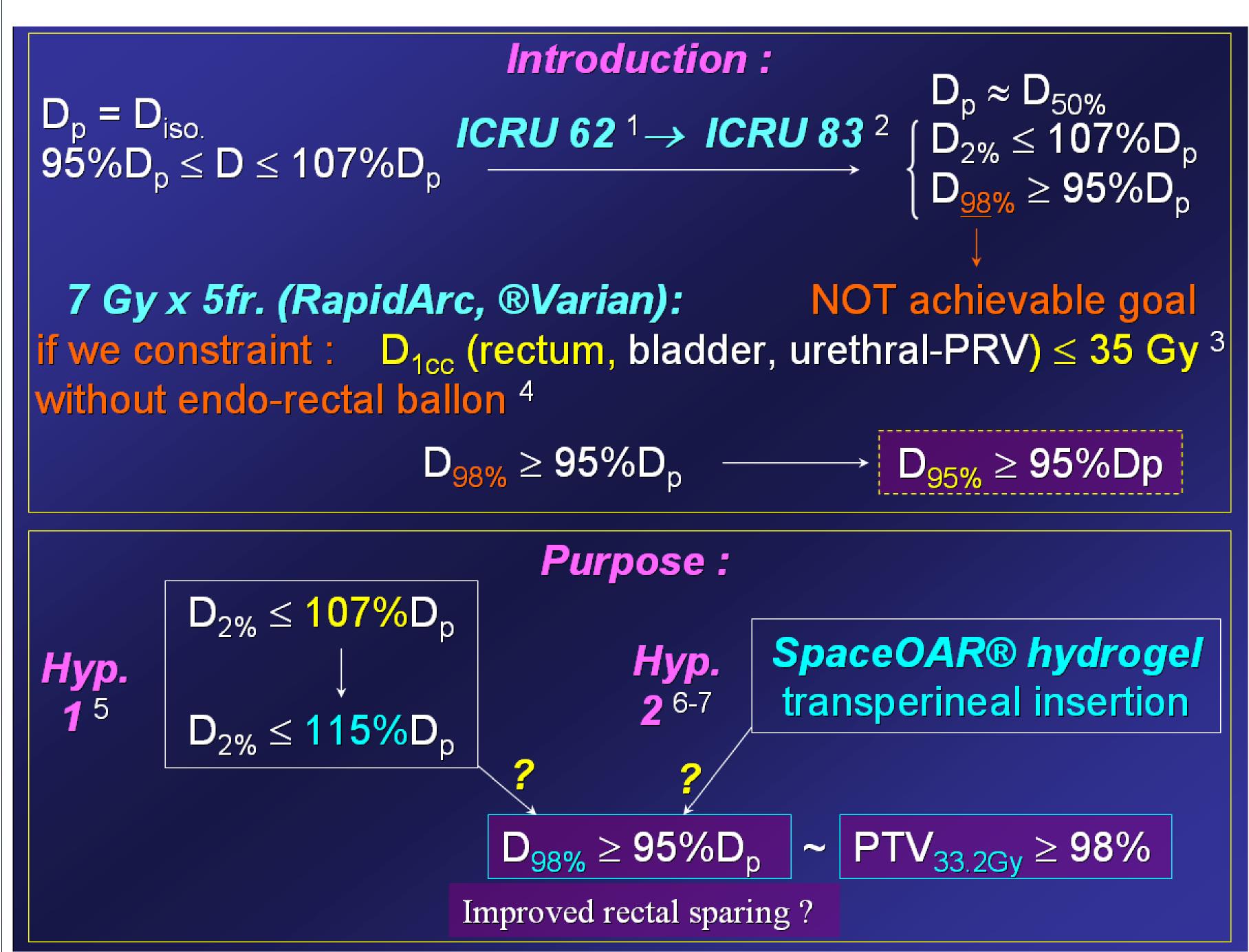
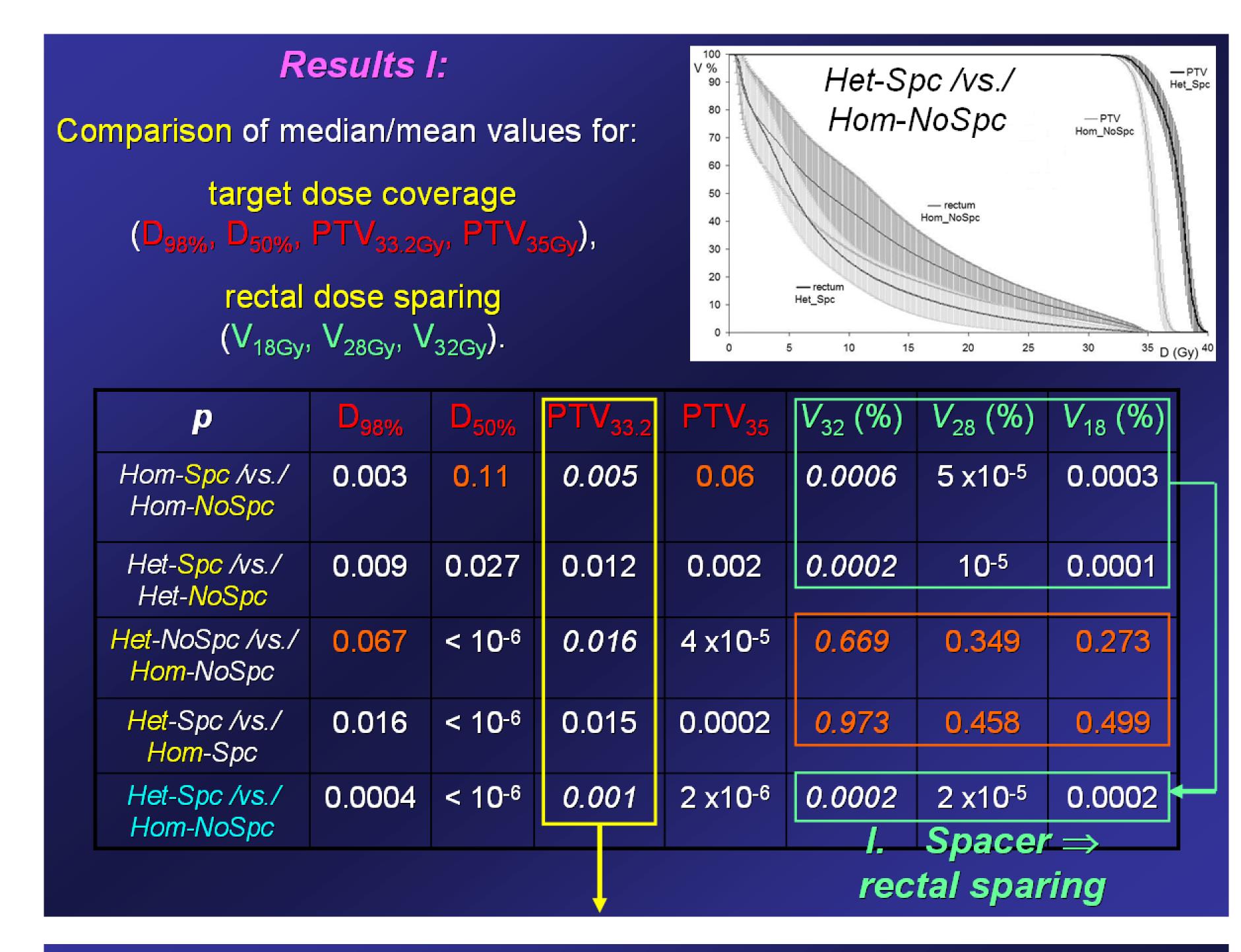


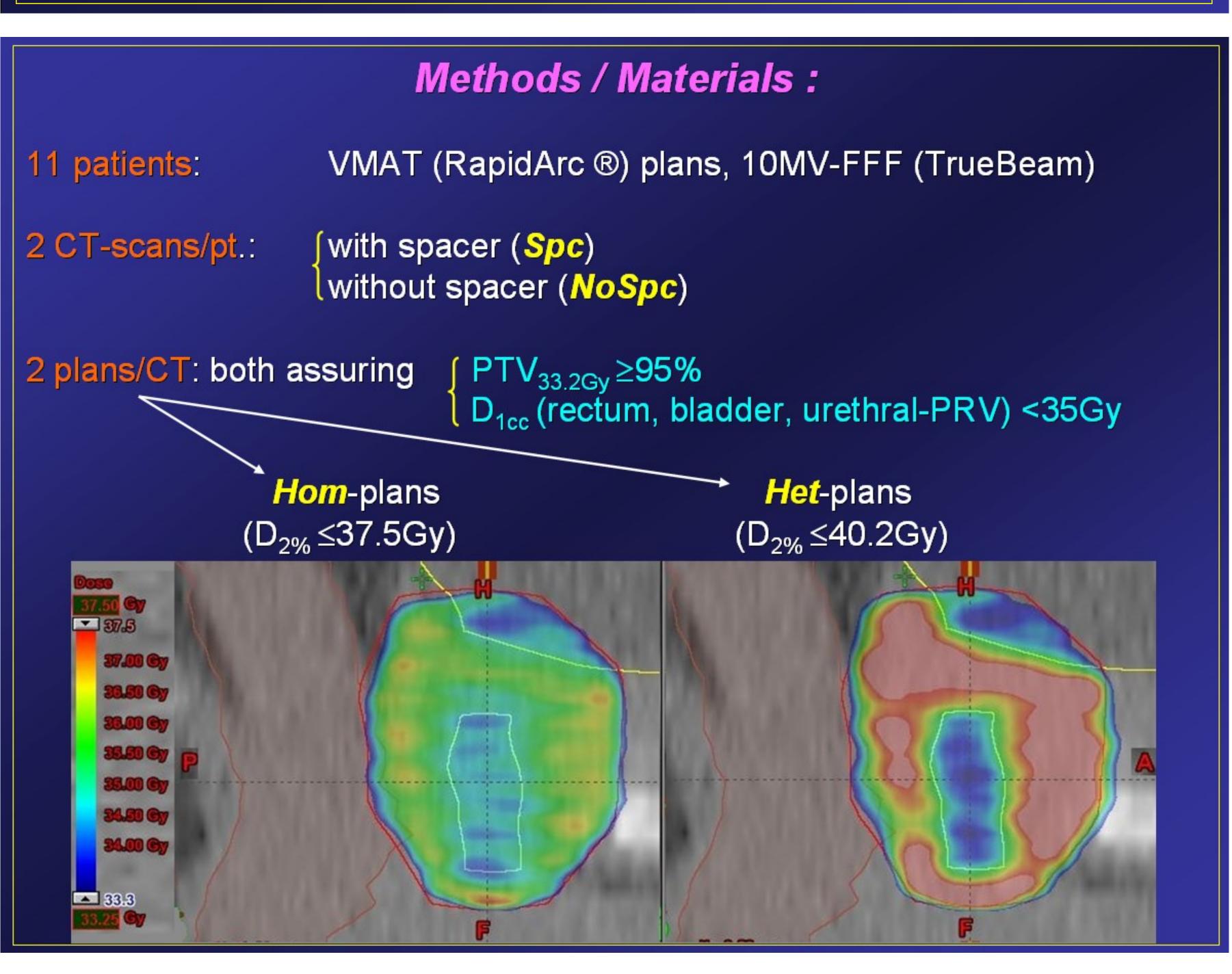
FFF VMAT SBRT of prostate cancer: impact on target dose coverage and rectal dose sparing from a slightly increased near maximum target dose, and from SpaceOAR® hydrogel insertion.

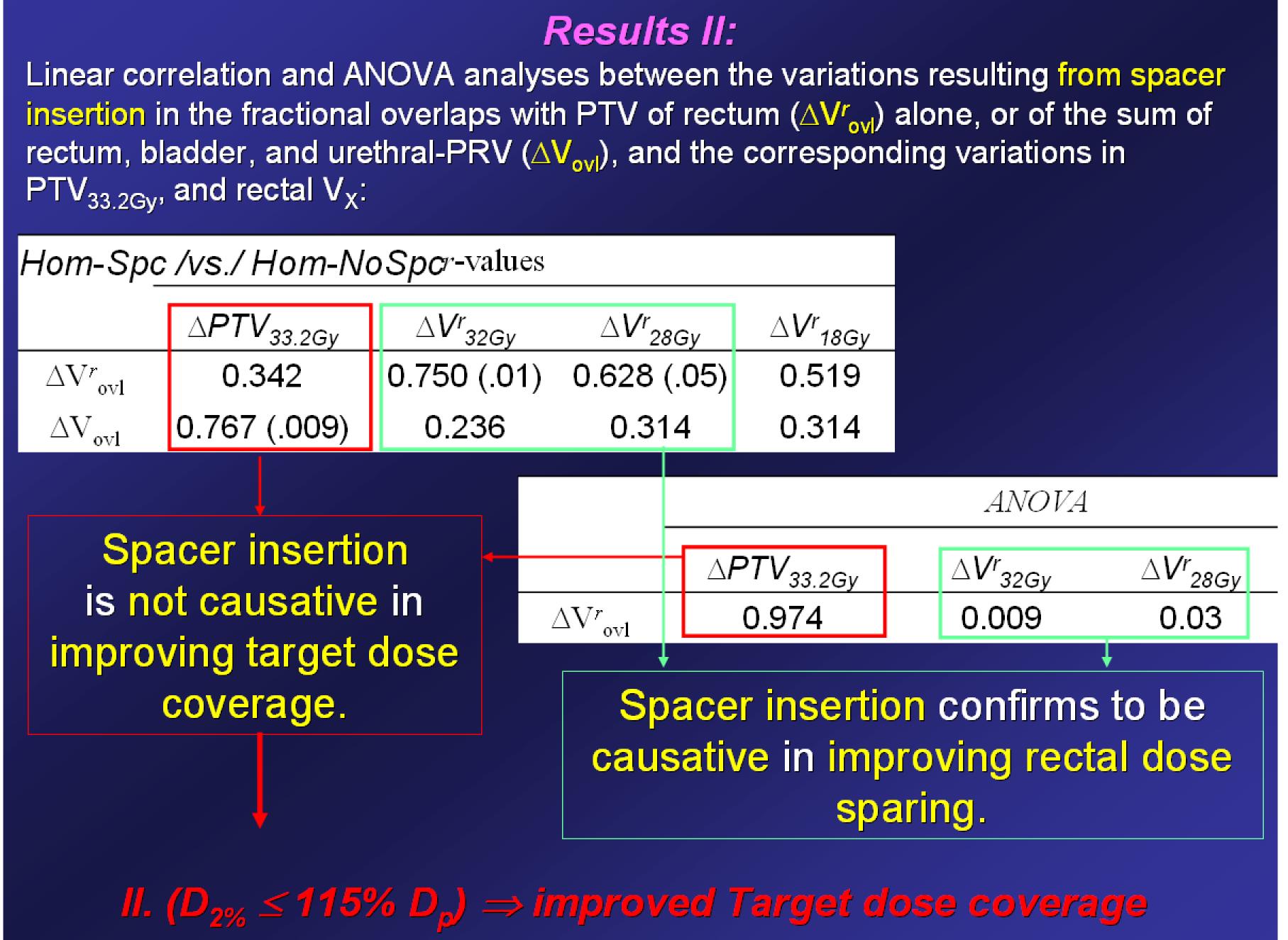
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Conclusions:

- 1. $D_{2\%} \le 40.2$ Gy (from 37.5Gy) was associated with an improvement in median/mean values for target dose coverage related metrics (e.g., $PTV_{33.2Gy}$), but not for rectal dose sparing ones.
- 2. Rectal spacer was associated with an improvement in median/mean values for both target dose coverage related metrics (e.g., PTV_{33.2Gy}), and rectal dose sparing ones (V_{28Gy}, V_{32Gy}). However, from correlation and ANOVA analyses, spacer insertion was not identified as a causal source for the observed improvement in target
 - dose coverage.

3. The combined use of both spacer insertion and modestly increased accepted $D_{2\%}$ (≤ 40.2 Gy) was finally associated with an improvement both in

rectal dose sparing and in mean $PTV_{33.2Gv}$ value, which increased from 96.1% (±1.1%) to 98.7% (±1.2%).