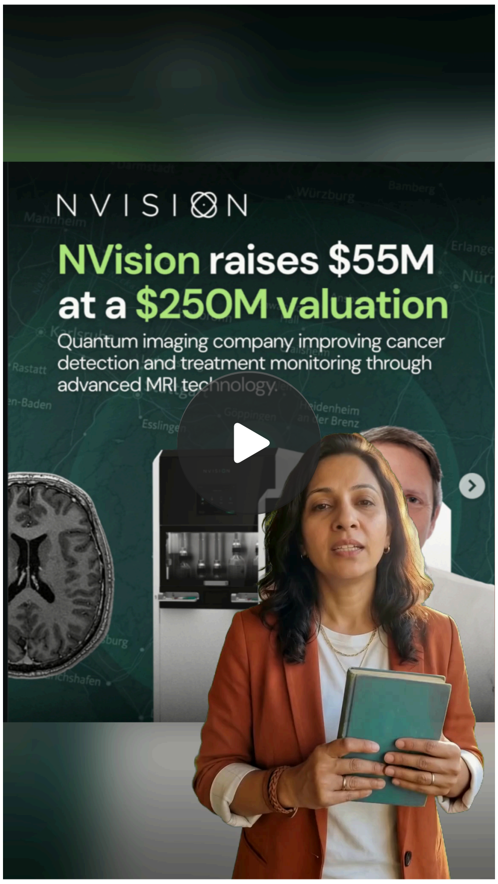
Carbene Qubits, Hyperpolarized Suga and a $55M Bet from Abbott: How NVision and a Handful of Others Are Building Real Quantum Computing fo Healthcare, and Why the Whole Story Comes Down to Energy

JUN 17, 2026 • PAID

Video Preview



🎧 Podcast episode for paid subscriber only. Also available on Spotify.

Thoughts on Healthcare Markets & Technology

Carbene Qubits, Hyperpolarized Sugar, and a $55M Bet from Abbott: How NVision and a Handful of Others Are Building Real Quantum Computing for Healthcare, and Why the Whole Story Comes Down to Energy

Abbott just led a $55M Series B for a quantum imaging company. Most outlets reported the wrong number and missed the bigger story. Thread…

▶ Listen now

10 days ago · Thoughts on Healthcare

To listen to paid episodes in Apple or Spotify, link your Substack subscription via the s settings on those platforms (instructions inside the Substack app under Subscriptions → Podcast).

Abstract

NVision (Ulm, Germany; founded 2016) closed a $55M Series B on May 13, 2026 anchored by Abbott, with Playground Global, Matterwave/b2venture, Entrée Ca and a $17M EIB venture loan. Crunchbase logs $38M because that is the equity total raised now $120M. The company runs two products off one physics stack: POLARIS, a room-temperature hyperpolarizer that lifts the MRI signal of sugar molecules by more than 10,000x to image metabolism live; and PIQC, organic ca qubits printed as 20 to 100 nanometer films onto photonic chips. Coherence alre 2 ms, gates in microseconds, operating at a forgiving 2 to 4 Kelvin. The wider fie real now too: Cleveland Clinic and IBM simulated the 303-atom Trp-cage minip on Heron r2 in March 2026; Qubit Pharmaceuticals and Pasqal placed water in protein pockets on neutral-atom hardware. The through-line, and the actual the 256-qubit machine draws roughly 7 to 10 kW while Frontier eats about 21 MW,

Landauer limit says irreversible computing wastes energy by a factor near a billi
and the disease being imaged (cancer metabolism, the Warburg effect) is itself a
energy accounting problem. Computers and cells run on the same currency. Wh
controls that currency controls both.

Table of Contents

The short version, and why this is not another quantum hype cycle

Quantum computing has spent about fifteen years as the technology that is alwa
years away, which is roughly the credibility profile of a guy who keeps telling yo
band is about to get signed. So a healthy reflex when a quantum healthcare head
lands is to assume someone is laundering a physics demo into a press release. Th
reflex is usually correct. It is also, for the first time in a while, starting to misfire
reason is that the field quietly split into two populations. One population is still
selling the dream of a fault-tolerant machine that cracks chemistry wide open
sometime in the next decade. The other population shipped a quantum device in
hospitals that are using it today and do not employ a single quantum physicist t

operate it. NVision sits in the second group, which is the only group worth a ser operator’s attention right now.

The setup that prompted all this is a Crunchbase card showing a Series B for an listed as NVision Imaging Technologies, $38M, early stage venture, announced r May. The actual round is $55M, and the gap is instructive. The company took $3 equity and stapled on a $17M venture loan from the European Investment Bank, which is the kind of non-dilutive capital you can get when a continent has forma decided your category is strategic. Total raised across the life of the company is $120M. Abbott led as the sole strategic investor on the diagnostics side, which n a Fortune 500 diagnostics machine just bought a front-row seat rather than a pr mention. That detail alone separates this from the usual quantum theater, becau Abbott does not write checks to look forward-thinking. Abbott writes checks to distribution.

What NVision actually built, and why tl sugar matters as much as the qubit