

Examination of the Groningen Proton Therapy Project

I have had the opportunity to read and examine the economical and technical estimates done by the team behind the project in Groningen.

Compared to other similar projects, the team has made an ambitious effort to also estimate the long term economical consequences regarding e.g. upgrades, the need for spare parts and service. Missing in the plans I have taken part of is the costs, regarding the clinical management of the facility, and the costs for building construction, hence I interpret that as not being the scope of the present estimates.

The over all picture is that the estimates are as complete as reasonable can be achieved and that the economical projections are realistic and probably to the high end (conservative) rather than too optimistic related to the Skandion European Tender process and the public documents dated 20100616 ref. no. KAS2010-002.

A possible concern could be the aspects regarding the use of non-standard equipment, such as compact gantries and multiple energy selection systems and their consequences for beam line optics and the efforts needed from the selected proton therapy vendor(s). Such estimates are extremely difficult to perform and must probably be solved in discussions/negotiations with the vendor(s).

In conclusion it is my assessment is that the team behind the proton therapy project in Groningen has made a tremendous effort to estimate the technical and economical consequences to a degree and a depth well beyond what is seen in most other similar project. This has, without any doubt been possible only due to the extensive amount of expertise available within the team responsible for the estimates.



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