Radiation-induced cardiovascular disease: Is it time for a new biology ?

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The radiobiology paradigm









Why (re)-consider the radiobiology paradigm ?

- We **know** that radiation causes DNA damage.
- We know that mutations cause late health effects.
- We know this follows an LNT dose response.











The danger of a single story – Chimamanda Adichie

"If we only hear one story we risk simplification and a critical misunderstanding....."

https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story

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Things the "one story" paradigm can't quite explain

- The lack of a fingerprint mutation in a driver gene.
- Probability of radiation actually hitting the driver gene.
- Diseases where mutation and clonal expansion do not exist.
- Non-targeted effects.
- Scarcity of solid cancers in DNA repair defect syndromes.
- "Radiation susceptibility" cancer syndromes (e.g. Rb1, PTCH1)







"One story" doesn't fit most radiation diseases

Cancer Cataract Inflammation CVD Cognition Metabolic









Pathology of radiation-induced heart disease

- -coronary arteries: atherosclerosis
- -myocardium: myocardial fibrosis; microvascular insufficiency and ischemia
- -pericardium: acute / chronic pericarditis
- -valves: valvular injury due to endocardial fibrosis
- -conduction system: arrhythmias







CVD in childhood cancer survivors

- 212 cases (CVD) and controls from UK, France and Spain.
- Obtained outcomes, confouders, and irradiation plans.
- Retrospective dosimetry for 21 heart regions per patient.



3D representation of the voxels used for calculating heart sub- structures doses (17 year old male).

Preliminary report:

EOR/1Gy = 1.50 (95%CI: 0.21 to 33.27)for the risk of ischemic heart diseases or heart failure as a function of average dose to the left anterior descending artery.

The cohort will be pooled with project PancareSurFup to give 900 cases/controls.

Haddy N. et al Circulation 2016;133:31-38









Is there evidence for an $RBE_{(CVD)}$?

- Endothelial and vascular smooth muscle cell models.
- Exposed to X-rays or Fe ions.
- End points: Electrophysiology, multiomics and cytokine profiling.







Is there evidence for an effect of dose rate ($DREF_{CVD}$)?

Institute for Environmental Sciences (IES) Rokkasho, Aomori, Japan



Mice are chronically irradiated with gamma-rays from a ¹³⁷Cs source under **SPF** conditions



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AMBIC

 $20 \text{ mGy/day} \rightarrow_{10}$

1 mGy/day →

1000 -

100 -

0.1 -

0.01 -

0.001







Compare ApoE mice chronically irradiated at IES Japan or acutely irradiated at ENEA, Italy. Atherosclerotic lesions were measured for number, area and location.



Sham 0.3 Gy 6 Gy



Effect seen at 300mGy acute. 300mGy chronic less damaging. This is evidence that a dose rate correction factor (DREF_{CVD}) is appropriate.

Mancuso et al Oncotarget. 2015 Oct 13;6(31):31263-71.









Systemic/local information exchange?

ApoE mice irradiated on hind quarters only. Atherosclerotic lesions quantified.



Lead shielding of heart



There is evidence for a dose-dependent **radio-protective** abscopal effect on atherosclerosis.









Exosomes from irradiated cells improve DNA repair in other irradiated cells



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What are the effects on the heart?



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ТШ

Fresh-frozen samples: label free proteomics



Protein extraction (left ventricle, mix FFPE / frozen)

FASP (clean up)

MS/MS

Protein quantification

HMGU

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Principal component analysis of heart proteomes



Azimzadeh et al Oncotarget. 2016 Jul 6. doi: 10.18632







Principal component analysis of heart proteomes



German Research Center for Environmental Health

SEVENTH FRAMEWOR

Proteomic changes in the hearts of Mayak workers fit our network model in a dose-dependent manner



Azimzadeh et al Oncotarget 2016 Jul 6. doi: 10.18632







Dose-dependent increase in down-regulated mitochondrial proteins



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So what do we still not know ?

Biology

- RBEs for all radiation qualities and all endpoints.
- Does the $DREF_{CVD}$ apply to all end points ?
- Shape of the dose response in vivo.
- Are biological effects model dependent, can we find a better model ?
- Which cells cause the damage, what are cell autonomous effects?

Epidemiology/Biomarkers

- Results of completed case-control study ?
- Long-term predictive value of proteomics /EVs.
- Biomarkers of metabolism / mitochondrial function.
- Long-term follow up of CVD biomarkers in radiation cases.
- Contribution of individual variation.







Hypothesis: progressive stress damage leading to CVD











Thank you to the ProCardio team



Website: http://www.procardio.eu/

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