Hadrontherapy: the ENLIGHT network

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The use of ionizing radiation as a treatment for cancer is nowadays well established, but the traditional radiotherapy, which employs very energetic photons (X-rays), has several side effects. Some dose is deposited in healthy tissues so that the toxicity of the treatment is quite high.

Hadrontherapy is a new generation of radiotherapy, based on the use of charged particles (protons and ions), which can penetrate the tissue with little diffusion and deposit the maximum energy in a defined small area, so that important organs and healthy tissues can be spared more easily .

ENLIGHT, the European Network for Light Ion Hadron Therapy:

- ⌞ was established in 2002;
- ⌞ involves more than 300 participants from 20 European countries;
- ⌞ connect European universities, institutions and industries involved in research on hadron-therapy

The ENLIGHT network:

- ⌞ gathers experts who work in the same field but come from different backgrounds:
 - ➔ physicists, physicians, biologists, engineers;
- ⌞ promotes the sharing of knowledge and expertise;
- ⌞ provides training for young researchers;
- ⌞ identifies challenges;
- ⌞ implements actions to meet future requirements in hadron-therapy;
- ⌞ develops strategies to secure the funding for future projects.

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