# Use of thermosensitive liposomes in combination with ultrasound

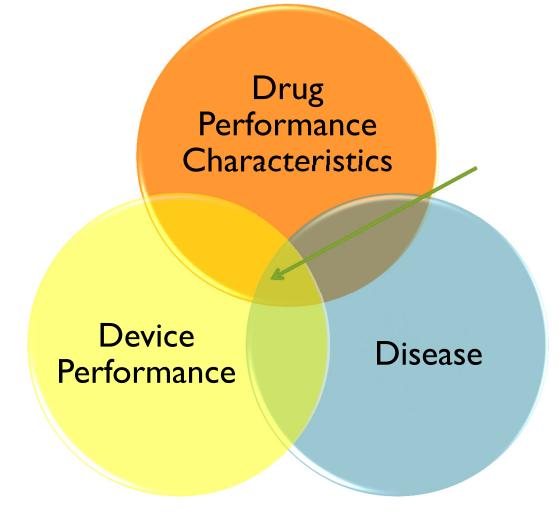
Mark W. Dewhirst, DVM, PhD, FAAAS, FASTRO Radiation Oncology Department Duke University Health System

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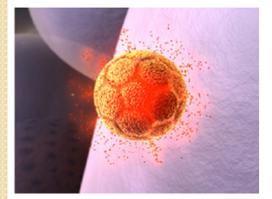
#### **Conflict of Interest Statement**

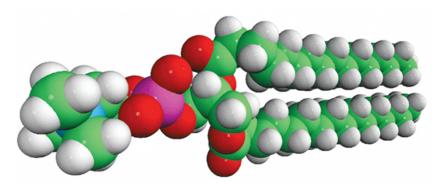
- I am a former consultant for Celsion
- I own stock in the Celsion Corporation
- I will discuss off-label use of liposomal drugs

# Drug – Device combinations require careful design



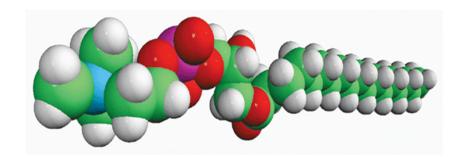
#### Low Temperature Sensitive Liposome (LTSL)





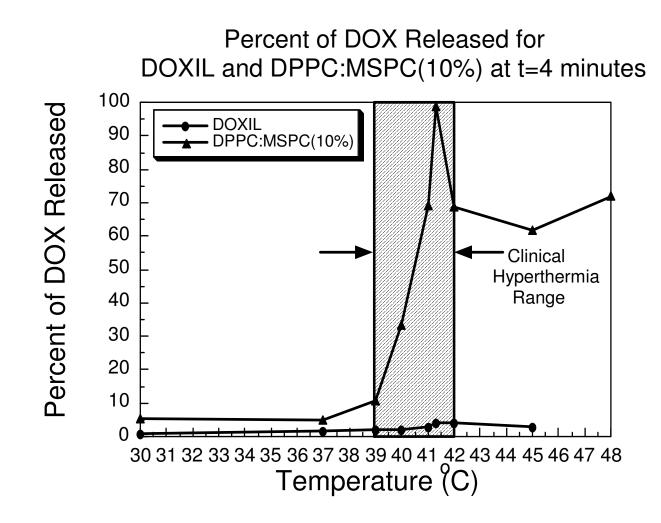
Typical phospholipid

DPPC:MPPC:DPPC-PEG 90:10:4

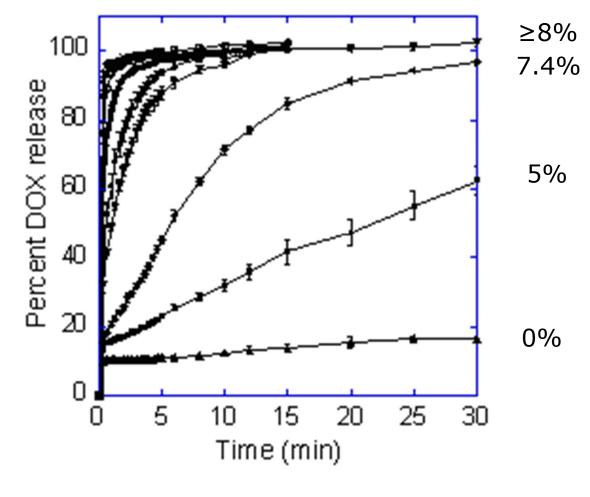


Lyso-phospholipid

### DOX release temperature is clinically feasible



# Drug release is very rapid upon reaching transition temperature



Increasing MSPC content



## LTSL Dox delivery occurs via intravascular release



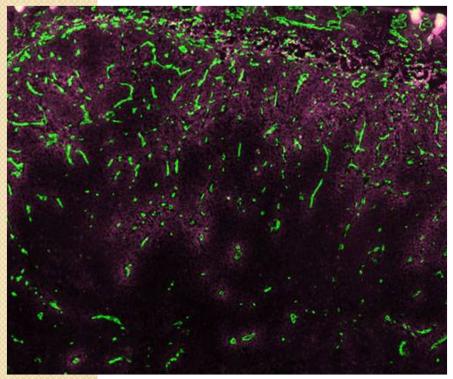
The video you are about to see shows real time delivery of free drug to heated tumor tissue.

20 mins confocal imaging

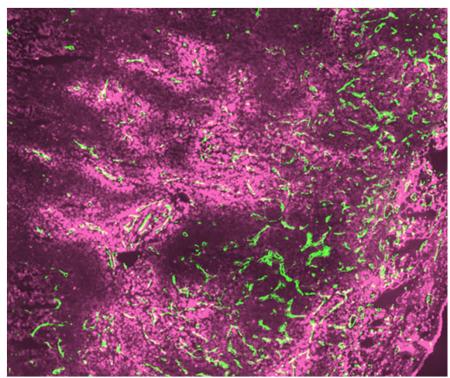
Manzoor et al, Cancer Res, 2012

## Intravascular release enhances drug penetration distance into tumor

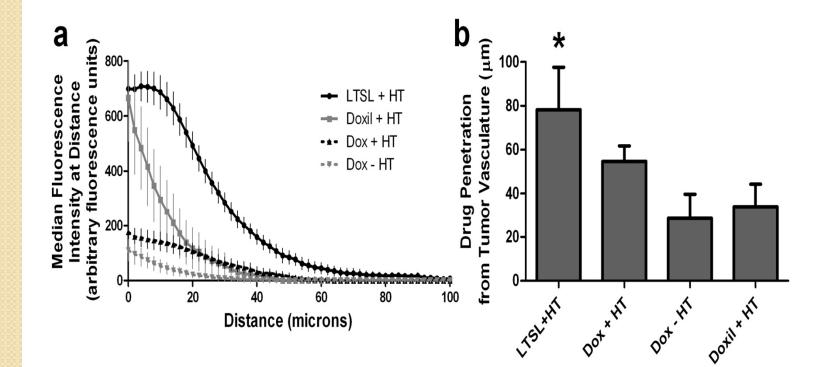
Free Dox + 42°C Heat



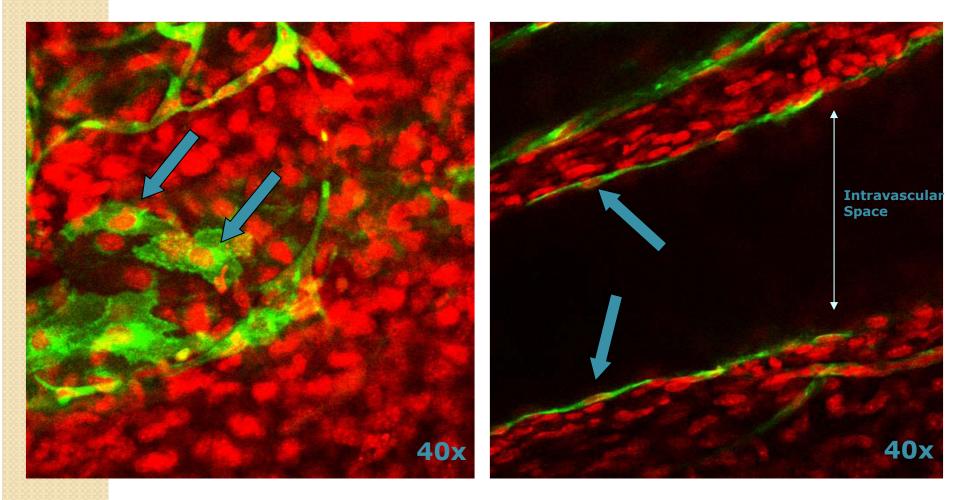
#### **Dox-LTSL + 42°C Heat**



#### Dox-LTSL yields higher drug concentration and greater depth of penetration

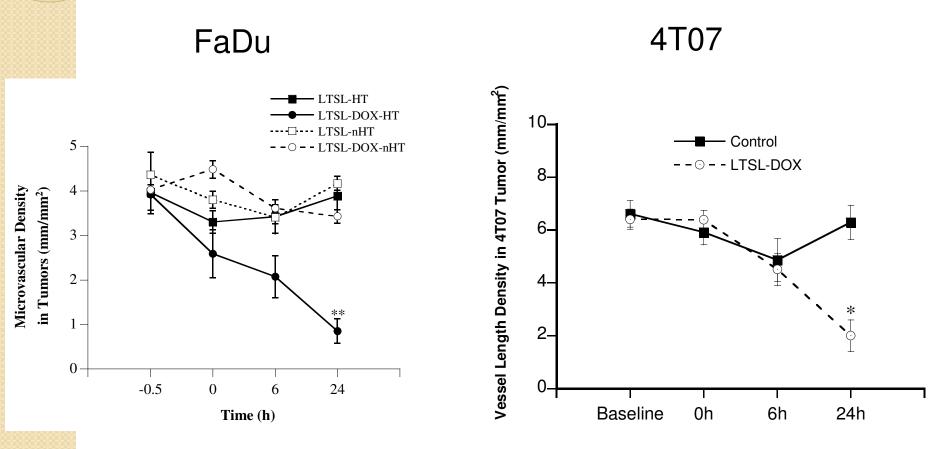


#### Dox from thermosensitive liposomes is taken up in high concentration by endothelial cells



Courtesy Lars Lindner, from Manzoor et al, Cancer Res, 2012

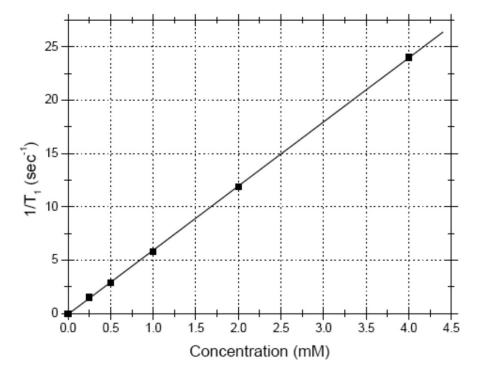
Vascular targeting responsible for some of the anti-tumor effect of Dox-LTSL



Chen et al., Mol Cancer Ther, 2004

#### Manganese Loading Enables Liposome Visualization by MRI

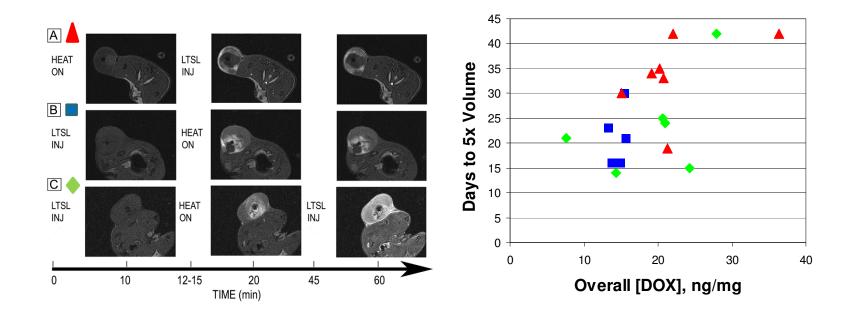
- MnSO<sub>4</sub> gradient to actively load doxorubicin into LTSL
- Mn is paramagnetic MRI contrast agent



Viglianti et al, MRM, 2006

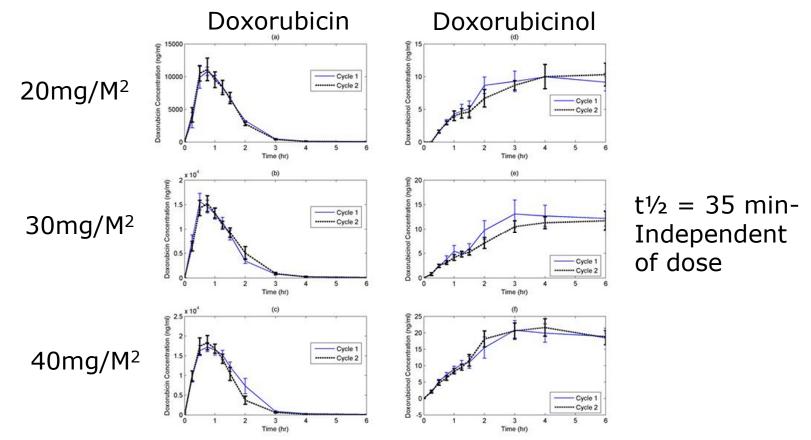


### Amount and pattern of drug deposition predicts outcome



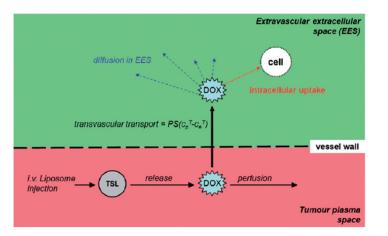


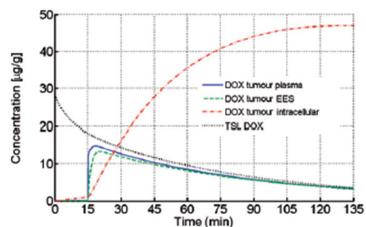
#### Pharmacokinetics



Zagar et al., Two phase I dose escalation/pharmacokinetics studies of low temperature liposomal doxorubicin (LTLD) and mild local hyperthermia in heavily pretreated patients with local-regionally recurrent breast cancer, In review

Alternate LTSL formulations may provide more flexibility in sequencing drug and treatment; modeling may provide important insights



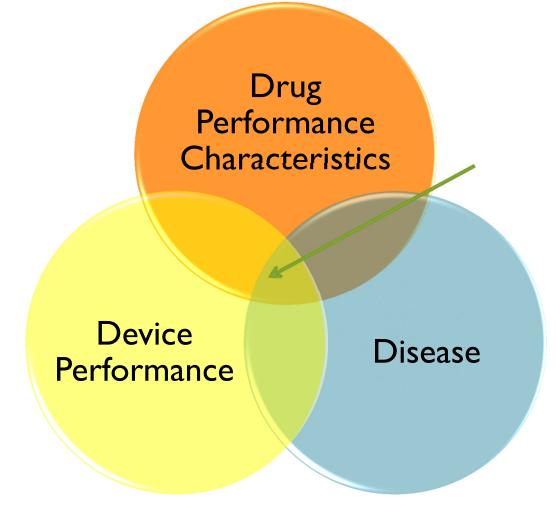


Gasselhuber et al, Int J. Hyperthermia, 2012

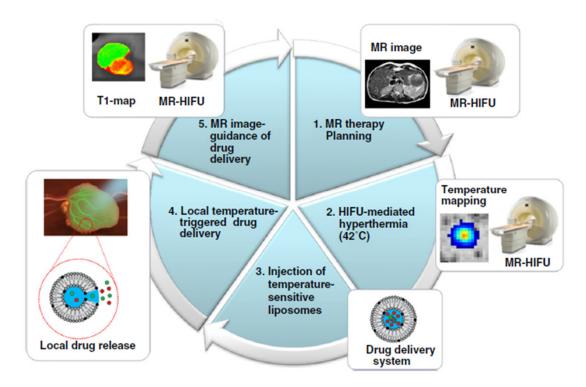
#### Summary

- LTSL exhibits maximal drug release between 41-43°C, some enhanced release at 40°C
- Rapid release kinetics enables intravascular drug release
  - Intravascular drug delivery targets vascular endothelium – adding to cytotoxic effects
  - Drives drug farther into extravascular space
- Short plasma half-life of Dox-LTSL
  - Give drug during heating to maximize drug delivery

# Drug – Device combinations require careful design

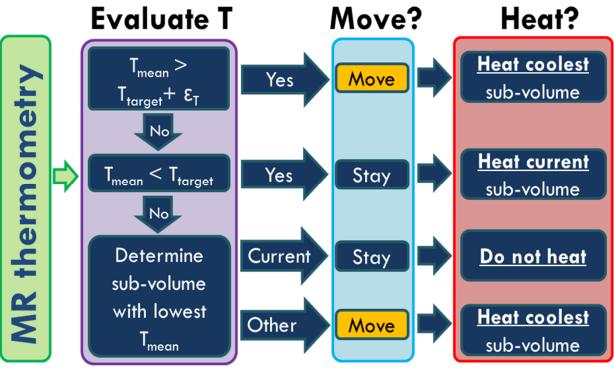


#### Implementation of LTSL drug release with ultrasound



Grüll and Langereiss, J. Contr. Release 2012

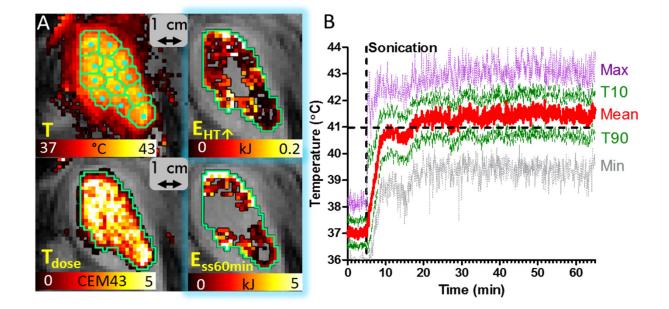
Using focused ultrasound requires algorithm for large volume heating



Algorithm for large volume heating

Yarmolenko et al, manuscript in preparation

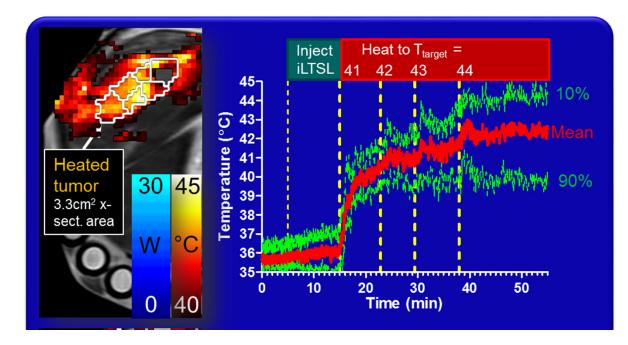
## Using focused ultrasound requires algorithm for large volume heating



Example heating for 5cm diameter VX2 carcinoma – rabbit thigh

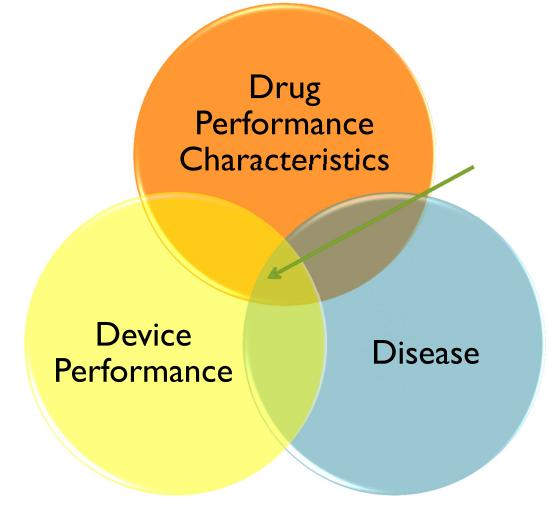


#### Arrival of LTSL encapsulated contrast agent causes PRFS thermometry error



Tumor at thermal steady state, but arrival of MR contrast containing Liposome appears to show temperature elevation

# Drug – Device combinations require careful design



# Selection of diseases to use with US + LTSL -

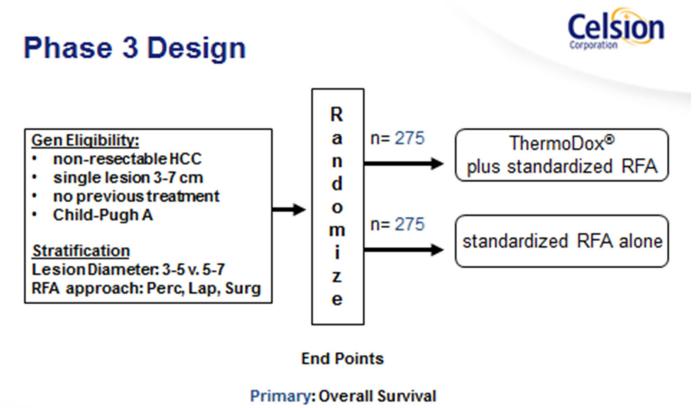
Sites where conventional treatment is not satisfactory and where failure to control local disease causes morbidity or mortality

- Brain
- Liver
- Bone metastases
- Prostate
- Soft tissue sarcoma
- Locally advanced breast
  - Recurrent chest wall disease
- Pancreas
- Muscle invasive bladder cancer

Human Clinical Trials with Doxorubicin thermally sensitive liposome (TSL-Dox)

- Phase I
  - TSL-Dox + thermal ablation for colorectal liver metastases
    - NIH, Hong Kong
- Phase III
  - TSL-Dox + thermal ablation for primary HCC
- TSL-Dox + local hyperthermia for chest wall recurrences of breast cancer
  - Duke
  - Celsion

#### New phase III trial design for HCC





### Future Directions for Liposome Studies

- The future, according to some scientists, will be exactly like the past, only far more expensive.
  John Slaydek
- The future will be better tomorrow
  - Dan Quayle
- The best way to predict the future is to invent it
  - Alan Kay

### Acknowledgements

- D Needham
- **G Anyarambhatla**
- G Kong
- J Mills
- F Yuan
- Q Chen
- D Papahadjopoulos
- M Gaber
- N Wu
- **AWright**
- A. Ponce
- B.Viglianti
- M. Hauck
- W. Petros
- P.Yarmolenko
- A. Manzoor
- L. Lindner

- D.Thrall
- S. LaRue
- E. Gillette
- E. Jones
- L. Prosnitz
- T. Samulski
- J. Oleson
- K. Leopold
- O. Craciunescu
- S. Das
- P. Stauffer
- B. Soher
- J. MacFall
- H.C. Charles
- M. Kleiter
- T.Ten Hagen
- G. Koning
- B.Wood
- M. Dreher

Future Directions: Liposome Development

- Cisplatin liposome
  - Has been formulated and is in pre-clinical studies
- Clinical applications
  - Bladder Cancer
  - Locally advanced rectal cancer, with RT
  - Pancreatic, with RT
  - Head and Neck with RT
- Doxorubicin Gadoteridol formulation
  - For imaging with HIFU
- Additional drugs being considered