



## The Value of a Dosimetrist in a Value Based Healthcare Environment

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
MDAnderson  
Cancer Center  
Making Cancer History®

### Background



2000 – 2003 Brachytherapy Dosimetry

**New Technology Clinical Implementation**

2003 – 20010 External Beam Dosimetry

**New Technology Product Development**

2010 – 2014 Supervisor, Proton Therapy

**New Technology Adoption**

2014 – 2018 Administration, Development & Operations

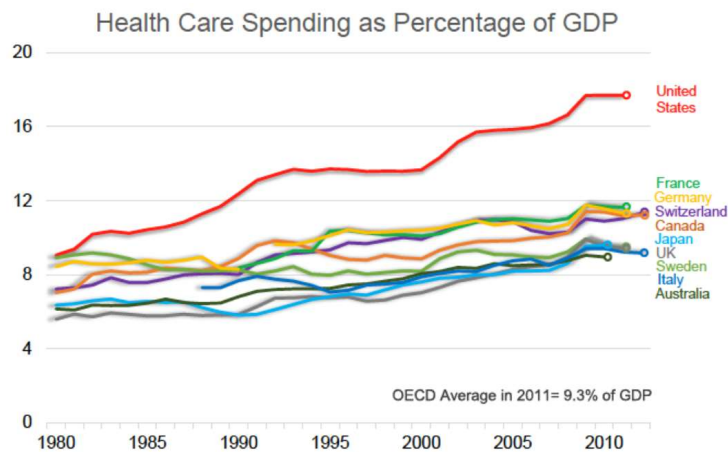
**Justification of New Technology- Admin, Economics & Policy**

## Disclosers

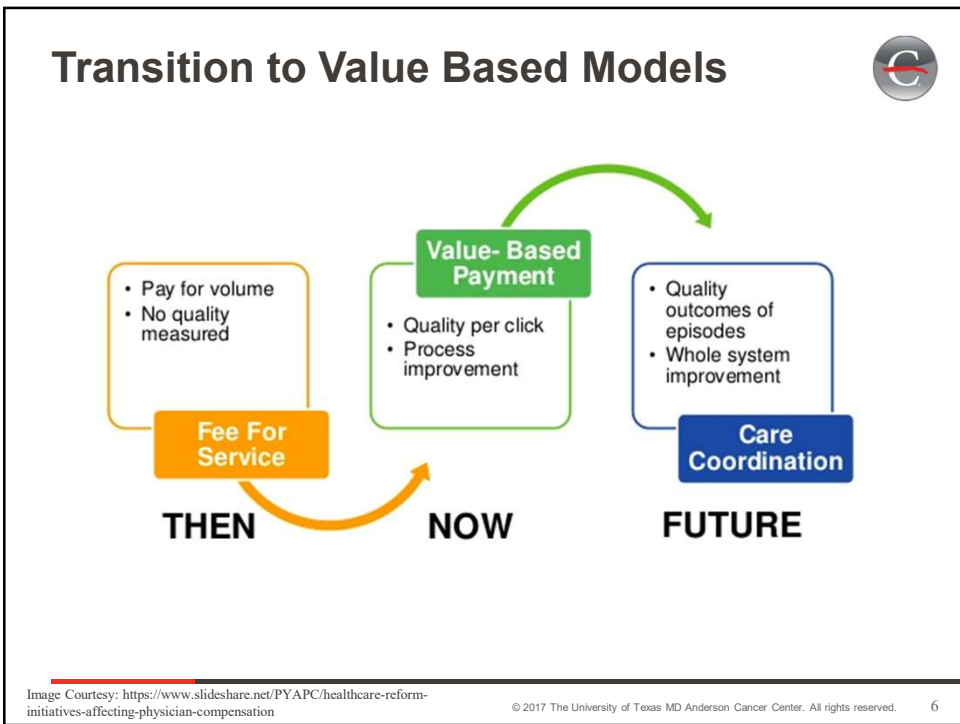
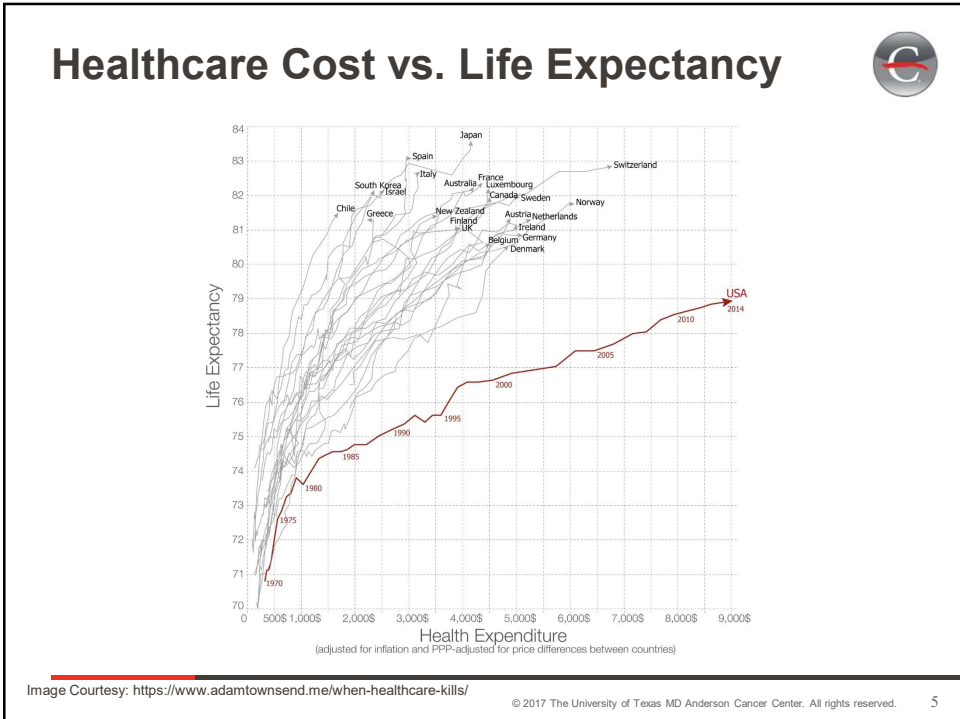


- Co-Patent (Philips): Automatic, Optimal IMRT/VMAT Treatment Planning Software (#9943702) (2018)
- No Financial Benefit

## Rising Healthcare Cost



Source: OECD Health Data 2013.  
Produced by Veronique de Rugy, Mercatus Center at George Mason University.



## Fee for Service to Fee for Value

	Fee-for-Volume (Old World)	Fee-for-Value (New World)	
Volume	Providers make money by negotiating higher rates and performing as many services as possible	Providers make money by not only providing services, but other results valued by the industry, such as quality, efficiency, wellness, care coordination, and prevention	Value
Vendors	Payers see providers as vendors	Payers begin to see providers as partners	Partners
Revenue	Providers see every touch as revenue	Providers see every touch as an expense to be managed	Expenses
Provider Based Claims	Most providers have little regard for evidence-based medicine. Payers primarily pay providers based on claims	Providers care a great deal about evidence based medicine Payers pay providers based on claims plus many other inputs (few of which are automated)	Evidence Based Claims +

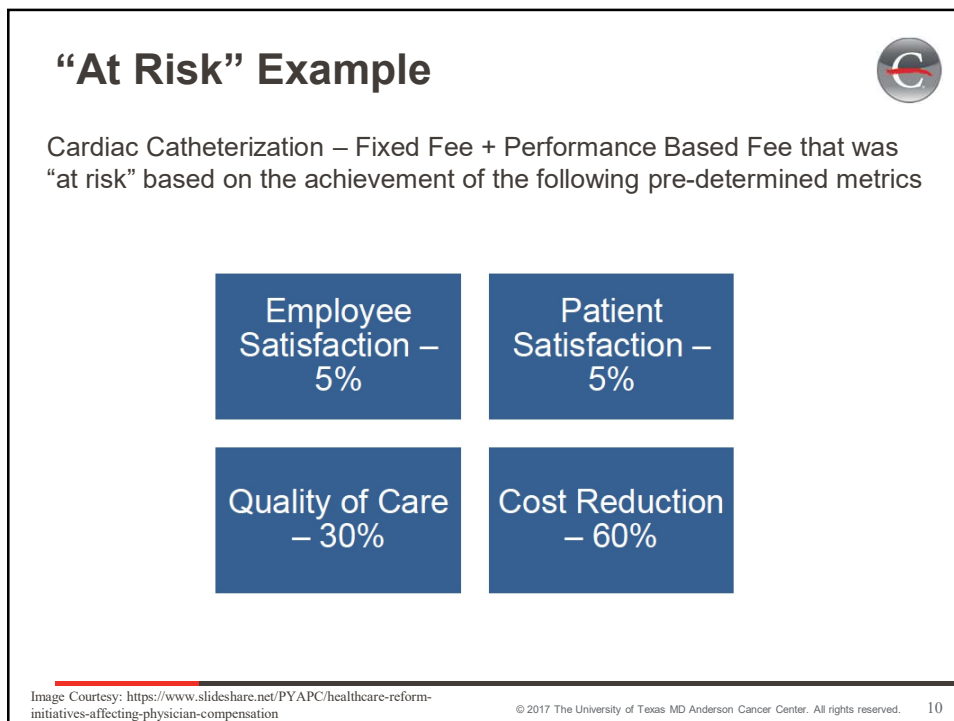
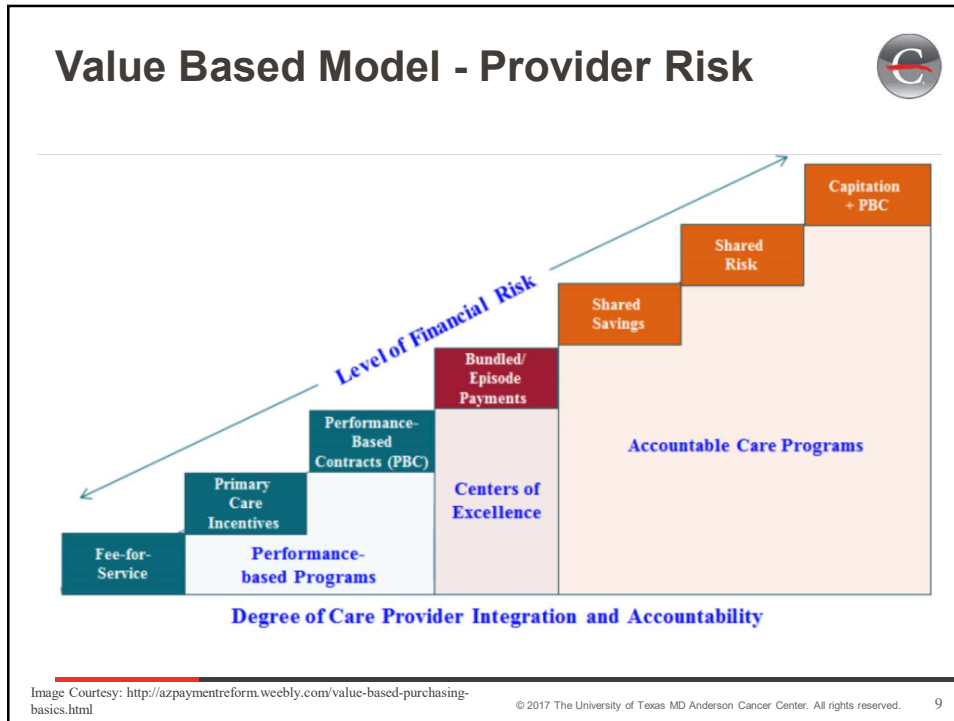
Image Courtesy: <https://www.slideshare.net/matthijsvanhagen/4-walsteijnedfecs-enabling-value-based-healthcare-2015-04-09-v3/4> © 2017 The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. All rights reserved. 7

## Value Based Model – Current Status


★ **2018**  
35% of the population managed by new partnership models<sup>1</sup>

Stage	Description
Consume & Interpret	Consume Transactional Data
Support Payment Reform	Value-Based Reimbursement Agreements Align Financial Incentives with Clinical Outcomes
Intervene: Change Care Delivery	Monitor the Population, Create Clinical Intelligence, and Drive Effective Interventions
Expand to Other Partners	Share Intelligence and Processes Across Multiple Payers and Providers
Integrate & Share	Combine Clinical and Claim Data into Member-centric and Population Views

Image Courtesy: <https://www.slideshare.net/matthijsvanhagen/4-walsteijnedfecs-enabling-value-based-healthcare-2015-04-09-v3/4> © 2017 The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. All rights reserved. 8



## What is Value?



- How is quality defined?
- What metrics are used to define quality?
- How is value defined by the patient?
- How much is the patient willing to pay for value?

- How is cost defined?
- What outcomes are most important?
- What are the parameters of the outcomes?

Image Courtesy: <https://global.agfahealthcare.com/main/enterprise-imaging/value-based-healthcare/>

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## Stakeholders' Perspective

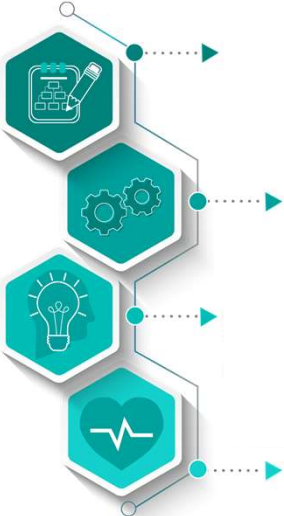
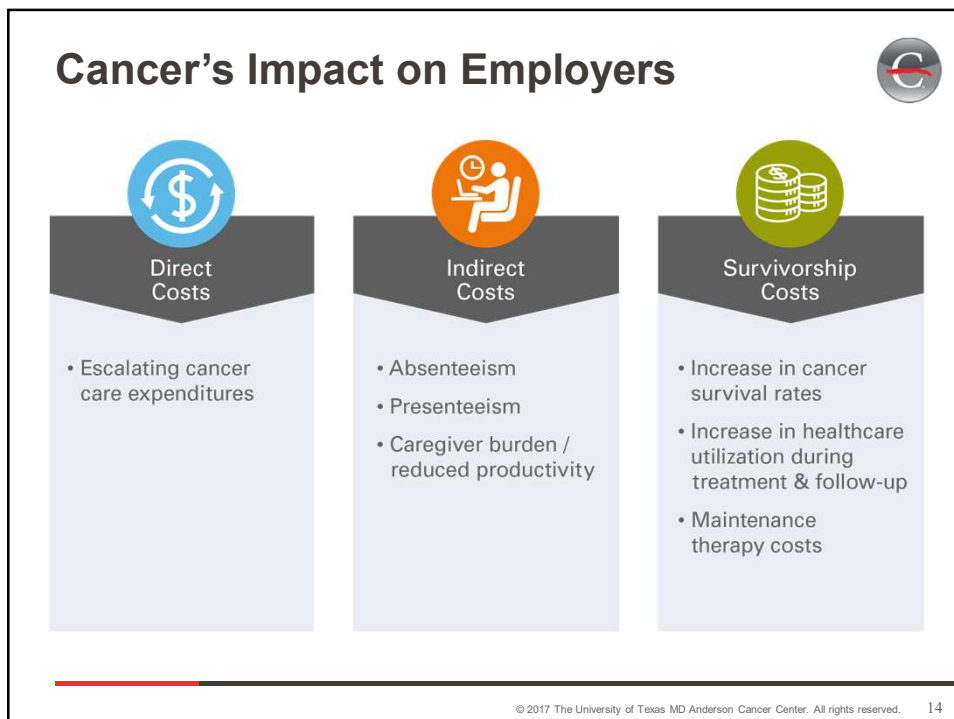
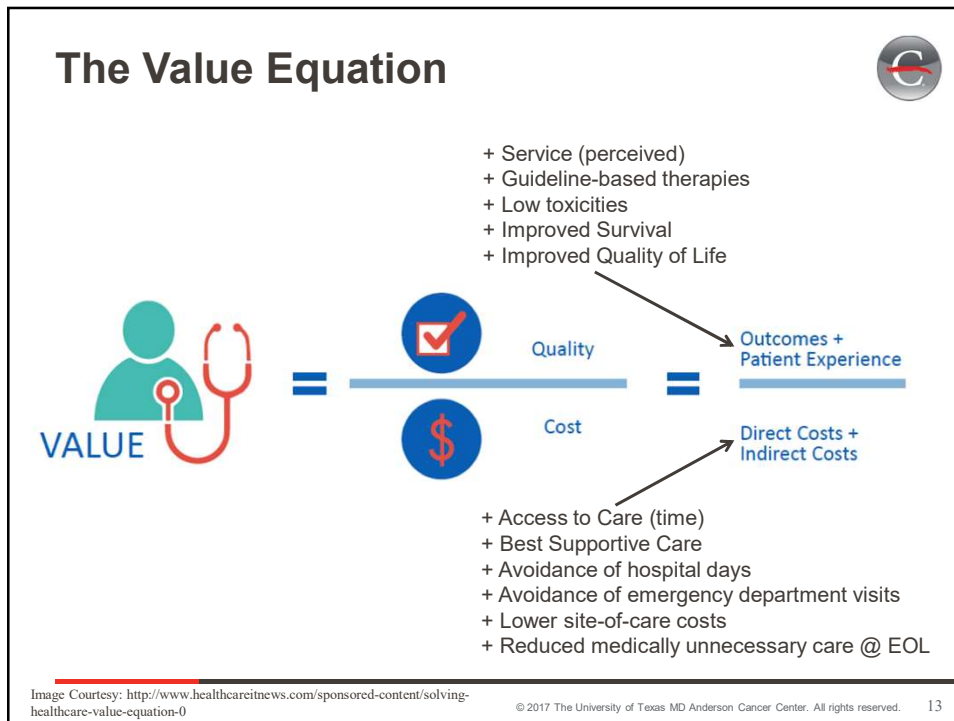
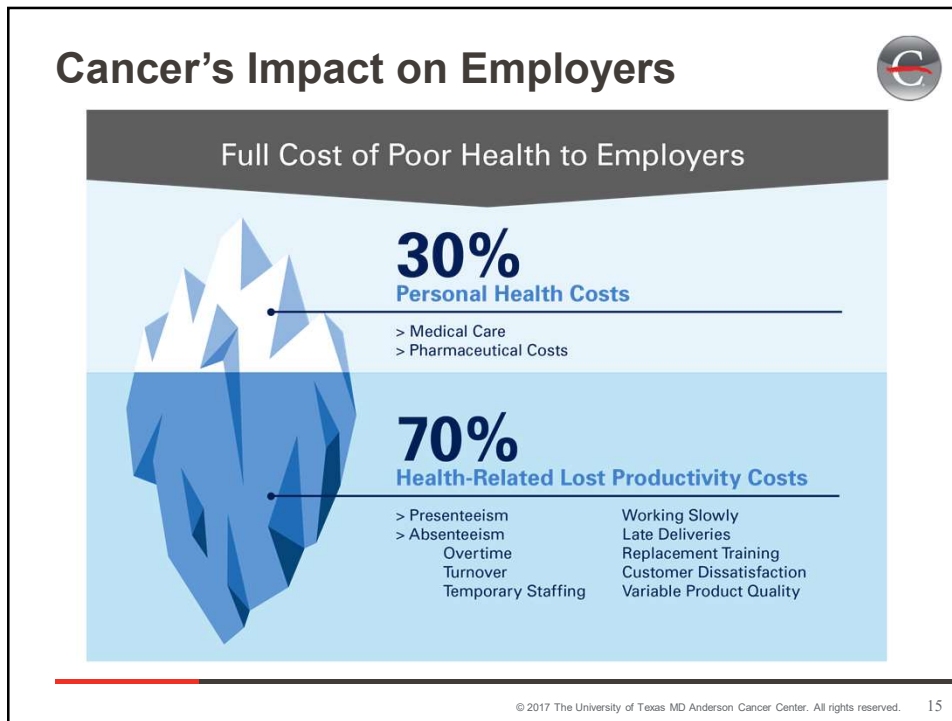


Image Courtesy: <https://www.exponent.com/knowledge/alerts/2017/07/value-based-payment-for-medical-devices/>

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- ## Measurement of Value?
1. How do patients know if their healthcare is good care?
  2. How do providers pinpoint the steps that need to be improved for better patient outcomes?
  3. How do Insurers and employers determine whether they are paying for the best care that science, skill and compassion can provide?
  4. How do we figure out which measures can give us the biggest return in better quality of life for patients?
  5. Who sets the priorities, and how carries them out?
- Source: National Quality Forum
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## NATIONAL QUALITY FORUM



1. Process Measures
2. Outcome Measures
3. Patient Experience Measures
4. Infrastructure Measures
5. Composite Performance Measures

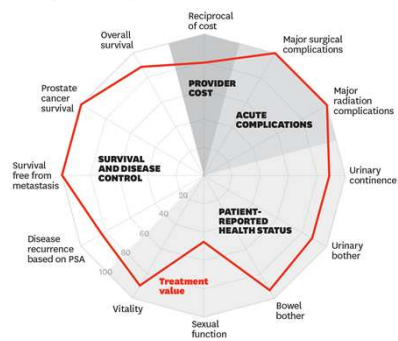
Source: National Quality Forum

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## Visualizing Quality



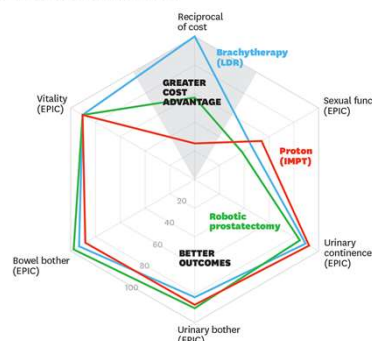
**The Outcomes and Cost of Brachytherapy Treatment for Prostate Cancer**  
 A score of 100 represents the ideal performance.



SOURCE: INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR HEALTH OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT; MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

© HBR.ORG

**Comparing the Value of Three Alternative Prostate Cancer Treatments**  
 A score of 100 represents the ideal performance.



SOURCE: ANALYSIS OF MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER DATA BY ROBERT S. SAPIAN AND NIKHIL THAKUR

© HBR.ORG

Image Courtesy: <https://hbr.org/2015/10/measuring-and-communicating-health-care-value-with-charts>

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## Quality Frameworks



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality  
Advancing Excellence in Health Care



H-CUP  
HEALTHCARE COST AND UTILIZATION PROJECT



CMS.gov  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



NATIONAL  
QUALITY FORUM



ICER  
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL  
AND ECONOMIC REVIEW



NCQA  
Measuring quality.  
Improving health care



urac®  
Setting the Standard.  
Transforming Healthcare.



The Joint Commission




NCCN  
National  
Comprehensive  
Cancer  
Network®



ASCO® AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
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## Institute of Medicine (IOM) Framework



1. **Safe:** Avoiding harm to patients.
2. **Effective:** Providing services based on scientific knowledge to all who could benefit.
3. **Patient-centered:** Providing care that is respectful to individual patient preferences needs and values.
4. **Timely:** Reducing waits and sometimes harmful delays.
5. **Efficient:** Avoiding waste, including waste of equipment, supplies, ideas, and energy.
6. **Equitable:** Providing care that does not vary in quality.

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## IOM Framework – Radonc Focus



1. **Safe:** Effective Treatment Plans, Achieve dose constraints, ROILS, QA Methods, Toxicity review board
2. **Effective:** Research, Publications, Treatment Planning Development and Improvement
3. **Patient-centered:** Dosimetric plan analysis to determine optimal plan per patient, Plan analysis tools
4. **Timely:** Contouring & Treatment planning time
5. **Efficient:** Operational Process Improvement = Cost reduction
6. **Equitable:** Treatment plan standardization

### Safety

## Incident Learning



**RO-ILS**

RADIATION ONCOLOGY®  
INCIDENT LEARNING SYSTEM

Sponsored by ASTRO and AAPM

- The Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 established essential legal protections in the US to allow for the collection and analysis of medical incidents nationwide.
- RO-ILS is actively collecting, analyzing, and reporting patient safety events.
- Learned experiences from the collected data are used to design systems not only optimized for efficiency but also for error minimization and elimination.

### How can/do Dosimetrist Contribute to Radiation Safety?

Safe, Deliverable Plans

Report Errors & Mistakes

Report Often

Education & Training

Implement New Guidelines & Procedures

Safety

## Dosimetry Operational Recommendation

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## Goals of Radiation Therapy

1. Maximize disease control
2. Minimize both early and late side effects
3. Preserve organ function
4. Preserve quality of life
5. Minimize extraneous radiation dose to the patient

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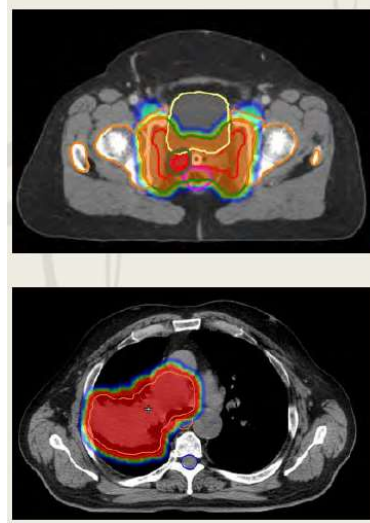
## What is an Optimal Plan?

100% of prescribed dose to entire tumor volume and zero dose elsewhere (not attainable).

Physician believes that a better plan exists and that through more effort (and perhaps experience) it can be found

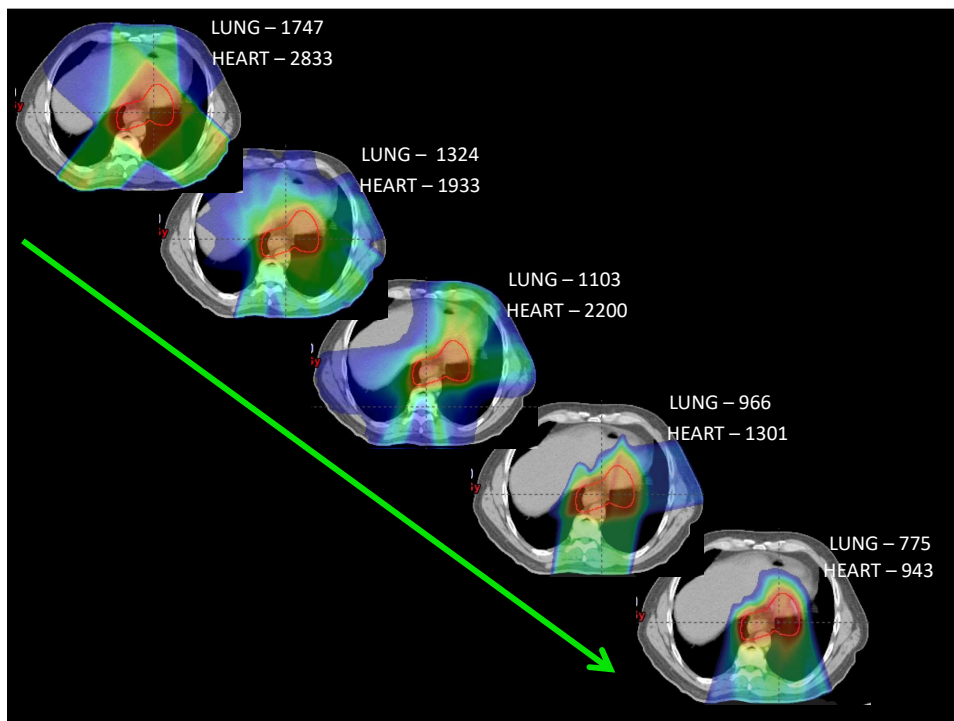
Characteristics of the best "achievable" plan are unknown.

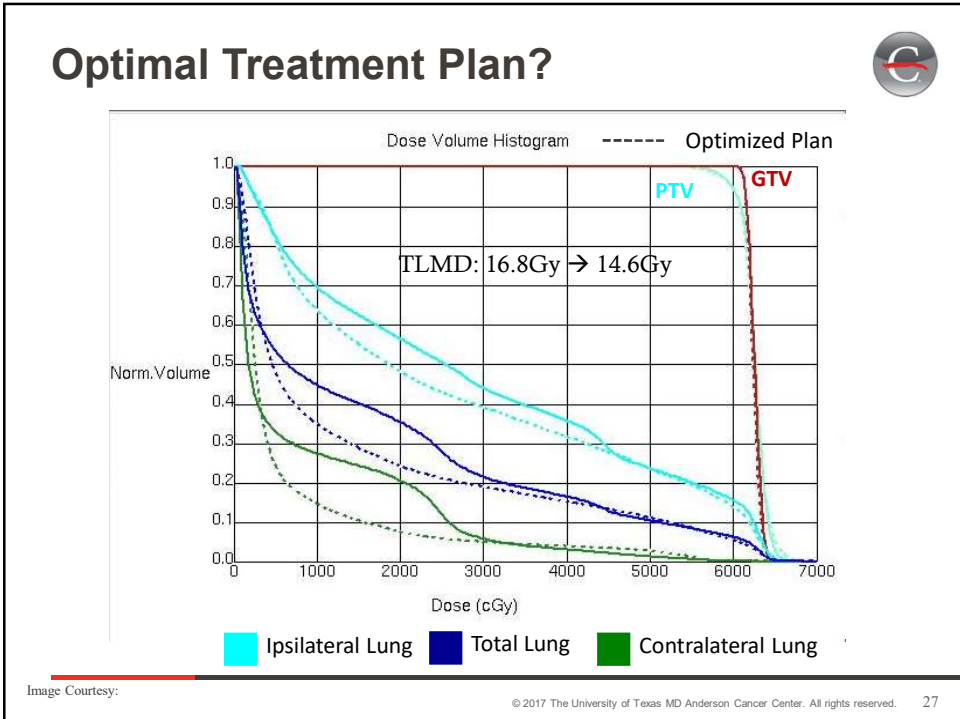
Lack of universally accepted criteria/metrics for defining the "best" plan for each type of cancer.



*PlanIQ™, Courtesy of Ben Nelms, PhD*

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- ### Limitations of Achieving the Optimal Plan
1. Time, Distance, Shielding
    - Time- Rush to get the patient started
    - Distance- Planner knowledge and experience gap
    - Shielding- Blocked from seeing the optimal plan
  1. Lack of established benchmarks
  2. Patients uniqueness
  3. Disease specific exposure (Recall)
    1. Knowledge gap due to advancements in technology
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Effective

## Knowledge Based Class Solutions



- Systematic way of applying a technique for a specific site that is consistent, robust and helps produce a clinically acceptable plan more efficiently.

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Effective

## Benefits of Class Solutions



- Increase the standard of care for all patients
  - Define an optimal plan by defining benchmarks specific to the clinical site
  - Reducing the significance of disease-specific experiences for IMRT treatment planning
- Elimination of trial-and-error optimization process
  - Reduces the need for experienced based knowledge retrieval
  - More time spent optimizing plan rather than doing plan setup
- More time for advanced optimization
  - Continually improve plans beyond established benchmarks

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## Fundamental Principles for Improvement

- All results are determined by inputs with some degree of uncertainty.
- To improve results, you have to focus on the inputs, modify them, and control them.
- Variation is everywhere, and it degrades consistent, good performance.
- Valid measurements and data are required foundations for consistent, breakthrough improvement.
- Only a critical few inputs have significant effect on the output. Concentrate on the critical few.

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## Effective Modified 6-Sigma- DMAIC<sub>M</sub>

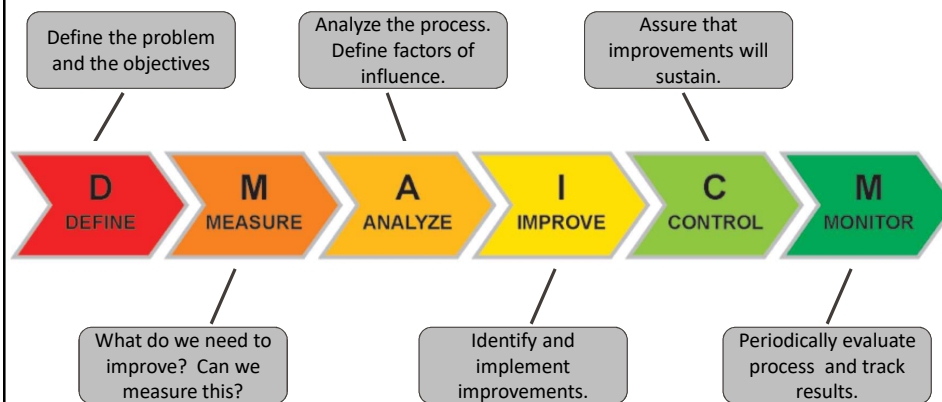
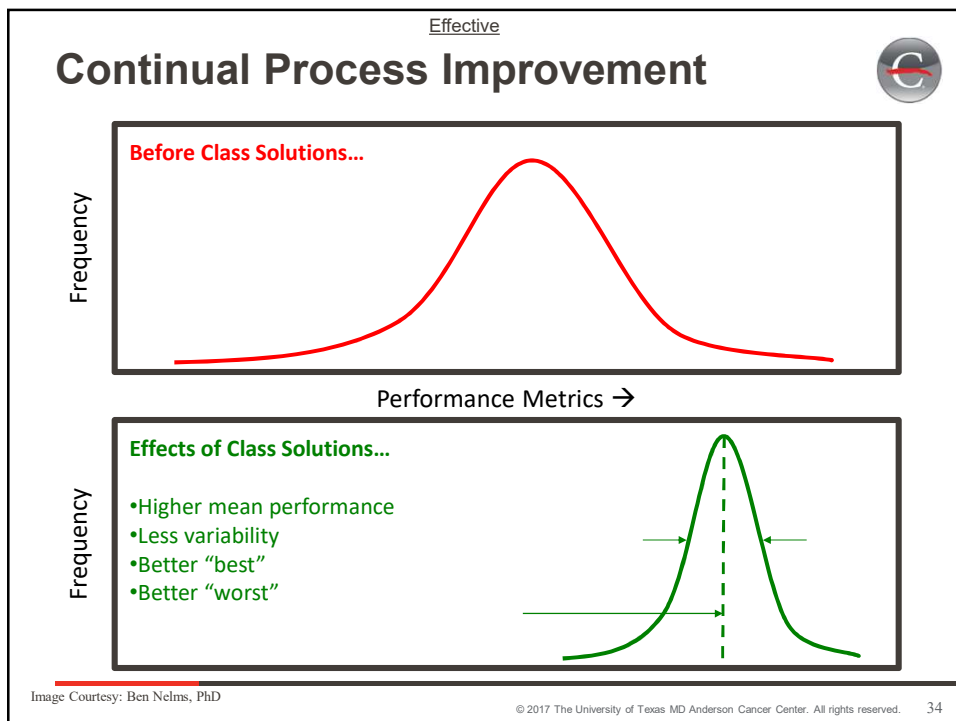
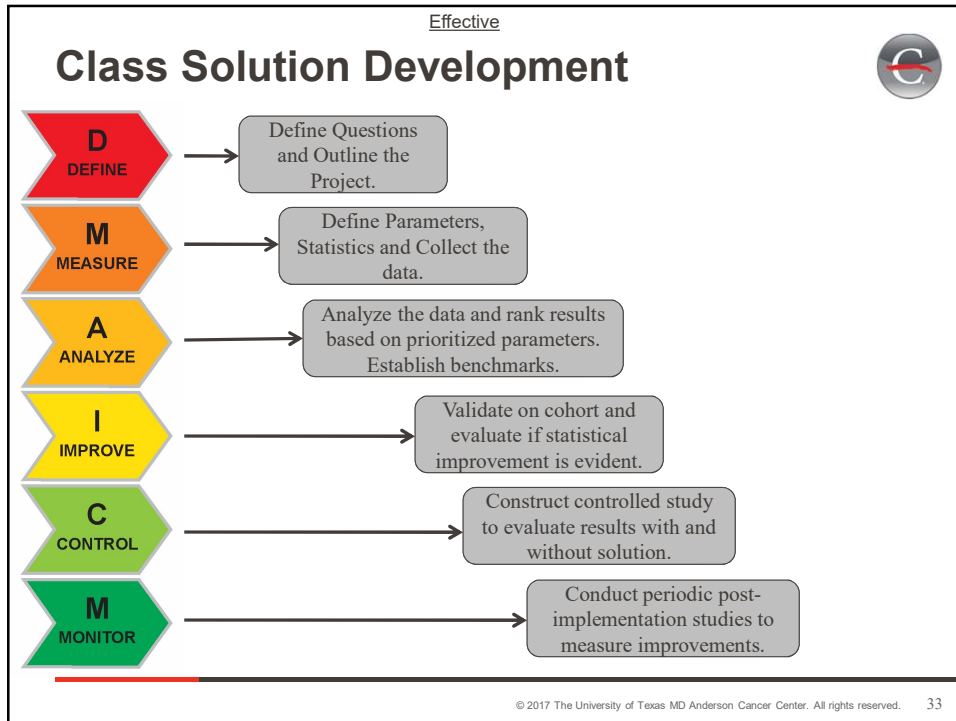
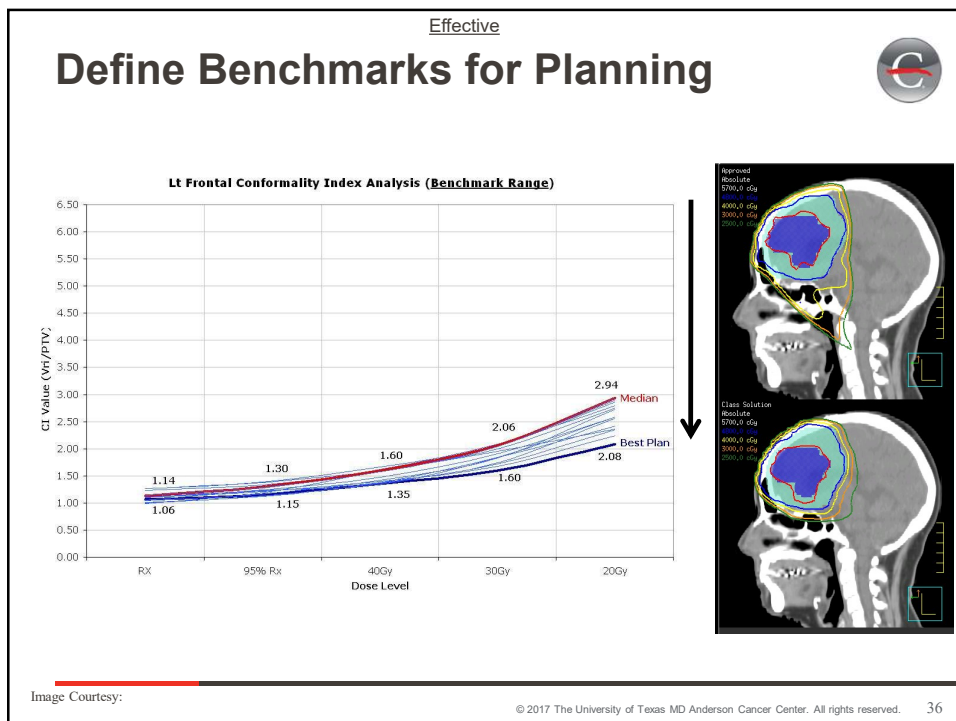
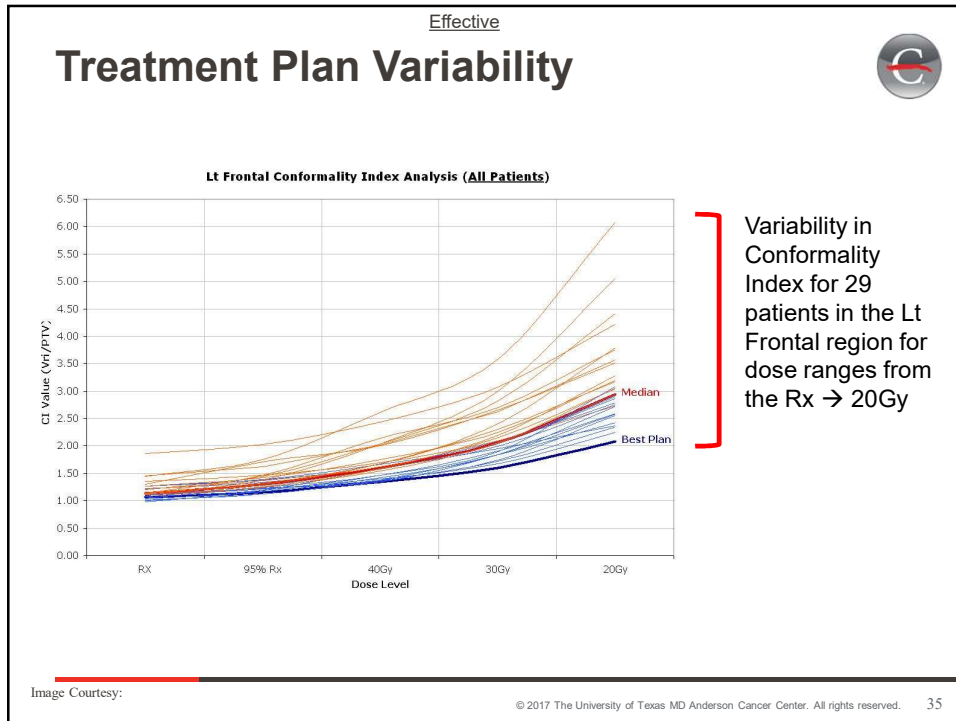


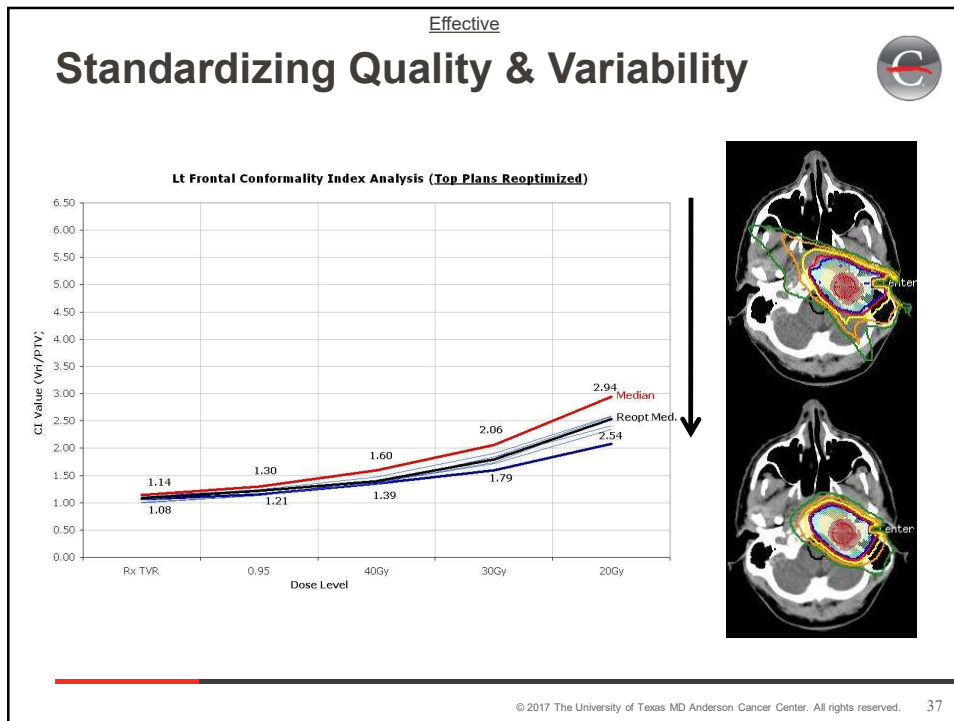
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Patient Centered

## Identifying Drivers of Quality

Start by identify a patient cohort to analyze, preferably more than 25 patients.

Important to delineate patients with same disease and same characteristics

Good initial evaluation parameters- Prescription and tumor position, Examples...

- Spine- Rx, location (c-spine, t-spine, l-spine), tumor shape (horseshoe, paraspinal, donut, question mark)
- Liver- Rx, location (lateral, medial, middle)
- Brain- Location (right or left), Region (frontal, temporal, etc.)

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## Identifying Drivers of Quality



Ask questions that help define potential statistical relationships, i.e. Geometric and/or Anatomical.

- What are the important anatomical structures?
- Do any anatomical structures impose geometrical limitations?
- What are the difficulties or limitation during optimization?
- What makes one plan different than the other for the same site?

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Patient Centered

## Identifying Drivers of Quality



Ask detailed questions that are disease specific:

- Prostate: What is the achievable dose gradient through the rectum?
- Brain: How can we reduce the volume of 30Gy? How can we make the integral dose as conformal as possible? What are the factors that influence the brain mean dose?
- Lung: What is the relationship between the tumor volume and lung volume and are these volumes correlated to the total lung mean dose?
- Esophagus: How do we reduce the heart dose? Does the tumor length impact the lung dose?
- Spine: What is the achievable dose gradient between the CTV and spinal cord?

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## Identifying Drivers of Quality

Are there ways to divide the anatomy or dosimetric relationships into components that help explain the dosimetric results?

- Lung- Uninvolved lung vs. Lung Dose & Lung Involvement vs. Mediastinal Involvement
- Spine- Cord position vs. CTV vs. Achievable dose gradient
- Brain- 30Gy planar symmetry vs. PTV
- Esophagus- Lung Dose vs. PTV border to Carina & Uninvolved Heart vs. Heart Dose.

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## Lung - % Uninvolved Lung

**PTV** divided into two components

- Mediastinal Involvement
- Treated Lung

**Mediastinal Structure** is defined by the tissue in the middle of the lungs and includes the heart, esophagus, major vessels/arteries, anterior vertebral body

**Uninvolved Ipsilateral Lung** is the amount of lung outside of the PTV

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## Spine – Achievable Dose Gradient

- **A:** Spinal Cord Diameter
- **B:** CTV to Cord distance
- Cord position correlated to % coverage

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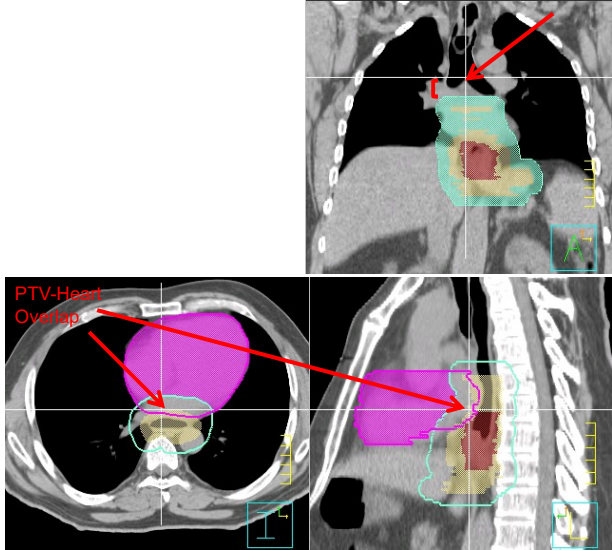
## Brain – 3D Planar Measurements

Measure the distance from the PTV Border (Black) and the 30Gy Isodose line (Yellow) in all Planes.

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## Esophagus – Distance to Carina



**DPC**

Find the carina bifurcation.  
Count the number of slices between superior border of PTV and carina.  
(+ inferior/ - superior)  
DPC = No. of slices \* slice thickness.

**%UIH**

PTV typically overlaps Heart.  
Create a Heart – PTV structure.  
 $\%UIH = \frac{\text{Heart} - \text{PTV}}{\text{Heart Vol.}}$

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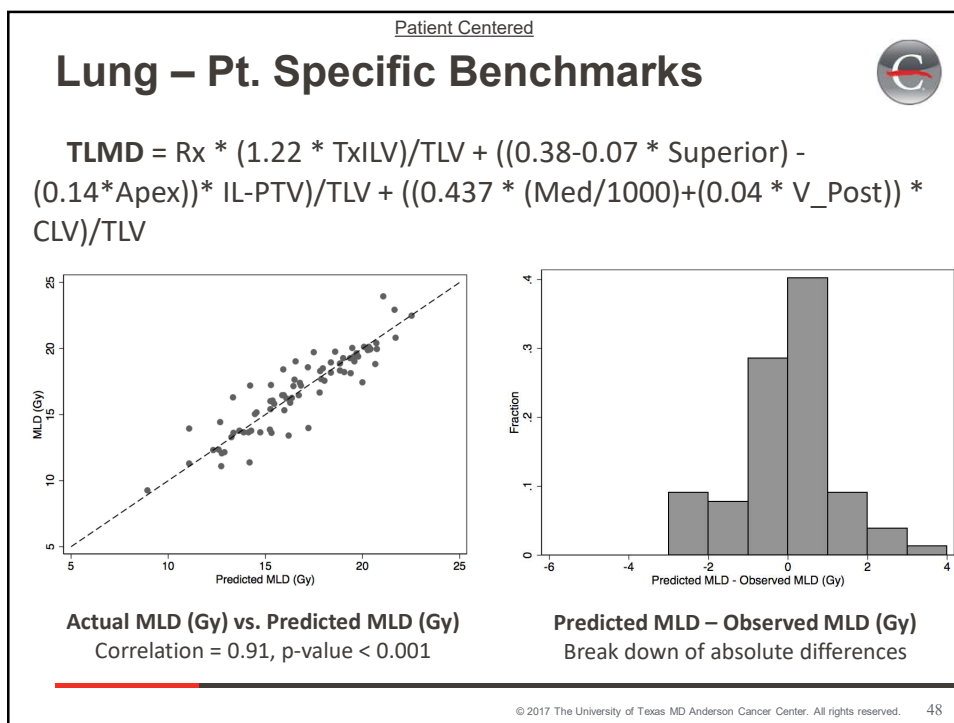
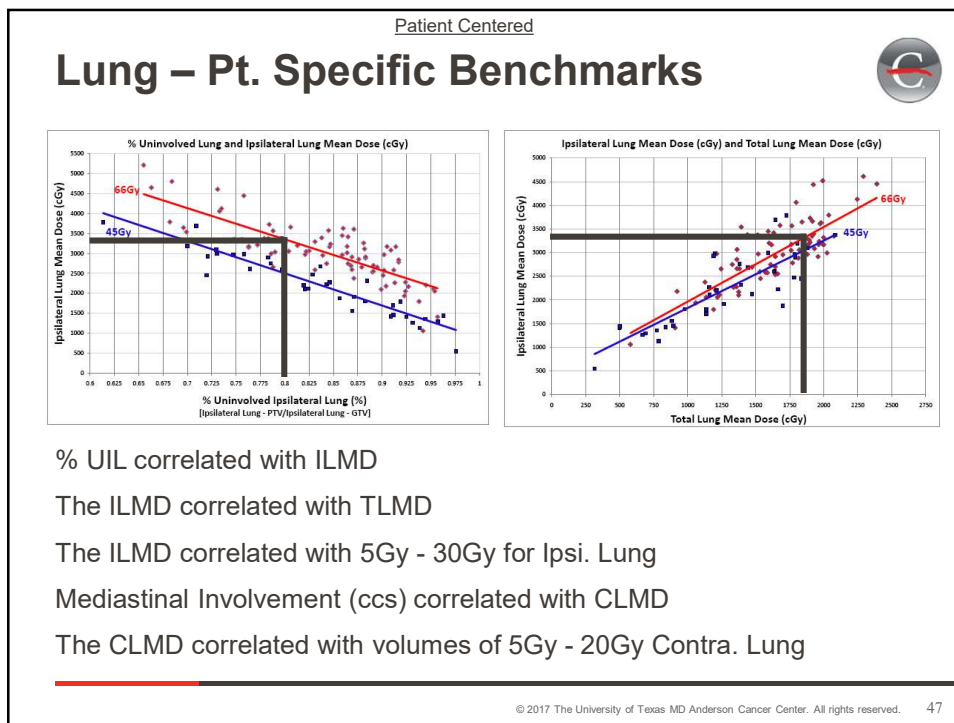
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## Patient Specific Benchmarks

Analyze the data and rank results based on prioritized parameters.

- Define benchmarks after data analysis of prioritized statistics.
- Benchmarks will help the treatment planner define if their plan is “optimal”.
- Benchmarks should define the range of achievability.
- Can be segmented based on sub-categories.

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## Lung – Pt. Specific Benchmarks

Prescription (cGy)	7000	<b>Notes:</b> <span style="background-color: yellow;">Insert Values into Yellow Boxes</span>
PTV Volume	190	
Inferior/Superior*	Superior	*Input names exactly as written in column C
Apex (Y/N)*	N	Superior = Middle of PTV Sup. to the bottom of T6 vert. body
Anterior/Posterior/Posterior CW*	Posterior	Apex = Superior Sulcus with CW involvement
Ipsilateral Lung Volume	2463.2	Posterior CW = Post. Lesions abutting Vert. Body
Uninvolved Ipsilateral Lung	2355.3	Ipsilateral Lung - PTV
Contralateral Lung Volume	2562.6	% Uninvolved Lung - (Ipsilat. Lung-PTV)/Ipsilat. Lung Vol.
Total Lung Volume	5025.8	PTV- Mediastinal Structure
Lung Involvement	125.5	
Mediastinal Involvement	64.2	

Uninvolved Ipsilateral Lung (Ipsilateral Lung – PTV)

Mediastinal Structure

Lung Involvement/Treated Lung (PTV – Mediastinal Structure)

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## Lung – Pt. Specific Benchmarks

### IMRT Lung Estimator Statistical Model Validation

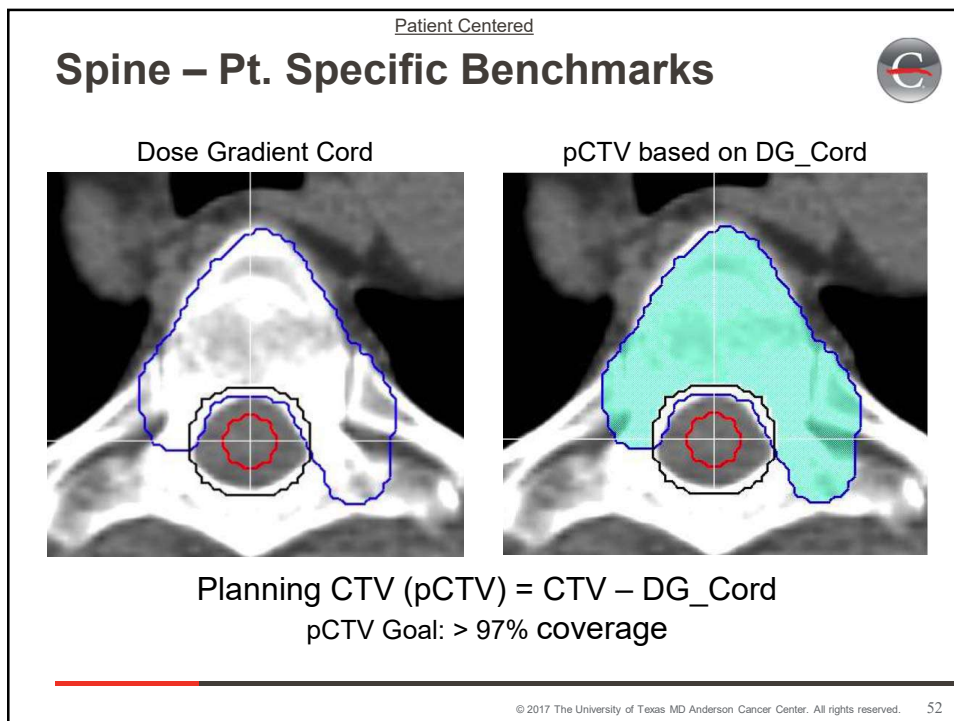
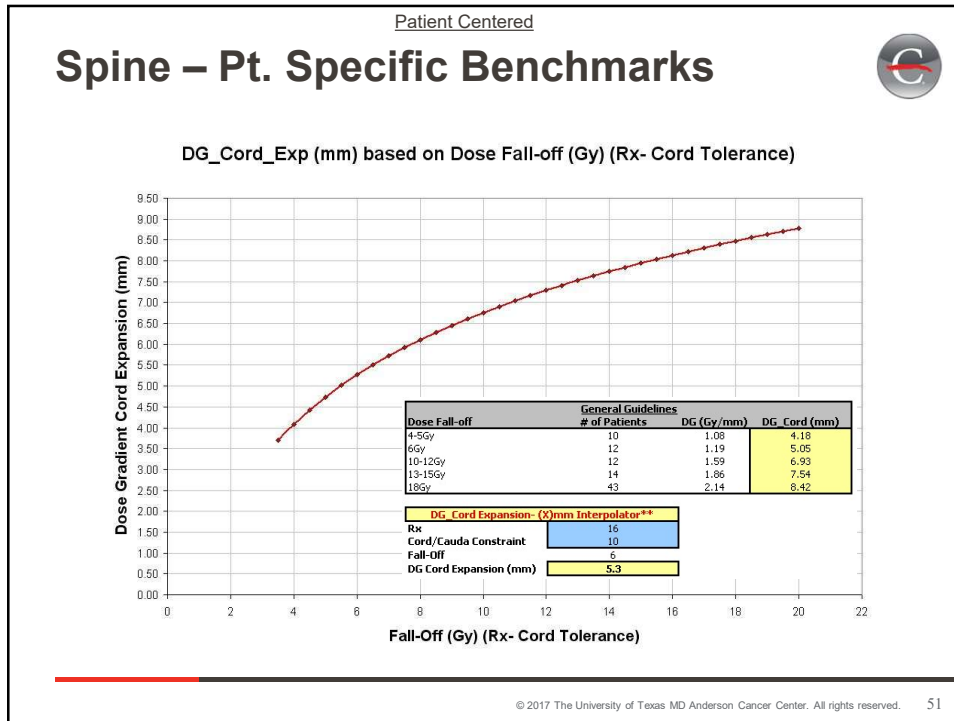
Actual vs. Predicted Total Lung Mean Dose Based on Statistical Model (Post Optimization)

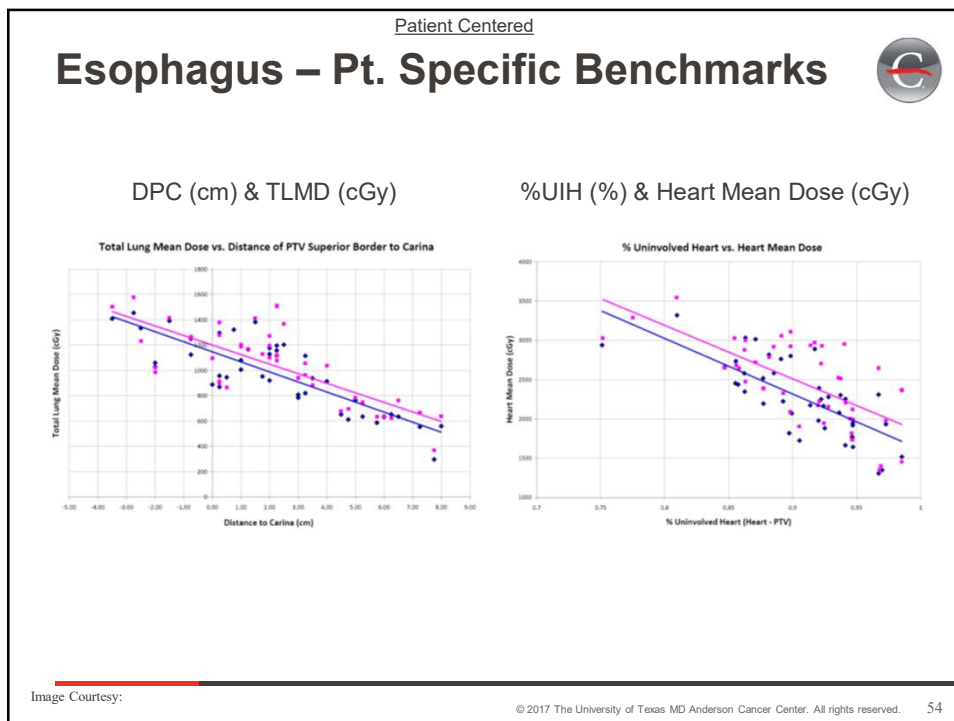
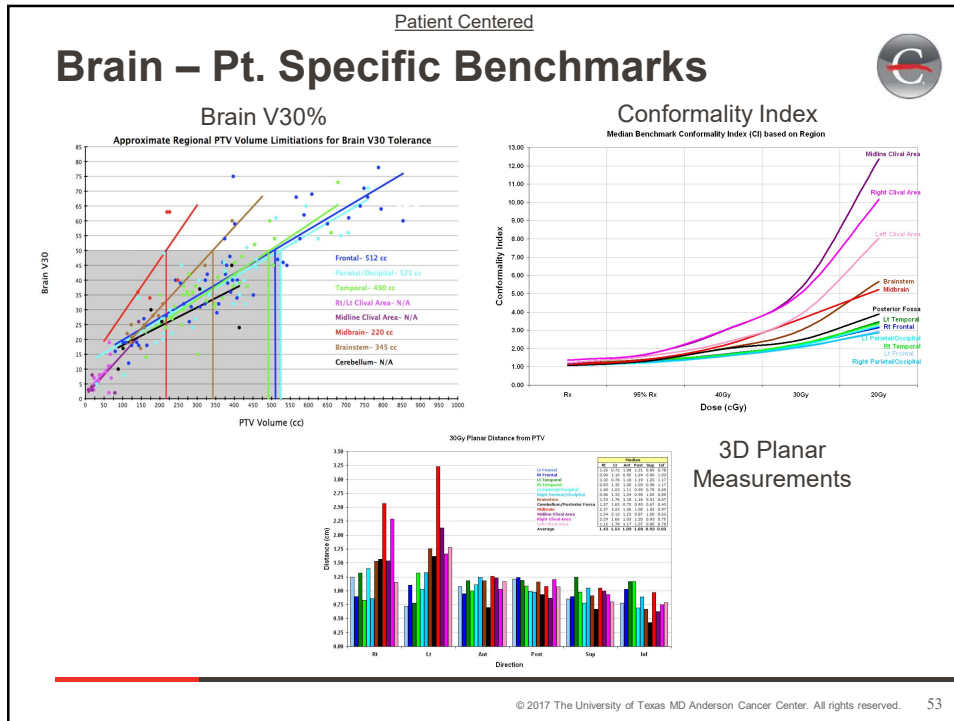
Mean Prescription: 66Gy → 70Gy (37%) > 70Gy

Mean Total Lung Mean Dose: 18Gy → 18Gy

Actual vs. Predicted Estimator Value: ~4 cGy (OE)

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## Esophagus – Pt. Specific Benchmarks

**Esophagus IMRT: Heart and Lung Objective Estimator Spreadsheet**

Prescription (cGy)	5040	Notes:	Insert Values into Yellow Boxes
PTV Volume	825.0		
Distance from PTV to Carina (cm)	-2.5		Reference Superior Slice of PTV: Inferior "+" & Superior "-"
Heart Volume	693.0		
Uninvolved Heart Volume	640.0		Heart - PTV
% Uninvolved Heart (%UIH)	0.92		

	<b>Estimated Lung Volumes (%)</b>						
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"><u>V5 %</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"><u>V10 %</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"><u>V20 %</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1345.9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">69.1%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">43.7%</td> </tr> </table>	<u>V5 %</u>	<u>V10 %</u>	<u>V20 %</u>	1345.9	69.1%	43.7%
<u>V5 %</u>	<u>V10 %</u>	<u>V20 %</u>					
1345.9	69.1%	43.7%					
<b>Estimated Total Lung Mean Dose (TLMD)</b>							
Actual Total Lung Doses							

	<b>Estimated Heart Volumes (%)</b>						
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"><u>V30 %</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"><u>V40 %</u></td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;"><u>V50 %</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2161.6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24.7%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">14.0%</td> </tr> </table>	<u>V30 %</u>	<u>V40 %</u>	<u>V50 %</u>	2161.6	24.7%	14.0%
<u>V30 %</u>	<u>V40 %</u>	<u>V50 %</u>					
2161.6	24.7%	14.0%					
<b>Estimated Heart Mean Dose (HMD)</b>							
Actual Heart Doses							

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Equitable

## Standardized Treatment Planning

Validate the consistency and robustness of the class solutions.

- Validate on cohort and evaluate if statistical improvement and consistency is evident.
- If the results are statistically better and robust from patient to patient, then the class solutions are finalized.
- Evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of the class solutions in a clinical setting.
- 8-10 dosimetrist and physicist with varying degrees of experience planned 3 cases with and without the class solutions.
- Evaluated years of experience vs. plan quality and treatment planning time for each plan.

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### Equitable

## Lung – Class Solution

Guideline	IMRT Objectives	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9	B10
<b>Rt Lung</b>											
Rt Anterior	Anterior Location w/ out extension into posterior lung	Obj. #1 or Obj. #2**	000-030	330-330	000-000	350-300	000-270	000-250	000-230	000-210	
Rt Posterior	Posterior location w/out significant Mediastinal Involvement	Obj. #1 or Obj. #2**	000-310	000-380	000-250	000-330	000-210	000-180	000-160	000-140	
Rt Perihilar	< 100 cc Mediastinal Involvement	Obj. #3	030-030	330-330	000-000	350-300	000-270	000-240	000-220	000-200	
Rt General	> 100 cc Mediastinal Involvement, Midline, or Complicated Tumor Shape	Obj. #1 or Obj. #2**	030-030	330-330	000-000	350-300	000-270	000-240	000-220	000-200	000-170
<b>Lt Lung</b>											
Lt Anterior	Anterior Location w/ out extension into posterior lung	Obj. #4 or Obj. #5**	330-330	030-030	000-000	010-060	000-090	000-110	000-130	000-150	
Lt Posterior	Posterior location w/out significant Mediastinal Involvement	Obj. #4 or Obj. #5**	000-250	000-090	000-110	000-130	000-150	000-180	000-200	000-220	
Lt Perihilar	< 100 cc Mediastinal Involvement	Obj. #6	330-330	030-030	000-000	010-060	000-090	000-120	000-140	000-160	
Lt General	> 100 cc Mediastinal Involvement, Midline, or Complicated Tumor Shape	Obj. #4 or Obj. #5**	330-330	030-030	000-000	010-060	000-090	000-120	000-140	000-160	000-190

**\*\*Notes: Obj. #2 & #5- SIB**

**Structures Needed for Mean Lung Dose and Lung Objective Estimator Spreadsheet**

IMedLung	Contour Mediastinum Slice Range of PTV: Include Heart, Descending Aorta, & Anterior of Vertebral Body	*Tm Contour every other slice and interpolate
ISLungInvolvement**	PTV - Mediastinum	*Notes PTV minus "Lung Involvement" = Mediastinal Involvement
ISUninvolvedLung**	Ipsilateral Lung - PTV	*Notes: Calculates % Uninvolved Lung

**Volumes Needed for Mean Lung Dose and Lung Objective Estimator Spreadsheet**

Ipsilateral Lung Volume	*Ipsilateral Lung - PTV
ISUninvolvedLung	
Contralateral Lung Volume	
ISLungInvolvement	*PTV - Mediastinum

**IMRT Objectives #1 (Rt Lung): PTV = 60Gy - 70Gy**

**Planning Structures**

Structure	Expansion/Contraction Guidelines
Isotravel0mm	PTV + 10mm
Isotravel	Isotravel0mm - PTV
External	External contour: slice range of PTV
Isotravel0	external - Isotravel0mm

**Objectives**

Structure	Objective	Dose	%	Weight
PTV	Min Dose	Rx		100
PTV	Uniform Dose	Rx*1.025		100
PTV	Max DH	Rx*1.06	0	100
Card	Max Dose	4000	4	60
Isotravel0	Max DH	5500	0	20
Isotravel0	Max DH	3500	4	20
Isotravel0	Max DH	3000	8	20
Isotravel	Max DH	Rx		10
Rt Lung (Ipsilateral Lung)	Max DH	1000	##	10
Rt Lung (Contralateral Lung)	Max DH	1000	##	10
Lt Lung (Ipsilateral Lung)	Max DH	2000	##	10
Lt Lung (Contralateral Lung)	Max DH	3000	##	10
Lt Lung (Contralateral Lung)	Max DH	500	##	10
Lt Lung (Contralateral Lung)	Max DH	1000	##	10
Lt Lung (Contralateral Lung)	Max DH	2000	##	10

**\*\*Notes: Reference Mean Lung Dose and Lung Objective Estimator Spreadsheet**

**\*\*\*Notes: structures should be named exactly like the nomenclature above because the Hotspots will depend on "exact" and "consistent" nomenclature\*\*\***

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### Equitable

## Lung – Class Solution Impact

### Photons

Lung Estimator Highlighted cases that were not fully optimized

Reoptimized all of the cases

Data was significantly more consistent

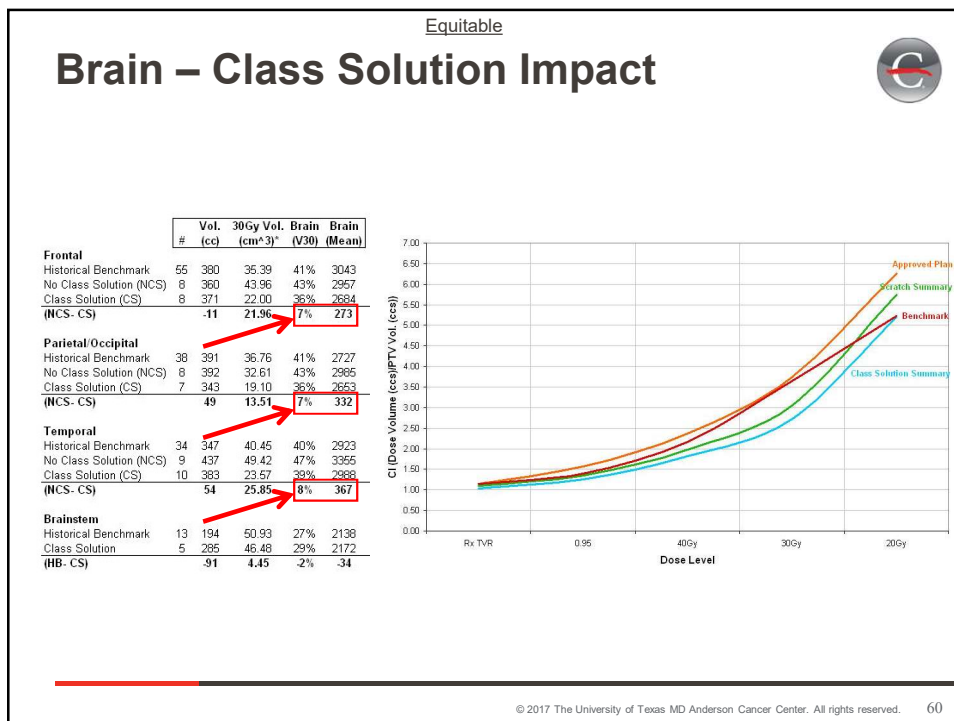
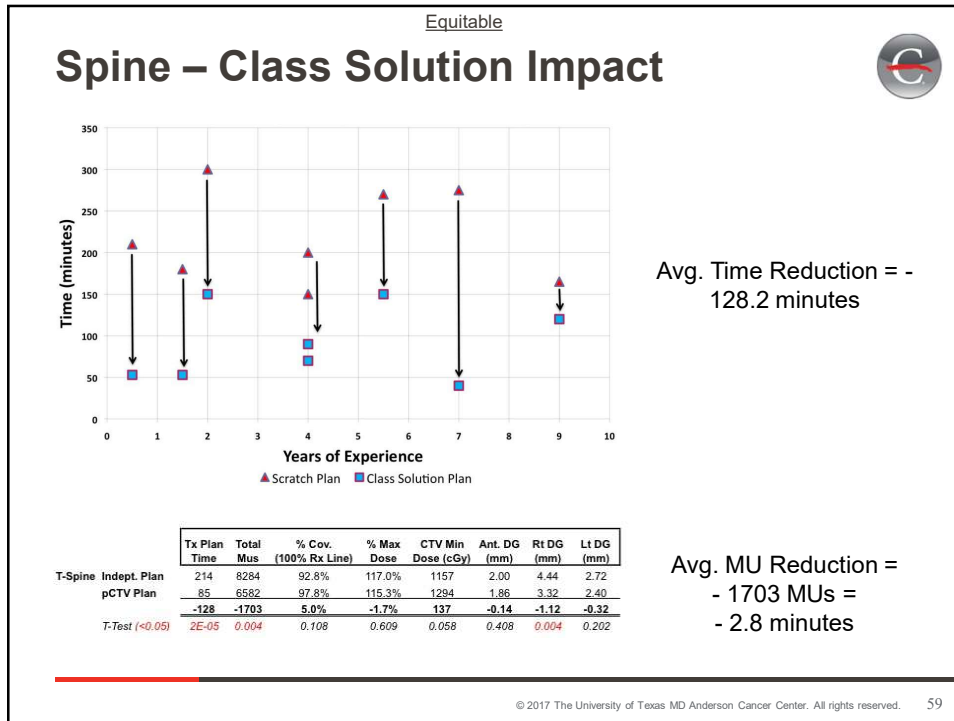
**Average TLMD: 1817 → 1690 (-127)**

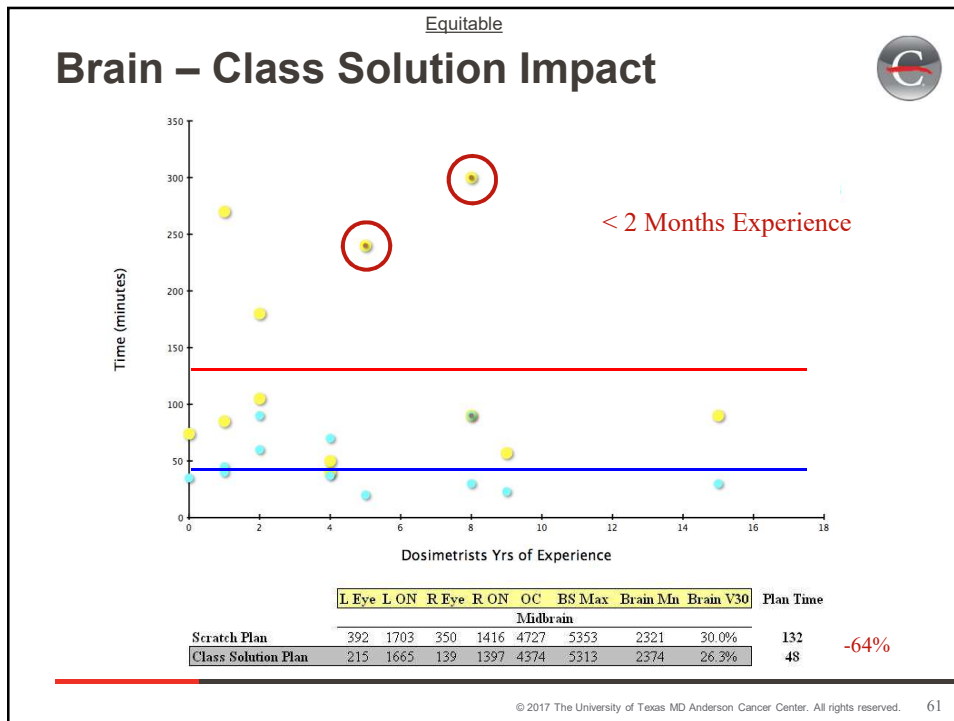
### Protons

	Original @ 74 CGE			Reoptimized @ 74 CGE			Difference		
	TLMD	ILMD	CLMD	TLMD	ILMD	CLMD	TLMD	ILMD	CLD
8 LIA	1218	2700	2	913	2127	1	-305	-583	-1
11 LIP	866	2064	0	780	1860	0	-86	-204	0
8 LSA	1147	2658	55	1016	2279	98	-131	-379	43
14 LSP	1150	2876	82	1089	2599	24	-61	-276	-58
4 RIA	1871	3155	249	1490	2597	246	-381	-558	-3
9 RIP	1599	2738	4	1204	2478	3	-395	-260	-1
18 RSA	1630	3015	133	1424	2604	124	-206	-411	-9
17 RSP	1290	2547	33	1186	2191	14	-104	-356	-19
89 Mean	1346	2720	70	1138	2342	64	<b>-209</b>	<b>-378</b>	<b>-6</b>

**TLMD: -209 cGy**  
**ILMD: -378 cGy**  
**CLMD: -6 cGy**

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Equitable

## Esophagus – Class Solution Impact

- Cohort of patients randomly selected from clinical database
- Reoptimized blindly with class solutions, benchmark calculator, and objectives
- Compared Clinical Plans to Class Solution Plan

<u>Total Lung</u>	<u>Heart</u>	<u>Liver</u>
Mean: -134 cGy	Mean: -81 cGy	Mean: -751 cGy
V5: -0%	V20: -2.3%	V30: -6.3%
V10: -4%	V30: -2.6%	V40: -1.4%
V20: -5.8%	V40: -2.6%	

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Equitable

## Continual Improvement



Conduct periodic post-implementation studies to measure effectiveness of class solutions.

- Evaluate patients that were treated with or without the class solutions after implementation.
- Periodically evaluate to see if benchmarks and or solutions need to be readdressed and/or improved.
- Investigate the clinical impact, ie dose escalation, survival, toxicity reduction.

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Equitable

## Lung – Grade 3 Pneumonitis



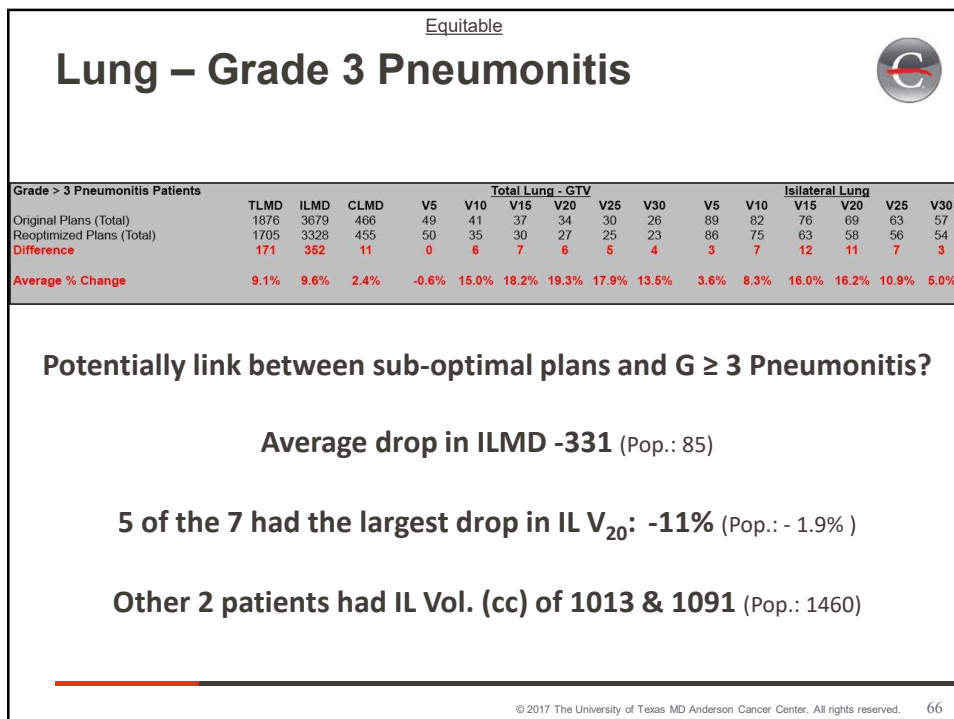
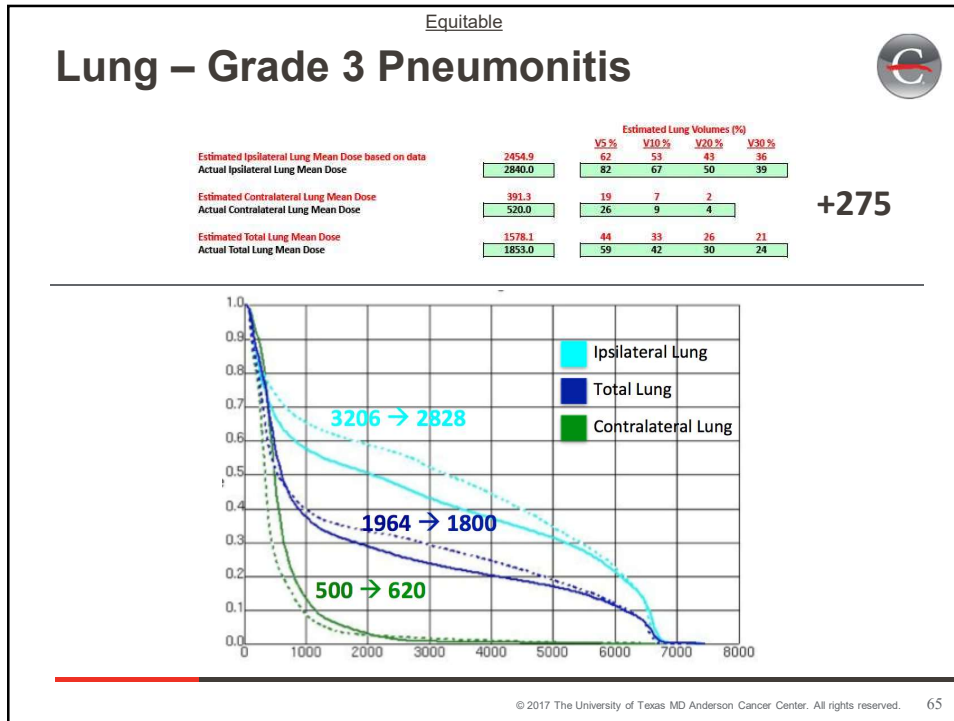
- Evaluation of Treatment-related Pneumonitis Advanced Stage NSCLC
- 151 Patients
- Median Dose- 63Gy
- Rate of Grade  $\geq$  3 TRP [3D-CRT- 32%, **IMRT- 8%**]

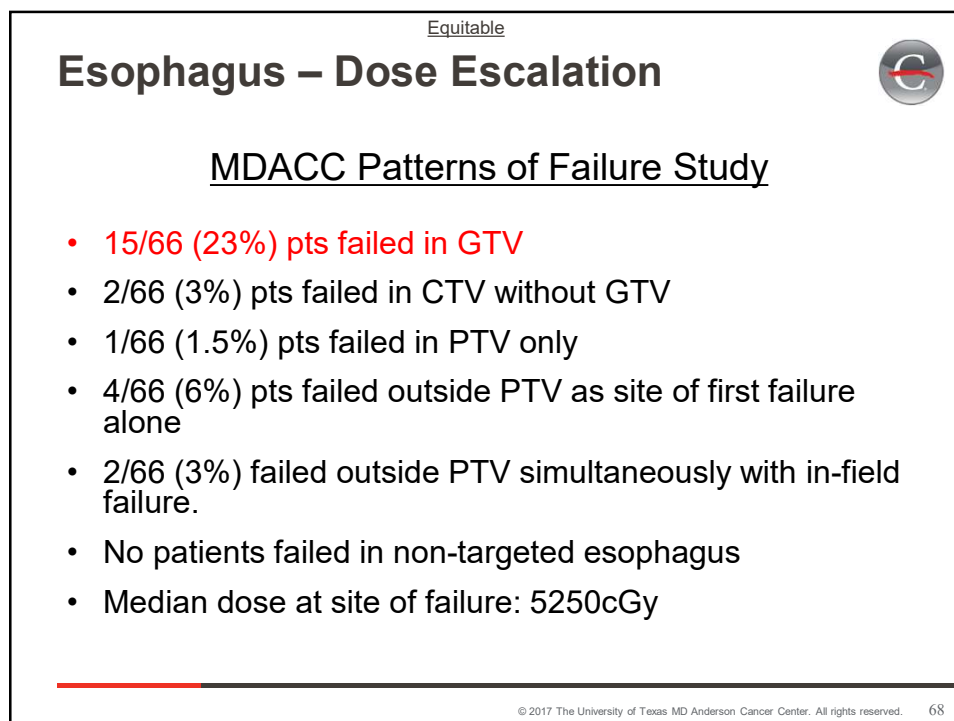
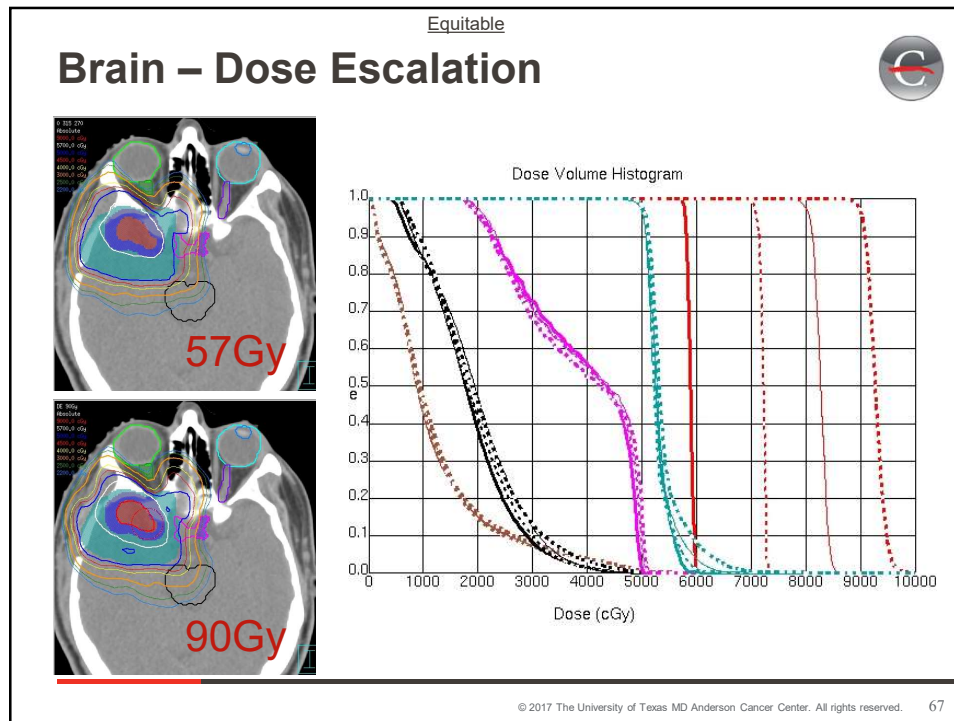
- 
- New Study: 7 (8%) patients of 84 had Grade  $\geq$  3 Pneumonitis
  - Lung Mean Dose Estimator used to to analyze plan quality
  - Plans reoptimized to see if suggested objectives could be met
  - Dose statistics reviewed for these patients

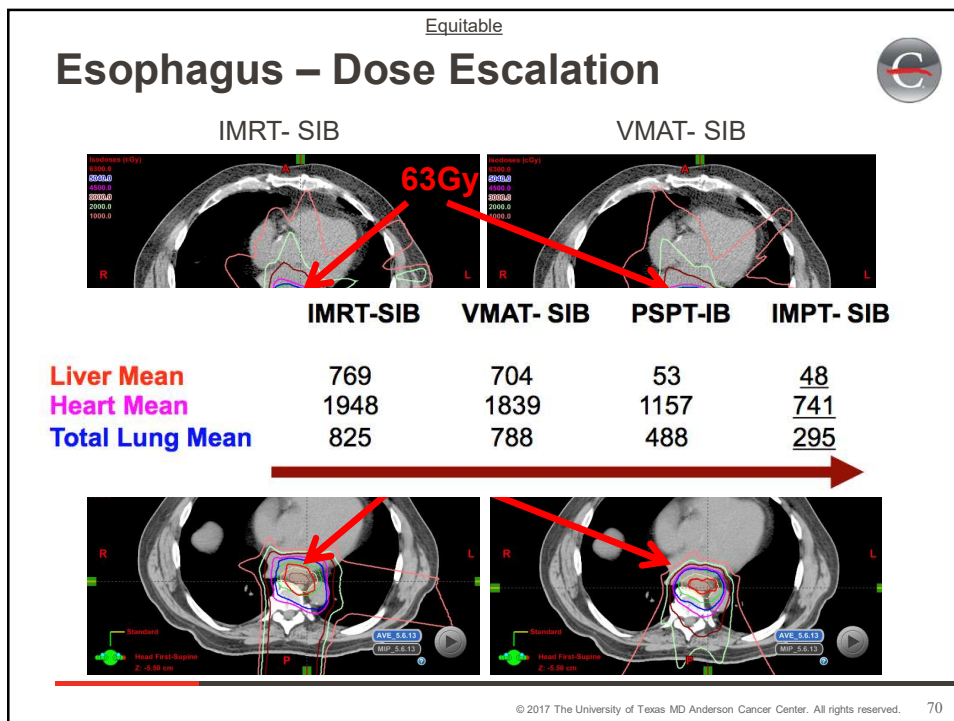
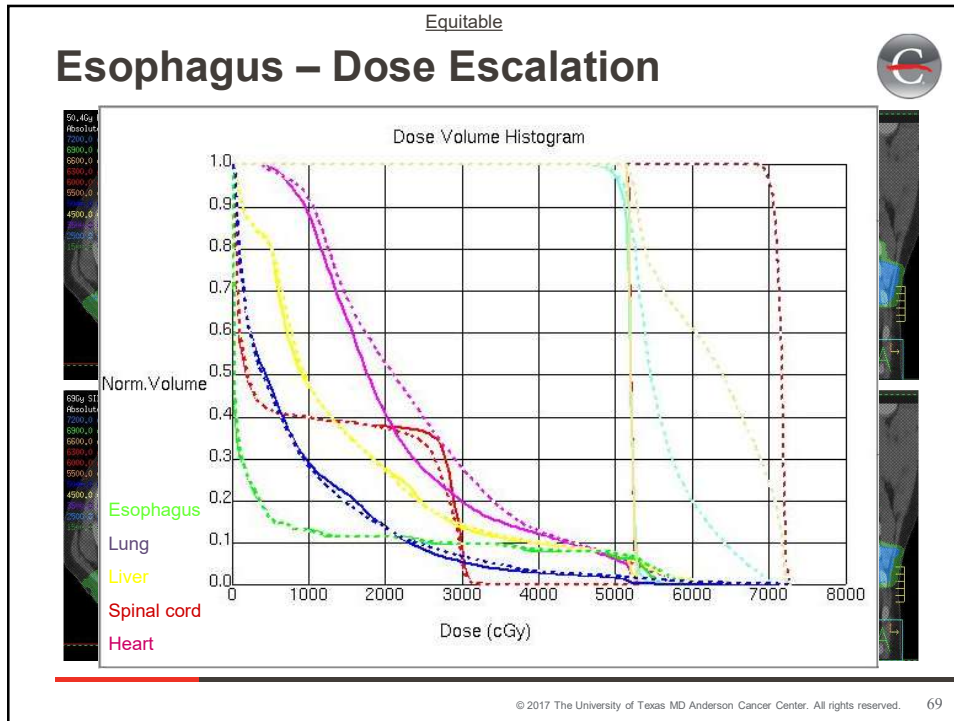
MDACC, IJROBP, Vol. 68, No. 1, pp. 94-1267102, 2007

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## Summary



1. **Safe:** Knowledge and Experience to to design safe, effective, and deliverable treatment plans thus reducing toxicities and treatment errors.
2. **Effective:** Intimate knowledge of treatment planning challenges are key for driving improvement in quality.
3. **Patient-centered:** Utilization of patient specific constraints are key for developing personalized optimal plans.
4. **Equitable:** Benchmarks and Metrics with standardized class solutions shift treatment planning focus to optimization, i.e. beating the benchmarks.
5. **Timely:**
6. **Efficient:**

## Healthcare Disruptors



1. Genetics & Gene Therapies
  - Liquid Biopsies
  - CAR T-cell therapy
  - CRISPER
2. Shifts in Site of Care
3. Artificial Intelligence (AI)

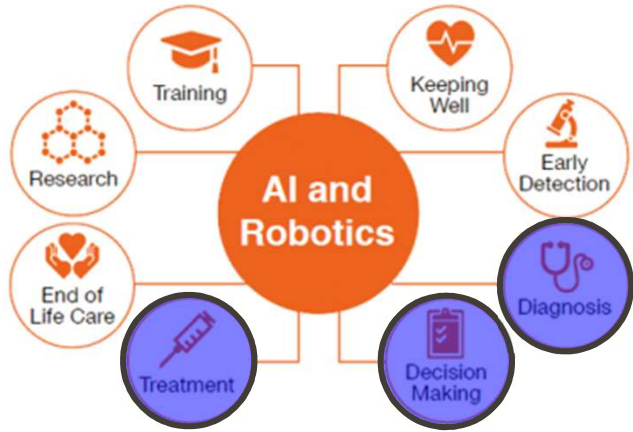
### Infusion landscape has changed.



Average patient's hospital-based chemotherapy  
**>\$150,000**   
 42% higher than an office



## Emerging AI in Healthcare



The diagram features a central orange circle labeled "AI and Robotics". Eight surrounding circles are connected to it by lines. Clockwise from the top, they are: "Training" (graduation cap icon), "Keeping Well" (heart with pulse icon), "Early Detection" (microscope icon), "Diagnosis" (stethoscope icon), "Decision Making" (clipboard with checkmark icon), "Treatment" (syringe icon), "End of Life Care" (hands holding a heart icon), and "Research" (molecular structure icon).

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Timely

## Emerging AI in Radiation Oncology

1. Has not been fully exploited due to technical hurdles and hardware limitations in the past.
2. Increasing and promising applications of machine learning algorithms involving big data in Radiation Oncology due to recent developments in computer technology.
3. Goal is to expand personalized radiotherapy worldwide.

Reference: Frontiers, April 2018

Source: <https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/6126/machine-learning-with-radiation-oncology-big-data> © 2017 The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. All rights reserved. 74

Timely

## Emerging AI in Radiation Oncology



Big Data in Radiation Oncology may include:

- Radiomics and quantitative imaging
- Knowledge-based treatment planning
- Treatment response prediction via machine learning
- Clinical decision support via machine learning
- Comparative effectiveness research in radiation oncology
- Bioinformatics for improved quality of care
- Motion compensation and correction via machine learning
- Automated image registration and contouring
- Radiogenomics
- TCP and NTCP modeling
- Cancer registries and classification
- Tracking big organ dose data for patient safety in radiation therapy
- Machine learning models for early cancer prediction and prevention
- Natural language processing of EMR data

Source: <https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/6126/machine-learning-with-radiation-oncology-big-data>

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## Emerging AI in Radiation Oncology



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Source: <https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/6126/machine-learning-with-radiation-oncology-big-data>


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Timely

## Radonc Vendors – Auto-planning Tools


**Pinnacle<sup>3</sup> Auto-Planning**  
 Accelerated IMRT therapy & VMAT planning

IMRT Planning is often a labor-intensive process, generating inconsistent results and delaying the start of treatment. The process is tedious and repetitive, requiring significant planner/physician interaction. Plan quality varies depending on the experience of the user, creating inconsistencies in treatment. Pinnacle<sup>3</sup> Auto-Planning makes this entire process faster, less labor intensive and more reproducible.



Automatic plan generation

Plan explorer is based on the capability to automatically generate a large number of treatment plans for defined clinical goals and combinations of treatment techniques and machines. It also provides efficient means to filter and browse among plan candidates to find the most desired one.



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**RTOG<sup>®</sup> Class Solution IMRT Planning, Blinded Comparison to the RTOG 0539 Cohort**  
 A. Mahajan,<sup>1</sup> D. Manfredi,<sup>2</sup> C. L. Rogers,<sup>3</sup> M. Palmer,<sup>4</sup> E. Hillebrandt,<sup>1</sup> S. Bilton,<sup>1</sup> R. Yoder,<sup>4</sup> G. Robinson,<sup>4</sup> K. Velasco,<sup>4</sup> M. Mehta,<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; <sup>2</sup>Radiation Therapy Oncology Group, Philadelphia, PA; <sup>3</sup>GammaWest Cancer Services, Salt Lake City, UT; <sup>4</sup>Radiation Oncology Resources, Gothen, IN; <sup>5</sup>University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD

This project was supported by RTOG grant 0539-01-01 and NCI grant 1U01CA18611. The authors and their respective institutions represent the official views of the National Cancer Institute.

1. In this study we compared individually-generated IMRT plans from RTOG 0539 to Automated Class Solution plans, blindly created for the same cohort.
2. We used multi-criteria (MCA) plan quality metrics for plan assessment and comparison approved by consensus by all MDs.
3. A total of 86 (45 Group II, 41 Group III) planning CT scans and associated ROI's were imported.
4. The CS plans were generated by 3 dosimetrists in an average of 27.8 minutes per plan to obtain a clinically acceptable plan that complied to protocol requirements.

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### RTOG® Class Solution IMRT Planning, Blinded Comparison to the RTOG 0539 Cohort

A. Mahajan,<sup>1</sup> D. Manfredi,<sup>2</sup> C. L. Rogers,<sup>3</sup> M. Palmer,<sup>4</sup> E. Hillebrandt,<sup>5</sup> S. Bilton,<sup>1</sup> R. Yoder,<sup>4</sup> G. Robinson,<sup>4</sup> K. Velasco,<sup>4</sup> M. Mehta,<sup>5</sup>

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This project was supported by RTOG grant U10CA18611 and ECOG grant U10CA18611. This publication is intended to assist the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Cancer Institute.

Plan Quality Metric Component	Result	Score	Max Score	Performance	Plan Quality Metric Component	Result	Score	Max Score	Performance
[PTV_5400] V[54.0Gy] (%)			37.50		[PTV_6000] V[62.0Gy] (%)			20.00	
[PTV_5400] Min dose (Gy)			22.50		[PTV_6000] Min dose (Gy)			12.50	
[PTV_5400] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			7.50		[PTV_6000] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			4.50	
[PTV_5400] Conformation Number [51.3Gy]			15.00		[PTV_6000] Homogeneity Index [60.0Gy]			2.50	
[PTV_5400] Homogeneity Index [54.0Gy]			5.00		[PTV_6000] Inhomogeneity Index			2.50	
[PTV_5400] Inhomogeneity Index			5.00		[PTV_5400] V[54.0Gy] (%)			17.50	
Global Max Location (ROI)			7.50		[PTV_5400] Min dose (Gy)			10.00	
[LENS_L] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00		[PTV_5400] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			3.00	
[LENS_R] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00		[PTV_5400] Conformation Number [51.3Gy]			7.50	
[RETINA_L] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00		[PTV_5400] Homogeneity Index [54.0Gy]			2.50	
[RETINA_R] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00		[PTV_5400] Inhomogeneity Index			2.50	
[OPTIC_NRV_L] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00		Global Max Location (ROI)			7.50	
[OPTIC_NRV_R] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00		[LENS_L] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00	
[CHIASM] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			0.00		[LENS_R] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00	
[BRAIN_STEM] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			0.00		[RETINA_L] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00	
[BRAIN_GTV] V[30.0Gy] (%)			5.00		[RETINA_R] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00	
[BRAIN_GTV] Mean dose (Gy)			5.00		[OPTIC_NRV_L] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00	
[PTV_5400] Conformality Index [30.0Gy]			5.00		[OPTIC_NRV_R] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			5.00	
[PTV_5400] Conformality Index [20.0Gy]			5.00		[CHIASM] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			0.00	
<b>Total [19 Metrics]</b>		<b>0.00 *</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>0.0% *</b>	[BRAIN_STEM] D[0.03cc] (Gy)			0.00	
					[BRAIN_GTV] V[30.0Gy] (%)			5.00	
					[BRAIN_GTV] Mean dose (Gy)			5.00	
					[PTV_5400] Conformality Index [30.0Gy]			5.00	
					[PTV_5400] Conformality Index [20.0Gy]			5.00	
					[PTV_6000] Conformation Number [57.0Gy]			7.50	
					<b>Total [25 Metrics]</b>		<b>0.00 *</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>0.0% *</b>

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### RTOG® Class Solution IMRT Planning, Blinded Comparison to the RTOG 0539 Cohort

A. Mahajan,<sup>1</sup> D. Manfredi,<sup>2</sup> C. L. Rogers,<sup>3</sup> M. Palmer,<sup>4</sup> E. Hillebrandt,<sup>5</sup> S. Bilton,<sup>1</sup> R. Yoder,<sup>4</sup> G. Robinson,<sup>4</sup> K. Velasco,<sup>4</sup> M. Mehta,<sup>5</sup>

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Metric	Constraint	COHORT II DOSIMETRIC RESULTS				COHORT II PLAN METRIC RESULTS				
		CLASS SOLUTION		RTOG		p-value	MAX SCORE	CLASS SOLUTION SCORE	RTOG SCORE	p-value
		AVERAGE [range]	Violations	AVERAGE [range]	Violations					
[PTV_5400] V[54.0Gy] (%)	≥ 95	96.0 [82.1-99.9]	5	93.8 [83.6-99.9]	4	0.30	30	28.9	23.4	0.06*
[PTV_5400] Min dose (Gy)	≥ 51	50.3 [40.6-53.9]	5	51.3 [35.1-53.8]	1	0.14	16	13.3	13.1	0.83
[PTV_5400] D[0.03cc] (Gy)	≤ 60	59.3 [57.5-64.3]	1	58.0 [53.9-61.2]	0	0.00*	5.5	5.5	5.4	0.25
[PTV_5400] Conformation Number [51.3Gy]	> 0.5	0.70 [0.483-0.820]	2	0.64 [0.371-0.839]	2	0.00*	14	10.2	6.4	0.00*
[PTV_5400] Homogeneity Index [54.0Gy]	< 0.25	0.10 [0.055-0.368]	1	0.08 [0.025-0.192]	0	0.26	4	2.9	2.9	0.50
Global Max Location (ROI)	w/in PTV_5400		3		n/a		4.5	4.2	2.7	0.00*
[LENS_L] D[0.03cc] (Gy)	< 5	1.2 [0.0-3.6]	0	2.6 [0.0-16.5]	7	0.00*	2	1.6	1.3	0.00*
[LENS_R] D[0.03cc] (Gy)	< 5	1.3 [0.0-4.8]	0	2.4 [0.0-12.2]	3	0.00*	2	1.6	1.3	0.01*
[RETINA_L] D[0.03cc] (Gy)	< 45	10.7 [0.2-43.3]	0	11.7 [0.2-42.2]	0	0.30	4.5	3.5	3.4	0.43
[RETINA_L] Mean dose (Gy)	< 30	4.8 [0.1-23.8]	0	6.0 [0.1-27.6]	0	0.06	4.5	4.1	4.0	0.07
[RETINA_R] D[0.03cc] (Gy)	< 45	8.9 [0.3-48.8]	1	10.8 [0.1-46.3]	1	0.07	4.5	3.7	3.5	0.08
[RETINA_R] Mean dose (Gy)	< 30	4.3 [0.2-29.2]	0	5.5 [0.1-26.8]	0	0.02*	4.5	4.2	4.0	0.06
[OPTIC_NRV_L] D[0.03cc] (Gy)*	≤ 50	20.2 [0.0-49.0]	0	21.7 [0.0-55.0]	15	0.13	5.5	5.5	0.0 <sup>(5)</sup>	0.01*
[OPTIC_NRV_L] Mean dose (Gy)	< 40	15.6 [0.0-46.4]	4	15.6 [0.0-51.9]	6	0.71	5.5	3.8	4.0	0.62
[OPTIC_NRV_R] D[0.03cc] (Gy)*	≤ 50	17.8 [0.0-49.8]	0	20.8 [0.2-54.3]	5	0.00*	5.5	5.5	0.0 <sup>(5)</sup>	0.02*
[OPTIC_NRV_R] Mean dose (Gy)	< 40	12.4 [0.3-45.5]	2	14.4 [0.2-49.6]	4	0.00*	5.5	4.3	4.2	0.23
[CHIASM] D[0.03cc] (Gy)*	≤ 54	24.9 [0.0-53.6]	0	26.7 [0.4-55.6]	1	0.09	3	3.0	0.0 <sup>(5)</sup>	0.32
[CHIASM] Mean dose (Gy)	< 40	22.0 [0.0-52.5]	14	23.7 [0.3-53.3]	15	0.04*	5.5	3.3	3.4	0.83
[BRAIN_STEM] D[0.03cc] (Gy)*	≤ 55	27.8 [2.2-54.8]	0	30.1 [0.5-58.5]	4	0.06	2	2.0	0.0 <sup>(5)</sup>	0.08
[BRAIN_STEM] Mean dose (Gy)	< 40	17.9 [1.1-47.4]	9	18.3 [0.3-53.2]	8	0.31	2.5	1.7	1.8	0.31
[BRAIN_GTV] V[30.0Gy] (%)	< 50	15.6 [5.9-29.0]	0	18.5 [5.6-39.7]	0	0.00*	4	3.1	2.9	0.05*
[BRAIN_GTV] Mean dose (Gy)	< 30	14.4 [4.7-22.7]	0	15.4 [2.1-24.4]	0	0.00*	4.5	2.8	2.7	0.32
[PTV_5400_EVAL] Conformality Index [30.0Gy]	< 6	2.9 [2.0-5.1]	0	3.5 [2.0-5.6]	0	0.00*	6	4.6	3.7	0.00*
[PTV_5400_EVAL] Conformality Index [20.0Gy]	< 6	4.8 [2.7-10.2]	9	5.5 [2.7-10.1]	17	0.00*	4.5	2.5	1.6	0.00*
Avg. Total Metric Results (minus 18 patients with CT calculation issues)*							150	132.9	94.7	0.00*
Avg. Total Metric Results (all patients)								108.6	92.6	0.00*
No. of Plans that Scored "0" (violated hard constraint (-150 pts))								0	8	

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 RADIATION THERAPY ONCOLOGY GROUP  
 A. Mahajan,<sup>1</sup> D. Manfredi,<sup>2</sup> C. L. Rogers,<sup>3</sup> M. Palmer,<sup>4</sup> E. Hillebrandt,<sup>5</sup> S. Bilton,<sup>6</sup> R. Yoder,<sup>4</sup> G. Robinson,<sup>4</sup> K. Velasco,<sup>4</sup> M. Mehta,<sup>5</sup>  
MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; Radiation Therapy Oncology Group, Philadelphia, PA; GammaWest Cancer Services, Salt Lake City, UT; Radiation Oncology Resources, Gothen, IN; University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD

**RTOG PLAN [102 POINTS (triangles)]**

**CLASS SOLUTION PLAN [123 POINTS (squares)]**

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Timely

## Radonc Vendors – Artificial Intelligence

**Artificial Intelligence**  
Technology that adapts. People who benefit.

At Philips, we develop intelligent solutions that help healthcare providers achieve better outcomes, and that help patients live better lifestyles. We do this by applying artificial intelligence in a meaningful way that improves the patient experience.

February 02, 2017  
**RAYSEARCH LICENSES AI TECHNOLOGY FOR AUTOMATED TREATMENT PLANNING FROM UHN**

PDF

University Health Network (UHN) in Canada has exclusively licensed a new artificial intelligence (AI) technology for automated radiation therapy treatment planning to RaySearch. The technology was developed by the Techna Institute, which is a collaboration between UHN and the University of Toronto.

The license gives RaySearch the ability to integrate deep-learning algorithms from Princess Margaret Cancer Centre's AI automated planning technology platform into RayStation. The technology will be built into RayStation's module for automated treatment planning across multiple treatment sites, enabling rapid adoption by clinical customers.

**Varian and Ping An Sign Memorandum of Understanding to Expand Access to High Quality Cancer Care in China**

PR Newswire  
 PALO ALTO, Calif. and BEIJING, Jan. 8, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- Varian (NYSE: VAR) today announced it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ping An Health Technology Co., Ltd, to explore a strategic partnership for expanding access to cancer care in China. The two companies will investigate the utilization of artificial intelligence, which is helping to bring cancer diagnosis, treatment and care to a far greater number of people in China, and close to where they live.

**Elekta taps IBM Watson Health to bring AI to comprehensive oncology care**

STOCKHOLM, January 31, 2018 – Elekta (EKA-B.ST) today announced that it is collaborating with IBM Watson Health (https://www.ibm.com/watson/health/) to offer Watson for Oncology (https://www.ibm.com/watson/health/oncology-and-genomics/) with Elekta's cancer care solutions. Under the terms of a new agreement, Elekta will sell Watson for Oncology beginning in early 2018 as a clinical decision support solution paired within Elekta's digital cancer care solutions, including the MOSAIQ<sup>®</sup> Oncology Information System. Elekta intends to offer both solutions in most markets around the world including the U.S., Brazil, certain major European and Asian markets as well as India and Australia.

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Timely

## Non-Radonc Vendors Investing in AI

*Imaging, Contouring & Treatment Planning*

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Timely

## Non-Radonc Vendors Investing in AI

*Artificial Intelligence + Clinical Decision Support*

**Precision Radiation Oncology: Predictive Analytics for Personalized Data-Driven Treatment Planning**

<b>Calculate patient-specific toxicity risks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient's overall risk of toxicities</li> <li>• Identifies a patient's overall risk of toxicities and provides breakdown of risk for many common radiation toxicities associated with the given diagnosis.</li> </ul>
<b>Design personalized radiation treatment plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk is determined by an advanced predictive model trained on past plans that combines the patient's attributes and medical history with the details of the current cancer diagnosis.</li> <li>• Several plans are generated based on past plans with similar characteristics.</li> </ul>
<b>Predict outcomes for proposed treatment plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each plan has an assessment of toxicity and cure probabilities.</li> <li>• Final checks are made to ensure that the planned is predicted to have high cure probabilities and low toxicity probabilities.</li> </ul>

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## Radonc Value Based Models

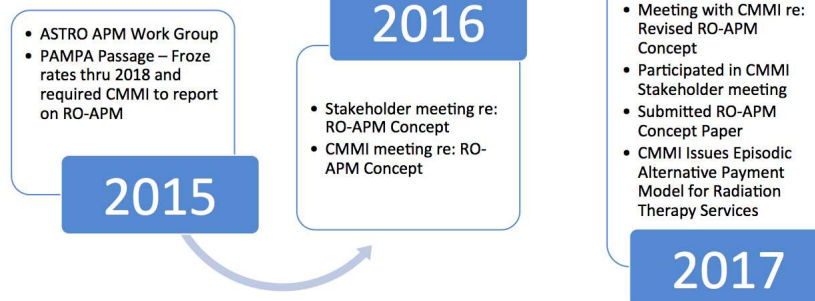


1. PROMETHEUS Group & Roswell Park/Blue Cross
2. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Oncology (TDABC)
3. United Healthcare & MDACC
4. University of Texas System, MDACC & BCBS-TX
5. CMS/CMMI
6. ASTRO


## ASTRO RO-APM



### ASTRO RO-APM Timeline

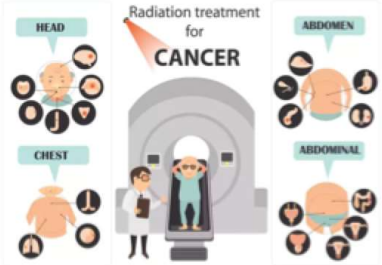


## ASTRO RO-APM



### Guideline-Driven Radiation Oncology APM


- Guidelines adherence will improve quality and reduce unnecessary care and waste
  - ASTRO and NCCN guidelines, as well as Choosing Wisely guidance
- Standard APM payment framework applicable to all disease sites
- Applicable in Freestanding and Hospital Based Settings
- Quality Measures
  - MIPS Radiation Oncology Measures Set
  - APEX Accreditation or equivalent standards
  - Measures that determine compliance with guidelines
- Certified Electronic Health Records Technology

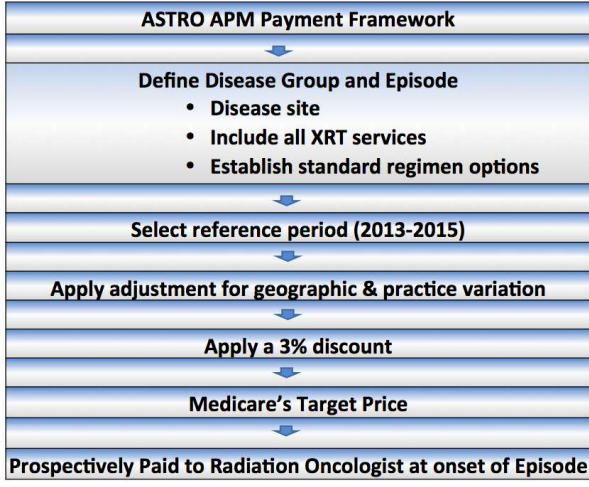


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## ASTRO RO-APM





```

            graph TD
            A[ASTRO APM Payment Framework] --> B[Define Disease Group and Episode  
• Disease site  
• Include all XRT services  
• Establish standard regimen options]
            B --> C[Select reference period (2013-2015)]
            C --> D[Apply adjustment for geographic & practice variation]
            D --> E[Apply a 3% discount]
            E --> F[Medicare's Target Price]
            F --> G[Prospectively Paid to Radiation Oncologist at onset of Episode]
            
```

---

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## ASTRO RO-APM



### RO-APM – Key Components



- Designed to protect access to care and improve quality of care
- Stabilizes payment rates over a five year period
- Voluntary alternative to MIPS
- Provides Radiation Oncologists with an opportunity to actively participate in an APM
- Aligns with OCM
- Awards 5% Advanced APM participation bonus

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## APM Summary



1. APM should be as inclusive and operate as simple as possible
2. Build evidence-based/consensus-based clinical guidelines for all radiation oncology cases
3. Quality measures should emphasize process & outcomes
4. Payment schedule includes all common cancer diagnoses and services
5. Agreements with multi-year terms with annual payer-provider reviews

Constantine Mantz Chief Medical Officer 21st Century Oncology

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## APM Summary



1. Utilization is assessed against contractual benchmarks (based on NCCN and other ASTRO guidelines) to evaluate for appropriate resource Utilization
2. Any new radiotherapy services are considered annually for inclusion
3. Physicians are in the best position develop APMs that will promote care quality and efficient resource utilization
4. **Operational Efficiencies - to reduce existing administrative and direct practice and improve revenue cycles times and payment predictability**

Efficient

## Importance of Operational Cost w/ APMs

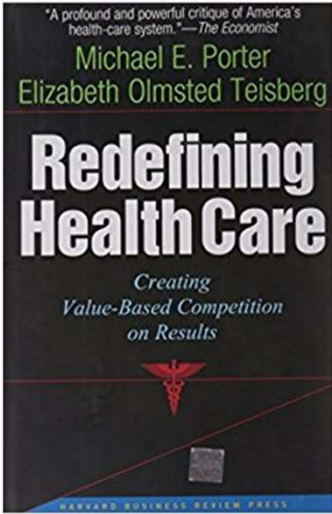


1. How much does it cost to deliver 1 fraction?
2. Why? Defines Value to the provider/center, to the patient and to the healthcare system



Efficient

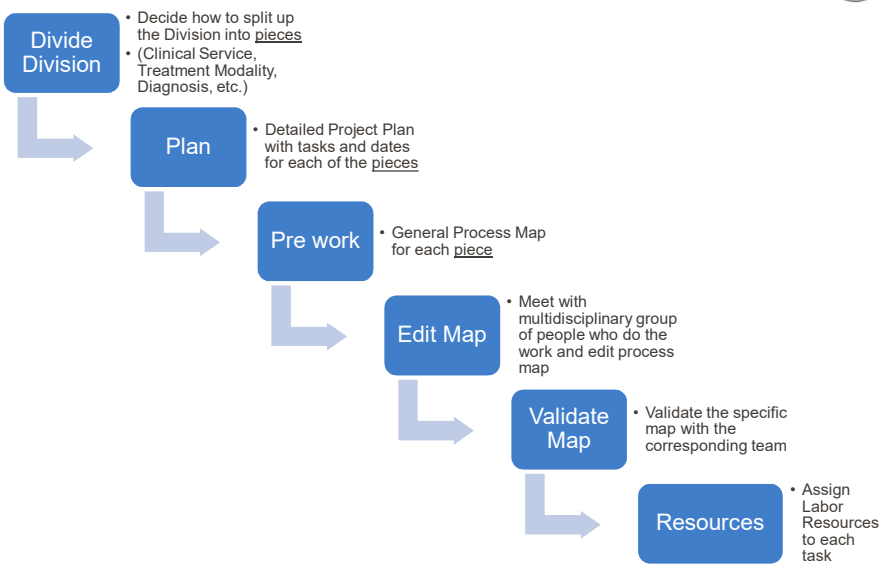
## Time Driven Activity Based Costing

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Efficient

## TDABC Project Strategy



```

    graph TD
      A[Divide Division] --> B[Plan]
      B --> C[Pre work]
      C --> D[Edit Map]
      D --> E[Validate Map]
      E --> F[Resources]
    
```

**Divide Division**

- Decide how to split up the Division into pieces
- (Clinical Service, Treatment Modality, Diagnosis, etc.)

**Plan**

- Detailed Project Plan with tasks and dates for each of the pieces

**Pre work**

- General Process Map for each piece

**Edit Map**

- Meet with multidisciplinary group of people who do the work and edit process map

**Validate Map**

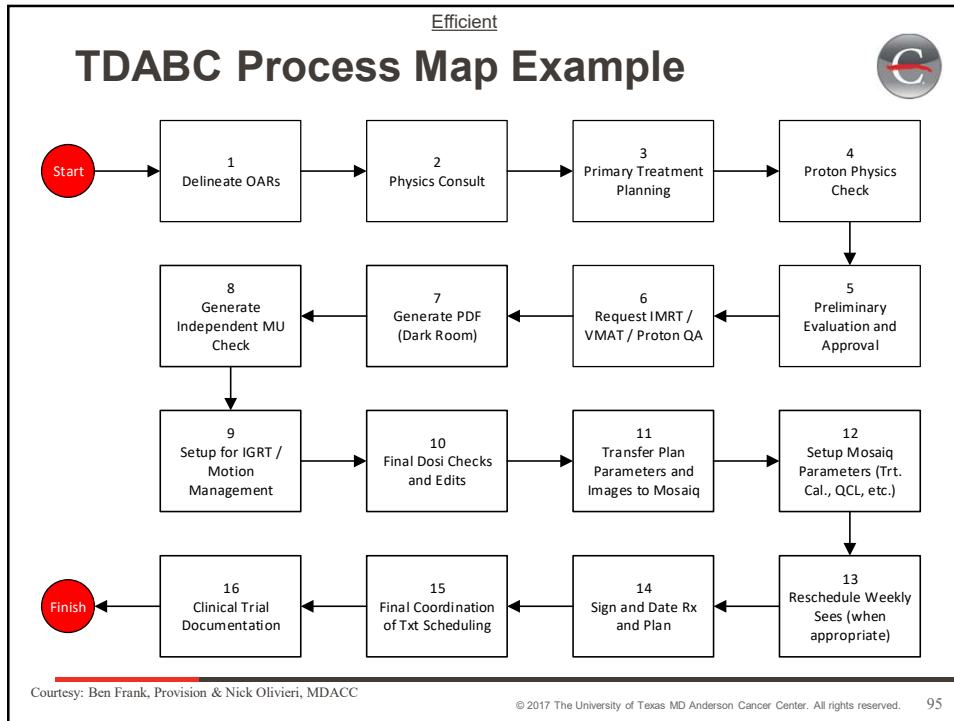
- Validate the specific map with the corresponding team

**Resources**

- Assign Labor Resources to each task

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Efficient

## TDABC Resources, Time, and Cost

All times in minutes		Drop In All Modalities														
Process Step Number	Process Step	Step Frequency	Resources	Resource Frequency	Min Time	Max Time	Cost Rate per minute	Min weight 50%		Max weight 50%						
								Min Weighted Time	Max Weighted Time	Min Cost	Avg Cost	Max Cost				
1	Patient Check In	100%	Receptionist	100%	2	4	\$ 0.01	2.0	4.0	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.04				
		100%	PSC	100%	1	2	\$ 0.01	1.0	2.0	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02				
2	Vitals / Room	100%	RN	95%	4	8	\$ 0.01	3.8	7.6	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.08				
		100%	MA	5%	4	8	\$ 0.01	0.2	0.4	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00				
3	RN Assessment	100%	RN	100%	10	20	\$ 0.01	10.0	20.0	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.20				
		75%	APP	75%	10	15	\$ 0.01	5.6	8.4	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.08				
4	APP / Resident	75%	RO Resident	25%	10	15	\$ 0.01	1.9	2.8	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.03				
		25%	MD	100%	10	25	\$ 0.01	2.5	6.3	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.06				
14	Verify Record of Tx Delivery	100%	LINAC	100%	0.5	1	100%	LINAC	100%	0.5	1	100%	Proton Gantry	100%	1	1

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Efficient

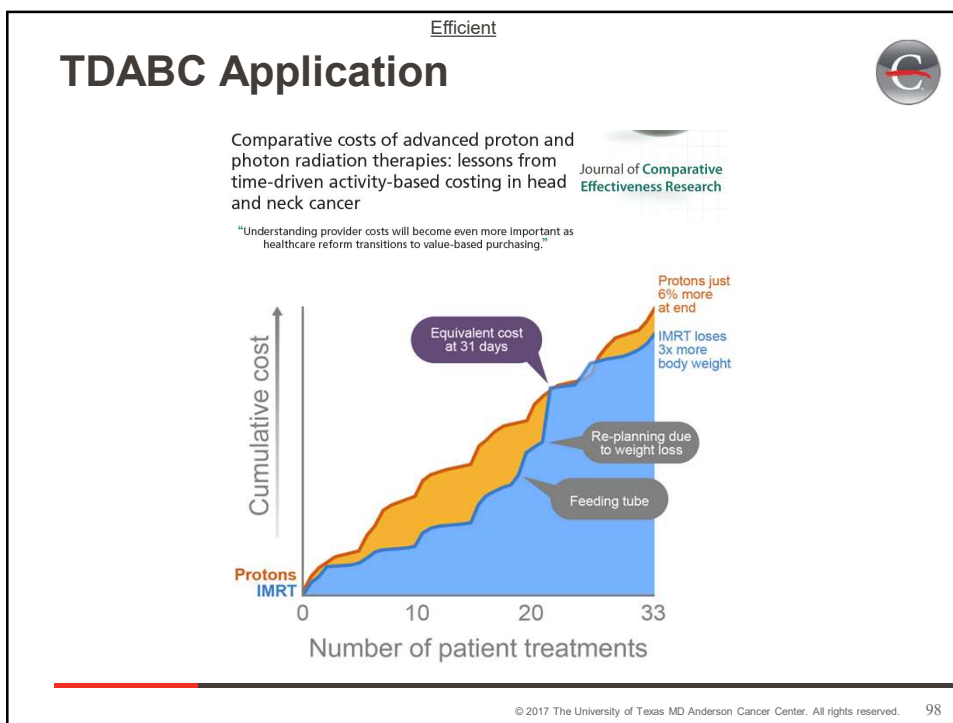
## What if Scenarios

	Number	3D/ 2D (Definitive)			IMRT/VMAT (Definitive)			Palliative			Proton		
		Min Cost	Avg Cost	Max Cost	Min Cost	Avg Cost	Max Cost	Min Cost	Avg Cost	Max Cost	Min Cost	Avg Cost	Max Cost
Consult	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sim	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Txt Plan Prep	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Planning Clinic	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Txt Planning	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Plan QA	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Txt Plan Corrections	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Txt Delivery	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dry Run	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TLD	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pulse Check	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Weekly See	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Drop In	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Verification Sim	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Adaptive Txt Planning	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
EOT Workup	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Follow Up	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Cost</b>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Modality	Min Cost	Avg Cost	Max Cost
3D/2D (Definitive)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
IMRT / VMAT (Definitive)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Palliative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Proton	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

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## The Value of a Dosimetrist



1. Healthcare is changing
2. Dosimetrists are central to radiation oncology
3. Dosimetrists role in safety, quality, and process improvement are key to value
4. Embrace change and contribute to the solutions
5. Demonstrate your value
6. Important to position the field now for the future

## Advancing the Dosimetry Profession



1. Perfect Position to be Radiation Oncology Physician Assistant
2. Clinical Education & Background Foundation
3. Technology and trends are changing in RO (SBRT/Hypofractionation, Imaging, Automation, AI)
4. Hospitals and Physicians want to reduce their administrative burden (contouring, image review, treatment planning, etc.) to focus on clinical care.
5. Insurance burden is increasing for all types of treatments

## Clinic Program Manager



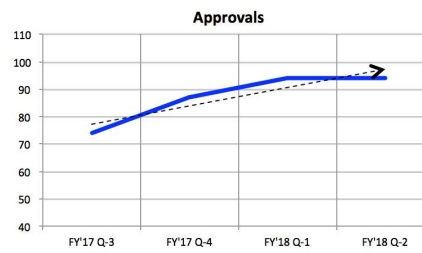
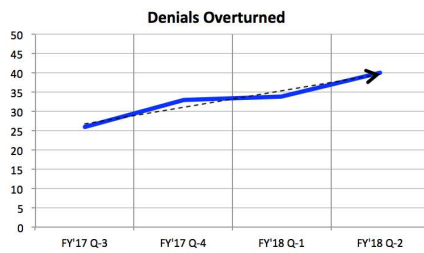
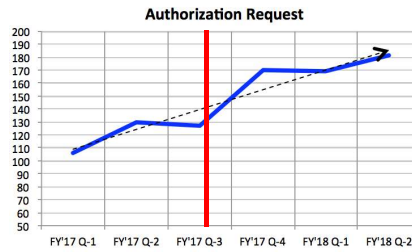
- Requires strong clinical oncology, dosimetry, and insurance (not necessary) background in order to be an advocate during the insurance authorization process.
- Management of the team during of the insurance authorization process from start to finish.
- The physicians' primary administrative point of contact.
- Work closely with the physician to develop a clinical strategy and advocacy for each patient.
- Perform or provide advice for Peer-to-Peers
- Involved in health policy initiatives with state commissioners and employer based plans.

## Clinic Program Manager



- Receive Insurance 101 training
- Learning the keys for success for a hospital in a pay for value environment
- Additional responsibilities in development:
  - Attend new patient clinics
  - Assistance w/ physician documentation (draft consult note)
  - Comparative planning for insurance purposes

## Clinic Program Manager Impact



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10  
3

## Closing Remarks



1. Valuable clinical knowledge that can't be replaced
2. Key position in the radiation oncology workflow
3. Responsible for Outcomes
4. Innovators
5. Analytical
6. Focused on Safety and Quality

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10  
4

## Conclusions



Dosimetrists have all the skills to be successful in a value based healthcare environment!

Participate in quality and new technology initiatives to show your value!

Support change, new technology, innovation, automation so you are part of the solution!

### **AAMD**

Recommendation- Plan for the future now!  
Develop Professional Growth and Educational Models for a future Advanced Practice Dosimetrist role.

## Questions?



### **Contact Information:**

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