

Non-contrast MRI for Screening and Surveillance of Breast Cancer

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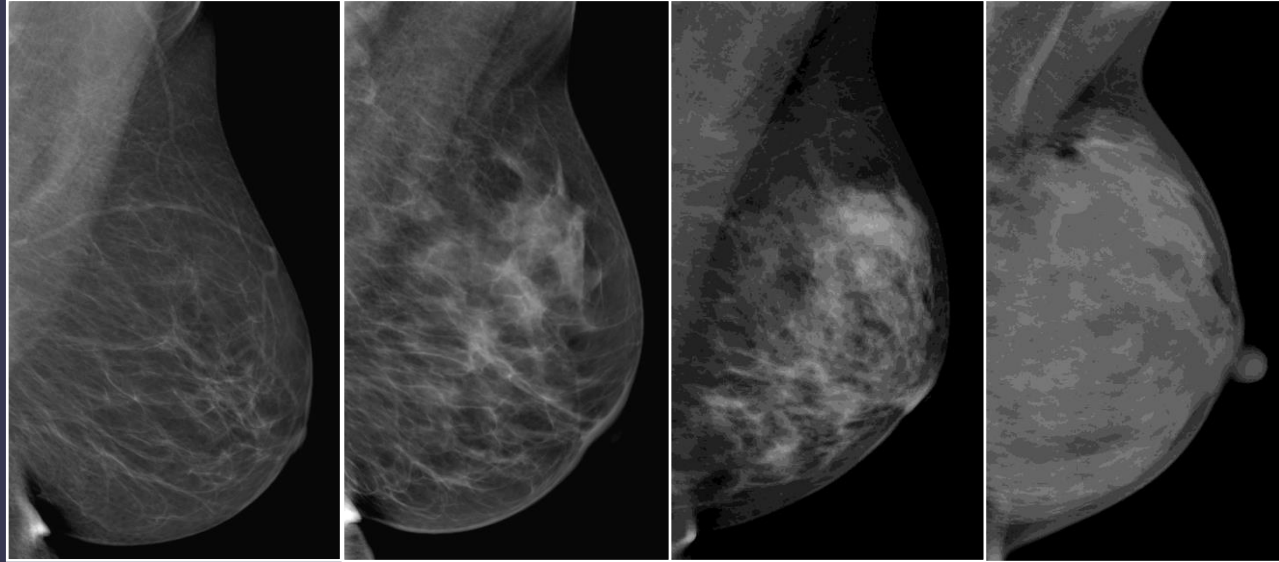


Cotents

- ◆ Gadolinium Deposition and Need for Non-contrast MRI Screening
- ◆ Challenges of DWI as a Stand-alone Screening Modality
- ◆ Concepts and Protocols of Noncontrast DWI Screening Trial in Korea

Limitation of Conventional Imaging

- ◆ Mammography
 - Ca⁺⁺ detection

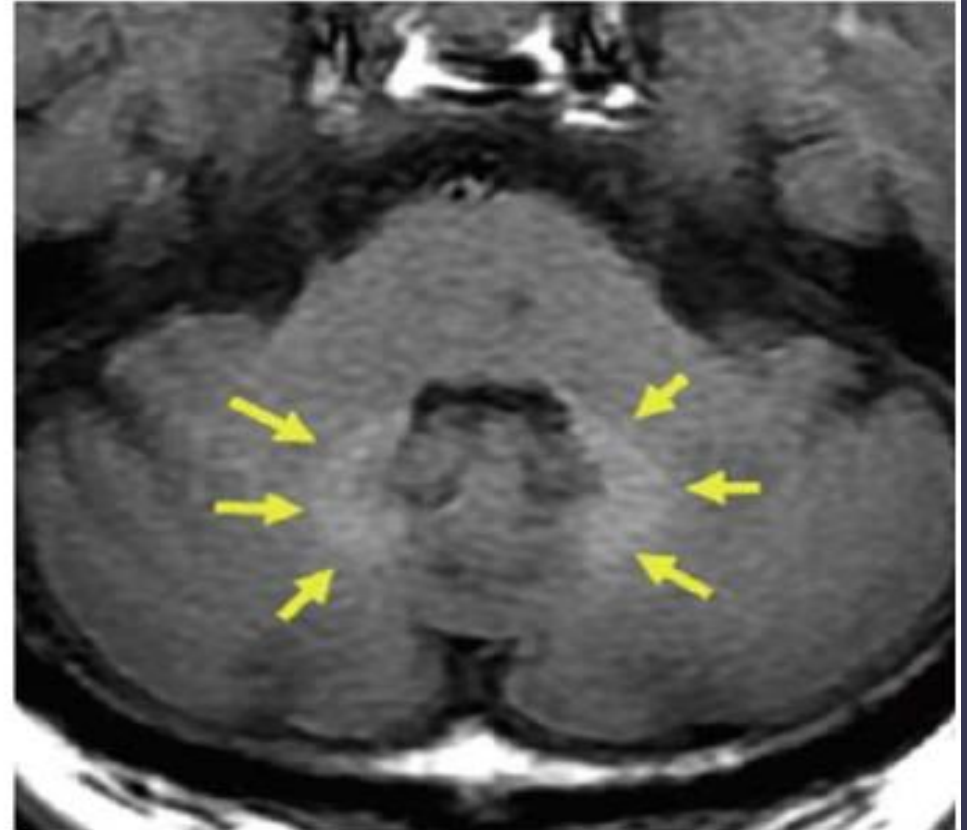
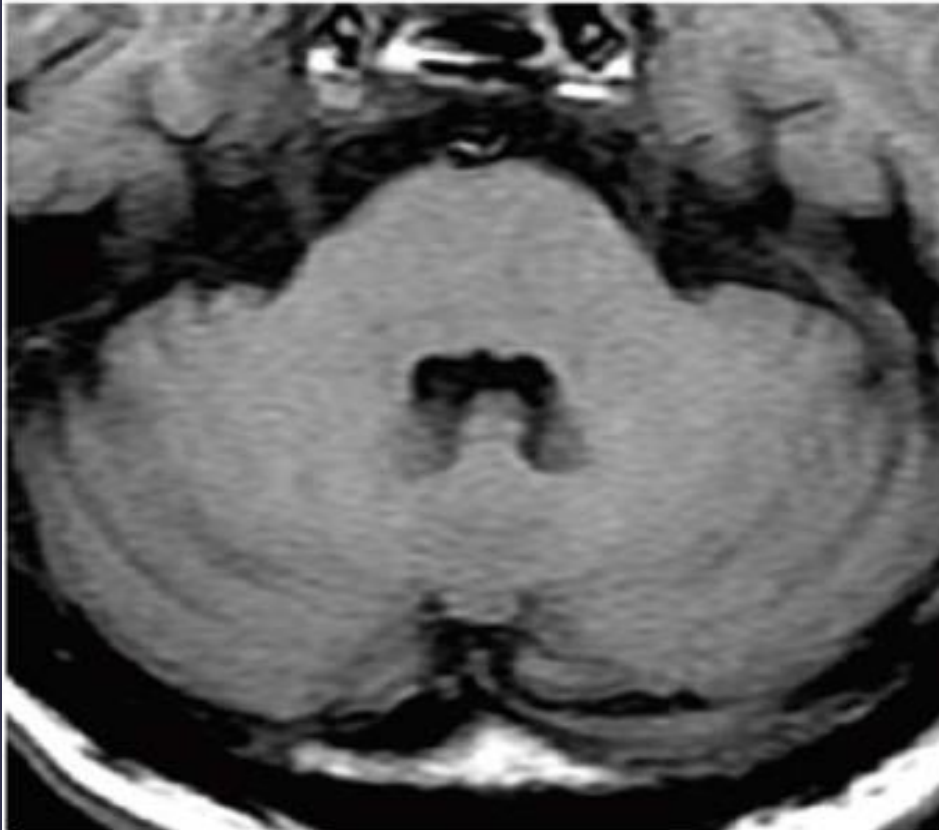


- ◆ US – sensitive but high false-positive rate
- ◆ Conventional DCE-MRI – highest sensitivity for detection of invasive cancer, but modest specificity
 - DCE-MRI needs gadolinium contrast

Gadolinium Deposition

Tomonori Kasida, MD, PhD
Kazunari Ishii, MD, PhD
Hiroaki Kawaguchi, MD
Kazuhiro Kitajima, MD, PhD
Daisuke Takenaka, MD, PhD

High Signal Intensity in the Dentate Nucleus and Globus Pallidus on Unenhanced T1-weighted MR Images: Relationship with Increasing Cumulative Dose of a Gadolinium-based Contrast Material



Gadolinium Deposition

◆ Autopsy of 13 cases (≥ 4) & 10 controls

McDonald RJ, et al. Radiology 2015

- Repeated IV exposure to GBCAs \rightarrow neuronal tissues deposition \rightarrow **Dose-dependent** relationship
 - **Independent of** patient age, sex, baseline renal function, or interval between Gd exposure & death

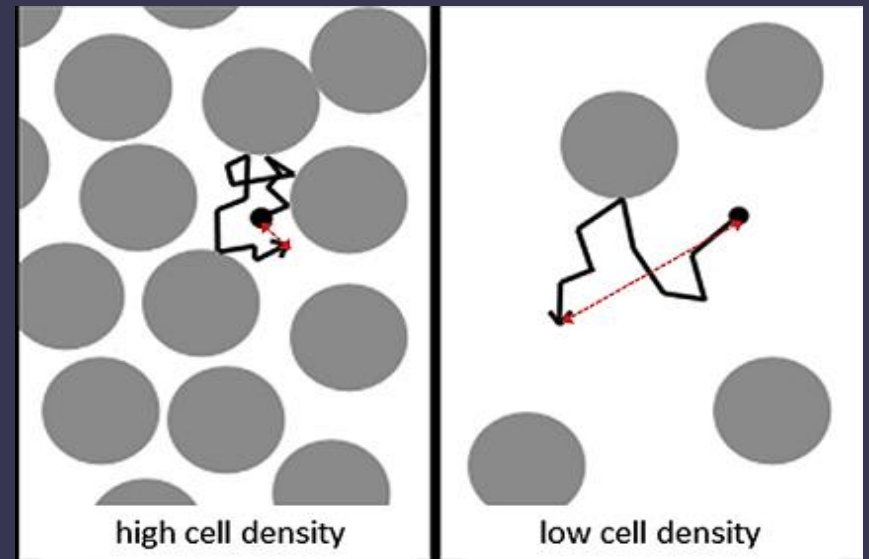
◆ FDA regulatory statements

September 20, 2018

- Minimize repetitive & closely spaced administration
- ◆ *Growing health concerns – Repetitive and long-term use of GBCA used in conventional breast MRI*

Diffusion-weighted Imaging

- ◆ Fast unenhanced MR sequence
 - Motion-sensitizing gradients to measure Brownian motion of water
- ◆ Degree of water diffusion within tissue
 - Inversely correlated to tissue cellularity & integrity of cell membrane



Breast malignancies exhibit restricted diffusion on DWI compared to normal breast tissue

Breast DWI

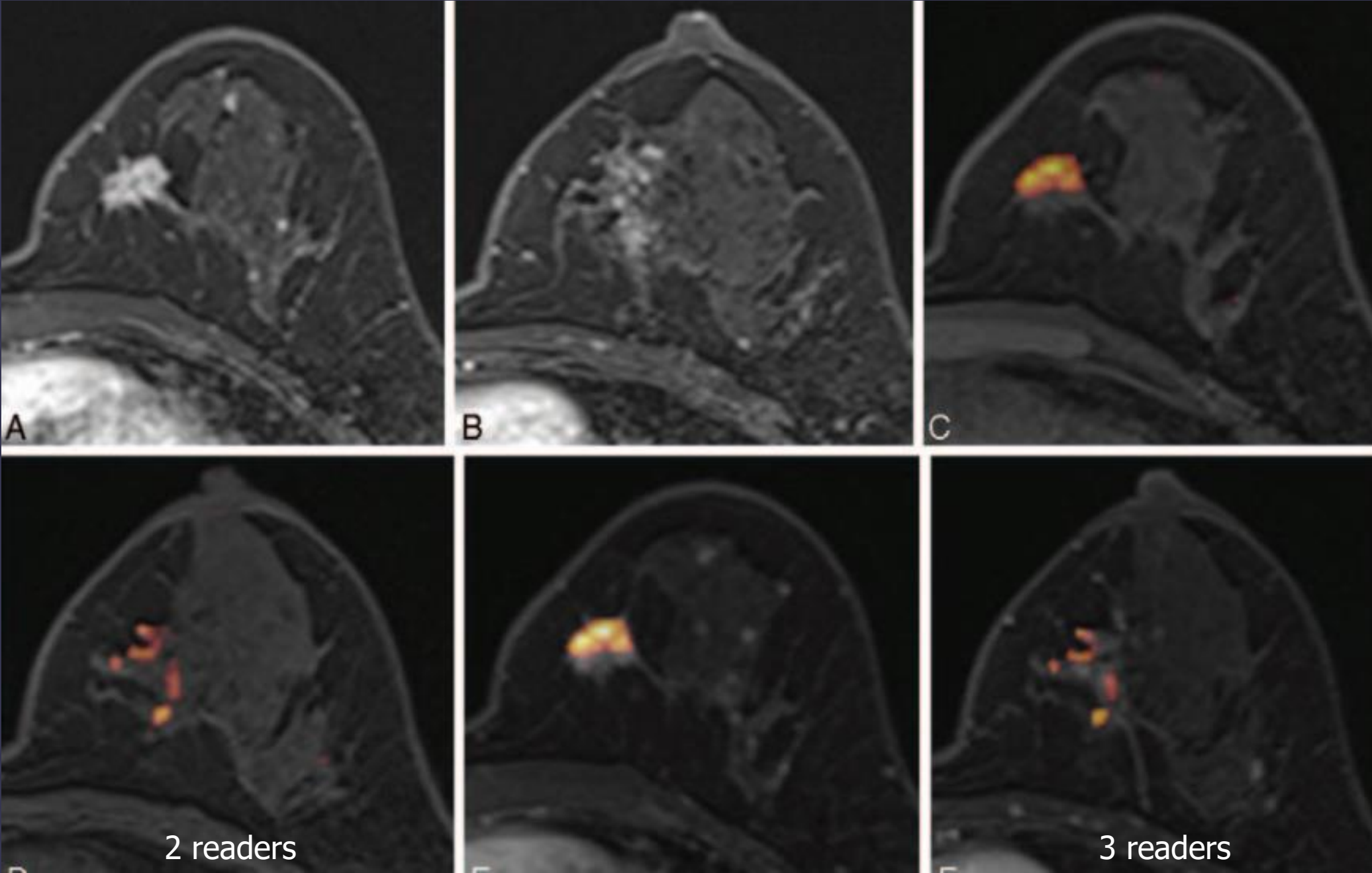
- ◆ Noncontrast MR imaging technique
 - Qualitative and quantitative evaluation of breast lesions with a short scan time
 - As an alternative to Gd-enhanced MR evaluation in patients at risk for nephrogenic systemic sclerosis
 - Can assist in differentiating benign & malignant lesions
 - Identifying early response in tumors undergoing NAC
 - **Noncontrast screening modality**

Diagnostic Performance of Fused Diffusion-Weighted Imaging Using Unenhanced or Postcontrast T1-Weighted MR Imaging in Patients With Breast Cancer

Hee Jung Shin, MD, Eun Young Chae, MD, Woo Jung Choi, MD, Su Min Ha, MD, Jin Young Park, MD, Ki Chang Shin, BA, Joo Hee Cha, MD, and Hak Hee Kim, MD

- ◆ Fused DWI: Non-contrast vs. early post-contrast
 - 87 pts with 129 lesions – preoperative staging
- ◆ Compare the diagnostic performance of UFMR & PCFMR
 - UFMR – fused DWI using unenhanced T1WI + high b-value DWI
 - PCFMR – fused DWI using early post-C T1WI + high b-value DWI
 - Five readers – lesion detection, size, BIRADS final assessment, probability of malignancy, lesion conspicuity, ADCs
 - Detection rates of index malignant lesions – similar
 - Lesion conspicuity – significantly higher on PCFMR than UFMR

44-year-old patient with an IDC of the left breast



Meta-analysis of DWI

Studies	N	Sensitivity	Specificity
All studies	14	0.92 (0.87–0.95)	0.86 (0.80–0.90)
DCE-MRI alone	10	0.93 (0.85–0.97)	0.71 (0.64–0.83)
DWI alone	10	0.86 (0.75–0.94)	0.70 (0.51–0.85)
1.5 T	8	0.94 (0.91–0.96)	0.85 (0.79–0.89)
3.0 T	6	0.86 (0.82–0.89)	0.84 (0.79–0.88)
b>1000	5	0.86 (0.75–0.94)	0.70 (0.51–0.85)
b<1000	8	0.94 (0.91–0.96)	0.85 (0.79–0.89)
High quality	6	0.95 (0.89–0.98)	0.86 (0.75–0.92)
Suboptimal quality	8	0.87 (0.80–0.92)	0.86 (0.79–0.91)

Benign vs. Malignant lesions

Sensitivity and specificity of DWI: 86% & 76%
Sensitivity and specificity of DCE-MRI: 93% & 71%

Diagnostic NC-DWI

Author	Total (Cancer%)	Field Strength	NC-MRI technique	Study population	Sen.	Sp.
Baltzer, 2010	67%	1.5T	ssEPI, T2-TSE	BIRADS 4/5 masses	94%	73%
Yabuuchi, 2011	67%	1.5T	ssEPI, b=1000 T2-STIR	Mixed: asymptomatic cancer	94%	73%
Wu, 2013	45%	3T	ssEPI, T2-TSE	BIRADS 4/5	94%	58%
Trimboli, 2014	32%	1.5T	ssEPI, T2-TSE	Screening detected	92%	96%
Telegraf, 2014	32%	1.5T	ssEPI, T2-TSE	Screening detected BIRADS 4/5; dense family Hx, dense	92%	96%
Shin, 2016	83%	1.5T	ssEPI, STIR	Mixed; cancer or equivocal	79%	97%
Shin, 2016	83%	3T	rsEPI, b=1000 MIP, T1-VIBE	Biopsy-proven malignancy	92%	86%
Baltzer, 2018	59%	3T	rsEPI, b=850	BIRADS 4/5	91%	73%
Pinker, 2018	63%	3T	ssEPI, b=850	BIRADS 0/4/5	82%	87%

**Wide Variations of Sensitivity & Specificity
d/t Heterogeneity of DWI technique
Lack of standardization of interpretation criteria**

Potential Clinical Roles

- ◆ Reduce toxicity of GBCA for annual screening of **high-risk women**
- ◆ Cost-effective supplementary tool to MG in **intermediate-risk women** with dense breasts
- ◆ Women with **contraindication to contrast**:
 - Pregnancy, reduced GFR, allergies
- ◆ Benefit of screening DWI over CE-MRI
 - Lesion detection on DWI – **Independent of BPE**, breast density, menopausal status, or timing during menstrual cycle

Hidetake Yabuuchi
Yoshio Matsuo
Shunya Sunami
Takeshi Kamitani
Satoshi Kawanami
Taro Setoguchi
Shuji Sakai
Masamitsu Hatakenaka
Makoto Kubo
Eriko Tokunaga
Hidetaka Yamamoto
Hiroshi Honda

Detection of non-palpable breast cancer in asymptomatic women by using unenhanced diffusion-weighted and T2-weighted MR imaging: comparison with mammography and dynamic contrast-enhanced MR imaging

Diffusion-Weighted MRI as an Adjunct to Mammography in Women Under 50 Years of Age: An Initial Study

Toshiki Kazama, MD,^{1*} Yoshifumi Kuroki, MD,¹

Breast Cancer Detection with Double Reading of MRI

Rubina M. Trimboli¹
Nicola Verardi¹
Francesco Cartia²
Luca A. Carlini¹
Emanuela...

Noncontrast MRI – higher performance & sensitivity than MG alone, but lower than CE-MRI


... (T1-weighted TSE, T2-weighted TSE, DWIBS): An accurate strategy for detecting and differentiating breast lesions☆

Michele Telegrafo, Leonarda Rella, Amato Antonio Stabile Ianora, Giuseppe Angelelli, Ma...

Elizabeth S. McDonald^{1,2}
Jill A. Hammersley¹
Shinn-Huey S. Chou¹
Habib Rahbar¹
John R. Scheel¹
Christoph I. Lee¹
Cheng-Liang Liu¹
Constance D. Lehman¹
Savannah C. Partridge¹

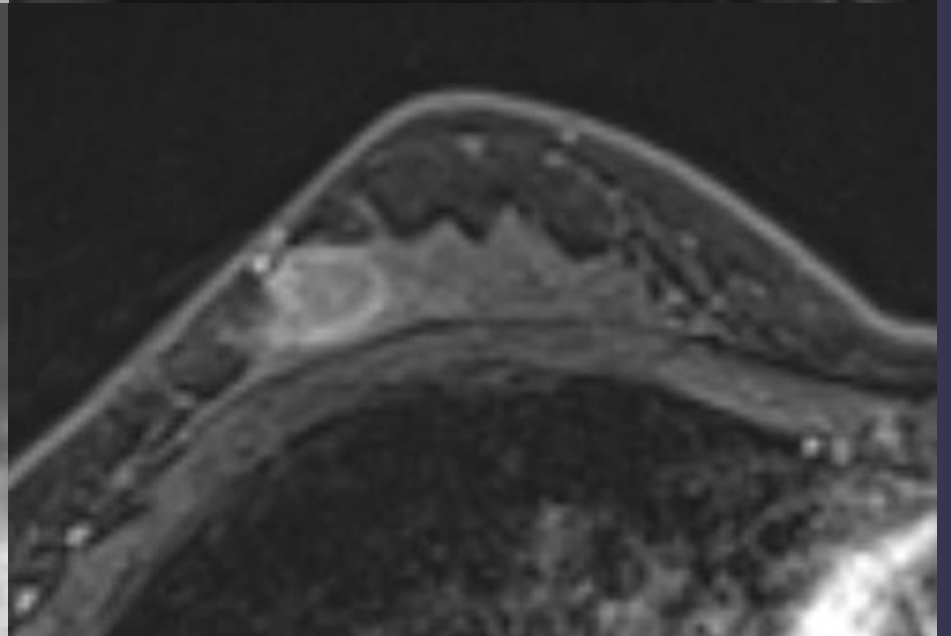
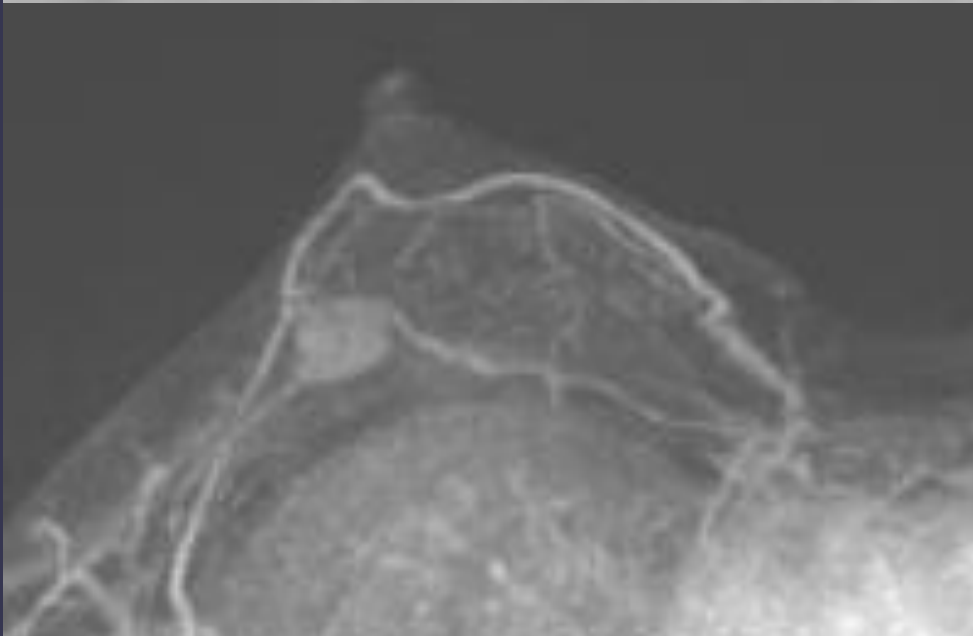
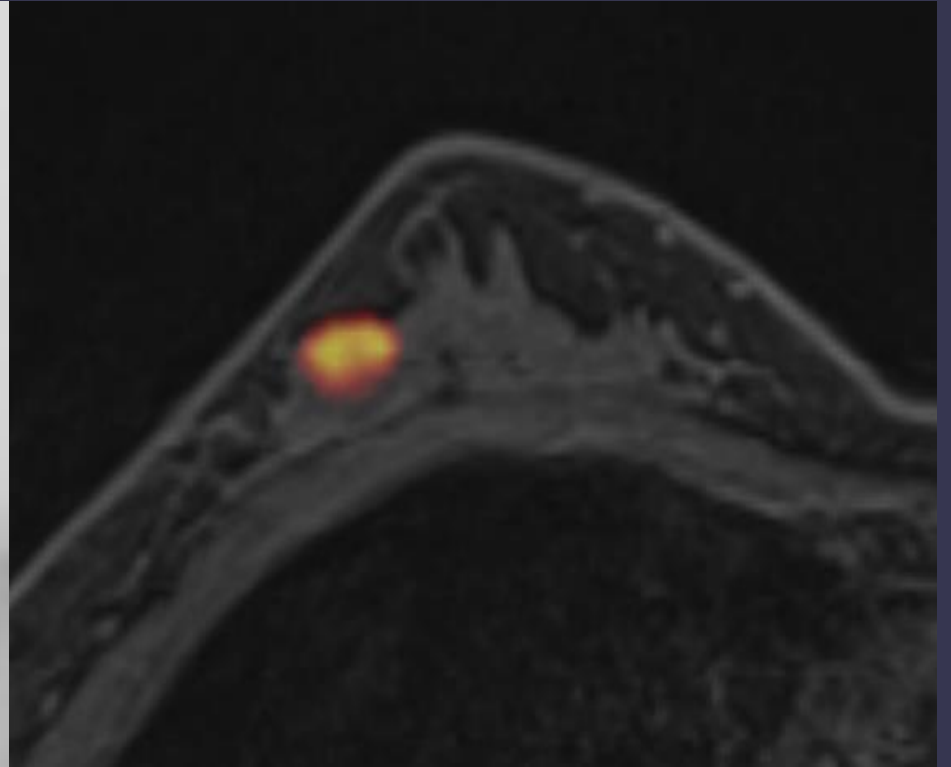
Performance of DWI as a Rapid Unenhanced Technique for Detecting Mammographically Occult Breast Cancer in Elevated-Risk Women With Dense Breasts

Unenhanced magnetic resonance screening using fused diffusion-weighted imaging and maximum-intensity projection in patients with a personal history of breast cancer: role of fused DWI for postoperative screening

Ji Won Kang¹ · Hee Jung Shin¹  · Ki Chang Shin¹ · Eun Young Chae¹ · Woo Jung Choi¹ · Joo Hee Cha¹ · Hak Hee Kim¹

- ◆ Screening: Non-contrast fused DWI vs. DCE-MRI at 3T
 - 343 pts with a personal history of breast cancer
 - Three radiologists – lesion detection & final assessment
 - Non-contrast fused DWI & DWI MIPs
 - Full protocol DCE-MRI & DCE MIPs
- ◆ Acquisition time – 10 min↓ vs. reading time – 10 sec↓
- ◆ Sensitivity of 93% (89~100%)
- ◆ Specificity of 94% (93-95%)

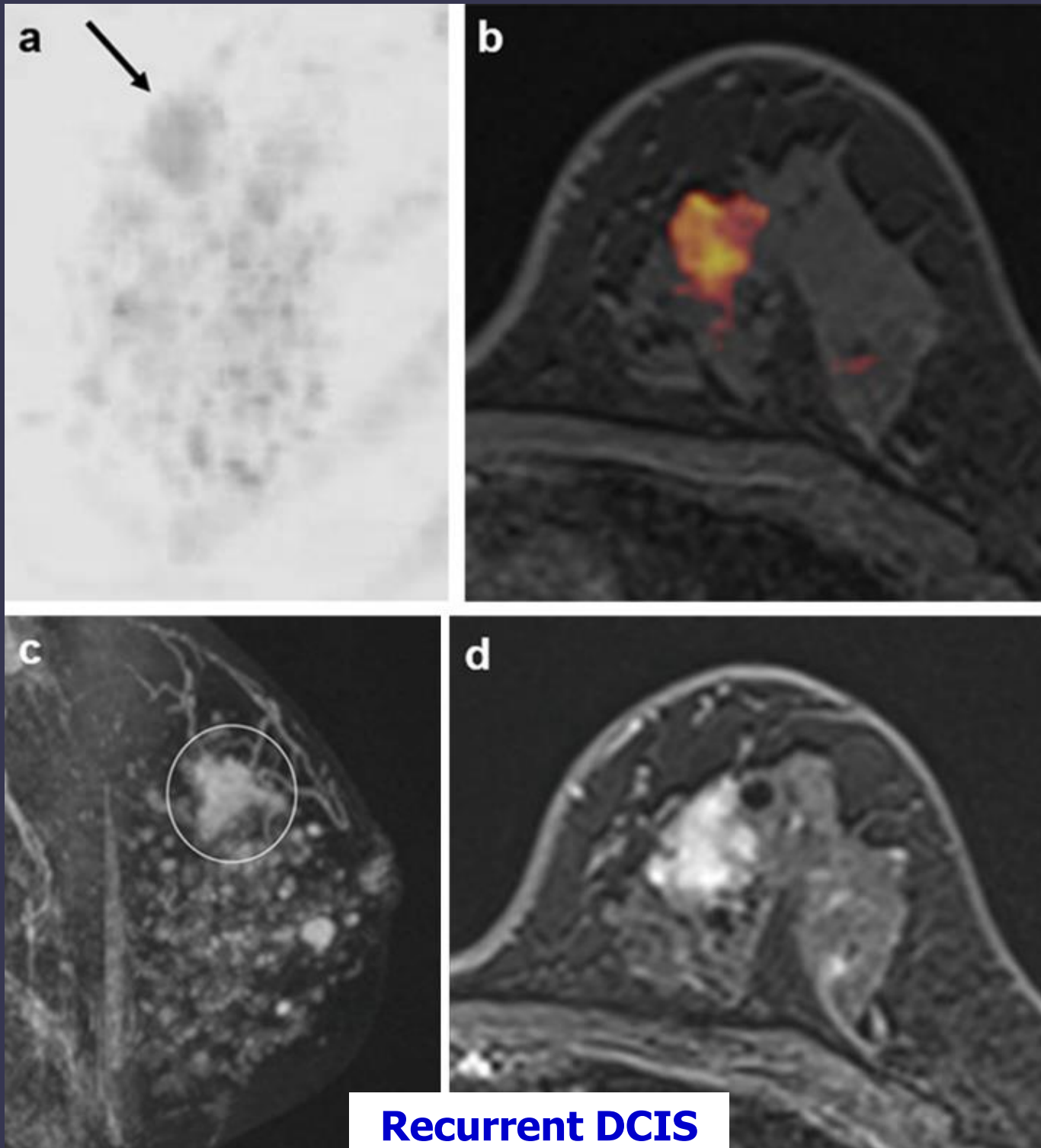
A 43-year-old patient who underwent left mastectomy due to IDC 3 years ago



Recurrent invasive ductal carcinoma



A 52-year-old patient who underwent right mastectomy due to DCIS 3 years ago



Recurrent DCIS

Screening DWI

Author	Total (Cancer%)	Field Strength	NC-MRI Sequence	Voxel size	Study population	Sen	Sp	PPV	NPV
Yabuuchi 2011	63 (67%)	1.5T	ssEPI, T2WI	2.8x4x5	Asymptomatic with BIRADS 4/5 on DCE-MRI	50	94	79	94
Kazama 2012	46 (27%)	1.5T	ssEPI, T2WI, ADC	1.8x3x5	Patient with suspicious or US findings & high-risk screening	94	79	79	94
Trimboli 2014	67 (32%)	1.5T	ssEPI						
Mc...		& 3T	rsEPI, T2WI, T1WI, ADC	1.9x1.9x5 & 1.5x1.5x3	High-risk women with dense breast, matched case-control	45	91	63	81
Kang (AMC) 2017	343 (2.5%)	3T	rsEPI MIP, fused T1WI	1.7x1.7x3	Asymptomatic women with history of breast cancer	93	94	30	99.7

Sensitivity: 45~94% and specificity: 79~95%
d/t Advanced technique (rs-EPI or DWIBS)
MR scanner (1.5T or 3T)

Challenges of Screening DWI

◆ False Negatives

- Low spatial resolution
- Variable image quality
- Low lesion conspicuity

Addressed by

- Protocol optimization
- Advanced technique

◆ False Positives →

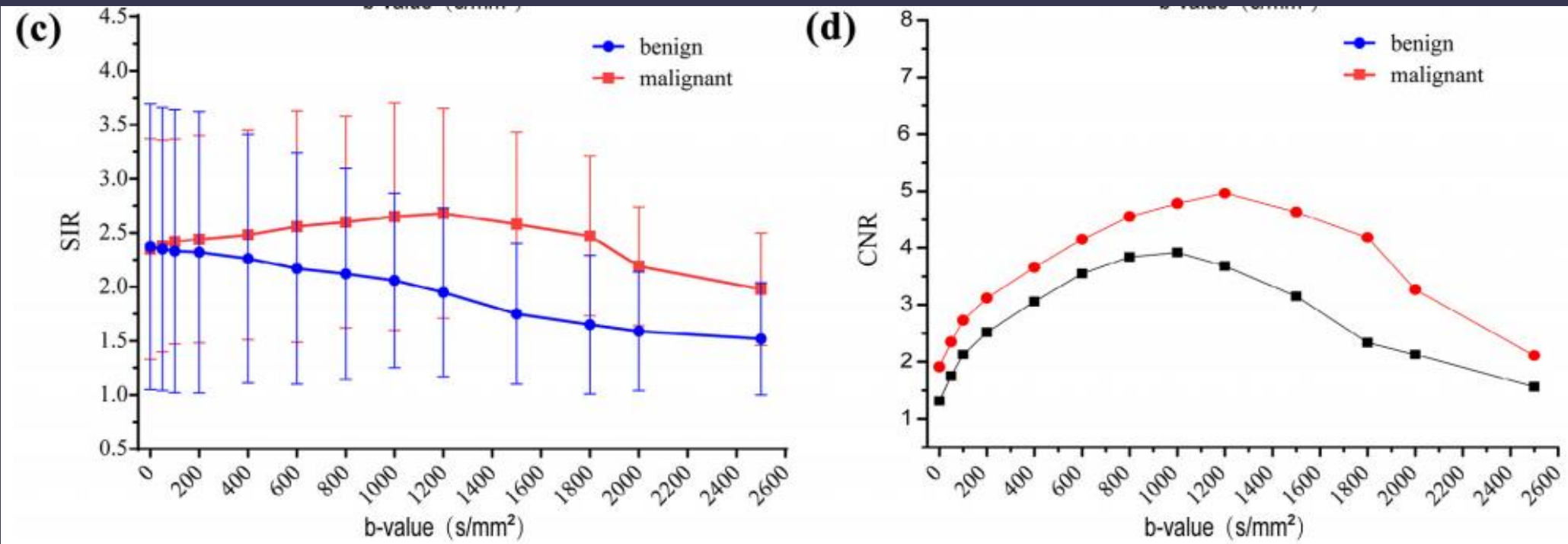
- Refined interpretation strategies
- Optimized ADC cutoffs

DWI Protocol Optimization

- ◆ European Society of Breast Radiology guideline
 - Field strength $\geq 1.5T$
 - Max. gradient strength – a least 30 mT/m
 - Dedicated breast coil ≥ 4 channels
 - EPI-based axial acquisition of bilateral breasts
 - In-plane resolution $\leq 2 \times 2 \text{ mm}^2$ & thickness $\leq 4 \text{ mm}$
 - TE as low as possible & TR $\geq 3000 \text{ ms}$
 - High quality shimming
 - Parallel imaging with acceleration factor of 2~4

b-value Selection at 3T

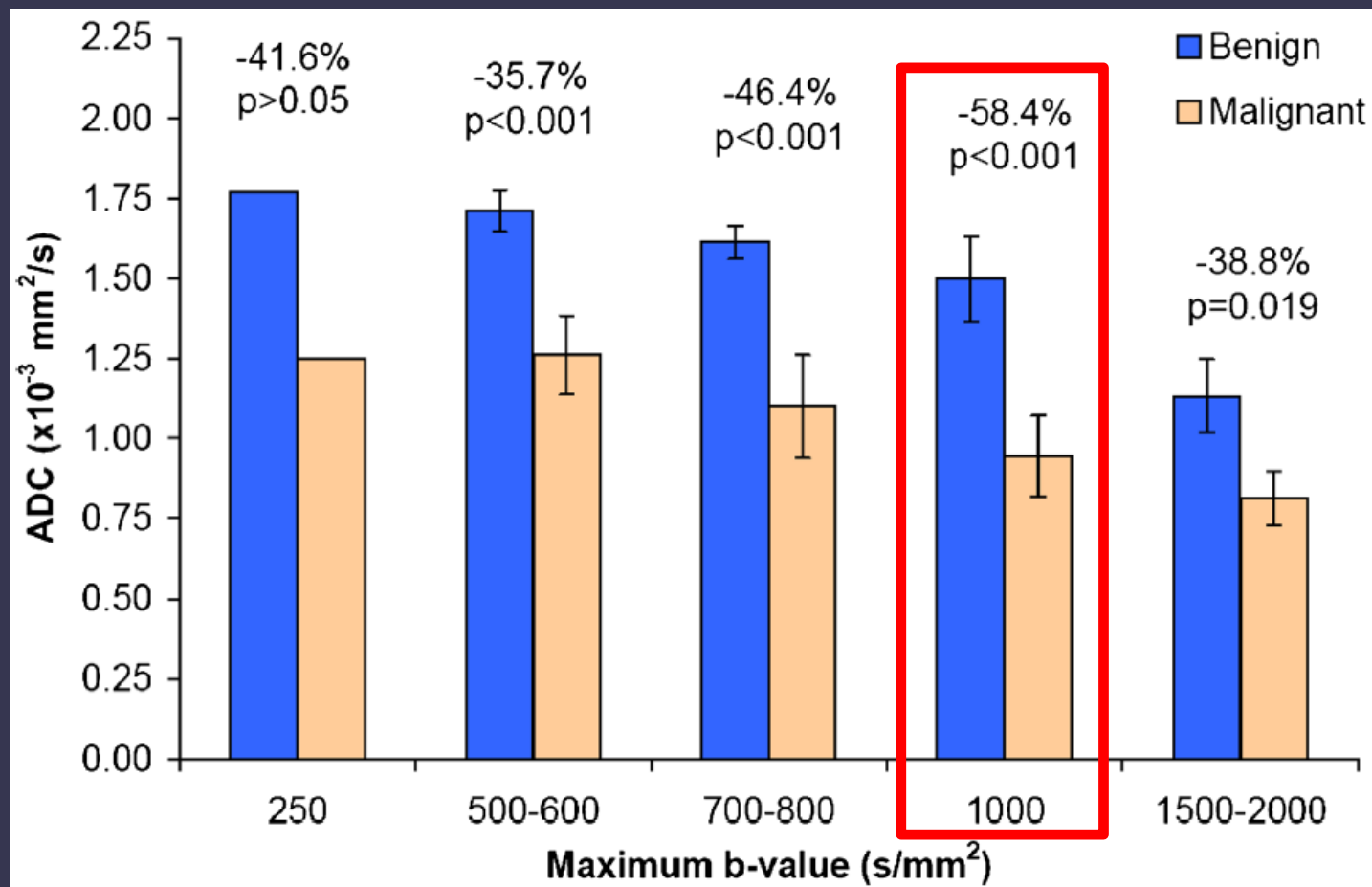
◆ Effect on lesion conspicuity



Signal intensity ratio (SIR), and contrast-to-noise ratio (CNR) of lesions at different b-values

Effect of b value & Contrast

- ◆ Meta-analysis of 26 articles at 1.5T scanner
 - Two b-values – b=0 & 10000 – best for differentiating benign from malignant lesions



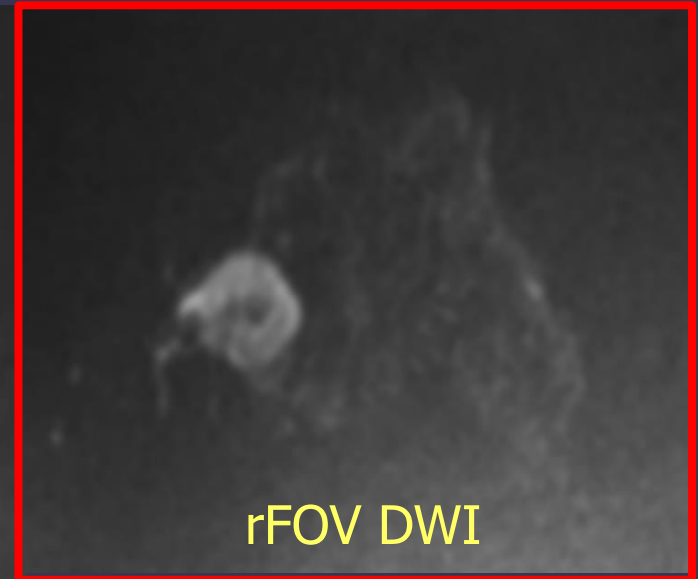
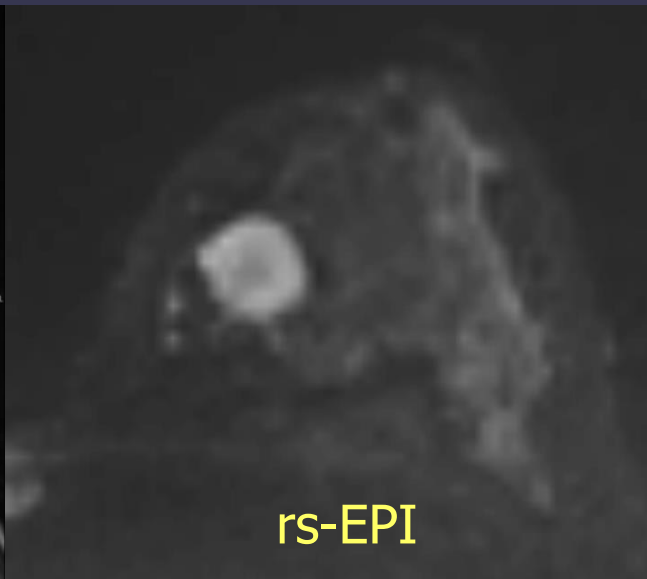
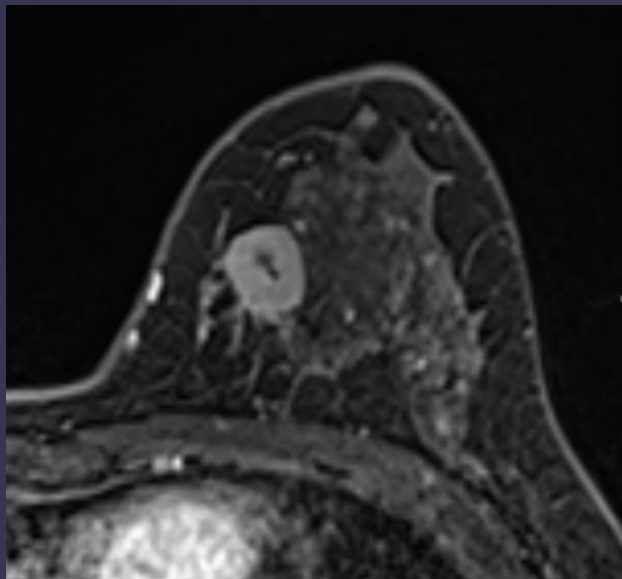
Advanced Technique

- ◆ High-resolution DWI
 - readout-segmented EPI (rs-EPI)
 - reduced field-of-view EPI (rFOV EPI)
- ◆ Image registration algorithms
 - reduce spatial inaccuracies and artifacts
- ◆ DWI MIPs and DWIBS
- ◆ Fusion of high b-value DWI to use T1WI or T2WI
- ◆ Computed high b-value DWI

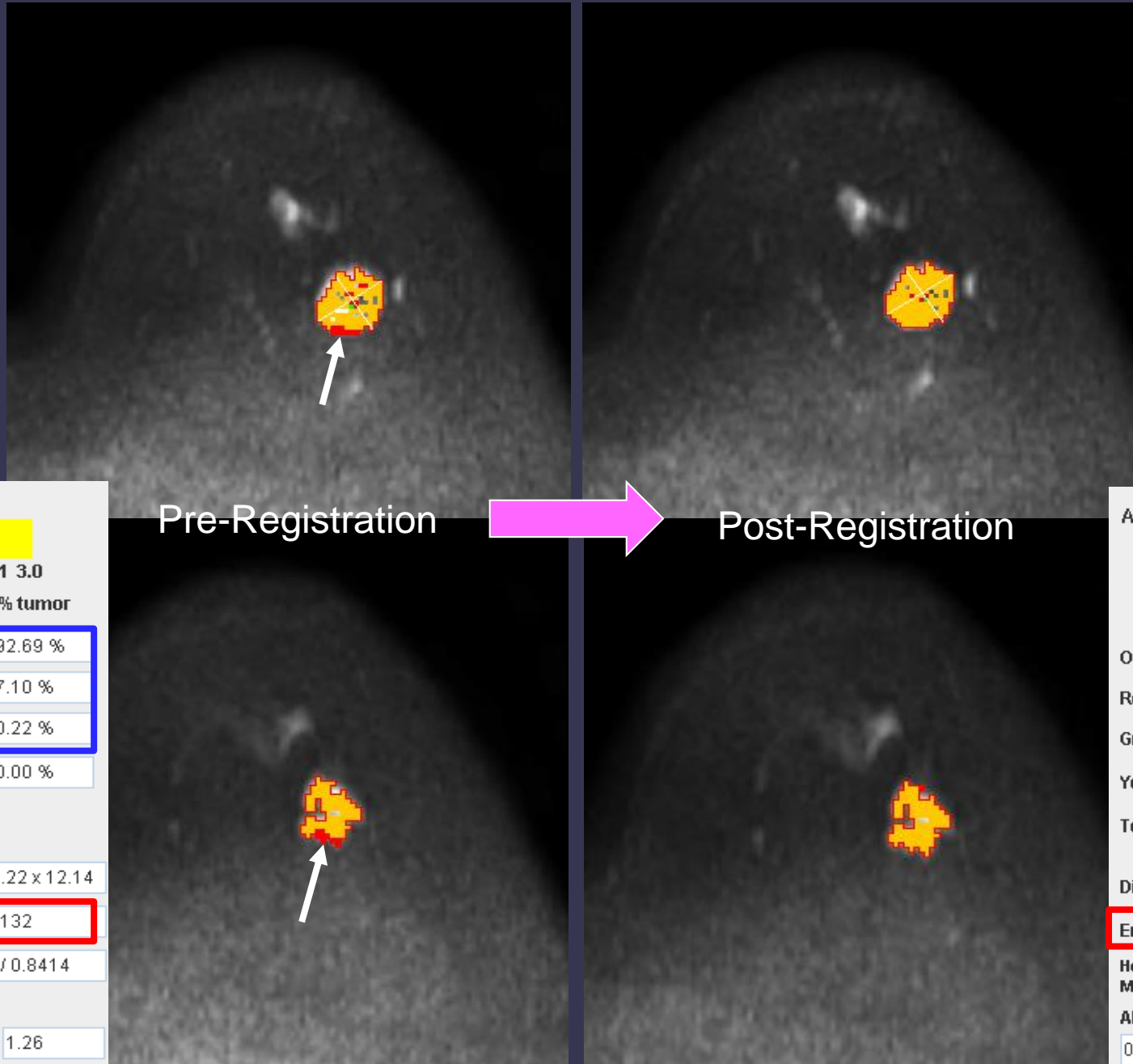
Comparison of Readout Segmented Echo Planar Imaging (EPI) and EPI With Reduced Field-of-View Diffusion-Weighted Imaging at 3T in Patients With Breast Cancer

rs-EPI (1.7 x 1.7 x 3 mm) vs. rFOV-DWI (0.6 x 0.6 x 3 mm)

rFOV DWI – higher image quality, lesion conspicuity, signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) than rs-EPI



DWI Registration



Pre-Registration

Post-Registration

ADC Range	
0	0.8 1.25 1.51 3.0
volume(cc)	% tumor
Orange	1.460 cc 92.69 %
Red	0.112 cc 7.10 %
Green	0.003 cc 0.22 %
Yellow	0.000 cc 0.00 %
Total Vol.	1.575 cc
Diameter(mm)	18.28 x 16.22 x 12.14
Entropy	7.1132
Hot-spot ADC Min / Max	0.1731 / 0.8414
ADC Mean/Min/Max	0.46 0.10 1.26

ADC Range	
0	0.8 1.25 1.51 3.0
volume(cc)	% tumor
Orange	1.558 cc 98.50 %
Red	0.020 cc 1.28 %
Green	0.003 cc 0.21 %
Yellow	0.000 cc 0.00 %
Total Vol.	1.582 cc
Diameter(mm)	18.28 x 16.22 x 12.14
Entropy	6.7929
Hot-spot ADC Min / Max	0.1762 / 0.7254
ADC Mean/Min/Max	0.45 0.10 1.28

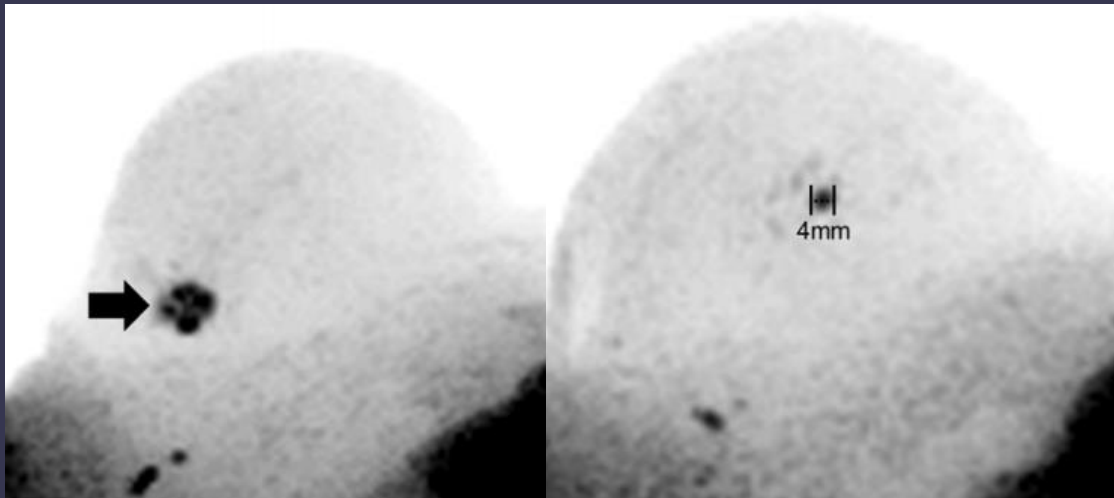
Sebastian Bickelhaupt, MD
Frederik B. Laun, PhD
Jana Tesdorff, MD
Wolfgang Lederer, MD
Heidi Daniel, MD
Anne Stieber, MD
Stefan Delorme, MD
Heinz-Peter Schlemmer, MD, PhD

Fast and Noninvasive Characterization of Suspicious Lesions Detected at Breast Cancer X-Ray Screening:

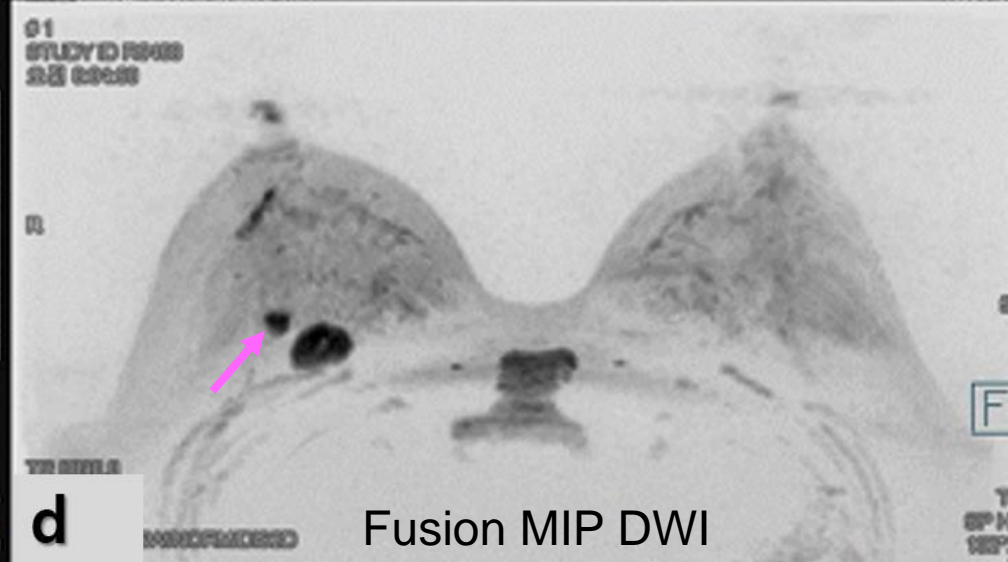
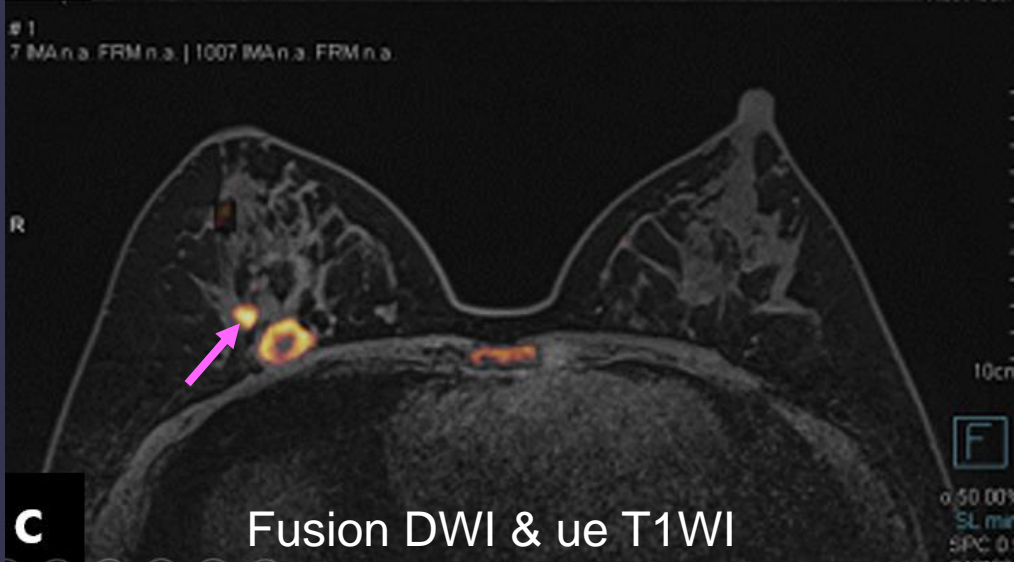
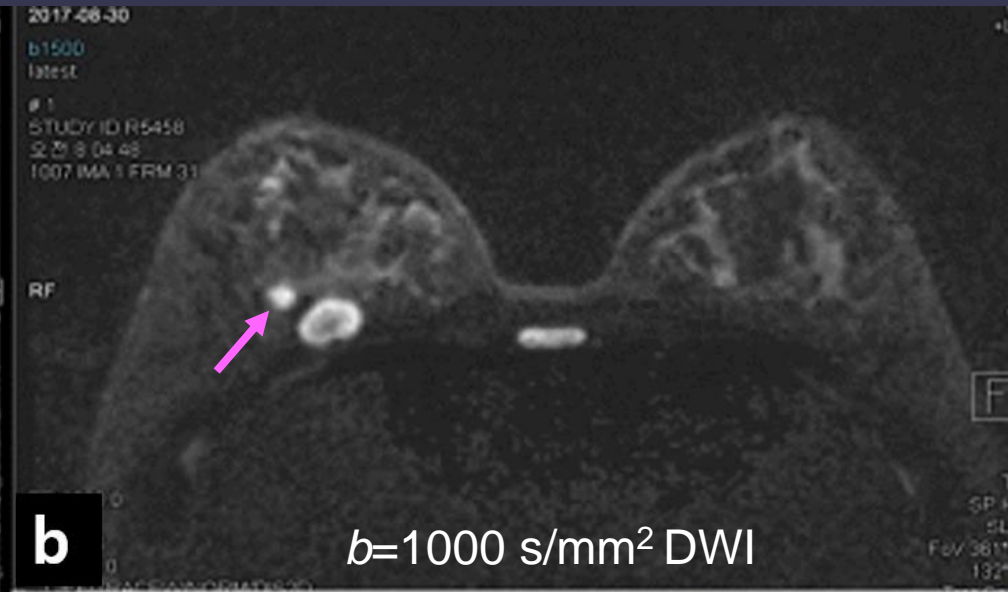
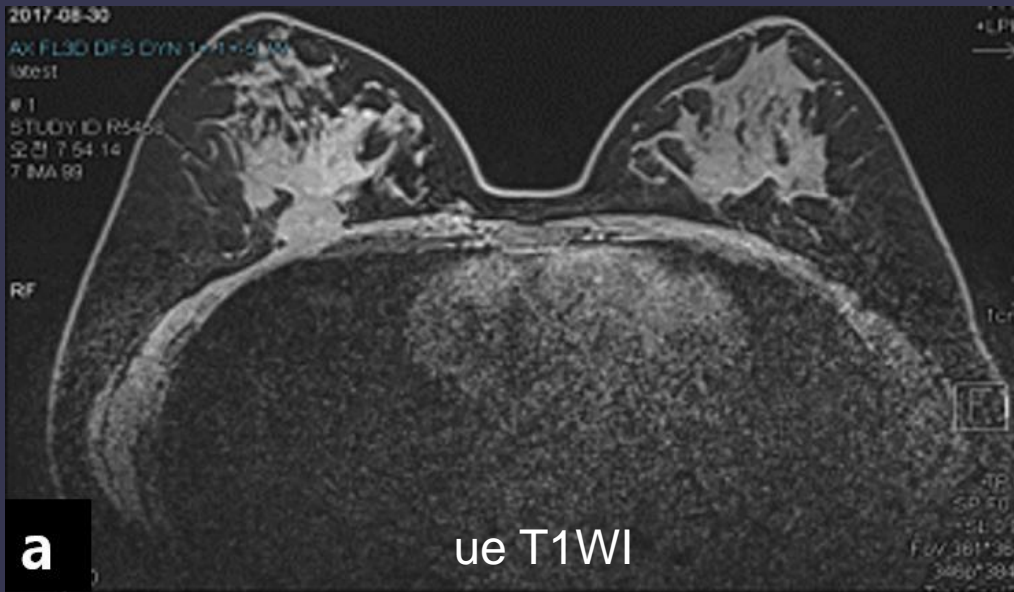
Capability of Diffusion-weighted MR Imaging with MIPs¹

- ◆ DWI with background suppression (DWIBS)
 - 50 women with suspicious screening MG
 - DWI with DWIBS had an NPV of 92% & an acquisition time of less than 7 min

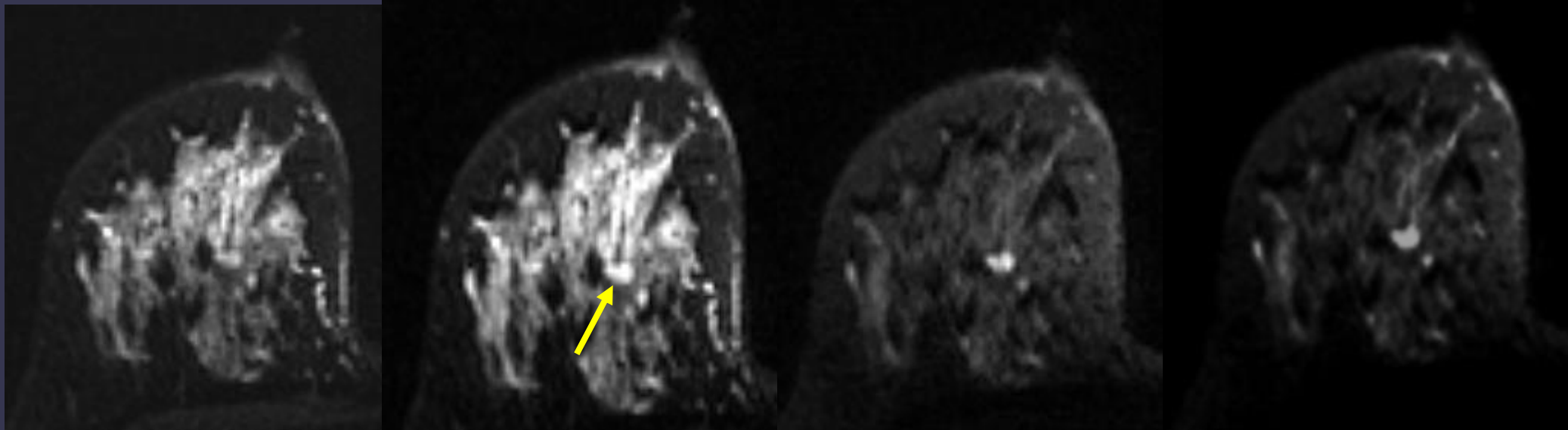
	Time	Sensitivity	Specificity	NPV	PPV
DWI & DWIBS	29.7s	92	94	92	93
1 st CEMR & MIP	29.6s	85	90	87	89



Fused DWI



Computed DWI

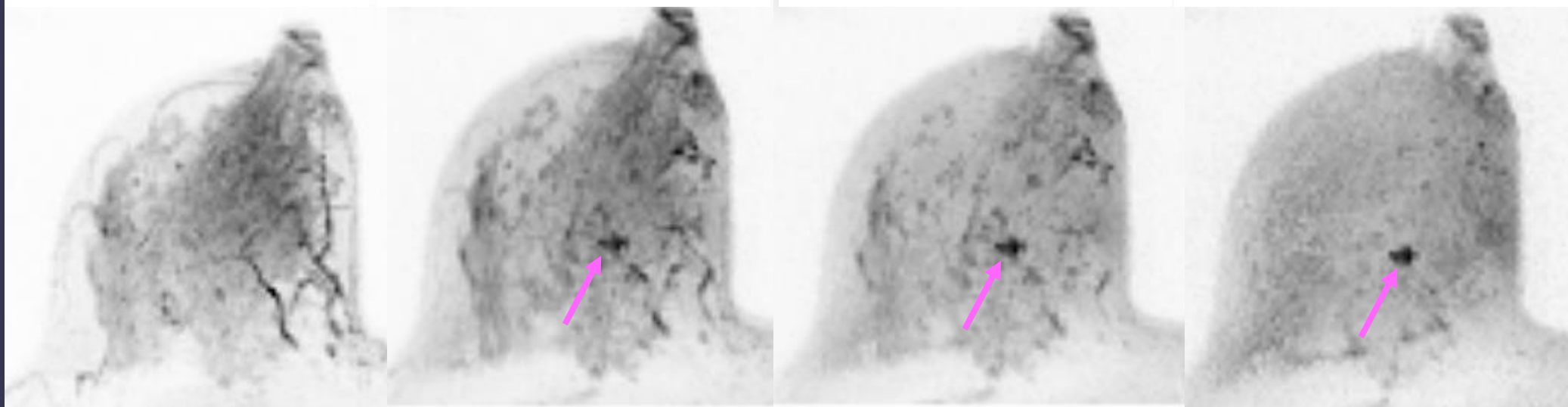


Acquired $b=0$ s/mm²

Computed $b=500$ s/mm²

Acquired $b=1000$ s/mm²

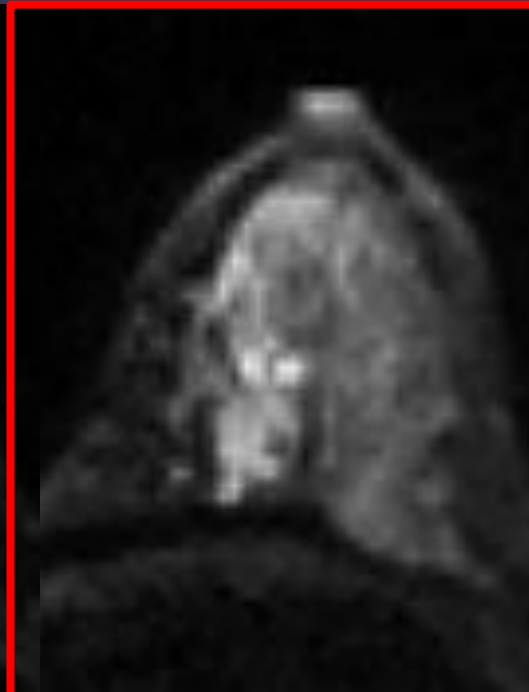
Computed $b=1500$ s/mm²



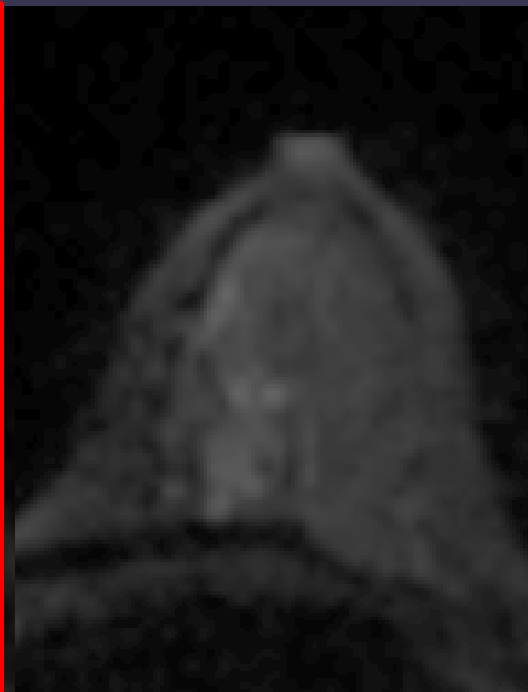
Computed DWI



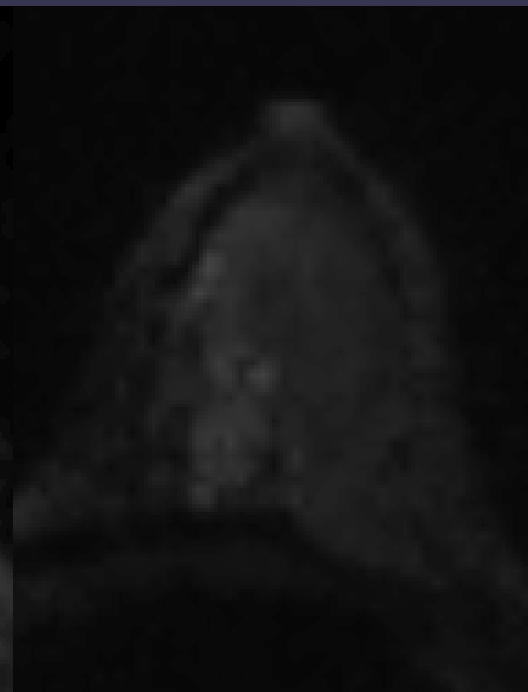
Acquired $b=0$ s/mm²



Computed $b=500$ s/mm²



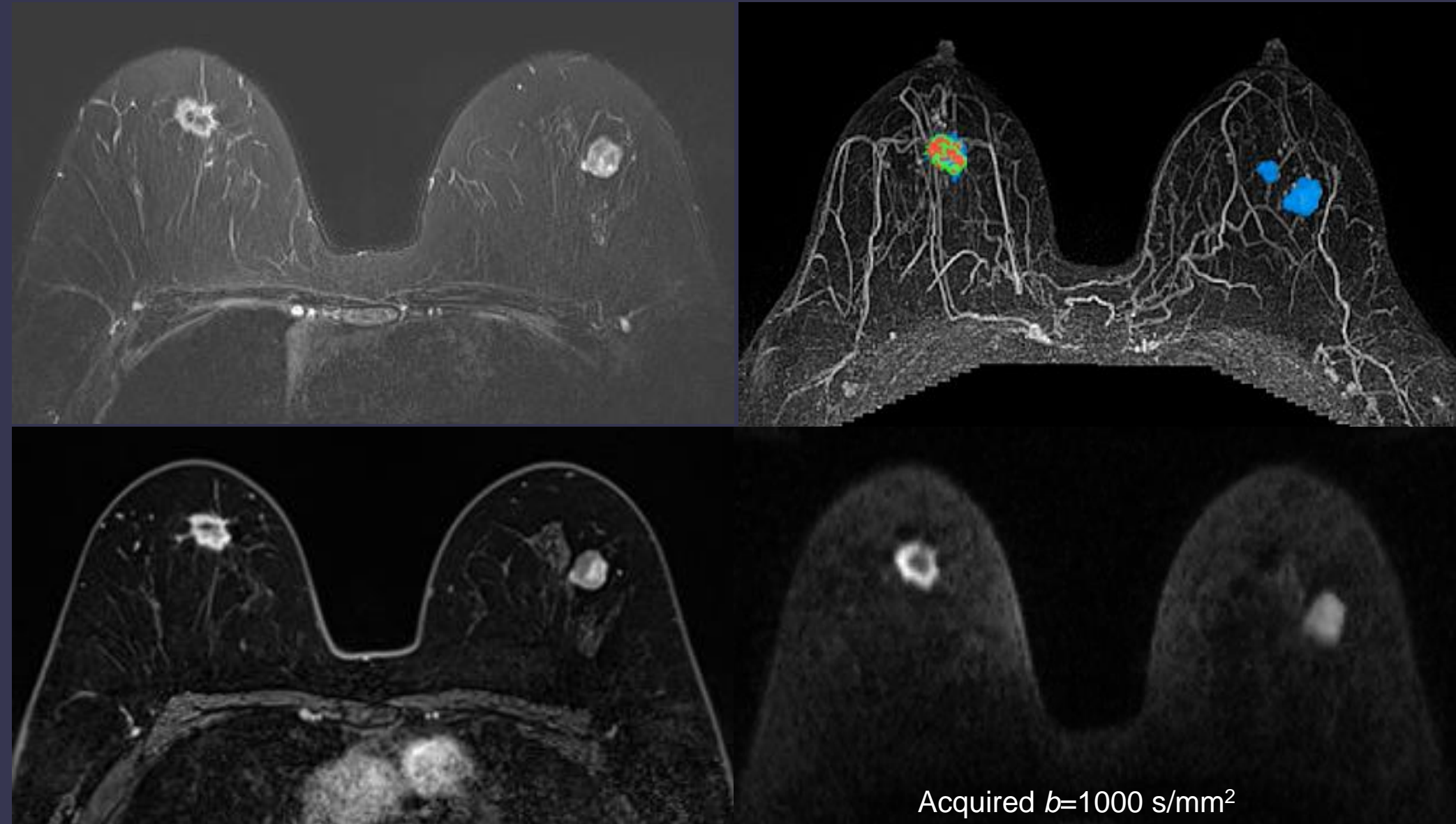
Acquired $b=1000$ s/mm²

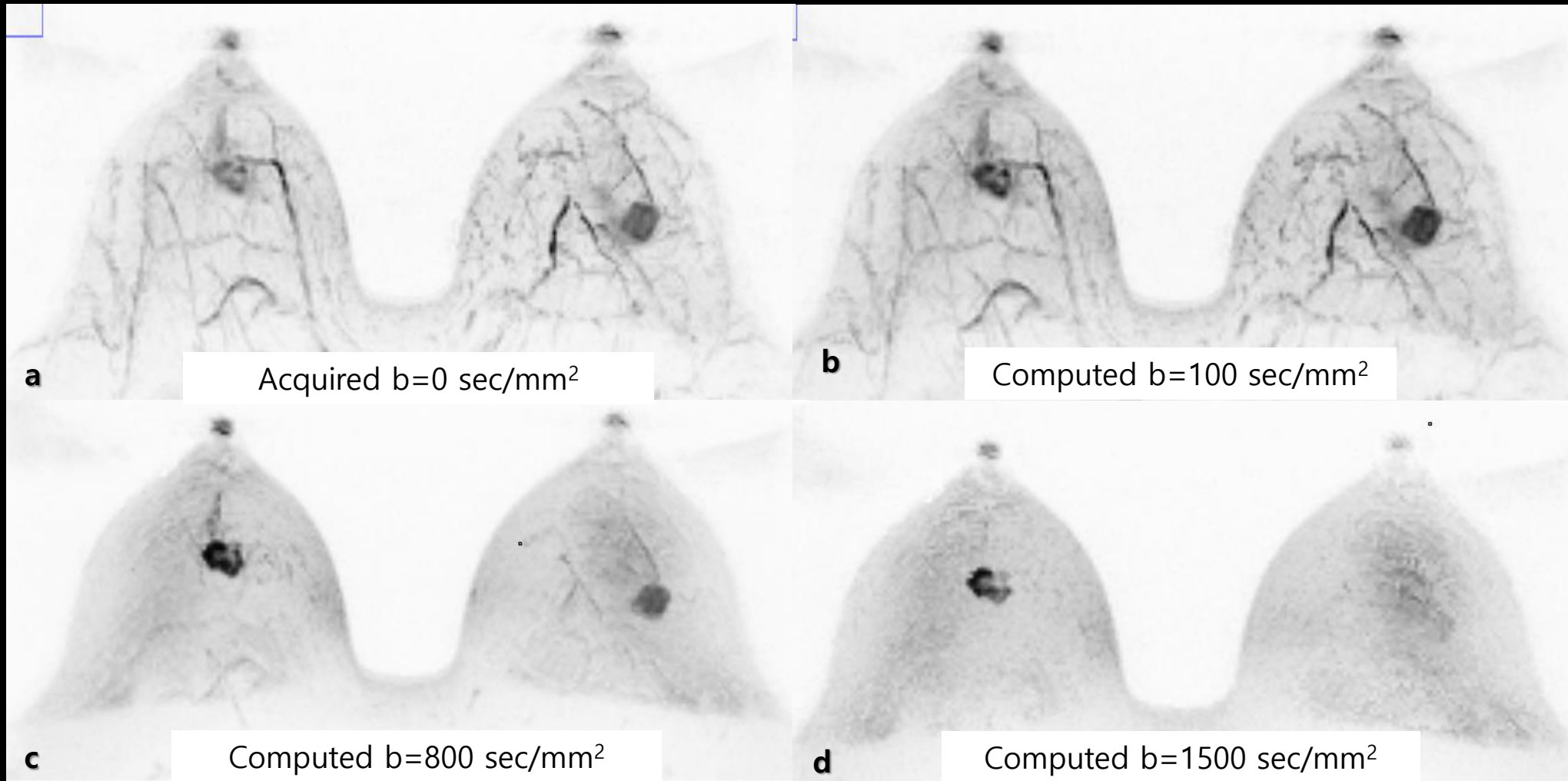


Computed $b=1500$ s/mm²

DCIS – may benefit from lower b value DWI

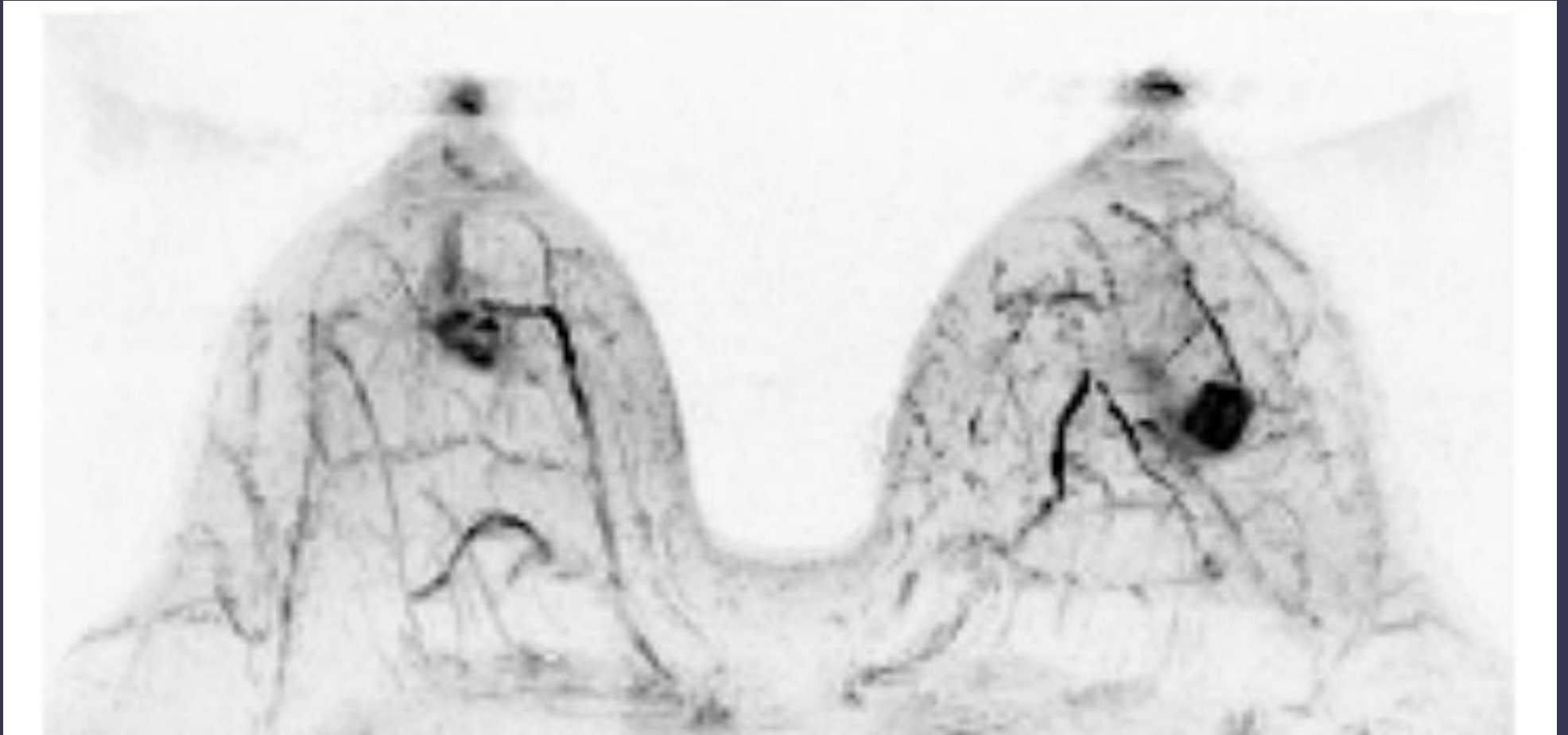
F/51 Rt cancer, Lt benign



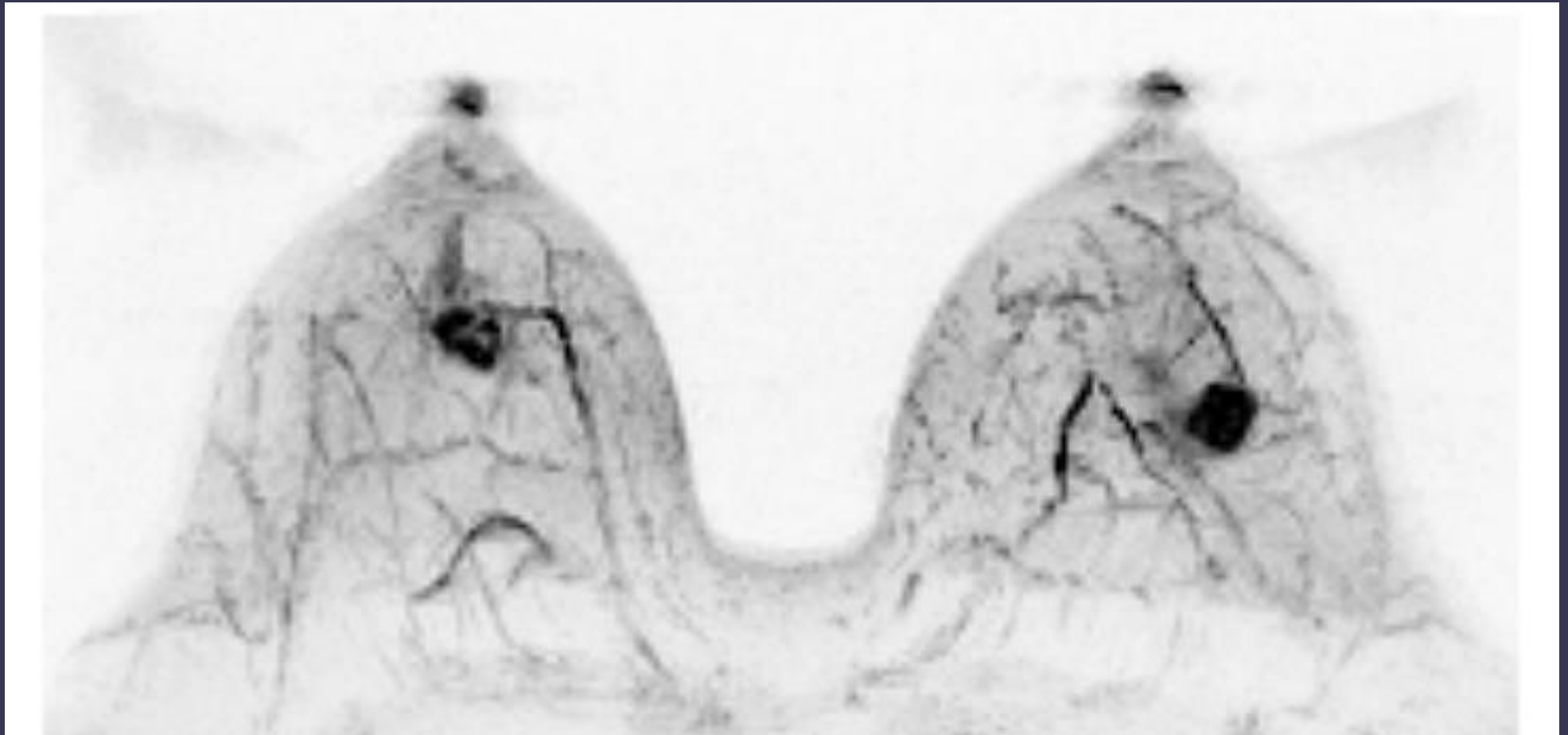


ADC $0.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{sec}$ (Rt) & $1.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{sec}$ (Lt)

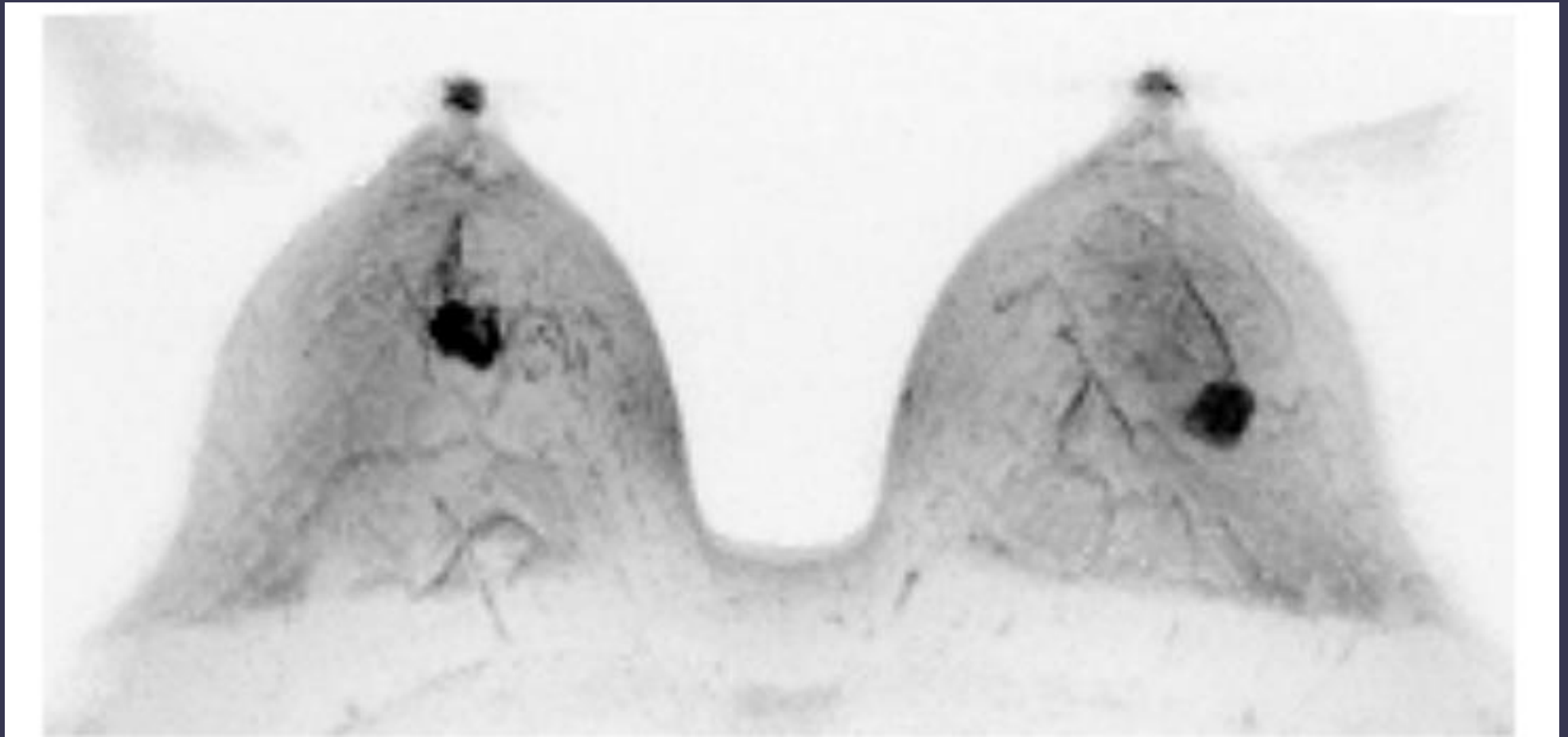
Computed MIP Series



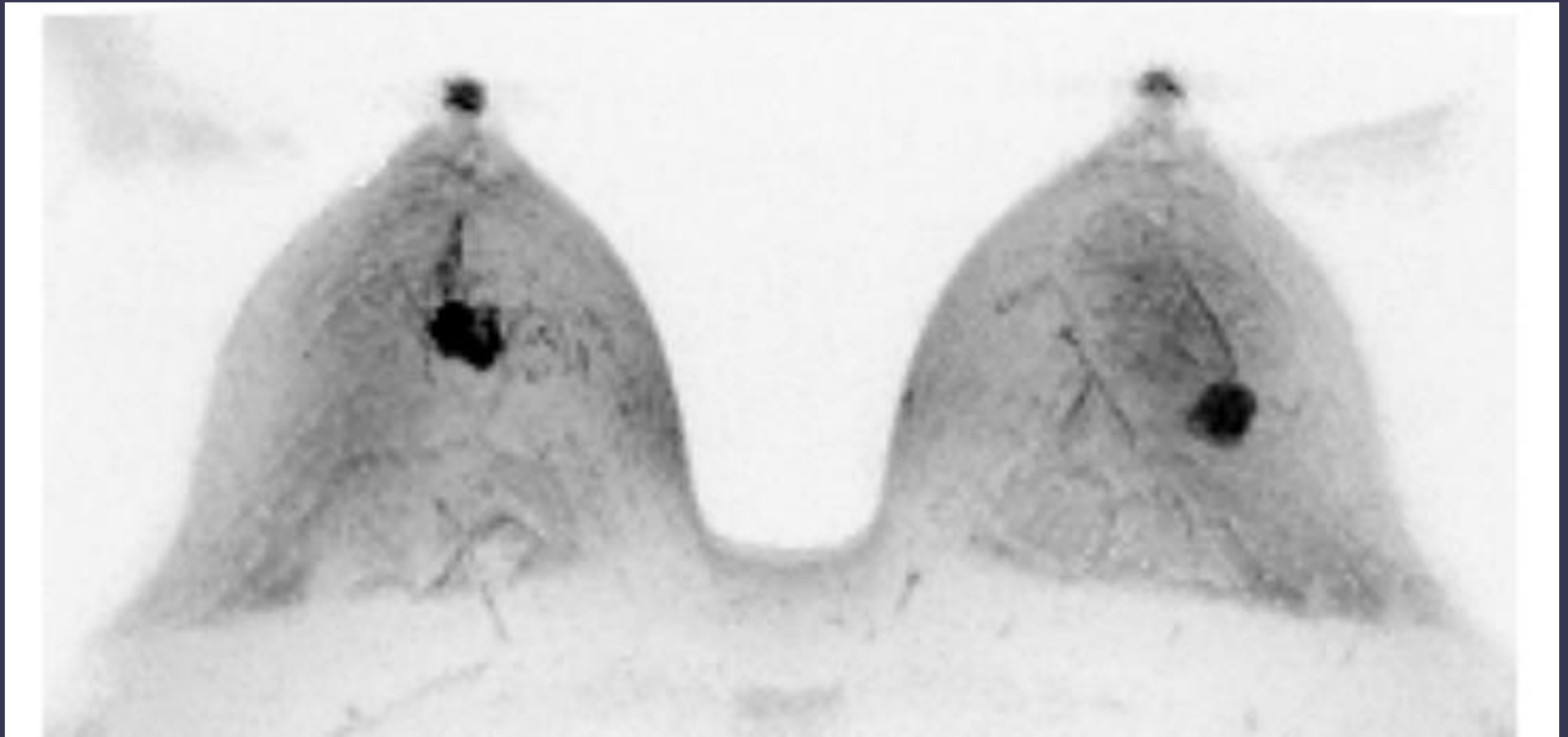
Acquired $b = 0 \text{ sec/mm}^2$



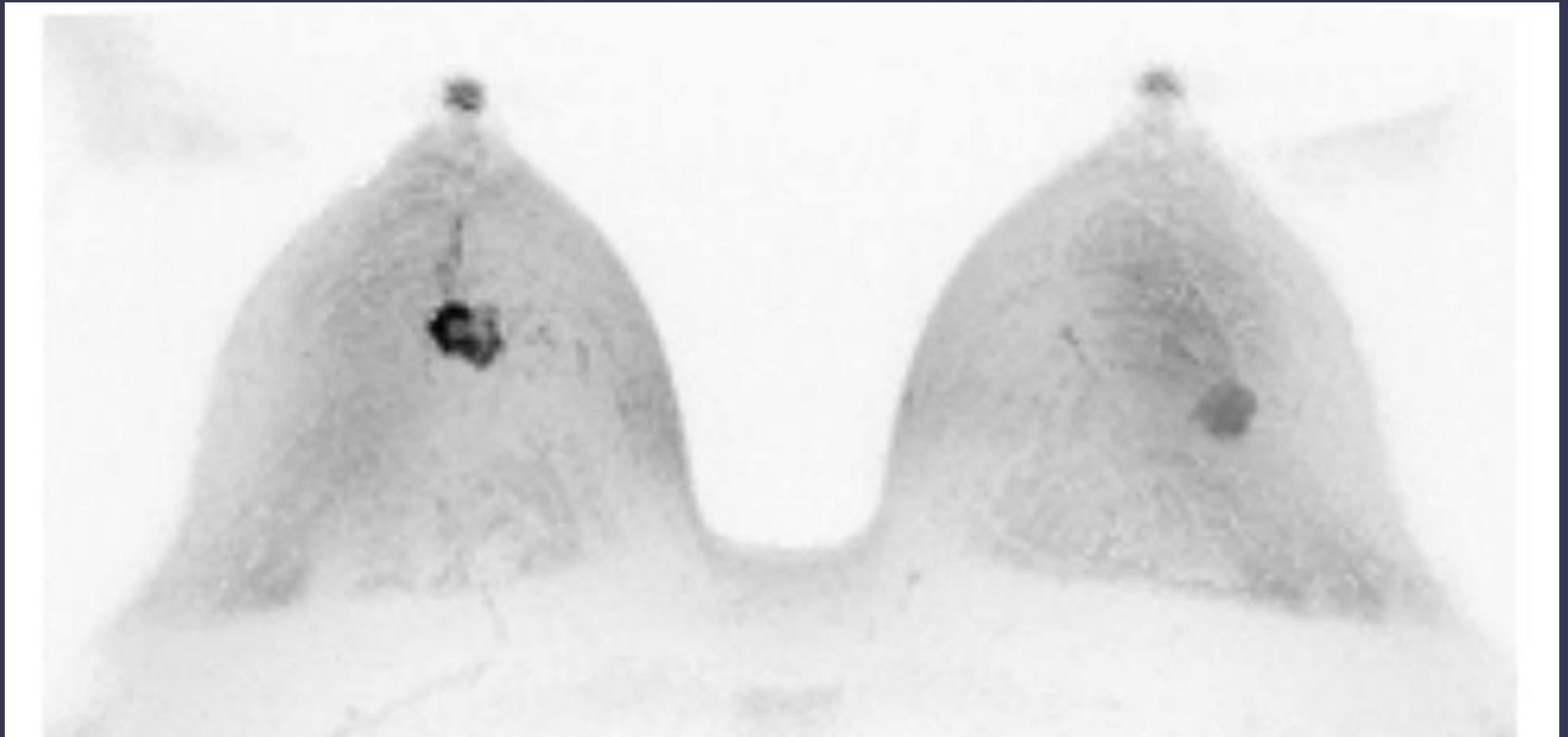
Computed $b = 100 \text{ sec/mm}^2$



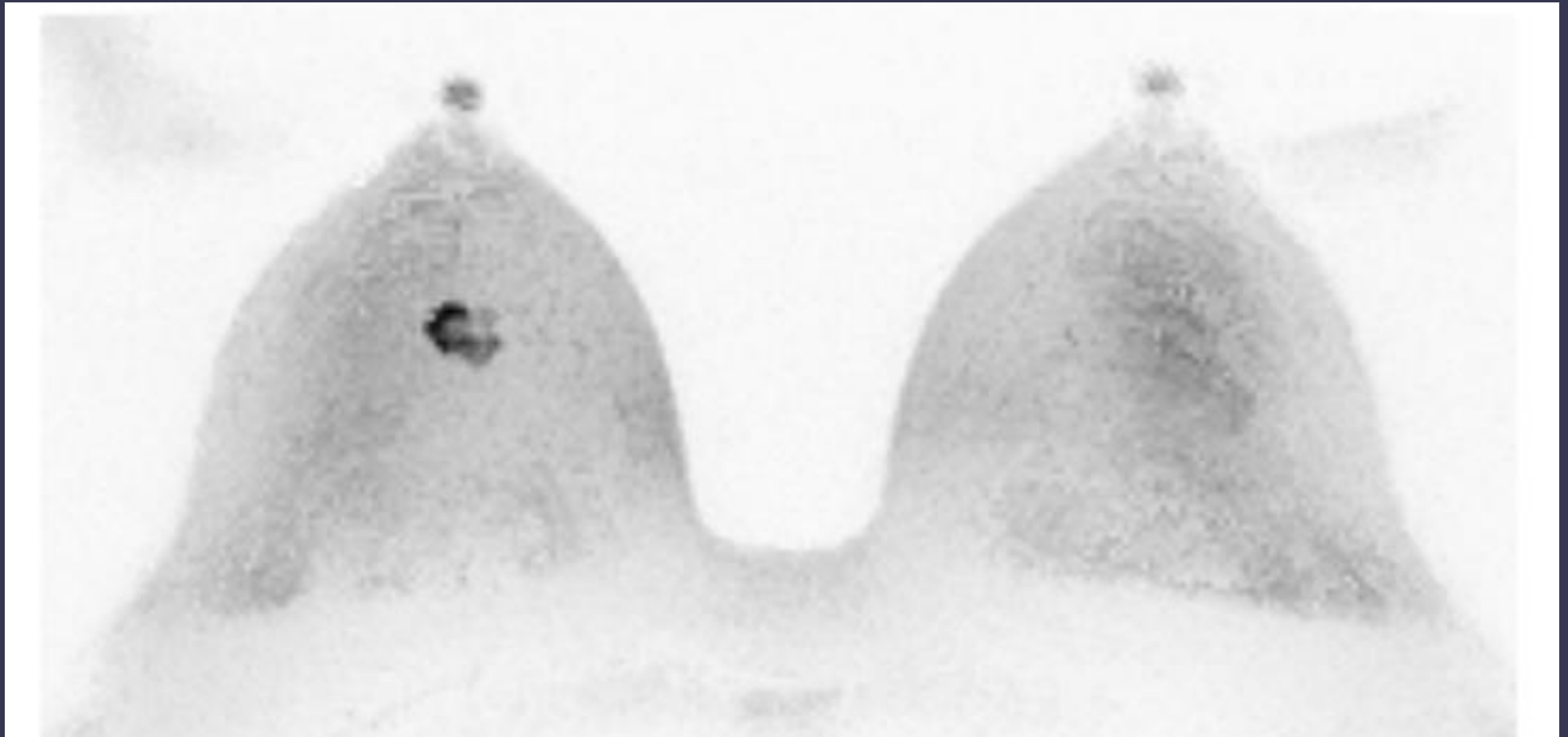
Computed $b = 500 \text{ sec/mm}^2$



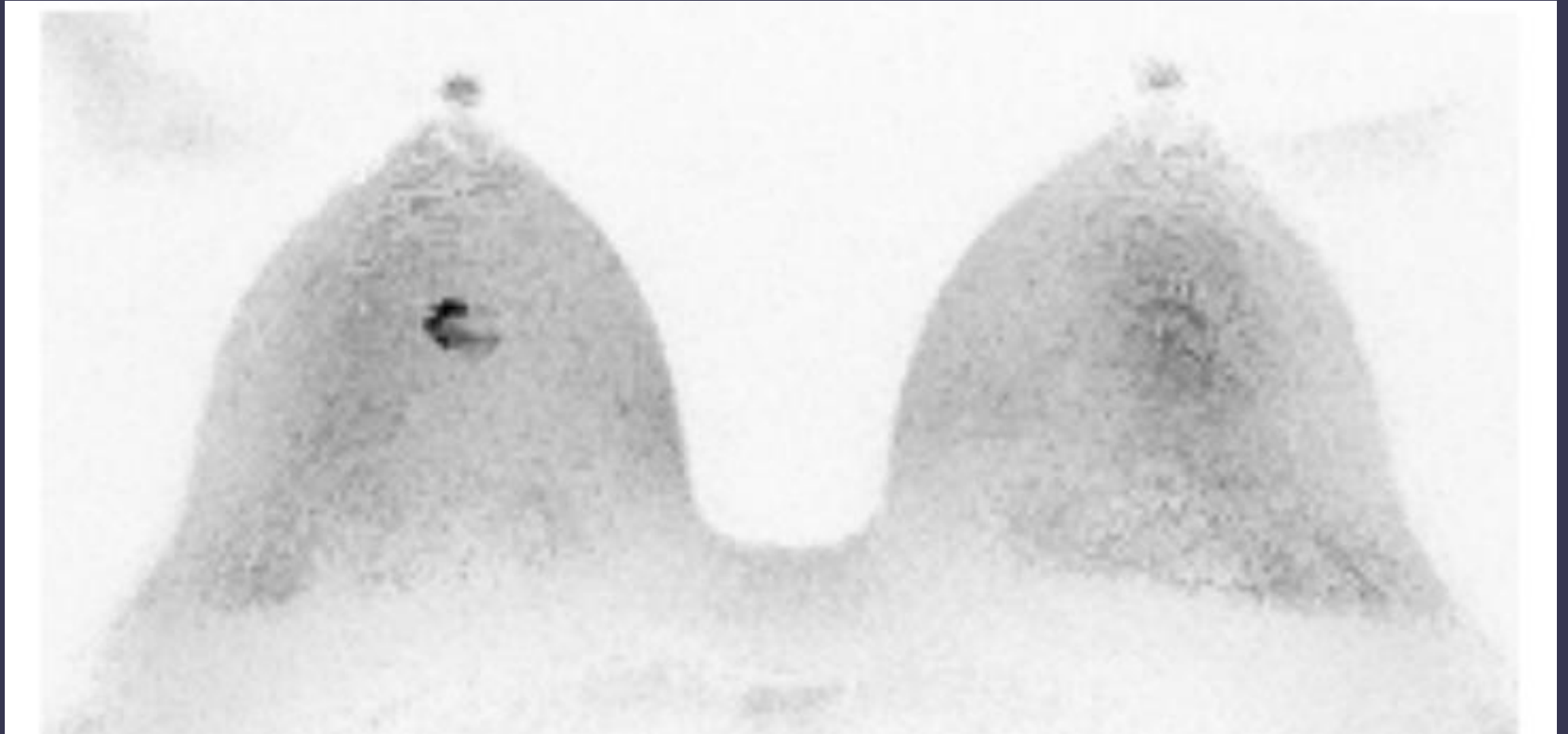
Computed $b = 800 \text{ sec/mm}^2$



Acquired $b = 1000 \text{ sec/mm}^2$



Computed $b = 1500 \text{ sec/mm}^2$



Computed $b = 2000 \text{ sec/mm}^2$

Challenges of Screening DWI

◆ False positives

- Complicated/proteineous cyst
- Fibroadenoma, artifactual signal at the periphery
- Intramammary LN, bleeding

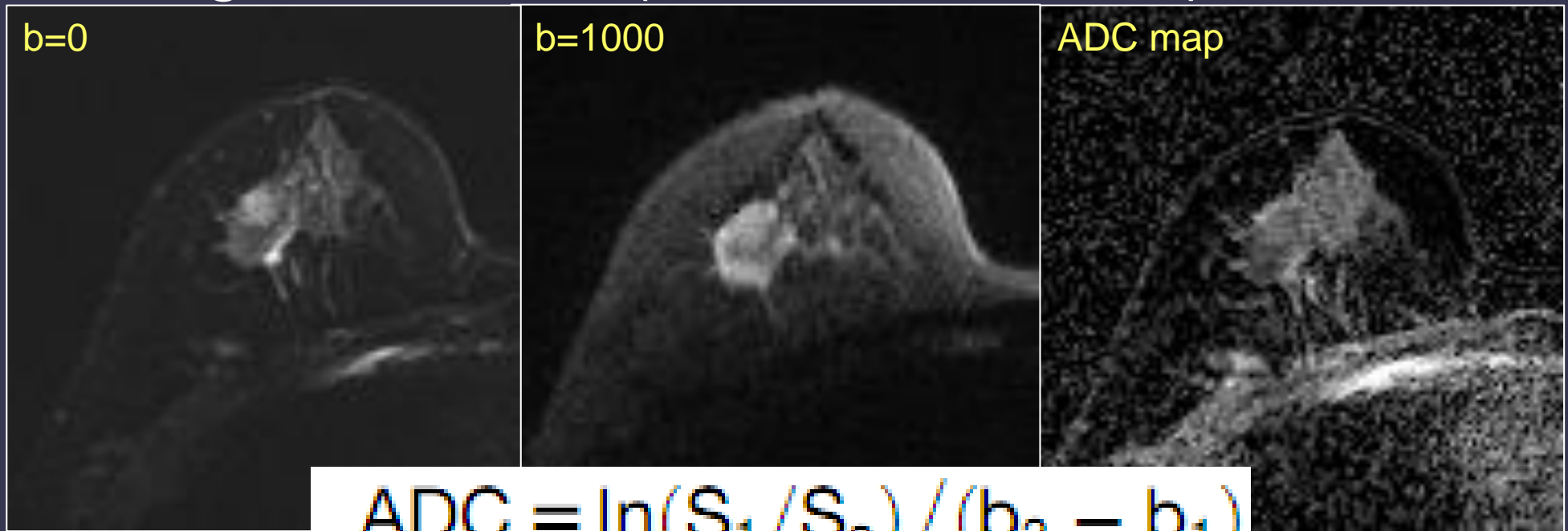
Cross-correlation of ADC map: crucial

◆ False negatives

- DCIS, especially low-grade
- Mucinous carcinoma
- Triple-negative cancer with extensive necrosis

Breast DWI Multicenter Study

- ◆ Identifying early response in tumors undergoing NAC (ACRIN 6698 Trial)
- ◆ Can assist in differentiating benign and malignant lesions (ACRIN 6702 Trial)



$$ADC = \ln(S_1/S_2) / (b_2 - b_1)$$

Utility of Diffusion-weighted Imaging to Decrease Unnecessary Biopsies Prompted by Breast MRI: A Trial of the ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group (A6702)

- ◆ Prospective multicenter study to determine ADC can decrease MRI false positives
 - 67 patients with 81 lesions from 9 institutions
 - ADC threshold ($1.53 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$) → reduced the biopsy rate by 21% without affecting sensitivity
 - DWI can reclassify a substantial fraction of suspicious MR findings as benign → decrease unnecessary biopsies

Korean Screening DWI Multicenter Study

***Funded by National R&D Program
for Cancer Control (Nov 2017 - Oct 2022)***

Korean DWI Screening Trial

- ◆ Breast Cancer Screening with DWI in Women at High Risk for Breast Cancer
 - Prospective observational multicenter cohort study to compare the outcome of breast cancer surveillance using MG, US, DCE-MRI, and DWI
 - Primary objective – Sensitivity
 - Secondary objective
 - Specificity
 - Cancer detection rate
 - Biological characteristics of detected cancers

Korean Screening DWI Trial

- ◆ Principal investigator: Woo Kyung Moon (SNUH)
Sub-PI: Hee Jung Shin (AMC)
- ◆ Co-investigators (8 institutions)
 - SNUH – Su Hyun Lee, Jung Min Chang
 - AMC – Hak Hee Kim, Woo Jung Choi
 - SMC – Boo-Kyung Han, Ko Woon Park
 - Severance – Min Jung Kim
 - SNUBH – Sun Mi Kim, Bo La Yun
 - NCC – Kyung Ran Ko
 - Seoul St Mary H – Bong Joo Kang
 - Ajou UH – Tae Hee Kim

Korean Screening DWI Trial

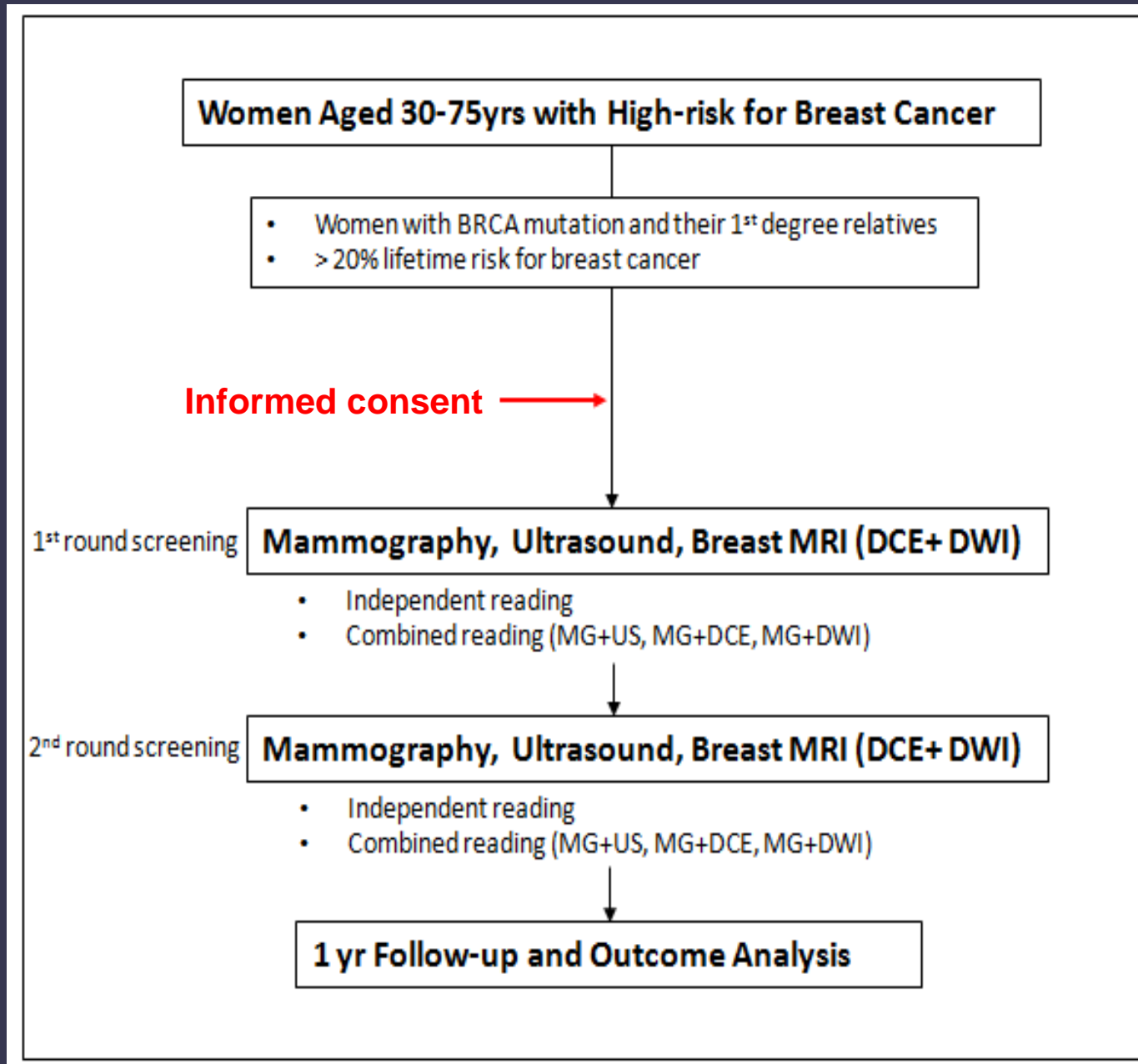
◆ Inclusion Criteria

- 890 women at high risk for breast cancer
- BRCA1/2 mutation or 1st degree relatives
- Cumulative lifetime risk $\geq 20\%$ on risk assessment tool based on familial history (IBIS)

◆ Exclusion criteria

- Pregnant or lactating women
- Patients who have symptoms or signs of breast cancer or recurrence
- Bilateral mastectomy
- Any cases of contraindication to MRI examination

Study Scheme



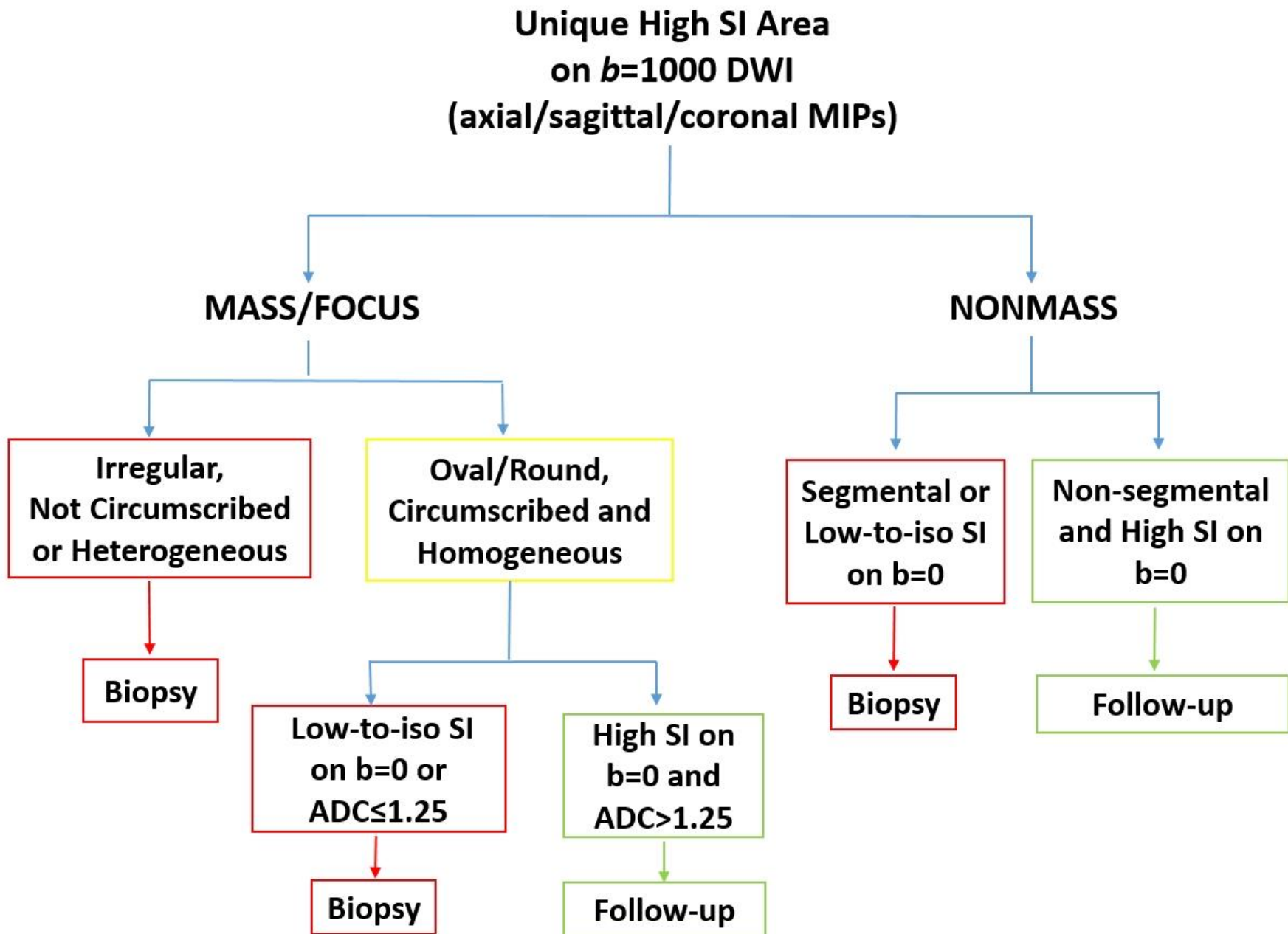
Protocol Optimization

- ◆ Advanced acquisition technique
 - rs-EPI, high quality ss-EPI with DWIBS at 3T
 - Improved spatial resolution (≤ 1.3 mm)
- ◆ Lesion detection & accurate ADC quantitation
 - Selection of b values (0, 800, 1200 sec/mm²)
- ◆ Advanced post-processing tools
 - DWI MIP series
 - Computed DWI at varying *b*-values

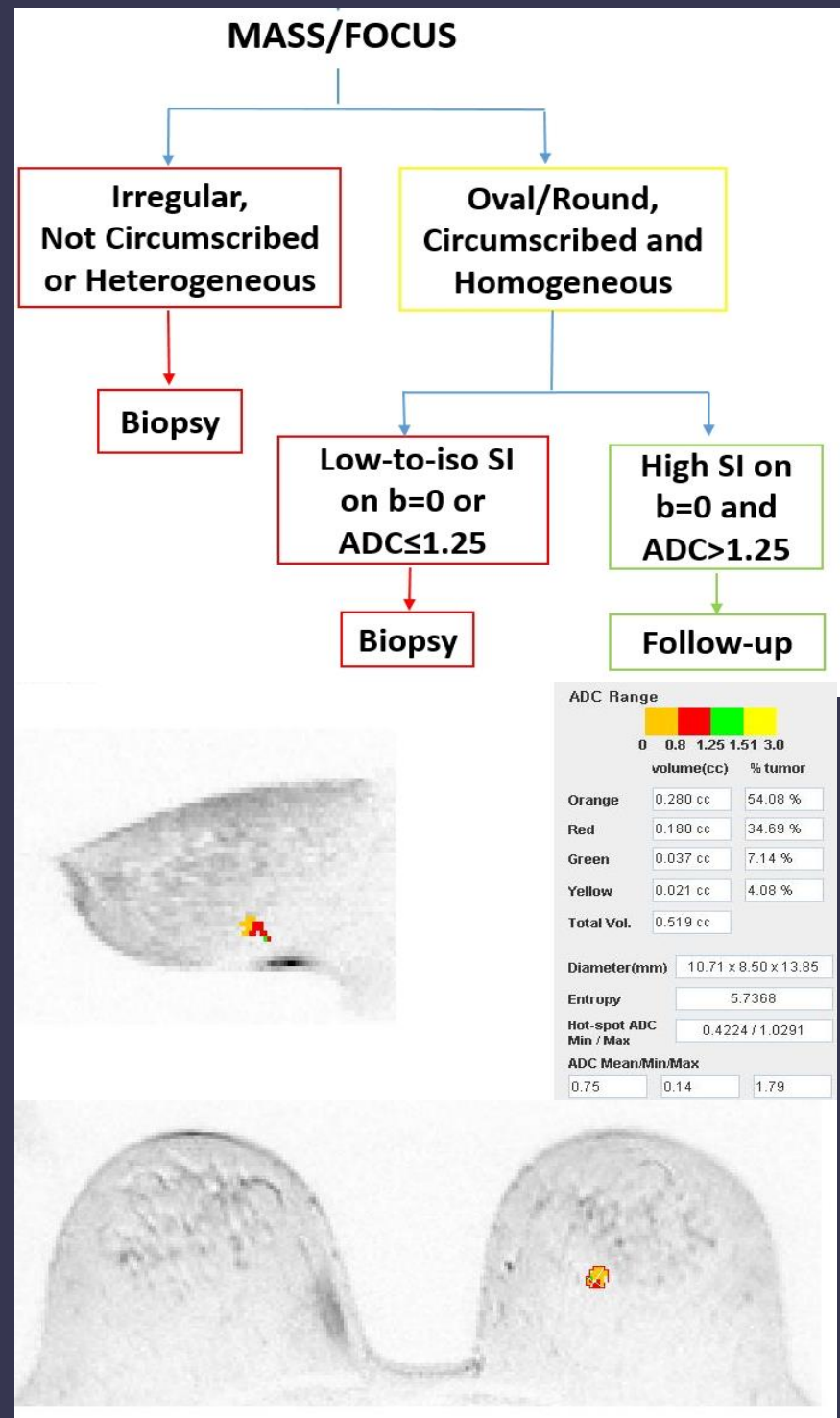
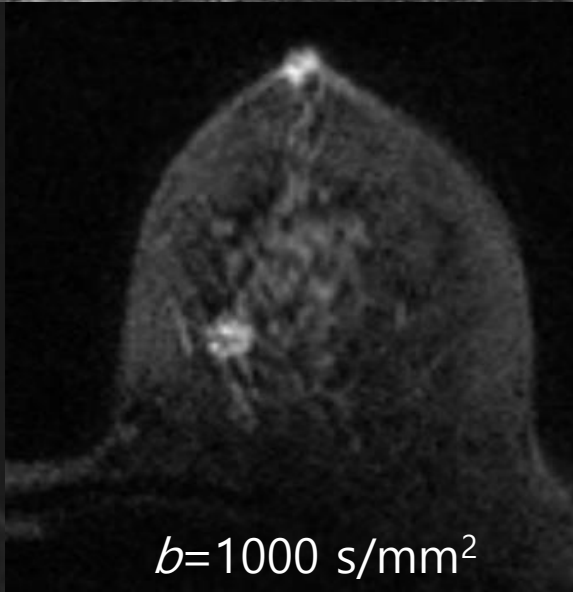
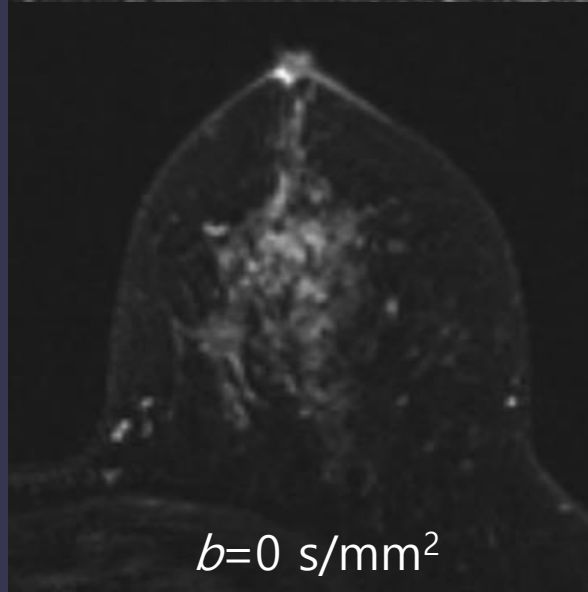
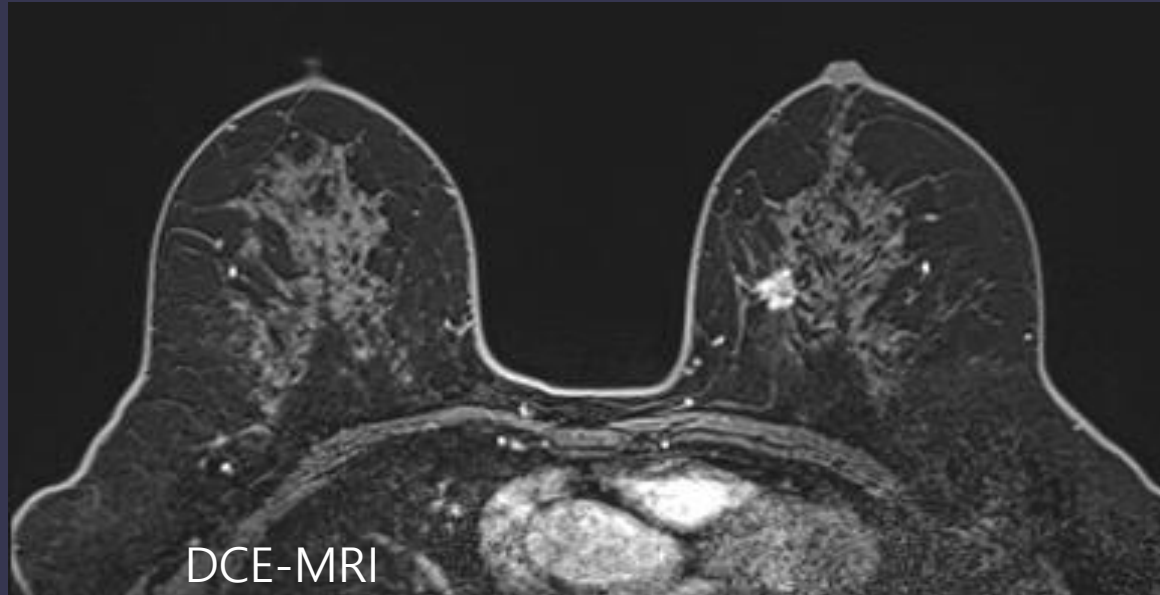
DWI Acquisition

구분	Siemens	Philips	GE
Equipment	3T Skyra	3T Ingenia (CX)	3T architect
Scan dimension	Bilateral Axial	Bilateral Axial	Bilateral Axial
DWI technique	rs-EPI (RESOLVE)	ss-EPI (SENSE)	ss-EPI (ASSET)
Fat suppression	Fat Sat (SPAIR)	STIR	STIR
TR/TE (msec)	9930/69	9161/71(60) (TI=230)	7500/72.6/(TI=115)
Field of view (mm)	340 x 207	340 x 212	340 x 204
Flip angle (degree)	180	90	90
Number of averaging	1	6	3
Thickness (mm)	3	3	3
Intersection gap (%)	0	0	0
Matrix	256 x 156	Recon matrix: 320 x 320 Acq. matrix: 256 x 160	256 x 152
Voxel size (mm)	1.3 x 1.3 x 3	1.1 x 1.1 x 3 (1.3 x 1.3 x 3)	1.3 x 1.3 x 3
Slices	50	50	50
b-value (sec/mm ²)	0, 800, 1200	0, 800, 1200	0, 800, 1200
Acquisition time	7:26	6:49	8:15

DWI Interpretation Algorithm

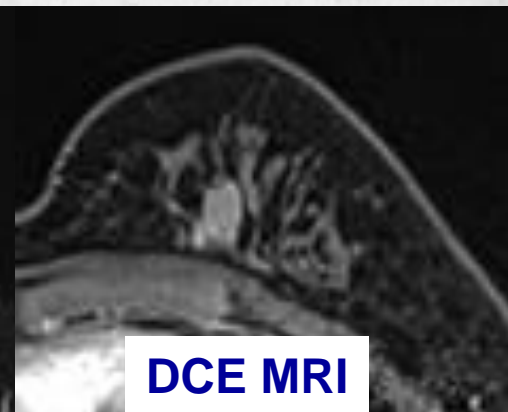
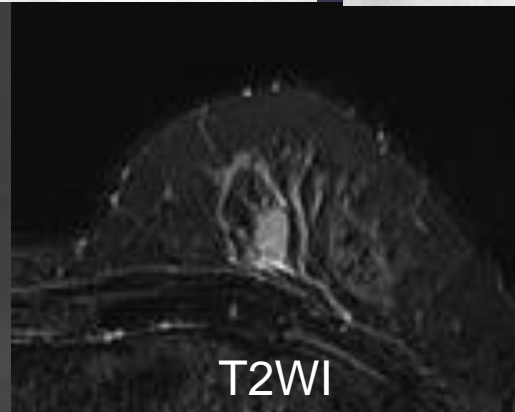
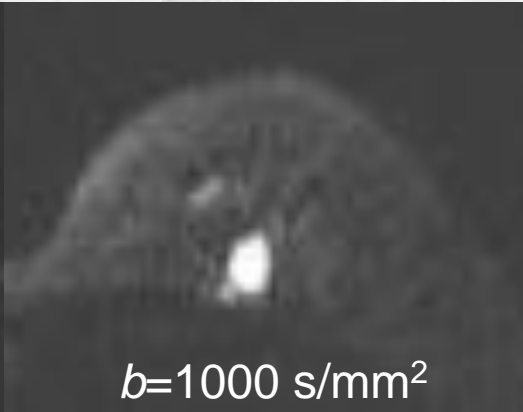
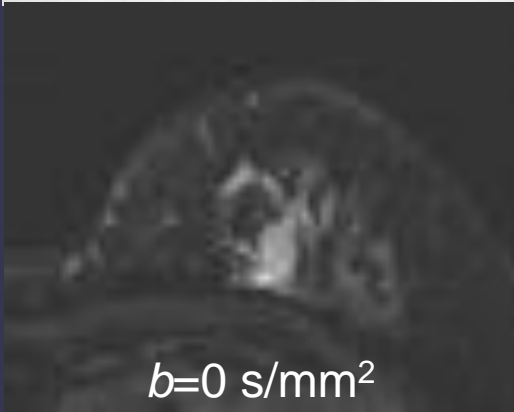
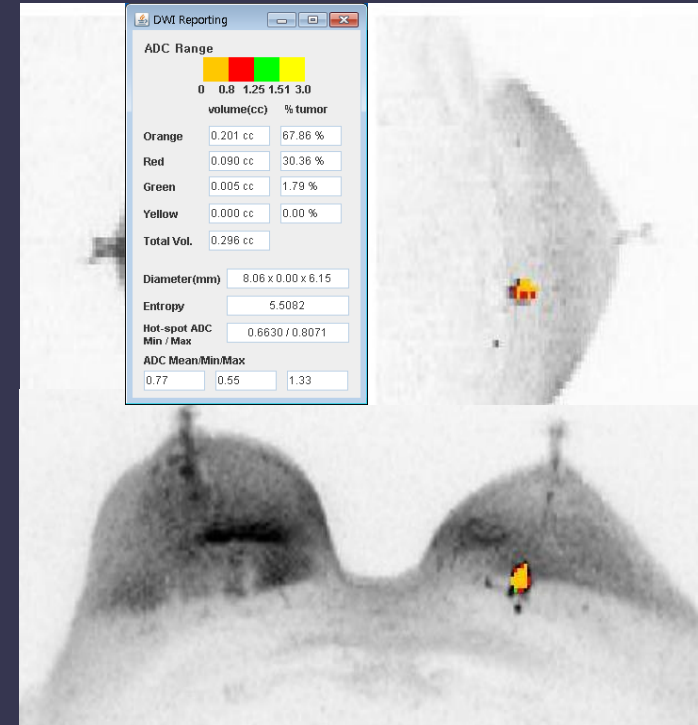
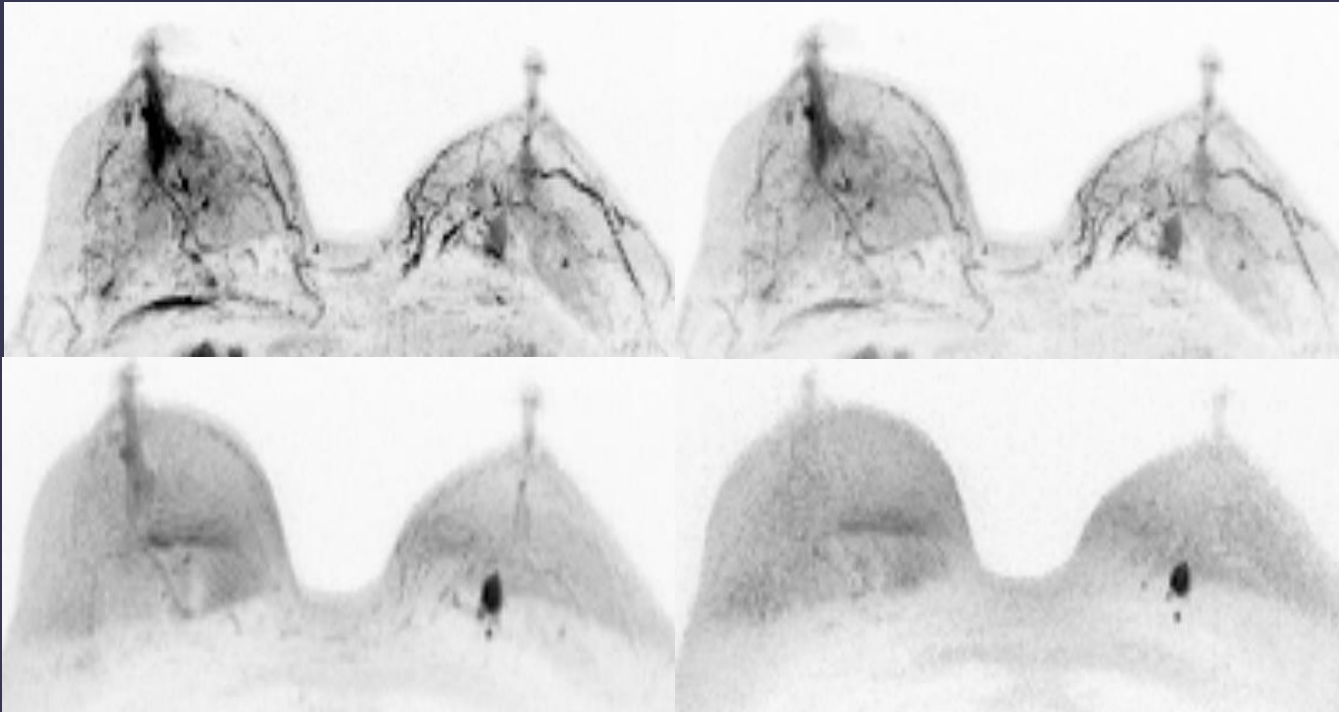


Mass



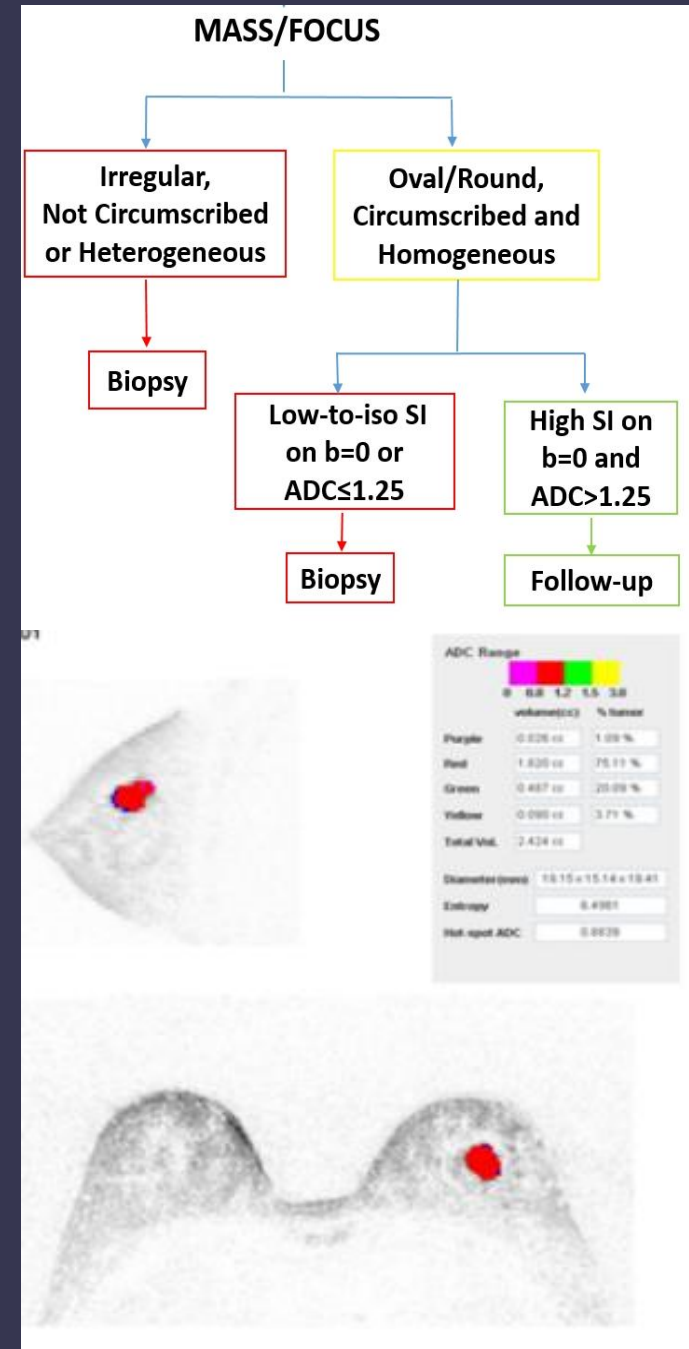
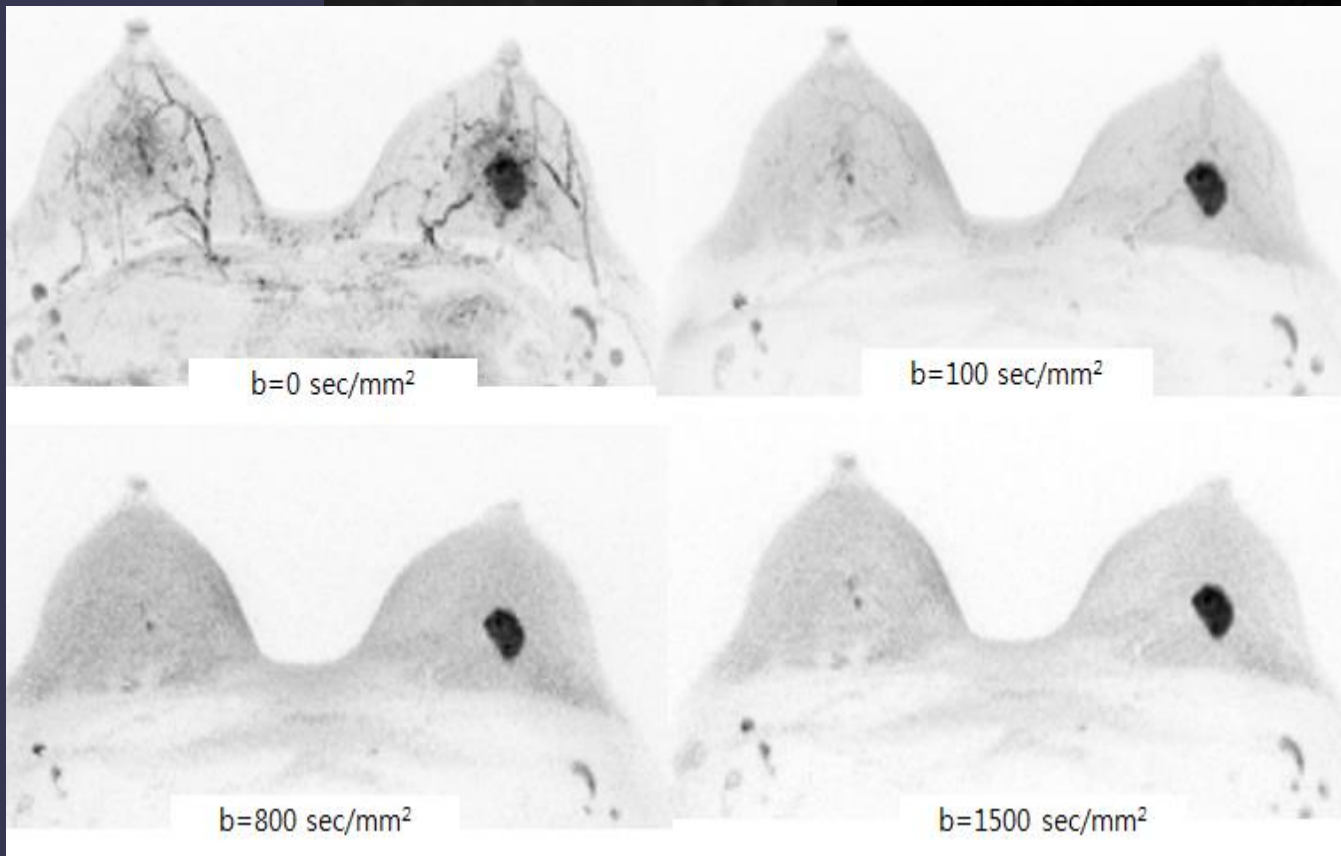
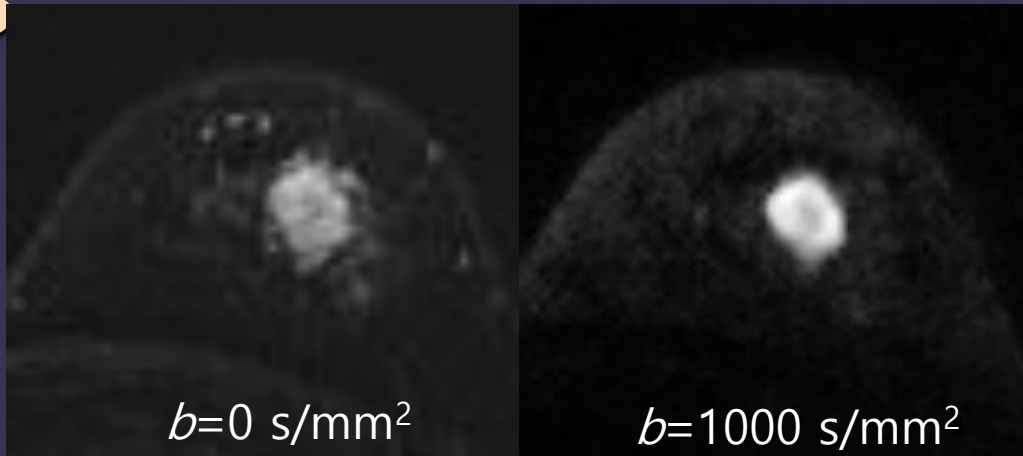
Irregular, heterogeneous & $ADC=0.75 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{sec} \rightarrow \text{IDC}$

Mass



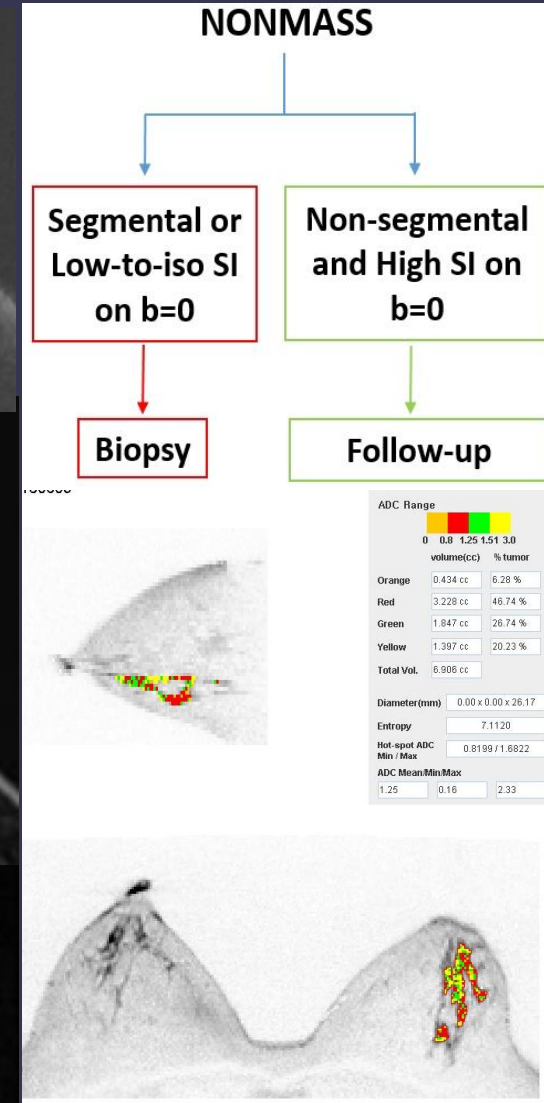
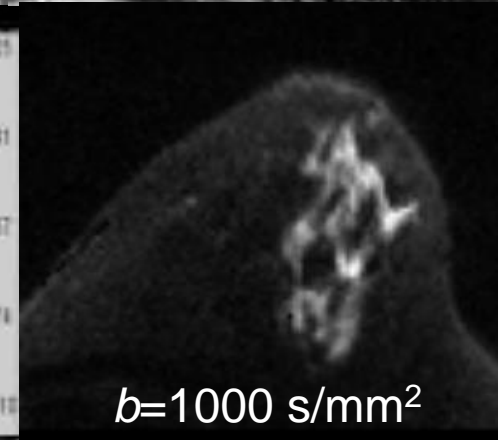
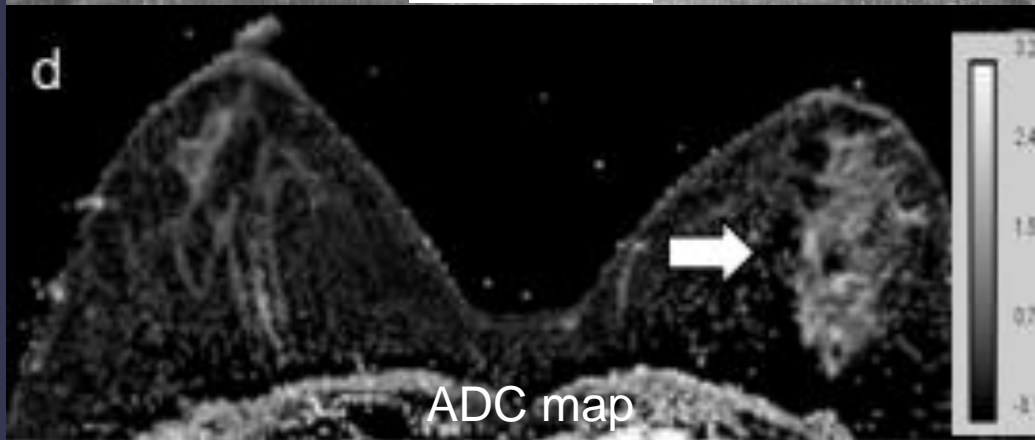
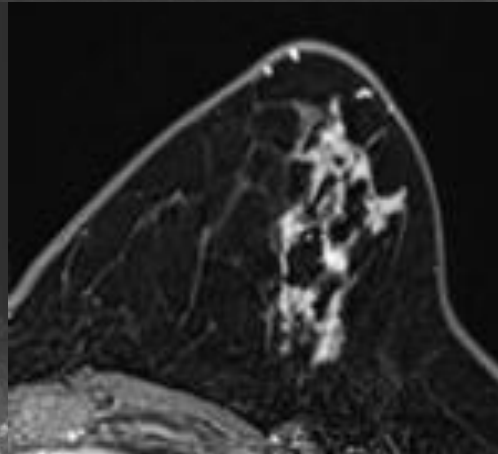
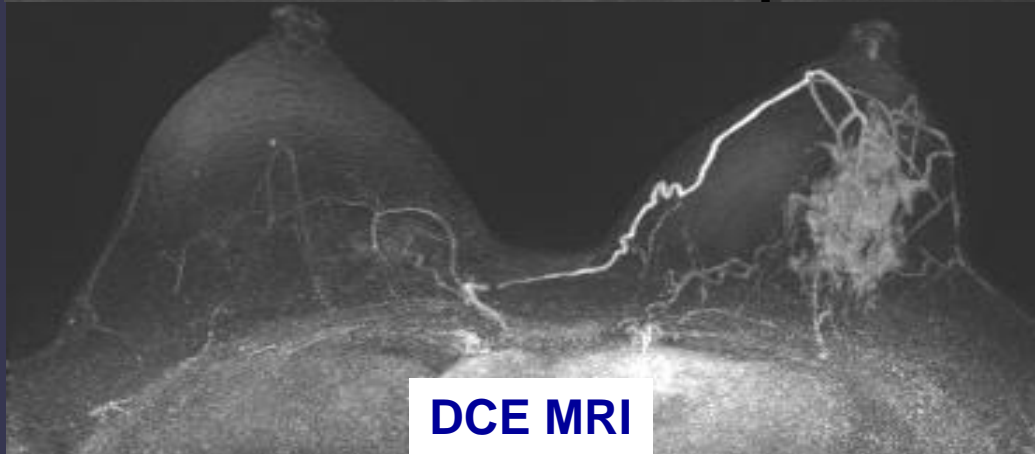
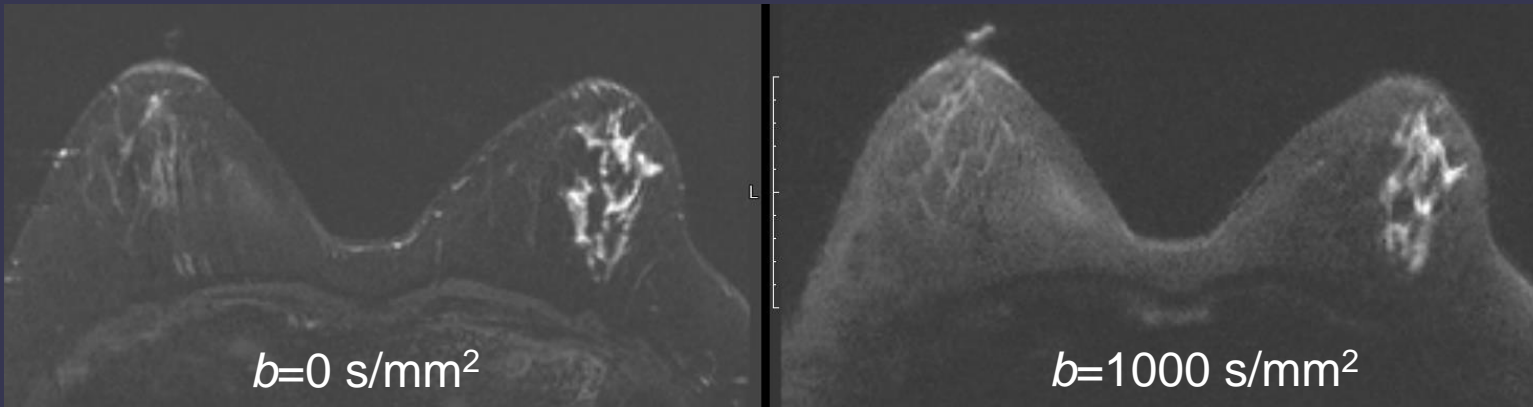
Oval, Iso SI on $b=0$ & high SI on $b=1000$ → ADC: $0.77 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{sec}$

Mass



Oval/Rim, High SI on both $b=0$ & 1000 \rightarrow ADC: $0.87 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{sec}$

Nonmass – microIDC



Segmental & high SI on both $b=0$ & 1000 \rightarrow ADC: $1.25 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{sec}$

DWI QC Phantom

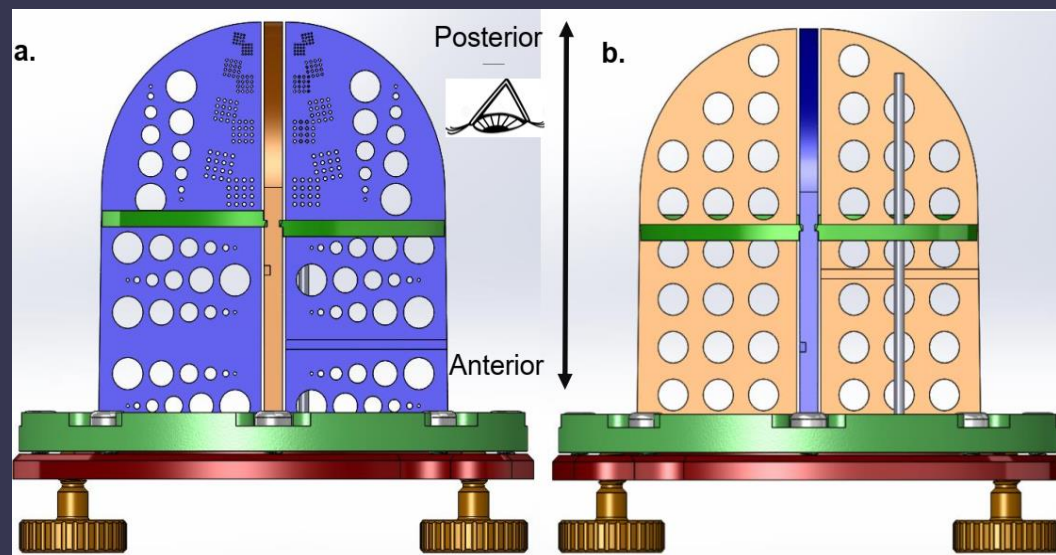
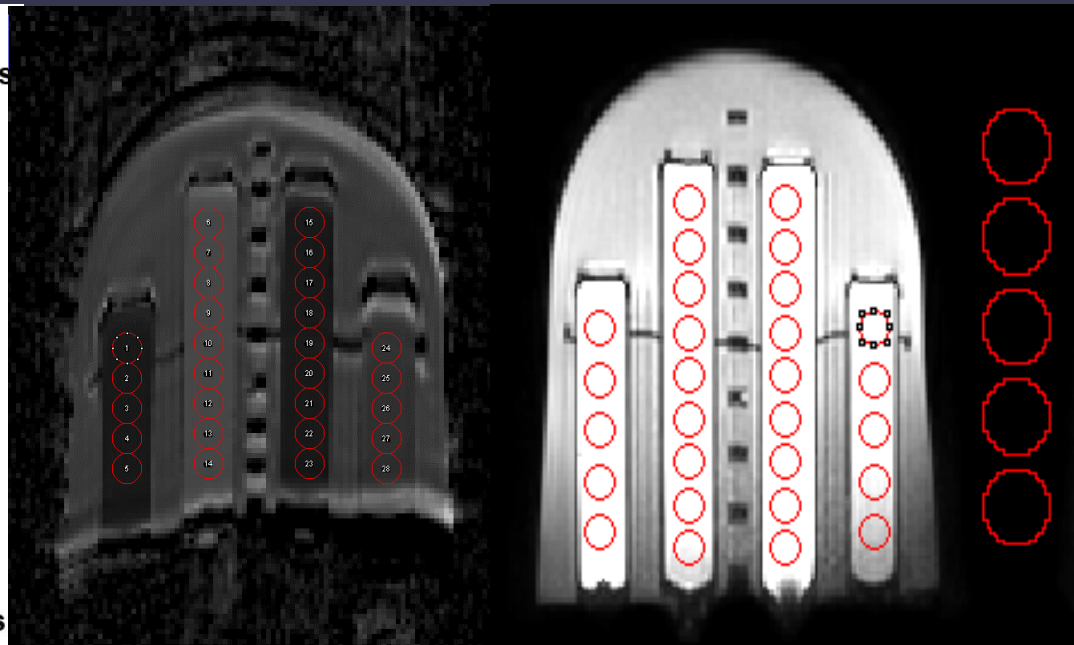
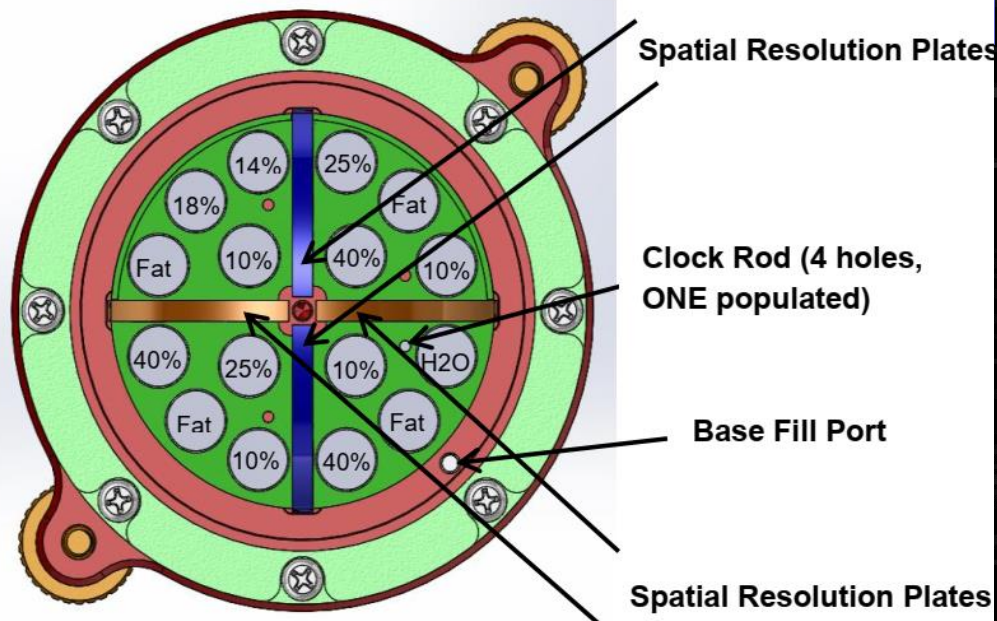
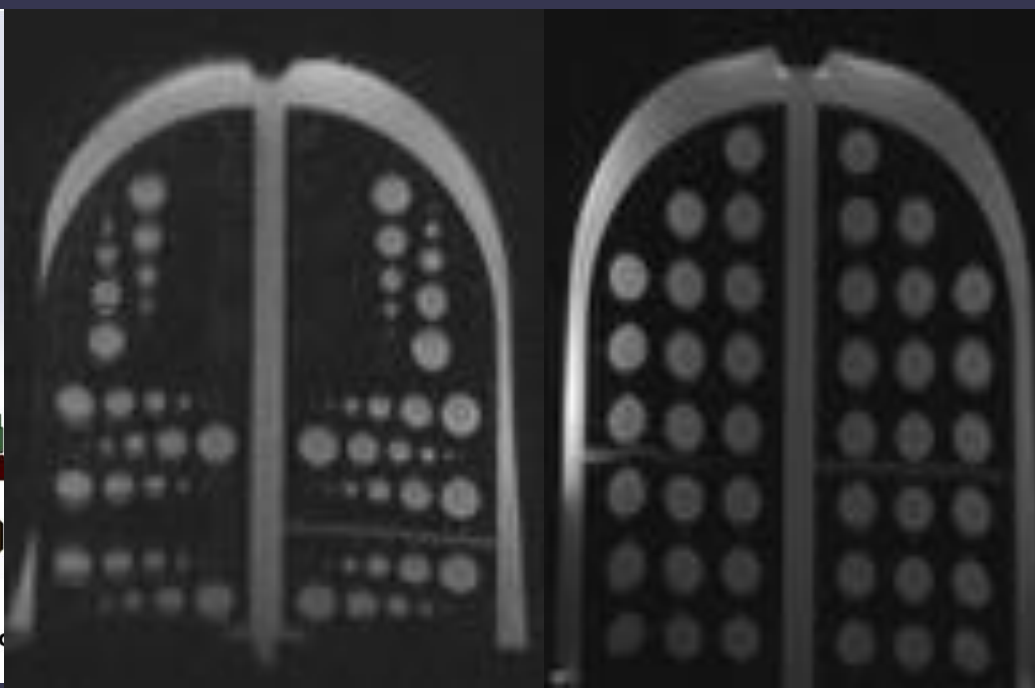


Figure 1. a) 14 Resolution pattern holes: 10mm, 8mm, 6mm, 4mm, 2mm, 1mm with center spacing: 1mm, 9mm, 7mm, 5mm, and 3mm, respectively. 2 Resolution insets: 1.25mm, 1mm, .75mm, .5mm diameter. The sub-patterns are rotated 10 degrees from each-other. b) Spacing insets with 10 mm hole holes are on 15mm spacing, across both halves.



Summary

- ◆ DWI – a fast, safe & cost-effective modality in identifying mammographically occult malignancy
 - DWI – sensitivity lower than DCE-MRI, but perhaps superior to that of MG and breast US
- ◆ The ability of DWI – enhanced using optimal acquisition and interpretation protocols
- ◆ Korean prospective multicenter trial can provide promising results for the noncontrast MR screening in the future



Thank you for your attention