

Treatment Planning for Skull Base Tumors PTCOG 52, June 2013

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Chordomas and Chondrosarcomas

Prescription and Constraints

Dose in Gy(RBE)

- Chondrosarcomas
Rx: GTV – 70; CTV – 50
- Chordomas
Rx: GTV – 72 to 78; CTV – 50
- Constraints:
 - Optic structures – 60 to 62
 - Brainstem/spinal cord – center 53 to 55
surface 64 to 67 (or max dose)
 - Cochlea – <60 (unless tumor abutts)




Planning considerations

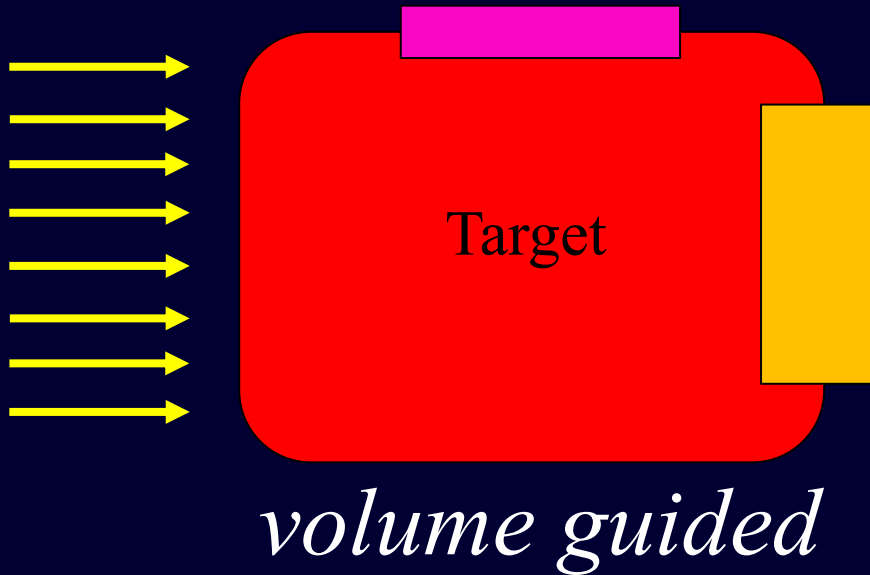
- CTV & GTV
 - Size, shape, and location
- Beam Arrangement
 - Paired beams
 - Matching
 - Patching
- Rx dose versus constraints
 - Penumbra considerations
 - When to design aperture ‘off’ critical structures



Planning Basics for SOBPs



- Lateral coverage by aperture edge
- Lateral penumbra
- Targeting uncertainty (<3mm, mostly random) 



- Distal coverage by compensator 
 - Sharper distal penumbra
 - Range uncertainty (3.5% of range, mostly systematic) 
- Must move around*

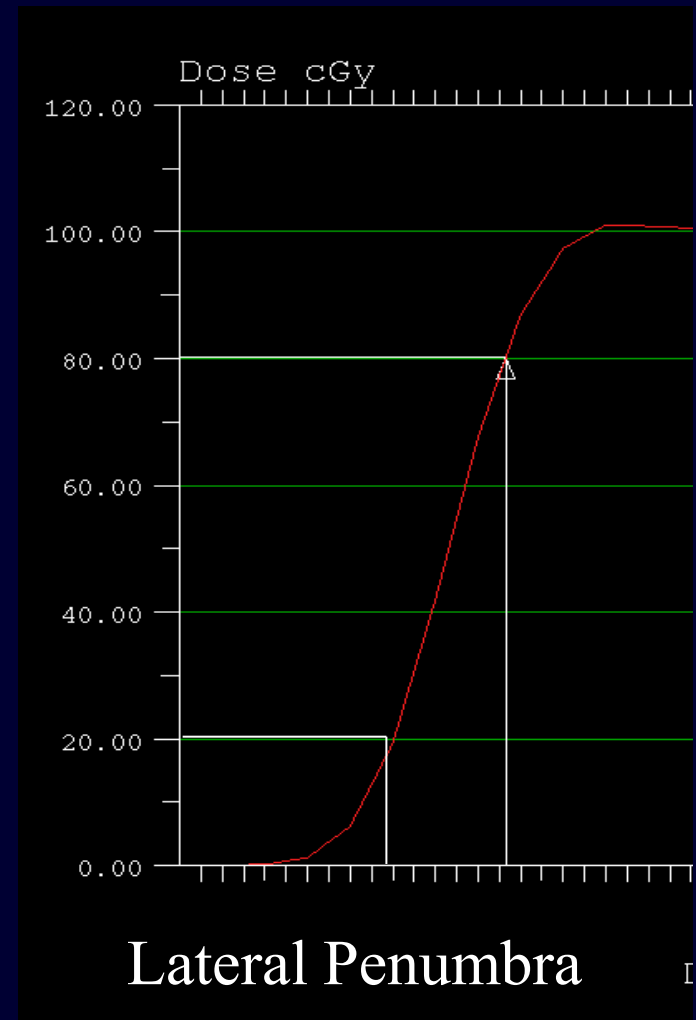
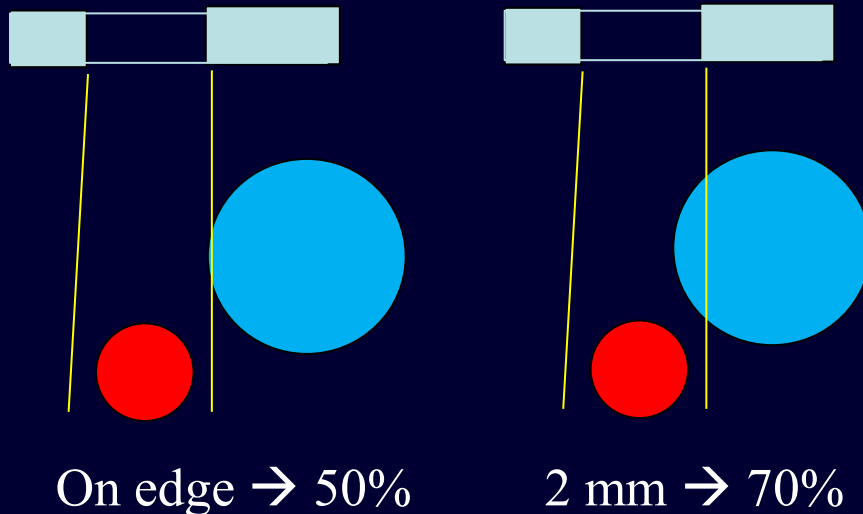


Staying 'Off' Critical Structures

Aperture edge is more reliable

Rule of thumb for dose gradient for ranges up to 16 cm:

1mm = 10% of dose across 20-80%



MGH Standard Approach

Photon component to 20 Gy
IMRT or 3D conformal

CTV/GTV beam arrangement to 60 Gy
Paired split dose fields:

PA – 14 Gy

R (RL, RAO, RP)) – 8 Gy

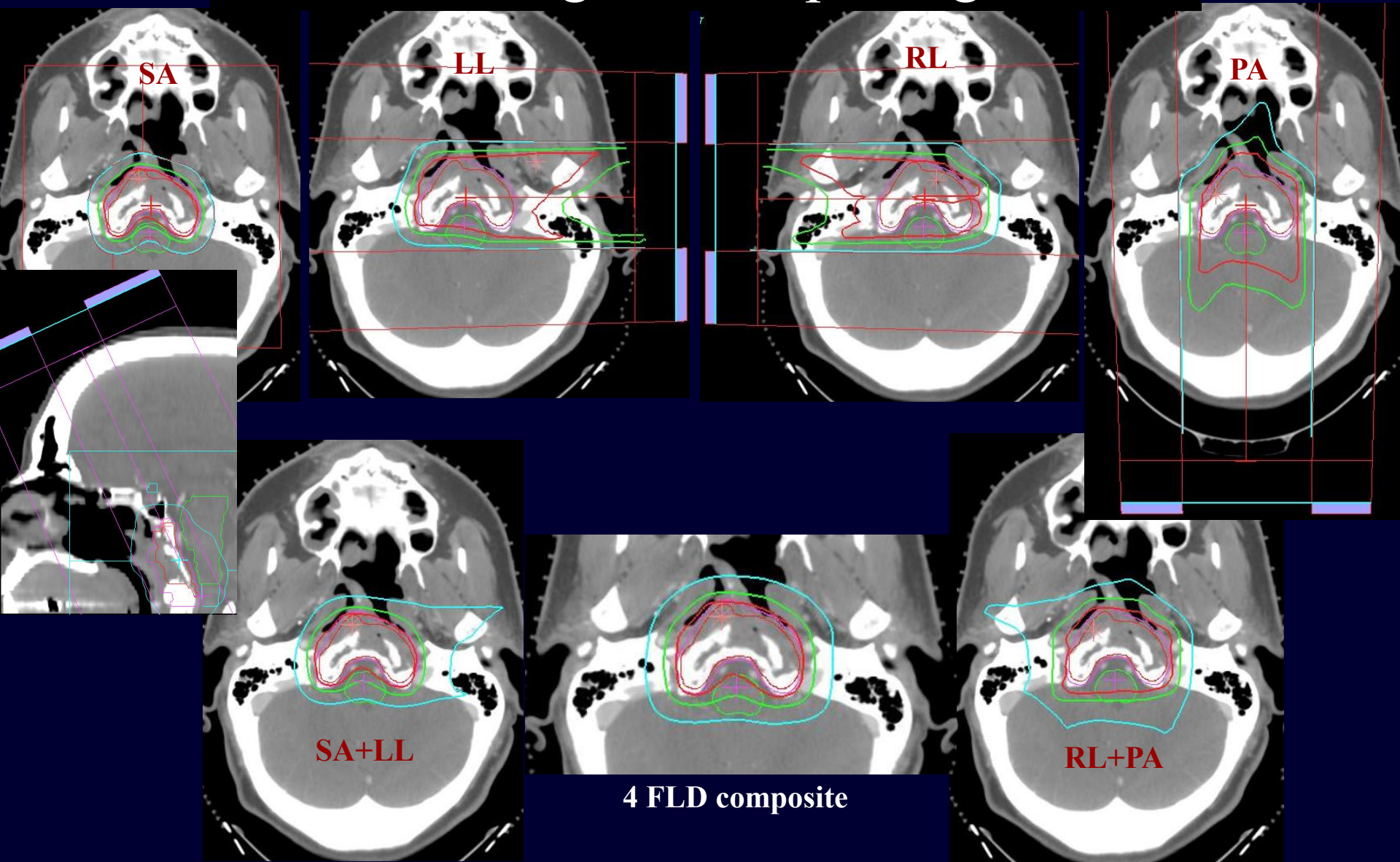
L (LL, LAO, LP)) – 8 Gy

SAO – 10 Gy (aperture to GTV, RC to CTV)

GTV to 70Gy (chondrosarcoma) and 72-78Gy (chordomas)
'off critical structures'
split-dose fields, matching fields or patch combos



Field Arrangement – pairing fields



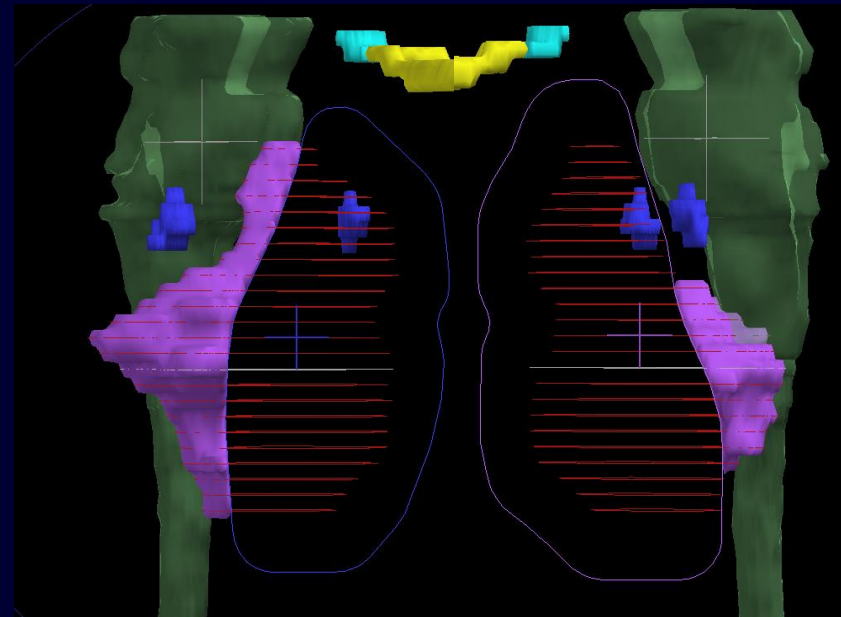
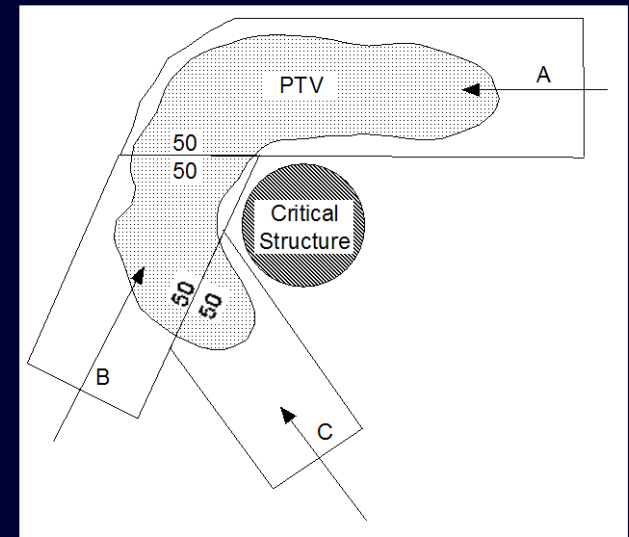
Matching Technique

- Not unique to proton therapy
- Changing target volume geometry
- Target volume(s) segmented into separate volumes (commonly superior and inferior components)
- Fields abutt

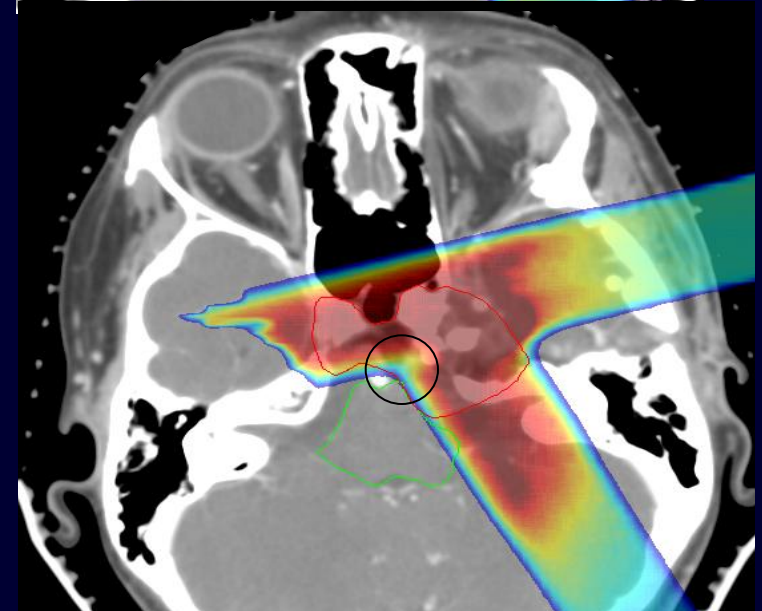
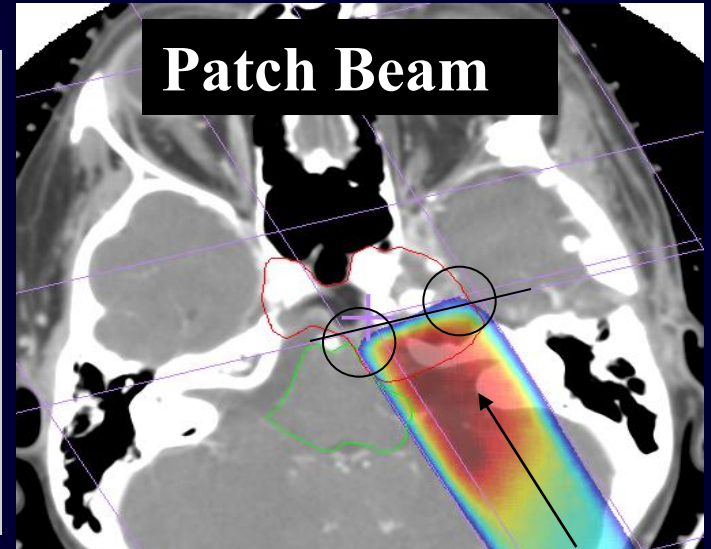
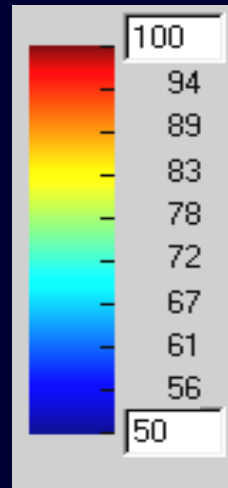
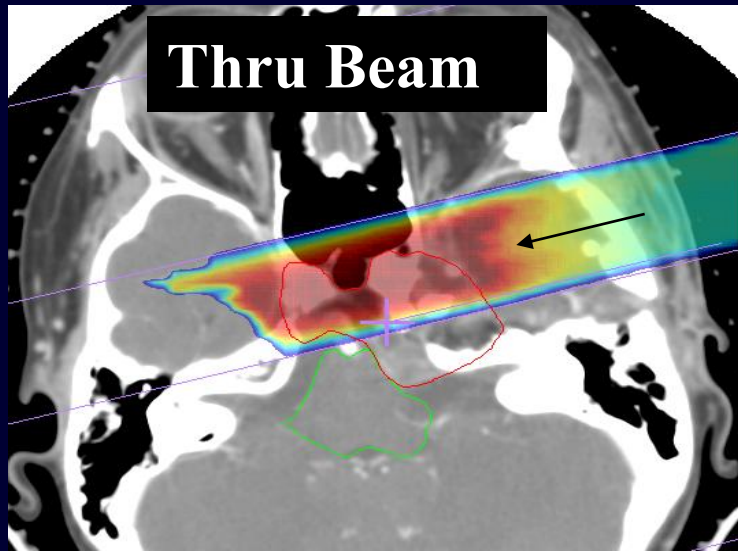


Field Patching

- Patching is a hierarchical sequence of proton fields.
 - “THROUGH” Field A: Achieved distal conformation to TV with the Range Compensator.
 - PATCH Field B: Achieve matching of distal edge of B with the Range Compensator at the lateral (50%) field edge of A
 - PATCH Field C: Match at 50% isodose, lateral + distal, levels



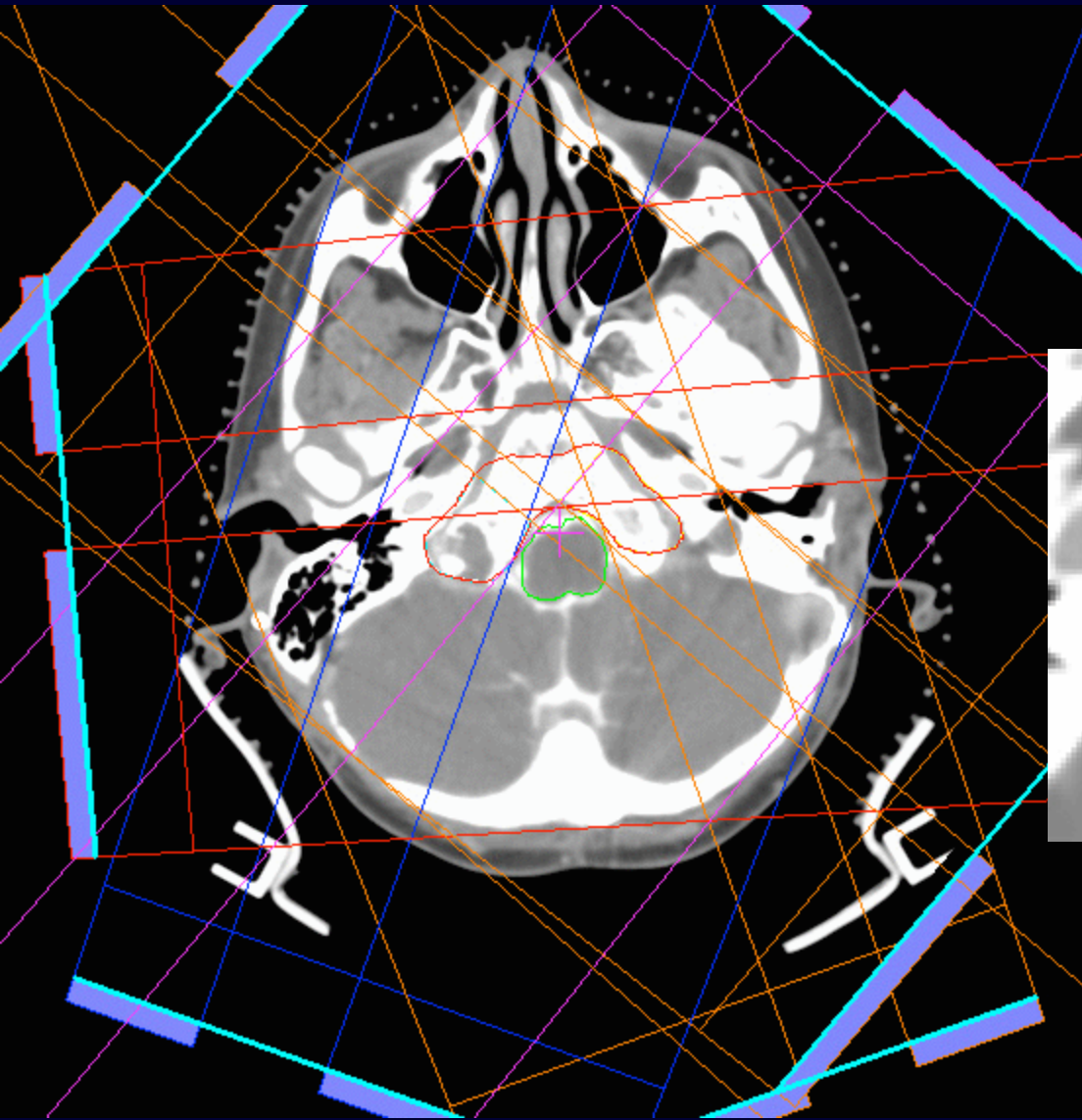
Patch Technique



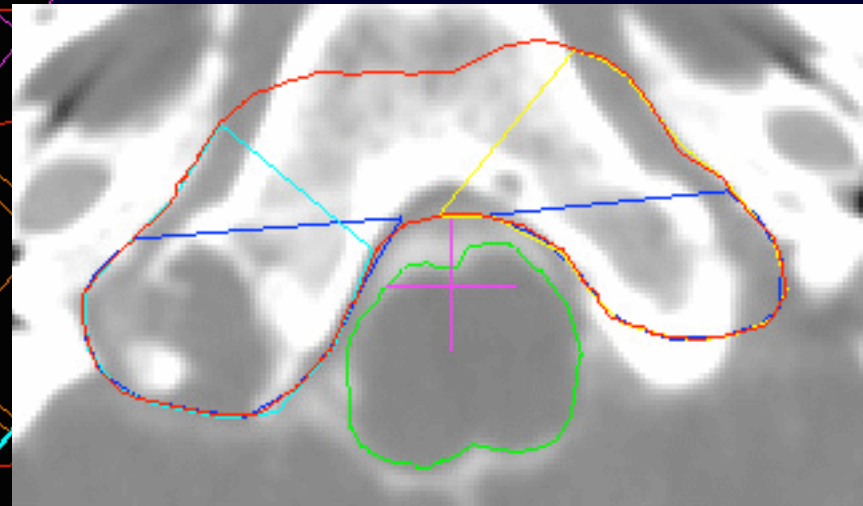
- Multiple (2 or 3) patch combinations usually required
 - move around hot and cold regions (hot at patchline, cold triangle at aperture intersections)



Patch Combinations



Patch Lines



**Overall hot/cold spots
less than 10%**



Case 1: Chondrosarcoma

(proton dose in Gy (RBE))

Right petroclival junction tumor

Rx: GTV – 70 Gy; CTV – 50 Gy
(CTV received 20Gy with IMRT, 5 flds)

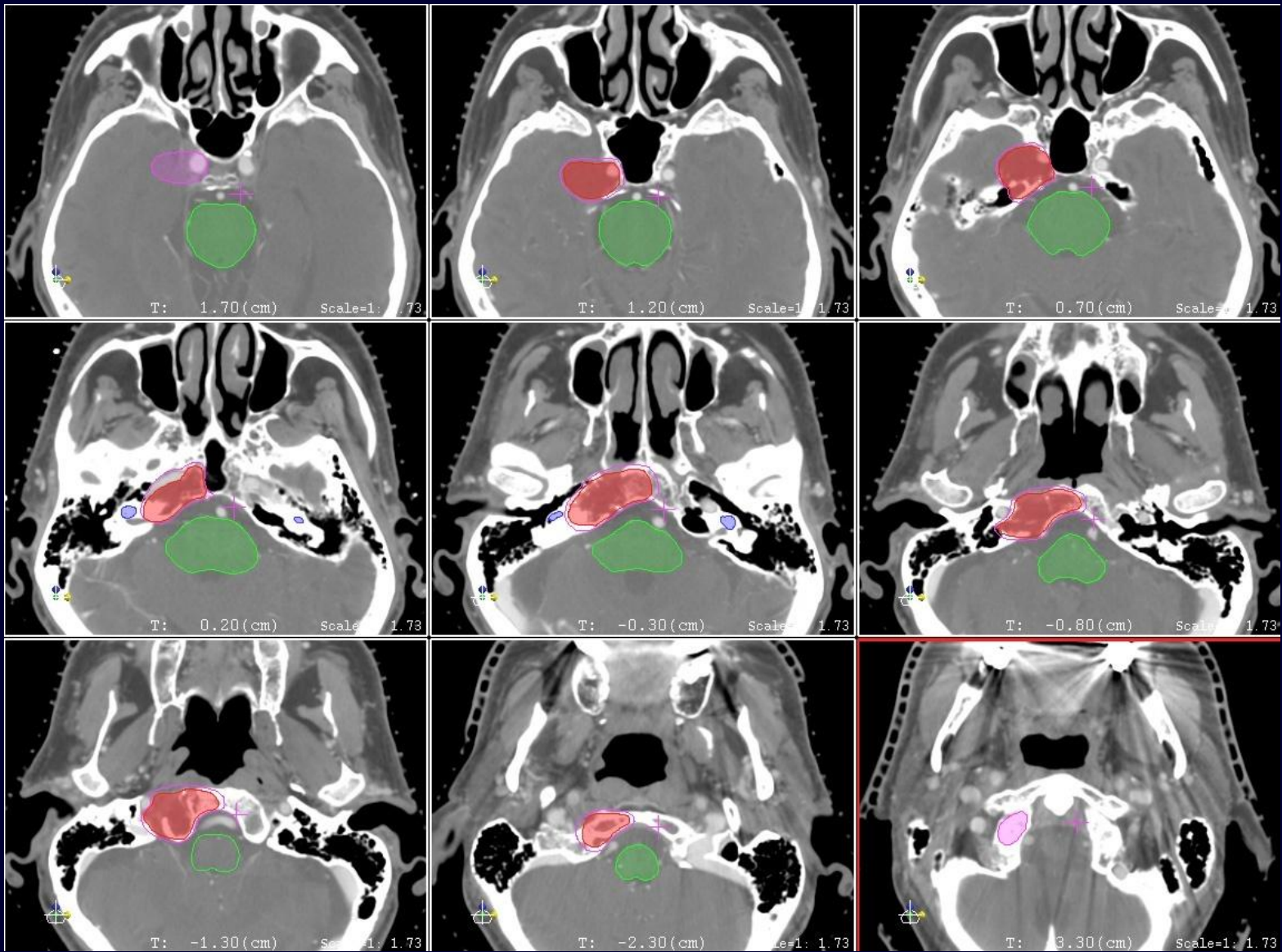
Constraints: BS, SC – 55/67 Gy, center/surface
Cochlea <60 Gy

Proton field arrangement and dose:

CTV: PA – 14 Gy, R40A – 8 Gy, L30A – 8 Gy

GTV: S15A – 10 Gy, R30P – 5 Gy, L30A – 5 Gy



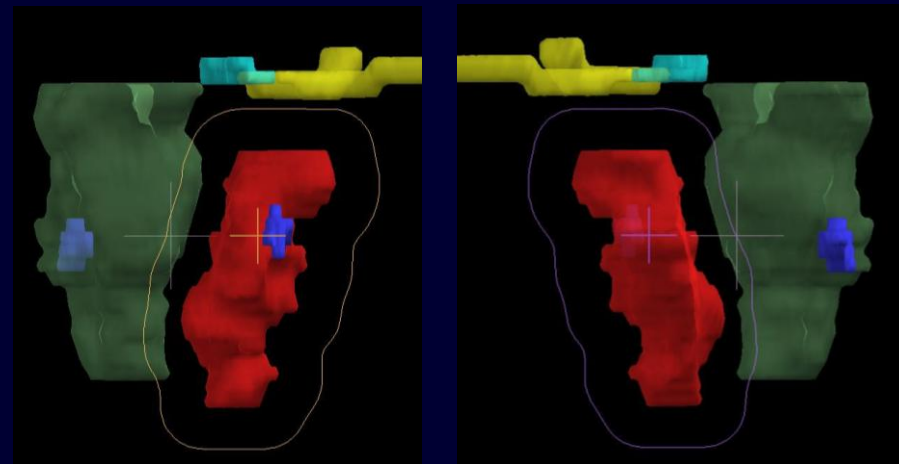
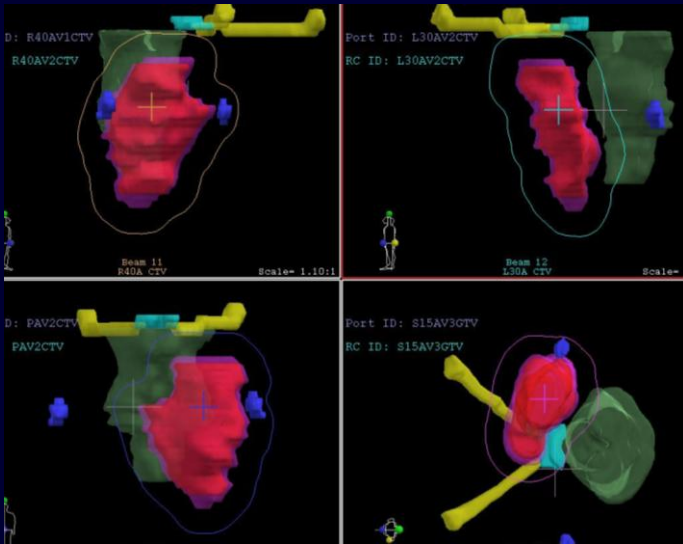
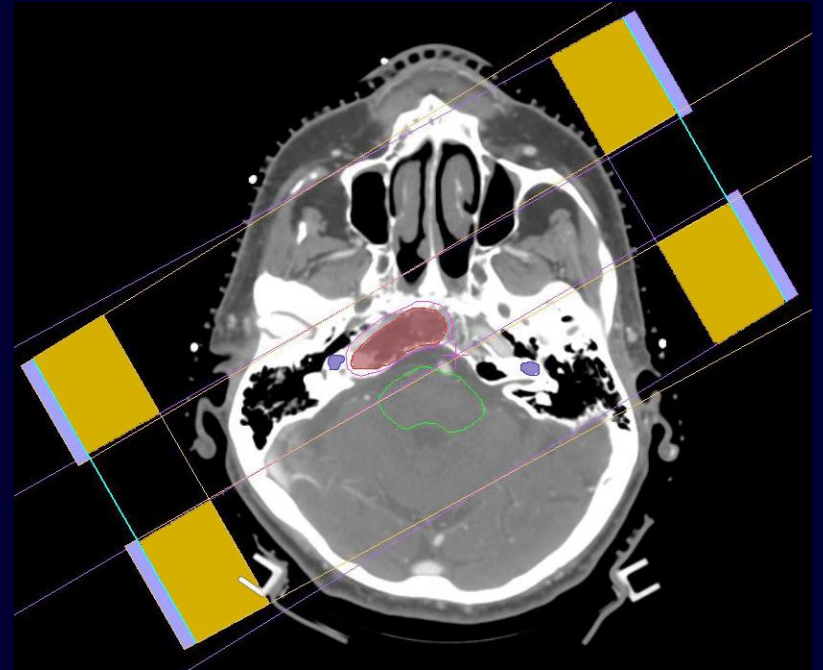
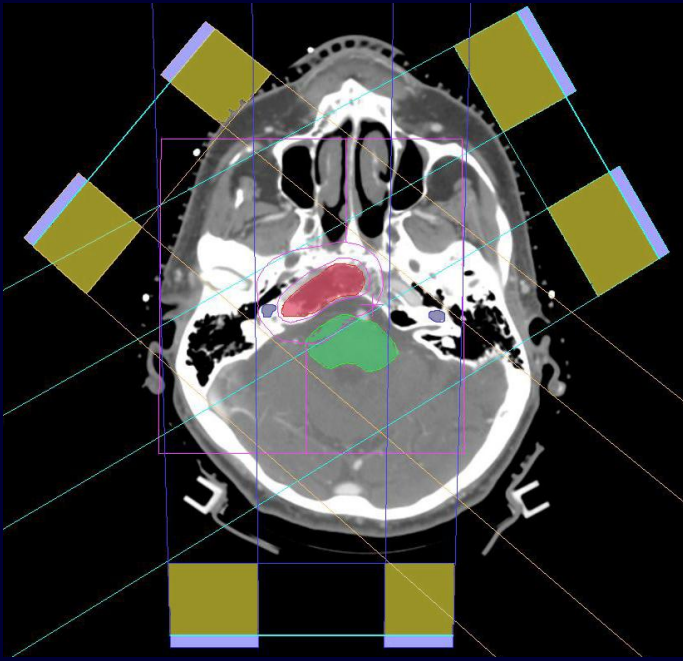


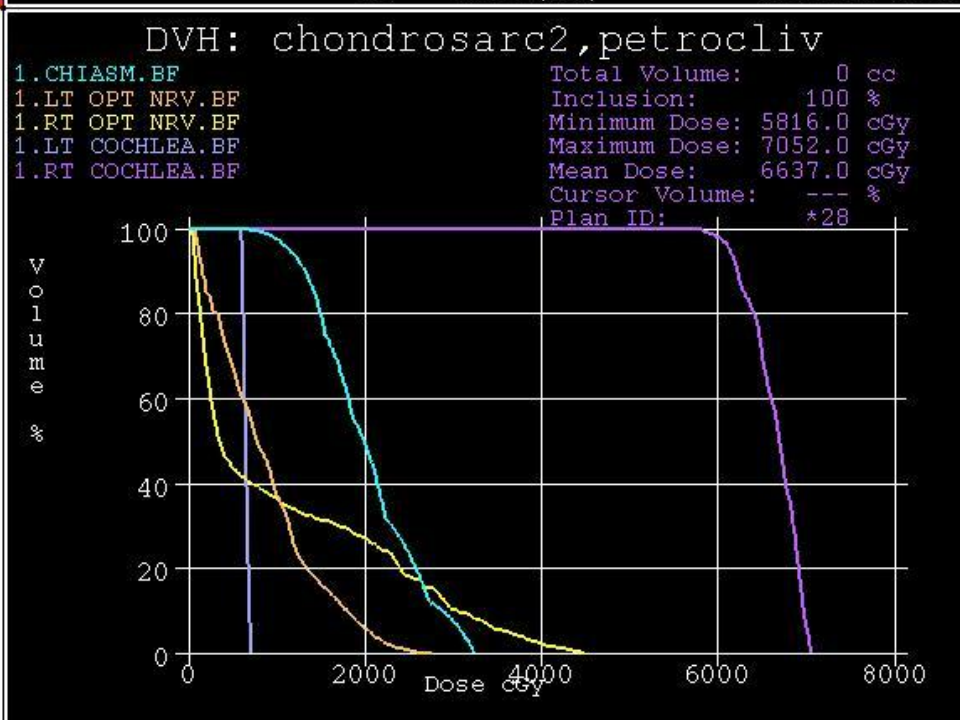
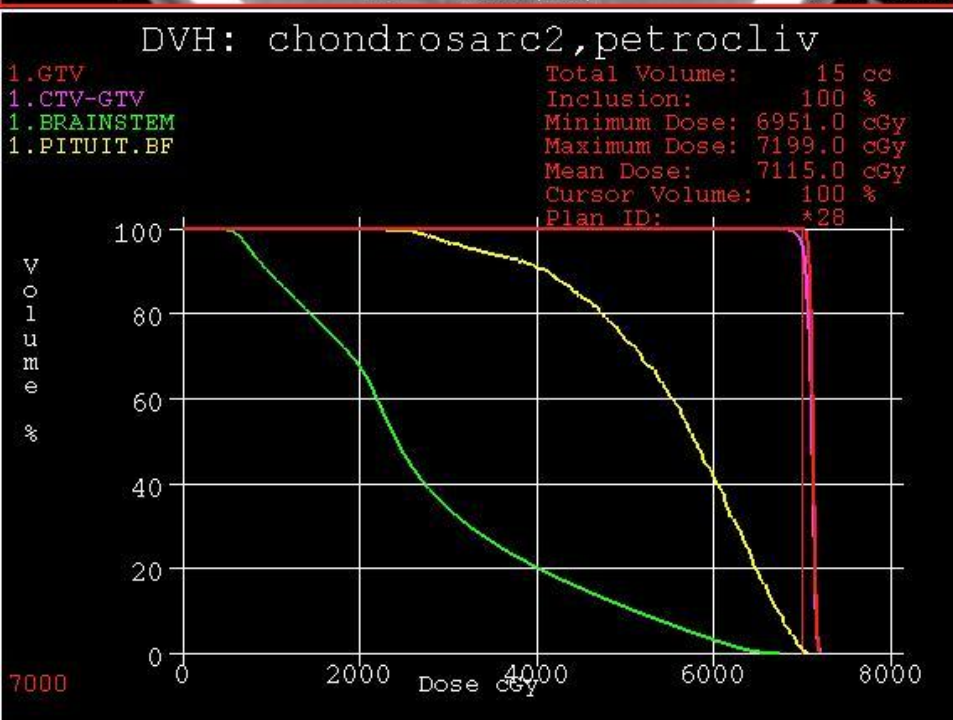
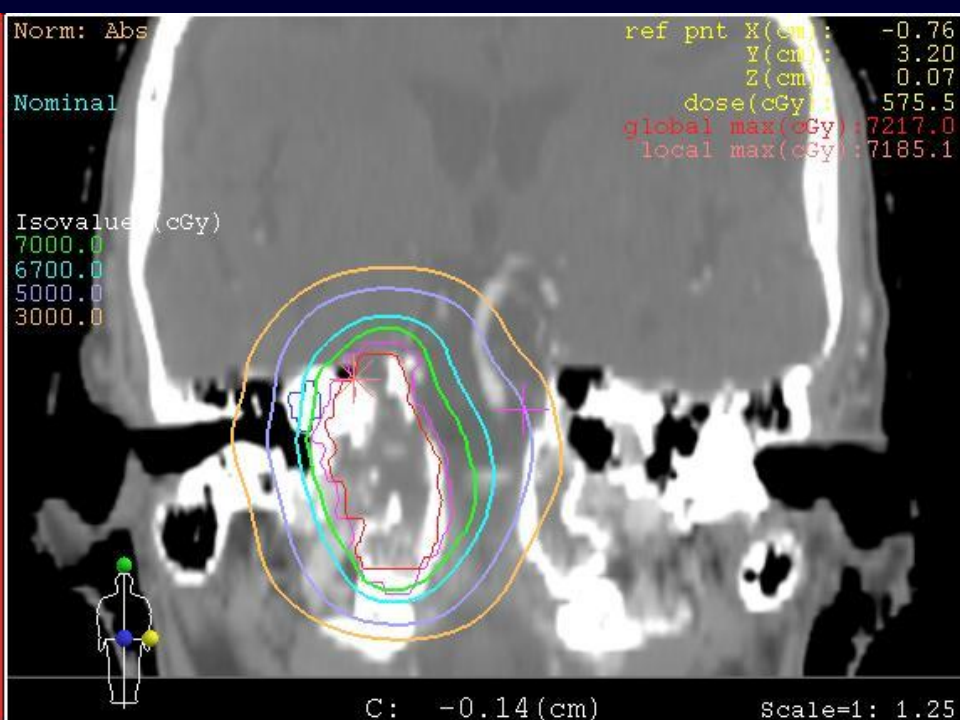
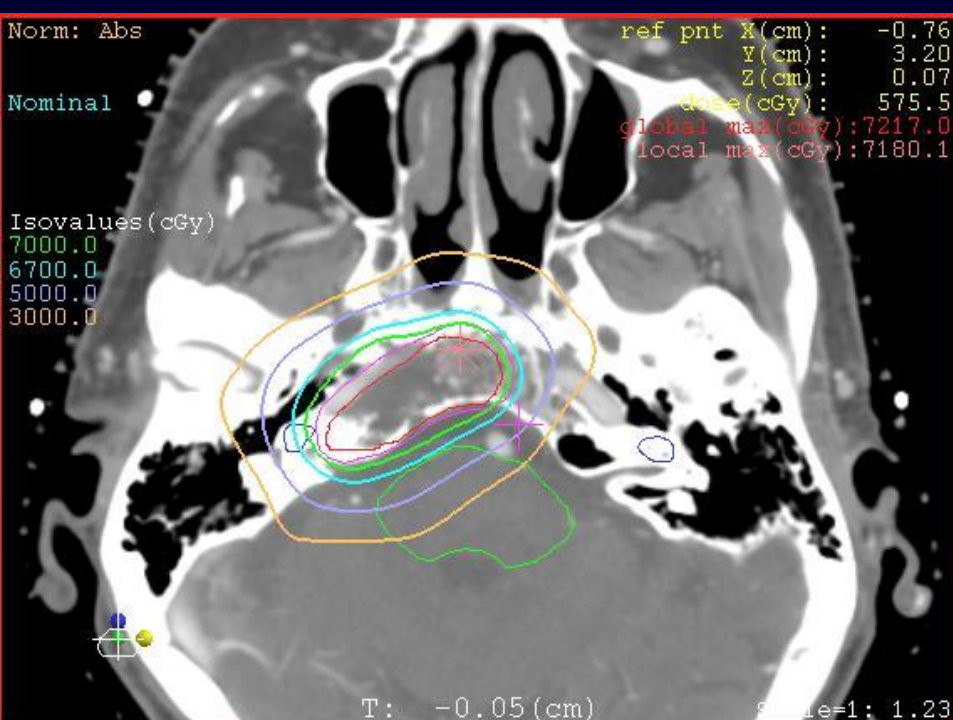
Scan with contrast important for target and critical structures



RAO paired with SAO, PA paired with LAO

GTV (boost) fields 70% to brainstem surface





Case 2: Chordoma

(proton dose in Gy (RBE))

Small upper clival tumor

Rx: *GTV – 72 Gy; CTV – 50 Gy
(CTV – 20Gy, 3 field, 3D photons)

*76 to 78 Gy not achievable due to tumor size and location

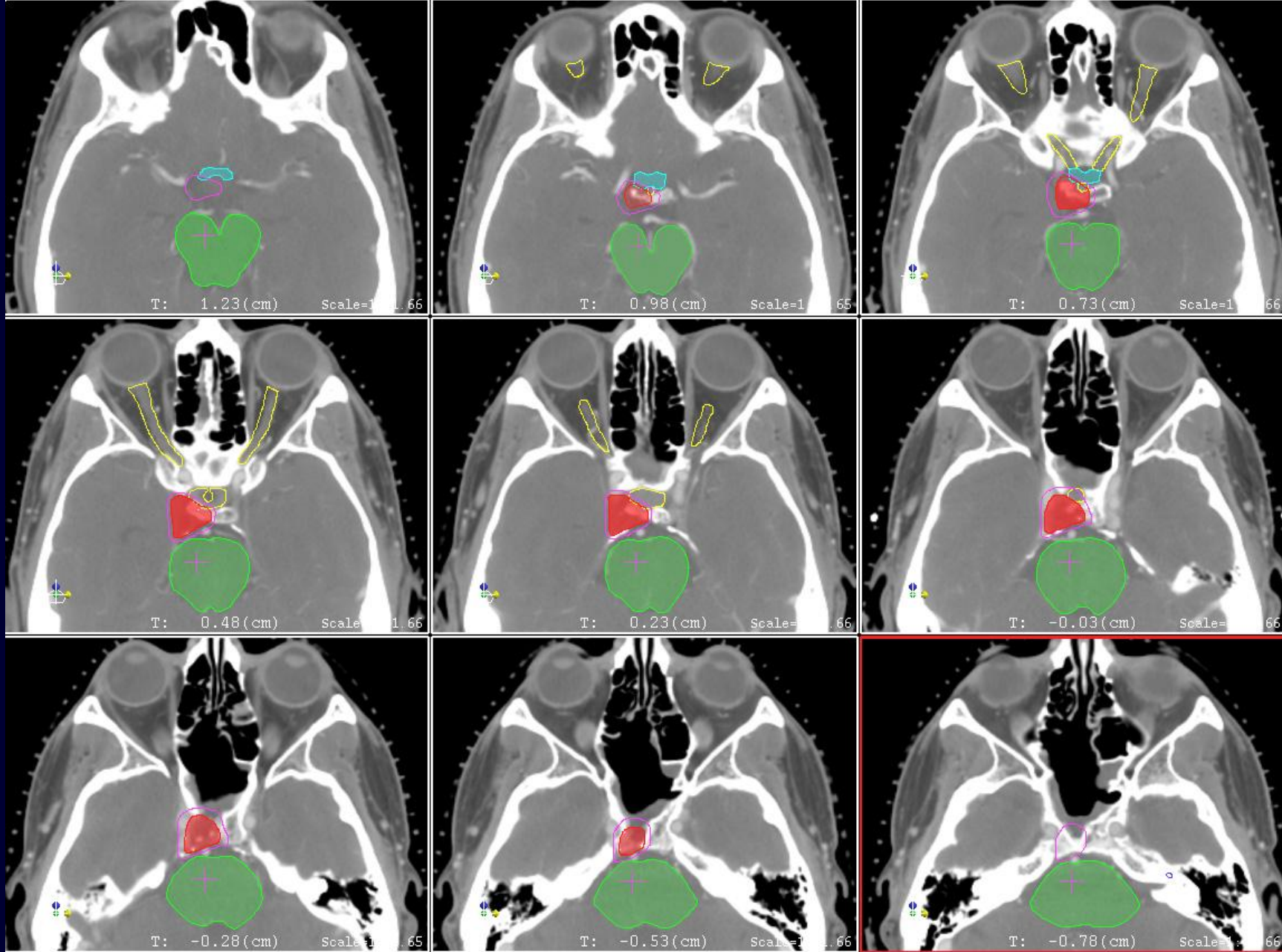
Constraints: BS, SC – 55/67 Gy, center/surface
Cochlea <60 Gy

Proton field arrangement and dose:

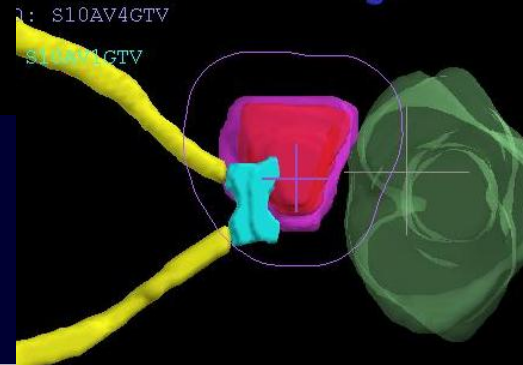
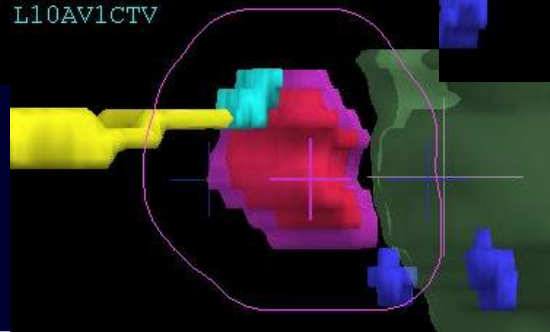
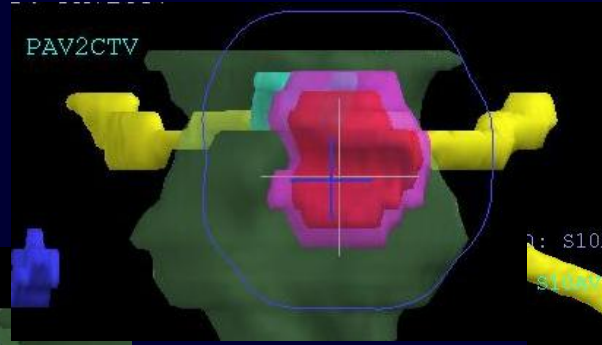
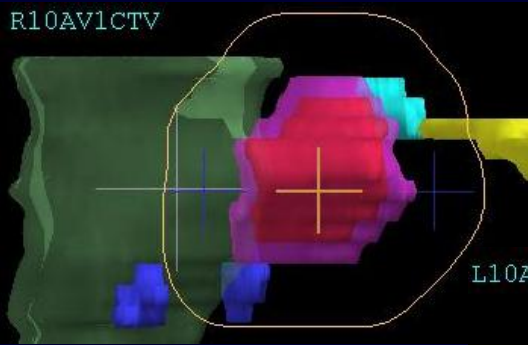
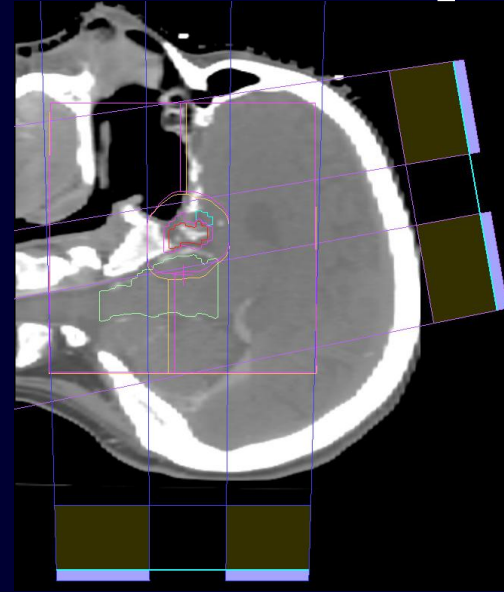
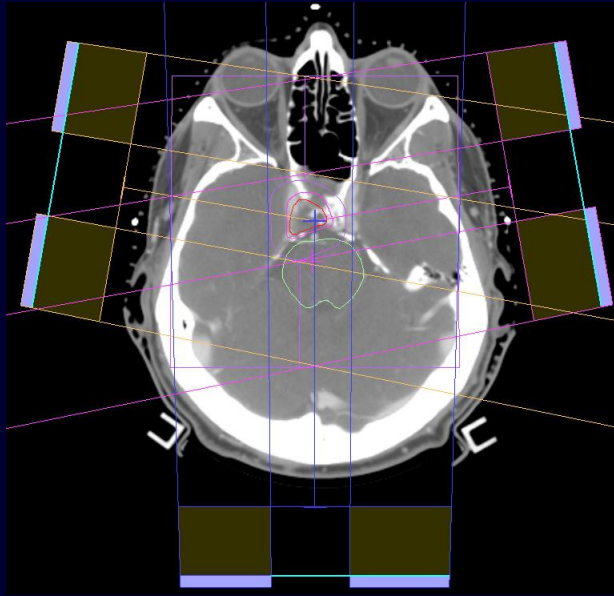
CTV: PA – 10 Gy, R20A – 9 Gy, L20A – 9 Gy

GTV: S10A – 10 Gy, R15S – 6 Gy, L15I – 6 Gy

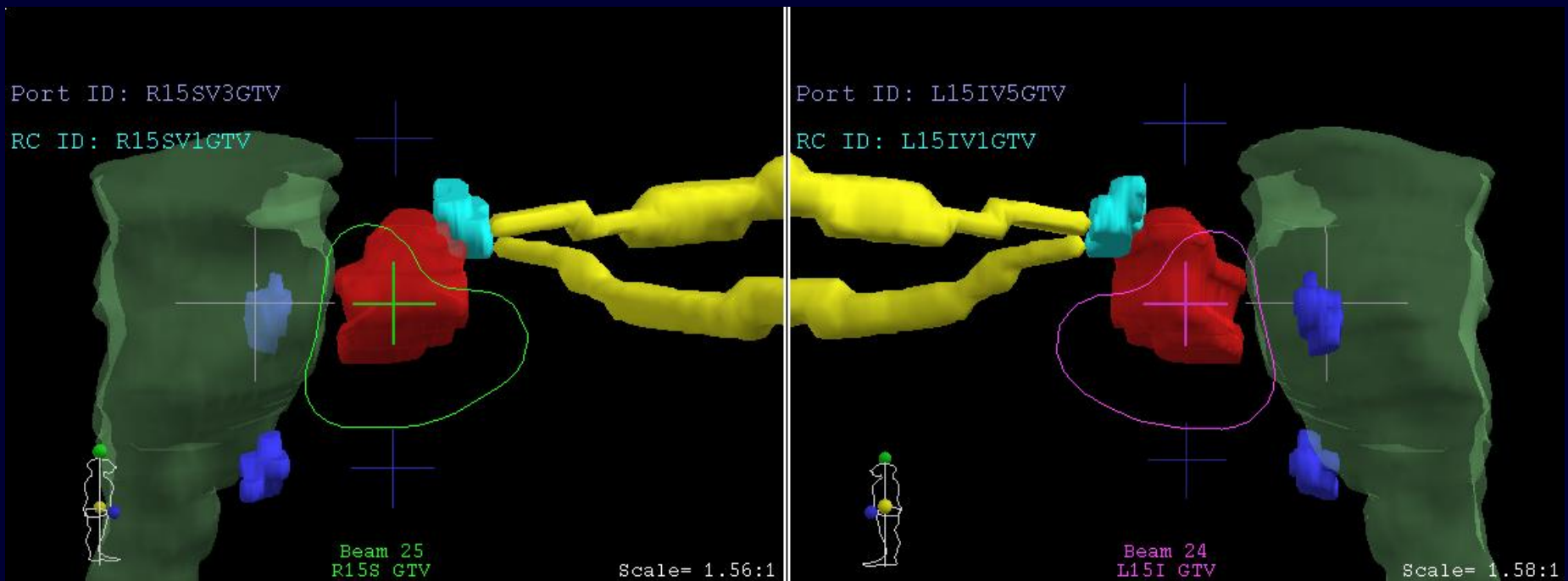




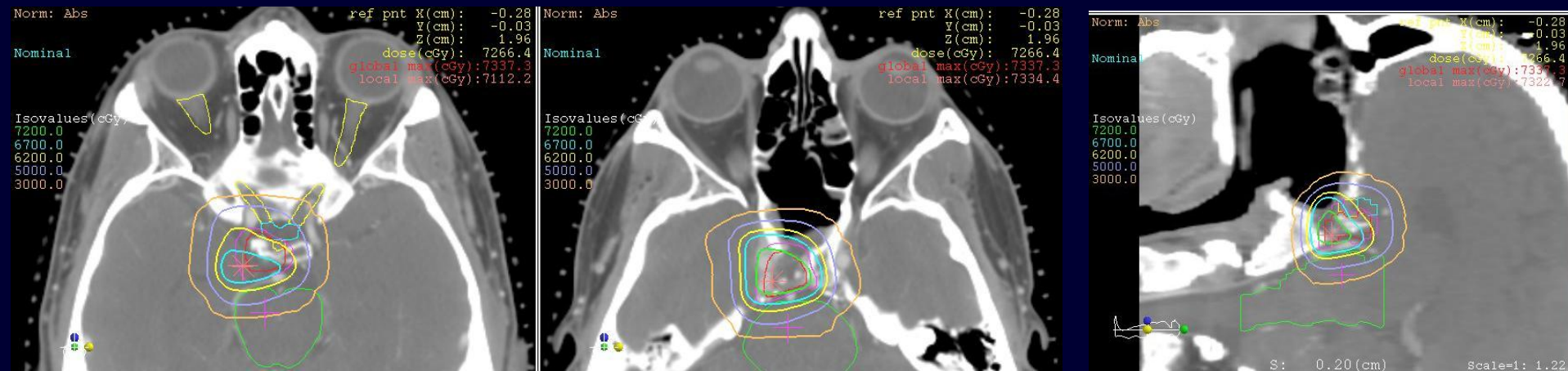
Combinations of RAO, LAO, PA, SAO - 2 fields per day



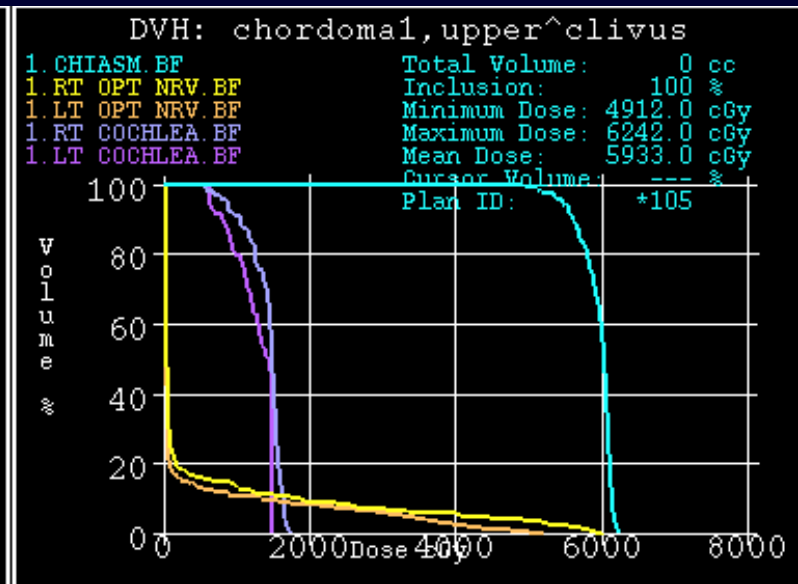
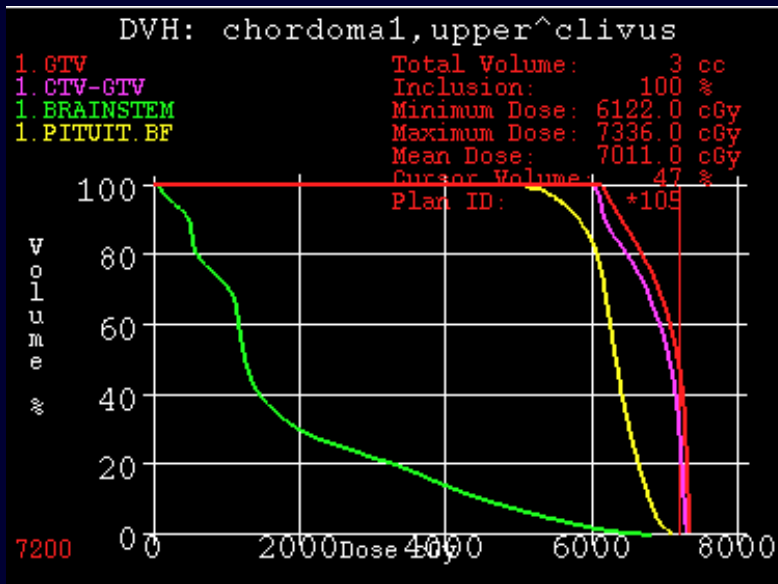
RSO + LIO to undercut optic structures, 60% to brainstem surface



Composite to 72Gy(RBE)



Target coverage driven by chiasm and brainstem surface constraint



Case 3: Chordoma

(proton dose in Gy (RBE))

Large lower clival tumor

Rx: GTV – 78 Gy; CTV – 48 Gy
(CTV – 20Gy, 5 field IMRT)

Constraints: BS, SC – 53/64 Gy, center/surface

Cochlea <60 Gy

Parotids – as low as possible

Proton field arrangement and dose:

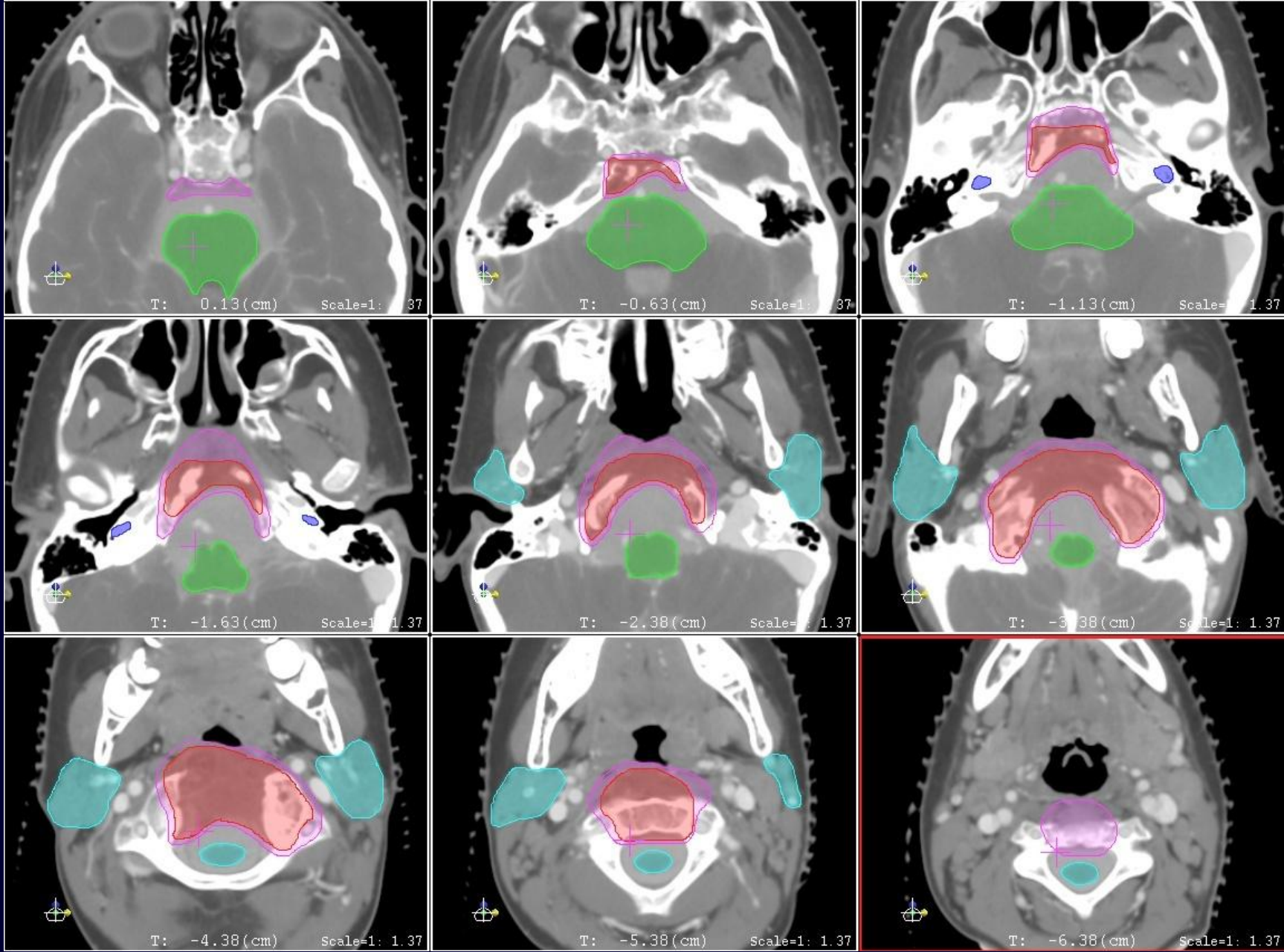
CTV: PA – 10 Gy, R20A – 9 Gy, L20A – 9 Gy

GTV: R85S20A – 8 Gy

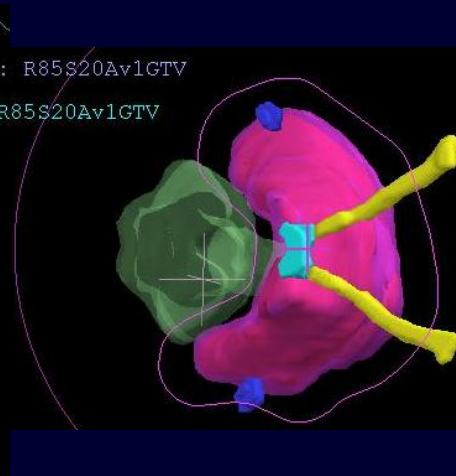
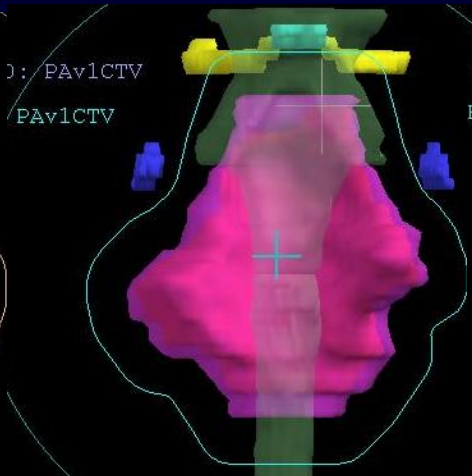
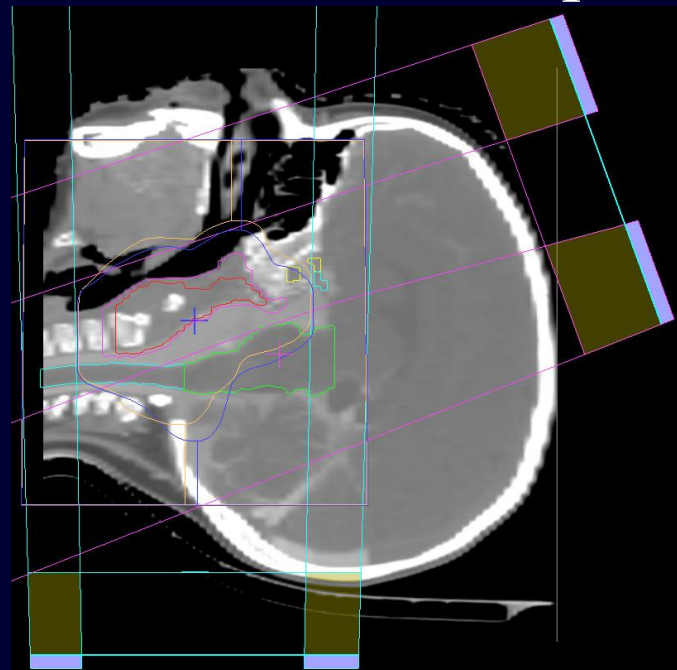
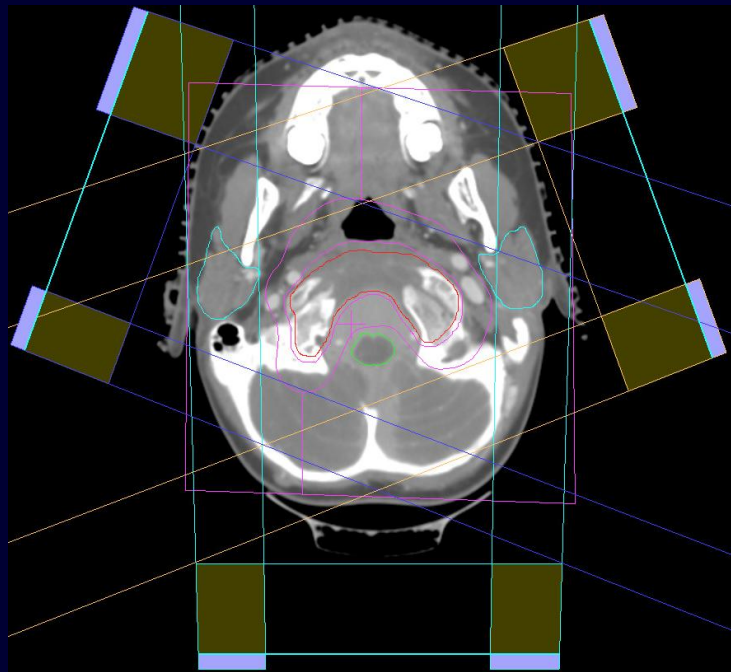
L10A thru + RT PA,LT PA patch combo - 12 Gy

R25A thru + R55P patch combo – 10 Gy



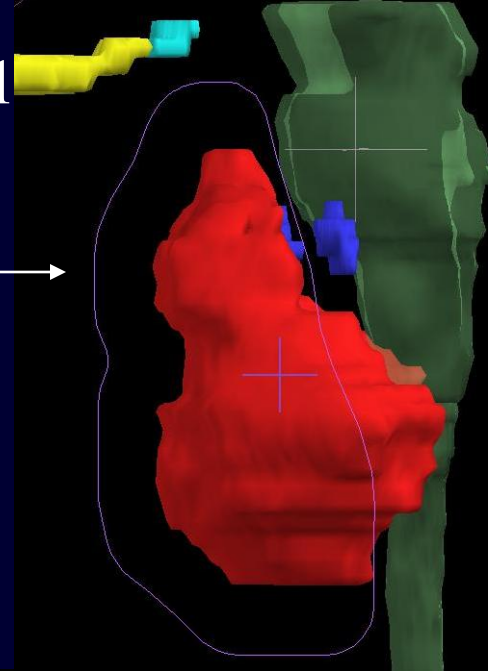
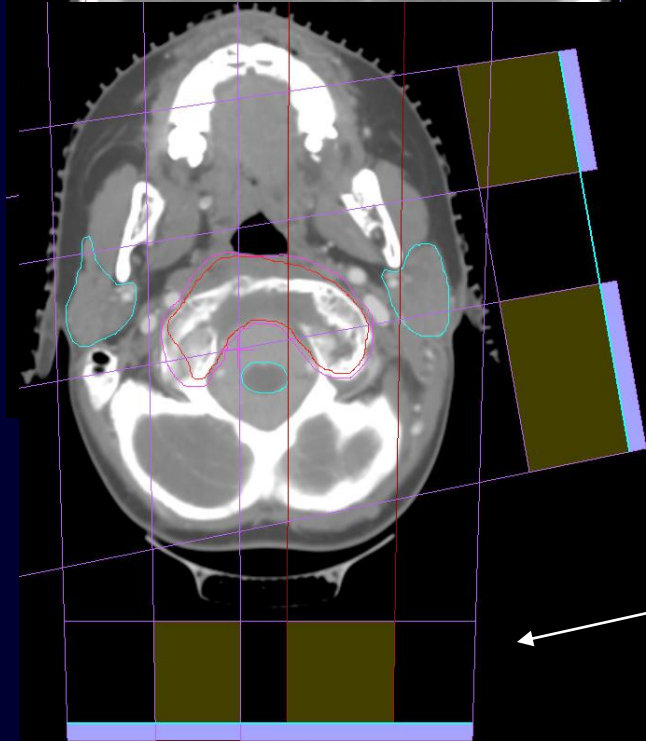
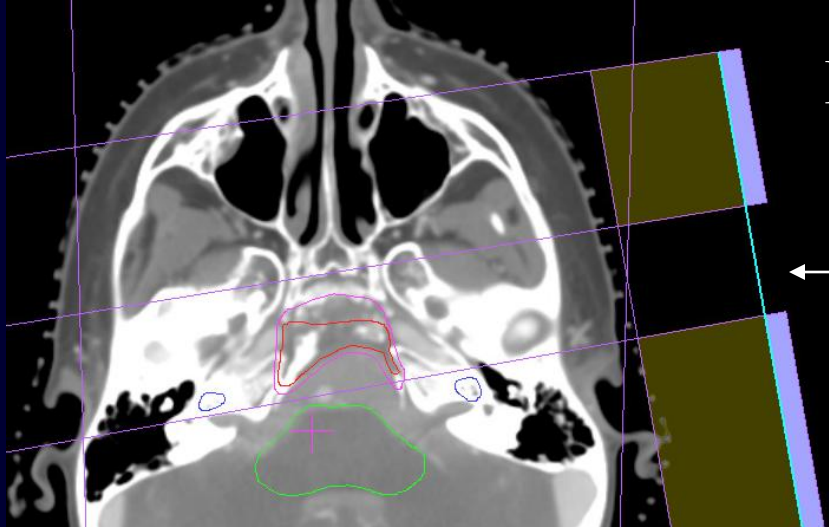


Combinations of RAO, LAO, PA, SAO - 2 fields per day



Patch combo 1

← LAO thru →



PA 'double-holed' patch

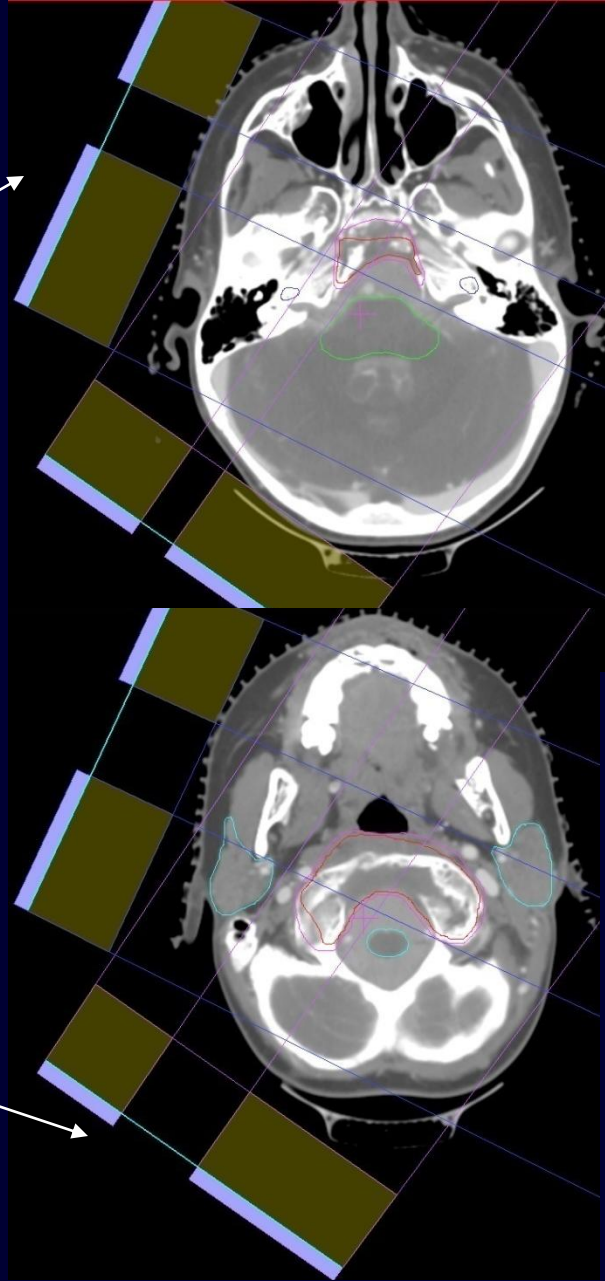




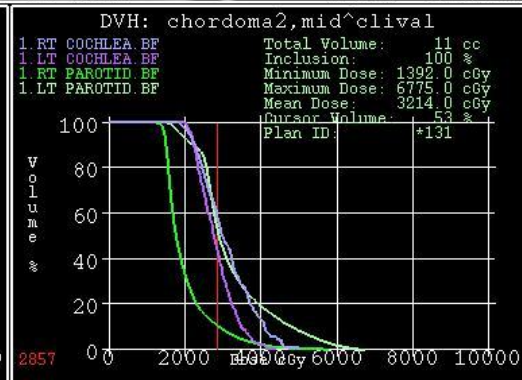
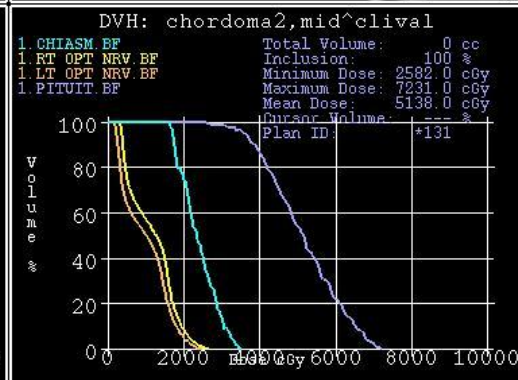
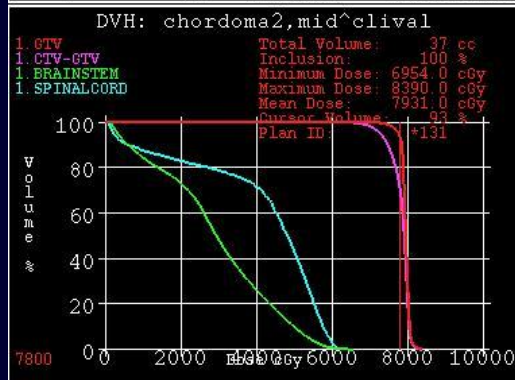
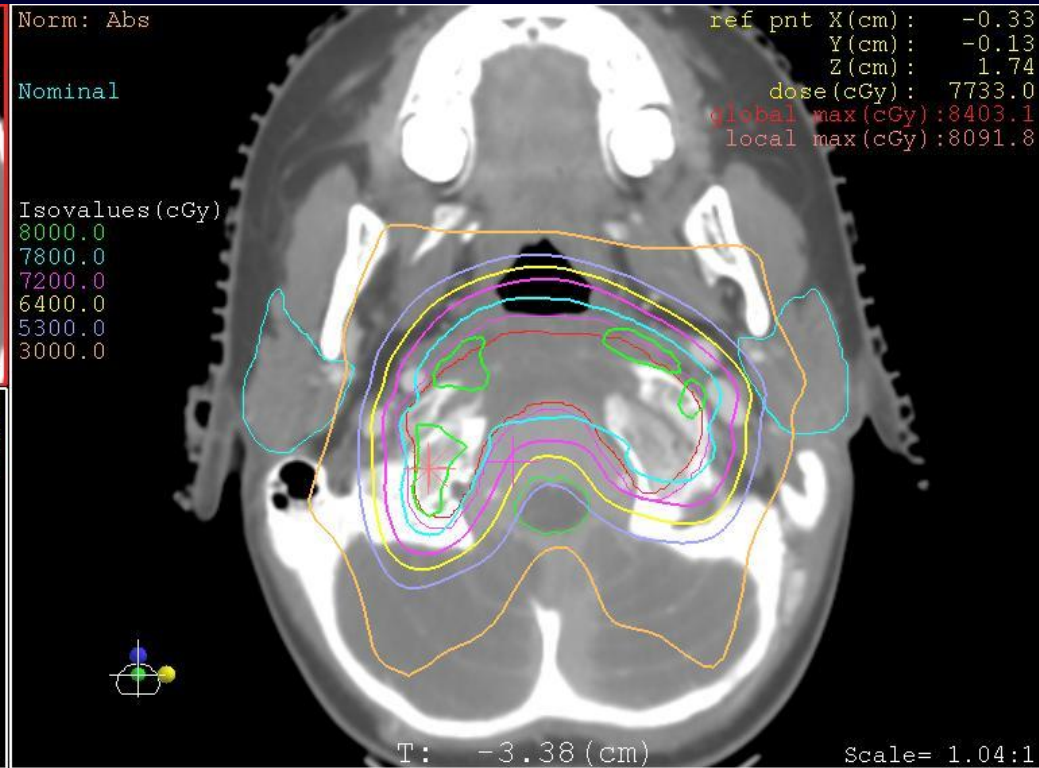
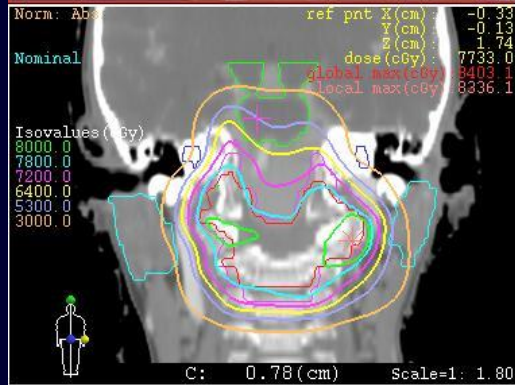
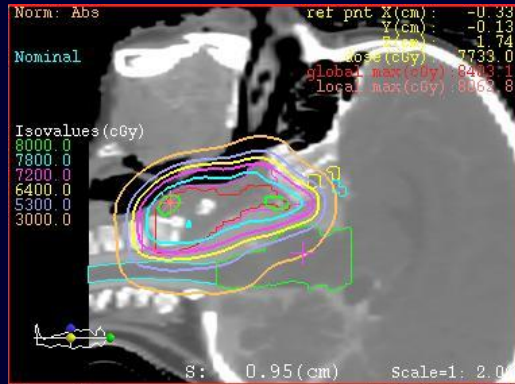
Patch combo 2

← RAO thru

← RPO patch



Composite to 78Gy(RBE)

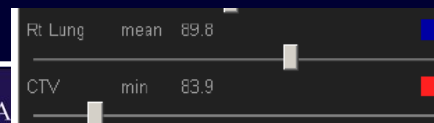
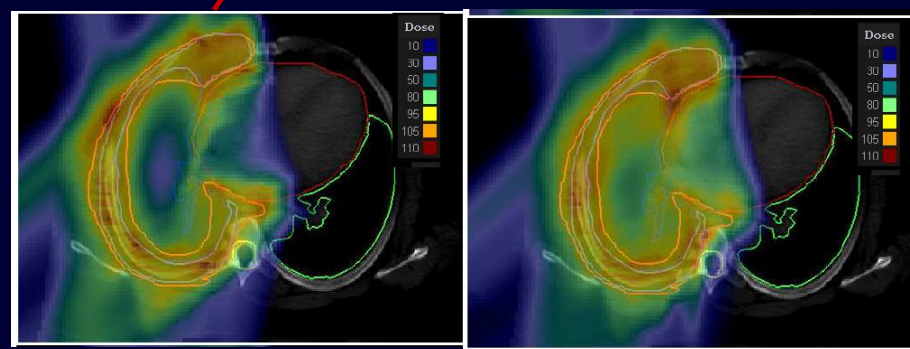
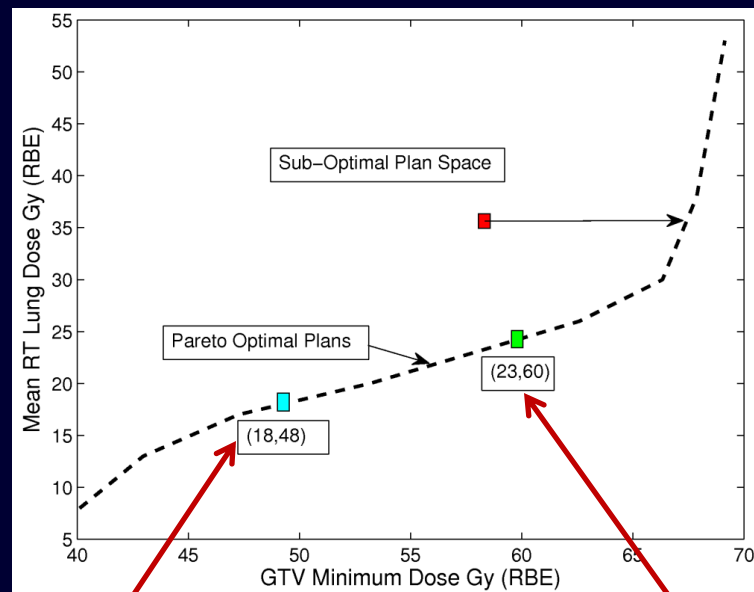


PBS for Skull Base

- Same beam arrangements
 - SOBP fields are proven in terms of geometric and dosimetric accuracies
 - Uncertainties EXCLUDE use of distal range for dose shaping
- PBS optimization for “patch” equivalents offers efficiencies
 - Partly because patching is not well supported in any TPS!
- Apertures may still offer benefit in penumbra ($R < 10$ cm) and edge certainty vis-à-vis critical structure
- Management of uncertainties in range and setup
 - Inherent in SOBP for range and setup
 - PBS doesn't provide (yet) the proper set of tools
 - ... and will require significant computational support

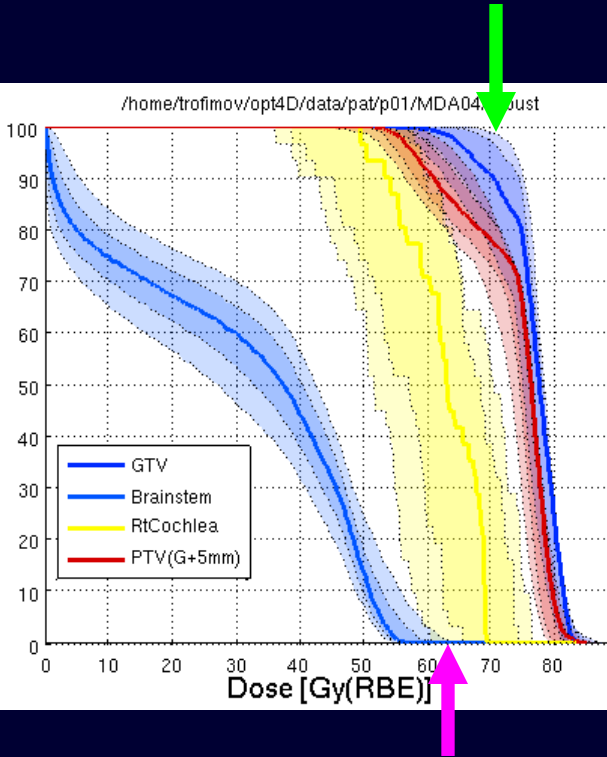
Multi-Criteria Optimization

- Large # of spots means
 - Constraint-based optimization *only* will not yield clinically “best” plan
 - Opportunity for healthy tissue dose trade-off analysis greater compared to IMRT
- MCO vs “One-Plan Only”
 - Minimal set of absolute constraints
 - $D(\text{GTV}) > 50 \text{ Gy(RBE)}$
 - Specify competing objectives –
 - “minimize max brainstem dose” vs “maximize min GTV dose”



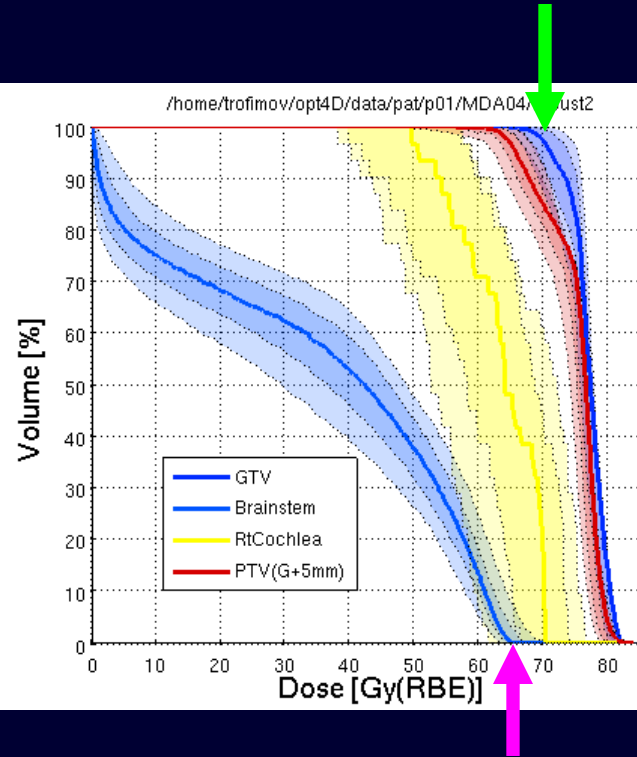
The need for MCO in robust planning

Robust OAR sparing



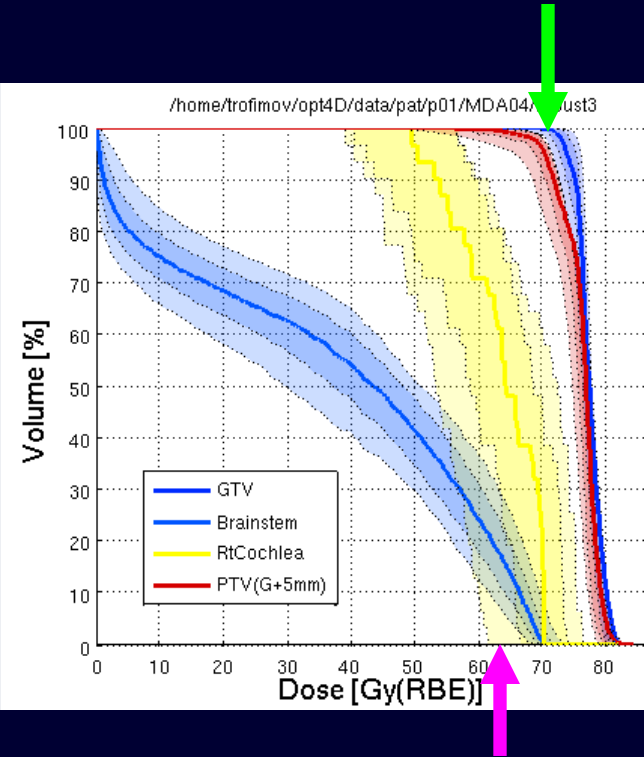
OAR dose stable
at expense of TV

Balanced plan



Robust Trade-off

Robust Target dose



TV dose stable at
expense of OAR

Trofimov – Probabilistic Planning

PBS – MCO

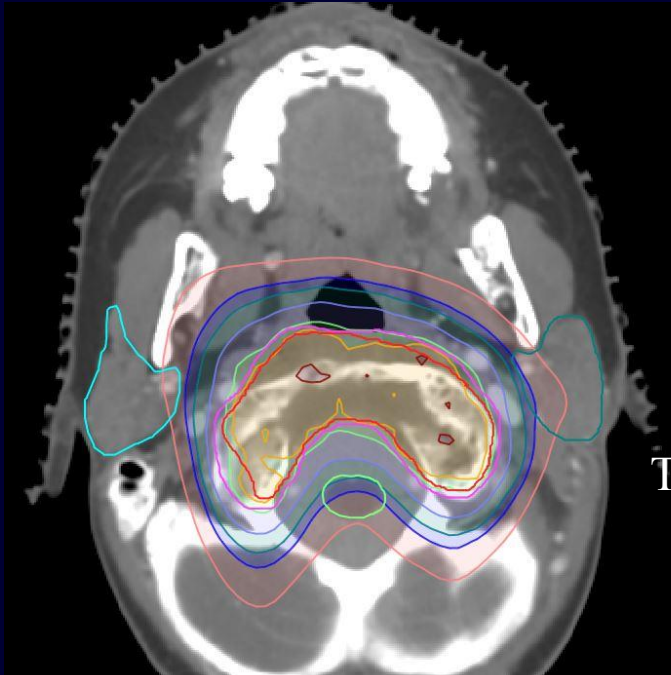
Absolute Constraints

Optimization

Constraints		
structure	type	dose (Gy (RBE))
patient	MAX	84
AntBSSC	MAX	64
PostBSSC	MAX	53
RT COCHLEA.BF	MAX	50
LT COCHLEA.BF	MAX	50

Objectives		
structure	objective	dose (Gy (RBE))
GTV	MIN MAX	
GTV	MAX MIN	
GTV	MAX MEAN	
GTV	MIN UNDERDOSE	78
CTV	MIN MAX	
CTV	MIN UNDERDOSE	50
BRAINSTEM	MIN MAX	
BRAINSTEM	MIN MEAN	
SPINALCORD	MIN MAX	
SPINALCORD	MIN MEAN	
RT COCHLEA.BF	MIN MAX	
RT COCHLEA.BF	MIN MEAN	
LT COCHLEA.BF	MIN MAX	
LT COCHLEA.BF	MIN MEAN	
RT PAROTID.BF	MIN MAX	
RT PAROTID.BF	MIN MEAN	
LT PAROTID.BF	MIN MAX	
LT PAROTID.BF	MIN MEAN	

Trade-off Objectives

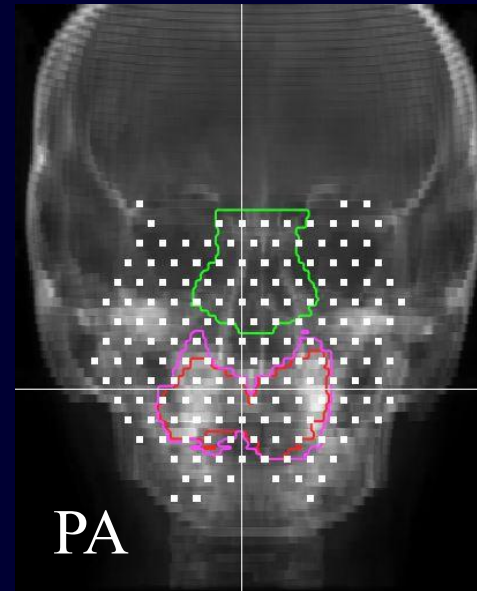


Fraction Groups

fractions

▶ 1	RA+PA	15
▶ 2	LA+SA	15
▶ 3	LA+PA	9
		39

Simultaneous optimization
Astroid – 10 min

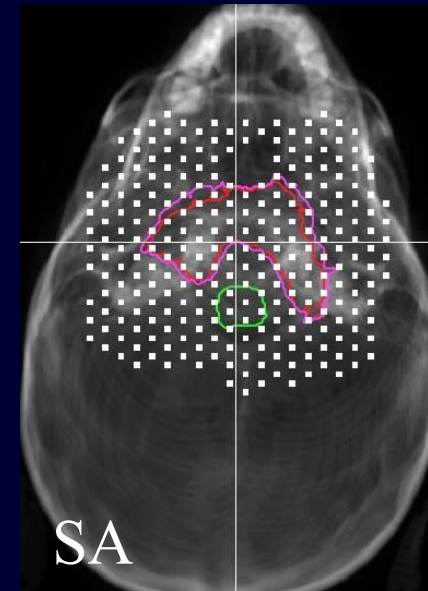


PA

Spot Controls

Energy Layer

- 164 MeV
- 160 MeV
- 157 MeV
- 153 MeV
- 149 MeV
- 146 MeV
- 142 MeV
- 138 MeV
- 133 MeV
- 130 MeV**
- 126 MeV
- 121 MeV
- 116 MeV
- 113 MeV
- 108 MeV
- 102 MeV
- 99 MeV



SA

Spot Controls

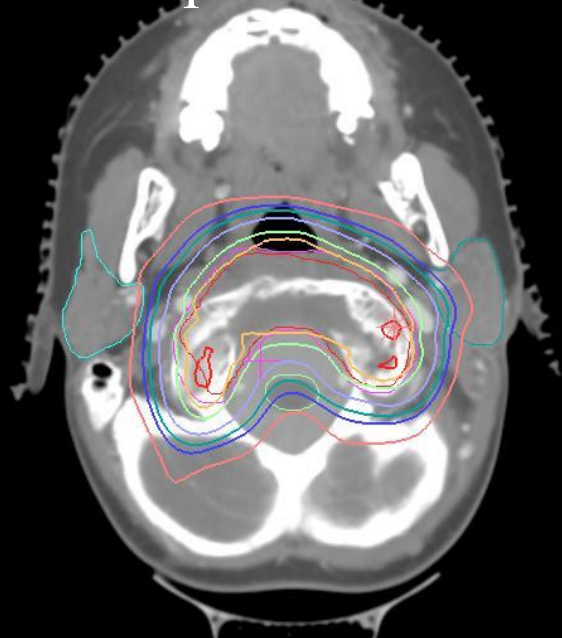
Energy Layer

- 187 MeV
- 183 MeV
- 180 MeV
- 175 MeV
- 171 MeV
- 168 MeV
- 164 MeV
- 158 MeV**
- 155 MeV
- 150 MeV
- 145 MeV
- 141 MeV
- 136 MeV
- 132 MeV
- 126 MeV



SOBP plan as treated

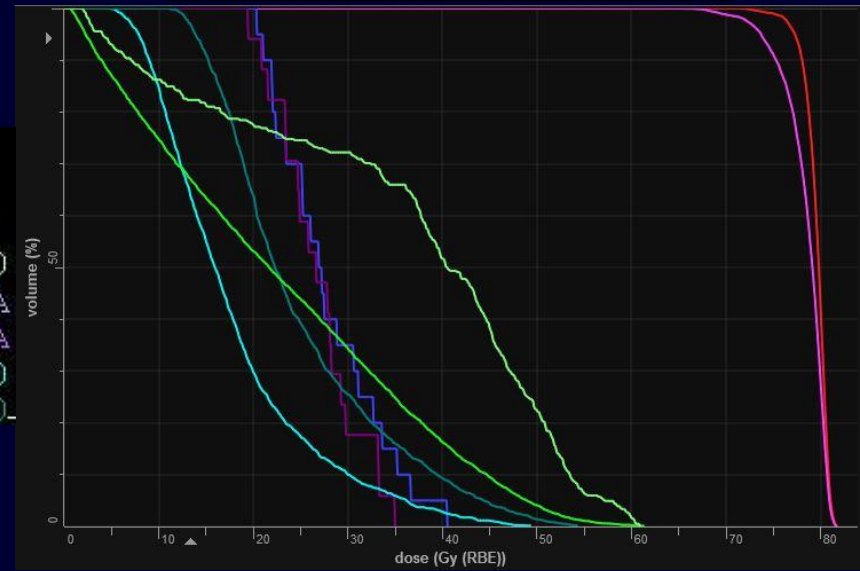
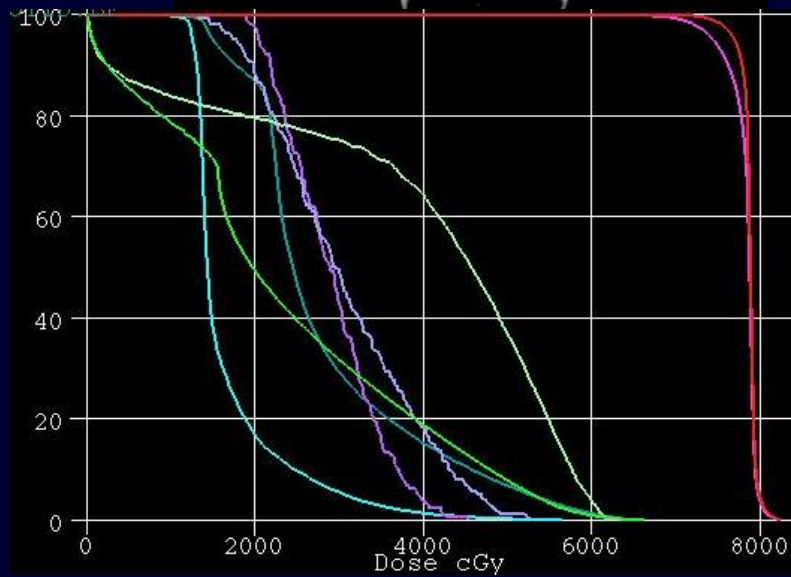
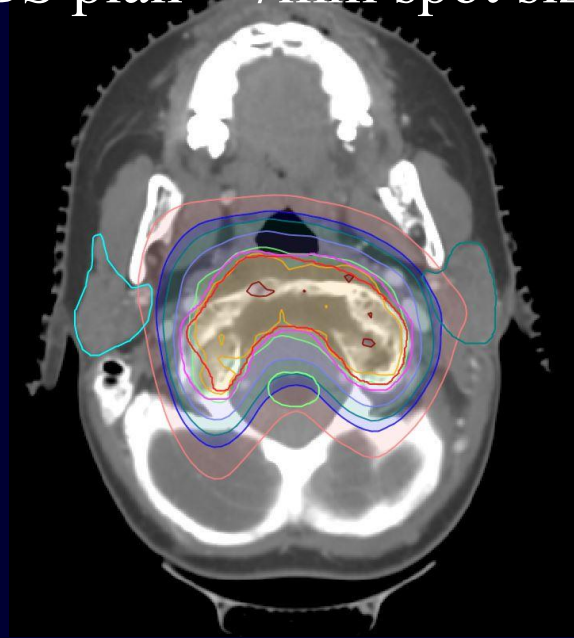
PBS plan – 7mm spot size



Dose Levels

Absolute ▾

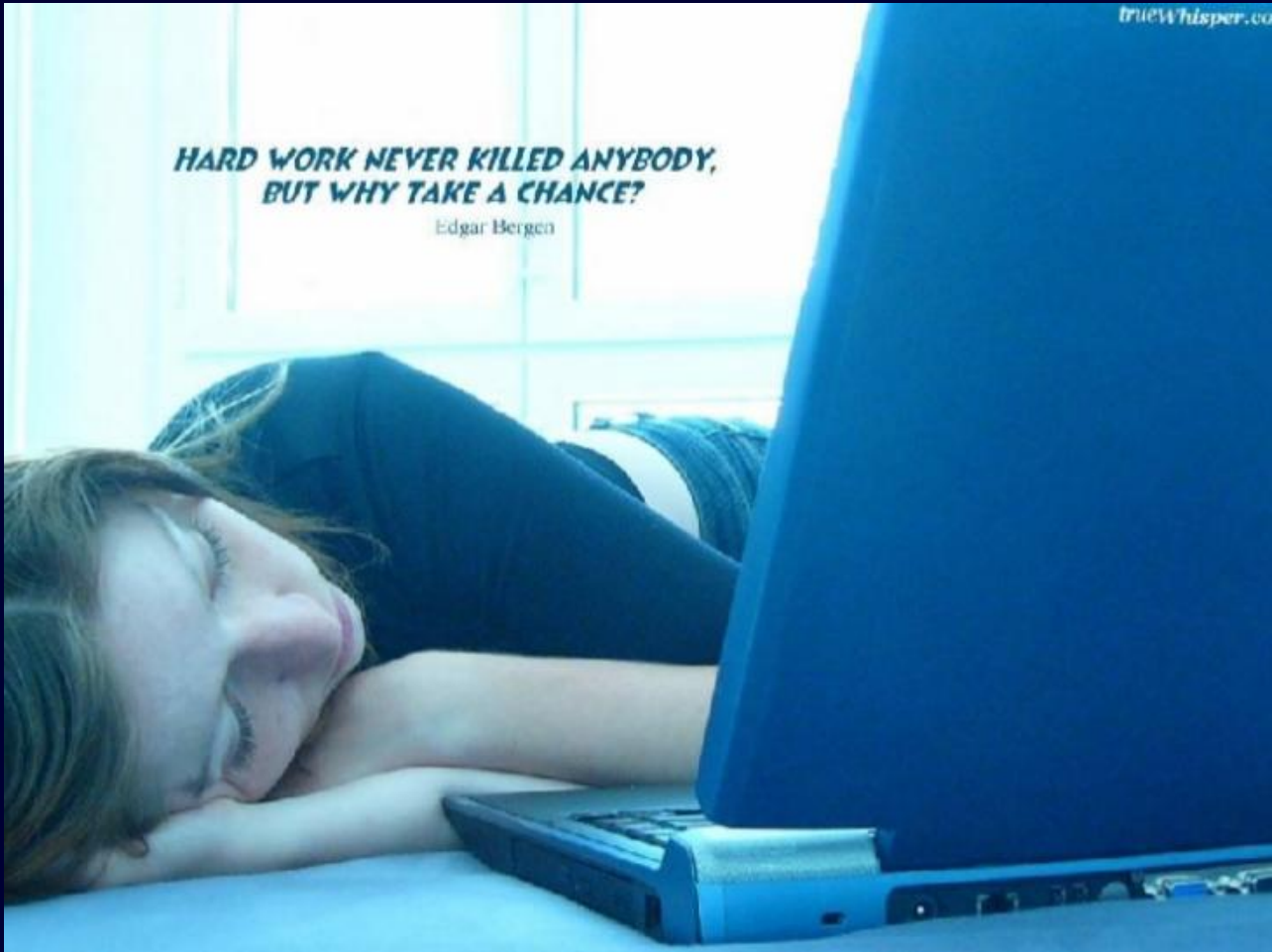
■	81	Gy(RBE)
■		Gy(RBE)
■	78	Gy(RBE)
■	75	Gy(RBE)
■	64	Gy(RBE)
■	53	Gy(RBE)
■	45	Gy(RBE)
■	30	Gy(RBE)



Summary

- p for skull base tumors was the first modality to prove that precision and dose escalation can cure disease
- SOBP dosimetry outperforms IMRT
 - Albeit at significant effort
 - Poor TPS support necessitates manual operations
- PBS may not always improve dosimetry but does improve planning efficiency
 - Use same SOBP field arrangements
 - MCO greatly improves treatment plan
 - Robustness must be managed





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