

# Ce n'est pas toujours une récurrence: imagerie des traitements non chirurgicaux du cancer bronchique

## Imagerie après radiothérapie

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# Ultimate goal of radiation therapy

Eradicate all  
tumor cells



Avoid damage to  
healthy tissue

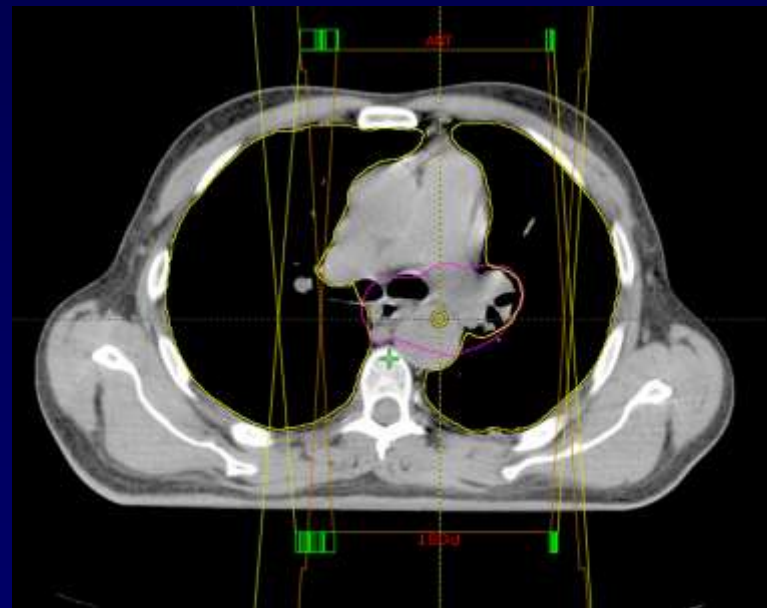
... to achieve tumor control without complication

# Radiation therapy

## How does it work

- **2D-conventional RT**

- Two parallel beams with opposed orientations
- 2 Gy per field combination per day
- ( $\leq$ ) 60 Gy total
- Limited beam orientation  $\rightarrow$  large areas of normal tissue irradiated



# Radiation-induced lung disease

Reference point : day of completion of radiation therapy

- **Early phase :** *transient radiation pneumonitis*

  - appears between 1 – 3 months

  - lasts up to 6 months

  - dyspnea, cough, low-grade fever, discomfort

  - steroids

- **Late phase :** *chronic radiation fibrosis*

  - unresolved radiation pneumonitis

  - 6 - 12 months (up to 24 months)

  - stable after 2 years

  - mostly asymptomatic

  - progressive dyspnea, dry cough, cor pulmonale

# 2D - Radiation Therapy

Early phase

*Pathology : acute exsudative phase followed by organizing phase with interstitial infiltration by mononuclear and other inflammatory cells*

- Lung injury (diffuse / patchy / nodular)
  - Ground-glass
  - Consolidation

Generally confined to field of irradiation  
Do not conform to anatomic boundaries

- Pleural effusion
- Atelectasis
- Usually regresses over 6 months  
No sequelae

2 months

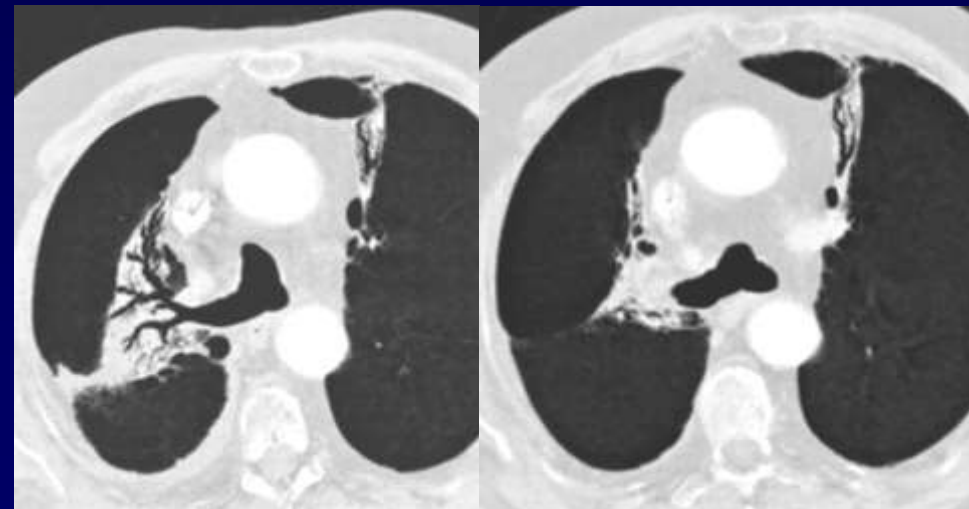
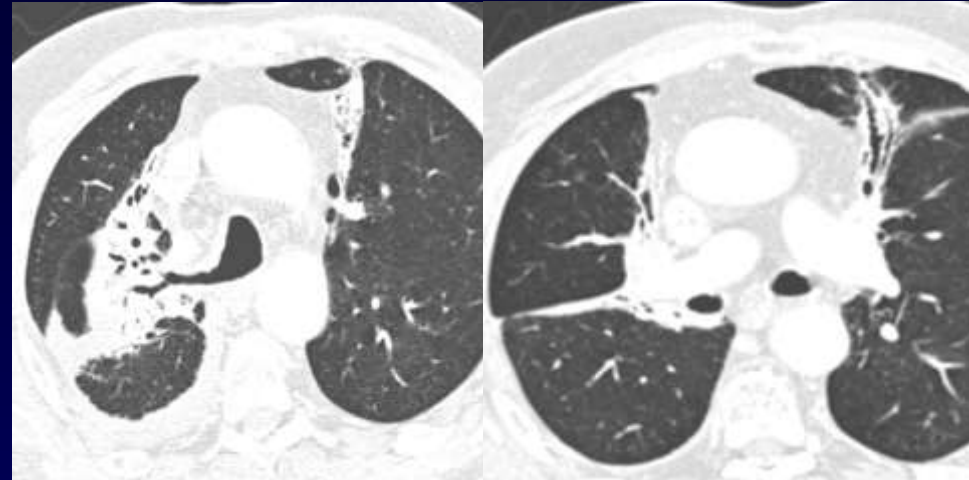
3 months



# 2D - Radiation Therapy

- Lung volume loss (mediastinal shift)  
Architectural distortion
- Consolidation  
Well-defined
- Shrinkage  
Sharper demarcation  
Shape/location may change → 12 mths
- Air bronchogram  
Traction bronchiectasis
- May stabilize  
Evolve up to 24 mths
- (Small pleural effusion or thickening)

Late phase

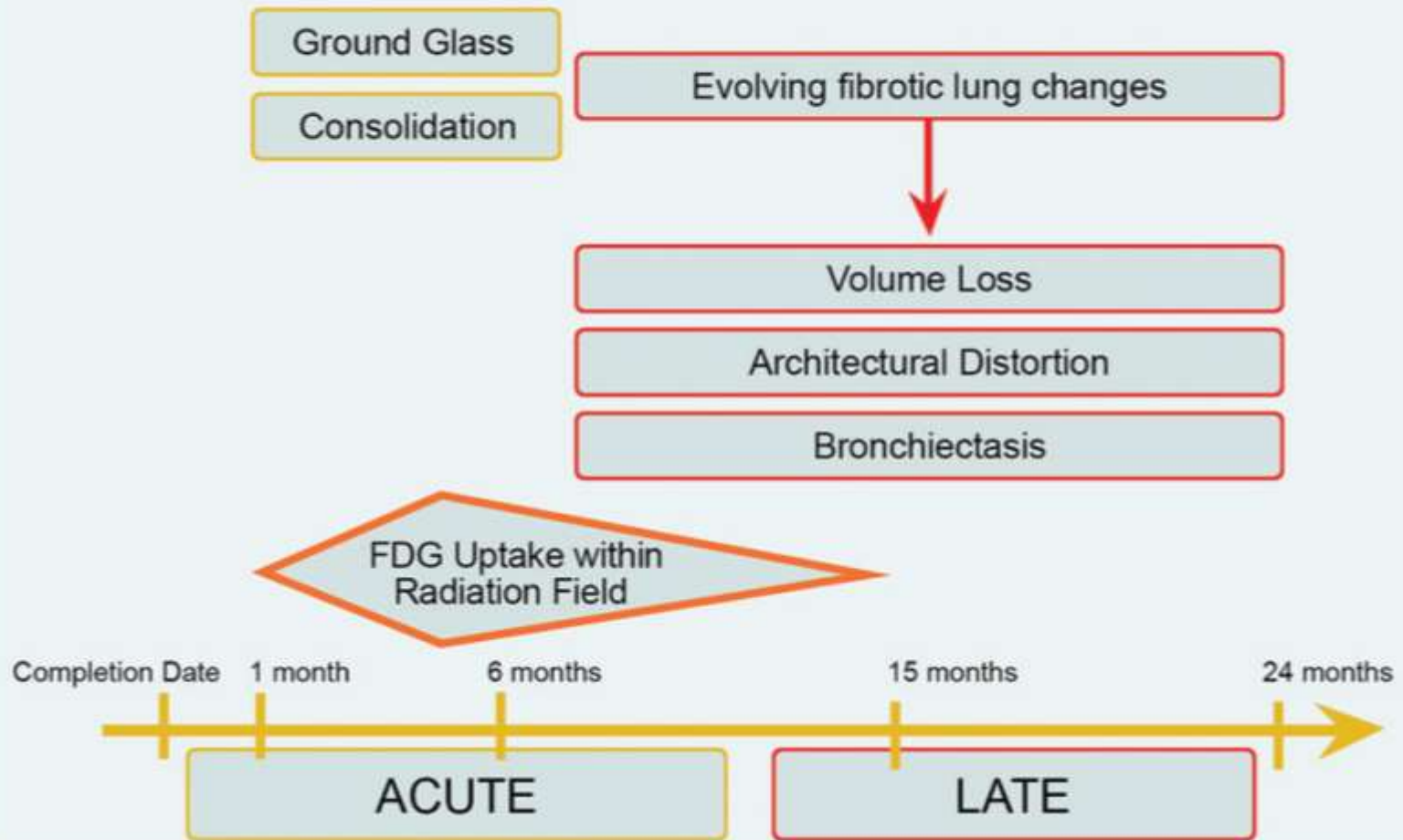


8 months

10 months

# 2D - Radiation Therapy

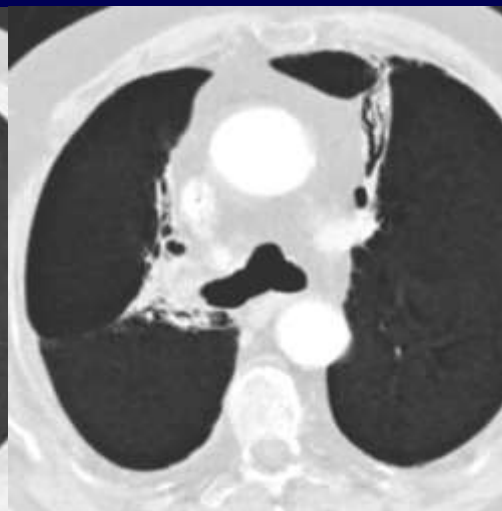
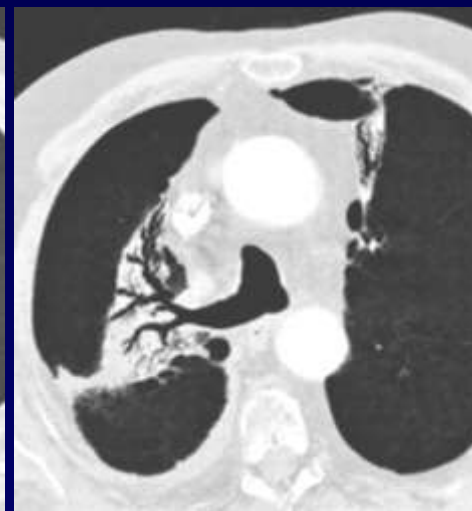
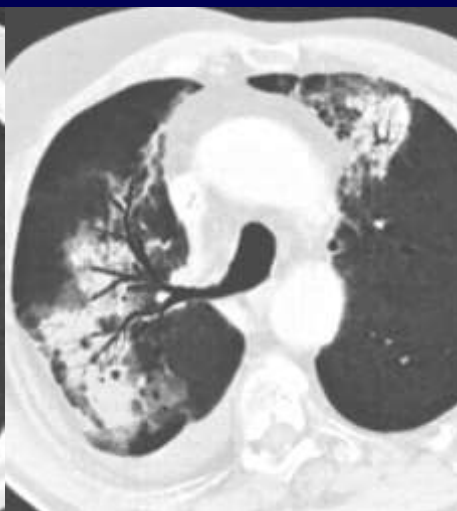
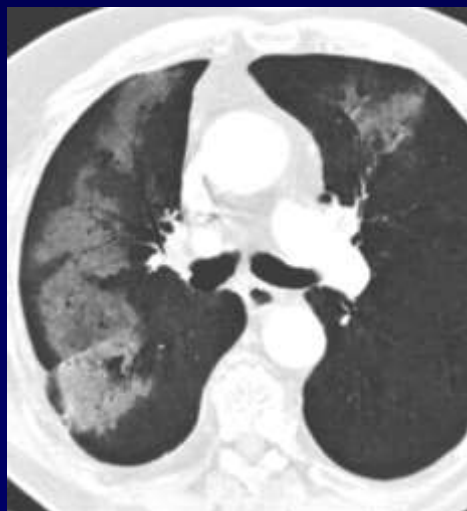
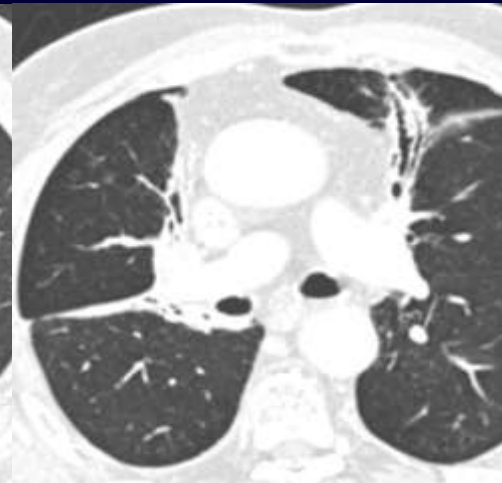
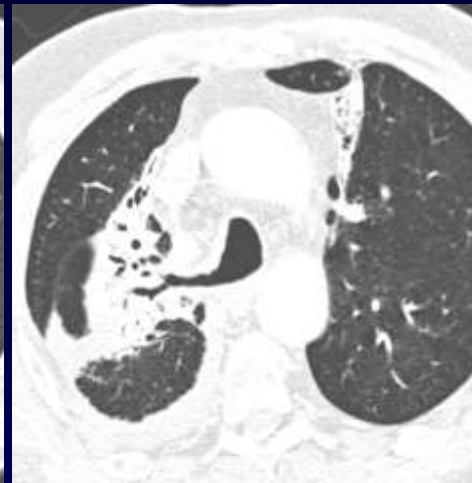
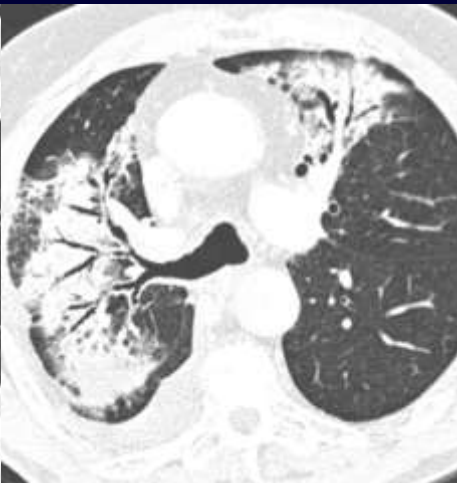
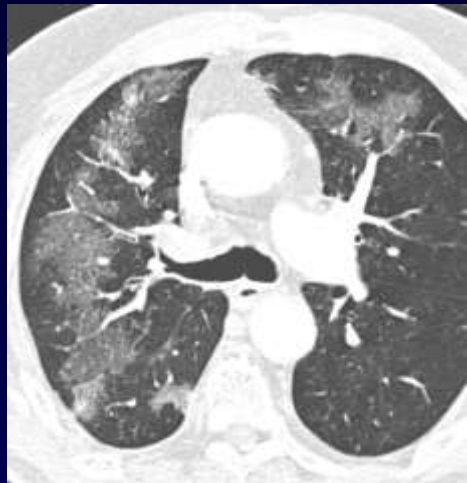
## Radiation-Induced Lung Disease - CT Findings and FDG Uptake



# 2D - Radiation Therapy

Early phase

Late phase



2 months

3 months

8 months

10 months



# Radiation-induced lung disease

## ● Technique

- Conventional vs. conformational
- Portals and beam arrangement
- Dose : total (rarely < 20, commonly 20-40, almost always > 40 Gy)  
fractionation and dose rate
- Irradiated volume ( $V_{20\text{Gy}}$ )
- Physical characteristics of irradiation

## ● Treatment

- Prior irradiation
- Chemo, Immunotherapy
- Steroids (rebound)

## ● Tumor

- Tumor location

## ● Patient

- Age
- Lung performance status
- Preexisting lung disease

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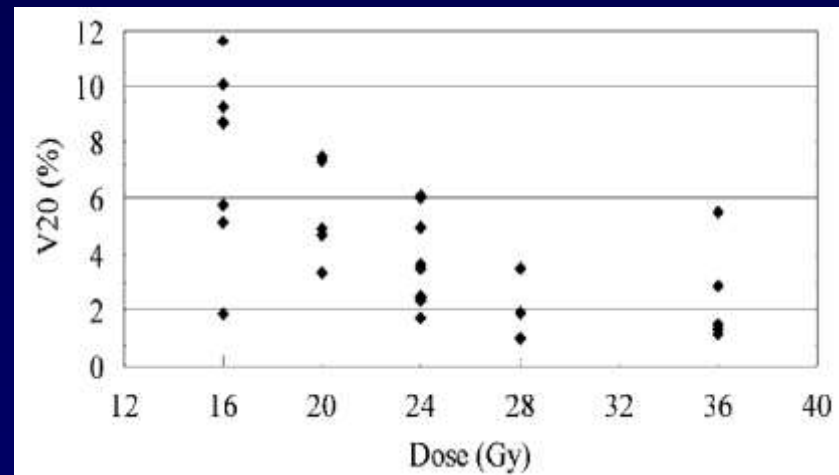
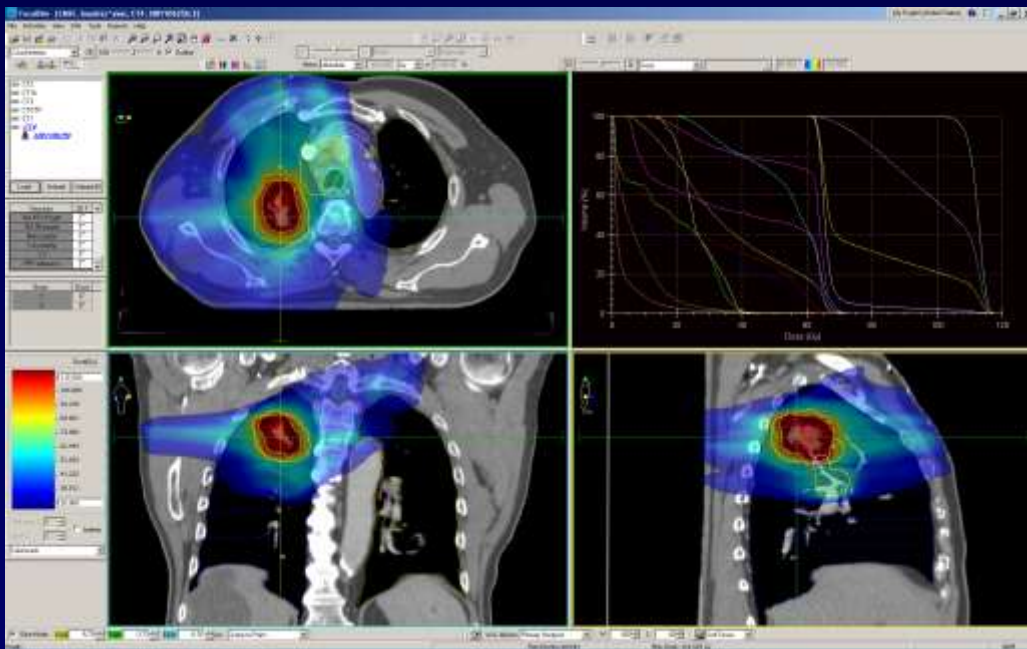
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*Aoki Radiology 2004;230:101*

- Preexisting lung disease

Park RadioGraphics 2000;20:83

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# Radiation therapy

# New techniques

**3D-CRT**

**IMRT**

**SBRT**

**4D-RT**



**BOOST**

**PROTON**

**4D-PET-IGRT**

**SABR**



# Radiation therapy

# New techniques

**3D-CRT**

**IMRT**

**SBRT**

**4D-RT**



**BOOST**

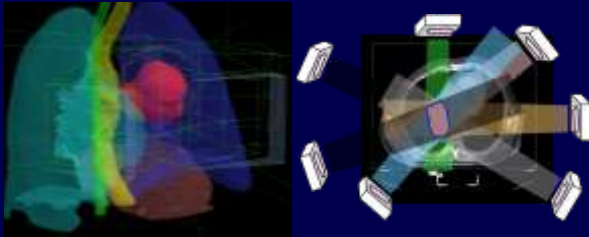
**PROTON**

**4D-PET-IGRT**

**SABR**

# Radiation therapy New techniques

## 3D-CRT (3-dimensional conformal RT)



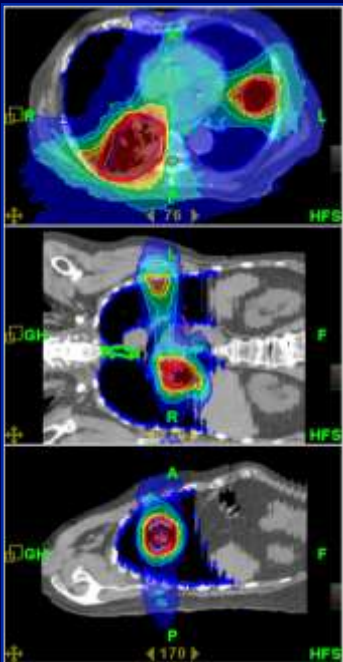
## IMRT (intensity-modulated RT)



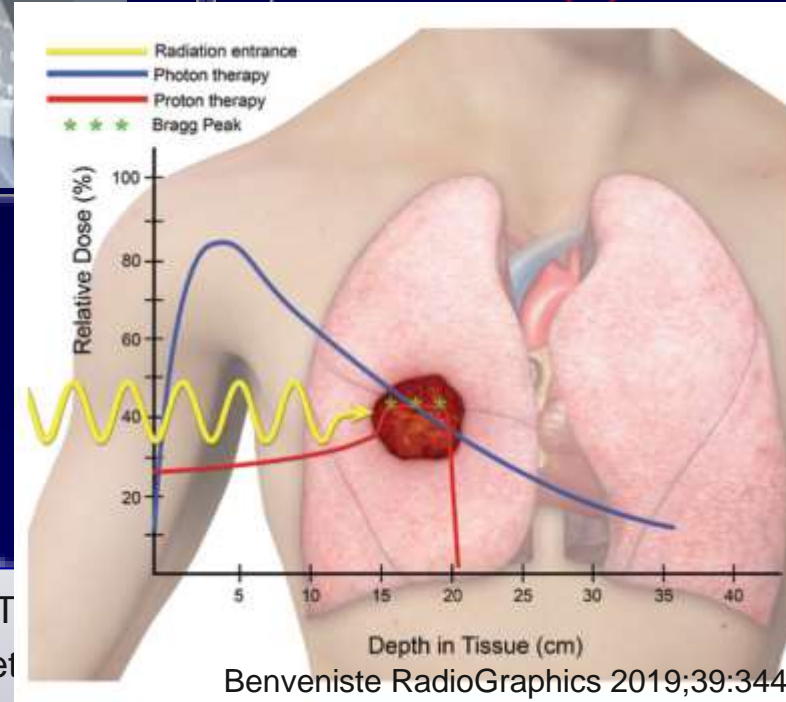
## 4D-RT (4-dimensional RT)



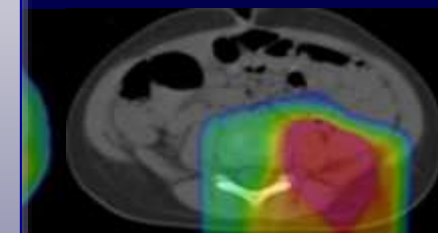
## SBRT (stereotactic body RT) SABR (stereotactic ablative RT)



- Smaller lesion (T1-T2)
- Steeper gradient between low-dose areas
- Dose 10-20 Gy per fraction (hypofractionated scheme)
- 50-60 Gy
- 1-2 weeks
- 80-100% tumor local control



## IGRT-based RT



# Radiation-induced lung disease

## Late or chronic phase

- Lung volume loss (mediastinal shift)  
Architectural distortion
- Consolidation  
Well-defined (modified conventional, scarlike, masslike patterns)  
Shape/location may change →12 mths
- Shrinkage  
Sharper demarcation
- Air bronchogram  
Traction bronchiectasis
- May stabilize  
Evolve up to 24 mths
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# Radiation-induced lung disease

## Late or chronic phase

- Lung volume loss (mediastinal shift)  
Architectural distortion

Less extensive

- Consolidation  
Well-defined (modified conventional, scarlike, masslike patterns)  
Shape/location may change → ~~12 mths~~ >24 mths

- Shrinkage  
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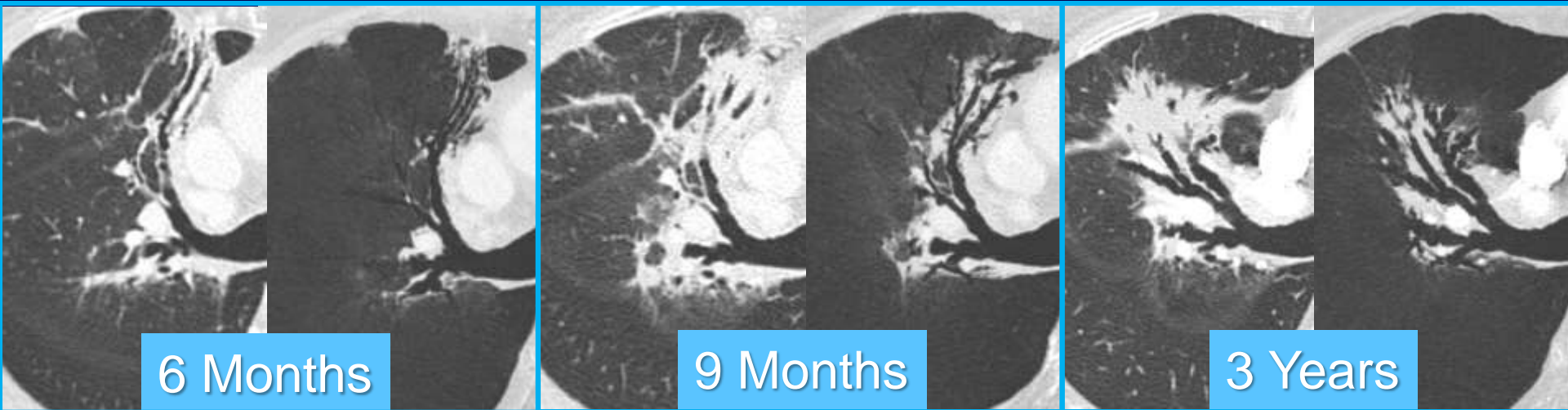
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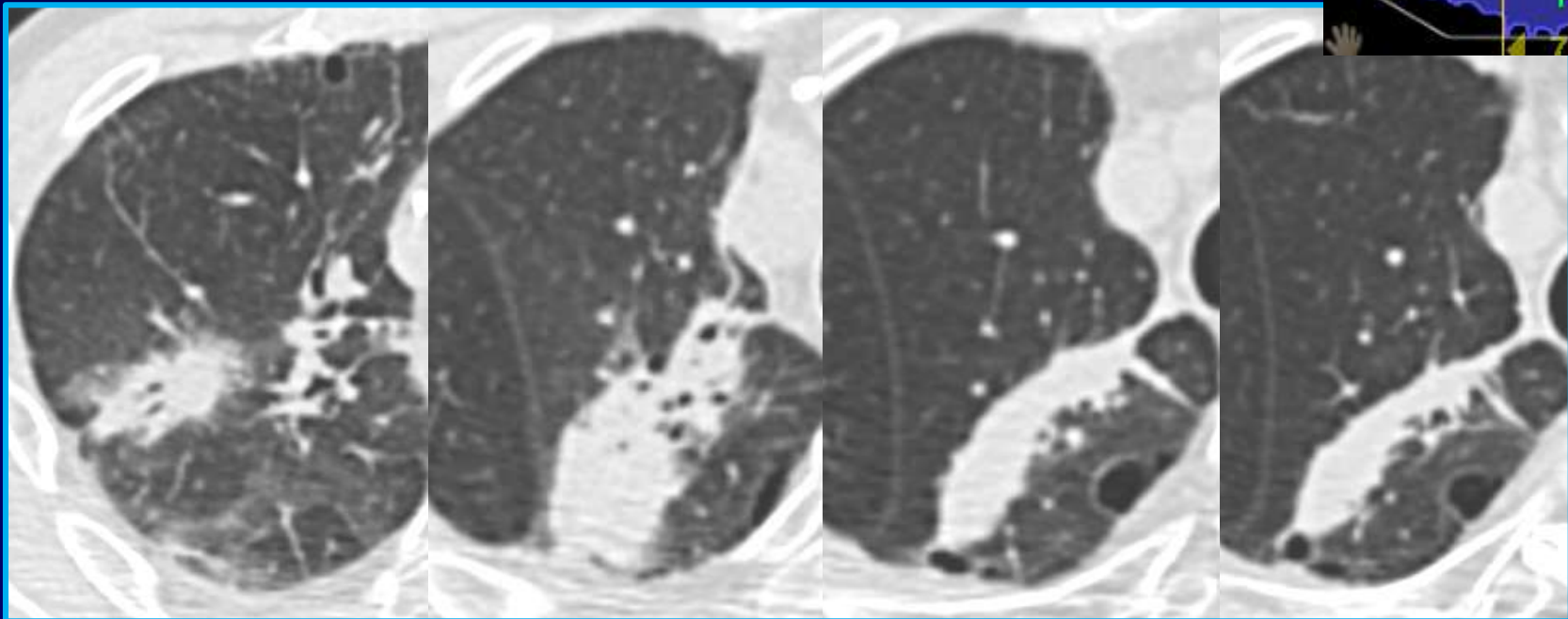
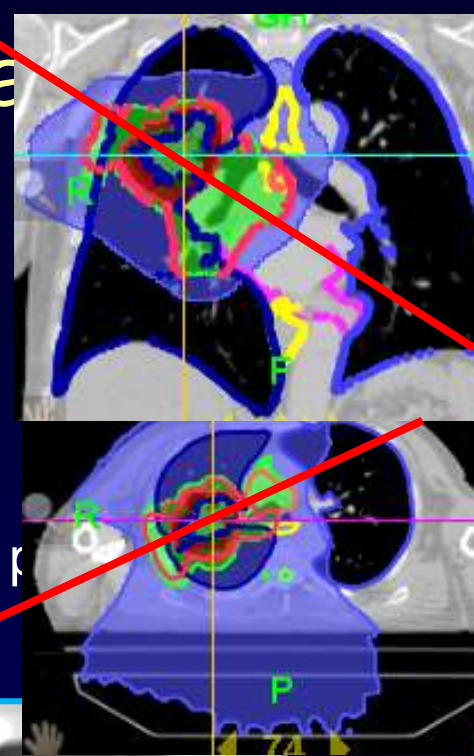




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3 Months

6 Months

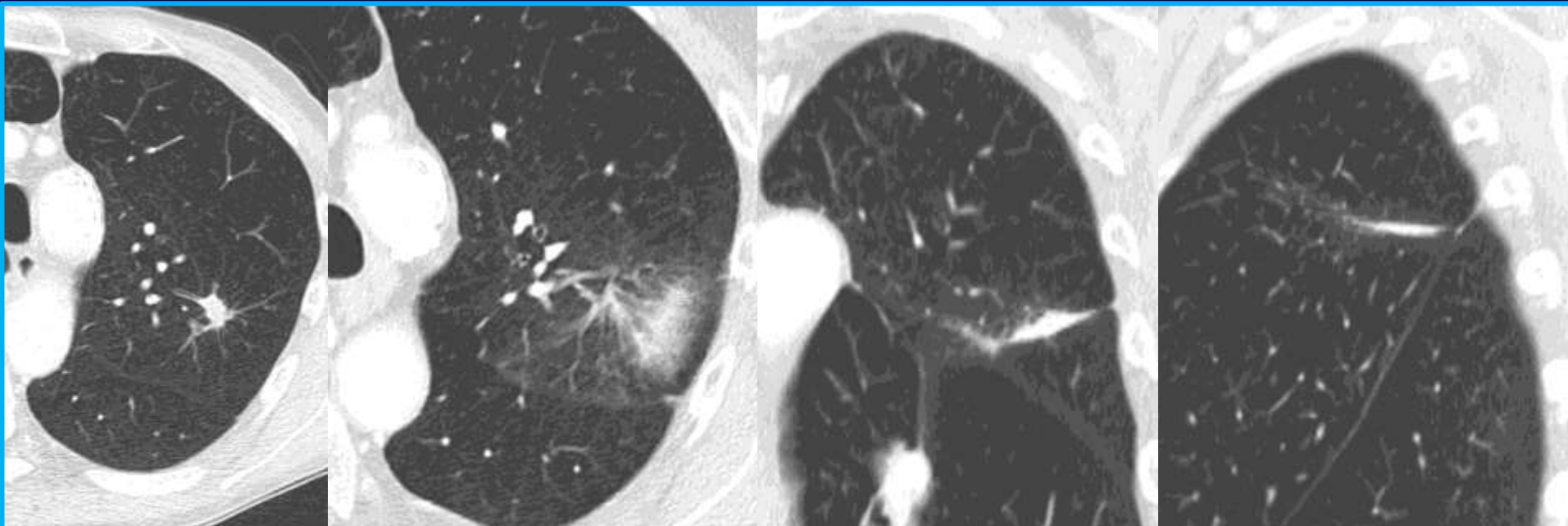
12 Months

18 Months

# Radiation-induced lung disease

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- Lung volume loss (mediastinal shift)  
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PRE

POST

# Radiation-induced lung disease

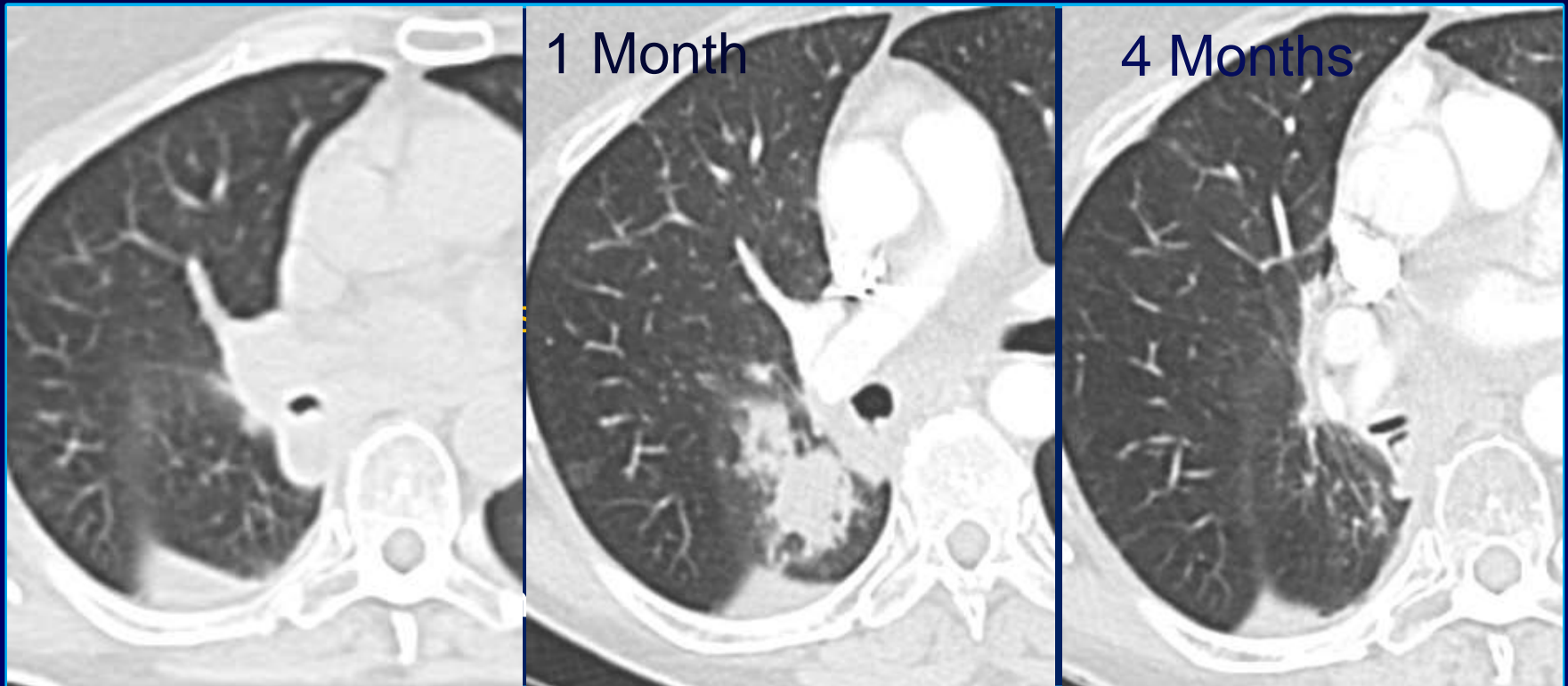
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May simulate  
tumor

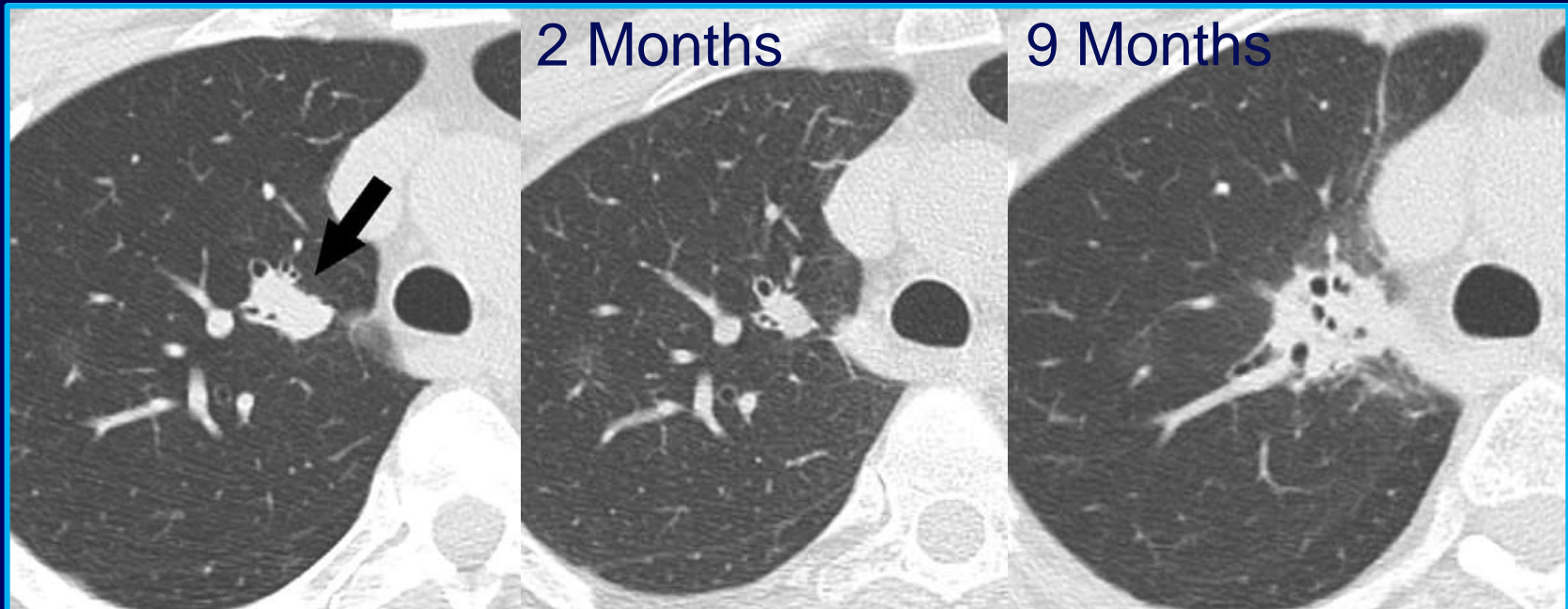


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# Radiation-induced lung disease

## Differential diagnosis

- Infections
- Locally recurrent tumor
- Radiation-induced tumor
- Drug-induced lung disease



# Radiation-induced lung disease

## Differential diagnosis

- Infections

- Abrupt onset
- Pulmonary opacities appearing before completion of RT outside radiation portals
- Respect anatomic boundaries
- Diffuse
- Bilateral
- Centrilobular, tree-in-bud opacities
- Cavitation
- Filling-in of bronchi

- Locally recurrent tumor
- Radiation-induced tumor



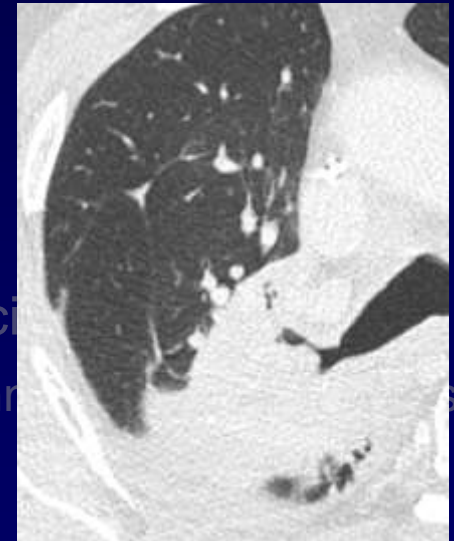
# Radiation-induced lung disease

## Differential diagnosis

- Infections
- Locally recurrent tumor
  - Usually within 2 years
  - Increase in size of radiation fibrosis area
  - Homogeneous opacification
  - Absence of air bronchogram
  - Convex border of irradiated lung
  - Filling-in of bronchi <sup>2</sup>
  - Others: LK, enlarging LN or pleural effusion
  - PET/CT >> CT : sensitivity 100% vs. 71%, specificity 90% vs. 80%
  - No PET before 3-6 months (PET uptake occasionally seen)
  - Pathological proof required
- Radiation-induced tumor



5 Months



9 Months

<sup>1</sup>Kim RadioGraphics 1992;12:269

<sup>1</sup>Bury ERJ 1999;14:1376

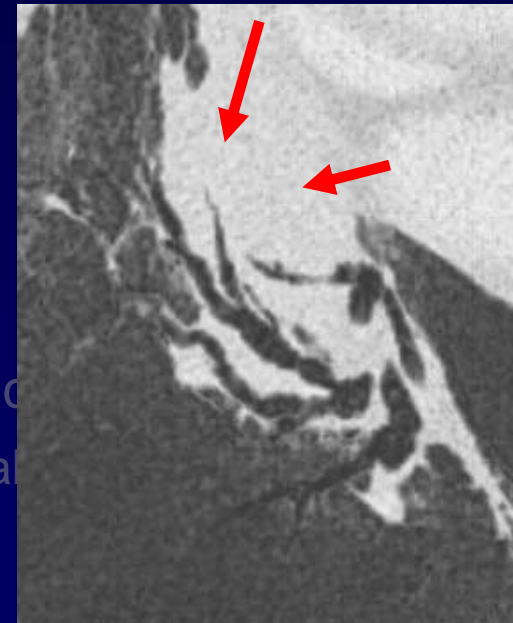
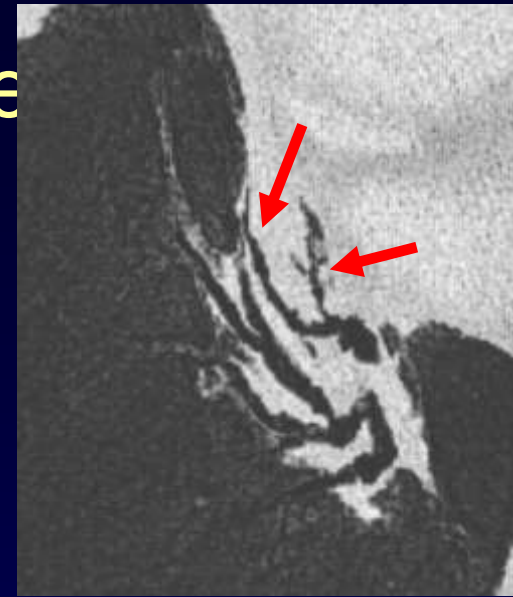
<sup>2</sup>Libshitz Radiology 1999;210:25

Choi RadioGraphics 2004;24:985

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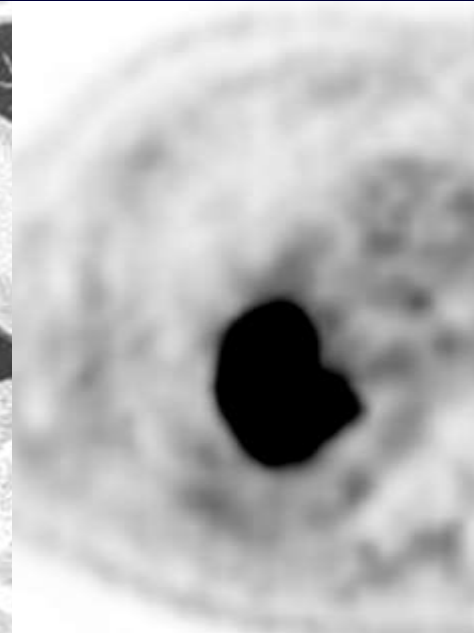
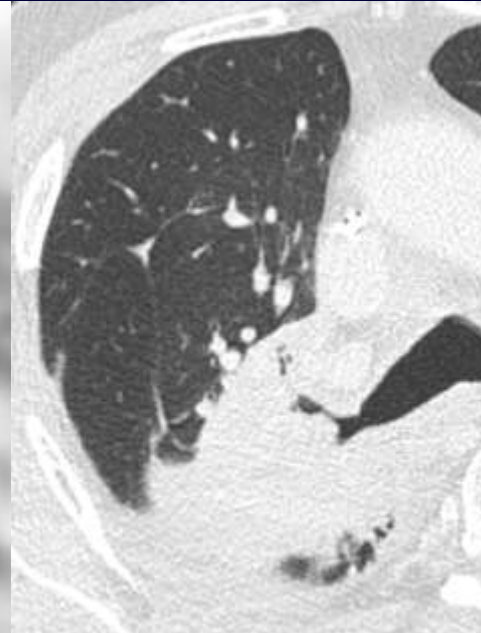
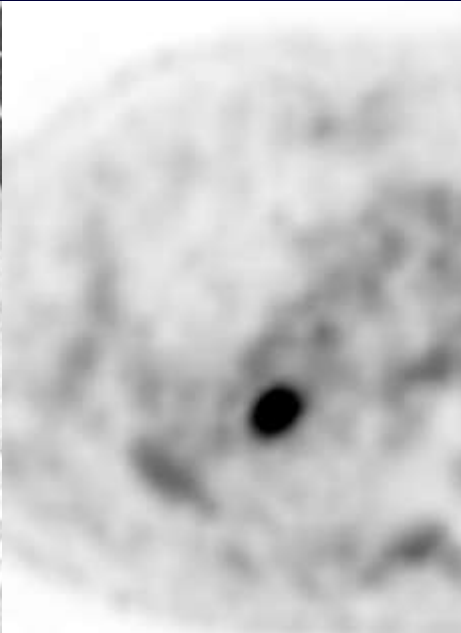
Choi RadioGraphics 2004;24:985

# Radiation-induced lung disease

## Differential diagnosis

● Infection 5 Months

9 Months



- PET/CT >> CT : sensitivity 100% vs. 71%, specificity 92 vs. 95%<sup>1</sup>
- No PET before 3-6 months (PET uptake occasionally up to 24 mths)
- Pathological proof required

● Radiation-induced tumor

<sup>1</sup>Kim RadioGraphics 1992;12:269

<sup>1</sup>Bury ERJ 1999;14:1376

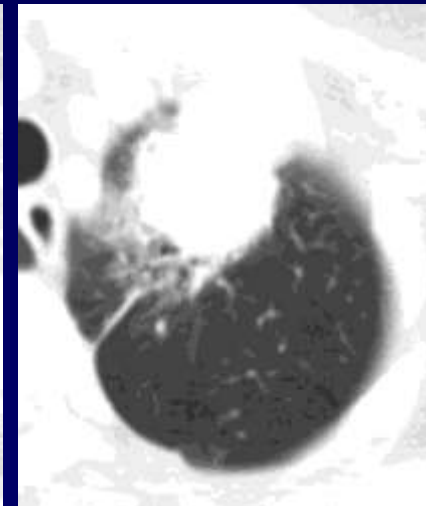
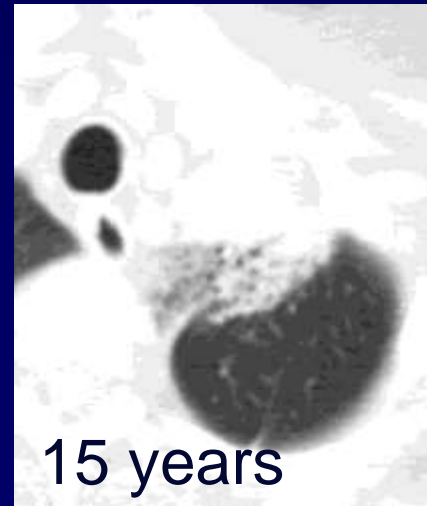
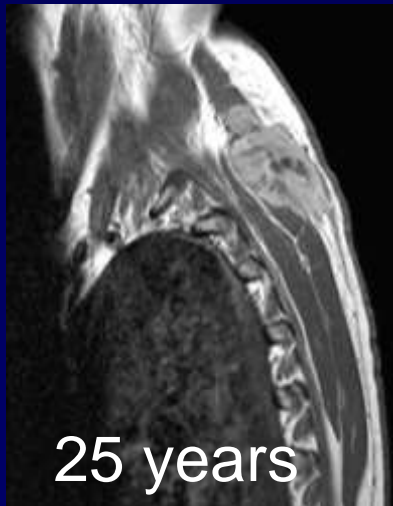
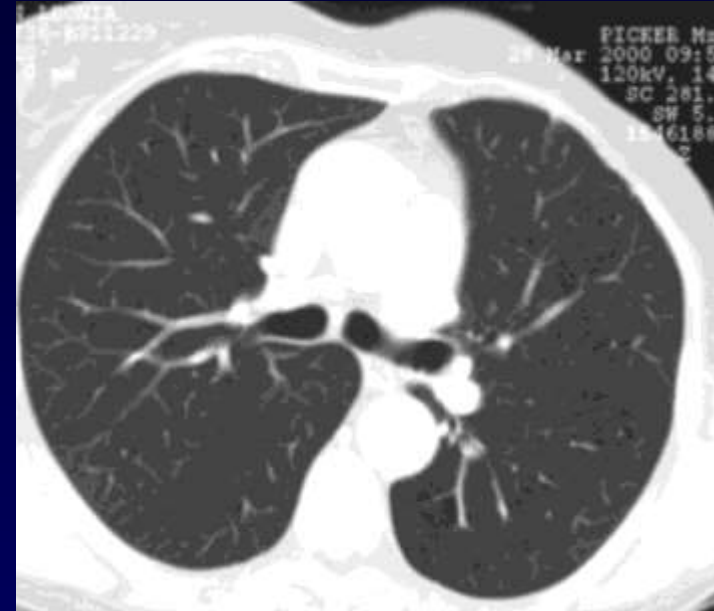
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# Radiation-induced lung disease

## Differential diagnosis

- Infections
- Locally recurrent tumor
- Radiation-induced tumor
  - Risk: 2.4/100 patients-years
  - Increases with time (median 9.6 years)
  - Lung, oesophagus, stomach
  - Lung: inside or edge of irradiated area



# Radiation-induced thoracic disease

## Unusual findings

- **Lung - bronchi**
  - Organizing pneumonia
  - Necrosis/fistula
  - Bronchial thickening/stenosis
  - Eosinophilic pneumonia
- **Pleura**
  - Pneumothorax
  - Thickening
  - Mesothelioma
- **Esophagus**
  - Dysmotility
  - Ulceration
  - Stricture/perforation/fistula
- **Mediastinum**
  - Thymic cyst
  - Fibrosing mediastinitis
  - Nerve injury
- **Lymph nodes**
  - Calcifications
- **Vessels**
  - Stenosis/occlusion > pseudoaneurysm
  - Dissection
  - Calcifications
- **Heart**
  - Coronary artery disease
  - Pericarditis
  - Cardiomyopathy
  - Valvular disease
  - Conduction abnormalities
- **Liver**
  - Focal hepatitis
  - Atrophic liver changes
- **Chest wall**
  - Breast carcinoma
  - Sarcoma/osteochondroma
  - Oedema, calcifications, Skin thickening
  - Osteoradionecrosis
  - Fracture



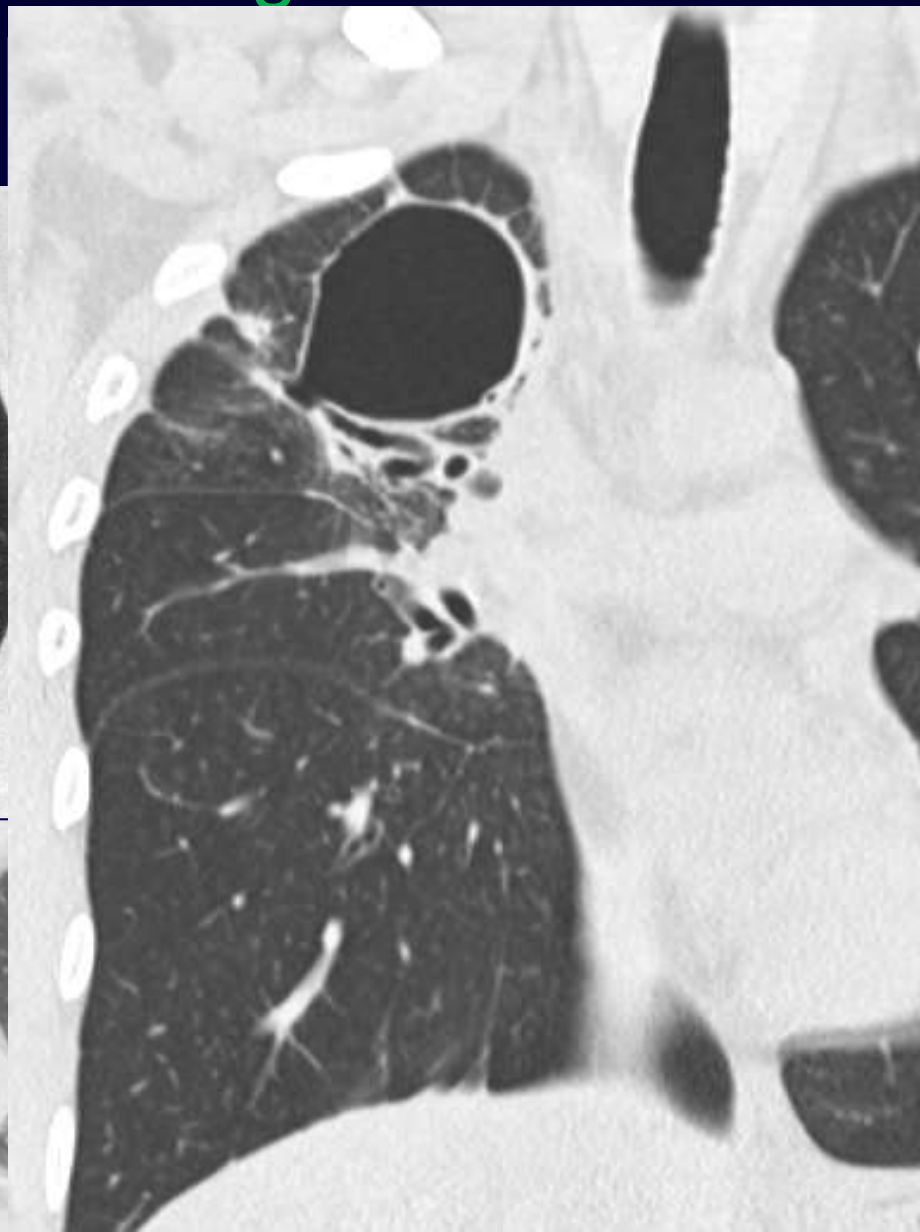
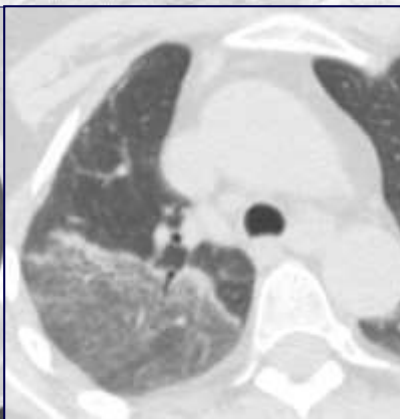
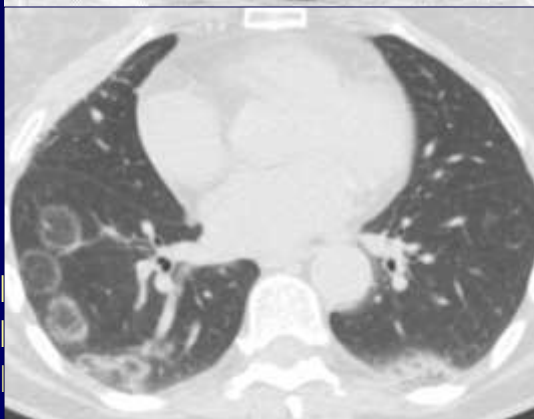
# Radiation-induced thoracic disease

## Unusual findings

- Lung - bronchi

Organizing pneumonia

Necrosis/fistula



# Radiation-induced thoracic disease

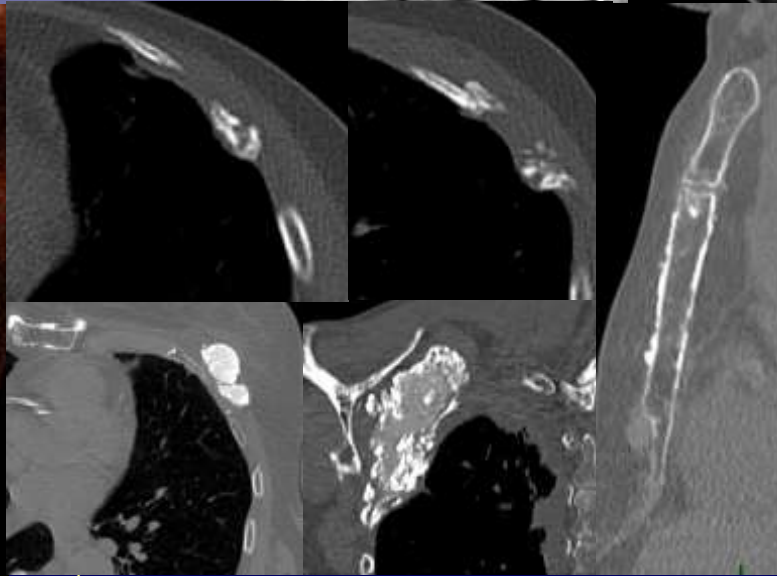
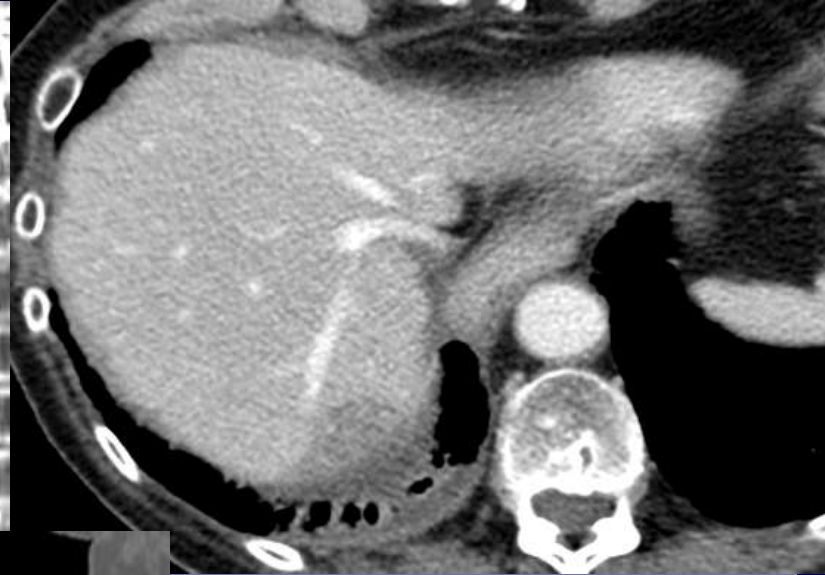
## Unusual findings

- **Lung - bronchi**

Organizing pneumonia  
Necrosis/fistula  
Bronchial thickening/stenosis  
Eosinophilic pneumonia

- **Pleura**

Pneumothorax  
Thickening  
Mesothelioma



Focal hepatitis  
Atrophic liver changes

Breast carcinoma  
Sarcoma/osteochondroma  
Oedema, calcifications, Skin thickening  
Osteoradionecrosis  
Fracture

# Follow-up after SABR

## High-risk features



RECIST : 71% FP and 28% PPV

Dunlap Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 2012;84:1071

- Enlarging opacity at the SRBT site
- Sequential enlarging opacity
- Loss of linear margin
- Convex bulging margin
- Disappearance of air-bronchogram
- Enlarging opacity without air bronchogram particularly >12 months
- Cranio-caudal growth > 5 mm and  $\geq 20\%$

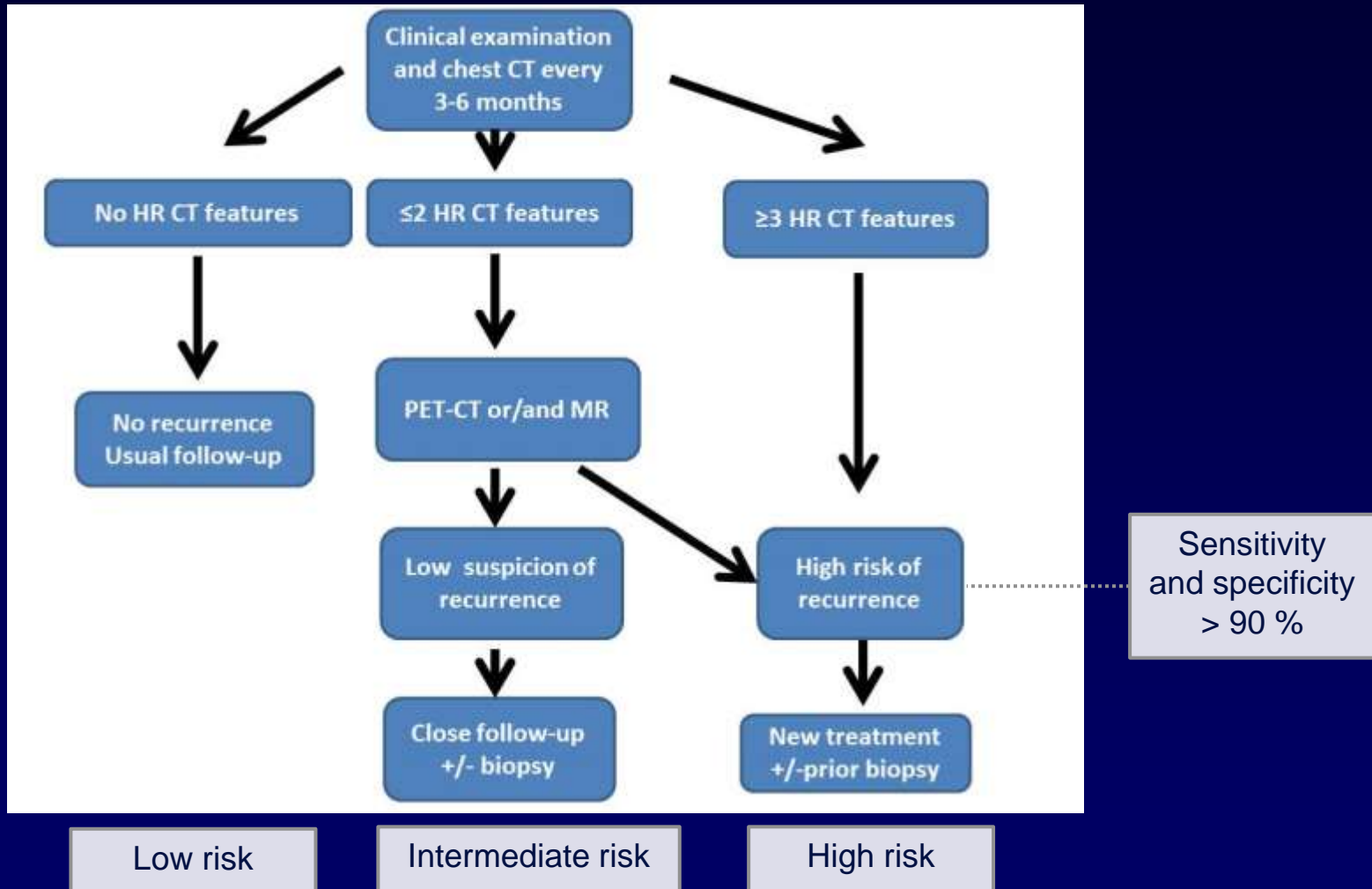
Huang Radiother Oncol 2012;102:335-42

Huang Radiother Oncol 2013;109:51-7

Febbo RadioGraphics 2018;38:1312-36

# Follow-up after SABR

## High-risk features





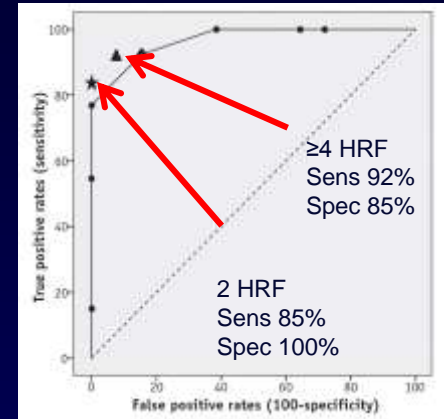
# Follow-up after SABR

## High-risk features

**Table 2** Sensitivity and specificity of 7 high-risk CT features reported by Huang et al (21, 22) and 2 additionally investigated HRFs

High-risk CT feature for local recurrence	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	P value
Enlarging opacity ( $\geq 5$ mm and $\geq 20\%$ )	100	31	.035
Sequential enlarging opacity	62	77	.033
Enlarging opacity after 12 months	92	50	.013
Bulging margin	85	100	<.001
Linear margin disappearance	85	100	<.001
Loss of air bronchogram	15	100	.105
Craniocaudal growth ( $>5$ mm and $>20\%$ )	100	50	.001
Unilateral pleural effusion	31	96	.035
Relative growth	85	65	.001

Abbreviations: CT = computed tomography; HRF = high-risk feature.



13 pts with local recurrence vs. 26 non recurrence

Peulen Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 2016;96:134-41

88 patients without local recurrence

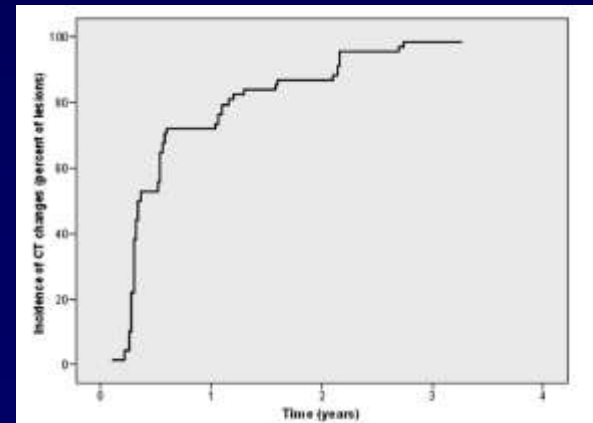
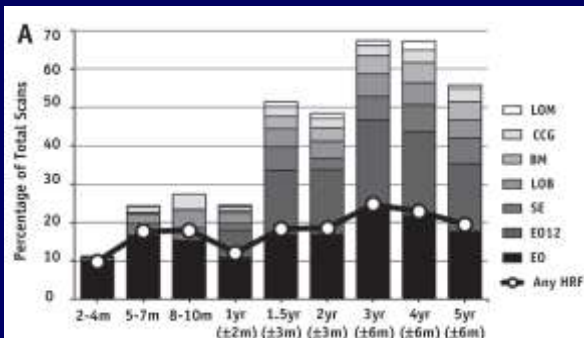
Ronden Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 2018;100:115-21

50% have HRF

$\geq 3$  HRF in 25%

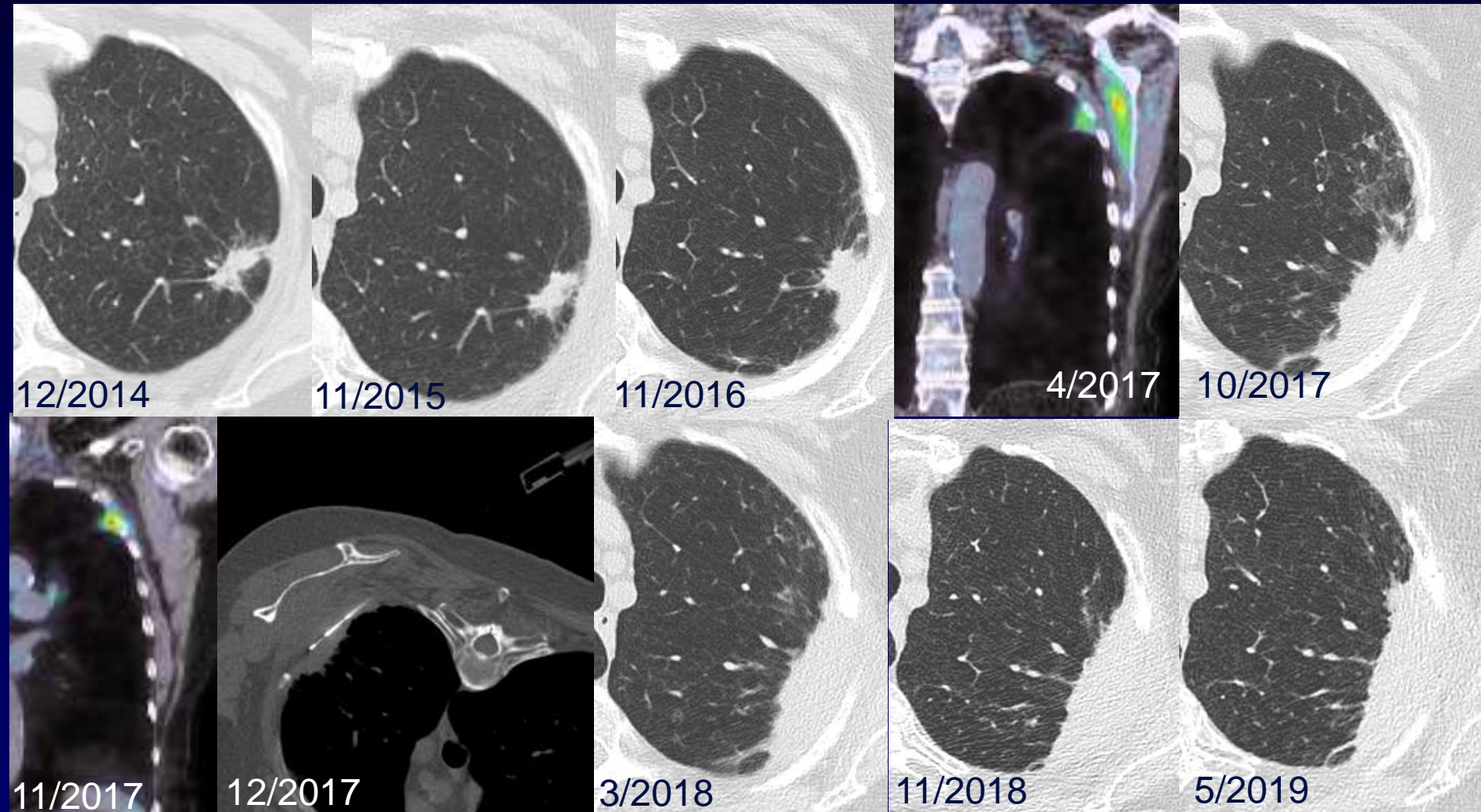
increased rate of FU CT, (PET and biopsy)

large interreader variability



Dahele J Thorac Oncol 2011;6:1221-8

# Follow-up after SABR





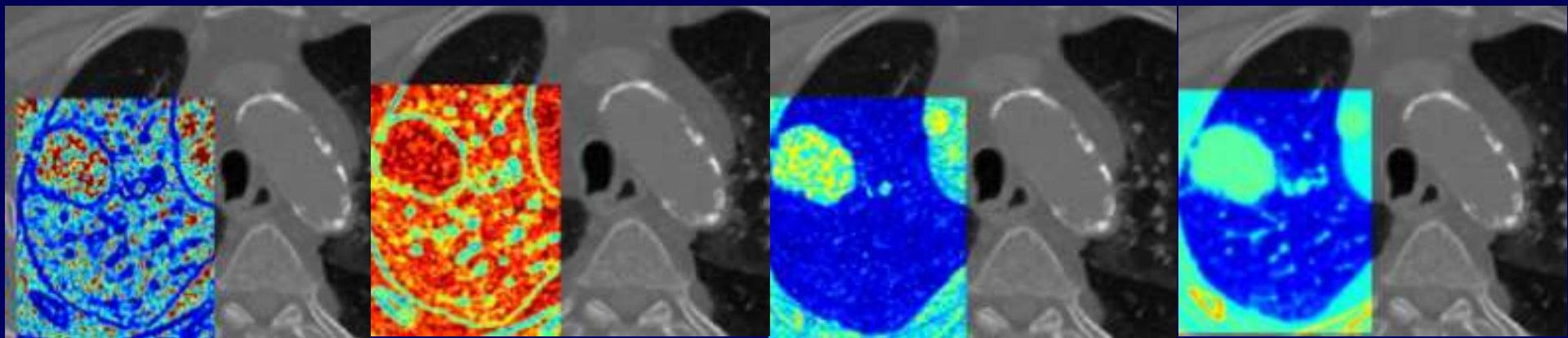
# Follow-up after SABR Radiomics

Imaging features from pre-treatment or post-treatment CT are associated with clinical outcomes in NSCLC treated with SABR<sup>1,2</sup>

Modèle à 5 paramètres <sup>3</sup>

Paramètre 1	Paramètre 2	Paramètre 3	Paramètre 4	Paramètre 5	Se (%)	Sp (%)	Précision
Diff Entropy	Sum Average	SRE	GLN	16	100	94,3	0,94
Entropy	Sum Average	SRE	GLN	16	100	94,3	0,94
Homogeneity	Sum Average	SRE	GLN	16	100	94,3	0,94
Inv Diff Mom	Sum Average	SRE	GLN	16	100	94,3	0,94
Sum Average	Sum Entropy	SRE	GLN	16	100	94,3	0,94
Sum Average	GLN	RP	Roundness	28	100	94,3	0,94

*Seuls les modèles avec une Précision supérieure à celle des modèles à 4 paramètres sont rapportés ici.*



<sup>1</sup>Li Med Phys 2017;44:4341-4349

<sup>2</sup>Mattonen SA Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys 2016;94:1121-8

<sup>3</sup>Seabra and Ghaye, ECR 2018

# Conclusion

- Any thoracic tissue exposed to radiations can show radiation injury
- RILD :
  - Early and late features (reference point)
  - Confinement to the fields of radiation
  - Non-conformity to anatomic boundaries
- RT refinements : modified conventional, mass-like and scar-like patterns
- Knowledge of the treatment planning aids in the interpretation
- Long-term follow-up should be further refined (CT, PET-CT, MRI and PET-MRI)

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