



UniversitätsKlinikum Heidelberg

# Heidelberg First Clinical Experience with Profound Medical Inc.'s MRI-Guided TULSA-PRO

Ionel Valentin Popeneciu<sup>1</sup>, Timur Kuru<sup>1</sup>, Gencay Hatiboglu<sup>1</sup>, Matthias Röthke<sup>2</sup>, Maya Müller-Wolf<sup>2</sup>, Joseph Chin<sup>3</sup>,  
Michele Billia<sup>3</sup>, James Relle<sup>4</sup>, Jason Hafron<sup>4</sup>, Mathieu Burtnyk<sup>5</sup>, Heinz-Peter Schlemmer<sup>2</sup>, Markus Hohenfellner<sup>1</sup>,  
Sascha Pahernik<sup>1</sup>

1. Department of Urology, University Hospital, Heidelberg, Germany

2. Department of Radiology, German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany

3. Department of Urology, Western University (UWO), London Health Sciences Center, London Victoria Hospital, London ON, Canada

4. Department of Urology, Beaumont Health System, Royal Oak MI, United States

5. Profound Medical Inc., Toronto ON, Canada

# MRI-GUIDED TULSA-PRO

---



Novel minimal-invasive treatment of localised prostate cancer

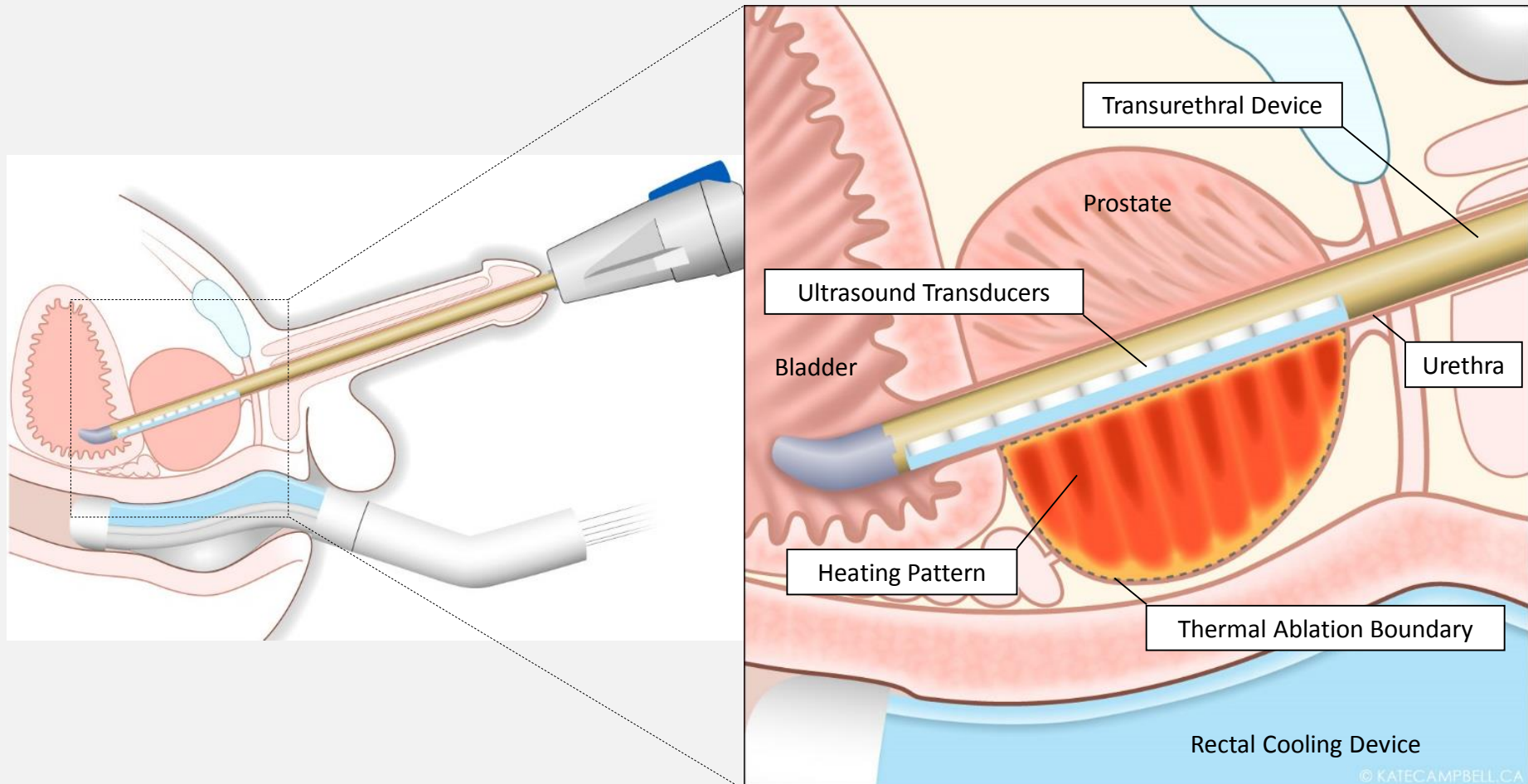
## Main objectives:

Improve ultrasound prostate ablation (e.g. HIFU) by

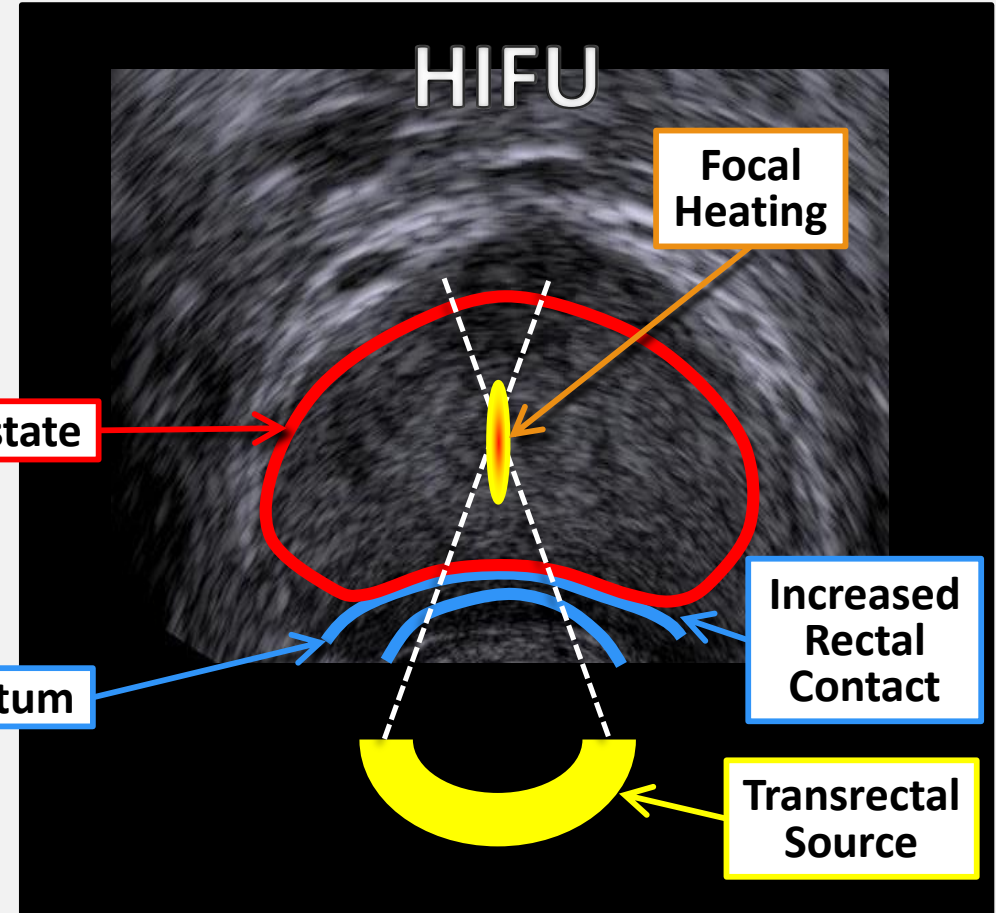
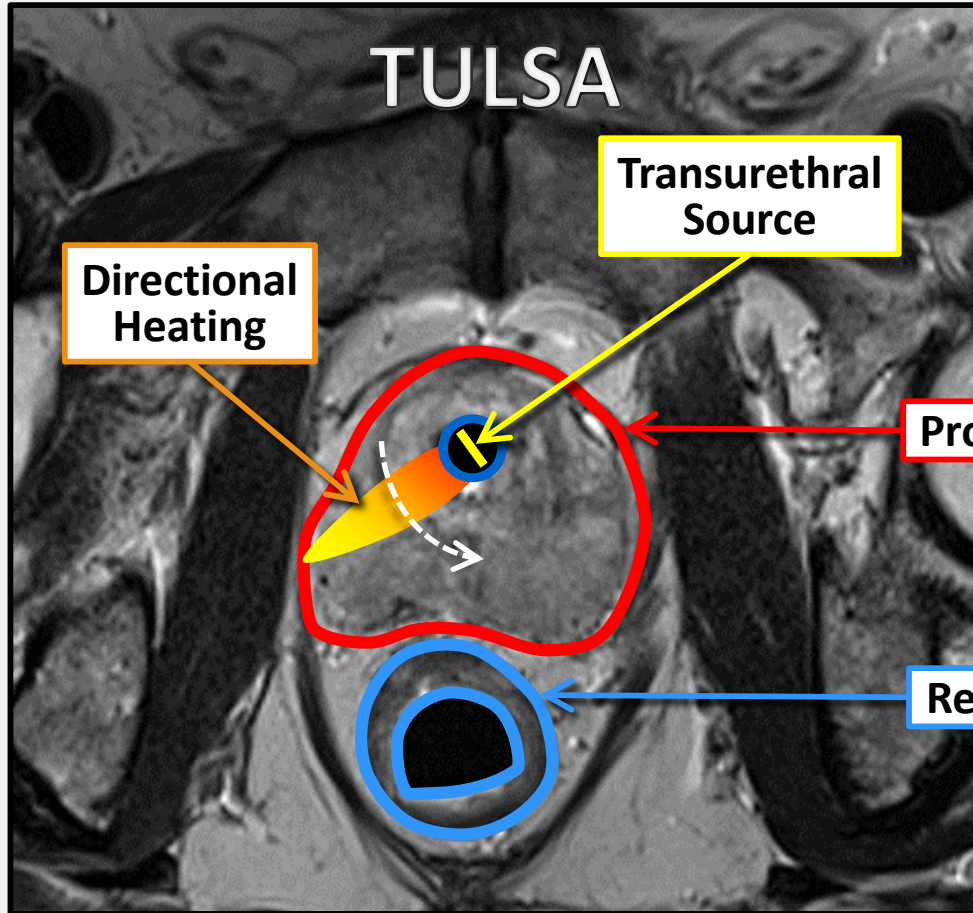
- Better treatment control
- MRI Thermometry = Dose
- Dose control = Focal
- Better safety profile (fewer side effects)

Ultimately: *better* cancer control with  
*better* safety and preservation of quality of life

# TULSA-PRO DEVICE

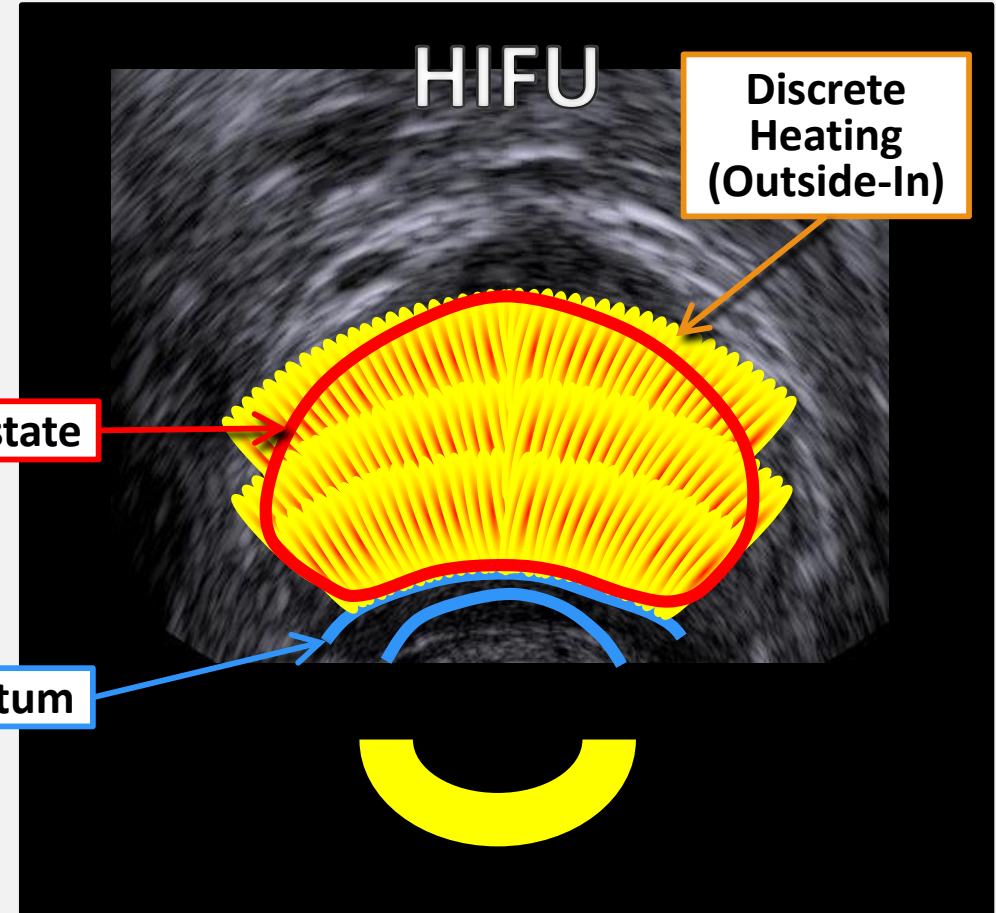
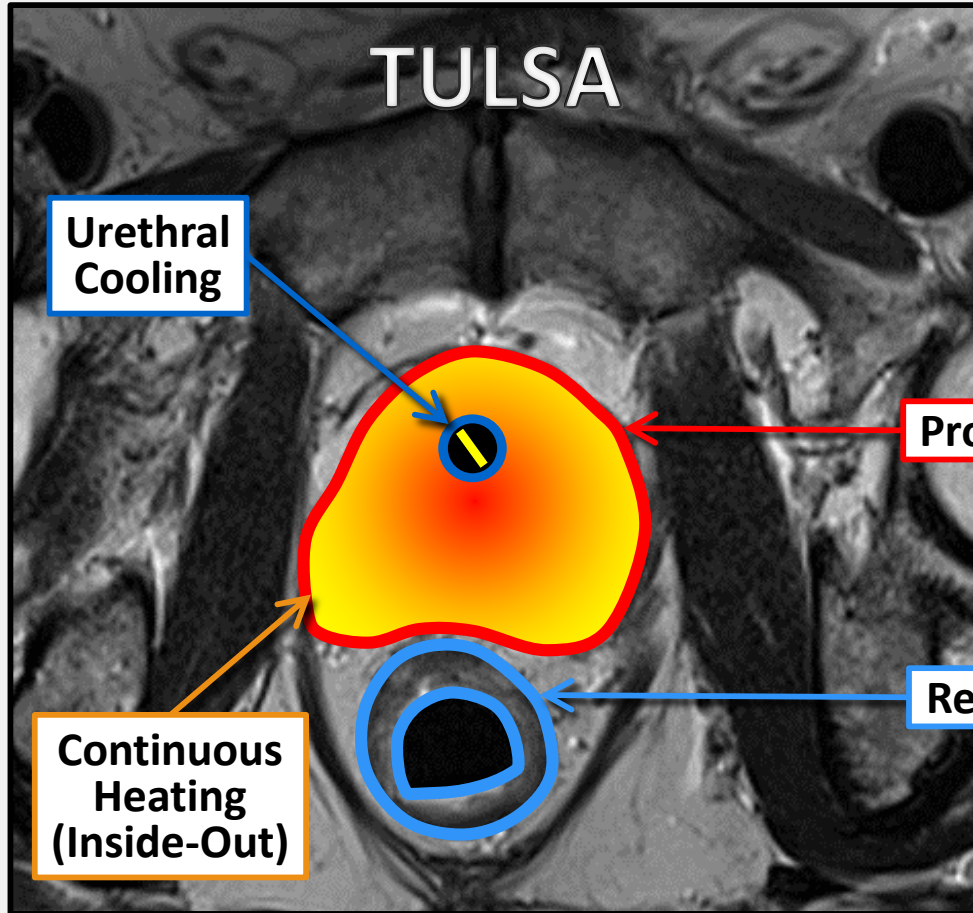


# TULSA-PRO DIFFERENCE: ANATOMY





# TULSA-PRO DIFFERENCE: TREATMENT



# TULSA-PRO DIFFERENCE: IMAGING



## TULSA MRI-Guided

- ✓ Soft tissue contrast
- ✓ Quantitative thermometry
- ✓ Temperature feedback control
- ✓ Diagnostic
- ✗ Limited accessibility

## HIFU Ultrasound-Guided

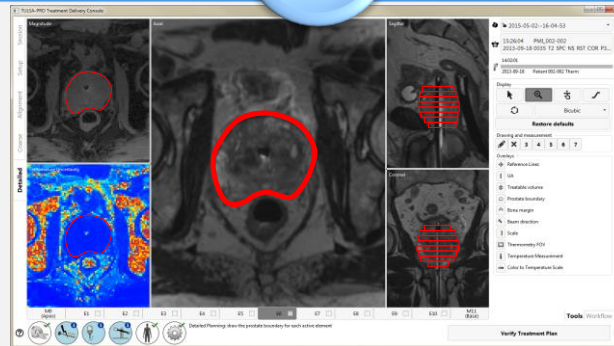
- ✓ Widely accessible
- ✓ Temporal resolution
- Soft tissue contrast
- Diagnostic
- ✗ Qualitative feedback

# MRI-GUIDANCE

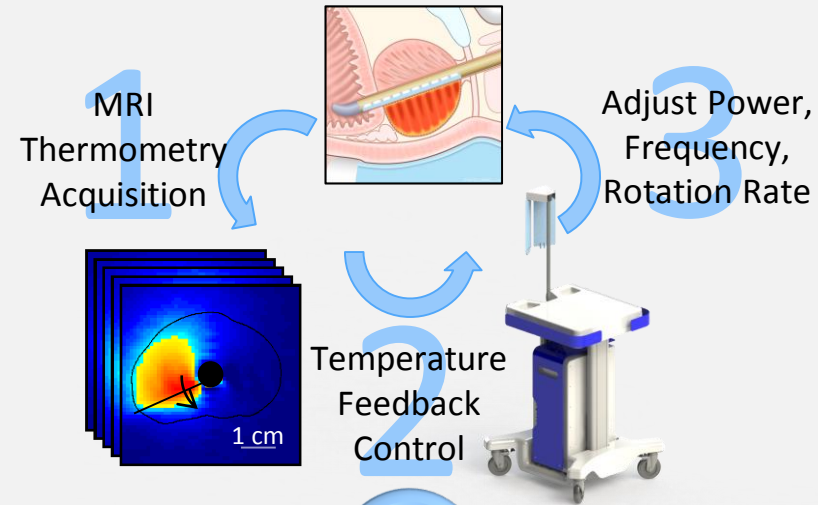


Device  
Positioning

Planning



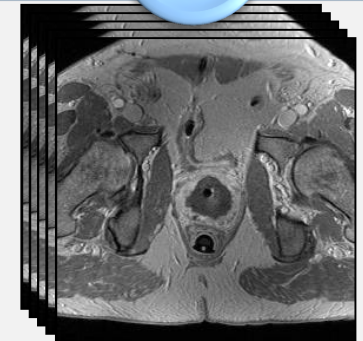
Precise Treatment Planning



Treatment

40 min

CE-MRI  
Verification



Visualization of NPV

# PHASE I STUDY DESIGN

---



## Study Design

- Prospective, multi-center, single-arm

## Inclusion Criteria

- Age  $\geq 65$  years
- Low-/intermediate-risk prostate cancer
  - Biopsy confirmed organ-confined prostate cancer: cT1c or T2a, N0, M0
  - PSA  $\leq 10$  ng/ml
  - Gleason score 3+3 (Germany/USA),  $\leq 3+4$  (Canada)
- No prior prostate cancer treatment

## Endpoints

- **Primary:** Safety (adverse events) and Feasibility (precise heating), 1-year follow-up
- **Exploratory:** Efficacy (PSA and Biopsy) and QoL (patient questionnaire), 5-year follow-up



# PATIENT RECRUITMENT

---



## Recruitment: Entire Study

- 30 patients enrolled: March 2013 – March 2014
- Clinical trial sites in 3 jurisdictions, all under same protocol
  - Urology / DKFZ (Heidelberg, Germany): 14 patients
  - Western University (London ON, Canada): 12 patients
  - William Beaumont Hospital (Royal Oak MI, United States): 4 patients

## Screening: Heidelberg – 82 Patients

- N = 47                      Active Surveillance (57.3%)
- N = 14                     TULSA-PRO (17.1%)
- N = 11                    Radical DaVinci Px (13.4%)
- N = 6                     Radiotherapy (7.3%)
- N = 4                     “Wait and see” (4.9%)

# PATIENT PREPARATION

---



- **General Anesthesia**
- **GI anti-spasmodic drug**
  - Eliminate peristaltic motion of the colon which can cause artifacts on MRI thermometry
- **Supra-Pubic Catheter (SPC)**
  - Drains bladder prior and during treatment
  - Eliminate filling of bladder after treatment planning and during treatment
  - Removal at 2-week follow-up visit after treatment
- **Guidewire**
  - Aid insertion of transurethral device

# TULSA-PRO DEVICES



## Urethral Device



10 independent ultrasound transducer elements; 4 & 13 MHz; 0 to 4 W acoustic / element  
Rigid catheter; Size 22 French; Sterile, single-use, disposable

## Rectal Cooling Device

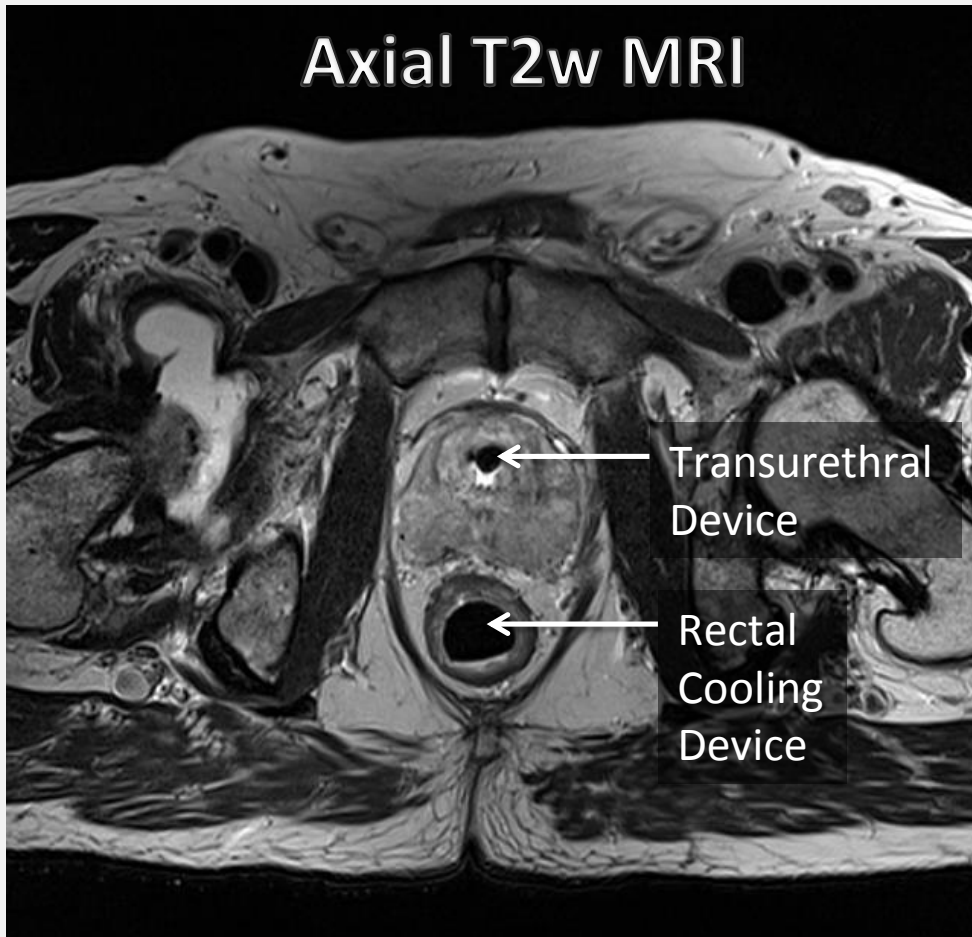


Passive cooling; Non-sterile, single-use, disposable

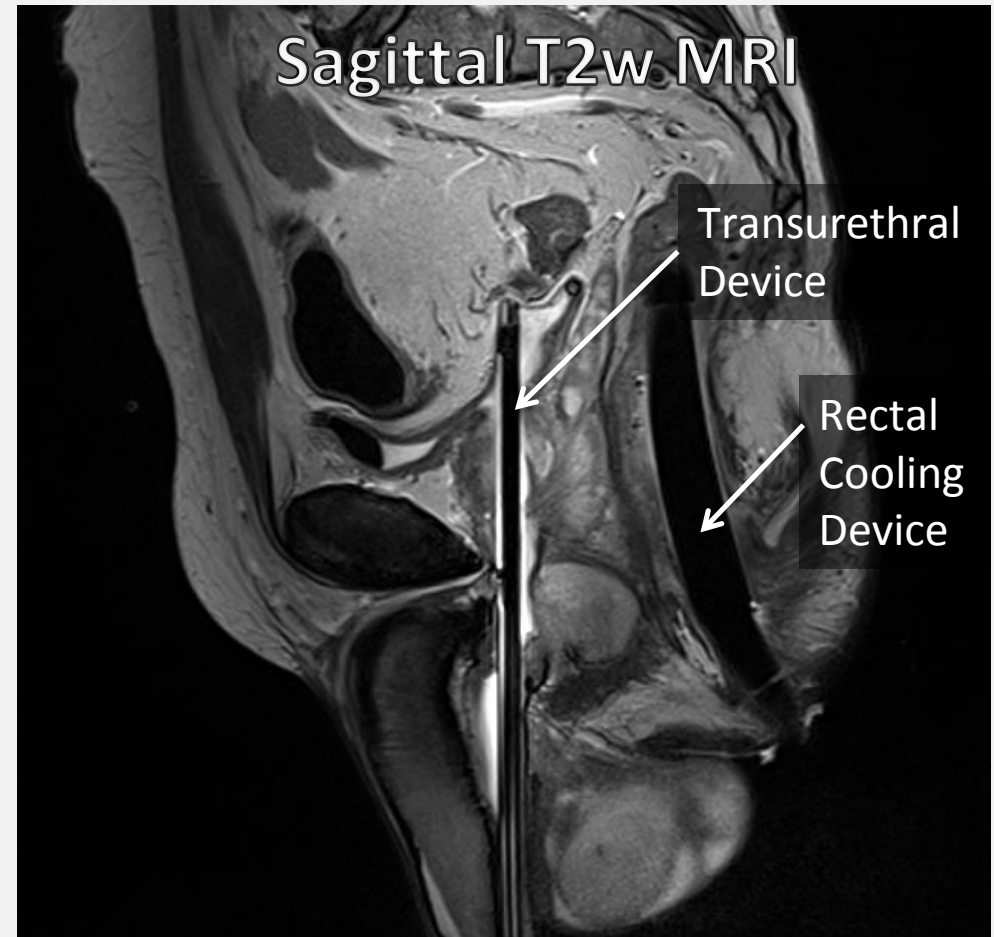
# MRI-GUIDED DEVICE POSITIONING



**Axial T2w MRI**

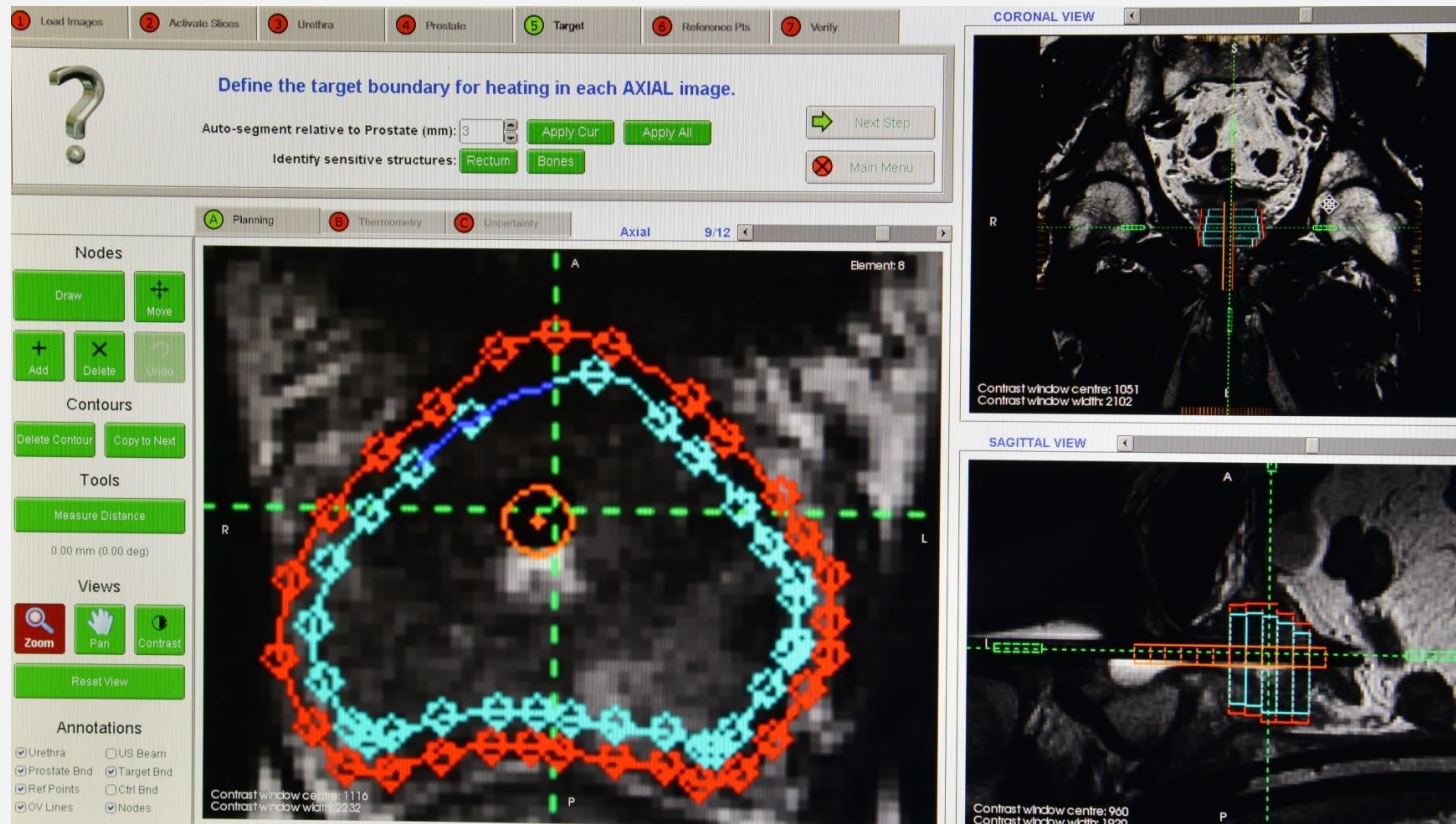


**Sagittal T2w MRI**





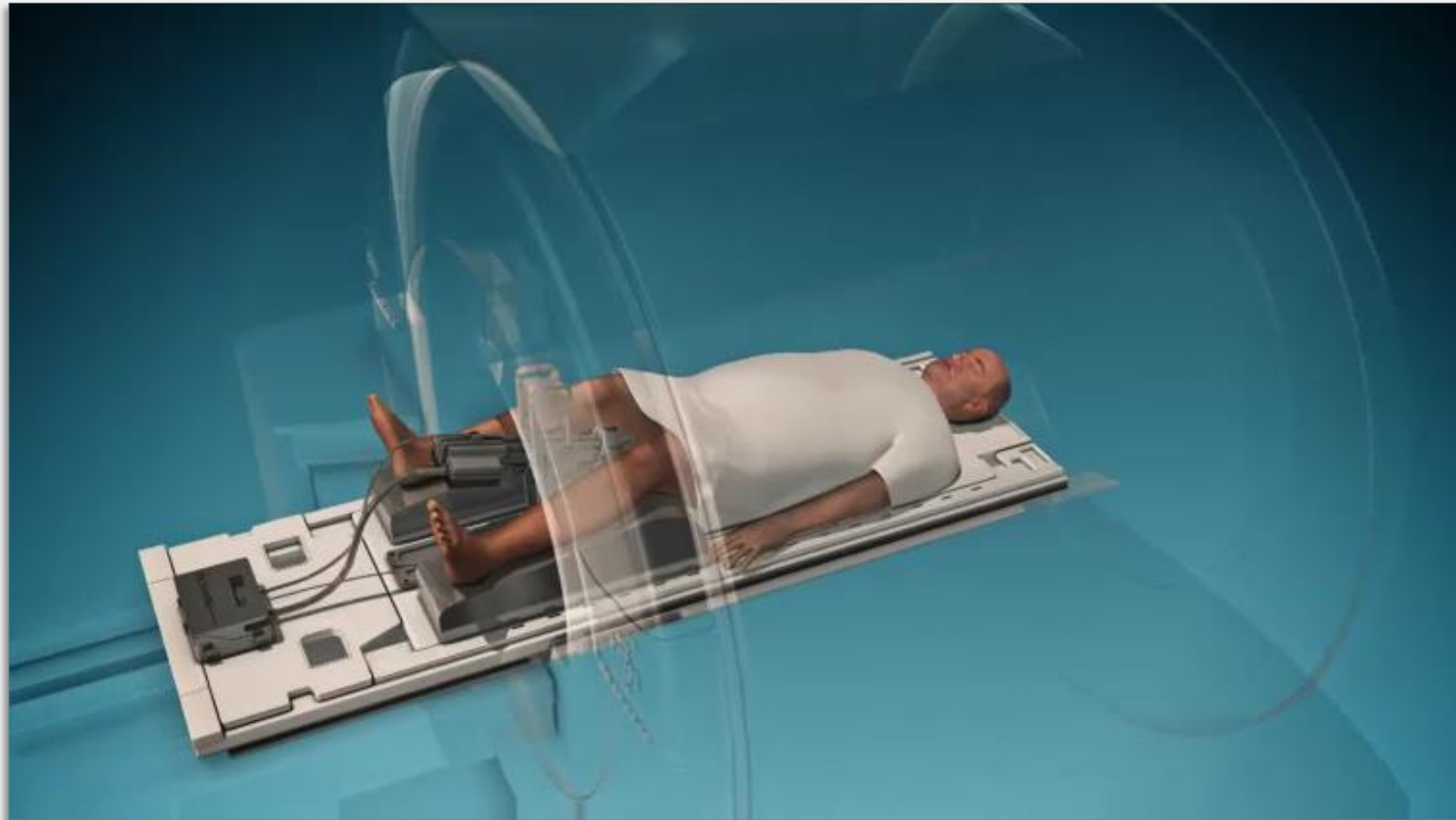
# PHASE I TREATMENT PLANNING



- Conservative whole-gland treatment planning
- 3 mm safety margins at capsule and apex
- 10% residual viable tissue expected at periphery

# MRI-GUIDED TREATMENT

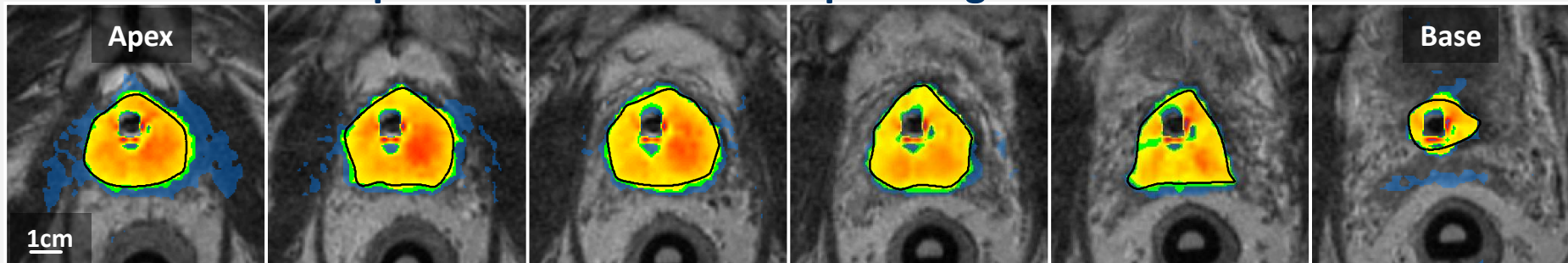
---



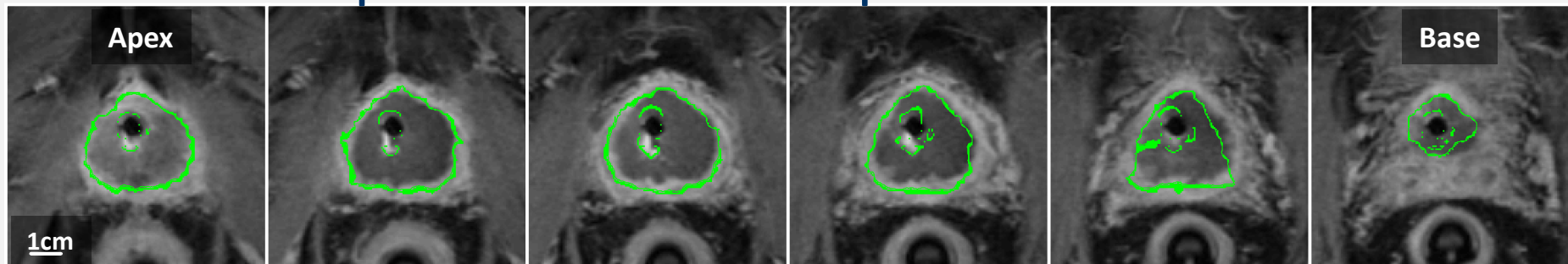
# TREATMENT ASSESSMENT



Maximum Temperature  $> 43^{\circ}\text{C}$  on T2w planning MRI:

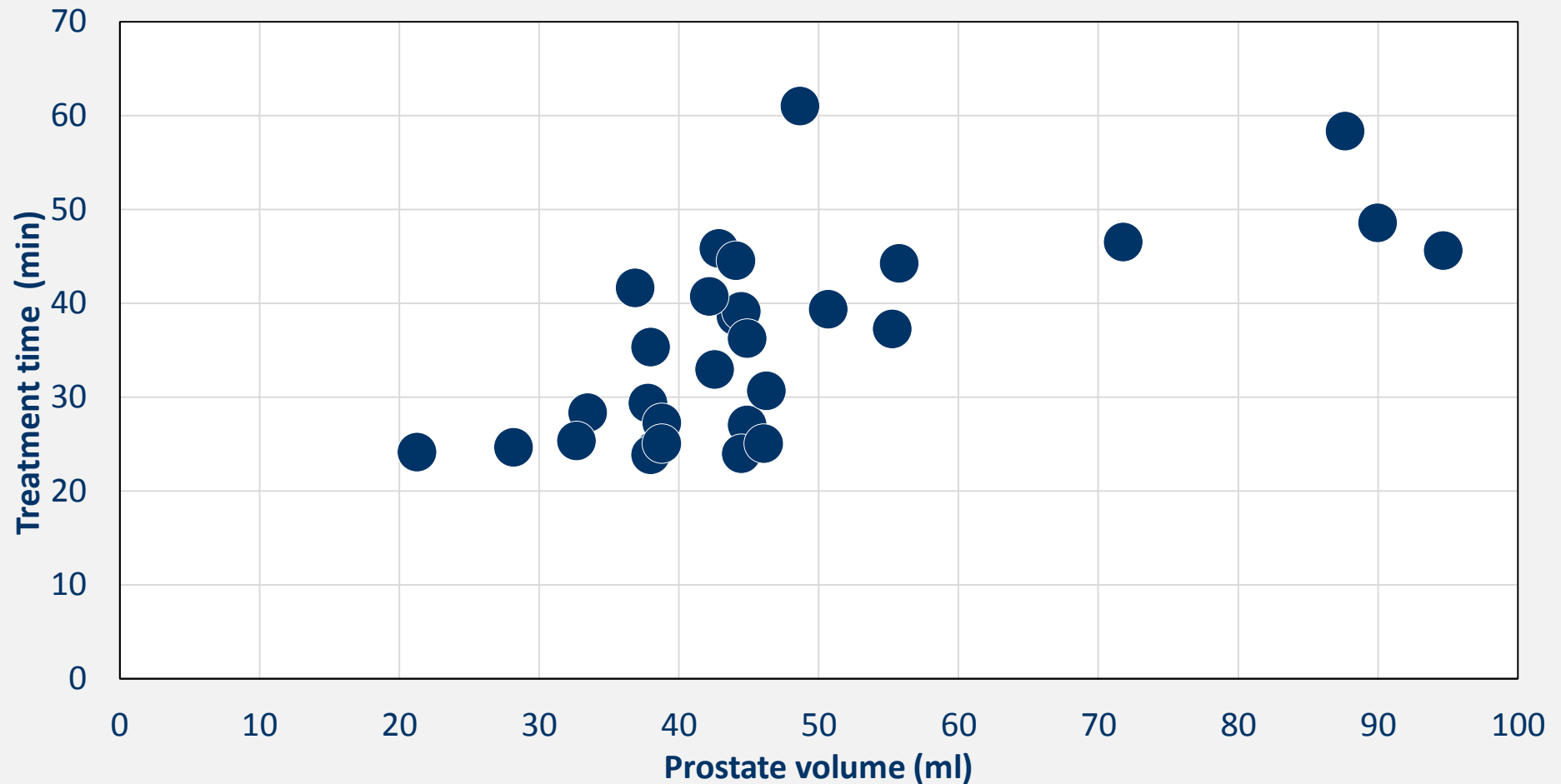


Maximum Temperature  $52-55^{\circ}\text{C}$  on acute post-treatment CE-MRI:



- Pre-clinical trials: “acute cell kill” zone = contrast enhancement zone in the periphery of non-perfused volume (NPV)

# TREATMENT DURATION vs. PROSTATE VOLUME





# TEMPERATURE CONTROL



PARAMETER		AVERAGE (n=30)	95% CI (n=30)	RANGE (n=30)
Prostate Volume (cc)		47 cc	41 – 54	21 – 95
Treatment Time (min)		36 min	32 – 40	24 – 61
Linear	Targeting Accuracy (mm)	0.1 mm	-0.1 – 0.2	-0.6 – 1.1
	Targeting Precision (mm)	1.3 mm	1.2 – 1.5	0.7 – 2.4
Volume	Over-Targeted Volume (cc)	0.8 cc	0.6 – 1.0	0.1 – 2.6
	Under-Targeted Volume (cc)	1.0 cc	0.6 – 1.4	0.0 – 4.8
Dice Similarity Coefficient (DSC)		0.94	0.93 – 0.94	0.91 – 0.96

# SAFETY OVERVIEW

---



- No intraoperative complications
- No rectal injury or fistula
- No severe urinary incontinence
- No Grade 4 or higher adverse events
- Total of one attributable Grade 3 adverse event (epididymitis resolved with IV antibiotics)
- Majority are *acute* Grade 1 and 2 events related to GU system
- Estimated ED rate of 8% (IIEF item 2  $\geq$  2)
- Planned overnight in hospital and discharged next day

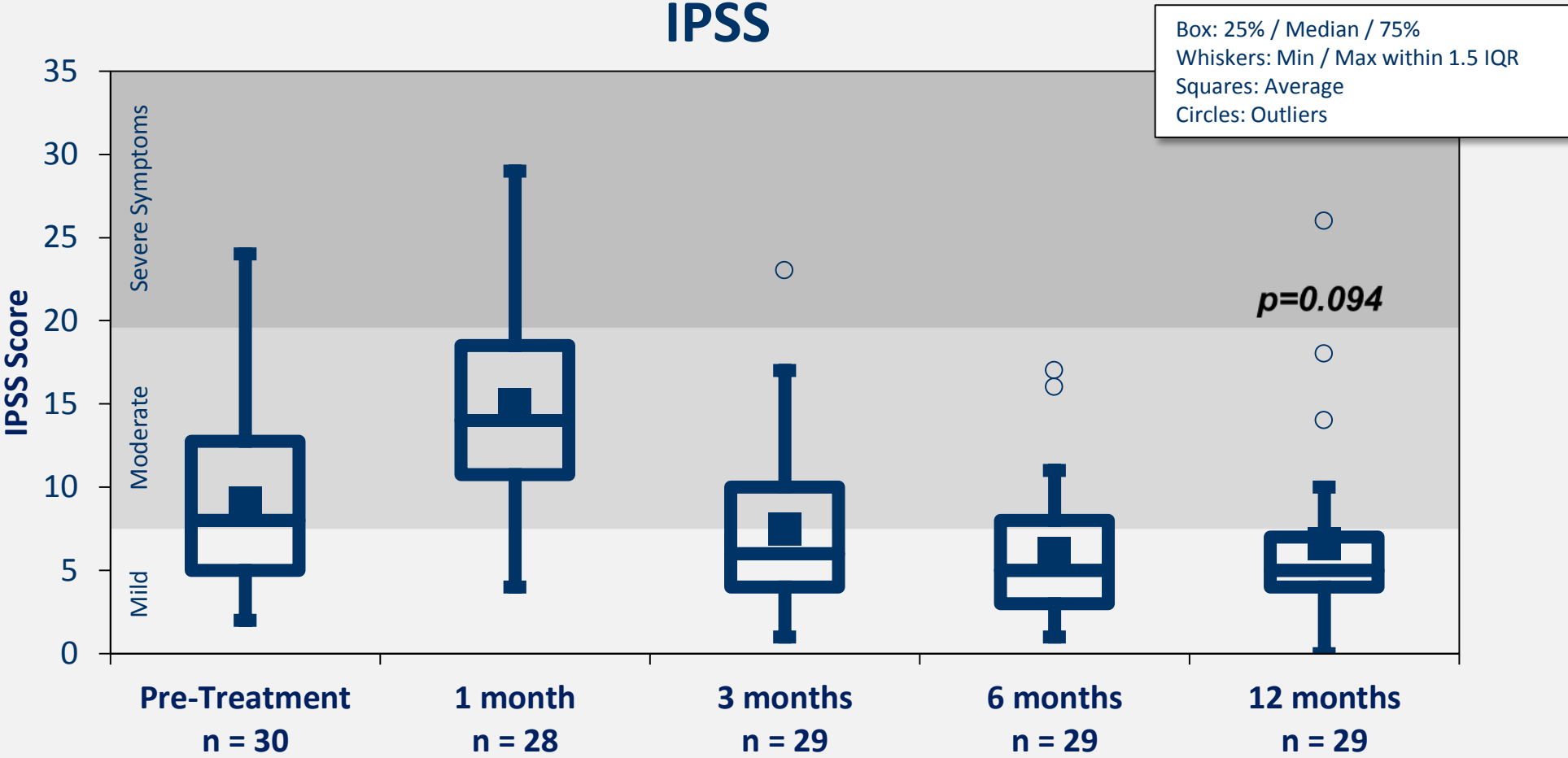
# ADVERSE EVENTS\*

---



- Hematuria Grade 1 (13 patients) and G2 (2 patients), resolved
- Infections:
  - Urinary Tract Infection: G2 (10 patients), resolved with no action (1) or oral antibiotics (9)
  - Epididymitis: G3 (1 patient), resolved with IV-antibiotics
- Urinary retention:
  - G1 (3 patients) resolved spontaneously, repositioning SPC tubing or SPC irrigation
  - G2 (5 patients), resolved with medication (1) or prolonged-/re-catheterization (4)
- Urinary or urge incontinence:
  - G1 (1 patient), resolved with no action
  - G2 (3 patients), resolved with no action (1), resolved with medication (1), and ongoing (1) though downgraded to G1 and not using pads
- All GI-related events:
  - Bloating: G1 (3 patients), resolved with no action (may be due to anti-spasmodic drug)
  - Fecal straining: G1 (1 patient), resolved with no action after 7 days
  - Rectal pain: G1 (1 patient), resolved with no action after 1 day

# URINARY SYMPTOMS

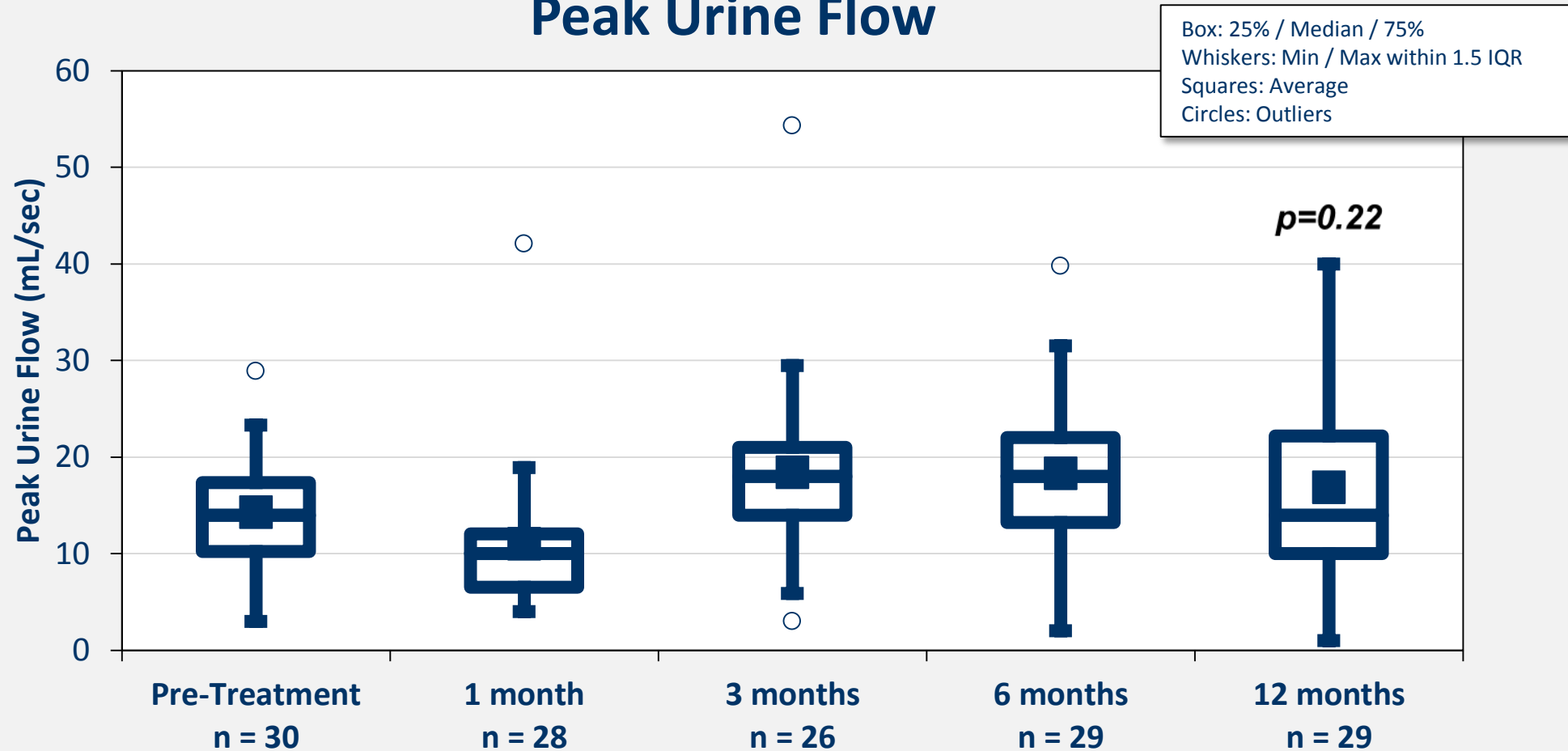




# UROFLOWMETRY



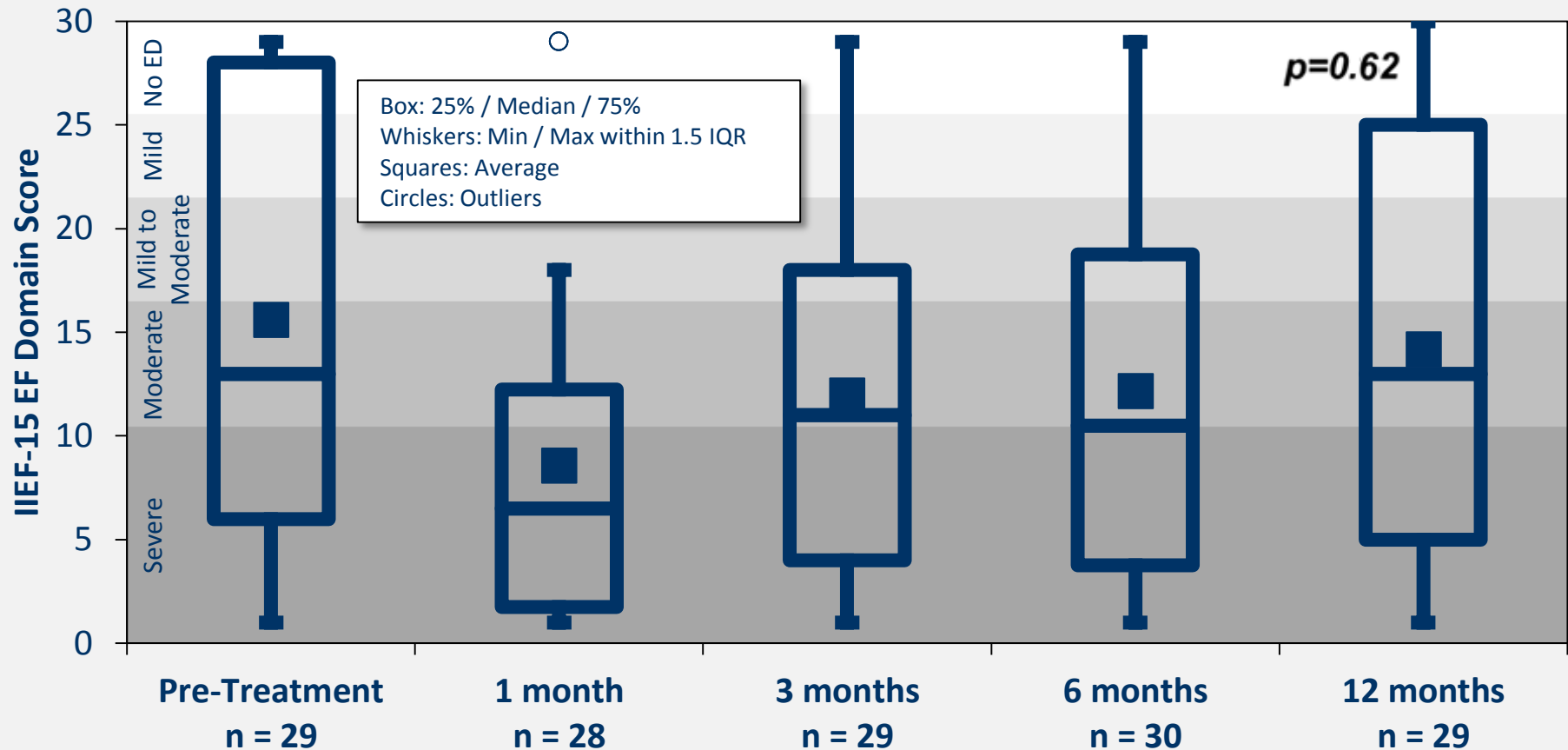
## Peak Urine Flow



# ERECTILE FUNCTION



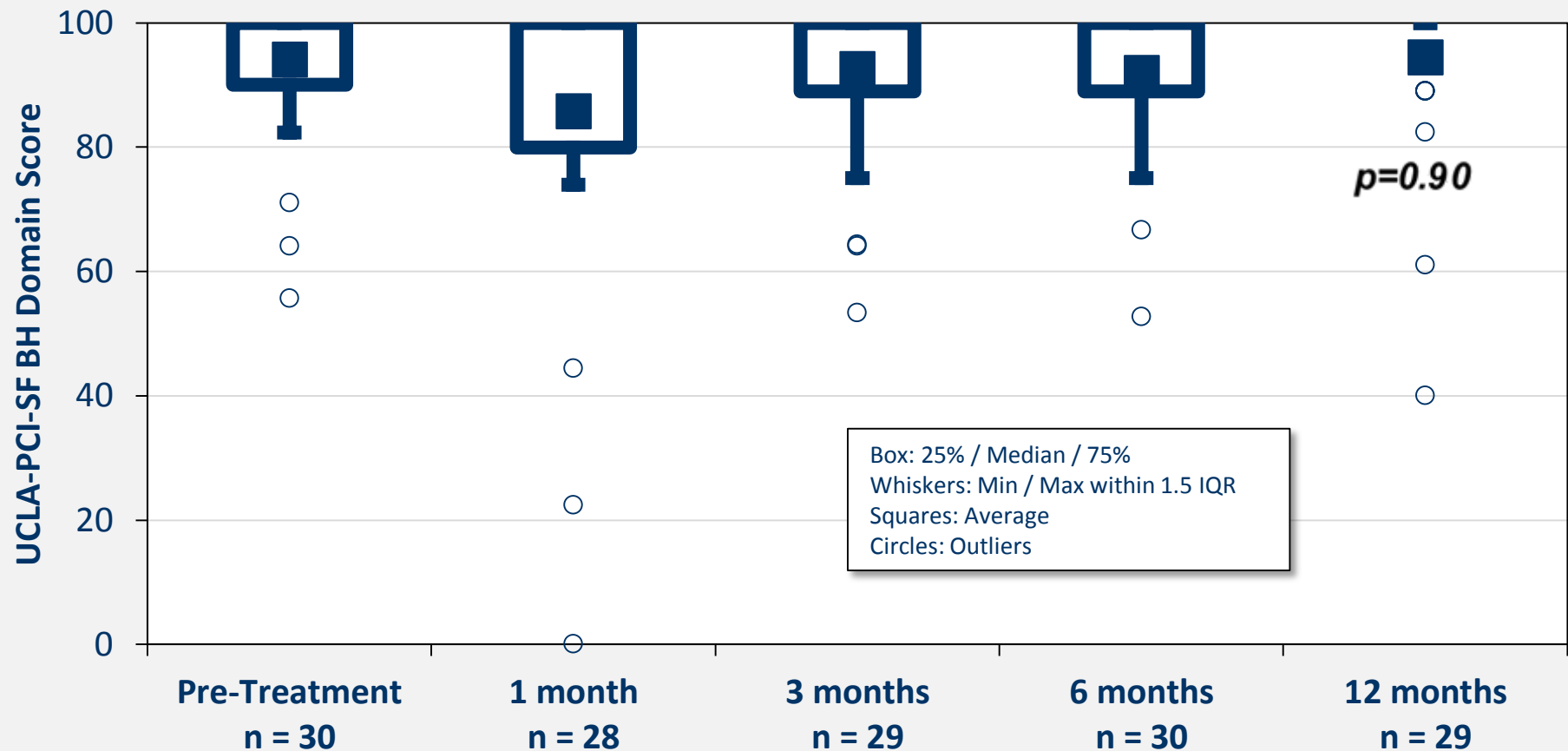
## IIEF-15 Erectile Function Domain



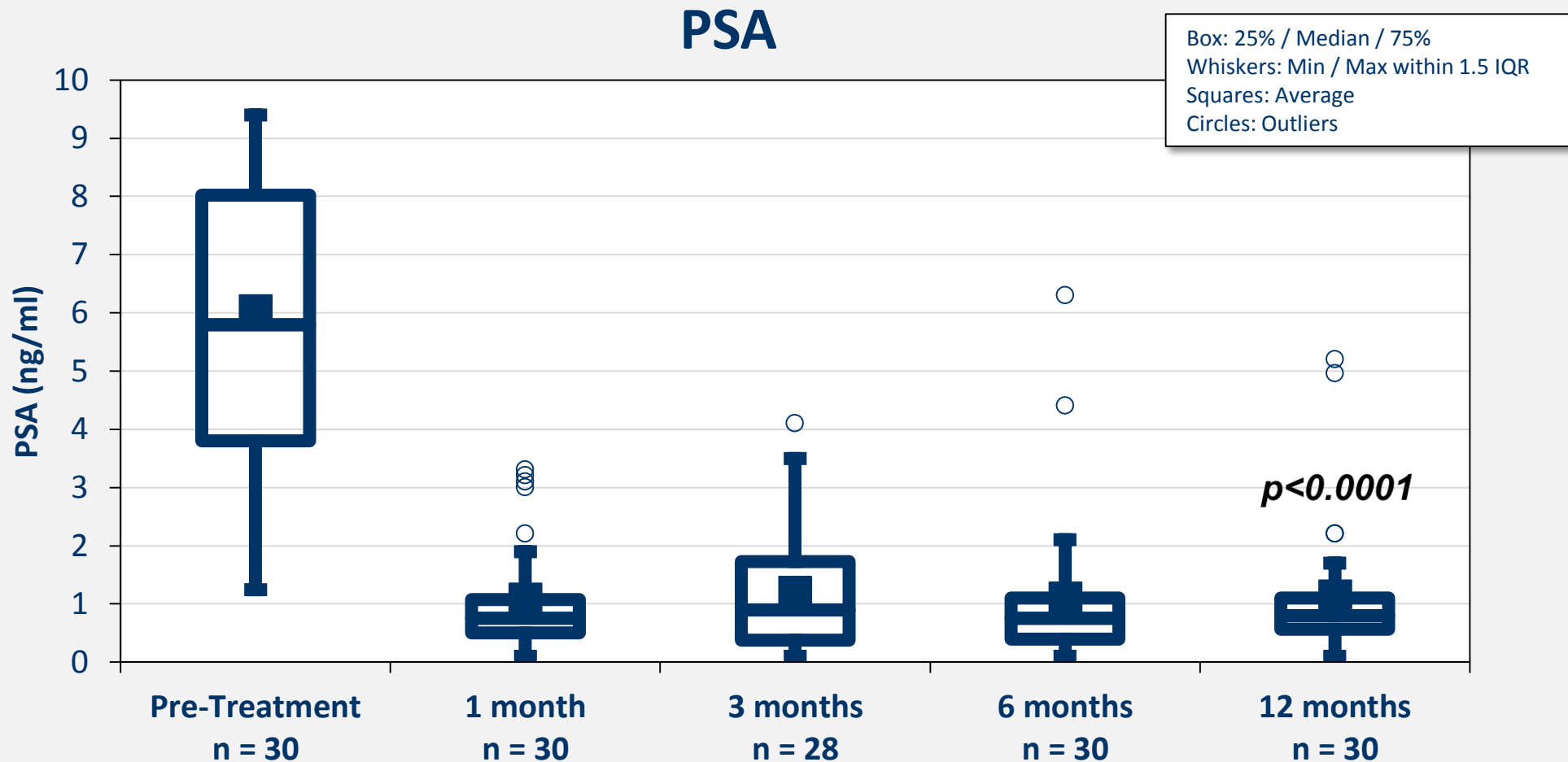
# BOWEL HABITS



## UCLA-PCI-SF Bowel Habits Domain



# ABLATION EFFICACY

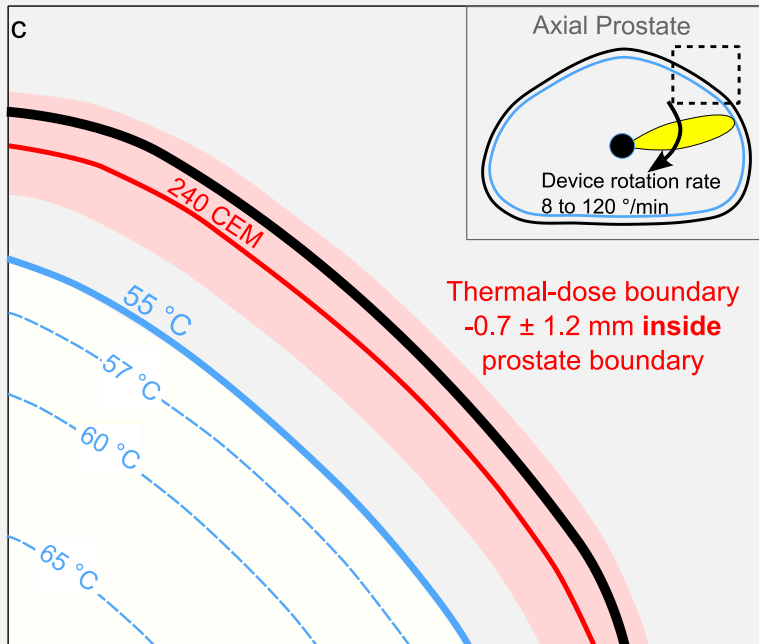




# BIOPSY RESULTS AT 12 MONTHS



## Phase I Treatment Parameters

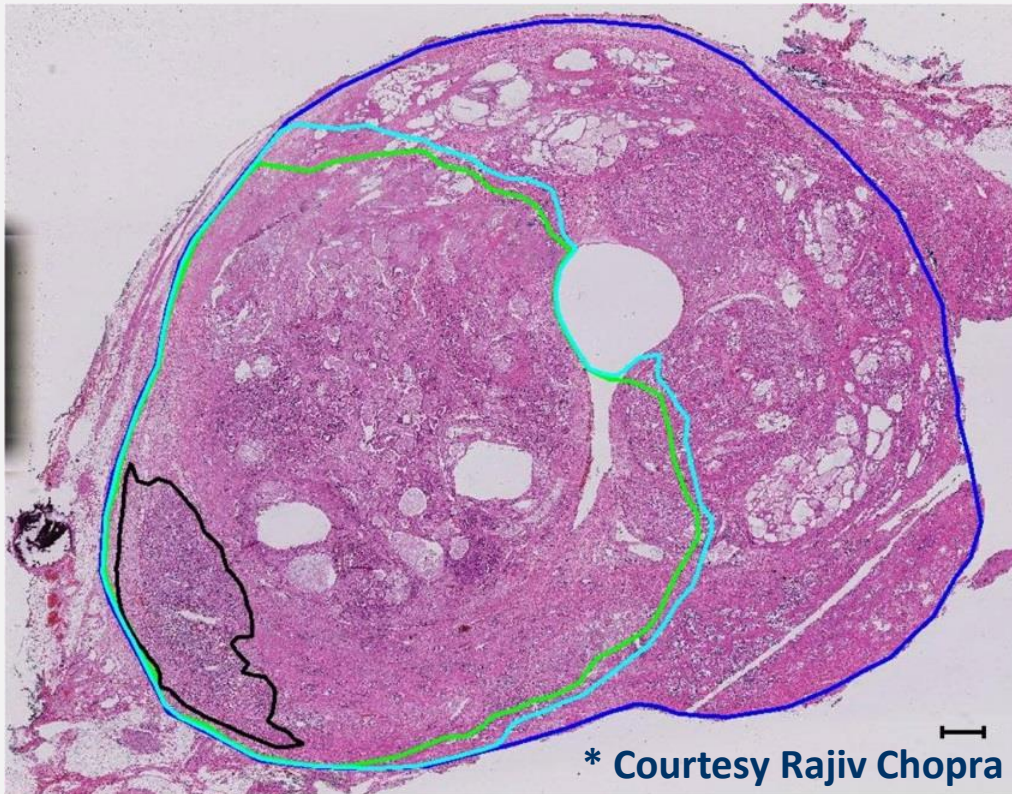


- **Phase I treatment parameters were conservative**
  - First-in-human study as primary treatment for prostate cancer
  - Lethal thermal dose  $-0.7 \pm 1.2$  mm inside prostate
  - 10% viable prostate expected at prostate periphery
- MRI & TRUS biopsy show diminutive prostate volumes averaging 51% fibrosis (N=29)
- Positive biopsies demonstrate 61% reduction in total cancer length (*reduced cancer burden*)
- Positive biopsies –  
Clinically significant disease: 31% patients  
Any disease: 55% patients
- Patient status
  - 27 patients in active surveillance, no further treatment to date
  - 3 patients opted for active treatment (RPx, histology pending)

# CLINICAL HISTOLOGY



## Acute H&E Histology



Chopra *et al.* "Clinical Evaluation of Transurethral MR-HIFU for the Treatment of Localized Prostate Cancer," ISMRM Annual Meeting 2014 (Milan, Italy)

- Dr. Laurence Klotz, Dr. Masoom Haider & Dr. Rajiv Chopra at Sunnybrook Research Institute (Toronto ON, Canada)
- Second Phase 0 "Treat & Resect" study
- Targeted MRI-visible cancer for ablation, with pivotal trial treatment parameters
- Demonstrated complete cell kill (coagulative necrosis) to prostate boundary on acute H&E histology

	Prostate Boundary
	Acute Coagulative Necrosis
	Outer Limit of Thermal Injury
	Tumour

# WHAT'S NEXT ?

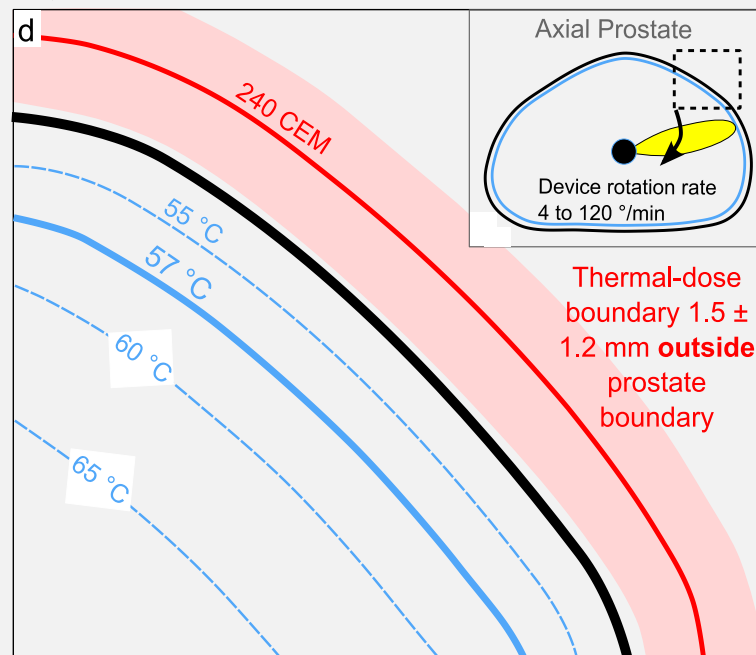
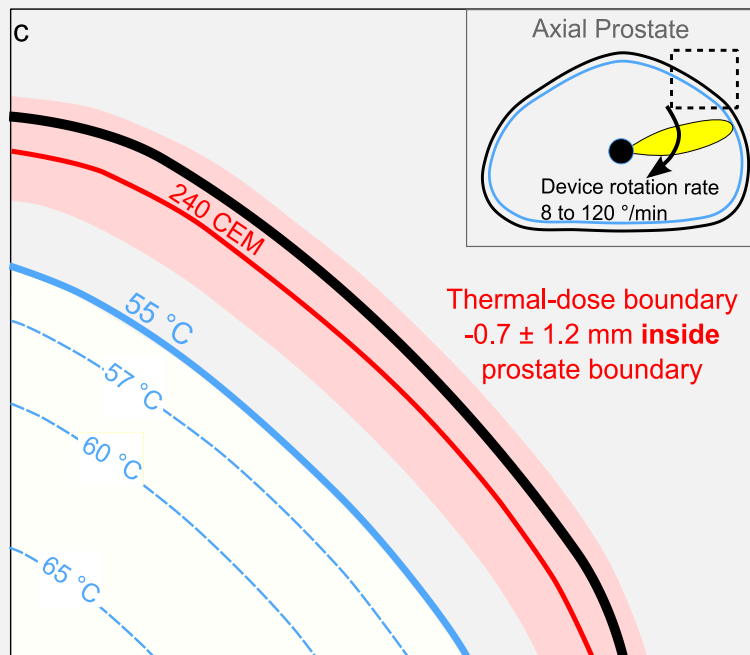


- Pivotal clinical trial being initiated in larger prostate cancer population
- Reduced safety margin for complete whole-gland ablation

Phase I Parameters



Pivotal Trial Parameters



# CONCLUSIONS

---

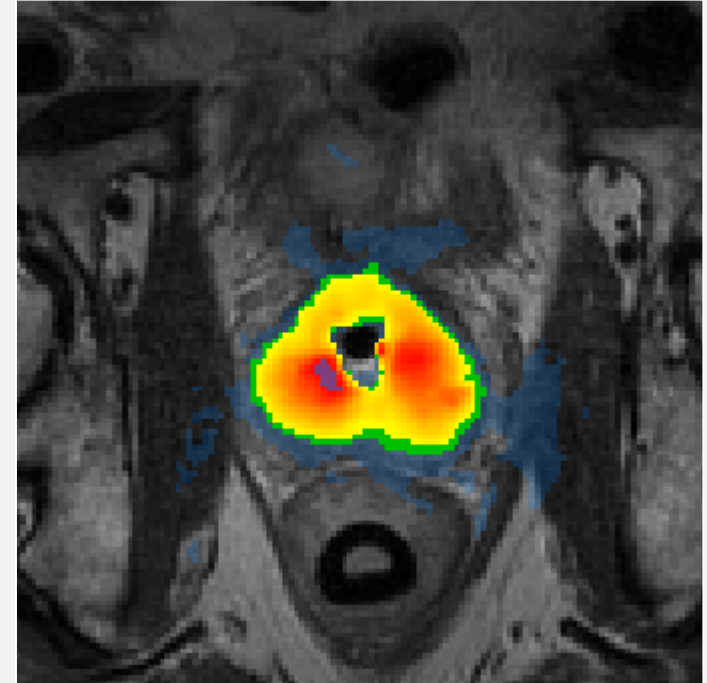


## First Experience with TULSA-PRO

- Clinically Feasible
- Low toxicity & Good safety profile
- Ambulatory procedure
- Suitable to focal treatment (scalable)
  - No MRI/TRUS fusion errors

## What's next?

- Phase I follow-up to 5 years
- Pivotal trial to commence in 2016
- Endpoints: ablation efficacy, safety & biopsy
  - Reduced safety margins for complete whole-gland ablation
  - Diagnostic multi-parametric MRI



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

---



## **Profound Medical Inc., VA, Canada**

Mathieu Burtnyk

Matthew Asselin

Goldy Singh

## **Dept. of Radiology, German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg**

Heinz-Peter Schlemmer

Matthias Röthke

Maja Müller-Wolf

## **Dept. of Anesthesiology, University Heidelberg**

Johann Motsch

Simon Dubler

## **Dept. of Urology, Western University, London Victoria Hospital, ON, Canada**

Joseph Chin

Michele Billia

## **Dept. of Urology, Beaumont Health System, Royal Oak, MI, United States**

James Relle

Jason Hafron

## **Dept. of Urology, University Heidelberg**

Markus Hohenfellner

Sascha Pahernik

Timur Kuru

Gencay Hatiboglu

---