



Giuseppe Petralia

edited by Riccardo Renzi e Edoardo Rosati

THE MAGIC BOX

against cancer

AND ALL THE OTHER WAYS TO PREVENT IT

In science fiction films and novels, patients often go through a scanner that delivers a full diagnosis in just a few minutes.

Whole Body Diffusion MRI, dubbed “the magic box” by Umberto Veronesi, comes quite close to this futuristic hypothesis. Absolute editorial news, the book walks the reader through the development and goals of this technique, which boast two centuries of fascinating history and is building an exciting future.

This early detection MRI technique is performed only in a few medical centres in the world, and the European Institute of Oncology in Milan is one of them. This revolutionary technique supports available treatments and cancer prevention in healthy people by predicting the enemy’s moves. In fact, WBD-MRI can scan the whole body in just one session without needing radiations or contrast agents.

“When it comes to cancer, it is like sailing by night, when visibility is slow, and you need to rely on your instrumentation. Whole Body Diffusion MRI screening could become the radar that guides us in the regatta against cancer”.

Umberto Veronesi

Giuseppe Petralia has been a physician since 2001. After a visiting research fellowship at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston (USA), he specialized in diagnostic radiology with a thesis on tumour angiogenesis imaging. Dr Petralia has been working at the European Institute of Oncology (IEO) in Milan since 2005, where he introduced the Whole Body Diffusion MRI examination in 2009. Today, he is a researcher at the University of Milan and the deputy director of the Diagnostic Radiology Division of the European Institute of Oncology. He is also a fellow of the International Cancer Imaging Society (ICIS) and an advisor (and founding member) of the Italian Association of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (AIRMM). He is the author of 50 papers in major international scientific journals and has spoken in many conferences worldwide giving, in many of them, training courses on the most innovative applications of MRI in oncological patients.

Riccardo Renzi and Edoardo Rosati are medical and scientific journalists. Together they helped launch *Corriere Salute*, the health magazine supplement of the *Corriere della Sera* in 1989. The two also co-authored the successful book *Fa bene Fa male* (Sperling & Kupfer).

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