



Role of nuclear medicine and radiology in cancer management

Carlos A Buchpiguel

University of São Paulo



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Rationale in Cancer Management

- Early and precise detection of the primary lesion
 - Early detection of primary lesion has proved to improve survival in selected types of cancer
- Accurate staging and restaging
 - Correct staging is of utmost importance for planning adjuvant therapy and follow up
- Therapy monitoring and follow up
 - Changing non-effective and/or toxic treatments allow more cost-effective protocols to manage cancer patients
- Tumor tissue and molecular characterization
 - In the era of target and molecular oriented therapies, evaluate the molecular profile of a systemic disease than of a single lesion might save cost and time



Ideal Imaging Test

- Detect disease early enough to allow complete cure
- Change the natural history of the disease
- Increase overall survival (reduce mortality)
- No morbidity or risks involved
- No or minimum false positive results
- Affordable cost



Early Detection

Blanks et al. BMJ 2000;321:665-669
Duffy et al. Cancer 2002;95:458–469
Paci et al. Br J Cancer 2002;87:65–69

	Program
Blanks et al. BMJ 2000;321:665–669	UK
Duffy et al. Cancer 2002;95:458–469	Sweden
Paci et al.	Italy

Mortality

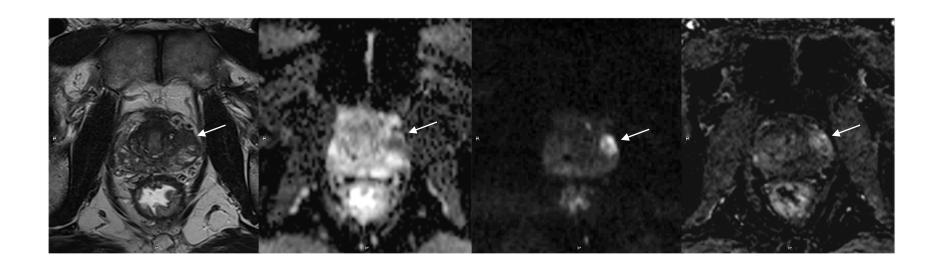
21,3%

39%

50%

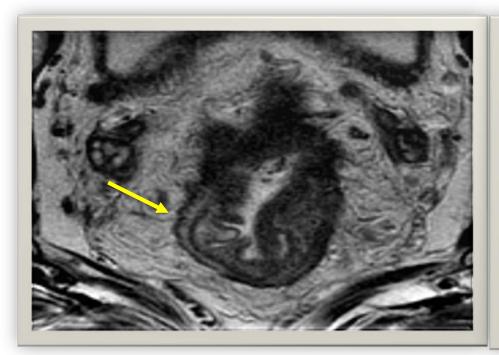


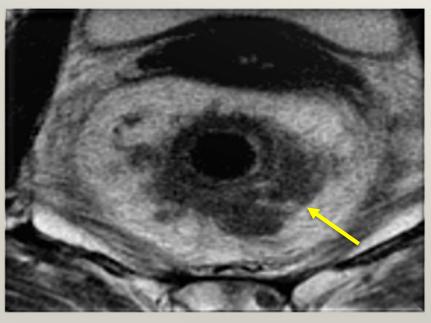
Detection: Primary Lesion





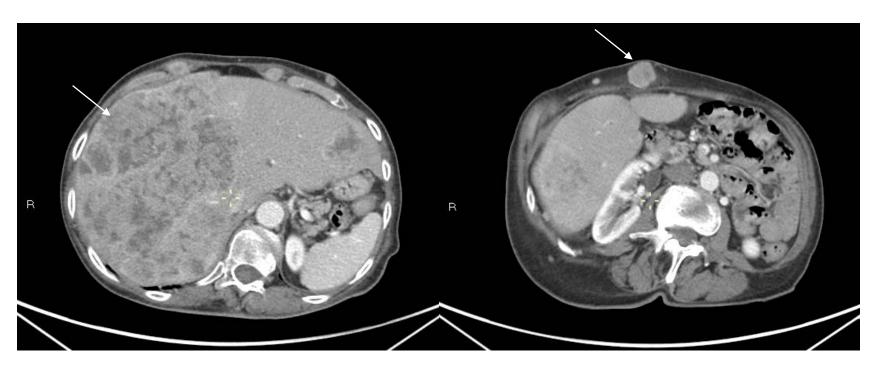
Local Staging







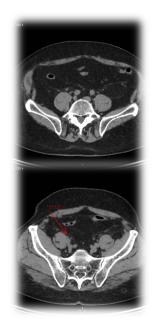
Systemic Staging

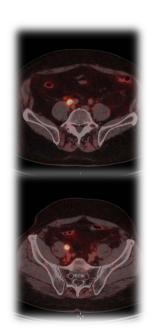




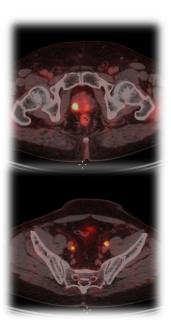
Staging and Changing Cancer Management

Gleason score 9; PSA: 17; Clinical T2



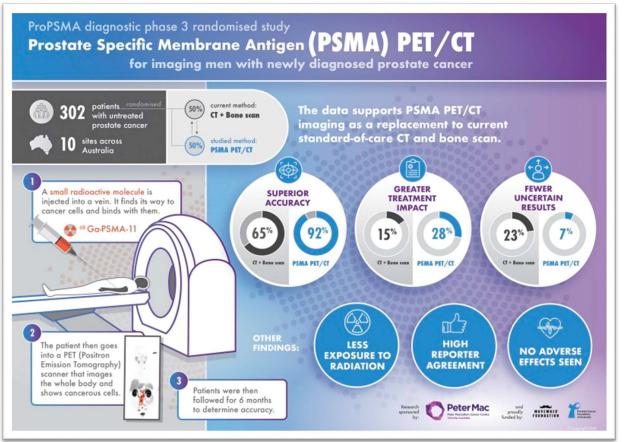






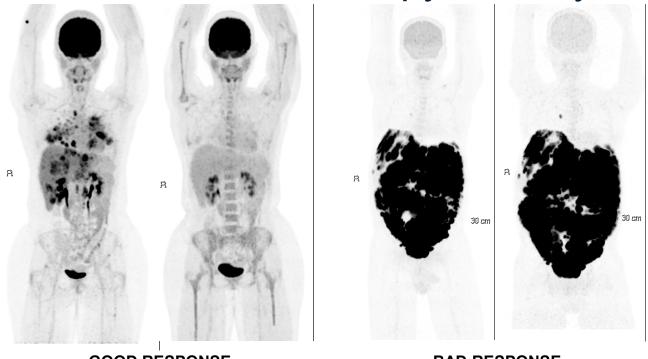


Level of Evidence





Evaluation of Therapy Efficacy



GOOD RESPONSE

BAD RESPONSE