

NORDIC CONFERENCE ON NEUTRONS IN RESEARCH AND CANCER THERAPY

Linköping, April 29–30, 1993

In the 'western world', 40–50% of all cancer patients are treated with radiotherapy (photons and electrons), with or without surgery and chemotherapy. In spite of recent developments, such as increased precision, new fractionation schedules, and radiosensitizers, it is well known that some tumour types remain relatively resistant to irradiation. Because of these circumstances there has been a continuing discussion over the last few years, concerning the use of other treatment modalities, such as protons, to improve the dose distribution and neutrons to introduce a modality with a different radiobiological effect.

In Linköping we have been investigating the feasibility of building a research and treatment centre for high LET irradiation, i.e. neutrons combined with PET, for treatment planning, evaluation and research. We therefore organized a Nordic conference with invited international experts on the use of neutrons, in order to discuss present results and controversies in neutron therapy and radiobiology. The following articles will give an impression of the data presented.

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