# Safety, Pharmacokinetics and Dosimetry of a Long-Acting Radiolabeled Somatostatin Analogue <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE in Patients with Advanced Metastatic Neuroendocrine Tumors

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Running Title: PRRT with <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE

Word count: 4956

# ABSTRACT

Radiolabeled somatostatin analogue therapy has become an established treatment method for patients with well to moderately differentiated unresectable or metastatic neuroendocrine tumors (NETs). The most frequently used somatostatin analogues in clinical practice are octreotide and octreotate. However, both peptides showed suboptimal retention within tumors. The aim of this first-in-human study is to explore the safety and dosimetry of a long-acting radiolabeled somatostatin analogue, lutetium-177-1, 4, 7, 10-tetra-azacyclododecane-1, 4, 7, 10-tetraacetic acid-Evans blue-octreotate (<sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE). Methods: Eight patients (6 males and 2 females; age range, 27-61 y) with advanced metastatic neuroendocrine tumors were recruited. Five patients received a single dose 0.35-0.70 GBq (9.5-18.9 mCi) of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE and underwent serial whole body planar and single-photon emission computed tomography-computed tomography (SPECT-CT) scans at 2, 24, 72, 120 and 168 h after injection. The other 3 patients received intravenous injection of 0.28-0.41 GBq (7.5-11.1 mCi) of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE for the same imaging acquisition procedures at 1, 3, 4, 24 and 72 h after injection. The dosimetry was calculated using the OLINDA/EXM 1.1 software. Results: Administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE was well tolerated, with no adverse symptoms being noticed or reported in any of the patients. Compared with <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE, <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE showed extended circulation in the blood and achieved 7.9-fold increase of tumor dose delivery. The total body effective doses were 0.205  $\pm$  0.161 mSv/MBq for <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE and 0.174  $\pm$  0.072 mSv/MBq for <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE. Significant dose delivery increases to the kidneys and bone marrow were also observed in patients receiving <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE than those receiving <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE (3.2 and 18.2-fold, respectively). Conclusion: By introducing an albumin binding moiety, <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE showed remarkably higher uptake and retention in NET

tumors as well as significantly increased accumulation in the kidneys and red marrow. It has great potential to be used in PRRT for NET tumors with lower dose and less frequency of administration.

Keywords: peptide receptor radionuclide therapy (PRRT), somatostatin receptor (SSTR),

neuroendocrine tumor (NET), Evans blue, TATE

# **INTRODUCTION**

Due to the body-wide distribution of neuroendocrine cells, neuroendocrine tumors (NETs) are a heterogeneous group of neoplasms that can develop anywhere in the body (1). While NETs are generally categorized as low-grade indolent tumors and other epithelial malignancies, they can be aggressive and resistant to therapy (2). Most NETs overexpress somatostatin receptors (SSTR), so somatostatin analogs are recommended for unresectable and metastatic disease (3). However, the clinical efficacy is relatively limited (4,5).

For decades, diagnostic radioisotope labeled somatostatin analogues have been intensively investigated for NET imaging (*6*). With therapeutic radioisotopes such as <sup>90</sup>Y and/or <sup>177</sup>Lu, peptide receptor radionuclide therapy (PRRT) has become an established treatment for patients with well to moderately differentiated unresectable or metastatic NETs and disease progression after first-line treatment (*7*). Several phases I and II clinical trials showed favorable results in NETs in general and even better results in patients with gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumors and bronchial NETs, where as much as 30% objective response was observed (*8*). In a recently finished phase III clinical trial, a treatment with <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE resulted in markedly longer progression-free survival and a significantly higher response rate than high-dose octreotide LAR among patients with advanced midgut neuroendocrine tumors (*9*). The promising results from this trial led to the approval of Lutathera (<sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE) by both the European Commission and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumors.

For PRRT, kidneys are usually the critical organs in terms of radiation toxicity due to nonspecific and/or specific accumulation of radiolabeled peptide, and maximum tolerated dose to kidney is in the range of 23 to 29 Gy (*10-12*). Renal irradiation is mainly caused by reabsorption of radiolabeled peptides in the proximal tubule. Somatostatin receptor also plays a role in the total renal uptake of radiolabeled somatostatin analogues (13), since vasa recta, tubular cells of the cortex, and distal tubule cells express SSTR (14,15). The fast clearance of the peptide also affects the accumulation of radioactivity within tumor, which means radiolabeled DOTA-TATE needs to be given by adding intravenous infusion dose and treatment cycles.

As the most abundant plasma protein, serum albumin has emerged as a versatile carrier for therapeutic agents (16,17). For example, a DOTA-folate conjugate with a low molecular weight albumin-binding entity 4-(*p*-iodophenyl)butyric acid has been designed to prolong its circulation in the blood, leading to improved tumor-to-kidney ratios (18). The same albumin binding entity conjugated prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA) inhibitor also showed increased circulation half-life and prostate tumor uptake, compared with the unmodified PSMA inhibitors (19,20). Recently, an Evans blue based albumin binding moiety was developed as a blood pool imaging and lymphatic mapping agent (21-25) and also for modification of peptides, oligonucleotides and chemotherapeutic drugs (26-28). We also developed a long-acting somatostatin analogue (EB-TATE), with the aim to improve the pharmacokinetics and increase therapeutic efficacy (29). In a SSTR2 positive AR42J xenograft model, <sup>90</sup>Y-DOTA-EB-TATE effectively accumulated in the tumor, resulting in complete regression of the tumors and full survival of the tumor-bearing mice with a single low dose of 3.7 MBq <sup>90</sup>Y-DOTA-EB-TATE (29).

Inspired by the promising preclinical results, we conducted a first-in-human, first-in-class study to explore the safety, tolerability and dosimetry, and preliminary effects of administration of the study drug <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE in 5 patients with advanced metastatic neuroendocrine tumors. For comparison, <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE was evaluated in another 3 patients.

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### **Patient Recruitment**

This is a non-controlled, non-randomized, non-blinded first-in-human study which was approved by the Institute Review Board of Peking Union Medical College Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College. This study was registered at clinicaltrials.gov (NCT03308682). All procedures were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional and national research committees and with the 1964 Helsinki declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards. A total of eight patients with metastatic SSTR-expressing neuroendocrine tumors were enrolled at Peking Union Medical College Hospital, Beijing. Please refer to the Supplemental Materials for detailed inclusion and exclusion criteria.

### **Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Procedures**

All patients underwent <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTA-TATE PET/CT scans using a Siemens Biograph 64 True Point system. The emission sequence was initiated at approximately 45 min after intravenous injection of 111-148 MBq (3-4 mCi) of <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTA-TATE. A Siemens MMWP workstation was used for post-processing.

### Radiopharmaceuticals

DOTA-EB-TATE was synthesized according to the procedure reported previously (29). GMP-certified, no-carrier added <sup>177</sup>Lu, in the form of <sup>177</sup>LuCl<sub>3</sub> was purchased from LuMark® (IDB, Holland). The radiosynthesis was automated on a Trasis All-In-One synthesizer (Trasis®, Belgium). The product (radiochemical purity >98%) was dissolved in 0.9% saline and passed through a 0.22  $\mu$ m filter to ensure sterility. The quality control was performed with thin layer chromatography (BIOSCAN, USA) with CH<sub>3</sub>OH:NH<sub>4</sub>OAc (v/v 1:1) as the developing solution.

### SPECT/CT

No fasting, special diet, hydration or other specific preparation was requested on the day of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE or <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE injection. Before the injection and 24 h later, safety data were collected, including physical examination and vital signs, electrocardiography parameters, blood count, biochemistry, and immunology. Any unusual or adverse clinical symptoms were recorded on the day of imaging and during the 3-month follow-up. Safety data were also measured at 5 d and 1w, 2w, 4w, 8w after the tracer administration. Renal protection was performed using amino acid infusion to hydrate the patients. Before the amino acid infusion, tropisetron hydrochloride was applied to prevent nausea and vomiting. 2.5% amino acid infusion (25 g of arginine diluted in 1 L of normal saline) was started 1 h before administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE and maintained over 4 h.

Five patients underwent single dose administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE 0.35-0.70 GBq (9.5-18.9 mCi), followed by serial whole body planar and single-photon emission computed tomography/computed tomography (SPECT/CT) scans at 2, 24, 72, 120 and 168 h postinjection. Another 3 patients accepted intravenous injection of 0.28-0.41 GBq (7.5-11.1 mCi) of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE for the same imaging acquisition procedures at 1, 3, 4, 24 and 72 h after injection. All scans were performed using a Philips Precedence scanner (Philips Healthcare, Andover, Massachusetts, USA) with a medium-energy general-purpose collimator and a 20% energy window width centered symmetrically over the 208-keV photopeak of <sup>177</sup>Lu.

The whole-body images were acquired with the camera configured for dual-headed planar imaging with a  $256 \times 1024$  matrix at a scan speed of 10 cm/min. SPECT/CT scanning were performed after each whole-body scintigraphy, with each tomographic scan of 32 frames with a

40 second exposure time per frame (21 min SPECT acquisition time) including all major organs following a low-dose CT scan.

SPECT reconstruction was performed using the system's software on the clinical workstation. An iterative ordered-subset maximum-likelihood expectation maximization algorithm with 3 iterations and 8 subsets were used. Visual analysis was used to determine the general biodistribution and the temporal and inter-subject stability. Regions of interest were drawn including the organs and NET lesions on the serial images.

### **Dosimetry Calculation**

The dosimetry calculation was performed according to the European Association of Nuclear Medicine Dosimetry Guidance (30) and the procedure reported previously (23). A radioactive source with a well-determined <sup>177</sup>Lu activity at a fixed position near the top of head on whole body planar images was used to calculate dose concentration factor and voxel-based activity concentration was converted to standardized uptake value (SUV) in the volumes of interest. The decay uncorrected time-activity curve was generated based on the SUV of each organ. The SUV values were then converted to MBq/MBq based on organ weight from the adult male phantom and the adult female phantom provided by the OLINDA/EXM (version 1.1, Vanderbilt University, USA) (31,32). The time-integrated activity coefficient of each organ was determined by fitting the data using a bi-phase exponential model provided by the software. The residence times of the urine bladder and NET tumors were calculated by the trapezoidal method using Graphpad Prism (Version 4.0, GraphPad Software, Inc.). The void time was set as 60 min. The volume of left ventricle was set as 550 mL to calculate the residence of heart content. The ratio of activity mass concentrations for red marrow to blood was set as 0.32 to calculate dose delivery to bone marrow (33). The effective doses were calculated by entering the time-integrated activity coefficient for

all source organs into OLINDA/EXM for either 73.7 kg adult male or 56.9 kg adult female. All the data were expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation.

# RESULTS

#### **Safety Profile**

All patient information was included in Supplemental Table 1. With a mean injected dose of  $0.632 \pm 0.079$  GBq (17.08 ± 2.14 mCi) of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE or 0.28-0.41 GBq (7.5-11.1 mCi) of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE, no subjective side effects were experienced, and no adverse symptoms were noticed or reported. No clinically significant changes on physical examination, electrocardiography parameters, blood count, biochemistry and immunology during the entire 7 days procedure and 3-month follow-up in any of the patients.

### **Pharmacokinetics Profile**

At 2 h after injection, <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE showed relatively high level in the blood, as indicated by the strong signal in the heart region and major vessels (Fig. 1A). Among normal organs, liver, spleen and kidneys showed moderate uptake of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE. <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE also showed moderate uptake in the liver, spleen and kidneys but no apparent uptake in the blood circulation was detected (Fig. 1B). Both agents showed negative brain uptake. Based on the quantitative data summarized in Table 1, <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE showed much higher retention in the blood (SUV of  $1.75 \pm 0.58$ ) than <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE (SUV of  $0.09 \pm 0.03$ ) at 24 h p.i. (P < 0.01). The uptakes of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE in the lung, liver, kidneys and muscle were also higher than those of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE. The uptakes in the spleen were similar for the two agents. To confirm the accuracy of SPECT quantification, blood samples were collected from the patients at different time points after TATE injection and radioactivity within the blood samples was quantified using a gamma counter. A positive and significant correlation between SPECT quantification and blood sampling was observed ( $R^2 = 0.90$ , P < 0.0001, Fig. 2).

### **Normal Organ Dosimetry**

Based on the quantification of SPECT images, dosimetry was calculated using OLINDA/EXM software (Table 2). As to the whole body effective dose, there was no significant difference between <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE (0.080  $\pm$  0.05 *vs.* 0.069  $\pm$  0.032 mSv/MBq, P > 0.05). Spleen was the organ which received the highest absorbed dose for both agents with 1.45  $\pm$  1.59 mSv/MBq for <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE and 1.77  $\pm$  0.95 mSv/MBq for <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE and 1.77  $\pm$  0.95 mSv/MBq for <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE, respectively. <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE had significantly higher effective dose in the kidneys than <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE (1.15  $\pm$  0.92 *vs.* 0.36  $\pm$  0.07 mSv/MBq, P < 0.01). <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE also showed higher exposure to red bone marrow than <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE showed higher exposure to pancreas and urinary bladder wall than <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE.

### Dose Delivery of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE to NET Lesions

As shown in Fig. 3 and 4, NET lesions were clearly identified with <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTA-TATE with high local accumulation of radioactive signals at 45 min post-injection. Most of the lesions seen by <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTA-TATE PET were also visualized on <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE planar images and SPECT. It is worth noting that even at day 7, the NET lesions still showed high retention of radioactivity on <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE SPECT while the tumor uptake of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE decreased remarkably at 24 h after injection.

In 5 patients with NET, a total 25 lesions were identified on <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE SPECT, including 1 primary lesion in pancreas, 18 liver metastases, 5 lymph node metastases and 1 pancreas metastasis. The average SUVs of these lesions were  $9.91 \pm 6.15$ ,  $14.91 \pm 8.66$ ,  $22.28 \pm 13.40$ ,  $22.46 \pm 12.95$  and  $21.94 \pm 11.63$  at 2, 24, 72 120 and 168 h p.i., respectively. In 3 patients with NET, a total of 37 lesions were identified on <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE SPECT, including 1 lung metastasis, 21 liver metastases, 9 lymph node metastases, 4 bone metastases and 2 pelvic metastases. The average SUVs of these lesions were  $7.58 \pm 5.07$ ,  $8.37 \pm 5.63$ ,  $7.67 \pm 5.34$ ,  $5.25 \pm 3.19$ , and  $3.86 \pm 2.10$  at 1, 3, 4, 24 and 72 h after injection, respectively. In patients receiving <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE, the average tumor SUV of <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTA-TATE PET was  $12.37 \pm 4.92$ , which was significantly lower than that in patients receiving <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE ( $17.49 \pm 7.02$ , P < 0.05).

Tumor uptake of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE reached the peak at very early time (3 h after injection) and decreased over time, while that of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE kept increasing from 2 h to 120 h and remained high between 120 h and 168 h (Fig. 5A). Consequently, in patients receiving <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE, the number of disintegration of the <sup>177</sup>Lu in the tumor region by mass average was 0.0469  $\pm$  0.0167 MBq-h/MBq/g, which about 7.9-fold higher than that in patients receiving <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE (0.0059  $\pm$  0.0033 MBq-h/MB/g, P < 0.01) (Fig. 5B). In both <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE scans, the number of disintegration in NET tumors correlated well with the SUV determined by <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTA-TATE PET.

## DISCUSSION

In this first-in-human study a recently developed long-lasting STTR targeting agent (29), <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE, was applied in patients with advanced NETs. No subjective side effects were experienced, and no adverse symptoms were noticed or reported, indicating the safety of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE.

Due to albumin binding, <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE showed relatively long circulation halflife with  $t_{1/2}\alpha$  around 9.47 h and  $t_{1/2}\beta$  around 236 h. Prolonged blood retention of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE led to increased whole-body distribution over <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE. Consequently, radiation exposure to red marrow from  $^{177}$ Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE reached  $0.058 \pm 0.014$  mSv/MBq, which is 18.2-fold that of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE. It is well accepted that PRRT induces hematologic toxicity, usually resulted from bone marrow exposure to radioactivity. Indeed, subacute grade 3-4 hematologic toxicity was observed in 11% of the patients after PRRT with <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE (34). A recent study revealed that the prevalence of persistent hematologic dysfunction after PRRT was 4% in 274 GEP NET patients receiving <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE (35). Based a generally accepted maximum absorbed dose of 2 Gy to the bone marrow (36), up to 33 GBg of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE can be given to a patient. However, in view of the poor correlation between mean absorbed dose to the bone marrow and developed hematological toxicity (8), the real therapy protocol has to be carefully planned. Plus, radiation exposure of the spleen may also affect the development of hematologic toxicity (37). Both <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-TATE showed high spleen accumulation, which may be explained by SSTR2 expression in this organ (13).

For PRRT, the maximum tolerated dose to kidneys is in the range of 23 to 29 Gy (*10-12*). Renal irradiation is mainly caused by reabsorption of radiolabeled peptides in the proximal tubule. Somatostatin receptor also plays a role in the total renal uptake of radiolabeled somatostatin analogues (*13*), since endogenous expression of somatostatin type 2 receptors was found in vasa recta, tubular cells of the cortex, and distal tubule cells (*14,15*). Different from <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE which showed high dose rate within the early time period, <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE showed rather steady and extended kidney accumulation over time. Consequently, the absorbed dose in the kidneys for <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE was higher than that of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE. The retention of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE in the kidneys is likely attributed to prolonged circulation, renal clearance, reabsorption in the proximal tubule, and SSTR2 expression. Since DOTA-EB-TATE has much longer circulating time than DOTATATE, 2.5% L-arginine infusion may not show enough kidney protection. Other strategies may be needed to further reduce kidney retention of radiometal labeled DOTA-EB-TATE.

One limitation of this study is that the number of patients is rather small. A therapy study with more patients is necessary to compare <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE with <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE with regard to therapeutic efficacy and potential toxicity. Moreover, all the recruited patients have been heavily treated, received various therapy regimens before undergoing DOTA-EB-TATE SPECT/CT. The dose calculation of normal organs may be affected by the high uptake in the tumors.

# CONCLUSIONS

By introducing an albumin binding moiety, <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE showed significantly higher NET tumor uptake and retention over <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE. This first-in-human study demonstrates that <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE is safe and well tolerated in NET patients.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

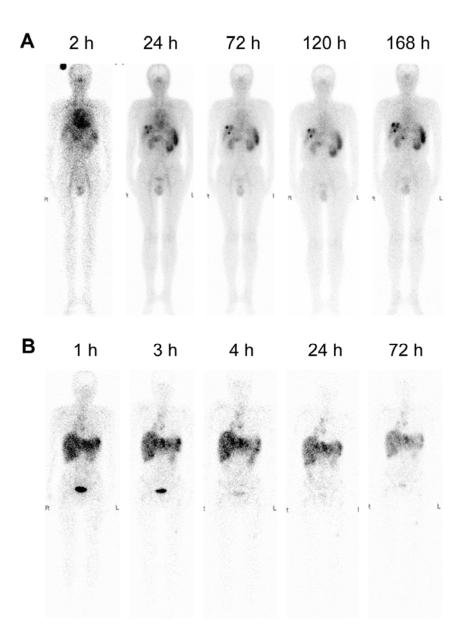
The authors thank Prof. Hongyan Ying (Oncology Department, PUMCH, CAMS & PUMC) for helpful regulatory advices, Dr. Yeqing Liu and Dr. Hongtao He (Philips Healthcare) for help in SPECT quantification, Dr. Hui Li (Department of Nuclear Medicine, PUMCH, CAMS & PUMC) for image acquisition, Dr. Xiaoping Hu (Beijing PET Technology Co., Ltd) and Dr. Dayong Huang (Tiansi Information Technology Co., Ltd.) for radiolabeling, Dr. Jiahua Xu (GE Healthcare) for SPECT data analysis. This work was supported in part, by the Intramural Research Program (IRP) of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), National Institutes of Health (NIH), and National Natural Science Foundation of China projects (81701742).

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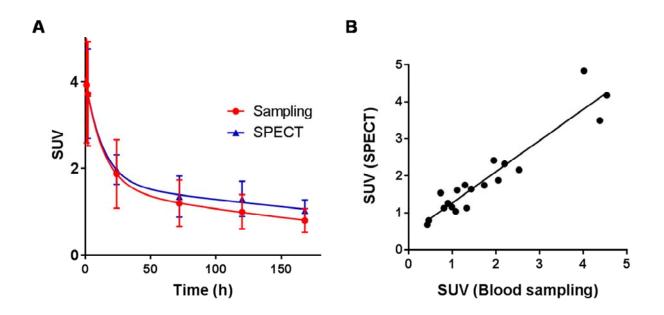
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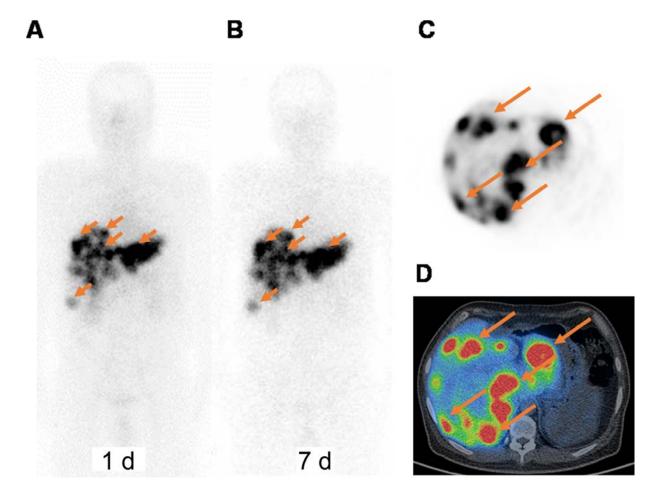
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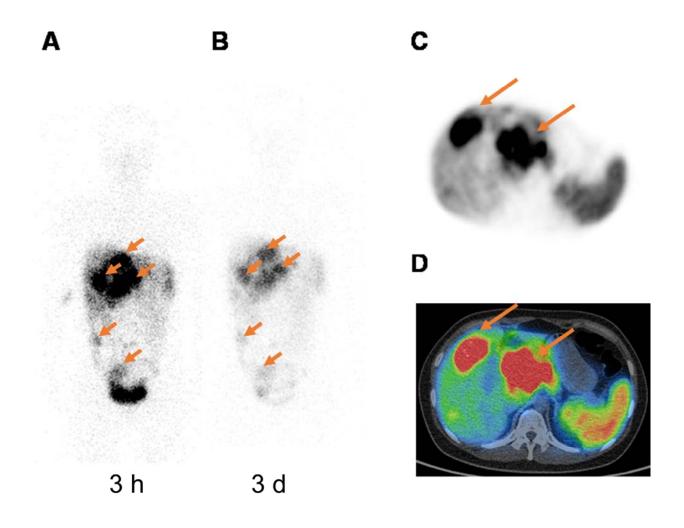
**FIGURE 1.** (A) Representative whole-body anterior projection images of a 61-y-old male patient with neuroendocrine tumor liver metastases at 2, 24, 72, 120 and 168 h after intravenous administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE. <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE cleared from the blood pool over time and persistently accumulated in the tumors. (B) Representative whole-body anterior projection images of a 49-y-old male patient with neuroendocrine tumor liver metastases at 1, 3, 4, 24 and 72 h after intravenous administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE. <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE showed rapid renal clearance. Tumor uptake also gradually decreased along with time.



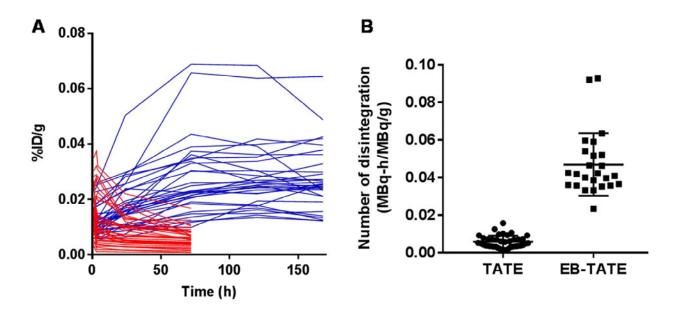
**FIGURE 2.** (A) Blood clearance of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE quantified by SPECT and gamma counting of blood samples. (B) There is a positive linear correlation between SPECT quantification and blood sampling ( $R^2 = 0.90$ , P < 0.0001).



**FIGURE 3.** <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTA-TATE PET/CT and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE whole-body planar imaging and SPECT/CT of a 45-y-old male NET patient with multiple liver metastases. (A) The liver metastases identified by <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTATATE PET were clearly visualized on whole-body anteroposterior projection image at 1 d after administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE. (B) The liver metastases were still clearly visualized on whole-body anteroposterior projection image at 7 days after administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE. (C&D) Multiple liver metastases were shown on axial PET image (C) and PET/CT (D) at 45 min after intravenous injection of <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTATATE.



**FIGURE 4.** <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTA-TATE PET/CT and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE whole-body planar imaging and SPECT/CT in a 27-year-old woman with advanced NET (G2). Multiple liver metastases were shown on whole-body anteroposterior projection images at 3 h (A) and 3 d (B) after administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE. The same liver metastases were shown on axial PET (C) and PET/CT (D) at 45 min after intravenous injection of <sup>68</sup>Ga-DOTATATE.



**FIGURE 5.** (A) Time-activity curves of NET lesions after administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE (blue) and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE (red). (B) Number of disintegration of <sup>177</sup>Lu within NET lesions from <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE.

Organs	<sup>177</sup> Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE				<sup>177</sup> Lu-DOTA-TATE			
	2 h	24 h	72 h	168 h	1 h	3 h	24 h	72 h
Blood	3.39 ± 1.17	1.75 ± 0.58	1.29 ± 0.44	0.94 ± 0.30	0.17 ± 0.04	0.15 ± 0.02	0.09 ± 0.03	0.03 ± 0.00
Lung	$0.41 \pm 0.14$	0.25 ± 0.09	$0.21 \pm 0.06$	$0.14 \pm 0.06$	0.07 ± 0.02	$0.06 \pm 0.01$	$0.05 \pm 0.01$	$0.04 \pm 0.01$
Liver	1.82 ± 0.73	1.39 ± 0.46	1.27 ± 0.45	$1.07 \pm 0.41$	1.39 ± 0.12	1.25 ± 0.18	0.94 ± 0.09	0.85 ± 0.20
Spleen	$3.24 \pm 1.50$	3.34 ± 1.97	3.54 ± 2.67	3.57 ± 2.97	4.21 ± 0.22	3.93 ± 0.32	3.42 ± 0.52	3.70 ± 0.74
Pancreas	$2.23 \pm 0.68$	$1.62 \pm 0.45$	$1.18 \pm 0.32$	$0.98 \pm 0.21$	0.85 ± 0.23	$0.76 \pm 0.18$	0.57 ± 0.25	$0.60 \pm 0.22$
Kidneys	2.67 ± 0.89	3.03 ± 1.22	3.20 ± 1.86	2.47 ± 1.49	$1.78 \pm 0.38$	$1.54 \pm 0.22$	$1.14 \pm 0.19$	1.13 ± 0.15
Muscle	$0.11 \pm 0.03$	0.17 ± 0.03	$0.14 \pm 0.04$	$0.10 \pm 0.03$	0.09 ± 0.02	0.08 ± 0.03	0.07 ± 0.02	0.07 ± 0.02

**TABLE 1.** Biodistribution of <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE (SUV, mean  $\pm$  SD, n = 5) and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE (SUV, mean  $\pm$  SD, n = 3) in patients with advanced NETs.

**TABLE 2.** Estimated effective dose after intravenous administration of <sup>177</sup>Lu-NOTA-EB-TATE (mSv/MBq, n = 5, 4 males and 1 female) and <sup>177</sup>Lu-DOTATATE (mSv/MBq, n = 3, 2 males and 1 female)

Target organ	<sup>177</sup> Lu-DOTA-EB-TATE	<sup>177</sup> Lu-DOTATATE (mean ± SD)		
Turget organ	$(mean \pm SD)$			
Adrenals	0.0099 ± 0.0062	0.0063 ± 0.0023		
Brain	$0.0004 \pm 0.0001$	$0.0002 \pm 0.0001$		
Breasts	$0.0016 \pm 0.0006$	$0.0010 \pm 0.0004$		
Gallbladder Wall	0.0106 ± 0.0046	0.0068 ± 0.0024		
LLI Wall	0.0032 ± 0.0013	0.0020 ± 0.0007		
Small Intestine	0.1596 ± 0.0698	0.0712 ± 0.0171		
Stomach Wall	0.0896 ± 0.0317	0.0501 ± 0.0121		
ULI Wall	0.0062 ± 0.0029	0.0035 ± 0.0010		
Heart Wall	0.1918 ± 0.0512	0.0475 ± 0.0308		
Kidneys	1.1494 ± 0.9183	0.3603 ± 0.0677		
Liver	0.3468 ± 0.1531	0.2247 ± 0.0954		
Lungs	0.0479 ± 0.0178	0.0095 ± 0.0033		
Muscle	0.0375 ± 0.0159	0.0260 ± 0.0137		
Ovaries	0.0040 ± 0.0016	0.0023 ± 0.0008		
Pancreas	0.2872 ± 0.1044	0.4143 ± 0.1153		
Red Marrow	0.0582 ± 0.0137	0.0032 ± 0.0004		
Osteogenic Cells	0.0329 ± 0.0118	0.0033 ± 0.0009		
Skin	0.0013 ± 0.0005	0.0009 ± 0.0003		
Spleen	1.4470 ± 1.5894	1.7693 ± 0.9450		
Testes	0.0011 ± 0.0003	0.0010 ± 0.0005		
Thymus	0.0026 ± 0.0008	0.0015 ± 0.0006		
Thyroid	0.0015 ± 0.0004	0.0010 ± 0.0005		
Urinary Bladder Wall	0.0204 ± 0.0141	0.0635 ± 0.0388		
Total Body	0.0370 ± 0.0176	0.0243 ± 0.0089		
Effective Dose Equivalent	0.2048 ± 0.1605	0.1735 ± 0.0722		
Effective Dose	0.0804 ± 0.0500	0.0693 ± 0.0317		