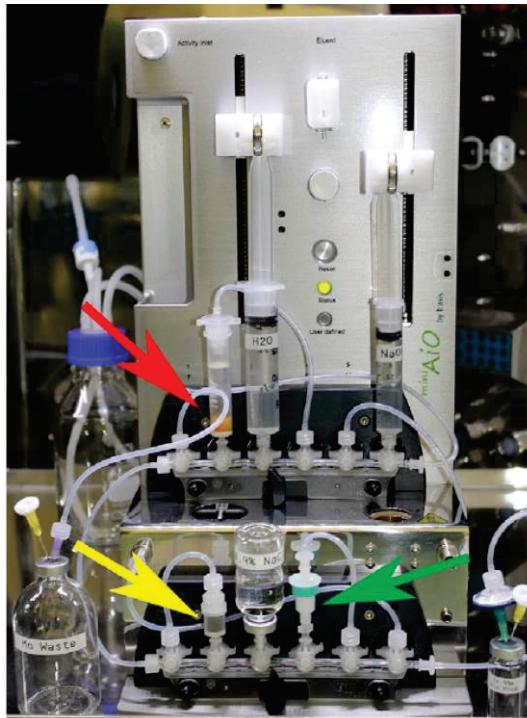
Cyclotron
Modification

Optimize
Irradiation

Purify
 TcO_4

Regulatory
QA/QC

^{100}Mo
Recovery



- SPE-based method:
 - original work: Dowex™ vs ABEC
 - new alternative resin: ChemMatrix™
- Process Time: complete in <90 min.
- Efficiency Range: $92.7 \pm 1.1\%$
- Radiochemical Purity: >99.99% TcO_4
- Trace analysis: <10 Bq Mo-99, <5 ppm Al^{3+}
- non-Tc impurities removed

Regulatory:
Disposable fluid path for GMP
Specifications and control tests

Morley et al. Nuc. Med. Biol. 2012, 551-559
Bénard et al., J. Nucl. Med. 2014, 55, 1017-1022

Regulatory Process: CTA nearly complete

¹⁰⁰Mo
Target

Cyclotron
Modificatio
n

Optimize
Irradiation

Purify
^{99m}TcO₄

Regulatory
QA/QC

¹⁰⁰Mo
Recovery

- Not currently approved by Health Canada, FDA, etc.
- CTA submitted, approved
- Shelf life (18 hrs), irradiation parameters are based on projected patient dose (objective <10% add' I vs. pure ^{99m}Tc)
 - Enrichment and irradiation parameters are interrelated and should not be considered independently
- Patient recruitment underway (60 patient trial)
- Fall - Winter 2015 – New Drug Submission (NDS) submission

¹⁰⁰Mo Raw Material/Irradiation Specifications

Isotope	Proposed max. isotopic impurity to maintain patient dose increase of ~10% compared to pure ^{99m} TcO ₄		
	≤ 20 MeV ¹	20 – ≤22 MeV ²	22 - ≤24 MeV ³
⁹² Mo	0.03	0.03	0.02
⁹⁴ Mo	0.03	0.03	0.02
⁹⁵ Mo	0.03	0.03	0.02
⁹⁶ Mo	0.03	0.03	0.02
⁹⁷ Mo	0.03	0.03	0.02
⁹⁸ Mo	7	0.8	0.5

¹Maximum increase in patient dose of 9.8 % at 20 MeV, 18 hours after EOB.

²Maximum increase in patient dose of 10.1% at 22 MeV, 18 hours after EOB.

³Maximum increase in patient dose of 10.6% at 24 MeV, 18 hours after EOB.

- Based on theoretical yield calculations with ^{99m}Tc pertechnetate
- Mitigates the impact of dose due to ⁹⁸Mo(*p*,3*n*)⁹⁶Tc reaction at higher *E*

Mo-100 Recovery/Recycling

^{100}Mo
Target

Cyclotron
Modificatio
n

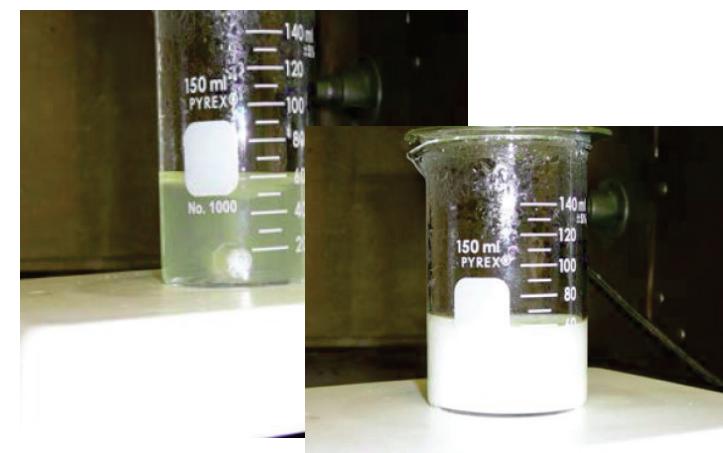
Optimize
Irradiation

Purify
 $^{99\text{m}}\text{TcO}_4$

Regulatory
QA/QC

^{100}Mo
Recovery

- High efficiency recovery process for multi-gram quantities of $^{100}\text{MoO}_4^{2-}$ required
- Some trace long-lived radionuclidic impurities (Nb, W...)
- Target dissolution waste stream (liquid, 10's of mL/batch)
- Currently finalizing acidic precipitation, thermal decomp. process
- Routine recovery yields >99%
- Analysis of recovered ^{100}Mo underway

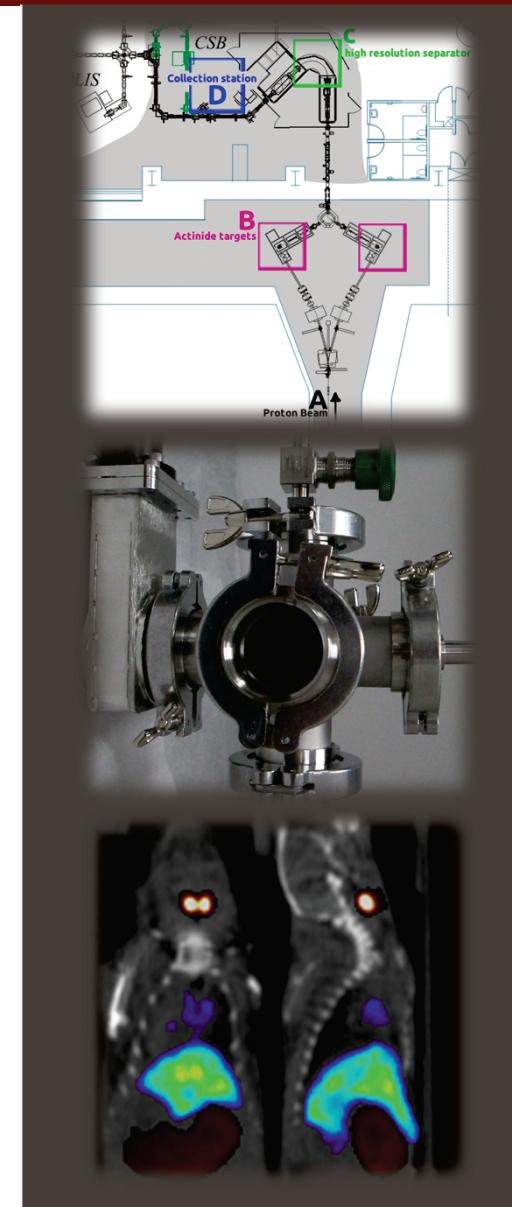


Remaining Challenges for Cyclotron Production of ^{99m}Tc

- Process: Determine long-term reliability (cyclotron and target)
- Quality Control: Decentralized production inherently leads to a greater likelihood of product variability, dose uncertainty
- Regulatory: Considerations need to include target isotopic enrichment, but also batch-to-batch target consistency, irradiation energy/duration, shelf-life (patient dose)
- Economic: Arguments in one region may not apply in others but Full Cost Recovery must apply to all
- Availability: A viable alternative/backup needs to be used regularly

Production and assessment of radiotherapeutic isotopes

Thanks to: J Crawford, P Kunz, C Ramogida, K Ladouceur,
A Robertson, H Yang, B Laxdal, T Ruth

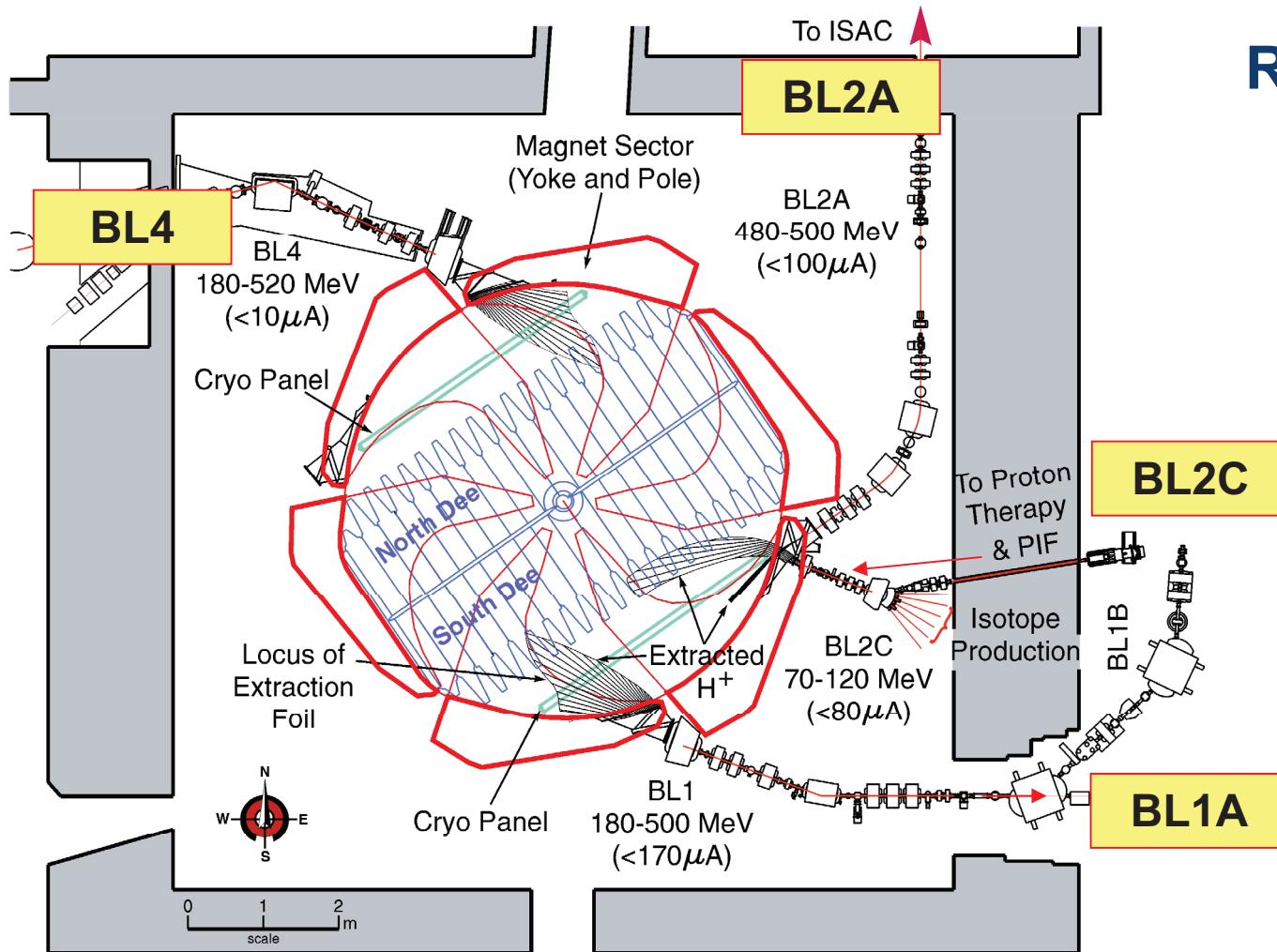


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500 MeV Cyclotron Capabilities

Previous decade: routine operation at 220-250 μ A



Recently achieved:

Materials science,
500 MeV isotopes:

- **BL1A (100 μ A)**

ISAC program:

- **BL2A (100 μ A)**

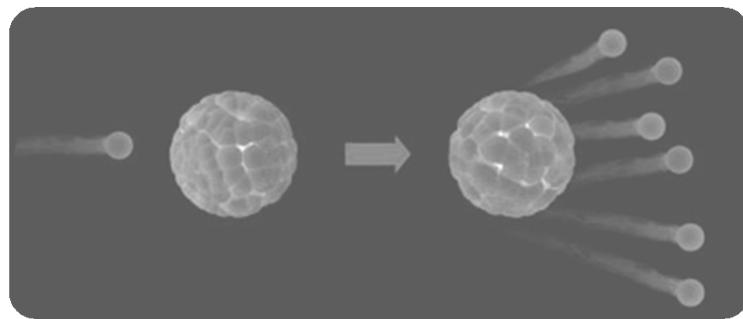
Sr production:

- **BL2C (100 μ A)**

- **Total (300 μ A)**

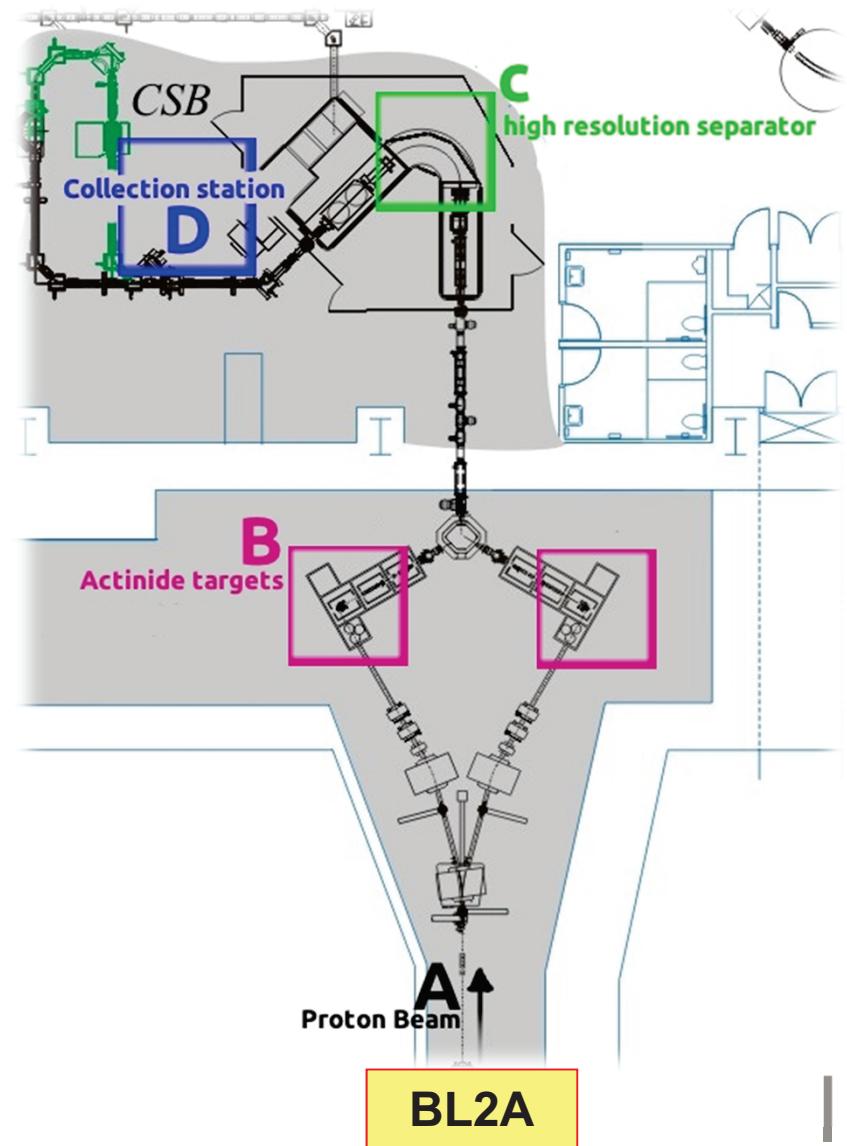
Isotope Accelerator Program (ISAC): 50 kW ISOL Facility

Isotope production via spallation of uranium:



Implementation of ISOL technique:

- Uranium carbide, thorium oxide
- 480 MeV protons, 10 μA
- Various available ion sources
- ~2500:1 mass separation resolution ($\sim 10^6$ – 10^9 ions/s)
- Ion energy = ~20–60 keV



Candidate α -emitters for therapy

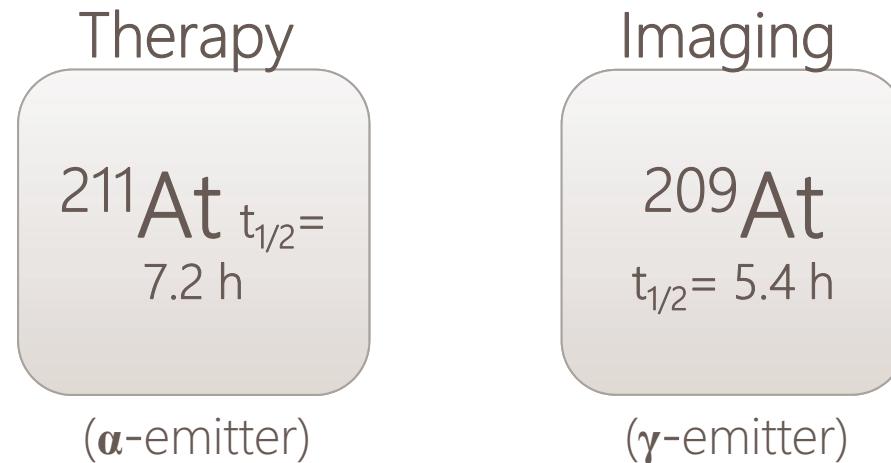
Isotope	Half-life	Standard Production	1 st Ion. E.	ISAC yield
^{149}Tb	4.2 h	Spallation, heavy-particle accelerator	5.86 eV	High
^{211}At	7.2 h	α -cyclotron	9.54 eV	Low
^{212}Bi	1.0 h	Generator ($^{224}\text{Ra}/^{212}\text{Bi}$)	7.29 eV	High for parent
^{213}Bi	0.76 h	Generator ^{225}Ac	7.29 eV	High for parent
^{223}Ra	11.4 d	Generator ($^{227}\text{Ac}/^{223}\text{Ra}$)	5.38 eV	High
^{224}Ra	3.7 d	Generator $^{232,228}\text{Th}$	5.38 eV	High
^{225}Ac	10 d	Generator ($^{229}\text{Th}/^{225}\text{Ac}$)	5.38 eV	High

ISAC yields are high for Tb, Bi, Ra and Ac, but low for astatine isotopes

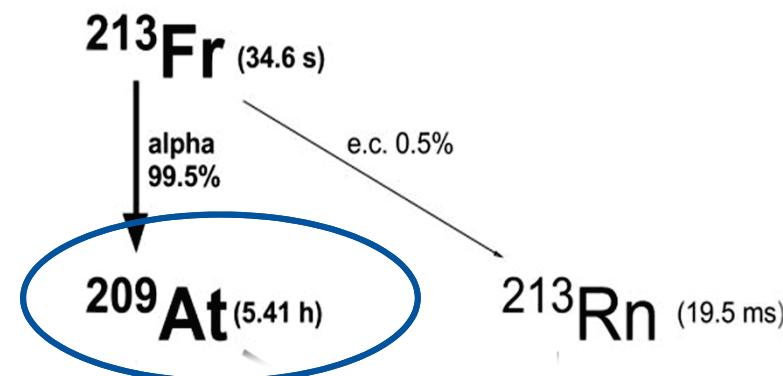
Astatine isotopes can be collected from the decay chains of high yield francium ion beams (ionization energy of Fr = 3.94 eV)

^{209}At -based imaging to establish ^{211}At α -therapy

^{209}At identified as novel SPECT isotope

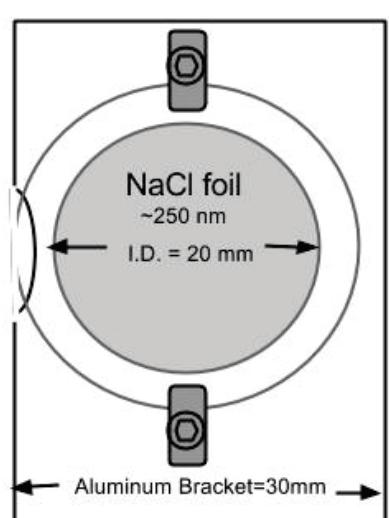
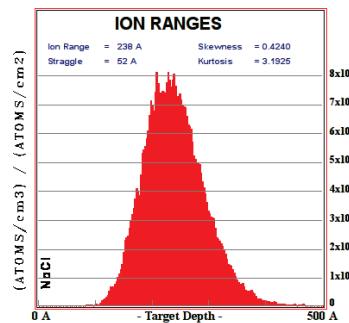


^{209}At collected from ^{213}Fr ion beams

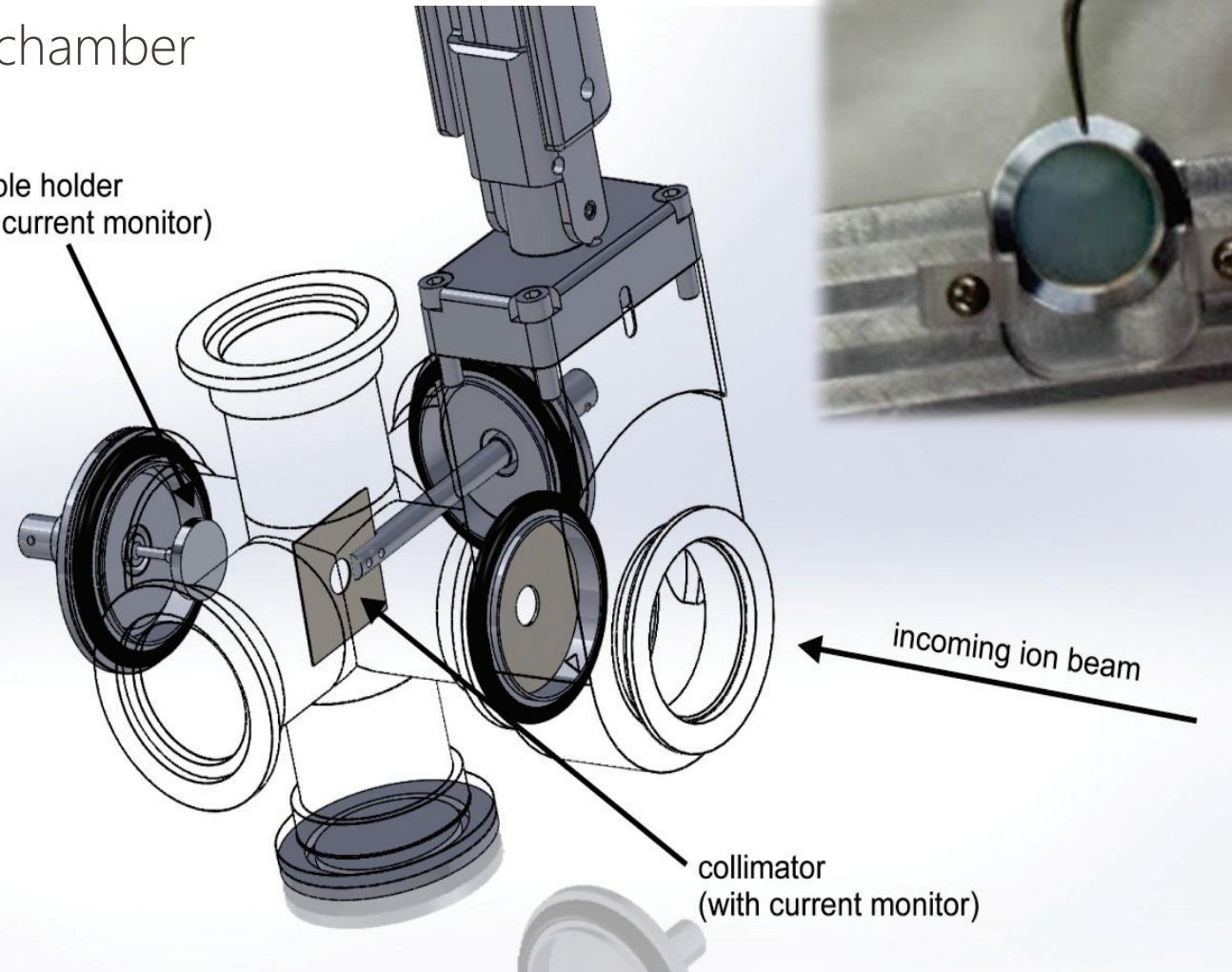


ISOL pilot study: ^{209}At

Implantation chamber



Sample holder
(with current monitor)



From bench to (pre-clinical) bedside

10^9 ions/s of ^{213}Fr collected for up to 9.5 h



^{209}At recovered by dissolving NaCl targets in 0.1 N NaOH (< 300 μL)

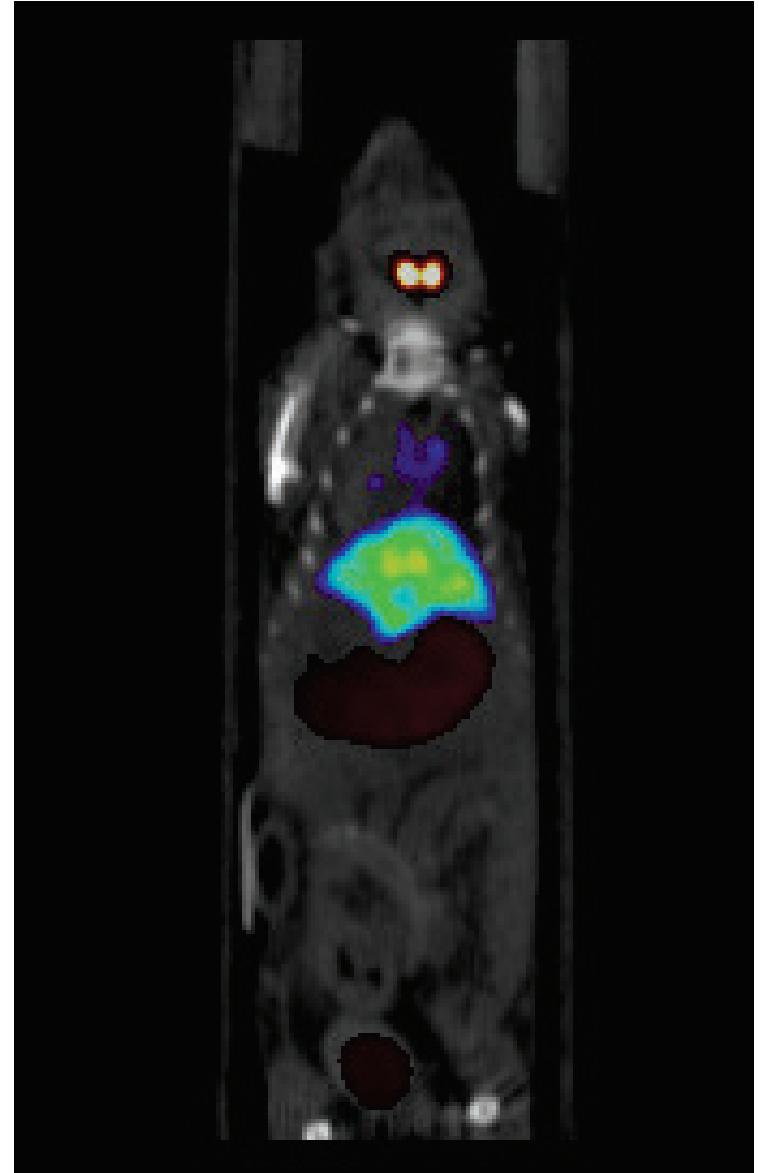
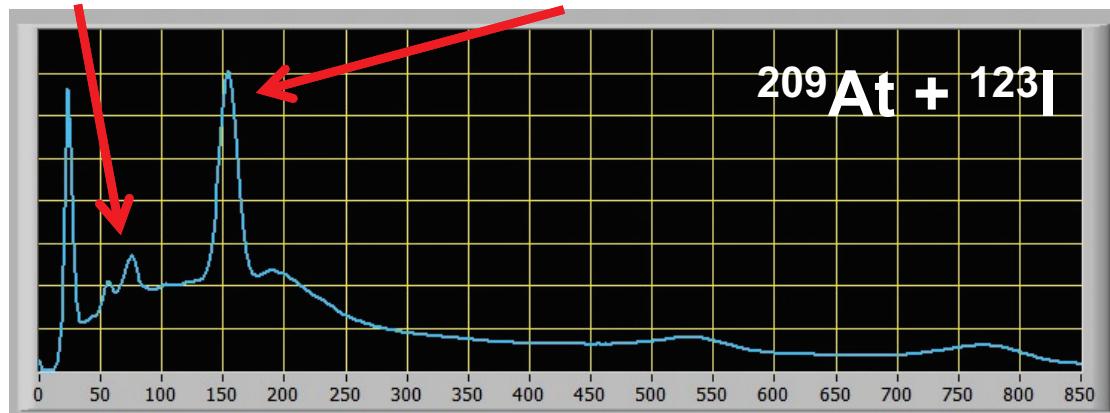


Up to 8.9 mCi ^{209}At (EOB)
(Measured by γ -ray spectroscopy)



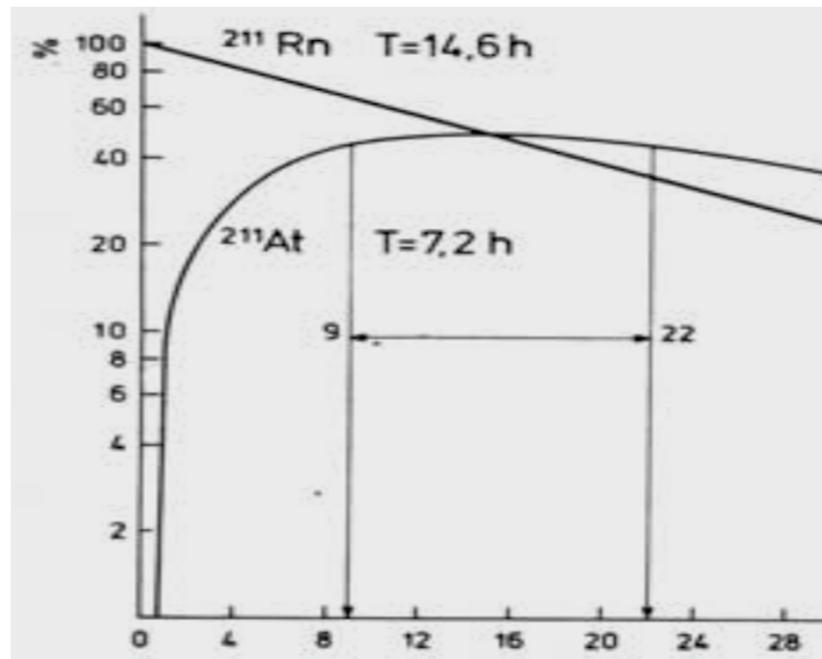
Labeling Chemistry

^{209}At : 80 keV peak ^{123}I : 159 keV peak

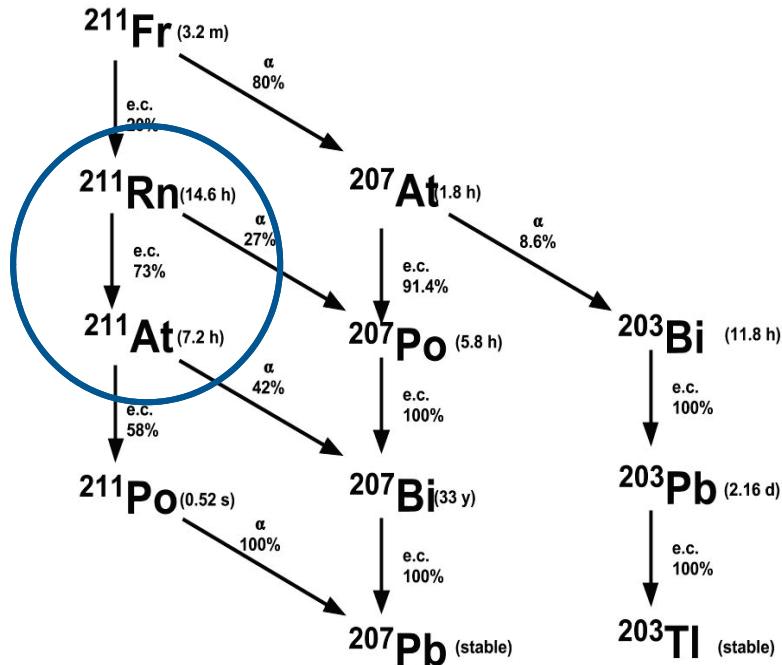


$^{211}\text{Rn}/^{211}\text{At}$ generator system from ^{211}Fr ion beams ($>10^9$ ions/s)

$^{211}\text{Rn}/^{211}\text{At}$ generator could increase ^{211}At supply and opportunities for distribution



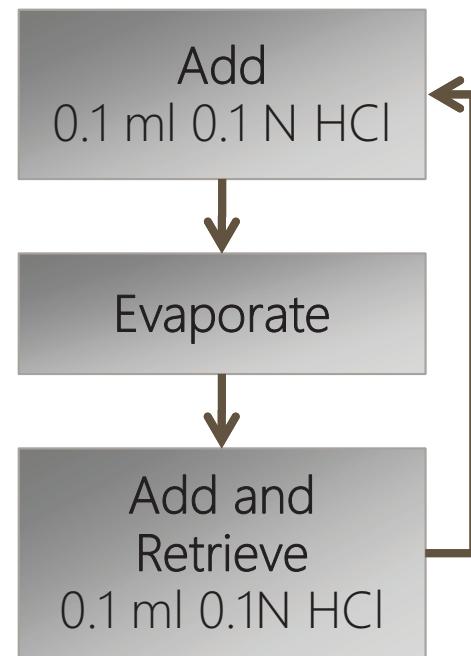
The ^{211}Fr decay chain provided a novel approach to ^{211}Rn production



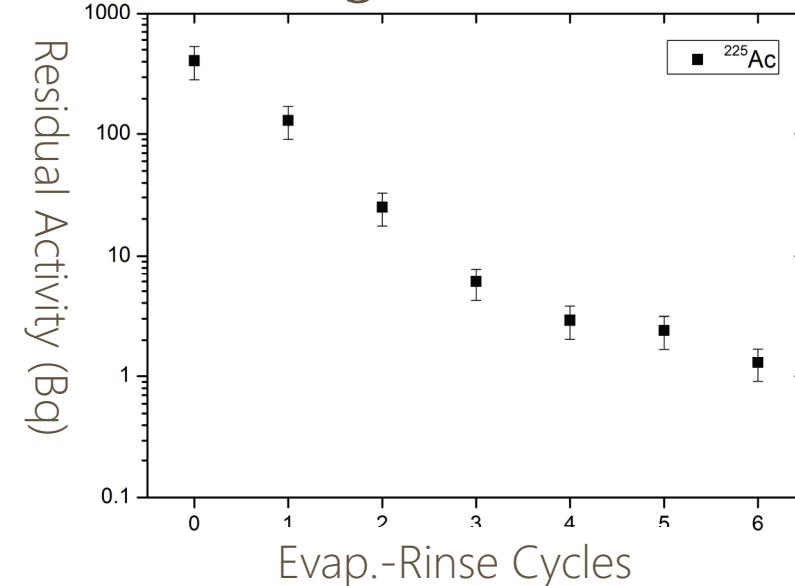
^{211}Rn was isolated in dodecane, other radioactive inventory was washed away with aqueous solution

↓
211At progeny recovered
after several hours of grow-in

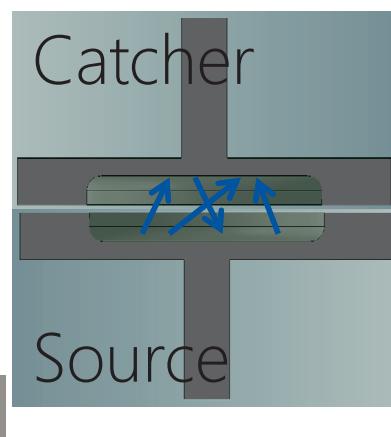
Moving on to feasibility of $^{225}\text{Ra}/^{225}\text{Ac}$



Extraction using 0.1N HCl solution

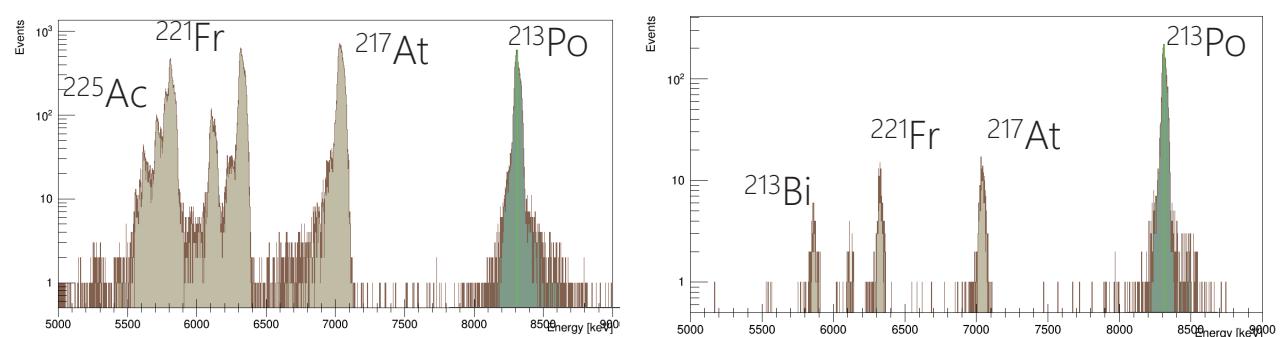


Recoil transfer in vacuum



Source

Catcher



Efficiency ~30%

Future Direction: $^{225}\text{Ac}/^{213}\text{Bi}$

- ISOL and Target Dissolution/Extraction

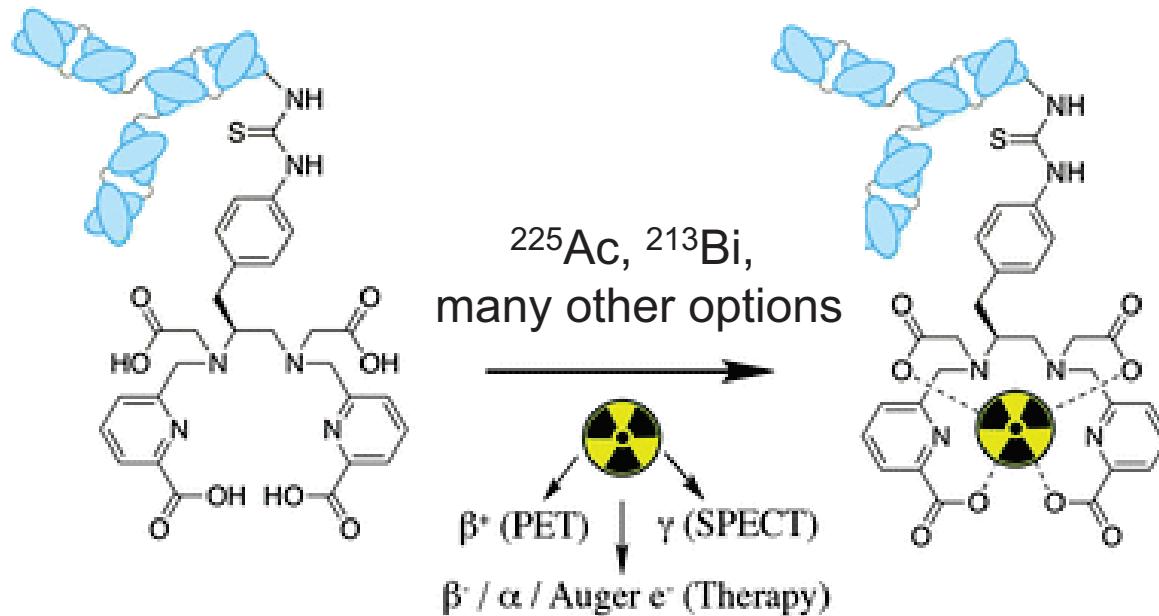
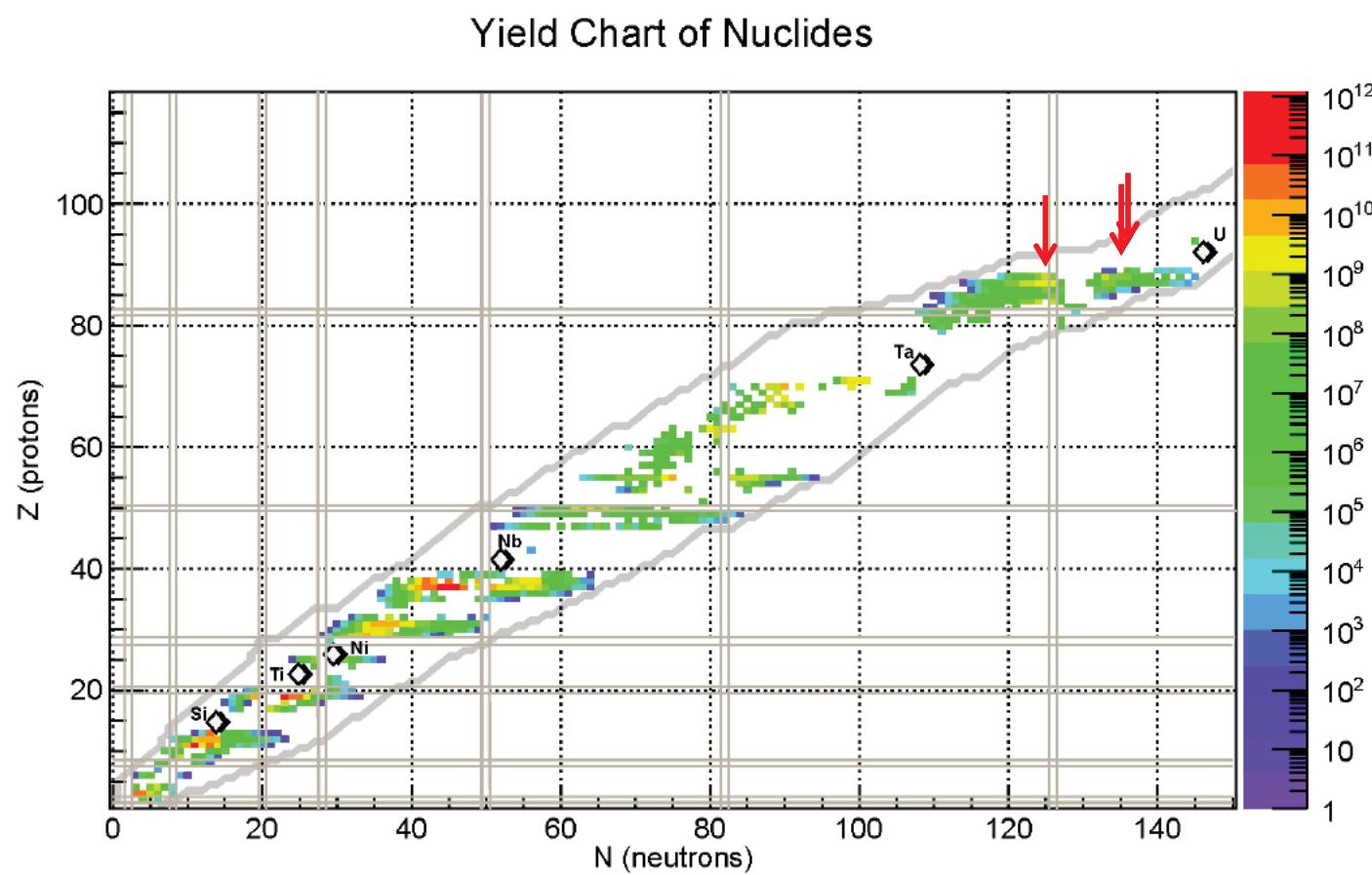


Image taken from: E Price, C Orvig, *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2014, 43, 260-290

- TRIUMF capable of producing large (Ci) quantities of isotopes such as ^{225}Ac , $^{223,225}\text{Ra}$, ^{213}Bi , ^{211}Rn
- Possible to ship targets for off-site processing (short-term)
- Effort in early stages, infrastructure, regulatory capabilities being pursued/implemented (long-term)

Medical Isotopes from ISAC/ISOL

- Future Direction(s): From ISOL to full target harvest...



Acknowledgements: Tc-99m

- The Team:

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Natural Resources
Canada

Ressources naturelles
Canada

Canada

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Canadian
Cancer
Society

Société
canadienne
du cancer

Animal Imaging

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Tina Jorgensen (CCM)
Stephan Blinder (UBC)
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(UBC)



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Laboratoire national canadien pour la recherche en physique nucléaire
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Thank you! Merci!

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