

Advancements in cancer treatments

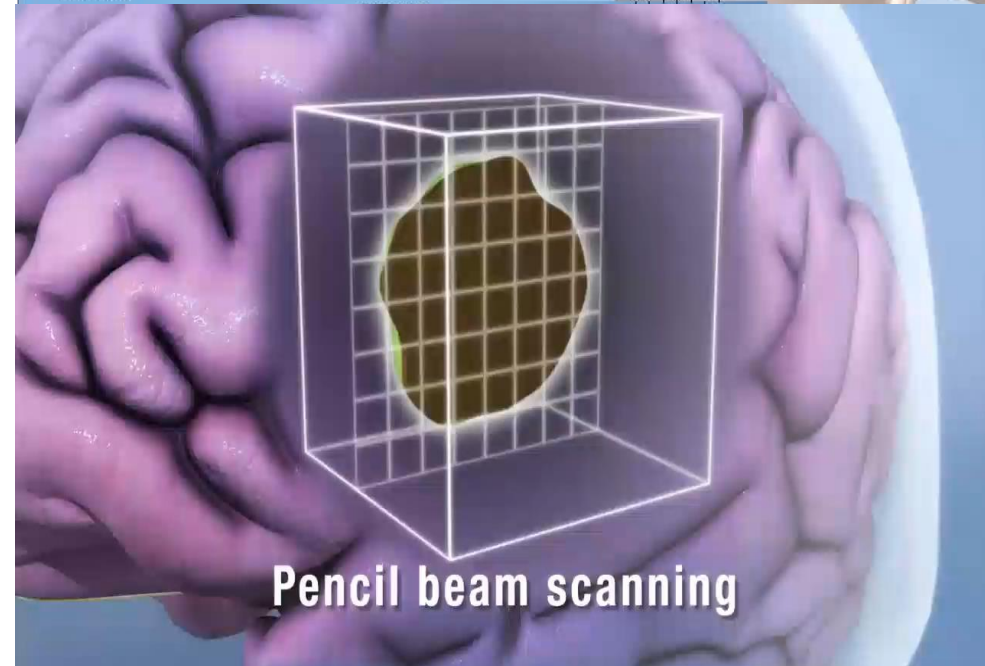
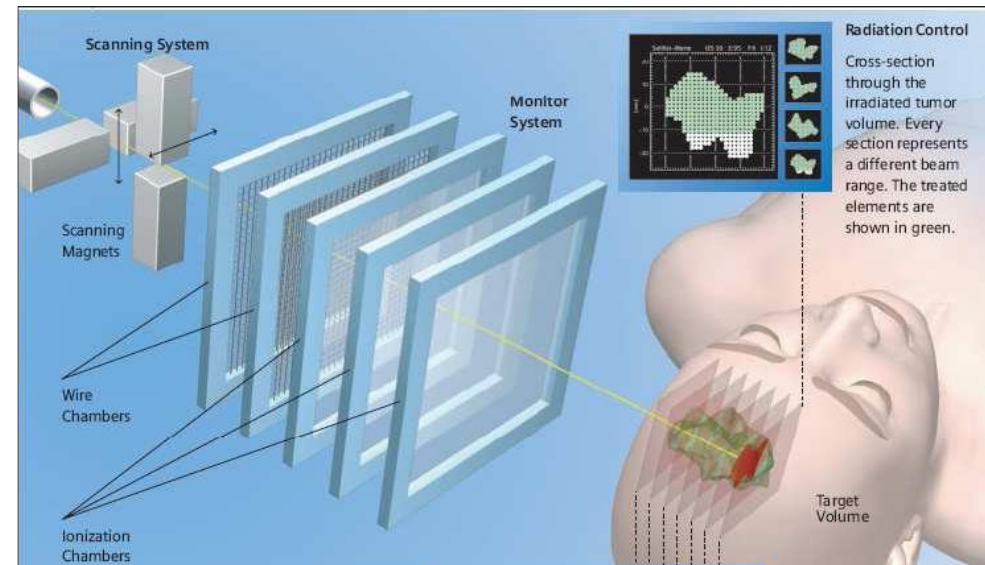
# Hadrontherapy: exploring new challenges against cancer

**Sandro Rossi**

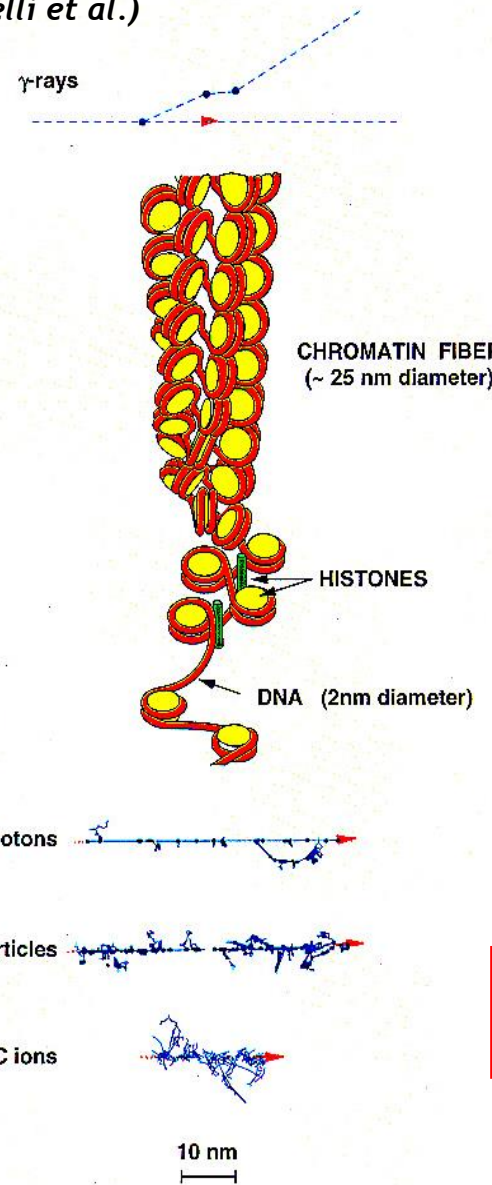
*CNAO Foundation*

Slovenian Business & Research Association  
Rue Joseph II 14, Brussels  
November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

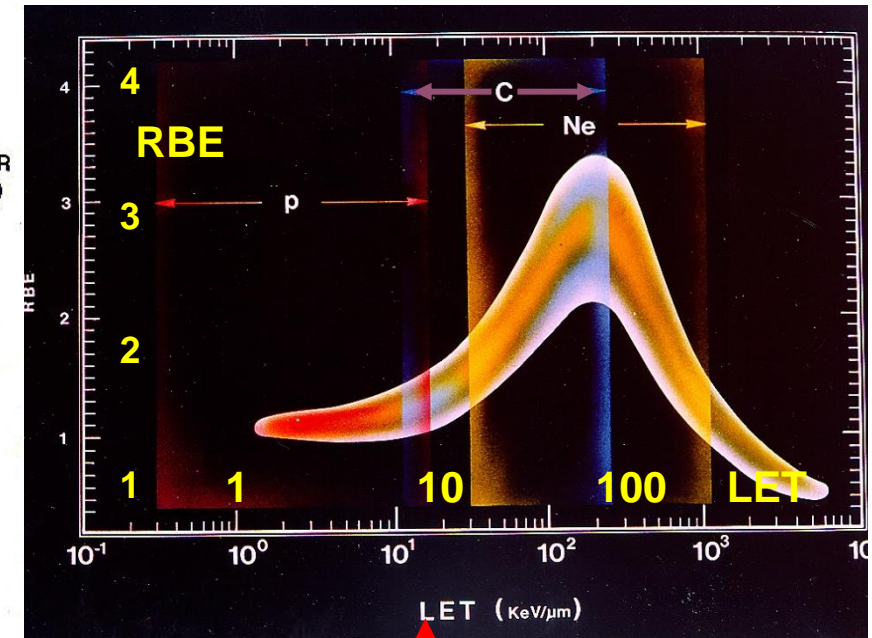
# RATIONALE of hadrontherapy: precision + efficacy (for Carbon)



(M. Belli et al.)



RBE = Relative Biological Effectiveness



$$10 - 20 \text{ keV}/\mu\text{m} = 100 - 200 \text{ MeV}/\text{cm} \\ = 20 - 40 \text{ eV}/(2 \text{ nm})$$

# HADRANTHERAPY IN THE WORLD

107 centres with protontherapy  
(+40 in construction)

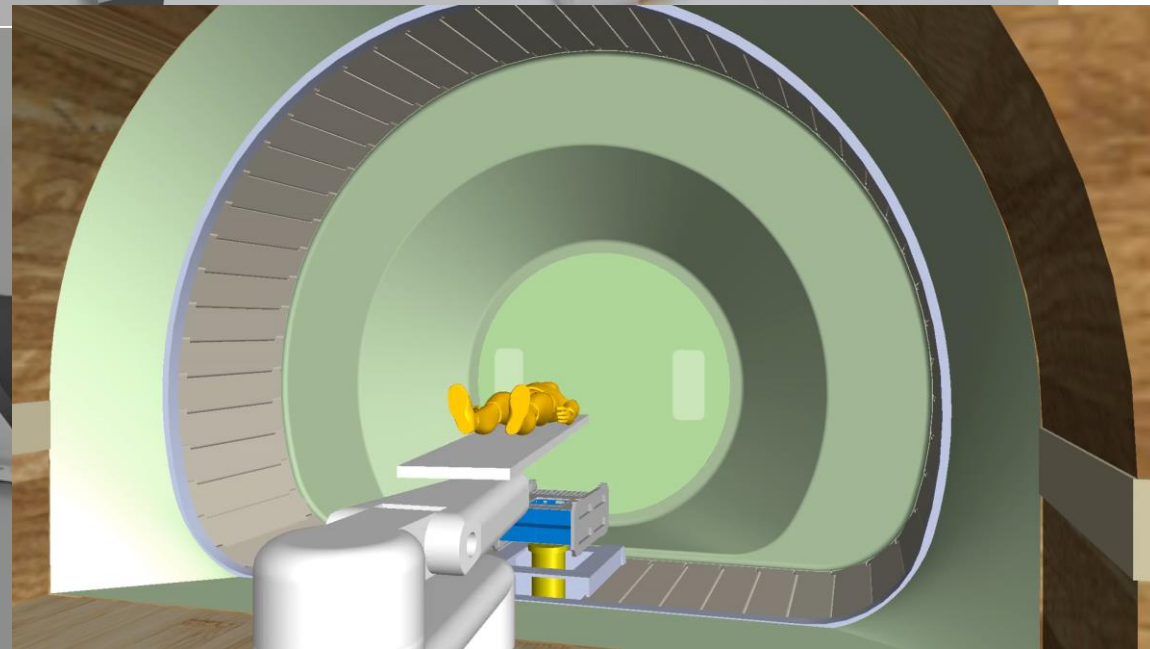
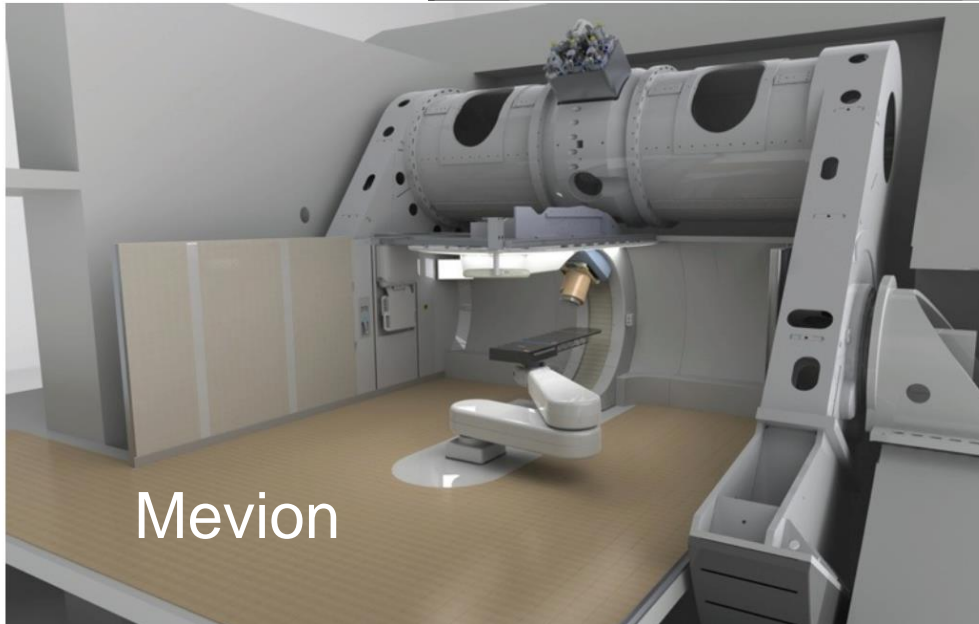
350.000 patients treated  
(+40.000/year)



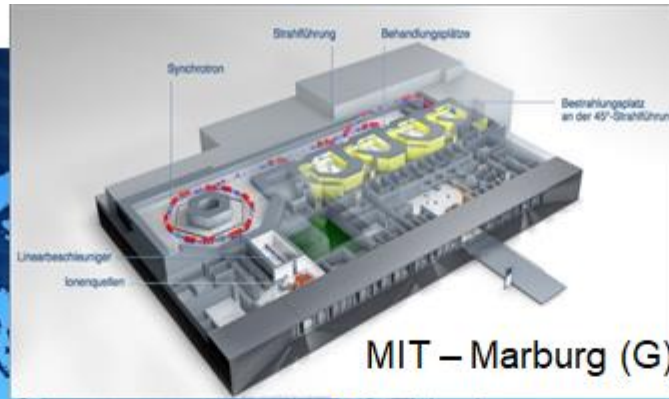
*P*article  
*T*herapy  
*C*o-  
*O*perative  
*G*roup

# Protons...

- **Hitachi**
- *Varian Medical Systems*
- **IBA**
- *Protom*
- **Mevion**
- *Pronova*
- *Toshiba*
- *Sumitomo*
- *Mitsubishi*
- *LinearBeam*
- *Bdot medical*
- *Optivus*



# HADRONTHERAPY IN THE WORLD

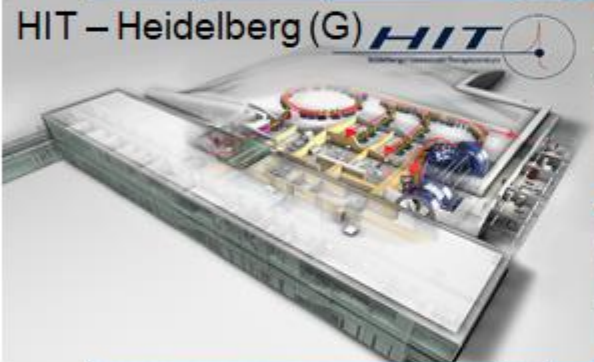


3 centres in China

6 centres in Japan

13 carbon ions centres  
(+5 in construction)  
6 of them multi-particle

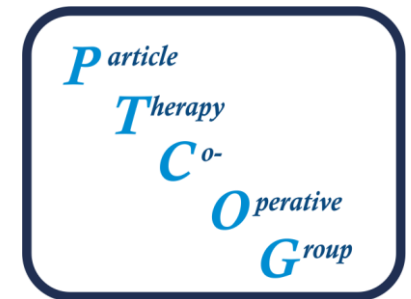
50.000 patients treated  
(+5.000/year)



CNAO – Pavia (I)



MedAustron – Wien (A)



Located in Pavia (Italy)



**Not-for-profit private foundation**

**Created by the Italian Ministry of Health in 2001**

**With the purpose to introduce hadrontherapy in clinics, pursue research and formation**

**The Board is formed by 14 Institutions:**

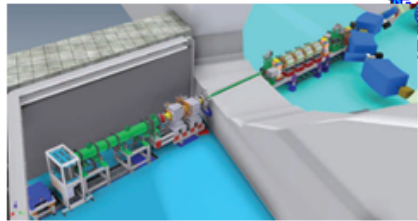
- 5 hospitals
- 3 universities
- 2 research institutes
- 2 public entities (Ministry of Health and Town of Pavia)
- 2 bank foundations

# THE CNAO SYSTEM originated from PIMMS at CERN

IP shared by CNAO, INFN, CERN

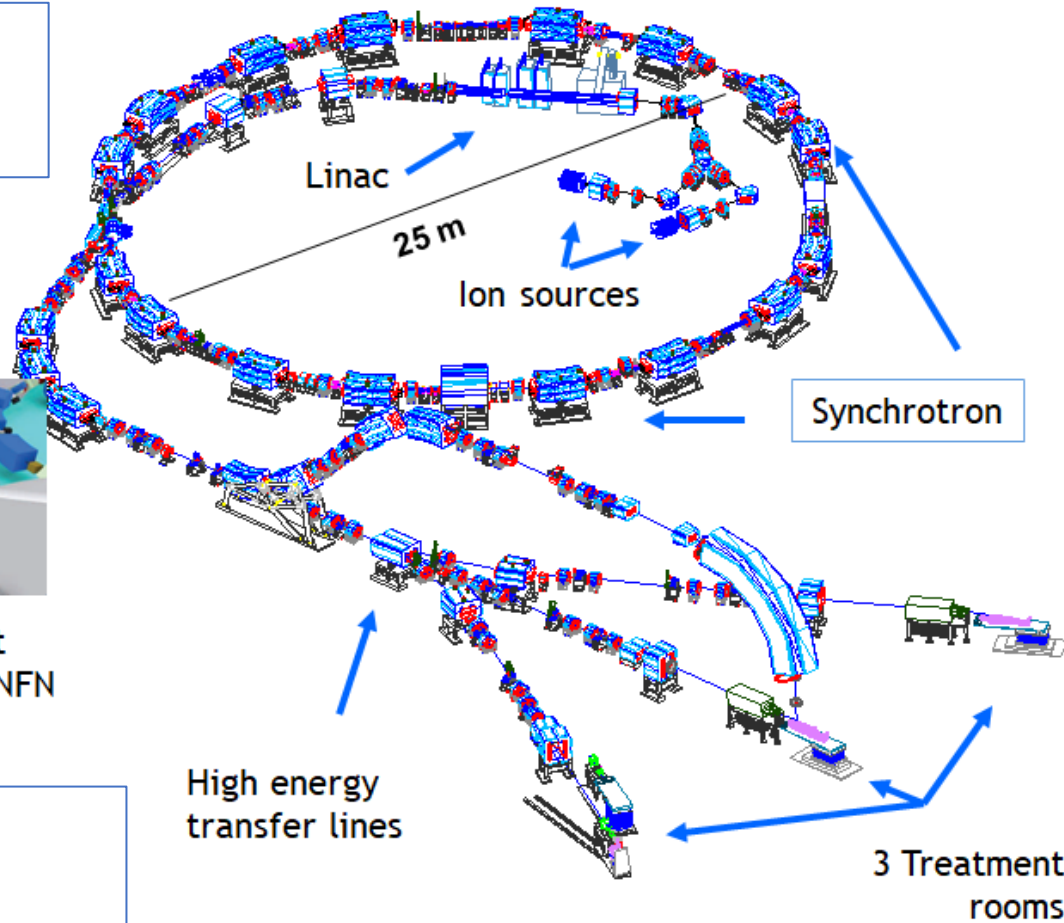
Accelerated ion p, C, He ...  
 Energy range (MeV/u) 60-225 (p) (30-320mm)  
 120-400 (C) (30-270mm)

Extraction Slow - scanning  
 Dose uniformity  $\pm 2.5\%$   
 Average dose rate 2 Gy/min/liter



Research room built in collaboration with INFN

Field size (mm×mm) 200×200  
 Beam size (FWHM) (mm) 4-10  
 Beam position precision (mm) 0.1



# THE HEARTH OF CNAO: THE SYNCHROTRON

Trasfer-lines  
tow. patients

Sources  
to generate

1 RF cavity  
to accelerate

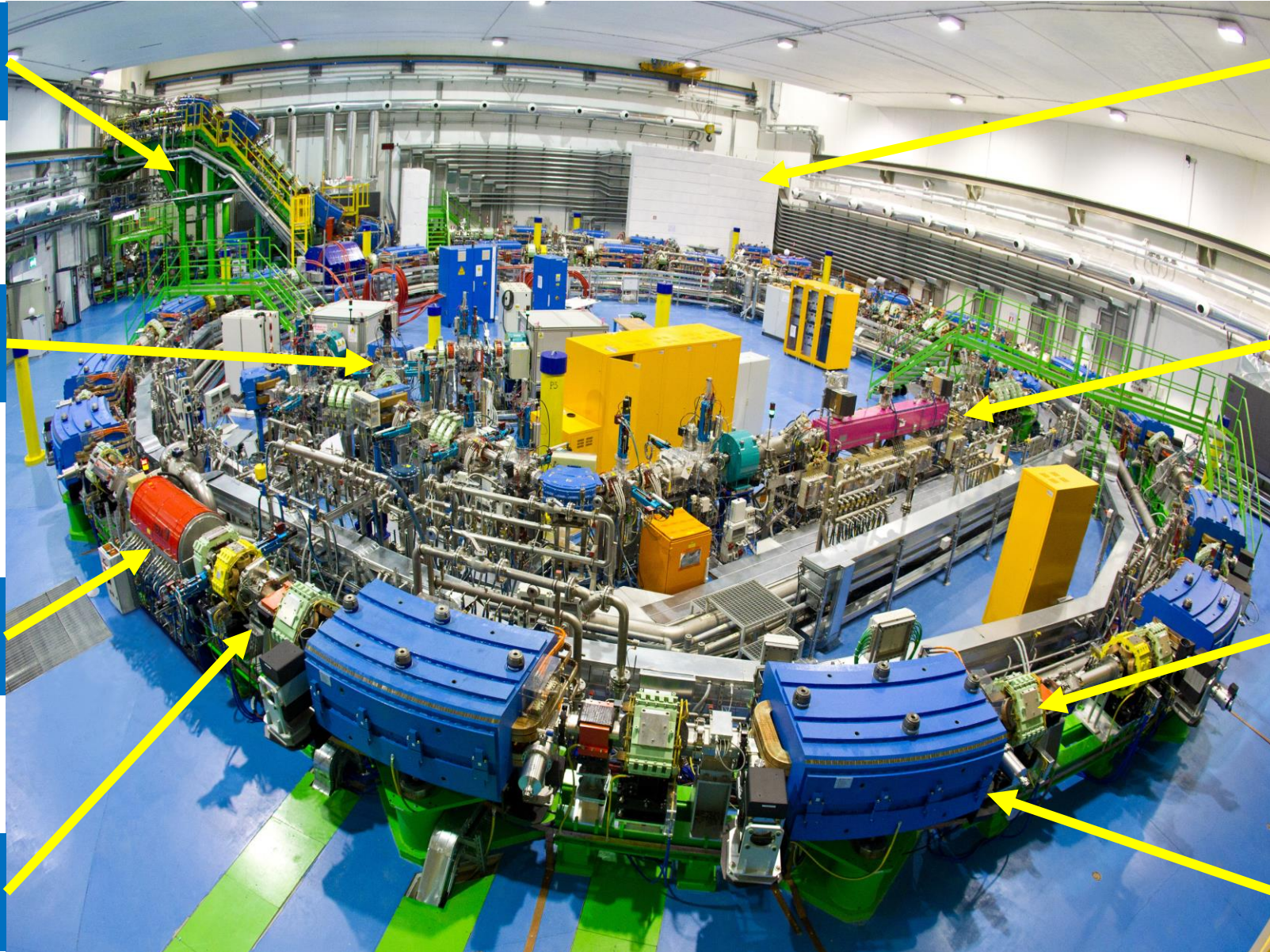
20 Correctors  
to steer

Power supplies  
room

Linac  
to pre-accelerate

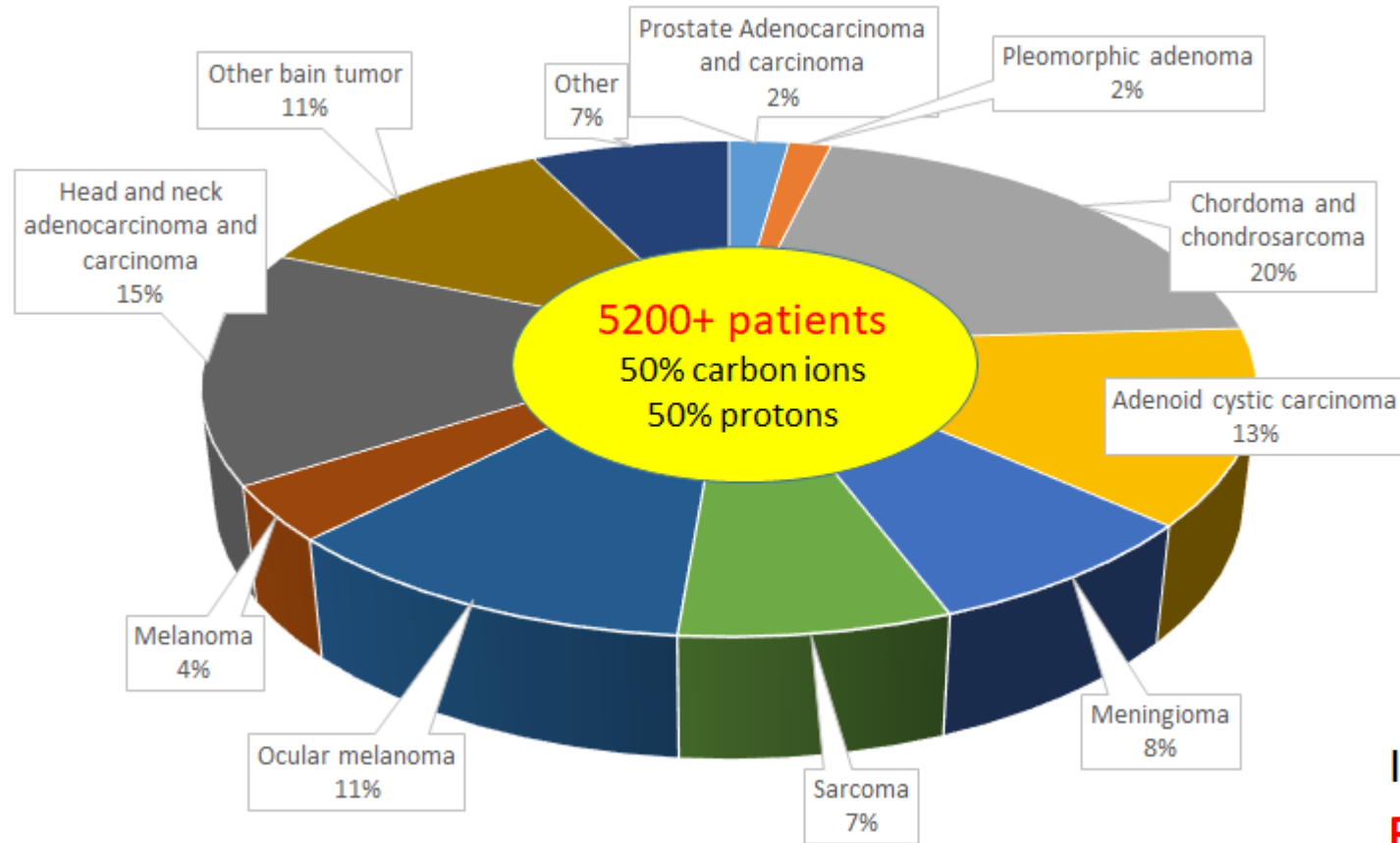
24 Quadrupoles  
to focus

16 Dipoles  
to bend





# CLINICAL Activities at CNAO



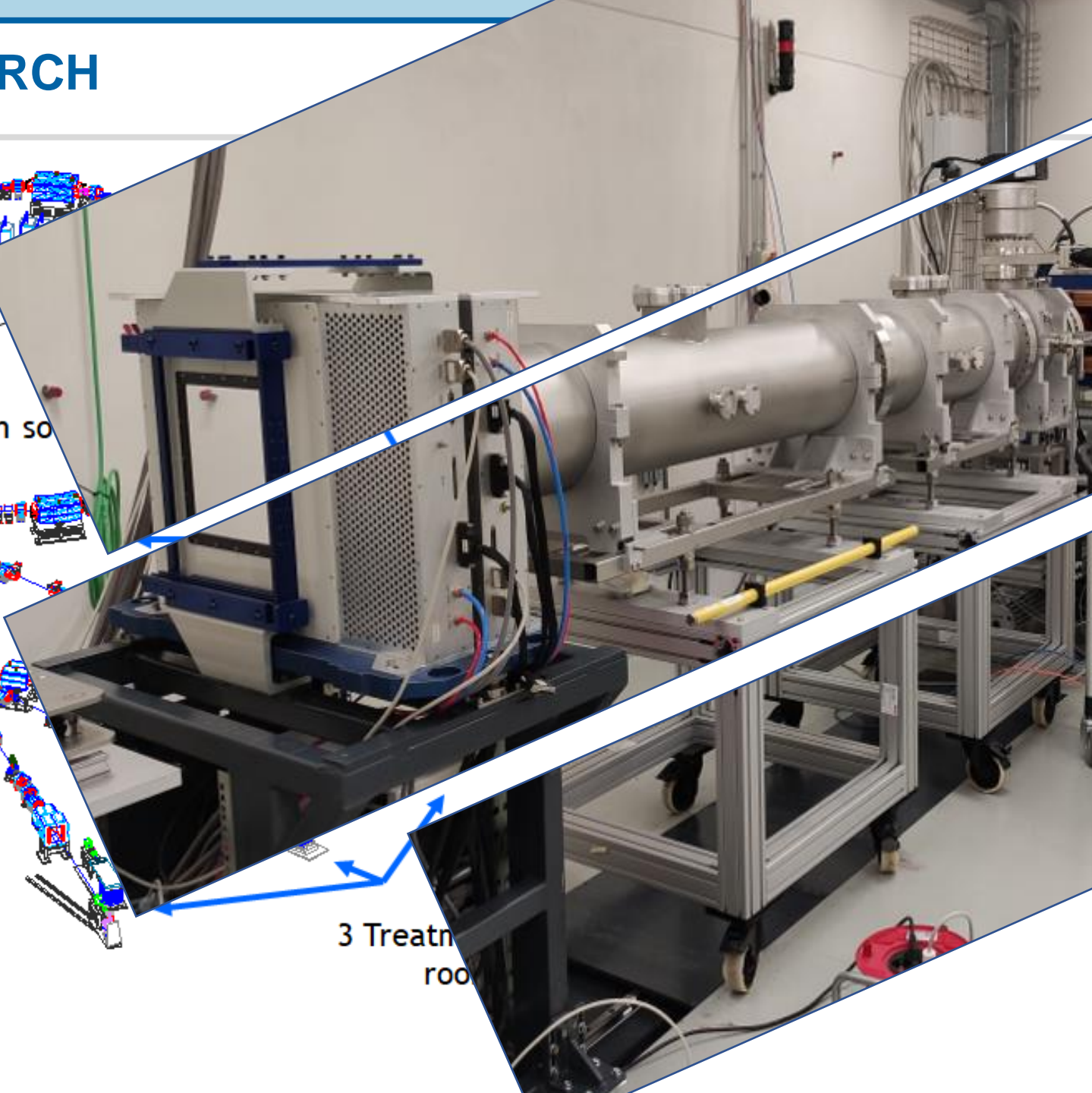
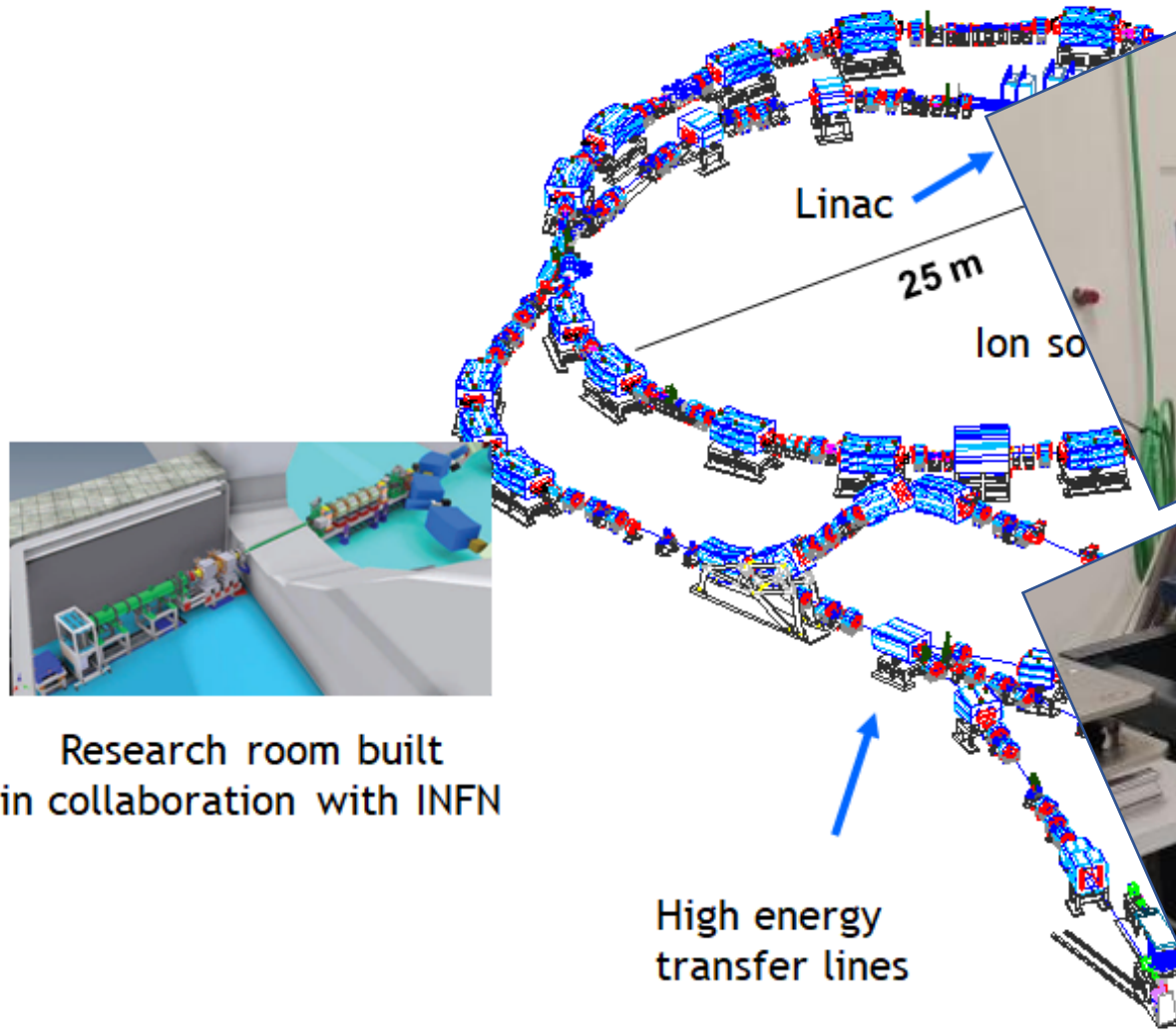
1. Chordoma & chondrosarcoma base/spine
2. Meningiomas
3. Brain tumors (trunk)
4. ACC Salivary Glands
5. Orbit tumors including eye melanoma
6. Sinonasal carcinoma
7. Soft Tissue & bone Sarcoma (every sites)
8. Recurrent tumors (retreatment)
9. Patients with immunological disorders
10. Pediatric solid tumors

In Italy (60 million inhabitants) estimated cases 1-10:

**Protons:** about 5.000 patients/year

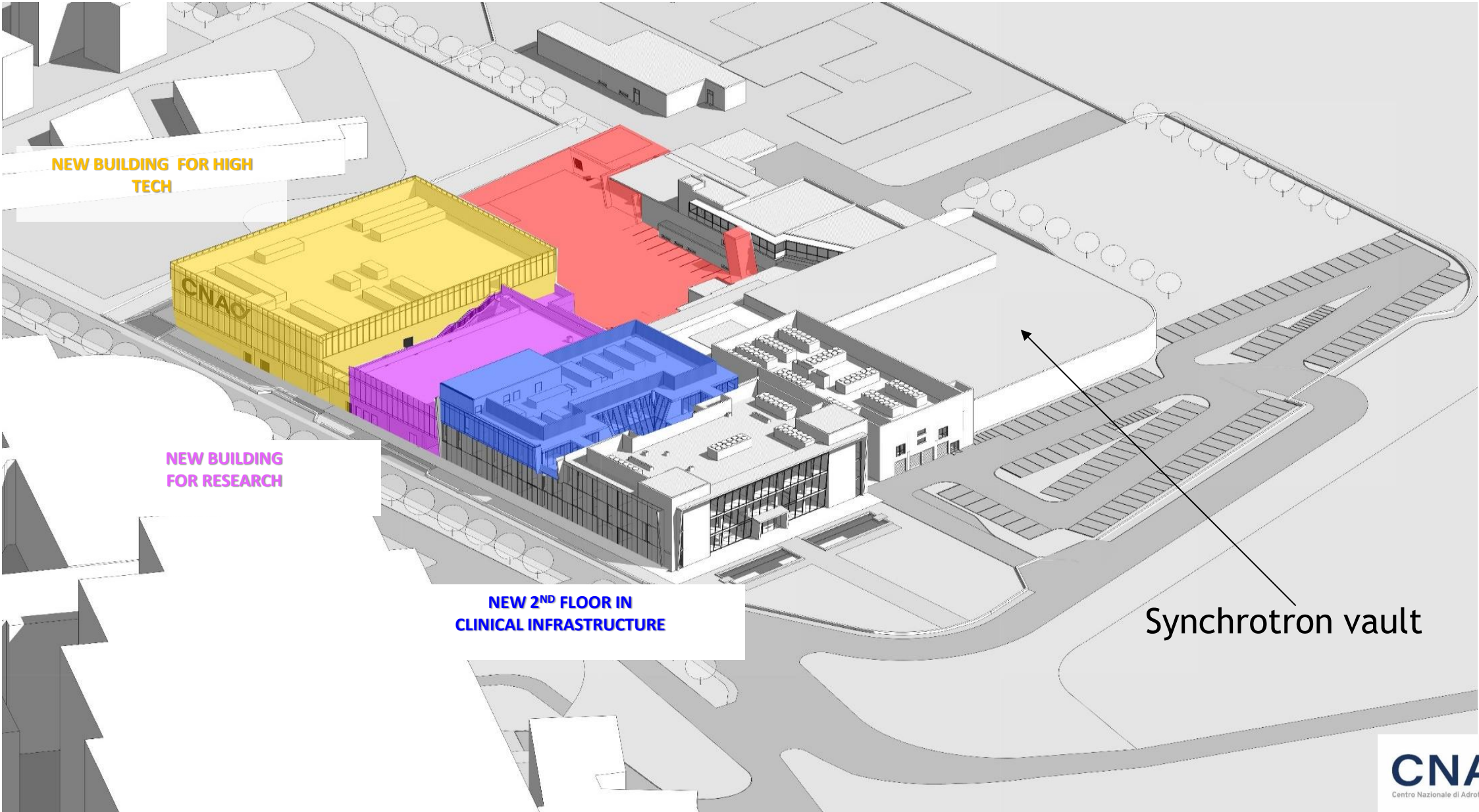
**Carbons:** about 1.000 patients/year

# BEAMTIME AND LABS FOR RESEARCH

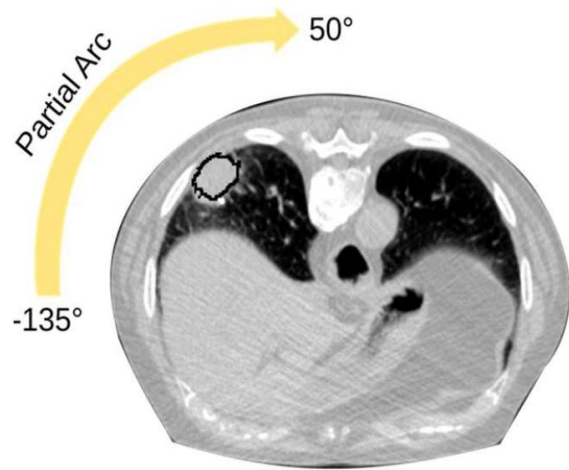


In 2023 more than 500+ hours of beam time to external groups

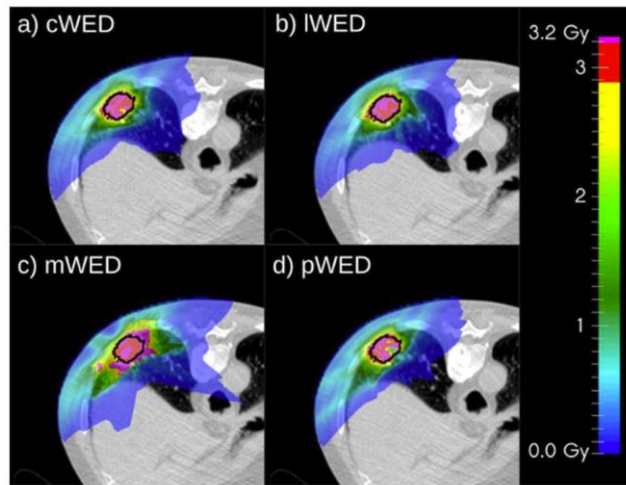
# CNAO Expansion Project: layout end 2024



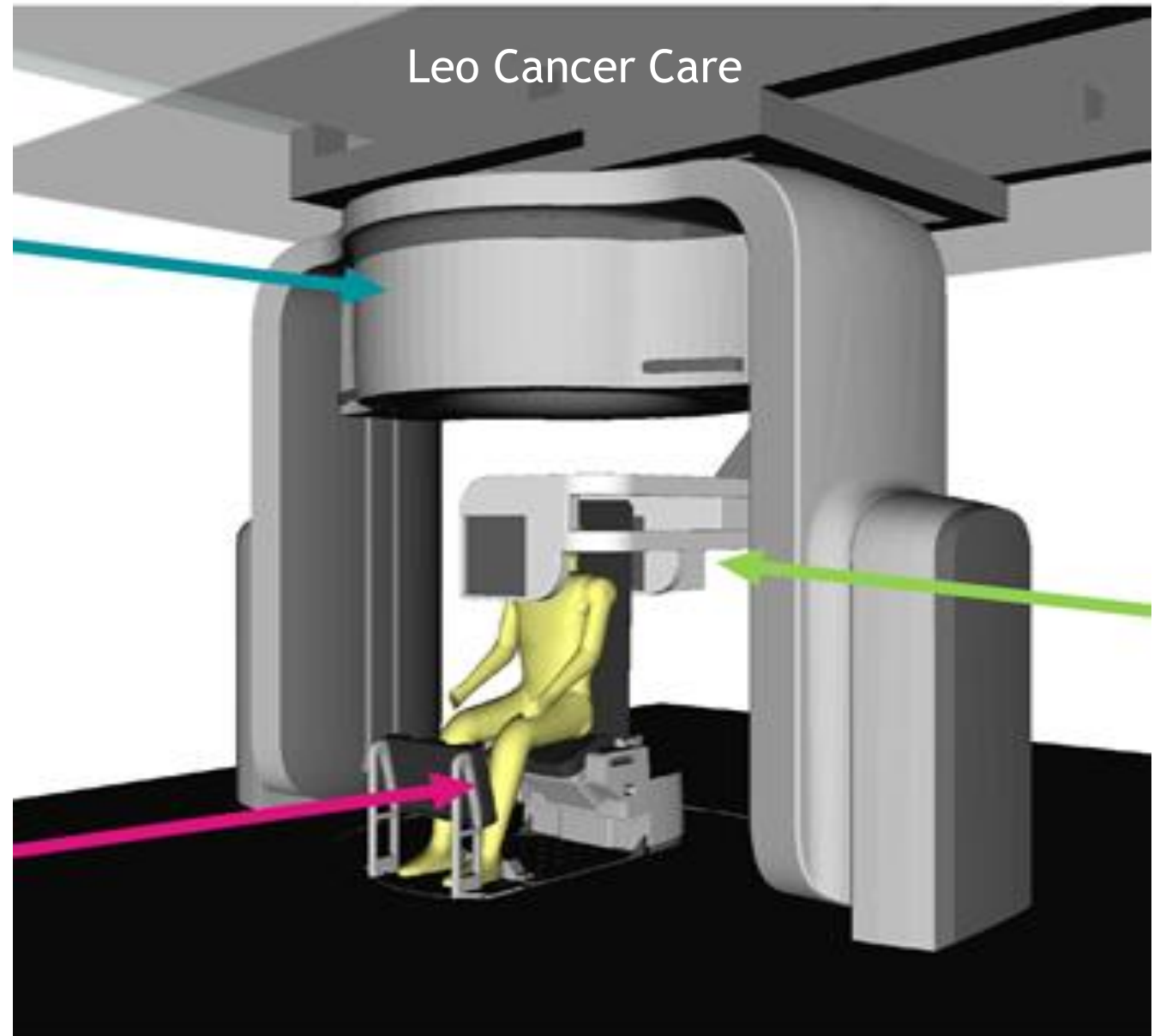
# New patient positioning in room #3



Arc therapy



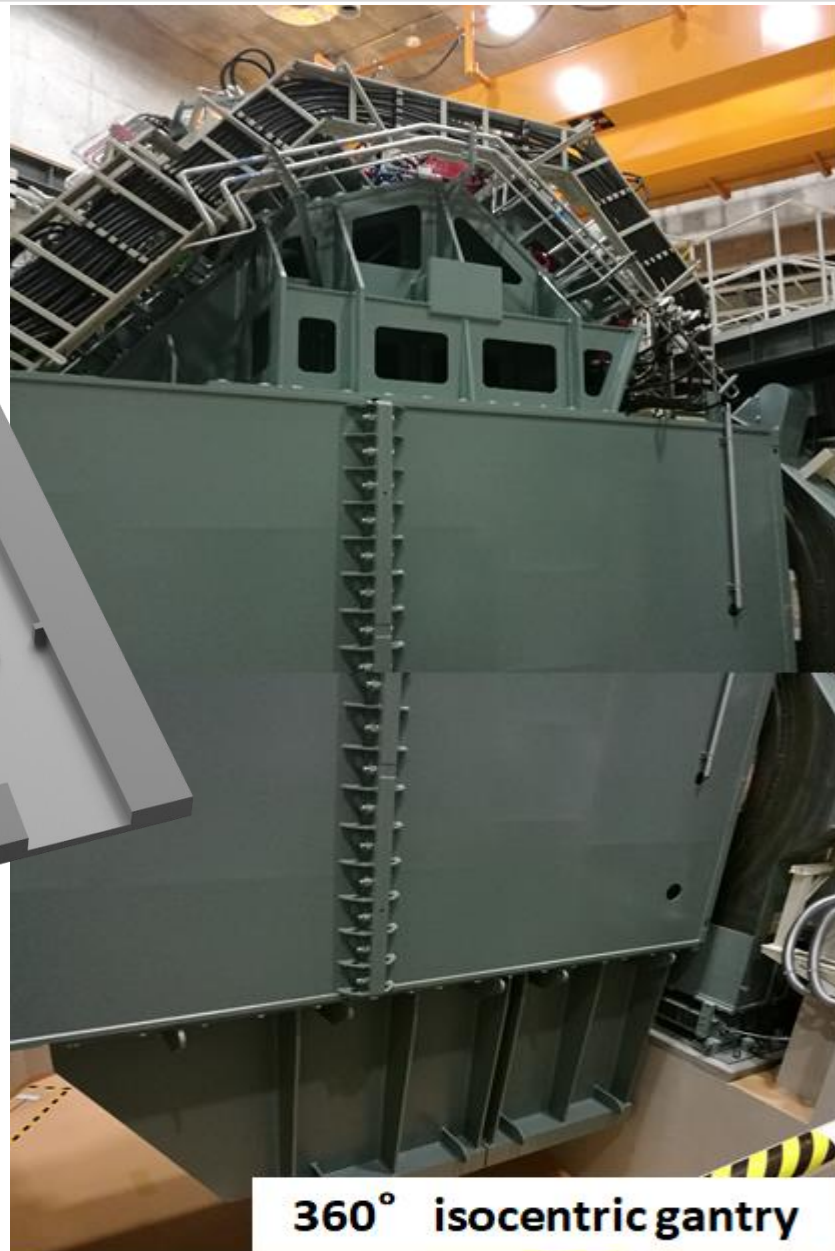
(Collaboration with GSI)



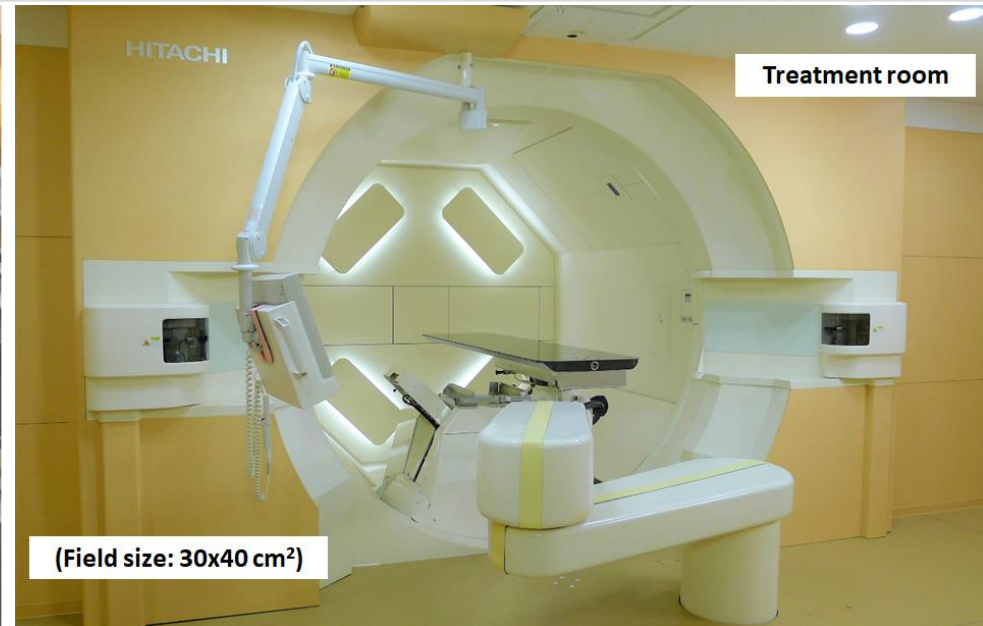
# PROTON MACHINE + GANTRY: PAEDIATRICS AND MULTIFIELDS



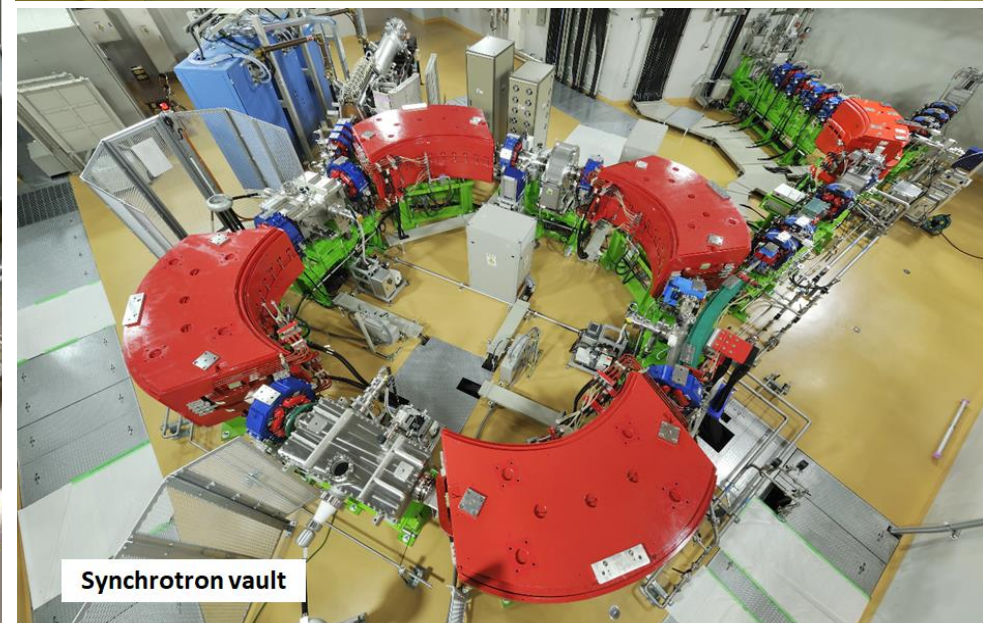
**Start installation  
Middle 2024**



**360° isocentric gantry**

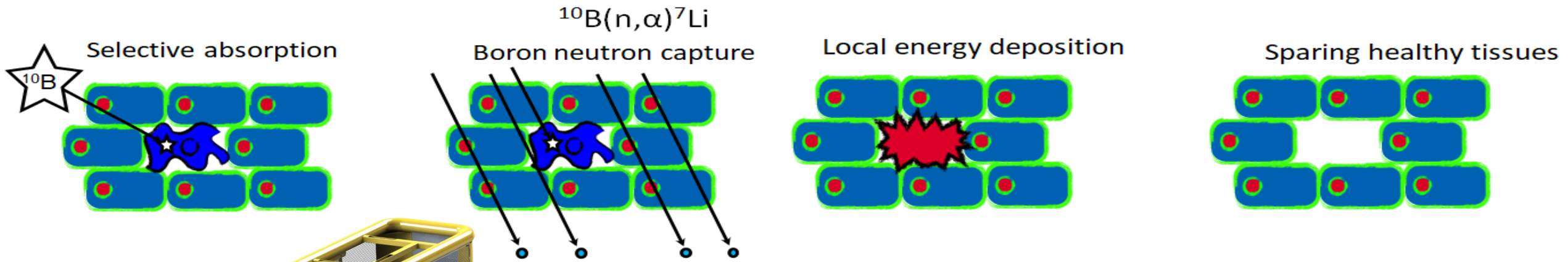


**(Field size: 30x40 cm<sup>2</sup>)**

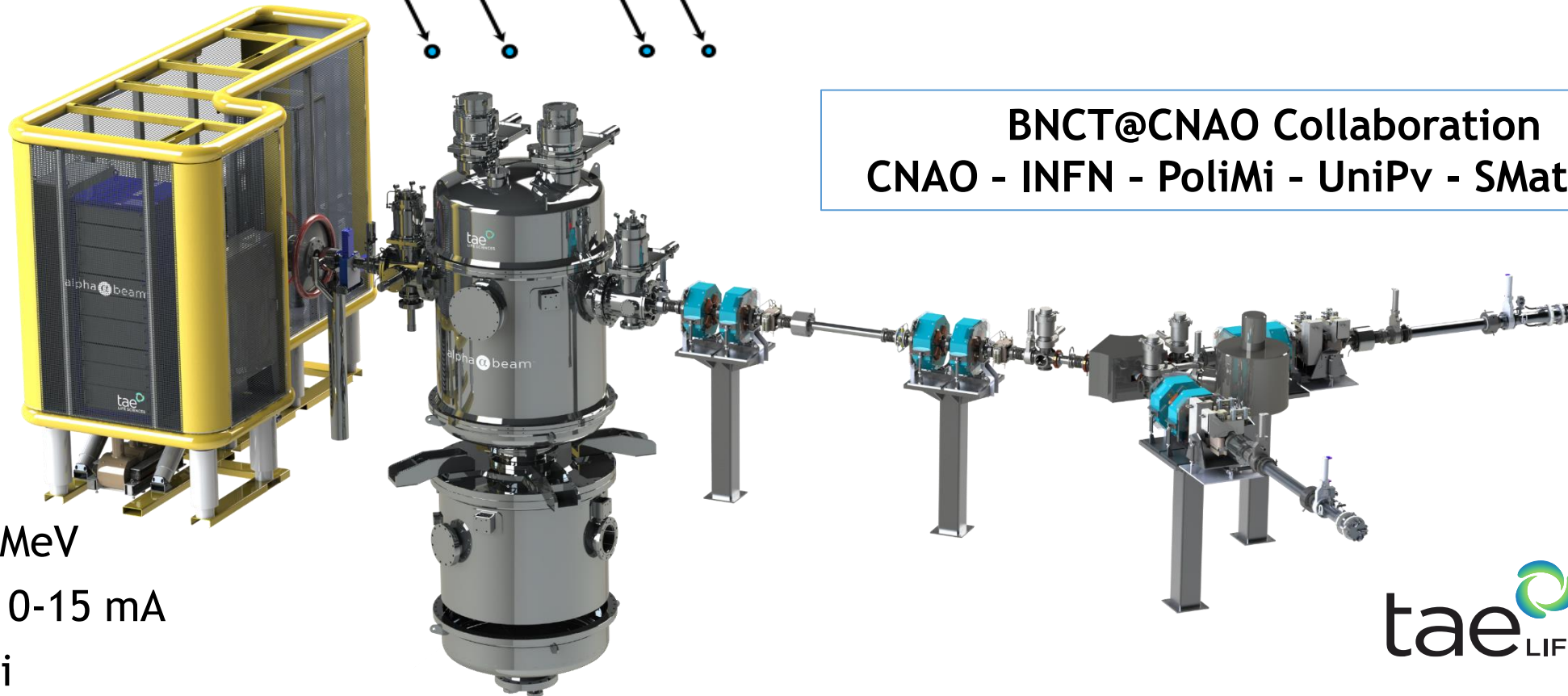


**Synchrotron vault**

# New clinical research partnership on BNCT: academia - industry

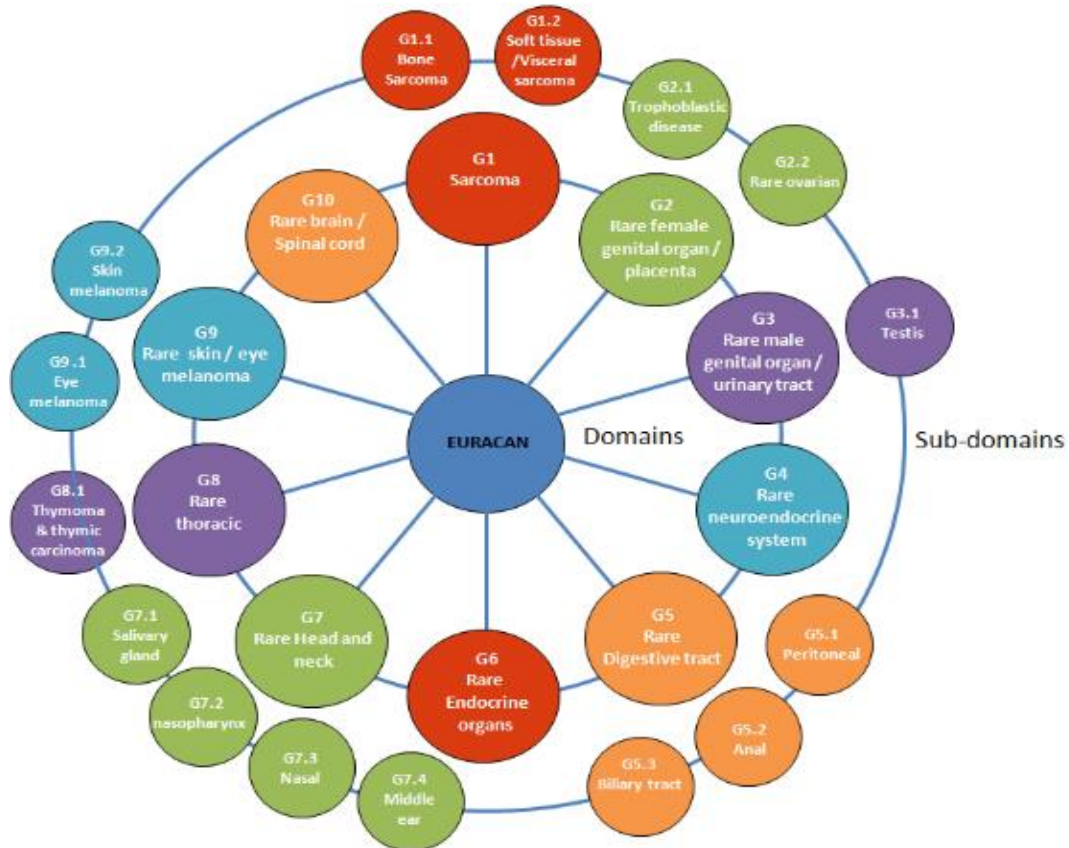


BNCT@CNAO Collaboration  
CNAO - INFN - PoliMi - UniPv - SMatteoPv



$E_{\text{proton}} 2.5 \text{ MeV}$   
Intensity 10-15 mA  
Target p-Li

# NETWORKING for a multidisciplinary approach and to facilitate patient recruitment

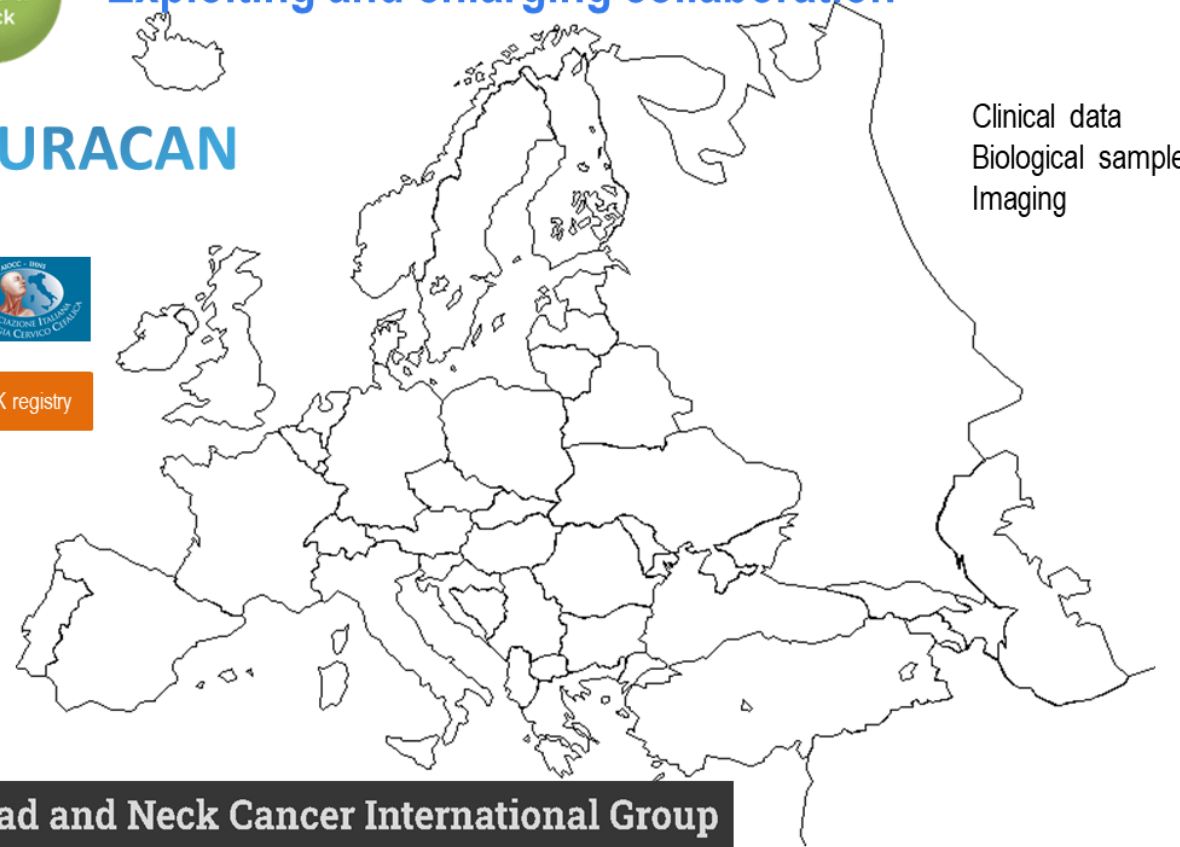


## Exploiting and enlarging collaboration

EURACAN



UK registry



Head and Neck Cancer International Group

JANE PROJECT - Joint Action on Networks of Expertise

ACC - Alleanza Contro il Cancro

ROL - Rete Oncologica Lombarda

# Joint Actions are collaborative projects involving several EU and associated countries with the objective to address key EU health policy priorities

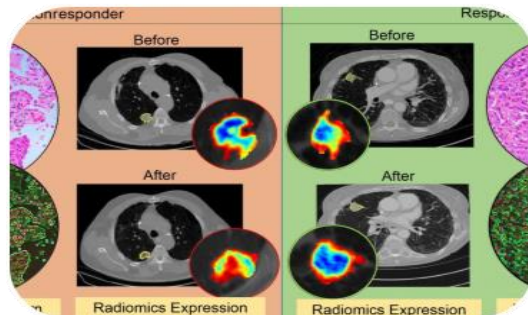
CNAO has been chosen as the Leader of the Innovative Radiotherapies Domain, co-leading with the Center Leon Berard.

Innovative Radiotherapies domain includes representatives from 22 countries, with over 150 participants

1. Nuclear Medicine



2. Radiomics



3. Innovative Radiotherapies



4. Innovative Surgery



5. Physical Methods of Ablation



6. Cell Therapies



7. Ex-vivo Testing of Agents





# The HITRIplus project

## Heavy Ion Therapy Research Integration *plus*



**23 Institutes**

(4 CIRT centres, 11 research institutions, 5 universities, 3 SMEs)

**14 European Countries**

4.5 years Project

(1st April 2021 – 30th September 2025)

Total budget: 5 MEuro

**New Entries**



**Tera-Care**

Grant Agreement number: 101008548 – HITRIplus  
H2020-INFRAIA-2018-2020

	Research [h]	Clinical [h]	Total
CNAO	80	12	92
GSI	296	-	296
UKHD/HIT	72	10	82
MEDA	-	12	12
MIT	-	16	16
	448	50	498



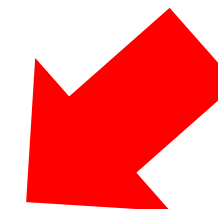
## Clinical Research Access to clinicians/medical physicists/technicians

Free travel and accommodation for a 3 days full immersion in hadrontherapy clinics to discuss and examine real research clinical cases

## Research Access to perform research activities with carbon ion beams

Free beam-time, travel and accommodation reimbursement

For more information and to apply:



<https://www.hitriplus.eu/transnational-access-what-is-ta/>

Courtesy Dr. Sanja Damjanovic, GSI, Darmstadt, Germany

# Beating Cancer with SEEIIST while shaping Science in South-East Europe



SEEIIST



South East European International Institute for Sustainable Technologies  
<https://seeiist.eu>

**A Declaration of Intent** was signed on **25 October 2017** by the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Bulgaria, Kosovo\*, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Serbia and Republic of Slovenia at a Ministerial meeting held at CERN. Croatia and Greece took an observer status.

# NIMMS, HITRIplus, SEEIIST, TERA new optimization design (Courtesy M. Vretenar - CERN)

Design to be presented in a CERN Yellow Report in preparation

## A. Innovative SEEIIST features:

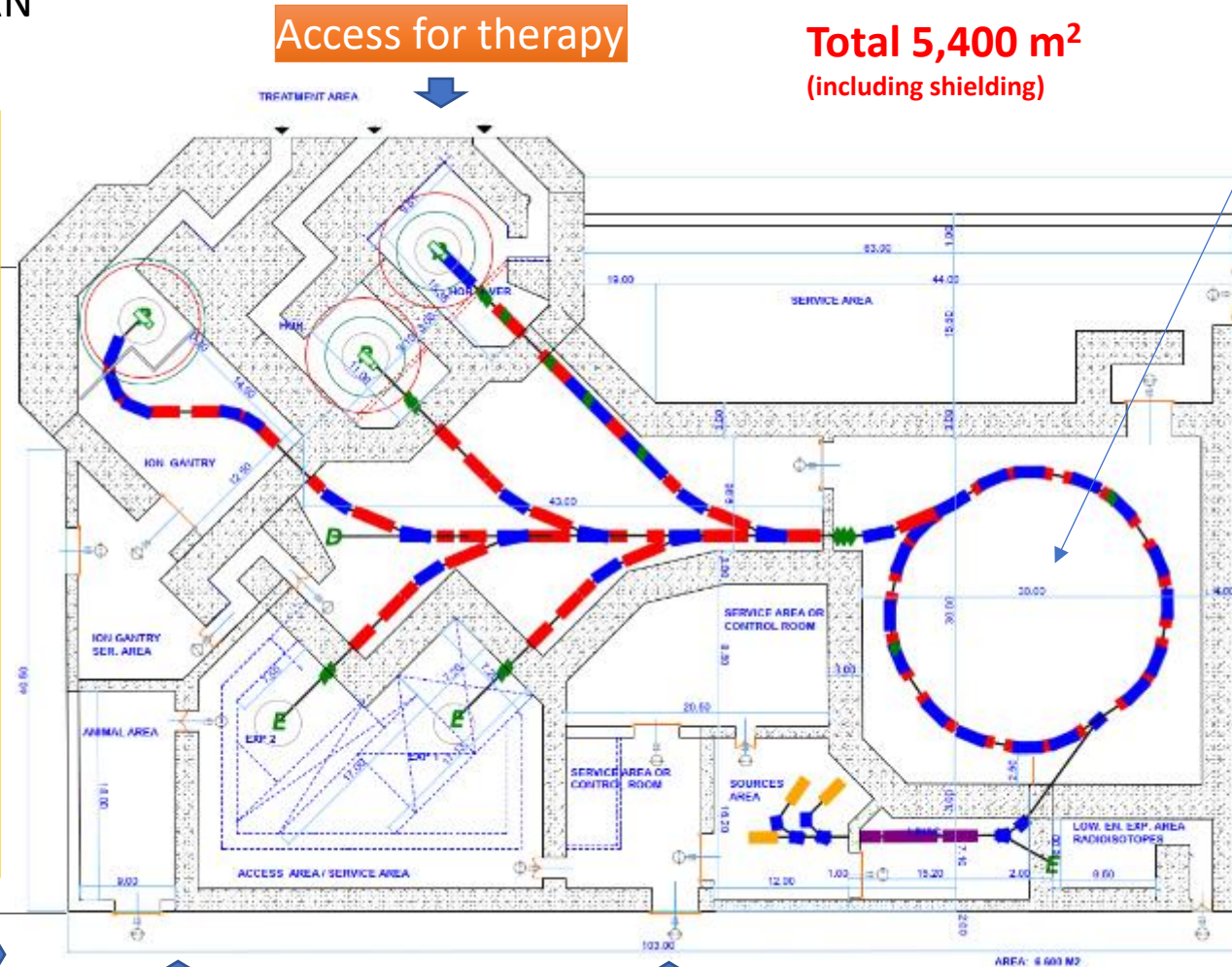
1. Optimised for **50% research** and **50% patient treatment** (~400 patients/year);
2. Providing **20 times higher** beam intensity for carbon ions than present facilities;
3. Equipped with **flexible extraction** for operation in FLASH mode;
4. Equipped with **dual mode linear injector** capable of producing radioisotopes for cancer imaging and therapy.

Access for animal testing

Reconfigurable experimental room

Access to experimental room and linac

Target for isotope production



Total 5,400 m<sup>2</sup>  
(including shielding)

The synchrotron can be replaced by an SC version if R&D successful

Equipment room and access to synchrotron

## B. Advanced SEEIIST features (common to other advanced facilities):

1. Operation with **multiple ions**: protons, Helium, Carbon, Oxygen, Argon;
2. **Multiple energy** extraction (multiple flat-tops) for faster treatment;
3. Equipped with a **compact superconducting gantry** of novel design.

# HUMAN CAPITAL: vital for knowledge creation and transfer

Total number: **168**

Graduates: **77% (40% PhD + Master)**

Women: **90**

Positions: **28**

Men: **78**

Disciplines: **19**

Mean age: **40**



<i>November 2024</i>	#
Director General and Services	21
Scientific Directorate and Clinical Trial Centre	4
Clinical Department	76
Administration and Finance Department	17
Technical Department	42
R&D Department	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>

# CNAO Collaborations

## National

- ✓ TERA Foundation: final design and high tech specifications
- ✓ INFN: technical issues, radiobiology, research, formation
- ✓ University of Milan: medical coordination and formation
- ✓ University of Pavia: technical issues, radiobiology, formation
- ✓ University of Catania: medical physics
- ✓ University of Turin: interface beam-patient, TPS
- ✓ Polytechnic of Milan: patient positioning, radioprotection, authorisations
- ✓ European Institute of Oncology: medical activities.
- ✓ San Matteo Foundation: medical activities, logistics
- ✓ Town of Pavia: land and authorisations
- ✓ Province of Pavia: logistics and authorisation

## International

- ✓ CERN (Geneva): technical tasks, PIMMS
- ✓ GSI (Darmstadt): linac and special components
- ✓ IN2P3 (France): research activities
- ✓ Med-Austron (Wien): technical and clinical collaboration
- ✓ NIRS (China): medical activities, radiobiology, formation
- ✓ HIT (Heidelberg): research issues
- ✓ IFJ PAN (Krakow - Poland): medical activities
- ✓ Uni Essen (Germany): medical activities
- ✓ Sykehuspartner (Norway): medical activities
- ✓ TAE LIFE SCIENCES: BNCT technology

# THANK YOU!



[www.cnao.it](http://www.cnao.it)

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