# Hypoxia, Normal Tissue Effects and LhARA Generated Ions



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#### **Superior Dose Depth Distribution**

-Higher LET -Superior RBE -Low OER -Narrow penumbra

### Physics

Beam characterization
Beam heterogeneity

#### **Radiobiological Research**

-Spatial-Temporal Fractionation of dose -Carbon ion interaction with diff tissues -Metabolism -Microenvironment

-CSCs

#### Engineering

-Gantry design -Miniaturization

#### **Material Science**

-Target Production -Substance lighter than concrete, but just as effective

#### Increasing the Patient Experience

New Lhara Ion therapyLess toxicityGiven in short period of timeCost effectiveness research

#### **Clinical Biology Research**

- -Optimal Dosing
- -Toxicity
- -Which tumor histologies benefit most
- -Does it overcome tumor microenvironment
- -Development of new clinical trial design

#### **Clinical Physics Research**

-Dose and treatment planning -Development of LhARA FLASH -Absorbed Dose Calculations -Modeling RBE

#### STFC/UKRI/ITRF

-Beam Production -Beam Delivery -Accelerator miniaturization -Active and Passive Beam Shaping

Multidisciplinary UK Lhara- Ion Therapy Program

## hara- Ion Therapy Program

#### Radiology -Ionacoustic Imaging -Positron imaging -Dose distribution

## Advantages of LhARA for Radiobiologic Studies

- Ultra High Dose Rate of Protons and lons generated by LhARA and their ability to overcome Hypoxia
- Investigate the role of Hypoxia in LhARA Driven Proton FLASH Protection of Normal Tissue
- Effect of LhARA Driven lons on Cancer Stem Cells
- Potential to Manipulate the Temporal Delivery of lons to understand how they affect normal tissues, Including both viability and transformation (sub lethal effects)

# Effect of Hypoxia on U87 Tumor Cells Irradiated with 62 MeV Protons



### Example of Escalating Dose to Treat Hypoxic Tumor Regions





Kothe et al, 2021

## TCP for Patients with Uniform Dose vs Escalated Dose



Kothe et al, 2021

## Effect of Mitochondrial Complex 1 and 3 Inhibitors on Increasing Tumor RadiosensitivityBy Making tumors more Oxic



## Hypoxia Induces a Decrease in MHC I Expression in a HIF Independent Manner



Can LhARA Radiation increase MHC1 Expression in combination with metabolic agents?

## The Origins of FLASH Radiotherapy



Hornsey S, Bewley DK. Hypoxia in mouse intestine induced by electron irradiation at high dose-rates. *Int J Radiat Biol Relat Stud Phys Chem Med.* 1971:19(5):479-483.

## Flash-Proton Radiotherapy Highly Effective in Controling Pancreatic Tumor Growth and Reduces Normal Tissue Toxicity



Koumenus et al, unplublished

### How does FLASH RT Protect Against Normal Tissue Toxicity? Hypothesis: FLASH induces normal tissue hypoxia.



FLASH RT protection correlates with hypoxia in normal tissues

# Control

Standard dose rate IR

Flash IR

# LhARA Proton FLASH Mechanisms to Explain Differential Normal vs Cancer

- Removal and decay of hydroperoxides and free radicals
- Oxygen saturation of irradiated normal tissues
- Effect of Different Beam Pulses
- Genetic Approaches to Understand FLASH Effect in Normal Tissue

## Effect of Hypoxia on Photon and Carbon Ion Killing of A549 Cells



# Carbon is More Effective In Killing Cancer Stem Cells



## Nrf2-Keap1 Pathway



## KEAP1/NRF2 Mutation Status Predicts Local Failure after Radiotherapy in Human NSCLC

#### Α

		Wild-type (n = 33)	<i>KEAP1/NRF2</i> mutant ( <i>n</i> = 9)	Ρ
Sex	M F	9 (27%) 24 (73%)	5 (56%) 4 (44%)	0.23
Median age, years (range)		70 (42-91)	66 (56-91)	0.45
Median follow-up, mo. (range)		24 (6-53)	25 (7-63)	0.47
Histology	SCC Adenoca Other	5 (15%) 25 (76%) 3 (9%)	1 (11%) 7 (78%) 1 (11%)	0.85
Stage	    	22 (67%) 6 (18%) 5 (15%)	5 (56%) 1 (11%) 3 (33%)	0.54
Median tumor volume, mL (range)		16.2 (0.8–569.8)	16.1 (1.0–218.5)	0.48
Radiation type	SABR CFRT	25 (76%) 8 (24%)	6 (67%) 3 (33%)	0.68
Chemotherapy	Yes No	7 (21%) 26 (79%)	3 (33%) 6 (67%)	0.66



D

Patient	Age	Sex	Stage	KEAP1 mutations		
				Tumor variant	ctDNA variant (%AF)	
T1	56	F	IIIB	M503I	M503I (3.38%)	
T2	56	F	IIIB	R483C	R483C (0.44%)	
T11	46	F	IIA	Wild-type	Wild-type	
T13	81	F	IB	Wild-type	Wild-type	
T14	78	М	IB	Wild-type	Wild-type	
T23	51	F	IIIA	Wild-type	Wild-type	
T35	48	F	IIIB	Wild-type	Wild-type	





- Wild-type

— KEAP1/NRF2 mutant

Youngtae Jeong et al. Cancer Discov 2017;7:86-101

## Excess Relative Risk of Tumors after RT



Ng and Shuryak, 2014

## Excess Relative Risk of Second Cancer with High Dose Fx RT



Ng and Shuryak, 2014

## Superior Dose Distribution of Carbon Ions Compared to Protons and Photons



# Secondary Cancer Risks after RT

- Patient Age-younger more risk
- Genetic Risk Factors-?BRCA, ATM, p53, 6q21,PRDM1?
- Organ and Tissue Cite being Irradiated
- Dose and Volume of Tissue Irradiated and Modality

After tumor recurrence, second cancers are most common cause of treatment related death

Field has mostly been risk assessments and time is right to move to more biology-based experiments

### Hypoxia Leads to Decreased Antigen Presentation



### Survival of Cells Irradiated with Carbon Ions in Oxic (red curves) and Hypoxic conditions (blue curves) for Two Different LETs



Antonovic L et al. J Radiat Res 2013;54:18-26