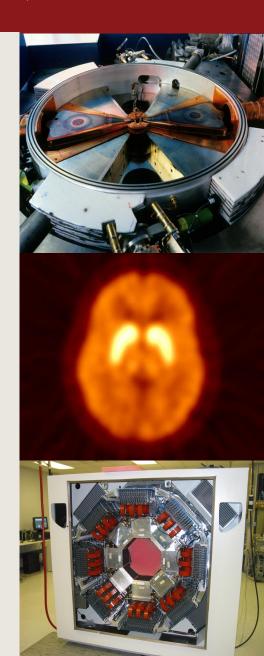


From Vision to Seeing:
Tracing Erich's role in bringing
positron emission
tomography to BC and Canada.

Thomas J. Ruth, PhD |
Senior Research Scientist, Emeritus|
TRIUMF/BC Cancer Agency



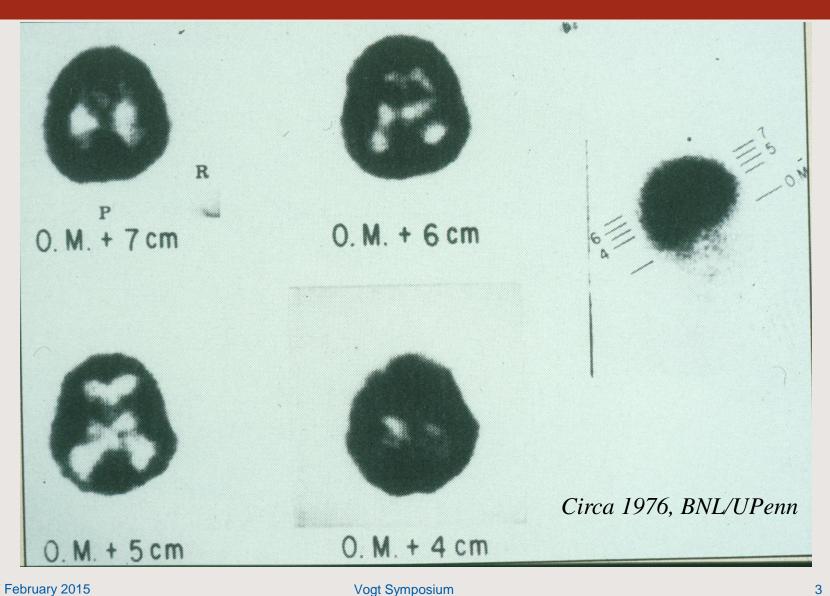


### **Brief History of PET**

- 1950s Brownell & Sweet at Harvard
- 1950s/60s Hospital based cyclotorn production of H<sub>2</sub><sup>15</sup>O, Ter Pogossian, Wash. U.
- 1960s <sup>11</sup>C-chemistry, Wolf team at BNL
- 1960s <sup>14</sup>C-deoxyglucose, Sokoloff, NIH
- 1960s/70s Kuhl & Edwards, MkIV camera
- 1970s Phelps & Hoffmann, PET scanner, Wash. U.
- 1970s <sup>18</sup>F-fluorodeoxyglucose, Wolf, Fowler, Ido
- 1970s 1<sup>st</sup> FDG scan, Reivich, Kuhl, PENN
- 1980 NIH funded 10 sites for NeuroPET



### FDG scan on MkIV – Kuhl, et al.



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### PET @ UBC/TRIUMF

- Pat McGeer, Brian Pate, Bernie Reidel, Laurie Hall
- Building infrastructure:
  - CP-42 Beam Line
  - PETTVI Scanner
  - Pipeline
- Erich Vogt

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## **CP-42 Switching Magnet**



Funded by Vancouver Foundation, circa 1982

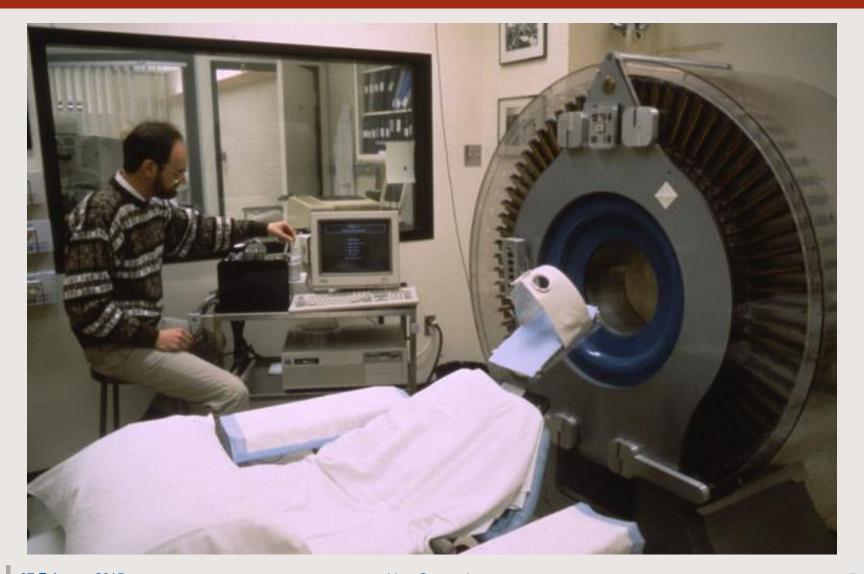


### PETTVI Dedication 1982



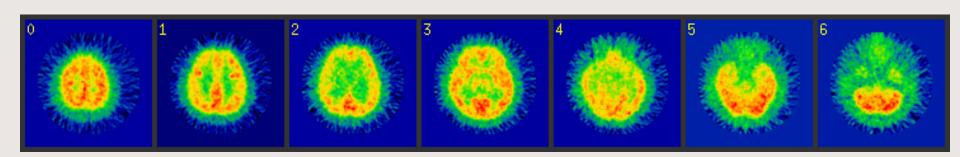


### PETTVI Scanner





### PETTVI – FDG image



#### **PETTVI:**

4 detector rings separated by septa: 7 imaging planes

In plane spatial resolution 9.2 cm

Axial slice width: 11.6 mm

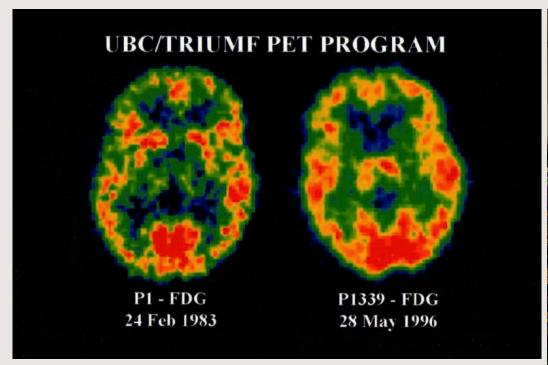
Slice – to –slice distance: 14.4 mm

Sensitivity < 0.5%

It wobbled!



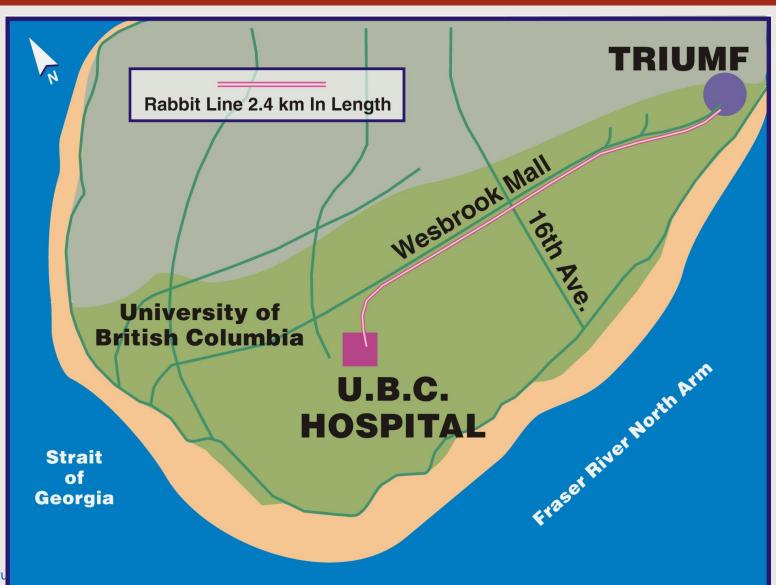
### 1st and Last Scans on the PETTVI







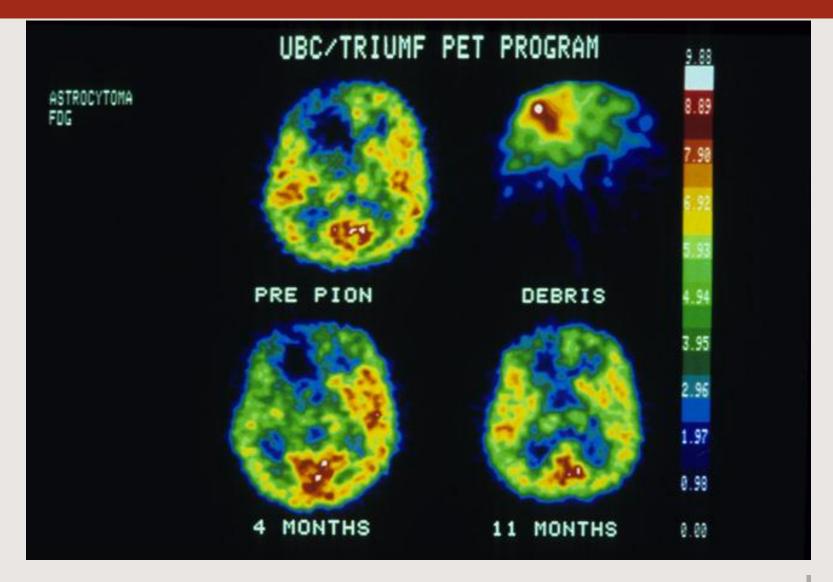
### Pipeline 1983



07 Febru



### **Pion Therapy @ TRIUMF**





#### Parkinson's Disease

- A common neurodegenerative disorder
- Loss of dopamine neurons and nerve terminal causing loss of motor skills and speech
- Most common form of treatment is with L-dopa which is transformed into dopamine in the body

Donald B Calne 1981



### **Preclinical Changes in Brain**

The first demonstration of subclinical dopaminergic impairment in people exposed to MPTP and in people carrying asymptomatic Parkinson-causing mutations.

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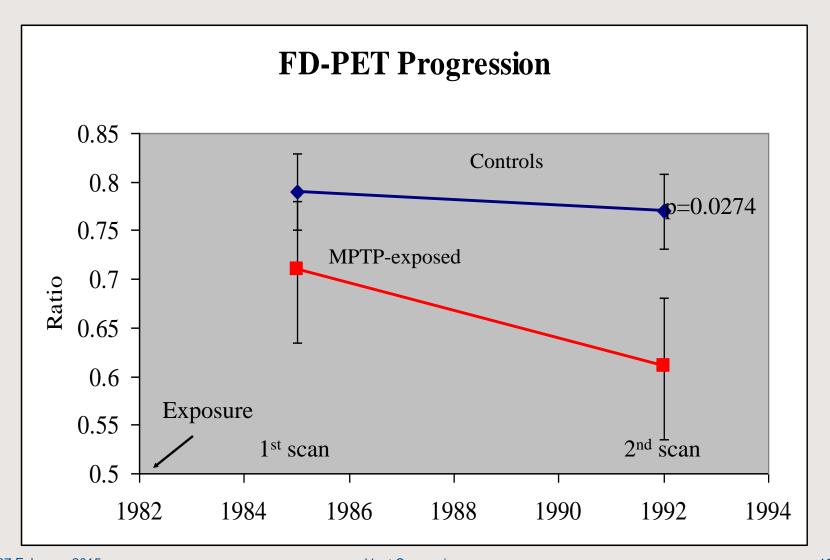


### **MPTP**

In the 1980's a designer drug with a small contaminant (MPTP) causing Parkinsonian symptoms was sold to several to drug users.



### **Normal Progression vs MPTP Exposure**





## Bob Miller (VPR, UBC) & Erich



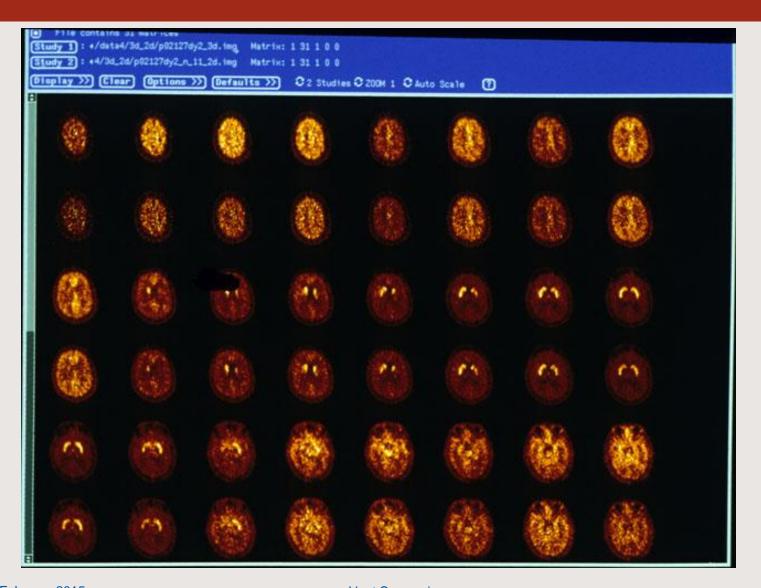


### ECAT 953B, Ruth, Miller, Gardner





### Screenshot from ECAT 953B

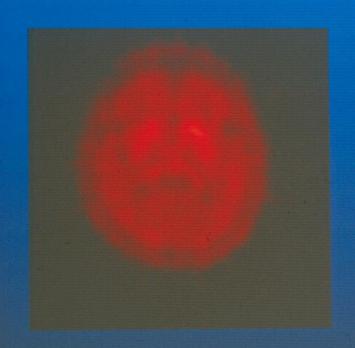




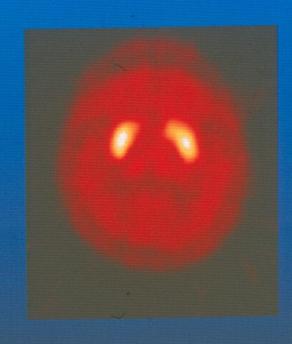
## <sup>18</sup>F-Dopa Scans



# Fetal Cell Transplant





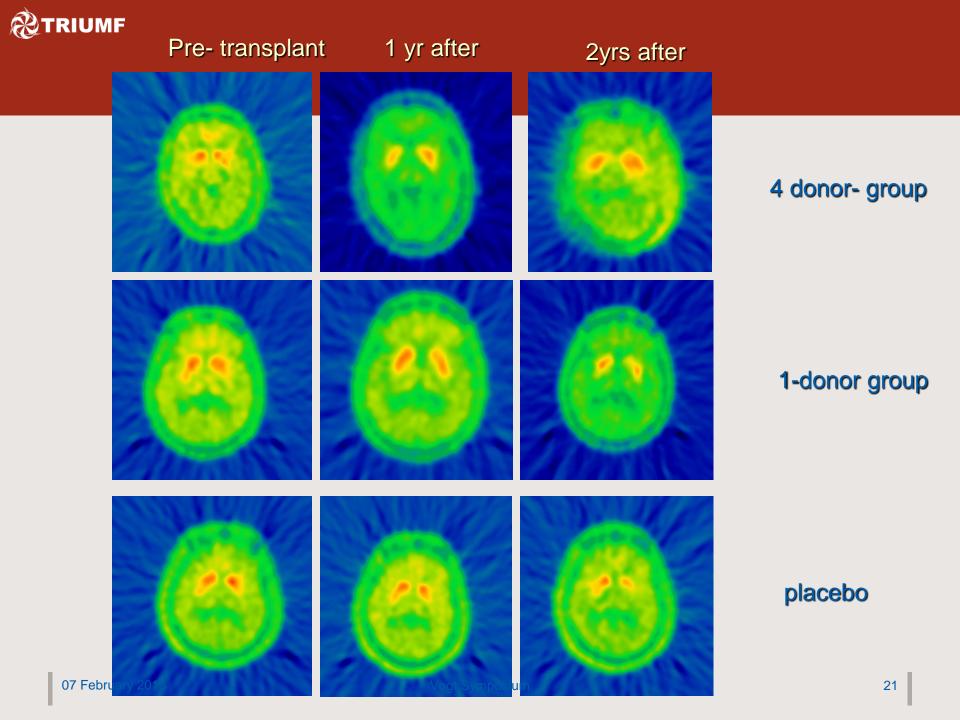


Baseline

6 Months

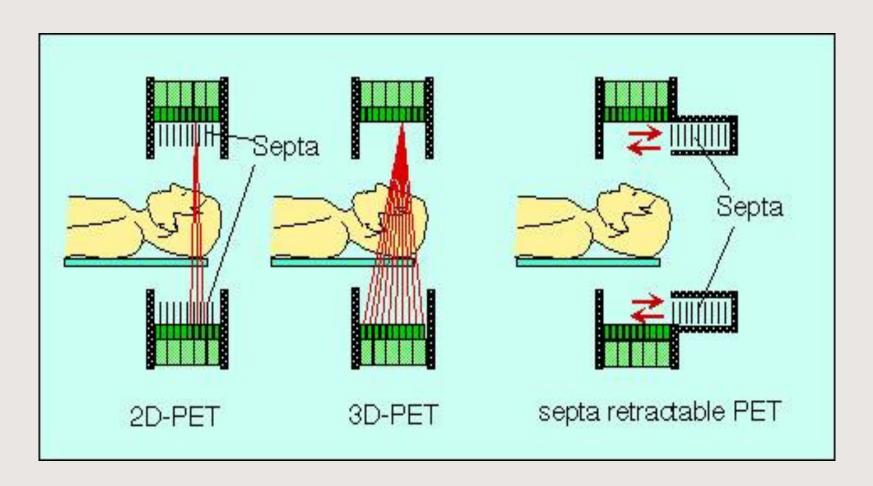
12 Months







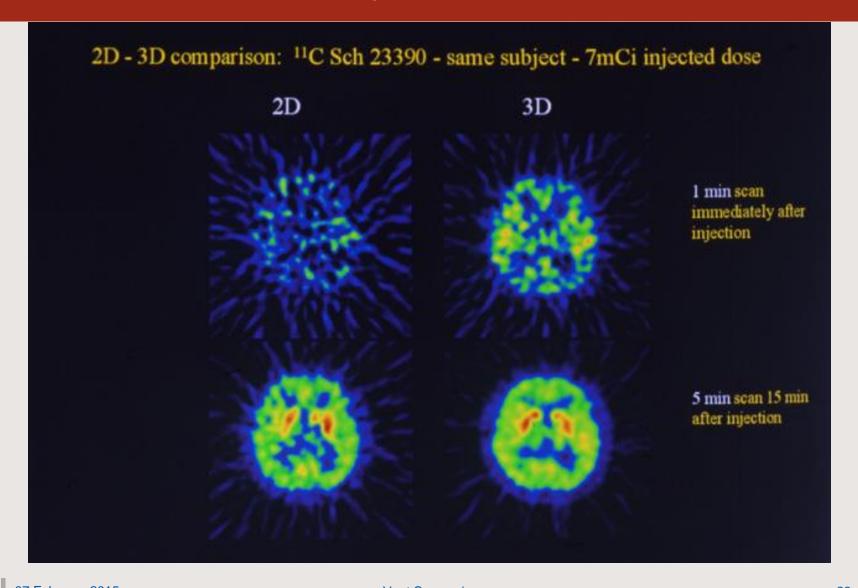
### ECAT 953B Scanner



Paul Kinahan, UBC MSc student developed first 3D reconstruction code

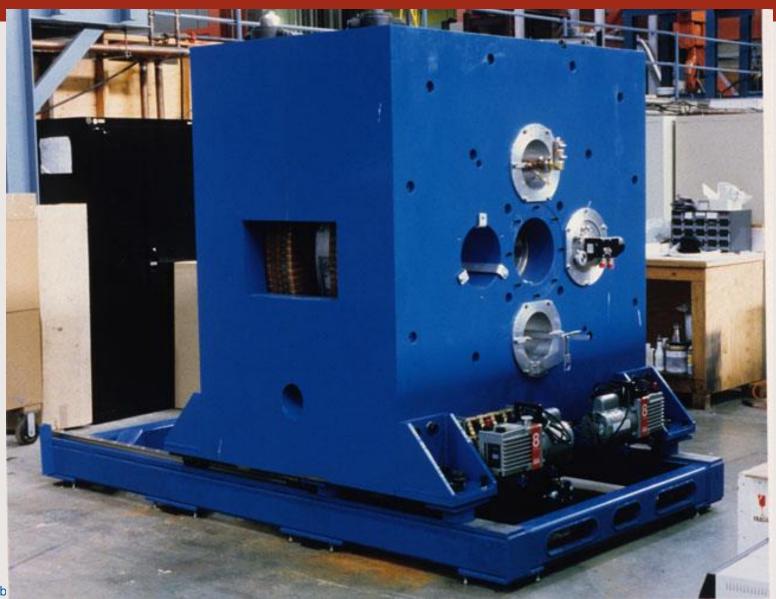


## Early 3D Scans – ECAT 953



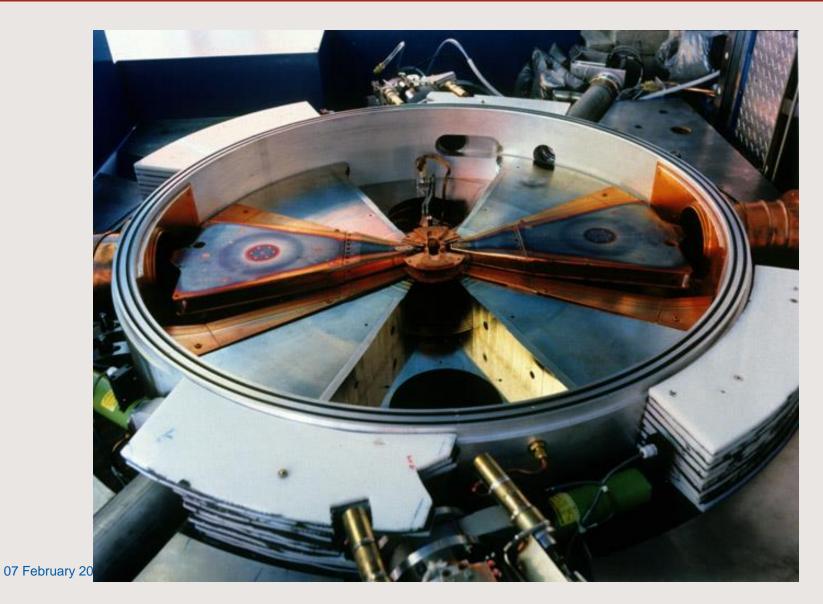


## TR19 (13) Magnet in factory





## TR13 Dees





## TR13 Cyclotron 1993





# Radiopharmaceuticals

- Dopamine system
  - <sup>18</sup>F-FDOPA
  - <sup>11</sup>C-Methylphenidate
  - <sup>11</sup>C-Dihydrotetrabenazine
  - 11C-Raclopride

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### Pacific Parkinson's Research Centre

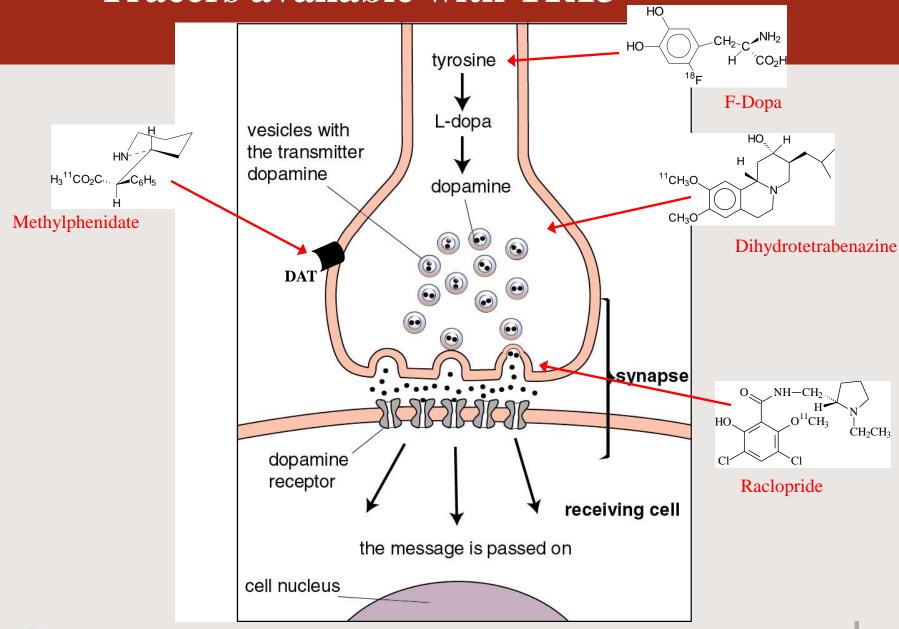
#### • Goals:

- Determine the origins of PD
- Follow natural history of disease (Progression)
- Develop treatments
- Control complications of treatment

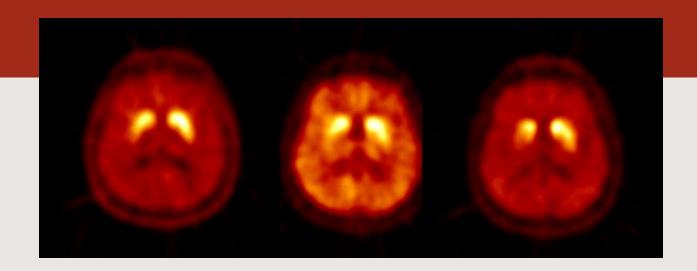


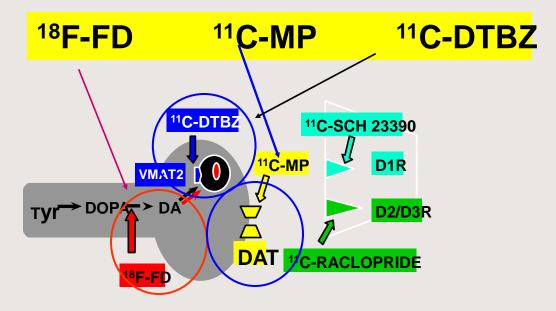
A. Jon Stoessl - Director

## Tracers available with TR13



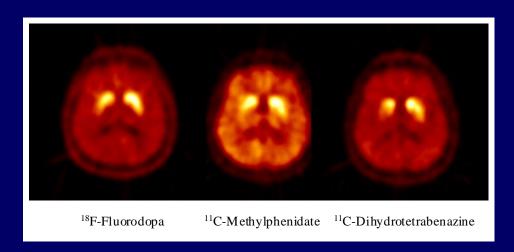


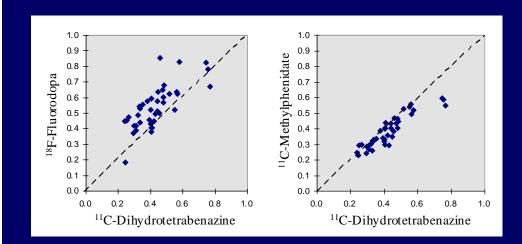






#### Asymmetric Parkinson's

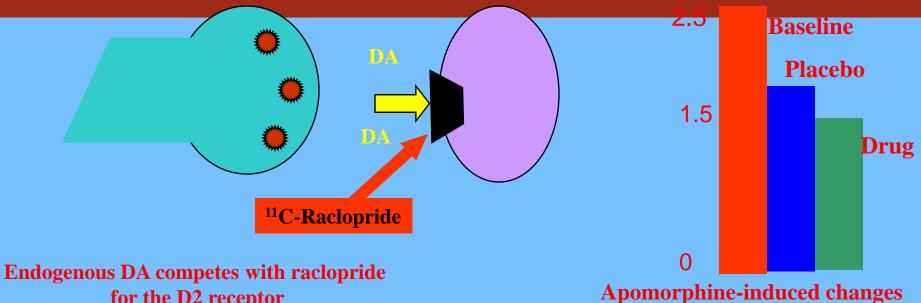




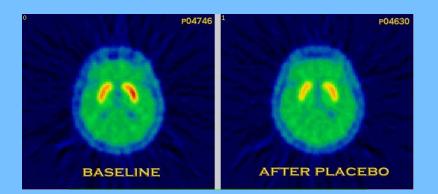




### In vivo assessment of endogenous DA concentration



for the D2 receptor



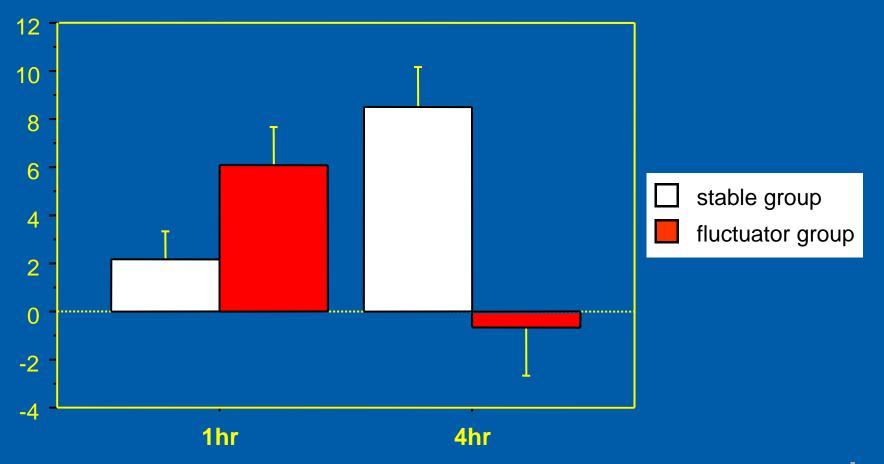
Lower raclopride binding indicates higher dopamine concentration



Relationship between abnormal dopamine release and turnover and the subsequent development of complications of therapy

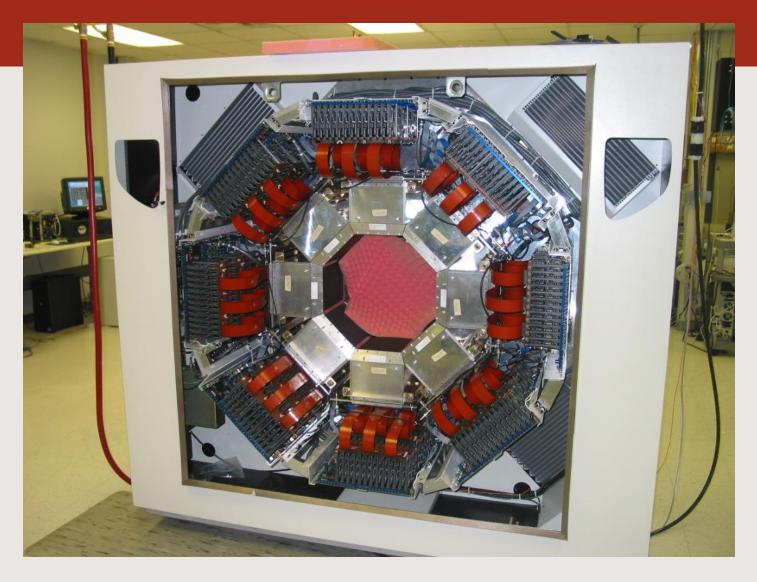
# ESTIMATED LEVODOPA-INDUCED CHANGES IN SYNAPTIC DOPAMINE LEVELS

Error Bars:  $\pm$  1 Standard Error(s)





### **UBC/TRIUMF HRRT**





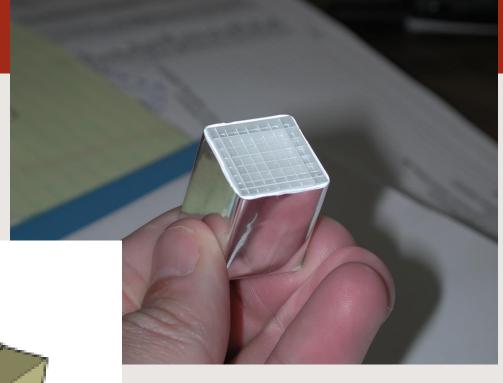
## High Resolution Research Tomograph

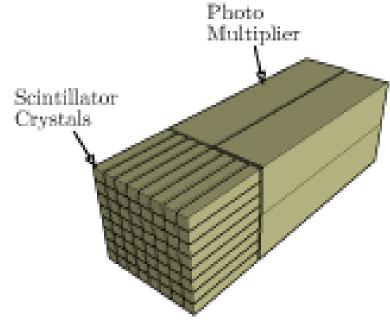
- 119,000 detector elements
- 4,000,000,000 lines of response
- > 1Gbyte of data per image frame

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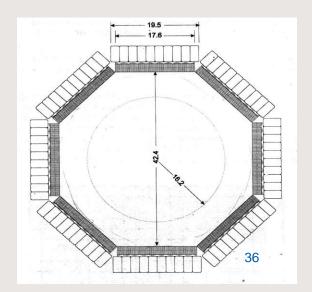
Crystal material: LSO/LYSO
Crystal size 2.1 x 2.1 x 10 mm<sup>3</sup>





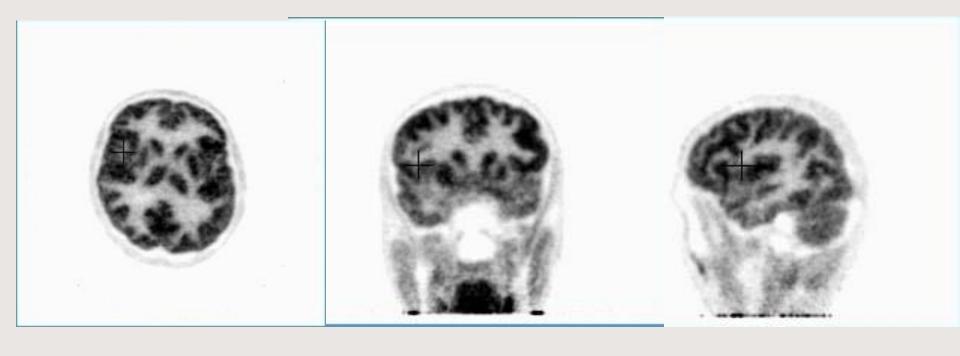
Detector Block
07 February 2015

Vogt Symposium





### FDG Images from the HRRT



Axial Coronal Sagittal

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### **Additional Questions for PET:**

- New drugs for diabetes
- Spinal cord research
- Enzymology
- The mouse genome and knock in/out models
- Learning
- Dyskinesia
- Cancer research



#### microPET

#### 10 April 2003

- 32 detector modules (8x8)
- 1920 individual LSO elements
- ring diameter 17.2 cm
- 10 cm transaxial FOV
- 1.8 cm axial FOV
- volume resolution ~ 8 mL
- sensitivity: 200 cps/μCi
- cost ~ \$ 450K USD





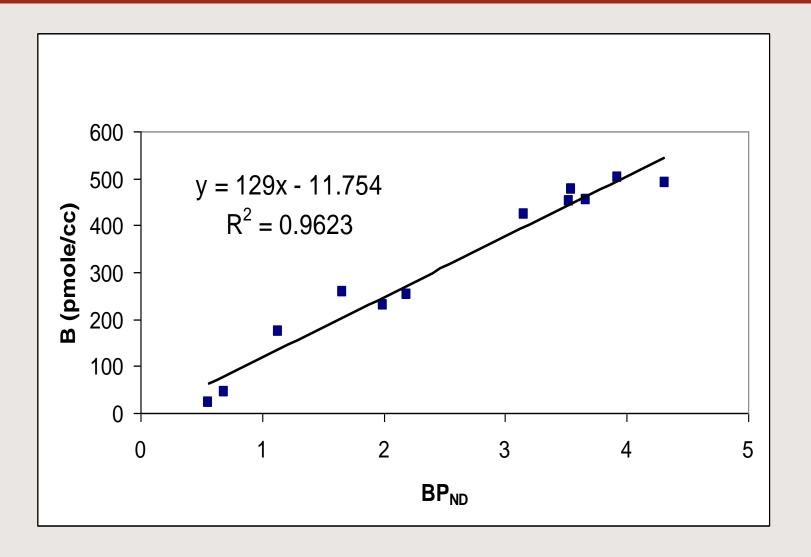
#### Validation of Tracers

- From the very beginning we validated the tracers we used
- We calibrated the scanners so that the regions of interest could be viewed as Bq/cm<sup>3</sup>
- With modelling the results could be interpreted with quantitative biological metrics

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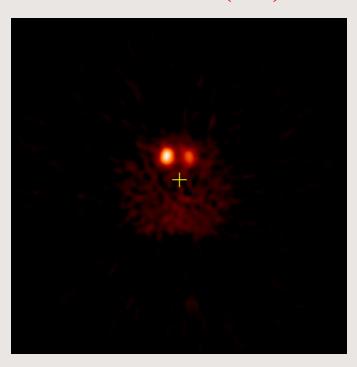


# VMAT in lesioned rat (comparing postmortem to Binding Potential (PET))

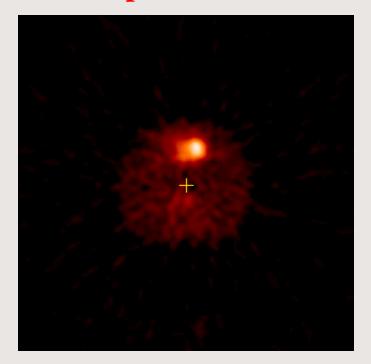




### <sup>11</sup>C-DTBZ (rat)



### <sup>11</sup>C-raclopride in same rat.





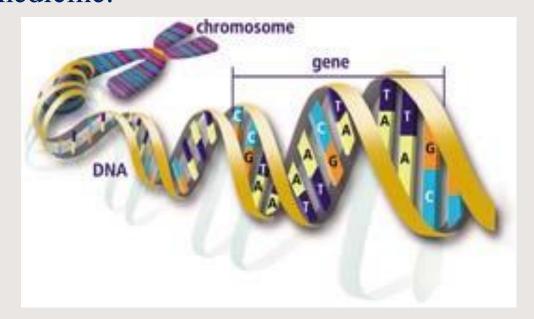
# What have we learned about Parkinson's Disease thus far?

- Preclinical changes in PET indices.
- Asymptomatic patients progress to disease.
- Early signs of compensation.
- Singular events can cause parkinsonism.
- Evidence of our *Event* hypothesis including progression.



#### **Future of Research PET**

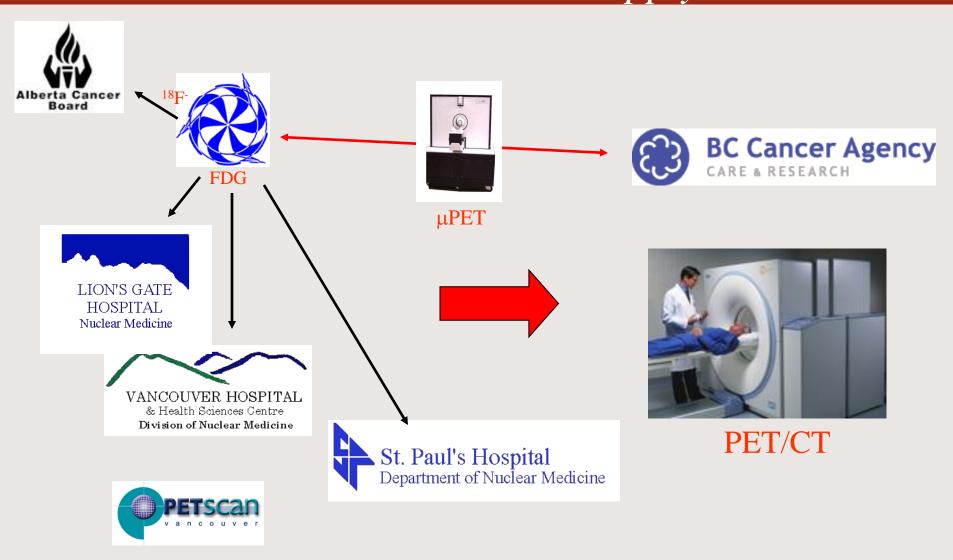
- The tracers we presently use *look* at the system response to disease.
- What we need are tracers that *look* at the disease process itself.
- We need to get closer to the action!
- This will provide the basis for personalized medicine.



07 February 2015



# Collaborations Beyond UBC/TRIUMF PET: <sup>18</sup>F & FDG Supply





## Acknowledgements

- Brian Pate
- Mike Adam
- Salma Jiyan
- Ken Buckley
- Donald Calne
- Jon Stoess1
- Doris Doudet
- Many, many individuals required to enable a complex collaborative effort to be successful.



# No matter how lost I was, Eric could be counted upon to set me straight!





# Thank you! Merci!



TRIUMF: Alberta | British Columbia | Calgary | Carleton | Guelph | Manitoba | McMaster | McGill | Montréal | Northern British Columbia | Queen's | Regina | Saint Mary's | Simon Fraser | Toronto | Victoria | Winnipeg |

















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