

BIOphysical
characterization of
Helium and
Oxygen ion beams for
hadronTherapy

BI  *HOT*

Incontro Gr.V
Napoli, 20 marzo 2024

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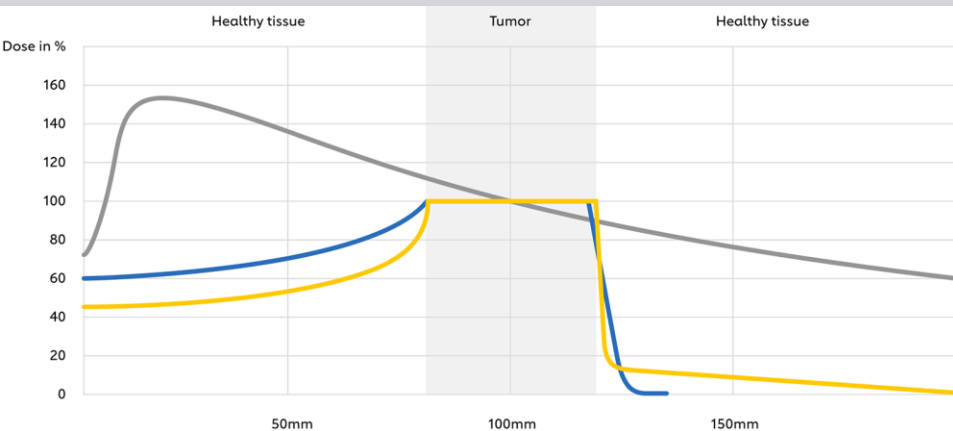
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- 6-MV photons
- Protons (up to 240 MeV)
- ¹²C ions (up to 400 MeV/n)

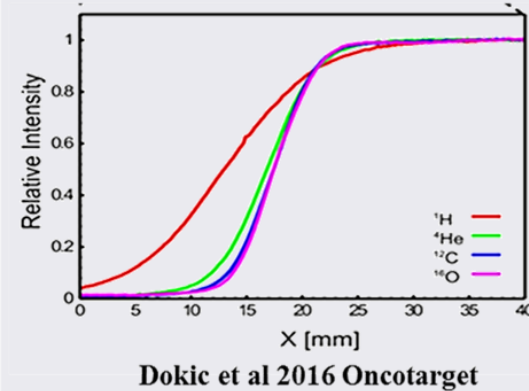
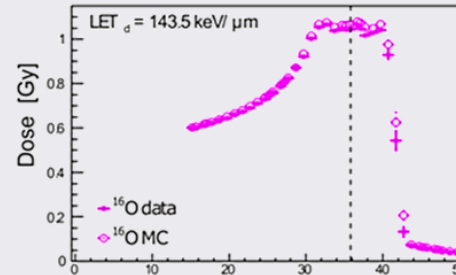
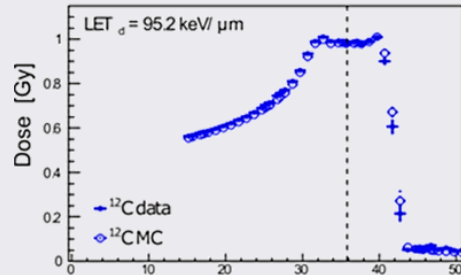
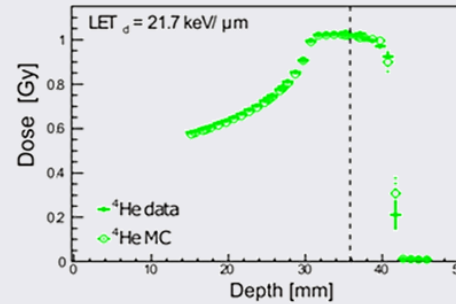
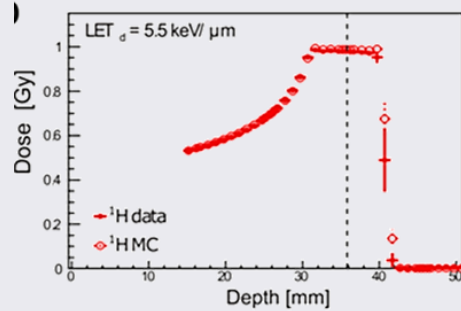
Source: MedAustron

01

SCIENTIFIC MOTIVATION & AIM

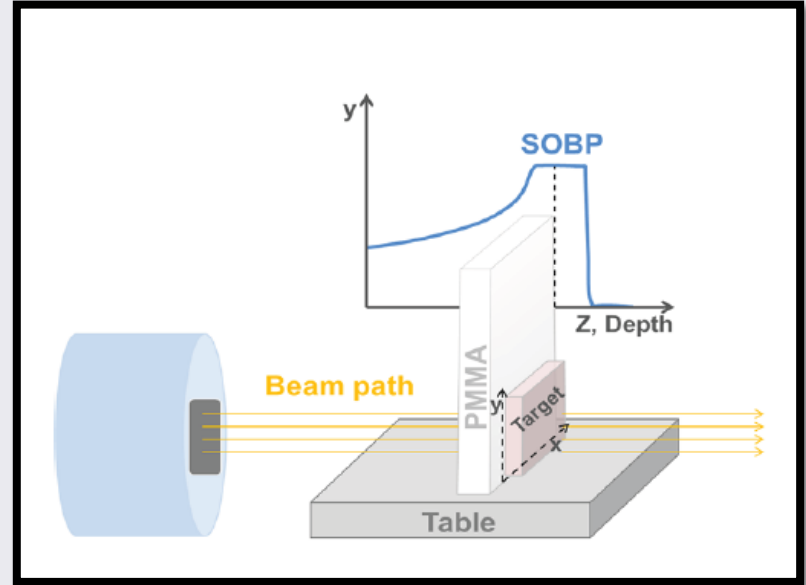
Scientific Motivation

- ^4He ions present physical and radiobiological properties intermediate between those of protons and ^{12}C ions, with ^{16}O ions expected to be superior to ^{12}C in (hypoxic) tumour control.



Aim

- BIOHOT aims at biophysically characterizing clinical ^4He and ^{16}O beams through:
 - Experimental Radiobiology
 - Modelling
 - Microdosimetry





02

PARTICIPATING
UNITS &
COLLABORATIONS

Participating units & collaborations

■ INFN-NA

UNINA, Fondazione Pascale

■ INFN-PV

Centro Nazionale di Adroterapia Oncologica (CNAO), Fondazione Maugeri, UNIPV

■ INFN-RM3

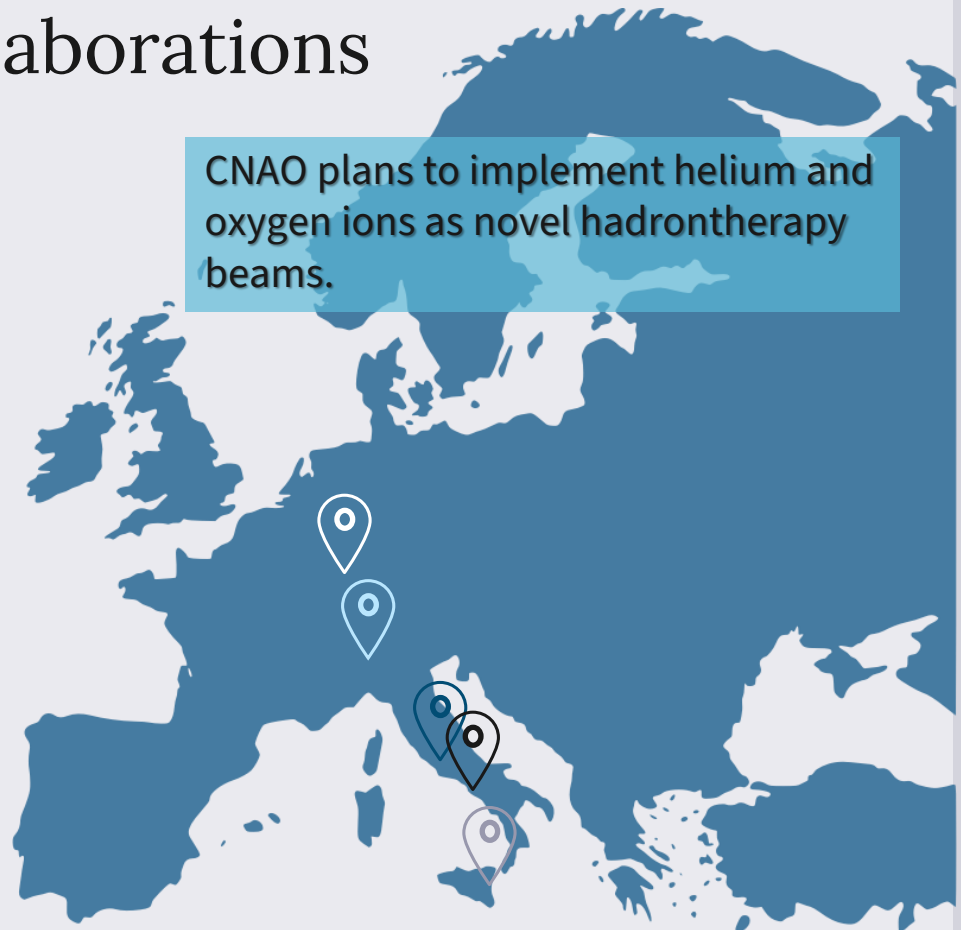
Università degli studi di Roma 3

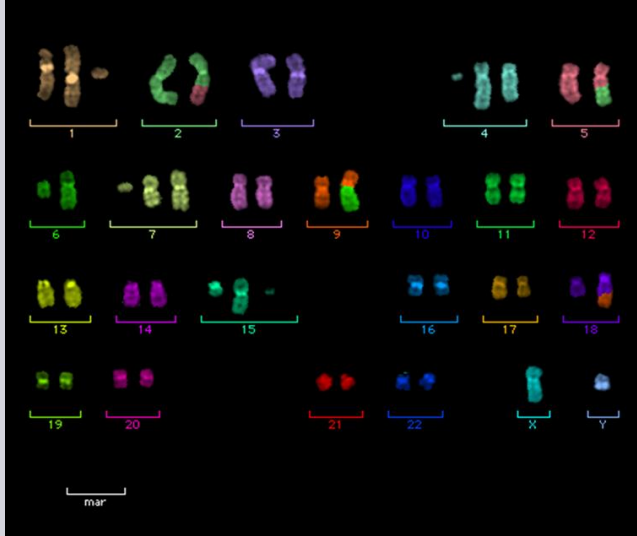
■ INFN-LNS

■ Heidelberg

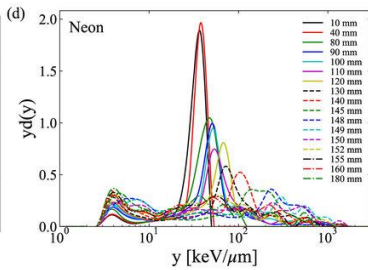
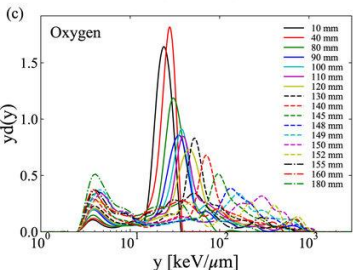
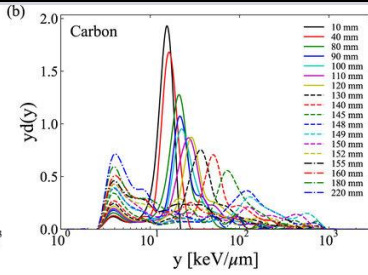
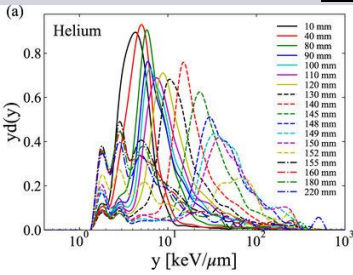
Heidelberg Ion-Beam Therapy Center (HIT)

CNAO plans to implement helium and oxygen ions as novel hadrontherapy beams.





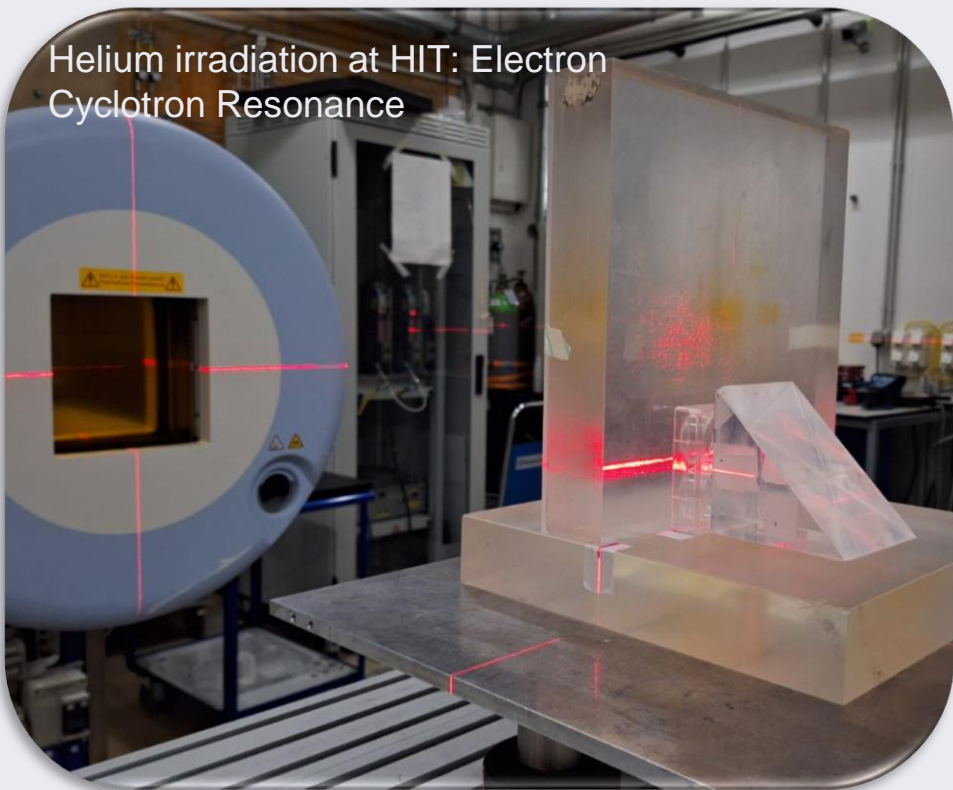
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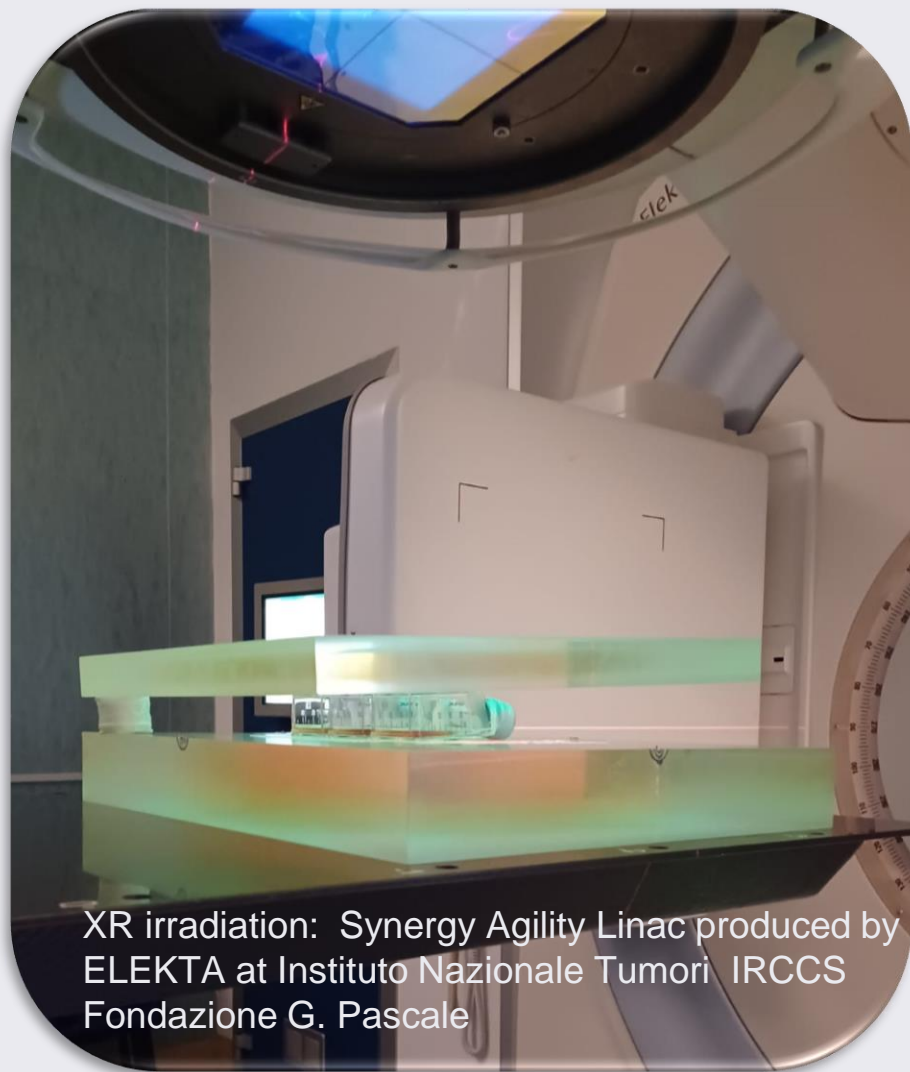
METHODOLOGY

IRRADIATION SETUP

Helium irradiation at HIT: Electron Cyclotron Resonance



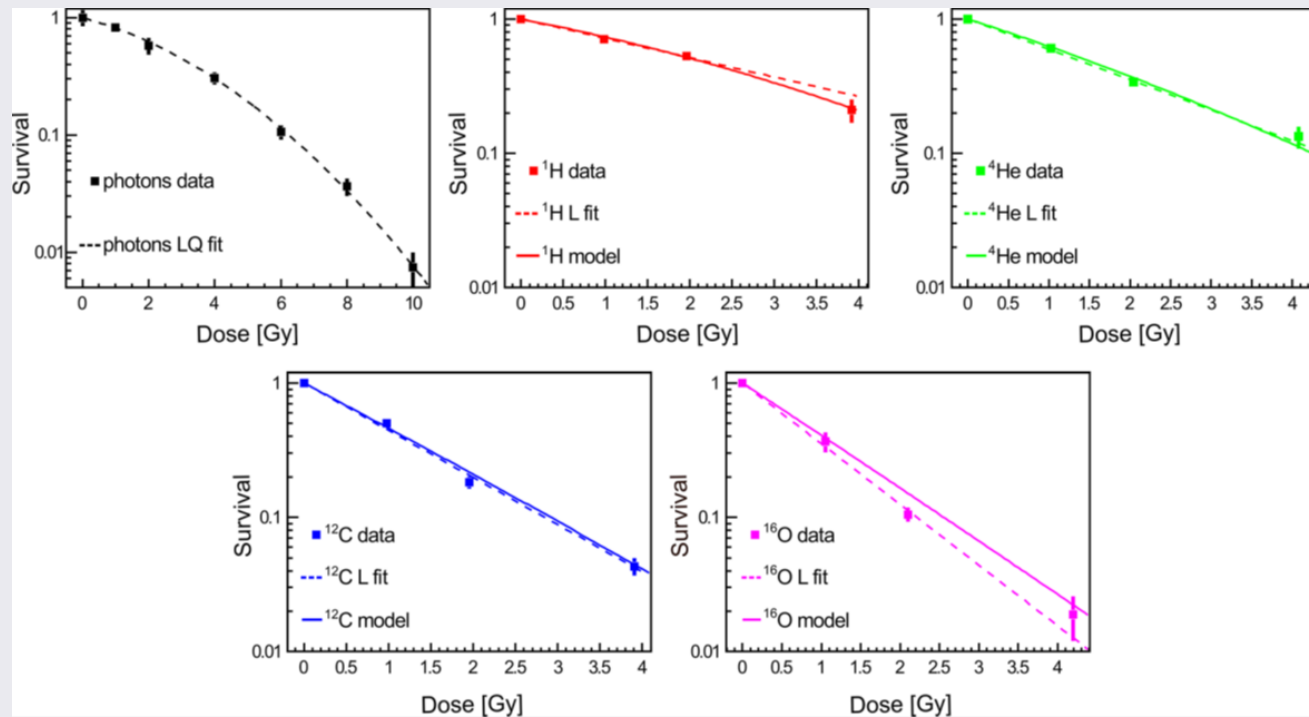
XR irradiation: Synergy Agility Linac produced by ELEKTA at Istituto Nazionale Tumori IRCCS Fondazione G. Pascale



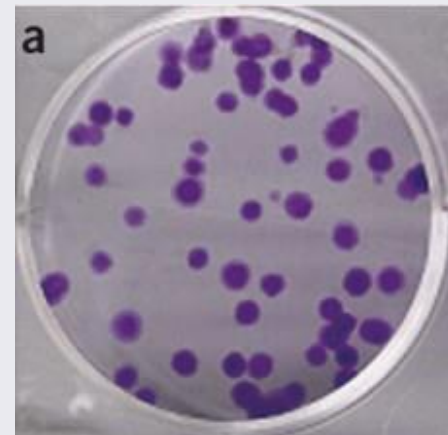
Methodology-Cancer cells

- Radiobiology
 - Techniques to be used for cancer cells (osteosarcoma and pancreas)
 - Clonogenic assay (RBE determination)
 - Apoptosis (cancer cell death)
 - Foci assay (quantification of radiation-induced repair efficiency)
 - Migration assay (evaluation of metastatic ability)

CLONOGENIC ASSAY

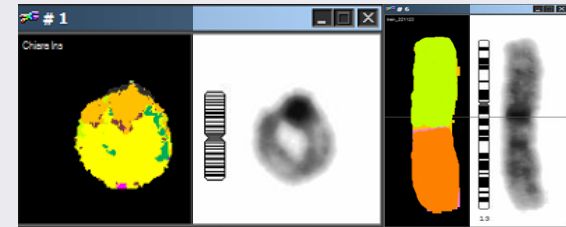
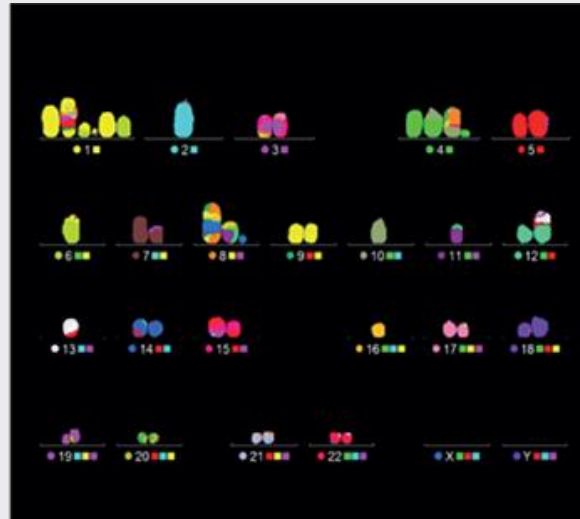
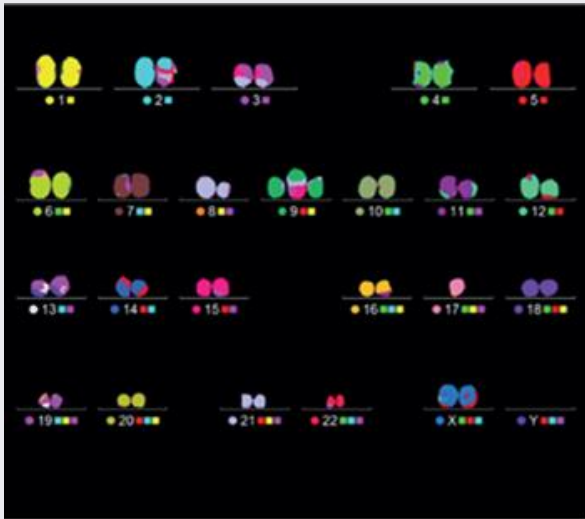


Dokic et al 2016 Oncotarget



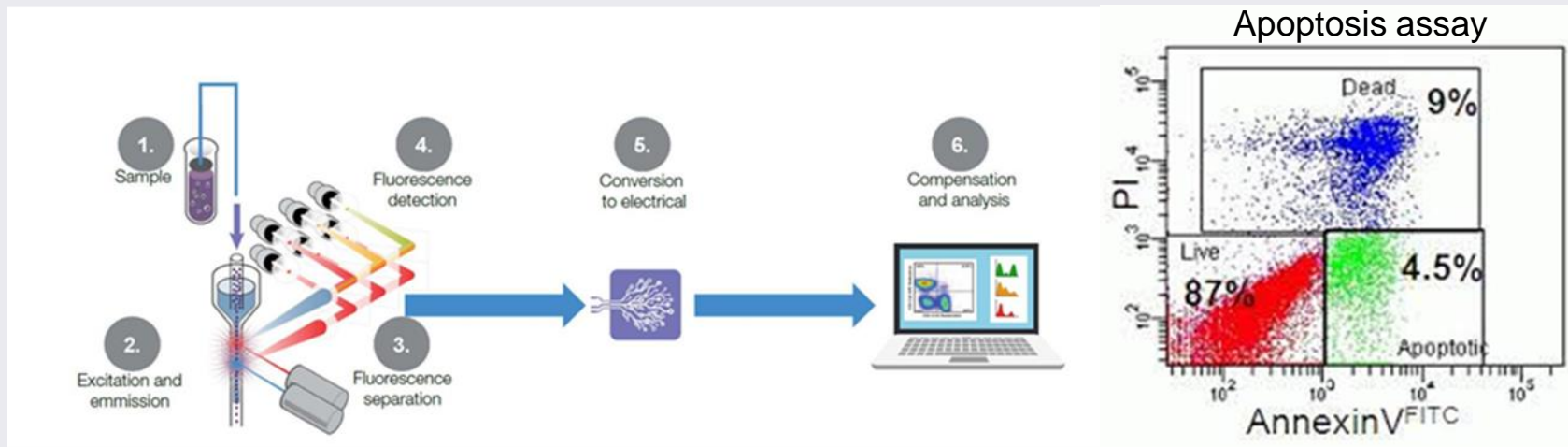
Methodology-Non cancer cells

- Radiobiology
 - Techniques to be used for normal cells (fibroblasts and endothelial)
 - Premature senescence, oxidative stress, inflammation markers (late adverse reactions)
 - Chromosome aberrations (risk of secondary cancer) via m-FISH

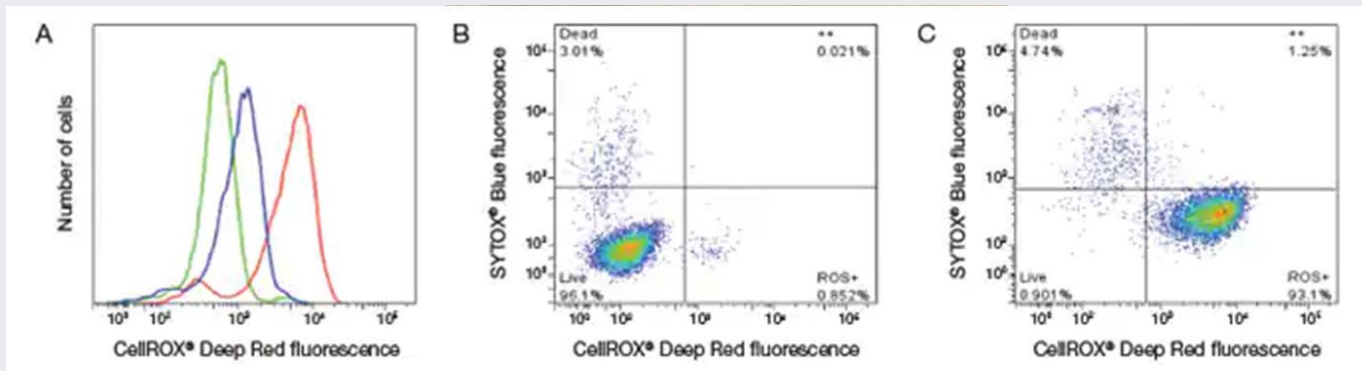


m-FISH technique

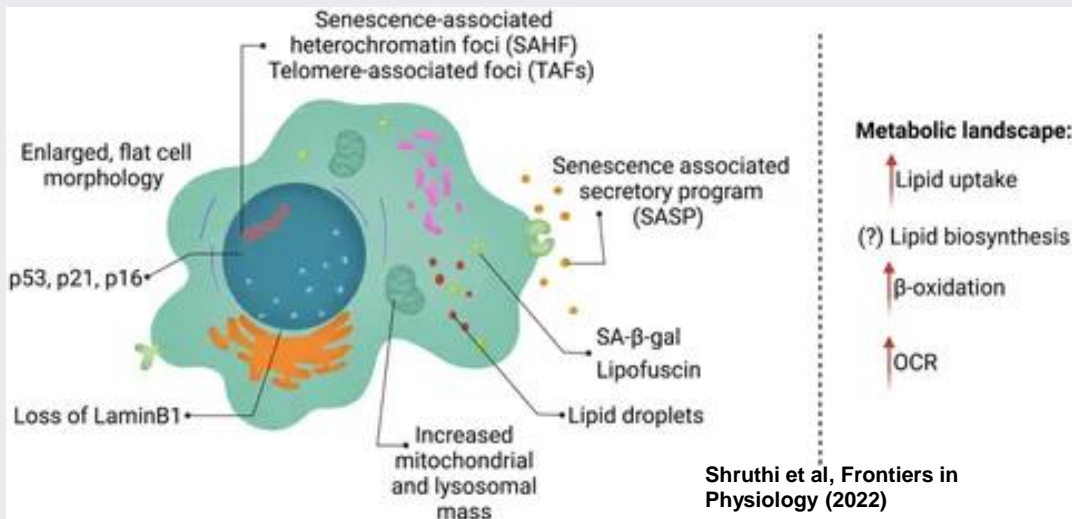
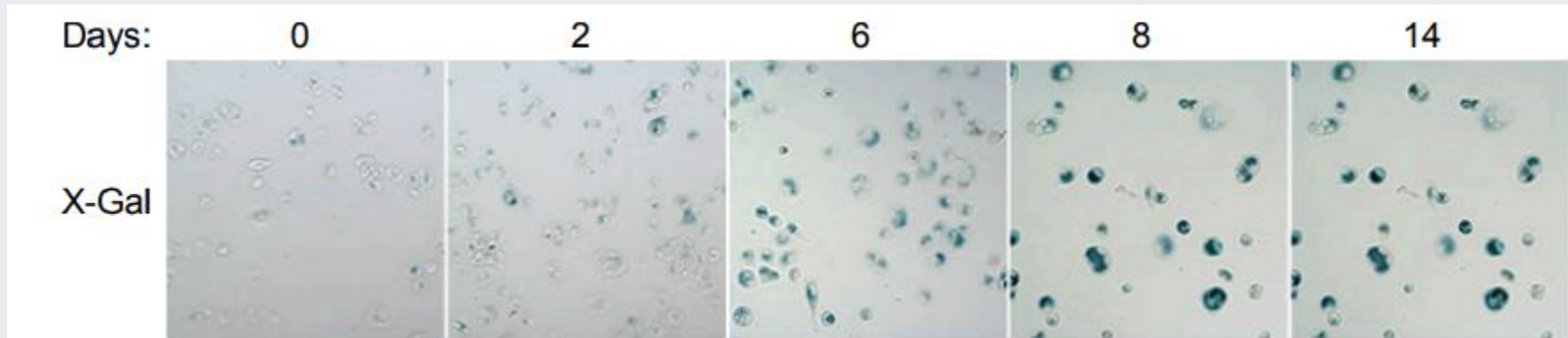
FLOW CITOMETRY-BASED ASSAYS



ROS assay

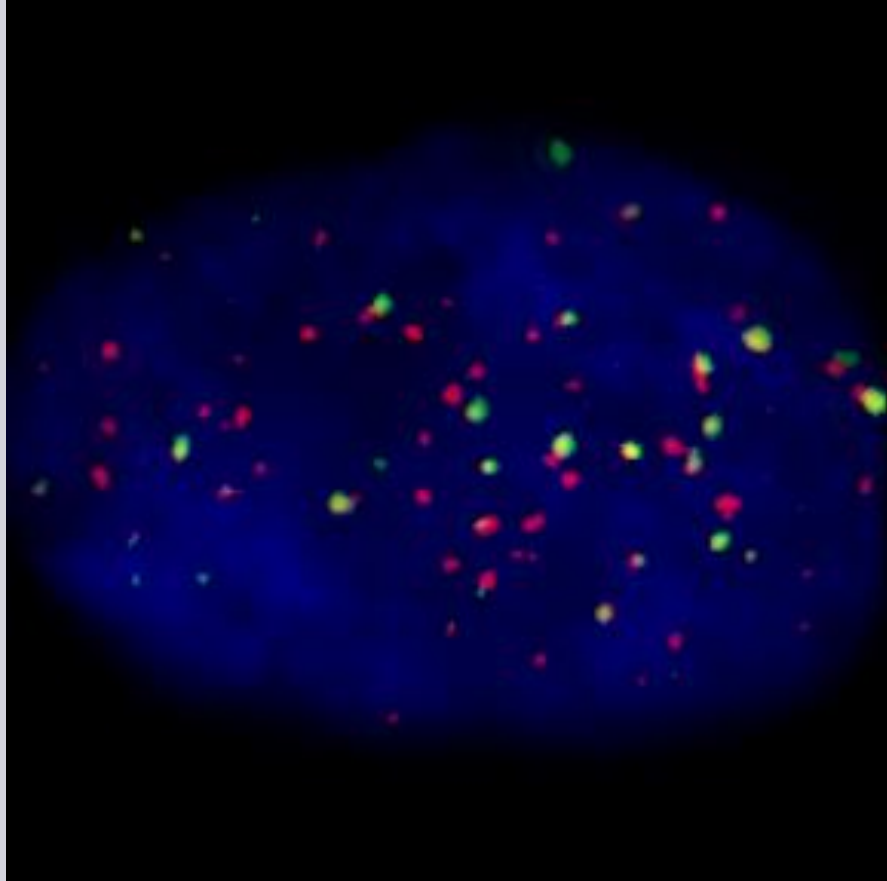


SENESCENCE ASSAY



Methodology-3

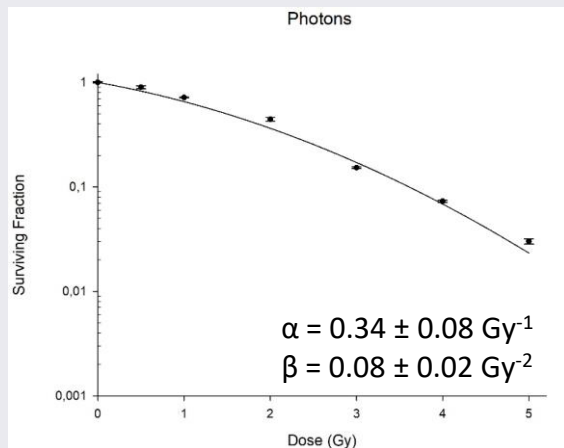
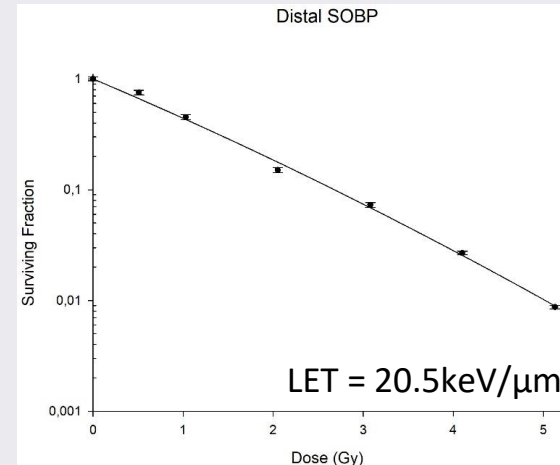
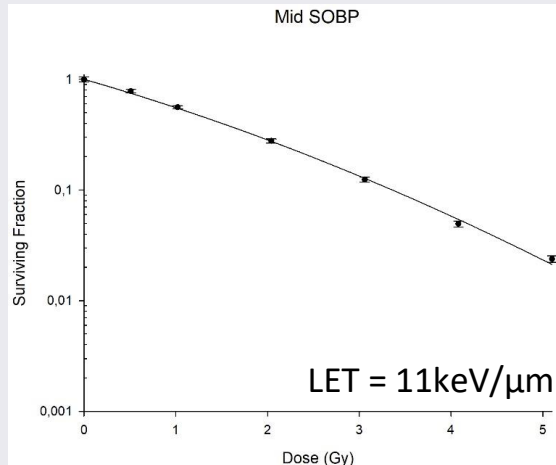
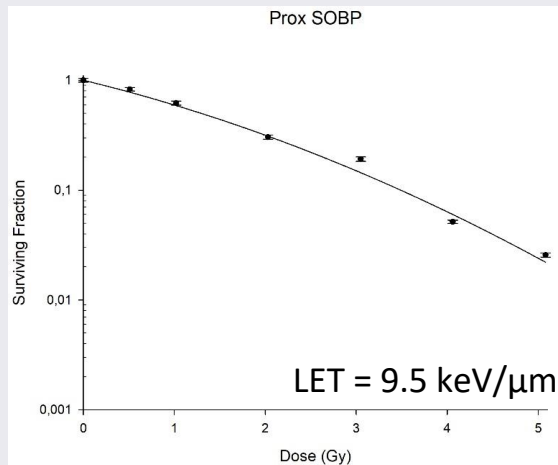
- Modelling and Microdosimetry
 - BIophysical ANalysis of Cell death and chromosome Aberrations (BIANCA): using inputs from photon survival curves and chromosome aberration data to predict ion-induced cell death and sublethal damage
 - LET distributions provided by GEANT4 will be used by BIANCA, for which the LET is one of the main inputs to run a simulation
 - Geant 4: simulations of track- and dose-averaged LET
 - Microdosimetric Kinetic Model (MKM): the microdosimetric spectra obtained from simulations and experimental data will be used as inputs for the MKM to directly link the microdosimetric characterization of ^4He and ^{16}O beams to cell survival probability and related RBE
 - Survival curves predicted by MKM will be compared with those predicted by BIANCA model for model intercomparison
 - Microdosimetry measurements to reconstruct LET distributions along ^4He and ^{16}O SOBP and benchmark Geant4 simulations



04

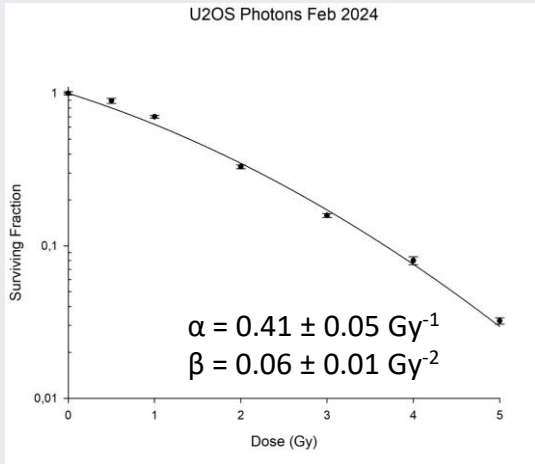
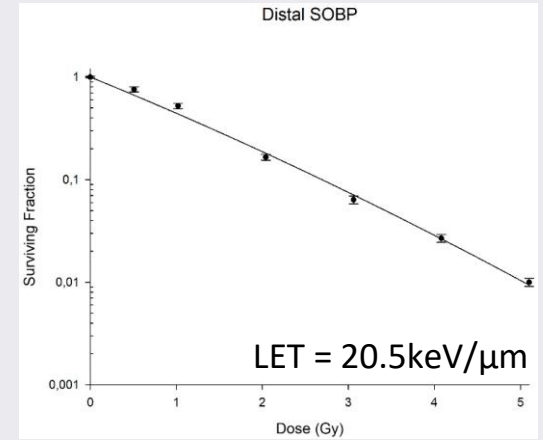
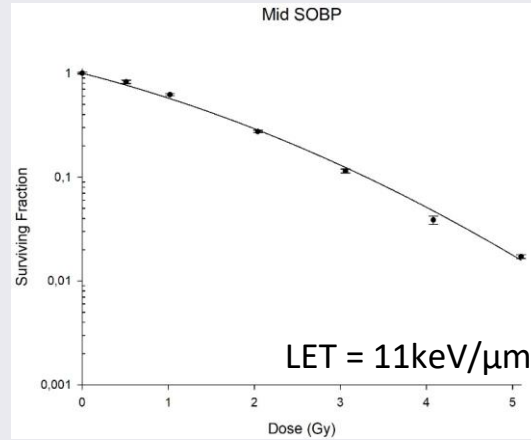
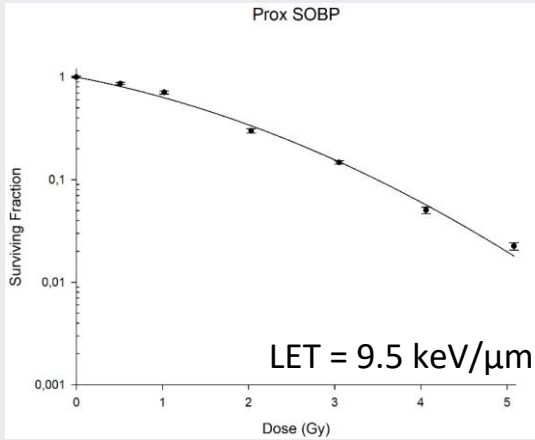
PRELIMINARY RESULTS

RBE for SAOS-2



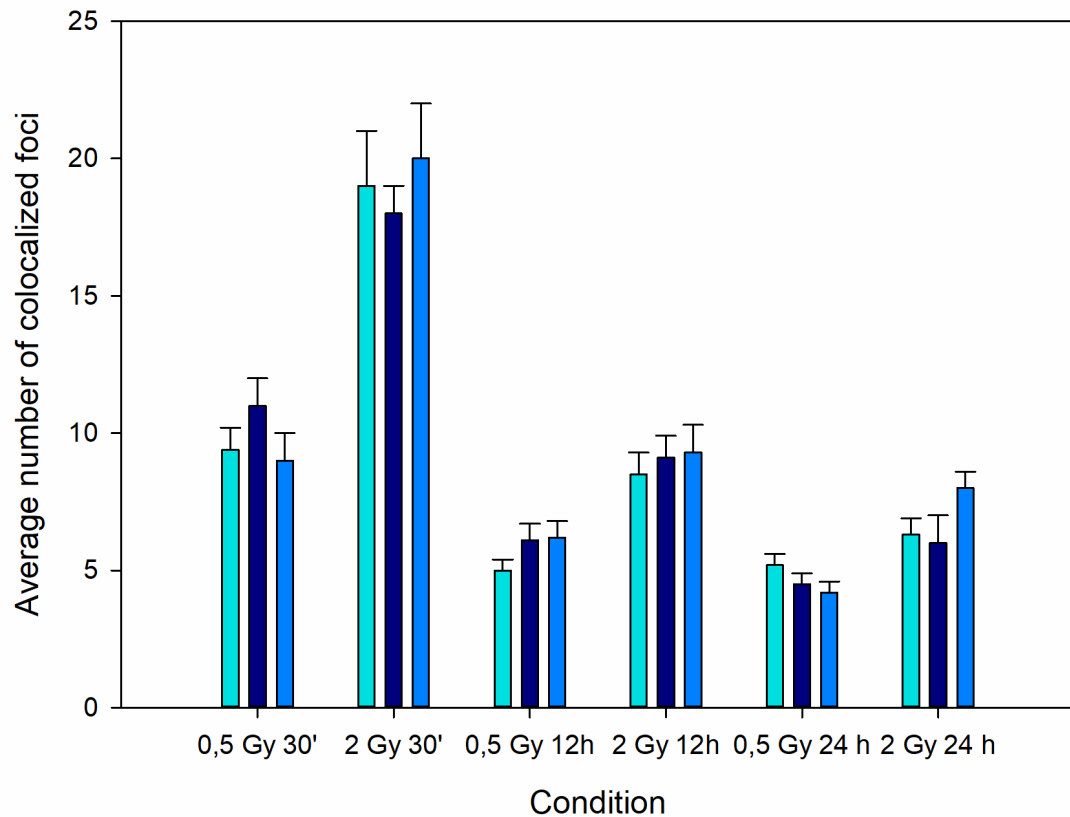
	$\alpha \text{ (Gy}^{-1}\text{)}$	$\beta \text{ (Gy}^{-2}\text{)}$	RBE_{10}
Prox	0.47 ± 0.09	0.059 ± 0.024	1.05 ± 0.21
Mid	0.56 ± 0.03	0.042 ± 0.008	1.10 ± 0.15
Distal	0.81 ± 0.05	0.026 ± 0.013	1.38 ± 0.20

RBE for U2OS

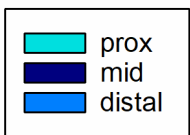


	$\alpha \text{ (Gy}^{-1}\text{)}$	$\beta \text{ (Gy}^{-2}\text{)}$	RBE_{10}
Prox	0.38 ± 0.06	0.085 ± 0.020	1.07 ± 0.14
Mid	0.50 ± 0.04	0.066 ± 0.012	1.14 ± 0.12
Distal	0.80 ± 0.07	0.026 ± 0.020	1.39 ± 0.18

Foci assay SAOS-2 cell line Helium ions

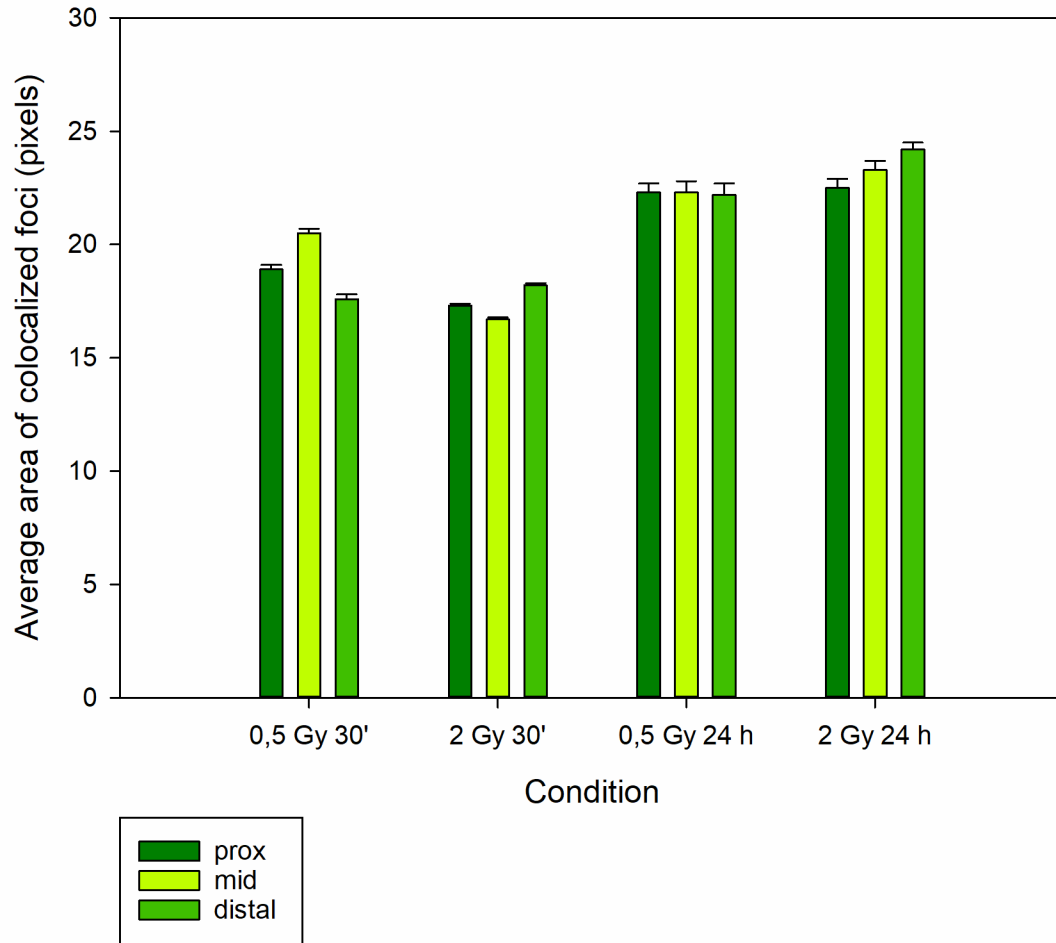


Foci Assay Results: SAOS-2 He



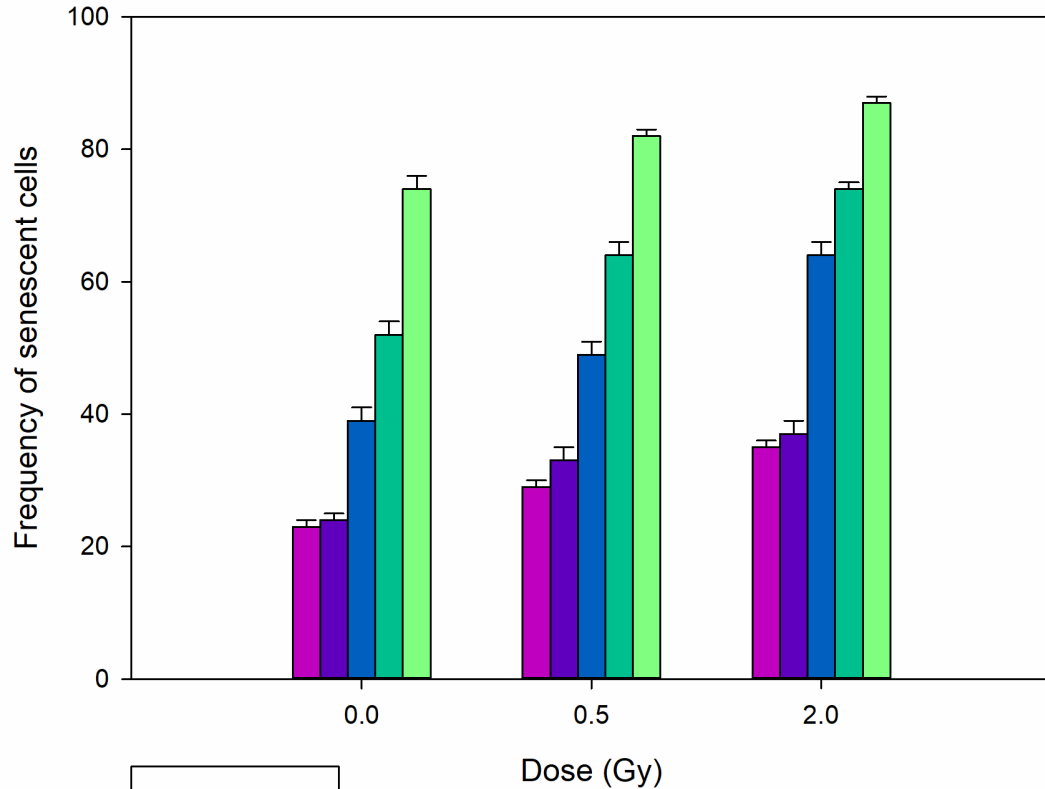
Foci assay SAOS-2 cell line Helium ions

Average area of foci



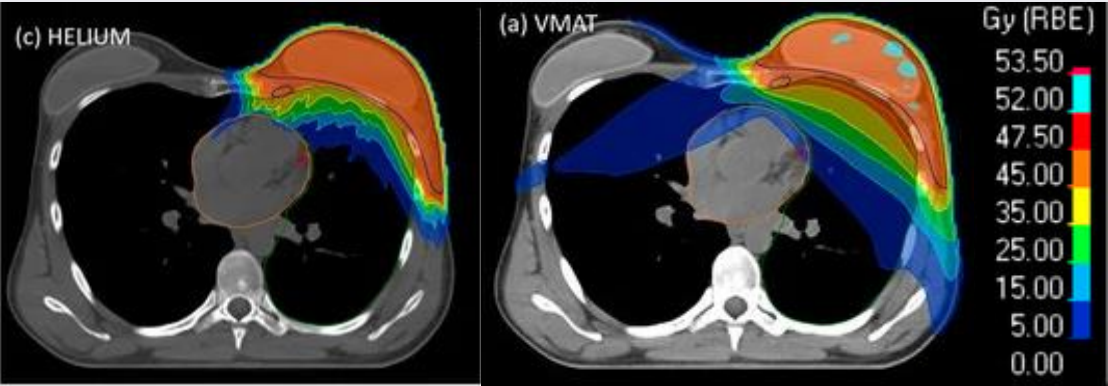
Foci Assay:
Mean focus size

Senescence MCR5 XR Maugeri (January 2024)

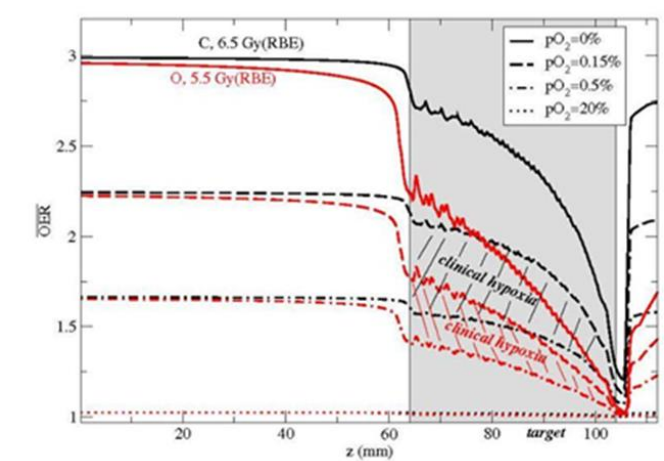


Senescence Assay

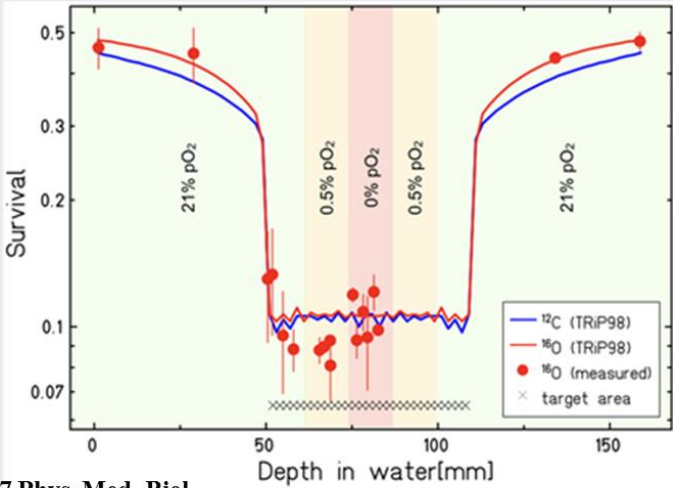
FUTURE PERSPECTIVES



Bonaccorsi et. al 2024, Cancers.



Sokol et al 2017 Phys. Med. Biol.



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