

RESEARCH TOPIC CLI26

Advanced Neuroimaging in brain tumors – ANTHEM (AdvaNced Technologies for HumancentrED Medicine)

Research Area

Services Area

Clinical Unit name

Neuroradiology dpt

Supervisor

Letterio Politi letterio.politi@hunimed.eu

Abstract

The pathological contrast enhancing tumor (CET), depicted by conventional Magnetic Resonance, identifies the lesion burden. However, tumor cells that infiltrate beyond the CET are not detected and can lead to local recurrence. To overcome this limitation, a novel advanced diffusion MRI (dMRI) protocol based on both linear and spherical tensor diffusion encoding will be deployed. dMRI allows to separate confounding sources of diffusion variance, providing new indices of diffusion that are more specific to microstructural changes, determined by tumor infiltration, than conventional MRI. Scopes of the Doctorate will be the implementation of advanced imaging methodologies based on MRI in the depiction of tumor infiltration beyond macroscopic margins, and in the differentiation of treatment-induced changes from disease progression in primary and metastitic brain tumors.

Scientific references

- 1. Wen PY, van den Bent M, Youssef G, Cloughesy TF, Ellingson BM, Weller M, Galanis E, Barboriak DP, de Groot J, Gilbert MR, Huang R, Lassman AB, Mehta M, Molinaro AM, Preusser M, Rahman R, Shankar LK, Stupp R, Villanueva-Meyer JE, Wick W, Macdonald DR, Reardon DA, Vogelbaum MA, Chang SM. RANO 2.0: Update to the Response Assessment in Neuro-Oncology Criteria for High- and Low-Grade Gliomas in Adults. J Clin Oncol. 2023 Nov 20;41(33):5187-5199. doi: 10.1200/JCO.23.01059. Epub 2023 Sep 29. PMID: 37774317; PMCID: PMC10860967.
- 2. Szczepankiewicz F, van Westen D, Englund E, Westin CF, Ståhlberg F, Lätt J, Sundgren PC, Nilsson M. The link between diffusion MRI and tumor heterogeneity: Mapping cell eccentricity and density by diffusional variance decomposition (DIVIDE). Neuroimage. 2016 Nov 15;142:522-532. doi: 10.1016/j.neuroimage.2016.07.038. Epub 2016 Jul 20. PMID: 27450666; PMCID: PMC5159287.



Type of contract

PhD scholarship of € 22.400 gross per year awarded by Humanitas University. This sum is exempt from IRPEF income tax according to the provisions of art. 4 of Law no. 476 of 13th August 1984, and is subject to social security contributions according to the provisions of art. 2, section 26 and subsequent sections, of Law no. 335 of 8th August 1995 and subsequent modifications.

Borsa di dottorato pari a € 22.400 annui lordi erogata da Humanitas University. Importo non soggetto a tassazione IRPEF a norma dell'art. 4 della L. 13 agosto 1984 n. 476 e soggetto, in materia previdenziale, alle norme di cui all'art. 2, commi 26 e segg., della L. 8 agosto 1995, n. 335 e successive modificazioni.