



# Monitoring ocular toxicity of radiotherapy

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**PTCOG 2006**

# Ocular toxicity from XRT

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- Clinical spectrum
- Current reporting metrics of ocular toxicity
  - Common language between ophthalmology and radiotherapy
- Future considerations

# Ocular Structures

XRT

Lid/ Orbit

Lacrimal Gland

Nasolacrimal  
Drainage system

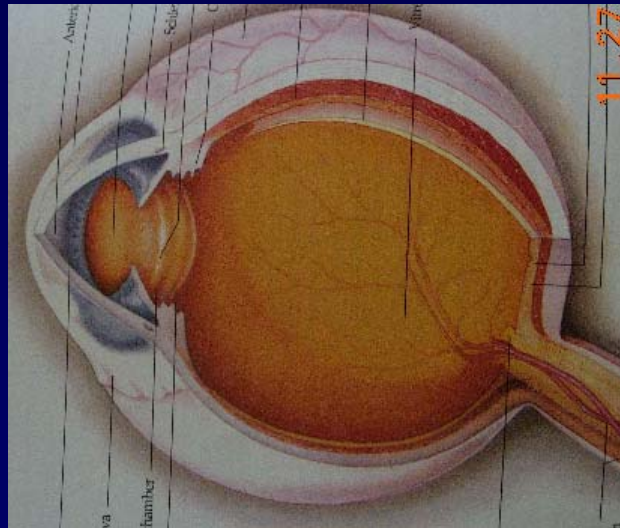
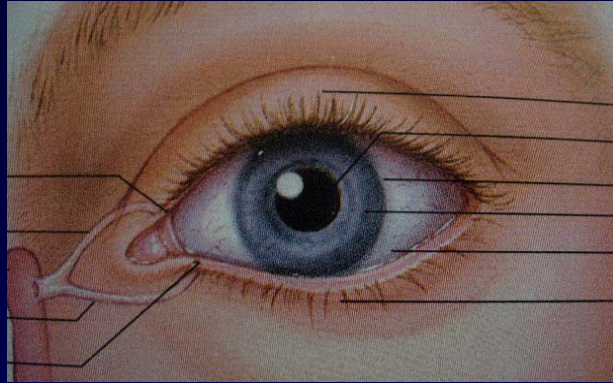
Conjunctiva

Cornea

Lens

Retina

Optic Nerve

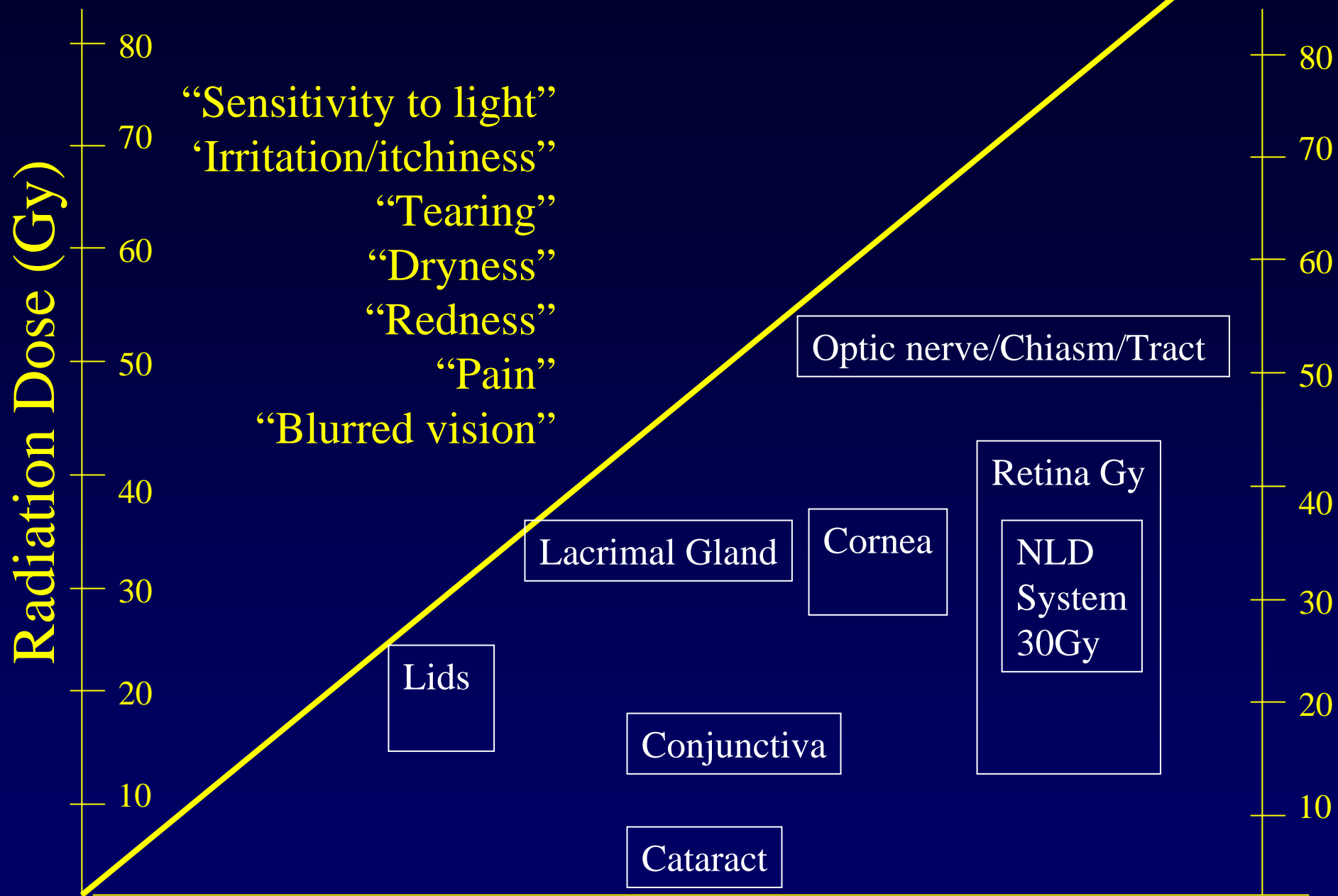


- Ocular/Orbital
- Head and Neck Cancers
  - skull base
  - paranasal sinus CA
- CNS / Pituitary

# Proton Eye treatment

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- Lacrimal gland/sac tumors (ACC)
- Orbital metastatic disease
- Conjunctival tumors
- Iris Tumors
- Wet age related macular degeneration
- Retinoblastomas
- Angiomas/ Hemangiomas
- Uveal melanoma



# Anterior Eye

# Lid (Gy)



30 - 40

Lid erythema,  
Madarosis

35 -56

Punctual  
stenosis



# Anterior Eye

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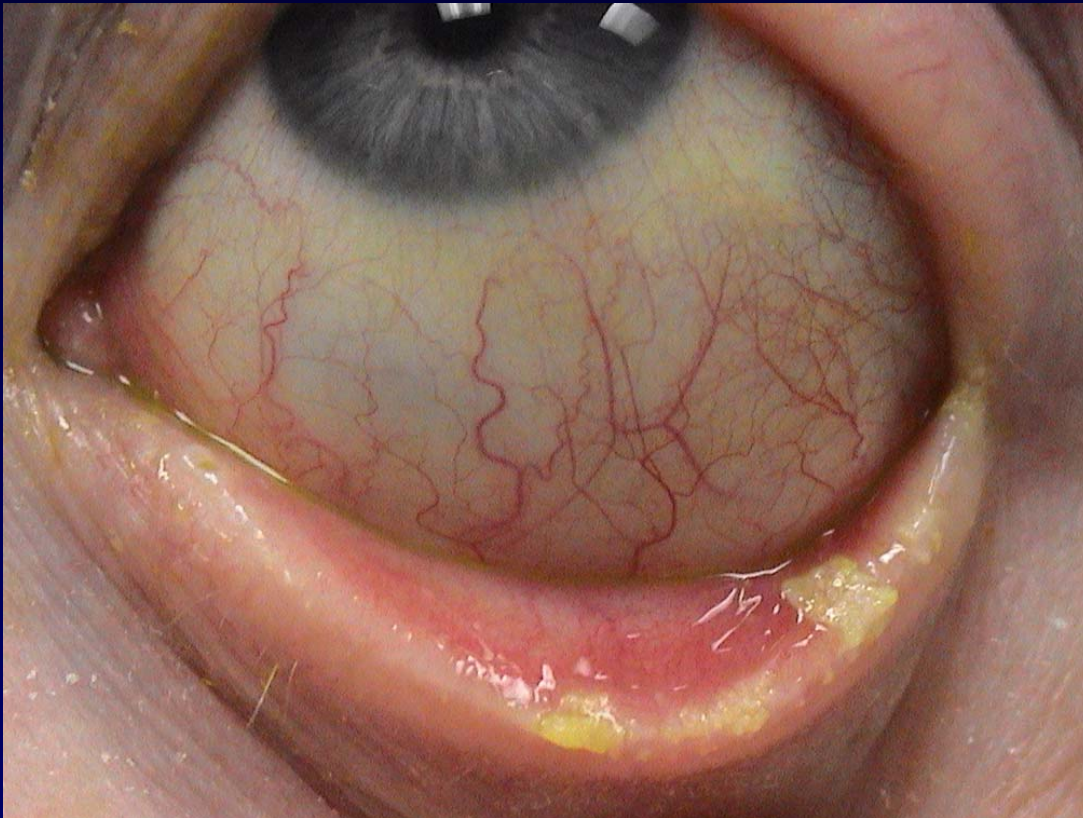
# Lid (Gy)

> 50 Lid  
telangiectasis  
Ectropion  
Entropion  
Trichiasis  
Hyperkeratosis

# Anterior Eye

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# Lid (Gy)



> 50 Lid  
telangiectasis  
Ectropion  
Entropion  
Trichiasis  
Hyperkeratosis



# Anterior Eye

# Lacrimal Glands (Gy)



>30 Sicca  
syndrome/  
Dry Eye

40 = 50%

> 60 = 100%

# Anterior Eye

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# Lacrimal Glands (Gy)



**Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca/ DES**

>30 Sicca  
syndrome/  
Dry Eye

40 = 50%

>60 = 100%

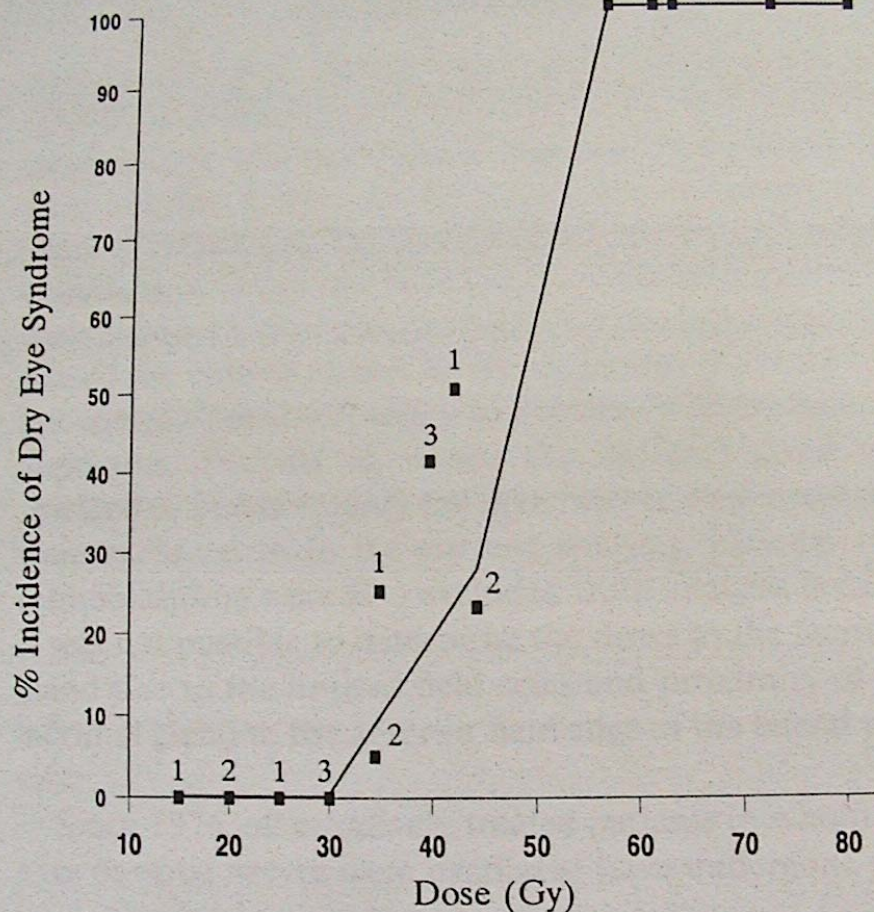


Fig. 3. Sigmoid dose response curve for production of dry-eye complications. Points are numbered to correspond with authors: 1, Parsons *et al.* (current series); 2, Bessell *et al.* (1); 3, Letschert *et al.* (6); and 4, Morita *et al.* (7). Dose ranges are shown in Tables 3 and 5.

Table 3. Incidence of severe dry eye syndrome according to total dose (University of Florida data)\*

Dose range (Gy)	Incidence (%)
10-20	0/4 (0)
20.01-30	0/2 (0)
30.01-40	2/8 (25)
40.01-45	1/2 (50)
45.01-56.99	No data
57-60	3/3 (100)
60.01-70	5/5 (100)
70.01-80	8/8 (100)
80.01-83	1/1 (100)

#### SEVERE DRY-EYE SYNDROME FOLLOWING EXTERNAL BEAM IRRADIATION

JAMES T. PARSONS, M.D.,\* FRANK J. BOVA, PH.D.,\* CONSTANCE R. FITZGERALD, M.D.,†  
WILLIAM M. MENDENHALL, M.D.\* AND RODNEY R. MILLION, M.D.\*

\*Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Florida College of Medicine;  
and †Private Practice of Ophthalmology, Gainesville, FL



# Anterior Eye

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## Conjunctiva (Gy)



10 – 21 Ocular  
surface disease

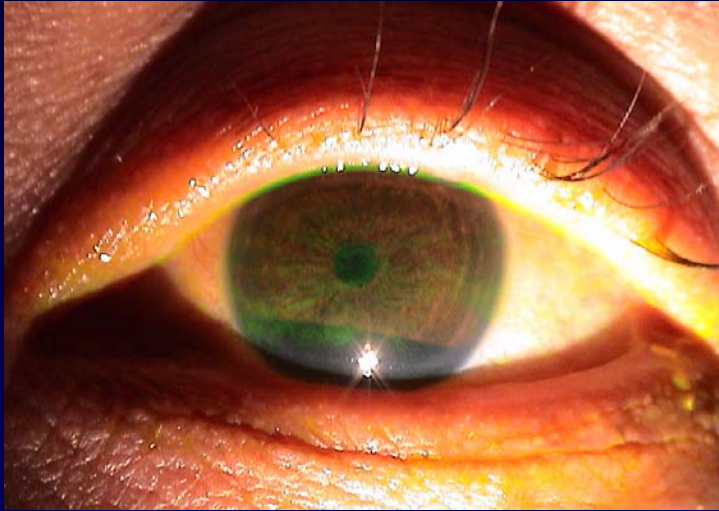
37 (200-250 cGy  
fractions)  
Conjunctivitis



55 – 75  
Conjunctivitis,  
symblepharon

# Anterior Eye

## Cornea (Gy)



30 – 50 Keratitis,  
corneal edema,  
small ulcer



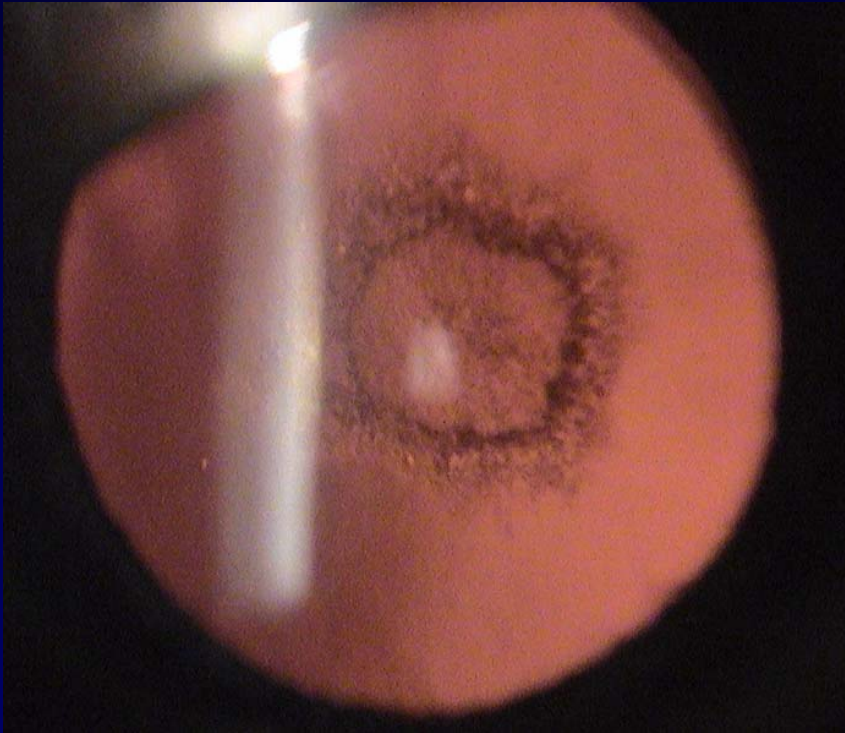
35 Blindness, severe  
keratitis (orbital  
lymphoma)  
> 60 Corneal ulcer,  
perforation



# Posterior Eye

## Lens (Gy)

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200 cGY Threshold- Cataract (no shield)

2.0-11.5 Gy, 1/3 developed cataract (<6.5 in 8yr; >6.5 in 4 yr)

10 Gy – 21Gy TBI Cataract, (TBI fractionation better than single dose)

Baseline cataract evaluation is important

# Posterior Eye

## Retina (Gy)



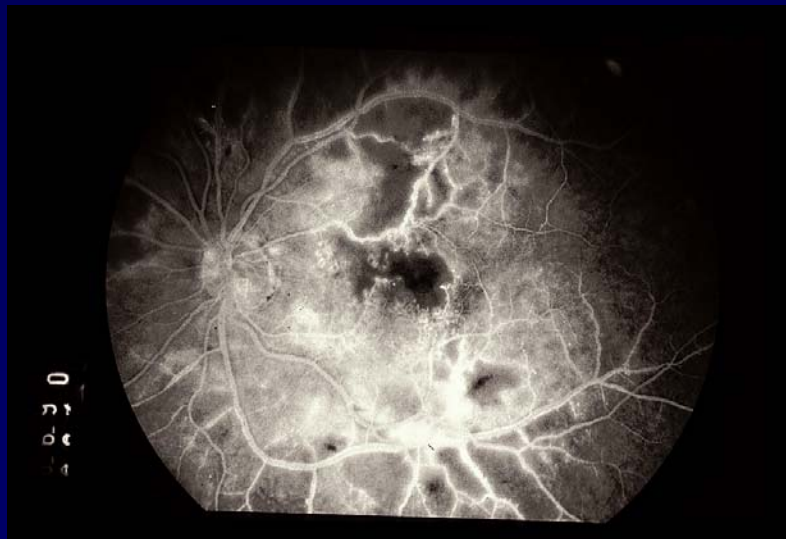
>40 Gy Retinopathy  
(2-3 yrs; 1-6 yr range)

< 20-30 Gy if  
comorbidity exists

Diabetes

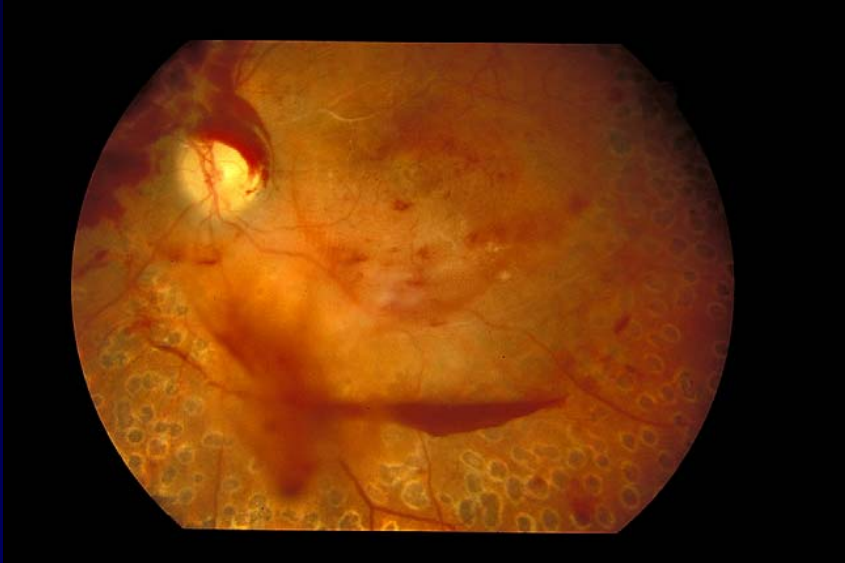
Vaso-occlusive dz

Hypertension



# Posterior Eye

## Retina (Gy)



- Anterior segment neovascularization may lead to neovascular glaucoma
- Leads to “Blind painful eye”
  - Enucleation
  - EtOH retrobulbar injection



# Posterior Eye

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## Optic neuropathy (Gy)



>50 Gy (variable)

≥2Gy **Daily fractionation**

**Total dose** (>65Gy, <2Gy  
daily dose)

**Tissues volume**

**Age (>50)**

**Chemo-radiation**

•Clinical manifestations: Wide range.

Radiation Dose (Gy)

80  
70  
60  
50  
40  
30  
20  
10

80  
70  
60  
50  
40  
30  
20  
10

Cornea  
perforation  
>60 Gy

Severe conjunctivitis/  
Symblepharon  
>55-75 Gy

Optic neuropathy  
>50 Gy

Lid telangiectasis/entropion/  
Punctal stenosis  
Hyperkeratosis >50 Gy

Sicca  
>30Gy

Keratitis  
>35 Gy  
Corneal scar

Retinopathy>40 Gy  
Neovascular  
Glaucoma

Erythema/Madarosis  
20-30Gy

Transient conjunctivitis  
>10Gy

Cataract (2 Gy)

Ocular Side Effects



# RTOG/EORTC Late Radiation Morbidity Scoring Scheme

Organ Tissue	0	1	2	3	4
EYE	-	Asymptomatic cataract;  Minor corneal ulceration or keratitis	Symptomatic cataract;  Moderate corneal ulceration;  Minor retinopathy or glaucoma	Severe keratitis;  Severe retinopathy or detachment  Severe glaucoma	Panopthalmitis / Blindness

# Challenges in Grading Ocular Side Effects

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- Common language needed.
  - For ocular tumors, primary treating physician is a non-radiotherapist. Capturing toxicities in context of grade I, II, III, IV not commonly done in ophthalmology
- Clinical manifestations: Wide range.
  - transient non-vision threatening ocular surface disease to severe optic neuropathy and blindness.
  - Real time assessment is optimal

# **NCI/CTEP Common Toxicity Criteria for Adverse Events, Version 3.0**

CTC AEv3.0 grading system for toxicity for a given sign or symptom	General guideline used to grade toxicity.	General guideline used to grade a given sign or symptom as it relates to eye or vision
Grade 1	Present. Asymptomatic.	No vision loss. Asymptomatic.
Grade 2	Symptomatic. Requiring medical intervention. Affecting function of the organ but not interfering with activities of daily living	Vision loss present. Visual acuity greater or equal to 20/40.
Grade 3	Symptomatic. May require surgical intervention. Affecting function of the organ and interfering with activities of daily living (ADL).	Vision loss present. Visual acuity less than 20/40 and greater than or equal to 20/200.
Grade 4	Complete loss of function or loss of organ.	Blindness and/or events leading to blindness such as perforation or enucleation.

# Grade I –Ocular surface disease

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# Grade II

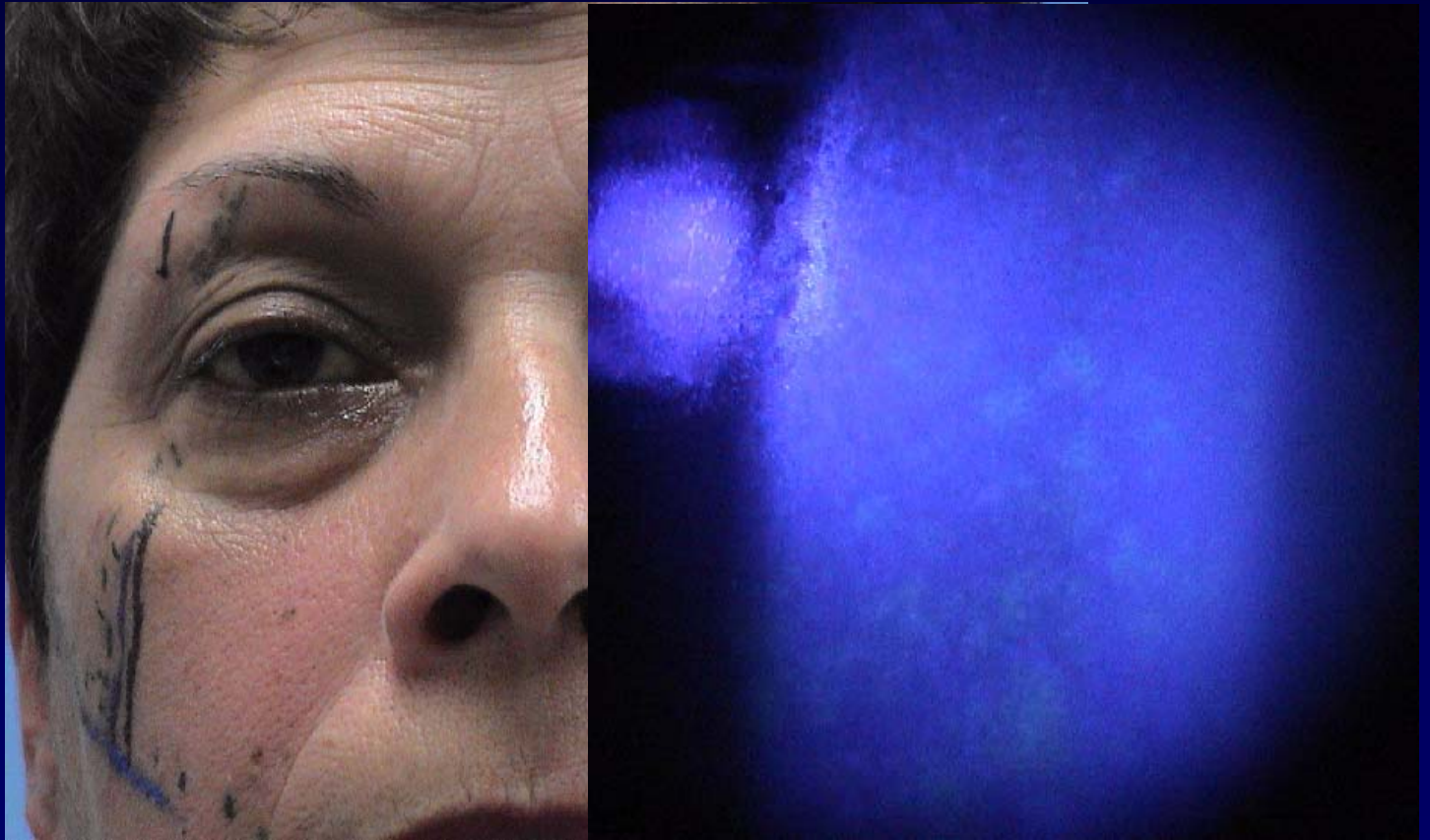
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Severe photophobia

# Grade II Ocular surface disease

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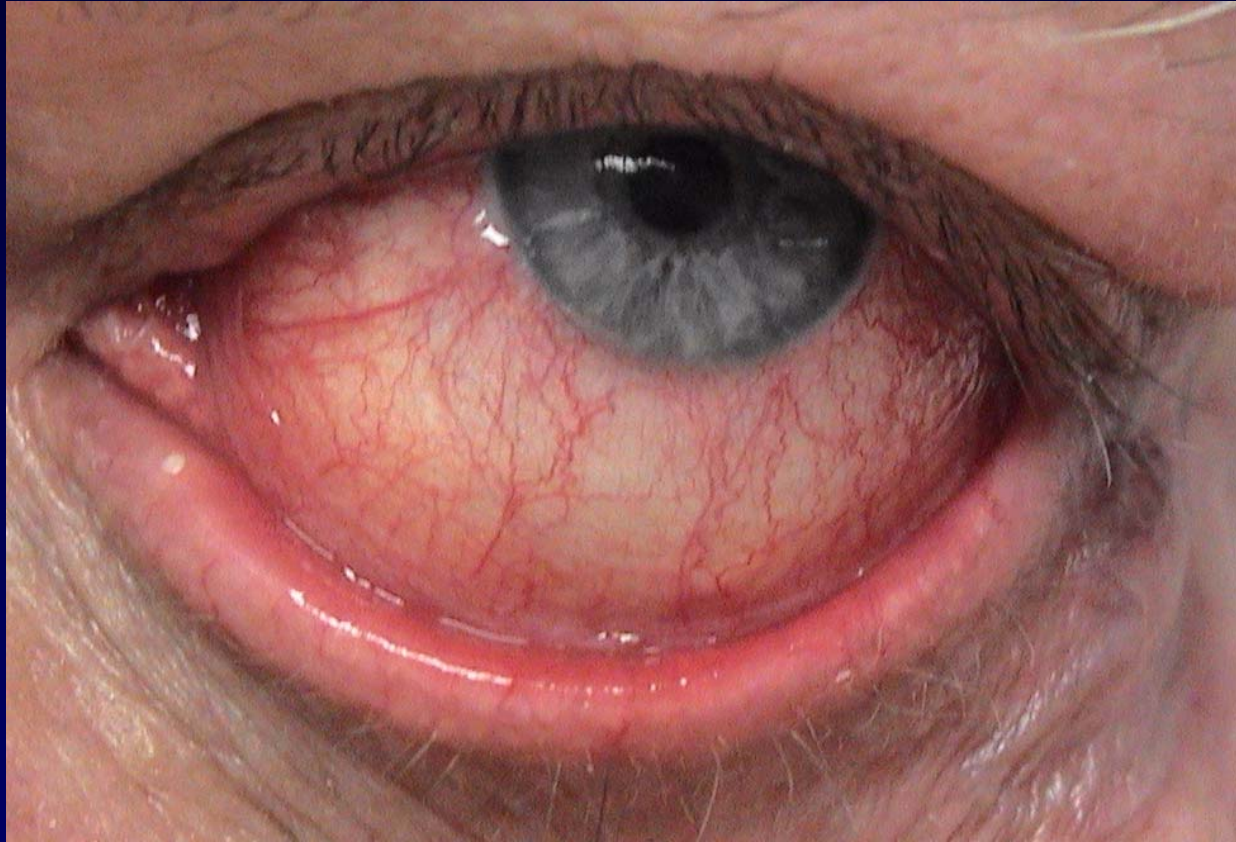


Severe keratitis

# Grade II – Ocular Surface disease

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Lid  
telangiectasis,  
symblepharon  
of lower lid  
with shortened  
inferior fornix,  
chronic kerato-  
conjunctivitis  
sicca/

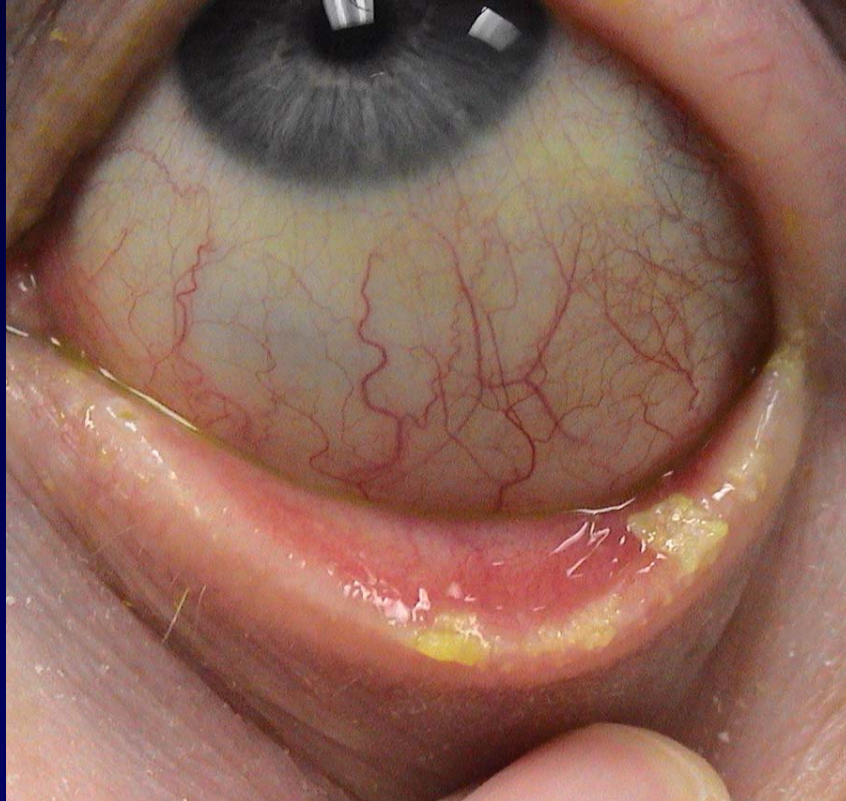


Requiring punctual plugs, aggressive lubrication and occasional topical steroid medication. Not affecting activities of daily living.



# Grade III

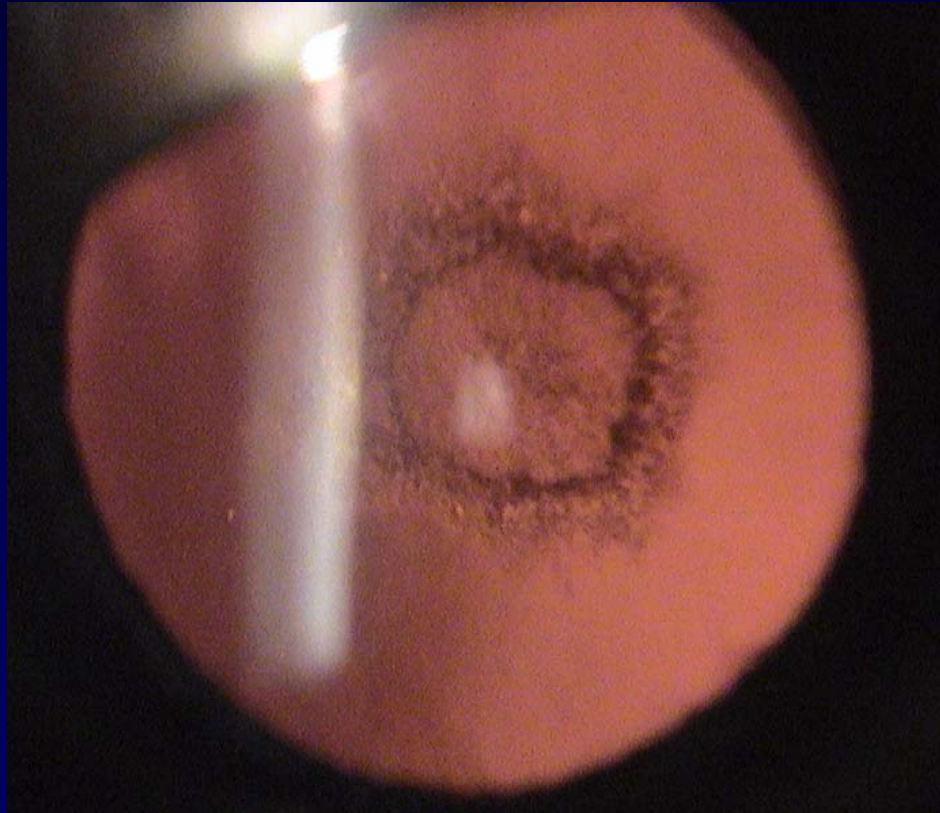
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Lower lid palpebral conjunctival keratinization with severe keratopathy, leading to visual acuity of 20/50 and affecting ADL. Status post multiple surgical debridement. In need of amniotic membrane graft.

# Grade III

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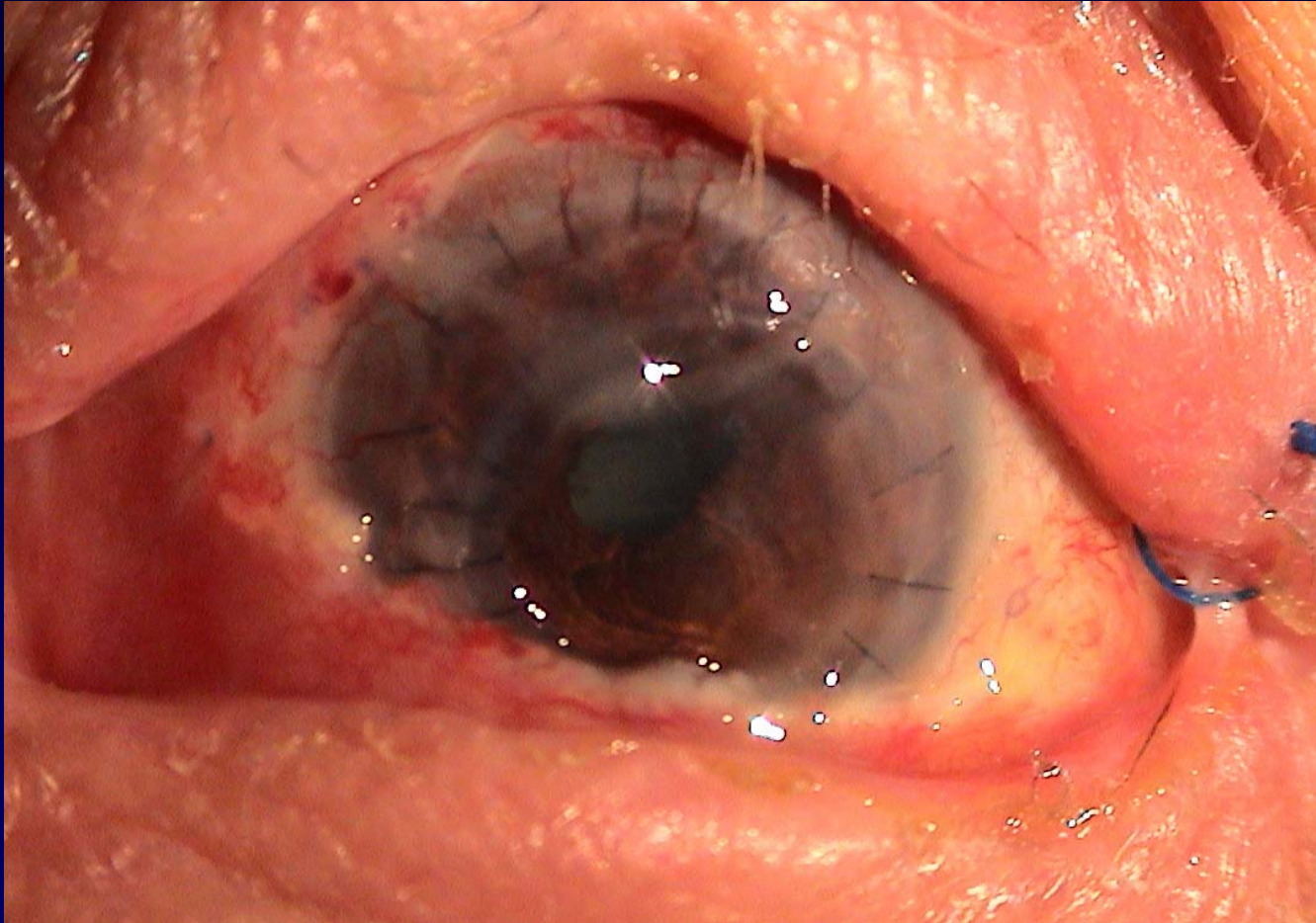


Posterior subcapsular cataract in 21 year old woman. Visual acuity 20/200 by bright acuity test, affecting ADL. Requiring surgery.



# Grade IV

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Neurotrophic cornea, leading to persistent corneal epithelial defect. Status post corneal transplantation, with progressive corneal graft thinning, resulting in perforation (see iris plug coming through the corneal tissue).

# Grade IV

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Corneal perforation with  
pan-endophthalmitis





**MDACC Eye Treatment System**

# Ocular Proton Therapy:

## Can we do better?

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- Reduce local toxicity
  - Enucleation rate; vision loss, etc.
  - Hyperfractionation ?
  - Deduced dosing for patients with co-morbidity?
- Quality of life
  - validated surveys ?

# Ocular Proton Therapy:

## Can we do better?

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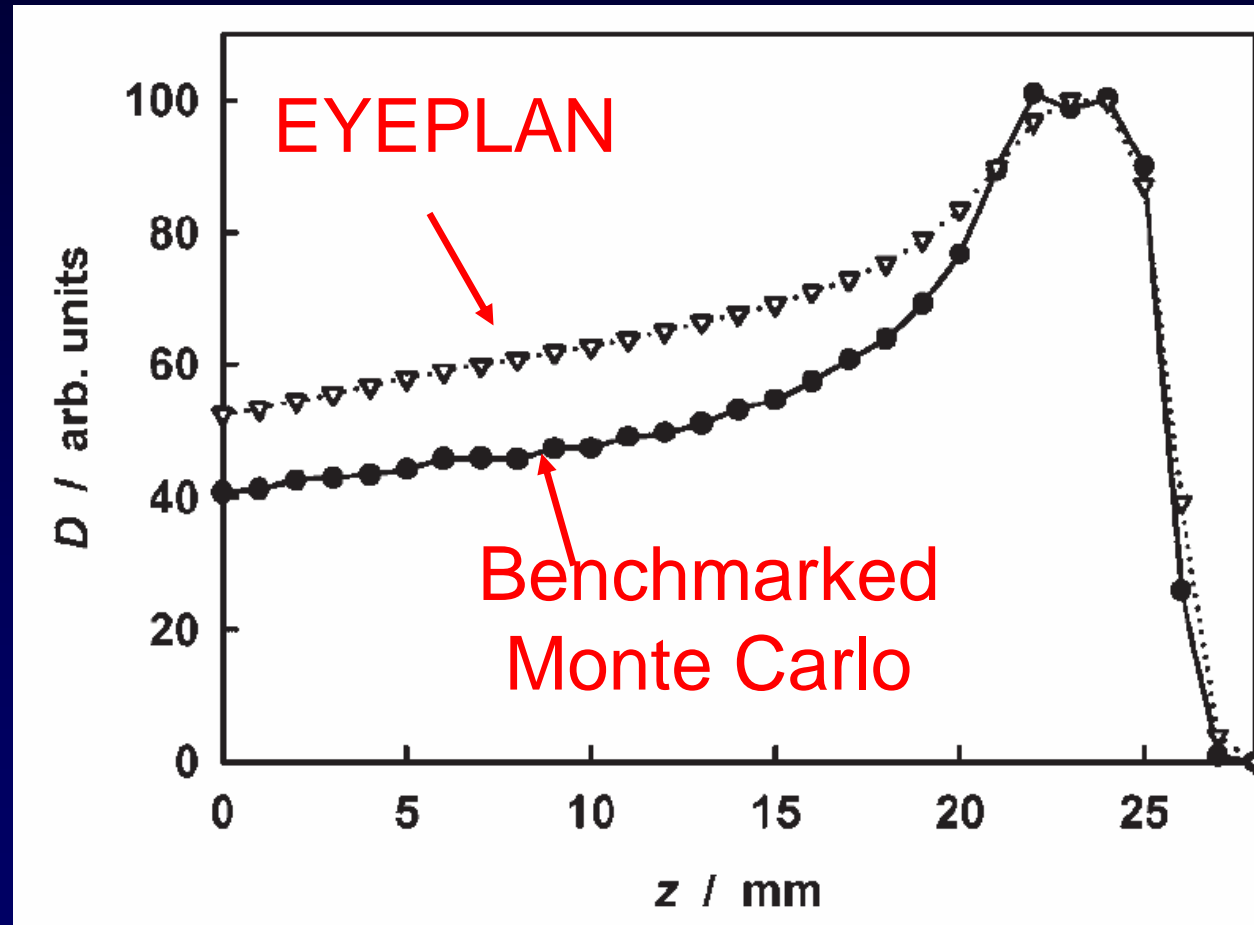
- Increase local control
  - Planning systems ?
  - Improved homogeneity of treatment dose in the tumor ?
- Late effects (2nd CA, especially in patients < 50 y old)
  - Neutrons ?



# Toxicity: Can we improve quality of dose response functions?

**Dose difference due to overly simplistic modeling of beam modulation.**

Modulation width = 4 mm



Koch and Newhauser. *Rad. Prot. Dosim.* (2005)

Newhauser, Koch, Hummel, Ziegler, Titt. *Phys. Med. Biol.* (2005)

# Toxicity: How accurate is the Eyeplan dose prediction for other modulation widths?

**Mod. width**

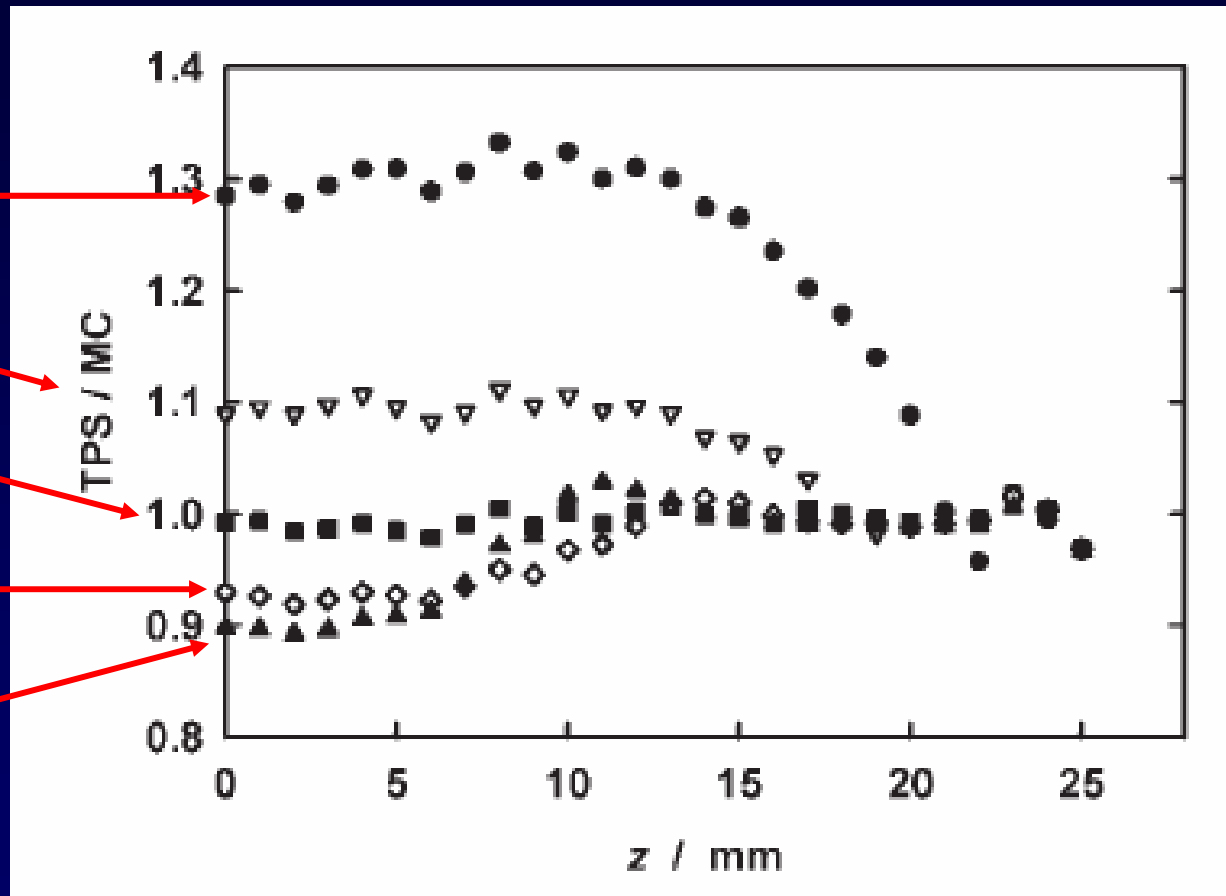
**4 mm**

**7 mm**

**10 mm**

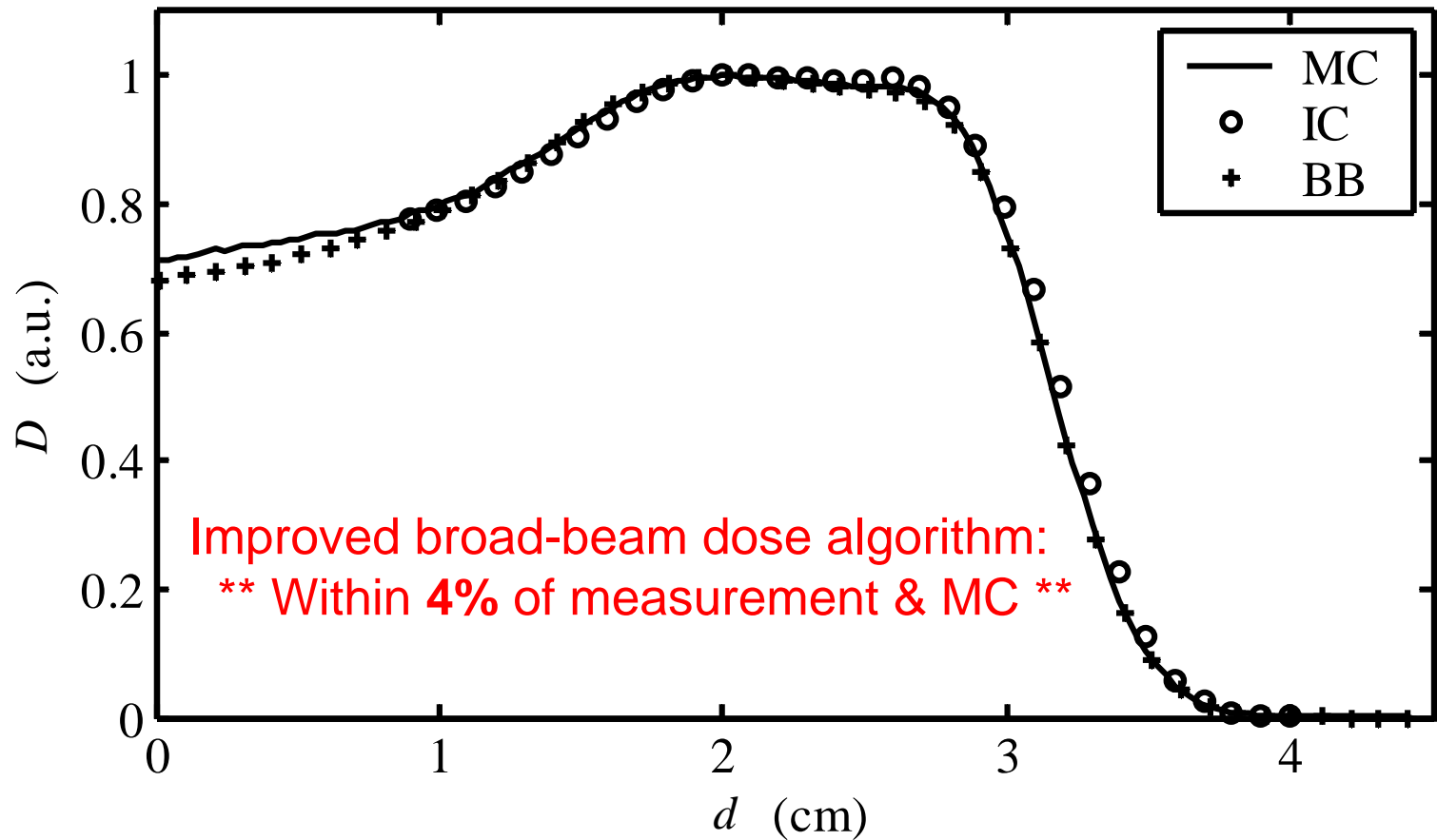
**14 mm**

**17 mm**



Koch and Newhauser, Rad. Prot. Dosim. (2005)

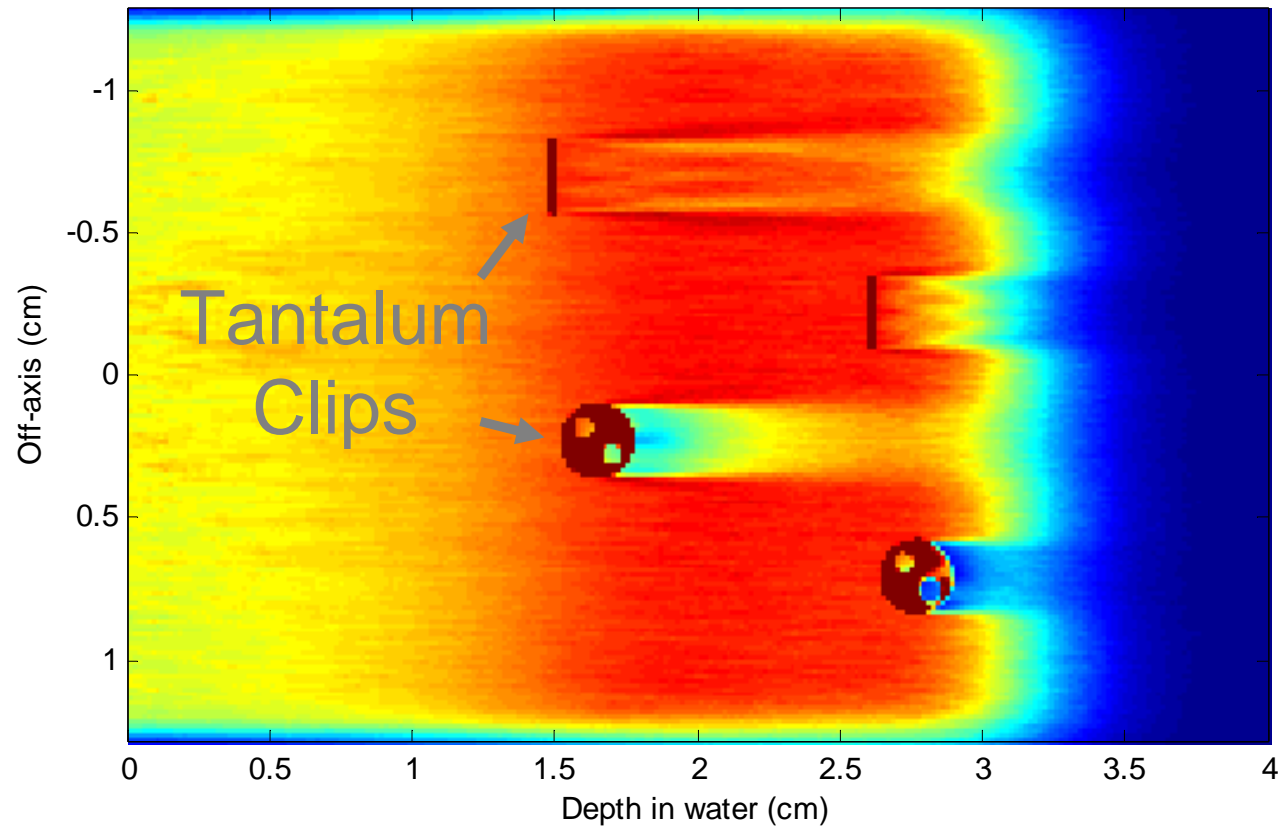
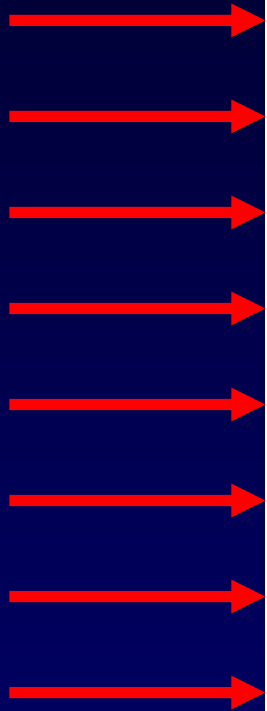
# Toxicity: More accurate dose predictions will translate to more accurate dose response functions



Nich Koch. Ph. D. doctoral dissertation, UTMDACC 2006.

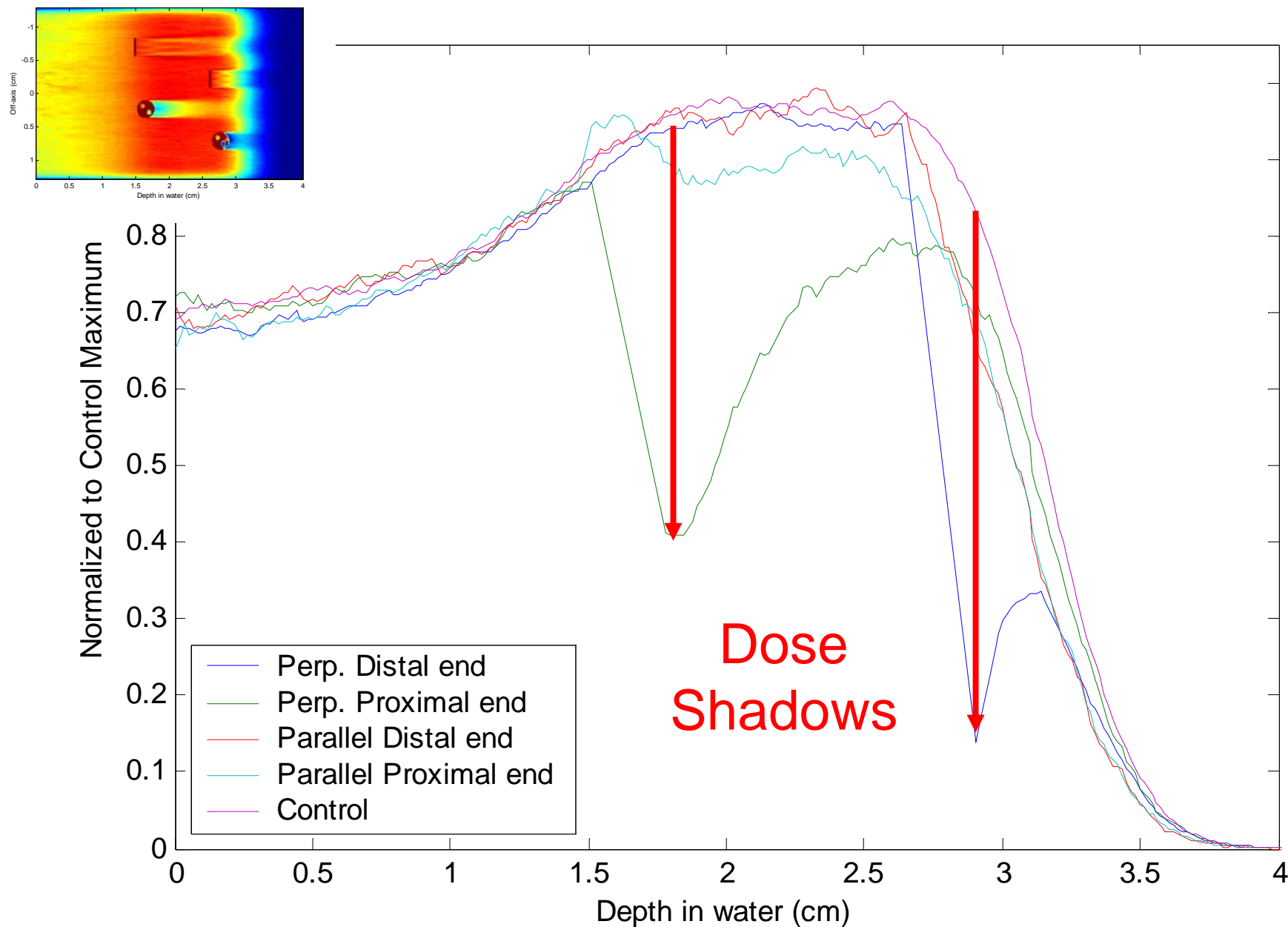
# Local Control: Can fiducial markers cause shadows?

Beam



Newhauser, Koch, Gombos, et al. (in preparation)

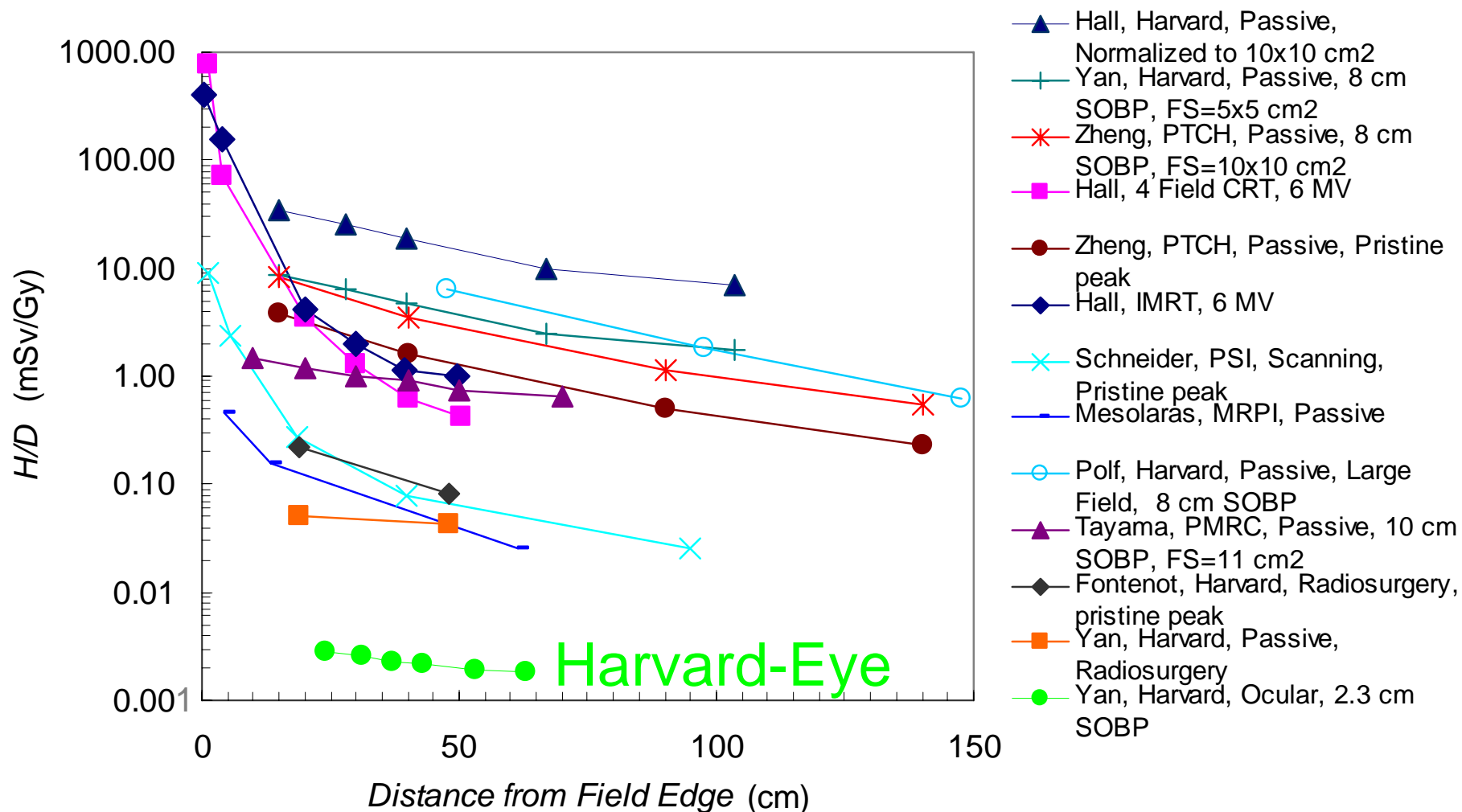
# Local Control?: Big shadows => placement strategy is key





# Late Effects: Neutron dose small, but uncertainty large

## Stray Radiation Exposure from Different RT Facilities



# Summary

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Ocular toxicity from radiotherapy can impact patients' quality of life.

Using expanded metrics for grading ocular toxicity may provide for easier comparison between treatment modalities.

Strategies to reduce local toxicity while retaining and/or improving local control should be considered.



*Making Cancer History*

[skim@mdanderson.org](mailto:skim@mdanderson.org)

# Choroidal Hemangioma

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## **Irradiation treatment of choroidal hemangiomas**

Zografoz L et al. J Fr Ophtalmol. 1989;12(11):797-807

24 patients -

## **Proton beam therapy for posterior pole circumscribed choroidal haemangioma.**

Lee V, Hungerford JL. Eye. 1998;12 ( Pt 6):925-8.

3 patients – similar toxicity as conventional low-dose, lens sparing external beam treatment or brachytherapy

## **Sturge-Weber syndrome: medical management of choroidal hemangiomas**

Reuman, F et al J Fr Ophtalmol. 2002 Apr;25(4):399-403

7 patients: 2/7 with proton – good for well circumscribed hemangioma.

5/7 External beam for diffuse disease

## **Low-dose proton beam therapy for circumscribed choroidal hemangioma.**

Frau E et al Arch Ophthalmol. 2004 Oct;122(10):1471-5

17 patients, 12 mo followup, no toxicity, 94% with >2 Snellen Va improvement

# Choroidal Hemangioma

## Low-Dose Proton Beam Therapy for Circumscribed Choroidal Hemangiomas

*Eric Frau, MD; Frank Rumen, MD; George Noel, MD; Sabine Delacroix, PhD;  
Jean-Louis Habrand, MD; Hervé Offret, MD*

ARCH OPHTHALMOL/VOL 122, OCT 2004

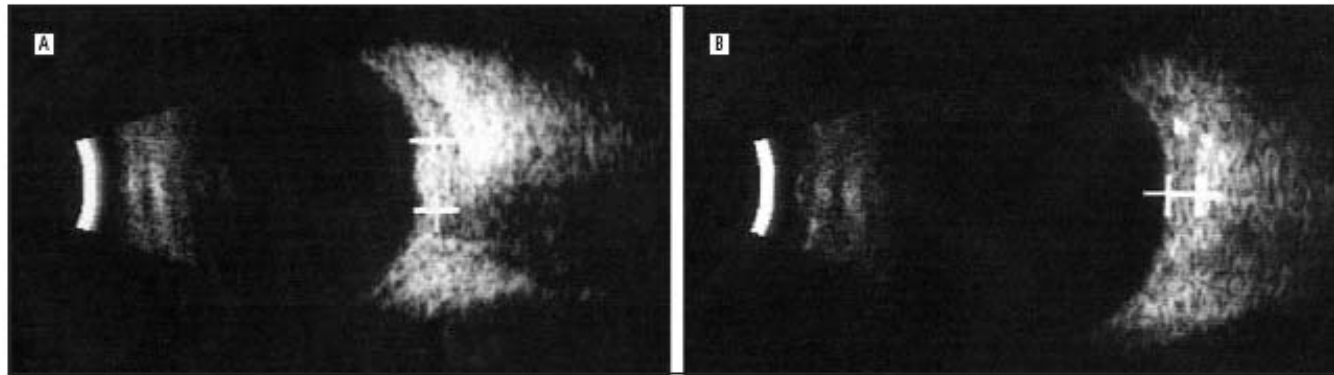


Figure 2. Ultrasonographic study, A, showing a solid choroidal lesion, high internal reflectivity, and a thickness of 2.5 mm. B, Echographic aspect 3 years after proton beam therapy. The tumor is almost flat; the patient's final visual acuity was 20/25.

20 CGE in 5 fractions



# Proton radiotherapy as an alternative to exenteration in the management of extended conjunctival melanoma

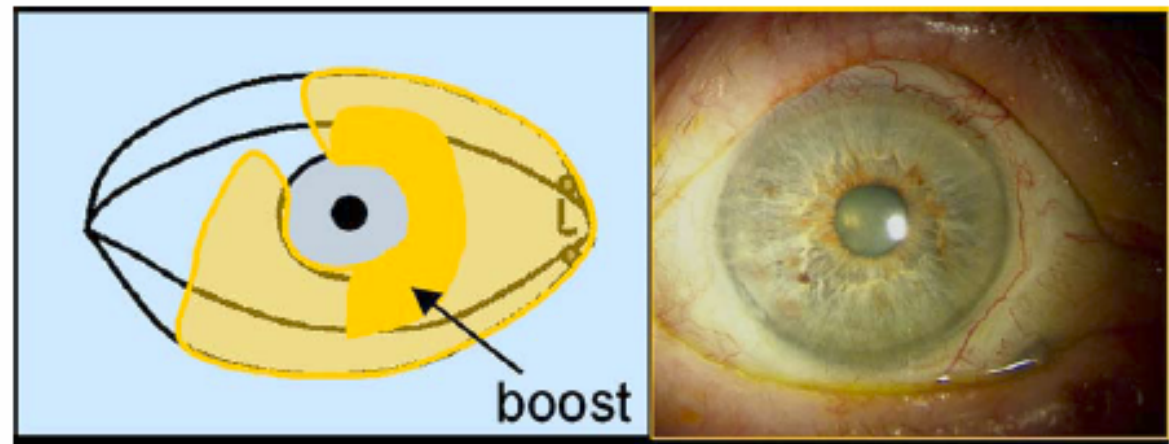
Græfe's Arch Clin Exp Ophthalmol

Henrike Wuestemeyer  
Wolfgang Sauerwein  
Daniel Meller  
Pierre Chauvel  
Andreas Schueler  
Klaus-Peter Steuhl  
Norbert Bornfeld  
Gerasimos Anastassiou

Nice, France

Essen, Germany

Fig. 1 This is a case of a de novo conjunctival melanoma. The colour draw shows the large target area, because of the diffuse extension, and the smaller boost field including almost 50% of the limbus. The clinical picture shows the eye at 27 months after treatment. So far no recurrence has occurred. The visual acuity has remained stable (0.4). The patient reports only mild sicca-symptoms



# **PHASE I/II STUDY OF PROTON BEAM IRRADIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SUBFOVEAL CHOROIDAL NEOVASCULARIZATION IN AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION: TREATMENT TECHNIQUES AND PRELIMINARY RESULTS**

LESLIE T. YONEMOTO, M.D.,\* JERRY D. SLATER, M.D.,\* ERIC J. FRIEDRICHSEN, M.D.,<sup>†</sup>  
LILIA N. LOREDO, M.D.,\* JEFFREY ING, M.D.,<sup>†</sup> JOHN O. ARCHAMBEAU, M.D., F.A.C.R.,\*  
SANDRA TEICHMAN, B.S.N.,\* MICHAEL F. MOYERS, Ph.D.,\* PAUL A. BLACHARSKI, M.D.,<sup>‡</sup> AND  
JAMES M. SLATER, M.D., F.A.C.R.\*

Int. J. Radiation Oncology Biol. Phys., Vol. 36, No. 4, pp. 867-871, 1996

20 patients; 8 Gy single fraction;

## **Proton Therapy for Exudative Age- related Macular Degeneration: A Randomized, Sham-controlled Clinical Trial**

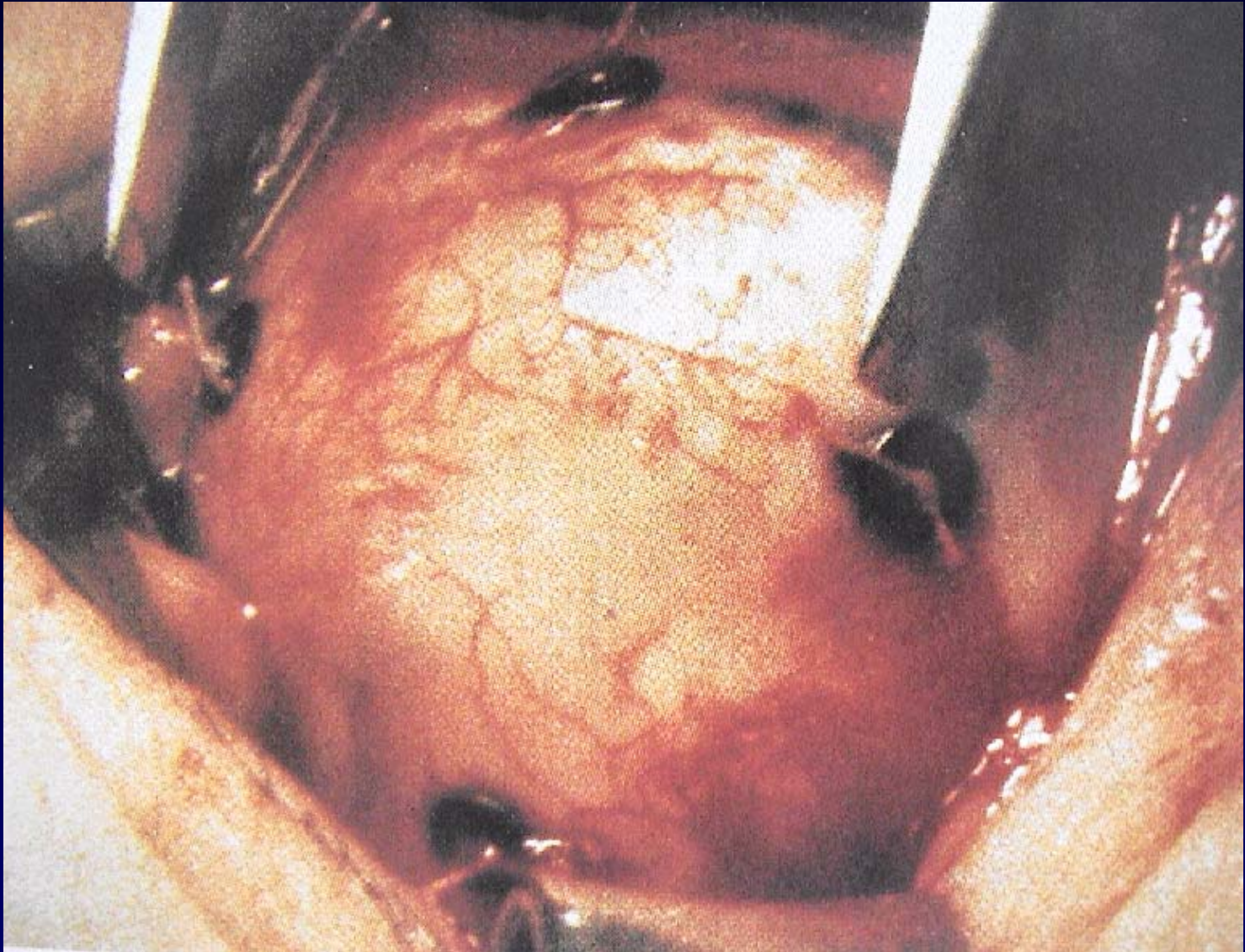
Thomas A. Ciulla, MD, Ronald P. Danis, MD,  
Susan B. Klein, PhD, Victor E. Malinovsky, OD,  
P. Sarita Soni, OD, Linda M. Pratt, RN,  
Newell O. Pugh, MD, James G. Morphis, MD,  
Charles Bloch, PhD, and John Cameron, PhD

Am J Ophthalmol 2002



Eye Treatment Nozzle Factory Tests



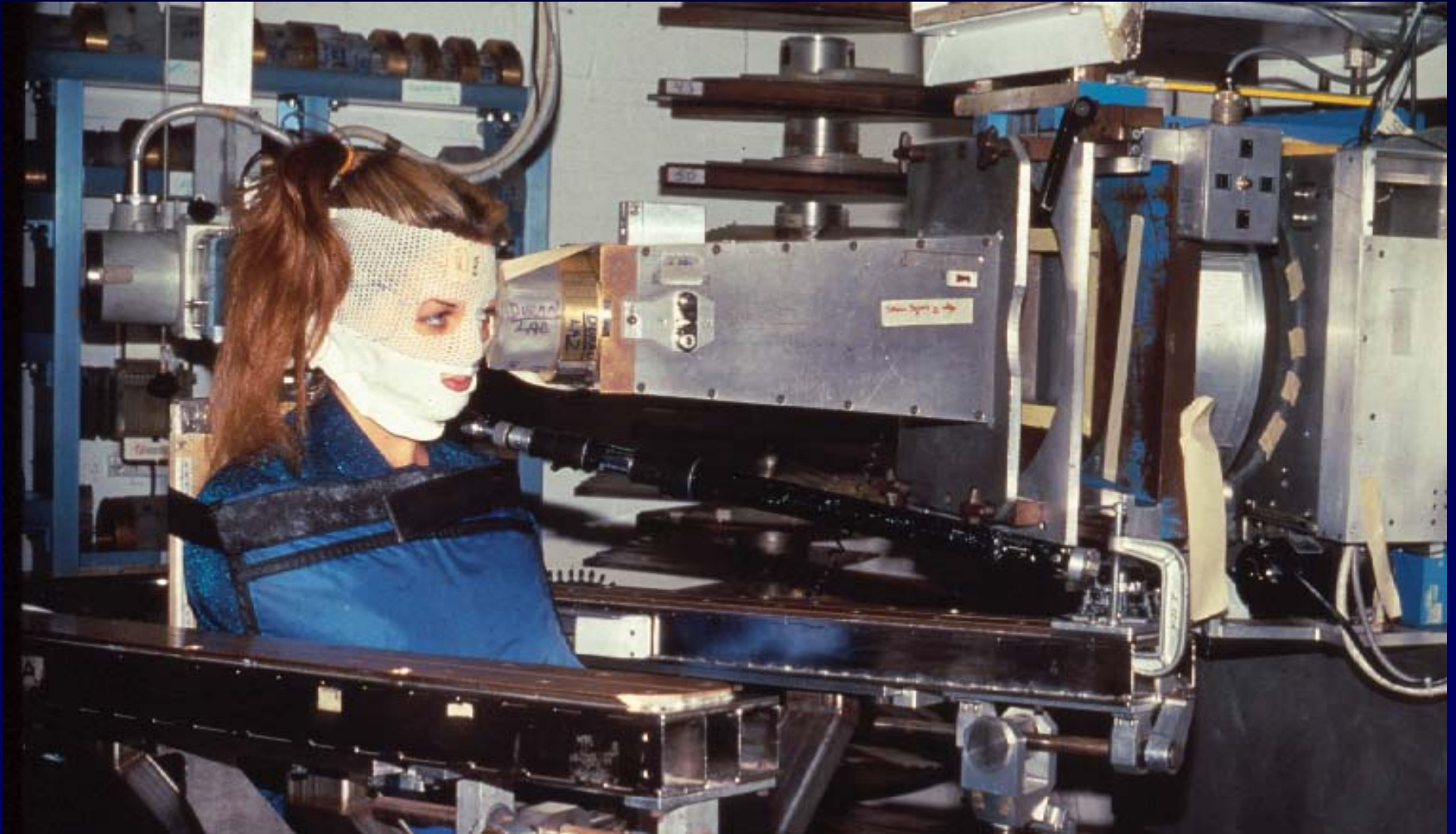


Intra-operative placement of tantalum rings



# Lacrimal tumors (Adenoid cystic carcinoma)

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Courtesy of Drs. Sutula and Libsche  
Harvard cyclotron

# Advantage of Proton Therapy

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- Reduces damage to surrounding tissues
- Greatly reduces side effects
- Treatment of choice for lesions close to sensitive areas of the body