



TECHNOLOGY

Prompt Gamma Imaging System for Proton Range Verification using a Compton Camera

OVERVIEW

Range uncertainty in the exact position of the distal dose gradient of a proton beam delivered within a patient during radiotherapy (RT) can lead to underdosing of the tumor or to excessive dosing to adjacent healthy tissues or critical organs at risk. The unwanted side effects and complications due to this uncertainty is currently one of the key limitations to proton RT. UMB research is directed specifically to overcome this limitation by developing a system for measuring prompt gamma emissions from the treated tissue during proton delivery as a method to verify the *in vivo* beam range. This system uses a Compton camera approach with reconstruction algorithms to determine the initial energy and directional information about an incident radiation (photon or particle) to produce a 3D image. Moreover, investigators have demonstrated that this system can produce images with high spatial and energy resolution without requiring complete energy absorption of the incident radiation within the Compton camera detector. This design provides a feasible path for an on board clinical imaging system to support emission guided RT that has yet to be resolved by other existing technologies, and would improve our ability to fully realize the advantages of proton RT and patient outcomes.

A second, emerging application of this technology is as a compact, portable imaging system for nuclear medicine applications such as PET and SPECT imaging. Feasibility studies have shown its potential as a portable PET scanner and initial design studies are now underway

APPLICATIONS

- Radiation Oncology
- Medical Imaging
- Theranostics
- Radio-isotope monitoring/imaging

ADVANTAGES

- Dose delivery verification solution
- Real-time monitoring of exposure areas
- Compatible with current treatment delivery systems
- Personalizes treatment regimens
- Compact design

STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

- Clinical camera prototype testing
- Proton therapy delivery systems integration testing
- Range verification software development

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CONTACT INFO

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Additional Information

INSTITUTION

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PATENT STATUS

PCT Pending (PCT/US2016/039256) Other Patents Pending

LICENSE STATUS

Available for licensing; Available for sponsored research

CATEGORIES

- Devices
- Imaging devices
- Software + Algorithm
- Healthcare

INVESTIGATOR(S)

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ATTACHMENTS

-  [Download UMB Invention Summary-PGI-JP-2016-088.pdf](#)

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

- [Imaging of prompt gamma rays emitted during delivery of clinical proton beams with a Compton camera: feasibility studies](#)

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