

V ZOOM Journal Club 2015

Bologna, 19 Febbraio 2016

NH Hotel De La Gare



# Prevenzione della Cardiotossicità

## *Contornazione e Tecnica*

Fiorenza De Rose

**HUMANITAS**  
CANCER CENTER

# BACKGROUND

- Breast cancer is one of the most common malignancies among women (1.4 million cases/year)
- Long-term cause-specific survival has improved significantly over the past few decades
- More patients at risk of developing chronic toxicities associated with their care
- Cardiac toxicity could reduce their survival

*Lee MS et al. Cardiovascular complications of radiotherapy. Am J Cardiol 2013;112:1688–96.*

*Kanapuru B et al. Long-term survival of older breast cancer patients: population-based estimates over three decades.*

*Breast Cancer Res Treat 2012;134:853–7.*

# BACKGROUND

Accelerated atherosclerosis  
Inflammation  
Fibrosis  
Fibrosis/Damage of the AV  
node and conduction  
system

Myocardial infarctions  
Pericarditis  
Congestive heart disease  
Valvular disease  
Arrhythmias

# Literature Review

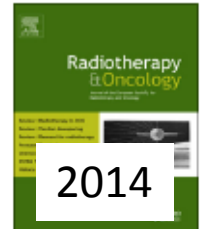


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## Radiotherapy and Oncology

journal homepage: [www.thegreenjournal.com](http://www.thegreenjournal.com)



### Review

## Cardiac dose sparing and avoidance techniques in breast cancer radiotherapy

Chirag Shah <sup>a</sup>, Shahed Badiyan <sup>b</sup>, Sameer Berry <sup>a</sup>, Atif J. Khan <sup>c</sup>, Sharad Goyal <sup>c</sup>, Kevin Schulte <sup>a</sup>, Anish Nanavati <sup>d</sup>, Melanie Lynch <sup>a</sup>, Frank A. Vicini <sup>e,\*</sup>

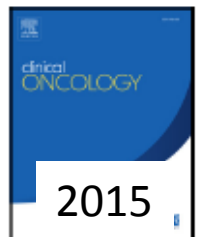


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## Clinical Oncology

journal homepage: [www.clinicaloncologyonline.net](http://www.clinicaloncologyonline.net)



### Overview

## Cardiac Side-effects From Breast Cancer Radiotherapy

C.W. Taylor <sup>\*</sup>, A.M. Kirby <sup>†</sup>



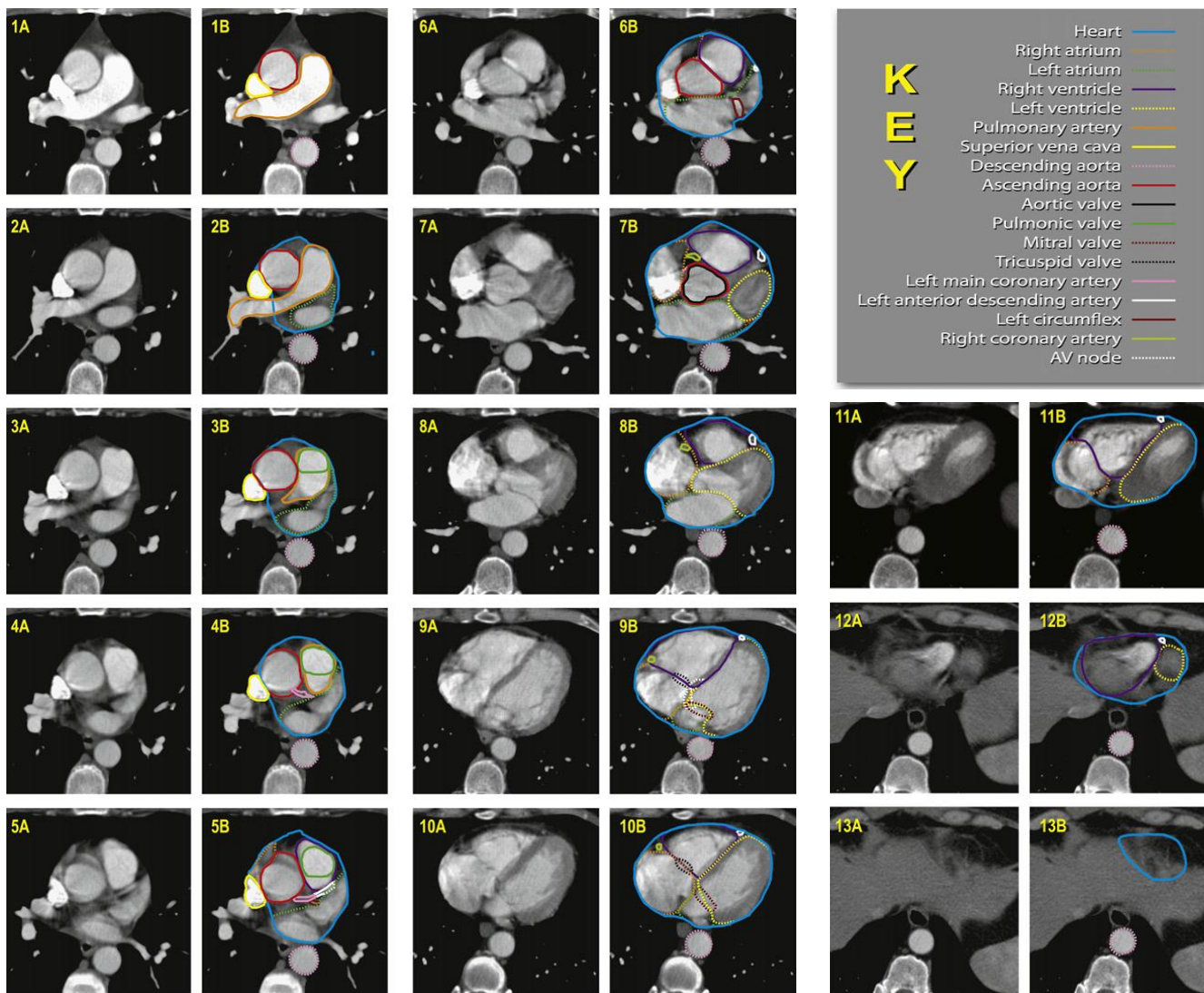
# OUTLINE

- Heart atlas and Cardiac radiation dose
- Reduction in cardiac exposure:

Which technique?

- IMRT and Arc Therapy
- Proton Beam Therapy
- Prone breast radiotherapy
- Deep-inspiratory Breath-hold

# Heart Contouring



# Heart Contouring

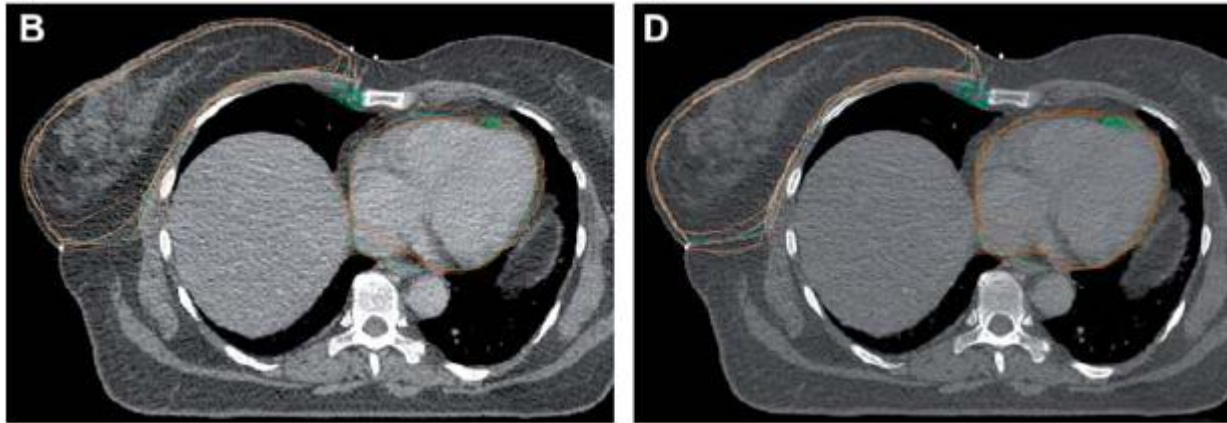


Table III. Mean and ranges of DSC before and after consensus.

Volume	Consensus volume (ml)	Mean DSC (range) Before consensus	Mean DSC (range) After consensus
Breast	1247	0.93 (0.89–0.96)	0.95 (0.93–0.96)
Boost	40	NA	0.75 (0.60–0.89)
Internal mammary LN	15	0.59 (0.32–0.72)	0.71 (0.63–0.81)
Axillary LN level I	108	0.65 (0.59–0.75)	0.70 (0.60–0.77)
Axillary LN level II	32	0.56 (0.35–0.69)	0.76 (0.67–0.84)
Axillary LN level III	17	0.56 (0.39–0.73)	0.74 (0.66–0.82)
Periclavicular LN	47	0.41 (0.34–0.56)	0.56 (0.43–0.73)
Interpectoral LN	33	0.54 (NA)	0.66 (0.55–0.78)
Heart	731	0.91 (0.88–0.94)	0.94 (0.90–0.96)

DSC, Dice similarity coefficient; NA, not available.

# Heart Contouring



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Radiotherapy and Oncology

journal homepage: [www.thegreenjournal.com](http://www.thegreenjournal.com)



2013

Cardiac dosimetry in breast cancer

Inter-observer variation in delineation of the heart and left anterior descending coronary artery in radiotherapy for breast cancer: A multi-centre study from Denmark and the UK



Ebbe L. Lorenzen<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Carolyn W. Taylor<sup>c</sup>, Maja Maraldo<sup>d</sup>, Mette H. Nielsen<sup>e</sup>, Birgitte V. Offersen<sup>f</sup>, Maria R. Andersen<sup>a</sup>, Dean O'Dwyer<sup>a</sup>, Lone Larsen<sup>g</sup>, Sharon Duxbury<sup>h</sup>, Baljit Jhitta<sup>h</sup>, Sarah C. Darby<sup>c</sup>, Marianne Ewertz<sup>e,b</sup>, Carsten Brink<sup>a,b</sup>

**Table 1**

Measures for heart and LADCA delineations performed without and with common guidelines. p-Values are given for difference between without and with guidelines and are bold when significant.

	Units	Without guidelines		With guidelines		p-Value
		Average	Range	Average	Range	
<i>Heart</i>						
Volume	cm <sup>3</sup>	<b>668</b>	<b>484–820</b>	751	553–931	<0.0001
Mean DSI		<b>0.89</b>	<b>0.84–0.93</b>	0.93	0.91–0.95	<0.0001
Mean JSI		<b>0.80</b>	<b>0.73–0.88</b>	0.88	0.83–0.90	<0.0001
CV mean dose	%	7.5	3.4–13	3.6	1.9–8.5	<0.0001
CV maximum dose	%	8.7	2.3–27.8	4	0.9–10.2	0.002
Mean dose	Gy	2.0	1.1–3.1	2.1	1.2–3.4	0.0008
Maximum dose	Gy	39	24–48	42	26–49	<0.0001
<i>LADCA</i>						
CV mean dose	%	27	10–40	29	17–60	0.50
CV maximum dose	%	39	15–63	31	9–49	0.069
Mean dose	Gy	<b>5.4</b>	<b>3.2–11</b>	7.0	<b>3.0–14</b>	<0.0001
Maximum dose	Gy	20	8.6–33	26	9.8–42	<0.0001



# Cardiac dose constraints

Table II. Constraints for organs at risk in adjuvant radiotherapy of early breast cancer.

Organ at risk	Normofractionation 2 Gy per fraction/ 5 fractions/week
LADCA	$V_{20\text{Gy}} = 0\%$
Heart	$V_{20\text{Gy}} = 10\%, V_{40\text{Gy}} = 5\%$
Ipsilateral lung	$V_{20\text{Gy}} = 25\%$ (exclusive periclavicular LN) $V_{20\text{Gy}} = 35\%$ (inclusive periclavicular LN) Mean dose < 18 Gy
Spinal cord	Max. 45 Gy
Plexus brachialis	Max. 54 Gy
Maximal dose of CTV	107% = 53.5 Gy
Maximal dose outside PTV	54 Gy

CTV, clinical target volume; LADCA, left anterior descending coronary artery; LN, lymph nodes; PTV, planning tumor volume.

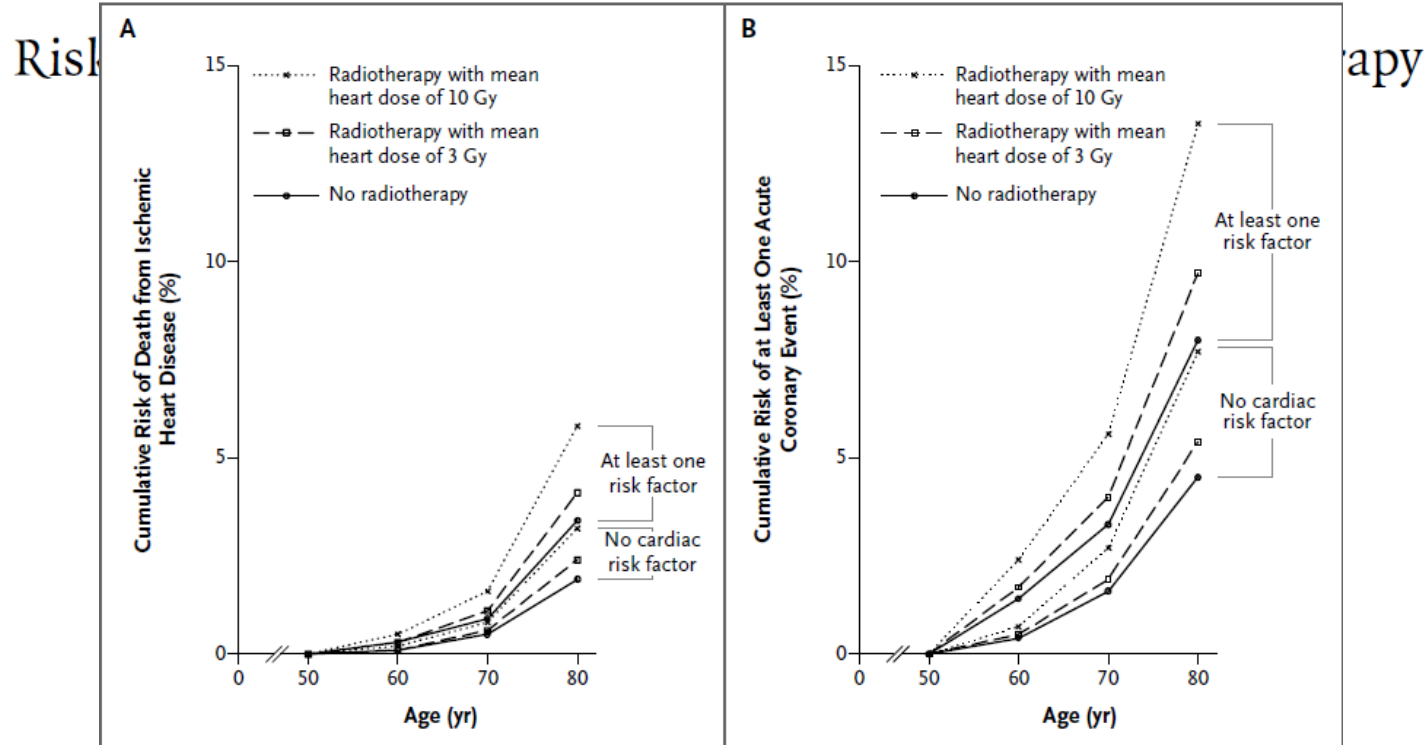
# Cardiac dose constraints

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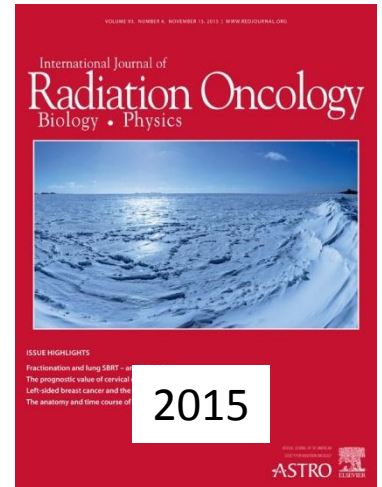


# Heart dose from breast cancer RT

## Clinical Investigation

### Exposure of the Heart in Breast Cancer Radiation Therapy: A Systematic Review of Heart Doses Published During 2003 to 2013

Carolyn W. Taylor, DPhil, FRCR,\* Zhe Wang, PhD,\*  
Elizabeth Macaulay, MSc,† Reshma Jagsi, MD, DPhil,‡  
Frances Duane, FFRRCSI,\* and Sarah C. Darby, PhD\*



Whole-heart dose: **the most commonly** reported measure

Variability affected by:

- Technique
- More extensive targets
- Unfavorable anatomy
- Interobserver variation in cardiac contouring

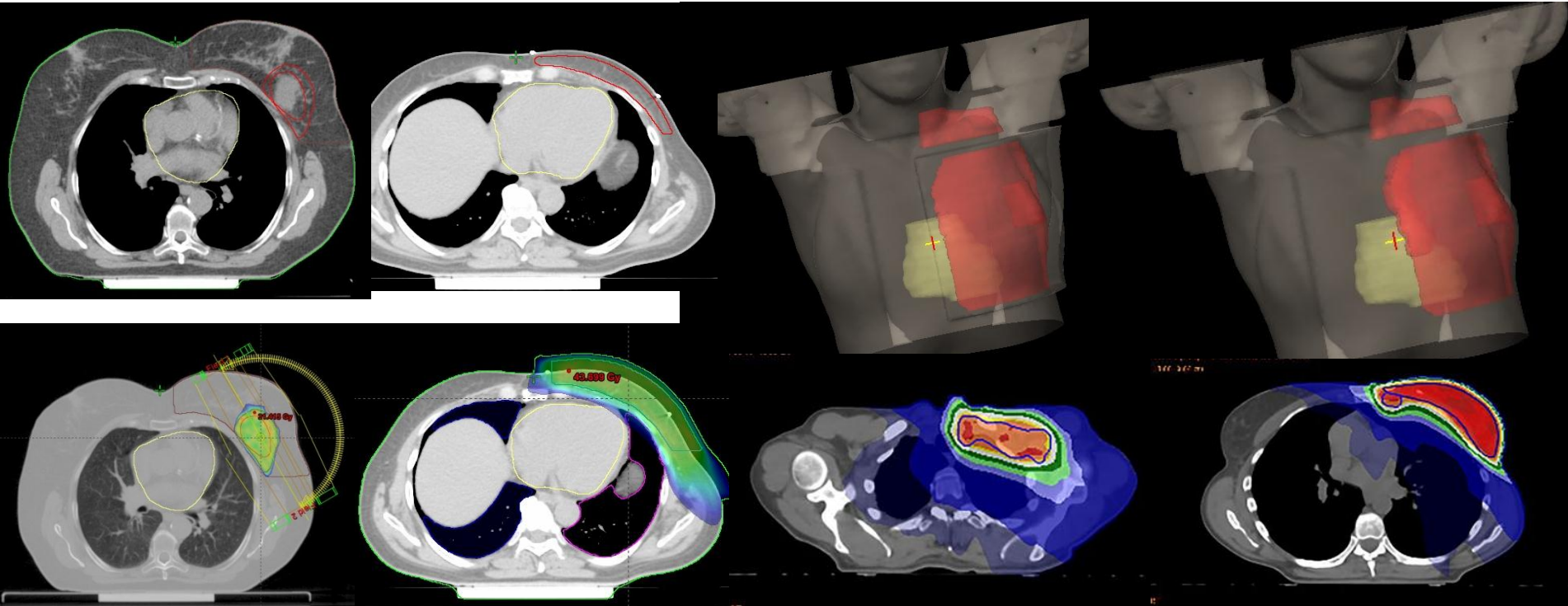
# Heart dose from breast cancer RT

PBI

WBI

WBI+SCF

WBI+SCF+IMC



1.1 Gy

3.7 Gy

6.1 Gy

8.5 Gy

**Average mean heart dose**

# OUTLINE

- Heart atlas and Cardiac radiation dose
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Which technique?

- IMRT and Arc Therapy
- Proton Beam Therapy
- Prone breast radiotherapy
- Deep-inspiratory Breath-hold

# IMRT and Arc Therapy

Zhao *et al. Radiation Oncology* (2015) 10:231  
DOI 10.1186/s13014-015-0531-4

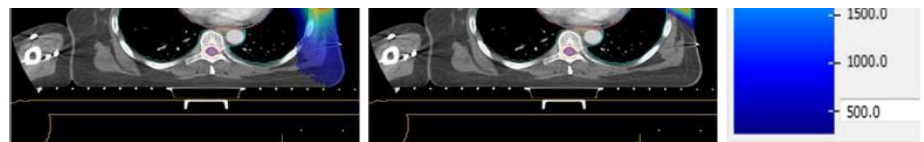


**Table 4** Dose comparison of the heart, coronary artery and heart minus coronary artery in the four plans

Structure	Dose parameter	2FIMRT	4FIMRT	2ArcVMAT	1ArcVMAT
Heart	D <sub>mean</sub> (Gy)	2.8 ± 1.0 <sup>A</sup>	3.0 ± 1.4 <sup>a</sup>	3.3 ± 1.3 <sup>B</sup>	3.7 ± 1.4 <sup>B,b</sup>
	D <sub>max</sub> (Gy)	50.2 ± 2.3 <sup>A</sup>	48.7 ± 3.7 <sup>B,a</sup>	44.1 ± 15.7	45.4 ± 5.7 <sup>B,b</sup>
	V5	8.6 % ± 3.8 % <sup>A</sup>			1.2 % <sup>B,b</sup>
	V20	3.4 % ± 1.7 % <sup>A</sup>			5 % <sup>A</sup>
	V40	0.9 % ± 0.5 % <sup>A</sup>			5 % <sup>B,b</sup>
CA	D <sub>mean</sub> (Gy)	13.2 ± 3.9			
	D <sub>max</sub> (Gy)	50.2 ± 1.7 <sup>A</sup>			
	V5	56.4 % ± 15.4 % <sup>A</sup>			5.2 % <sup>B</sup>
	V20	26.1 % ± 10.5 %			3.3 % <sup>B</sup>
	V40	7.3 % ± 3.8 % <sup>A</sup>			5 % <sup>B</sup>
Heart-CA	D <sub>mean</sub> (Gy)	1.4 ± 0.5 <sup>A</sup>			.6
	V5	2.4 % ± 2.0 % <sup>A</sup>			1.5 % <sup>B,b</sup>
	V20	0.3 % ± 0.6 %			1 %
	V40	0.1 % ± 0.2 %	0.1 % ± 0.2 %	0.1 % ± 0.2 %	0.0 % ± 0.1 %

... “2-F IMRT plan has demonstrated the combined advantages in PTV dose coverage and dose drop to most normal tissue involved in our research, besides for the heart and coronary artery. So we suggest employing 2 F-IMRT plan for left breast cancer radiotherapy after breast-conserving surgery”.

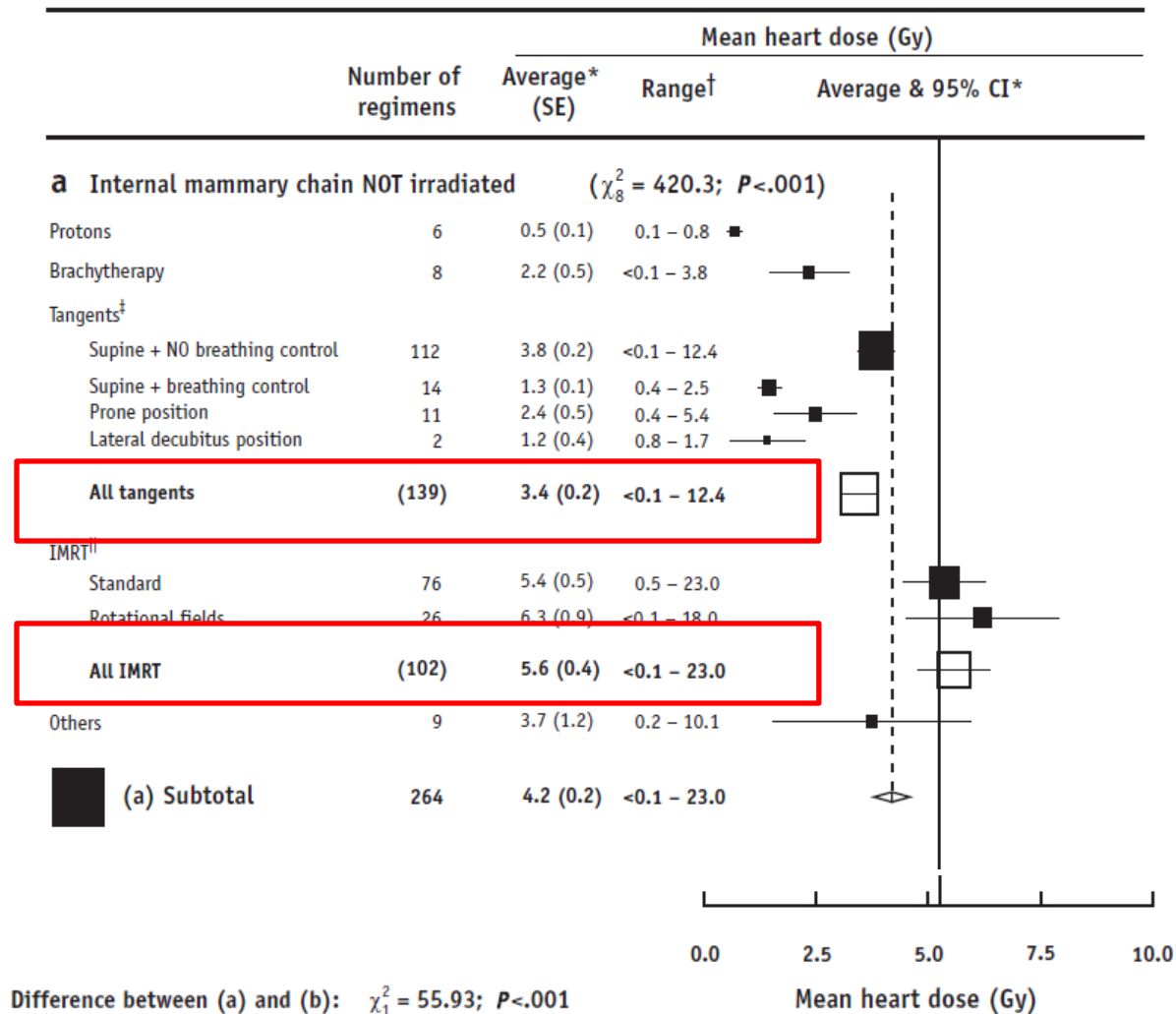
“A” is statistically significantly different from “B” ( $p < 0.05$ ); “a” is statistically significantly different from “b” ( $p < 0.05$ ). No other statistically significant difference was found between any two ( $p > 0.05$ )



**Fig. 2** Isodose distributions for IMRT and VMAT treatment plans



# IMRT and Arc Therapy

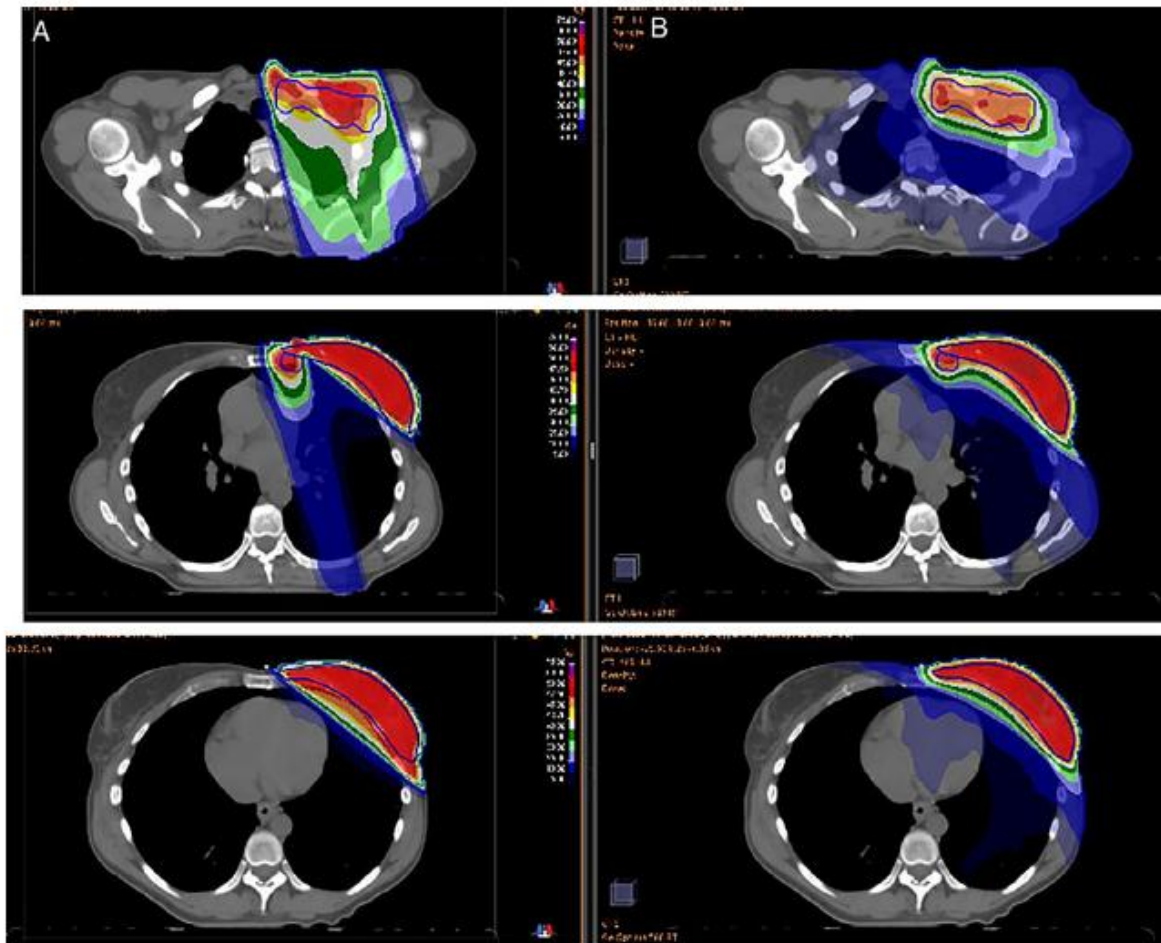


# IMRT and Arc Therapy

*Journal of Radiation Research*, Vol. 56, No. 6, 2015, pp. 927–937  
doi: 10.1093/jrr/rrv052  
Advance Access Publication: 19 September 2015

Journal of  
Radiation  
Research

OXFORD



The high doses delivered to the heart and the LCA (illustrated by the D2%) were reduced using the VMAT plans. The mean dose to the heart was acceptable using the VMAT plans, but this was even lower using a forward-planned multi-segment technique with a monoiso-center



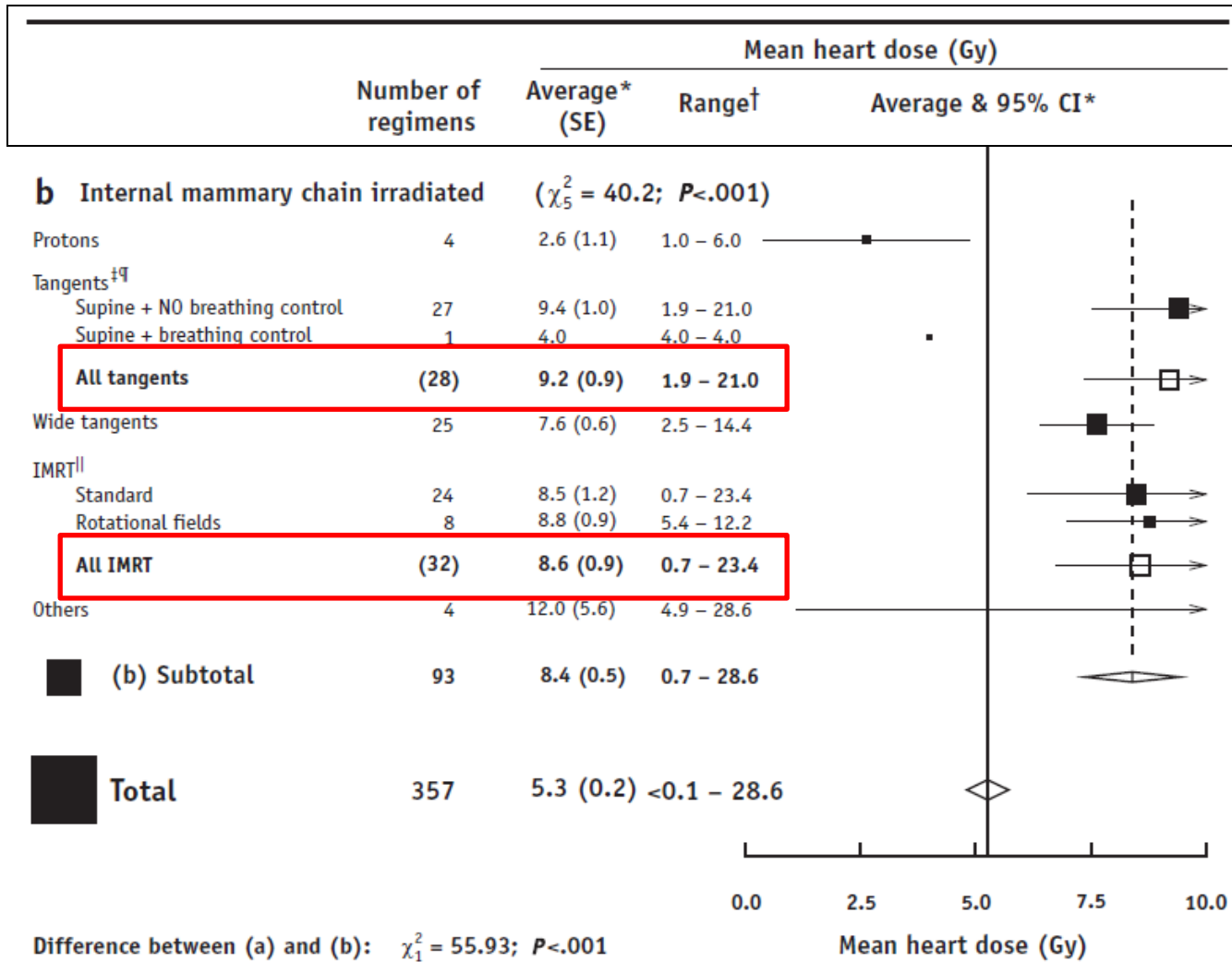
# IMRT and Arc Therapy

**Table 2. Plan comparison parameters, mean values for VMAT and MONOISO for this study and for other studies of the literature concerning similar volumes treated with static and dynamic intensity-modulated radiotherapy**

	VMAT (study)	MONO ISO (study)	Popescu [6]		Sakumi [7]		Pasler [16]	Caudrelier [24]	Goddu [23]	Jagsi [31]	Krueger [25]	Dogan [29]	Van der Laan [28]	Beckham [27]	Popescu [26]	Cozzi [30]
<i>n</i> =	10		5		5		10	10	10	10	10	10	10	30	5	10
Technique	VMAT	MONO ISO	Rapid Arc	MWT	VMAT	MWT	VMAT	TOMO	TOMO	IMRT 9 fields	IMRT 9 fields	IMRT 9 fields	IMRT 9 fields	IMRT 11 fields	IMRT 11 fields	IMRT
Target volumes	Left breast supra-clav, II III, IMC		Left breast supra-clav, II III, IMC		Left breast supra-clav, III IMC		Left breast supra-clav, III + tumor bed	Left breast supra-clav, II III, IMC	Left breast supra-clav, II III, IMC	Left chest-wall supra-clav, III, IMC	Left chest-wall supra-clav, II III, IMC	Left chest-wall supra-clav, I II III, IMC	Left chest-wall supra-clav, IMC	Left breast, IMC	Left breast, IMC	Left and right breasts, IMC
<b>Heart</b>																
V30 (%)	1.3	2.7	2.6	16.0	3.0	14.0	2.7	1.5		0.0	0.1		5.3	0.7	3.0	
D2% (Gy)	26.0	32.0					32.0							47.0		53 <sup>f</sup>
Dmean (Gy)	8.6	6.7	11.0	11.0	11.0		8.9	7.0	12.0	7.2		4.1	10.0		13.0	9.9
<b>LCA</b>																
Dmean (Gy)	18.0	19.5								11.2						
D2%	34.4	40.3								19.3 <sup>d</sup>						

... “VMAT improved PTV coverage and dose homogeneity, but clinical benefits remain unclear. Decreased dose exposure of the LCA may be clinically relevant. VMAT could be used for complex treatments difficult with conventional techniques. Patient age should be considered because of uncertainties concerning secondary malignancies”.

# IMRT and Arc Therapy



# OUTLINE

- Heart atlas and Cardiac radiation dose
- Reduction in cardiac exposure:

Which technique?

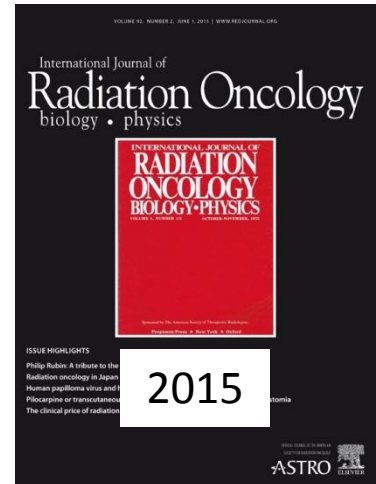
- IMRT and Arc Therapy
- Proton Beam Therapy
- Prone breast radiotherapy
- Deep-inspiratory Breath-hold

# Proton Beam Therapy

## Clinical Investigation

## Early Toxicity in Patients Treated With Postoperative Proton Therapy for Locally Advanced Breast Cancer

John J. Cuaron, MD,\* Brian Chon, MD,† Henry Tsai, MD,†  
Anuj Goenka, MD,† David DeBlois, MD,† Alice Ho, MD,\*  
Simon Powell, MD,\* Eugen Hug, MD,† and Oren Cahlon, MD\*,†



... “These patients were not part of a clinical trial. Patients were generally referred because of **unfavorable cardiopulmonary anatomy**. Postlumpectomy patients were not offered treatment if **large breast size** (defined as having breast anatomy that was prone to significant interfraction mobility) **would preclude accurate setup**”.

# Proton Beam Therapy

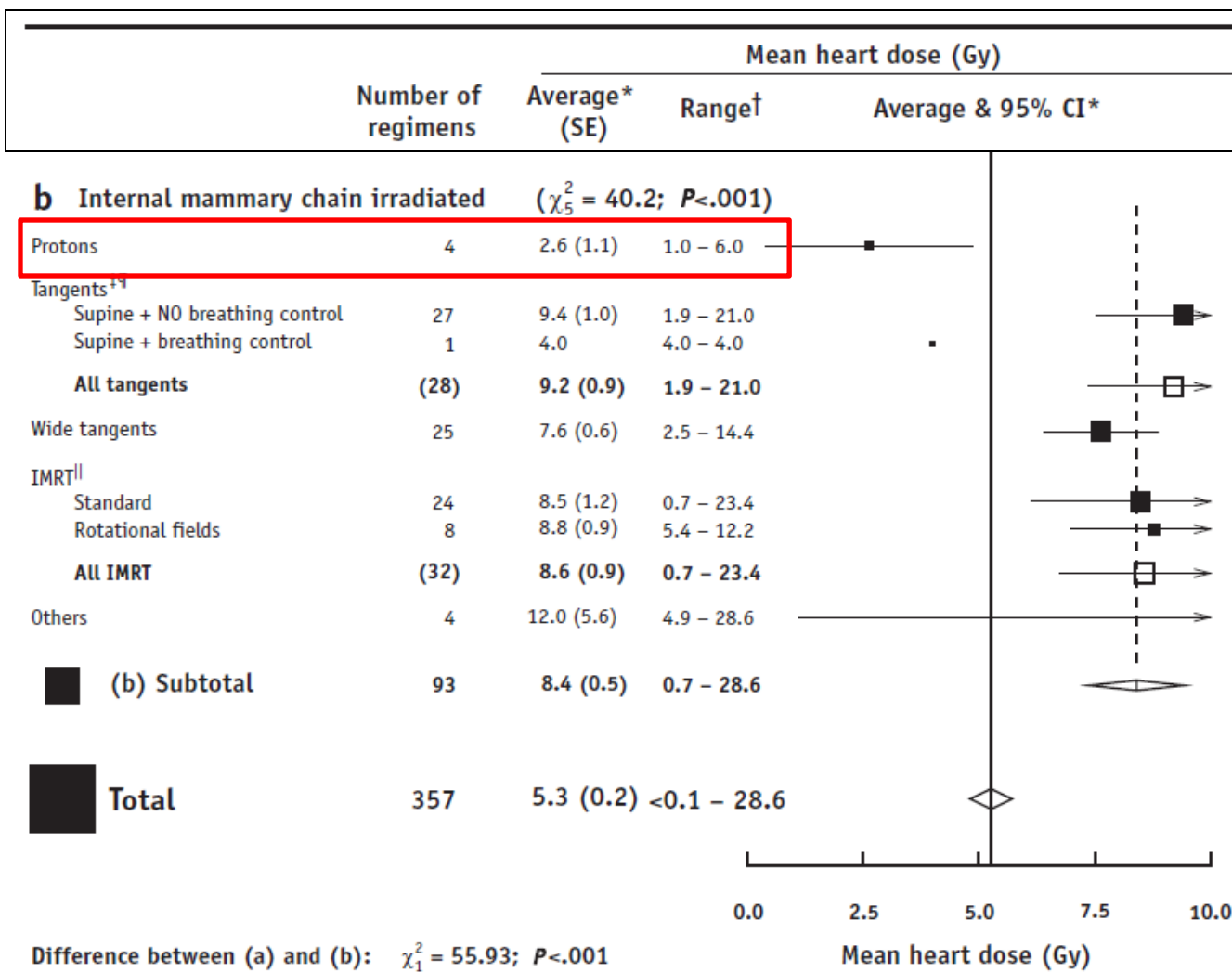
**Table 1** Patient characteristics

Age (y), median (range)	49 (29-86)
Stage	
II	8 (26.7)
III	20 (66.7)
Chest wall recurrence	2 (6.7)
Histology	
IDC	27 (90)
ILC	3 (10)
Side	
Left	27 (90)
Right	3 (10)
Chemotherapy	
Neoadjuvant	13 (43.3)
Adjuvant	14 (46.7)
Anthracycline-based	21 (70)
Concurrent herceptin	4 (13.3)
None	3 (10)
Surgery	
Lumpectomy (BCS)	4 (13.3)
Chest wall wide local excision (recurrence)	2 (6.7)
Mastectomy + implant reconstruction	14 (46.7)
Mastectomy + autologous reconstruction	1 (3.3)
Mastectomy + no reconstruction	9 (30)

**Table 2** Dosimetry values

PTV	
V100 (%)	89.20 (68.56-96.30)
V95 (%)	96.43 (79.39-99.60)
V110 (%)	13.30 (3.02-34.98)
Max point dose, Gy (RBE)	58.84 (50.8-70.5)
Heart (left-sided tumors, n=27)	
Mean dose, Gy (RBE)	1.0 (0.09-3.20)
V20 (%)	1.16 (0-6.0)
V5 (%)	5.00 (0.17-14.40)
Max point dose, Gy (RBE)	22.80 (2.48-43.70)
Lungs	
Total V20 (%)	7.31 (0.14-13.2)
Ipsilateral V20 (%)	16.50 (6.1-30.3)
Ipsilateral V5 (%)	34.35 (22.5-53.8)
Contralateral V5 (%)	0.34 (0-5.30)
Contralateral breast	
Mean dose, Gy (RBE)	0.29 (0.03-3.50)
V5 (%)	1.46 (0-9.90)
Spinal cord	
Max point dose, Gy (RBE)	1.24 (0-28.1)
Esophagus	
Mean dose, Gy (RBE)	7.50 (0-19.59)
V30 (%)	10.80 (0-37.0)
V40 (%)	3.40 (0-28.9)
Max point dose, Gy (RBE)	45.65 (0-65.4)

# Proton Beam Therapy



# OUTLINE

- Heart atlas and Cardiac radiation dose
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Which technique?

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# Prone breast radiotherapy

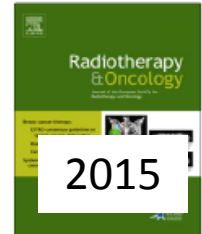


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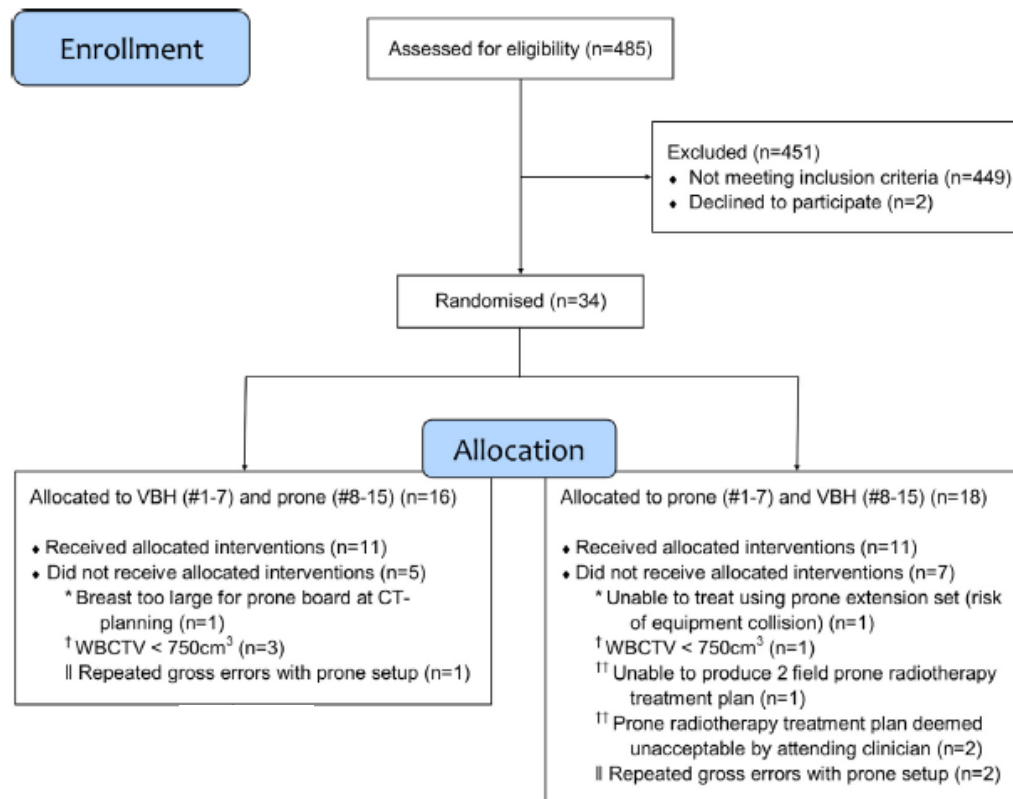
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Phase III randomised trial

The UK HeartS  
of a voluntary  
breast conserv

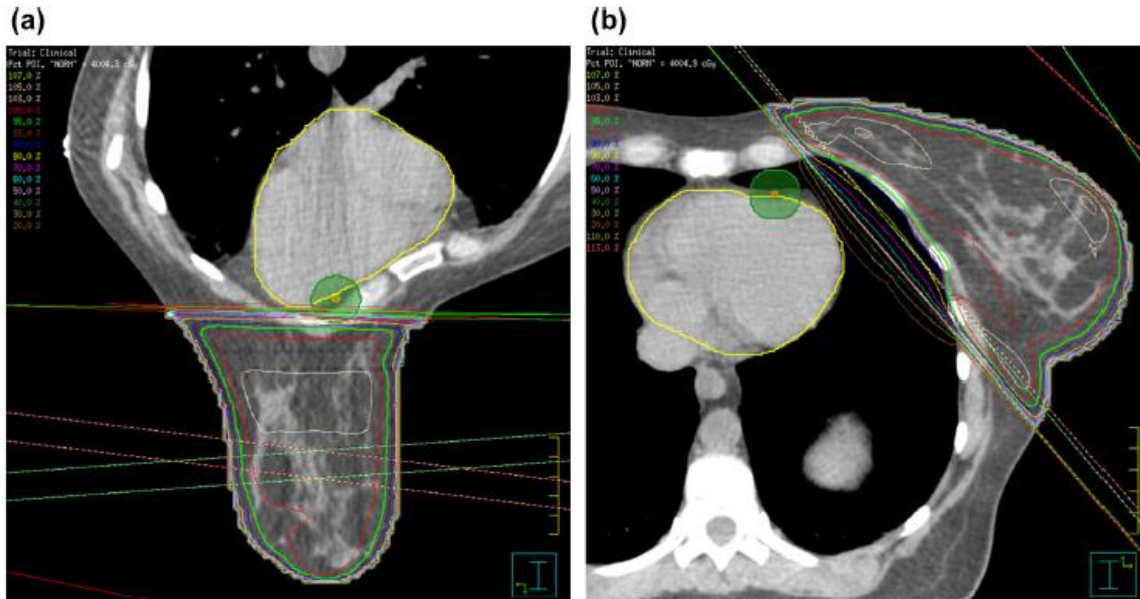
Frederick R. Bartle  
Philip M. Evans<sup>b,c</sup>



Carr<sup>a</sup>,  
Anna M. Kirby<sup>a</sup>



# Prone breast radiotherapy



## Results (sVBH vs. pFB)

- Heart NTDmean 0.44 vs. 0.66 (p < 0.001)
- LAD NTDmean 2.9 vs. 7.8 (p < 0.001)
- LAD max 21.0 vs. 36.8 (p < 0.001)

“Our data suggest that, in **larger-breasted women, supine VBH treatment is better at sparing cardiac tissues and more reproducible** than treatment using a free-breathing prone technique. Patients find VBH more comfortable than the prone position. Treatment setup and total treatment session times are shorter with VBH”.

# Prone breast radiotherapy

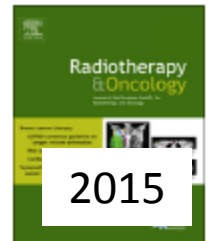


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Radiotherapy and Oncology

journal homepage: [www.thegreenjournal.com](http://www.thegreenjournal.com)



Avoidance of cardiac toxicity

Heart dose reduction by prone deep inspiration breath hold in left-sided breast irradiation



Thomas Mulliez<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Liv Veldeman<sup>a</sup>, Bruno Speleers<sup>a</sup>, Khalil Mahjoubi<sup>b</sup>, Vincent Remouchamps<sup>b</sup>, Annick Van Greveling<sup>a</sup>, Monique Gilsoul<sup>b</sup>, Dieter Berwouts<sup>a</sup>, Yolande Lievens<sup>a</sup>, Rudy Van den Broecke<sup>c</sup>, Wilfried De Neve<sup>a</sup>

## Materials and methods

**12 pts (EC)** received four computed tomography (CT) scans:

supine and prone position, both with and without the DIBH maneuver

These pts were treated in supine position with the breath hold maneuver if indicated.

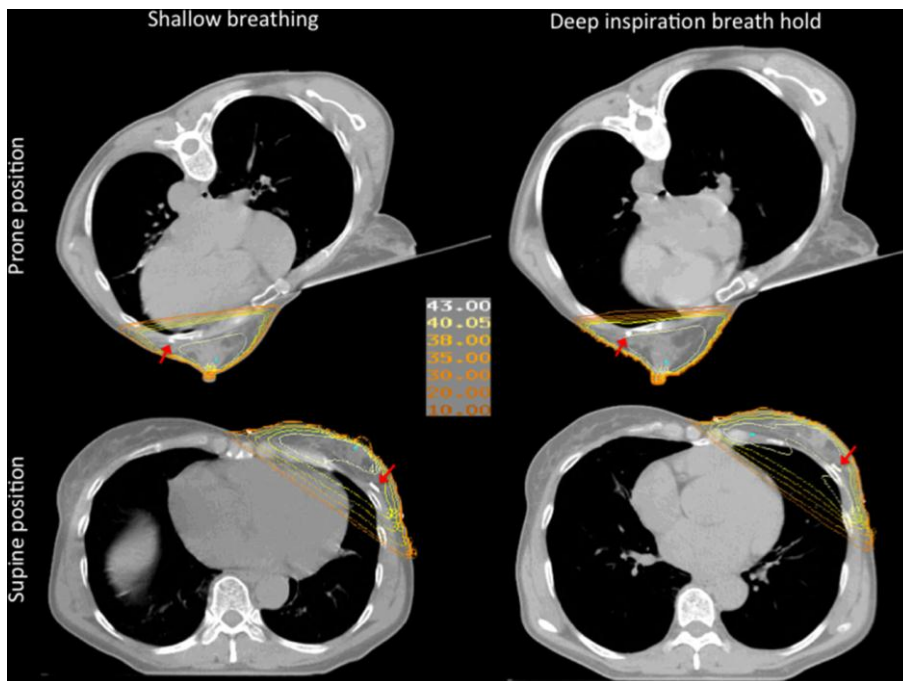
**38 pts (VC)** received only two planning CT scans:

prone SB and prone DIBH.

8 were treated in prone SB, the last 30 patients were accepted for prone DIBH treatment.

# Prone breast radiotherapy

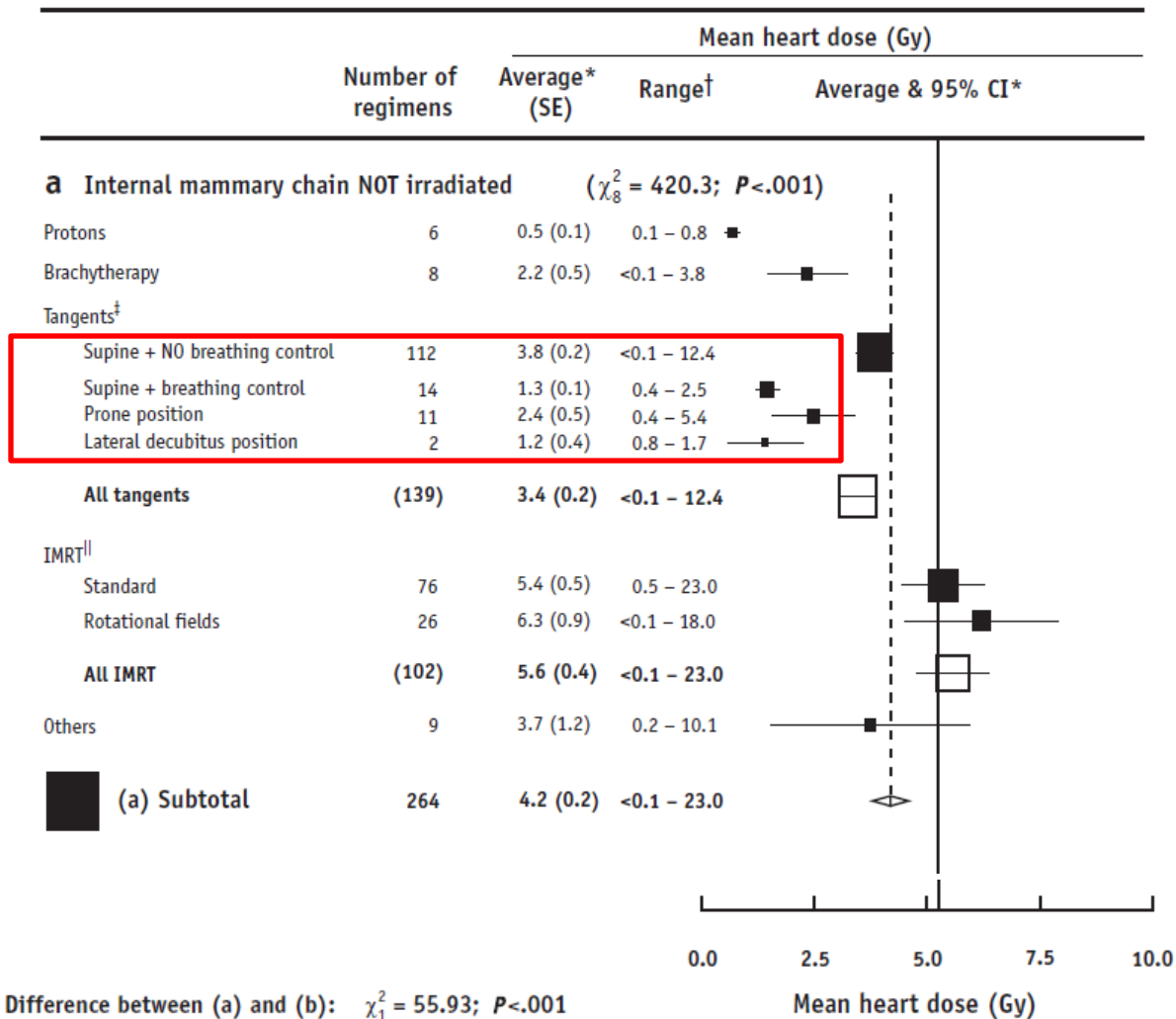
	Supine SB	Supine DIBH	Prone SB			Prone DIBH		
	EC	EC	EC	VC	All	EC	VC	All
<i>Heart</i>								
D <sub>mean</sub> (Gy)	4.0 ± 1.8	2.2 ± 1.2	2.5 ± 1.1	2.1 ± 0.7	2.2 ± 0.8	1.4 ± 0.4	1.3 ± 0.3	1.3 ± 0.3
D <sub>max</sub> (Gy)	29.3 ± 10.6	14.6 ± 12.0	19.6 ± 13.1	15.1 ± 8.6	16.2 ± 9.9	5.3 ± 2.0	5.6 ± 3.6	5.5 ± 3.3
<i>LAD</i>								
D <sub>mean</sub> (Gy)	17.6 ± 7.2	10.9 ± 7.8	12.0 ± 7.1	7.1 ± 3.9	8.3 ± 5.3	4.1 ± 1.6	3.1 ± 1.9	3.3 ± 1.8
D <sub>max</sub> (Gy)	36.1 ± 7.5	25.5 ± 12.4	29.8 ± 8.0	25.6 ± 10.5	26.6 ± 10.0	14.9 ± 6.6	12.2 ± 9.1	12.9 ± 8.7
<i>Lung</i>								
volume (cc)	1235 ± 485	2090 ± 557	1258 ± 310	1159 ± 226	1182 ± 249	1839 ± 509	1848 ± 426	1845 ± 442
D <sub>mean</sub> (Gy)	5.5 ± 1.8	5.0 ± 1.8	0.8 ± 0.3	0.9 ± 0.7	0.9 ± 0.6	0.7 ± 0.2	1.0 ± 0.7	0.9 ± 0.4
D <sub>max</sub> (Gy)	35.6 ± 4.1	33.5 ± 10.3	6.1 ± 7.1	6.2 ± 7.4	6.2 ± 7.3	4.7 ± 3.8	7.7 ± 6.5	7.0 ± 6.1



**Reductions in heart D<sub>mean</sub> with prone DIBH** compared to prone SB according to **breast volume <750 cc** (18 patients), **750–1500 cc** (22 patients) and **>1500 cc** (10 patients) were **1.3**, **0.7** and **0.4 Gy**, respectively.

**Conclusion:** Prone position has already shown to be superior for heart sparing in the majority of patients, but **prone DIBH seems to even further reduce the heart dose**. This opens the window for prone treatment in a **specific subgroup of (small breasted) patients** in which higher heart doses in prone than supine position were observed.

# Prone breast radiotherapy



# OUTLINE

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# Deep-inspiratory Breath-hold

## Journal of Medical Radiation Sciences

Open Access

REVIEW ARTICLE

2015

### The cardiac dose-sparing benefits of deep inspiration breath-hold in left breast irradiation: a systematic review

Lloyd M. Smyth, MMedRad (RT), BBiomed,<sup>1,2</sup> Kellie A. Knight, HScD, MHLthSc (RT), BAppSc (RT),<sup>2</sup> Yolanda K. Aarons, BAppSc (MedRad),<sup>1</sup> & Jason Wasiak, MPH<sup>1</sup>

**Table 2.** Studies reporting mean heart dose and mean LADCA dose for free breathing versus DIBH plans for left breast irradiation.

Study	Mean heart dose (Gy)			Mean LADCA dose (Gy)		
	FB	DIBH	Reduction Gy (%)	FB	DIBH	Reduction Gy (%)
Lee et al. <sup>12†</sup>	4.5	2.5	2.0 (44%)***	26.3	16.0	10.3 (39%)***
Mast et al. <sup>13</sup>	3.3 <sup>†</sup>	1.8 <sup>†</sup>	1.5 (45%)**	18.6 <sup>†</sup>	9.6 <sup>†</sup>	9.0 (48%)**
	2.7 <sup>‡</sup>	1.5 <sup>‡</sup>	1.2 (44%)**	14.9 <sup>‡</sup>	6.7 <sup>‡</sup>	8.2 (55%)**
Swanson et al. <sup>14‡</sup>	4.2	2.5	1.7 (40%)****	–	–	–
Hayden et al. <sup>15‡</sup>	6.9	3.9	3.0 (43%)****	31.7	21.9	9.8 (31%)****
Hjelstuen et al. <sup>16‡</sup>	6.3	3.1	3.2 (51%)***	23.0	10.9	12.1 (53%)***
Wang et al. <sup>17‡</sup>	3.2	1.3	1.9 (59%)***	20.0	5.9	14.1 (71%)***
Vikström et al. <sup>18†</sup>	3.7	1.7	2.0 (54%)*	18.1	6.4	11.7 (65%)*
Borst et al. <sup>19‡</sup>	5.1	1.7	3.4 (67%)***	11.4	5.5	5.9 (52%)***
Stranzl et al. <sup>20†</sup>	4.0	2.5	1.5 (38%)**	–	–	–
Stranzl et al. <sup>21†</sup>	2.3	1.3	1.0 (43%)***	–	–	–

# Deep-inspiratory Breath-hold

- There are **no studies to date investigating the clinical outcomes of using DIBH for left breast irradiation**. Therefore, there are no data available to assess the impact of DIBH on the rate of late cardiac toxicities
- The mean heart dose in the DIBH plans ranged from 1.3 Gy to 3.9 Gy which may equate to an increased heart disease risk of only 5.2–15.6%
- The **dosimetry of these plans must be accurately translated to the delivered dosimetry during treatment** in order for these benefits to be realised
- A **limited number of studies** reporting on small cohorts have investigated the reproducibility and stability of DIBH. These studies **agree that the inter-fraction and intra-fraction variability in set up position when using DIBH is small**

# Deep-inspiratory Breath-hold



**Table 1** Baseline demographic and radiotherapy treatment parameters for left-sided breast cancer patients by treatment cohort

Characteristics	WBRT (n = 11) (%)	B/CWRT + RNI (n = 9) (%)
Median age (years), range	47 (39–54)	51 (34–69)
AJCC Stage		
DCIS	3 (27)	0 (0)
I	5 (45)	0 (0)
II	3 (27)	5 (55)
III	0 (0)	4 (44)
ER/PR positive (for invasive disease)	7/8 (88)	7/9 (78)
HER 2+ (for invasive disease)	2/8 (25)	2/9 (22)

**Table 3** Average patient percent relative reduction in dose parameters with DIBH compared to FB for left-sided breast cancer patients by treatment cohort. Significant *p*-values after adjusting for multiple testing are indicated by a double asterisk (\*\*)

Parameter	WBRT	B/CWRT + RNI	<i>p</i> -value*
$D_{\text{mean}}$ Heart	29.2 %	55.9 %	0.003**
$D_{\text{mean}}$ LAD	43.5 %	72.1 %	0.014**
$V_{20}$ Left Lung	8.9 %	6.6 %	0.305

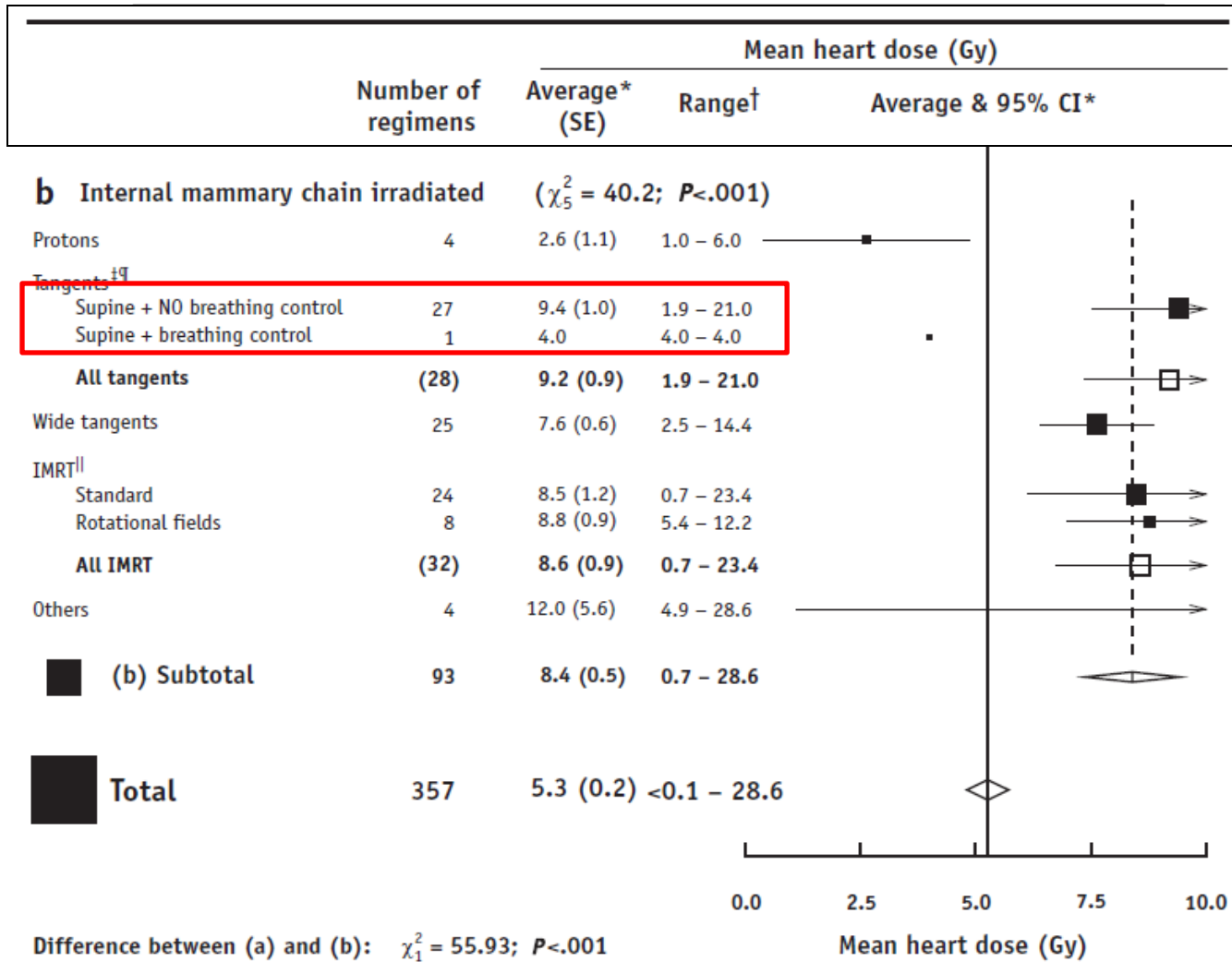
**Table 2** Comparison of average dose parameters for targets

Parameter	WBRT	WBRT FB vs. DIBH <i>p</i> -value*	B/CWRT + RNI	B/CWRT FB vs. DIBH <i>p</i> -value***	All Patients	FB vs. DIBH <i>p</i> -value*
RT: $D_{\text{mean}} < 4\text{Gy}$ (fraction, %)						
FB	11/11 (100)	N/A	5/9 (56)	0.134	16/20 (80)	0.134
Bre: DIBH (Gy/# fraction)	11/11 (100)		9/9 (100)		20/20 (100)	

All patients receiving WBRT alone met the mean heart dose constraint of <4 Gy on free breathing planning, while only slightly over half of patients receiving regional nodal irradiation were able to meet this constraint in free breathing. **DIBH is justified for all patients receiving RT for left-sided breast cancer, but as a minimum, should be used regularly for all left-sided breast cancer patients receiving breast/chest wall RT plus nodal RT.**



# Deep-inspiratory Breath-hold



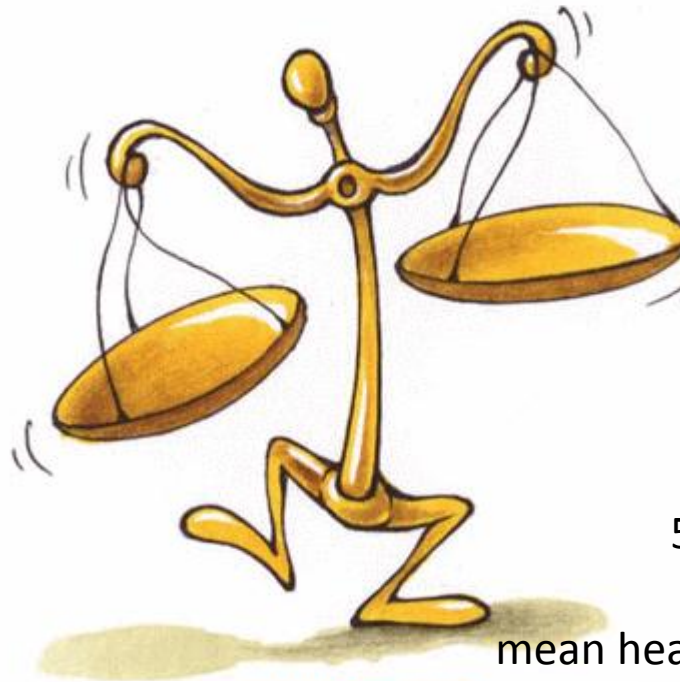
# Risks against benefits

## Benefits

After BCS, RT reduces  
the absolute risk of  
breast cancer death  
at 15 years by 4%

## Benefits

In node-positive disease,  
PMRT reduces  
the absolute risk of  
breast cancer death  
at 15 years by 7%



## Risks

50 years of age at RT ,  
no cardiac risk factors  
mean heart dose of 4 Gy  
the absolute risk of  
radiation-related ischemic  
heart disease would be 0,6%  
for mortality

## Risks

50 years of age at RT ,  
no cardiac risk factors  
mean heart dose of 8 Gy (including IMC)  
the absolute risk of  
radiation-related ischemic  
heart disease would be 1,2%  
for mortality

# Risks against benefits

... “However, the risk-benefit analysis may not be favourable for all women”.

**DCIS**  
**Elderly patients**



# Conclusions

- Even in modern studies **cardiac dose is often substantial**
- Cardiac dose is **affected by technique, targets irradiated and interobserver heart contouring**
- In different studies, **whole heart dose** is the most commonly reported measure
- **Breathing control** seems to be the best technique to reduce mean heart dose mostly for patients with LA BC

# Open issues

- **Other cardiac constraints**  
(LAD, Mean dose or Dmax?)
- **Patients selection for heart-sparing radiotherapy techniques**  
(unfavorable anatomy, individual cardiac risk factors)
- **Risk adapted breast radiotherapy**  
(NO radiotherapy or PBI in Low risk patients)



