

# IMPLEMENTATION OF FULLY AUTOMATIZED IN-HOUSE SYNTHESIS OF THERAPEUTIC RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL $[^{177}\text{Lu}]\text{Lu-DOTA-TOC}$



Aljoša Stanković<sup>1,2</sup>, Zvezdana Rajkovača<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University clinical centre of the Republic of Srpska, Clinical department of nuclear medicine and thyroid gland disease, Bosnia and Herzegovina

<sup>2</sup>Faculty of Medicine, University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

[aljosa.stankovic@kc-bl.com](mailto:aljosa.stankovic@kc-bl.com)

## Background and Importance

- $[^{177}\text{Lu}]\text{Lu-DOTA-TOC}$  is a beta particle-emitting radiopharmaceutical indicated for the peptide receptor radiotherapy of advanced neuroendocrine tumours (NET)
- The substance is characterized by affinity to somatostatin receptors, which are overexpressed in NET patients
- Synthesis can be performed inside **special designed isolators, manually or automatically using synthesizer** and represents a challenge for every department of nuclear medicine

## Aim and Objectives

- The aim was to **implement automatized in-house synthesis** of  $[^{177}\text{Lu}]\text{Lu-DOTA-TOC}$  to improve NET patient management

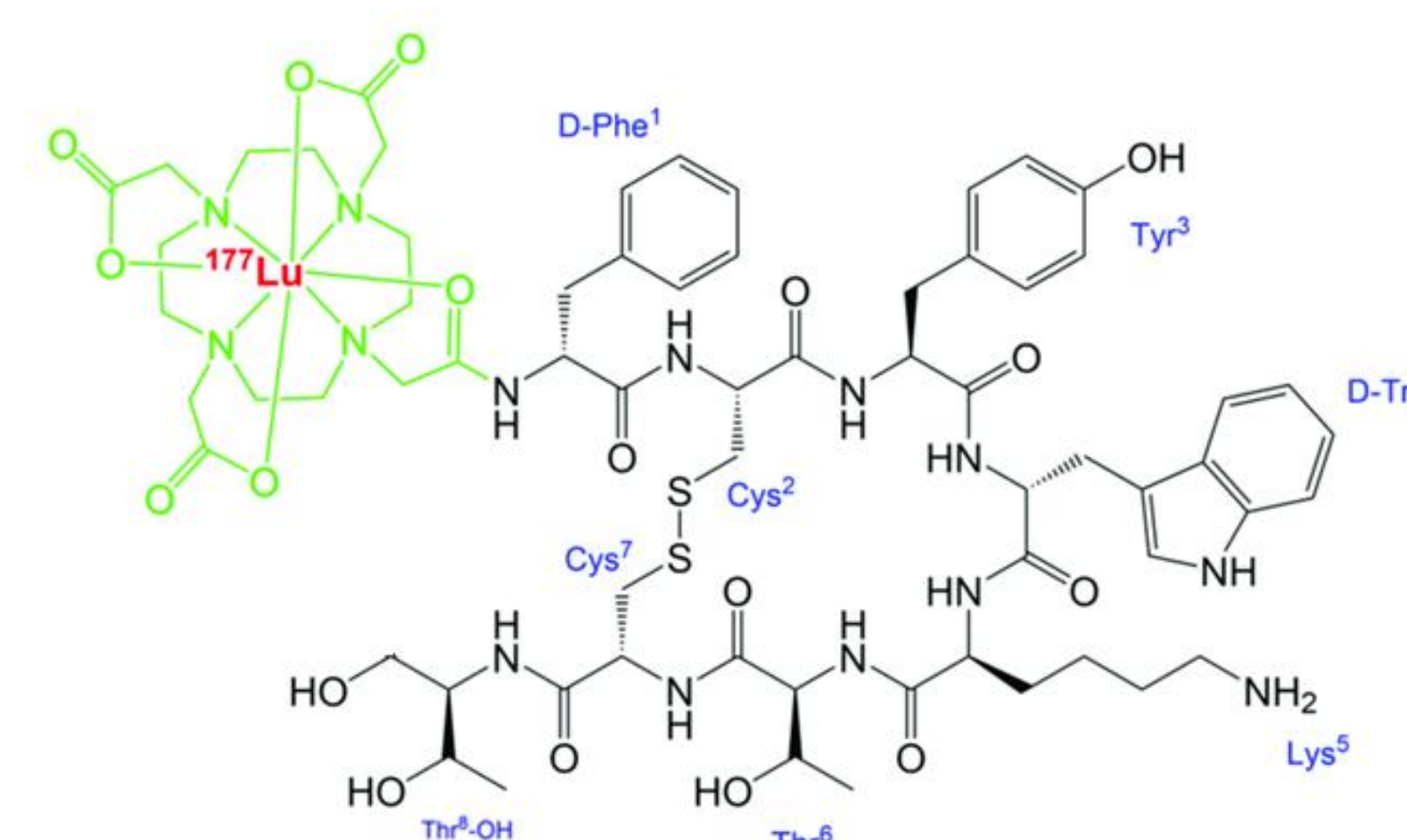
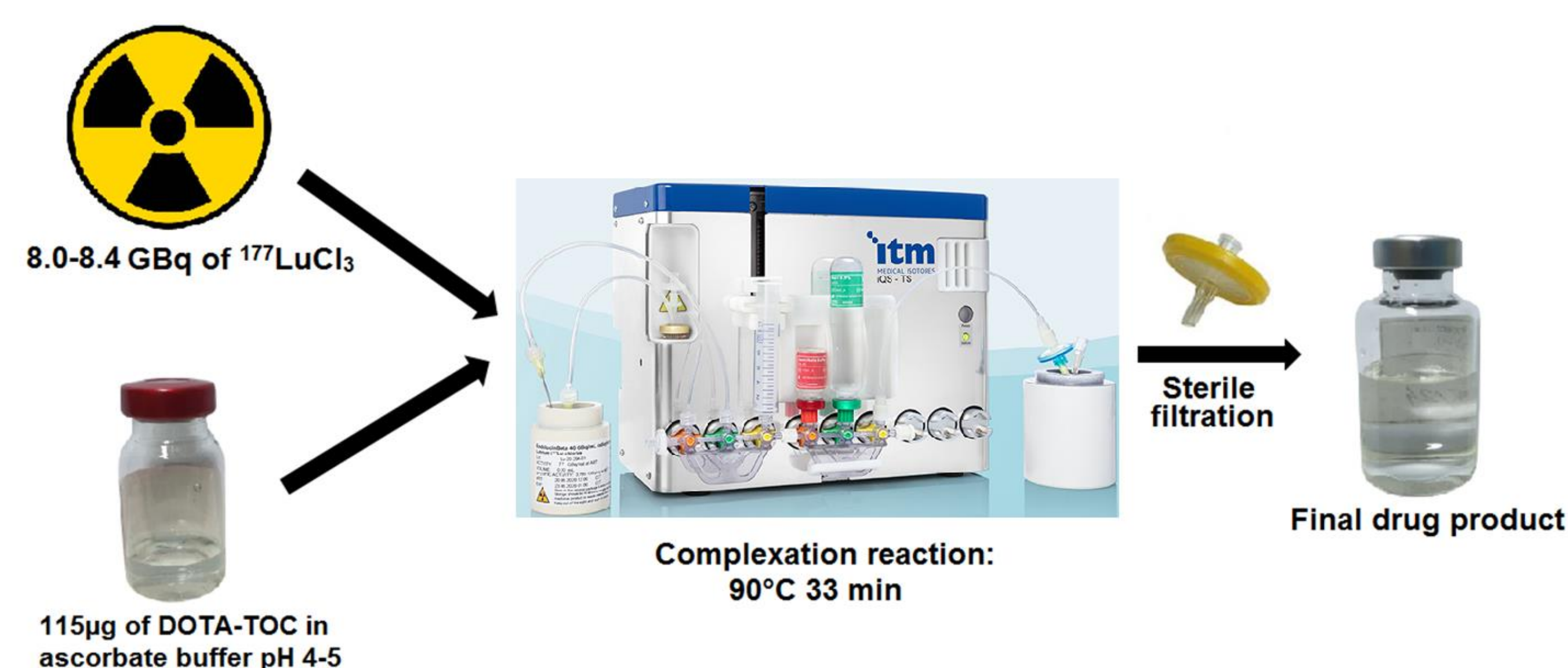


Figure 1. Structure of  $[^{177}\text{Lu}]\text{Lu-DOTA-TOC}$

## Materials and Methods

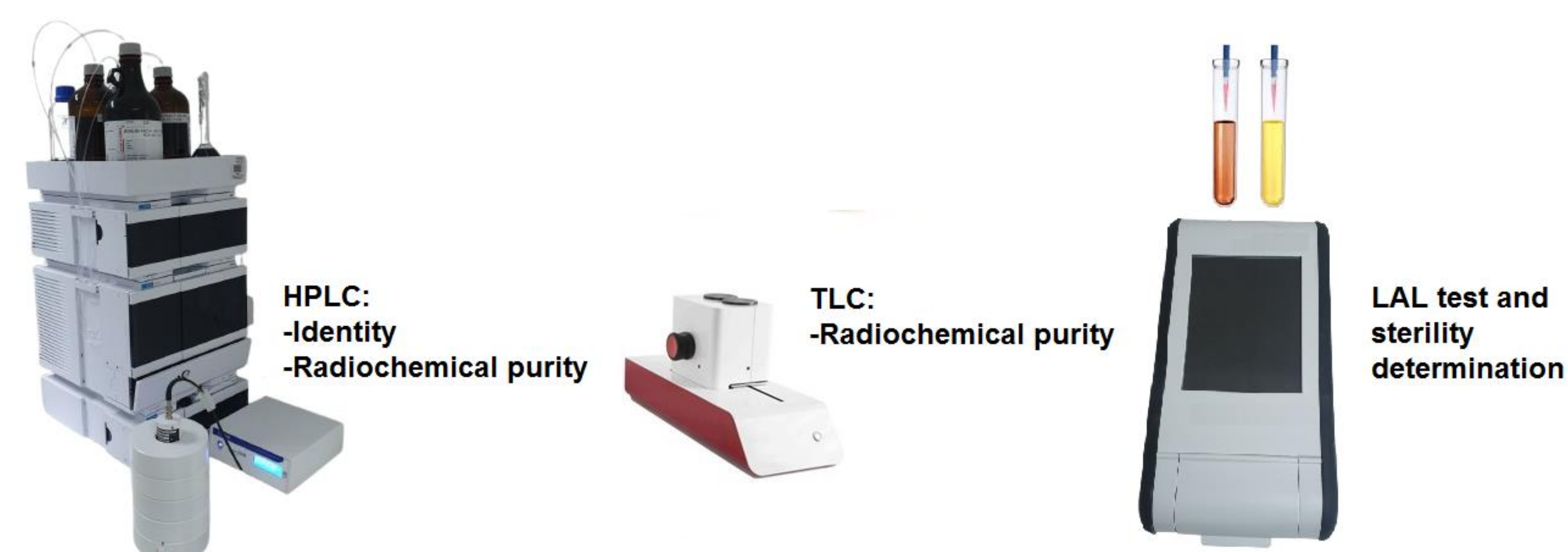
### SYNTHESIS

- For radiolabelling a **fully automated cassette-based synthesizer** was used
- Complexation reaction was performed in ascorbate buffer and with thermal heating of 115  $\mu\text{g}$  DOTA-TOC and 8.0-8.4 GBq of  $^{177}\text{LuCl}_3$  solution.
- Drug substance was eluted through sterile filter into the product vial.
- Saline was added to dilute the solution.



### QUALITY CONTROL

- Radiochemical purity determined by radio-HPLC and TLC
- TLC system: 0.1 M citrate buffer pH 5.5 and 1 M ammonium acetate /methanol 1:1 as mobile phases and ITLC-SG strips
- Confirmation of identity by UV HPLC using a non-radioactive standard.
- Sterility and endotoxine tests in accordance with European Pharmacopoeia
- Automated filter integrity test performed on the final sterile filter



## Results

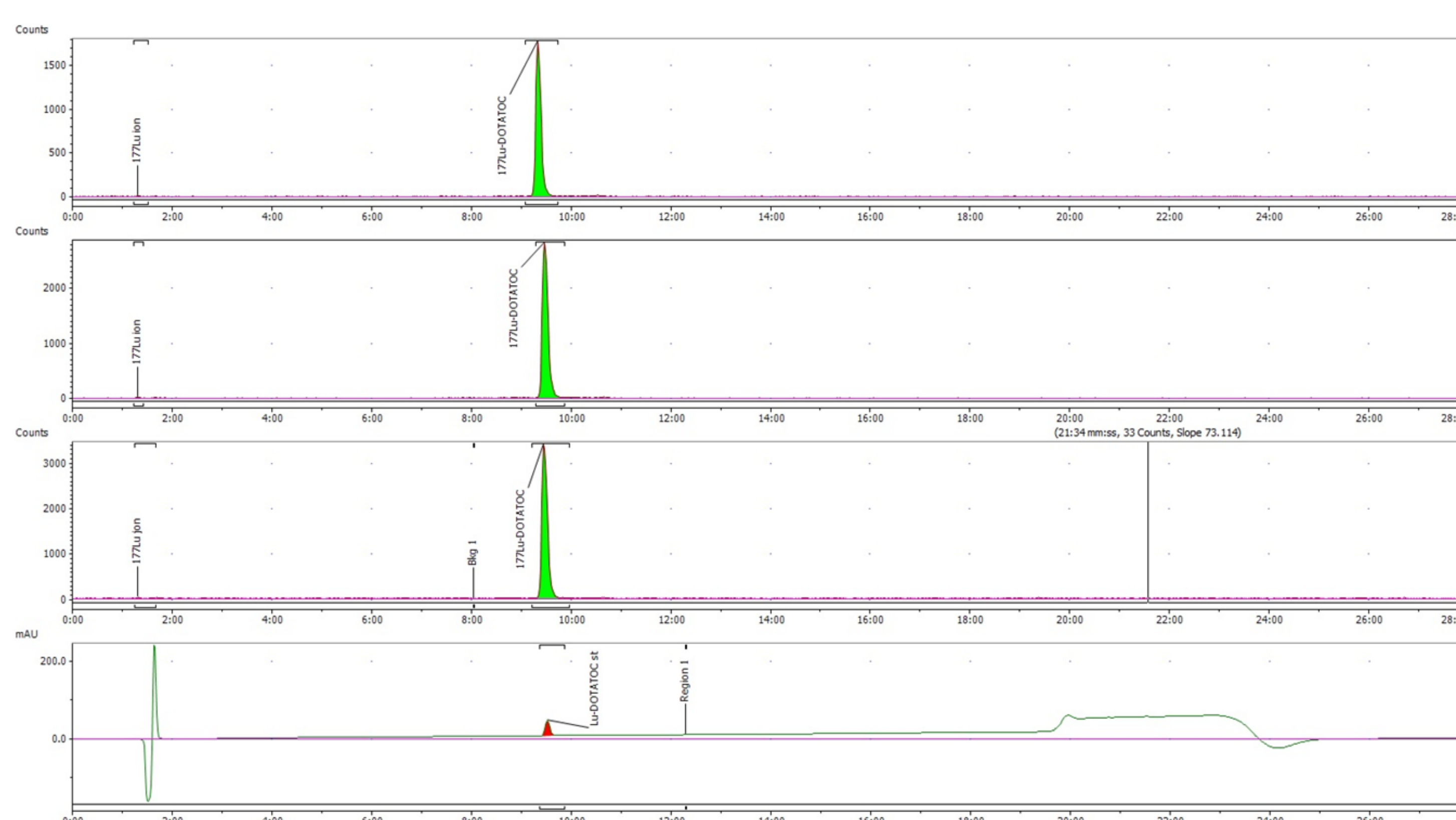


Figure 2. Confirmation of  $[^{177}\text{Lu}]\text{Lu-DOTA-TOC}$  identity by HPLC

Synthesis time	36 ± 2 min
Labeling time	33 ± 0.5 min
Typical production yield	90 ± 5%
Residual activity on the cassette	≤ 5 % of the starting activity

Table 1. Performance of  $[^{177}\text{Lu}]\text{Lu-DOTA-TOC}$  labelling process

Parameter	Results of the validation batches (n=3)	Specification
Application volume	19 mL	18-20 mL
Final activity	7.55 ± 0.15 GBq	7.4 GBq ± 10%
Radiochemical purity	99.2 ± 0.5%	≥ 95%
$^{177}\text{LuCl}_3$ impurity	0.38 ± 0.28 %	≤ 1%
$^{177}\text{Lu}$ -colloid impurity	0.33 ± 0.11	≤ 1%
Filter integrity test	Conform	Passed
Endotoxin	Conform	≤ 8 EU/mL
Sterility	Conform	Sterile

Table 2. Validation batches data

## Conclusion and Relevance

- The automatized synthesis of  $[^{177}\text{Lu}]\text{Lu-DOTA-TOC}$  was **successfully implemented**
- The reproducibility and the cost of this in-house synthesis give an opportunity to increase the access of the patients with NET to this innovative therapeutic radiopharmaceutical in the Balkan region

