### UNIVERSIDADE DE LISBOA



### Faculdade de Ciências



# COLÓQUIO DE MATEMÁTICA

# A free boundary problem in cancer therapy

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One approach to fighting cancer is by injection of virus into the tumor. The virus is engineered so that it attacks only cancer cells, and after killing a cell a large colony of virus bursts out of the dying cell and infects other tumor cells. This process encounters a difficulty: the immune cells interfere to destroy the virus infected cancer cells, thus not allowing the virus to multiply and burst one. We shall present a mathematical model based on PDEs in the tumor region. This is a free boundary problem. In the radially symmetric case there exists a unique solution for all t > 0, and the asymptotic behavior of the free boundary is an open problem.

## Segunda-feira, 6 de Junho de 2005, 16h

Apoio
FUNDAÇÃO
LUSO-AMERICANA

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