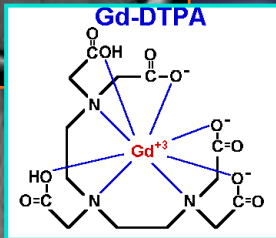


# Contrast Agents

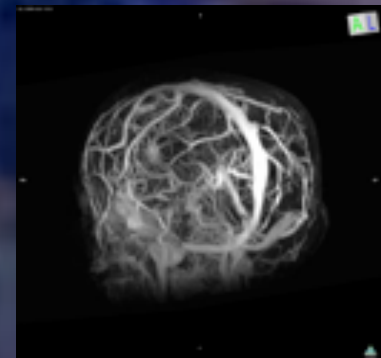
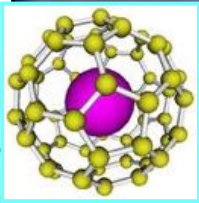
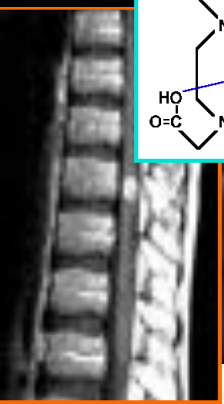
## Rad 226



**Mike Moseley, Ph.D.**

**Department of Radiology  
Stanford University**

**May, 2019**



# ***MR Contrast Review***



***Isn't Gadolinium the  
alpha-dog of MR contrast?***

# Or...Is Chaos Approaching?



***Mad Max - Warner Bros 2015***

# **Lets Look at MR Contrast...**

***Challenges in contrast agents***

***T1 agents***

***T2 agents***

***Gradients***

***Novel ideas***

***Mad Max - Warner Bros 2015***

# Approaching the storm



*Mad Max - Warner Bros 2015*

# Can Contrast Be a “Bad” Thing?

*Recent reports of Gd accumulation and “NSF”*

DOI:10.2214/AJR.06.1094

AJR 2007; 188:386-392

© American Roentgen Ray Society

## Original Research

### Gadodiamide-Associated Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis: Why Radiologists Should Be Concerned

Dale R. Broome<sup>1</sup>, Mark S. Girguis<sup>1</sup>, Pedro W. Baron<sup>2</sup>, Alfred C. Cottrell<sup>3</sup>, Ingrid Kjellin<sup>1</sup> and Gerald A. Kirk<sup>1</sup>

**Rare multisystemic fibrosing disorder, 12/575 pts.  
All patients had renal insufficiency.  
Developed NSF post-Gd (Omniscan) despite early dialysis...  
Conclusion: NSF “strongly associated” with Gd administration.**

*symmetric skin thickening  
and edema in medial thighs*



# Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis



**Gadolinium**

**Gadolinium  
Pharmaceutical  
Lawyer  
Per Inquiry  
TV and Radio  
Advertising**

**334-4500**



**Gadolinium Attorneys**

*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Natio*

*800-597-9585*



Have you been injured by the side effects of gadolinium?

Speak with an attorney 24/7  
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Advertising



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## **Gadolinium-Based Contrast Agents Also Linked to Life-Threatening Skin Thickening**

Among patients with severe kidney disease, the use of gadolinium-based contrast agents is linked to the development of Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis, or NSF. NSF was first identified in 1997 and while its cause is unknown, it's only been reported in those with kidney disease.

NSF causes skin thickening that can prevent bending and extending your joints. It can also develop in your diaphragm, thigh muscles, lung vessels, and lower abdomen. Along with causing decreased mobility of joints, NSF can be fatal.

Because of this connection, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requested that the manufacturers of all five gadolinium-based contrast agents (Magnevist, MultiHance, Omniscan, OptiMARK, and ProHance) add a boxed warning and a new Warnings section to their labels to describe the risk of developing NSF.<sup>3</sup>



# Gadolinium: The MRI Agent Linked to Brain Abnormalities

January 09, 2014 | 34,920 views



## Gadolinium-Based Contrast Agents Linked to Brain Hypersensitivity

It revealed areas of high intensity, or hyperintensity, in two brain regions (the dentate nucleus (DN) and globus pallidus (GP)), which correlated with the number of gadolinium-based enhanced MRIs.

It's unknown at this time what the hyperintensity may mean, however hyperintensity in the DN is associated with multiple sclerosis. It's now being suggested that this hyperintensity may be the result of the large number of enhanced MRI scans often received by multiple sclerosis patients. Hyperintensity of the GP, meanwhile, is linked with liver dysfunction. The study's lead author noted:<sup>2</sup>

Tomonori Kanda M.D., Ph.D., Kazunari Ishii, M.D., Ph.D., Hiroki Kawaguchi, M.D., Kazuhiro Kitajima, M.D., Ph.D., and Daisuke Takenaka, M.D., Ph.D. **High Signal Intensity in the Dentate Nucleus and Globus Pallidus on Unenhanced T1-weighted MR Images: Relationship with Increasing Cumulative Dose of a Gadolinium-based Contrast Material.** *Radiology*, December 2013

# *Marching on the Castle Gad?*

**RSNA**<sup>®</sup>  
Radiological Society  
of North America

820 Jorie Blvd  
Oak Brook, IL 60523  
TEL 1-630-571-2670  
FAX 1-630-571-7837  
RSNA.org

**NEWS**

## **RSNA Press Release**

### **Contrast Agent Linked with Brain Abnormalities on MRI**

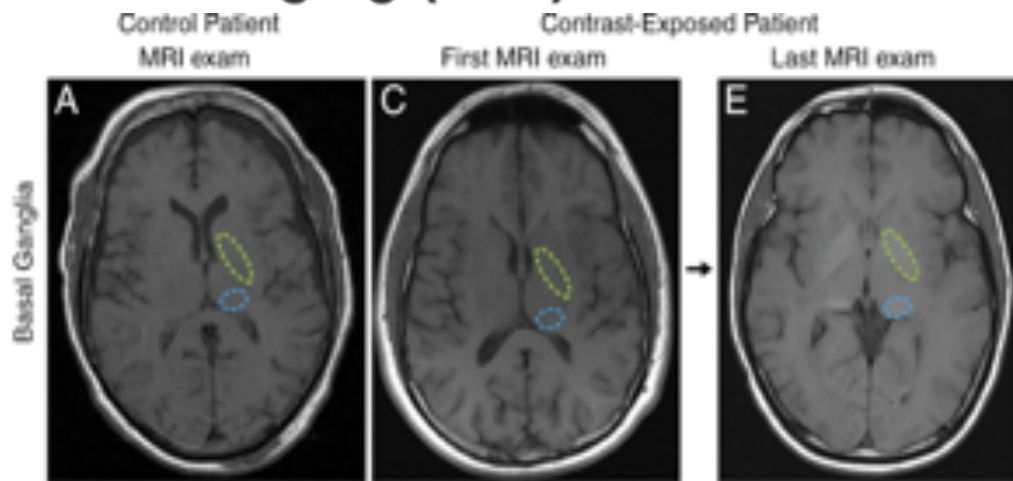
Released: December 17, 2013





U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Protecting and Promoting *Your* Health

## FDA Drug Safety Communication: FDA evaluating the risk of brain deposits with repeated use of gadolinium-based contrast agents for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)



About one-third of the 20 million MRIs in the United States each year use one of nine gadolinium-based contrast agents.

# Gadolinium-based Contrast Agent Accumulates in the Brain Even in Subjects without Severe Renal Dysfunction: Evaluation of Autopsy Brain Specimens with Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectroscopy

Radiology July 2015  
Volume 276, Issue 1

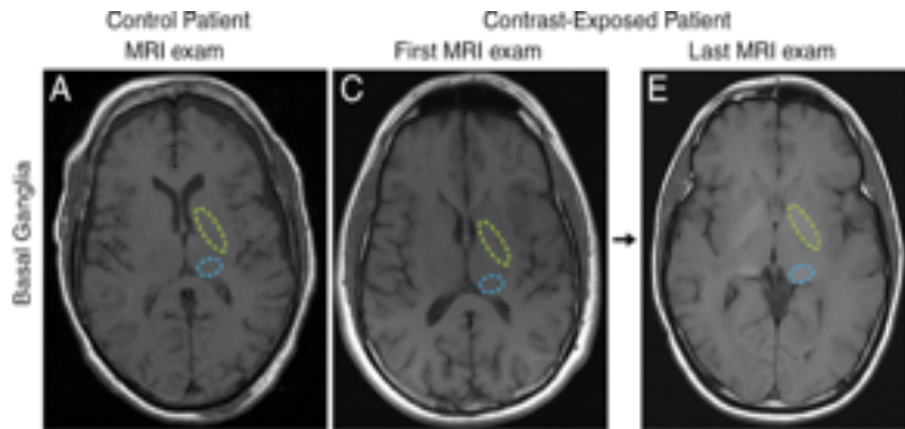
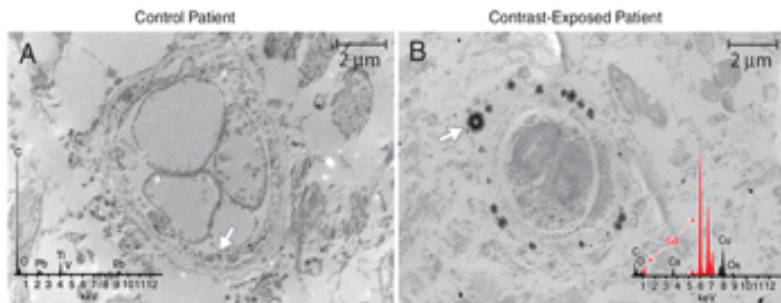
Tomonori Kanda, MD, PhD Toshio Fukusato, MD, PhD Megumi Matsuda, MD Keiko Toyoda, MD, PhD Hiroshi Oba, MD, PhD  
Jun'ichi Kotoku, PhD Takahiro Haruyama, MD, PhD Kazuhiro Kitajima, MD, PhD Shigeru Furui, MD, PhD

## Intracranial Gadolinium Deposition after Contrast-enhanced MR Imaging

Radiology June 2015  
Volume 275, Issue 3

Robert J. McDonald, MD, PhD Jennifer S. McDonald, PhD David F. Kallmes, MD Mark E. Jentoft, MD David L. Murray, MD, PhD  
Kent R. Thielen, MD Eric E. Williamson, MD Laurence J. Eckel, MD

From the Departments of Radiology (R.J.M., J.S.M., D.F.K., K.R.T., E.E.W., L.J.E.), Neurosurgery (D.F.K.), and Laboratory Medicine and Pathology (M.E.J., D.L.M.), College of Medicine, Mayo Clinic, 200 First St SW, Rochester, MN 55905.



## Increases in Anthropogenic Gadolinium Anomalies and Rare Earth Element Concentrations in San Francisco Bay over a 20 Year Record

Vanessa Hatje,<sup>1,†</sup> Kenneth W. Bruland,<sup>1</sup> and A. Russell Flegal<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Ocean Sciences and <sup>2</sup>WTGS, Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California Santa Cruz, California 95064, United States

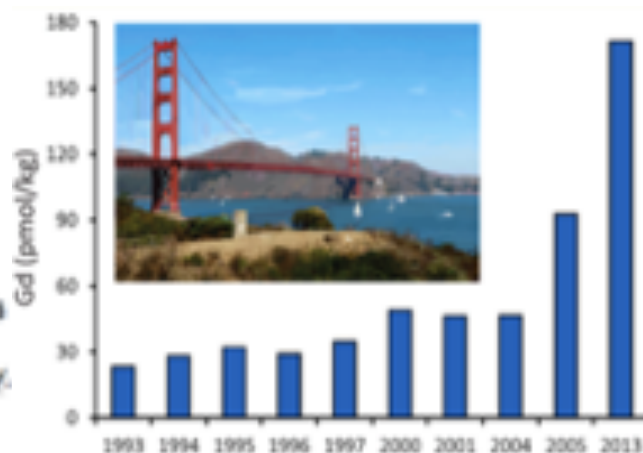


### MRI use causes gadolinium levels to rise in SF Bay

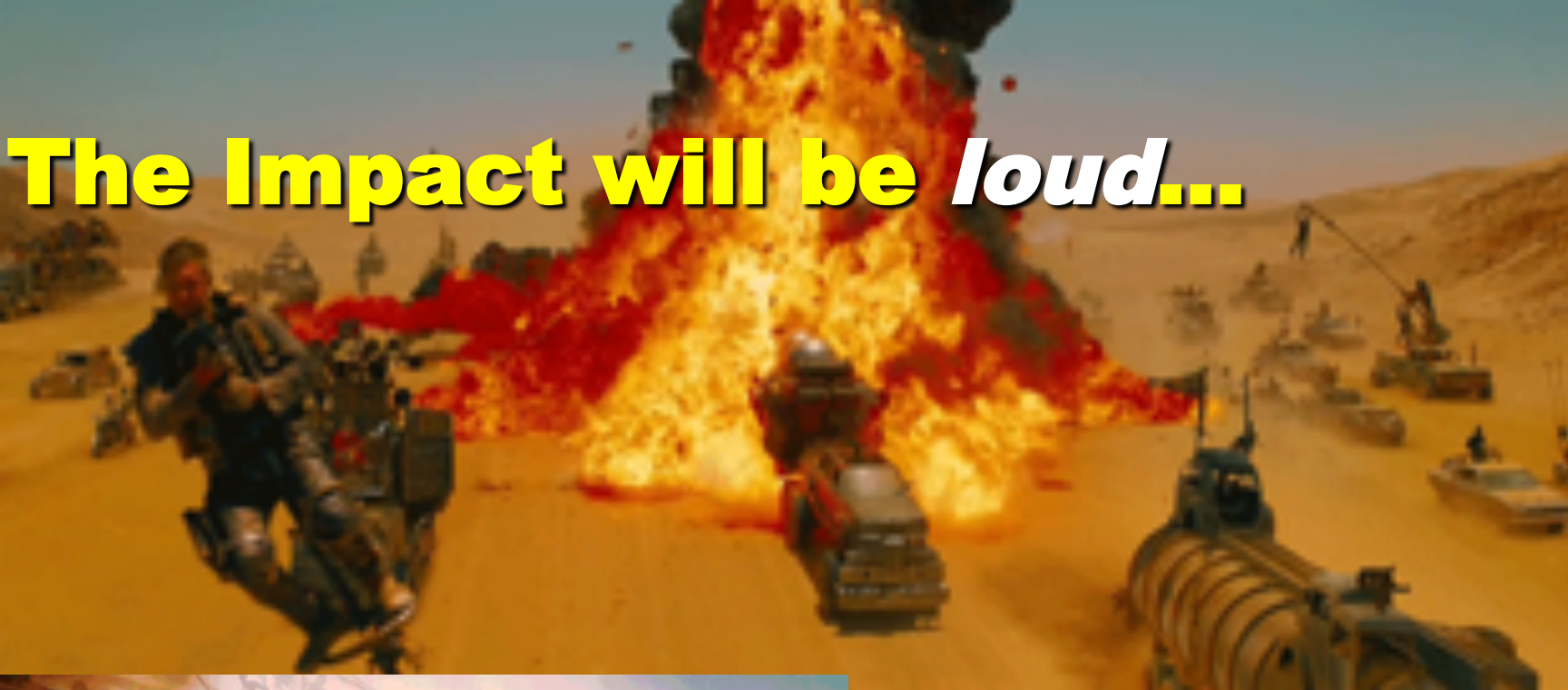
By Brian Casey, AuntMinnie.com staff writer

January 26, 2016 – A new study has found that levels of gadolinium have been rising steadily in the waters of San Francisco Bay over the past two decades. The study attributes the rising levels to growing use of gadolinium for scientific and medical applications, in particular as a contrast agent for MRI scanning.

Levels of gadolinium in San Francisco Bay have risen sevenfold in the two decades since 1993, not long after the first MRI contrast agent was approved in the U.S., according to an article published January 7 in *Environmental Science & Technology*. What's more, gadolinium levels are much higher in the southern part of the bay, which is home to a number of scientific and medical institutions, than in the central and northern parts.

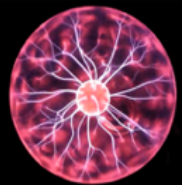
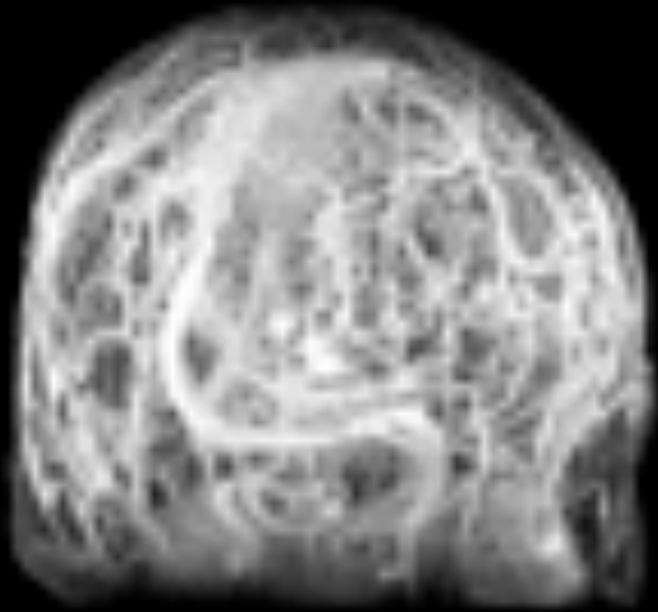


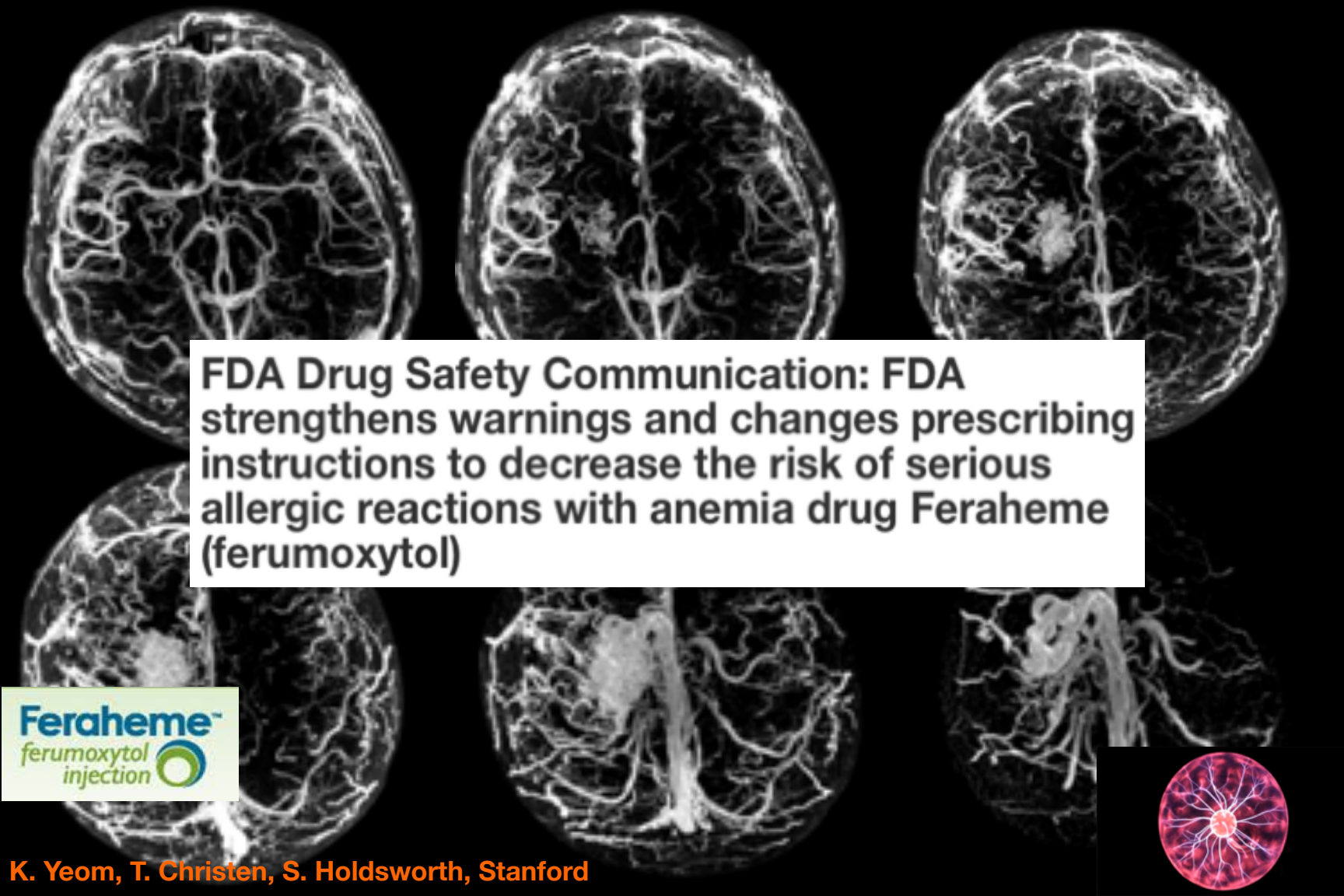
**The Impact will be *loud*...**



***Mad Max* - Warner Bros 2015**

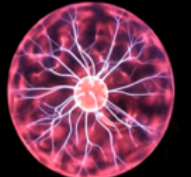
# Ferumoxytol: *Gad-killer or just kille*





**FDA Drug Safety Communication: FDA strengthens warnings and changes prescribing instructions to decrease the risk of serious allergic reactions with anemia drug Feraheme (ferumoxytol)**

**Feraheme™**  
ferumoxytol  
injection 





# ***How Did It All Start?***

***Mad Max - Warner Bros 2015***

# ***Who Are the Front Runners?***



***Mad Max - Warner Bros 2015***

# Why Alter MR Tissue Contrast?

1. Proton Relaxation
- 1.5 Proton Density
1. Proton Exchange
2. Proton Frequency
3. Polarization
4. Chemical Shift metabolism
5. Magnetization transfer
6. Other nuclei, F19, C13, O17
7. Other nuclei exchange O17
8. Proton Diffusion
9. Magnetic Susceptibility
10. Tissue conductivity



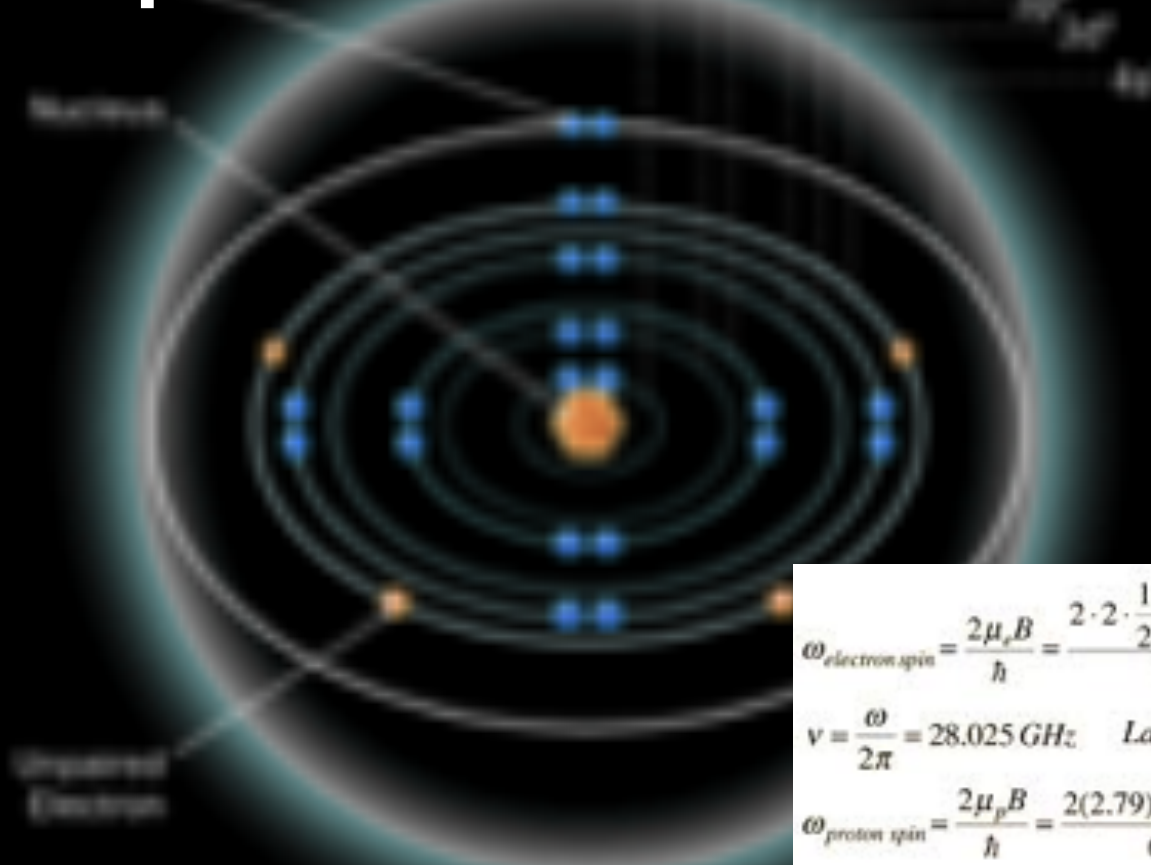
# Why Alter MR Tissue Contrast?

1. Nuclei (proton) density - PD
  2. Spin lattice Relaxation – T1
  3. Susceptibility – T2, T2\*
- Are amenable for pharmacologic perturbation...*

$$SI = PD [ 1 - e^{-TR/T1} ] e^{-TE/T2}$$



# Unpaired Electrons in MR



$$\omega_{electron\ spin} = \frac{2\mu_e B}{\hbar} = \frac{2 \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} (5.79 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV/T})(1\text{T})}{6.58 \times 10^{-16} \text{ eV} \cdot \text{s}} = 1.7608 \times 10^{11} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

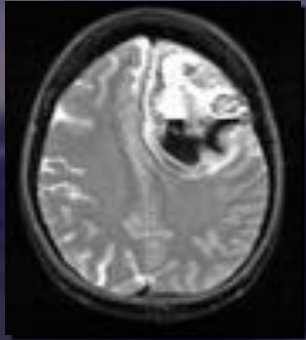
$$\nu = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} = 28.025 \text{ GHz} \quad \text{Larmor frequency}$$

$$\omega_{proton\ spin} = \frac{2\mu_p B}{\hbar} = \frac{2(2.79)(3.15 \times 10^{-8} \text{ eV/T})(1\text{T})}{6.58 \times 10^{-16} \text{ eV} \cdot \text{s}} = 2.6753 \times 10^8 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\nu = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} = 42.5781 \text{ MHz} \quad \text{Larmor frequency}$$

Basic Arrangement of Electrons in Iron (Fe)

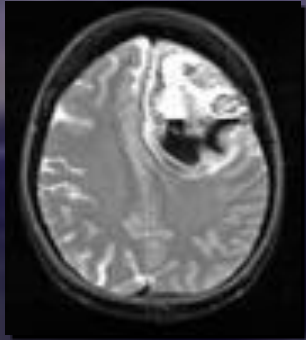
# Unpaired Electrons in MR



$$SI = N(H) [ 1 - e^{-TR/T1} ] e^{-TE/T2}$$

1. T1-shortening on T1w images\*.  
paramagnetic agents (Gd-DTPA).  
coated supermagnetic irons (iron particles).
2. T2 (or T2\*) shortening on T2\*w images.  
para-/superparamagnetic agents (iron particles).  
paramagnetic agents (Gd- or Dy-DTPA)

# Unpaired Electrons in MR\*



$$SI = N(H) [ 1 - e^{-TR/T1} ] e^{-TE/T2}$$

1. T1-shortening agents on T1w images.

Paramagnetic agents (Gd is best).

coated supermagnetic irons (iron particles).

2. Chemical-shifting on T2 or CEST images.

Chemical shift (Pr, Eu, Tb, Dy, Tm, Yb).

# Why Alter MR Tissue Contrast?

1. Nuclei (proton) density - PD
2. Spin lattice Relaxation – T1
3. Susceptibility – T2, T2\*

$$SI = PD [ 1 - e^{-TR/T1} ] e^{-TE/T2}$$





# Why Alter MR Tissue Contrast?

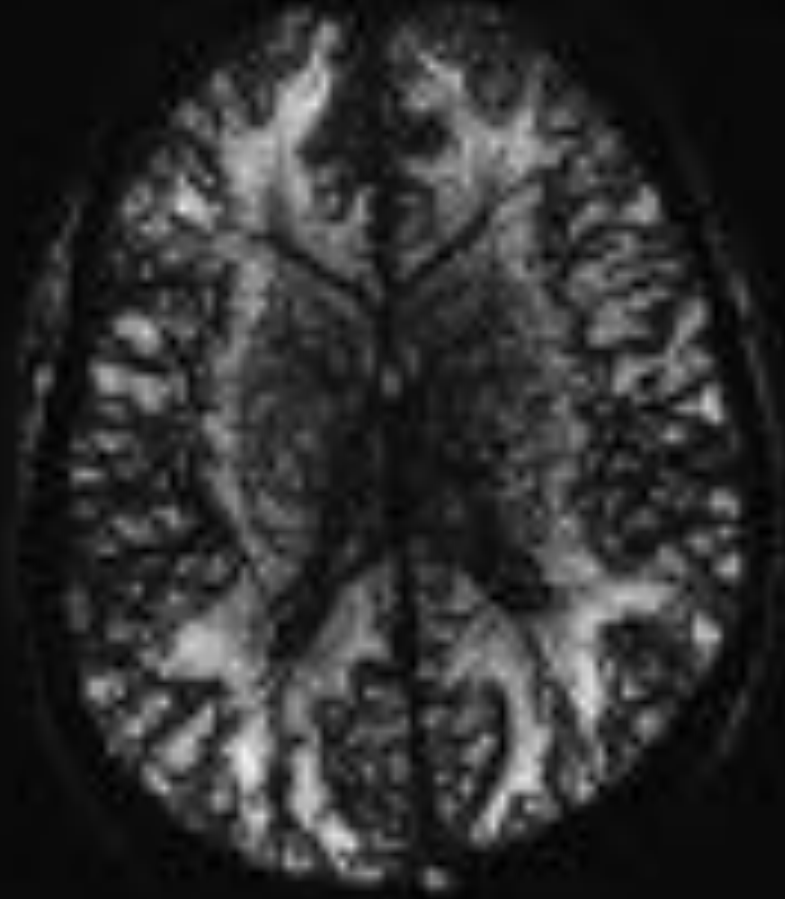
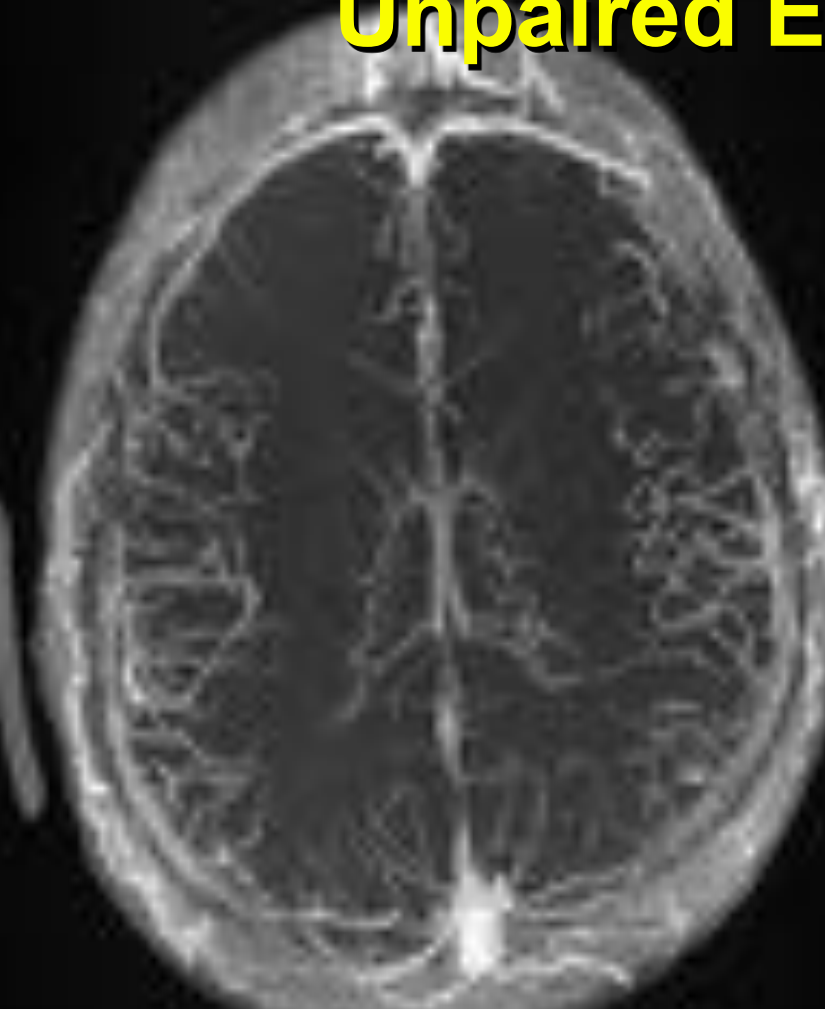
1. Nuclei (proton) density - PD
2. Spin lattice Relaxation – T1
3. Susceptibility – T2, T2\*

*Are amenable for pharmacologic perturbation...*

$$SI = PD [ 1 - e^{-TR/T1} ] e^{-TE/T2}$$



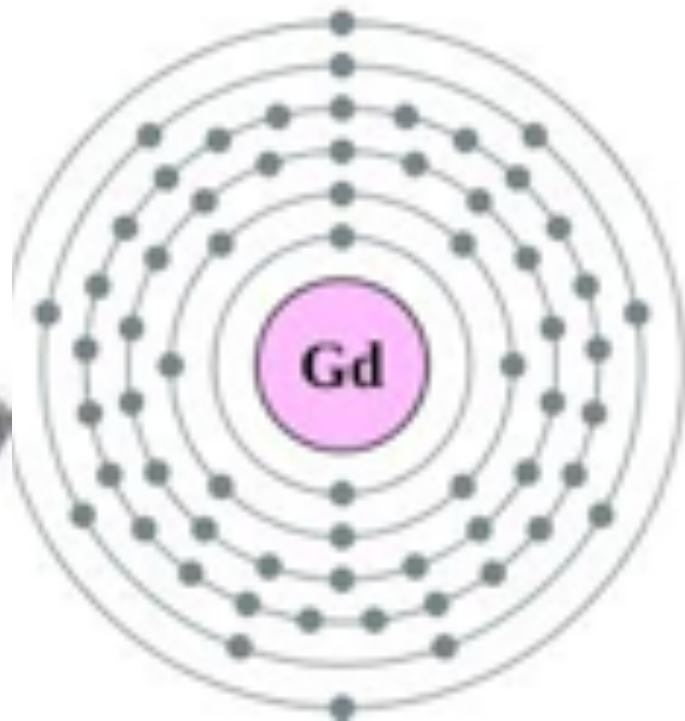
# Unpaired Electrons in MR



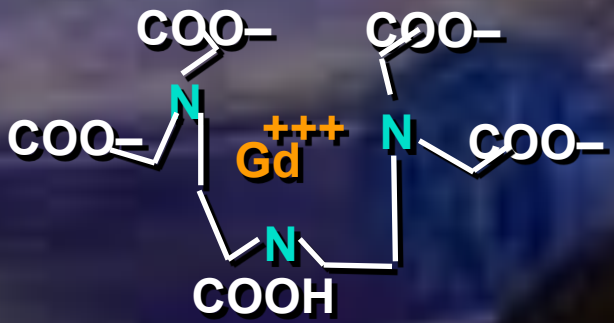
# Why Gadolinium?

64: Gadolinium

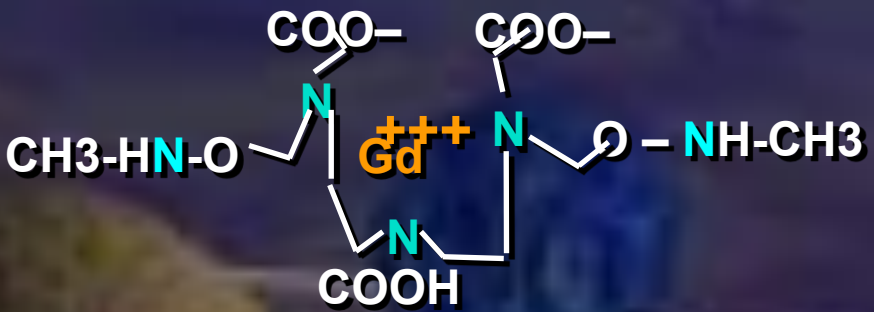
2,8,18,25,9,2



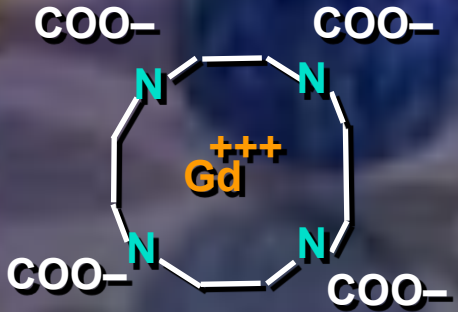
**Gd-DTPA: Berlex – Magnevist™**



**Gd-DTPA-BMA: “Omniscan™”  
Nycomed-Amersham-GEHealthcare**



**Gd-DOTA: Geurbet –  
DOTAREM™**



# Gadolinium an MR Agent - *Why chelate a good thing?*

Gd-DTPA formation constant =  $10^{23}$

Half-life in urine = 21.0 min after intravenous injection  
in blood = 19.6 min.

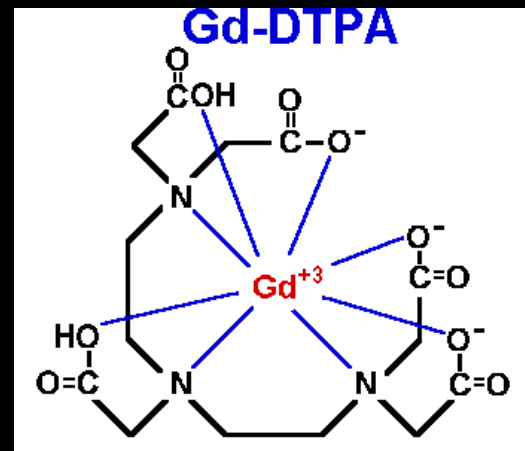
Compound	LD <sub>50</sub> with intravenous dose in rats (mmol/kg body weight)
----------	---

Gd-DTPA	10
---------	----

Gd-EDTA	0.3
---------	-----

Gd-C3	0.4
-------	-----

Meglucamine diatrizoate (common X-ray contrast agent)	18
--	----



Gd-DTPA: Berlex –  
Magnevist™

The chelate binds the metal tightly...  
Excreted renally (>99.9%).  
Occupies space and coordination sites...  
A necessary evil.



# Contrast Agents

## Topics:

**Contrast agent families**  
**T1 and T2 effects**  
**In vivo physiology**  
**Imaging with contrast agents**

## Reading References:

**On-line resource: [www.emrf.org](http://www.emrf.org) and stuff therein...**

**On-line resource: Greg Brown, <http://www.users.on.net/vision>**

**Bloembergen, Purcell, and Pound, “Relaxation Effects in NMR Absorption”, *Phys. Rev.* 73:679-712, 1948.**

# Unpaired e<sup>-</sup> and "T1 Relaxivity"

Unpaired electron clouds fluctuate around metal.  
e<sup>-</sup> create fluctuation in local B<sub>0</sub> - *interactions with protons.*  
Fluctuating B<sub>0</sub> fields – *Acts as magnetization sink.*  
Randomizes magnetization.  
Result looks like T1 relaxation –  
*Fast relaxation = Shortened T1.*

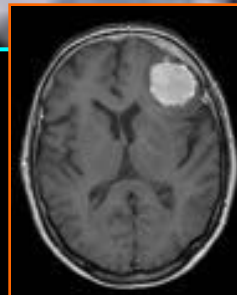


*Apparent shortening of T1-*  
at a given B<sub>0</sub> and temperature...

$$1/T1_{\text{(observed)}} = 1/T1_{\text{(intrinsic)}} + r1 [\text{Conc}]$$

$$( 200 \text{ msec} = 1000 \text{ msec} + 3.8 * [0.1 \text{ mmol/kg}] )$$

\*mmol<sup>-1</sup> L sec<sup>-1</sup>



# Unpaired e<sup>-</sup> and "T1 Relaxivity"

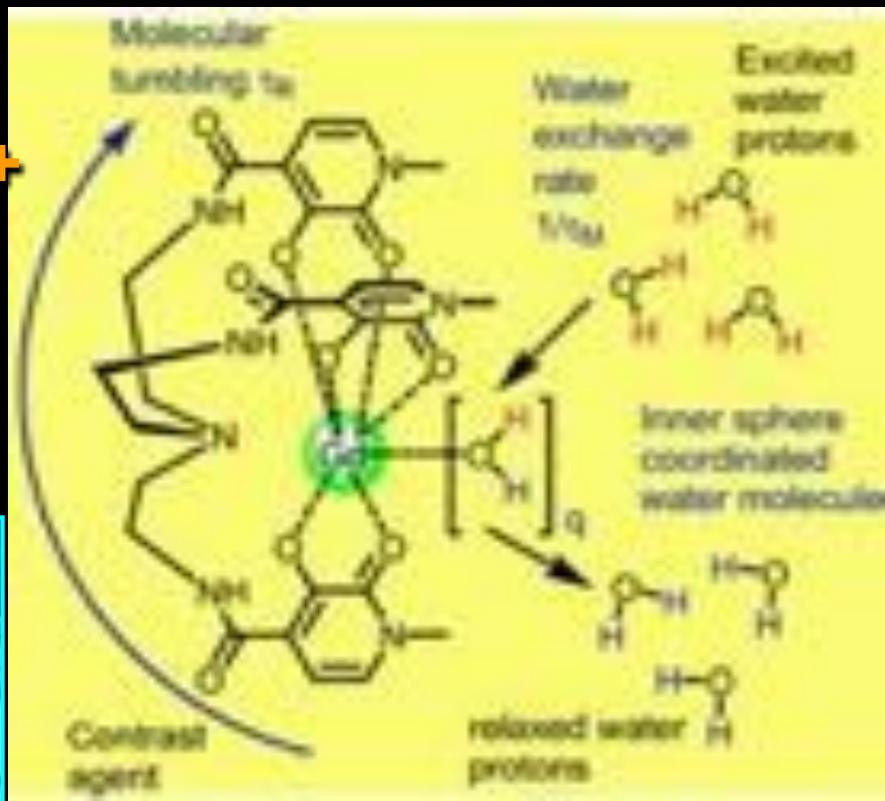
Proton spins near metal sees fluctuating B<sub>0</sub> caused by the electron spins near proton frequency. **637,000 x more effective!**  
Any proton magnetization is damped by the oscillations of the electron spins. **Result is "relaxed" protons.**

$1/T1$  (metal-proton)  $\sim$

$1/\tau_S$  (correlation time of electrons) +

$1/\tau_m$  (time protons are near) +

$1/\tau_r$  (Rotational motion of complex)





# Magnetic Susceptibility

*MR relaxation enhancement ("relaxivity") is a question of unpaired electrons...*

**Diamagnetic agents**

*no unpaired e-  
no effect on T1, T2. PD only*

0  
10

T1 - T2\* - Oils, PFOB

**Paramagnetic agents**

*unpaired e-  
noninteracting domains*

-1  
10

T1↓↓ T2↓ Gd<sup>+3</sup>, Fe<sup>+3</sup>

**Superparamagnetic**

*unpaired e- pools  
noninteracting domains*

+2  
10

T1↓ T2\*↓↓ Fe particle

**Ferromagnetic**

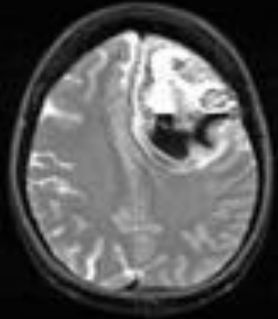
*unpaired e- oceans  
strongly interacting domains  
(>0.035μm) threshold...*

+4  
10

T1- T2\*↓↓ Metal Artifacts...

\*cm / gauss

# Altering Tissue Contrast



$$SI = N(H) [ 1 - e^{-TR/T1} ] e^{-TE/T2}$$

## 1. T1-shortening on T1w images.

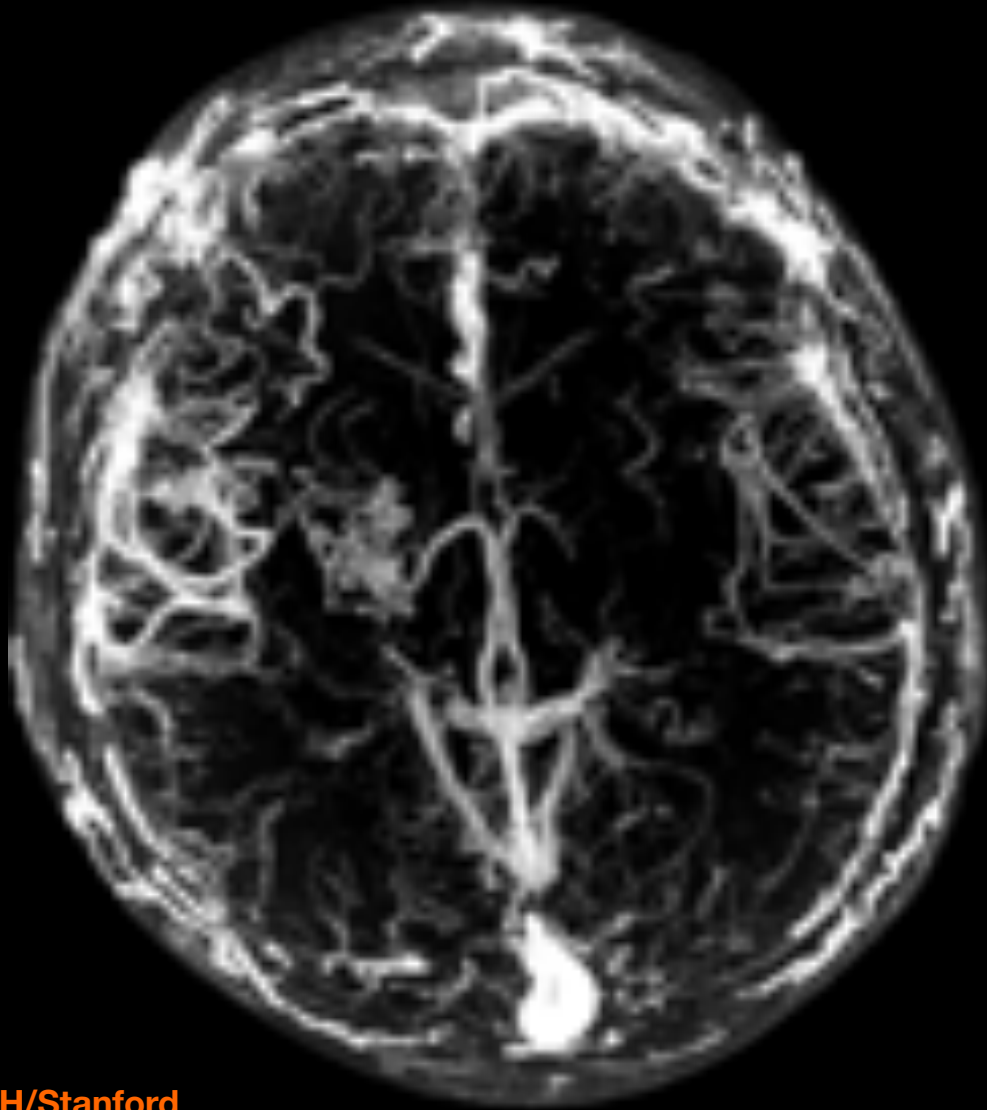
paramagnetic agents (**Gd-DTPA**).

coated supermagnetic irons (**iron particles**).

## 2. T2 (or T2\*) shortening on T2\*w images.

para-/superparamagnetic agents (**iron particles**).

paramagnetic agents (**Gd- or Dy-DTPA**)



K. Yeom and M. Iv, LPCH/Stanford

**Feraheme™**  
ferumoxytol  
injection 

# T1 Relaxivity –

## *Good Stuff:*

Positive effect on T1-weighted MRI.

T1w MRI typically rapid.

Doesn't cross intact BBB.

Relatively rapid, safe.

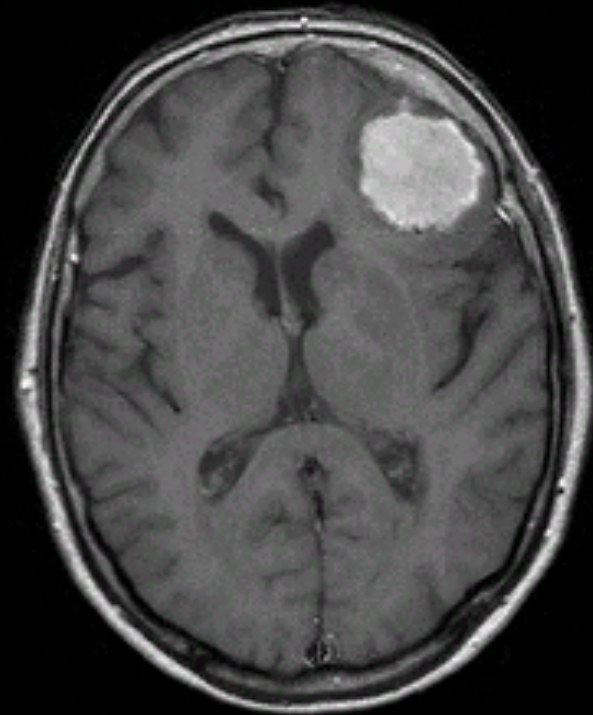
Patents nearing end...

## *However:*

MW a bit small (MW~500au).

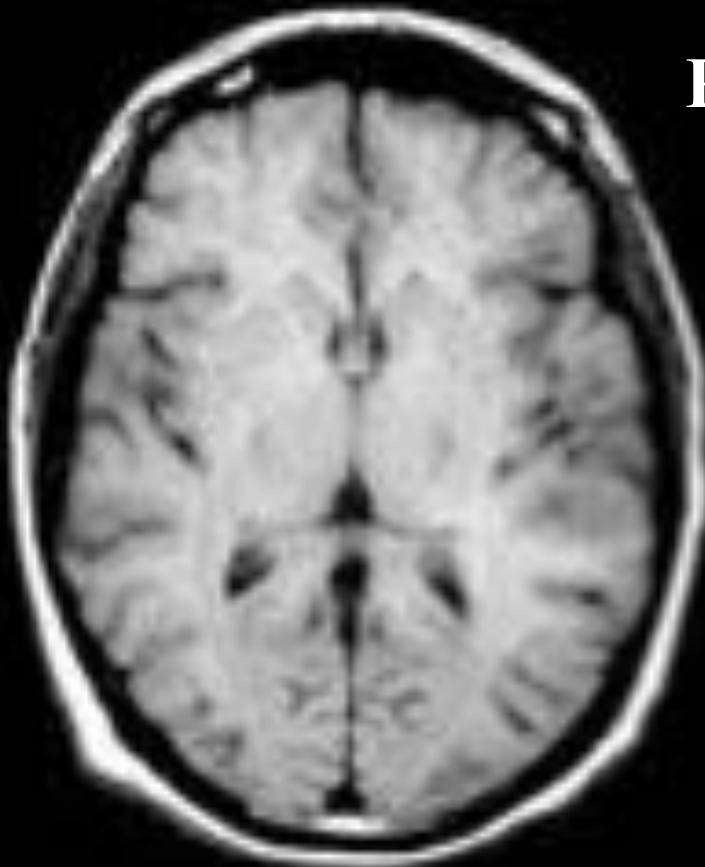
Extravasates too easily.

Clears with 17 min plasma  $T_{1/2}$



# Gd-DTPA Enhances BBB Breakdowns

Pre



Post



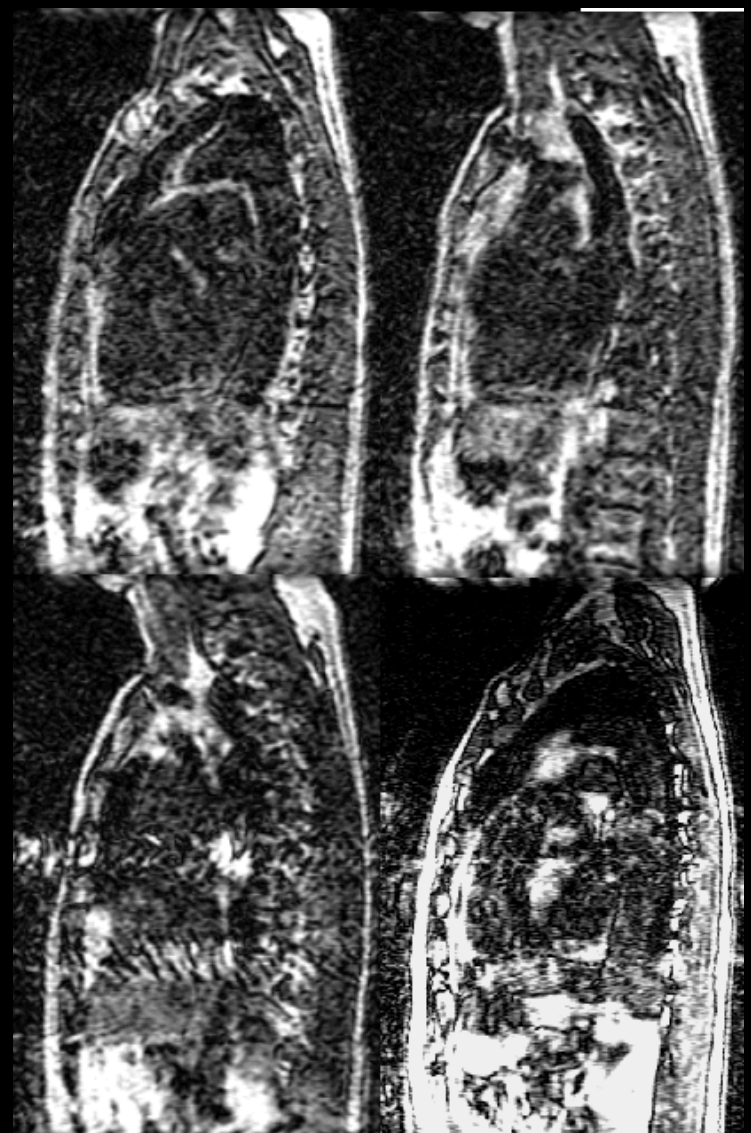
Use of an MT-prepped sequence  
MEMP – Stanford -Pike, Glover

# Advanced Options for MRA

In-plane (coronal)  
images  
saturate in-flow...

Poor SNR  
Not used...

*Fast SPGR*  
*30 seconds/  
16 slices*  
*3DFT.*



# Advanced Options for MRA

**Contrast shortens T1.**

**No saturation of  
vascular spins.**

**Not flow, but  
anatomy...**

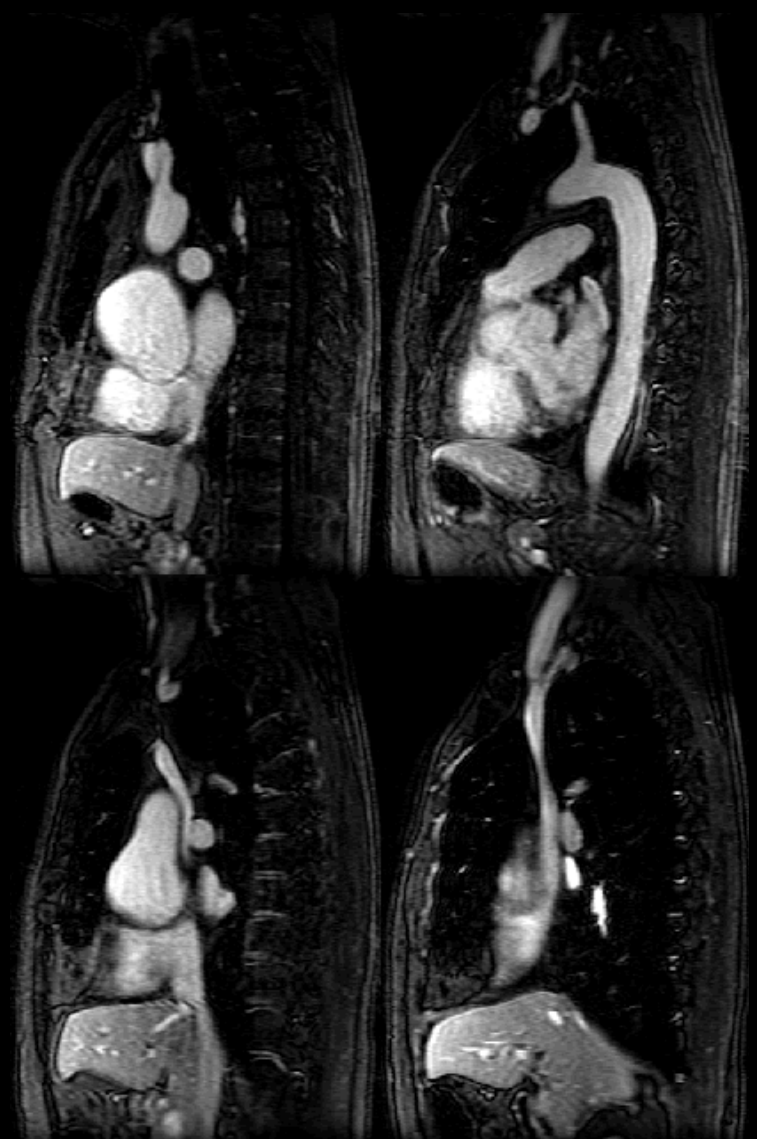
*Fast SPGR*

*30 seconds/*

*16 slices*

*3DFT.*

*0.1 mmol/kg Gd DTPA*



# Advanced Options for MRA

MIP'ping works.

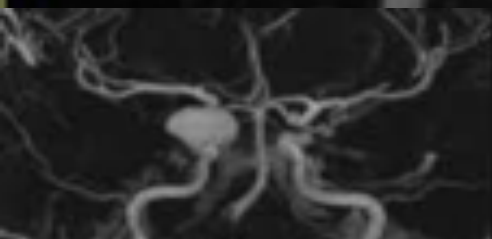
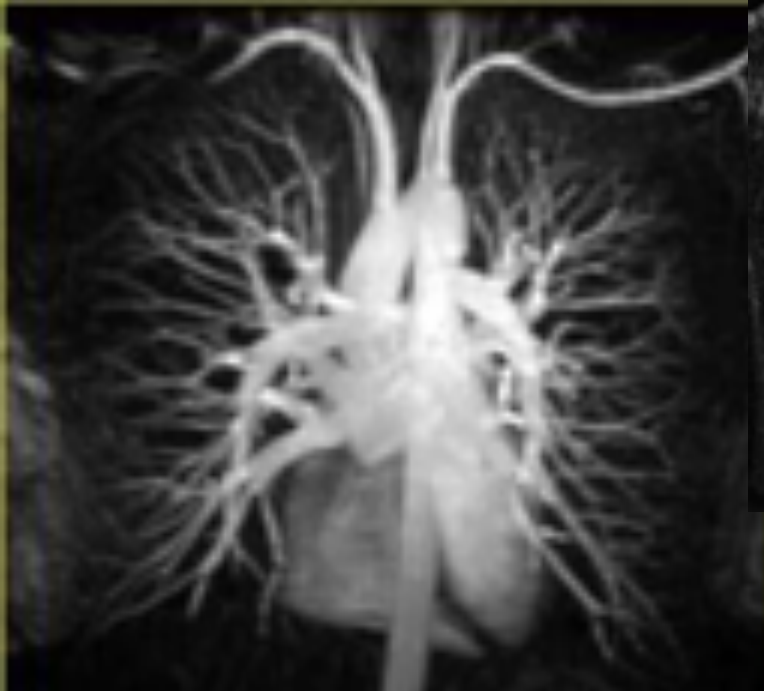
New area of fast  
vascular MRI.

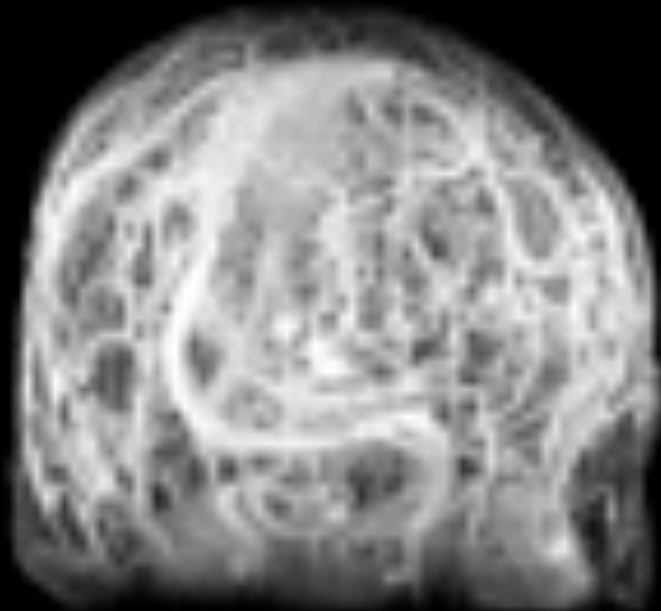
*Fast SPGR*  
*30 seconds/  
16 slices*  
*3DFT.*

*0.1 mmol/kg Gd DTPA*









# Lanthanide Chelated Agents

## ***CNS:***

BBB leakage – tumors, etc.

T1-enhanced MRA.

Bolus dynamics.

## ***Cardiac, Cardiovascular:***

Delayed enhancement!

Wall actions, Bolus dynamics.

T1-enhanced MRA.

## ***Non-neuro:***

Tumor uptake and leakage.

MSK tears.

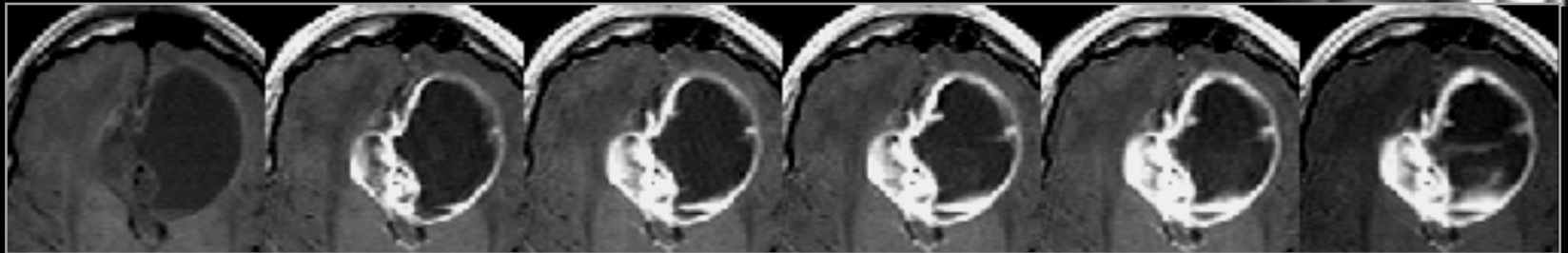
Blood pool issues.



# Plasma Retention

*Physiologic Parameters*

**BBB disruptions – “ECF” agent**  
**Lack of BBB - tumors**  
**Vascular permeability**  
**Renal retention / collection**



pre

post 0

post 5

post 15

post 30

post 45

# Lanthanide Chelated Agents

## **CNS:**

BBB leakage – tumors, etc.

T1-enhanced MRA.

Bolus dynamics.

*Cardiac, Cardiovascular:*

Delayed enhancement!

Wall actions, Bolus dynamics.

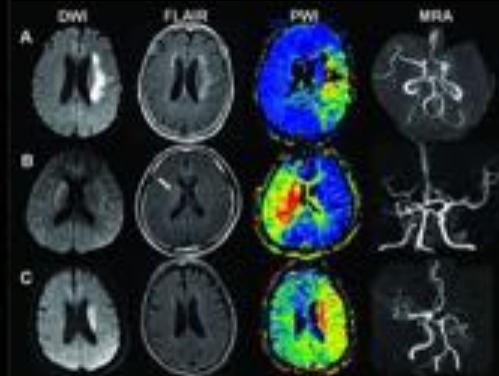
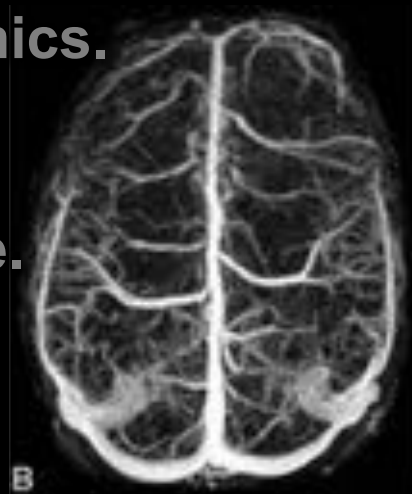
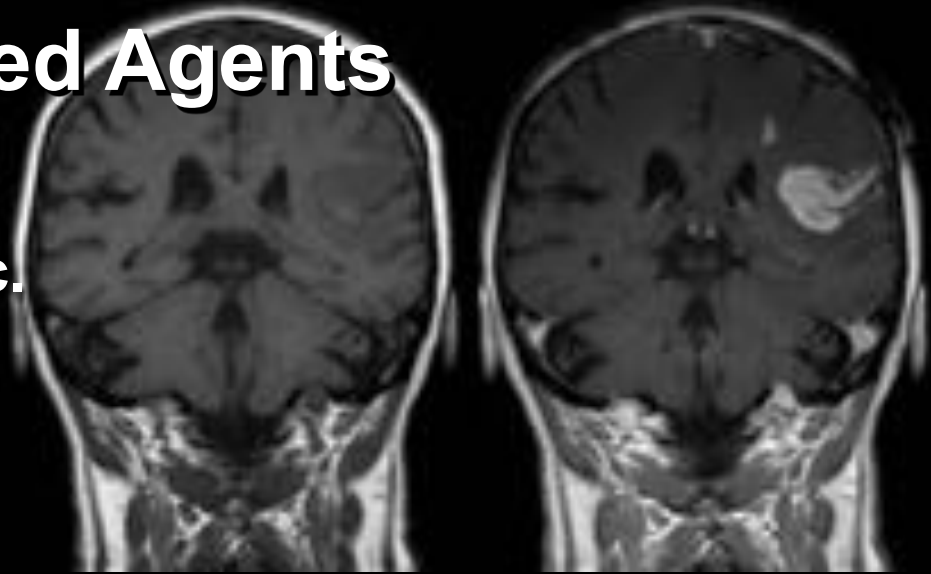
T1-enhanced MRA.

*Non-neuro:*

Tumor uptake and leakage.

MSK tears.

Blood pool issues.



# Lanthanide Chelated Agents

*CNS:*

BBB leakage – tumors, etc.

T1-enhanced MRA.

Bolus dynamics.

***Cardiac, Cardiovascular:***

Delayed enhancement!

Wall actions, Bolus dynamics.

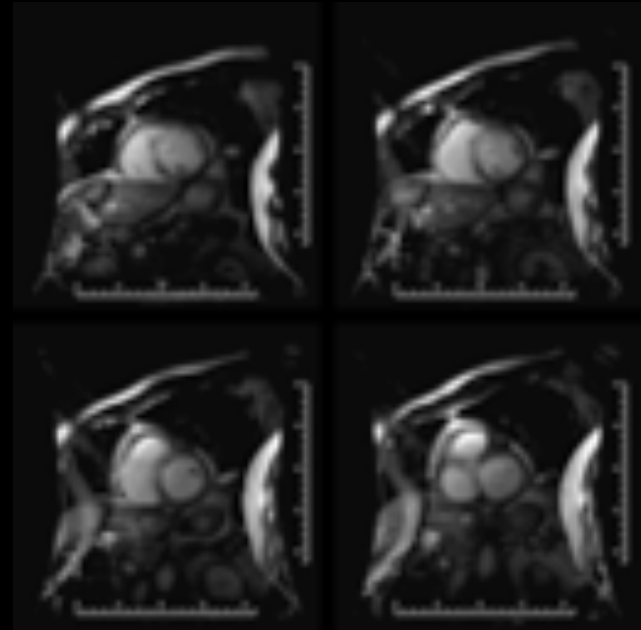
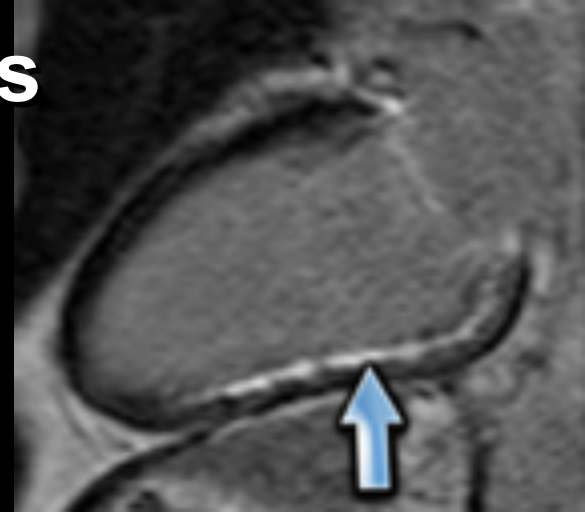
T1-enhanced MRA.

*Non-neuro:*

Tumor uptake and leakage.

MSK tears.

Blood pool issues.



# Lanthanide Chelated Agents

## *CNS:*

BBB leakage – tumors, etc.

T1-enhanced MRA.

Bolus dynamics.

## *Cardiac, Cardiovascular:*

Delayed enhancement!

Wall actions, Bolus dynamics.

T1-enhanced MRA.

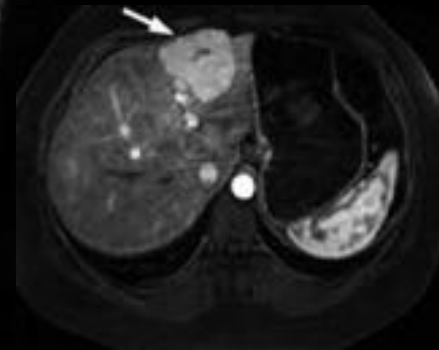
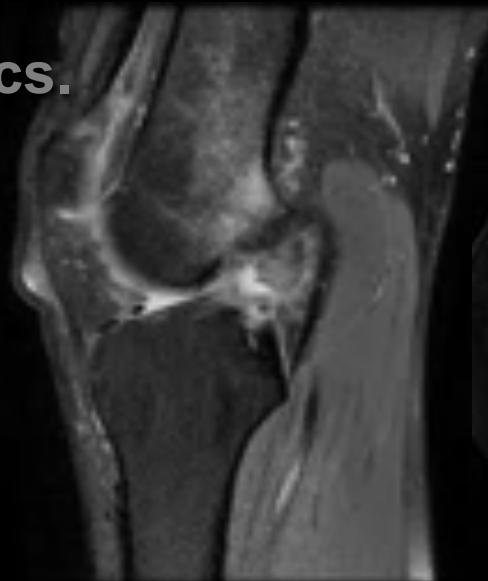
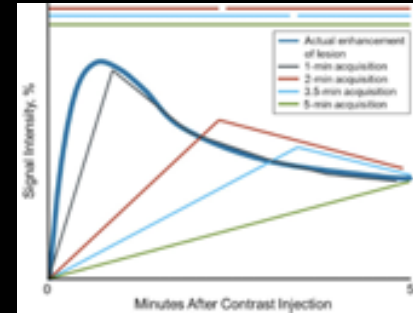
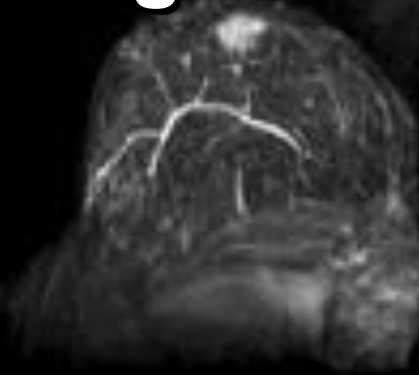
## *Non-neuro:*

Tumor uptake and leakage.

MSK tears.

Blood pool issues.

Liver...



# Proton Relaxation by Paramagnetic Metal Ions.

*Unpaired electrons relax protons  
Much more efficient...*



**Number of unpaired electrons -**

**Gd, Dy = 7 unpaired electrons.**

**Fe, Mn = 5 unpaired electrons.**

**Fe domains create big magnetic moments.**

**Electron-spin (esr) relaxation times -  $t_s$**

**Gd - long esr  $T_1$  = good  $T_1$ -shortening.**

**Dy - short esr  $T_1$  = poor  $T_1$ -shortening.**

**Proton near paramagnetic centers-  $t_m$**

**Coordination sites and placement critical.**

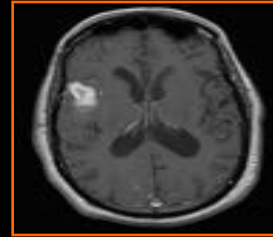
**DTPA occupies more than EDTA, unfortunately...**

**Paramagnetic correlation times -  $t_r$**

**Gd-DTPA-albumin increases  $T_1$  relaxivity 10 fold.**



# T1 Relaxivity – Why Gd-DTPA?



Magnetic moment (# unpaired electrons)

Gd has 7 unpaired e<sup>-</sup>

OxyHb (Fe<sup>+2</sup>) vs. DeOxyHb (Fe<sup>+3</sup>)

Electron relaxation rate (near that of protons?)

Gd-DTPA vs. Dy-DTPA

Tumbling of the cloud (exposure time to protons)

Gd-DTPA-binding

Approach of water to the unpaired electrons...

MetHb

$$1/T1_{\text{(observed)}} = 1/T1_{\text{(intrinsic)}} + R1 [\text{Conc}]$$

$$( 200 \text{ msec} = 1000 \text{ msec} + 3.8[0.1 \text{ mmol/kg}] )$$

# T1 Relaxivity – *Better than Gd-DTPA?*

Magnetic moment (# unpaired electrons)

OxyHb vs. MetHb

Electron relaxation rate (near that of protons?)

Gd-DTPA vs. Dy-DTPA

Tumbling of the cloud (exposure time to protons)

**Gd-DTPA-binding**

Approach of water to the unpaired electrons...

MetHb

*T1 Relaxivities mmol<sup>-1</sup> L sec<sup>-1</sup>:*

**Gd-DTPA** ~ 4

Gd-dimers ~ 10

Gd-Dextrans ~ 40

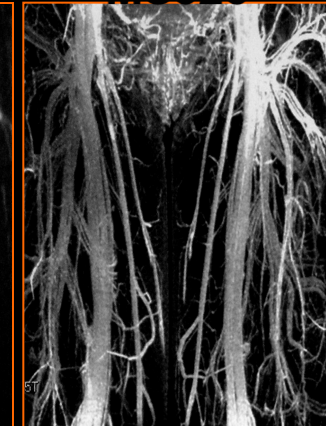
**MS-325-HSA** ~ 45

Iron oxides ~ 20

**Gd-DTPA**



**MS325**



# Paramagnetics - Blood Pool Agents

*Gd-phostriamine MS-325 -Epix - Schering*

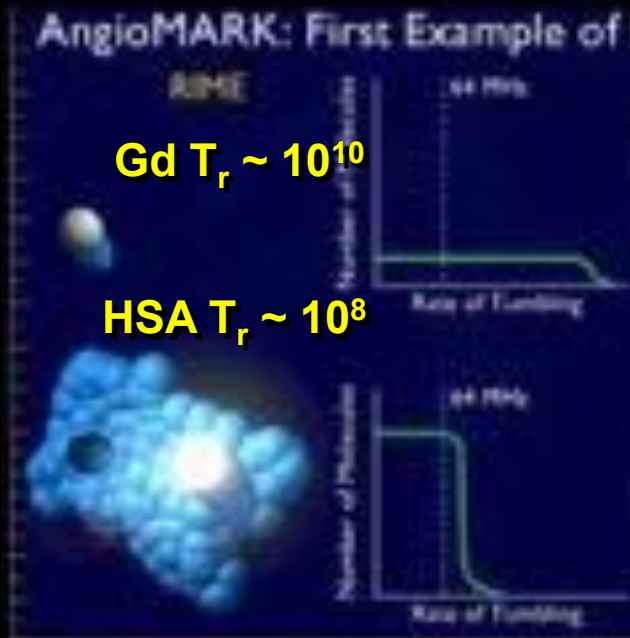
T1-shortening agents:

**Affinity to HSA**

**80-90% labeled**

**R1 ~ 40-50**

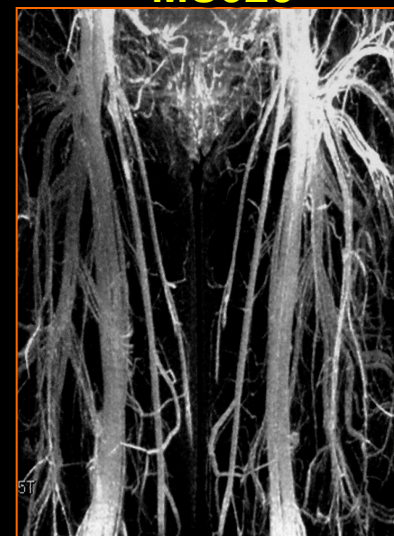
**T<sub>1/2</sub> ~ 60minutes**



**Gd-DTPA**



**MS325**



# Paramagnetics - Blood Pool Agents

*Gd-phostriamine MS-325 -Epix - Schering*

T1-shortening agents:

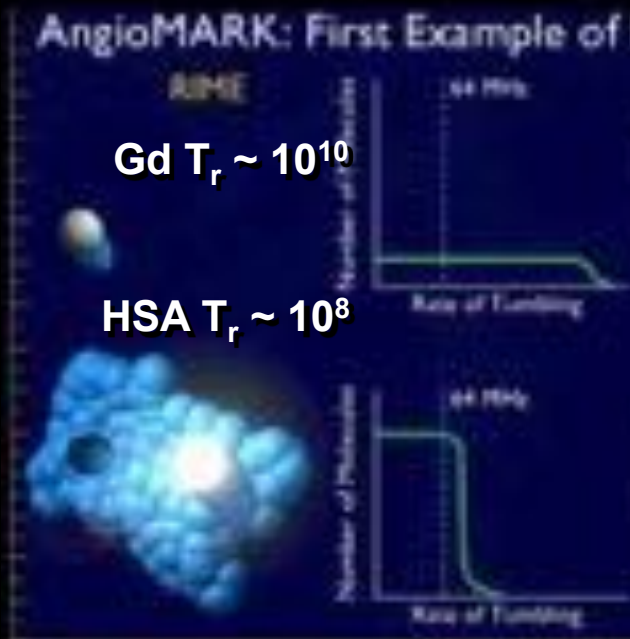
Affinity to HSA

80-90% labeled

R1 ~ 40-50

T<sub>1/2</sub> ~ 60minutes

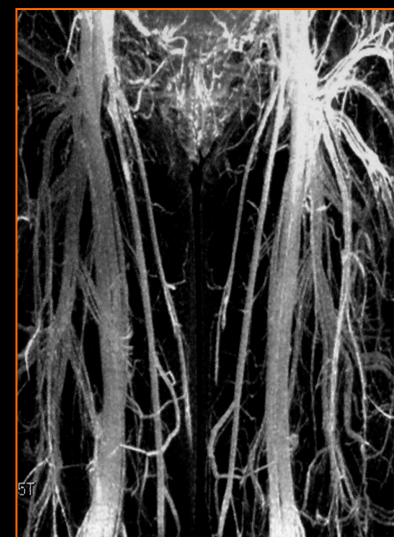
"Conventional" MRI  
Contrast-end



Gd-DTPA



MS325



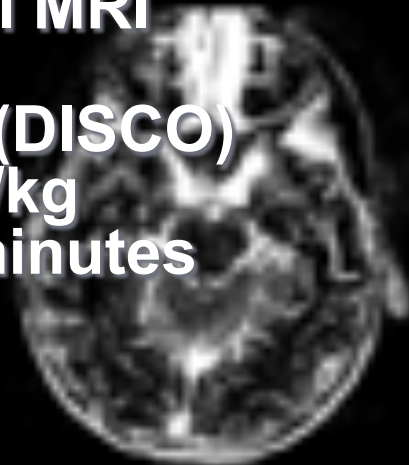
# Blood Volume from T1-Contrast

**ABLAVAR™**   
gadofosveset trisodium

**ABLAVAR –**

**Enhanced Blood Pool  
CBV Mapping  
Functional MRI**

**3D SPGR (DISCO)  
0.03mmol/kg  
 $T_{1/2} = 19$  minutes**



# T1 Relaxivity – *Not just Gd-DTPA...*

Magnetic moment (# unpaired electrons)

OxyHb vs. MetHb

Electron relaxation rate (near that of protons?)

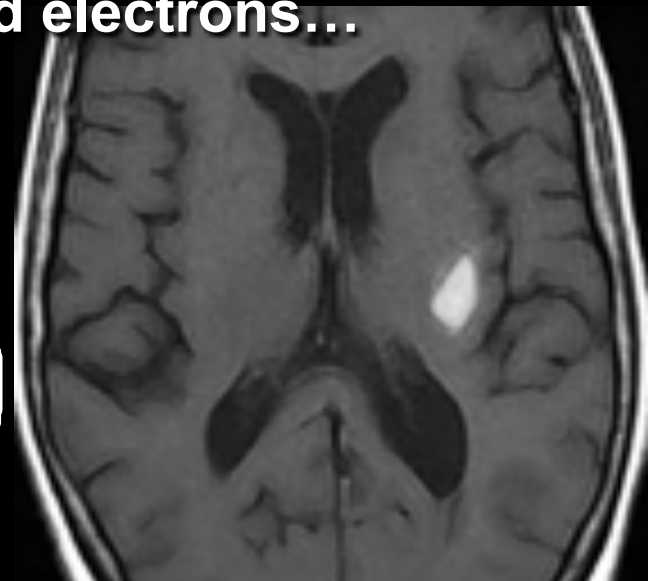
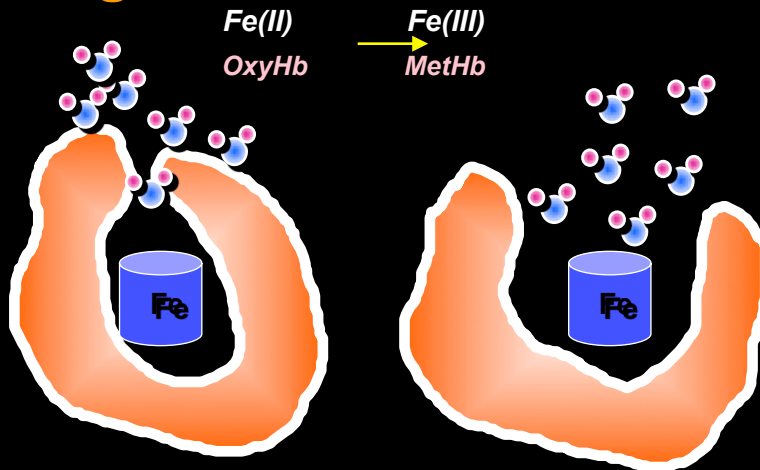
Gd-DTPA vs. Dy-DTPA

Tumbling of the cloud (exposure time to protons)

Gd-DTPA-binding

Approach of water to the unpaired electrons...

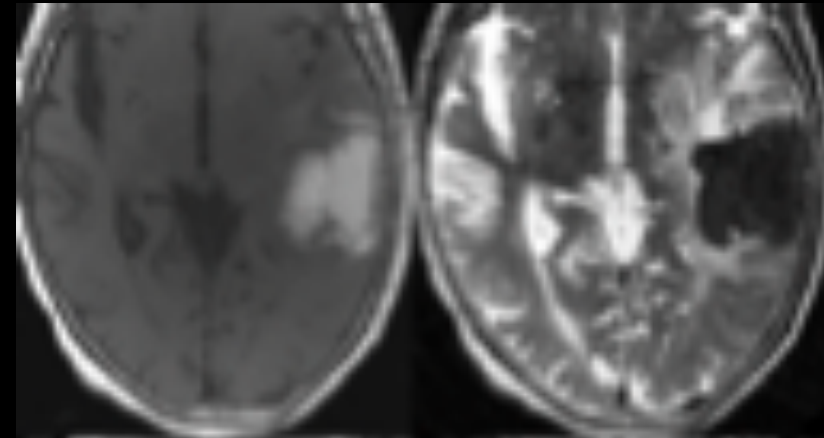
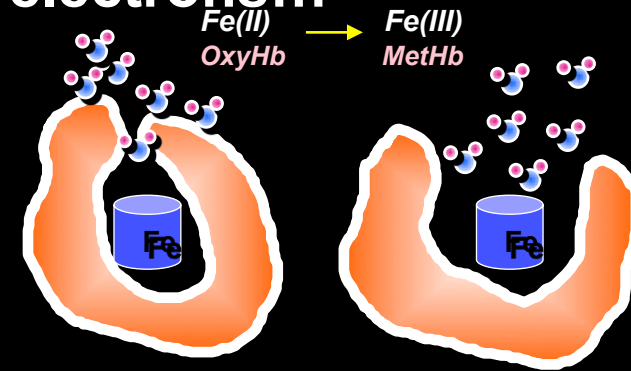
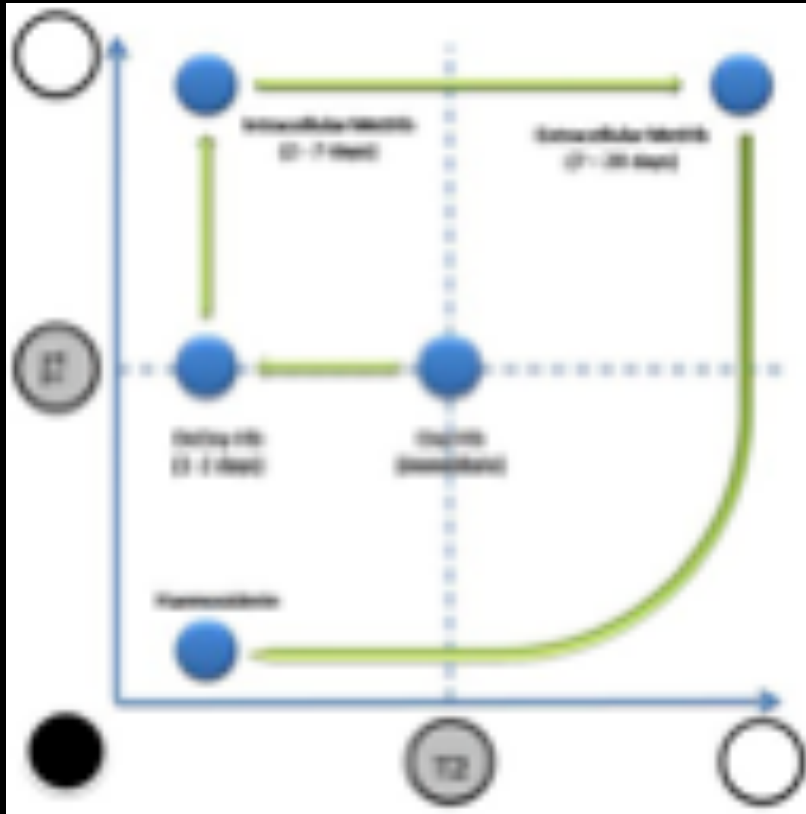
## Methemoglobin



# T1 Relaxivity – *Natural Iron Contrast*

Approach of water to the unpaired electrons...

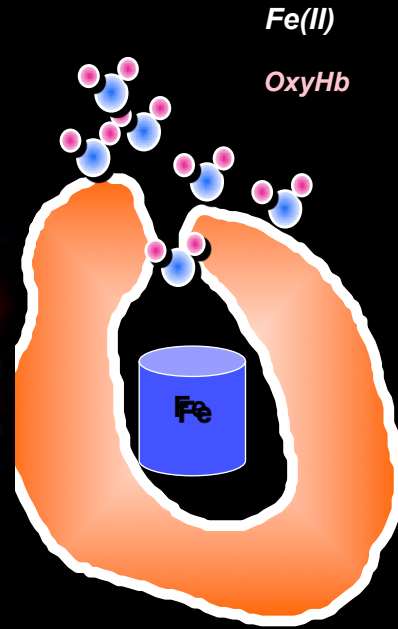
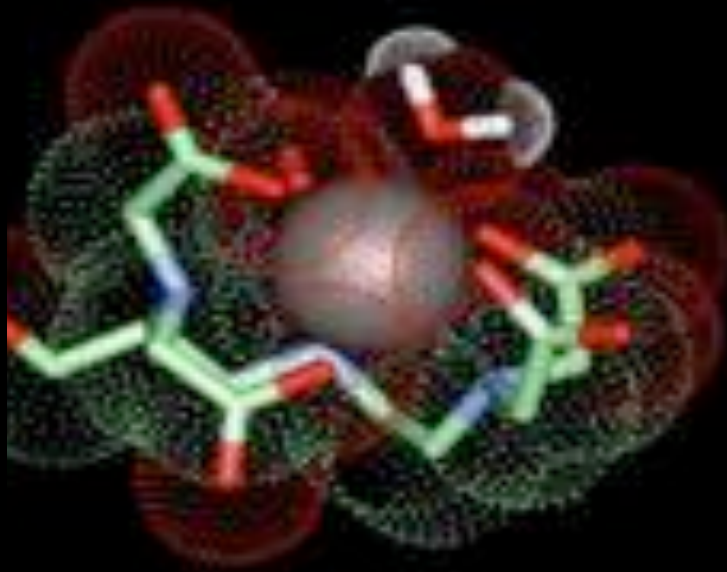
**Methemoglobin!**



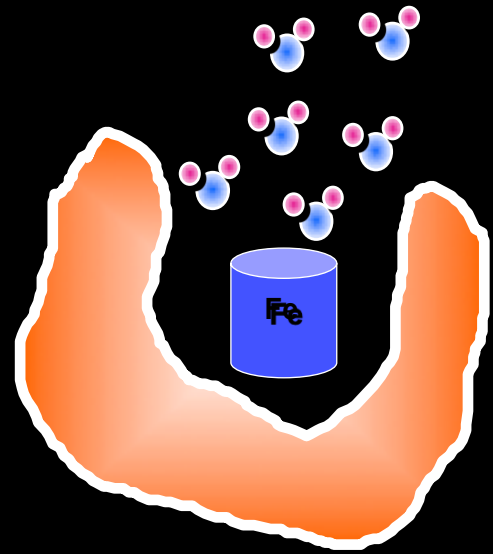
# Molecular Imaging Using "Relaxivity"?



*Hint 1*



Fe(III)  
MetHb





# H1 T1 and "Relaxivity"

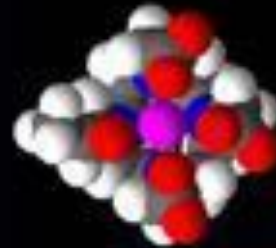
MR Functional Reporter agents for Enzymes  
"Egadme"



*Blocked with galactopyranose*



*Cleavage of the Egadme by  $\beta$ -galactosidase  
Creates increase in R1*



*Meade, et al. Nature 2000*

# Further “Hat” Designs in MRI



# T1 Relaxivity – *Not just Gd-DTPA...*

Magnetic moment (# unpaired electrons)

OxyHb vs. MetHb

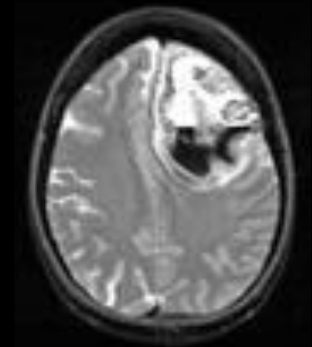
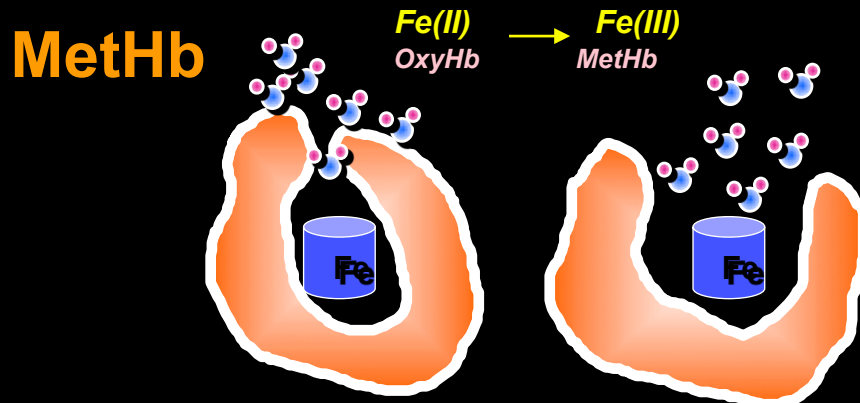
Electron relaxation rate (near that of protons?)

Gd-DTPA vs. Dy-DTPA

Tumbling of the cloud (exposure time to protons)

Gd-DTPA-binding

Approach of water to the unpaired electrons...



# H1 T1 and "Relaxivity"

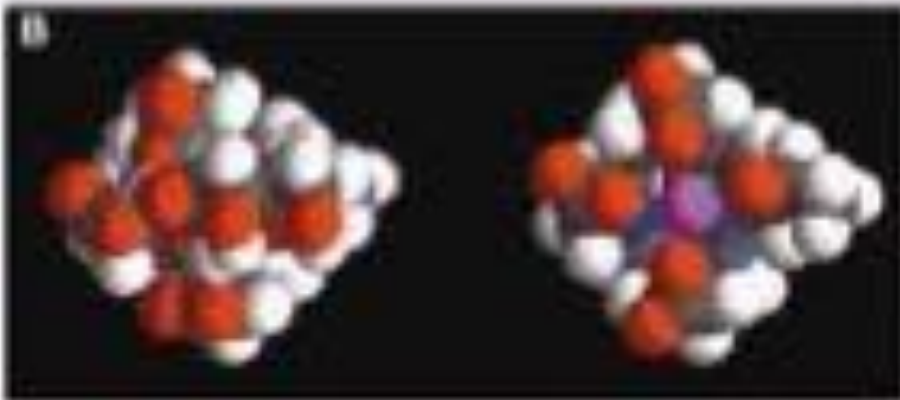
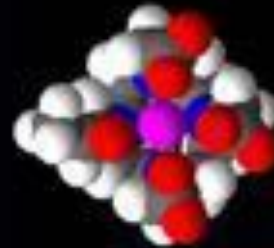
*MR Functional Reporter agents for Enzyme activity*  
*"Egadme"*



*Blocked with galactopyranose*



*Cleavage of the Egadme by  $\beta$ -galactosidase*  
*Creates increase in R1*

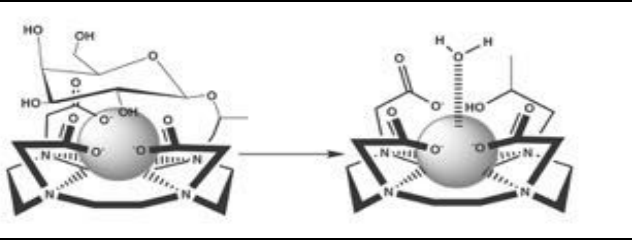


*Meade, et al. Nature 2000*

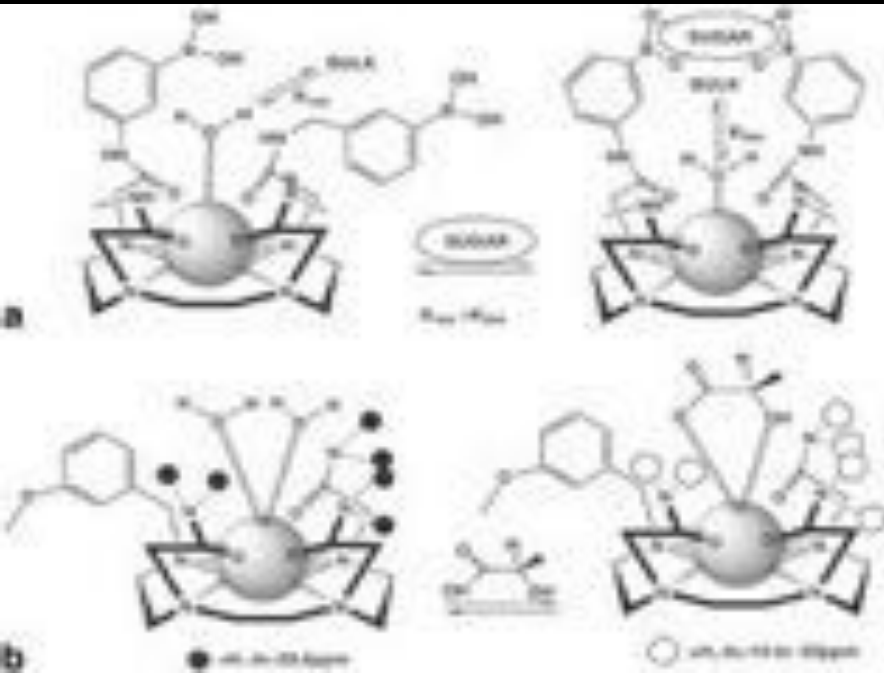
# H1 T1 and "Relaxivity"

*MR Functional Reporter agents for All Kinds of Stuff*

*Querol Bogdanov JMRI 2006*



**β-Gal sensitive**

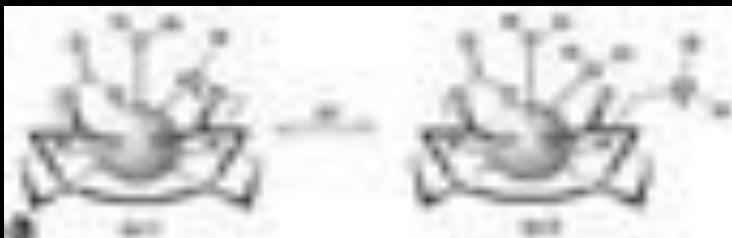


**glucose-sensitive**

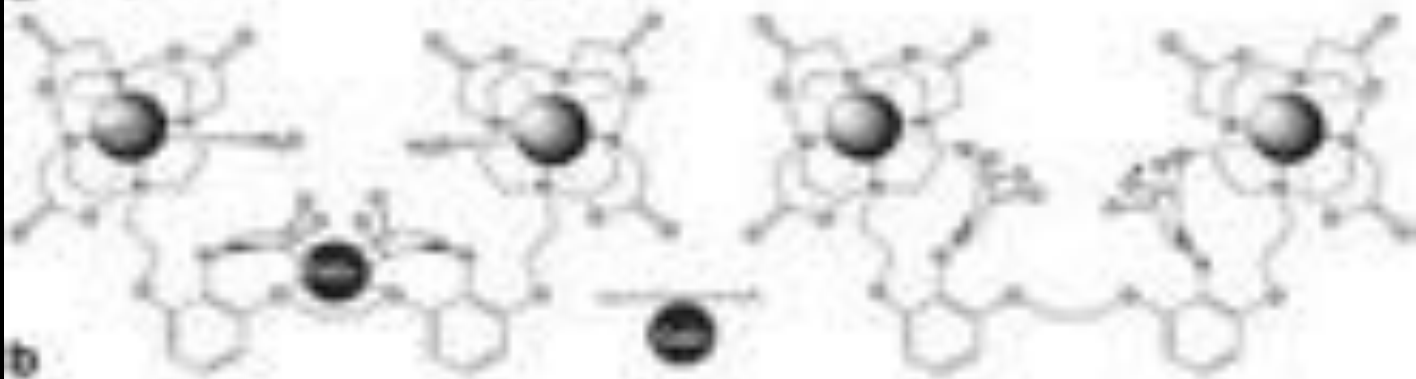
**lactate-sensitive.**

# SCA - "Sensing Contrast Agents"

(a) pH



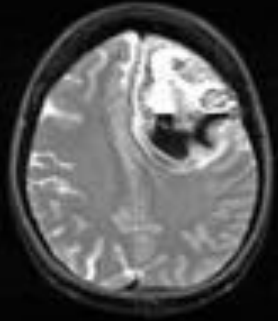
(b) Ca



(c) Zn



# Altering Tissue Contrast



$$SI = N(H) \left[ 1 - e^{-TR/T1} \right] e^{-TE/T2}$$

## 1. T1-shortening on T1w images.

paramagnetic agents (**Gd-DTPA**).

coated supermagnetic irons (**iron particles**).

## 2. T2 (or T2\*) shortening on T2\*w images.

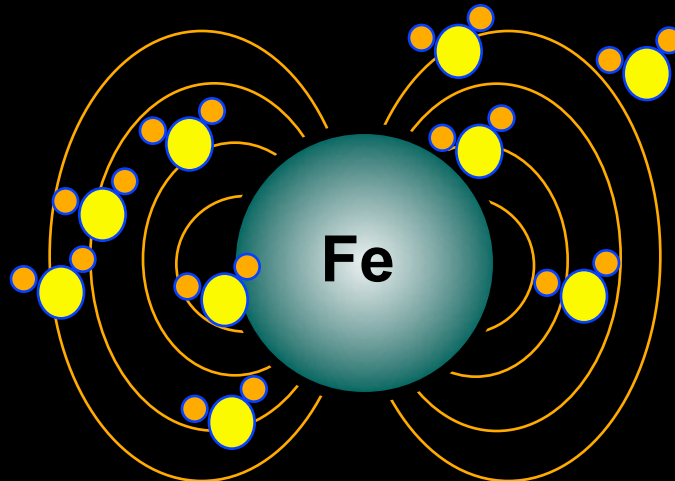
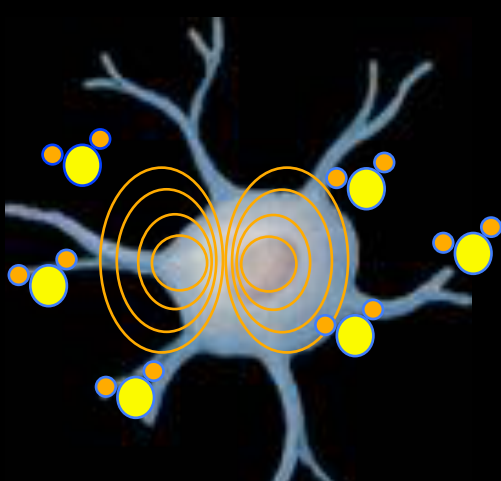
para-/superparamagnetic agents (**iron particles**).

paramagnetic agents (**Gd- or Dy-DTPA**)

# What is Magnetic Susceptibility?

The magnetic susceptibility is the difference of the magnetic field across a sample. *Each substance in a magnetic field alters that field.*

Iron has a larger MS effect than water, e.g...



$$B_{\text{eff}} = B_0 (1 - \chi)$$

**Bone - water**

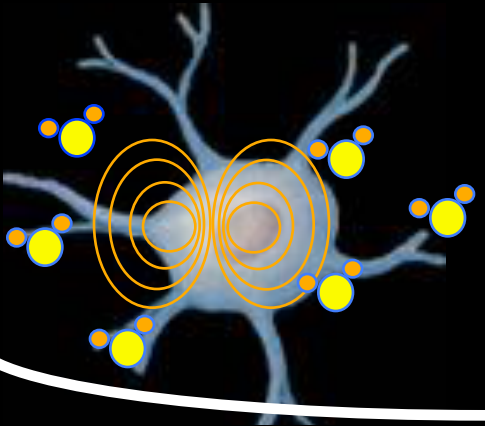
**Air - water**

**Iron - water**



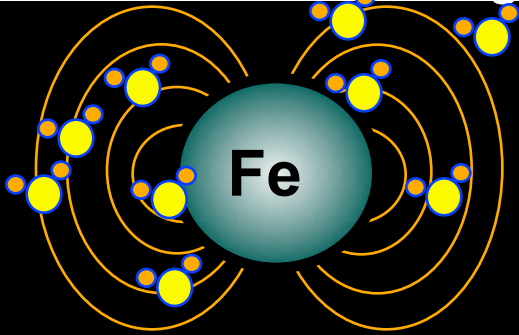
**small gradient across sample**

WM



**large gradient across sample**

GM Iron - T2\* shortening...



SI

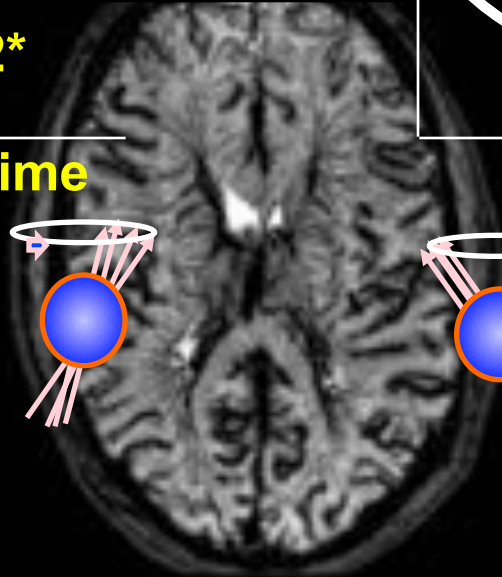
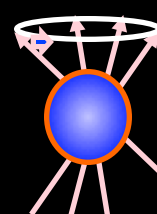
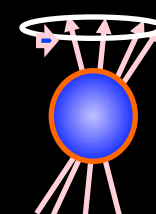
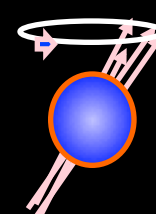
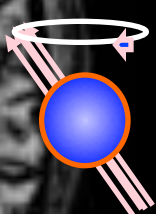
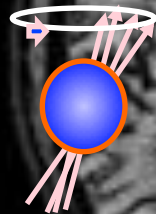
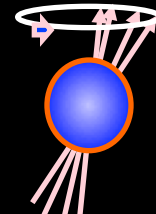
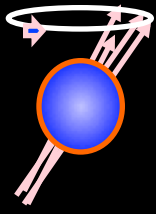
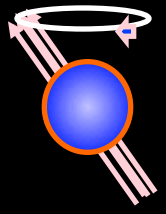
SI

**Observed T2\***

**Observed T2\***

**Time**

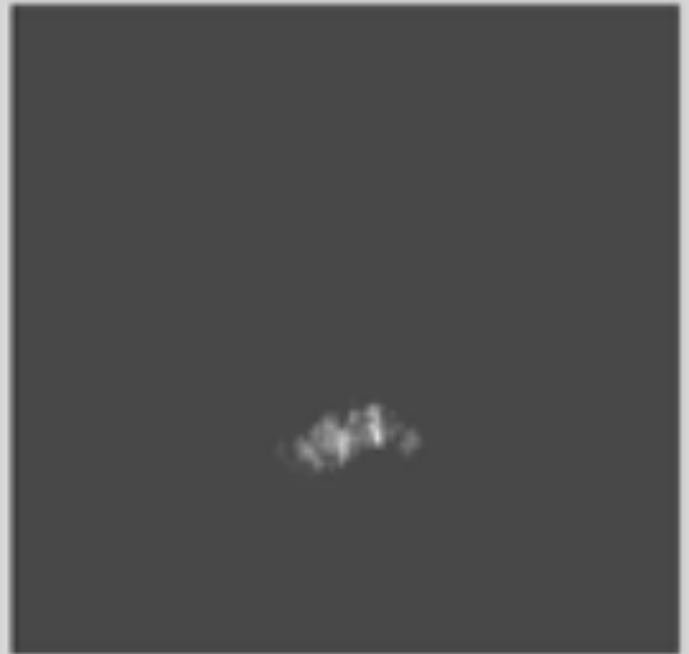
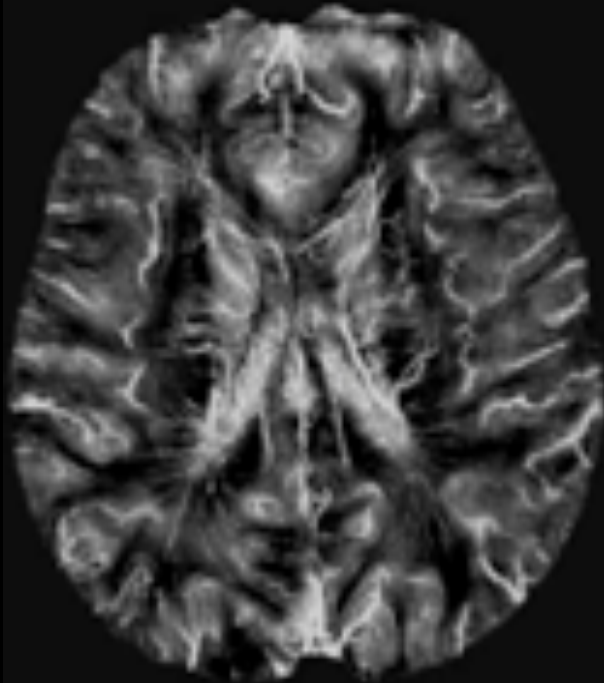
**Time**



# Quantitative Susceptibility Mapping

## *What and Why?*

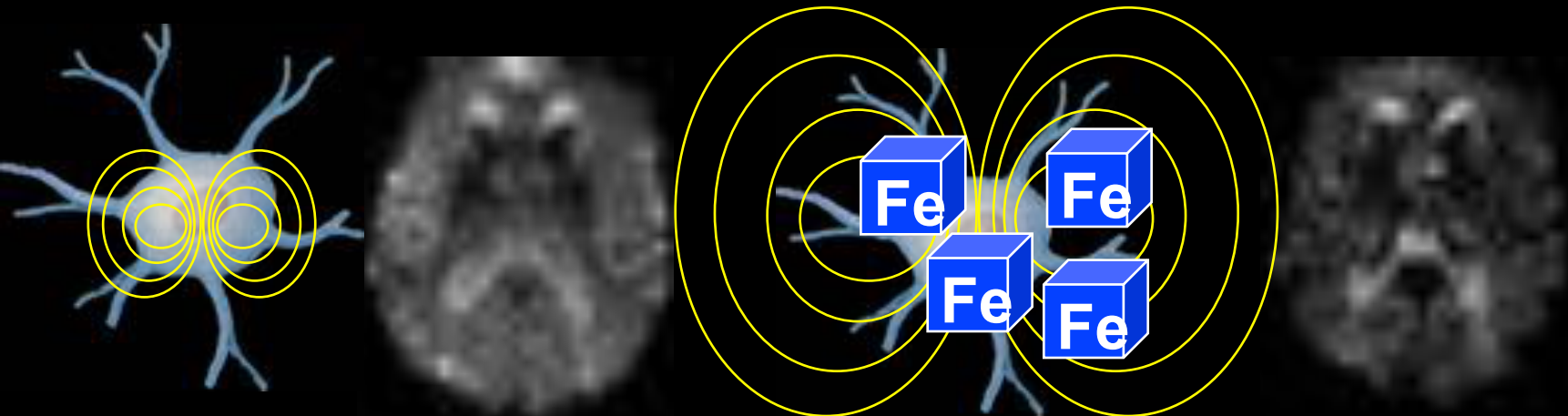
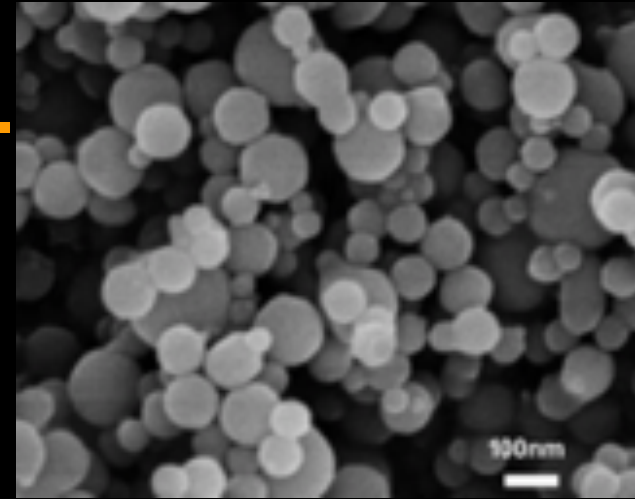
- QSM natural extension of GRE and is both bleed/WM sensitive.



# MR T2 Molecular Imaging

*Magnetic susceptibility*

Local gradients (**unpaired e<sup>-</sup>**).  
Magnetic Susceptibility =  
***T2 decreased.***



# Unpaired $e^-$ and "T2\* Relaxivity"

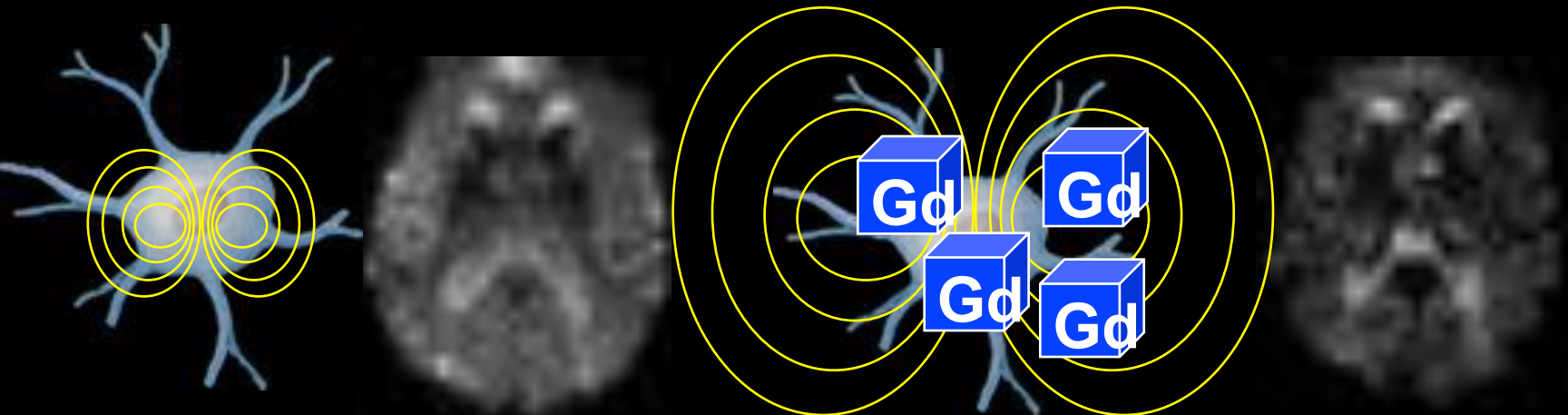
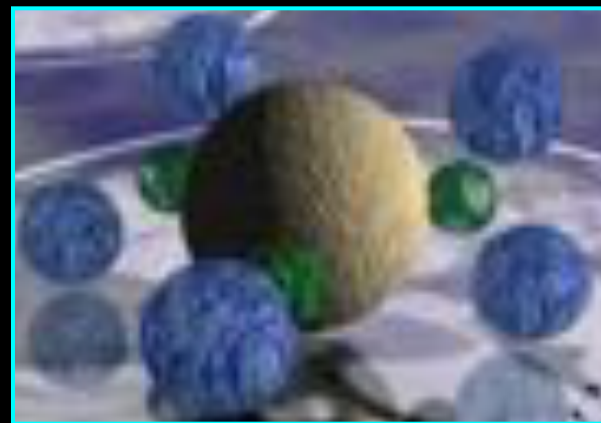
*Magnetic susceptibility reduces T2\**

Local gradients (unpaired  $e^-$ ).  
Local environment (clots, packed RBC).

Enhanced by proton diffusion.

Increased spin dephasing =

*T2\* decreased.*



# Unpaired e<sup>-</sup> and “T2\* Relaxivity”

*Magnetic susceptibility factors*

Magnetic moment (# unpaired electrons) – **Fe<sup>+3</sup> > Fe<sup>+2</sup>**

Size of “domains” – **Fe-oxide > FeCl**

Size and concentration of particle –

**SPIO (RES capture) > USPIO (blood pool)**

T2\* Effects (in order):

**Iron oxides (SPIO)**

**Iron oxides (USPIO)**

**FeCl**

**DyDTPA**

**GdDTPA**

**DeOxyHb**

**OxyHb**

*Feridex-enhanced MR “USPIO”*



# Superparamagnetics

*Alterations of T1 and T2*

**Particulates (superparamagnetic irons):**

**Possesses mild T1-shortening at low [Fe].**

**Large T2\* effect at higher [Fe].**

**Biodistribution vary depending on size:**

<b>&gt;20 nm size</b>	<b><i>Liver (RES) uptake agents</i></b>
<b>20</b>	<b><i>Oral (gut) agents</i></b>
<b>10-20</b>	<b><i>Lymph nodes, blood pool</i></b>
<b>4-6</b>	<b><i>Hepatocytes, targets</i></b>

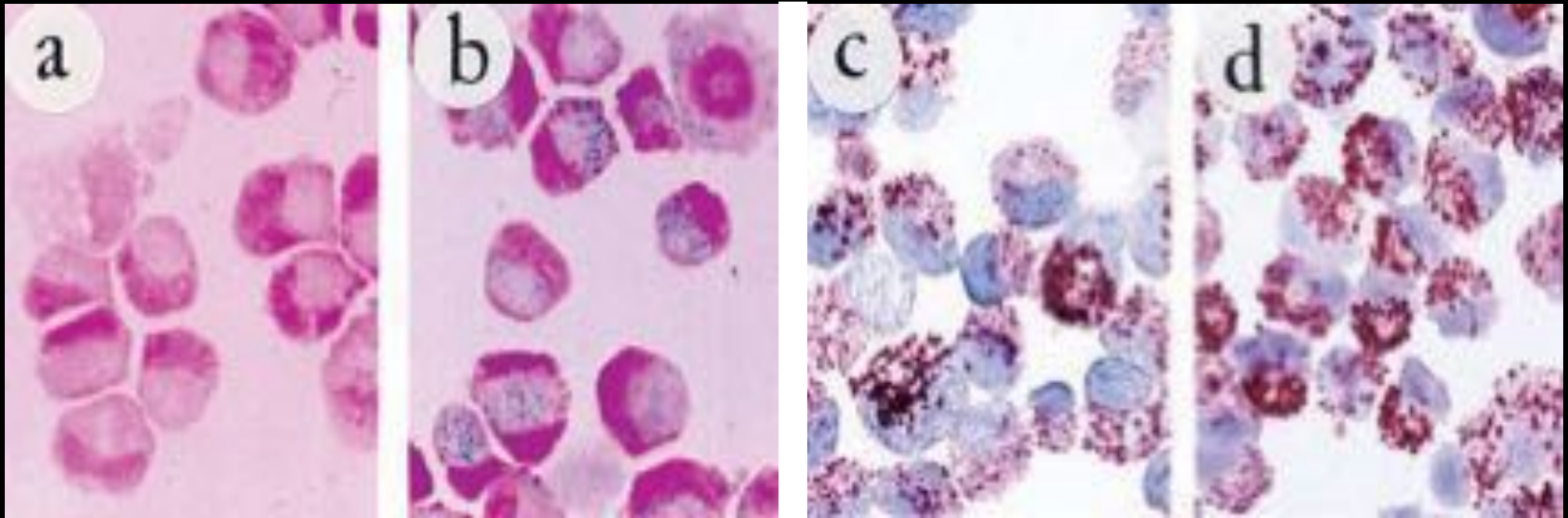
**Size is the most important aspect of biodistribution.**

**All particles must be  $< 5 \mu\text{m}$  to avoid entrapment in lung.**

# Neurotransplantation of magnetically labeled oligodendrocyte progenitors: MR tracking of cell migration and myelination

J. W. M. Bulte<sup>†‡</sup>, S.-C. Zhang<sup>§</sup>, P. van Gelderen<sup>¶</sup>, V. Heryneki, E. K. Jordan<sup>†</sup>, I. D. Duncan<sup>§\*\*</sup>, and J. A. Frank

*PNAS, 96, 1999*



50 mg MION-46L-OX-26

Cell Density  $2.5-3.0 \times 10^5$  per  $15 \text{ cm}^2$  surface area

# Mapping the Brain Neural Fiber Pathways

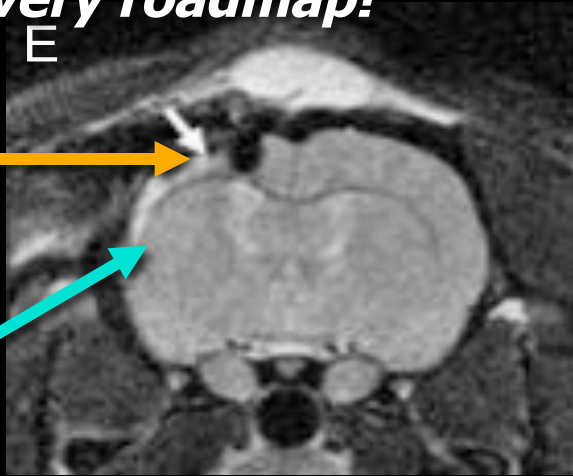
*Inject MR-iron labeled stem cells*

*Stem cells migrate to injury via white matter tracts*

*Use DTI as delivery roadmap!*

*Stem cell  
implant  
colony*

*Stroke in  
brain*



*Migration of  
colony along  
white matter  
to repair  
stroke*

*Guzman, Bammer,  
Moseley, Steinberg  
Stanford*





# Superparamagnetics

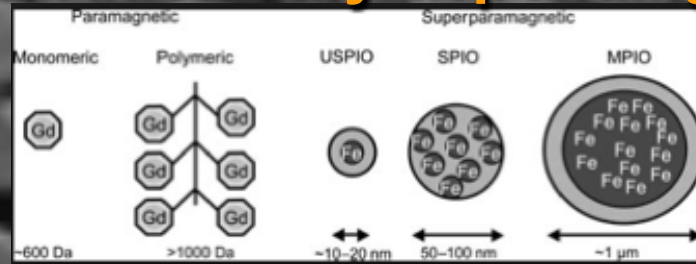
## *Alterations of T1 and T2*

Particulates (superparamagnetic irons):

**Possesses mild T1-shortening at low [Fe].**

**Large T2\* effect at higher [Fe].**

**Biodistribution vary depending on size:**



>20 nm size

20

10-20

4-6

*Liver (RES) uptake agents*

*Oral (gut) agents*

*Lymph nodes, blood pool*

*Hepatocytes, targets*

*Size is the most important aspect of biodistribution.*

*All particles must be < 5 μm to avoid entrapment in lung.*

# Nanoparticles!

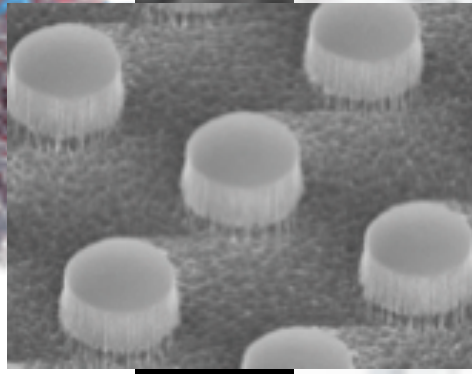
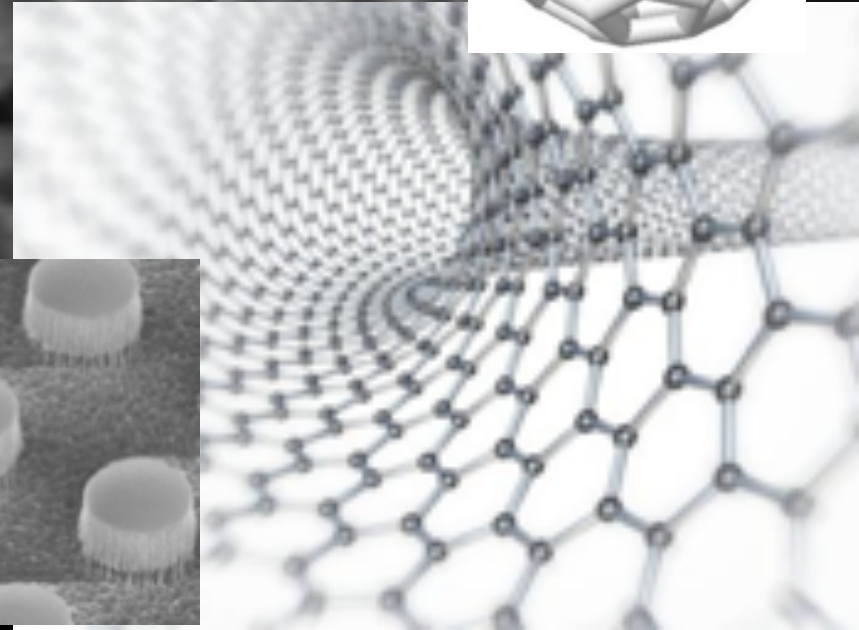
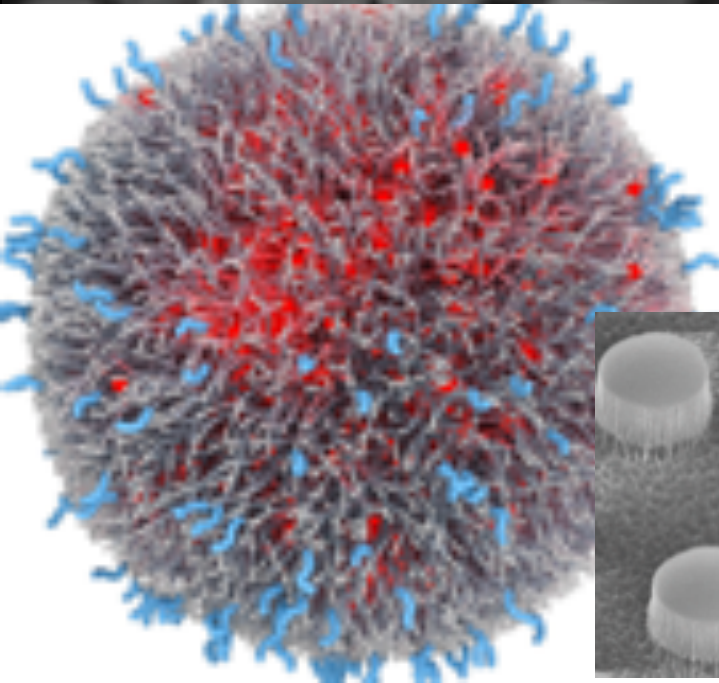
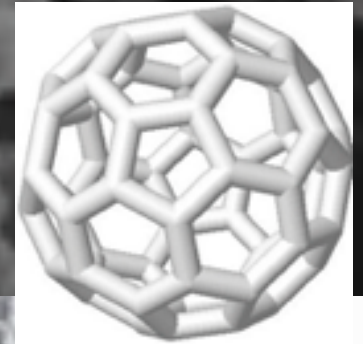
## *Magnetic susceptibility factors*

Particulates (superparamagnetic irons):

**Possesses mild T1-shortening at low [Fe].**

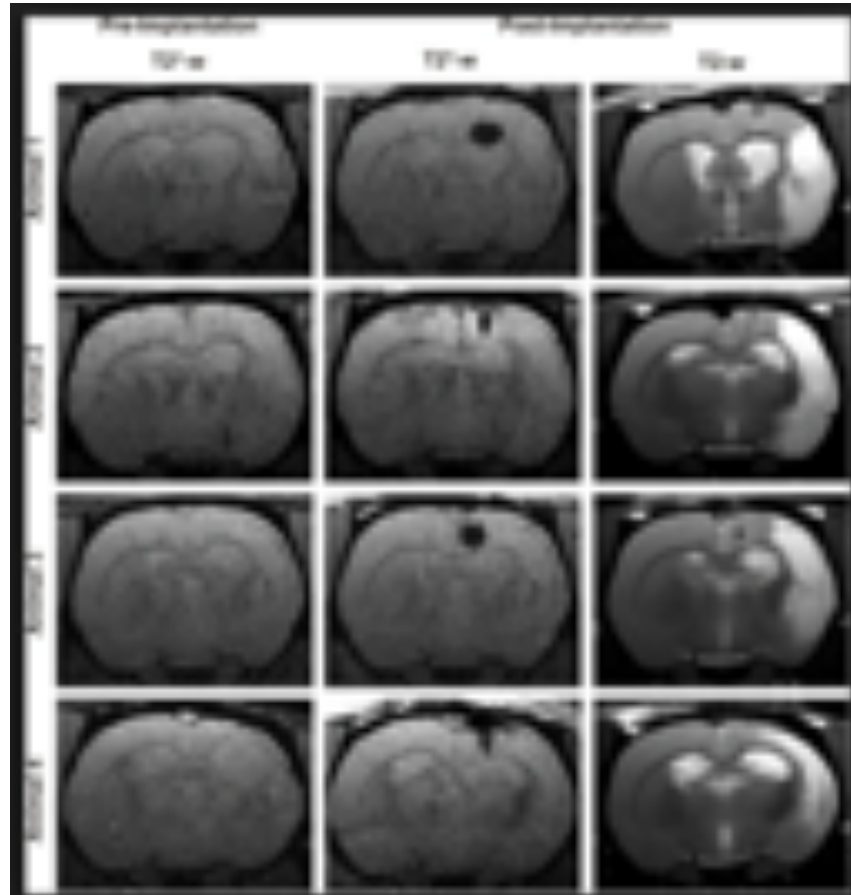
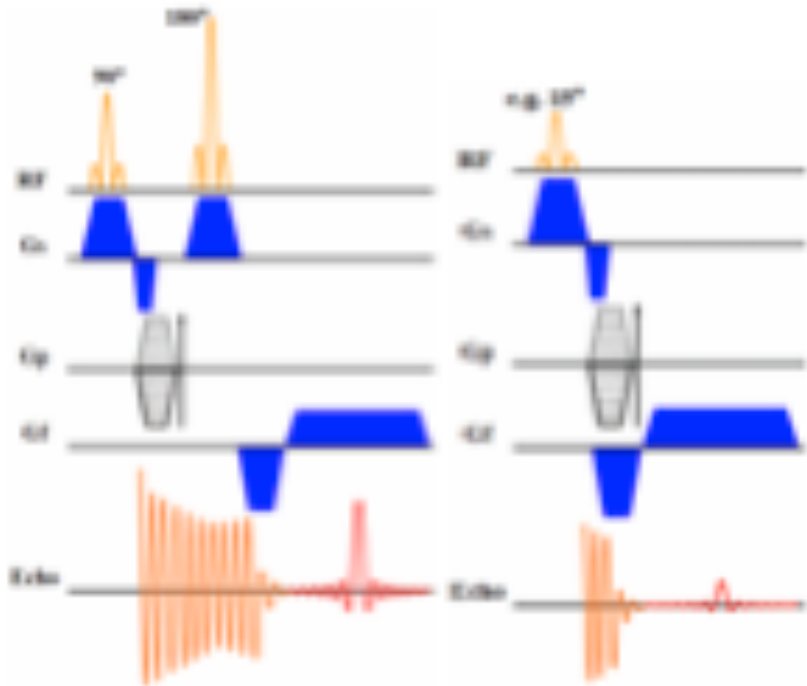
**Large T2\* effect at higher [Fe].**

**Biodistribution vary depending on size:**



# Nanoparticles!

Effect of field on signal creation. SE vs. GRE



# Iron T2\*-Contrast

**Feraheme™**  
ferumoxytol  
injection

**Feraheme—**

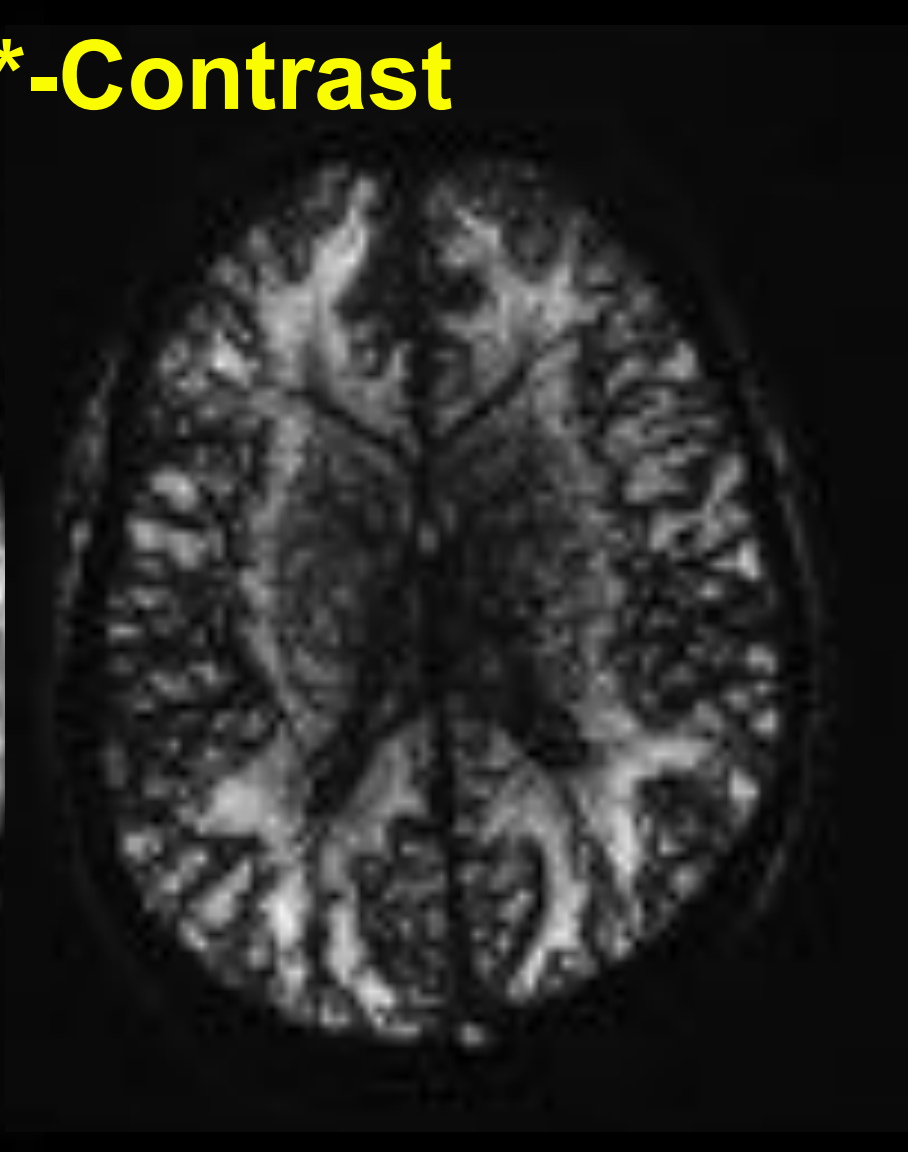
Enhanced Blood Pool  
CBV Mapping  
Functional MRI

3D EPI

3minutes

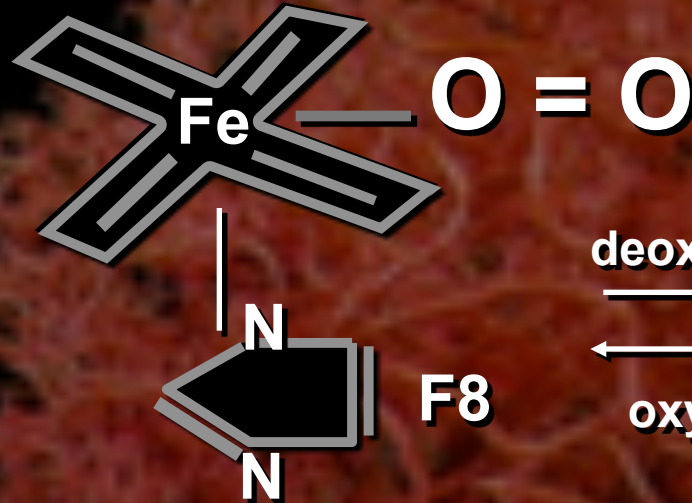
7mg/kg

$T_{1/2} = 19$  hours



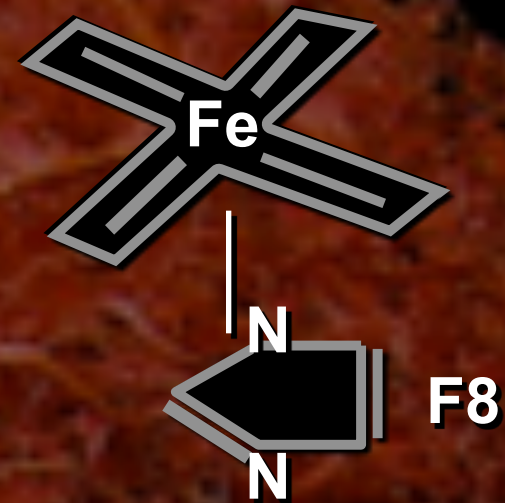
# Blood = Ideal MR Contrast Agent?

oxyhemoglobin



*HbO<sub>2</sub>*  
*diamagnetic*  
*Low  $\chi$*

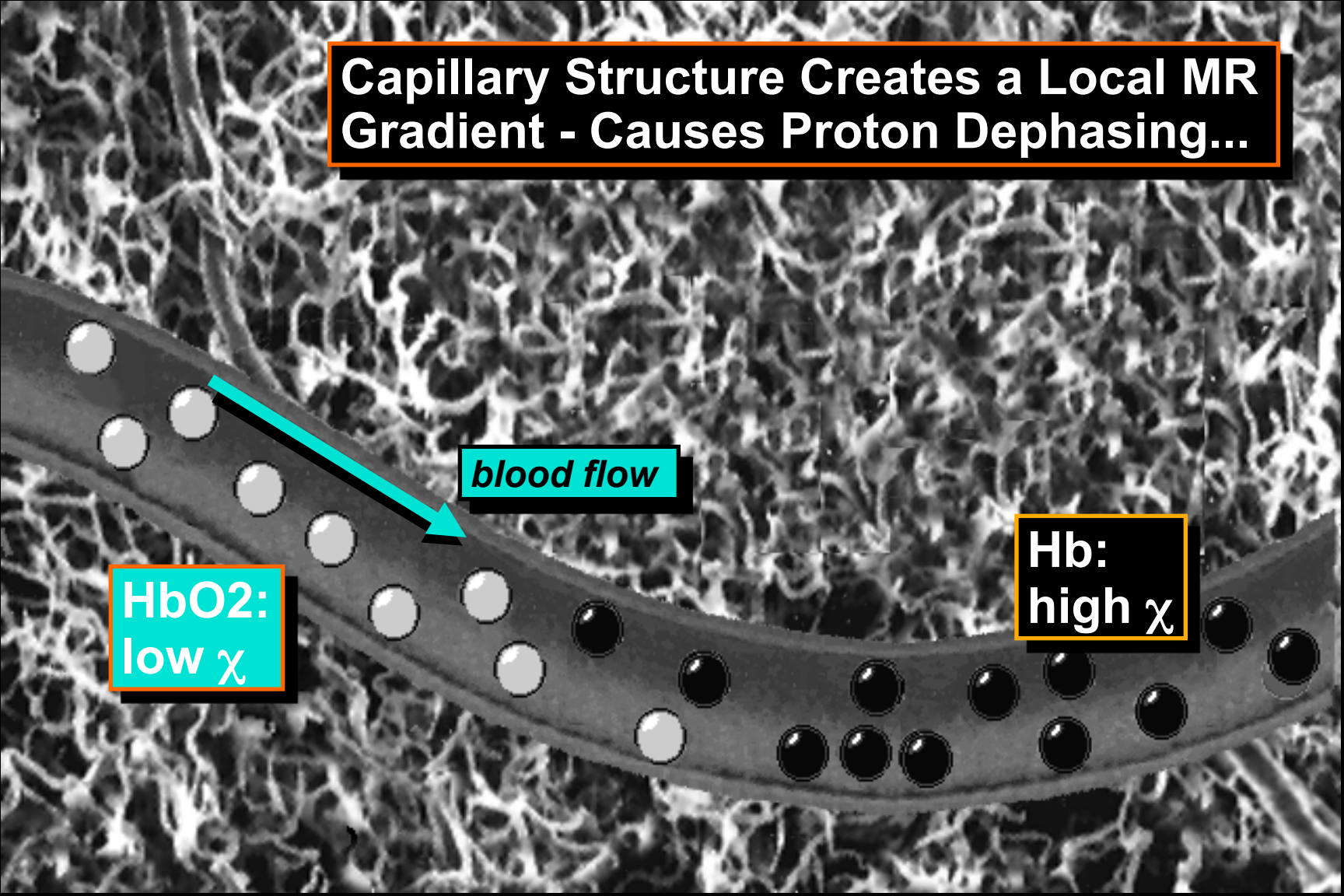
deoxyhemoglobin



*Hb*  
*4 unpaired electrons -*  
*paramagnetic*  
*High  $\chi$*

deoxygenates  
oxygenates

# Capillary Structure Creates a Local MR Gradient - Causes Proton Dephasing...

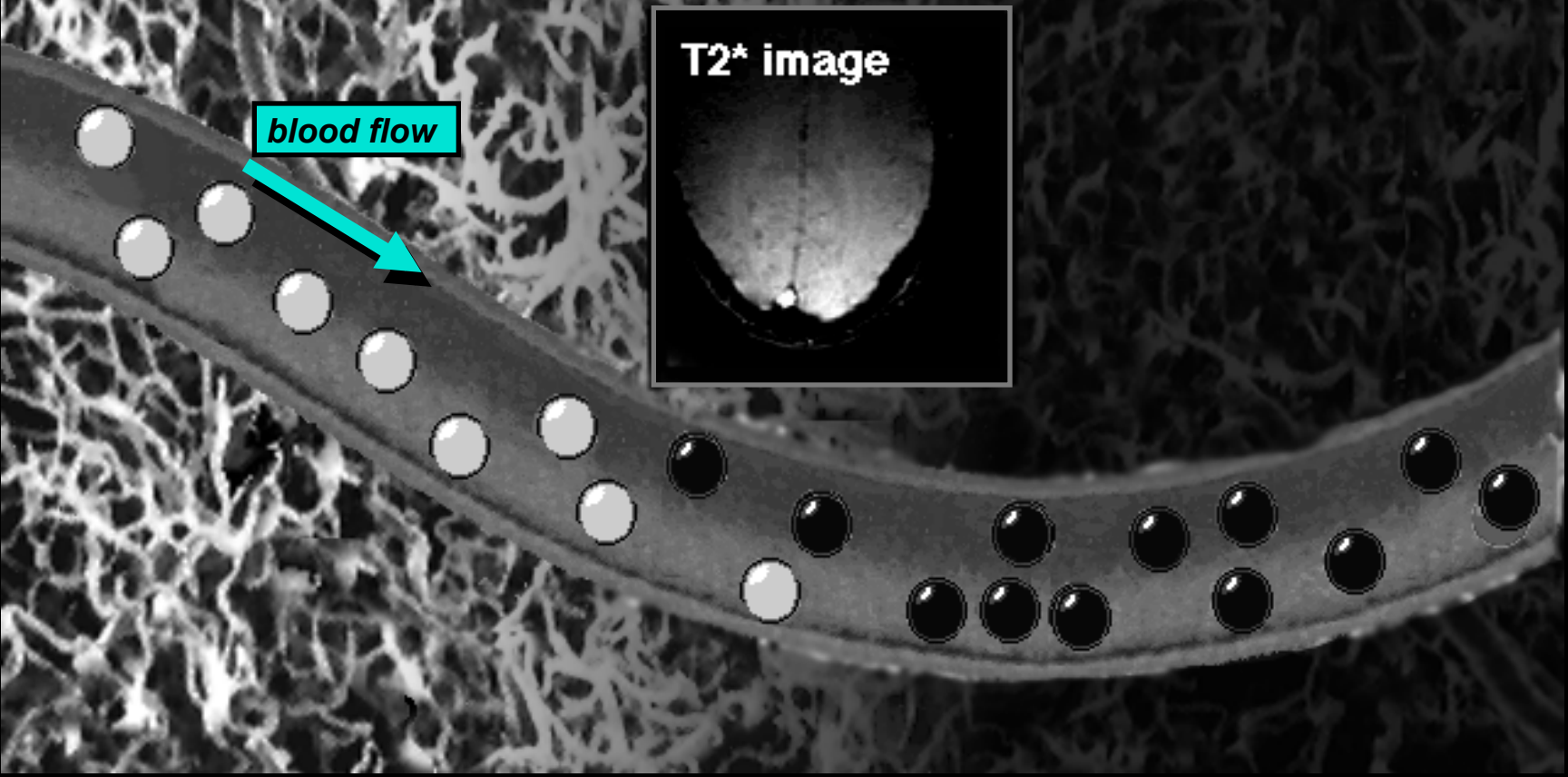


*blood flow*

**HbO<sub>2</sub>:  
low  $\chi$**

**Hb:  
high  $\chi$**

**Balance of HbO<sub>2</sub> ● to Hb ○ affects T<sub>2</sub>\*.  
T<sub>2</sub>\* effects extend beyond vascular space.**



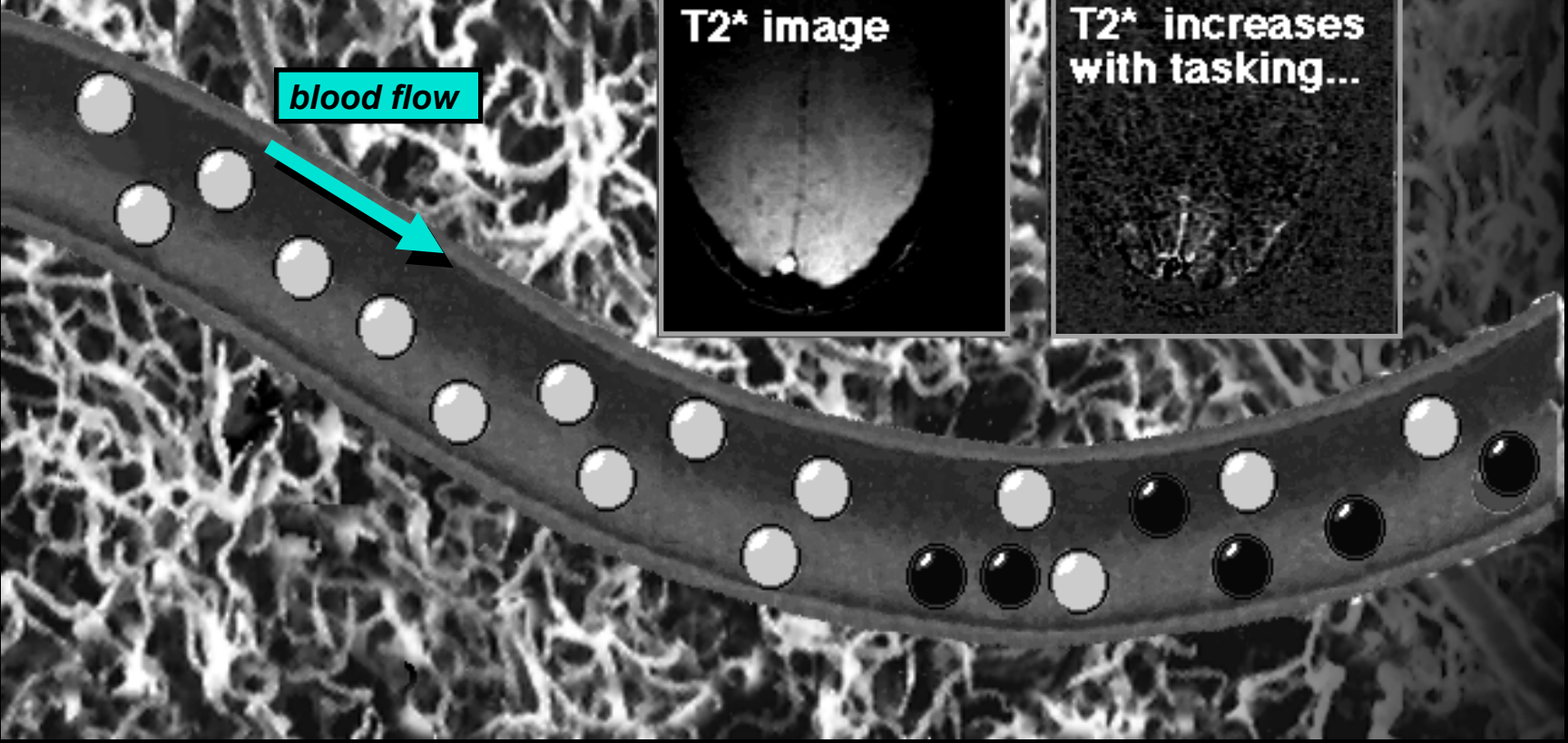
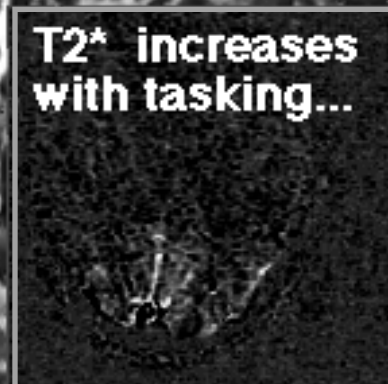
Surplus of HbO<sub>2</sub> ● to Hb ○ leads to a  
increase in T<sub>2</sub>\*-weighted image intensity...

blood flow

T<sub>2</sub>\* image

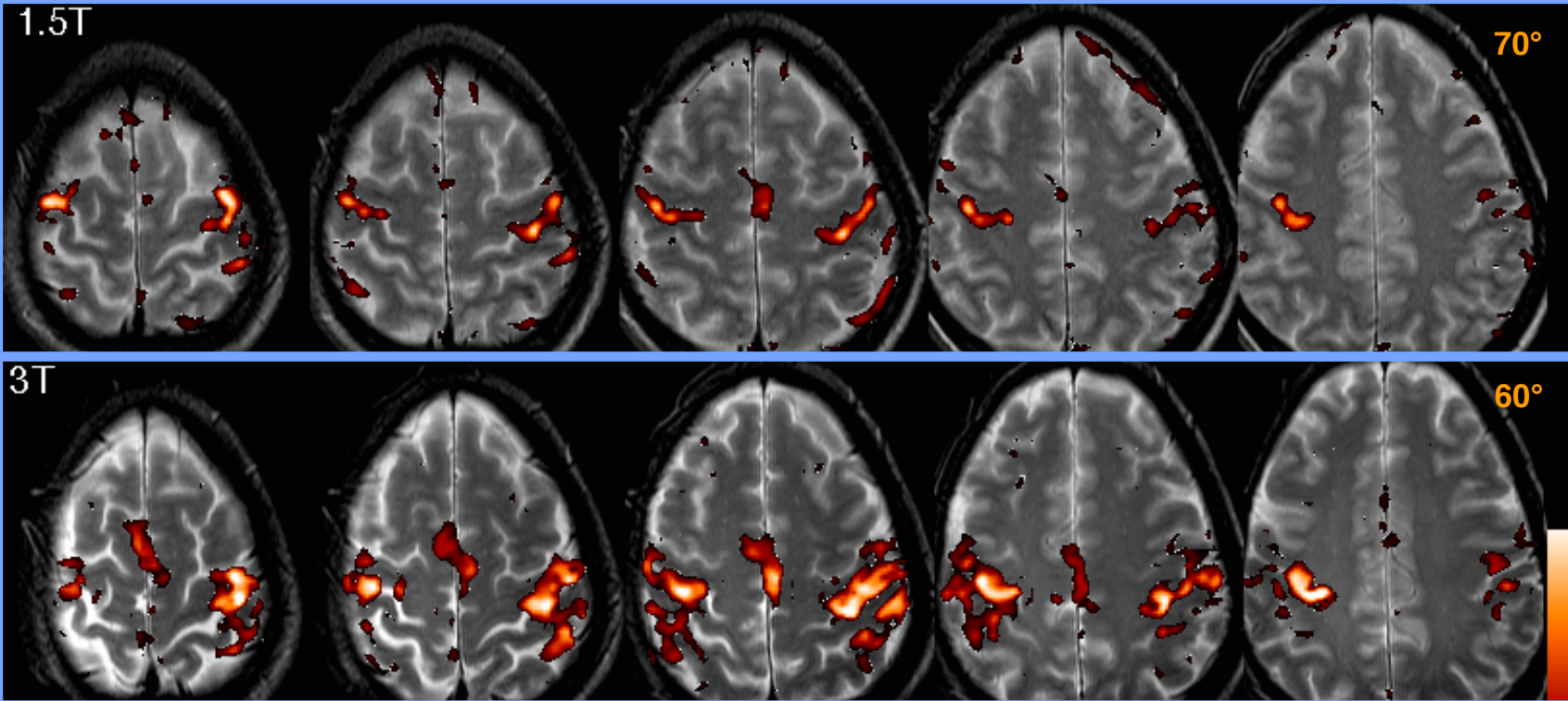


T<sub>2</sub>\* increases  
with tasking...





# 1.5T vs. 3.0T Motor Task Finger Apposition



Spiral 2D single shot, 200 frames, TR 1000ms, TE 40ms  
3T 60°; 1.5T 70° ( $T_1$  @ 3T:  $T_1$ @1.5T~900ms;  $T_1$ @3.0T~1400ms)  
20cm FOV, 5mm/skip 0, 90x90, 6 slices

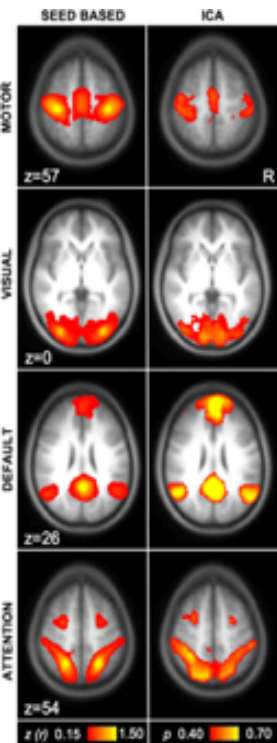
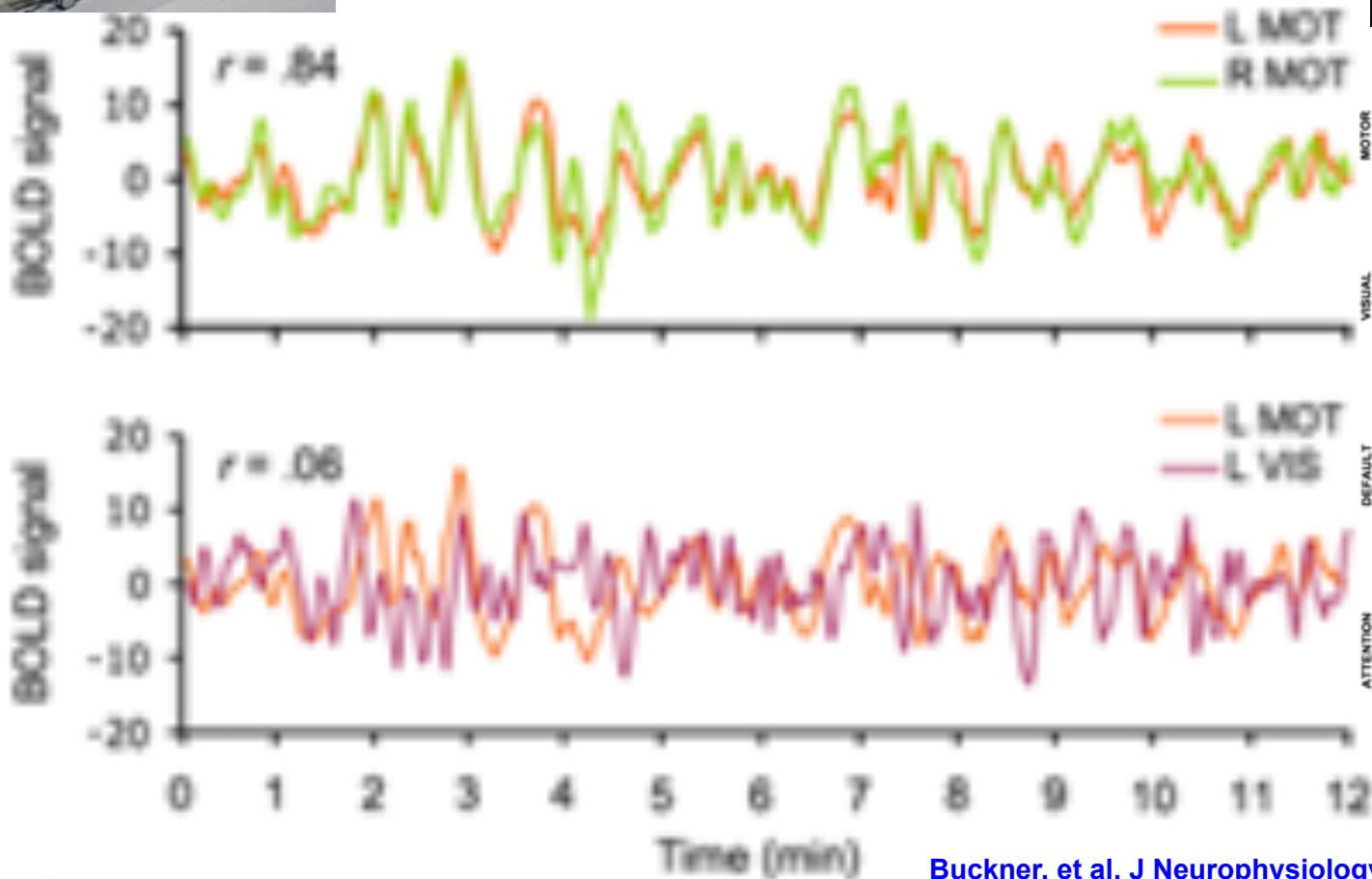
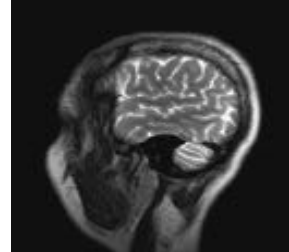
*G. Glover, Dept. of Radiology*

# fMRI “*Resting State*” - Brains at Rest

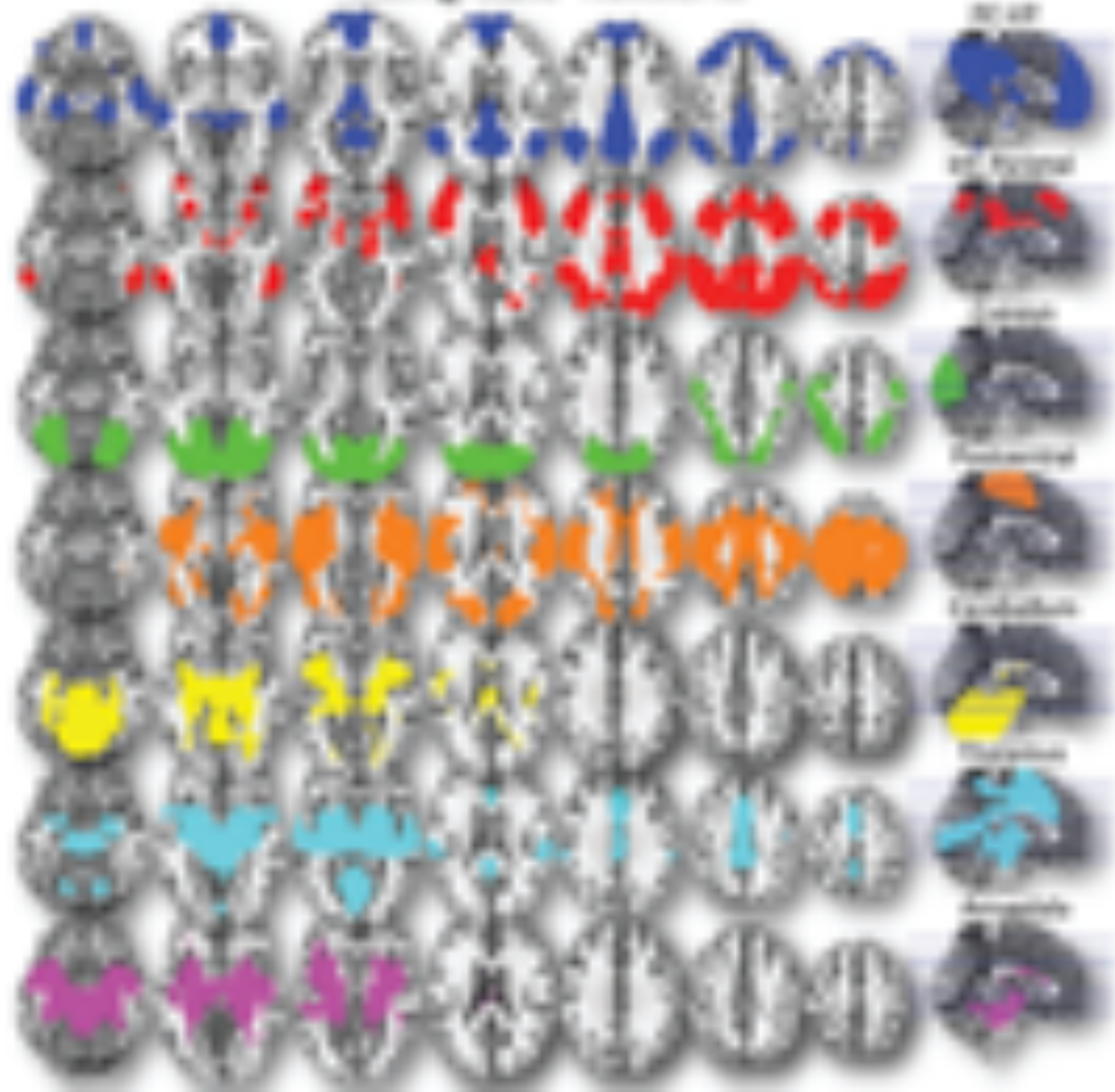




# fMRI “Resting State”

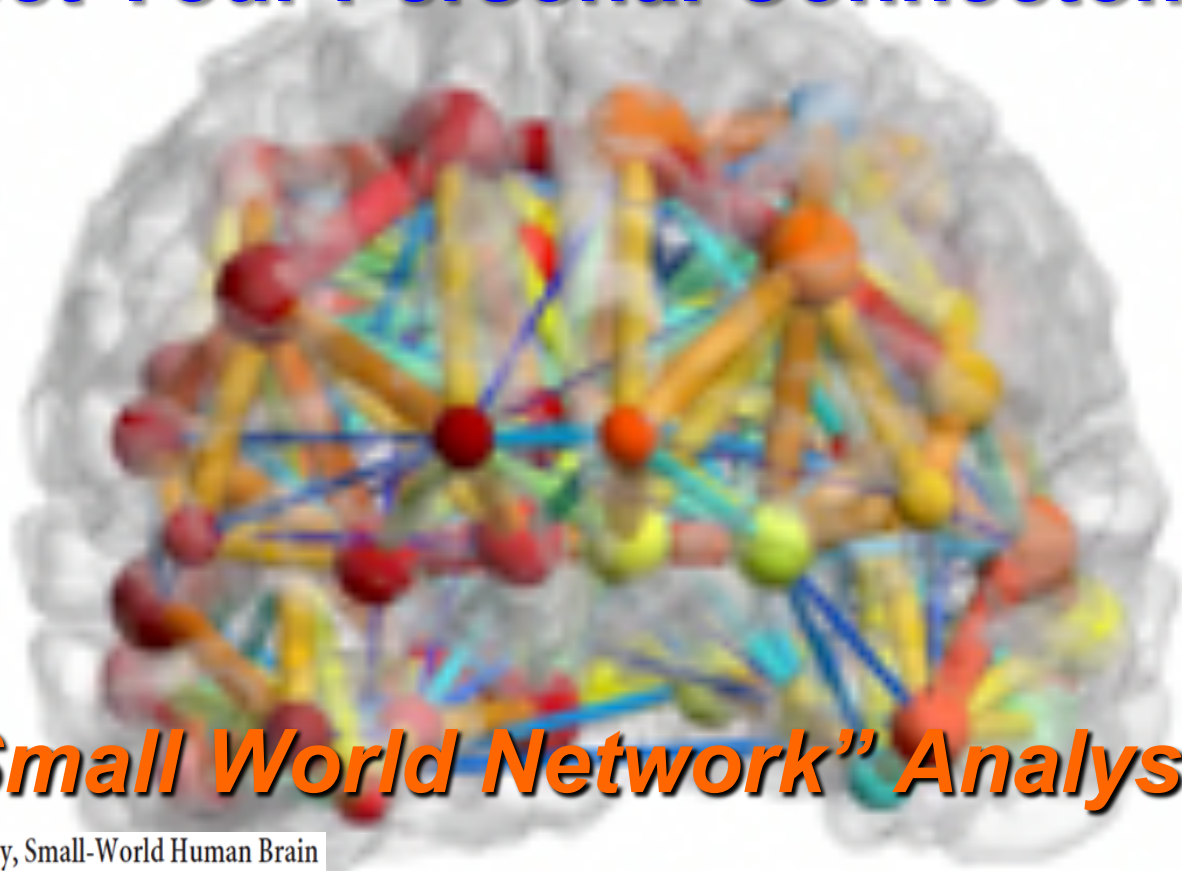


Resting-state Networks



Volkow and Tomasi, NIDA

# “Meet Your Personal Connectome”



## “Small World Network” Analysis

A Resilient, Low-Frequency, Small-World Human Brain  
Functional Network with Highly Connected Association  
Cortical Hubs  
J NeuroSci, 26, 2006

Sophie Achard,<sup>1</sup> Raymond Salvador,<sup>1,2</sup> Brandon Whitcer,<sup>3</sup> John Suckling,<sup>1</sup> and Ed Bullmore<sup>1,3</sup>

Salil Soman, CAFN, Stanford

# What Does MR Offer?

It is a major “clinical endpoint”.

Near-ideal “translational” tool.

DWI, FLAIR, SWI

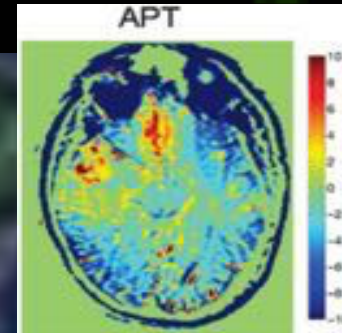
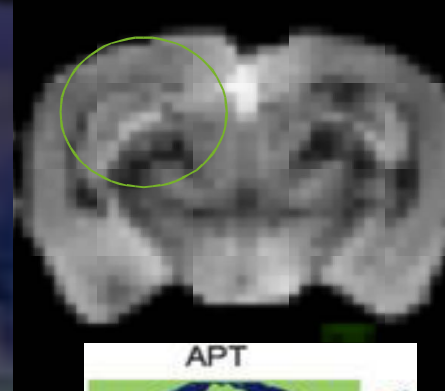
Nex-Gen MR Ideas for MI:

**High-field** – SNR and T2\* (BOLD)

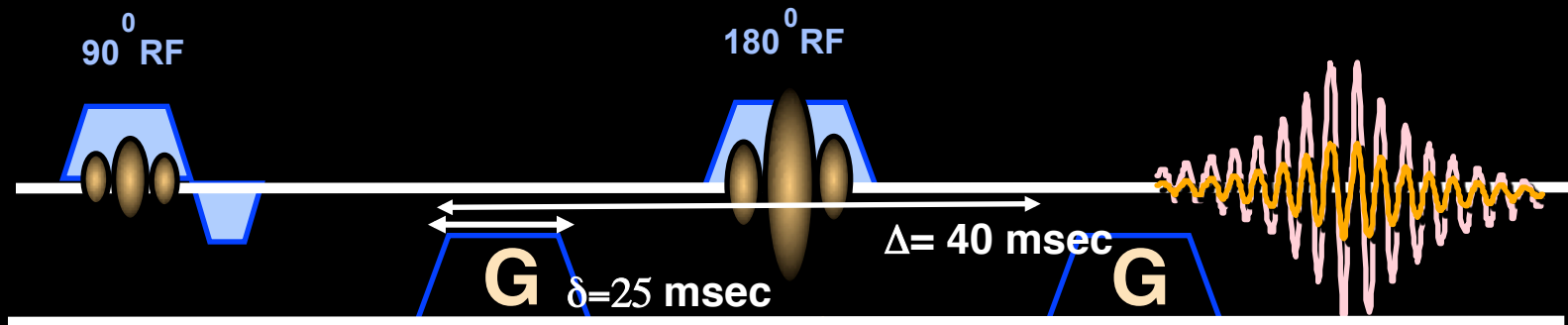
**New contrast agents** – ParaCEST

**New add-ons** – MR/PET

**Multi-nuclear** – Hyper...!



# Proton Diffusion can be Measured as the “ADC”



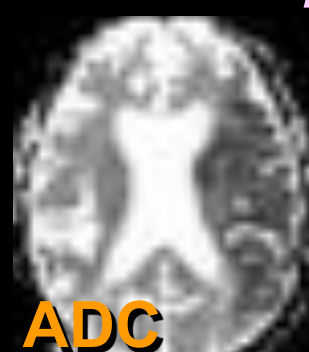
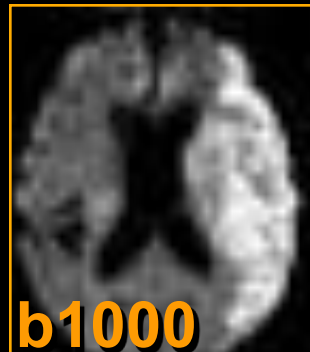
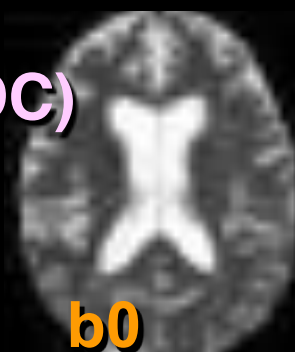
Proton Diffusion

ADC map

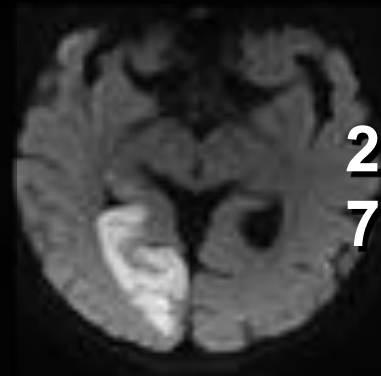
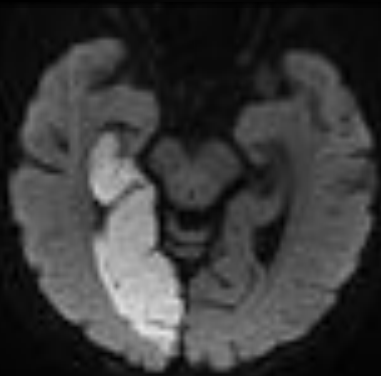
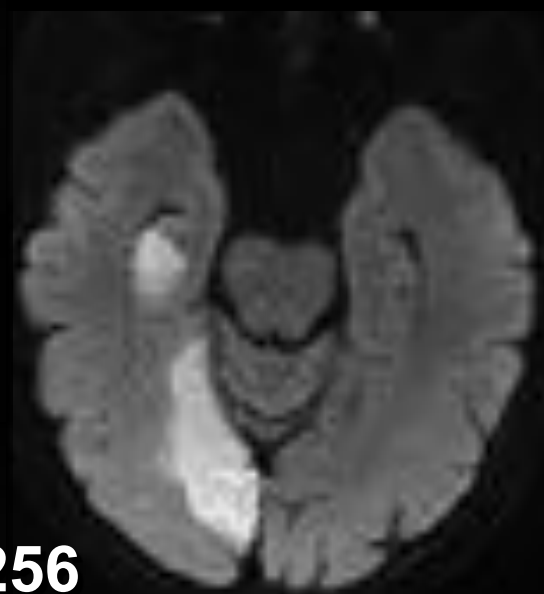
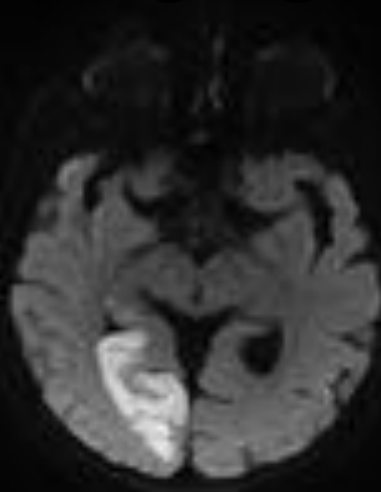
$$S = k e^{-\gamma^2 \delta^2 G^2 [\Delta - \delta/3] \text{ADC}}$$

$$= k e^{-b \text{ADC}}$$

where  $b = 0 - 1000 \text{ sec/mm}^2$



# Molecular Imaging MRI Today



**256x256**  
**72 seconds**



# Aquaporin-4, homeostasis, and neurologic disease

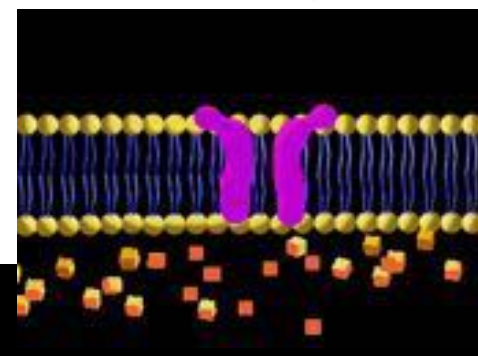
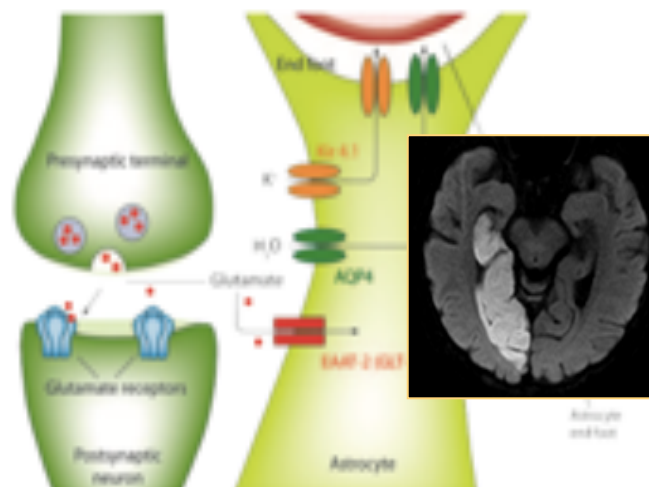


Figure 1. Role of AQP4 in water and  $K^+$  homeostasis



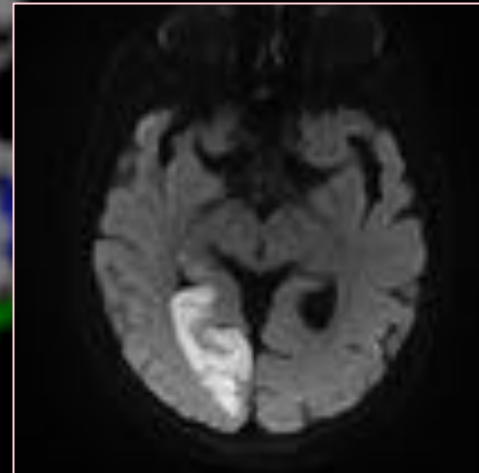
## AQUAPORIN-4 AND NEUROLOGIC DISEASE

**Cerebral edema.** Perivascular AQP4 allows a bi-directional water flow between the blood and the brain and has been implicated in the pathogenesis of cerebral edema.<sup>7</sup> For example, AQP4 is upregulated in astrocytes in the setting of hypoxia, ischemia, traumatic brain injury, inflammatory disorders, exposure to interleukin-1 $\beta$  or ammonium, high-grade astrocytoma, and around metastatic adenocarcinoma. AQP4-null mice, which

# AQP MRI

2019

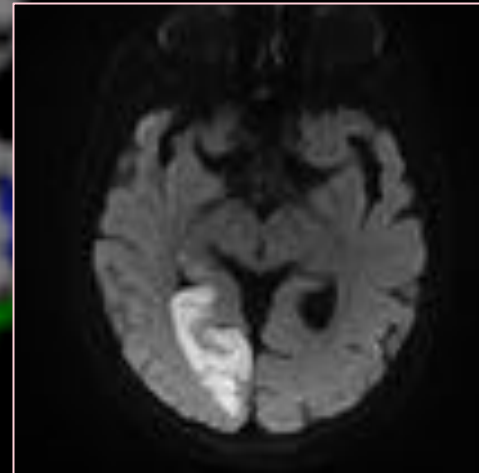
**AQP abundant in brain.**  
**Fast, easy, clinical DWI.**  
**Proton transport.**  
**Membrane sensitive.**  
**Metabolic biomarker.**

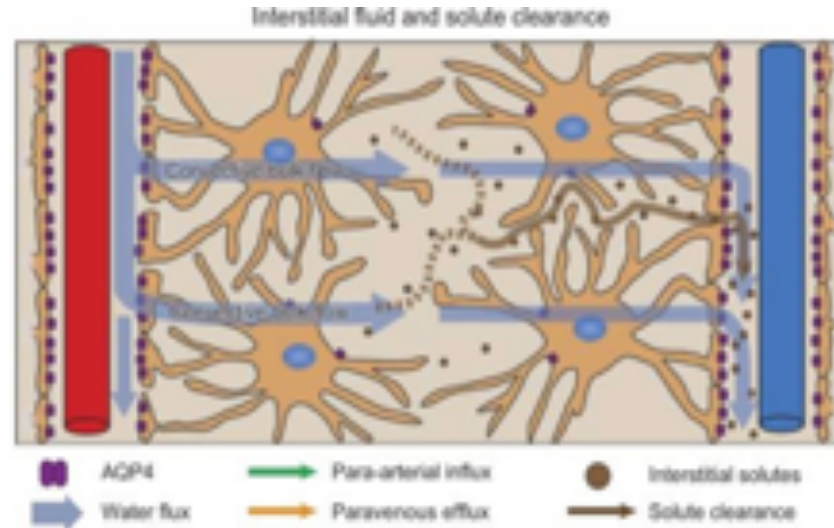
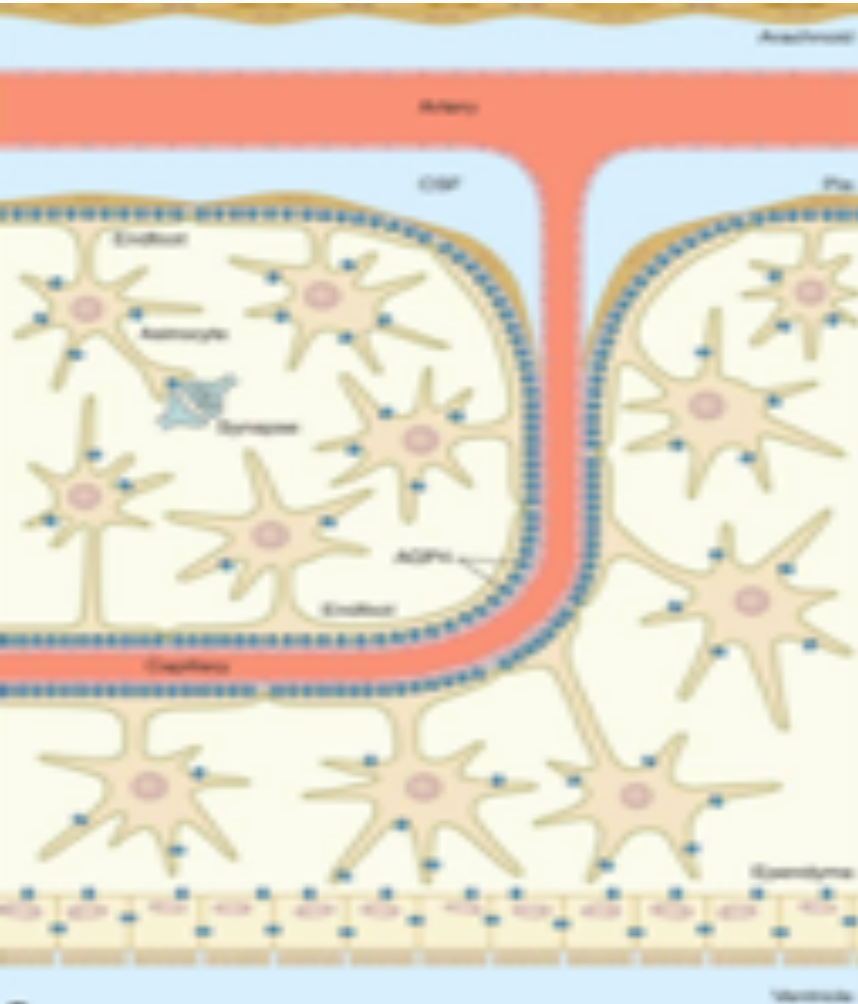


# AQP MRI

*New Ideas?*

Tumor dynamics.  
Response to therapy.  
AQP 'stress test'.  
Glymphatics?  
AD connection?





*Look familiar?*



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12/15/2014

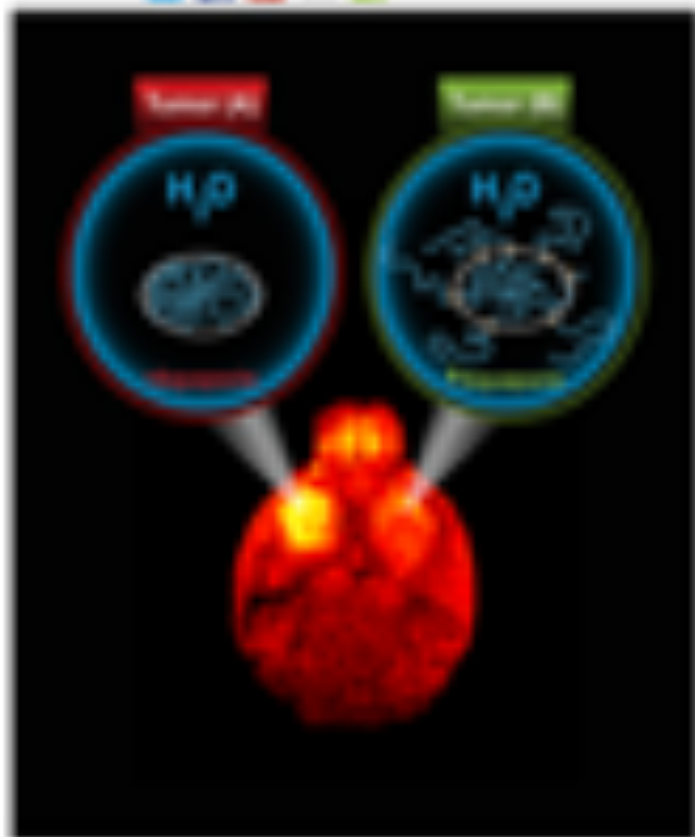
## Visualizing Gene Expression with MRI

Genes tell cells what to do—for example, when to repair DNA molecules or when to die—and can be turned on or off like a light switch. Knowing which genes are switched on, or expressed, is important for the treatment and monitoring of disease. Now, for the first time, Caltech scientists have developed a simple way to visualize gene expression in cells deep inside the body using a common imaging technology.

Researchers at the laboratory of [Michael Shapiro](#), assistant professor of chemical engineering and Heritage Medical Research Institute, have invented a new method to use magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) signals to gene expression in cells—including tumor cells—in living tissue. The technique, which eventually could be used in humans, would allow gene expression to be monitored non-invasively, helping to improve procedures such as diagnosis.

The work appears in the December 22 online edition of the journal *Nature Communications*.

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An illustration of magnetic resonance imaging in cells.

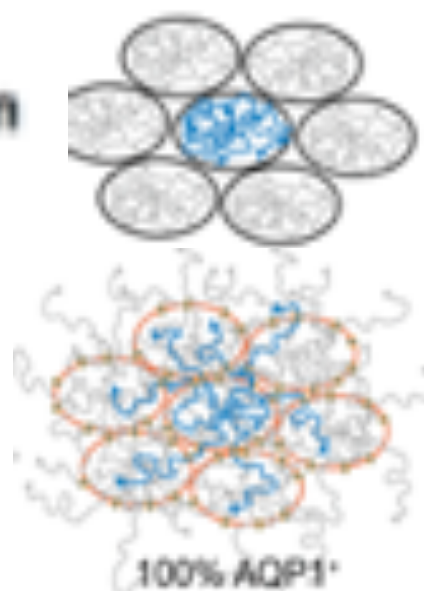
# A Genetically Encoded Reporter for Diffusion Weighted Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Arnab Mukherjee<sup>1,2</sup>, Qi Wu<sup>1,2</sup>, Hunter C. Davis<sup>1</sup>, Michael S. Shapiro<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering,  
<sup>2</sup>Division of Engineering and Applied Sciences  
California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA

\* These authors contributed equally

Correspondence should be addressed to M.S.S. ([mshapiro@caltech.edu](mailto:mshapiro@caltech.edu))



## ABSTRACT

The ability to monitor gene expression in intact, optically opaque animals is important for a wide range of applications including longitudinal imaging of oncogene expression and long-term tracking of cell-based therapeutics. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) could enable such monitoring with high spatial and temporal resolution. However, existing MRI reporter genes, based primarily on metal-binding proteins or chemical exchange saturation transfer probes, are limited by their reliance on metal ions or relatively low sensitivity. In this work, we introduce a new class of genetically encoded reporter for MRI that work by altering water diffusivity. We show that overexpression of the human water channel aquaporin 1 (AQP1) produces robust contrast in diffusion-weighted MRI by increasing effective water diffusivity in tissues by over 100% without affecting cell viability or morphology. Low levels of AQP1 expression ( $>1 \mu\text{M}$ ), or mixed populations comprising as few as 10% AQP1-expressing cells, produce sufficient contrast to be observed by MRI. We demonstrate the utility of AQP1 in vivo by imaging gene expression in intracranial tumor xenografts. Overall, our results establish AQP1 as a new, metal-free, sensitive and specific genetically encoded reporter for diffusion-weighted MRI.

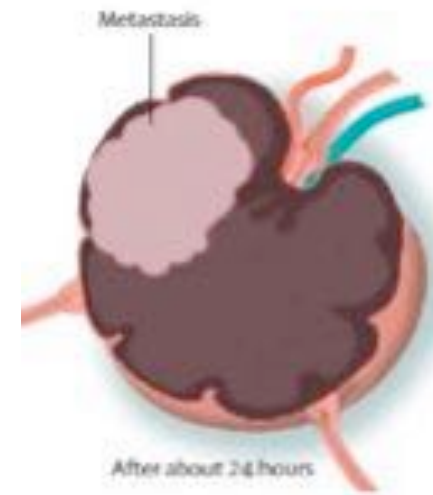
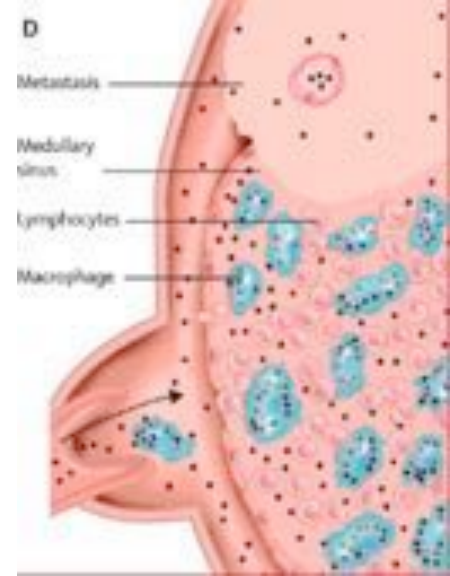
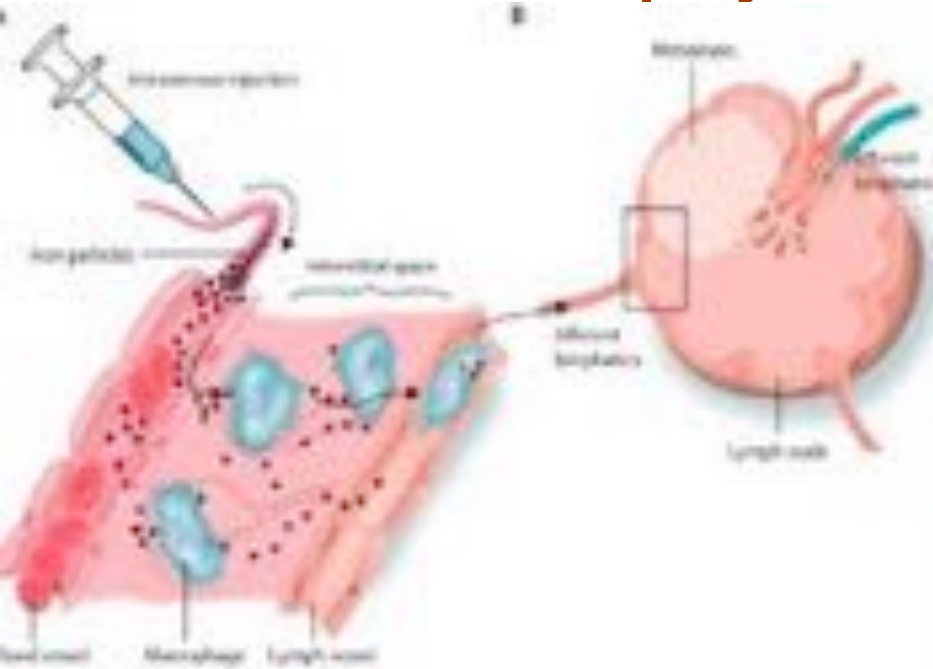
# MR can haz more?

Iron nanoparticles in MRI

Blood pool T2\*

Long retention times

*Iron is taken up by macrophages!*



Science to  
Practice

Jeff M. H. Suh, PhD  
Russell N. Winger, Department of Radiology and  
Neurological Sciences  
The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
720 Rutland Ave, 217 Taylor  
Baltimore, MD 21205  
jmsuh@jhmi.edu

See page 988

## Science to Practice: Can Macrophage Infiltration Serve as a Surrogate Marker for Stem Cell Viability?

### Summary

Following *in vivo* pretreatment of host macrophages with ultrasmall superparamagnetic iron oxide (USPIO) nanoparticles, it was shown that their magnetic resonance (MR) imaging-visible signal was less optimal of scaffolded adipose-derived stem cells (ADSCs) undergoing apoptosis and served as a surrogate marker of stem cell death.

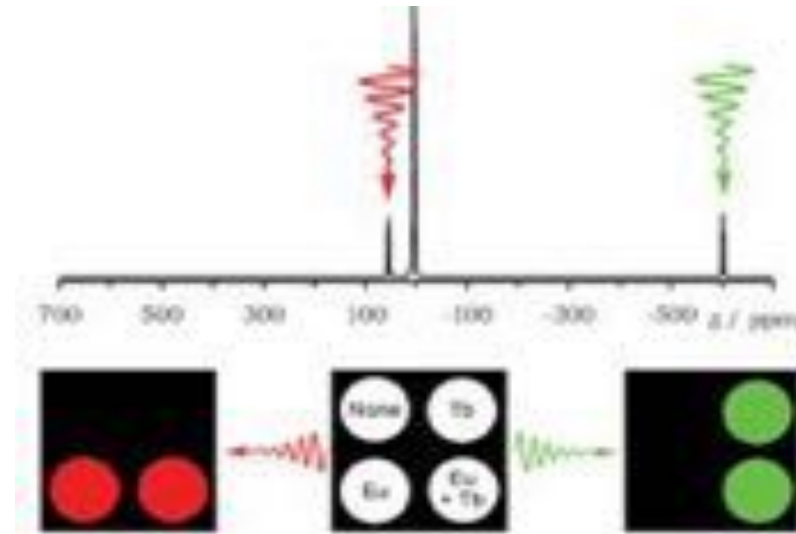


**MR  
Agents  
in  
Disguise...**



# Paramagnetic Lanthanide Complexes as “PARACEST” Agents

- Lanthanide metals either:
  - shorten proton T1 (Gd does this...) or
  - shift their Larmor frequency (+ or -)
- Shift agents very old idea
- New novel applications
- T<sup>0</sup>C, pH sensitive

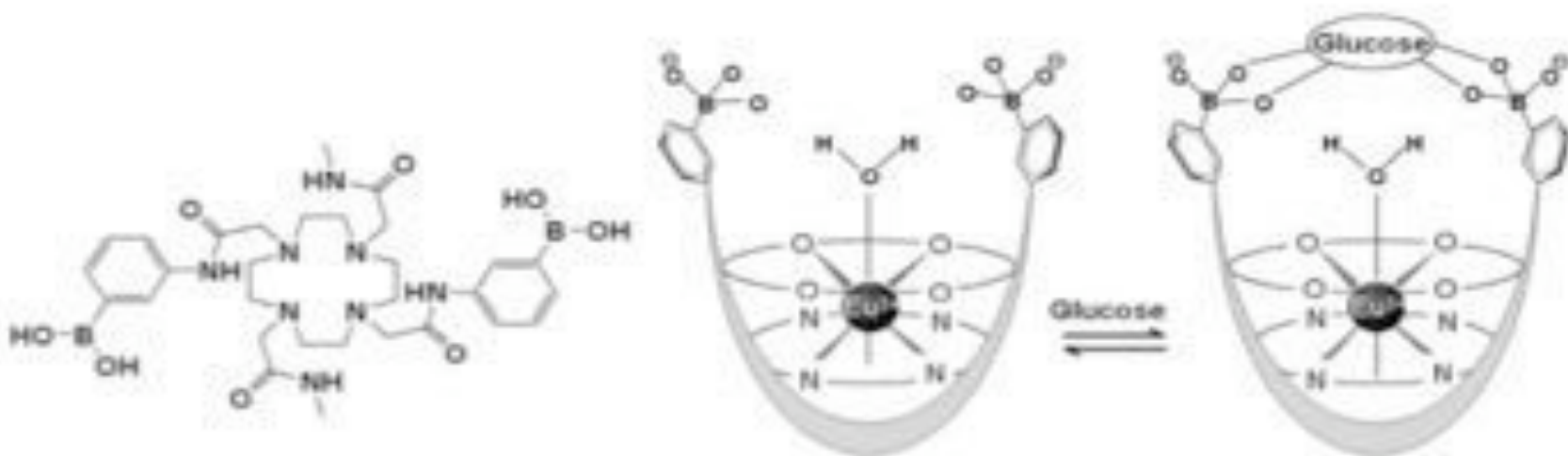


# In Vivo Demonstration of “PARACEST” Agents

Magnetic Resonance in Medicine 60:1047–1055 (2008)

## Imaging the Tissue Distribution of Glucose in Livers Using A PARACEST Sensor

Jimin Ren,<sup>1</sup> Robert Trokowski,<sup>2</sup> Shanrong Zhang,<sup>1</sup> Craig R. Malloy,<sup>1,3</sup> and  
A. Dean Sherry<sup>1,2\*</sup>

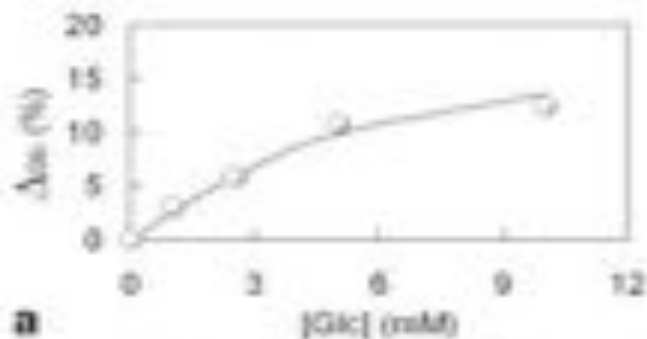
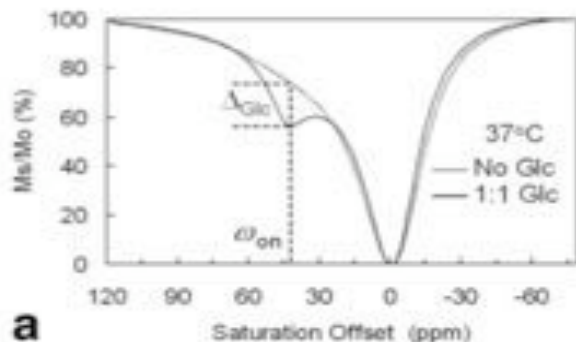


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# What Does MR Offer?

It is a major “clinical endpoint”.

Near-ideal “translational” tool.

DWI, FLAIR, SWI

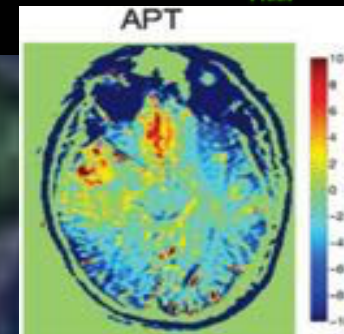
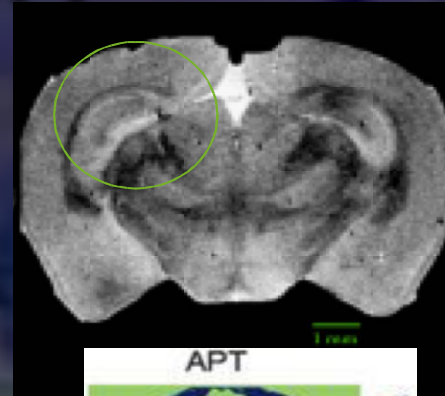
Nex-Gen MR Ideas for MI:

**High-field** – SNR and T2\* (BOLD)

**New contrast agents** – ParaCEST

**New add-ons** – MR/PET

**Multi-nuclear** – Hyper...!







**My # 4**

**“We Are in the Golden Age  
of Radiology”**

# ***The Attack of Deep Learning and AI***

***Our challenges today...***

***Learn it or burn.***

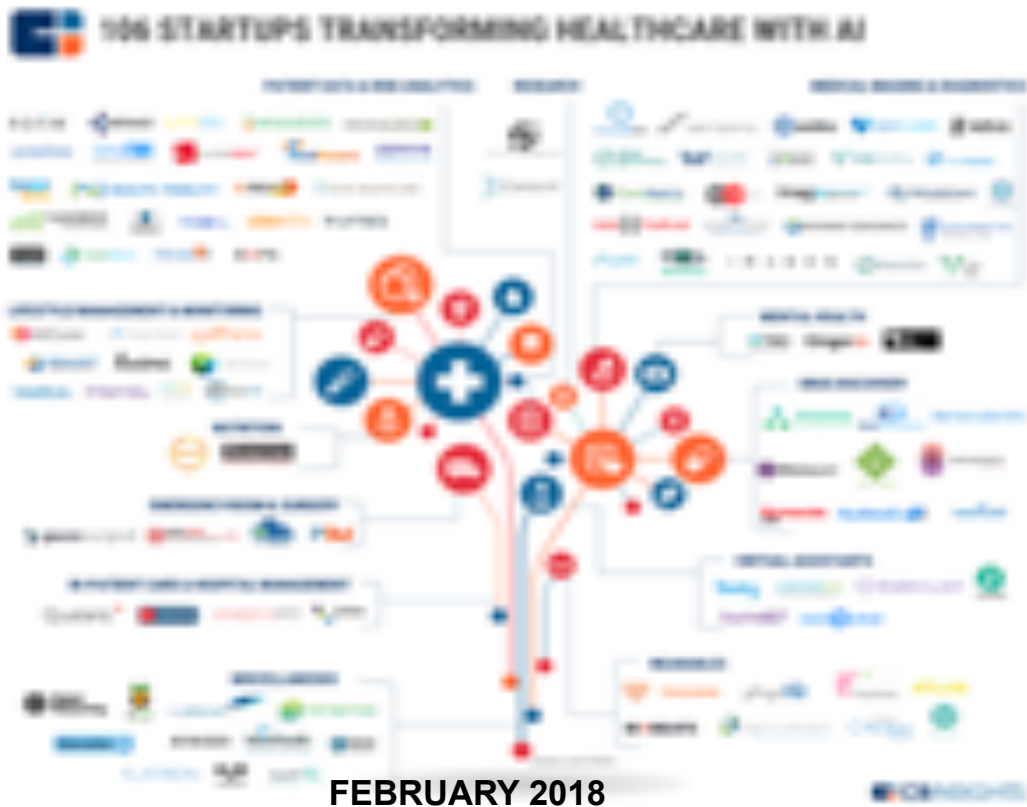
***It may not destroy Radiology...  
But will make us stronger.***

***True potential is unknown***





# Deep Learning: Intelligence from Big Data



# Facebook is doing research to help speed up medical imaging — here's why

PUBLISHED TUE, AUG 21 2018 • 8:22 AM EDT | UPDATED TUE, AUG 21 2018 • 11:54 AM EDT



An MRI scan of an Alzheimer's patient's brain

©2018 Images/Chris Deegan



# The Future of Radiology and Artificial Intelligence

What if an algorithm could tell you whether you have cancer based on your CT scan or mammography exam? While I am certain that radiologists' essential work will be necessary in the future to collect complex scans and supervising diagnostic processes, AI will definitely become part of that daily routine. Improving image quality, increasing scan repetition rates, to either free up time or getting diagnosed by it, we should embrace what has a great potential to help change the course of radiology for the better.

## Radiologists who use AI will replace those who don't

There is a lot of hype and plenty of fear around artificial intelligence and its impact on the future of healthcare. There are many signs pointing towards the fact that AI will completely change the world of medicine. As deep learning algorithms and various AI models continue to evolve especially around the field of medical imaging, many radiologists were not quite ready. In his presentation at the ICRP Tech Conference in Las Vegas in May 2017, Curtis Langston, Professor of Radiology and Biomedical Informatics at Stanford University, mentioned how he received an e-mail from one of his students asking for his thoughts about going into radiology but does not know whether it is a viable profession anymore. His recommendation that the radiologist profession is dying, is just plain wrong.

See how others  
thought



# AuntMinnie.com

## Attending radiologists need to bone up on AI

By Erik L. Ridley, AuntMinnie staff writer

January 28, 2019 -- To help ensure that medical students will still find radiology appealing, attending radiologists in academic departments need to stay informed about artificial intelligence (AI) technology and the exciting potential it offers for the specialty, according to an editorial published online January 24 in *Academic Radiology*.

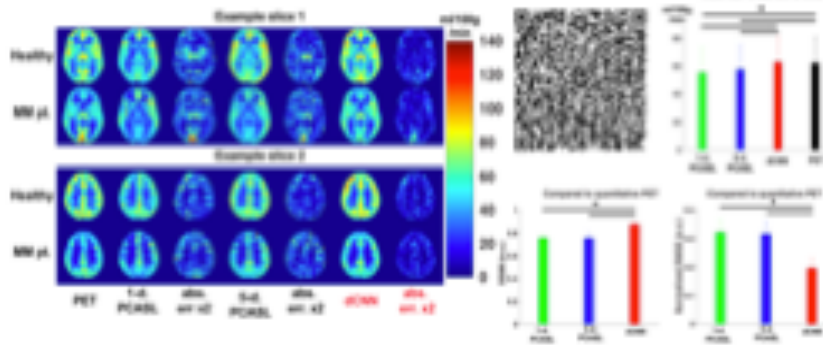
Radiology should be the medical specialty most primed to incorporate AI into its workflow, but, unfortunately, many attending radiologists aren't sure exactly how that will happen, wrote Dr. Allison Grayev of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health in Madison, WI.



We develop new MRI and PET techniques to better understand human brain function and neurovascular diseases. Ask us about diffusion, perfusion, PET/MR, oxygenation imaging and deep learning applications!

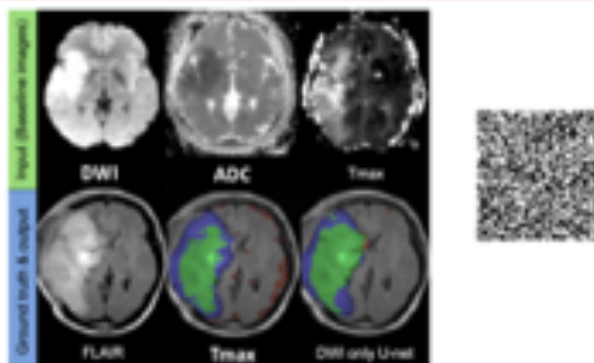


**Improved ASL using Deep Learning and Multi-contrast MRI**



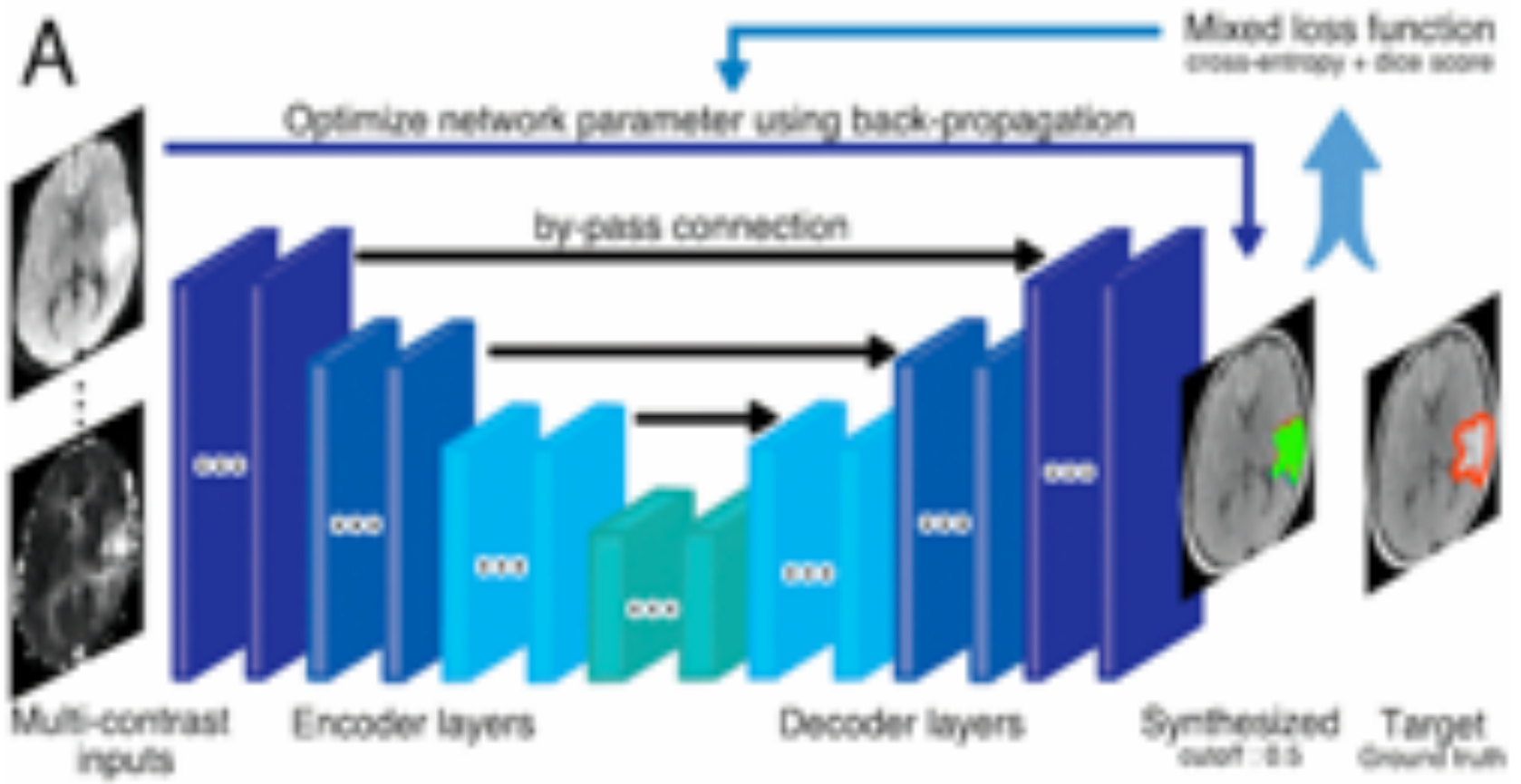
[<sup>15</sup>O] PET/MRI + DL

**deepStroke: Predicting Stroke Lesion Outcome from Acute MRI**



Stroke Outcome + DL

# Predicting infarct development in acute ischemic stroke with baseline multimodal MRI and convolutional neural networks



**B**

Input

Output



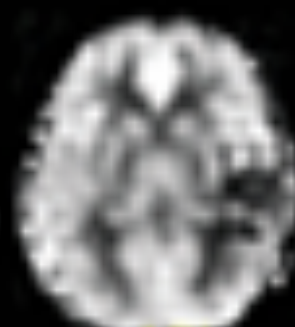
DWI



ADC



GRE



ASL-CBF



Ground truth



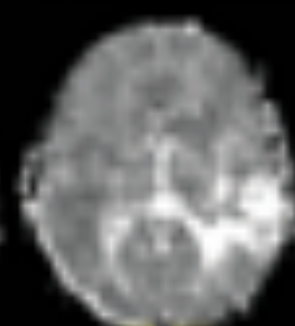
Tmax



CBF



CBV

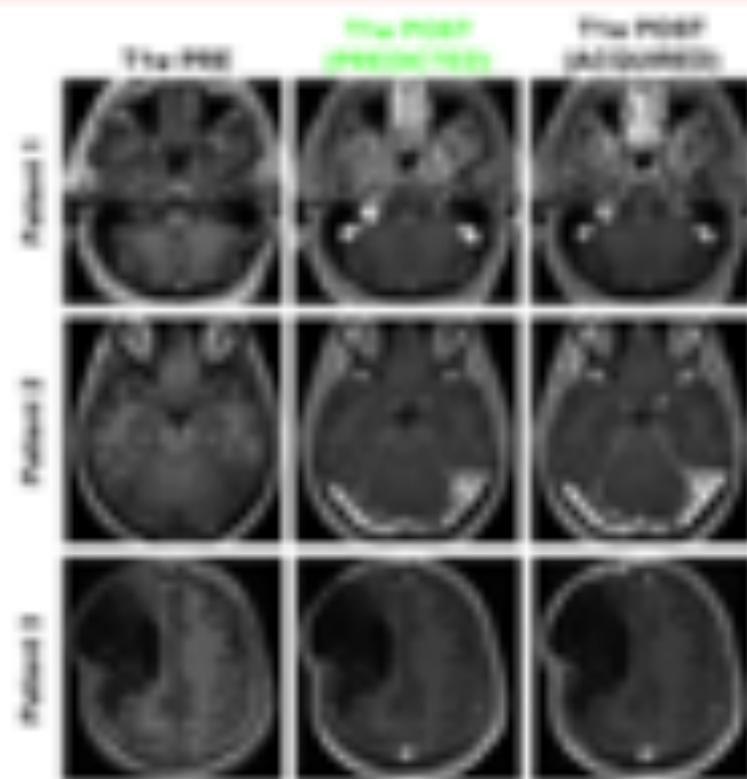


MTT



Prediction

## Predicting Contrast Agent Enhancement with Deep Convolutional Networks



We tested whether deep convolutional neural networks (CNNs) could predict what an image would look like if a contrast agent was injected in the body. Great similarities were found between the predicted and the actual images acquired after contrast agent injection. If further validated, this approach could have great clinical utility in patients who cannot receive contrast.



# My view of AI

