

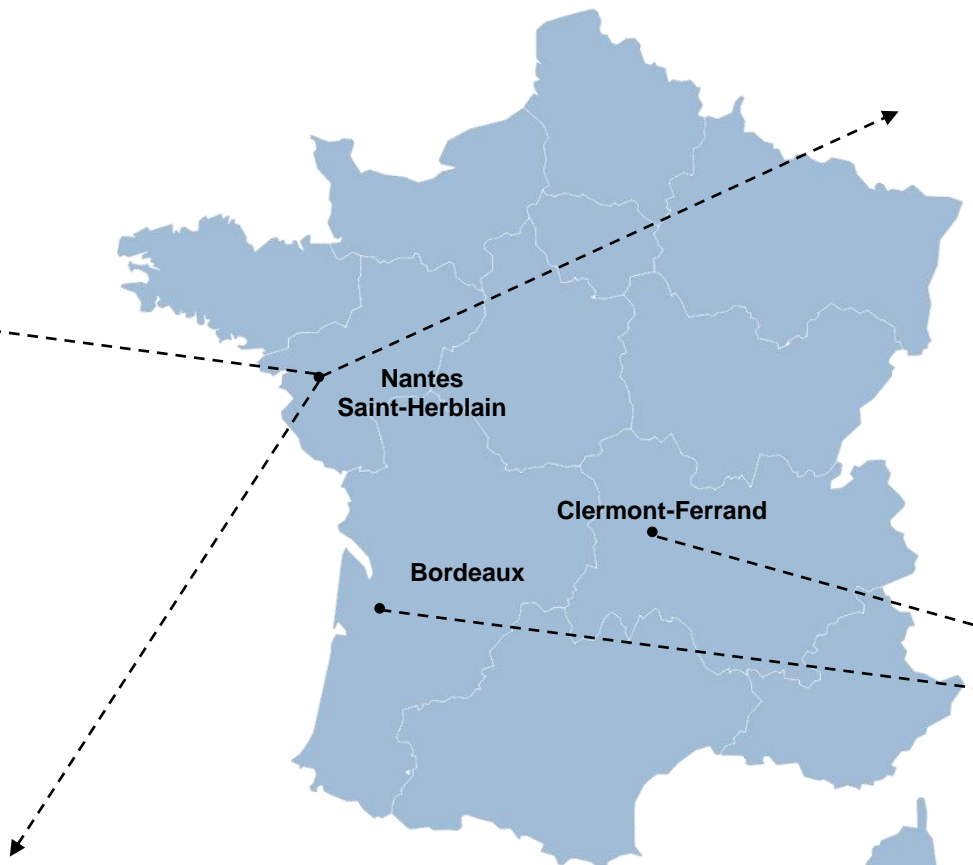


# Bilan du projet FLASHMOD

## Etude pluridisciplinaire des mécanismes de la radiothérapie Flash à Arronax

Sophie Chiavassa

# FLASHMOD – financement PCSI (36 + 6 mois – fin juin 2024)



Collaboration with:

- Université de Namur
- Université de Louvain
- Société IBA



## PRISMA team (Physics of Radiation Interactions with Matter and Applications)

- Manon EVIN
- Arnaud GUERTIN
- Vincent METIVIER
- Quentin MOUCHARD
- Noël SERVAGENT
- Ferid HADDAD
- Charbel KOUMEIR
- Freddy POIRIER



## Radiochemistry team

- Guillaume BLAIN
- Émeline CRAFF
- Sarra TERFAS
- Johan VANDENBORRE
- Vincent FIEGEL



**Medical physics**  
 Sophie CHIAVASSA (PRISMA)  
 Grégory DELPON (PRISMA)  
Daphnée VILLOING  
Arthur BONGRAND (NEXT)

**Radiobiology**  
Mathieu CHOCRY  
 Vincent POTIRON  
 Gaëlle SAADE  
 Stéphane SUPIOT



**Simulation GATE/Geant4-DNA**  
 Lydia MAIGNE  
Giovanna FOIS



Hoang Tran

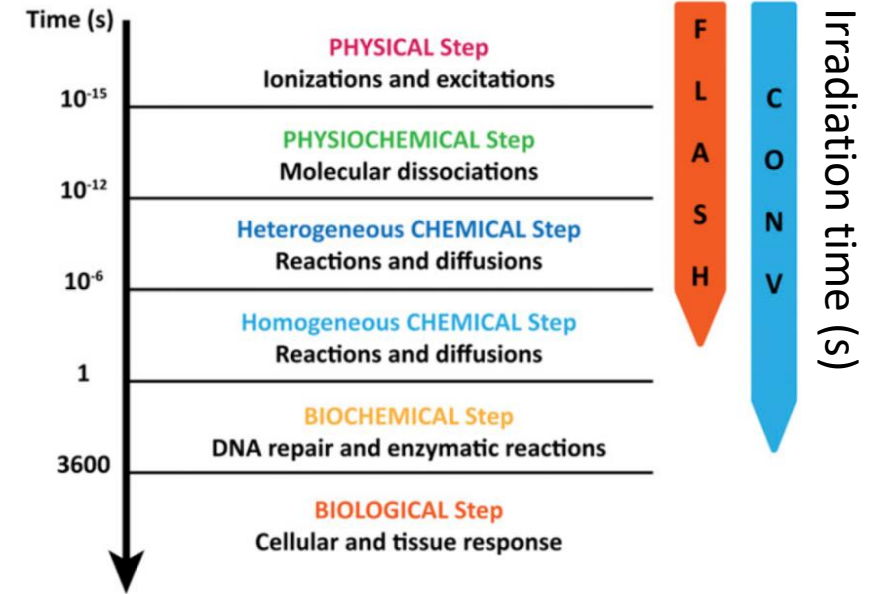
Main goals of the FLASHMOD project

Avancer dans la compréhension des mécanismes du Flash

Relever les défis techniques liés au Flash



LET, O2, ROS, biological effect, ...



Montay-Gruel, P., et al. (2019). DOI: [10.1073/pnas.1901777116](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1901777116)

Multidisciplinary team around the ARRONAX cyclotron

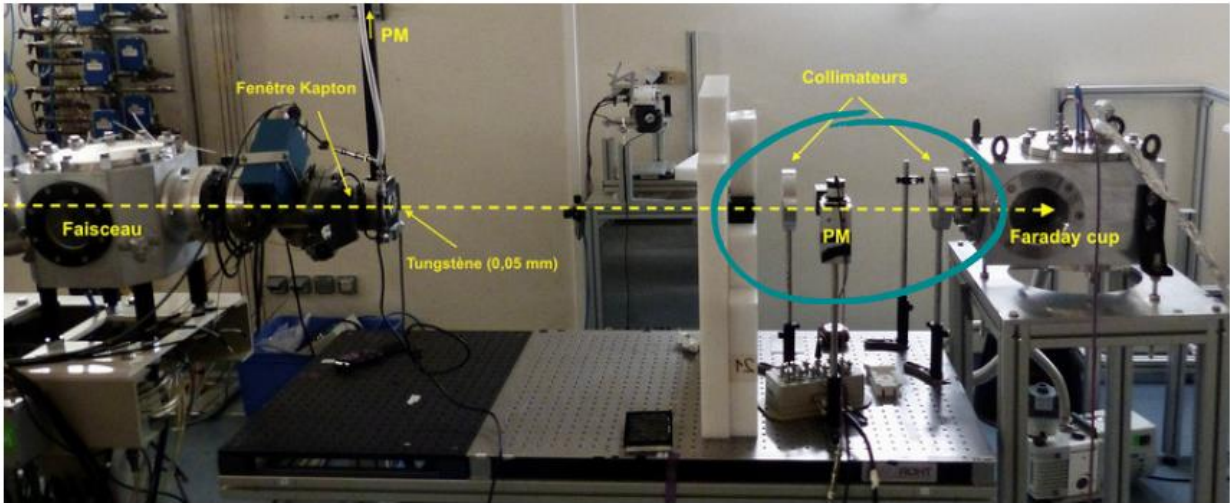
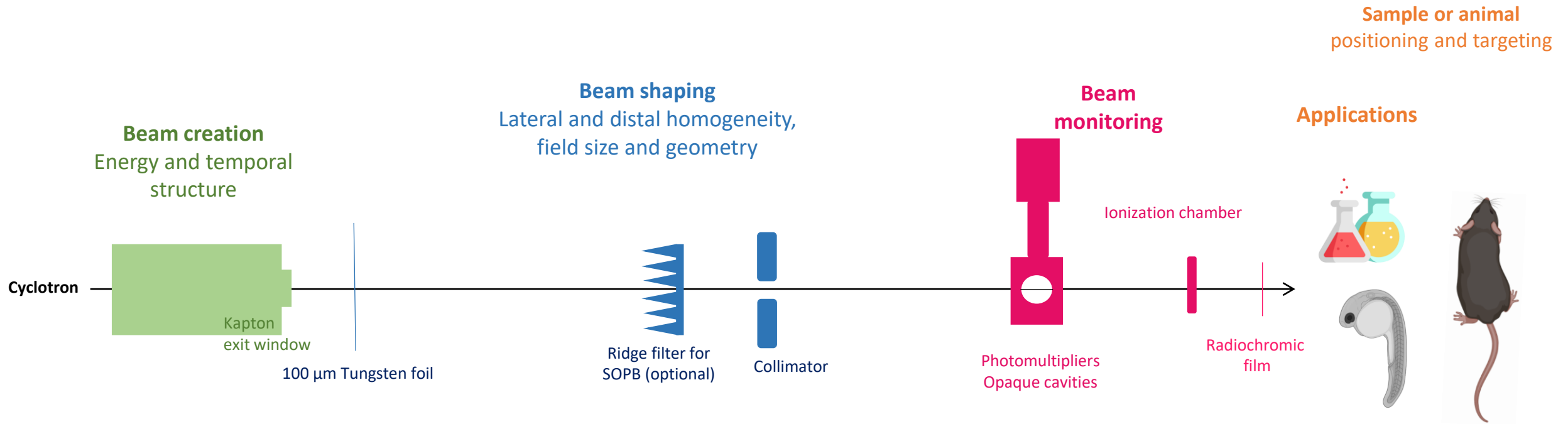


Extracted particles	Maximal energy (MeV)	Range in water (cm)	LET at plateau entrance (keV/μm)
H <sup>+</sup>	70	4,08	1
He <sup>2+</sup>	70	0,34	11

Dose rates

- CONV : ~ 0.1 Gy/s
- UHDR: Up to several hundred of kGy/s

# ARRONAX preclinical irradiation line



**In vivo dosimetry**

**Innovative dosimetry**  
through radiation emitted by the irradiated medium

# ARRONAX preclinical irradiation line

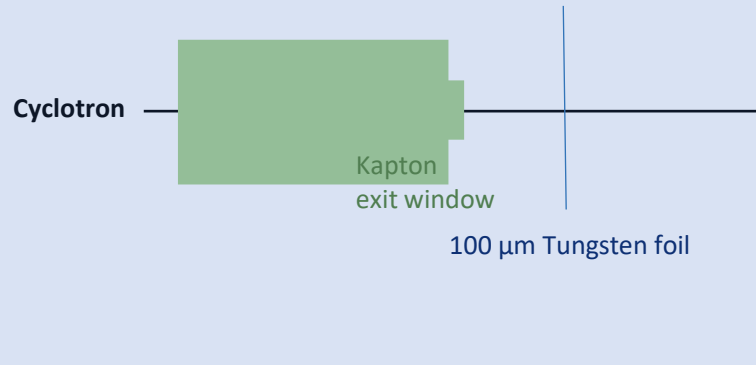
Sample or animal positioning and targeting

Applications

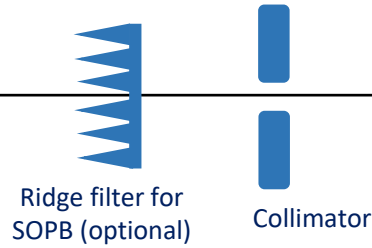


Poirier et al. 2019

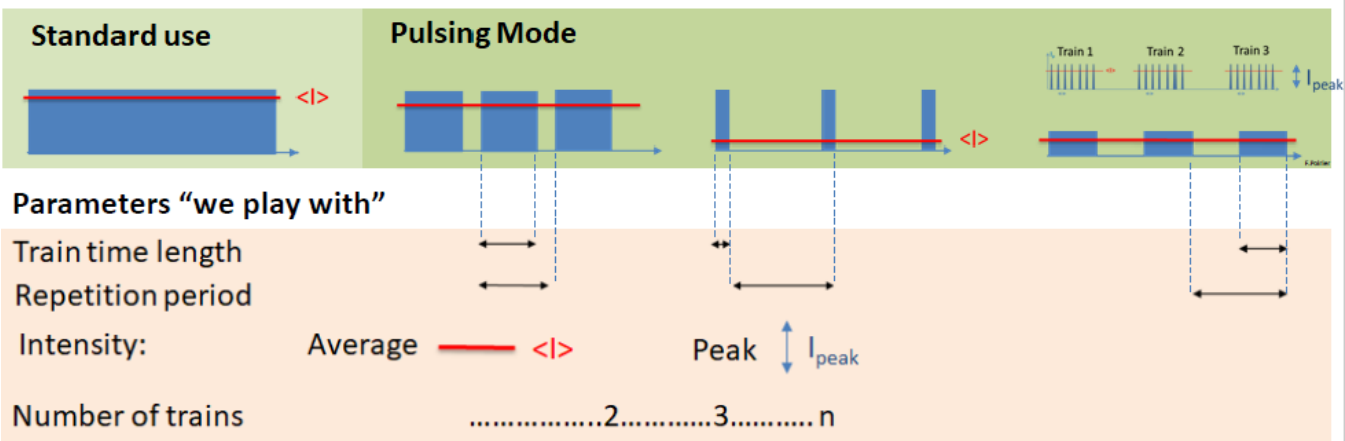
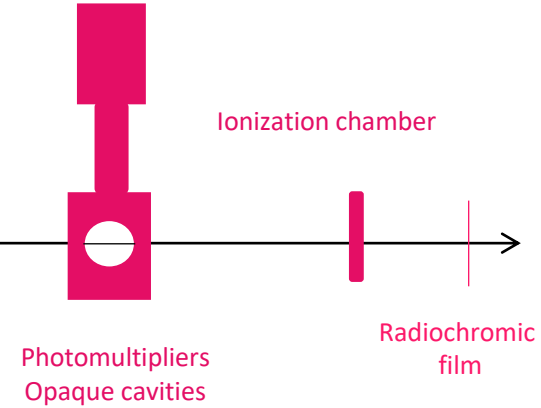
**Beam creation**  
Energy and temporal structure



**Beam shaping**  
Lateral and distal homogeneity, field size and geometry

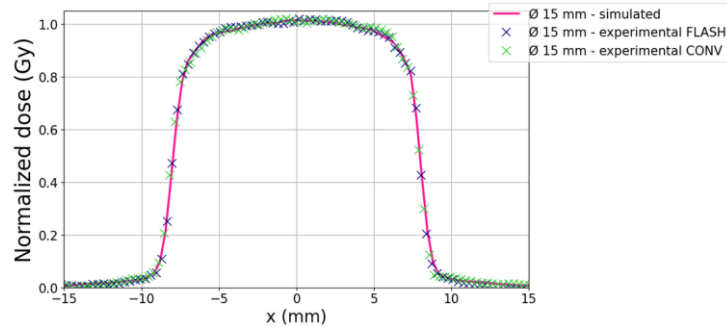
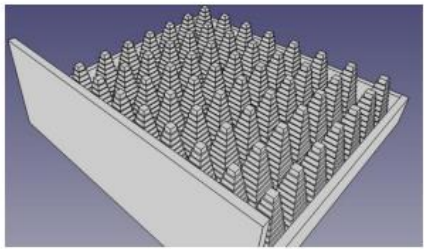
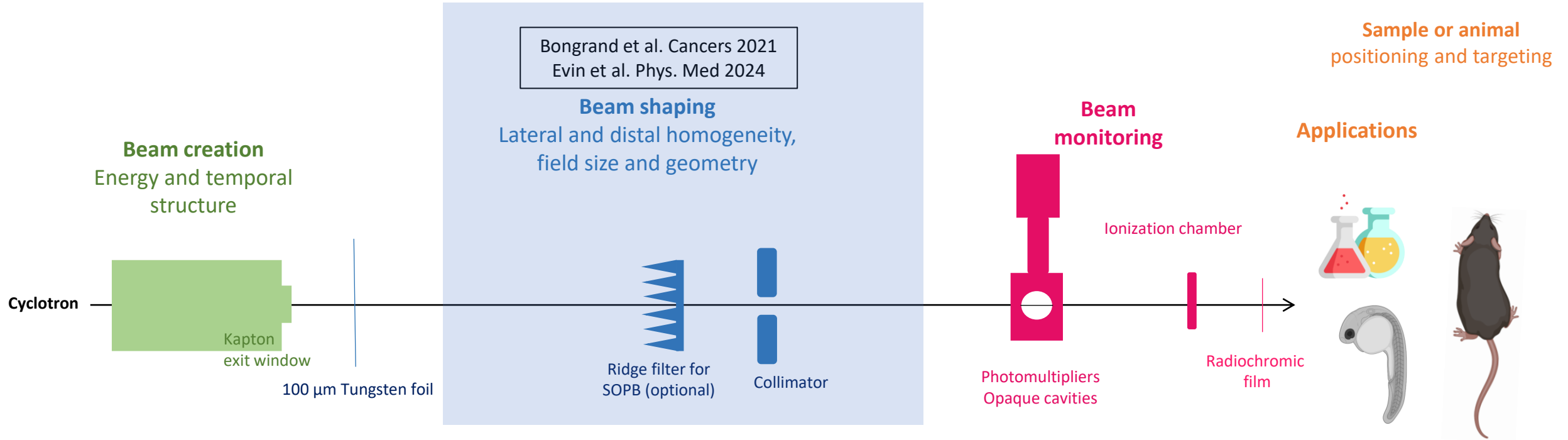


**Beam monitoring**



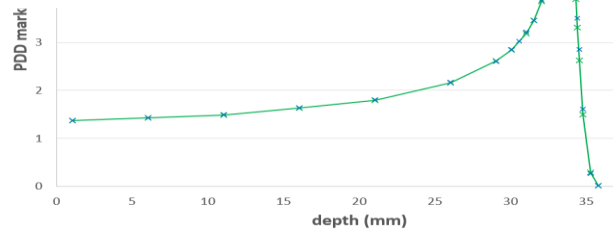
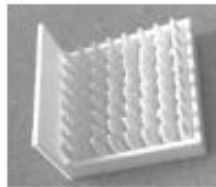
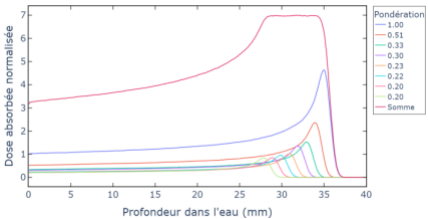
**In vivo dosimetry**

Innovative dosimetry through radiation emitted by the irradiated medium



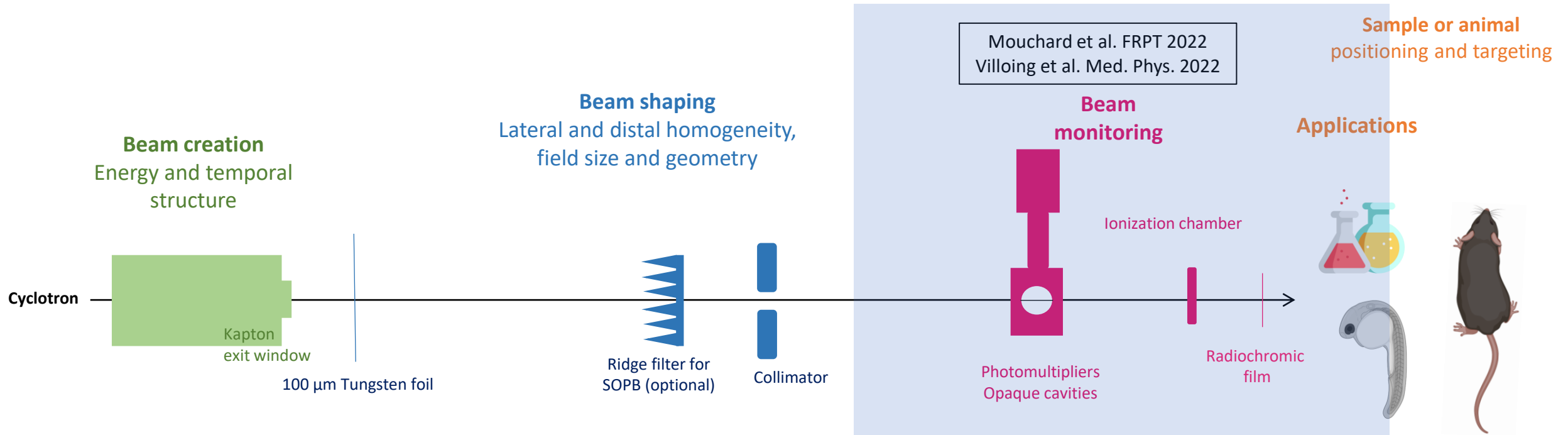
**In vivo dosimetry**

**Innovative dosimetry**  
through radiation emitted by the irradiated medium

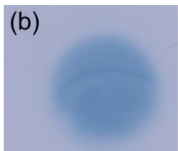




# ARRONAX preclinical irradiation line

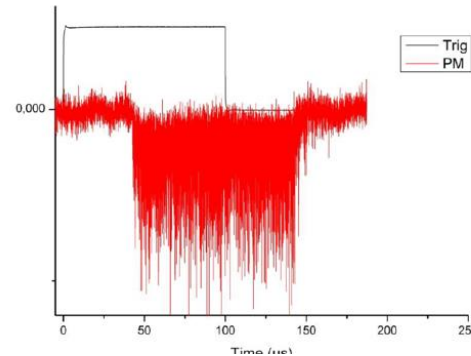
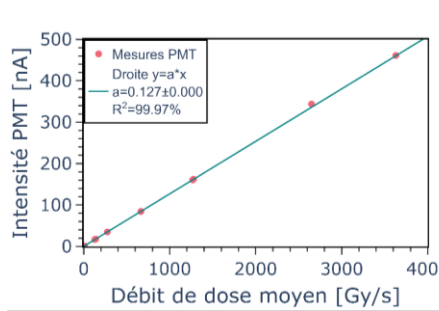


Débit de dose de référence (TRS398)  
Markus Advanced



Etude de la sensibilité des films au débit de dose (OC-1, EBT, EBTXD)

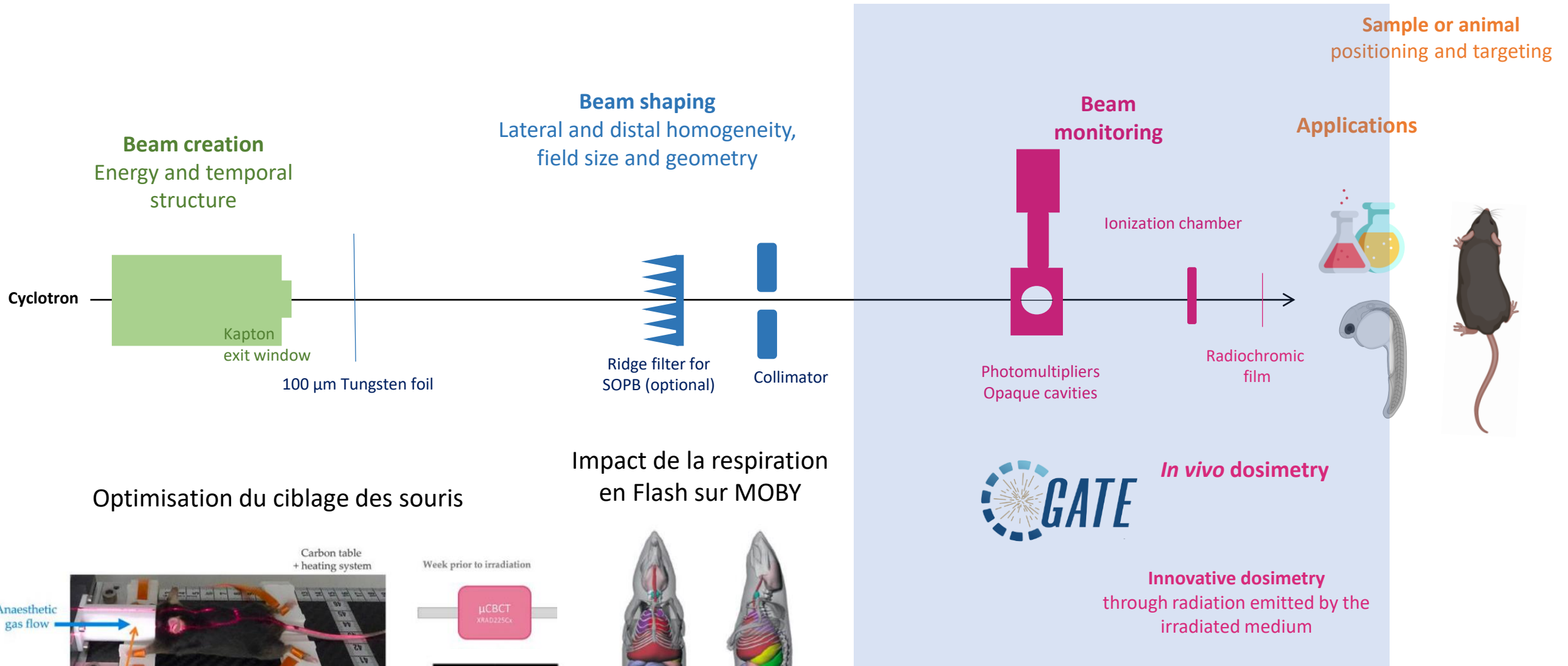
PM: Fluorescence du diazote de l'air



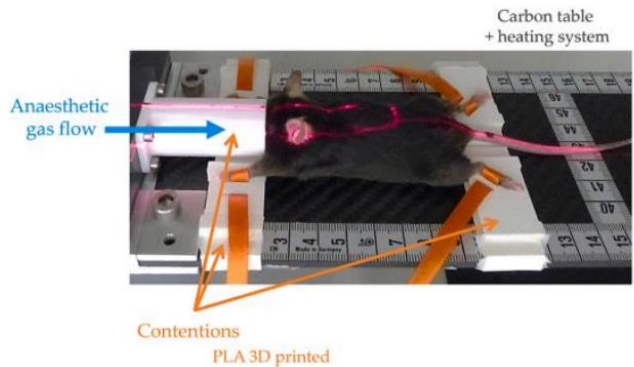
*In vivo* dosimetry

Innovative dosimetry through radiation emitted by the irradiated medium

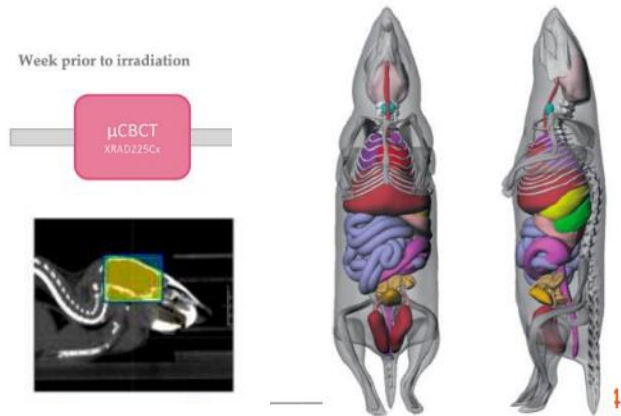
# ARRONAX preclinical irradiation line



## Optimisation du ciblage des souris



## Impact de la respiration en Flash sur MOBY



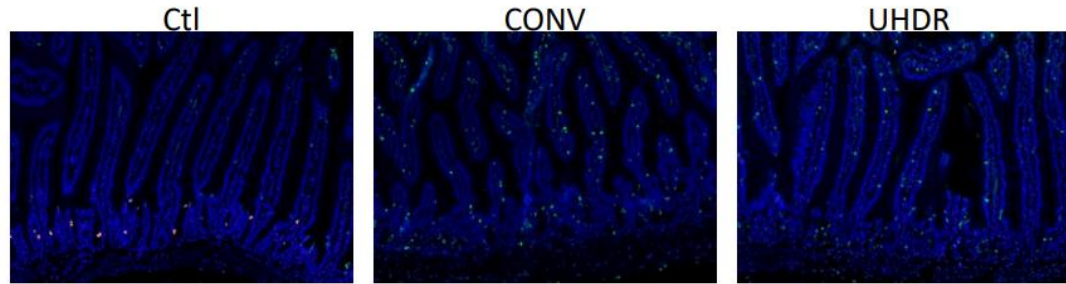
Evin et al. Phys. Med. 2024



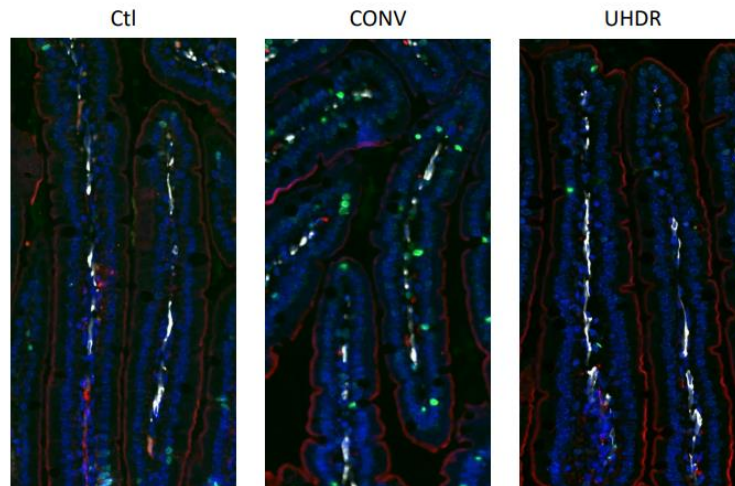
# UHDR-PT protects from apoptosis in mouse jejunum

Manip préliminaire (2s/c): premières souris à ARRONAX (nov. 2023)

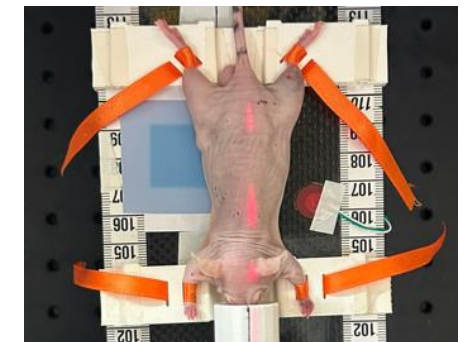
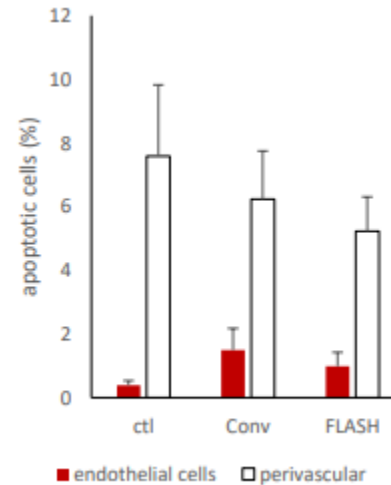
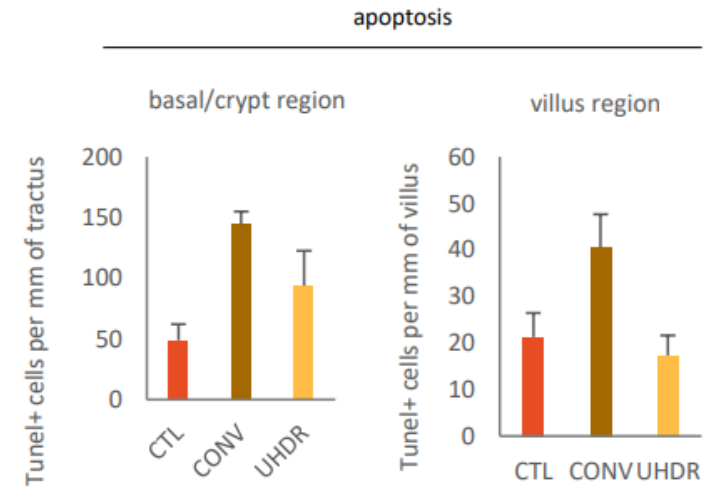
Intestin 15Gy  
Protons 68MeV  
(plateau)



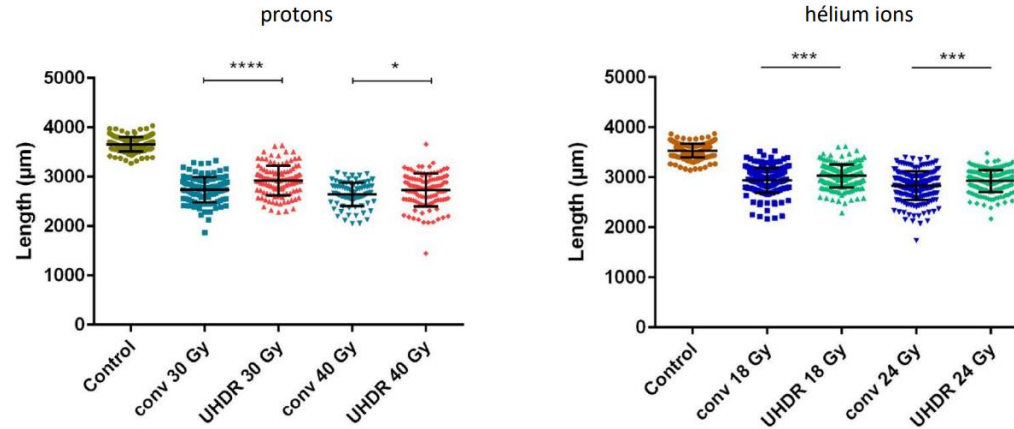
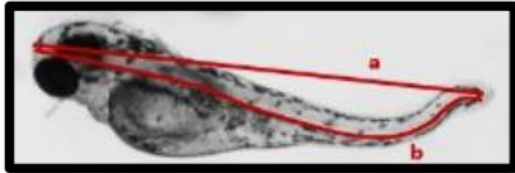
DAPI  
Tunel  
p-H3  
100 μm



DAPI  
Tunel  
CD31  
SMA  
100 μm



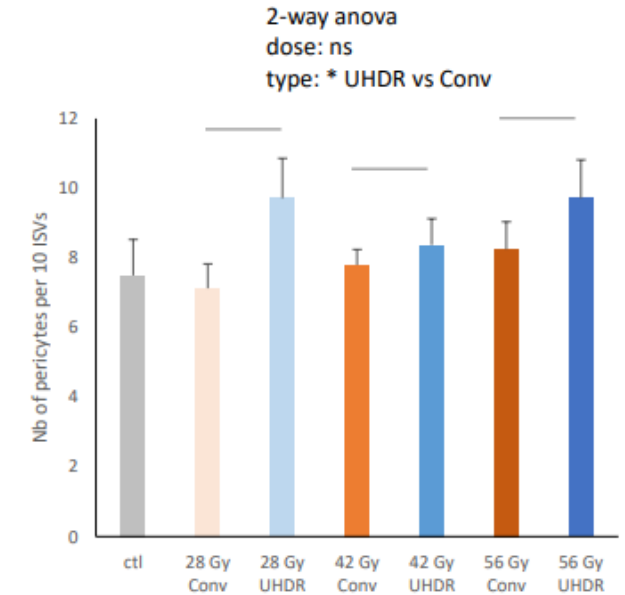
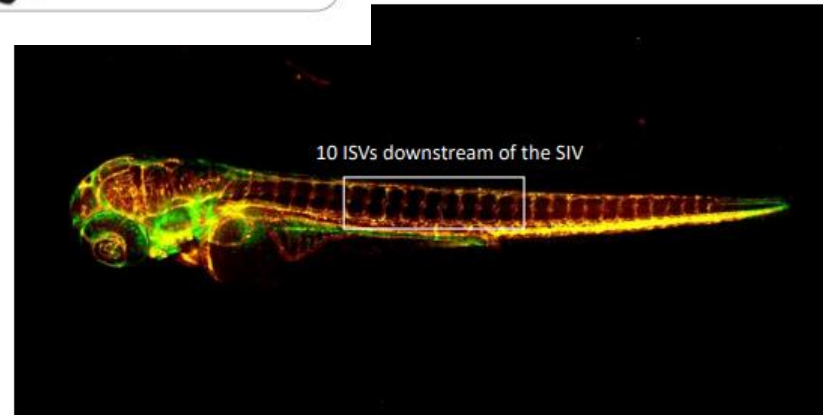
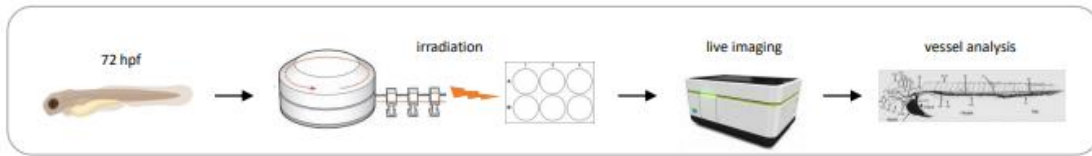
Nouvelle manip souris (10 s/c) (25 sept. 2024): impact du Flash sur le système vasculaire tumoral

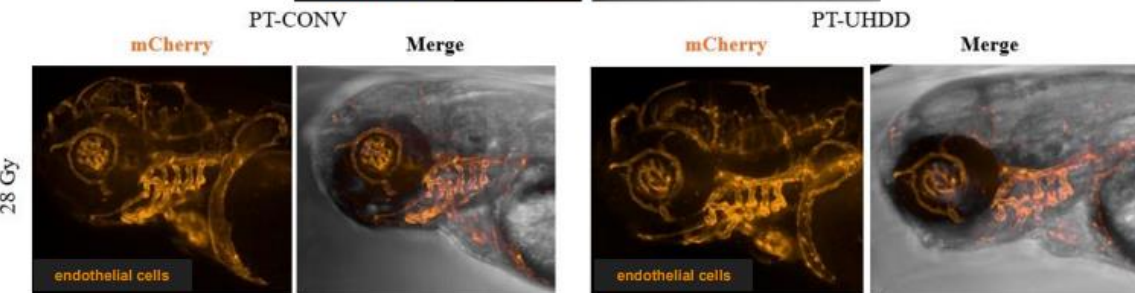
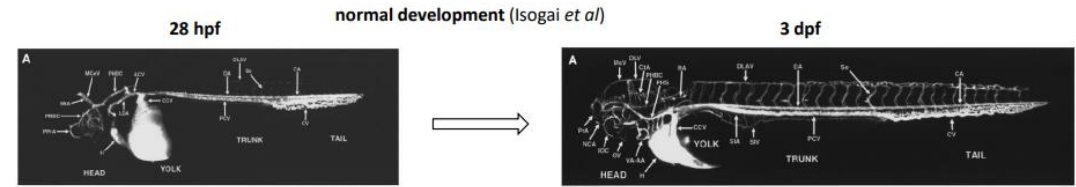
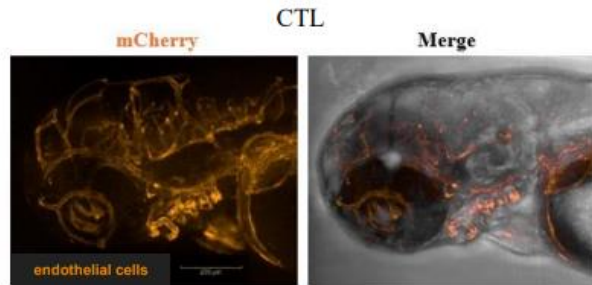
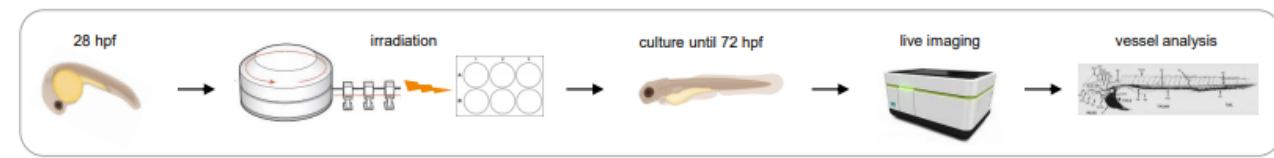
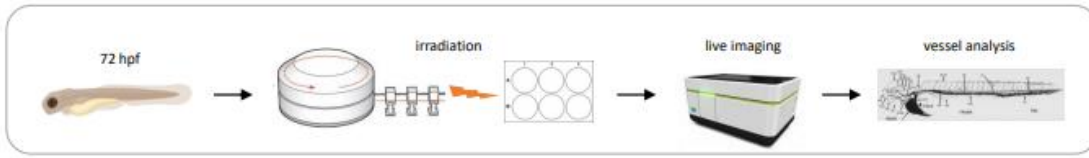


Saade et al. Adv Rad Onc 2022  
Ganham et al. Radiother Oncol 2023

Vozenin et al. Clin Oncol 2019, Montay-Gruel et al. PNAS 2019, Pawelke et al. Radiother Oncol 2021, Karsch et al. Radiother Oncol, 2022, Horst et al. Radiother Oncol 2024

## UHDR-PT effects 2-6h post IR

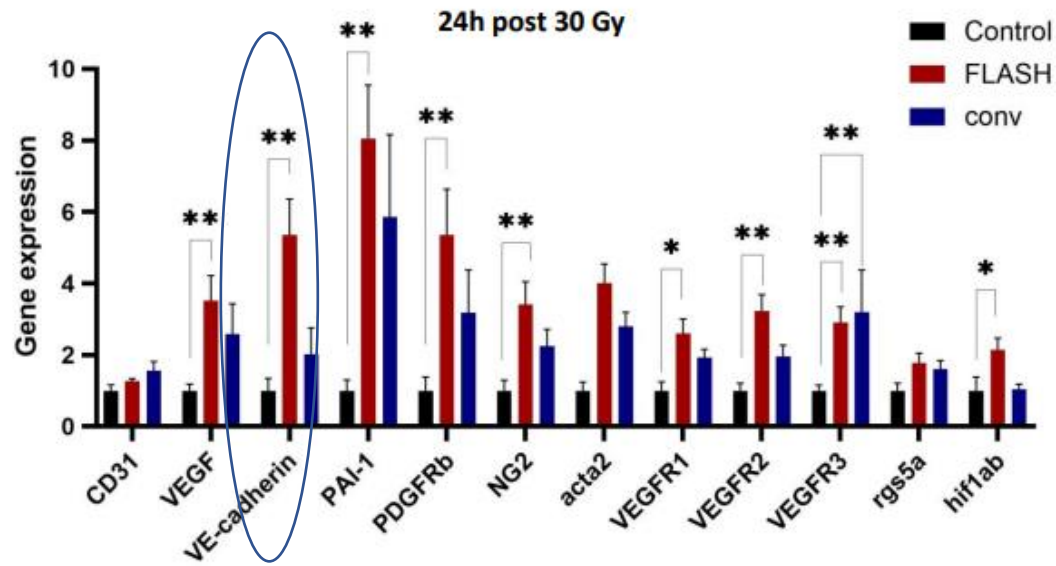
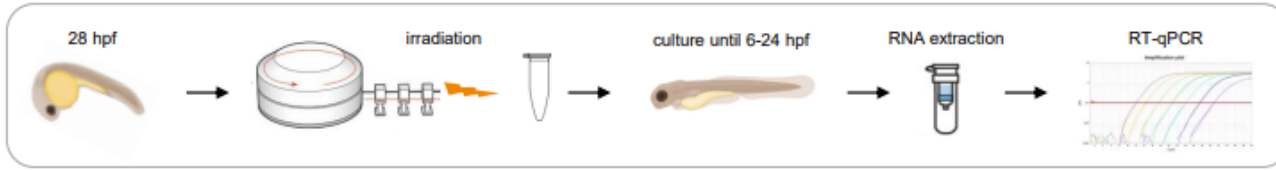




- Vaisseaux déjà formés = radorésistants
- Pas d'effet du débit

- Blocage de l'angiogenèse
- Pas d'effet du débit

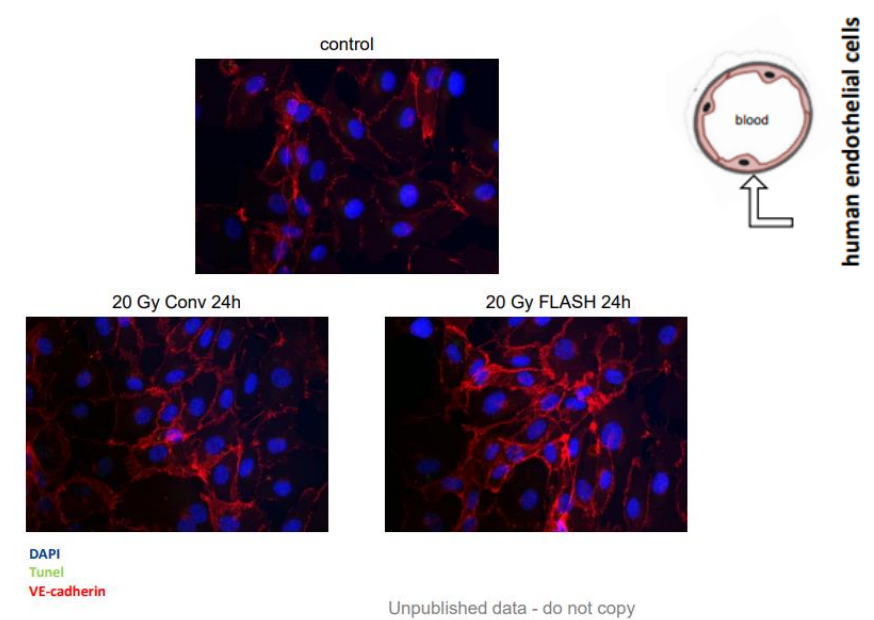
## UHDR-PT induces vascular gene expression in 28 hpf zebrafish



La VE- cadherin forme la jonction intercellulaire endothéliale

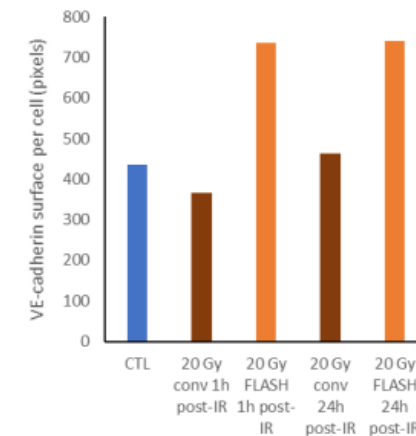
Unpublished data - do not copy

## Effects of UHDR-PT on VE-cadherin *in vitro*



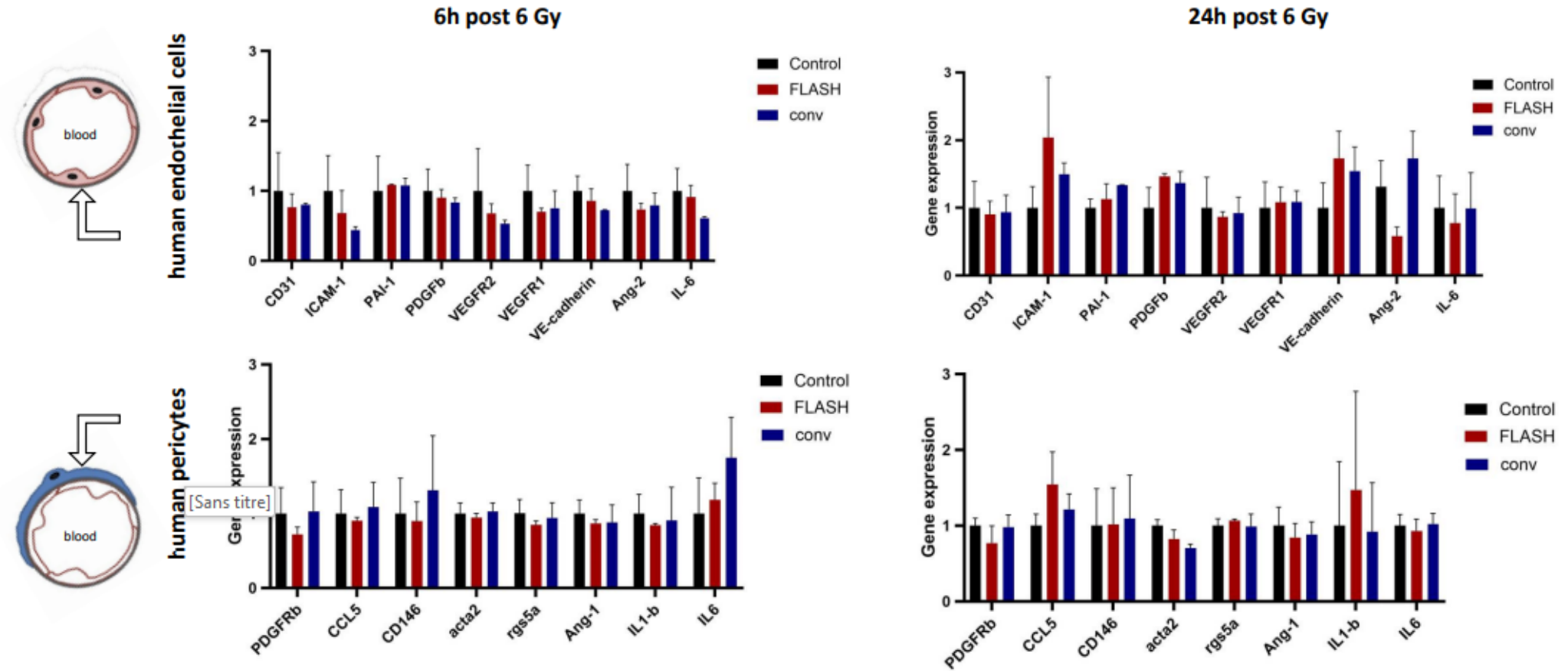
Unpublished data - do not copy

preliminary data (n=1)





# Effects of UHDR-PT on vascular genes are not recapitulated *in vitro*

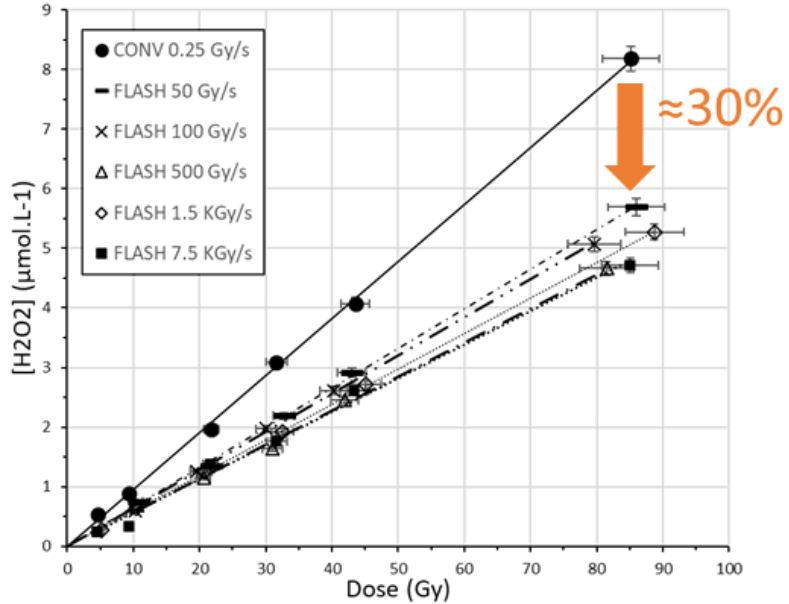


Unpublished data - do not copy

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➤ Cellules en normoxie. Rôle O2 ?

➤ Hypothèse des recombinaisons radicalaires différentes liées au débit de dose

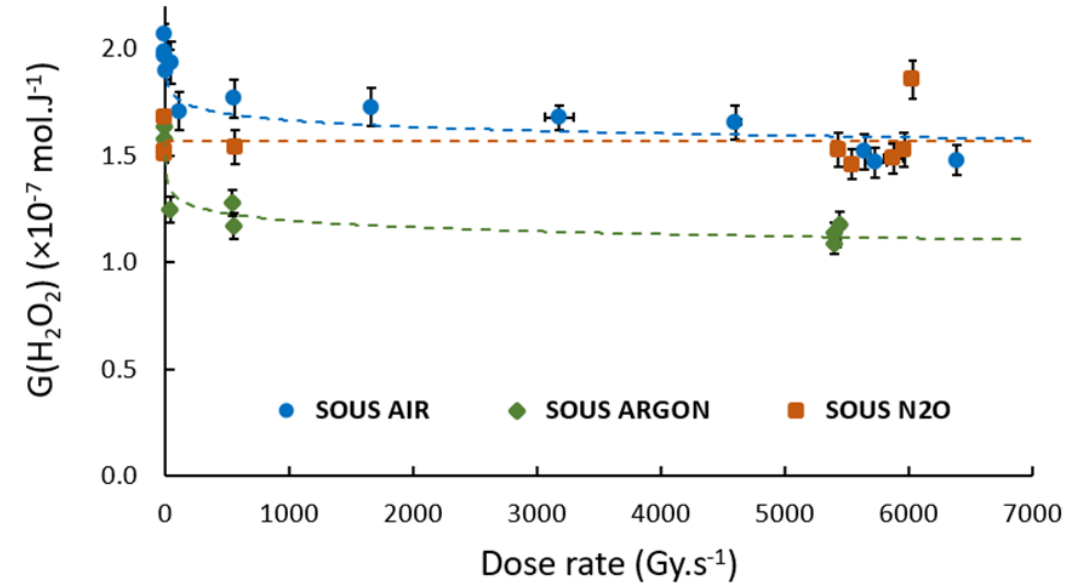


Blain G et al. Radiation Research, 2022

- Moins de H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> produit en UHDR Vs. CONV
- Confirmation de *Montay-Gruel et al. PNAS 2019* (électrons 500Gy/s)

N<sub>2</sub>O = piègeur de e<sup>-</sup><sub>aq</sub> + absence d'O<sub>2</sub>

→ Plus d'effet UHDR

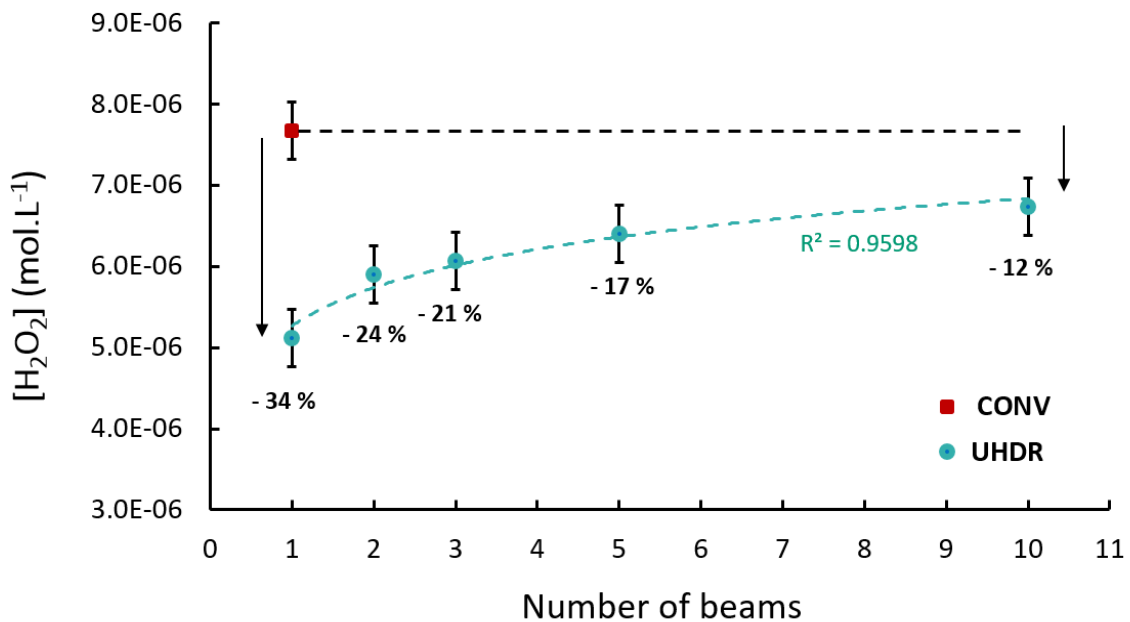




➤ Exploration de la structure temporelle des faisceaux

Etude multifaisceaux

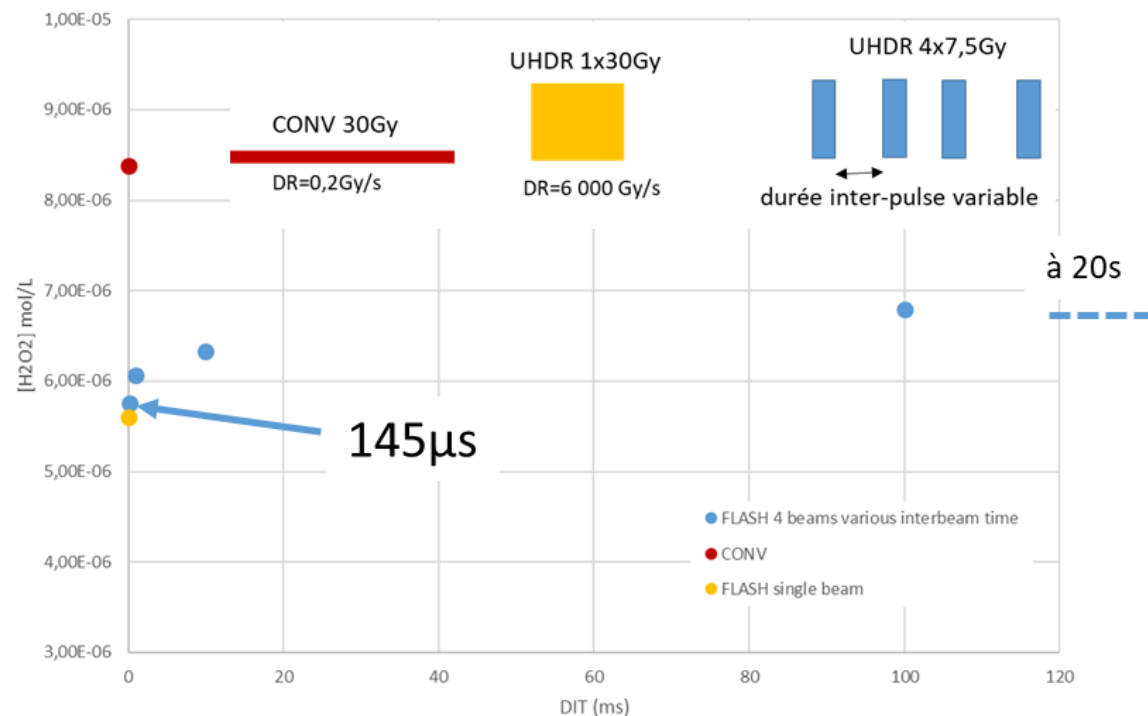
30Gy UHDR, 68MeV protons, 20s entre les faisceaux: 1x30Gy, 2x15Gy, 3x10Gy ... 10x3Gy



➤ impact du Flash → nombre de faisceaux / dose par faisceau

Evin M et al. ESTRO 2023

Variation de la durée inter-faisceaux

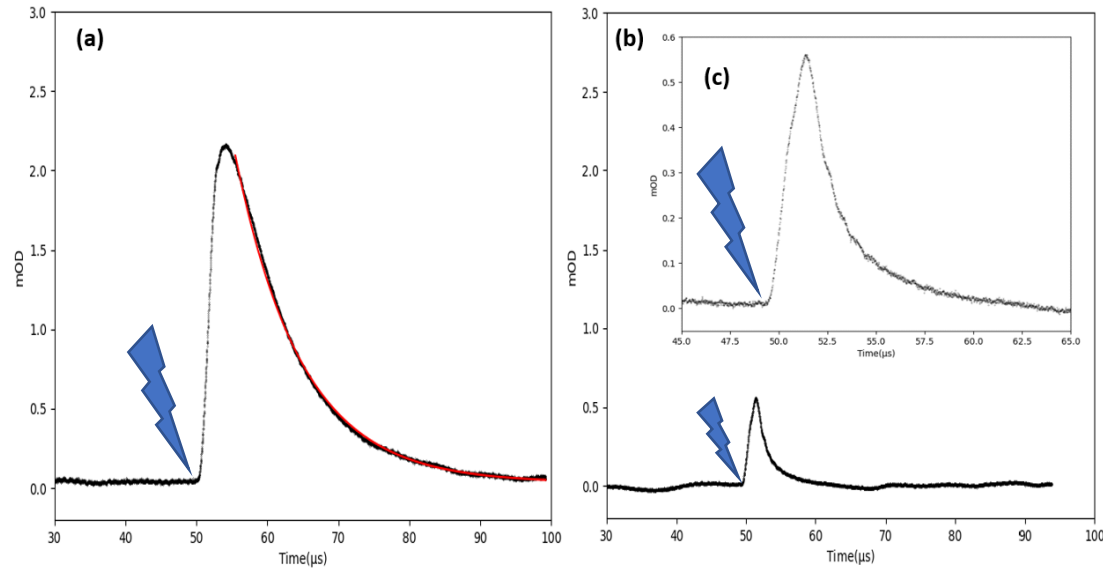


➤ Effet Flash retrouvé avec durée inter-faisceau faible

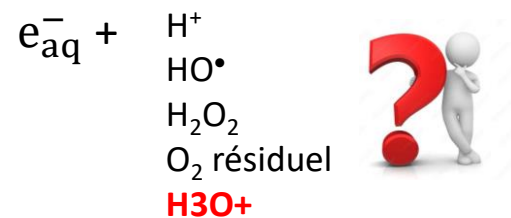
➤ Lien  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \leftrightarrow \text{e}^-_{\text{aq}} \leftrightarrow \text{O}_2$

Mesure de l'  $\text{e}^-_{\text{aq}}$  en direct sous le faisceau de protons → Thèse de Sarra Terfas (Subatech, G. Blain)

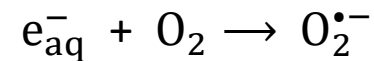
mOD : optical density  $\times 10^{-3}$



Sous argon :



Sous air :



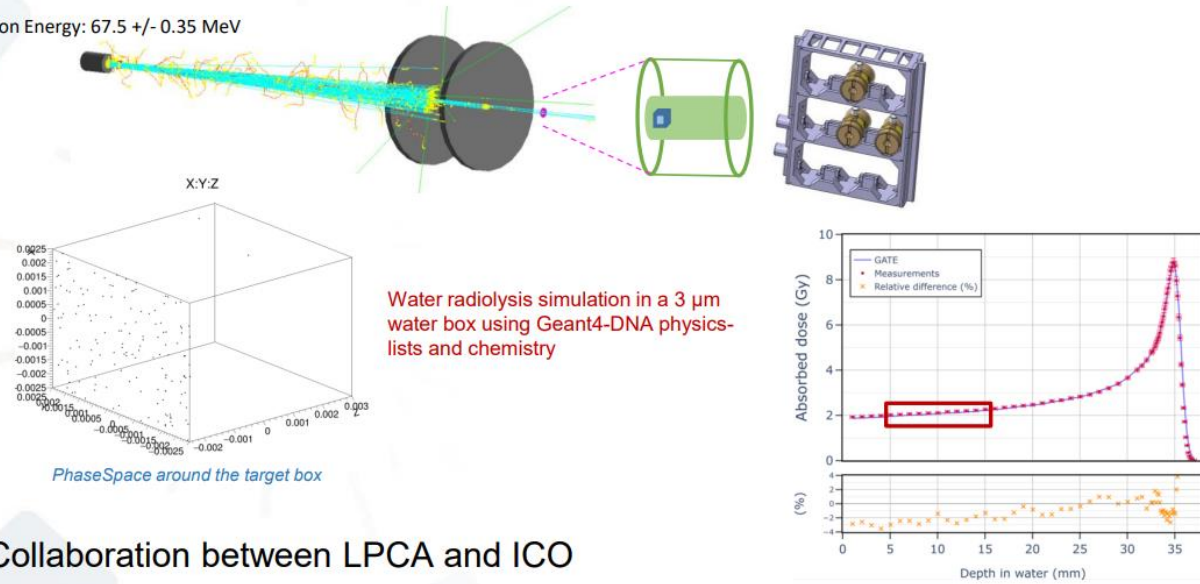
Et donc G et  $\frac{1}{2}$  vie  $\searrow$

Protons 67.4 MeV  
Débit = 240 kGy/s  
Durée du pulse = 2 μs  
Dose = 0,48Gy/pulse



ARRONAX beamline simulation using GATE 9 – from macro to micro scale

Proton Energy: 67.5 +/- 0.35 MeV



Collaboration between LPCA and ICO

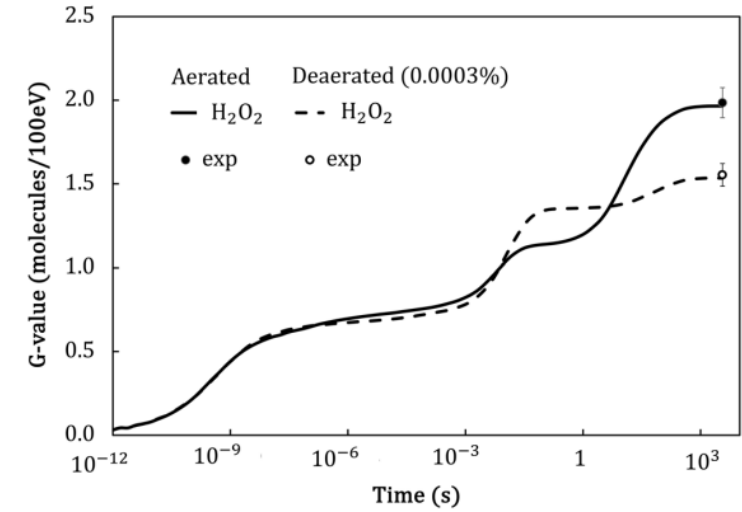
Lydia Maigne - FLASHMOD project - June 2024

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➤ Présentation de Daeun Kwon ce matin



Nouvelle approche pour la modélisation du débit dans Geant4-DNA



From Fois et al. Med. Phys. 2024

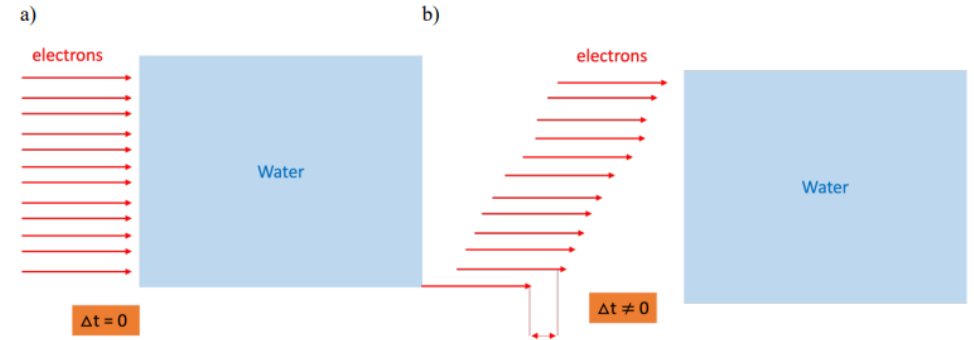


Figure 1: 1 MeV electron beam irradiation. Simulation volume: water cube (in blue). a): Infinite (= instantaneous) single-pulse irradiation: all incident electrons are shot simultaneously as a parallel beam onto the volume until the total absorbed dose is reached. b): « Time-structured » single-pulse irradiation. The sequence of irradiation can be changed by the user. At is the delay time between two successive electrons within a beam irradiation.

## Conclusion et perspectives

- Physique

Environnement permettant les études à tous les débits en protons et ions hélium  
Irradiations possibles dans le plateau, pic de Bragg, SOBP  
Maîtrise de la dose délivrée, du débit, de la durée des pulses, ...  
modélisation GATE de la ligne → dosimétrie dans les cibles complexes

- Biologie

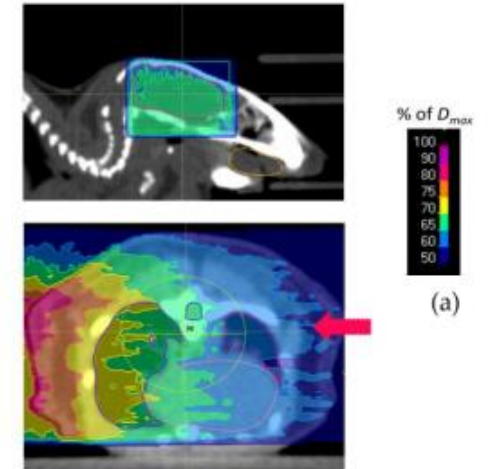
Effet Flash obtenu sur différents modèles *in vivo* (ZF, souris)  
Effet vasculaire du Flash: péricytes (ZF), jonction intercellulaire endothéliale (ZF et *in vitro*)  
Pas d'effet Flash sur les vaisseaux déjà formés et l'angiogénèse  
Pas d'effet Flash sur l'activation des gènes vasculaire *in vitro*

- Chimie

Baisse de  $H_2O_2$  dans l'eau en Flash  
rôle de l'  $e^-_{aq}$  démontré  
Impact de la dose par faisceau et de l'intervalle entre 2 faisceaux  
→ Confirmation de la théorie de la recombinaison radicalaire

- Modélisation

Comparaison modèle/expérimental en débit conventionnel pour différentes conditions (O<sub>2</sub>, pH)

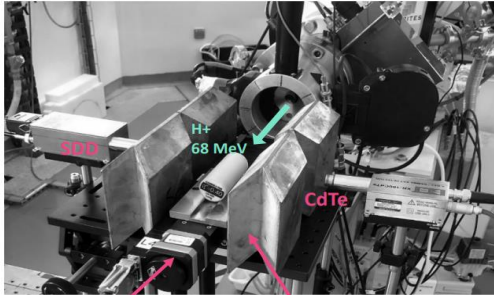


Simulation of a lateral proton beam on a mouse.  
From Evin et al. 2024

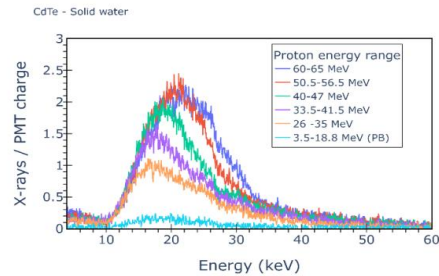
# Conclusion et perspectives

- Développements dosimétriques

Dosimétrie in vivo par mesure du spectre d'émission Bremsstrahlung

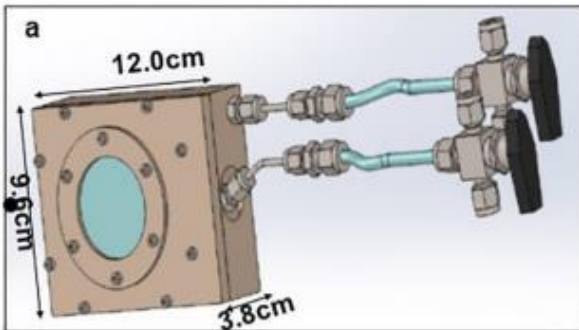


Axe motorisé      Blindage (Pb)



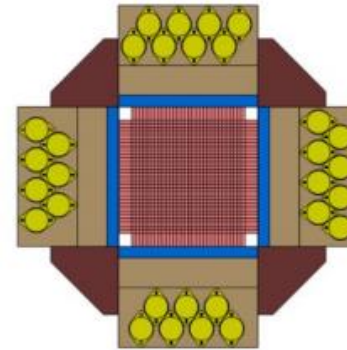
Evin et al. EXRS 2024

- Développement d'un dispositif hypoxique pour étude cellulaire

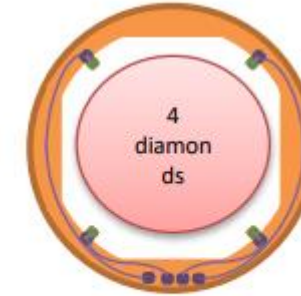


Chaudhary et al. Research Square 2021

## PMT-profiler



## Diamonni (Nicola André, Robin Molle)



Diamonds detectors at the exit window

## PEPITES (C. Thiebaut)



- Etude du Flash à différents TEL (*Tinganelli et al. FRPT 2023*)  
Collaboration avec le Ganil (Carbone) F. Chevalier  
Utilisation du faisceau Hélium sur cellules en hypoxie
- Etude du remodelage vasculaire tumoral en Flash chez la souris
- Mesure d'autres espèces radiochimiques ( $O_2^{\cdot-}$ , ...)
- Mesure indirecte de l' $e^-_{aq}$  (Collaboration avec Q. Raffy)
- Lien entre Chimie et Biologie  
milieu différent de l'eau (Collaboration avec J. Seco)  
H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> dans les cellules (Collaboration avec P. Vidi)  
Etude multifaisceau sur cellules en hypoxie
- Poursuite de la collaboration G4-DNA (L. Maigne et H. Tran)





- A Monte Carlo Determination of Dose and Range Uncertainties for Preclinical Studies with a Proton Beam. Bongrand *et al*, Cancers 2021
- Ultrahigh-Dose-Rate Proton Irradiation Elicits Reduced Toxicity in Zebrafish Embryos. Saade *et al*, Adv Rad Onc 2022
- Proton Irradiations at Ultra-High Dose Rate vs. Conventional Dose Rate: Strong Impact on Hydrogen Peroxide Yield. Blain G *et al*, Radiat Res 2022
- Technical note: Proton beam dosimetry at ultra-high dose rates (FLASH): Evaluation of GAFchromic™ (EBT3, EBT-XD) and OrthoChromic (OC-1) film performances. Villoing D *et al*, Med Phys 2022
- Methodology for small animals targeted irradiations at conventional and ultra-high dose rates 65 MeV proton beam. Evin M *et al*, Phys Med 2024
- Monte Carlo simulations of microdosimetry and radiolytic species production at long time post proton irradiation using GATE and Geant4-DNA. Fois *et al*, Med Phys 2024
- First evidence of in vivo effect of FLASH radiotherapy with helium ions in zebrafish embryos. Ghannam *et al*, radiotherapy and Oncology 2023
- Validation of the proton FLASH effect in a zebrafish model: a mechanistic study. Bogaerts *et al*, under review



# 63<sup>e</sup> journées scientifiques de physique médicale



04 → 06  
juin 2025

 **Nantes**  
CITÉ DES CONGRÈS

 **sfpm**  
SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE DE PHYSIQUE MÉDICALE

- Session recherche commune avec le GdR Mi2b
- Session dosimétristes
- Session « Ma thèse en 180 secondes »
- Session Poster-discussion
- Labélisation REEVE



 **sfpm**

## ❑ First « official » FLASH-RT paper in 2014



RESEARCH ARTICLE | RADIATION TOXICITY



## Ultrahigh dose-rate FLASH irradiation increases the differential response between normal and tumor tissue in mice

VINCENT FAVAUDON, LAURA CAPLIER, VIRGINIE MONCEAU, FRÉDÉRIC POUZOLET, MANO SAYARATH, CHARLES FOULLADE, MARIE-FRANCE POUPON, ISABEL BRITO,

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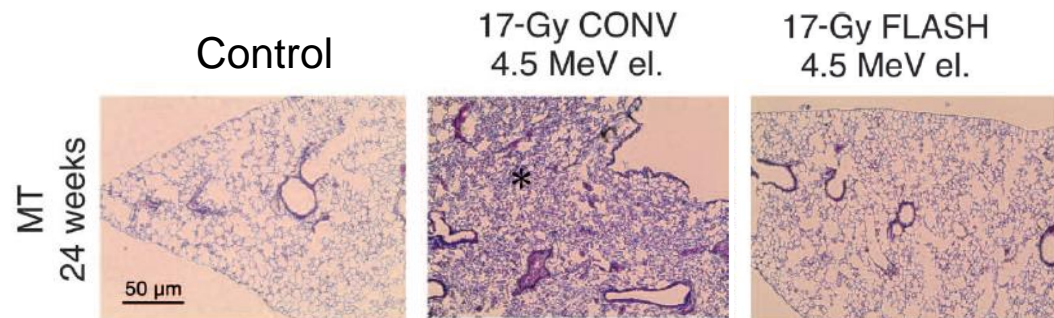
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## ❑ FLASH effect observed on mice

- ❑ Lung protection from radiation-induced fibrosis
- ❑ No loss of anti-tumor efficiency
- ❑ 4.5 MeV electrons



## ❑ First « official » FLASH-RT paper in 2014



RESEARCH ARTICLE | RADIATION TOXICITY



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FLASH EFFECT

Increase in  
therapeutic index