

## Photodynamic Therapy: Fundamentals and Dosimetry

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Abbreviations: AK, Actinic Keratosis; ALA, aminolevulinic acid; AMD, age-related macular degeneration; BCC, Basal cell carcinoma; BPD-MA, benzoporphyrin derivative monoacid A, CNV, Choroidal neovascularization; CW, continuous wave; FDA, Food and Drug Administration; Hb, hemoglobin; HPD, hematoporphyrin derivative; ISC, Intersystem crossing; LED, light-emitting diode; MLu, motexafin lutetium; mTHPC, meso-tetrahydrophenol chlorin; PDT, Photodynamic therapy; PIT, photoimmunotherapy; PpIX, protoporphyrin IX; SCC, Squamous cell carcinoma;

### I Introduction

Photodynamic therapy (PDT) is an emerging cancer treatment modality based on the interaction of light, a photosensitizing drug, and oxygen.<sup>1</sup> The photochemical reactions that result in photodynamic damage can be characterized as either Type I or Type II reactions. In Type I reactions, the photosensitizer in its excited state reacts directly with a substrate present in the tissue, leading to the generation of cytotoxic free radicals.<sup>2,3</sup> The majority of sensitizers available for PDT utilize Type II photodynamic processes, meaning that they accomplish their photodynamic effect through the production of singlet oxygen.<sup>2,4</sup> Singlet oxygen is a highly reactive excited state of the oxygen molecule. Direct optical excitation of oxygen is forbidden by three molecular selection rules, and is practically impossible in living tissue. A photosensitizer can act as an intermediate, allowing the formation of singlet oxygen, see below. The energy level diagram shown in figure 1 summarizes the underlying physical processes involved in type-II PDT. The process begins with the absorption of a photon by photosensitizer in its ground state, exciting it to an excited state. In general, both the ground state and this excited state are spectroscopic singlets (i.e., states with a spin multiplicity of 1). The sensitizer molecule can return to its ground state by emission of a fluorescence photon, which can be used for fluorescence detection. Alternatively, the molecule may convert to a triplet state (one with a spin multiplicity of 3), a process known as intersystem crossing (ISC). A high intersystem-crossing yield is an essential feature of a good sensitizer. Once in its triplet state, the molecule may undergo a collisional energy transfer with ground state molecular oxygen (type II) or with the substrate (type I). In type II interaction, the photosensitizer returns to its ground state, and oxygen is promoted from its ground state (a triplet state) to its excited (singlet) state. Since the sensitizer is not consumed in this process, the same sensitizer molecule may create many singlet oxygen molecules.

Once the singlet oxygen is created, it reacts almost immediately with cellular targets in its immediate vicinity. The majorities of these reactions are irreversible, and lead to consumption of oxygen. This consumption of oxygen is efficient enough to cause measurable decreases in tissue oxygenation if the incident light intensity is high enough. In addition to its reactions with cellular targets, singlet oxygen may react with the sensitizer itself. This leads to its irreversible destruction (photobleaching). Photobleaching can decrease the effectiveness of PDT by reducing the sensitizer concentration, however it can also be useful for dosimetry.<sup>5</sup> Because of its high reactivity, singlet oxygen has a very short lifetime in tissue. However, a small fraction of the singlet oxygen produced may return to its ground state *via* emission of a phosphorescence photon, which can be detected optically.<sup>6,7</sup>

PDT has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of microinvasive lung cancer, obstructing lung cancer, and obstructing esophageal cancer. Studies have shown some efficacy in the treatment of a variety of malignant and premalignant conditions including head and neck cancer,<sup>8,9</sup>

lung cancer,<sup>10-12</sup> mesothelioma,<sup>13</sup> Barrett's esophagus,<sup>14, 15</sup> prostate,<sup>16-18</sup>, and brain tumors.<sup>15, 19-21</sup> Unlike radiation therapy, PDT is a non-ionizing radiation that can be used repeatedly without cumulative long-term complications since it does not appear to target DNA.

There has been tremendous progress in photodynamic therapy dosimetry. The simplest clinical dose prescription is to quantify the incident fluence (Joules/cm<sup>2</sup>) for patients treated with a given photosensitizer injection per body weight. However, light dose given in this way does not take into account the light scattering by tissue and usually underestimates light fluence rated. Techniques<sup>22, 23</sup> have been developed to characterize the tissue optical properties and the light fluence rate in-vivo. Other optical spectroscopic methods<sup>24, 25</sup> have been developed to characterize tissue absorption and scattering spectra, which in term provide information about tissue oxygenation and drug concentration. Fluorescence techniques<sup>26</sup> can be used to quantify drug concentration and potentially photobleaching rate of photosensitizers.

The objective of this paper is to present a brief review of the issues related to the application of photodynamic therapy. In particular, we review the current start of art of techniques to quantify light fluence, drug concentration, tissue oxygenation, and PDT efficiency.

## II. Fundamentals of PDT dosimetry

To quantify the complex photodynamic effect, a dosimetric parameter called the "photodynamic dose" is introduced.<sup>27</sup> Patterson *et al*<sup>27</sup> have described it as the number of photons absorbed by photosensitizing drug per gram of tissue [ph/g]:

$$D = \int_0^t \varepsilon c \cdot \frac{\phi(t')}{h\nu} \cdot \frac{1}{\rho} dt', \quad (1)$$

where  $\rho$  is the density of tissue [g/cm<sup>3</sup>],  $\phi$  is the light fluence rate [W/cm<sup>2</sup>],  $h\nu$  is the energy of a photon [J/ph],  $c$  is the drug concentration in tissue [ $\mu$ M],  $\varepsilon$  is the extinction coefficient of the photosensitizer drug [1/cm/ $\mu$ M]. "Photodynamic dose" is the dosimetric parameter most commonly documented. The logic in this choice is that light fluence rate ( $\phi$ ), drug concentration ( $c$ ), and exposure time ( $t$ ) are parameters under clinical control.

Due to photobleaching effect, the drug concentration is usually a function of light fluence  $\Phi = \phi t$ . The exact relationship between drug concentration and the light fluence should be determined by rate equations based on molecular interactions.<sup>31-33</sup> For purpose of illustration, one can assume an exponential form between the drug concentration and light fluence,  $c = c_0 e^{-b\phi t}$ , where the photobleaching rate  $b$  is a constant<sup>28</sup>. One gets from Eq. 1:

$$D = \frac{\varepsilon c_0}{\rho h\nu} \cdot \frac{1}{b} (1 - e^{-b\phi t}). \quad (2)$$

Here we assume a constant light fluence rate  $\phi$ . This equation illustrates that the PDT dose has an upper limit for a given photosensitizer beyond that it cannot be increased by simply increasing the light fluence. For photosensitizers with negligible photobleaching rate, i.e.,  $b\phi t \ll 1$ , PDT dose is proportional to the light fluence. Experimental determination of the margins of necrosis induced by a well-defined  $D$  can specify the threshold dose ( $D_{th}$ ).<sup>27, 29</sup>

The “photodynamic dose” ( $D$ ) does not consider the quantum yield ( $\eta$ ) of oxidative radicals, the effect of tissue oxygenation on  $\eta$ , or the fraction ( $f$ ) of radicals that oxidize critical sites. The production of oxidative radicals which are capable of damaging the tissue can be expressed<sup>30</sup> as:

$$[{}^1O_2] = f \cdot \eta \cdot D, \quad (3)$$

where  $f$  depends on the localization of the photosensitizer at the cell level and thus depends on the photosensitizer and tissue types, the quantum yield  $\eta$  gives the number of singlet oxygen molecules produced per an absorbed photon, which is a constant under ample oxygen supply. However, when insufficient oxygen supply exists,  $\eta$  is also a function of the oxygen concentration, or  $pO_2$ , in tissue. The relationship between  $\eta$  and oxygen concentration can be derived from differential equations modeling the reaction rates of oxygen and sensitizer in their various states.<sup>31-33</sup> Based on our current understanding, the PDT effect is directly proportional to the total concentration of reactions of singlet oxygen [ ${}^1O_2$ ], with biological targets which can be either calculated (Eq. 3) or indirectly measured in tissue *via* the local [ ${}^1O_2$ ] concentration.<sup>6,7</sup>

### III Photosensitizers

Various photosensitizer drugs have been developed. Although Type I photosensitizers have been investigated for antimicrobial applications<sup>34</sup>, most available oncologic sensitizers achieve their cytotoxic effect primarily *via* Type II reactions.

Table 1 lists several of the more widely used photosensitizers currently available. The first-generation photosensitizer, haematoporphyrin derivative (HPD), is a mixture of porphyrin monomers and oligomers that is partially purified to produce the commercially available product, porfimer sodium, marketed under the tradename Photofrin®. Photofrin was approved for treatment of early stage lung cancer in 1998, and for Barret's esophagus in 2003. The clinical applicability of Photofrin has been limited by two factors. First, its absorption peak occurs at too short a wavelength (630 nm) to allow deep penetration in tissue. Second, administration of photofrin results in cutaneous photosensitivity lasting up to 6 weeks.

These limitations have inspired the development of a second generation of photosensitizers with longer-wavelength absorption peaks and more rapid clearance from skin. Among these was benzoporphyrin derivative monoacid A (BPD-MA), or verteporfin. In preclinical trials, it was observed that verteporfin preferentially targeted neovasculature. This selectivity has been exploited for the treatment of choroidal neovascularization (CNV), an abnormal growth of vessels in the retina associated with age-related macular degeneration (AMD), the leading cause of blindness in the developed world. Verteporfin was approved in the US under the tradename Visudyne for CNV treatment in 2000.

Another development of note is the prodrug  $\delta$ -aminolevulinic acid (ALA). Unlike other PDT drugs, ALA itself is not a photosensitizer. When taken up by cells, however, it is converted by a naturally occurring biosynthetic process into the photosensitizer protoporphyrin IX (PpIX). ALA can be applied topically, and was approved by the FDA in 1999 for the treatment of actinic keratosis (AK). ALA has the advantage that it clears from normal tissue within days and can be applied topically, so it causes almost no systemic photosensitivity. In order to improve the uptake of ALA, two variants (methyl- and hexyl-aminolevulinic acid) have been developed. Methylaminolevulinic acid ( $m$ -ALA) has been approved for treatment of AK under the name Metvix®. The hexyl variant ( $h$ -ALA), marketed as Hexvix®, has been approved in the European Union for use in fluorescence cystoscopy. In this case, the preferential accumulation of PpIX in tumors relative to normal bladder endothelium allows tumors to be differentiated by their increased PpIX fluorescence.

Other second-generation sensitizers include mTHPC (Foscan®), which has been investigated in clinical trials for a variety of tumors and has been approved for palliative treatment in Europe, and Tookad® and Motexafin Lutetium® (MLu), which are both currently undergoing Phase I trials for prostate cancer treatment. This list is certainly not exhaustive. As understanding of the mechanisms of photosensitizer uptake and preferential sensitization of tumors increases, drugs designed to increase selectivity and light penetration while minimizing sensitization of normal tissue will continue to be developed.

Photoimmunotherapy (PIT) is a promising approach to improving the selectivity of PDT agents.<sup>35-37</sup> In PIT, a sensitizer is conjugated to a monoclonal antibody, allowing it to target a particular molecular marker. By choosing antibodies that target molecules selectively expressed by tumors, an increased tumor selectivity can be achieved. This approach brings with it additional challenges, including the difficulty of conjugating a sensitizer to an antibody without compromising the integrity of either molecule. PIT is still in the early stages of development, however the initial results in animal and cell models are encouraging.

## IV Light source and delivery devices

### A. Light sources

Various light sources have been developed for photodynamic therapy. Most PDT procedures are carried out at wavelengths between 600 and 850 nm, also called the “therapeutic window”, where the penetration of light in tissue is the greatest and yet the photon energy ( $>1.5$  eV) is high enough to cause photoactivation.<sup>38</sup> Because PDT requires intense light with preferably monochromatic wavelength, laser is the most common light source. Early laser sources were very bulky argon-pumped dye systems. Solid-state lasers have been used lately, which can be made small enough to be transportable (see Fig. 2a). A dye laser provides tunable wavelengths (see Fig. 2b). The current state of art laser is the diode laser, which is very compact and have long lifetime but has slightly wider line width ( $\sim 5$  nm) (Fig. 3). Diode lasers with high power of upto 15W are commercially available. One drawback of the diode laser is fixed wavelength per diode module. New development in high power fiber lasers is advancing rapidly. They will conceivably become the light source of choice in the future.<sup>39</sup> Besides lasers, there are several other light sources used in clinic: Broadband light sources, including various lamps and light-emitting diodes (LED's), which generate non-coherent light. Some common terms used to describe light sources as described by AAPM TG5 are listed below:<sup>30</sup>

*Continuous wave (cw):* A source, which emits light continuously. Examples applicable to PDT are diode lasers, LED's, lamps and argon-pumped dye lasers.

*Pulsed:* A source which emits light as a series of pulses, for example, a dye laser pumped by a frequency-doubled Nd:YAG laser. Pulsed sources are characterized by their pulse repetition frequency (in Hz), the pulse width (definition may vary), the pulse energy (typically in mJ), the peak power within a pulse (in W), and the average power (in W). If the pulse energy is low enough, a pulsed source will produce the same biological PDT effect as a cw source with the same average power.

*Broadband:* A source with a wide spectral output compared to typical laser line widths (less or greater? than 1 nm).

*Tunable:* A source whose output wavelength may be adjusted – typically over a range of tens of nanometers.

**Bandwidth:** A term used to characterize the width of the source's output spectrum. A variety of definitions are used in practice. For example, the bandwidth of a laser source could be quoted as the wavelength range over which the power is greater than 50% of the power at the peak wavelength.

## ***B. Light delivery devices***

Photodynamic therapy has been greatly facilitated by the development of optical fibers, which allows light to be directed easily to deep-lying tissues, both within body cavities and interstitially. Figure 4 shows some common light delivery fiber optical devices used in photodynamic therapy (see details below).

### *1. Point sources*

A fiber designed for intracavitary use, consisting of a small spherical scattering material at the fiber tip. Ideally, such a fiber acts as a point source of illumination. For some special applications, such as PDT of mesothelioma, lung, brain, and bladder cancers, it is preferable to create a uniform illuminating spherical source with finite fluence rate at the sphere boundary. A balloon or a modified endotracheal tube filled with intralipid solution is often used for this purpose (Fig. 4).

### *2. Linear sources*

An optical fiber modified to emit light along some portion of its length. The "active" length may be several centimeters. Such fibers are used in intraluminal treatments and may also be made robust enough for interstitial implants.

### *3. Others*

Often, a fiber fitted with a microlens in close proximity to the cleaved end is used. This design produces a uniform circular field at a convenient distance from the fiber, and is often used for surface irradiation.

A good review of different types of light sources and methods of light fluence profile shaping can be found in AAPM Monograph 19.<sup>40</sup>

## **V Light transport in tissue**

### ***A. Dosimetry Quantities***

AAPM TG5<sup>30</sup> describes the dosimetric quantities used to characterize light in turbid medium based on earlier definitions summarized by Star<sup>41</sup>:

**Radiant energy (Q):** Total energy emitted, transferred or received as electromagnetic radiation. SI unit is J.

**Radiant power (P):** Power emitted, transferred or received as electromagnetic radiation. SI unit is W.

**Energy radiance (L):** Radiant power transported at a given field point in a given direction per unit solid angle per unit area perpendicular to that direction. The SI unit is  $\text{W m}^{-2} \text{sr}^{-1}$ . The radiance provides a complete description of the light field and is the fundamental quantity in the radiative transport equation. While important from a theoretical standpoint it is rarely measured directly.

**Energy fluence rate ( $\phi$ ):** Ratio of total power incident on an infinitesimal sphere (containing the point of interest) to the cross-sectional area of that sphere. It can also be defined as the integral of the radiance over  $4\pi$  solid angled. The SI unit is  $\text{W m}^{-2}$ , although the unit  $\text{mW cm}^{-2}$  is still more common in PDT. The fluence rate is the fundamental parameter in PDT dosimetry as it determines the local interaction rate of photons. It can be measured using a specialized detector, which has an isotropic response.

**Energy fluence ( $\Phi$ ):** Total radiant energy incident on an infinitesimal sphere (containing the point of interest) divided by the cross-sectional area of that sphere. SI unit is  $\text{J m}^{-2}$  but the unit  $\text{J cm}^{-2}$  is common in PDT. Obviously, the fluence is the time integral of the fluence rate.

**Irradiance ( $E$ ):** Radiant power incident on an infinitesimal surface element (containing the point of interest) divided by the area of that element. The SI unit is  $\text{W m}^{-2}$  but the unit  $\text{mW cm}^{-2}$  is commonly used in PDT. Note that the irradiance and the fluence rate have the same physical units (power per unit area) but they are not the same quantity. The irradiance is defined for a particular surface whereas the fluence rate can be defined and measured in free space or the interior of an object. Terms such as power density, flux density and intensity, which have been used to describe the irradiance, should be avoided.

**Radiant exposure ( $H$ ):** Radiant energy incident on an infinitesimal surface element (containing the point of interest) divided by the area of that element. The SI unit is  $\text{J m}^{-2}$  but, in PDT, the unit  $\text{J cm}^{-2}$  is more common. The radiant exposure is the time integral of the irradiance. The term “energy density” which has been applied to this quantity should be avoided. The radiant exposure is specified for PDT treatments using surface irradiation.

Among those quantities the most important quantity is the energy fluence ( $\Phi$ ) since this quantity is directly associated with PDT dose. In a collimated beam, energy fluence = irradiance. However, in an integrating sphere, energy fluence = 4\* irradiance since irradiance takes into account the direction of light incidence.<sup>41</sup>

## B. Diffusion Approximation

The most widely used model of light transport in tissue is the radiative transport equation<sup>42</sup>. Because analytic solutions to this equation exist for only very simple geometries, it is generally solved by a Taylor expansion. A first-order expansion yields the commonly used diffusion approximation. In the near infrared (NIR) region, tissue scattering dominates over tissue absorption, so that the diffusion approximation is valid.<sup>38</sup> Under diffusion approximation, the light fluence rate,  $\phi$ , can be described as

$$\frac{\partial \phi(r, t)}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot D \nabla \phi(r, t) - v \mu_a \phi(r, t) + v S(r, t), \quad (4)$$

where  $v$  is the speed of light in the turbid medium;  $D = v / [3(\mu'_s + \mu_a)]$  is the photon diffusion coefficient;  $S$  is an isotropic source term which gives the number of photons emitted at position  $r$  and time  $t$  per unit volume per unit time.

Jacques showed that the light distribution using diffusion approximation is still not accurate in this wavelength region, compared to Monte-Carlo simulation.<sup>43</sup> This is especially true near the source, in the so-called near-source field. Monte-Carlo simulation, however, is not suitable for real-time light fluence calculation because of the long computing times required.<sup>44</sup> To address this deficiency, several researchers have investigated a 3<sup>rd</sup>-order approximation of the transport equation (P3 approximation) for a point source to improve both the speed and accuracy of light fluence calculation.<sup>45-48</sup>

## VI PDT Dosimetry

The concept of explicit and implicit PDT dosimetry was introduced in the 1990s by Wilson *et al.*<sup>5</sup> Explicit dosimetry refers to measurement of physical quantities that are well-defined, e.g. light fluence, photosensitizer drug concentration, and tissue oxygenation. Because it is a well-defined physical quantity, one may design methods to measure each quantity independently. Implicit dosimetry refers to the use of a measurable quantity, such as the extent of sensitizer photobleaching, which is sensitive to some or all of the factors influencing photodynamic efficacy but which does not require independent measurements of each of these quantities.

### A. *Explicit dosimetry*

From physics point of view, the explicit PDT dose is defined as the light energy deposited to photosensitizer, i.e. it is proportional to the product of the absorption coefficient of the photosensitizer and light fluence (Eq. 1). The absorption coefficient of the photosensitizer is, in turn, proportional to the photosensitizer concentration. PDT dose calculated in this way is a good marker if one is operating in a drug- or light- limiting regime when there is ample oxygen supply. However, if oxygen delivery is the factor limiting PDT effect, singlet oxygen production rate (Eq. 3) is a better marker for predicting PDT efficiency.

#### *In-vivo light Dosimetry in PDT*

Light is an important quantity that determines the outcome of PDT treatment. The light fluence (expressed in  $\text{J}/\text{cm}^2$ ) is proportional to the light energy deposited in tissue. The total fluence in tissues is a function not only of the incident light delivered by the laser but also of scattered light. Often clinical PDT treatments are prescribed in terms of the incident light delivered from the laser rather than the total fluence of light the tissues receive which is a combination of scattered and incident light. Substantial differences in total fluence to tissues can be observed among patients if the clinician accounts only for incident light.<sup>41, 49</sup> Dosimetry systems using isotropic light detectors have been developed to measure both incident and scattered light.<sup>50, 51</sup> A 16-channel system developed at the University of Pennsylvania is shown in Fig. 5. These systems should begin to allow clinical researchers to measure and therefore prescribe a consistent total fluence to the tissues. Isotropic detectors are often used to measure the light fluence rate directly (see Fig. 6).<sup>52</sup> These detectors have the advantage of detecting light from all directions vs. the flat photodiodes (Fig. 6) that can only detect light from normal incidence.<sup>53</sup>

#### *In vivo characterization of tissue optical properties*

The measurement of light fluence rate *in vivo* is necessary but not sufficient to quantify light fluence rate distribution. Volumetric determination of the light fluence rate in the entire treatment volume requires accurate characterization of the *in vivo* tissue optical properties as input ( $\mu_a$ ,  $\mu_s$ ) in Eq.4). Several techniques have been developed to determine the optical properties *in vivo*.<sup>24, 54</sup> Figure 7 shows measured distribution of optical properties in human prostate.<sup>55</sup> Clearly, there is a significant difference (up to 3 times) between optical properties measured in different locations, which will affect the light fluence distribution.

More advanced non-invasive technology such as diffuse optical tomography has shown promise for determining the 3D distribution of optical properties ( $\mu_a$  and  $\mu_s$ ) in brain<sup>56</sup> and breast<sup>57</sup>. However, this technique can be applied to limited anatomic sites because of the limited tissue penetration depth,  $\sim 10$  cm.

#### *Quantification of drug concentration*

Determination of drug concentration is important for PDT efficacy. Early PDT clinical protocols only specify this quantity in terms of the amount of photosensitizer given to patient per body weight. Recent *in-vivo* studies have show large variation of photosensitizer concentration in different tissue types, thus

suggesting determination of this quantity in-vivo in the region of treatment directly.<sup>23, 55</sup> To include the drug concentration in the evaluation of PDT dose, *in situ* fluorescent<sup>58</sup> or absorption<sup>25, 59-62</sup> measurements of photosensitizer can be made interstitially using optical fibers. Figure 8 shows measured distribution of MLu drug concentration in prostate using absorption (Fig. 8a) and fluorescence (Fig. 8b) measurement.<sup>55</sup> The results of the two methods agreed well for MLu drug concentration.<sup>55</sup>

#### Quantification of tissue oxygenation

Tissue oxygenation is known to affect PDT efficacy<sup>31, 63</sup> in vitro. In addition, changes in tissue oxygenation due to photochemical oxygen consumption during PDT have been observed directly,<sup>64, 65</sup> and indirectly through their effect on the photobleaching rate.<sup>66, 67</sup> Recent studies have shown that one can determine the concentration of hemoglobin (Hb), HbO<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub>O from absorption measurement.<sup>59-62</sup> Figure 8a shows measured distribution of Hb and StO<sub>2</sub> = HbO<sub>2</sub>/Hb measured in human prostate.<sup>55</sup>

#### **B. Implicit dosimetry**

Implicit dosimetry<sup>5</sup> relies on a surrogate indicator of damage to measure the photodynamic effect, rather than explicitly quantifying all the parameters needed to calculate the dose. One such mechanism is the measurement of fluorescence photobleaching. In particular, if a sensitizer's photobleaching and the damage to tissue are both caused primarily by reactions with singlet oxygen, it is reasonable to assume that the rate of photobleaching will be indicative of the rate of deposition of singlet oxygen-mediated damage in tissue. In a simplified model, Georgakoudi *et al.* showed that the fraction of the initial photosensitizer bleached could be related to the absolute concentration of reacted singlet oxygen in tissue<sup>32</sup>. While oxygen transport, tissue heterogeneity, and light diffusion complicate the issue *in vivo*, the correlation between photobleaching and PDT-induced damage holds in animal models<sup>66, 68</sup>.

When designing a dosimetry protocol, it is important to remember that the usefulness of a particular method or model depends on the drug, light fluence rate, and tissue being investigated. There is experimental evidence that some sensitizers may photobleach by singlet oxygen-independent mechanisms, in which case implicit dosimetry based on photobleaching will provide incorrect conclusions concerning singlet oxygen dose.<sup>33</sup> Different sensitizers may exhibit very different bleaching behaviors, even in the same animal model.<sup>33, 67, 69</sup> Furthermore, even if a sensitizer does bleach purely through singlet-oxygen mediated mechanisms, the relationship between photobleaching and clinical outcome will depend on a host of factors, including cellular and vascular distribution and tumor selectivity, which may be drug- and tissue-specific. Therefore, any implicit dosimetry method must be verified for the specific drug and irradiation scheme being used before it can be implemented clinically.

#### **VII PDT clinical protocols**

Tables 2 and 3 list the current oncological PDT clinical trials listed by the NIH as ongoing in the US, and the papers published since 2004 on clinical trial in PDT, as listed by PubMed. Trials investigating PDT for cosmetic and ocular applications have not been included. While the majority of PDT trials and approvals have been for cancers and other diseases of the skin, more recent studies have begun to expand the range of diseases treated with PDT to include solid tumors of the head and neck, prostate, pancreas and breast. As new drugs and new light delivery devices are developed, we can expect to see trials of PDT for an increasing number of diseases that were previously considered inaccessible to PDT. These sites generally involve the treatment of large, solid tumors, requiring illumination by intra-cavity or interstitial light delivery devices. The wide variation in optical properties within and among tumors and the variation in tumor geometry from patient to patient make accurate quantitative dosimetry even more important in these cases. It is increasingly becoming appreciated that the PDT treatment of the future will

incorporate real-time dosimetry and tissue optics monitoring into the light delivery system, allowing the light distribution to be optimized as treatment progresses.

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Table 1: An incomplete list of photosensitizers currently undergoing human clinical trials

<b>Sensitizer</b>	<b>Trade Name</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>excitation</b>	<b>Drug-light interval</b>	<b>clearance time</b>	<b>Sites</b>
porfimer sodium	Photofrin	1998, 2003 (FDA)	630 nm	48-150 hours	4-6 weeks	lung, Barret's esophagus
ALA-PpIX	Levulan Kerastick	1999 (FDA)	405, 635 nm	14-18 hours	~2 days	AK
methyl aminolevulate-PpIX	Metvix	2004 (FDA)	405, 635 nm	3 hours	~2 days	AK
hexyl aminolevulate-PpIX	Hexvix	2005 (EU)	405 nm	1-3 hours	~2 days	Detection of bladder tumors
BPD-MA	Verteporfin, Visudyne	2000 (FDA)	689 nm	15 min	5 days	CNV
mTHPC	Foscan	Phase I trials, 2001 (EU)	652 nm	48-110 hours	15 days	Head & Neck, prostate, pancreas, esophagus, mesothelioma
Motexafin Lutetium	MLu, Lutex, Lutrin	Phase I trials	732 nm	3 hours		Prostate, Atherosclerosis
Pd-bacteriopheophorbide	Tookad	Phase I trials	762 nm	~30 min	~2 hours	Prostate
Talaporfin Sodium (Mono-L-aspartyl chlorin e6)	LS11,	Phase I & II trials	664 nm	1 hour		CNV, Liver & colorectal metastasis
Silicon phthalocyanine 4	PC-4	Phase I trials	672 nm	24 to 36 hours		skin

Table 2: Current NIH listed on-going clinical PDT trials

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Drug</b>	<b>Disease</b>
Light Sciences Corporation	I	LS11	CNV
Roswell Park Cancer Institute	II	ALA	BCC,SCC,AK
	II	ALA	cutaneous lymphomas
	II	ALA	BCC, SCC
Case Western Reserve University	I	PC4	AK, Skin Cancer
	I	PC4	BCC, SCC
Medical College of Wisconsin	I	BPD-MA	Brain tumors
University of Pennsylvania	I	MLu	recurrent prostate cancer
Eastern Virginia Medical School		DHPD	CNV

Table 3: Publications on clinical trials since 2004 by PubMed search

<b>Author</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Drug</b>	<b>Disease</b>
Shikowitz <sup>70</sup>	2005	mTHPC	recurrent respiratory papillomatosis
Hage <sup>71, 72</sup>	2005, 2004	ALA-PpIX	Barret's Esophagus
Azab <sup>73</sup>	2005	Verteporfin	AMD
Wiedmann <sup>74, 75</sup>	2004	Photofrin	hilar cholangiocarcinoma
Webber <sup>76</sup>	2004	ALA-PpIX	carcinoma in situ of the anus
Touma <sup>77</sup>	2004	ALA-PpIX	multiple actinic keratoses
Sheleg <sup>78</sup>	2004	clorin e(6)	skin metastases from melanoma
Rhodes <sup>79</sup>	2004	methyl ALA	nodular BCC
Lui <sup>80</sup>	2004	verteporfin	nonmelanoma skin cancers
Bown <sup>81-83</sup>	2004, 2002	mTHPC	recurrent head and neck cancer, pancreas, prostate
Loning <sup>84</sup>	2004	ALA-PpIX	Ovarian carcinoma metastasis (detection only)
Kelty <sup>85</sup>	2004	ALA-PpIX	Barrett's esophagus
Igbaseimokumo <sup>86</sup>	2004	Photofrin	pituitary adenoma
Hopper <sup>87</sup>	2004	mTHPC	oral squamous cell carcinoma
Gold <sup>88</sup>	2004	ALA-PpIX	Sebaceous gland hyperplasia
Frei <sup>89</sup>	2004	ALA-PpIX	metastatic lymph nodes in breast cancer (detection only)
Etienne <sup>90</sup>	2004	mTHPC	Barrett's esophagus
Ericson <sup>91</sup>	2004	ALA-PpIX	AK
Dragieva <sup>92, 93</sup>	2004	ALA-PpIX, methyl ALA	AK and Bowen's disease
Cuenca <sup>94</sup>	2004	Photofrin	Breast cancer with Chest wall progression
Cappugi <sup>95</sup>	2004	ALA-PpIX	Nodular BCC

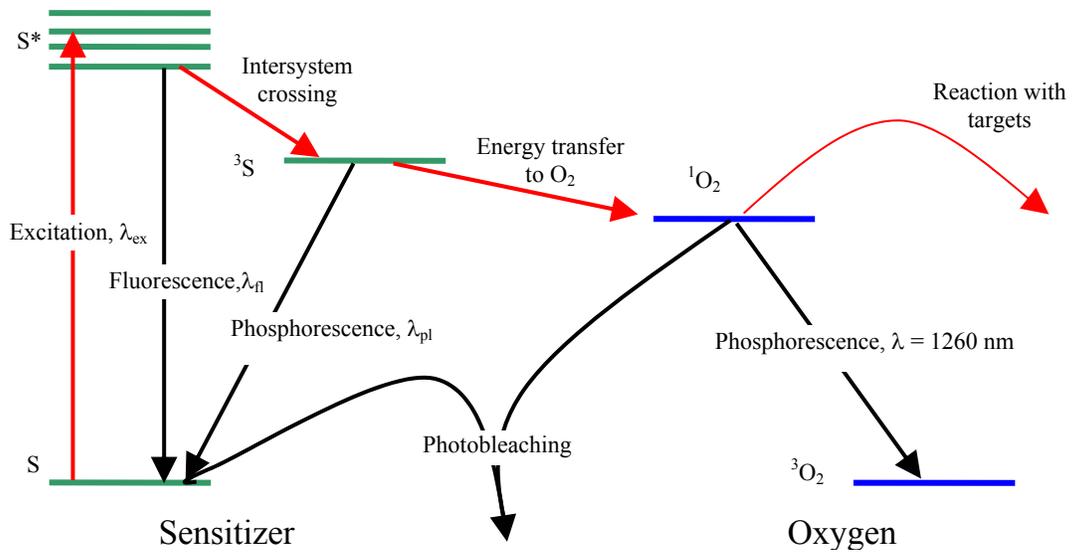


Figure 1: Mechanism of action by Type II photosensitizer.

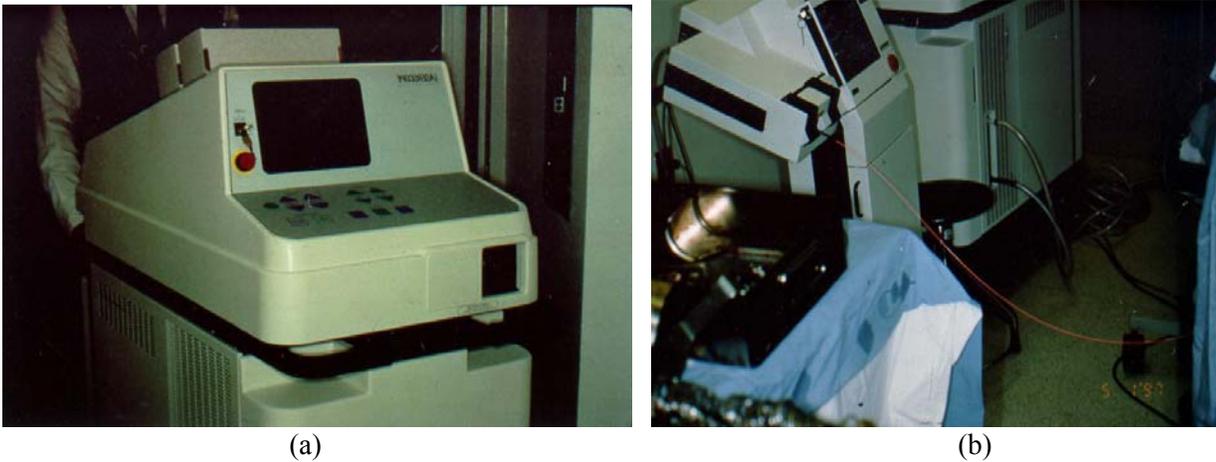


Figure 2: (a) LaserScope 40W KTP frequency-doubled Nd:YAG laser at wavelength of 532 nm and (b) LaserScope dye laser at tunable wavelengths 600 – 760 nm



Figure 3: Diomed 2W diode laser at 732 nm

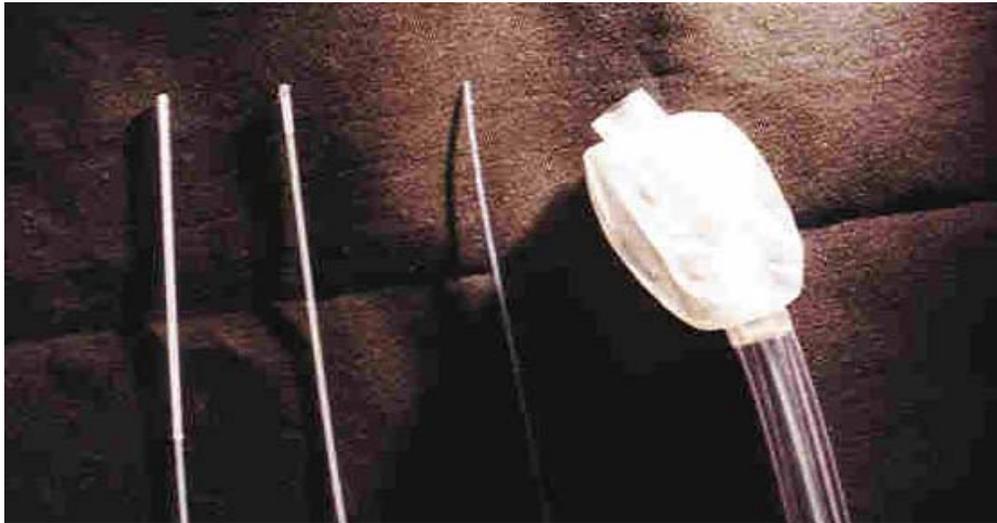


Figure 4: Various light delivery devices that are connected to an optical fiber (from left to right): point source, microlens, cylindrically diffusing fiber, and modified endotracheal point source.

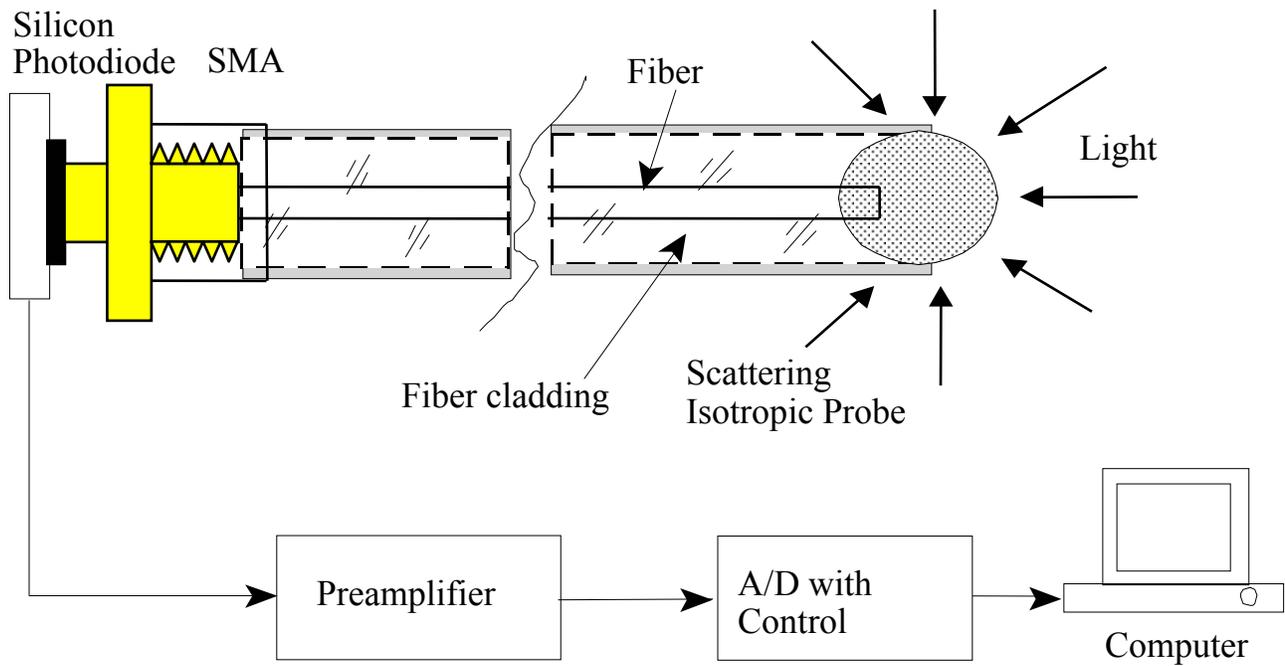


Figure 5: Schematics of an in-vivo dosimetry system consists of isotropic detector, photodiode, preamplifier, A/D converter, and PC control.

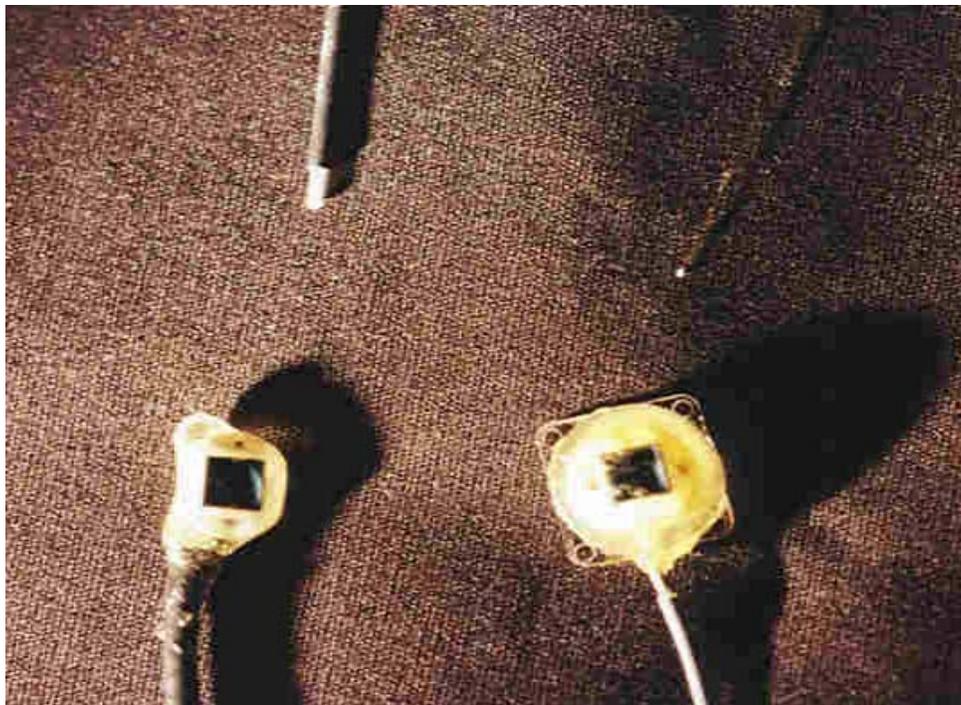


Figure 6: Light detectors used in photodynamic therapy: top row for isotropic detectors, 1mm scattering tip and 0.3 mm scattering tip; bottom row for flat photodiode detectors.

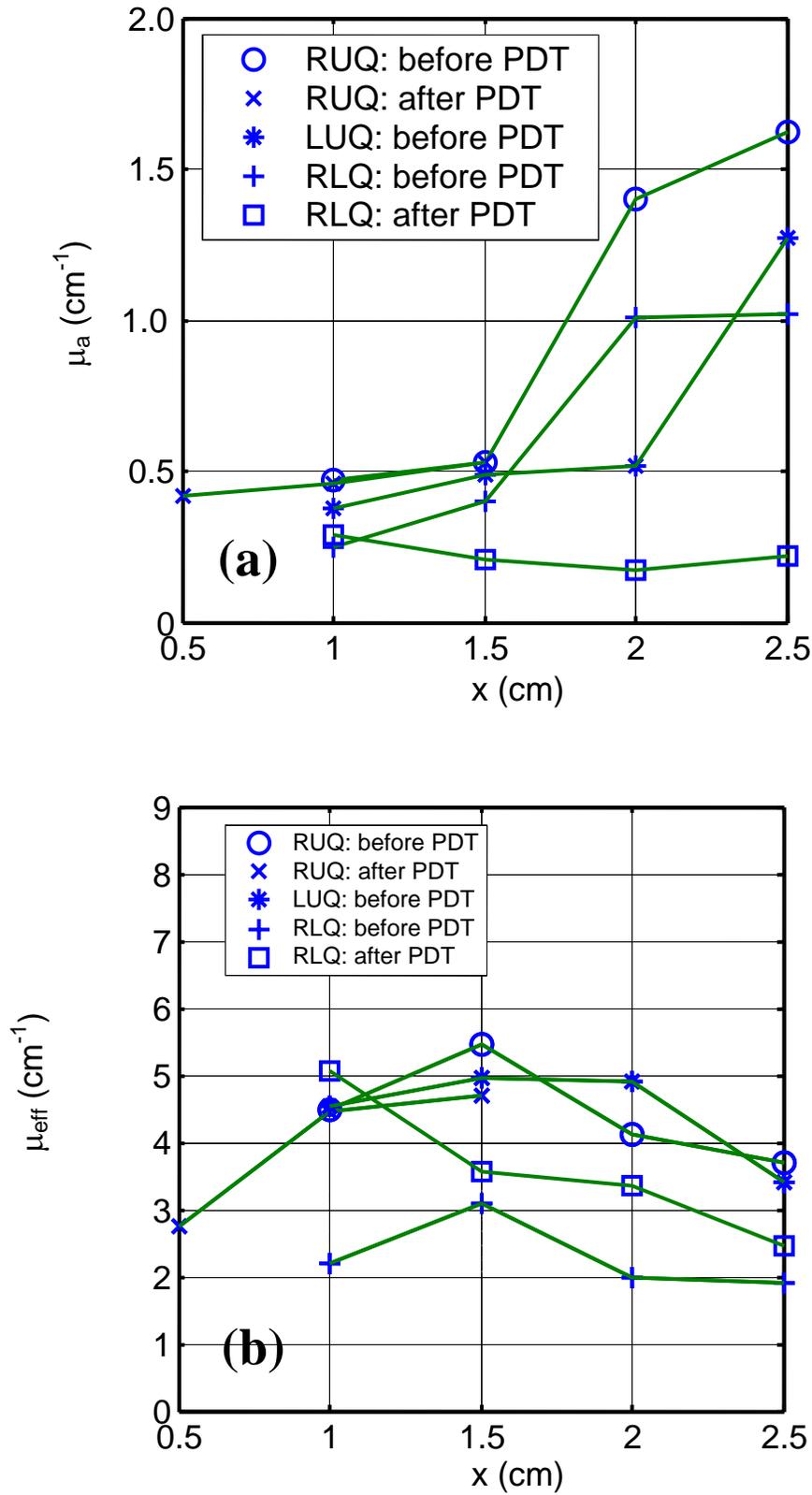


Figure 7: In-vivo distribution of (a) absorption and (b) effective attenuation coefficients at 732 nm in the human prostate for patient #12. (Taken from Ref. <sup>55</sup>).

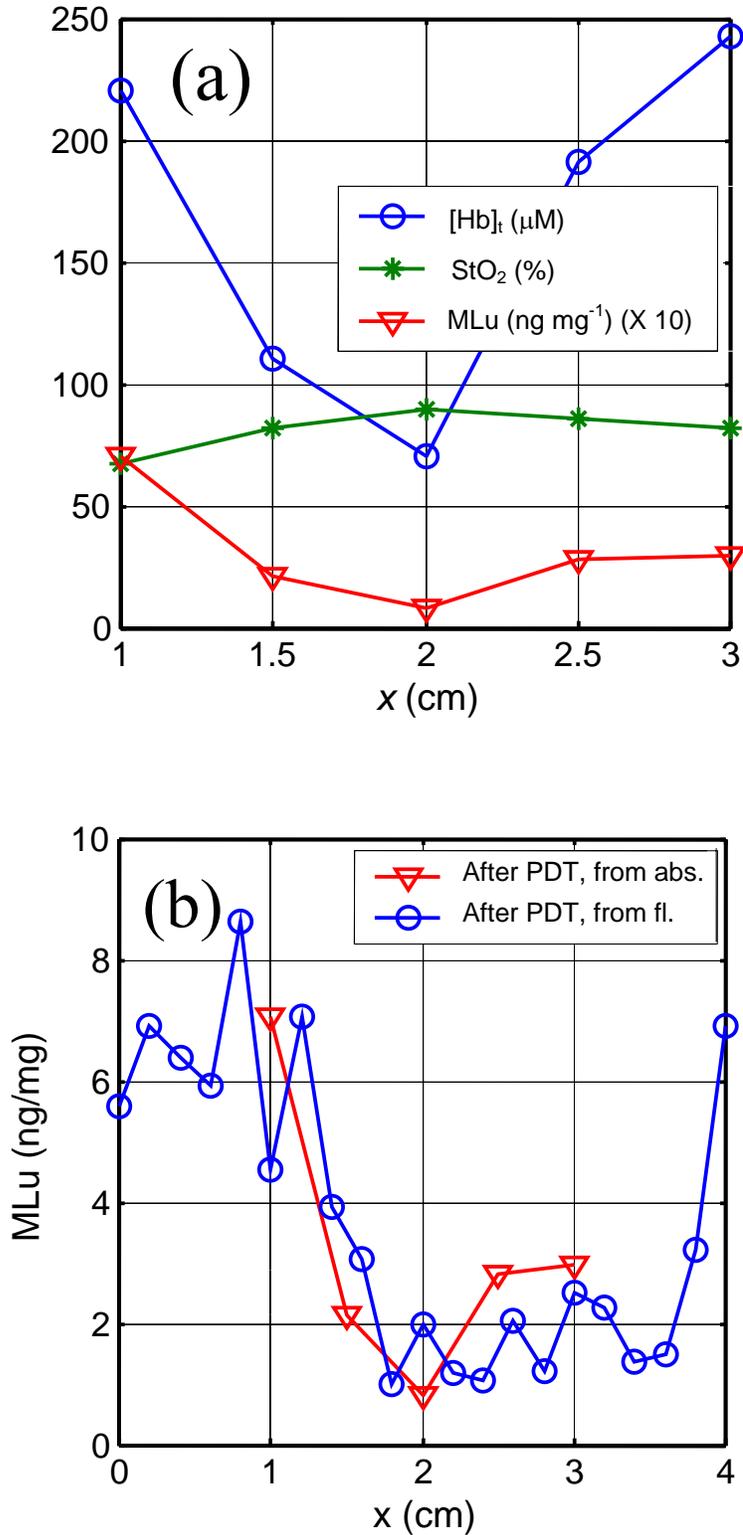


Figure 8: *In vivo* distribution of (a) StO<sub>2</sub>, blood volume (μM), and MLu concentration determined using the absorption spectra and (b) MLu concentration as determined by absorption (triangles) and fluorescence (circles) measurements for RUQ in patient 13. (Taken from Ref. <sup>55</sup>)