



*instituu*t Verbeeten

# RT in Hodgkin Lymphoma

*Lesser is better?*

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Radiation oncologist

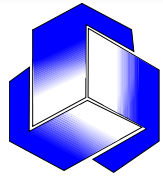
Tilburg, The Netherlands

Kracht van kennis. Kracht van leven.

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# Radiation dose in Hodgkin Lymphoma

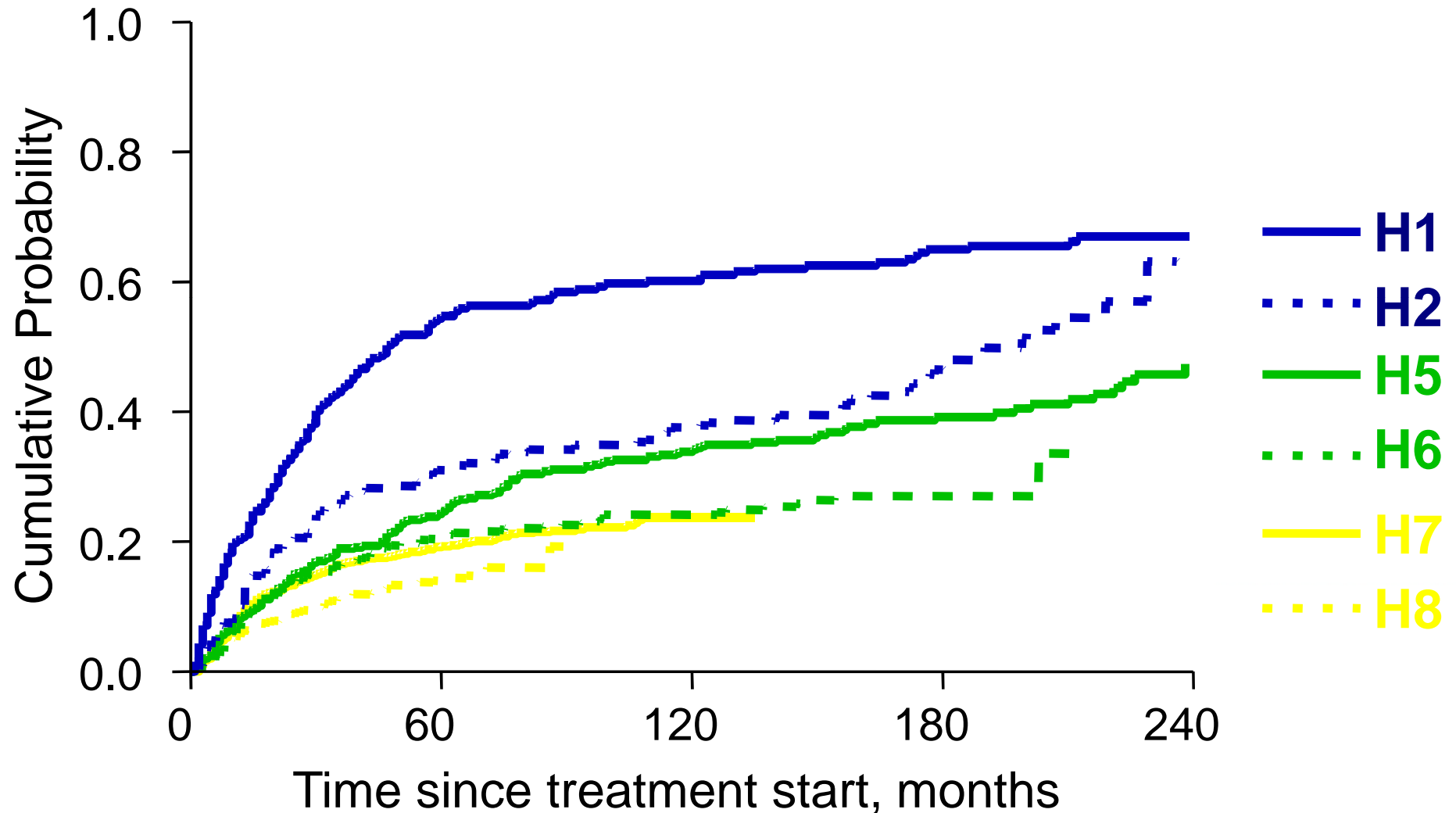
- Introduction
  - Current evidence
  - Guidelines
-

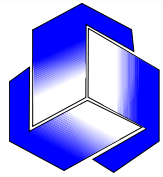


# Early stage Hodgkin Lymphoma

The EORTC experience

*Treatment failure*

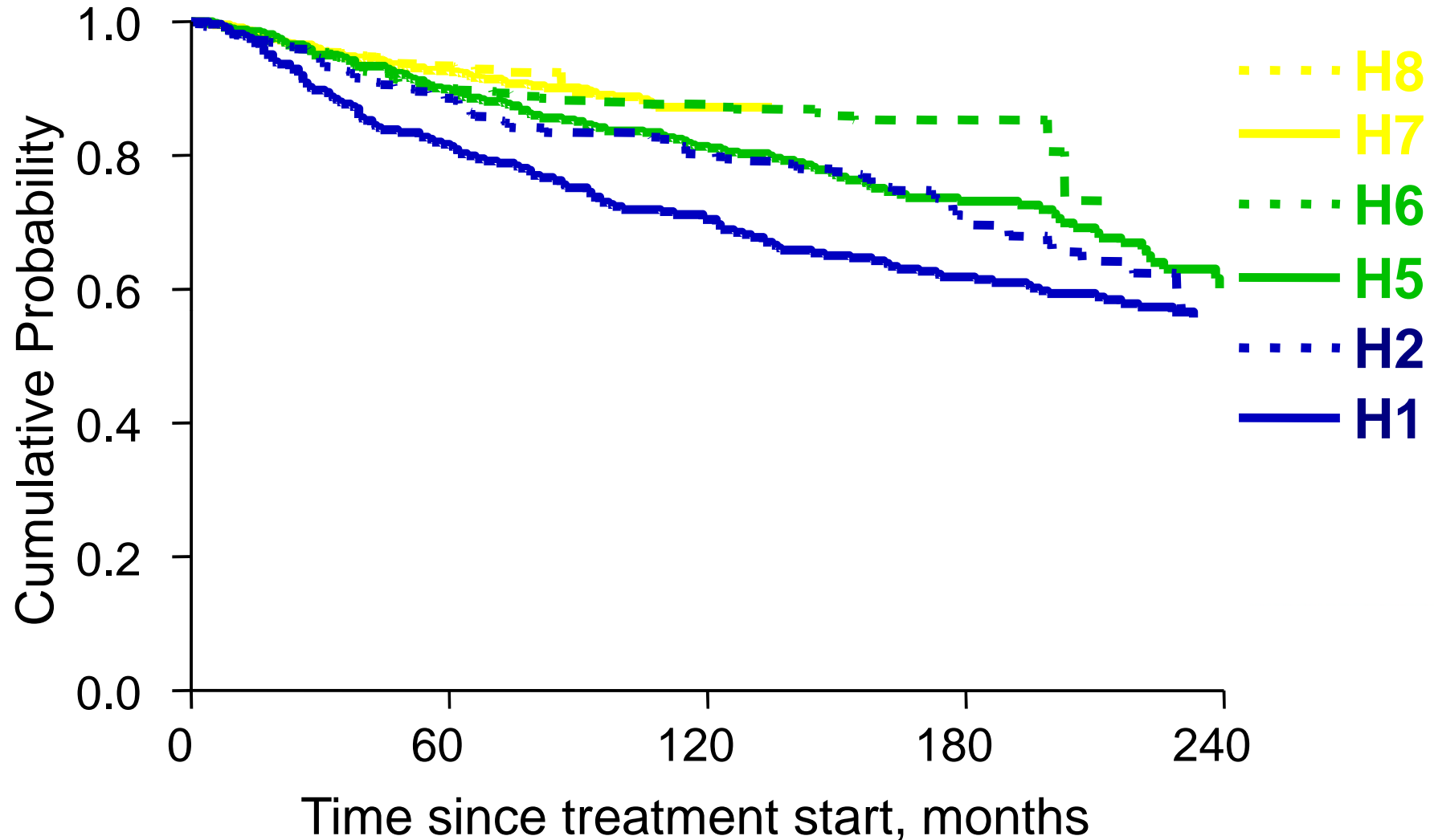


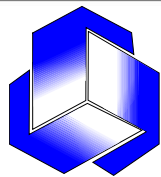


# Early stage Hodgkin Lymphoma

The EORTC experience

*Overall survival*

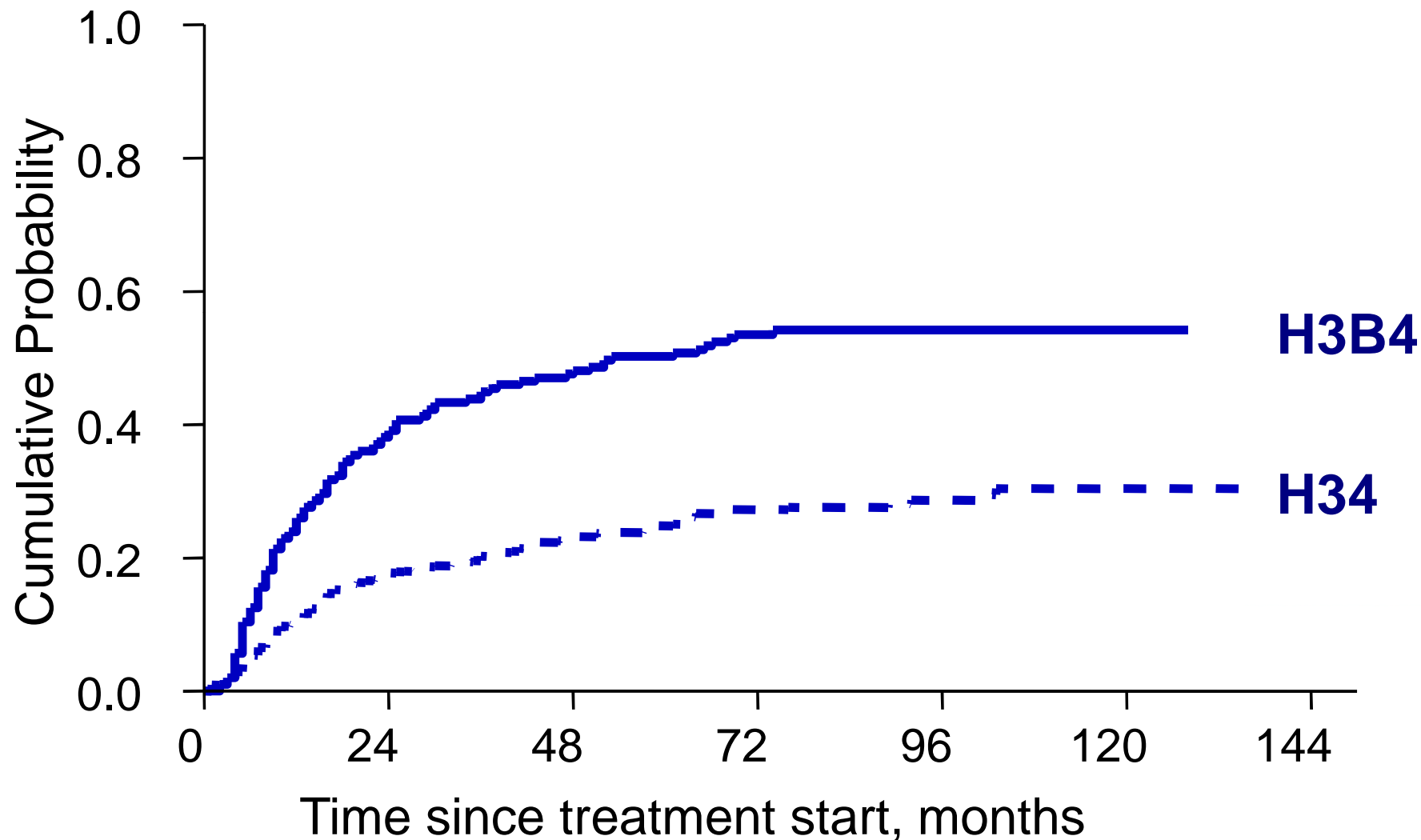


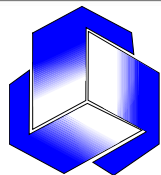


# Advanced stage Hodgkin L

The EORTC experience

*Treatment failure*

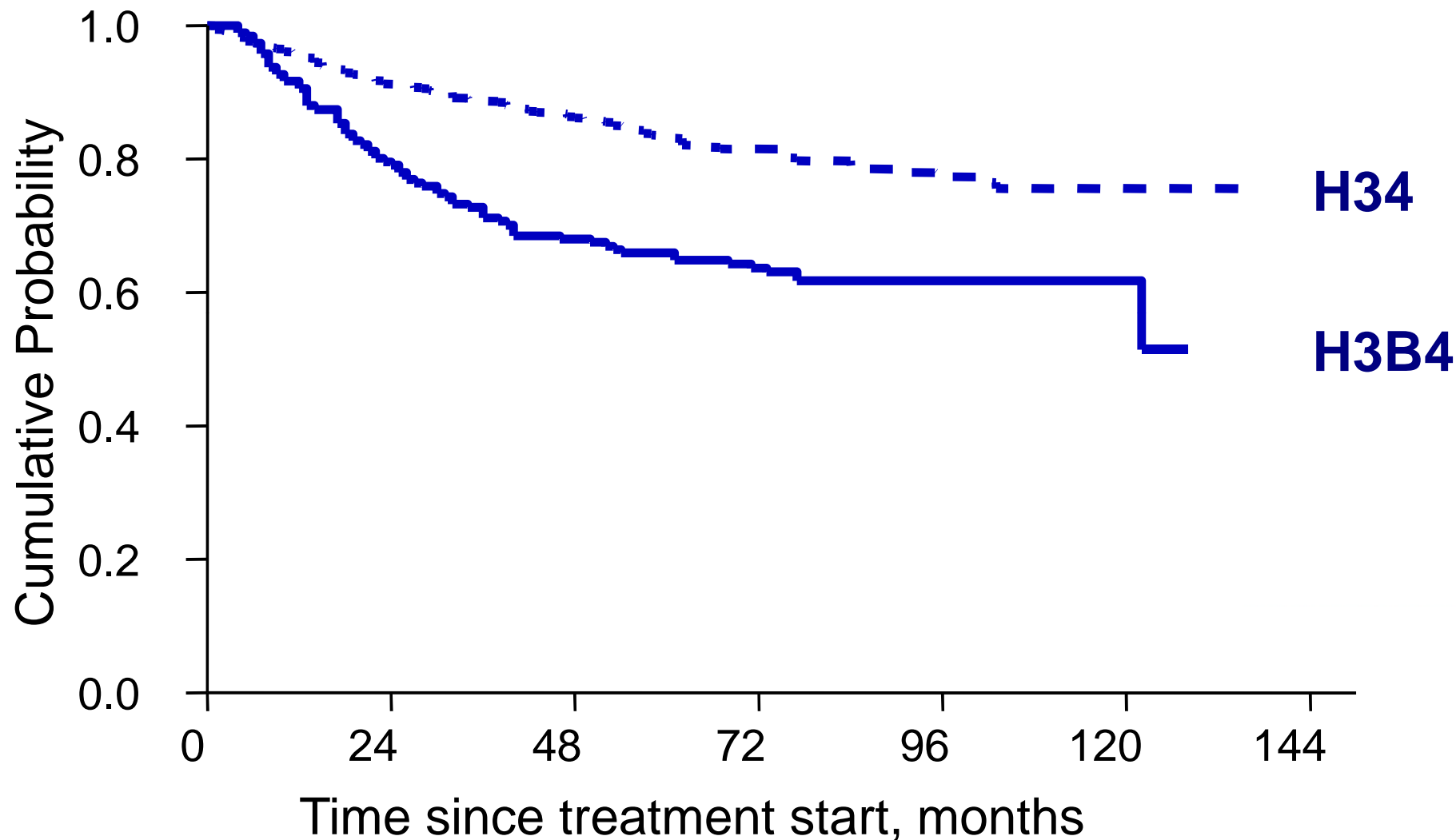




# Advanced stage Hodgkin L

The EORTC experience

*Overall survival*

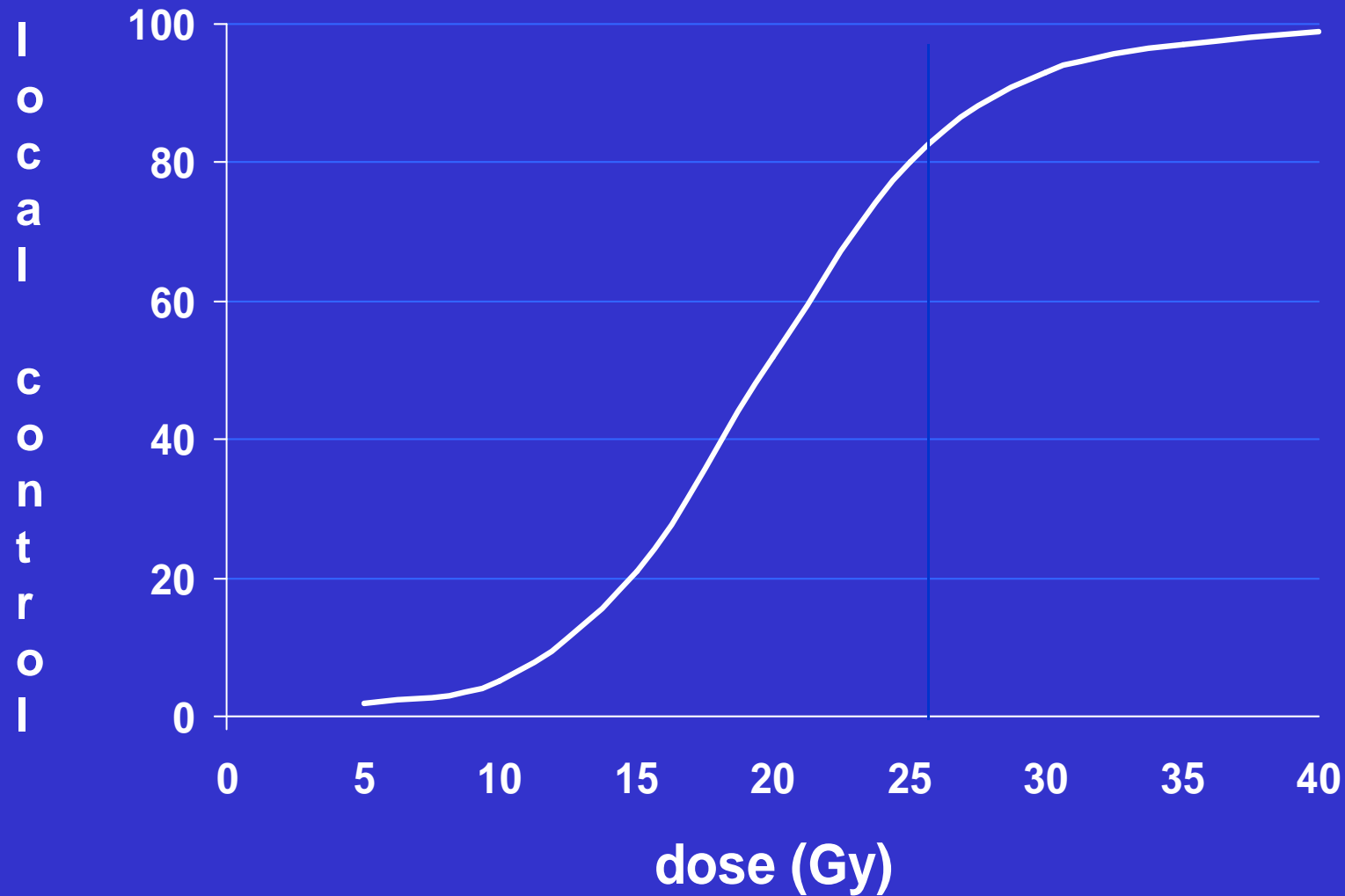


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# Radiation dose in Hodgkin Lymphoma

- Introduction
  - Current knowledge & evidence
  - Guidelines
-

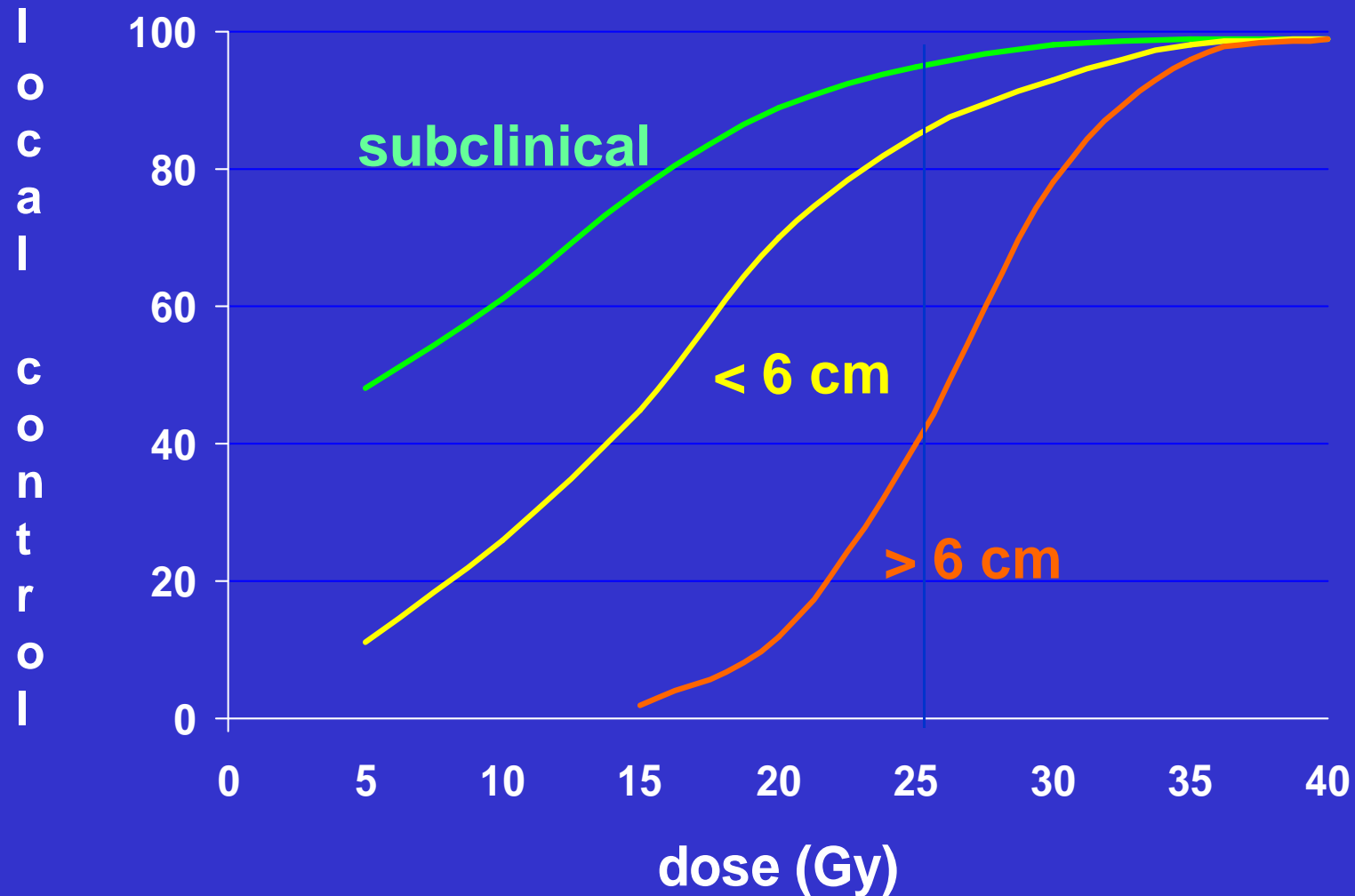
# Dose-response curve Hodgkin's lymphoma (Fletcher & Shukovsky 1975)





# Dose-response curves Hodgkin's lymphoma

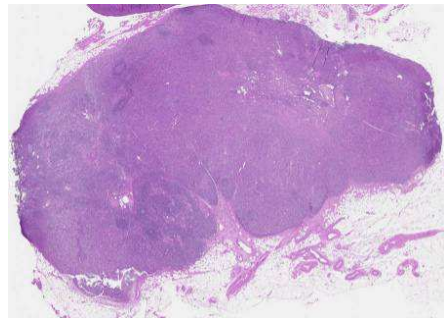
(Vijayakumar & Myriantopoulos 1992)





= 1 cell

= 0,01 mm<sup>3</sup>



= 10<sup>6</sup> cells

= 1 mm<sup>3</sup>

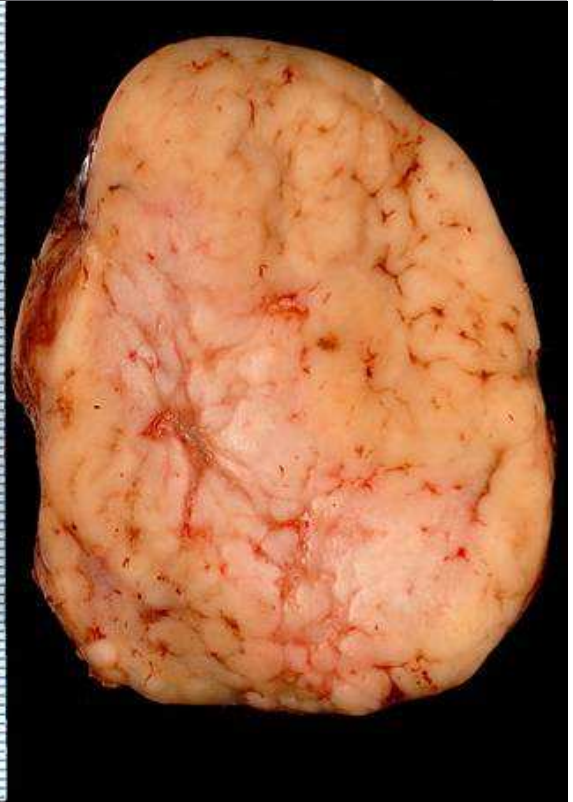
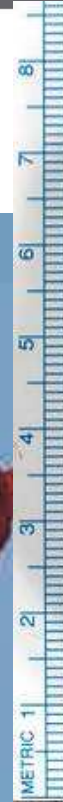
= 1 mg



= 10<sup>9</sup> cells

= 1 cm<sup>3</sup>

= 1 g



= 10<sup>12</sup> cells

= 1 dm<sup>3</sup>

= 1 kg

# Radiotherapy & cell kill

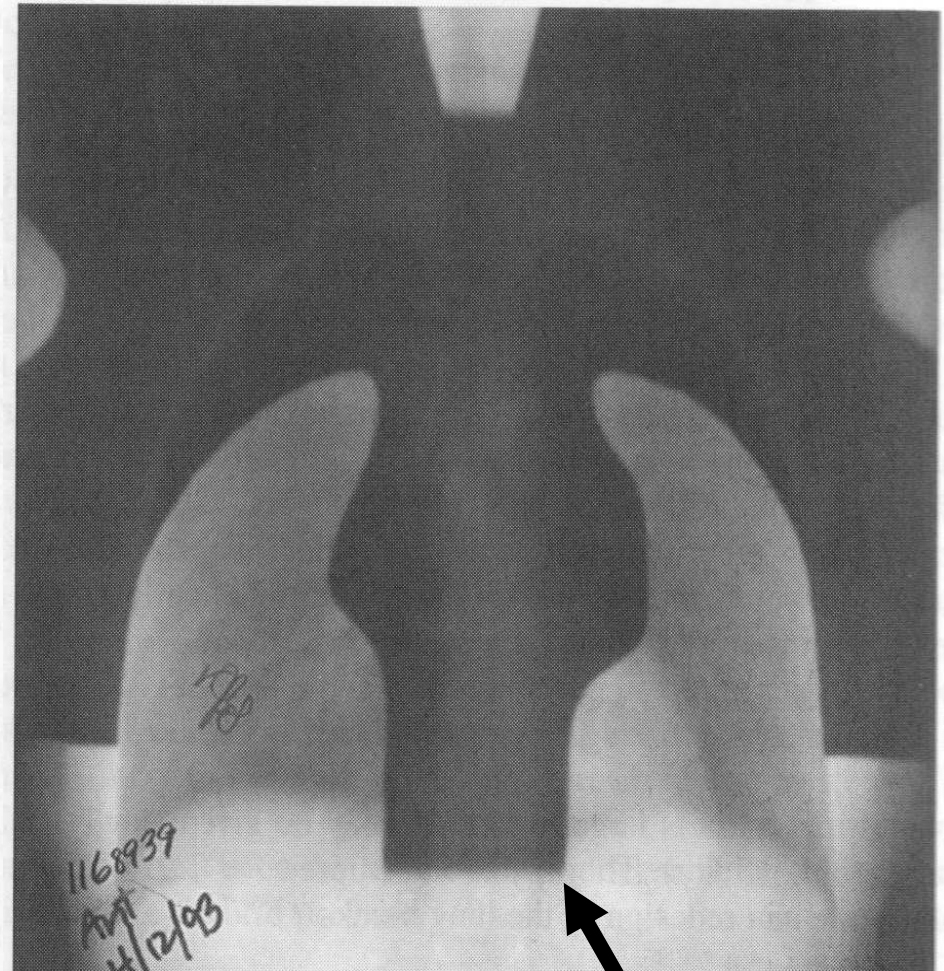
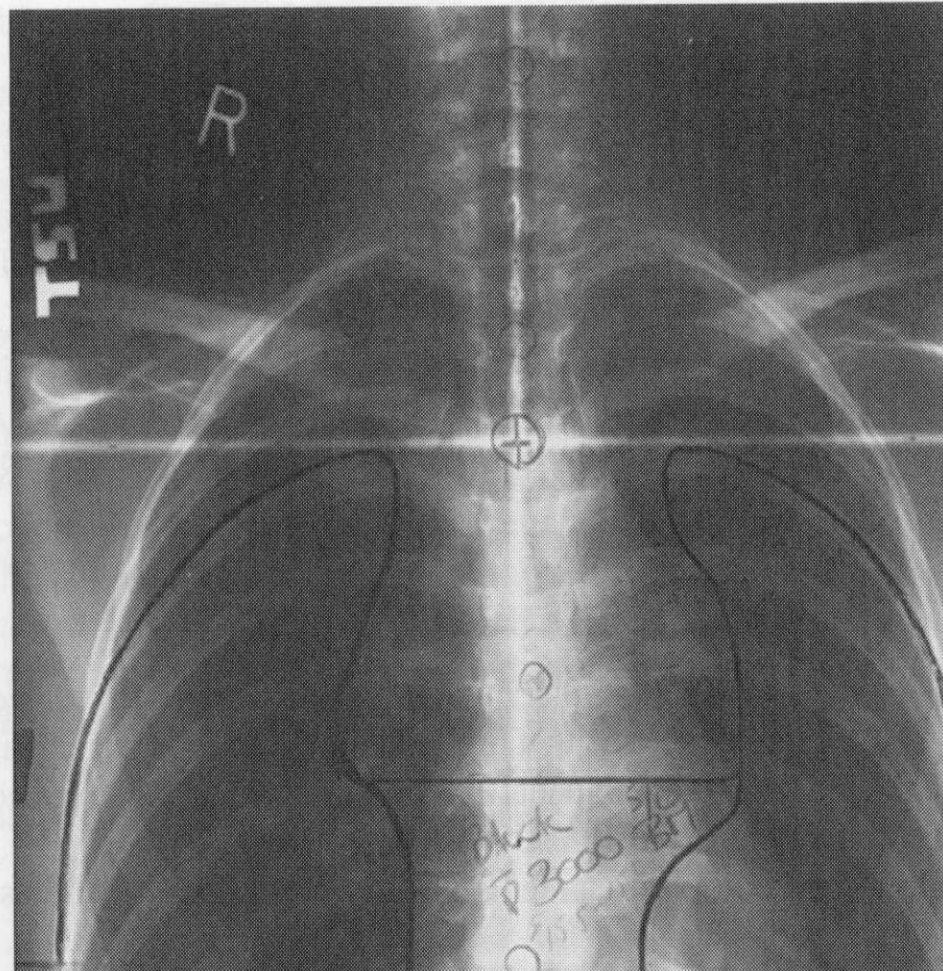
	<u>nr cells</u>	<u>90% cure if</u>
• Subclinical	0 - $10^8$	20 Gy
• 1-5 cm	$10^9$ - $10^{10}$	28 Gy
• 6-10 cm	$10^{11}$ - $10^{13}$	34 Gy

→ *2 Gy kills about 80% of the cells*

# Radiotherapy & cell kill

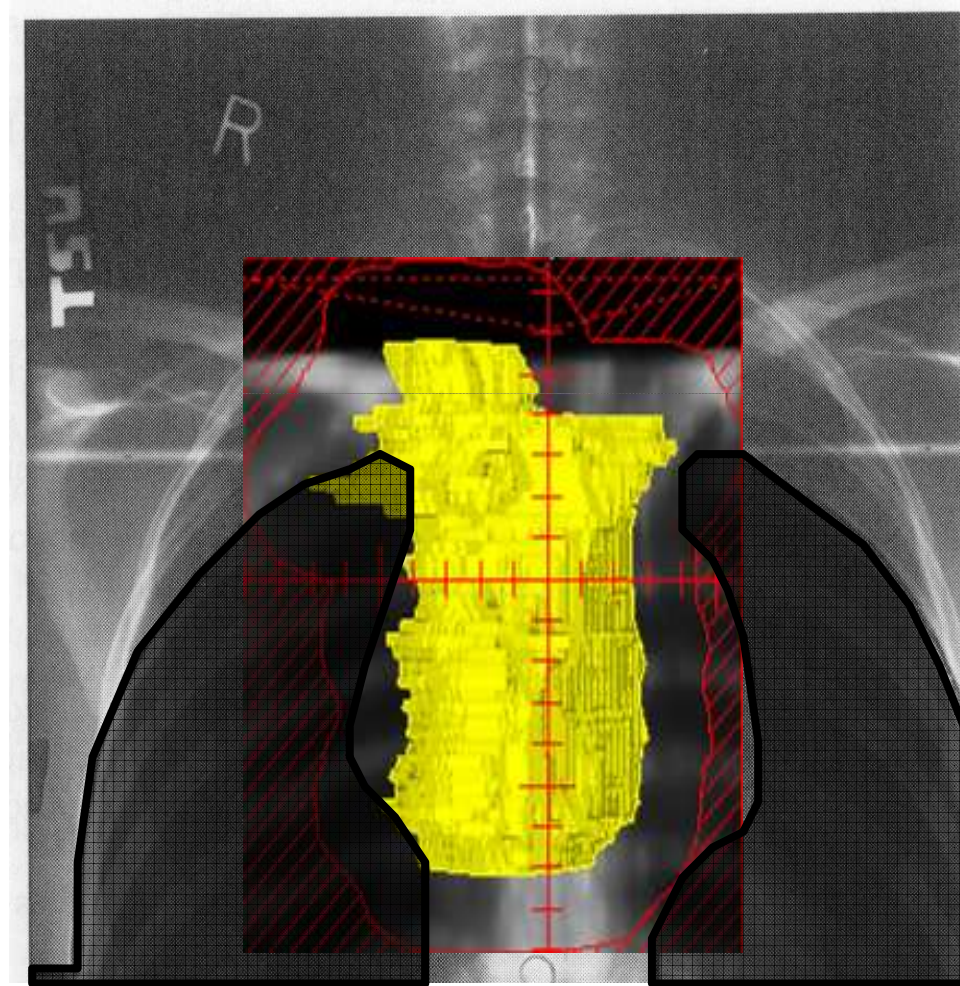
	<u>90% cure if</u>
• 2 Gy → 20% residual cells	<1 cells
• 4 Gy → 4% residual cells	2.5 cells
• 20 Gy → $10^{-5}$ residual cells	$10^4$ cells
• 30 Gy → $3 \cdot 10^{-9}$ log residual cells	$3 \cdot 10^7$ cells
• 36 Gy → $3 \cdot 10^{-11}$ log residual cells	$3 \cdot 10^9$ cells
• 40 Gy → $10^{-12}$ log residual cells	$10^{11}$ cells

# Radiotherapy & the target



Acceptable shift

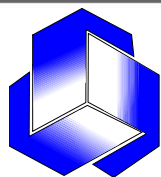
# Radiotherapy & the target



# Radiotherapy & the target

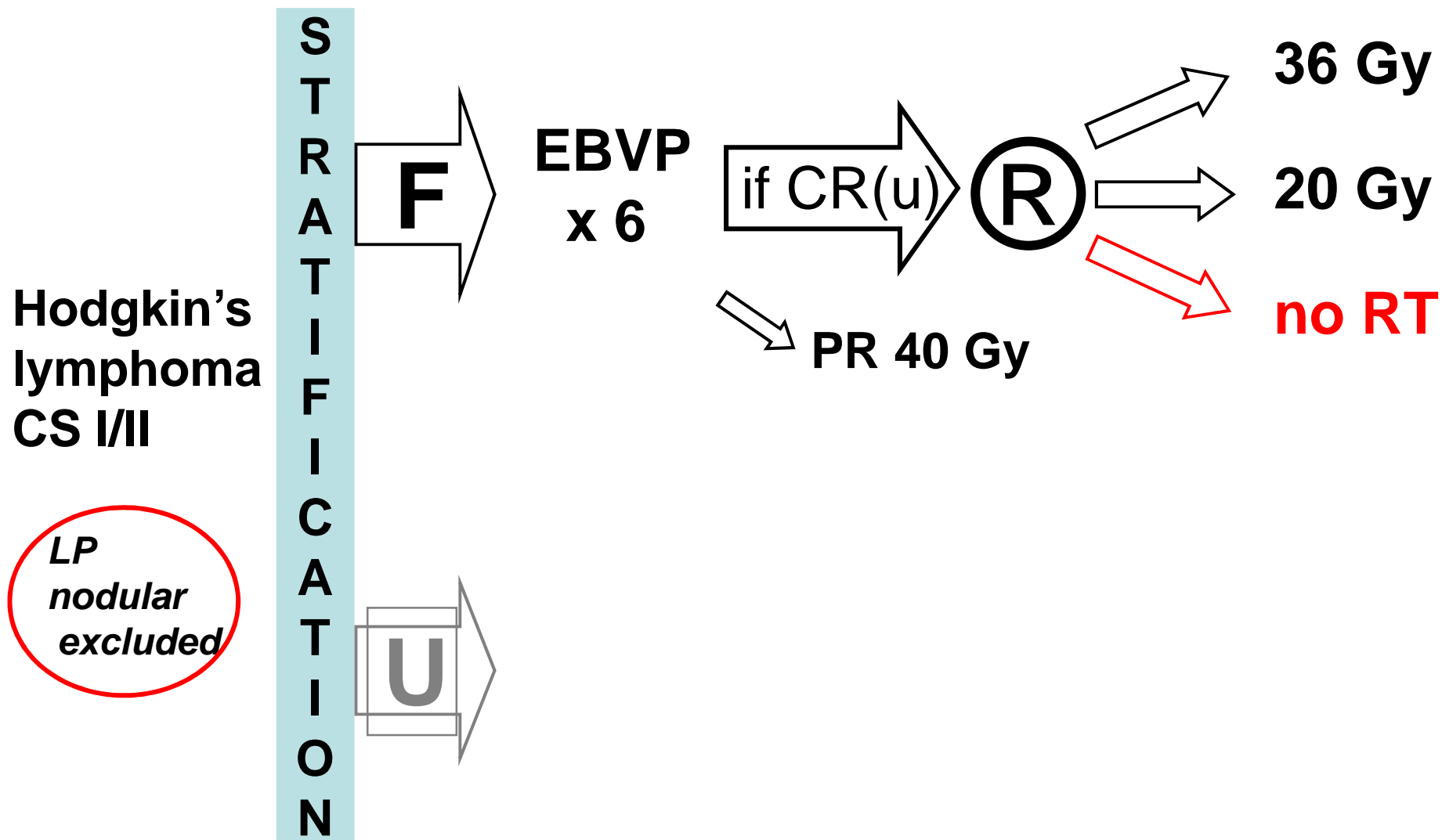
GTV → CTV → PTV ↔ standard fields

- GTV shrinks during treatment
  - Patient set-up variation
  - Movement internal structures
- this & high dose com-  
pensates missing GTV*

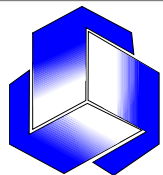


# EORTC H9F trial

early stage “Favourable” Hodgkin’s lymphoma





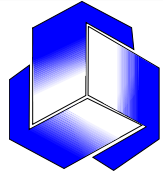


# EORTC H9F trial

*early stage “Favourable” Hodgkin’s lymphoma*

	5y FFS		5y OS
36 Gy	89%	$p=0.19$	98%
20 Gy	85%		100%
0 Gy	69%	$p<0.001$	97%
			$p=0.41$

*→ 0 Gy treatment arm preliminary closed*



# EORTC H3 - 4 trial

*stages III / IV Hodgkin's lymphoma*

- The role of IF-RT
- in stage III and IV HD
- after MOPP/ABV chemotherapy

# EORTC H3 - 4 trial 1989 - 2000

MOPP / ABV x 4

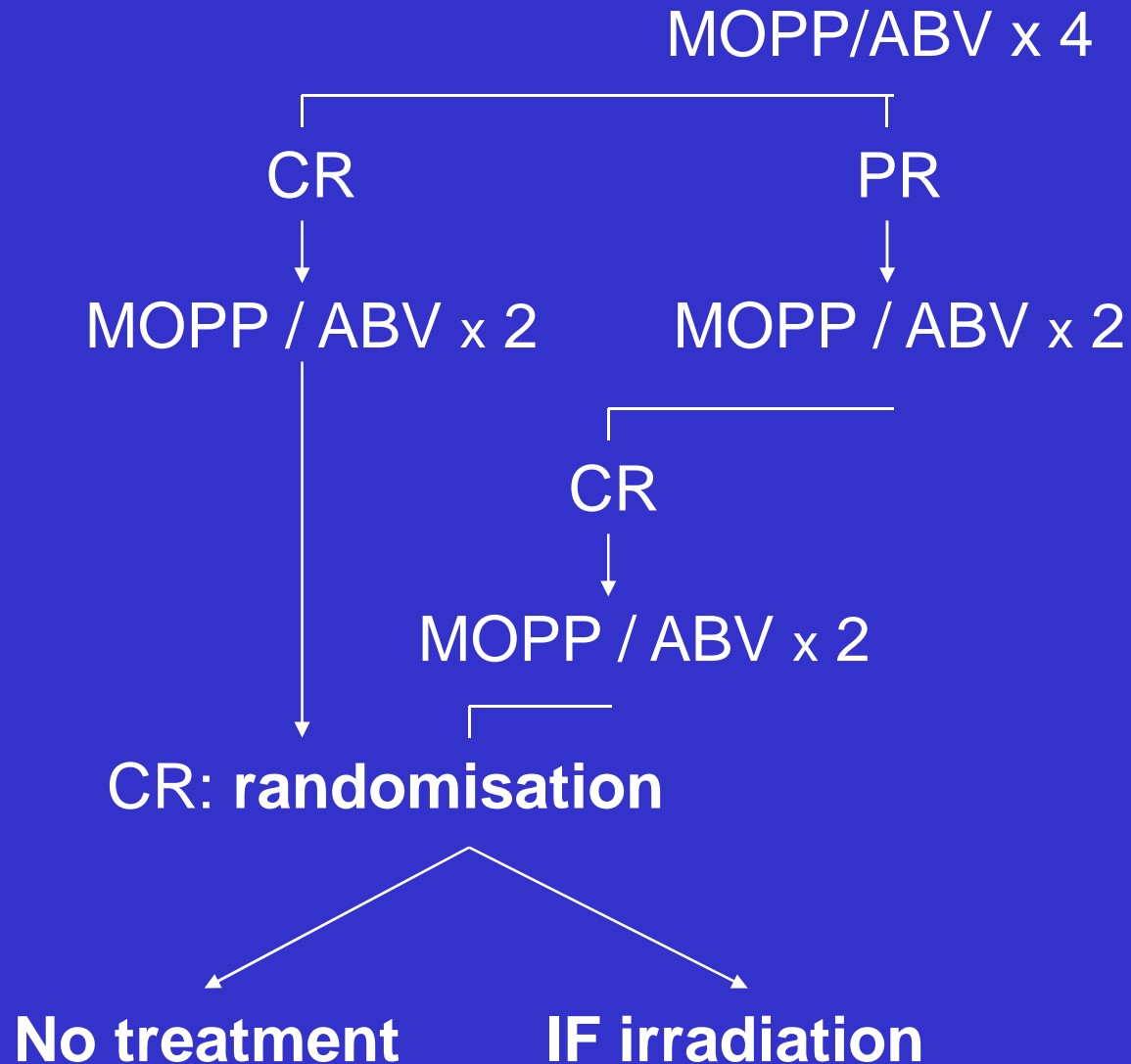
CR

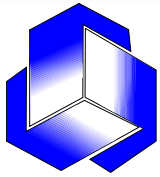
PR

Failure



# EORTC H3 - 4 trial 1989 - 2000

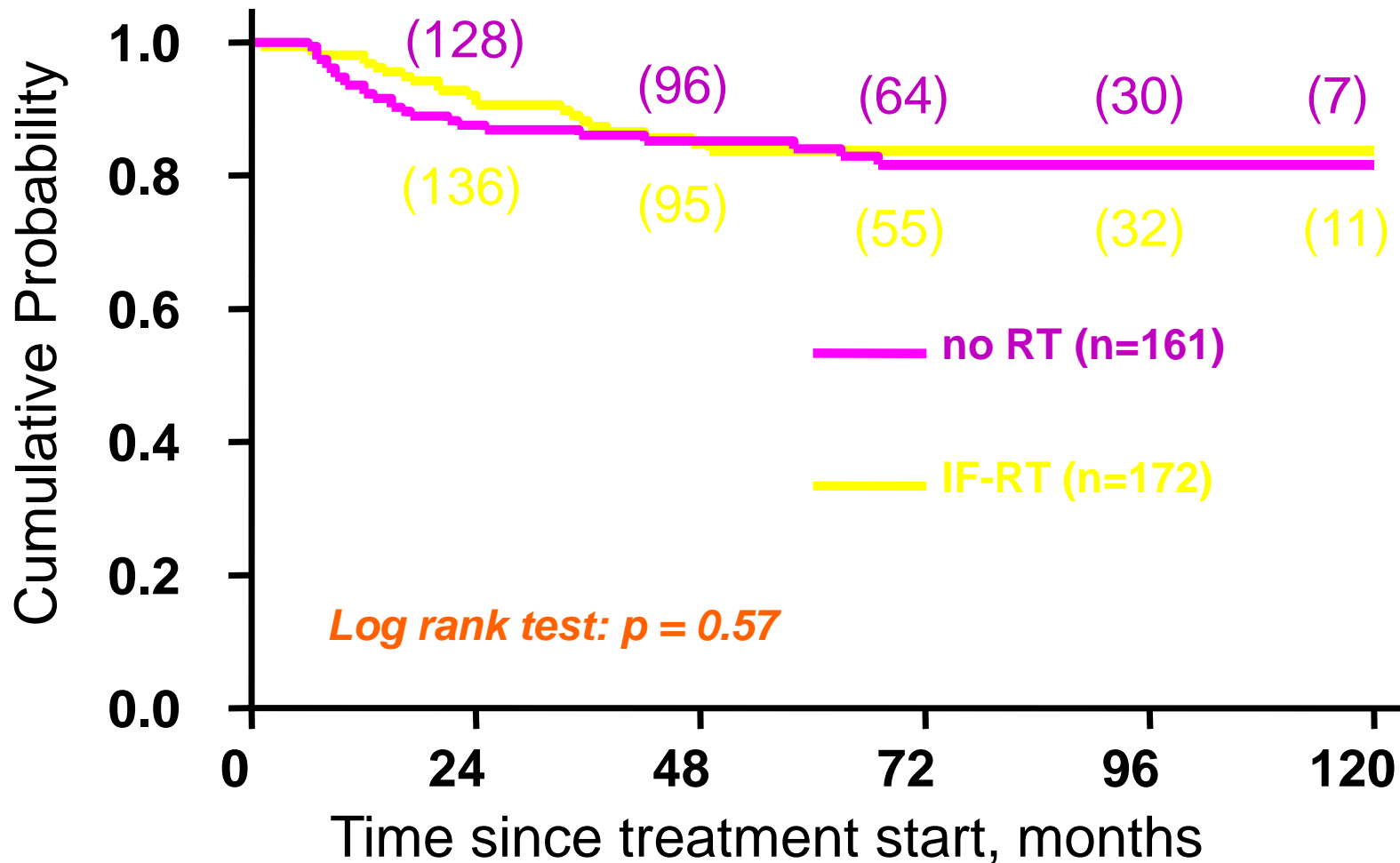




# Advanced stage Hodgkin L

H34 trial: randomised pts (n=333)

*Relapse free survival*



# EORTC H3 - 4 trial 1989 - 2000

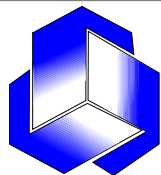
MOPP/ABV x 4

|  
PR

↓  
MOPP / ABV x 2

└───┬───┘  
PR

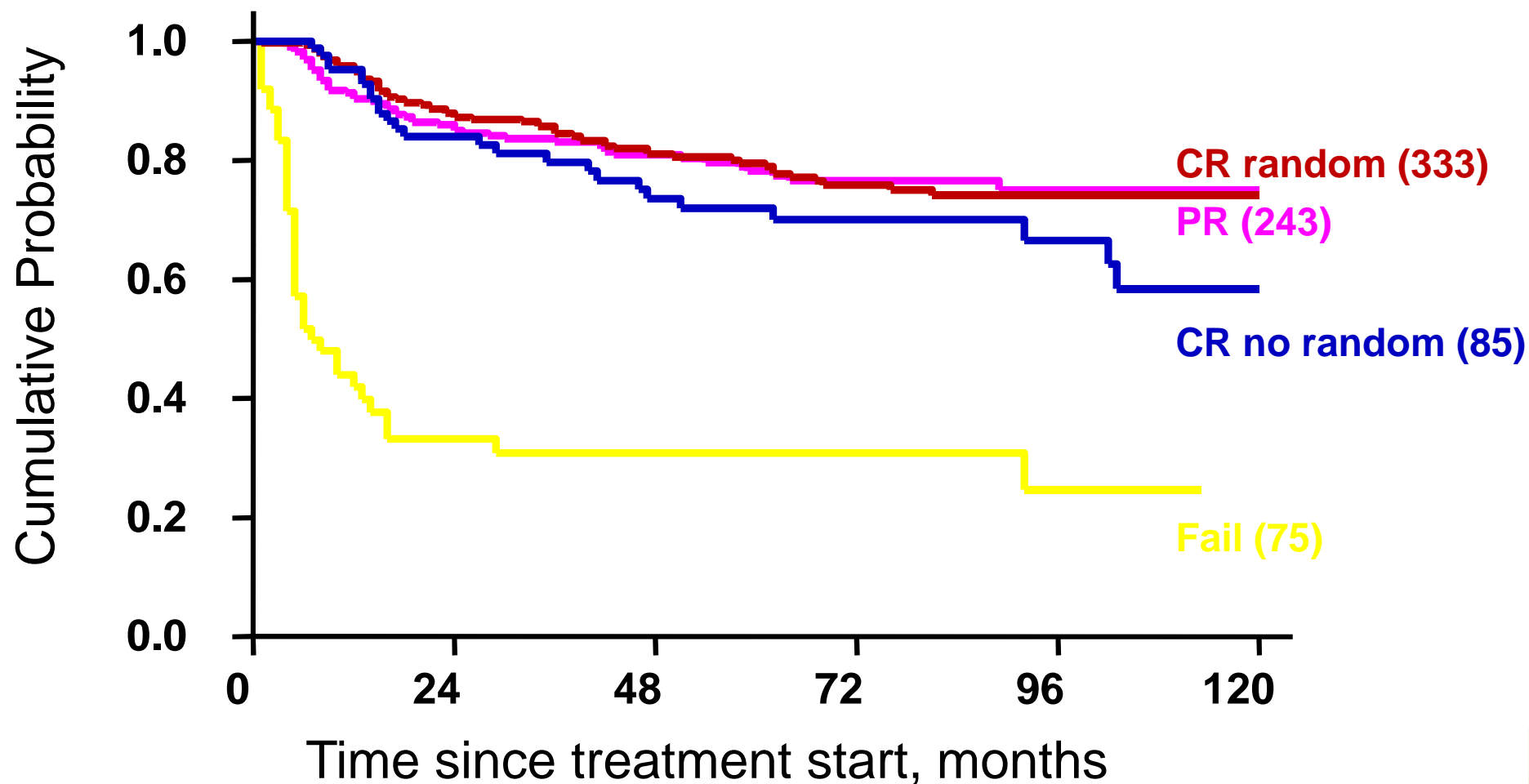
↓  
Irradiation  
*all involved areas*

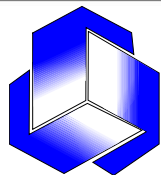


# Advanced stage Hodgkin L

H34 trial: all pts (n=736)

*Event free survival*





# Advanced stage Hodgkin L

H34 trial

*Conclusions*

After CR:

→ IF-RT (24 Gy) does not improve outcome  
after 6-8 cycles MOPP/ABV

After PR:

→ IF-RT (36 Gy) results in the same excellent RFS,  
EFS and OS as in CR patients



## HD10: Investigating reduction of CMT intensity in early favorable HL. Interim analysis of a randomized GHSG trial.

*JCO, 2005 ASCO Annual Meeting 2005: abstract 6506*

® 4 cycles vs. 2 cycles of ABVD

® 30 Gy IF vs. 20 Gy IF

Endpoint = freedom from treatment failure (FFTF).

After 2 years FFTF = 96.6% with no statistical differences.

***Conclusions:*** *Further analysis will show if these promising interim results will allow to reduce further therapy intensity.*

## HD11: Intensification of chemotherapy and reduction of radiation dose in early unfavorable HL. Interim analysis of a randomized GHSG trial.

*Blood ASH Annual Meeting 2005: abstract 816*

® 4 of ABVD vs BEACOPP

® 30 Gy IF vs. 20 Gy IF

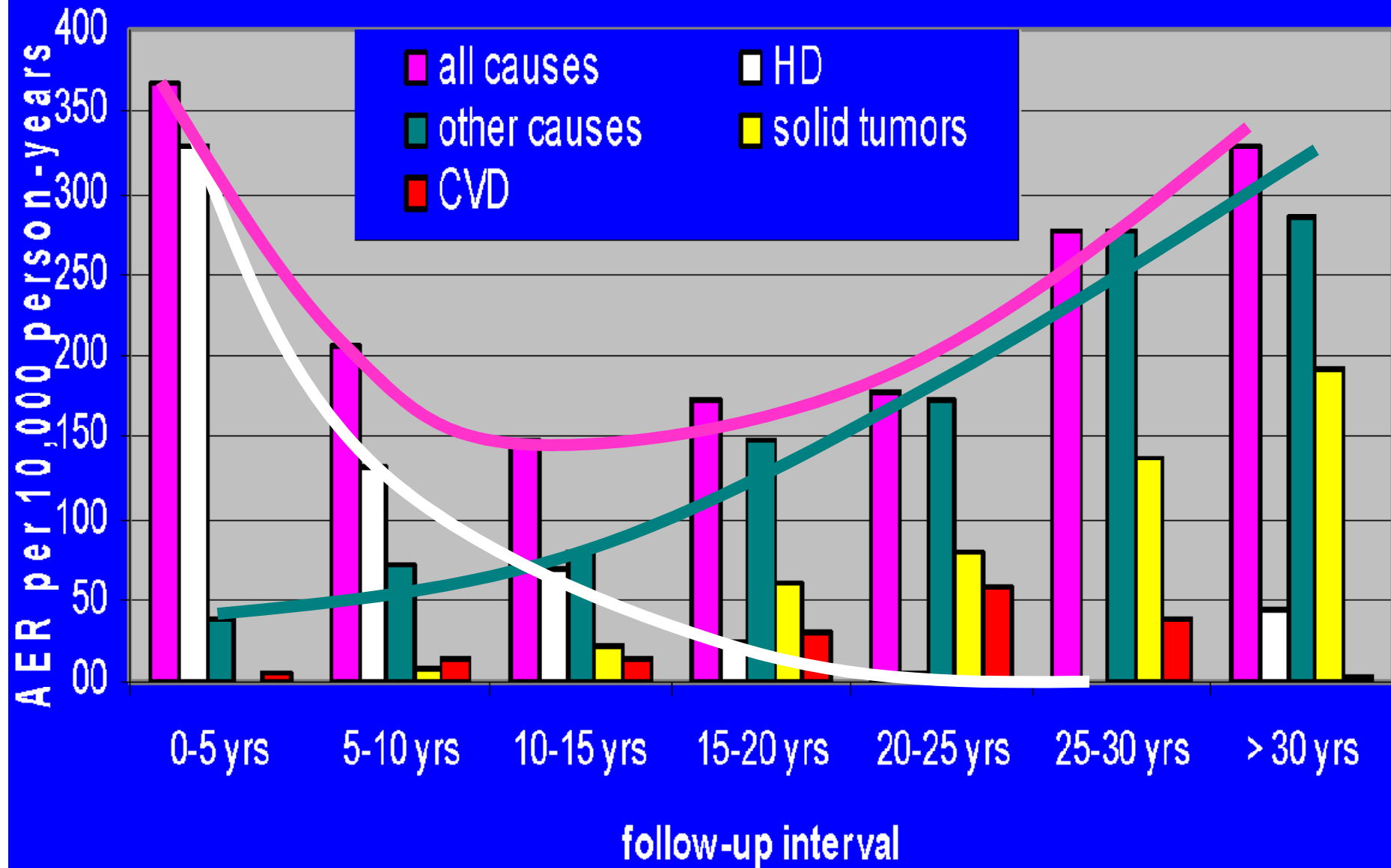
Endpoint = freedom from treatment failure (FFTF).

After 3 years FFTF = 87% with no statistical differences.

***Conclusions:*** *Further analysis needed but more relapses in 20 Gy RT arms.*

# Absolute excess mortality for various causes of death over time

Aleman et al., JCO 2003; 21(18):3431



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# Radiotherapy & the target

## *Strong advices*

- *Avoid other risk factors!!!*
    - Smoking
    - Obesity
    - Hypertension
    - ...
  - *Do not overtreat your patients*
    - *Dose*
    - *Volume*
-

# Quality assurance

GHSB = > 500 participating centers; > 11,000 patients

Central RT reference center from 1978 on for QA programs

1. Central prospective RT review;
2. Retrospective analysis of the RT;
3. Multidisciplinary HD12 panel;
4. Initiation and integration of a teleradiotherapy network.

## Results:

- Major deviations of RT portals and dose = unfavorable prognostic factors.
- Corrections of fields in 49% for early stages and 67% for intermediate stages.
- Significant impact on correctness of stage definition, allocation to treatment groups and on the extension of the IF treatment volume.

*Müller RP et al (GHSB), S&O 2005;181:557-666*

# Quality assurance

## Current procedures:

- Central prospective review of all diagnostic imaging by expert radiation oncologists → control disease extension & define the IF treatment volume.
- Participants are trained on the definition of IF-RT during workshops (GHSB & DEGRO meetings).
- Advanced stages: multidisciplinary panel evaluates treatment response to chemotherapy → patients with poor response receive additional RT based on panel's recommendation.
- Teleradiotherapy improves dialogue between central RT reference center and study participants.

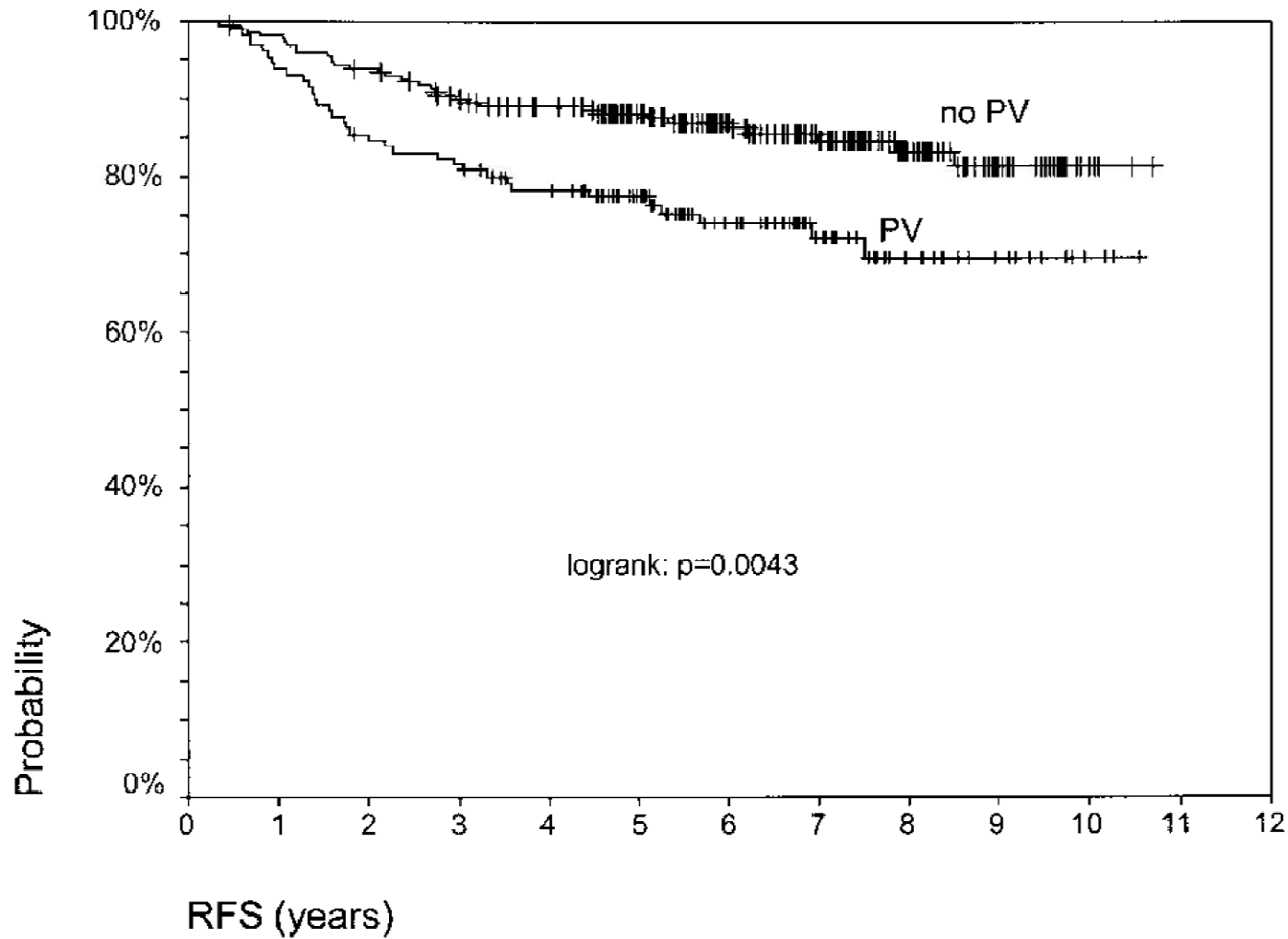
# Quality assurance

- Favourable early stage
- EF alone
- ® 40 vs 30 Gy to non-involved regions → no difference

Table 6. PVs as Prospectively Assessed by the Radiotherapy Review Center

	Arm A, % (n = 190)	Arm B, % (n = 186)
Technical (T)	2	6
Volume too large (V+)	2	1
Volume too small (V-)	29	28
Dose too large (D+)	—	2
Dose too small (D-)	6	5
Dosage too slow (Ds)	5	6
Any protocol violation (= PV)	38	37

# Quality assurance





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# Radiation dose in Hodgkin Lymphoma

- Introduction
  - Current evidence
  - Guidelines
-

# Guidelines

## *Combinations*

- Subclinical disease
  - chemotherapy
- Clinical disease
  - chemotherapy + IN RT
- Extensive disease
  - extensive chemotherapy
  - consolidating RT if residual disease

# Guidelines

## *Radiation dose*

- after limited chemotherapy: IN principle
  - CR(u)            30 Gy, probably lower ~ 20 Gy
  - PR                30 ± 6 Gy
- after extensive chemoth.: IN & iceberg principle
  - CR(u)            0 Gy
  - PR                30 ± 6 Gy

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# Guidelines

## *Quality assurance*

- Target volume delineation
    - IN principle
    - Image co registration: planning CT before chemotherapy
  - Treatment delivery
    - Appropriate margins ~ immobilisation
-

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# Conclusions

Further optimization of combination  
chemotherapy + RT:

*“Less of both might be better than  
much of one of them!”*

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# Conclusions

## Further optimization of RT:

- ✓ lower doses
- ✓ smaller fields
- ✓ further individualisation

***Role of the radiation oncologist!!!***

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# Many thanks to:

- The radiotherapy subcommittee of the EORTC Lymphoma Group:  
Berthe Aleman, Ed Noordijk, Paul Meijnders, Rick Haas, Théo Girinsky, Yolande Lievens, Richard van der Maazen, Lena Specht, et al.
  - John Raemaekers
  - Floor van Leeuwen
  - and many others
-