A photograph of a modern hospital building with multiple wings and arched windows. The building is set against a clear blue sky. In the foreground, several cherry blossom trees are in full bloom, their branches reaching across the frame. The overall scene is bright and spring-like.

# MR Assessment of Myocardial Viability

# Definition of Viability

- Clinical
  - Metabolism: Presence of glucose uptake
  - Perfusion / Perfusion reserve
  - Morphology: Wall thickness, wall thickening
  - Contractility:  
Recovery after treatment / Contractile reserve
- Histologic
  - Presence of living myocytes

# Merits of MRI as “one-stop exam”

- Morphology
- Function
- Perfusion
- Viability
- Coronary Artery
- Metabolism
- Flow Measurement

# Merits of MRI as “one-stop exam”

- Morphology: T2 WI, T1 WI
- Function: Cine MR, Myocardial Tagging
- Perfusion: MR Perfusion (rest/stress)
- Viability: Delayed Enhancement, Low dose DSMR etc.
- Coronary Artery: Coronary MR angiography
- Metabolism:  $^{31}\text{P}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  MR Spectroscopy etc
- Flow Measurement: Coronary flow reserve

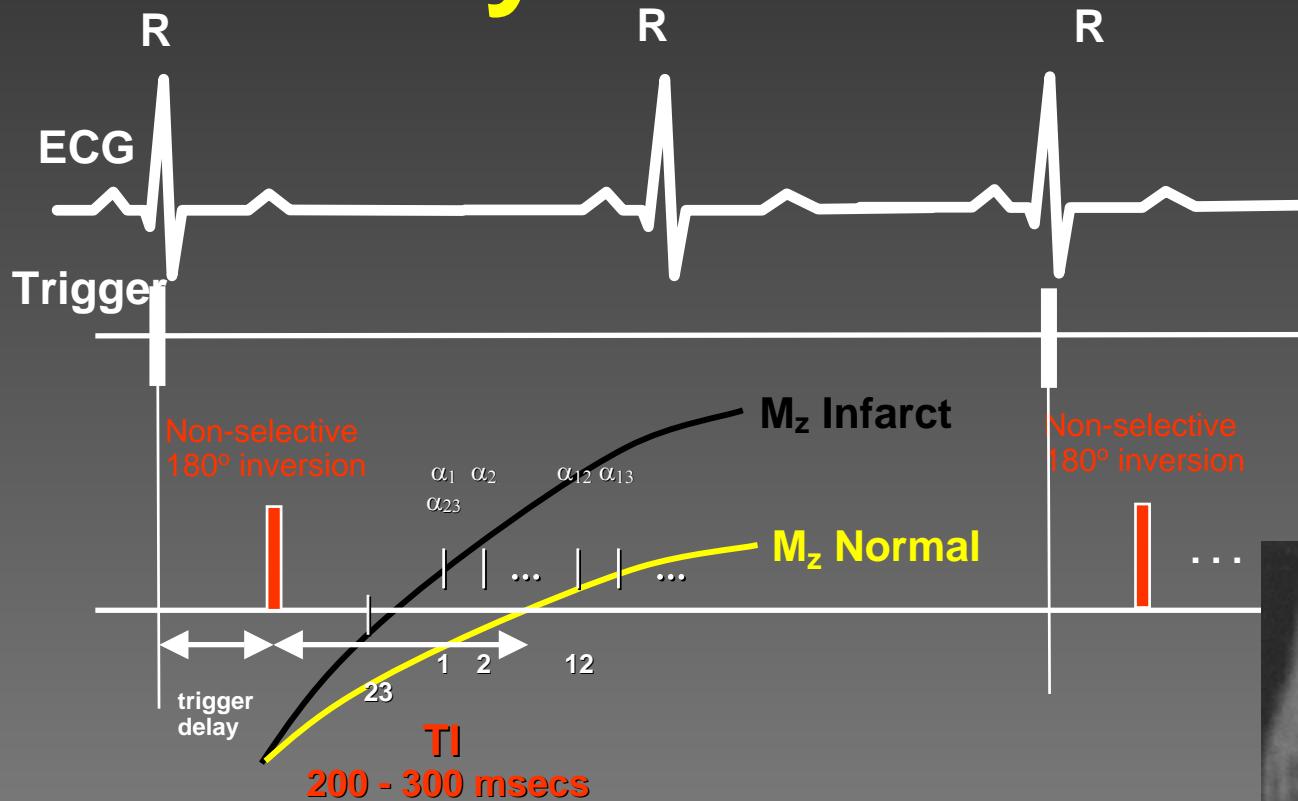
# Merits of MRI as “one-stop exam”

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- Metabolism:  $^{31}\text{P}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  MR Spectroscopy etc
- Flow Measurement: Coronary flow reserve

# MRI for Myocardial Viability

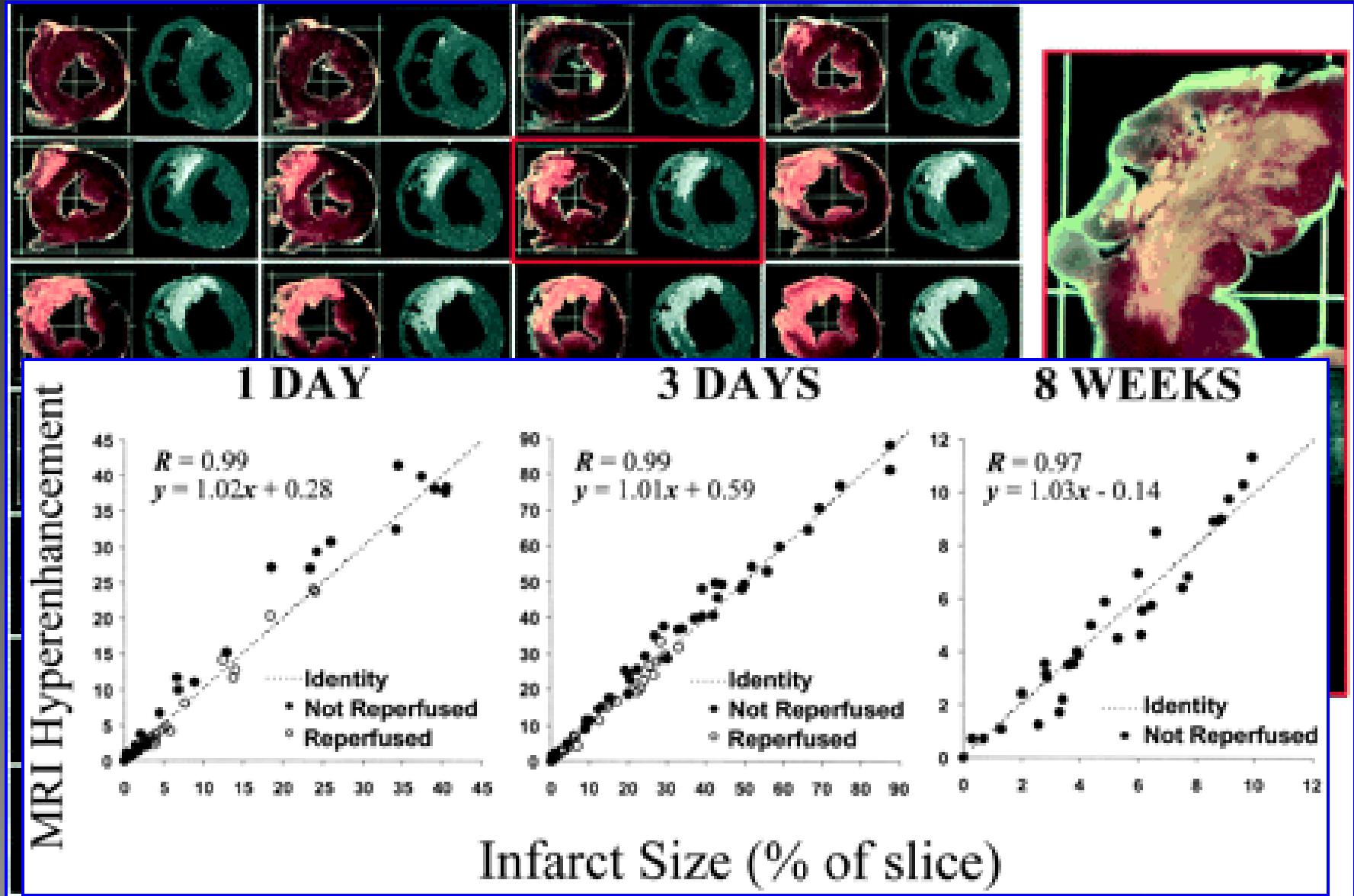
1. Detection of Myocyte necrosis or scar:  
Delayed Enhancement (DE) MRI
2. Assessment of LV function:
  - Myocardial mass:  
End-diastolic wall thickness
  - LV contractility:  
End-systolic wall thickening
  - Contractile (inotropic) reserve

# I. Delayed Enhancement MRI

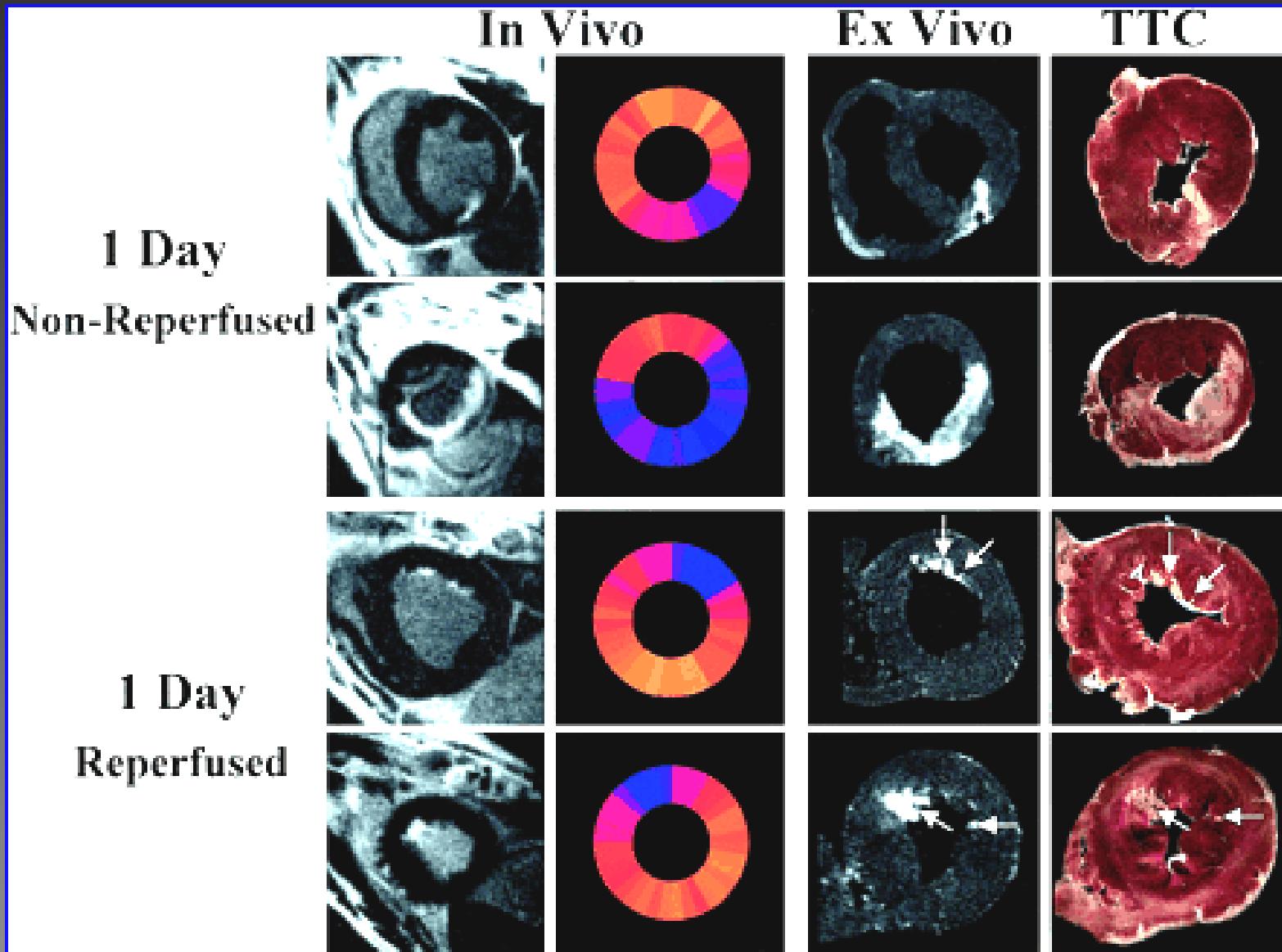


Segmented IR Turbo-FLASH

# DE-MRI vs TTC



# Reperfused vs Non-reperfused Infarction



# Delayed Enhancement MRI

Area of delayed enhancement

= nonviable myocardium

*(Bright is dead !!!)*

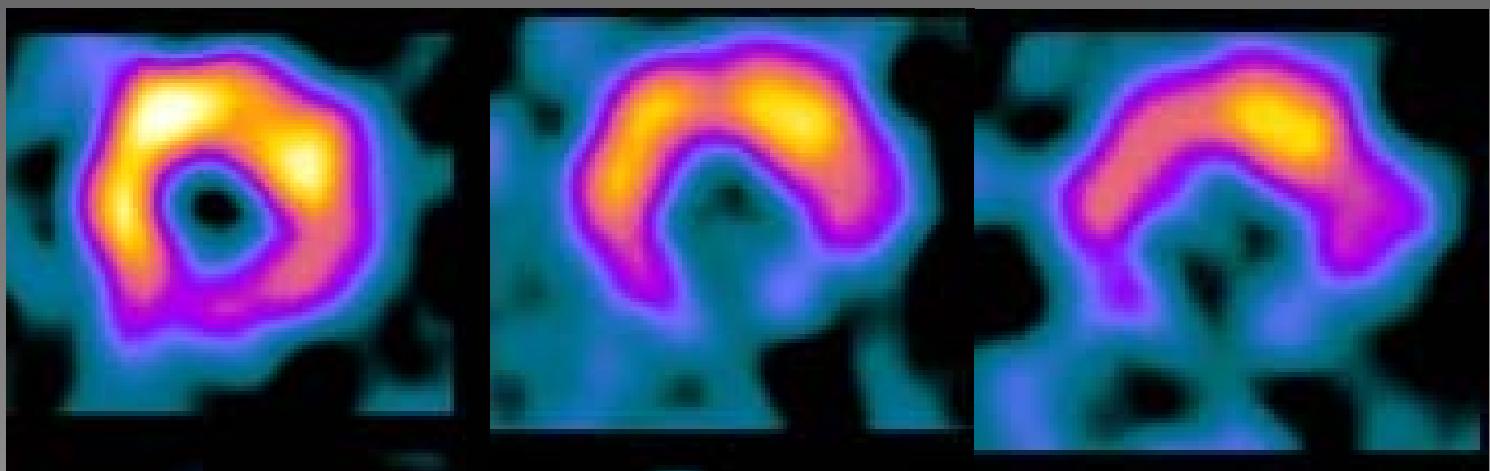
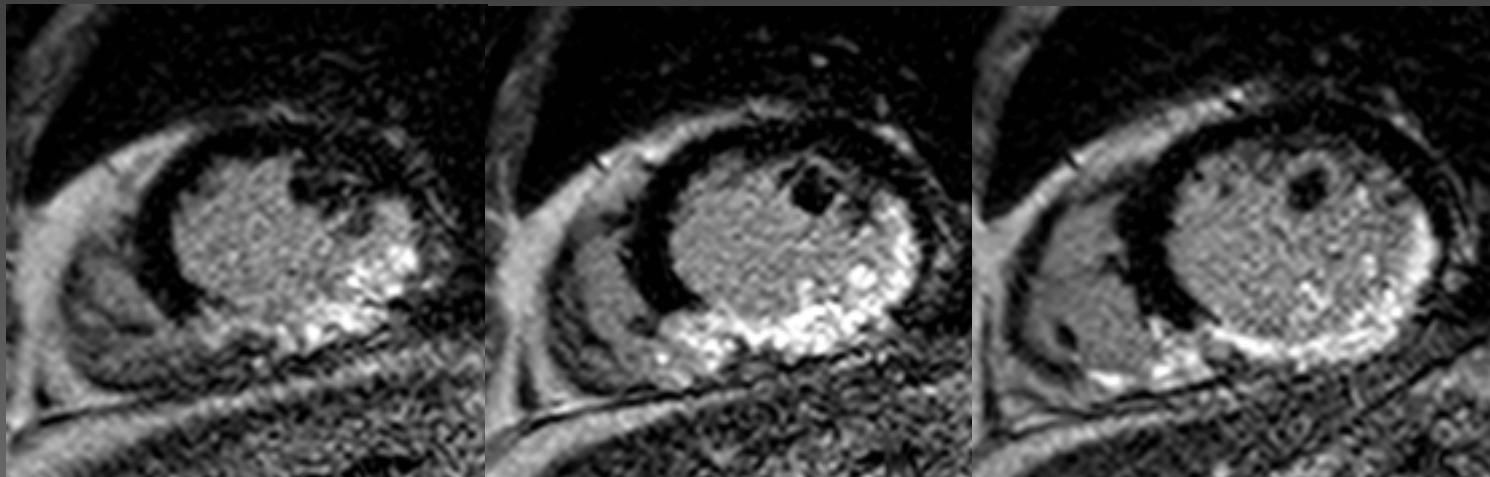
*Kim RJ et al, Circulation 1999  
Fieno et al, JACC 2000*

# Delayed Enhancement MRI

## *CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS*

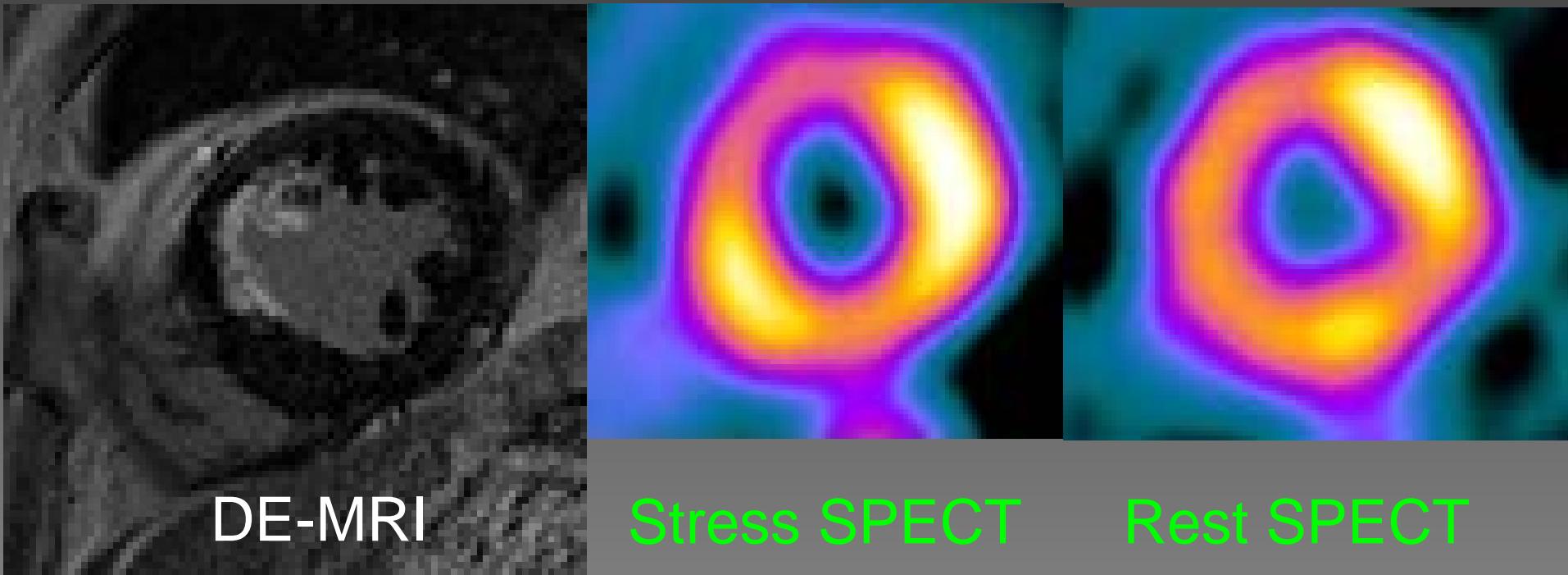
- Detection of Myocardial Infarction
  - Acute Infarction
  - Chronic (healed) Infarction
- Prediction of Functional Recovery after Revascularization Treatment

# DE-MRI vs SPECT



Transmural infarction

# DE-MRI vs SPECT



DE-MRI

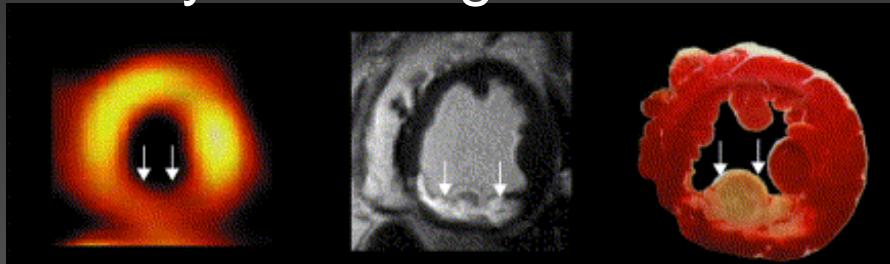
Stress SPECT

Rest SPECT

Subendocardial infarction

# Detection of MI: DE-MRI vs SPECT

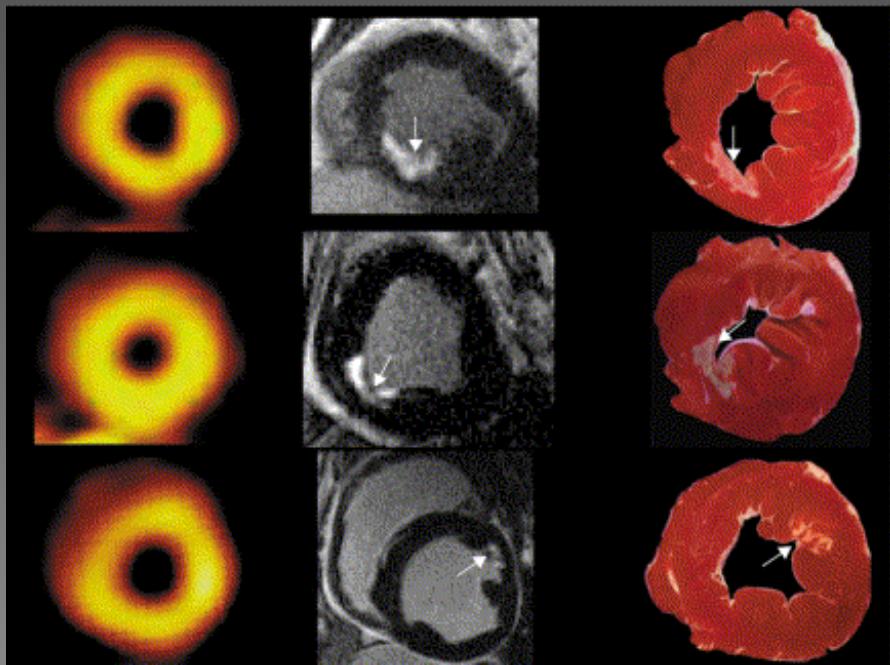
A study in 12 dogs



SPECT

CE-MRI

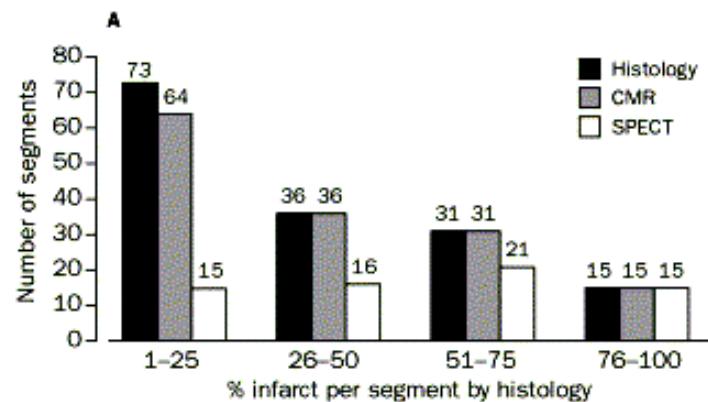
TTC



SPECT

CE-MRI

TTC



Wagner et al. Lancet 2003

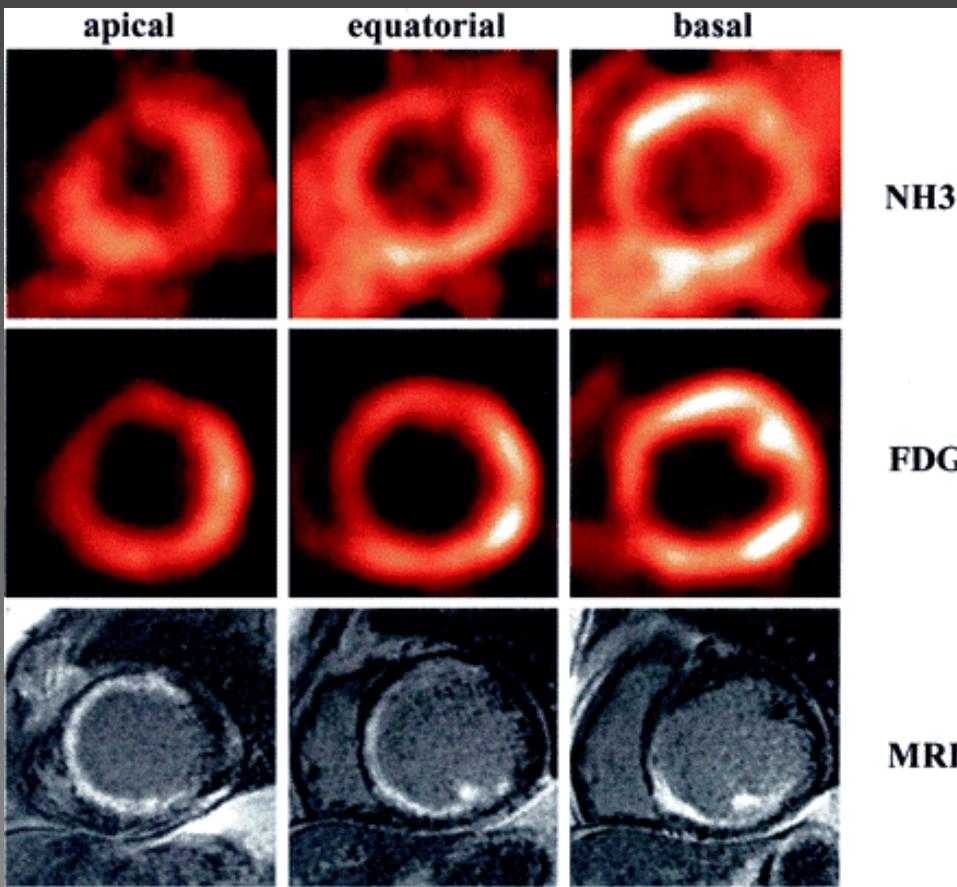
# Detection of MI: DE-MRI vs SPECT

## Detection of subendocardial infarcts

	*Animal Research	+Human Study
CE-MRI	100/109 (92%)	181/181 (100%)
SPECT	31/109 (28%)	96/181 (53%)

\*Gold standard : TTC, +Gold standard : CE-MRI

# DE-MRI vs PET



- In severe ischemic heart failure, hyperenhancement on DE-MRI as a marker of myocardial scar closely agrees with PET data.

# Detection of MI: DE-MRI vs PET

## Assessment of Myocardial Viability With Contrast-Enhanced Magnetic Resonance Imaging Comparison With Positron Emission Tomography

A study in 31 patients with ischemic heart failure

	PET(t)	PET(nt)	PET(v)
MRI(t)	126	11	38
MRI(nt)	7	27	51
MRI(v)	13	21	695

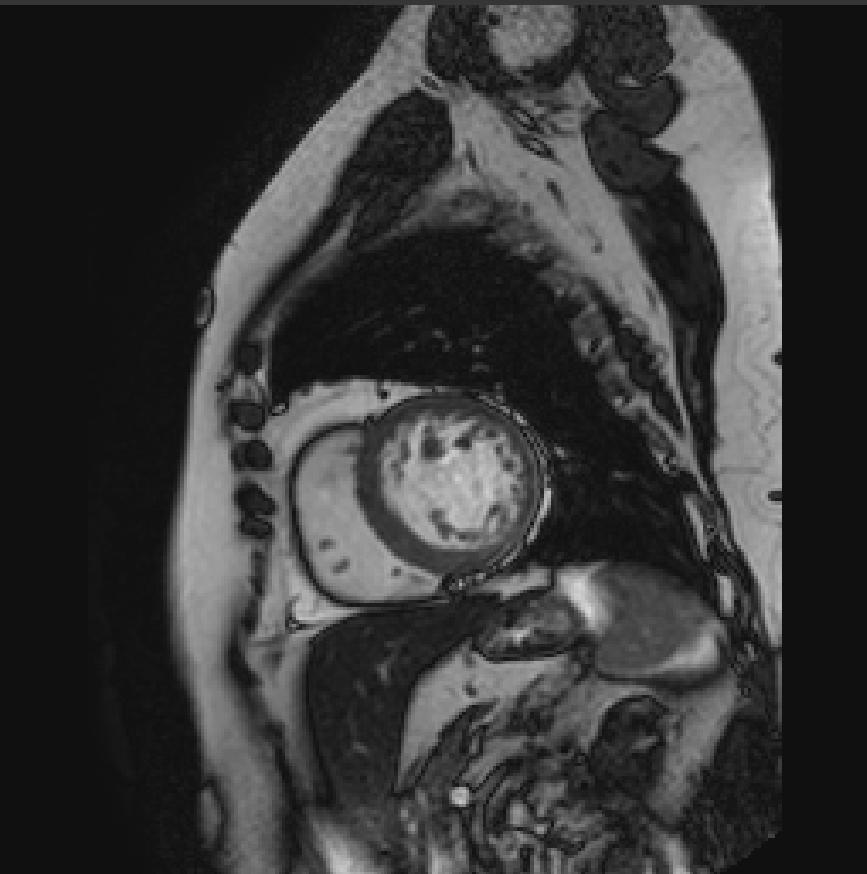
t : transmural, nt : non-transmural, v : viable

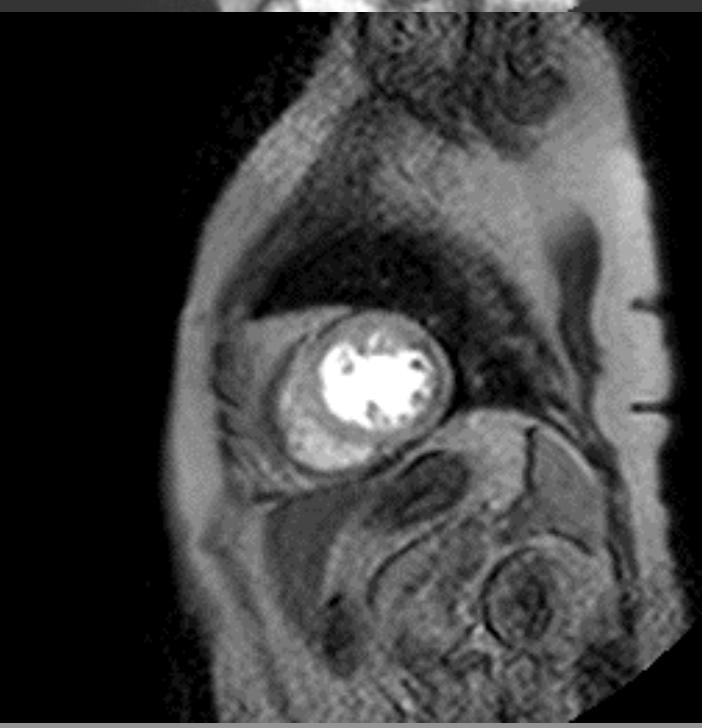
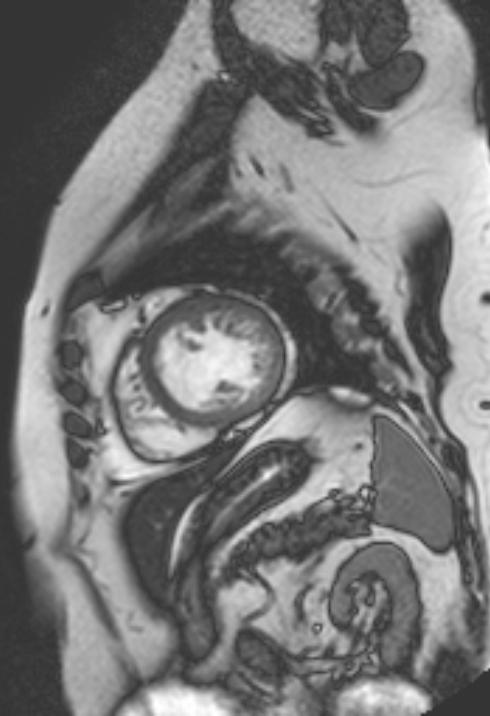
*Conclusions*—In severe ischemic heart failure, MRI hyperenhancement as a marker of myocardial scar closely agrees with PET data. Although hyperenhancement correlated with areas of decreased flow and metabolism, it seems to identify scar tissue more frequently than PET, reflecting the higher spatial resolution.

# Lee SD 76/F

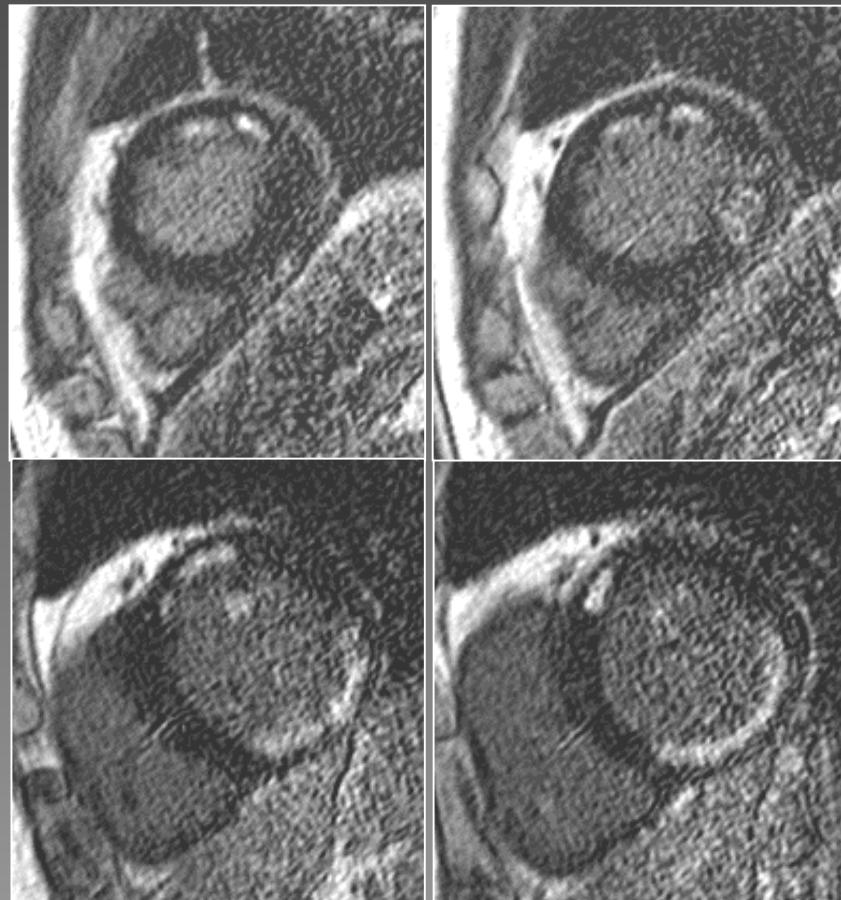
- C.C : Aggravated dyspnea for 1 week
- PMH: Diabetes mellitus for 10 years
- Cardiac Echo: Hypokinesia on anterolateral wall, apical to basal
- Cardiac enzyme :  
CK(EM)(50-250 U/L) : 265  
CK-MB(0.0-5.0 ng/ml) : 3682  
Troponin -I (0-1.5) : 20.2
- EKG : Lateral AMI

Lee SD 76/F



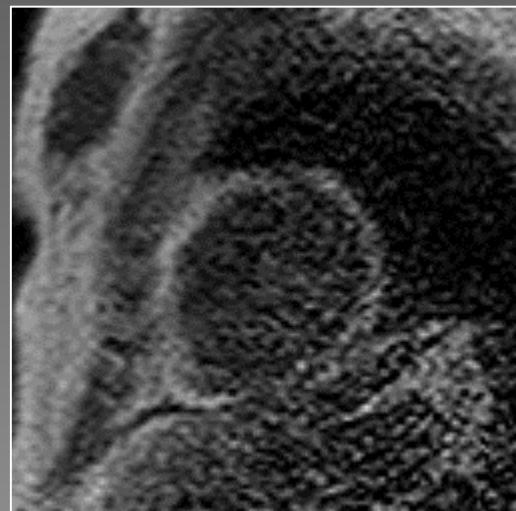
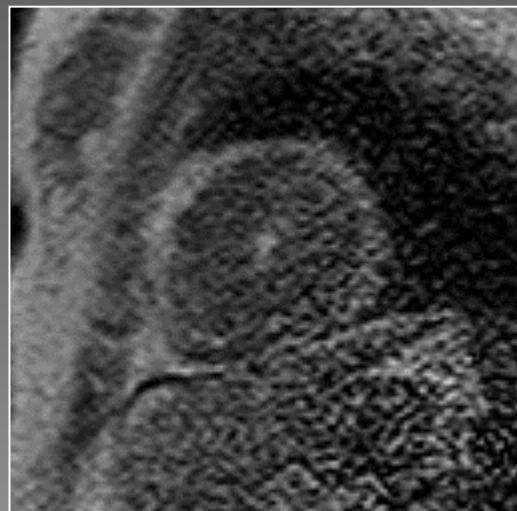
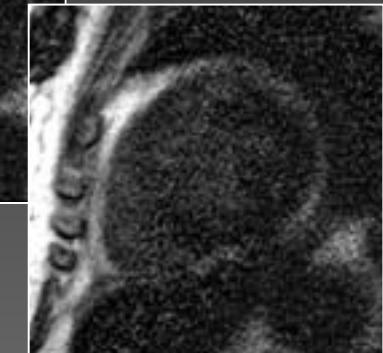
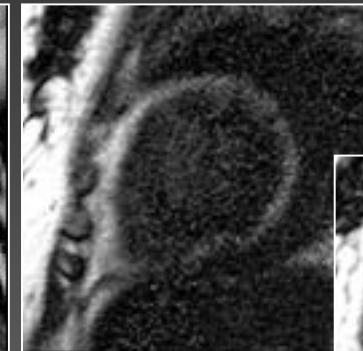
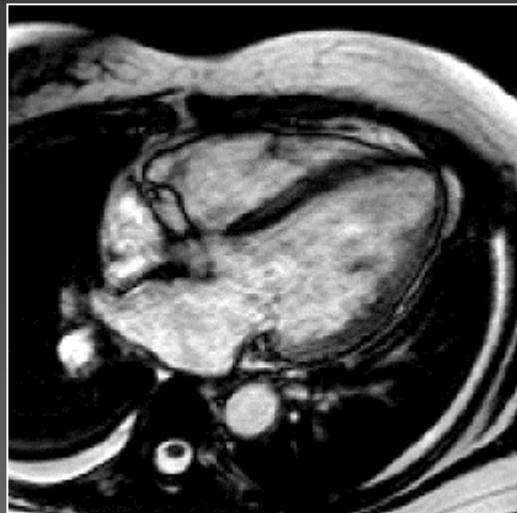


# Detection of Multiple Foci of MI: In Addition to the Expected Lesion



- ✓ Induced ischemia: mid-anterolateral wall
- ✓ Normal motion / no enhancement: **viable !!**

47/F chest pain



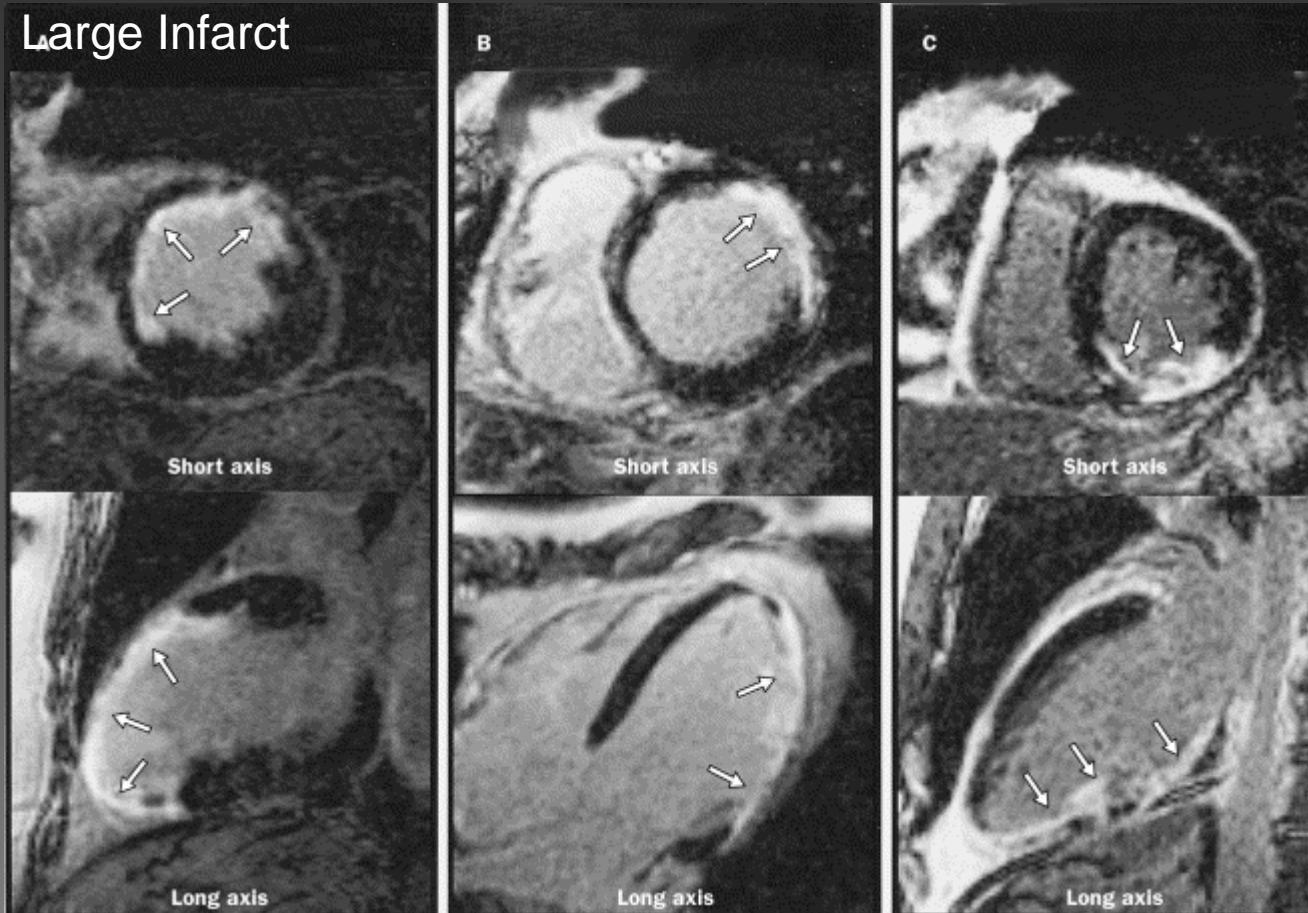
REST

STRESS

# DE-MRI: CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS

- Detection of Myocardial Infarction
  - Acute Infarction
  - Chronic (healed) Infarction
- Prediction of Functional Recovery after Revascularization Treatment

# DE-MRI Detection of Healed MI



Hx: 10 months

CK: 3300 IU/L

MB: 294 µg/L

5 months

5912 IU/L

792 µg/L

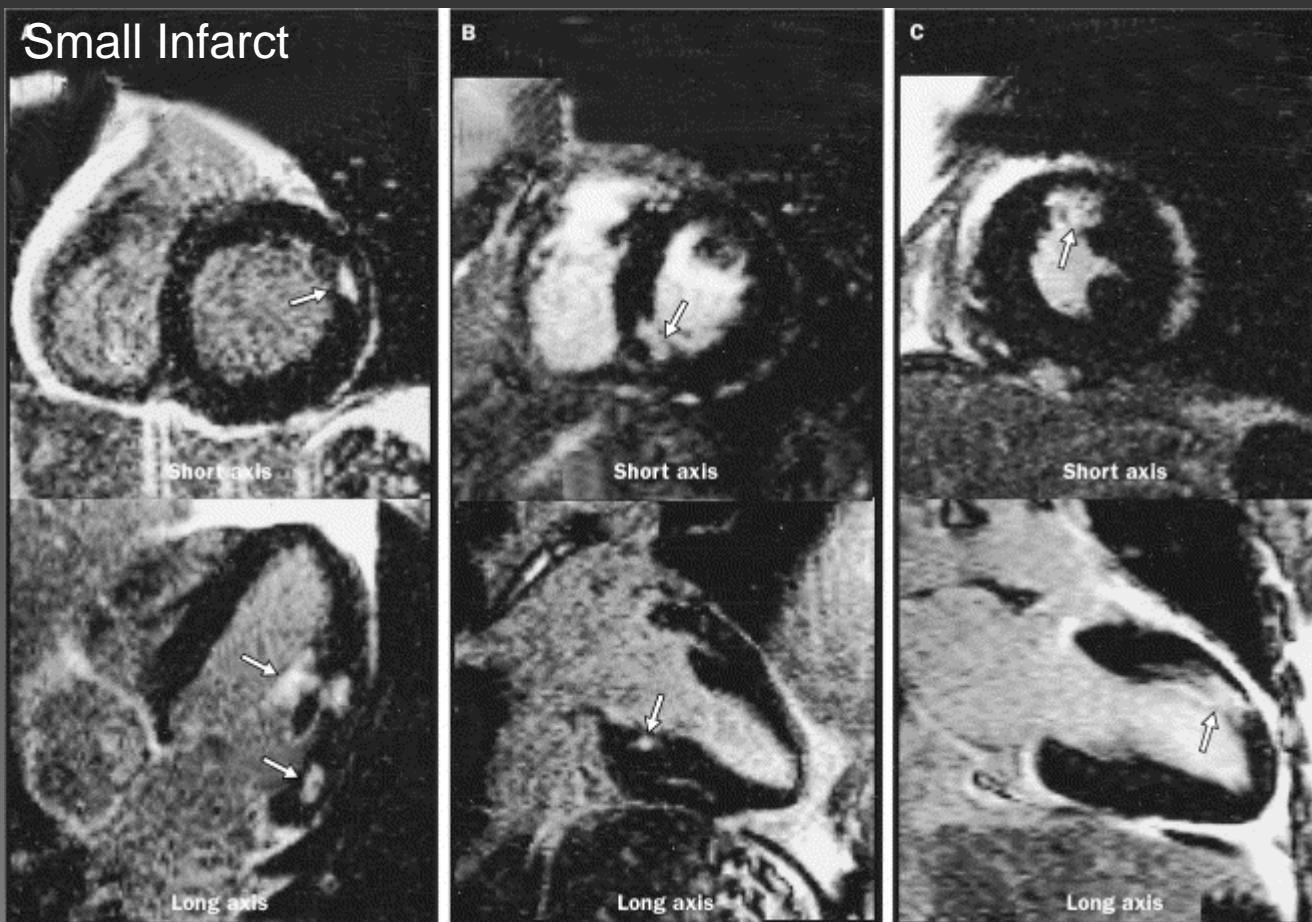
4 months

3352 IU/L

389 µg/L

Wu et al. Lancet 2001

# DE-MRI Detection of Healed MI



Hx: 13 months

CK: 513 IU/L

MB: 62 µg/L

2 months

219 IU/L

12 µg/L

3 months

508 IU/L

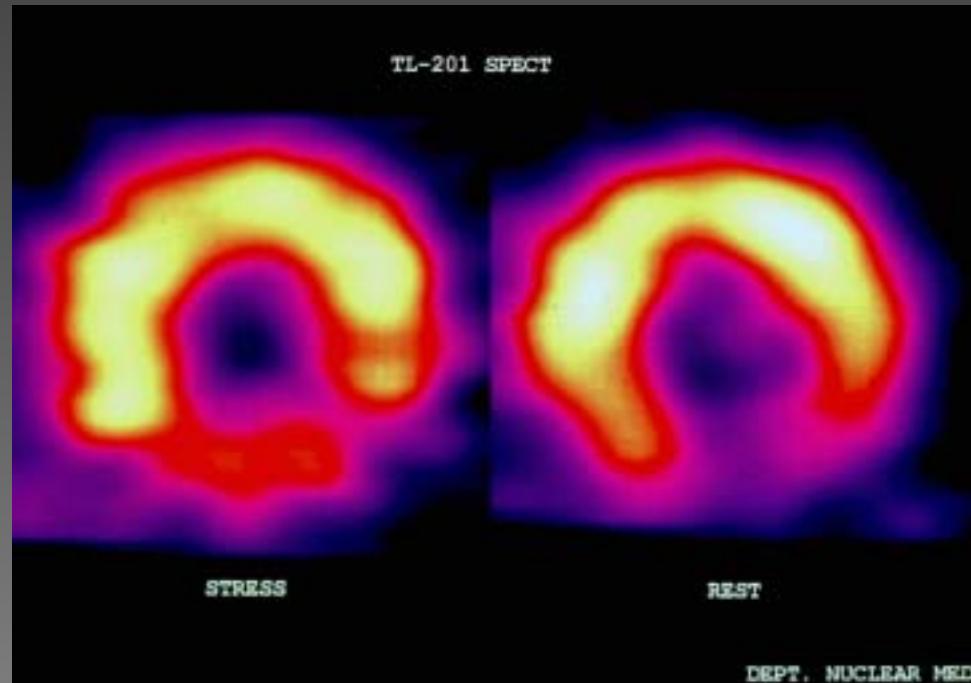
35 µg/L

Wu et al. Lancet 2001

# Limitations of DE-MRI: *Differentiation between Acute and Chronic MI?*



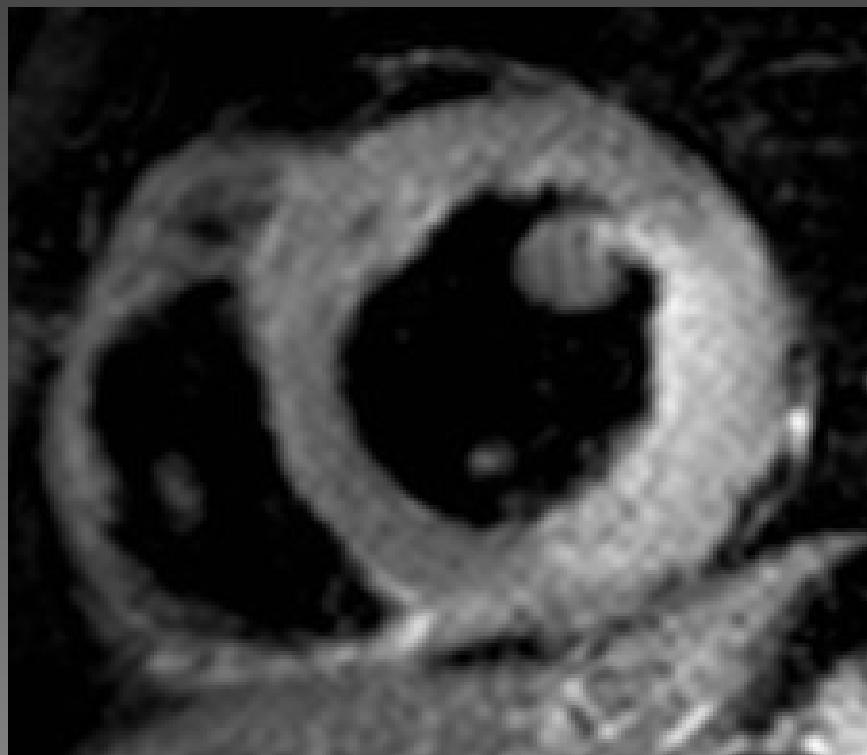
T2 WI



SPECT

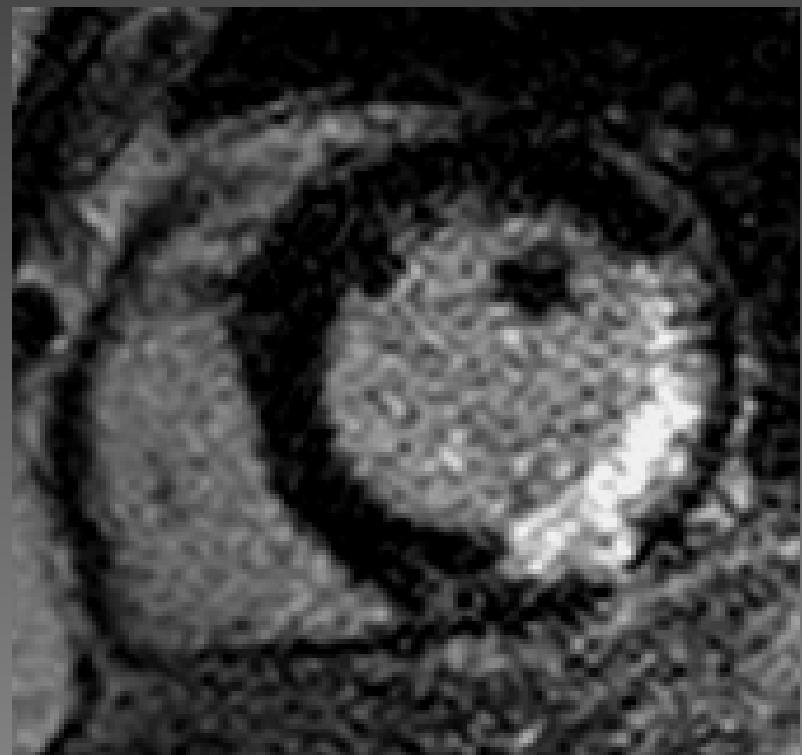
*Lim TH et al, JMRI 1997*

# DE-MRI vs T2 MRI



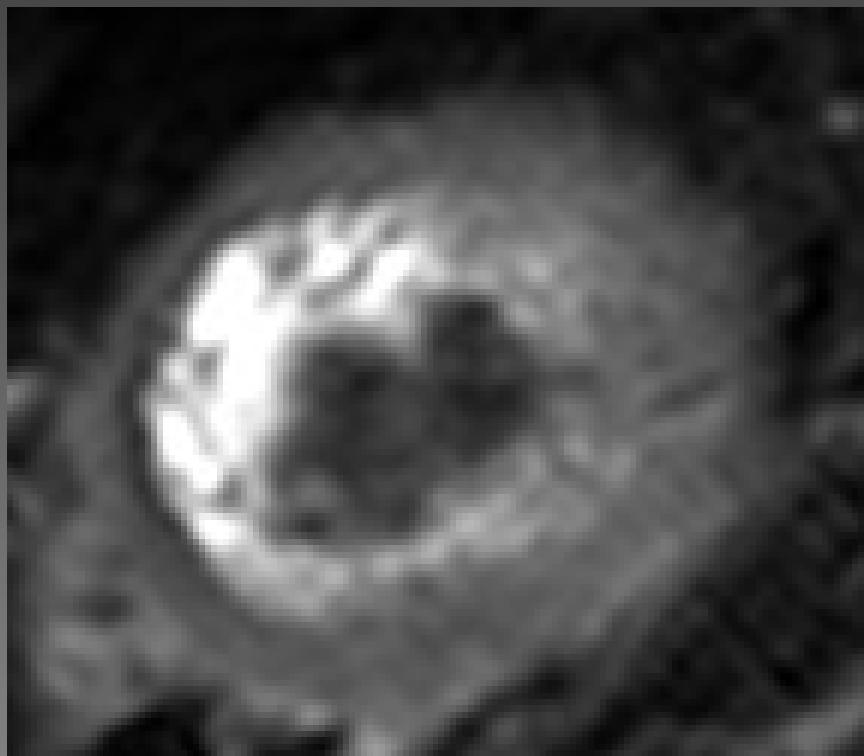
T2 WI

Acute MI ( 5 days ago)



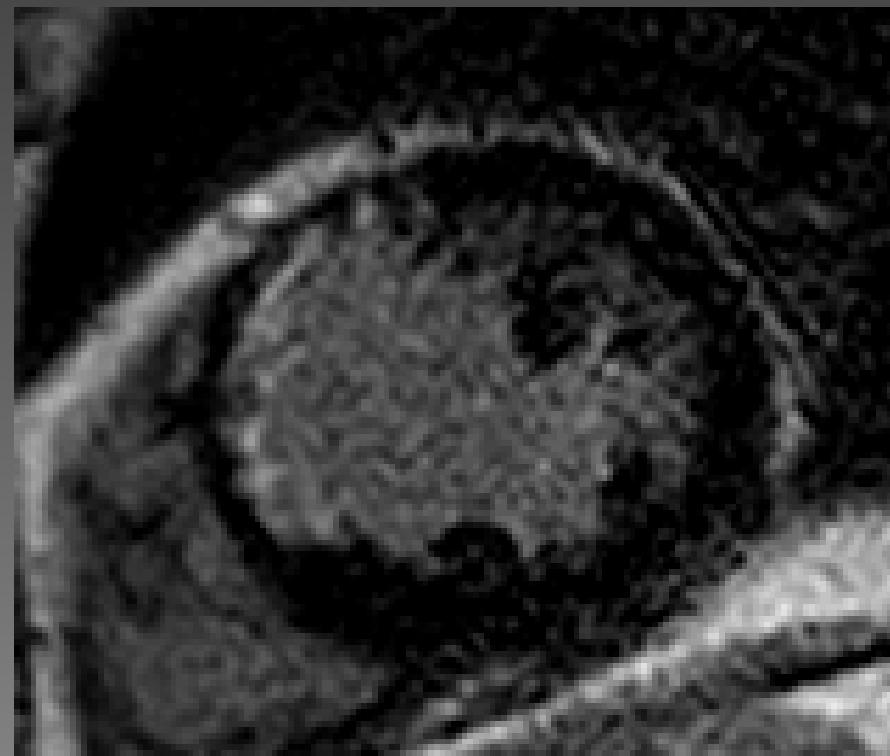
DE-MRI

# DE-MRI vs T2 MRI



T2 WI

Chronic MI (9 years Hx)

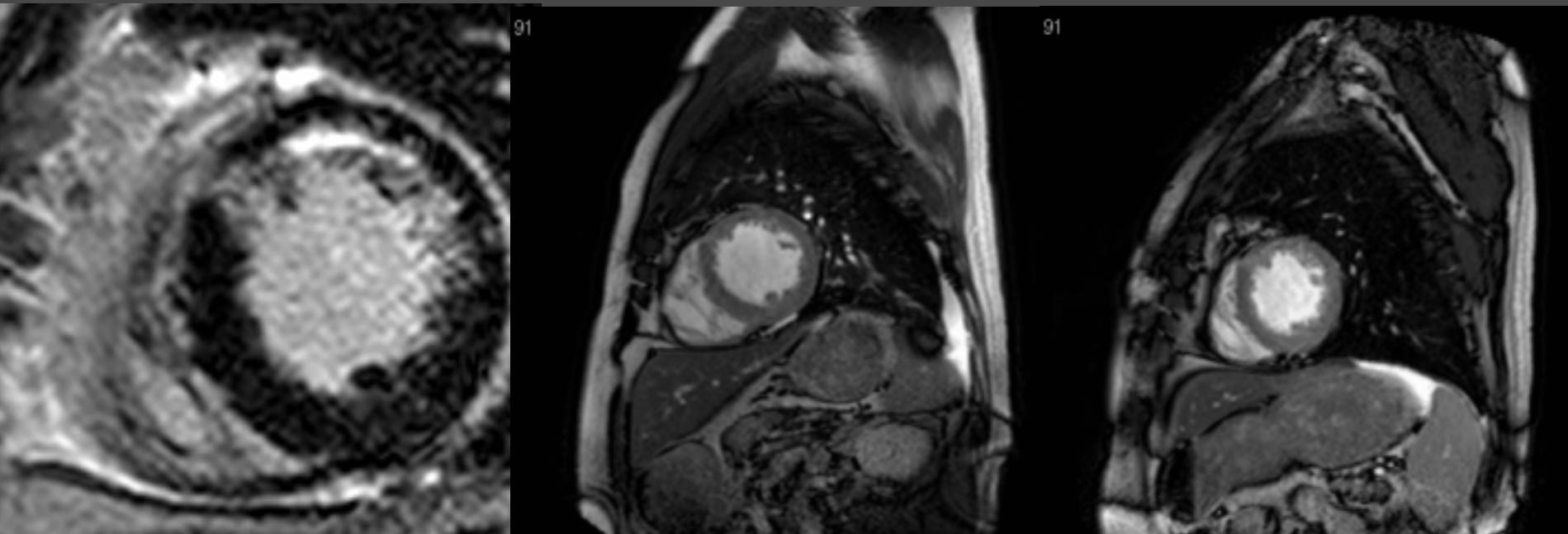


DE-MRI

# DE-MRI: CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS

- Detection of Myocardial Infarction
  - Acute Infarction
  - Chronic (healed) Infarction
- Prediction of Functional Recovery after Revascularization Treatment

# DE-MRI: Functional Recovery



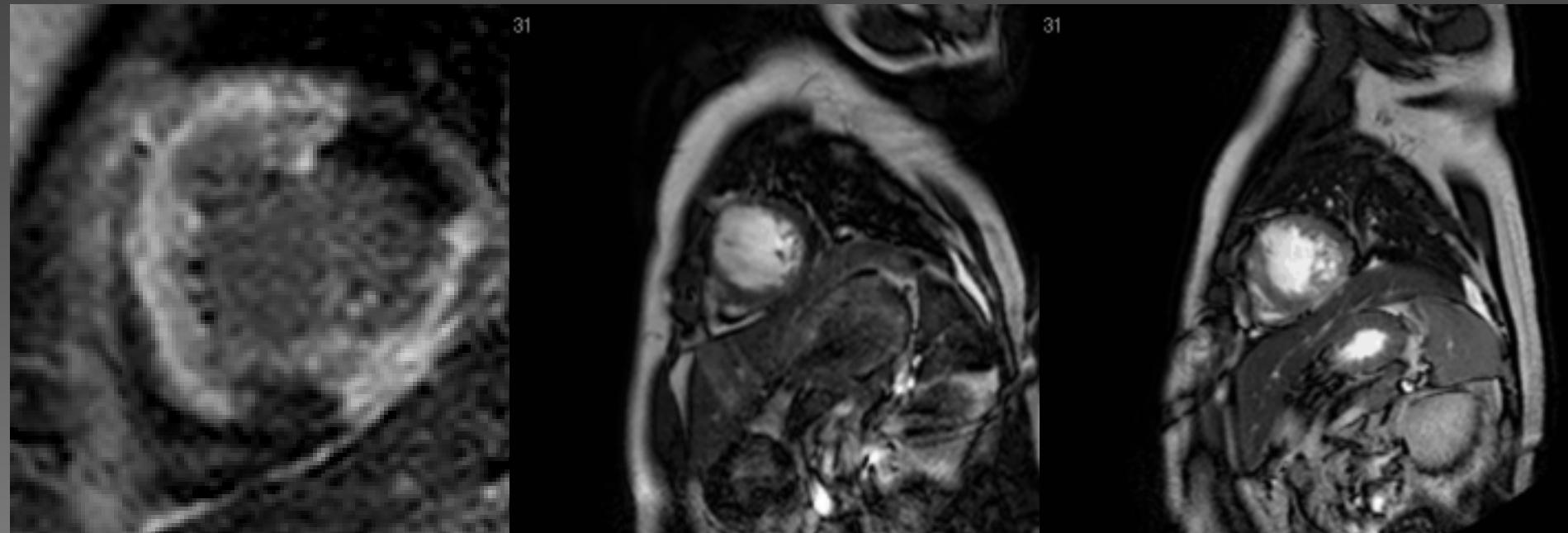
DE-MRI

Pre-tx cine

Post-tx cine

3 VD, F/U 3 months after CABG  
EF: 47.4% → 63.4%

# DE-MRI: Functional Recovery



DE-MRI

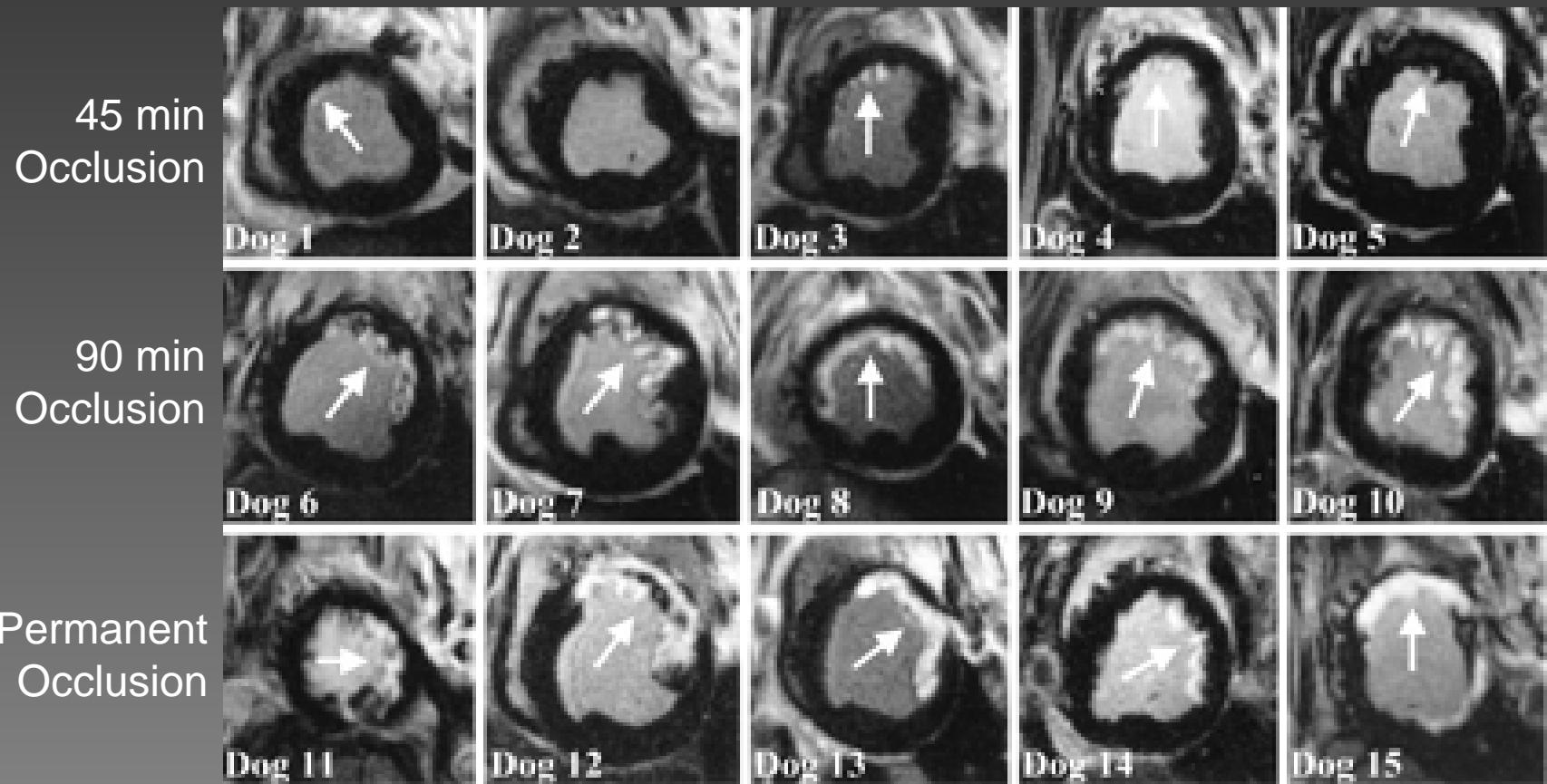
Pre-tx cine

Post-tx cine

3 VD, F/U 3 months after CABG  
EF: 17.8% → 19.4%

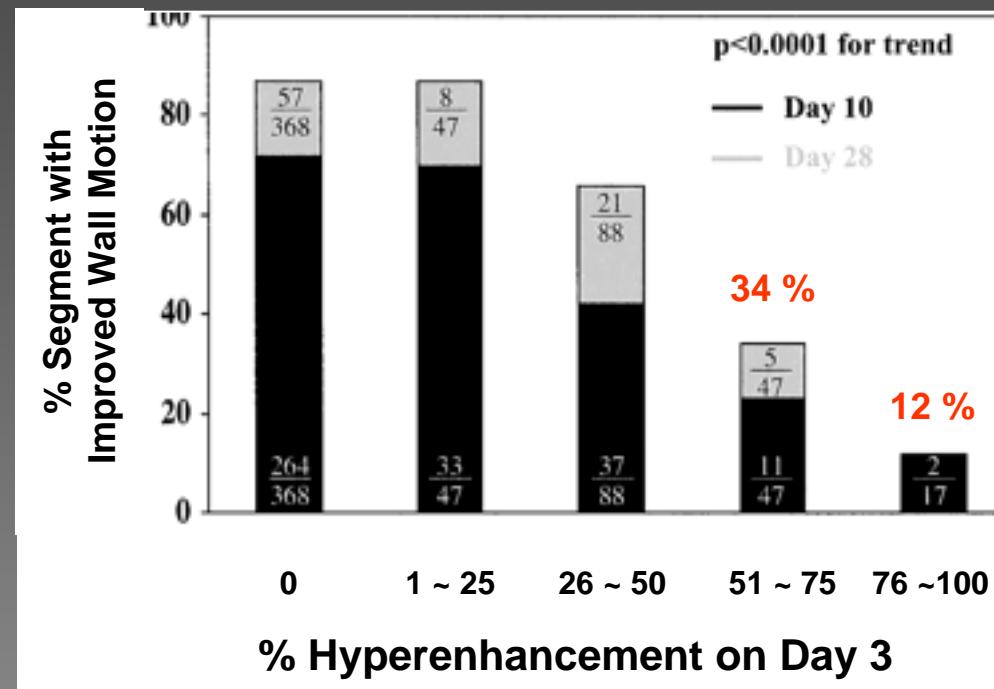
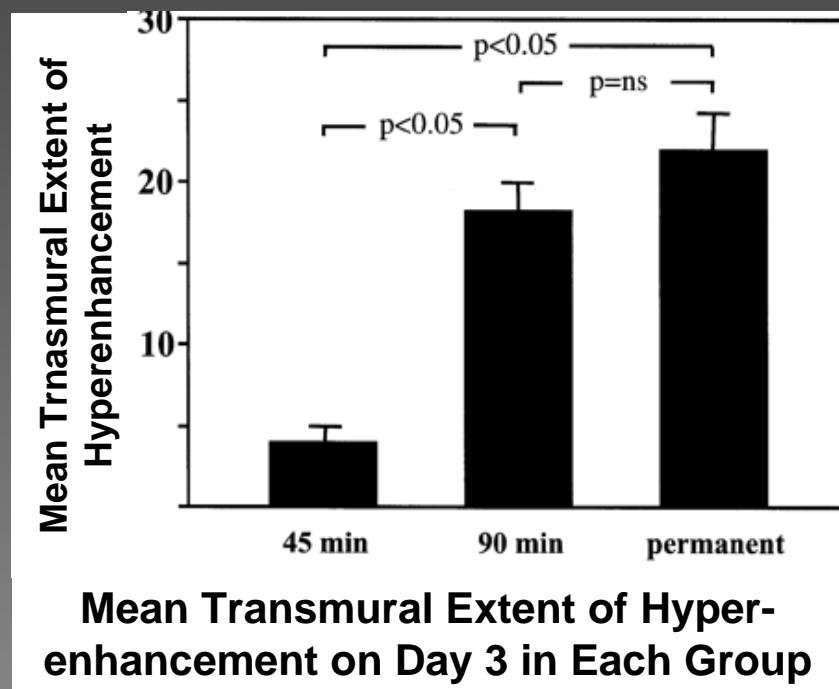
# Assessment of Myocardial Salvage

An animal study in 15 dogs



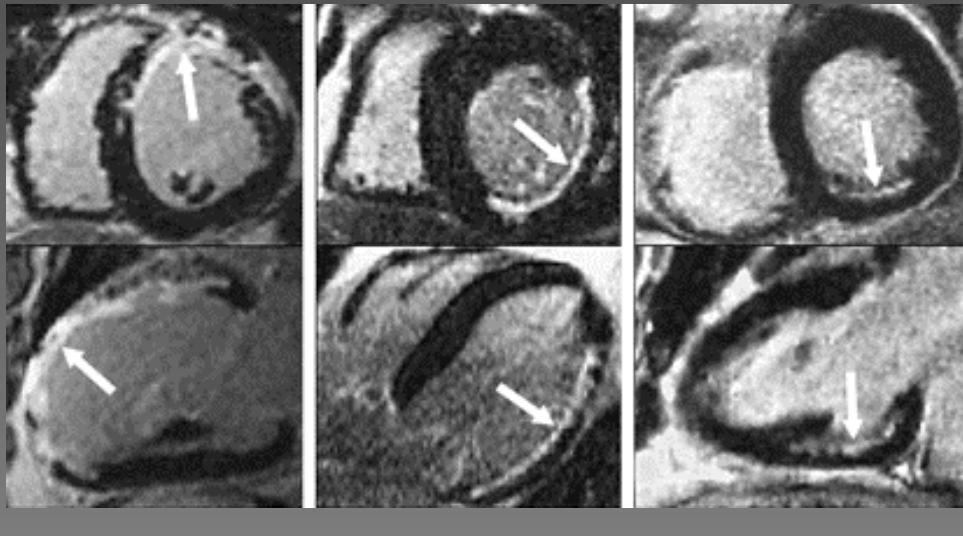
# Assessment of Myocardial Salvage

An animal study in 15 dogs



# Assessment of Myocardial Salvage

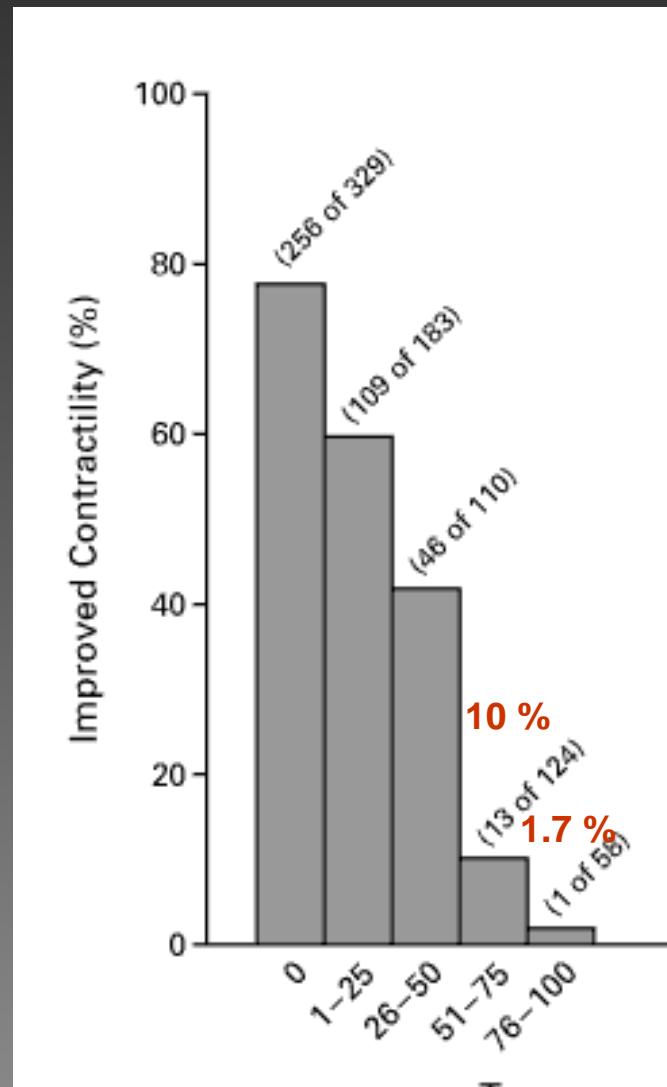
A prospective study in 61 patients



LAD

LCX

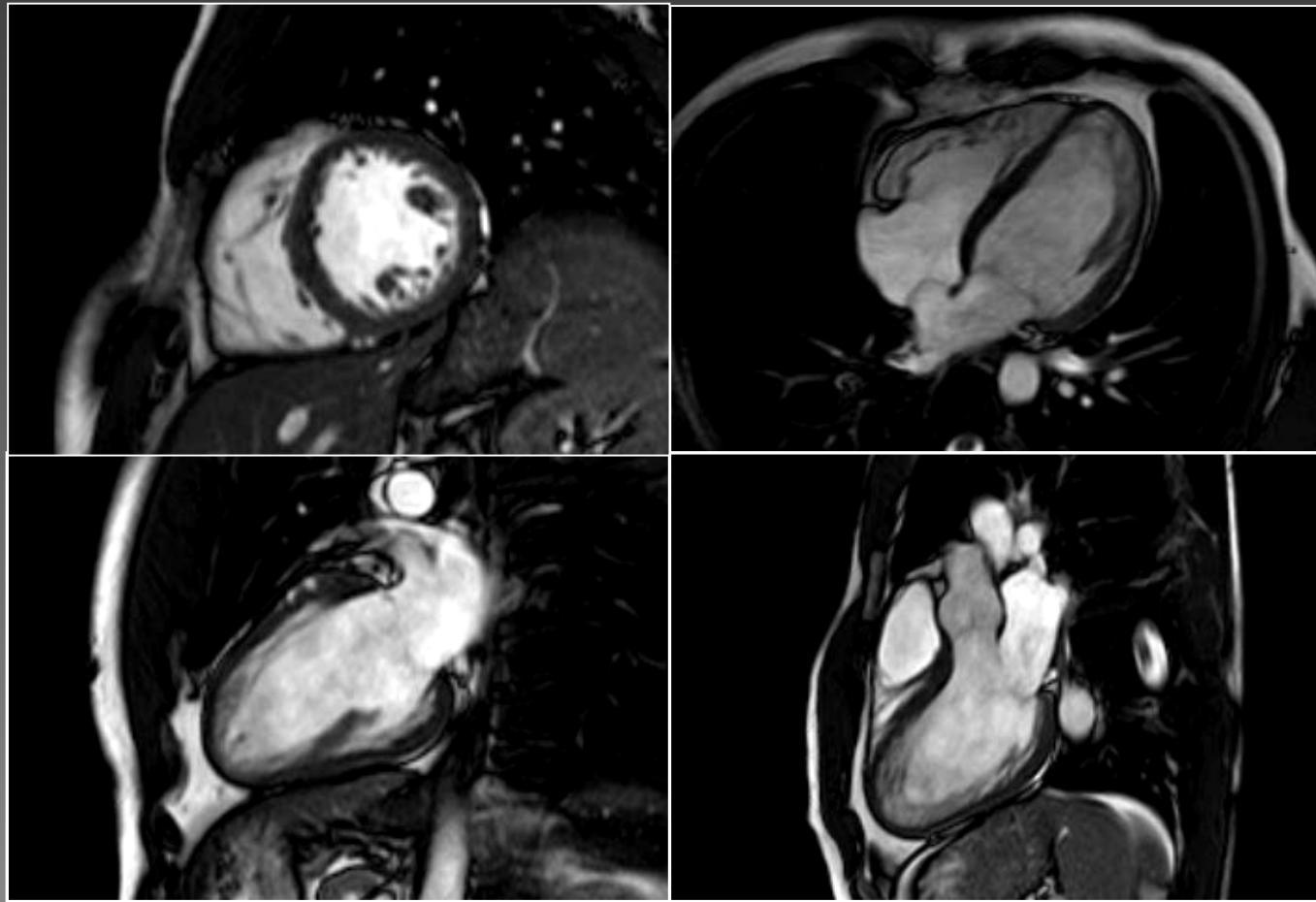
RCA



# MRI for Myocardial Viability

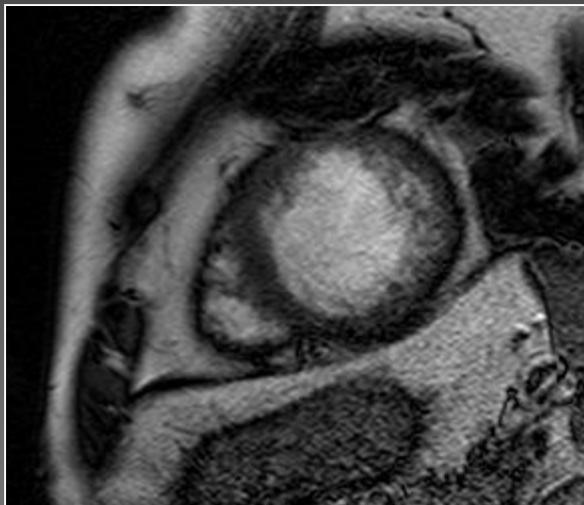
1. Detection of Myocyte necrosis or scar:  
DE-MRI
2. Assessment of LV function:
  - Myocardial mass:  
End-diastolic wall thickness
  - LV contractility:  
End-systolic wall thickening
  - Contractile (inotropic) reserve

## 2. LV Function: *Cine MRI*

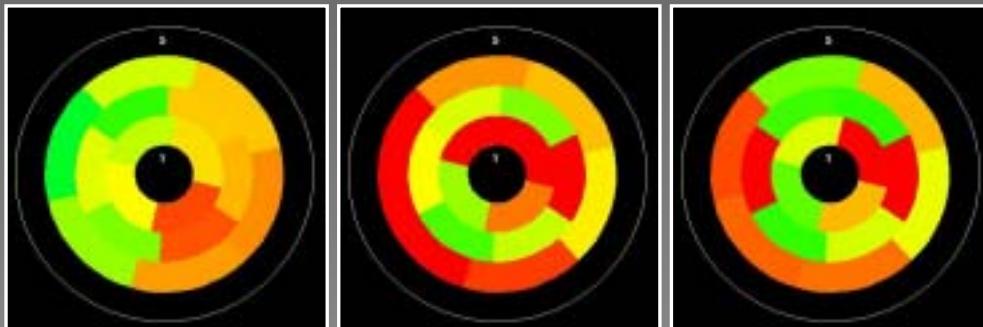


# Analysis of LV Function

- Visual qualitative assessment
- Quantitative assessment



Ejection fraction	:	15.0 %
Stroke volume	:	55.2 ml
Cardiac output	:	2.9 l/min
ED phase	:	0.0 ms ( phase 1 )
ED volume	:	368.1 ml
ES phase	:	461.0 ms ( phase 9 )
ES volume	:	312.8 ml
ED wall mass	:	35.9 g
ED wall + papillary mass	:	n/a
ED wall - correct. mass	:	n/a
ED wall + papillary - correct. mass	:	n/a
Heart rate	:	52.0 bpm



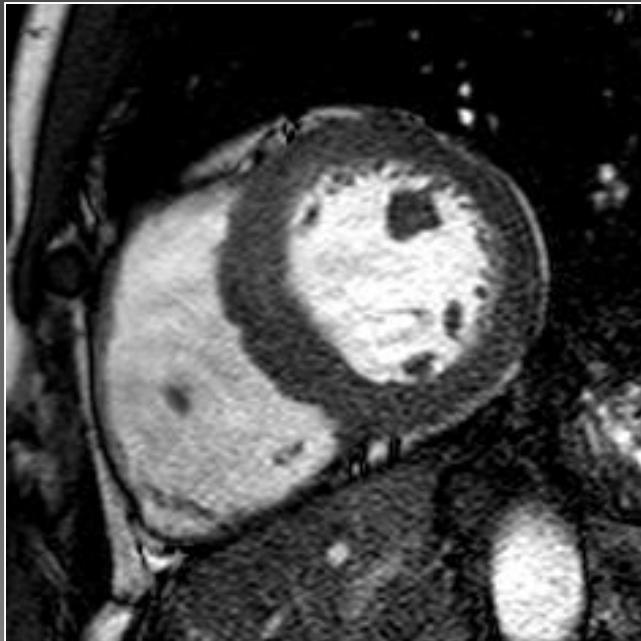
Thickness (ED)

Thickening

Motion

# Quantitative Assessment

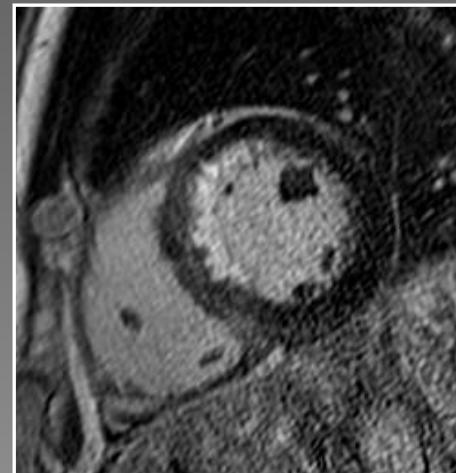
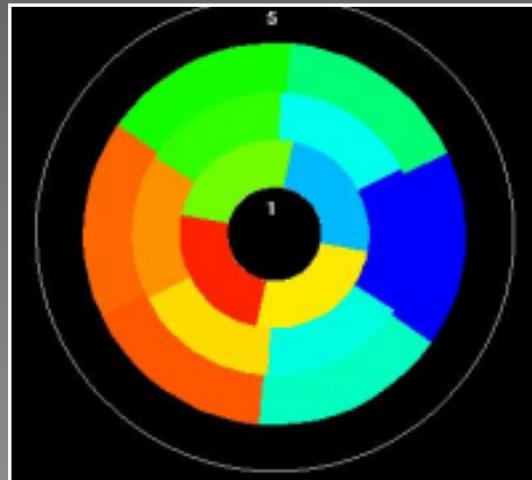
- More accurate than visual assessment



47/M

Acute myocardial infarction  
Echo: normal wall motion

Wall thickening results			
slice	Global thickening	segment	Regional thickening
4	0.8	1	0.9
4	0.8	2	1.0
4	0.8	3	1.5
4	0.8	4	1.1
4	0.8	5	0.4
4	0.8	6	0.4

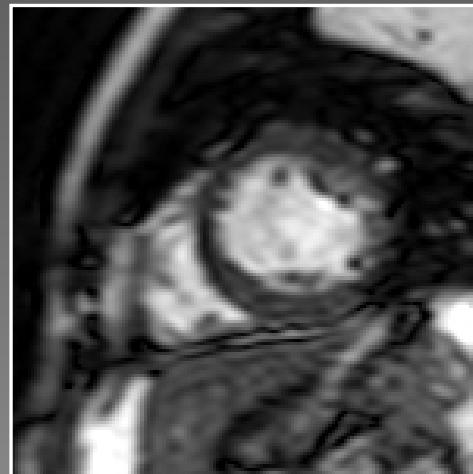


# Real Time Cine MR

- Retrospective TFE Synchronized Real Time Multi Slice (M2D) B-TFE
- Free breathing, real time, no breathhold
  - Pediatric patients, sick patients



Breathhold retrospective bTFE



Free breathing real time cine

## 2. LV Function: *Low Dose DSMR*

“contractile (inotropic) reserve”

- DE-MRI: impaired specificity as a predictor of functional recovery in non-transmural scars (1% to 74%).
- Low dose DSMR: superior to DE-MRI as a predictor of functional recovery and does not depend on the transmurality of scar.
- DE-MRI and DSMR provide complementary information.

# DSE vs DSMR

Rest

10 $\mu$ g

20 $\mu$ g

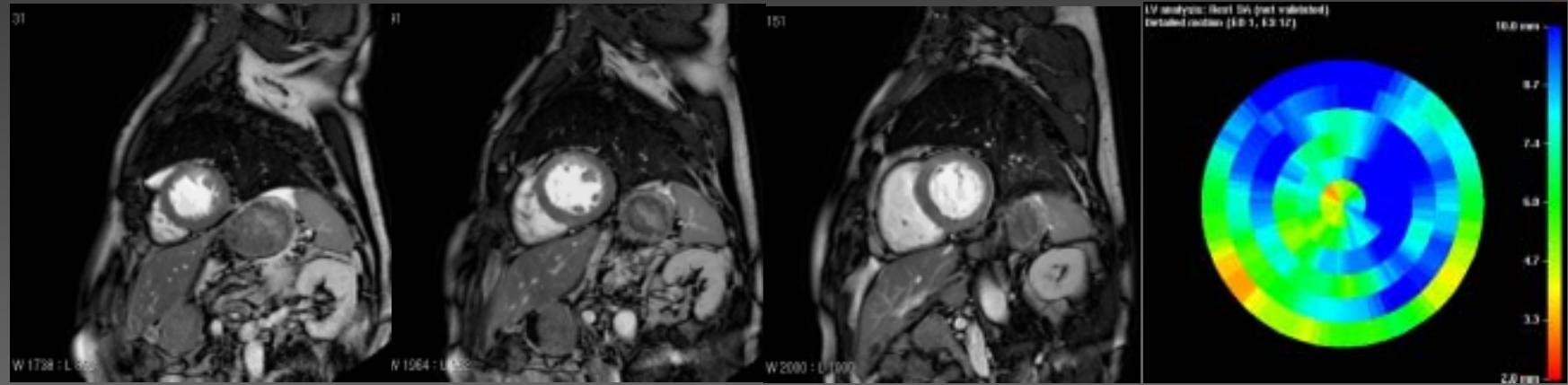
DSE



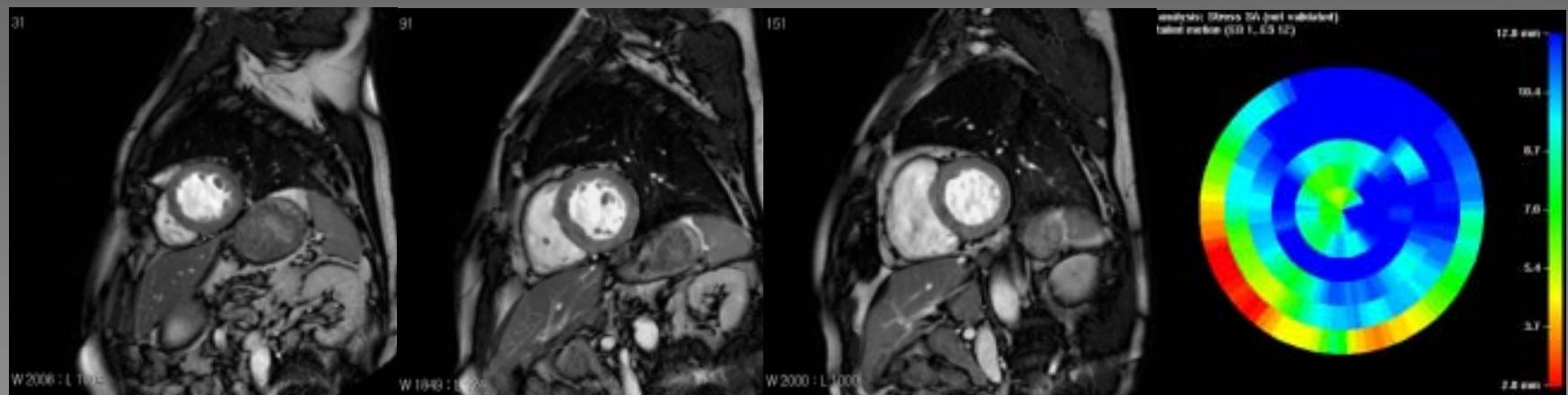
DSMR



# Low Dose DSMR



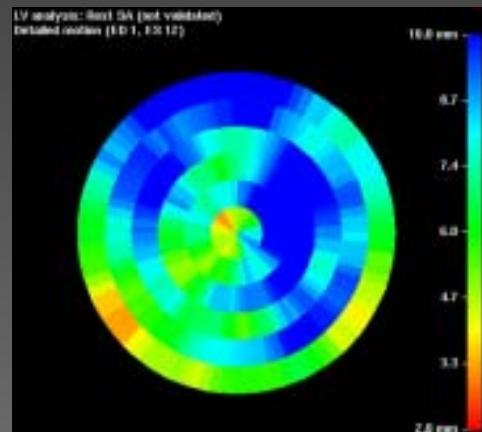
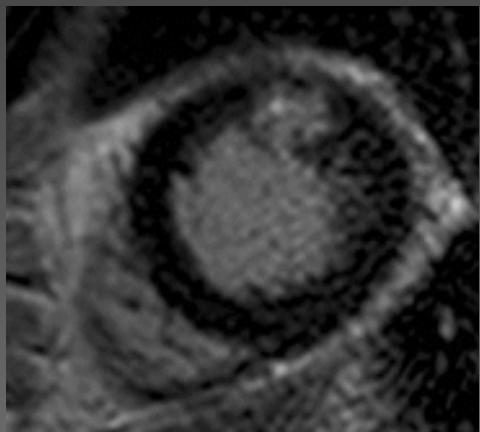
Rest MRI



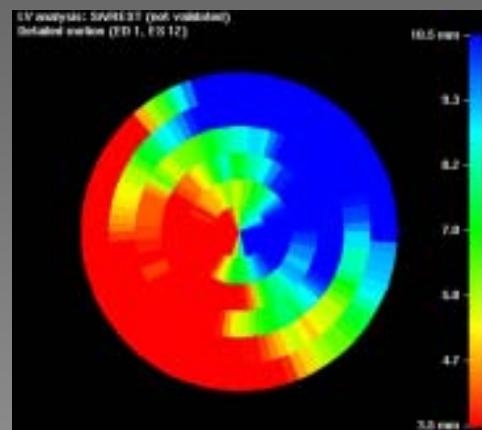
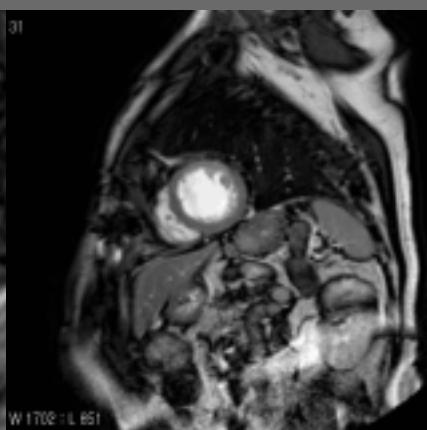
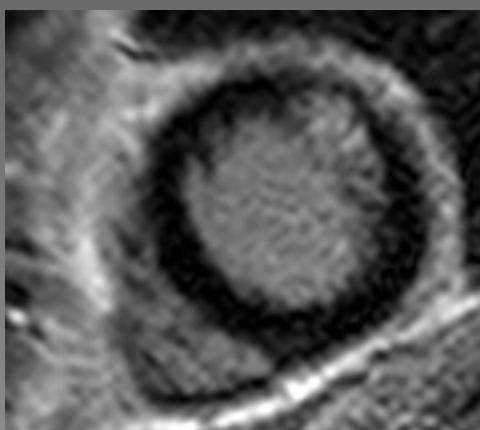
Low dose DSMR

# Low Dose DSMR

Pre  
CABG

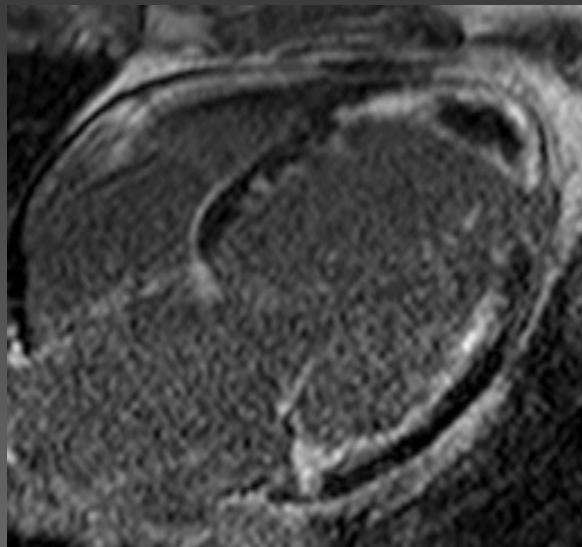


Post  
CABG



# Low Dose DSMR

Viability



10 $\mu$ g



W 2000 : L 1000

Rest

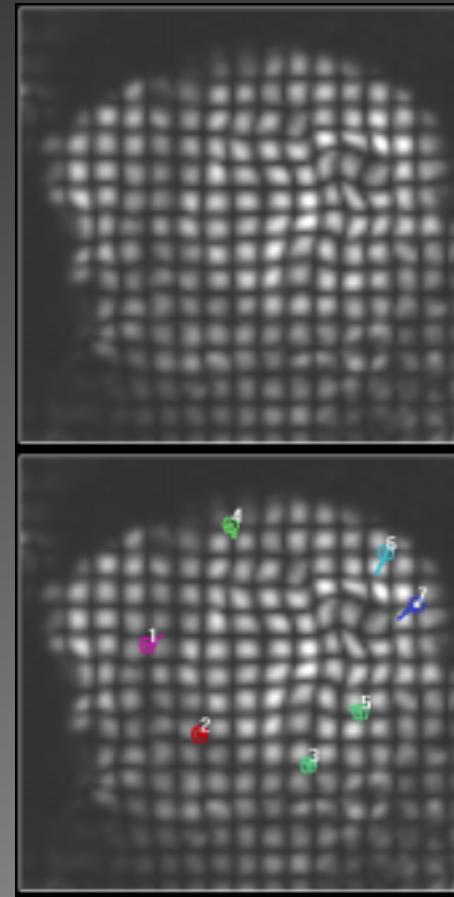
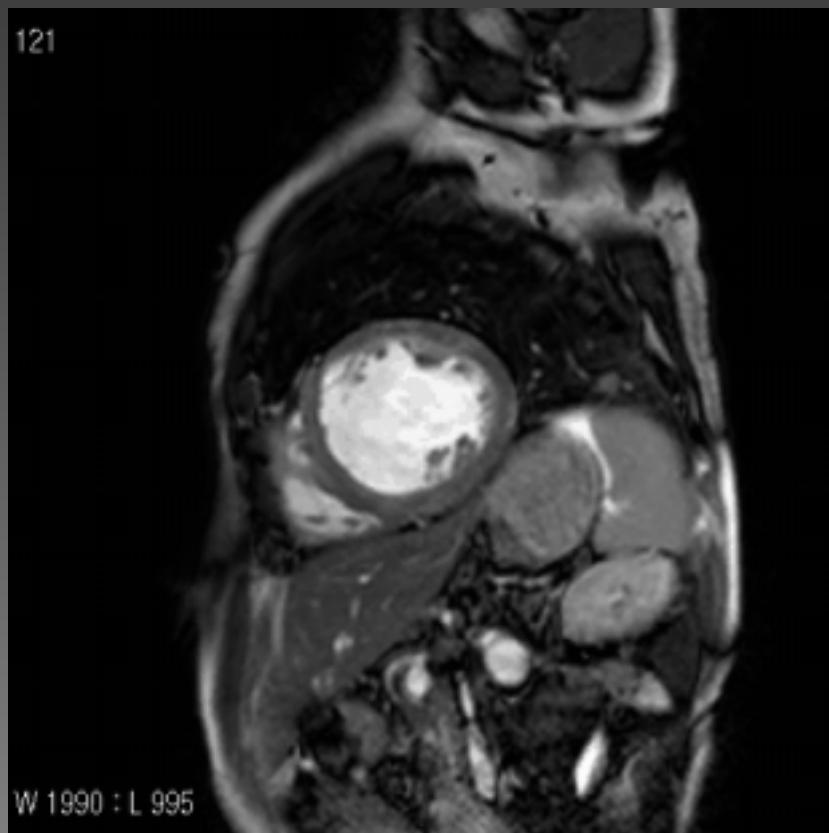


20 $\mu$ g



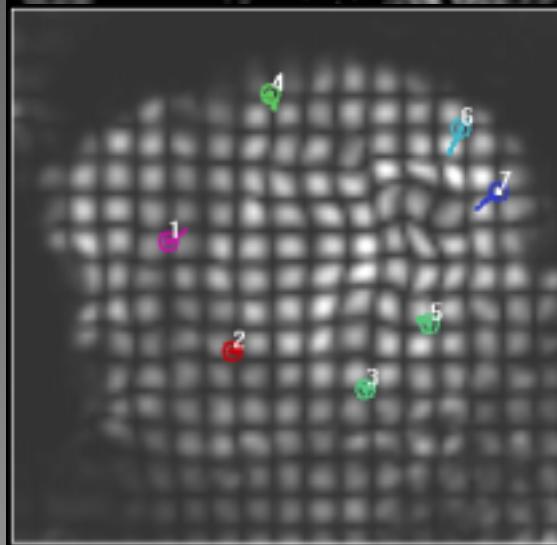
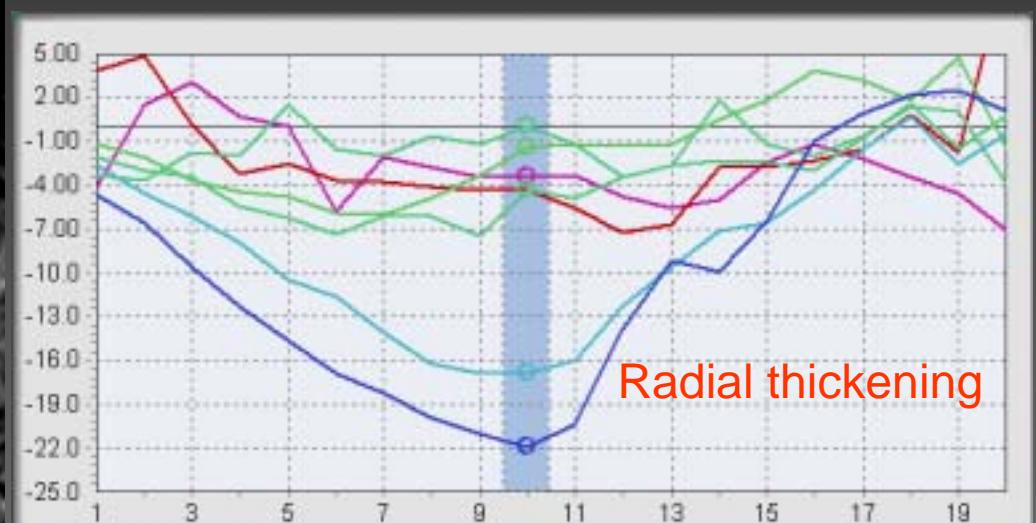
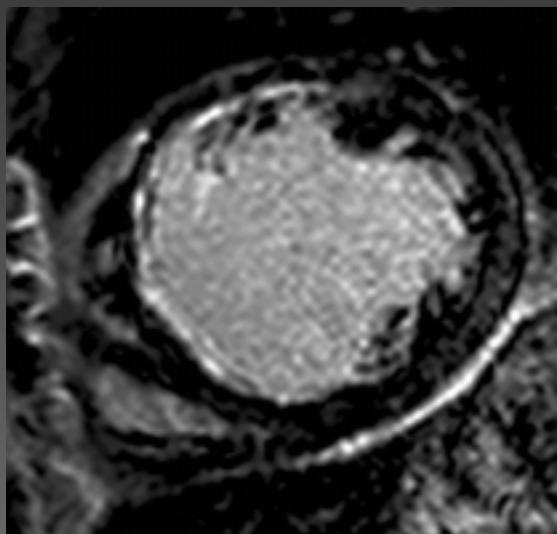
W 2000 : L 1000

## 2. LV Function: *Tagged MRI*



Wall Motion Abnormality due to ICMP

# Tagged MRI



# Conclusion

## 1. Delayed enhancement MRI

- Detection of area with myocyte necrosis
- Acute MI vs. chronic MI (with T2 MRI)
- Prediction of functional recovery

## 2. Cine MRI / Tagged cine MRI / DSMR

- Myocardial mass
- Contractile function
- inotropic reserve

# **Thank You !!**



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**Department of Radiology, Asan Medical Center  
University of Ulsan College of Medicine**

**Seoul, Korea**