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**Short Communication** 

# Photodynamic therapy in a pleural cavity using monte carlo simulations with 2D/3D Graphical Visualization

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Cancer therapy using Photodynamic Therapy (PDT) has been investigated for some time [1,2] and now it is a growing area of interest in clinical trials [3]. Monte Carlo (MC) simulations were used for early laboratory studies [4,5] for analysis in PDT. Various improvements in the MC method have advanced the field in recent years. For example, Yassine, et. al. [6] have optimized PDT with custom cylindrical diffusers; Cassidy, et.al. [7] have developed a robust MC method; whereas, Fang and Yan [8] and Young-Schultz et. al. [9] ported MC to Compute Unified Device Architecture (CUDA) that run on Graphics Processing Units (GPU). To date, there is a lack of very fast (a few minutes or less) computational methods for treatment planning in the clinic. Simphotek (Stk) [10-12] and other references in [13], including references therein, have developed various MCbased methods that can simulate the light fluence in PDT in near real-time.

The Perlman School of Medicine (**PSM**) has investigated PDT in the pleural lung cavity of several patients in a Photofrinmediated study [14] and developed an IR navigation system for clinical use [15,16]. The analysis of the PDT dose data for 19 patients has been published recently [3]. However, due to the large surface area of the pleural lung cavity, a series of multiple stationary light sources is needed. **PSM** is currently developing an 8-detector system for treatment in the pleural cavity. While multiple fixed detectors can be used for dosimetry at a few locations, an accurate simulation of light fluence and fluence ISSN: 2581-540

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rate is still needed over the entire cavity. This makes it difficult for treating physicians to visualize the multiple light fluence/ fluence rate simulations. As a the result, **Stk** extended its GPUbased MC simulation tool, as a part of Dosie<sup>™</sup> simulation software, for modeling the light transport in intracavity PDT (**icav-PDT**) to include a dose-cavity visualization that allows a user to inspect the dose maps in real-time over the treated cavity in 3D.

As being a part of an emerging PDT Explicit Dosimetry System (**PEDSy**), the performance of this new Stk's CUDA-based implementation, called PEDSy-MC, has been demonstrated on a life-size lung-shaped custom-printed phantom for testing the icav-PDT navigation system at the **PSM** [15,16]. Fluence calculations completed in under a minute (for some cases) or within minutes have been achieved [17]. In addition, results within a 5% error of the analytic solution for multiple detectors in the phantom were accomplished. Research supported by [18].

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