AIRO 2015 PALACONGRESSI - Rimini, 7-10 novembre



LEZIONE DI AGGIORNAMENTO:

Volumi clinici nella radioterapia dei tumori del distretto cervico-cefalico

Giuseppe Sanguineti

Oncologia Radioterapica Istituto Tumori Regina Elena Roma



PALACONGRESSI - Rimini, 7-10 novembre



DICHIARAZIONEGIUSEPPE SANGUINETI

Come da nuova regolamentazione della Commissione Nazionale per la Formazione Continua del Ministero della Salute, è richiesta la trasparenza delle fonti di finanziamento e dei rapporti con soggetti portatori di interessi commerciali in campo sanitario.

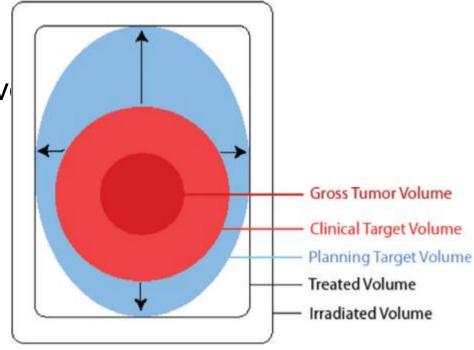
- Posizione di dipendente in aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario: NIENTE DA DICHIARARE
- Consulenza ad aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario: NIENTE DA DICHIARARE
- Fondi per la ricerca da aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario: NIENTE DA DICHIARARE
- Partecipazione ad Advisory Board: NIENTE DA DICHIARARE
- Titolarietà di brevetti in compartecipazione ad aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario: NIENTE DA

DICHIARARE

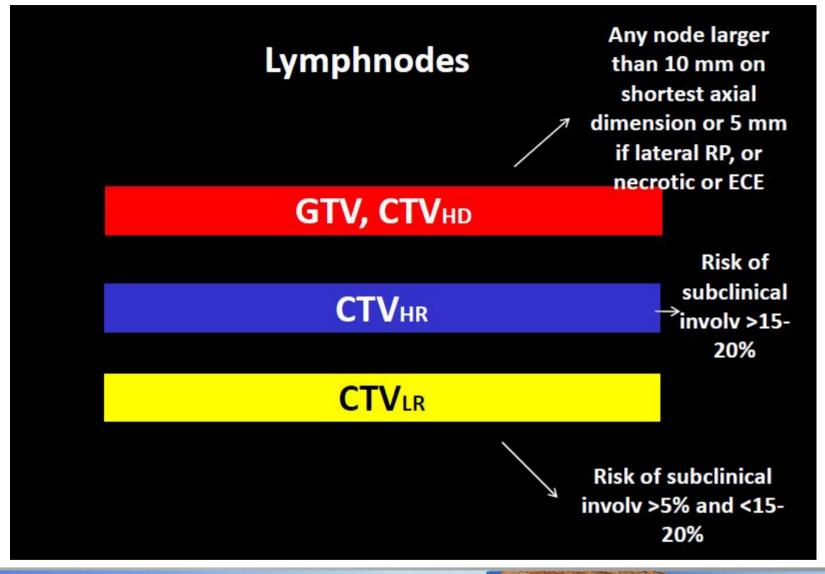
- Partecipazioni azionarie in aziende con interessi commerciali in campo sanitario NIENTE DA DICHIARARE
- Altro NIENTE DA DICHIARARE

Definitions

- > GTV, CTV, PTV
- > OAR, PRV
- Irradiated vs treated v

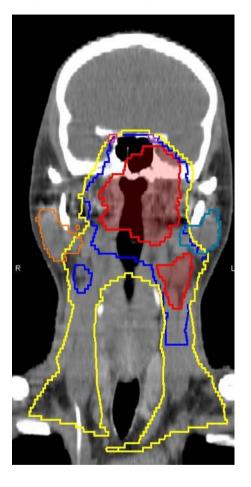








Definitions



Gross Tumor Volume

Clinical Target Volume

Planning Target Volume



> From 2D to 3D/IMRT, from what to be spared

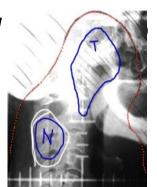


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b

> From 2D to 3D/IMRT, from what to be spared



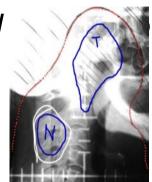
Empirically evolved o







> From 2D to 3D/IMRT, from what to be spared

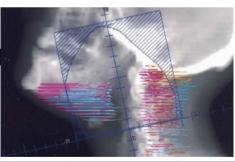


Empirically evolved o



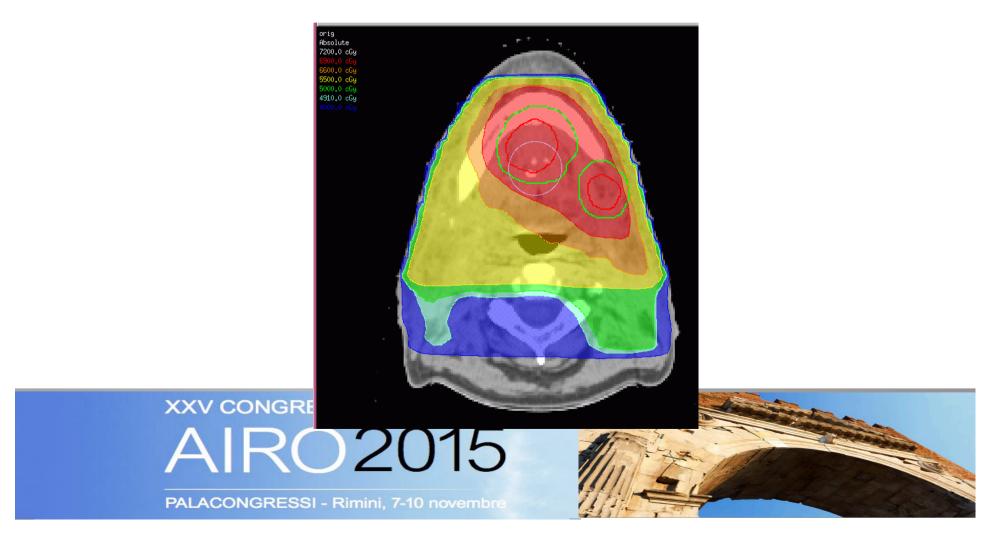


lack of guidelines for several years, con w 'old' volumes



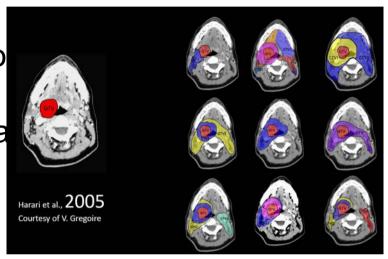


➤ The capability to cover large volumes considered a distinct advantage of RT over surgery



Prescribe tmt – Indication to/no

Contouring, how to cover - Atla





Merlotti *et al. Radiation Oncology* (2014) 9:264 DOI 10.1186/s13014-014-0264-9



REVIEW Open Access

Technical guidelines for head and neck cancer IMRT on behalf of the Italian association of radiation oncology - head and neck working group

Anna Merlotti^{1†}, Daniela Alterio^{2†}, Riccardo Vigna-Taglianti^{3†}, Alessandro Muraglia^{4†}, Luciana Lastrucci^{5†}, Roberto Manzo^{6†}, Giuseppina Gambaro^{7†}, Orietta Caspiani^{8†}, Francesco Miccichè^{9†}, Francesco Deodato^{10†}, Stefano Pergolizzi^{11†}, Pierfrancesco Franco^{12†}, Renzo Corvò^{13†}, Elvio G Russi^{3*†} and Giuseppe Sanguineti^{14†}



Pattern of failure studies

CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

PATTERNS OF LOCOREGIONAL FAILURE AFTER EXCLUSIVE IMRT FOR OROPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA

GIUSEPPE SANGUINETI, M.D.,* G. BRANDON GUNN, M.D.,* EUGENE J. ENDRES, C.M.D.,

GREGORY CHALJUB, M.D., PRAVEENA CHERUVU, M.D.,* AND BRENT PARKER, Ph.D.

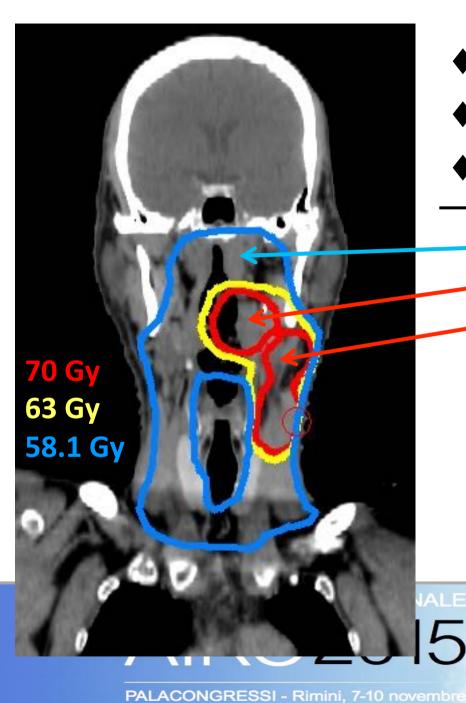
Departments of *Radiation Oncology, † Medical Physics, and † Neuroradiology, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX

IJROBP 2008

- ♦ 50 pts (58% stage IV),
- ♦ minimum FU 1 yr (median 32.6 mths),
- ◆ IMRT alone (no surgery, no chemo)
- ♦ (no PET)







- ♦ 9 failures
- ♦ 8 pts
- ♦ 3-yr LC 93.8%-RC 85.1%

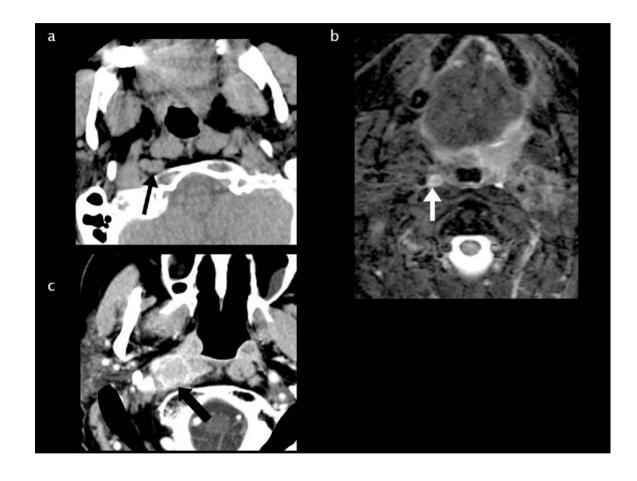
4 – all pre-existing nodes

3

2



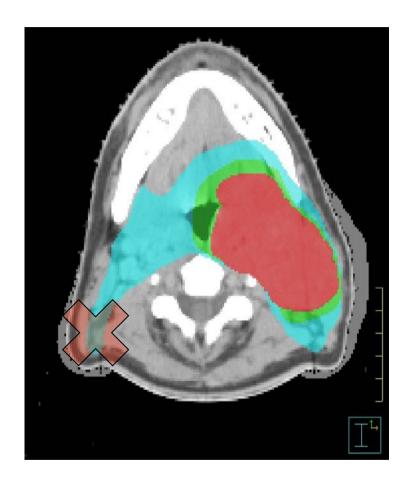
Pattern of failure studies







'Omitting volumes'





(Recent) examples of omitted volumes

- Level V in OPC*
- ➤ Level IB in OPC
- > RP cranial to C1 in OPC*
- ➤ Medial part of RP in OPC
- ➤ T site after TORS*
- > Level IV in NPC
- ➤ All levels if pN0 (HNSCC)*
- **>** ...

* ASTRO 2015





(Recent) examples of omitted volumes

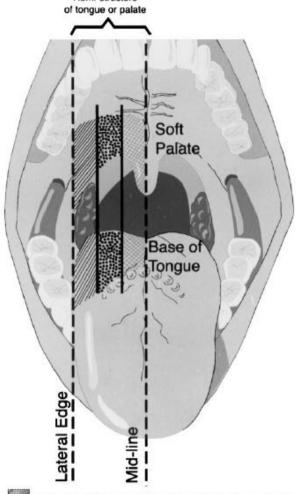
- ➤ Level V in OPC*
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- > RP cranial to C1 in OPC*
- Medial part of RP in OPC
- ➤ T site after TORS*
- ➤ Level IV in NPC
- ➤ All levels if pN0 (HNSCC)*
- > ...

... to avoid incidental irradiation of embedded &

surrounding OARs



Contralateral neck nodes



- ipsilateral tmt an option for pts with lateralized dis [within 1 cm] and w/o advanced neck dis [N0-1].
- in properly selected pts, controlateral neck recurrence <10% (VCC/PMH/ MDACC)

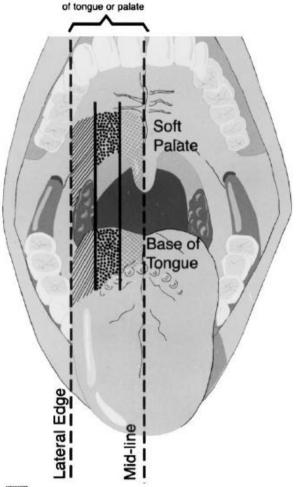
Lateral 1/3 (extension limited to 1cm of lateral involvement)

Middle 1/3 (> 1 cm of disease extension)

Medial 1/3 (tumor within 1cm of, or crossing mid-line)

NAZIONALE

Contralateral neck nodes



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CTANDARD OF CARE

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2015

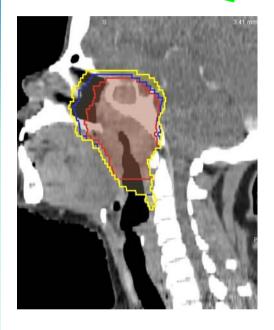


Pituitary fossa coverage in stage The STANDARD OF CARE

No need to cover the pituitary fossa in T1

- 152 pts w/o erosion of base of skull and sphenoid sinus (CT), no extention to the nasal fossa or ethmoid sinus
- Random: w or without shielding of the pituitary fossa (sphenoid sinus)
- no difference in tumor control (p=0.39), but in neuroendocrine complications (p=0.006)







Which is the clinically meaningful threshold to withhold treatment?





Which is the clinically meaningful threshold to withhold treatment?

0-4.9%

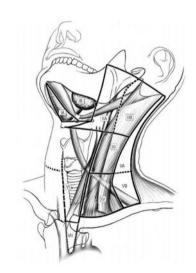
Very Low Risk – no elective tmt

5-14.9%

Low Risk - elective tmt, 50sh Gy

15+%

High Risk – elective tmt, 60sh Gy





Which is the clinically meaningful threshold to withhold treatment?

Inappropriate & inadequate baseline literature data





Which is the clinically meaningful threshold to withhold treatment?

Inappropriate & inadequate baseline literature data

Million book, 1992

TABLE 6-2.	Incidence of Lymph Node Metastasis by Site of Primary in Head
	and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma

and Notic Squamous con Caremonia					
Site	N+ at Presentation (%)	NO Clinically N+ Pathologically (%)	N0 → N+ With No Neck Treatment (%)		
Floor of mouth	30-5942,49,58	21-5019,52,126	20-35 ^{5,21,91}		
Gingiva	18-52 ^{20,28,42,75}	12-1919,20	175,20		
Hard palate	13-24 ^{24,33,75}	No data	225		
Buccal mucosa	9-3142,58	0/1019	165		
Oral tongue	34-6542,49,56,58	25-5412,28,44,64,127	38-5244,56,91,130		
Nasopharynx	86-9014,69,95	No data	19-50*55,96		
Anterior tonsillar pillar or retromolar trigone	39–56 ^{7,59,68}	35 ¹⁹	$10-15^{126}$		
Soft palate or uvula	37–56 ^{7,59,68}	No data	16-2568		
Tonsillar fossa	58-7614,49,59,62,69,95	No data	22†118		
Base of the tongue	50-8359,95,103,109,126	22–3319,103	No data		
Pharyngeal walls	50-7159,95,103,126	46-6619,103	No data		
Supraglottic larynx	31-64849,126	16-2619,103,112	3338,112		
Hypopharynx	52-78 ^{28,94,103,126}	38-5619,103	No data		



Real Q

Which the Risk of Subclinical Involvement of Each Nodal Level when Negative on Imaging?





Which is the clinically meaningful threshold to withhold treatment?

Inappropriate & inadequate baseline literature data

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Buccal mucosa	9-3142,58	0/10 ¹⁹ 25–54 ¹² 28,44	22 ⁵ 16 ⁵ 38–5244,56
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Supraglottic larynx	64849,126	2619,103,112	3338,112
Hypopharynx	52-7828,94,103,126	38-5619,103	No data

Classic data of nodal involv for oropharyngeal SCC



Candela FC, Kothari K, Shah JP. Patterns of cervical node metastases from squamous carcinoma of the oropharynx and hypopharynx. *Head Neck* 1990;12:197–203.



Lindberg R. Distribution of cervical lymph node metastases from squamous cell carcinoma of the upper respiratory and digestive tracts. *Cancer* (1972)29:1446–1449.

At pathology after surge

At presentation on palp





JHU data

Jan 1998 2000 Dec 2010

- 1. 'upfront' neck dissection (ND), i.e., before definitive RT+CHT
- early clinical primary tumor stage (cT1 or cT2);
- 3. neck nodes clinically palpable or detectable on imaging at dx;
- no previous/synchronous tumors;
- 5. no previous neck surgery or `neck violation`;
- 6. dissection of at least 3 contiguous neck nodal levels;
- 7. neck surgery at Johns Hopkins Institutions;
- 8. neck specimen processed by surgical levels;



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- dissection of at least 3 contiguous neck nodal levels;
- neck surgery at Johns Hopkins Institutions;
- neck specimen processed by surgical levels;
- tumor positive for Human Papilloma Virus at in situ hybridization and/or for p16 at immunohistochemistry. HOPKINS

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From the pathology report, we extracted the prevalence rate of involvement of levels IB-V.

Then, for each nodal level we computed the negative predictive value (NPV) based on literature data of sensitivity/specificity for CT [Curtin et al, 1998]. SENS=0.88, SPEC=0.39

$$NPV = \frac{(specificity)(1 - prevalence)}{(specificity)(1 - prevalence) + (1 - sensitivity)(prevalence)}$$

Here we report 1-NPV or the risk that a level that does not contain any node larger than 10 mm harbors subclinical disease.

JOHNS HOPKINS



Studies

108 pts (up to 2007) regardless HPV

119 pts (up to 2007) regardless HPV/incl exc bx

91 pts (up to 2010) only HPV +

CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

DEFINING THE RISK OF INVOLVEMENT FOR EACH NECK NODAL LEVEL IN PATIENTS WITH EARLY T-STAGE NODE-POSITIVE OROPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA

Giesephe Sangeinett, M.D., "Joseph Califano, M.D., Ledward Stafford, M.D., Jana Pox, M.D., " Wayne Koch, M.D., Ralph Tupano, M.D., Maria Pia Sormani, M.D., and Arlene Forastere, M.D.

Departments of "Radiation Occology and Molecular Radiation Sciences," Head and Neck Surgery, and *Oncology, Johns Hopkins
University, Baltimore, MD; and *Biostatistics Unit, University of Genea, Genoa, Italy

Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys, 2009

Level V Involvement in Patients With Early T-Stage, Node-Positive Oropharyngeal Carcinoma

Kavita M. Pattani, MD; Joseph Califano, MD; Giuseppe Sanguineti, MD

Laryngoscope, 2010

HPV-related oropharyngeal carcinoma with Overt Level II and/or III metastases at presentation: The risk of subclinical disease in ipsilateral levels IB, IV and V

GIUSEPPE SANGUINETI¹, SARA PAI², HAROLD AGBAHIWE¹, FRANCESCO RICCHETTI¹, WILLIAM WESTRA³, MARIA PIA SORMANI⁴, STEFANIA CLEMENTE¹ & JOSEPH CALIFANO²

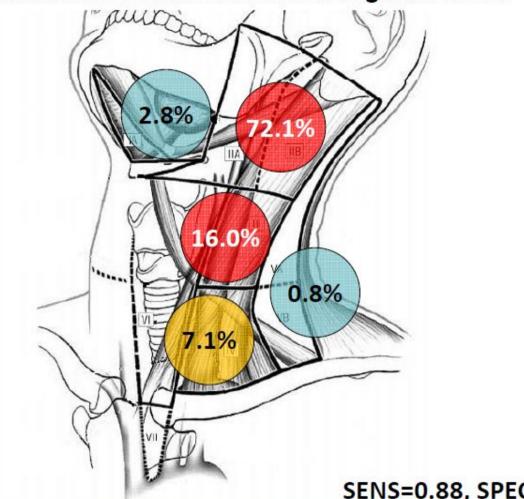
> Acta On<mark>cologic</mark>a, 2013 OHNS HOPKINS

AIRO 2015



1111121

Risk of subclinical disease in each level when negative on CT



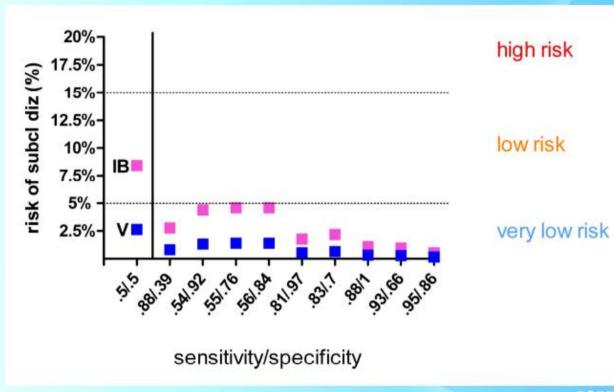
ASTRO

SENS=0.88, SPEC=0.39

XXV CONGRESSO NAZIONALE AIRO 2015



Risk of subclinical disease in levels IB & V according to different values of sensitivity and specificity



JOHNS HOPKINS

ASTRO

AIRO2015



91 pts, HPV pos

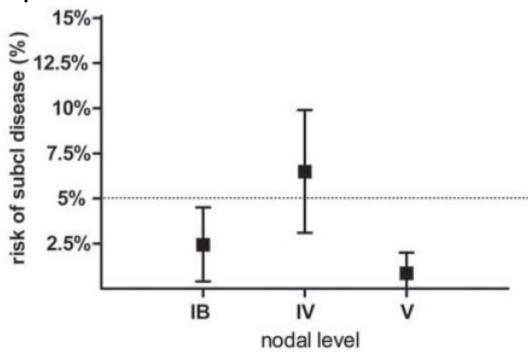


Figure 1. Estimated risk (mean and 95% CI) of subclinical involvement of levels IB, IV and V.

Sanguineti et al, Acta Oncologica 2013



91 pts, HPV pos

15%-

The only factor that showed an association with pathological involvement of level IB was the number of pathologically involved neck levels besides IB: none of the 47 patients with only one (other) level involved was found to harbor disease in ipsilateral level IB as opposed to 6/33 (18.2%) with two or more other levels involved (OR 22.4, 95% CI 2.5–2980, p = 0.0026).

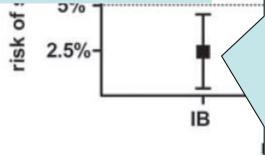


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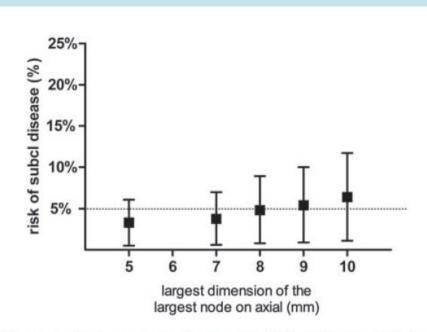


Figure 2. Estimated risk (mean and 95% CI) of subclinical involvement of level IB by the largest size of the largest node on axial slices when two or more ipsilateral levels besides IB are pathologically involved.

Sanguineti et al, Acta Oncologica 2013



91 pts, HPV pos

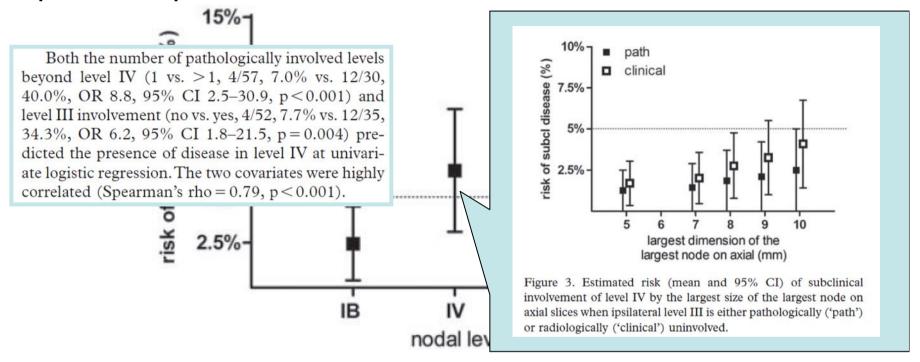


Figure 1. Estimated risk (mean and 95% CI) of subclinical involvement of levels IB, IV and V.

Sanguineti et al, Acta Oncologica 2013



HPV-OPC ipsilateral nodal levels

The present paper, that is the first one to focus on HPV positive patients only, provides the rationale for avoiding treatment of ipsilateral 'very low risk' (<5%) levels, that would include levels V and IB. The latter may qualify for elective irradiation only when two or more other levels are involved.

Level IV might also be spared when level III is negative on a 'reliable' imaging study or when the negativity of level III is pathologically assessed.

Sanguineti et al, Acta Oncologica 2013





RP nodes in OPEsbruch et al, IJROBP 2004, being addressed by MSKCC

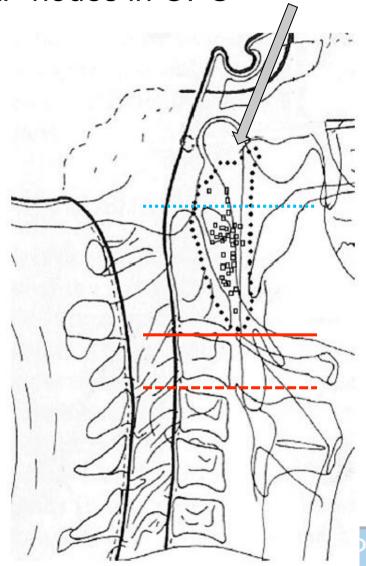


Fig. 1. In sagittal plane, center of all pathologic retropharyngeal nodes localized at C1 and C2 levels. Maximal extension of nodes was up to base of skull cranially and down to caudal border of C2.

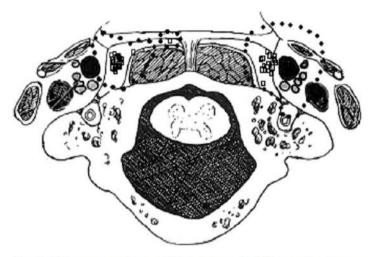


Fig. 2. In transverse plane, all but one center (of one retropharyngeal node in 1 patient) were located in space bordered laterally by internal carotid artery and medially by prevertebral muscles.

208 pts, CT-based, 16% invo

→ Subcl 5.5-

Bussels et al, IJROBP 2006



RP nodes in OPC

RPLN involvement was associated with T-stage, N-stage, T-location, N-level...

T site: T, 11%; BOT, 6%; SP, 12%, PW, 23% of patients;

N-level: Iv IV, 26%; Iv III, 9.4%; Ivs IB-II, 7.2%, cN0, 7.2%

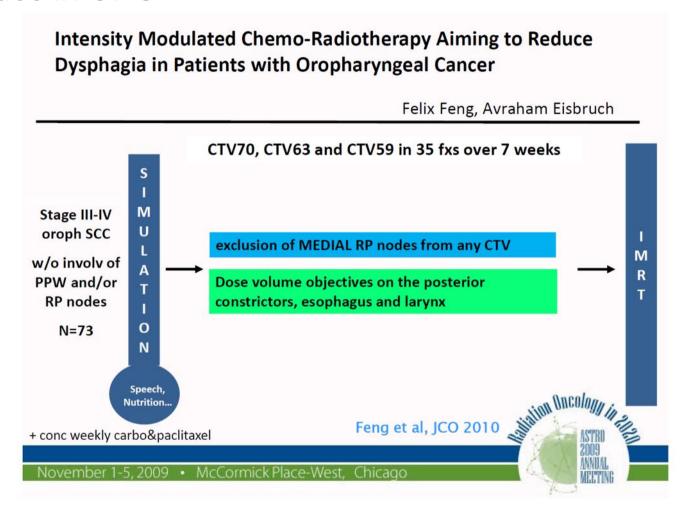
981 pts, CT-based, 10%

Gunn et al, cancer 2013





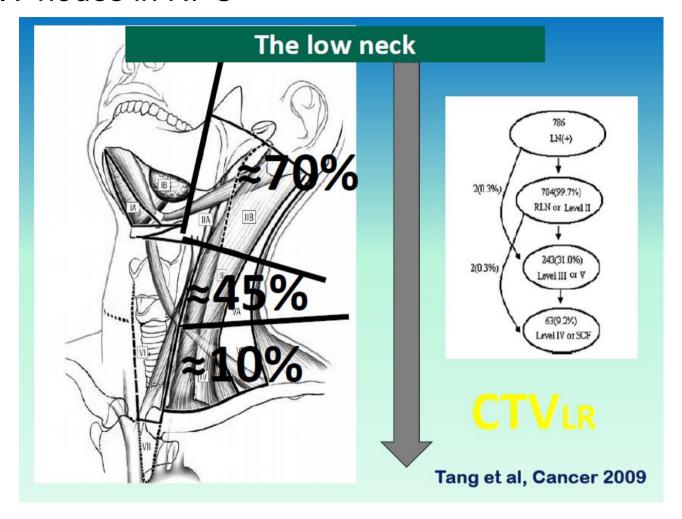
RP nodes in OPC





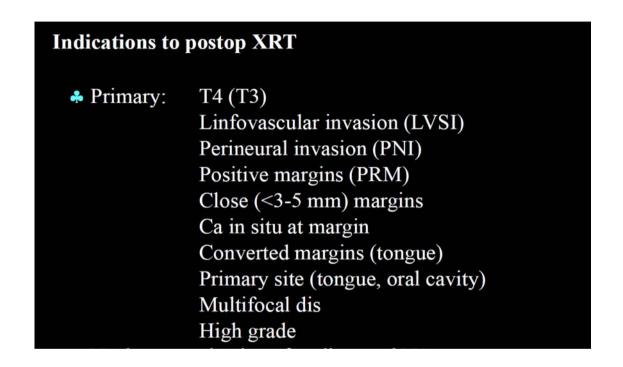


Level IV nodes in NPC





Omission of T site in OPC after TORS

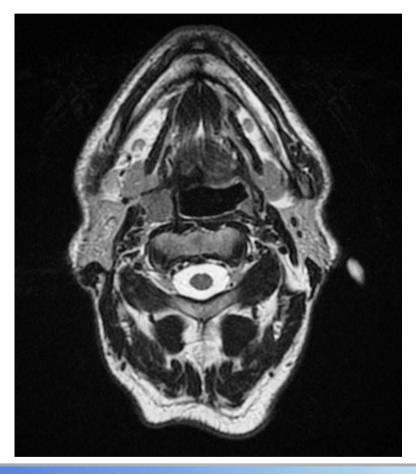


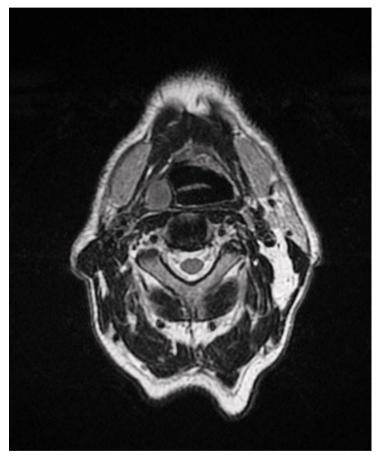
Lack of field cancerization in HPV-related diz

Rusthoven et al, IJROBP 2008



Omission of T site in OPC after TORS





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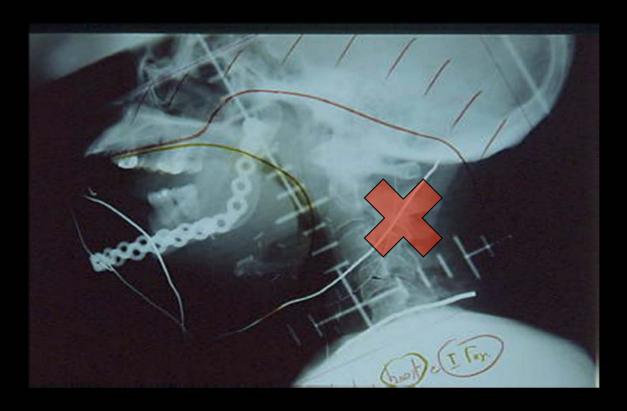
Primary Tumor Bed

Final dose (using shrinking field technique): Minimum 58 Gy to resected regions. Boost to 62-66 Gy for high-risk factors (Section 3.0).

Neck Lymph Nodal Bed

Final dose (using shrinking field technique): Minimum 58 Gy to resected regions. Boost to 62-66 Gy for high-risk factors (Section 3.0).

Contralateral and other unoperated lymph node regions (Levels 1-5, and for pharyngeal cancers, the retropharyngeal lymph node region): 50 Gy minimum dose.



RTOG H-0024

Indications to postop XRT

Neck: elective of undissected N0

pN>1 (node larger than 3 cm or multiple)

pN1 if ND not adequate

ECE

atypical location (skip)





Risk of regional failure in the pN0 neck after

- RND <1%

- MRND < 3%

- SND <5%





...BUT

- Lack of data on the pattern of failure
- Risk of seeding during surgery at other/T sites

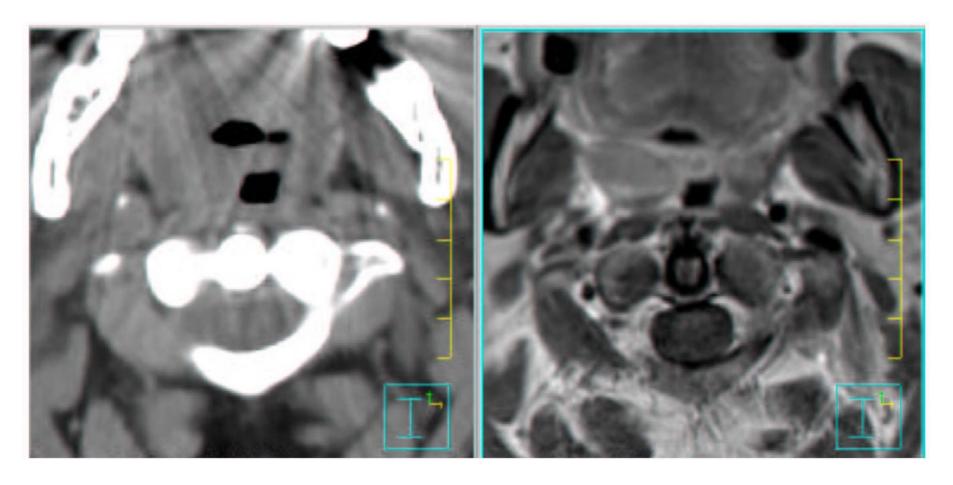


these findings. The areas at risk of recurrence are less predictable in patients with recurrent tumors who have had previous extensive surgery, similar to Patient 11. Thus, we currently do not enroll such patients on conformal and IMRT protocols, as the target volumes at risk are not easily defined. The isolated marginal recurrence in the high retro-

Dawson et al, IJROBP 2000



'Shrink' GTV volume





'Shrink' GTV volume

ADAPTIVE DOSE PAINTING BY NUMBERS FOR HEAD-AND-NECK CANCER

Fréderic Duprez, M.D., Wilfried De Neve, M.D., Ph.D., Werner De Gersem, Ir., Ph.D., Marc Coghe, Lic, and Indira Madani, M.D., Ph.D.

Department of Radiotherapy, Ghent University Hospital, Ghent, Belgium

Int. J. Radiation Oncology Biol. Phys., Vol. 80, No. 4, pp. 1045-1055, 2011

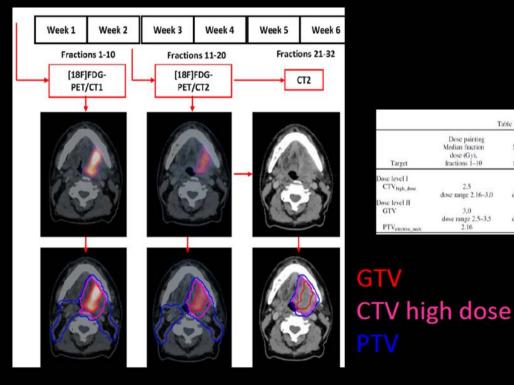


Table 1. Prescription dose levels to the targets							
Target	Dose painting Median fraction close (Gy), fractions 1–10	Dose painting Median fraction dose (Gy), fractions 11–20	No dose painting Median fraction dose (Gy), fractions 21–32	Whole treatment Median total dose (Gy), fractions 1–32	NID _{2Gy} (Gy)		
Dose level I							
CTV _{high_dose}	2.5 dose range 2.16–3.0	3.0 dose range 2.5–3.5	2.16	80.9	91		
Dosc level II							
GTV	3.0 dose range 2.5–3.5	3.0 dose range 2.5-3.5	2.16	85.9	102		
PTV _{elective_neck}	2.16	2.16		43.2	50		

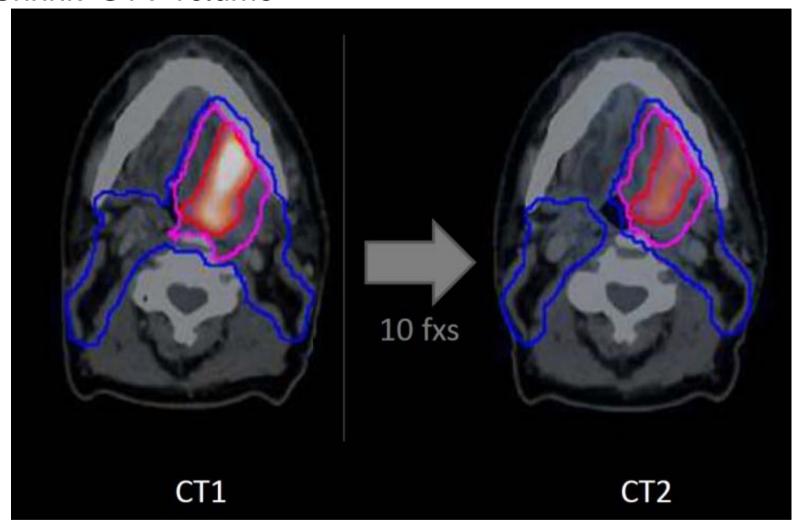
XXV CONGRESSO NAZIONALE

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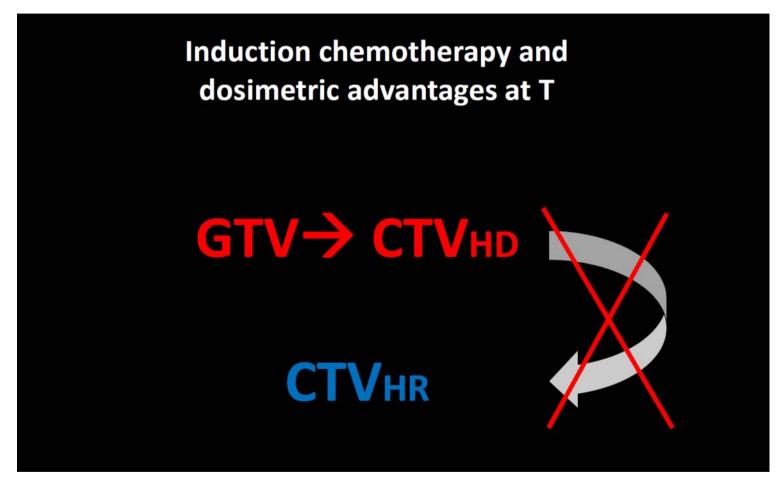
PALACONGRESSI - Rimini, 7-10 novembre



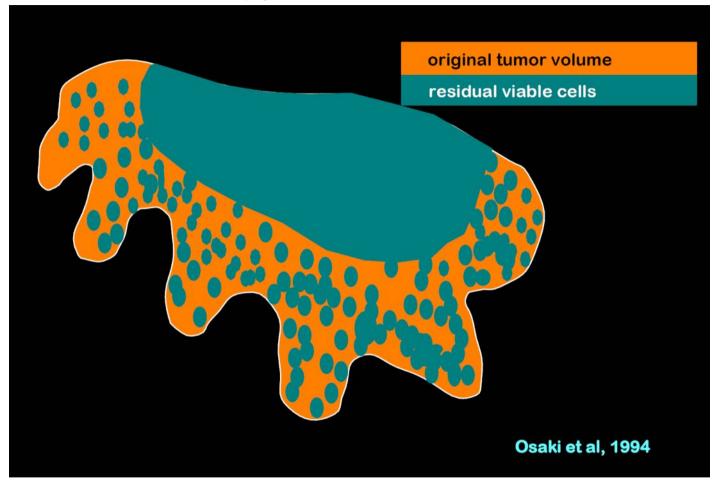
'Shrink' GTV volume









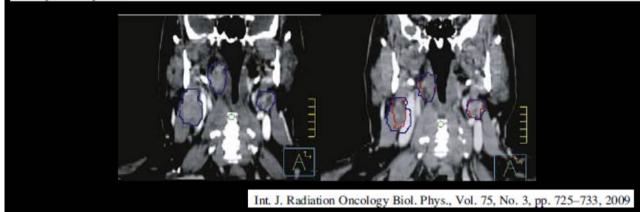




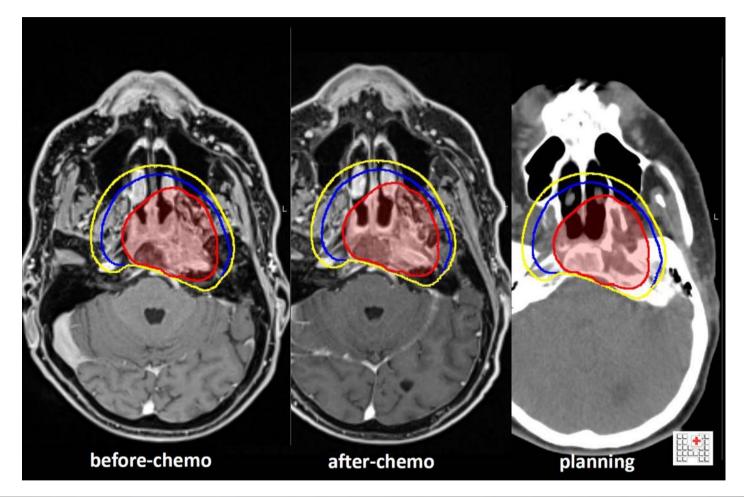
CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDANCE FOR RADIOTHERAPY PLANNING AFTER INDUCTION CHEMOTHERAPY IN LOCOREGIONALLY ADVANCED HEAD-AND-NECK CANCER

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Results: Recommendations and guidelines emerged that emphasize up-front evaluation by all members of the head-and-neck management team, high-quality baseline and postinduction planning scans with the patient in the treatment position, the use of preinduction target volumes, and the use of full-dose RT, even in the face of a complete response.

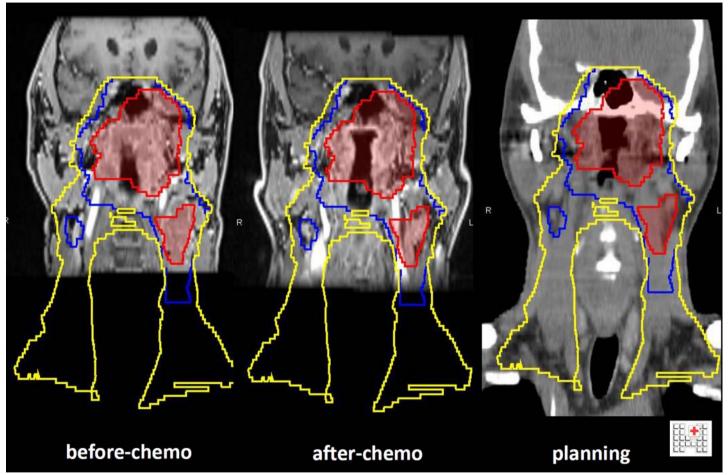




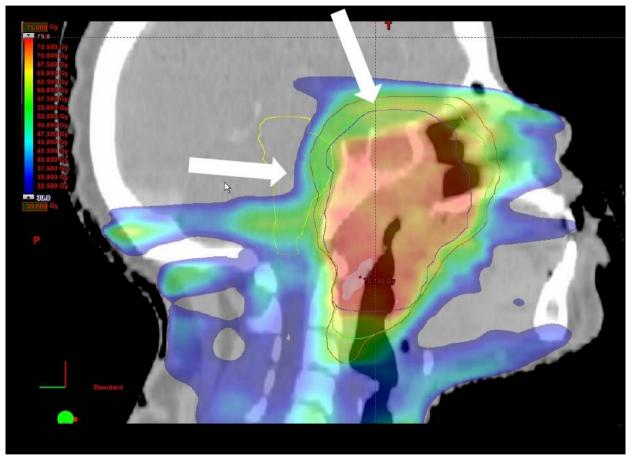










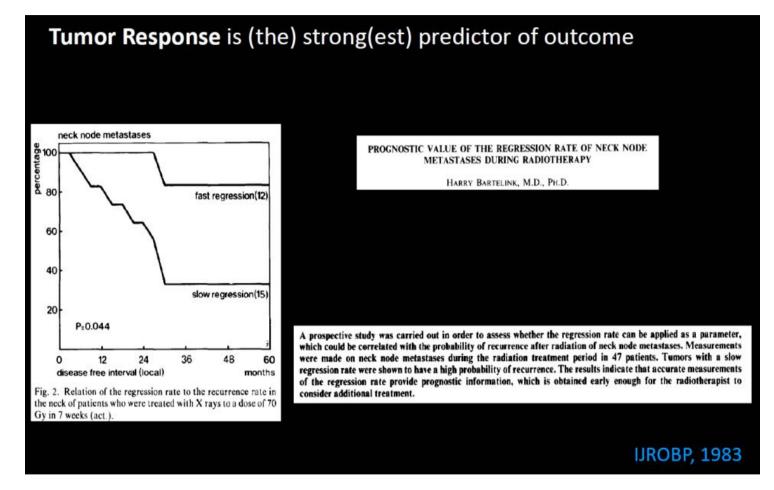




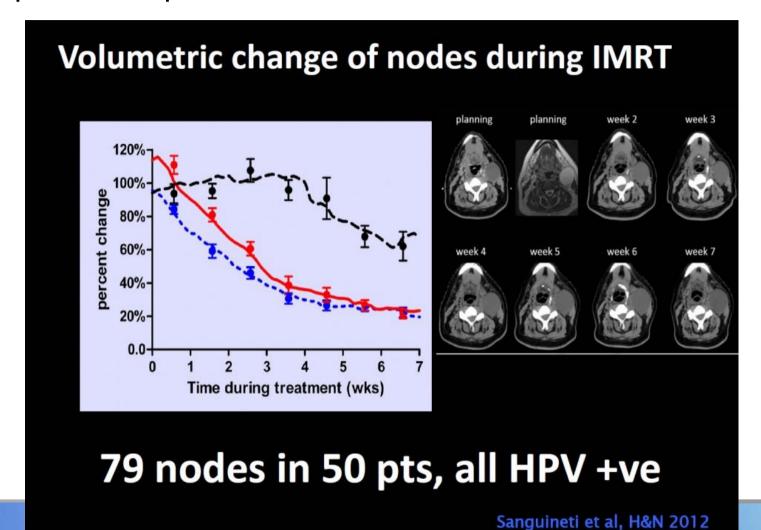
Materials/Methods: Patients (pts) with measurable locally advanced head and neck squamous cell cancer received 2 cycles of IC (cisplatin, paclitaxel, with or without cetuximab and/or everolimus). Patients with "good" response (GR), defined as \geq 50% reduction in the sum of gross tumor diameters, received TFHX2 (paclitaxel, fluorouracil, hydroxyurea, and 1.5 Gy twice daily RT every other week) to 75 Gy with the planning target volume (PTV1) encompassing exclusively gross disease. Patients with < 50% response (NR) were treated with volumes encompassing PTV1 and the next nodal station at risk (PTV2) to 45 Gy, followed by a sequential boost to PTV1 to 75 Gy.

Melotek et al, ASTRO 2015 University of Chicago









AIRO2015

PALACONGRESSI - Rimini, 7-10 novembre

Evaluation of Volumetric/Functional changes during tmt

Tool		Tech	Endpoint	Biology
Physical Exam			Volume & Consistency	
Re-biopsy			Tumor cells	
Imaging	СТ	Volumetric	Volume & Morphology	
		DCE	Perfusion & permeability	Hypoxia
	MRI	Volumetric	Volume & Morphology	
		DWI	Cell loss	Viable cells
		DCE	Perfusion & permeability	Hypoxia
	PET	FDG	Glucose Metabolism	Viable cells
		FLT	Proliferation	Viable cells
		F-miso	Hypoxia in viable cells	Нурохіа

Optimal parameters, reproducibility, standardization...

Acta Oncologica, 2013; 52: 1257-1271



REVIEW ARTICLE

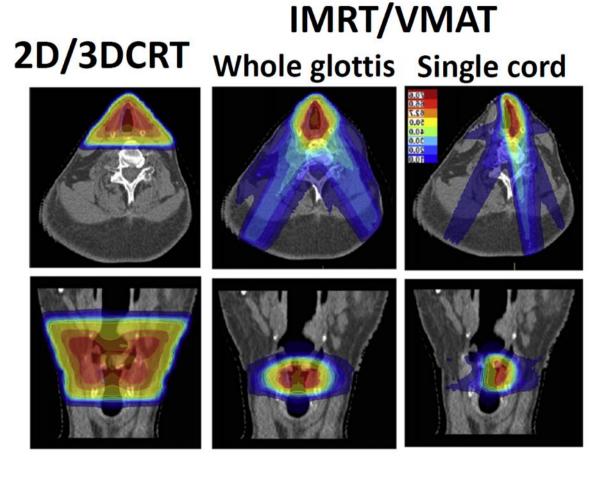
Molecular PET imaging for biology-guided adaptive radiotherapy of head and neck cancer

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Whole larynx vs whole glottis vs TVC for T1N0 glottis



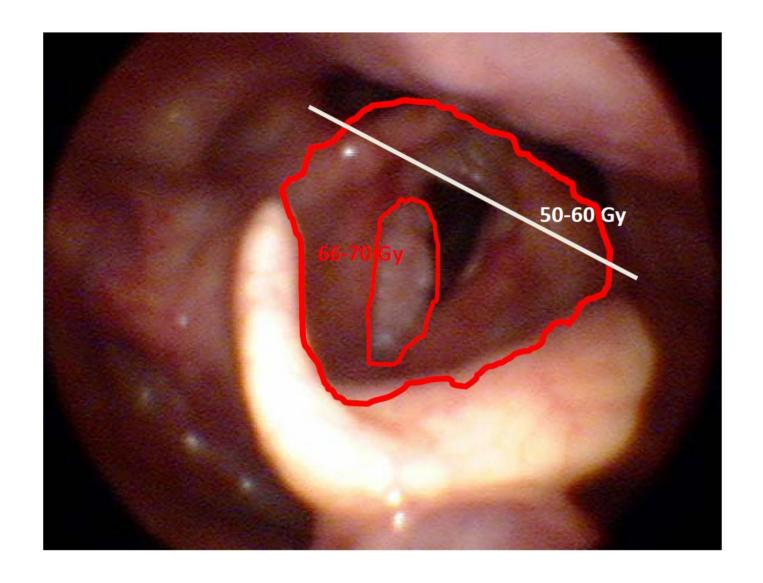














Whole larynx vs whole glottis vs TVC for T1N0 glottis

Clinical Investigation

Single Vocal Cord Irradiation: Image Guided Intensity Modulated Hypofractionated Radiation Therapy for T1a Glottic Cancer: Early Clinical Results

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3.63 Gy x 16, D= 58.08 Gy, 5 fxs/wk 4DCT, IGRT Anisotropic margins (3 mm but sup/inf, 5 mm)





IMRT-VMAT Sign shrinkage of treated volume over 3DCRT

Same CTVs,

Same or slightly ↑D, same or slightly ↓# fxs

Tumor cell apoptosis

SBRT-SRS Sign shrinkage of CTV over IMRT-VMAT

Ablative D in few fxs

Tumor cell and endotelial apoptosis



IMRT-VMAT Sign shrinkage of treated volume over 3DCRT

Same C s,

Same or slightly ↑D, same or slightly ↓# fxs

Tumor cell apoptosis

Moderate HYPO

SBRT-SRS

Sign shrinkage of CTV over IMRT-VMAT

Ablative D in few fxs

Tumor cell and endotelial apoptosis



RISKS/BIASES

Which is the clinically meaningful threshold to withhold treatment?

Inappropriate & inadequate baseline literature data

Is it clinically driven?



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Volume	Pros
Level IB	Spare incidental oral cavity
Level IV	Esoph, brachial plexus, thyroid gland
Level V	Posterior neck alopecia
RP	Constrictors
Larynx	Carotid arteries, allow SBRT



RISKS/BIASES

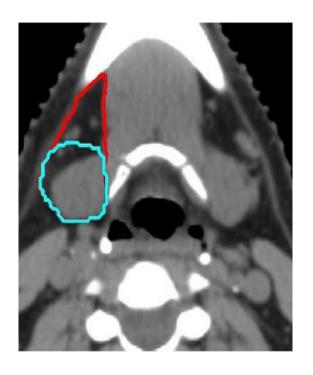
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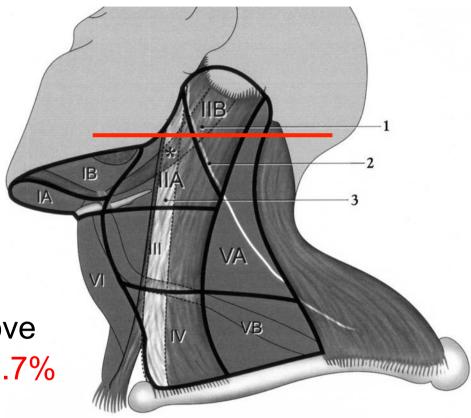


Sanguineti et al, IJROBP 2000



Contralateral neck nodes

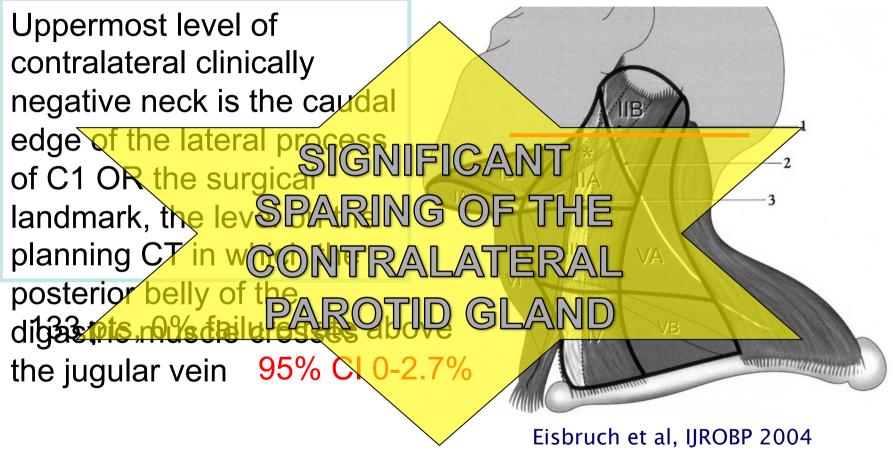
Uppermost level of contralateral clinically negative neck is the caudal edge of the lateral process of C1 OR the surgical landmark, the level on the planning CT in which the posterior belly of the digastries now decided above the jugular vein 95% CI 0-2.7%



Eisbruch et al, IJROBP 2004



Contralateral neck nodes





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Complete spare vs underdosing



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Complete spare vs underdosing

Most studies actually do not achieve 'complete' spare but only underdosage to 25-40 Gy





Table 2-17. Percentage of Eradication of Expected Occult Infestation in the Lymphatics of the Neck as Function of Dose*

Adenocarcinoma of the breast		Squamous cell carcinoma of the upper respiratory and digestive tracts	
3000–3500 rads (89 patients)	60-70%	3000-4000 rads (50 patients)	60-70%
4000 rads (121 patients)	80-90%	*	
5000 rads (273 patients)	>90%	5000 rads (356 patients)	>90%

^{* 1000} rads per week, 5 days a week Adapted from Fletcher: *In Biological and Clinical Basis of Radiosensitivity*. Springfield, Illinois, Charles C Thomas Publisher, 1974, pp. 485–501.

Fletcher book 1978





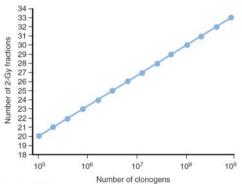


FIGURE 3-3. The theoretical relationship is depicted for the number of 2-Gy fractions and the number of clonogens, for which the goal is to achieve 90% local control. The relationship was modeled by assuming a surviving fraction of 0.5 after each fraction (SF₂). The tumor control probability (TCP) is equal to e^{-SN} , in which S is the surviving fraction after F fractions (S = [SF₂|F), and N is the clonogen number. The straight line is the relationship if the dose were a continuous variable.

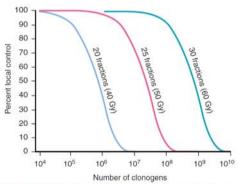


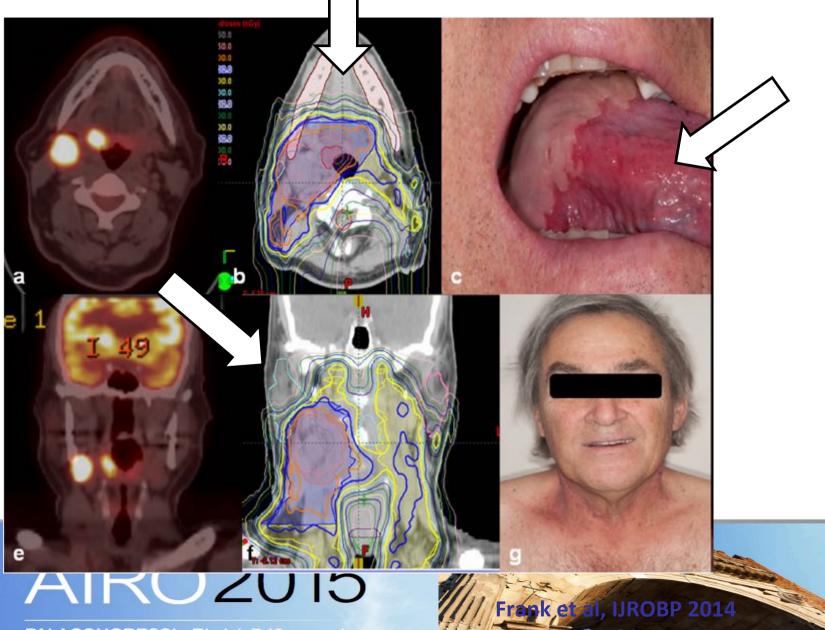
FIGURE 3-4. The theoretical relationship between local control and clonogen number is depicted for different total doses delivered at 2 Gy per fraction. The parameters are the same as in Figure 3-3.

Cox & Ang book 2010





Protons



PALACONGRESSI - Rimini, 7-10 novembre

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Complete spare vs underdosing

Appropriate methodology for validation



Which is the clinically meaningful threshold to withhold treatment?

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Should we perform non-inferiority studies of empirically developed volumes?

Should we investigate the supposed clinical benefit (on OAR) while controlling for tumor outcome?



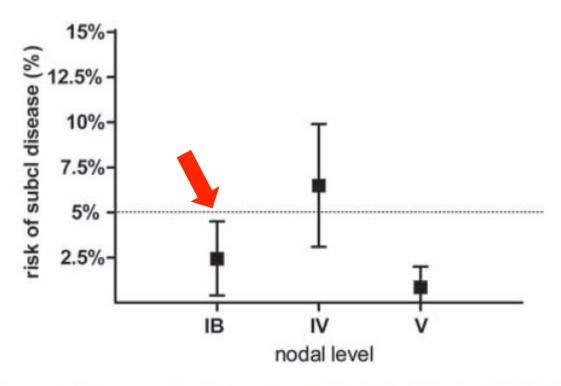


Figure 1. Estimated risk (mean and 95% CI) of subclinical involvement of levels IB, IV and V.

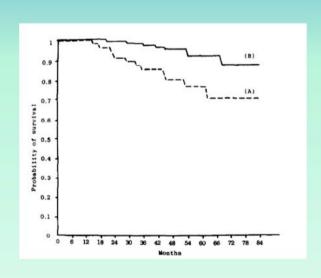


TREATMENT OF STAGE I NASOPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA: ANALYSIS OF THE PATTERNS OF RELAPSE AND THE RESULTS OF WITHHOLDING ELECTIVE NECK IRRADIATION

ANNE W. M. LEE, F.R.C.R., JONATHAN S. T. SHAM, F.R.C.R., Y. F. POON, F.R.C.R. AND JOHN H. C. HO, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.R. (D & T), F.R.C.R.A., F.A.C.R.

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- outcome of 196 pts w stage I
 NPC not electively in the neck;
- 53 pts (27%) subsequently failed in the neck, mostly upper neck
- nodal salvage rate was 81%
- however, OS was lower for pts who failed compared to pts who did not fail in the neck due to a higher incidence of DM (20% vs 3%)



IJROBP, 1989



Conclusions

- Indications and contouring guidelines are now available in the literature;
- Challenging indications and volumes developed empirically over decades is reasonable, but should be clinically driven
- ➤ For OPC, it is reasonable to consider avoiding the uppermost part of the contralateral uninvolved level II, as well as contralat levels IB (and V)
- ➤ For NPC, nodal volume de-escalation should be cautiously done



