

# NeuWave Microwave: Overview of thermal ablation

Chris Brace Ph.D.  
University of Wisconsin

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 **DISCLAIMER**

PLEASE NOTE: The Certus 140 2.45 GHz Ablation System is a tool, not a treatment for any disease or condition. It is cleared for the ablation (coagulation) of soft tissue in percutaneous, open surgical and in conjunction with laparoscopic surgical settings in patients who present themselves to a treating physician with a wide variety of diseases or conditions. The Certus 140 2.45 GHz Ablation System is not indicated for use in cardiac procedures. The system is designed for facility use and should only be used under the orders of a physician.

The information in these cases is not meant to convey recommendations from NeuWave Medical, Inc. regarding appropriateness for a particular patient, power and time settings, final ablation zone size and shape or other procedure guidance. NeuWave Medical makes no representations and assumes no liability regarding the accuracy of the information provided herein or the effectiveness of any of the treatment or for any action or inaction you take based on or made in reliance on the information. [These are individual cases and your results may vary.](#) When planning a case, consider all unique aspects, including tissue type, lesion location, surrounding vasculature and proximity to critical structures when determining probe type and power/time settings. Consult the product Instructions For Use for information regarding expected ablation sizes

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 **Disclosure**

- Co-founder of NeuWave Medical

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## SYLLABUS

### Objectives of Presentation

- Physics of microwave
- Benefits of synchronous in-phase technology
- Clinical differentiators
- Probe placement
- Advanced Education Programs
- Clinical cases for development of best practices

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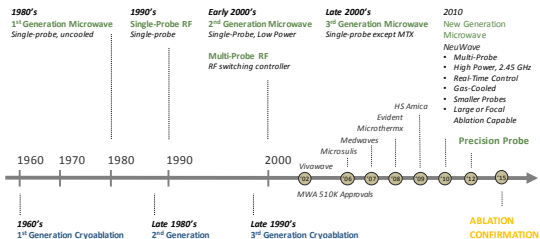
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## EVOLUTION OF ABLATION TECHNOLOGY



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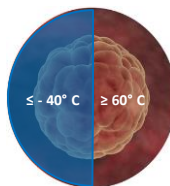
## 2 MODES OF THERMAL ABLATION

### Freezing and Heating

#### Cryoablation

#### Cell death by freezing

When tissue is cooled to  $\leq -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ , intracellular ice formation ruptures cell membrane and kills cells via a freeze/thaw method



#### Radiofrequency ablation Microwave ablation

#### Cell death by heating

When tissue is heated to  $\geq 60^{\circ}\text{C}$ , proteins denature, lipids in the cell membrane melt and cells are killed instantaneously

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NeuWave Medical  
Intelligent Ablation

### RADIOFREQUENCY OVERVIEW

- PROVIDES CAUTERIZATION<sup>5</sup>
- MINIMAL # OF ELECTRODES AND GASES REQUIRED
- SUBSTANTIAL PEER-REVIEWED LITERATURE, (OLDER TECHNOLOGY)
- DEHYDRATED/CHARRED TISSUE (~100 °C) → HIGH IMPEDANCE, LIMITED POWER<sup>6</sup>
- PULSING OR SLOW HEATING REQUIRED TO AVOID TISSUE DEHYDRATION/CHAR<sup>6</sup>
- HEAT SINK → LOBULATED ABLATIONS & HIGHER RECURRENCE RATES<sup>7</sup>
- GROUNDING PADS = RISK OF SKIN BURNS<sup>8</sup>

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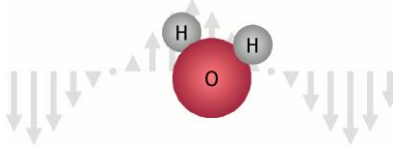
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### MW AND RF SIMILARITIES

- Mechanism of cell kill is identical (indistinguishable under the microscope)



- Microwave-penetrates all biologic tissues (including aerated lung, bone, char)..

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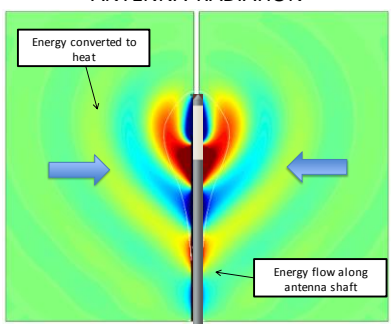
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### ANTENNA RADIATION



- Energy converted to heat
- Energy flow along antenna shaft

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## NEUWAVE MICROWAVE SYSTEM OVERVIEW

### NEUWAVE IMPROVEMENTS<sup>11</sup>:

#### 2.45 GHz frequency

- Less electromagnetic interference during multiple probe use for predictable, reproducible burns<sup>12</sup>

#### Triaxial antenna design

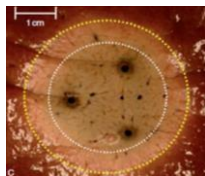
- High energy throughput
- Minimal backward heating

#### Multi-antenna wave synchrony

- Consistent, reproducible large burns

#### CO<sub>2</sub> cooling

- Eliminates heating along antenna shaft (no comet tail)
- Tissu-Loc™ for reducing antenna migration during scanning and additional antenna placement



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## Power Distribution: 2.45GHz

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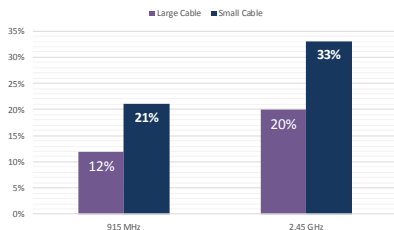
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## Power Distribution: Cable Loss

The inherent loss of generated microwave energy due to smaller diameter cables led to NeuWave creating the Power Distribution Module (PDM)



Delivered = Generated – Distribution Losses

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**POWER DISTRIBUTION**  
Highest Power Output for Controlled, Fast Ablations

**CONTROLLED MAXIMUM POWER DELIVERY**

- Less electromagnetic interference for predictable, reproducible burns with 2.45 GHz vs 915 MHz<sup>1</sup>
- Highest power output = faster ablation (150W)
- Power delivery is maximized by cable design
- Minimized probe migration and improved ergonomics with detachable Power Distribution Module

1. See full Comparison of probe power use and ablation size between PR and LK probes and power ablation probe for details on probe heat transfer and heating (PR)

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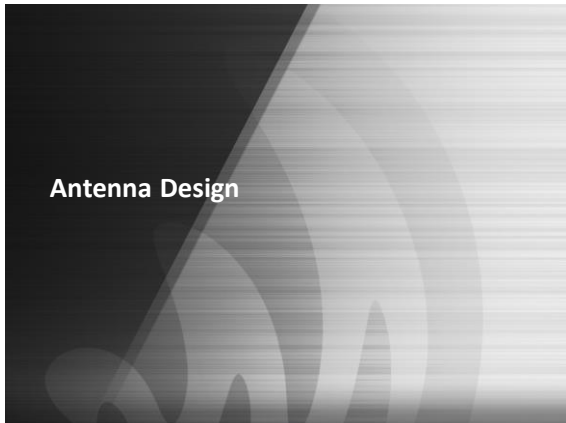
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**Antenna Design**




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**PROBE PORTFOLIO**  
**PROBE DESIGN**  
Patented Thermal Antenna Produces >99% Efficient Power Delivery to Tissue<sup>1</sup>

**MOST EFFICIENT HEATING**

- Focused heat delivery to tissue
- Minimal backward heating

**SMALLEST GAUGE PROBES**

- Smallest gauge (17) probe = Less invasive procedures to help reduce the risk of bleeding & related complications

**SAFE & EFFECTIVE USE OF HIGH POWERS**

- 3 thermo-couples provide real-time temperature monitoring

1. See full Comparison of Probe Design, Heating, and Temperature Control Between Patented Thermal Antenna and Conventional Probes

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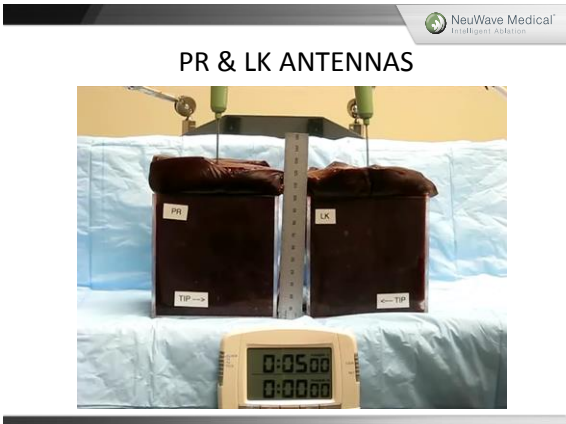
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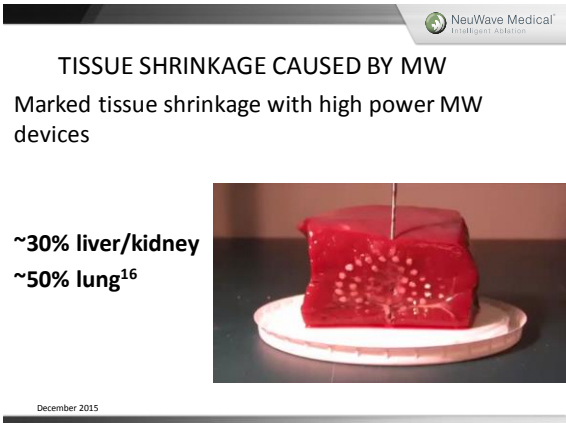
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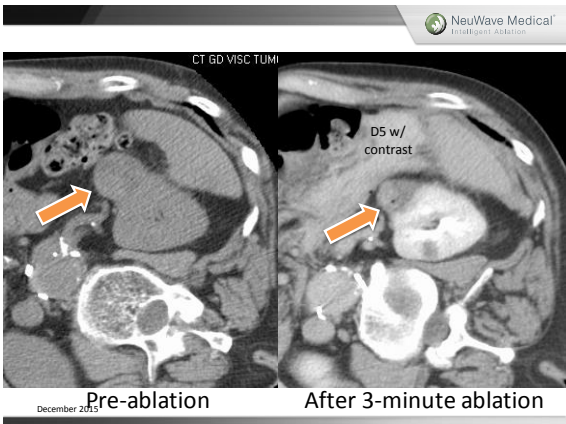
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## ABLATION FOR RENAL SOFT TISSUE:

2014A. Moreland, et al	UW paper	High-Powered Microwave Ablation of T1a Renal Cell Carcinoma: Safety and Initial Clinical Evaluation
2012I. Yu, et al	Radiology	US-guided Percutaneous Microwave Ablation of Renal Cell Carcinoma: Intermediate-term Results
2014X. Lin, et al	Urology	Percutaneous Microwave Ablation of Renal Cell Carcinoma Is Safe in Patients With a Solitary Kidney
2013M. Cristescu, et al	WCIO abstract	Percutaneous Microwave Ablation for the Treatment of Renal Angiomyolipoma (APL): Initial Experience
2014I. Horn, et al	J Vasc Interv Radiol	Percutaneous Microwave Ablation of Renal Tumors Using a Gas-Cooled 2.4-GHz Probe: Technique and Initial Results

**This material/information may include discussions of off-label use of our product, the Certus 140, for which we cannot promote the product. We disseminate this information to you only to provide you with a fair representation of the current published information**



## REFERENCES

- Disclosure:** Dr. Christopher Brace is a shareholder and consultant for NeuWave Medical, Inc., and a co-inventor on patents related to thermal tumor ablation. Dr. Fred Lee is the founder and shareholder for NeuWave Medical, Inc., and a co-inventor on patents related to thermal tumor ablation. Dr. Paul Leake is a shareholder and consultant for NeuWave Medical, Inc., and a co-inventor on patents related to thermal tumor ablation. Dr. J. Louis Hinshaw is a shareholder for NeuWave Medical, Inc.
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- National Lung Cancer Alliance accessed on 2/19/15
- NCCN Guidelines.

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# Microwave ablation for T1a RCC

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Department of Radiology



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## Disclosures

- Founder, NeuWave Medical Inc. (Microwave)
- Inventor, patents: Certus 140™
- Inventor, patents, royalties, Covidien Switching Controller™ (RF)
- NIH grants: R21RR018303  
R01CA108869  
R01CA118990  
R01CA112192



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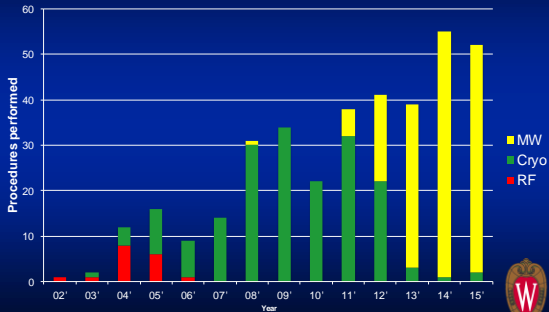
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### U Wisconsin RCC Percutaneous Ablation Procedures 2002-2015



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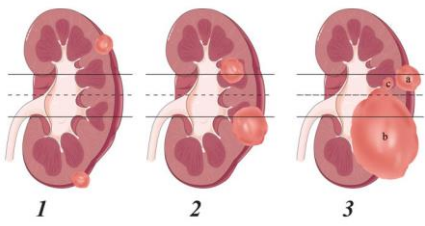
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# T1a RCC-anatomy is everything

- Defined as < 4cm in size
- Not all are created equal
- Anatomic position is probably more important than size
- Nephrometry (RENAL) score predicts LTP and complications



Reyes, et al. Urol Onc 2013;31  
Schmidt, et al. J Urol 2013;189  
www.nephrometry.com



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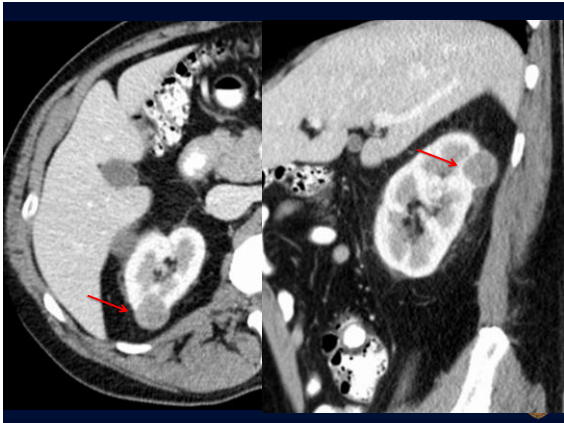
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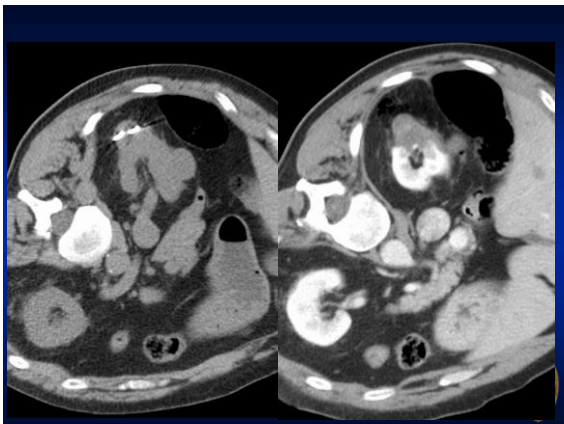
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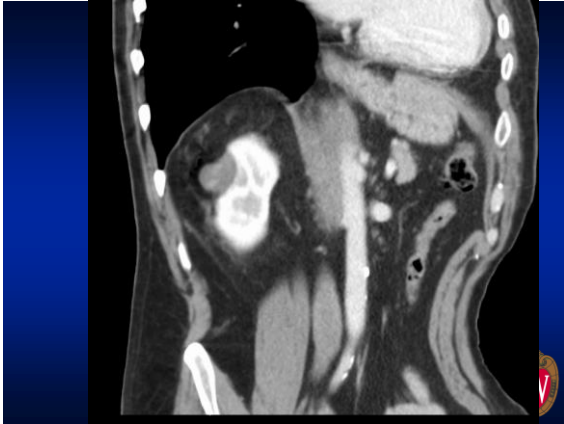
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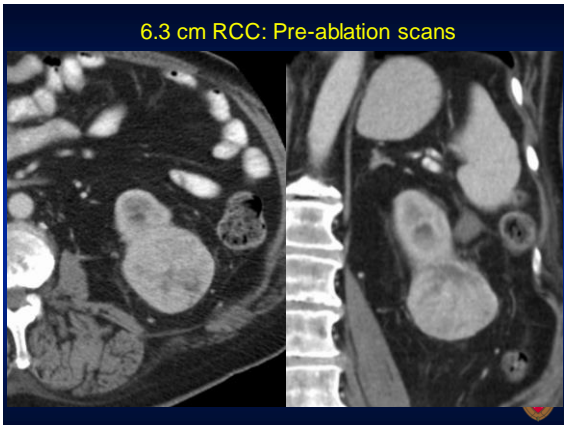
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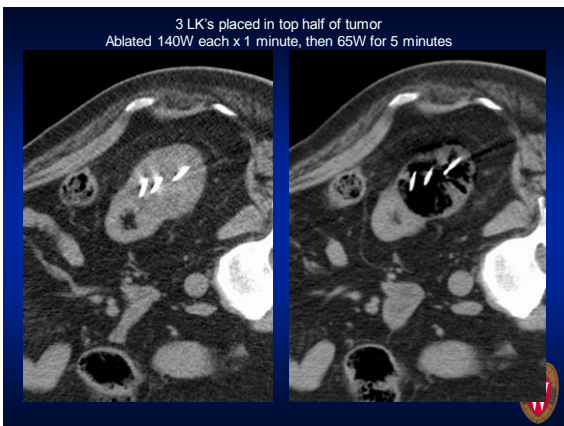
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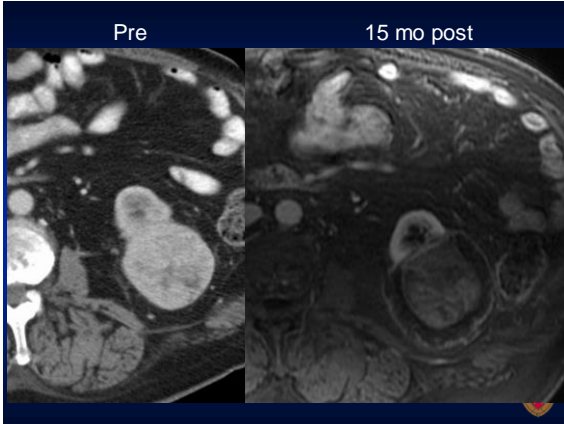
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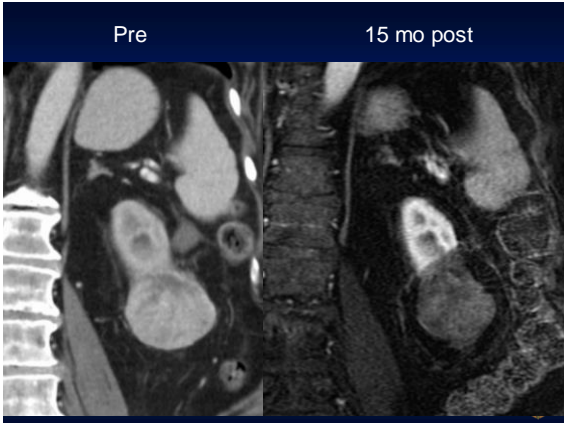
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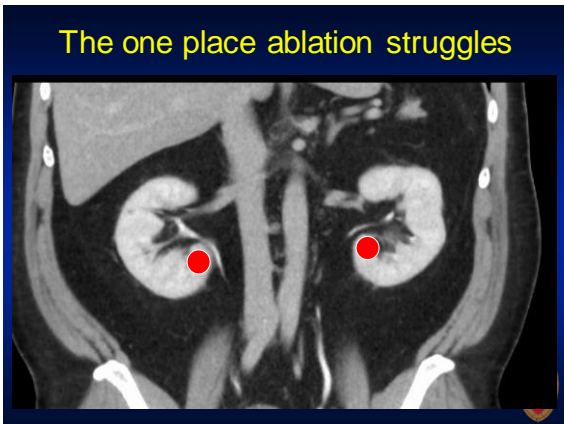
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## Ureteral injury after cryo



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## Why we use mostly MW

- Tumor control (I'll show you our data)
- Physics (esp tissue contraction)
- Speed
- Pain (?)
- Costs
- Hassle
- Visibility



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## MW and RF are closely related

- Mechanism of cell kill is identical (indistinguishable under the microscope)
- "Microwave" is actually in the RF spectrum
- AMA and SIR coding guidelines for MW: Use RF codes
- MW hotter (more likely to reach 60° C), faster, no ground pads, fewer probes, better against vessels
- Microwave-penetrates all biologic tissues (including aerated lung, bone, char)
- Think of MW as an advanced RF system



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### Why do you need such high temps?

- No resistant cells > 60 ° C
- Chemo, radiation, cryo all have resistant cells (Tatsutani)
- Cancer stem cells are radio/chemo resistant, ?cold resistant
- Phospholipids in cell membranes melt between 45-55 ° C
  - Furuya, J Phys Soc Jn 1978

If you use heat: Hotter is better!




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### Costs

- UW experience:
  - Cryo 2.8 probes/procedure+gas (\$113.65/tank)
  - MW: 1.8 probes/procedure+gas (\$5.24/tank)
  - ~150 cases, assume \$1500/probe
  - Cost savings= ~\$271,270 + physician time + room time




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### Hassle factor:

- No ground pads
- No heavy tanks
- No wrenches
- No heavy cables/lines
- No water lines
- Fast




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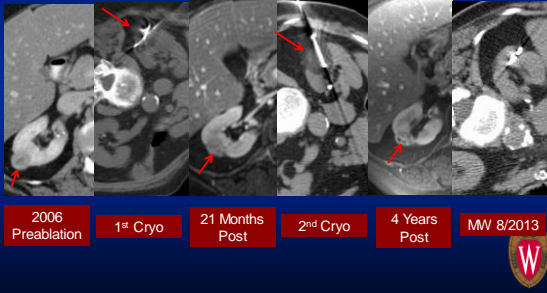
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### Local tumor control: MW

#### Cryo Failures




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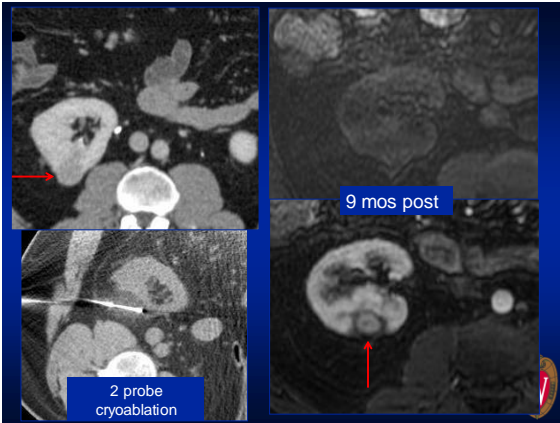
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### MW RCC-literature

- ~700 patients reported, pace increasing
- All studies positive w/one exception (Castle, Urology 2011). 10 patients, LTP 38%
  - Perc CT, 1<sup>st</sup> gen MW, cases done by urologists, **no radiology**
- Yu, et al (Radiology 2012): n=49, LTP 7.7%, 20.1 mo f/u, no severe complications
- Yu, et al (Radiology 2013): MW (n=65) vs. nephrectomy (n=98). 5-yr survival (cancer specific)=97.1 MW vs. 97.6% nephrectomy
- Martin, et al (Diagn Int Radiol 2013): Meta-analysis 1<sup>st</sup> gen MW vs. Cryo, conclusion: **no difference** (but more studies for cryo)

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Abdominal Imaging | © Springer Science+Business Media New York 2015 | Abdom Imaging (2015) | DOI: 10.1007/s00261-015-0309-z | CrossMark

### Midterm results of percutaneous microwave ablation under ultrasound guidance versus retroperitoneal laparoscopic radical nephrectomy for small renal cell carcinoma

Jie Yu,<sup>1</sup> Guoming Zhang,<sup>2</sup> Ping Liang,<sup>1</sup> Xiao-ling Yu,<sup>1</sup> Zhi-gang Cheng,<sup>1</sup> Zhi-yu Han,<sup>1</sup> Xu Zhang,<sup>3</sup> Jun Dong,<sup>3</sup> Qin-ying Li,<sup>4</sup> Meng-juan Mu,<sup>1</sup> Xin Li<sup>1</sup>

- MW=105 (2.7 cm) vs. Nephrectomy=328 (2.8 cm)
- MW patients older, sicker, worse renal fxn
- Complications NSD, renal function better w/ MW
- Overall survival better w/ nephrectomy (p=0.0004)
- Tumor specific survival same (p=0.38)



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### UW data-T1a RCC

- N=100, dia=2.6 cm, f/u=17 mo (out to 48 mo)
- BMI 32.2, nephrometry score 7 (moderate complexity)
- eGFR pre 71.8, post 68.7
- Hydrodissection 34%
- 1.8 antennas, 65W, 5 min
- We've done 3 RCC in renal transplants



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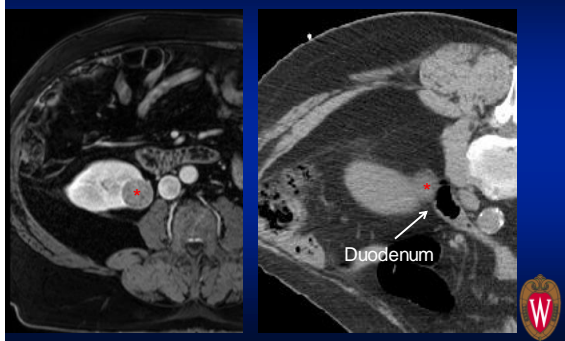
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### RCC in renal transplant



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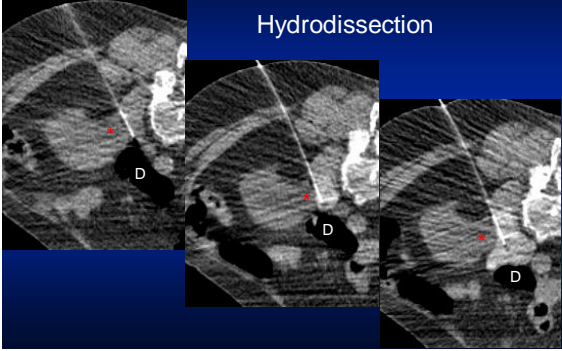
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### RCC in renal transplant

Hydrodissection



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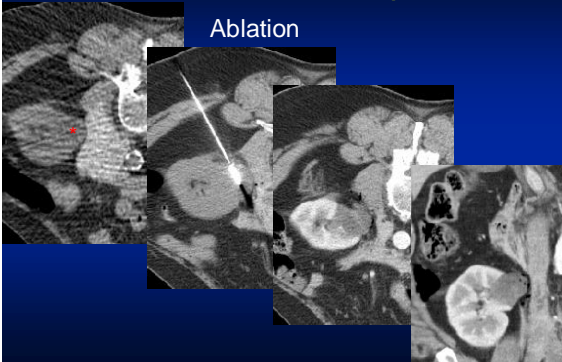
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### RCC in renal transplant

Ablation



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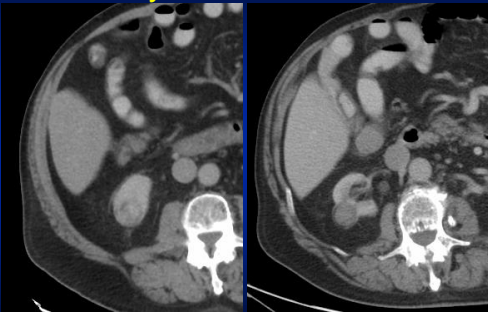
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### 82 yo with 48 mo f/u



Pre MW

44 mo post MW



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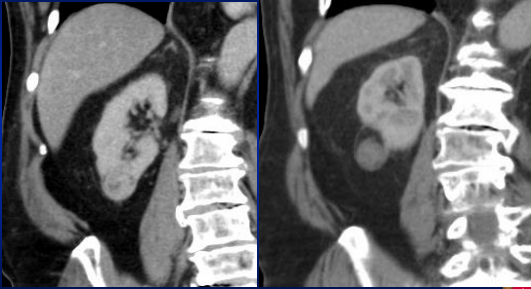
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### 82 yo with 48 mo f/u



Pre MW

44 mo post MW



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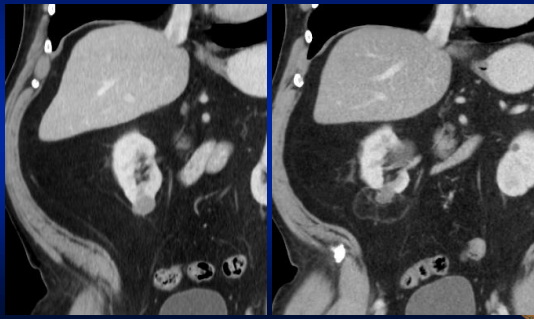
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### 65 yo with 35 mo f/u



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### UW data-T1a RCC

- 1 LTP (1%), Furhman Gr 4, at 25 mo
- No RCC deaths, no mets
- 3 deaths: MI (5 mo), lymphoma (9 mo), GI bleed (39 mo)
- PFS=99%, CSS=100%, OS=97%
- Tumor complexity, BMI didn't effect results
- 11 complications, most minor, 3 related to procedure (RP bleed, hematuria x 2)
- 6 urinomas on delayed imaging



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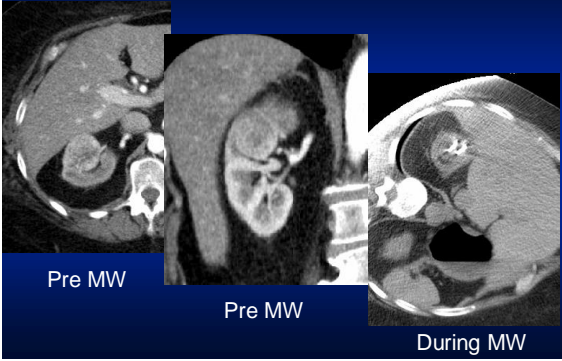
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### Retroperitoneal hematoma Day 10



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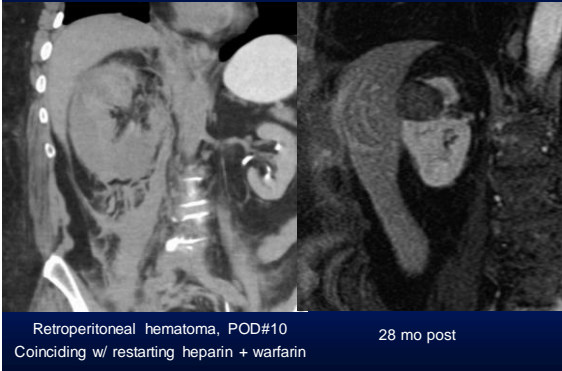
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### Retroperitoneal hematoma Day 10



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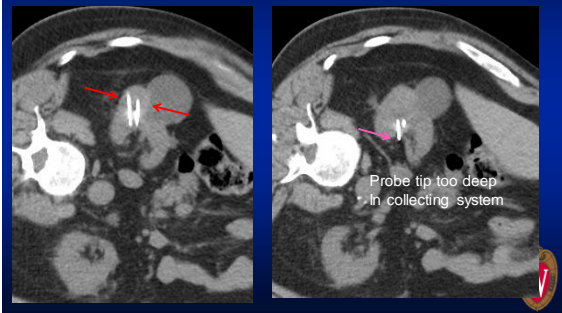
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### Urinomas, most detected late



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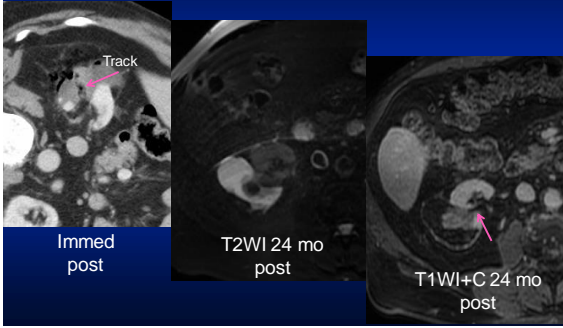
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### Urinomas, most detected late



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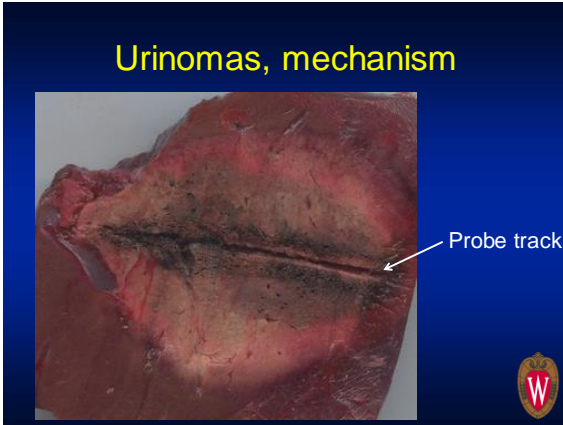
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### Urinomas, mechanism



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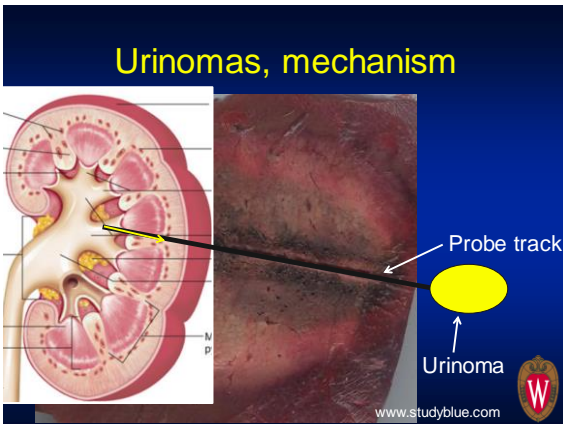
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### Urinomas, mechanism



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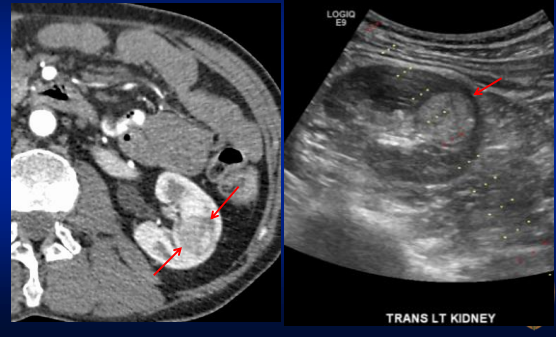
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### How we place probes now 2.2 cm endophytic RCC



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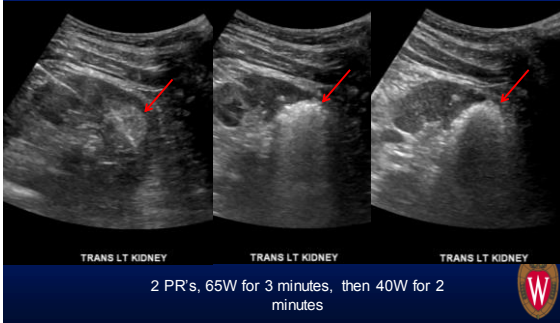
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### During ablation (bubbles highly visible)



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### Post ablation CT



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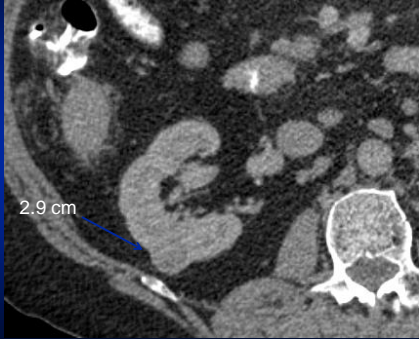
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Tangential approach to avoid collecting system



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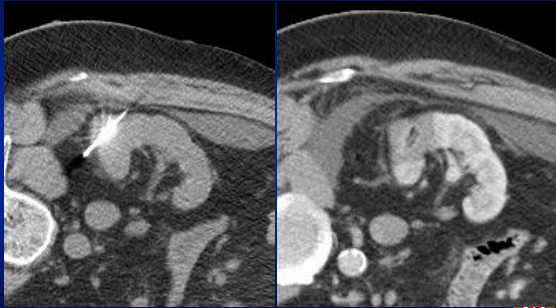
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Immediate Pre

Immediate Post ablation



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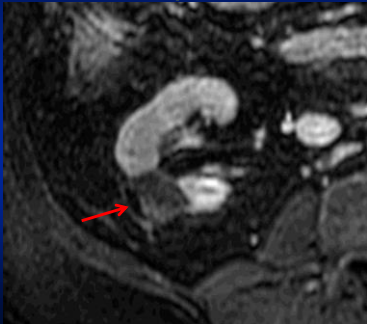
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7 months post ablation



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### Preventing urinomas: Don't puncture collecting system!

- Before tangential approach=29 endophytic RCC
- Median RENAL score of 8.5
- 6 urinomas
- With tangential approach=35 endophytic RCC
- Median RENAL score of 8.5
- 0 urinomas




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### Summary

- MW highly effective for local control T1a RCC
- Is MW "better" than other modalities? You be the judge
- We favor MW due to effectiveness, speed, costs, decreased hassle
- Watch out for inferior medial pole tumors with any modality
- Urinomas associated with puncture of collecting system, ergo, don't do it...




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Thank you for your attention!  
[flee@uwhealth.org](mailto:flee@uwhealth.org)



UW Tumor Ablation Team: Meg Lubner, Fred Lee, Tim Ziemlewicz, Shane Wells, Louis Hinshaw




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## Percutaneous Microwave Ablation

Noah S. Schenkman, MD  
University of Virginia Health System

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## Disclosures

Paid physician consultant by NeuWave for my time to present my experience in this presentation.

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## Virginia Approach: Small Renal Mass

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- Multi-Disciplinary: Radiology and Urology Combined Decision-making
- Small Renal Mass Conference
- Active surveillance consideration
- Timing of biopsy
- US and CT
- Immediate imaging
- 6 month imaging
- Intraoperative uses?

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### Case

- 70 year old man incidentally found 1.5 cm renal mass
- Follow up CT 2 yrs later: 2.5 cm
- Biopsy: Papillary Renal Cell Carcinoma
- HTN, DM, paraplegia
- Serum Cr 0.9, eGFR= 97

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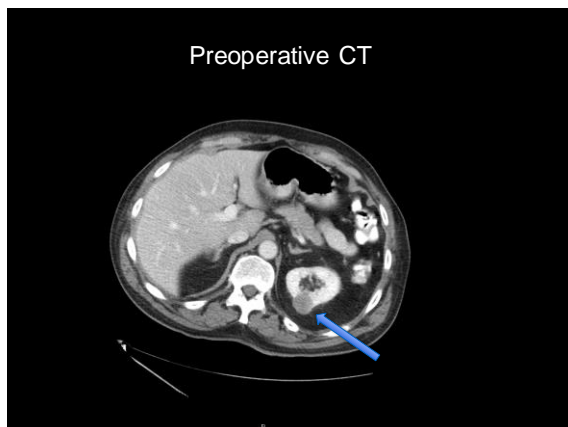
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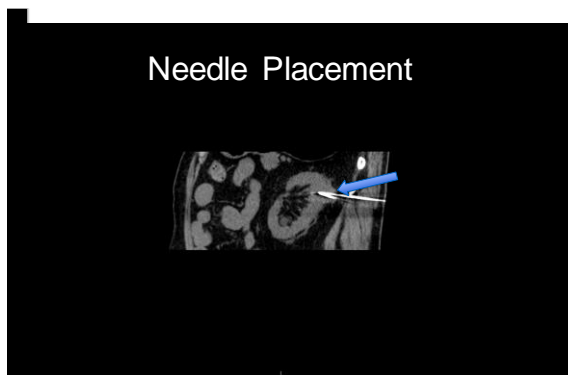
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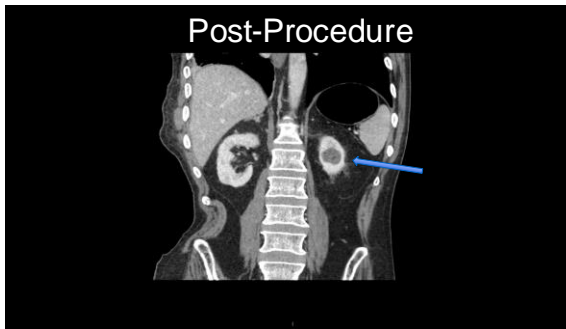
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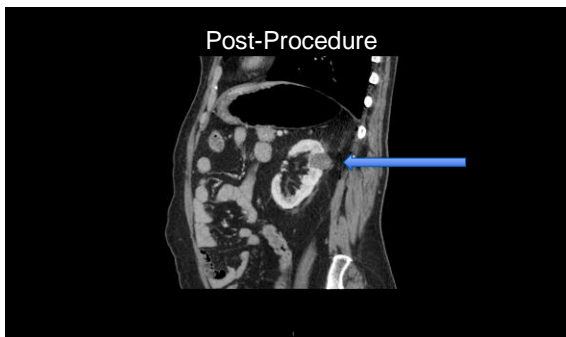
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	Cryoablation (n=21)	Microwave Ablation (n=38)	p-value
<b>Gender</b>			0.56
Male	13 (62%)	27 (71%)	
Female	8 (38%)	11 (29%)	
Age - years (range)	67.0 (44-88)	67.2 (40-87)	0.96
BMI - cm <sup>2</sup> /kg (95%CI)	29.3 (27.1-31.5)	29.9 (28.0-31.8)	0.69
Charlson Comorbidity Score			
Nephrometry Score			
Numerical (95%CI)	6.6 (5.6-7.6)	6.7 (6.0-7.4)	0.93
Posterior location - N (%)	12 (57.1%)	26 (78.8%)	0.23
Volume - mm <sup>3</sup> (95%CI)	12.5 (6.7-18.2)	15.3 (8.7-22.0)	0.50
Pathology			0.06
Clear Cell RCC	10 (47.6%)	17 (56.7%)	
Papillary RCC	4 (19.0%)	11 (36.7%)	
Chromophobe RCC	1 (4.8%)	1 (3.3%)	
NOS	6 (28.6)	1 (3.3%)	

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	Cryoablation	Microwave Ablation	P-value
Recurrence	4 (19%)	1 (3.0%)	0.05
Average Cost (U.S. Dollars)	6354.1 (4777.1-7931.0)	4121.9 (3269.0-4974.8)	0.02

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## Complications

- Cryoablation
  - Non-ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction
  - Pulmonary Embolus
  - Hematoma Requiring Transfusion
- Microwave
  - Pneumonia
  - UTI

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# Building an Interventional Oncology Renal Ablation Program

Dr Roger Williams  
Interventional Oncology  
Interventional Radiology  
Quantum Radiology  
Marietta, GA

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## Disclosure:

- Paid clinical education consultant for NeuWave Medical

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## Overview

The principle of moving to a new country.

- Securing Employment (**Service line**)
- Establish Housing (**Clinic**)
- Developing Friendships (**Referrals**)
- Understanding Landscape of Tumor Board (**Bureaucracy**)
- Partnering in Multidisciplinary Tumor Board (**Currency**)

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## Service Line



- Interventional oncologist = Clinician, administrator, scheduler, \*\*advocate for patient, cache
- Become educated on the pertinent literature (BPC)
- Develop technical skills to become successful
  - Develop skill set through challenging cases

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## Clinic



- Establish a dedicated space, time and contact numbers
- Establish a streamline EASY means for referrals
- Lab and Imaging review
  - Lend Imaging expertise to patient

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## Referrals



- Simplify process for referrals
- Not all Urologist are the same (Prostate v. Kidney)
- Discuss criteria:
  - Operative/ Non Operative
    - Ablation under conscious sedation
  - Partial nephrectomy
  - TNM Staging

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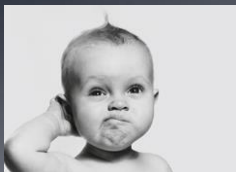
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## Bureaucracy



- Urologist thoughts on Ablation
  - Prior experience:
    - In training
    - At facility
  - Cryo v. RFA v. Microwave
  - Complications
    - Management

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## Currency



- Procedural control
  - Partial nephrectomy
  - Ablation
- Procedural control (Ablation)
  - Urology
  - Radiology
- Follow up
  - Urology
  - Radiology

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