

AbstractID:9648 Title:Optimal needle and seed delivery patterns in prostate brachytherapy for multichannel robotic systems

**Purpose:** It is important to find optimal needle and seed delivery patterns that are commonly practiced in the clinics, for developing a multichannel robotic brachytherapy system. In this study, different techniques and types of needle and seed implant patterns have been investigated and a robotics system has been designed.

**Materials and Methods:** A total of 135 prostate cancer patient cases of permanent seed implants have been investigated in this study. These cases are from three different universities/hospitals where the types of seeds (radio-isotope, activity, construction), needles, surgical techniques, clinicians and patient population are different. Randomly selected 95 patients from hospital-1 were treated with Pd-103 isotope (2.02mCi/seed, free/loose configuration, automatic genetic algorithm optimization-PIPER); 20 patients from hospital-2 were treated with I-125 isotope (0.64±0.06mCi/seed, linked seed, manual optimization, Varian-VariSeed-v7.1), and the remaining 20 cases from hospital-3 were treated with I-125 isotope (0.41mCi/seed, pre-loaded needle, manual optimization, Varian-VariSeed-v7.1). Needle and seed distributions were statistically analyzed to determine optimal needle configurations.

**Results:** Hospital-1 (n=95): prostate volume= 32.4 ±12.3cc (range= 15.1-59.8cc), needles= 23.4±4.6 (range=11-40), seeds= 82.2±21.3 (range=26-164). Hospital-2 (n=20): prostate volume=36.5±14.6 cc (range=18.2-60.1cc), needles=14.9±2.5 (range= 10-18), seeds= 51.1±10.8 (range=35-68). Hospital-3 (n=20): prostate volume= 30.9±8.2cc (20.3-51.5), needles= 13.6±2.6 (range=10-22), seeds= 75.7±14.8 (range=56-115). The relationships between number of seeds and number of needles appeared to be more linear for cases with Pd-103 (free seeds) and I-125 (linked seeds), while more scattered distribution was found for I-125 with pre-loaded needles. However, in all cases needles were more or less peripherally distributed to avoid excessive dose to urethra.

**Conclusions:** Results revealed that 16 or less number of needles arranged mainly peripherally can be sufficient to cover most of the prostate seed implant cases with I-125 seeds; cases with Pd-103 may require more needles. This information has been translated for designing a multichannel robotic system.

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