## Advances in Radioisotope Medical Applications

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### Disclosures

- No financial disclosures
- This is my perspective from a clinician running a research program
- Prioritized by demand in the clinic, not how they are produced or their availability



## How I approached this talk

- Frequency of use: Tier 1 (common) Tier 2 (uncommon) Tier 3 (Research)
- Within each tier:
  - SPECT diagnostics
  - PET diagnostics
  - Therapeutics

**Tier 1 Diagnostic SPECT** 

99mTc

Gamma emitter 6 hour half life <sup>99</sup>Mo → <sup>99</sup>Tc Generator

Multifunctional isotope is the backbone of Nuclear Medicine Bone scans, liver scans, biliary scans and numerous other scans New agents are being developed with <sup>99m</sup>Tc Tier 1 Diagnostic SPECT

# 111**I**n

Gamma emitter 67 hour half life Cyclotron produced

Multifunctional isotope speciality scans Labeled WBC scans, antibodies, peptides Image quality is poor, trending down Tier 1 Diagnostic PET



PET emitter 110 min half life Cyclotron produced

Multifunctional isotope for PET imaging, ideal energy FDG scans, PSMA Image quality is excellent especially with hybrid imaging



Tier 1 Diagnostic PET

 $68(\frac{1}{12})$ 

PET emitter 68 min half life <sup>68</sup>Ge → <sup>68</sup>Ga Generator

Up and coming PET isotope. Requires on site generation/chemistry DOTATATE and PSMA scans Unclear what will happen in future but currently growing especially Outside US Tier 1 Therapeutic-gamma

## 131**I**

Gamma emitter 8d half life Nuclear Reactor produced

Long term therapy for thyroid cancer <sup>123</sup>I- imaging <sup>124</sup>I PET imaging, <sup>125</sup>I therapy (seeds) Thyroid cancer treatment is increasing due to increased diagnosis



Tier 1 Therapeutic-alpha

223Ra

Alpha emitter 11 d half life Nuclear Reactor produced

First FDA approved alpha therapy for bone Targets prostate and breast bone metastases although used widely Easy to administer No domestic production (Norway) Tier 1 Therapeutic-beta

Beta emitter 64h half life Nuclear Reactor produced

Incorporated into resin coated microspheres (Theraspheres™) Used primarily in liver cancers as part of a radioembolization procedure Prolongs life, rarely cures patient Tier 1 Therapeutic-beta

# 177Lu

Beta emitter 6.7d half life Nuclear Reactor produced

Popularized in Europe

Initial therapy for Neuroendocrine tumors was highly successful (Lutathera™) Growing indications for prostate cancers and others based on chelation with The DOTA chelator

## Tier 2 (less commonly used isotopes)

Tier 2 Diagnostic SPECT

# 201T1

gamma emitter 73h half life Cyclotron produced

#### Cardiology agent to detect intact cardiac muscle vs. infarct



Tier 2 Diagnostic PET

# 82Rb

PET emitter 75s half life Cyclotron produced Generator produced <sup>82</sup>Sr  $\longrightarrow$  <sup>82</sup>Ru

#### Cardiology agent to detect intact cardiac muscle vs. infarct



Tier 2 Diagnostic PET

04( '11

PET emitter 12h half life Reactor/Accelerator produced

Newly approved agent for diagnosis of neuroendocrine tumors <sup>67</sup>Cu has been suggested as a theranostic isotope Remains to be seen whether it will be successful Liver uptake Tier 2 Therapeutic

# 89**S**r

Beta emitter 65d half life Reactor produced

Formerly used for bone metastases Also <sup>153</sup>Sm (46h beta) and <sup>186</sup>Re (90h, Beta,gamma) are used in a similar way Use is declining in favor of <sup>223</sup>Ra Tier 2 Therapeutic

192**T**r

Beta emitter 74d half life

Used for implanting radioactive seeds into tumors Cervical, prostate etc.



Tier 2 Therapeutic

# 103Pa

### Gamma emitter 17 d half life

Used for implanting radioactive seeds into tumors Cervical, prostate etc.



## Tier 3 (Research isotopes)

**Tier 3 Diagnostic PET** 



PET emitter78 Hour half lifeCyclotron produced

Long lived PET agent useful for labeling antibodies and cells Increasing applications with checkpoint inhibitors



Tier 3 Therapeutic Alpha

225 AC

Alpha emitter 9.9 d half life Cyclotron produced

Increasing interest in alpha therapies that can be readily chelated Increasing use outside US (Europe, South Africa, Australia) <sup>213</sup>Bi (46min) is similar Tier 3 Therapeutic Alpha

212**Ph** 

Alpha emitter 10.6 Hour half life Generator produced

Increasing interest in alpha therapies that can be readily chelated Attractive short half life Gamma emitting isotope <sup>203</sup>Pb for diagnostics Tier 3 Therapeutic Alpha

227**Th** 

Alpha emitter 18 day half life Generator produced

Byproduct of <sup>223</sup>Ra production means there is excess capacity Very long half life is disadvantageous for practical reasons Tier 3 Therapeutic Beta

# 47Sc

Beta emitter/gamma 3.35 day half life

Similar to 177 Lu in chemistry <sup>44</sup>Sc (4hr half life) is PET emitter Increasing research on these isotope but not mainstream Potential for therapy/imaging theranostic pair

### Summary

- Nuclear Medicine is evolving rapidly and new radioisotopes are being employed.
- Targeted radionuclide therapy is becoming more important with Beta and Alpha emitters
- Some traditional agents are in decline as new agents take their place
- Expect continued turmoil in the types of isotopes in demand for nuclear medicine over the coming decade.