

# MOLECULAR IMAGING

Functional Imaging Methods  
Multi-Modality



Máthé, Domokos PhD

Nanobiotechnology and In Vivo Imaging Center

## Overview

- What do we call molecular imaging and why?
- What can we exploit to obtain molecular imaging data?
- Research-oriented molecular imaging methodologies (in general)
- Clinical application possibilities of molecular imaging (screening, diagnostics, personalized therapy, monitoring/follow-up)
- Most actually important methods in M.I., outlook for tomorrow (PET, SPECT, MRI, Planar Fluorescence, Optical Tomographies)  
Onkológia, idegtudomány, kardiovaszkuláris medicina, reumatológia, endokrinológia, sebészet
- Correlation of functional and morphological information
- PACS and clinical relevance of image segmentation/registration



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- Molecular Biology + In-Vivo Non-Invasive Imaging?  
"Imaging is the extraction of information in time and space at all levels of biological organization"

(Dr. Elias Zerhouni, XIVth NIH Director)

"Molecular imaging is the **visualization**, **characterization**, and **measurement** of **biological** processes at the molecular and cellular levels in humans and other living systems."

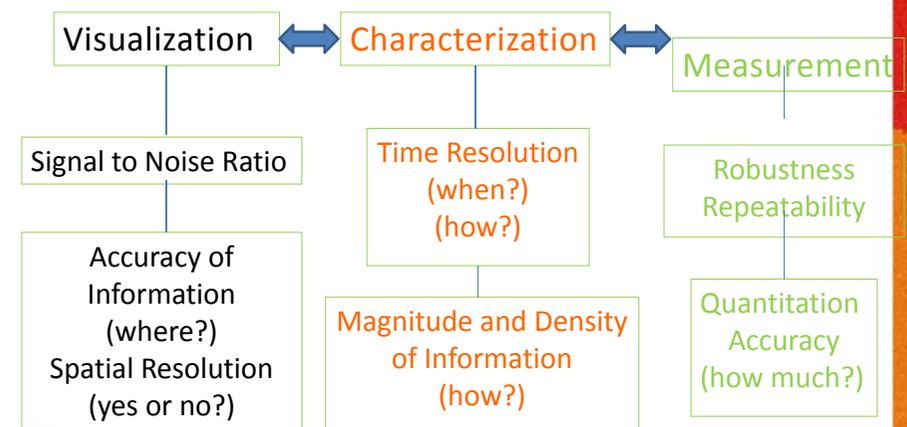
(definition by the U.S. Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging)



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## Molecular Imaging Ideals:

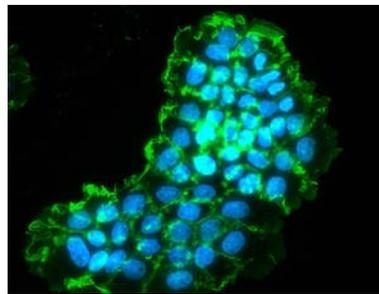
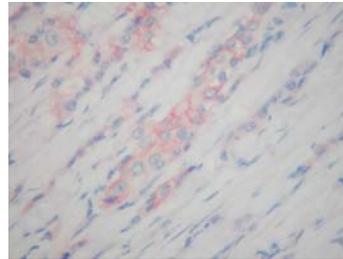
**B i o l o g i c a l**



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## Microscopy: Immunohistochemistry, immunofluorescence

IHC: Targeted antibody reacts with somatostatin 2a receptors over-expressed in insulinoma (300x, H&E counterstain, reaction is RED)

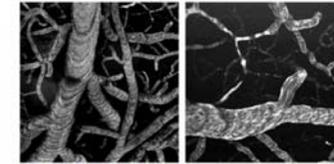
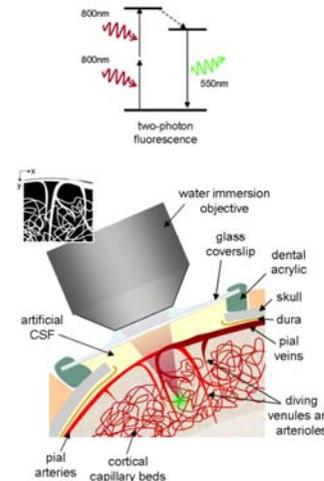


A431 epithelial cc. tumor cells, nuclei stained with Hoechst-blue, PHOSPHORILATED EGF receptors in cell membrane are GREEN using an antibody coupled to 488 nm emission DyLight fluorescent stain

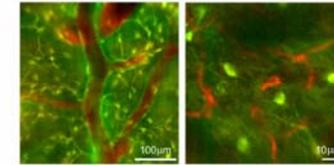


## High definition methods in live animals: in vivo dual photon microscopy

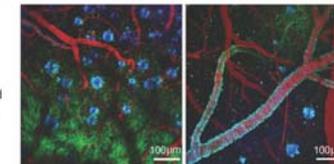
better S/N ratio  
increased resolution



Pattern of RBC flow in brain vessels



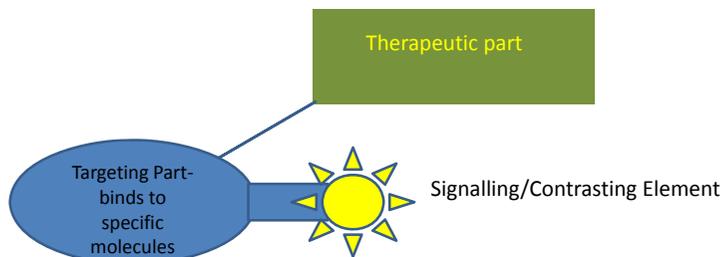
Vessels and neurons (dextran Texas Red and GFP-TG mouse)



Amyloid plaques (Blue), Vessels (red) neurons (green)



## General Structure of a Molecular Probe



Small Molecules  
Peptides  
Proteins/Subunits  
Antibodies/Subunits

### Chemical Nature:

PET/SPECT: isotopes (radioactivity)  
Optical/Acoustic: Fluorescent Dyes  
MRI: Gd, Fe

### Nano/microparticles:

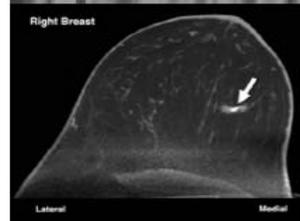
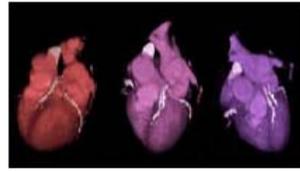
Optical: quantum dot, carbon nanotubes, Au particles  
MRI: iron and Mn-oxide particles  
CT: golden particles



| Modalitás         | Előnyei  | Hátrányai   | Fontos kontrasztanyag/jel                                       | Klinikai alkalmazás példái                                       |
|-------------------|--|---|---|--|
| CT                | Any image depths<br>Good time resolution<br>Perces kép-idők<br>Közepesen drága<br>Anatómiai módszer  | Sugárterhelés<br>Rossz lágyzöveti kontraszt<br>Jelenleg csak anatómiai és funkcionális képek. | Ba, I, Kr, Xe   | Tumor perfúzió,  |
| PET               | Bármilyen mélységű kép<br>Egésztest-képkalkotás<br>Kvantitatív mérések<br>Kombinálható CT/MRI-vel  | Sugárterhelés<br>Drága<br>Milliméteres felbontás<br>Hosszabb képidő (perc-óra)                | C-11, F-18, Ga-68, Cu-64, Zr-89                                 | FDG-PET tumor staging, különböző betegségek diagnosztikája       |
| SPECT             | Bármilyen mélységű kép<br>Egésztest-képkalkotás<br>Kvantitatív mérések<br>Multiplex<br>Teragnosztika<br>Kombinálható CT-vel                  | Sugárterhelés<br>Szubmilliméteres-milliméteres felbontás<br>Hosszabb képidők                  | Tc-99m, I-123, In-111, Lu-177                                   | Molekuláris diagnosztika<br>Radioterápia (NHL, NET, pm. cc.)     |
| MRI               | Bármilyen mélységű kép<br>Egésztest-képkalkotás<br>Nincs ionizáló sugárzás<br>Kitűnő lágyzöveti kontraszt                                    | Drága<br>Hosszú képidők<br>Korlátozott érzékenység  | Gd <sup>3+</sup> , vas-oxid részecskék (SPIO, USPIO)            | Prostata daganat nycs. met.<br>Fokális miyéziók<br>Szív perfúzió |
| MRS               | Nincs ionizáló sugárzása<br>Egésztest-képkalkotás  | Drága<br>Hosszú képidők<br>Kis érzékenység  | Kolin, laktát, kreatin, lipidek, N-acetil-aszpartát             | Agytumrok anyagcseréje<br>Alzheimer-kór követése                 |
| UH                | Nincs ionizáló sugárzás<br>Rövid/valós idejű képkalkotás<br>Nagy térbeli felbontás<br>Olcsóság<br>Nagy érzékenység                           | Egésztest-képkalkotás nincs<br>Kontrasztanyagok csak az érrendszerre<br>Operátor-függő        | Mikro-buborékok   | Fokális miyéziók, echokardiográfia, Tumor perfúzió               |
| Optikai módszerek | Nincs ionizáló sugárzás<br>Rövid/valós idejű képkalkotás<br>Nagy térbeli felbontás<br>Olcsóság<br>Nagy érzékenység, kvantitatív<br>Multiplex | Korlátozott áthatolóképesség (1 cm)<br>Nincs egésztest-képkalkotás                            | Fluoreszcens molekulák és festékek, fény-elnyelő nanorészecskék | OCT-érelmeszesedés, retinopathiák, kolonoszkópia                 |

## Nanobiotechnológiai és In Vivo Képkeltő Központ

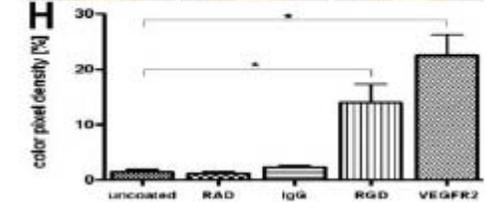
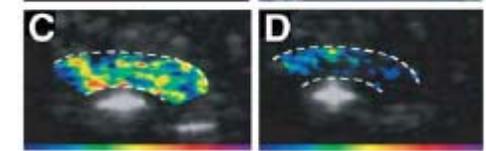
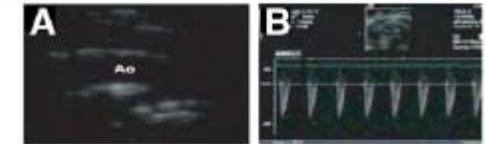
| CT                           | 3D Attenuation Map of X-Rays   |
|------------------------------|--|
| Advantages                   | Any Imaging Depth<br>Good Resolution<br>Simple<br>Medium-Priced<br>Sub-minute scan times   |
| Disadvantages                | Radiation Dose<br>Soft Tissue C.<br>Just anatomical and functional images<br>Any imaging depth<br>Good Resolution<br>WB Imaging<br>Minute Scanning Time<br>Semi-Expensive<br>Anatomy |
| Contrast Materials           | Ba, I, Kr, Xe, Au  |
| Clinical Use                 | Tumor perfusion, Ca-score, Ventillation  |
| Voxel Sizes, Cells Per Voxel | 1x1x1 mm<br>1 million  |



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## Nanobiotechnológiai és In Vivo Képkeltő Központ

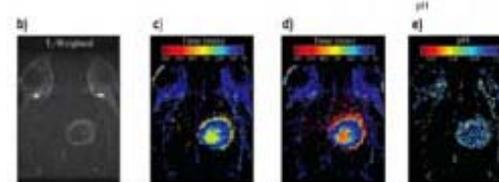
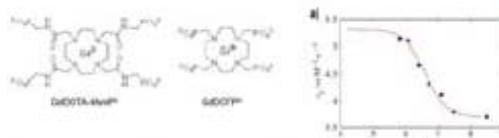
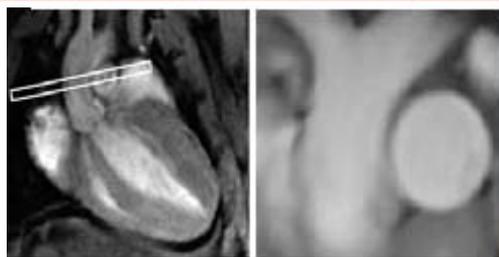
| UltraSound                   | 3D differences in echo and spreading of sound waves   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Advantages                   | No ionizing radiation<br>Fast/RT imaging<br>High Sensitivity<br>High Resolution<br>Cheap                        |
| Disadvantages                | No WB img.<br>Only vascular contrast materials<br>Operator dependency   |
| Contrast Materials           | Micro-Bubbles   |
| Clinical Use                 | Focal liver lesions, Echocardiography, Blood perfusion...Rare, Prostate Cancer VEGF Expression (Phase III BR55) |
| Voxel Sizes, Cells Per Voxel | 1x1x1 mm<br>1 million   |



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## Nanobiotechnológiai és In Vivo Képkeltő Központ

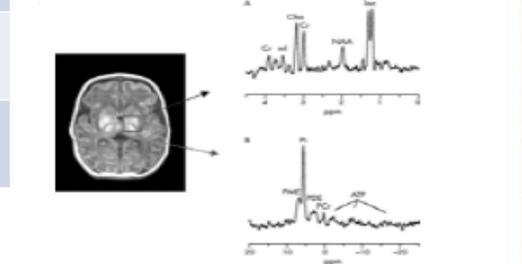
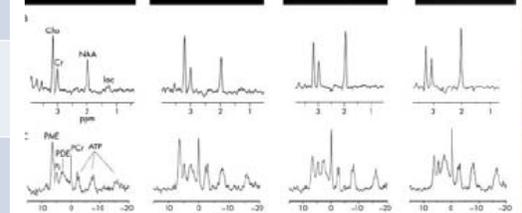
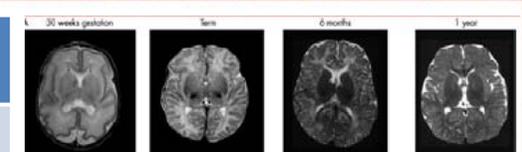
| MRI (IRM...)                 | 3D / 2D Image of Proton Spins   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Advantages                   | Any Imaging Depth and Plane<br>WB Imaging<br>No ionizing radiation<br>High Soft Tissue Contrast |
| Disadvantages                | Expensive<br>Low Sensitivity<br>Long imaging time   |
| Contrast Materials           | Gd3+, iron-oxide particles (SPIO, USPIO)  |
| Clinical Use                 | Liver, Brain Lesions, Cardio-MRI  |
| Voxel Sizes, Cells Per Voxel | 1x1x1 mm<br>10 <sup>13</sup>  |



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## Nanobiotechnológiai és In Vivo Képkeltő Központ

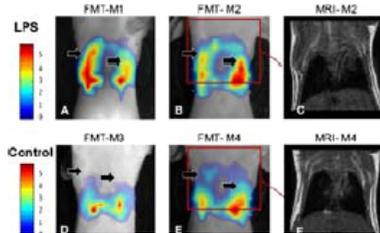
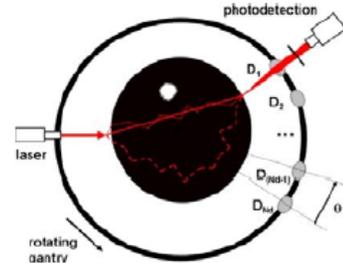
| MRS                          | Recorded Electromagnetic Resonance Spectrum                                   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Advantages                   | No ionizing radiation<br>WB Imaging   |
| Disadvantages                | Expensive<br>Very low sensitivity<br>External Calibration / Special Knowledge |
| Contrast Materials           | Cholin, Lactate, Creatin, Lipids, N-Ac-Aspartate                              |
| Clinical Use                 | Brain Tumor Stratification, Stroke  |
| Voxel Sizes, Cells Per Voxel | N.A.  |



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## Nanobiotechnológiai és In Vivo Képkeltő Központ

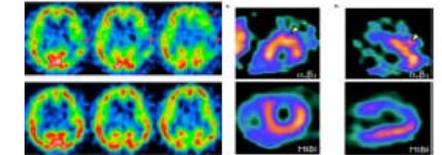
| Optical Methods              | Visible/NIR Light<br>Transmission/Reflectance/Emission/ Scatter in 2D, 3D   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Advantages                   | No ionizing radiation<br>Short/RT Imaging<br>High Spatial Resolution<br>Very Sensitive, Semi-Quantitative<br>Multiplex        |
| Disadvantages                | Limited Transparency<br>No WB imaging   |
| Contrast Materials           | Fluorescent molecules, Light-emitting reactions, Dyes, QD-s, NP-s   |
| Clinical Use                 | Experimental, Sentinel Ln., Image-Guided Surgery, Retinopathies (OCT), Mammary screening (LumaGem)                            |
| Voxel Sizes, Cells Per Voxel | 2D: 0.01 mm <sup>2</sup><br>3D: 0.8x0.8x0.8 cm<br>10 <sup>3</sup> (2D), 10 <sup>13</sup> (3D): cca.10 <sup>4-5</sup> per cell |



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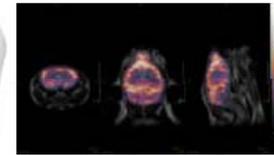
## Nanobiotechnológiai és In Vivo Képkeltő Központ

| SPECT                        | 3D Gamma-ray Source Array in Tissue   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Advantages                   | Any imaging depth<br>WB Imaging<br>Quantitative<br>Good resolution<br>Multiplexing<br>Theragnostics<br>Combination w/CT |
| Disadvantages                | Radiation Dose<br>Sub-mm Resol.<br>Long imaging times   |
| Contrast Materials           | Tc-99m, I-123, In-111, Lu-177, Ho-166, Tl-201   |
| Clinical Use                 | Nuclear Cardiology, Brain Perfusion, Oncology (AB, Peptides), Receptor T.   |
| Voxel Sizes, Cells Per Voxel | Clinical: 0.8 x 0.8 x 0.8 mm<br>Small A: 0.3 x 0.3 x 0.3 mm<br>2 pM / voxel<br>1/10 atom per cell                       |



I-123 iodazenil agyi SPECT

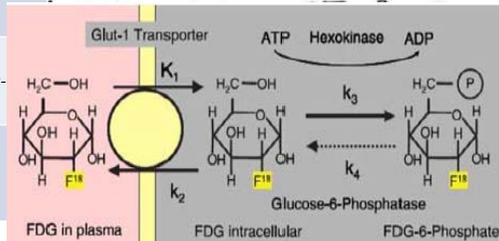
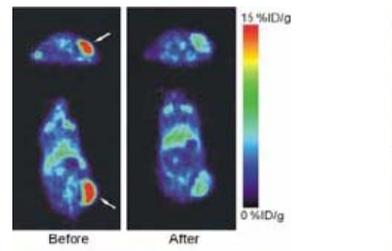
Tc-99m-MIBI szív perfúzió + angiogenezis SPECT I-123-integrin ligandtal



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## Nanobiotechnológiai és In Vivo Képkeltő Központ

| PET                          | 3D 511 keV Gamma-ray Source Array in Tissue   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Advantages                   | Any imaging depth<br>WB Imaging<br>Quantitative<br>Anatomical Co-registration CT, MRI |
| Disadvantages                | Radiation Dose<br>PRICE<br>Resolution<br>Longer imaging times                         |
| Contrast Materials           | C-11, F-18, Ga-68, Cu-64, Zr-89   |
| Clinical Use                 | FDG Patient Staging+Follow-   |
| Voxel Sizes, Cells Per Voxel | 5 x 5 x 5 mm<br>0.6 x 0.6 x 0.6 mm<br>0.02 pM/voxel<br>1/100 atom per cell            |



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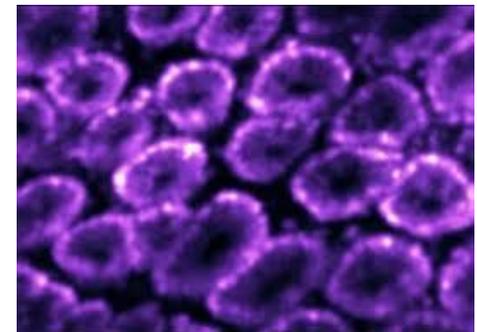
## Nanobiotechnológiai és In Vivo Képkeltő Központ

### Screening-Confocal Endomicroscopy



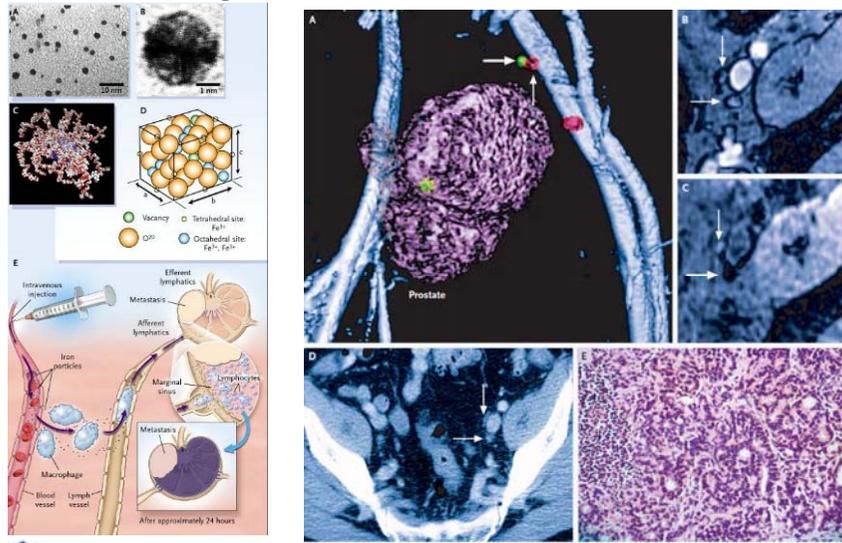
Oesophagus, stomach, bile ducts, ileal/colonic mucosa examined on cell level using fiber optic confocal microscope at autofluorescence emission/excitation wl-s

In vivo real time image of a patient's colonic crypts



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Diagnostics-USPIO MRI-A SAD STORY



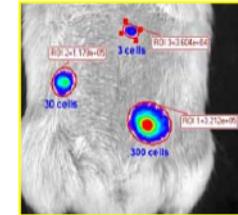
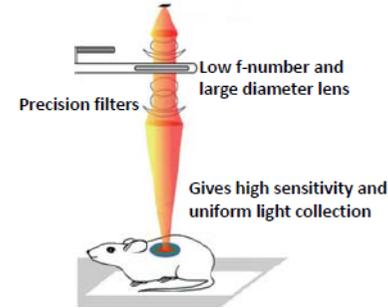
Harishingani M et al N.Engl. J:Med. 2003



BIOLUMINESCENCE-The power of nature helping to collect IF-s  
Firefly, Jellyfish – TG animals

Cooled (-90C) camera with large CCD chip area for high sensitivity

Resolves multiple bioluminescent reporters  
Even detects single cells *in vivo*



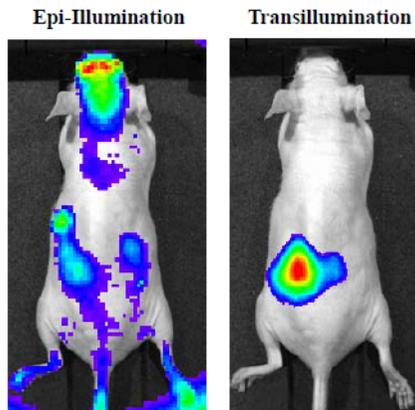
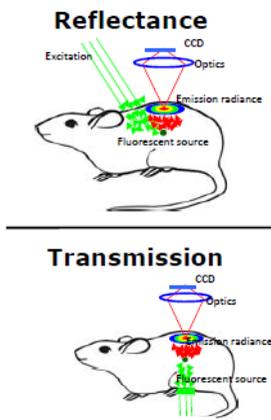
Rabinovich *et al.* (2008)  
PNAS 105(38): 14342-6

In vivo imaging of s.c. implanted T cells transduced with optimized firefly luciferase (left) and a 'single' 4T1 breast cancer cell (right)

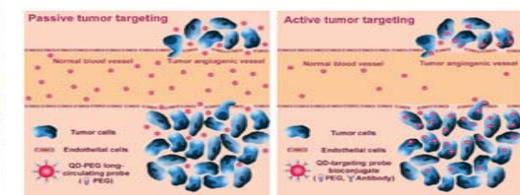
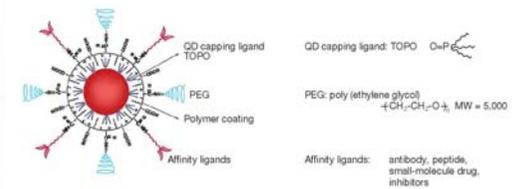
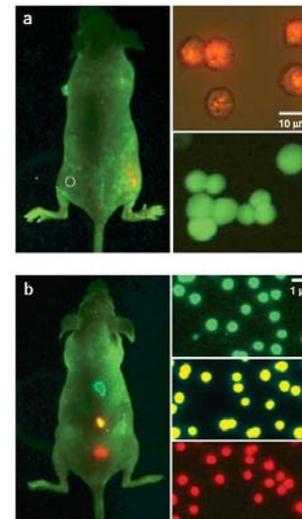


FLUORESCENCE IMAGING

Cooled (-90C) camera with large CCD chip area for high sensitivity and a choice of imaging modes for maximal flexibility, e.g., transmission for deep tissues.



Pillow implanted medial to left kidney, 1x10<sup>15</sup> molecules



3D Optical Tomography

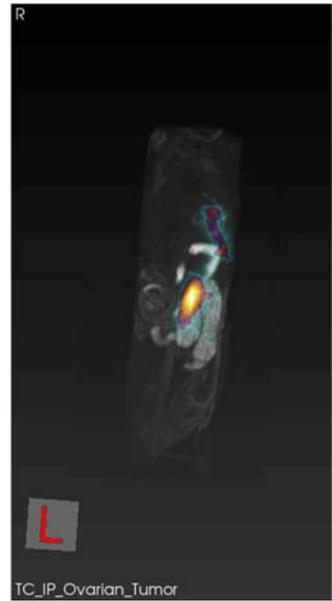
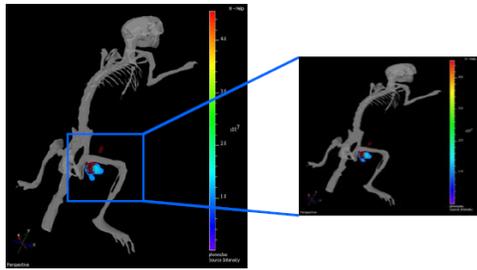
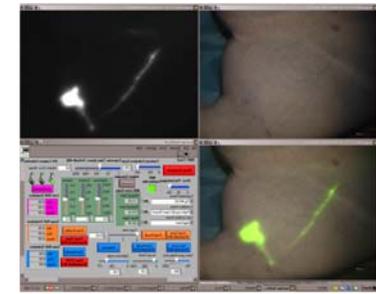


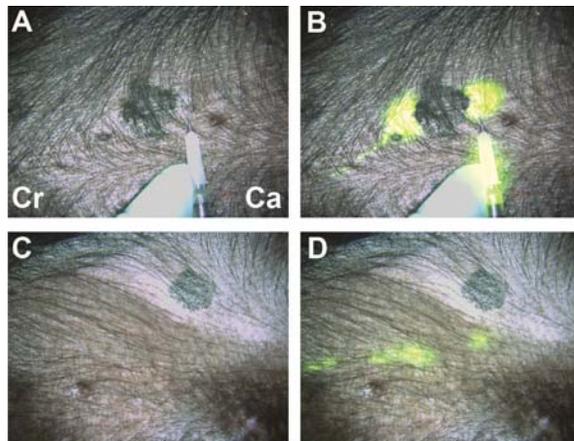
Image guided surgery



John Frangioni FLARE Harvard



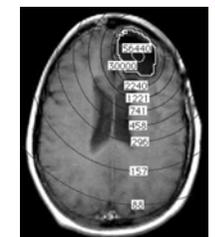
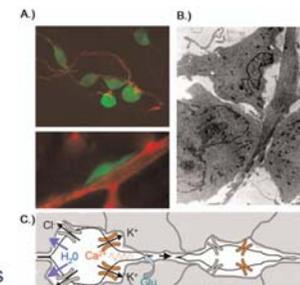
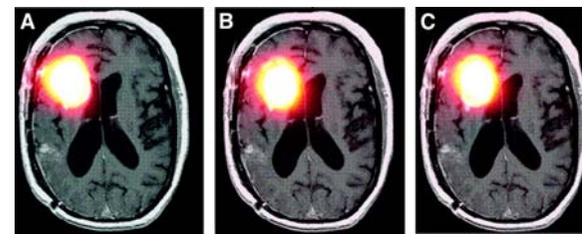
Planar Fluorescence In the Clinic



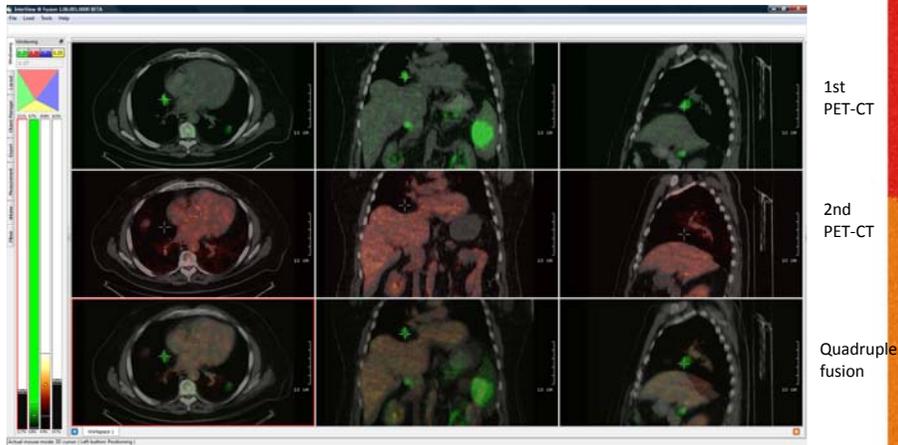
Melanoma, ICG-Albumine particle



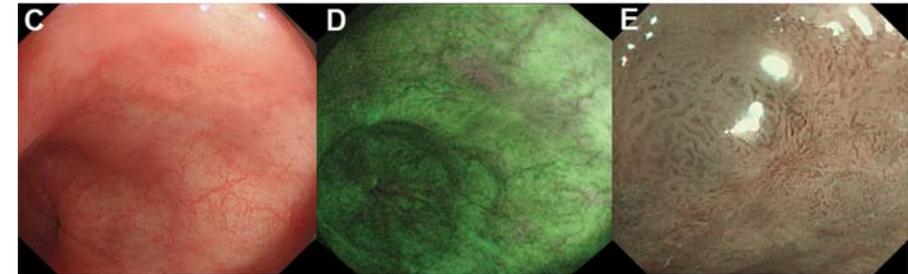
Personalized Targeted Therapy: SPECT/MRI/RNT



## Monitoring with FDG-PET



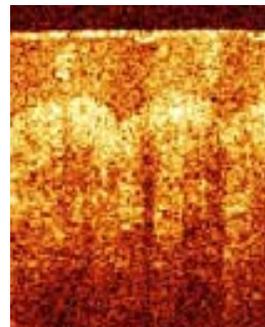
## Planáris autofluoreszcencia-endoszkópia



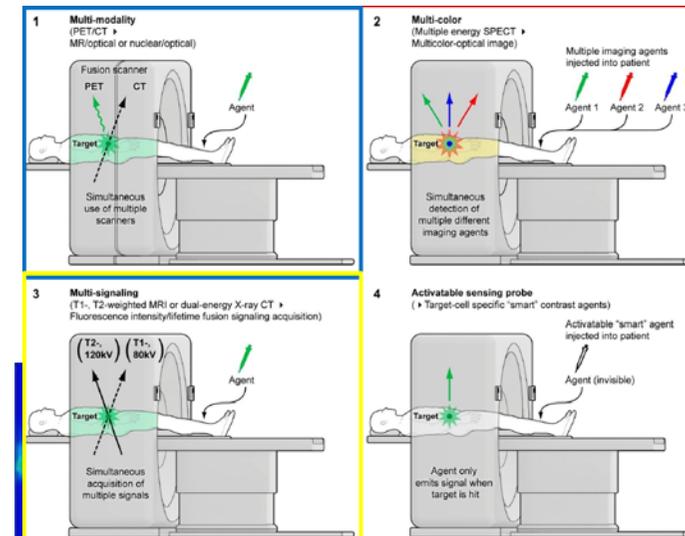
C: Barrett-oesophagus endoszkópia, D: autofluoreszcencia (kék) E: nagyfelbontású endoszkópia-irreguláris mintázat. A biopszia adenocarcinómát igazolt.

## OCT (optical coherence tomography)

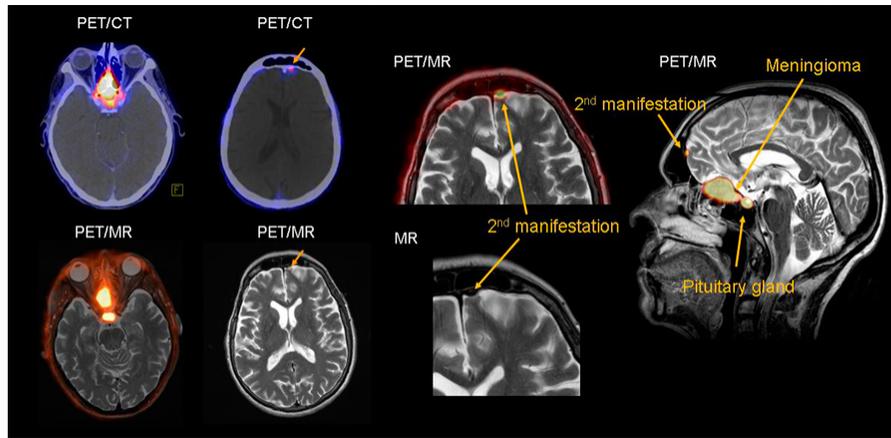
- Retina:
- Mucosák
- Porc
- Agyi vérkeringés
- Pár mm-es áthatolóképesség
- Mikronos felbontás
- Valós idejű képkalkotás



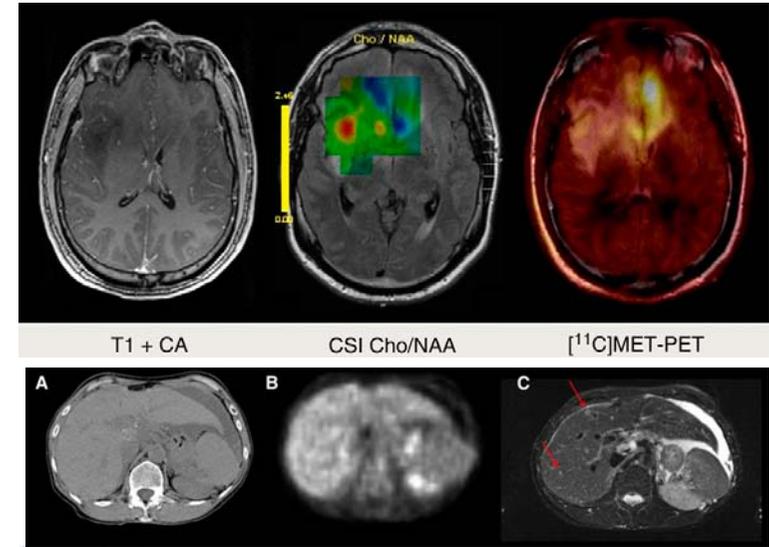
## Multimodális rendszerek lehetőségei



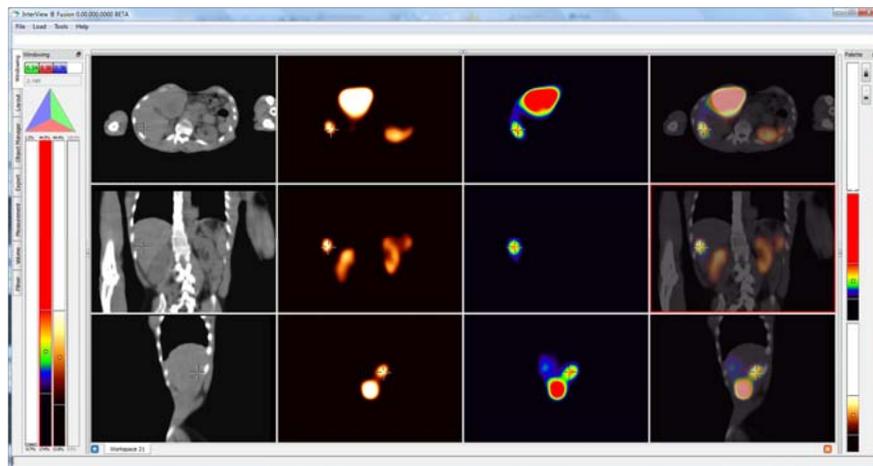
PET/MRI



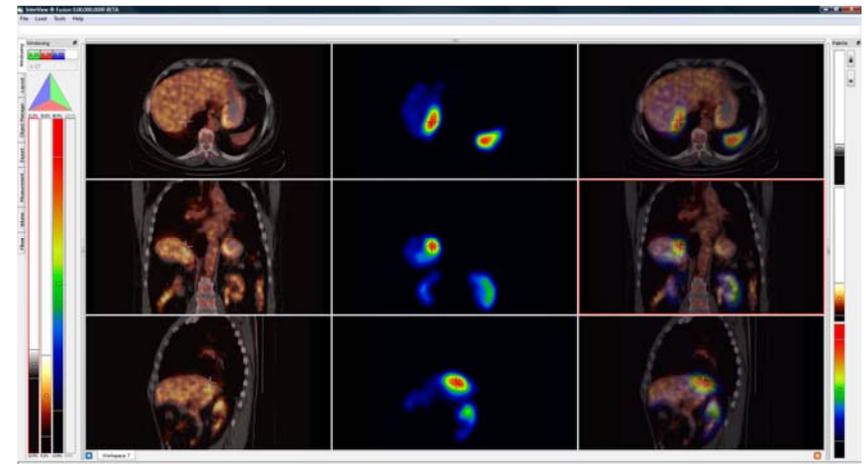
PET/MRI



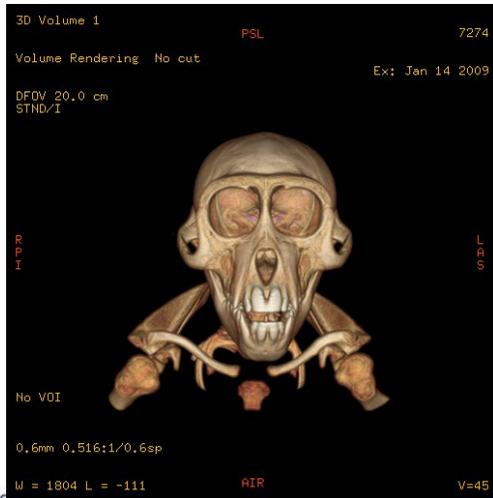
SPECT for neuro-endocrine tumor treatment/assessment



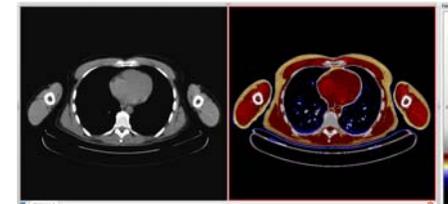
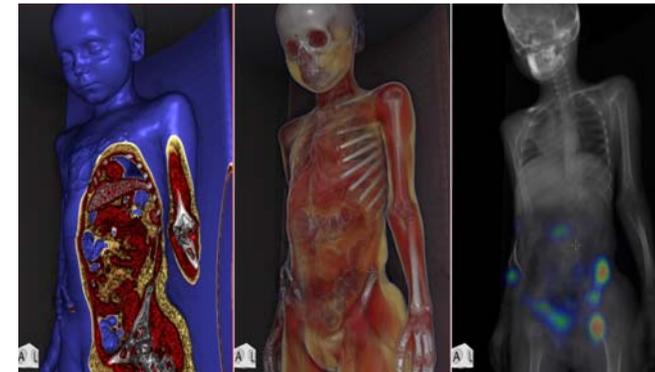
PET/SPECT/CT – Funkcionális és morfológiai információ együtt



Correlation in Functional/Morph info



SPECT-CT look-up table/ablakolás

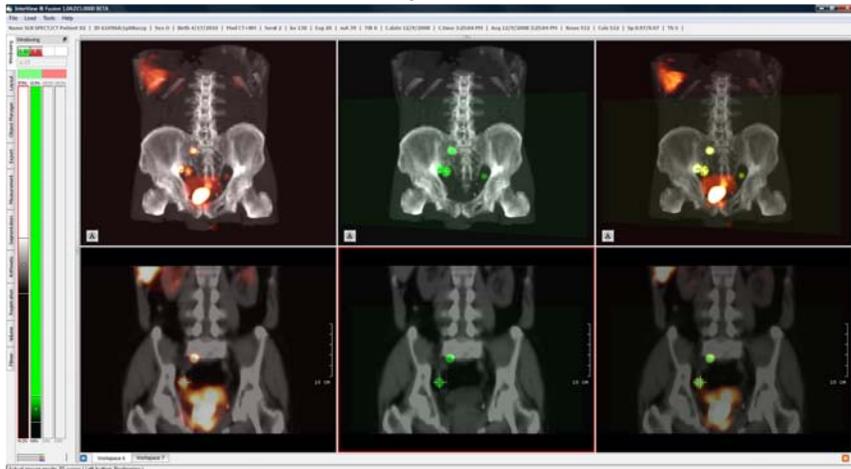


Képszegmentáció

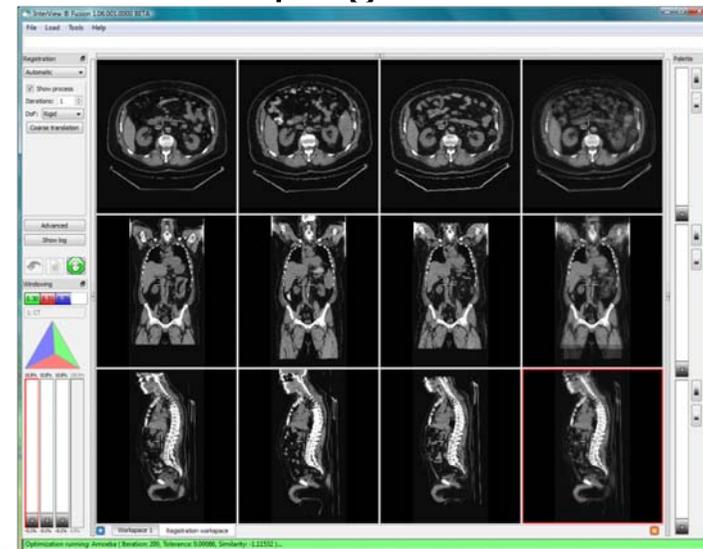
Triple fusion  
(Segmented SPECT-  
SPECT-CT)

SLN SPECT-CT

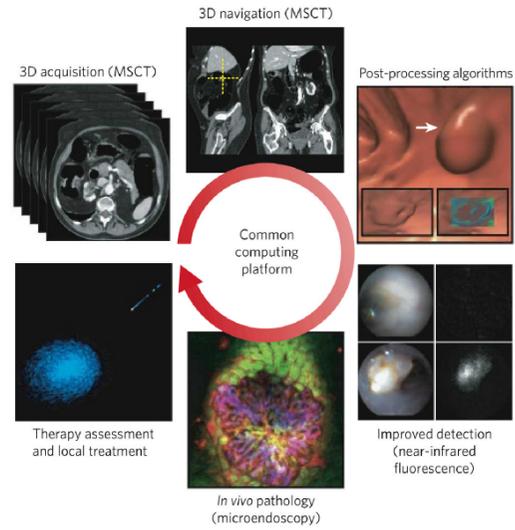
Segmented SPECT-CT



Képregisztráció



## Imaging in Clinical PACS (MGH)



# Thanks!

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