

XXXIII CONGRESSO NAZIONALE AIRO

AIRO2023

BOLOGNA,
27-29 OTTOBRE 2023

PALAZZO DEI CONGRESSI

Radioterapia Oncologica: l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti

Equità di accesso alle cure in Radioterapia

Cesare Guida
UO Radioterapia
Ospedale del Mare
Napoli

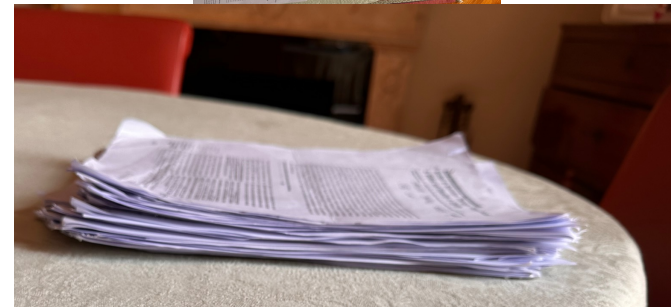
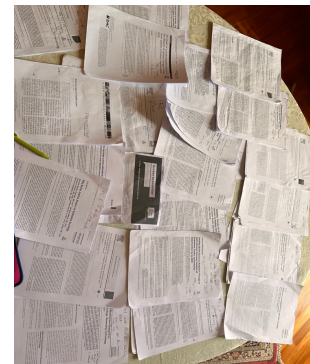


Associazione Italiana
Radioterapia e Oncologia clinica

Outline

1. Articoli della Costituzione Italiana
2. H.T.A.
3. Modalità di accesso (in particolare ai Protoni)
4. Differenze fra i sistemi regionali
5. Distribuzione delle tecnologie
6. PNNR

Sim 0-90°





BREAST CANCER

Access to Radiation Therapy and Related Clinical Outcomes in Patients With Cervical and Breast Cancer Across Sub-Saharan Africa: A Systematic Review

Sara E. Beltrán Ponce, MD¹; Sarah Adamma Abunike, MBBS²; Jean C. Bikomeye, MPH³; Rita Sieracki, MLS⁴; Nixon Niyonzima, MBChB, MSc, PhD⁵; Pius Mulamira, MBChB⁶; Solomon Kibudde, MBChB, MMed⁷; Saryleine Ortiz de Choudens, MD¹; Malika Siker, MD⁸; Christina Small MD, MPH⁹; and Kirsten M.M. Beyer, MBChB, MSc, PhD²

Author, Year	Country	1-Year OS	2-Year OS	5-Year OS	Other (Specified)
Cervical					
Simonds, 2018 ³⁴	South Africa			71.95% (IIB) 49.7% (IIIB)	
Nartey, 2017 ⁴¹	Ghana	62.0%		30%	39% (3-year OS)
Moelle, 2018 ⁶¹	Ethiopia	84.0%	64.0%		
Grover, 2020 ³⁶	Botswana				MS 550 days with CD4 nadir < 200 and 647 days with nadir > 200 ³⁶
Grover, 2018 ³⁶	Botswana		65.5% 66.0% ^b		
Einstein, 2019 ⁴⁹	Multiple	76.3% ^{a,c}			
Asamoah, 2020 ⁶⁰	Ghana	86.0% (IA) 100% (IIA) 95.0% (IIB) 90.0% (IIIB)			
Chibonda, 2021 ³⁴	Zimbabwe	94.0% ^a	95.0% ^a		
Adusei-Poku, 2017 ⁶⁰	Ghana			41.0% (all patients) 86.7% (curative) 25.0% (palliative)	
MacDuffie, 2021 ⁶⁶	Botswana			56.8% ^a 55.1% ^b	
Khamis, 2021 ⁶¹	Tanzania			26.0%	Mean 33.9 months, MS 19 months
Grover, 2021 ³⁶	Botswana	68.0% (IIIB)	59.0% (chemoRT) 41.0% (RT alone) 50% (IIIB)		43.0% (IIIB; 3-year OS)
Griesel, 2021 ³³	Multiple	74.0%	51.3%		41.3% (3-year OS)
Dereesa, 2021 ³⁵	Ethiopia	77%	45.3%	28.4%	
Dereje, 2021 ³⁴	Ethiopia	65.7%	32.6%		MS 21.2 months

Factors Increasing Likelihood of Seeking Care

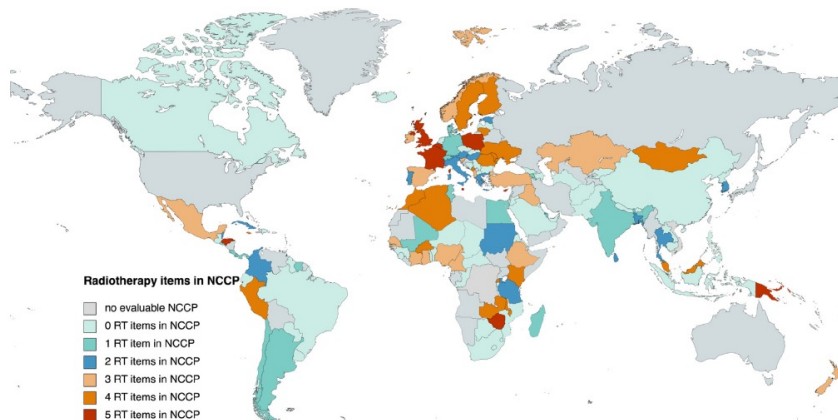
Factors Decreasing Likelihood of Seeking Care

Positive awareness of cancer/family history ²⁶	Lack of awareness of cancer/education ^{23,24,29,33,40-42,66,89,122}
Strong support system ^{26,123}	Lack of health-seeking behaviors at symptom onset/underreporting initial symptoms ^{23,33,67}
Protestant affiliation ⁴	Preference to seek treatment from traditional or religious healers ^{23,31,40,41,66,89}
	Stigma, discrimination, and fear of ostracization from community ^{23,40,42,123}
	Fear of treatment itself ⁶⁹
	Low SES ^{24,31,66,89,122}
	HIV-positive status ^{3,31}
	Challenging referral system ⁷²
	Previous bad experiences in hospitals/health care ³²



Original Article
Radiotherapy prioritization in 143 national cancer control plans: Correlation with radiotherapy machine availability, geography and income level

2015 :Global Task Force on Radiotherapy for Cancer Control
“80% of National Cancer Control Plans to include RT in 2020”



Only **55%** NCCPs included any information regarding radiotherapy

Association between income level and radiotherapy and cancer service planning in NCCPs.

	Low Income	Low-middle Income	Upper Middle Income	High income	P value
NCCP Data (n = 185)	N = 35	N = 44	N = 48	N = 58	
NCCP Plan	26	21	24	24	
No	(74.3%)9	(47.7%)23	(50%)24	(41.4%)34	0.02
Yes	(25.7%)	(52.3%)	(50%)	(58.6%)	

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Radioterapia Oncologica:
l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti

Access to essential

Radiotherapy

Lives saved and economic returns



Global Task Force on Radiotherapy for Cancer Control (2013)

Investment needed to achieve global equity in access by 2035

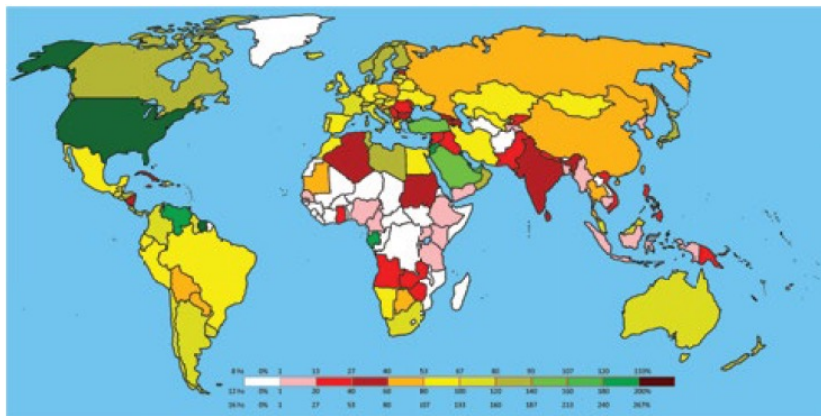
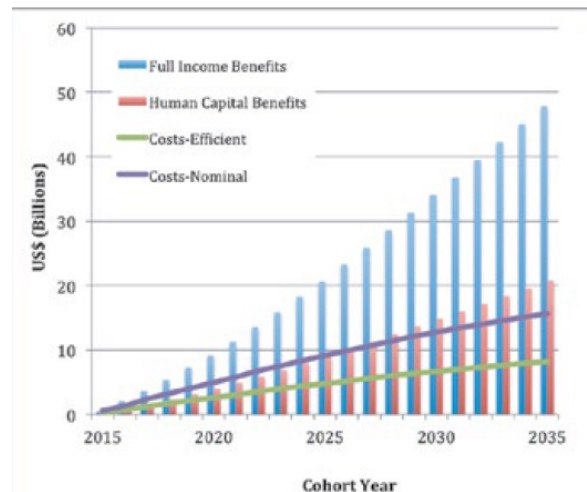


Figure 1. Global distribution of radiotherapy facilities.



To meet 100% of global need for radiotherapy by 2035 in LMICs :
27 milion life-years saved in LMICs:

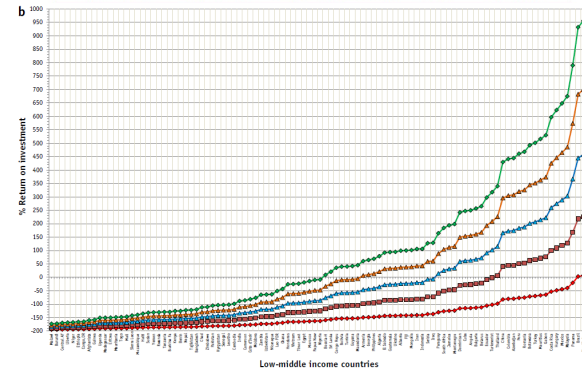
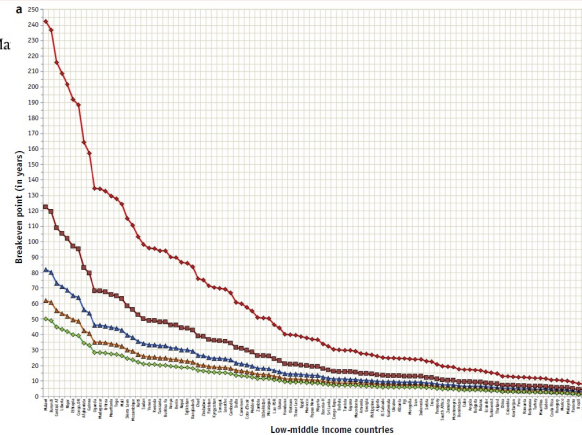
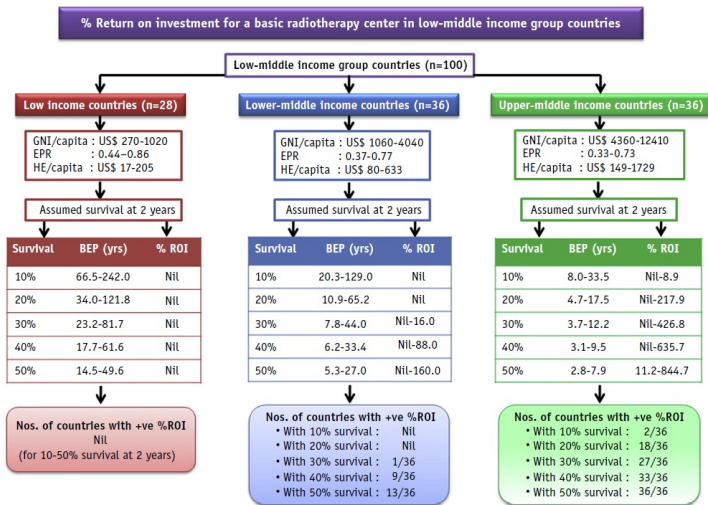
- \$ 184 billion.
+ \$ 278 billion.



Photo by davidmichaelson@iStock.com 2019

Are State-Sponsored New Radiation Therapy Facilities Economically Viable in Low- and Middle-Income Countries?

Niloy R. Datta, MD,* Massoud Samiei, PhD,[†] and Stephan Bodis, MD[‡]



%ROI dependent : GNI per capita, employment/population ratio , 2-year OS
None of the low-income countries would attain an ROI.



Shahrabi Farahani et al. *International Journal for Equity in Health* (2021) 20:152
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12939-021-01497-0>

International Journal for
Equity in Health

RESEARCH

Open Access

The impact of sociodemographic factors on the utilization of radiation therapy in breast cancer patients in Estonia: a register-based study

Fereshteh Shahrabi Farahani¹, Keiu Paapsi² and Kaire Innos^{3*}



	Radiation therapy use (n=4312) *		Univariate PRR (95% CI)	Multivariate PRR (95% CI)
	No.	%		
Total	2954	68.5		
Period of diagnosis				
2007–2009	569	56.6	Ref	Ref
2010–2012	727	66.5	1.18 (1.10–1.26)	1.18 (1.10–1.26)
2013–2015	759	71.6	1.27 (1.18–1.35)	1.26 (1.18–1.35)
2016–2018	899	78.0	1.38 (1.30–1.47)	1.37 (1.29–1.45)
Age at diagnosis (years)				
<50	802	66.5	0.94 (0.89–0.99)	0.96 (0.91–1.01)
50–59	1126	70.9	Ref	Ref
60–69	1026	67.6	0.95 (0.91–1.00)	0.95 (0.91–1.00)
TNM stage				
I	1236	77.7	Ref	Ref
II	1140	60.2	0.77 (0.74–0.81)	0.79 (0.75–0.82)
III	578	69.9	0.90 (0.85–0.95)	0.93 (0.88–0.98)
Nationality				
Estonian	1805	68.9	Ref	Ref
Other nationalities	1149	67.9	0.98 (0.94–1.03)	0.98 (0.93–1.02)
Region of residence				
North	1340	67.6	Ref	Ref
West	296	65.8	0.97 (0.90–1.05)	0.99 (0.92–1.07)
Central	249	68.4	1.01 (0.94–1.09)	1.01 (0.94–1.09)
North-East	397	69.0	1.02 (0.96–1.09)	1.04 (0.98–1.11)
South	672	71.3	1.05 (1.00–1.11)	1.04 (0.99–1.10)
Educational level				
University degree	874	69.2	Ref	Ref
Secondary plus vocational studies	846	70.6	1.02 (0.97–1.07)	1.02 (0.97–1.08)
Secondary studies	1036	68.5	0.99 (0.94–1.04)	1.01 (0.96–1.06)
Basic and primary studies	198	58.6	0.85 (0.77–0.93)	0.88 (0.80–0.97)
Marital status				
Married	1395	71.2	Ref	Ref
Divorced/widowed	1193	66.6	0.93 (0.90–0.98)	0.95 (0.91–0.99)
Single	366	65.2	0.92 (0.86–0.98)	0.92 (0.86–0.99)

Equity should know no borders: The role of Australasian radiation oncologists in supporting radiation oncology services in low- and middle-income countries in the Asia-Pacific

Sean Hassan,¹ Andrew Oar,² Iain Ward,³ Eng-Siew Koh,^{4,5,6} Thomas P Shakespeare^{4,7} and

Radioterapia Oncologica:
l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti



Country	Site	Involvement
Cambodia	National Cancer Centre, Calmette Hospital, Phnom Penh	Australia volunteer trainers based in Phnom Penh, reciprocal training visits and ongoing educational support
Fiji	Suva Cancer Centre, Suva	Participation in Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy and IAEA advisory mission
India	Christian Medical College, Vellore, Tamil Nadu	Mentoring and educational sessions
India	Adyar Cancer Institute, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Mentoring and educational sessions
India	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai	Mentoring and educational sessions
Malaysia	Advanced Medical and Dental Institute (AMDI) of Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Penang	Knowledge sharing visit
Malaysia	National Cancer Institute, Malaysia	Assistance with the introduction of prostate brachytherapy
Mongolia	Nationale Cancer Centre Mongolia	Assistance with the establishment of the first linear accelerator with further
Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea	Periodic commissioning checks of equipment and remote support
Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea	Continuing professional development
Sri Lanka	National Cancer Centre, Maharagama	Mentoring and educational sessions
Sri Lanka	Tellippalai Cancer Centre, Tellippalai, Jaffna	Linear accelerator setup
Vietnam	Ho Chi Min City Oncology Hospital, Ho Chi Min City; and Danang Hospital, Da Nang	Extensive and long-standing relationship across radiation oncology disciplines
Vietnam	Da Nang General Hospital & Da Nang Cancer Hospital, Da Nang	Knowledge sharing visit
Vietnam	Cho Ray Hospital, Ho Chi Minh	Formalised education sessions, preceptorships
Vietnam	Hue Hospital, Thien Hue	AVI mentoring placement at Hue Government Hospital Radiation Oncology Department
AP region		Leadership in ESTRO APAC education committee

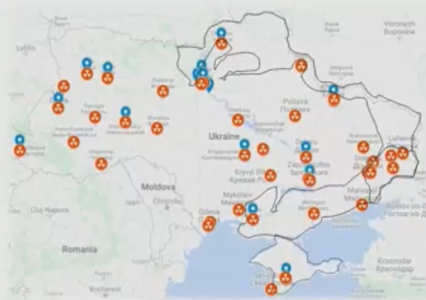
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Radioterapia Oncologica:
l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti

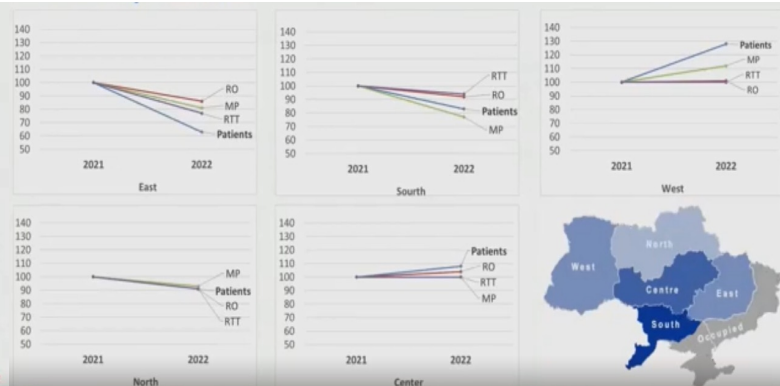
Radiotherapy during full scale invasion



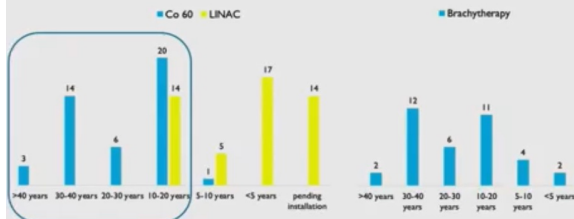
- ❖ **24th February 2022**
 - ❖ Almost all RT centres suspended RT
 - ❖ the population began to move to the west of Ukraine and abroad, including patients and staff
- ❖ **By Mid-March 2022**
 - ❖ The invaders were stopped
 - ❖ Almost all RT centres in the north, east and south still not working due to proximities of hostilities or occupation
 - ❖ RT Centers in Central and West Ukraine resumed work



Territories occupied by Mid-March 2022 circled by a black line



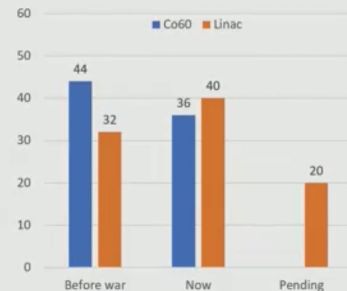
AGE OF RADIOTHERAPY EQUIPMENT



New equipment

Until 2022 – till now:

- 8 Co-60 were decommissioned
- 8 new Linacs put into clinical use
- 5 new Linacs under installation
- 15 new Linacs were purchased by Ministry of Health and must be installed in one-two years.



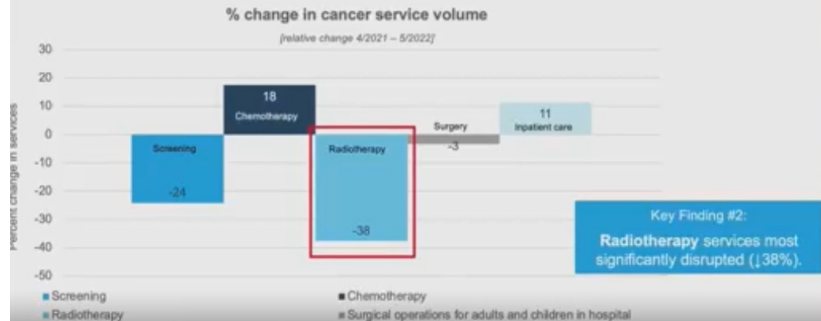
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Radioterapia Oncologica:
l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti



Changes in service provision

Differential impact by domain and cancer type (National Health Service of Ukraine)



Pediatric radiotherapy still performed in Kyiv and Lviv with lineacs and dedicated teams



Installation of Donated Software

- 31 licenses were released for installation of Limbus AI, EZFluence, ClearCalc, ClearCheck throughout Ukraine



18 countries accepted more than 1500 Ukrainian children with cancer for treatment





Expanding global access to radiotherapy

Rifat Atun, David A Jaffray, Michael B Barton, Freddie Bray, Michael Baumann, Bhadrasain Vikram, Timothy P Hanna, Felicia M Knaul,

The Lancet Oncology Commission



	Low-income countries		Lower-middle-income countries		Upper-middle-income countries	
	Nominal	Efficiency	Nominal	Efficiency	Nominal	Efficiency
Net monetary benefit (US\$, billions)						
Human-capital approach	-14.9	-2.4	-18.7	10.7	50.5	95.9
Full-income approach	0.265	12.8	38.5	67.7	239.3	284.7
Return on investment (US\$, billions)						
Human-capital approach	-0.56	-0.17	-0.3	0.32	0.53	1.94
Full-income approach	0.01	0.91	0.62	2.03	2.52	5.77

Net monetary benefit=cost of investment - economic return. Return on investment=net monetary benefit / cost of investment. Costing models are described in the text and include both operational and capital costs.

Table 6: Cost and benefits of investments to scale up radiotherapy services in low-income and middle-income countries, 2015-35

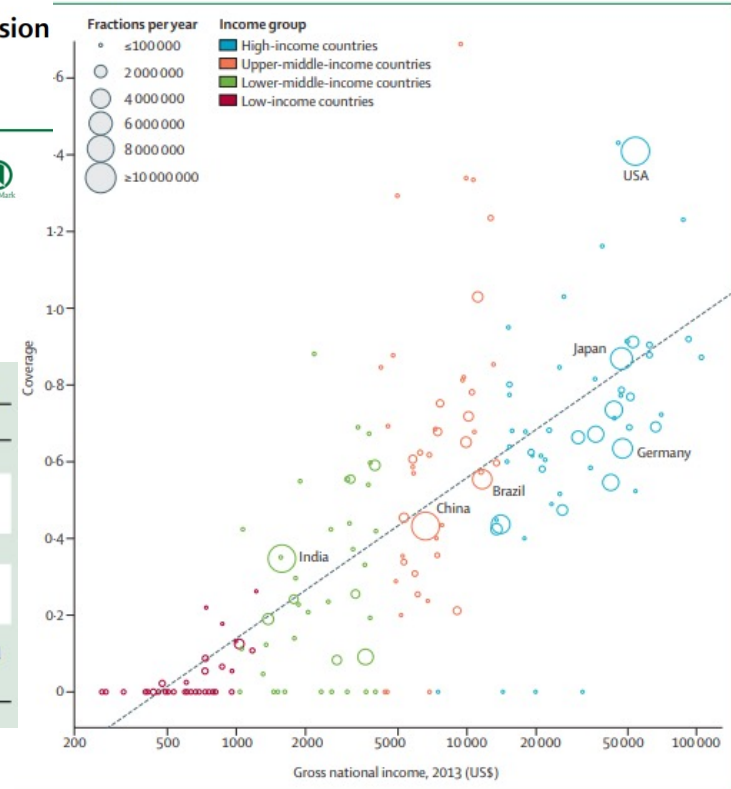


Figure 10: Radiotherapy coverage as a function of gross national income



The Lancet Oncology Commission

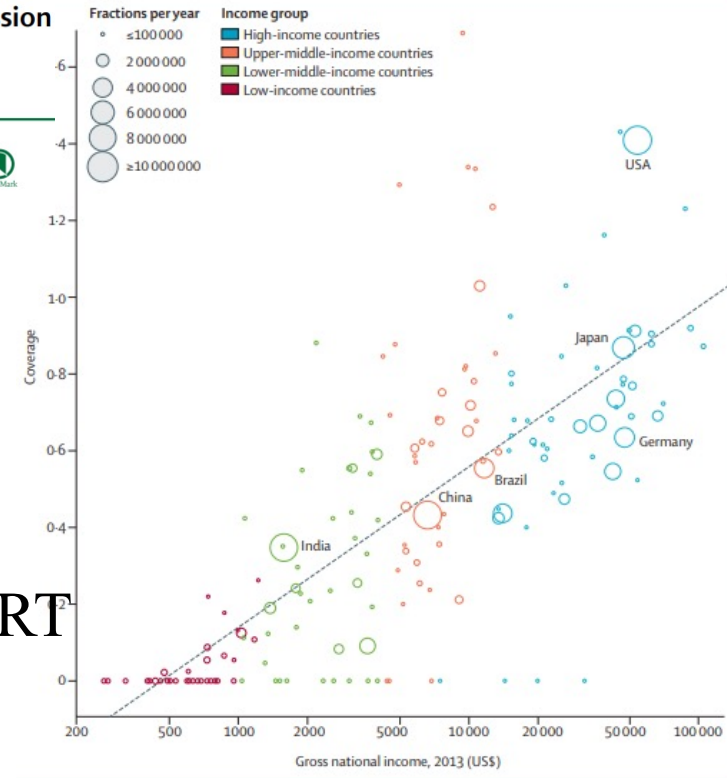
Expanding global access to radiotherapy

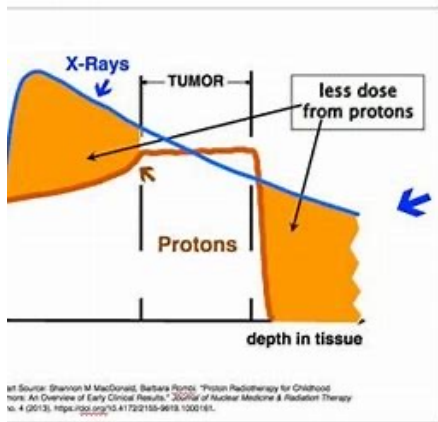
Rifat Atun, David A Jaffray, Michael B Barton, Freddie Bray, Michael Baumann, Bhadrasain Vikram, Timothy P Hanna, Felicia M Knaul,



Call for actions:

- Population based cancer control plans
- Expansion of access to radiotherapy
- Human resources for radiotherapy
- Sustainable financing to expand access to RT
- Align radiotherapy access with universal health coverage





Protons

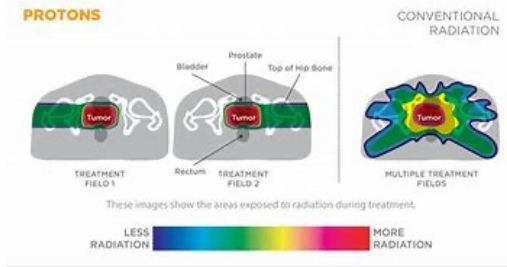
X-Rays Do Not

Excess radiation to healthy tissue results in costly side effects and secondary tumors

AI Source: Shannon M MacDonald, Barbara Horndt. "Proton Radiotherapy for Childhood Tumor: An Overview of Early Clinical Results." *Journal of Nuclear Medicine & Radiation Therapy* 10, 4 (2013). <https://doi.org/10.4172/2155-9619.1000161>.



Prostate Cancer: Proton therapy delivers significantly less radiation to the bladder and rectum than conventional radiation, reducing the risk of short and long-term side effects and secondary disease.





Lit. Search:
Population
Intervention
Comparison
Outcome
Criteria

Clinical Oncology 35 (2023) e528–e536

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Clinical Oncology

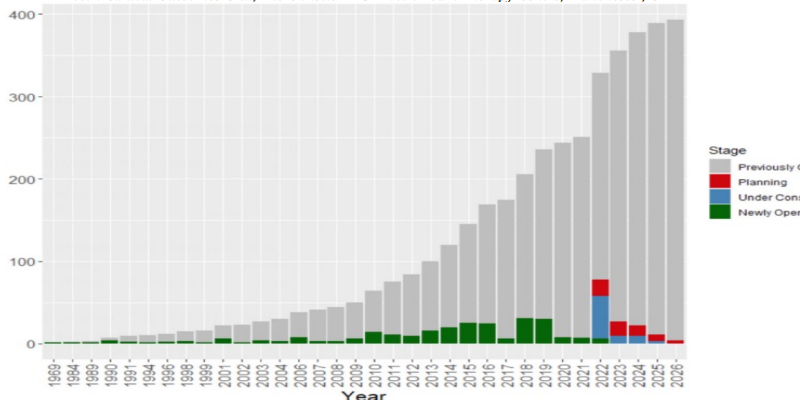
journal homepage: www.clinicaloncologyonline.net

Overview

Assessing Equity of Access to Proton Beam Therapy: A Literature Review

S. Gaito ^{*}†, M.C. Aznar †, N.G. Burnet †, A. Crellin †‡, A. France ^{*}, D. Indelicato †, K.J. Kirkby †‡, S. Pan †, G. Whitfield †‡, E. Smith ^{*}†‡

^{*}Proton Clinical Outcomes Unit, The Christie NHS Proton Beam Therapy Centre, Manchester, UK



Papers 24/224

Paediatrics vs Adults 60 vs 40%

Study	Author [reference]	Year	Country	Age group	Factors discussed ¹	Cancer diagnosis	Disparity	Data source
1	Gardner et al. [15]	2022	USA	A	1,3,6	Prostate	Yes	Literature search
2	Maihot Vega et al. [16]	2022	USA	C	6	Thorax (mediastinum)	Yes	National cancer database
3	McCall et al. [17]	2022	USA	A	1,2,3,4,6	Head and neck	Yes	National cancer database
4	Nogueira et al. [18]	2022	USA	A + C + TYA	1	Eligible indications for PBT	Yes	National cancer database
5	Thijssen et al. [19]	2022	Netherlands	A	2	Thorax	Yes	National survey
6	Xia et al. [20]	2022	WW	A + C + TYA	3	Eligible indications for PBT	Yes	Cross-sectional study
7	Bishop et al. [21]	2021	USA	C + TYA	4,6	Eligible indications for PBT	Yes	Cross-sectional study
8	Mailli et al. [22]	2021	USA	A + C + TYA	1,2,3	Eligible indications for PBT	Yes	National cancer database
9	Ansinelli et al. [23]	2020	USA	A	2	Thorax	Yes	National cancer database
10	Bitterman et al. [24]	2020	USA	C	1,2	Eligible indications for PBT	Yes	National cancer database
11	Parikh-Patel et al. [25]	2020	USA	A + C + TYA	1,2,3,4,5,6	Eligible indications for PBT	Yes	National cancer database
12	Lee et al. [26]	2019	USA	A	1,2,3,4	Head and neck	Yes	National cancer database
13	Khan et al. [27]	2017	USA	C	2,3,4,6	CNS	Yes	National cancer database
14	Kopecky et al. [28]	2017	USA	C	3,6	CNS	Yes	National cancer database
15	Ning et al. [29]	2017	USA	A	6	Thorax	Yes	Single-institution database
16	Shen et al. [30]	2017	USA	C	3,4,6	Eligible indications for PBT	Yes	National cancer database
17	Woodhouse et al. [31]	2017	USA	A	1,2,3,4	Prostate	Yes	Single-institution database
18	Amini et al. [32]	2016	USA	A	1,2,3,4	Prostate	Yes	National cancer database
19	Floberg et al. [33]	2016	USA	C	2,3,4,6	CNS	Yes	National cancer database
20	Odei et al. [34]	2016	USA	C	2,3,4,6	CNS	Yes	National cancer database
21	Shen et al. [35]	2016	USA	C	1,3,4	Eligible indications for PBT	Yes	National cancer database
22	Arsenault et al. [36]	2012	USA	C	6	Eligible indications for PBT	Yes	National cancer database
23	Peterson et al. [37]	2022	USA	C	3	CNS	Yes	Literature search
24	Weil et al. [38]	2021	USA	C	1,2,3	CNS	Yes	National cancer database



Indicators of disparity:

1. Socioeconomic Status
2. Geographic Location
3. Insurance
4. Race
5. Age

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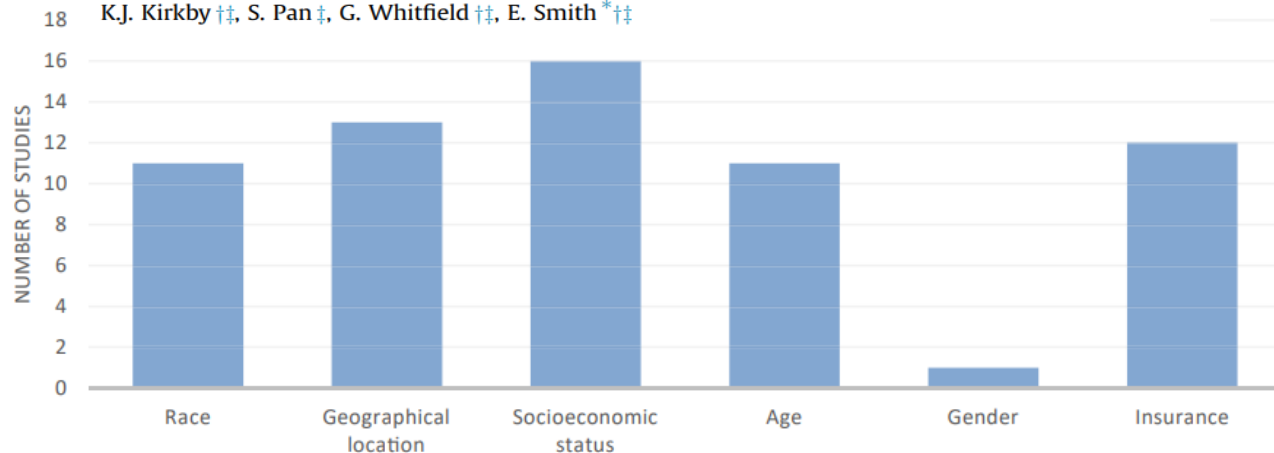


Overview

Assessing Equity of Access to Proton Beam Therapy: A Literature Review



S. Gaito^{*††}, M.C. Aznar[†], N.G. Burnet[‡], A. Crellin^{†§}, A. France^{*}, D. Indelicato[¶],
K.J. Kirkby^{††}, S. Pan[‡], G. Whitfield^{††}, E. Smith^{*††}





Original Article

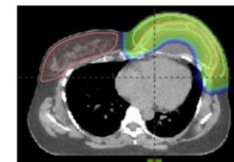
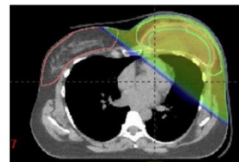
Model-Based Selection for Proton Therapy in Breast Cancer:
Development of the National Indication Protocol for Proton Therapy
and First Clinical Experiences

L.J. Boersma*, M.G.A. Sattler††, J.H. Maduro§, N. Bijker¶, M. Essers||, C.M.J. van Gestel**

Protons always reimbursed in:

- Paediatric tumours,
- Eye tumours
- Chordomas/Chondrosarcomas
- All the others: NTCP evaluation Prot vs Pho

- A**
- Dose distribution of photon plan (deep inspiration breath hold)
- Mean Heart Dose = 6.0 Gy
 - Mean Lung Dose = 6.8 Gy
 - Mean Contralateral breast dose = 2.3 Gy
- Dose distribution of proton plan (free breathing)
- Mean Heart Dose = 0.1 Gy
 - Mean Lung Dose = 3.1 Gy
 - Mean Contralateral breast dose = 0.5 Gy



B

Only yellow marked cells are needed as input

Cumulative risk on ACE < 80 years of age			Cumulative risk on ACE < 80 years of age	
Gender	female		Gender	female
Age (years)	40	between 40 and 70	Age (years)	40
Mean Heart Dose (Gy)	6	between 0 and 10	Mean Heart Dose (Gy)	0.1
Cardiac risk factors	no	6, 10	Cardiac risk factors	no
NTCP (%)	9,99%		NTCP (%)	6,97%

DELTA NTCP (%)	3,02%
RESULT	PROTON

268 breast cancer / 2 years.



Radiotherapy and Oncology 178 (2023) 109432



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Original Article

Clues to address barriers for access to proton therapy in the Netherlands

Salina V. Thijssen^a, Liesbeth J. Boersma^a, Luca Heising^{a,b}, Rachele R. Swart^a, Carol X. J. Ou^b,

Barriers	Subcategories	Interventions
Patient eligibility	Lack of knowledge	Educate and train ROs from referring RT centres; involve ROs from referring centres in developing NIPPs; make easily accessible information on eligibility
Logistics	Model-based indications	Add intuitive eligibility criteria; educate and train ROs from referring centres.
	Careful planning of concurrent chemo-and radiotherapy	Involve the other medical disciplines, such as medical oncologists, surgeons, pulmonologists, gastro intestinal oncologists.
	Increased lead time due to plan comparison	Submit the delineated planning CT immediately to the PTC, to enable simultaneous treatment planning of PT and photon plan; non-PTCs make a draft PT plan.
	Information exchange	Improve data exchange, reduce administration.
	Communication	Communication between non-PTC and PTC at several steps in the care-path: i.e. a priori eligibility, progress of plan comparison, developments during PT treatment, after PT treatment.
Travel	Information and burden	Assistance in travel and stay-arrangements, including a tool with overview of solutions.
Patients choice	Information and support	Install a case manager in the PTC; develop a decision aid; appoint a coordinating RO in the PTC for the referring RO.
	Shared Decision Making	Educate the referring RO, manage patient expectation by already mentioning PT early in the care-path, in the multidisciplinary team.
Perceived added value of PT	Scientific evidence	Collect more evidence by recording outcomes of treated patients, validation of the models; consider designing RCTs.
	Awareness	Knowledge-sharing between PTC and non-PTC, and also involve other medical professionals, such as medical oncologists, surgeons, pulmonologists, gastro intestinal oncologists.



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
RADIATION ONCOLOGY · BIOLOGY · PHYSICS
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BRIEF REPORT

Proton Therapy in Canada: Toward Universal Access and Health Equity With a Publicly Funded Facility

Amir H. Safavi, MD, MSc,^{1,2} Carolyn Freeman, CM, MBBS, FASTRO,³ Sylvia Cheng, MD, MScCH,⁴ Samir Patel, MD,⁵ Gunita Mitera, PhD,⁶ Vijayananda Kundapur, MD,⁷ Rob Rutledge, MD,⁸ and Derek S. Tsang, MD, MSc¹



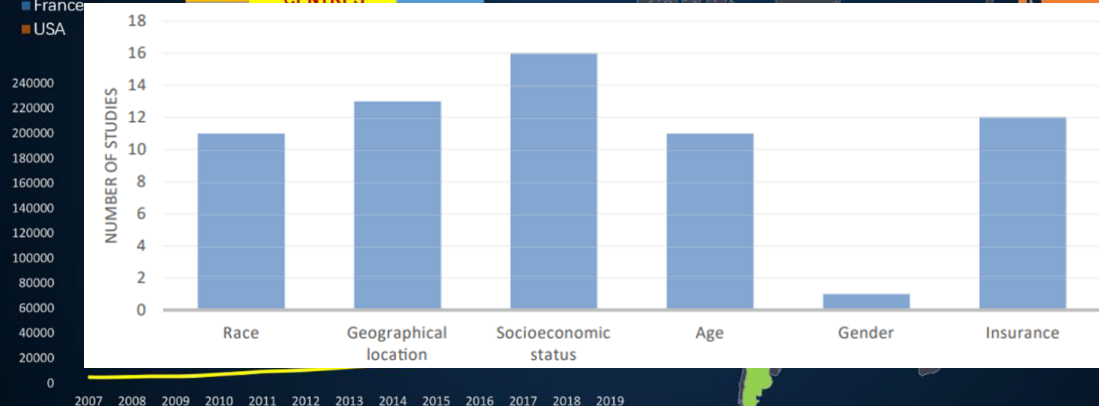
Theme	Sources of inequity	Recommendations
Administration	No national database of patients treated with PBT in Canada	Individual patient-level data should be comprehensively collected and regularly reported on PBT utilization across clinical indications and socioeconomic groups
Comprehensiveness	Not all provinces and territories have a structured out-of-country PBT access program Eligibility criteria for PBT may differ between provinces	All provinces and territories should adopt national guidelines on equitable access to PBT ²
Accessibility	Patients have difficulty accessing PBT because of financial barriers from indirect costs, travel barriers, and socioeconomic factors ^{3,24}	Multiple PBT facilities should be created across different geographic areas of the country to minimize patient travel time and expenses A travel grant should be created to support the indirect costs of PBT Lower- or no-cost accommodations near PBT centers should be made available to patients and their families A health equity approach should be used in the development of Canadian PBT programs

Radioterapia Oncologica: l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti

	Ontario ⁹	Quebec ¹¹	British Columbia ¹⁰	Alberta ^{10,12,13}	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Nova Scotia and nearby Atlantic provinces
Population	14,223,942	8,501,833	5,000,879	4,262,835	1,342,153	1,132,505	969,383 (NS), 154,331 (PEI)
Government program	Out of Country Prior Approval Program (Ontario Health)	Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec	British Columbia Ministry of Health	Alberta Health Out of Country Health Services Committee	Manitoba Health Out of Country Prior Approval Program	Out of country prior approval program provided by Ministry of Health through Saskatchewan Cancer Agency	Application is on a case-by-case basis to the provincial departments of health
General eligibility	Curative intent A subset of pediatric and adult cancers	Curative intent A subset of pediatric and adult cancers May be considered for second-line treatment Expected survival of >5 y ECOG PS 0-2 PBT should confer significant benefits over available radiation modalities	Curative intent A subset of pediatric and adult cancers	Curative intent A subset of pediatric and adult cancers Metastatic disease and irradiation not included Expected survival of ≥5 y ECOG PS 0-2	Curative intent A subset of pediatric and adult cancers All cases discussed in dedicated disease site group rounds	Curative intent A subset of pediatric and adult cancers Expected survival of ≥5 y ECOG PS 0-2	Selected curative-intent pediatric cases
Examples of tumor types eligible	Medulloblastomas, ependymoma, Ewing sarcoma, orbital sarcoma, osteosarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, Hodgkin lymphoma, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, astrocytoma, adenoid cystic carcinoma, meningioma, craniosparyngioma, glioma, malignant thyroid lesions, thymic carcinoma	Intracranial melanomas Skull base and spinal chordomas Skull base chondrosarcoma Tumors whose treatment with photon therapy could damage adjacent tissues (eg, meningiomas, intracranial tumors, spinal and paranasal soft tissue and bone sarcomas) Pediatric: ependymomas, craniosparyngiomas, craniopharyngiomas, PNET, Ewing sarcoma, pineal gland tumors, lymphomas, rhabdomyosarcomas, retinoblastomas	Medulloblastoma, ependymoma, malignant rhabdoid tumor, intracranial germ cell tumors, gliomas, pineal tumors, craniosparyngioma, vascular tumors, meningiomas, CNS sarcoma, Ewing sarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, chordoma, neuroblastoma, Wilms tumor, Hodgkin lymphoma	All patients: chordoma, chondrosarcoma, craniosparyngioma, CNS germ cell tumors, low-grade gliomas, AVM, medullinial lymphomas, any other diagnosis can be approved by multidisciplinary tumor (site) area Pediatric: any diagnosis requiring CNS, pituitary and pineal tumors, ependymoma, pelvic sarcomas, Ewing sarcoma Adults: paranasal sinus and nasal cavity tumors, intracranial melanomas not suitable for brachytherapy	Intracranial melanomas, Skull base and spinal chordomas Skull base chondrosarcomas Tumors whose treatment with photon therapy could damage adjacent tissues (eg, spinal area) Pediatric: ependymomas, craniosparyngiomas, PNET, Ewing sarcoma, pineal gland tumors, lymphomas, rhabdomyosarcomas, retinoblastomas Case-by-case evaluation permitted, depending on clinical scenario	Intracranial melanomas Skull base and spinal chordomas Skull base chondrosarcomas Pediatric: ependymomas, craniosparyngiomas, PNET, Ewing sarcoma, pineal gland tumors, lymphomas, rhabdomyosarcomas, retinoblastomas Case-by-case evaluation permitted, depending on clinical scenario	Medulloblastoma, and other selected pediatric CNS tumors, highly selected non-CNS tumors
Requirement for expert case review	Reviewed by physicians selected by the program	Reviewed by the Comité provincial de radiothérapie	Reviewed by the institutional multidisciplinary tumor board	Reviewed at the CancerCare Alberta Proton Therapy Referral Rounds	Reviewed by the institutional multidisciplinary disease site group rounds attended by oncologists from all disciplines involved in the circle of care	Reviewed and recommended by site-specific multidisciplinary oncologist or by the institutional multidisciplinary tumor board	Reviewed and approved by tumor board and Department of Radiation Oncology
Medical costs of PBT	Covered	Covered	Covered	Covered	Covered, if approved. For approved cases, physicians fees covered, at the same rate a Manitoba doctor would receive for similar services; and hospital bills, up to 75% of insured hospital services	Covered	Covered
Indirect costs of PBT	Not covered; transportation is often covered by philanthropic agencies for children only	Travel costs, including accommodation and transportation, are covered	Not covered	Flights for the patient and 1 parent or guardian for children are covered; housing, food, and transportation are often covered by philanthropic agencies for children only	For approved cases, many transportation costs, including meals, taxis, ambulances, and other expenses are not covered	Adult patients may have to take separate insurances for pediatric patients, depends on the referring facility giving a global package that also includes the stay, and food that will be paid as a package by the health ministry directly to the facility	Not covered



Distribution of the world protons and C-ions therapy centres



Patients treated with protons and C-ions worldwide

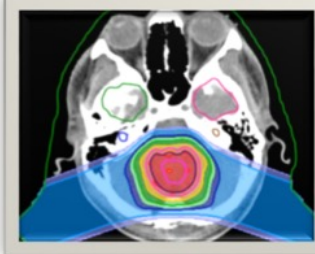
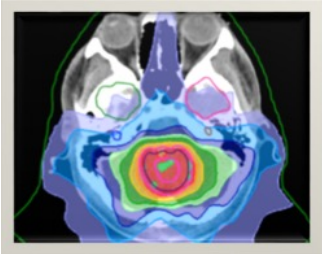
Critical Review

A systematic review of pediatric neuropsychological outcomes with proton versus photon radiation therapy: A call for equity in access to treatment†

Rachel K. Peterson^{1,2} and Tricia Z. King^{3,4}



Protons = Less neurophysiological sequelae



Conclusions:

Sociodemographic inequities

in access to PRT

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Reference	XRT sample	PRT sample	Differences between groups by medical ^a and/or sociodemographic variables	Relationship between demographics and neuropsychological outcomes	Relationship between medical ^a and neuropsychological outcomes
Child et al. (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 patients treated with XRT 23 males 16 Caucasian 9 on government assistance 13 medulloblastoma 11 supratentorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 58 patients treated with PRT 35 males 33 Caucasian 19 on government assistance 19 medulloblastoma 28 supratentorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full posterior fossa boost (XRT > PRT, $p < .01$) History of shunt placement (XRT > PRT, $p = .04$) Lower Karnofsky/Lansky score (XRT > PRT, $p = .03$) Time from RT to evaluation (XRT > PRT, $p < .01$) CSI dose (XRT > PRT, $p = .04$) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did not examine relationships between sociodemographic and neuropsychological outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full posterior fossa boost predicted processing speed ($p = .03$) Full posterior fossa boost predicted inattention ($p = .03$) Full posterior fossa boost predicted academic fluency (all $p < .05$) Karnofsky/Lansky score predicted processing speed ($p = .04$) Karnofsky/Lansky score predicted inhibition/shifting ($p = .01$) Karnofsky/Lansky score predicted writing fluency ($p = .02$)
Eaton et al. (2021)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 patients treated with XRT 10 males Ethnicity not reported Median household income: \$60,990 0 supratentorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 patients treated with PRT 11 males Ethnicity not reported Median household income: \$89,852 17 medulloblastoma 0 supratentorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Median household income (XRT < PRT, $p < .01$) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No association was found between median household income and neuropsychological outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did not examine relationships between medical and neuropsychological outcomes.
Fortin et al. (2017)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 patients treated with XRT Sex not reported Ethnicity not reported SES not reported 10 medulloblastoma Tumor location not reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 patients treated with PRT Sex not reported Ethnicity not reported SES not reported 10 medulloblastoma Tumor location not reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did not examine differences between sociodemographic or medical variables by treatment groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did not examine relationships between sociodemographic and neuropsychological outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did not examine relationships between medical and neuropsychological outcomes.
rt et al.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 67 patients treated with XRT 37 males 38 Caucasian 39 Average SES 41 medulloblastoma 23 supratentorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 58 patients treated with PRT 37 males 36 Caucasian 34 Average SES 26 medulloblastoma 35 supratentorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Caucasian patients (XRT > PRT, $p = .02$) Time from RT to evaluation (XRT > PRT, $p < .01$) Posterior fossa tumor location (XRT > PRT, $p < .01$) Use of adjuvant carboplatin (XRT < PRT, $p = .04$) Use of adjuvant cisplatin (XRT > PRT, $p < .05$) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower SES was associated with VCI ($p = .02$), PRI ($p = < .01$), story memory ($p = .02$), and math calc ($p < .01$). Non-Caucasian ethnicity associated with story memory ($p = .03$) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Younger age at RT was associated with VIQ ($p = .01$), attention ($p = .04$), and conceptual adaptive skills ($p = .03$). Hydrocephalus with shunting associated with FSIQ/GAI ($p = .05$), story memory ($p = .04$), math calculation ($p = .04$). CSI at 23.4 Gy associated with PIQ ($p = < .001$), VMI ($p = .04$). CSI at 36 Gy associated with PSI ($p = .03$), VMI ($p = .04$), math calc ($p = .03$). Posterior fossa syndrome associated with PSI ($p = .04$). Time from RT to evaluation associated with VMI ($p = .03$)
Kahalley et al. (2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 42 patients treated with XRT 27 males Ethnicity not reported Mean maternal education 14 years Mean paternal education 15 years 42/42 medulloblastoma 0 supratentorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37 patients treated with PRT 25 males Ethnicity not reported Mean maternal education 14 years Mean paternal education 15 years 37/37 medulloblastoma 0 supratentorial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larger boost margin (XRT > PRT, $p = .001$) Total RT dose to tumor bed + margin (XRT > PRT, $p < .001$) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did not examine relationships between sociodemographic and neuropsychological outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posterior fossa syndrome was associated with lower FSIQ ($p = .008$) Posterior fossa syndrome was associated with lower perceptual reasoning ($p = .001$) Posterior fossa syndrome was associated with lower working memory ($p = .001$) Posterior fossa syndrome was associated with lower processing speed ($p = .001$)
Kahalley et al. (2016)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 patients treated with XRT 33 males 22 Caucasian 15.2% of households in poverty in zip code 28 medulloblastoma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90 patients treated with PRT 54 males 46 Caucasian 12.6% of households in poverty in zip code 24 medulloblastoma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-medulloblastoma tumor histology (XRT < PRT, $p = .002$) History of craniotomy (XRT < PRT, $p = .05$) History of VP shunt (XRT > PRT, $p = .01$) Lower Karnofsky/Lansky score (XRT > PRT, $p = .03$) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower FSIQ associated with Black race ($p = .023$) Lower FSIQ associated with Hispanic ethnicity ($p = .006$) FSIQ associated with Leiter IQ test ($p = .001$) FSIQ associated with lower SES ($p = .004$) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSIQ associated with K-I score <80 ($p = .001$) FSIQ associated with younger age at RT ($p = .029$) FSIQ associated with infratentorial tumor location ($p = .024$) FSIQ associated with medulloblastoma/PNET histology ($p = .036$)

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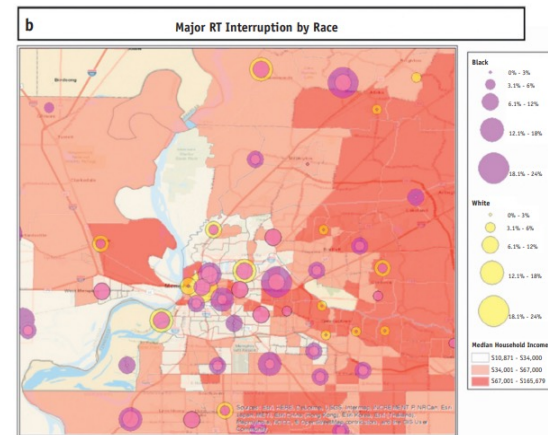
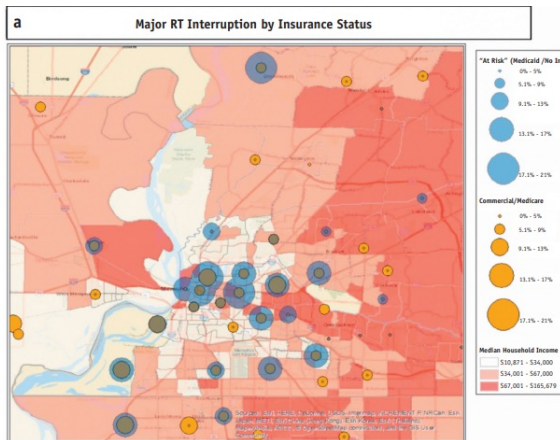
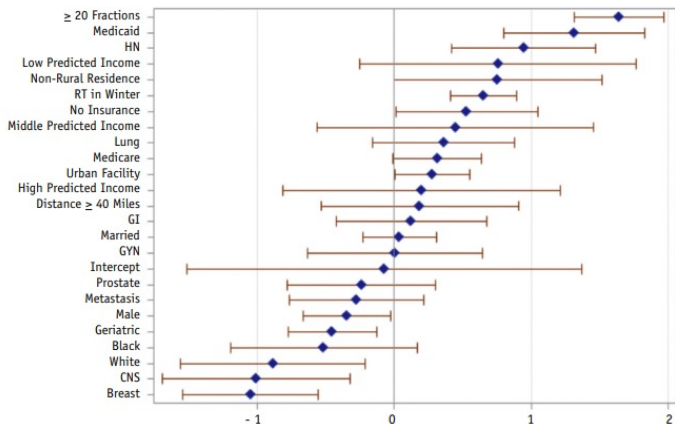


Sociology and Policy

Location as Destiny: Identifying Geospatial Disparities in Radiation Treatment Interruption by Neighborhood, Race, and Insurance

Daniel V. Wakefield, MD,^{*,†} Matthew Carnell, BS,[‡]

Radiation treatment interruptions **disproportionately** affects financially and socially vulnerable patients





The Profession

I Can't Breathe: The Continued Disproportionate Exclusion of Black Physicians in the United States Radiation Oncology Workforce

Curtiland Deville Jr, MD,* Ian Cruickshank Jr, BS, RT(T),†

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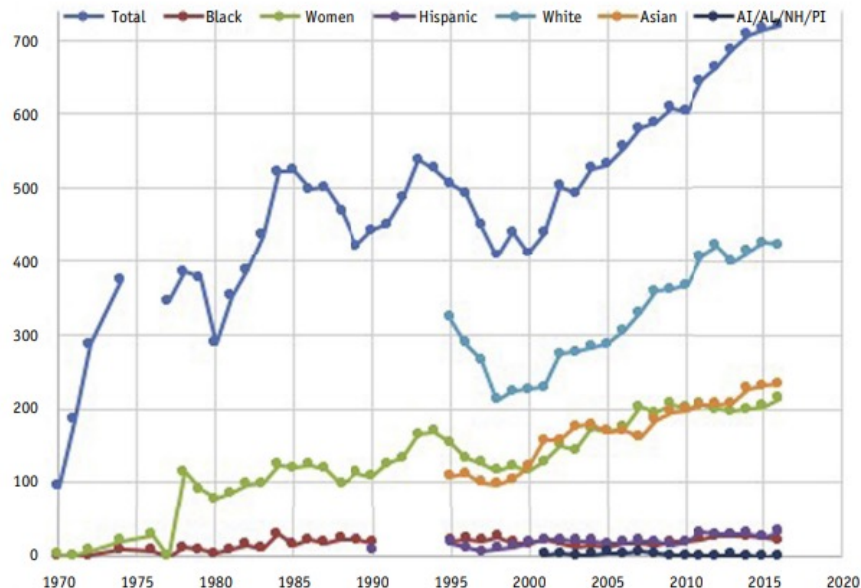
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COMMENTARY

The Ethical Imperative and Evidence-Based Strategies to Ensure Equity and Diversity in Radiation Oncology

Christina Hunter Chapman, MD,* and Reshma Jagsi, MD, DPhil*[†]



AIRO2023

Advances in Radiation Oncology (2020) 5, 783-790



Brief Opinion

Why Racial Justice Matters in Radiation Oncology

Christina Hunter Chapman, MD, MS,^{a,b} Darlene Gabeau, MD, PhD,^c

advances
in radiation oncology
www.advancesradonc.org



Table 3 The LEADS (Learn, Engage, Advocate, Defend, Support) approach to reducing anti-Black racism in radiation oncology: Recommendations for individual radiation oncologists and radiation oncology departments/practices to combat anti-Black racism

	Individuals	Departments/institutions
Learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate yourself about implicit and structural and systemic racism and the effect on Black patients and colleagues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage faculty and staff continuing medical education efforts that explore health equity, systemic racism, and implicit bias in health care
Engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read reputable literature and ask questions that will enhance understanding Ask Black patients and colleagues how they are coping Engage your family members in conversations and action steps about racism and privilege Speak to Black medical student groups about radiation oncology and offer to be a resource 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsor antibias training for members of the practice and leadership Develop regular check-ins with Black staff and faculty around climate Review pay scales and compensation packages to ensure equity. Make corrections where needed
Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate research and mentoring opportunities Lobby for equitable health care reform Vote in ways that eliminate racism and dismantle the rules, laws, norms, and structures that promote it Create diverse publication teams Look for Black representation on speaker panels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review departmental and institutional policies to assess for those that propagate inequities and change them Ensure there is Black representation among invited speakers and lecturers Encourage selection of diverse residency and faculty candidates
Defend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stand up against anti-Black microaggressions³⁰ that perpetuate racial inequity Stand up when patients make subtle or overt anti-Black comments Set the tone that racism is not tolerated at any level. Do not leave it to your Black colleagues to point out racism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reject anti-Black microaggressions³⁰ and departmental policies that perpetuate racial inequity Review track record on workforce diversity from staff through faculty Examine recruitment, hiring policies and retention rates Develop policies that clearly condemn and reject anti-Black racism Develop a diversity, equity, and inclusion task force with actionable mandate within the practice. Ensure there is racial diversity within the group, if possible. If the department lacks diverse members, collaborate with other departments that have more success
Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in success of Black colleagues Quote their research. Nominate them for positions of leadership Volunteer for their committees and help them produce great results Donate to organizations that support equity and Black advancement (eg, United Negro College Fund) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fund disparities research, especially by Black researchers with particular understanding of these issues Encourage NIH-funded faculty to support Black students via NIH diversity supplement

Radioterapia Oncologica: l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti



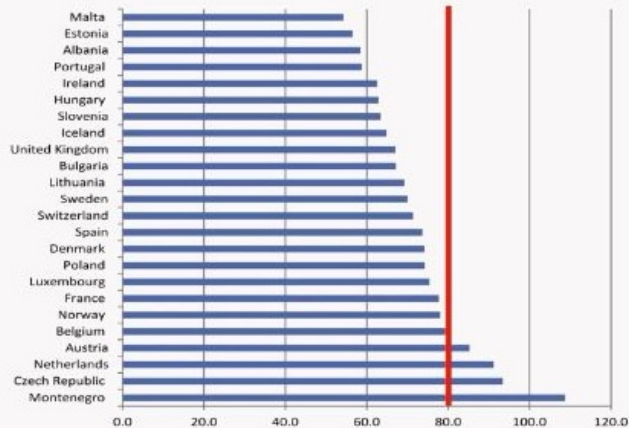
Figure We, too, are radiation oncologists. Clockwise from top left: Drs Christina Chapman, Darlene Gabeau, Chelsea Pinnix, Curtiland Deville, Iris Gibbs, and Karen Winkfield.

Chrystal Seldon

Acknowledgement, **T**rasparent, **I**ntention, **R**epresentation
Learn, **E**ngage, **A**dvocate, **D**efend, **S**upport

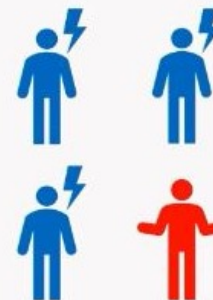


is radiotherapy accessible?



less than 17% of European countries provide at least 80% of the optimal number for radiation treatments

ESTRO HERO



1 in 4 European cancer patients do not receive the radiotherapy they require

Borras et al, Radiother Oncol 2015

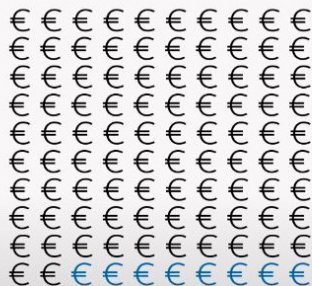
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radiotherapy expenses remain modest

ESTRO HERO



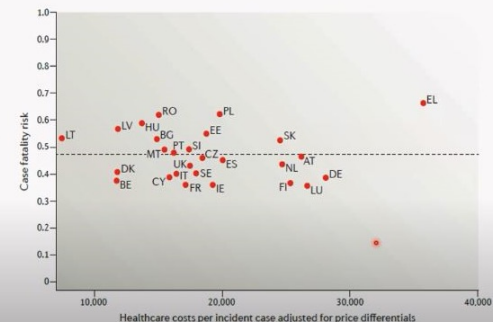
European countries
spend 8-11% of their GDP on health care
cancer care takes up 4-7%

radiotherapy budgets in Europe
0,5% of total health care expenses
7,8% of oncology budgets (5-12%)

Lievens et al, Lancet Oncol 2020
Sullivan et al, Lancet Oncol 2021

spending more, better outcome?

comparison studies
show **no correlation** between
cancer-specific **expenditure**
(including medicines)
and **outcomes**



Sullivan et al, Nat Rev Clin Oncol 2016



Molecular Oncology

REVIEW

Molecular Oncology **14** (2020) 1461–1469 © 2020

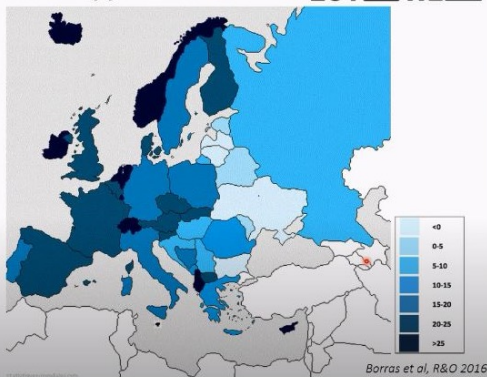
Provision and use of radiotherapy in Europe

Yolande Lievens¹ , Josep M. Borrás² and Cai Grau³ 

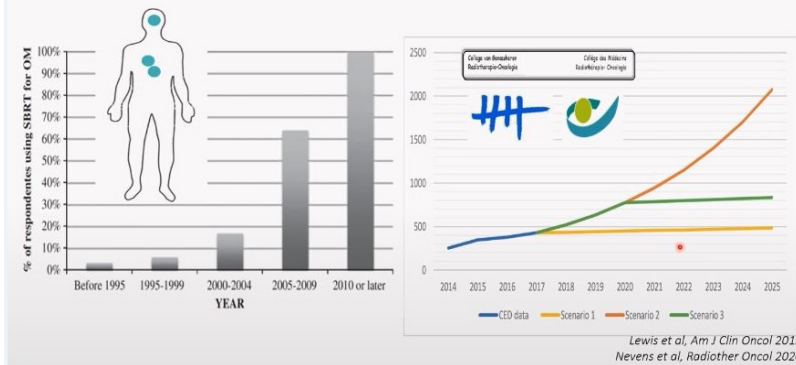
demographics drive radiotherapy needs

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across Europe,
an overall
16% increase has been
predicted over a decade



innovations drive radiotherapy needs, and budgets

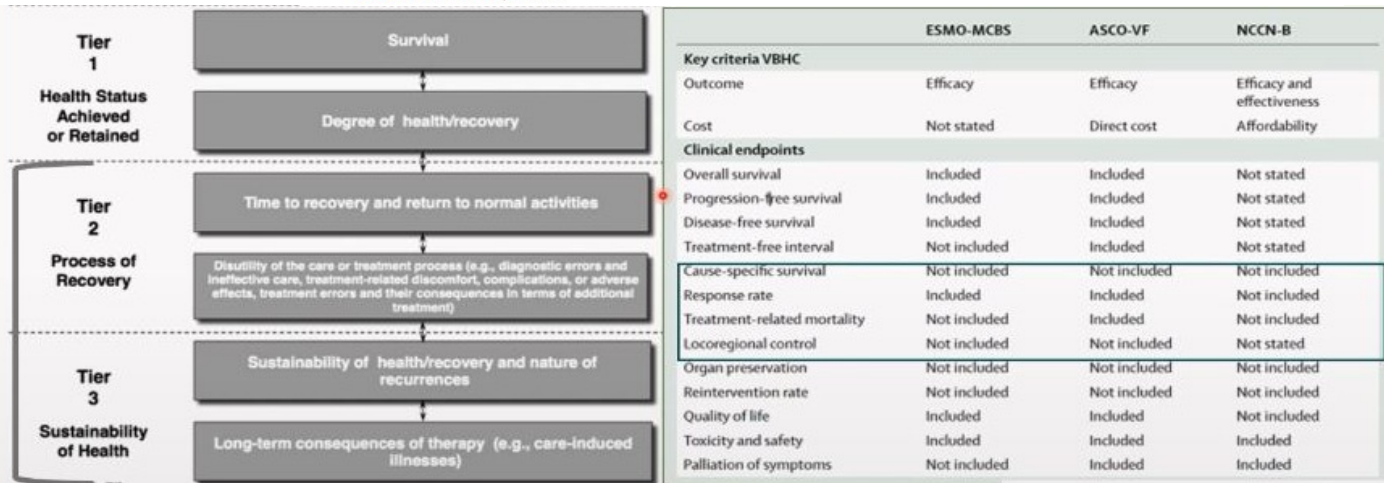




The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE Perspective DECEMBER 23, 2010

What Is Value in Health Care?

Michael E. Porter, Ph.D.



Porter M. N Engl J Med 2010
Lievens et al, Lancet Oncol 2019



Towards an evidence-informed value scale for surgical and radiation oncology: a multi-stakeholder perspective

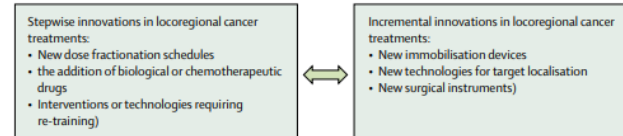


Yolande Lievens, Riccardo Audisio, Ian Banks, Laurence Collette, Cai Grau, Kathy Oliver, Richard Price, Ajay Aqgarwal

	ESMO-MCBS	ASCO-VF	NCCN-B
Key criteria VBHC			
Outcome	Efficacy	Efficacy	Efficacy and effectiveness
Cost	Not stated	Direct cost	Affordability
Clinical endpoints			
Overall survival	Included	Included	Not stated
Progression-free survival	Included	Included	Not stated
Disease-free survival	Included	Included	Not stated
Treatment-free interval	Not included	Included	Not stated
Cause-specific survival	Not included	Not included	Not included
Response rate	Included	Included	Not included
Treatment-related mortality	Not included	Included	Not included
Locoregional control	Not included	Not included	Not stated
Organ preservation	Not included	Not included	Not included
Reintervention rate	Not included	Not included	Not included
Quality of life	Included	Included	Not included
Toxicity and safety	Included	Included	Included
Palliation of symptoms	Not included	Included	Included

ESMO-MCBS=European Society for Medical Oncology Magnitude of Clinical Benefit Scale. ASCO-VF=American Society of Clinical Oncology Value Framework. NCCN-B=National Comprehensive Cancer Network Blocks. VBHC=value-based health care.

Type of intervention



Level of evidence

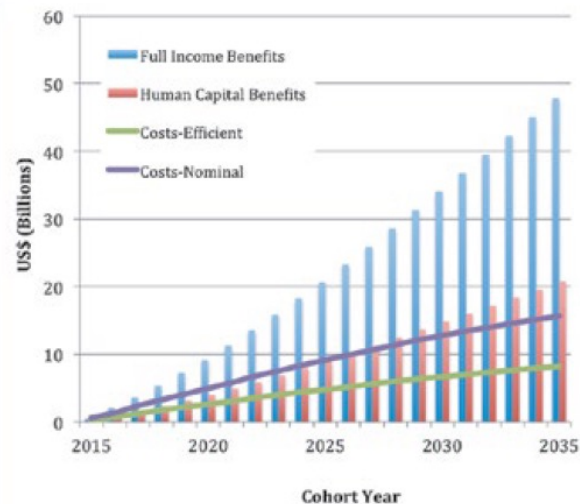


Intent of the intervention

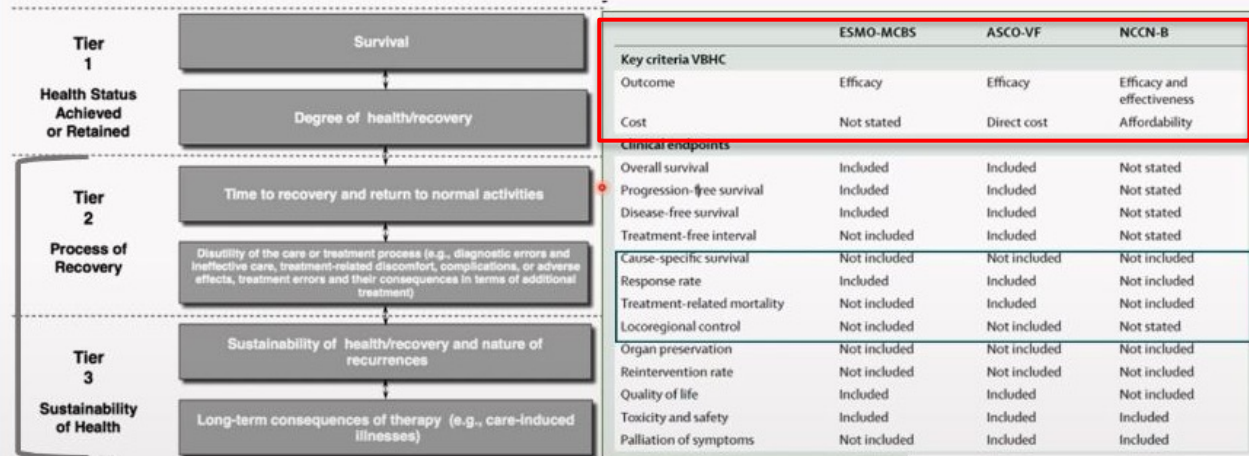
Curative Non-curative

Core set of endpoints





value-based healthcare as a tool to keep care accessible and sustainable - *outcomes*



Porter M. *N Engl J Med* 2010
Lievens et al, *Lancet Oncol* 2019



Molecular Oncology

REVIEW

Molecular Oncology **14** (2020) 1461–1469 © 2020

Provision and use of radiotherapy in Europe

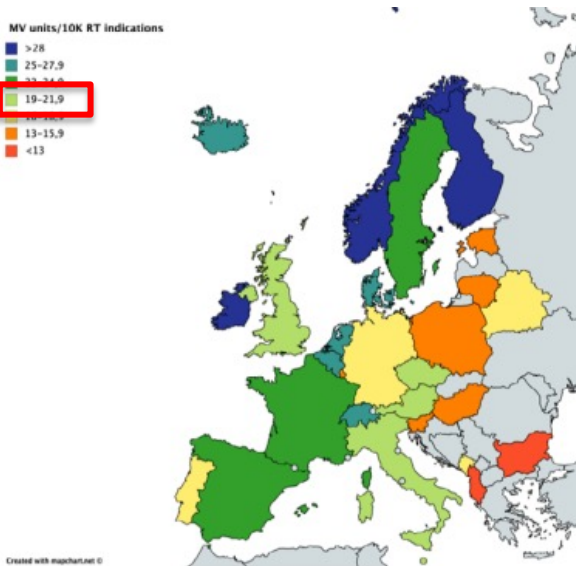
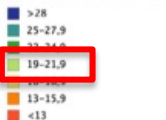
Yolande Lievens¹ , Josep M. Borrás² and Cai Grau³ 

MV units/million inhabitants



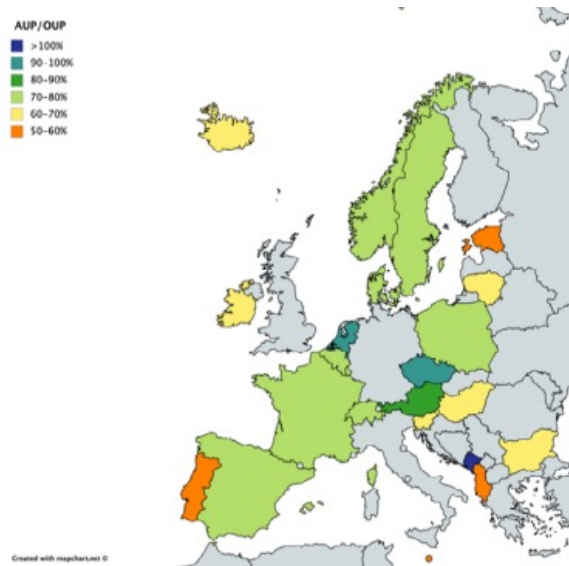
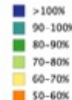
Created with mapchart.net ©

MV units/10K RT indications



Created with mapchart.net ©

AUP/OUP

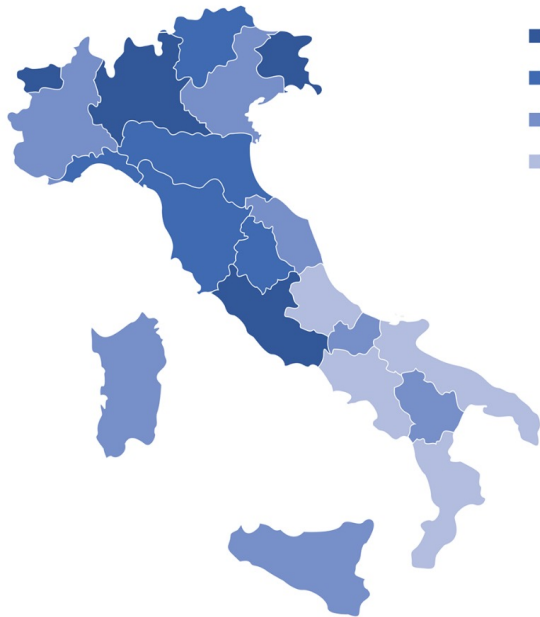


Created with mapchart.net ©

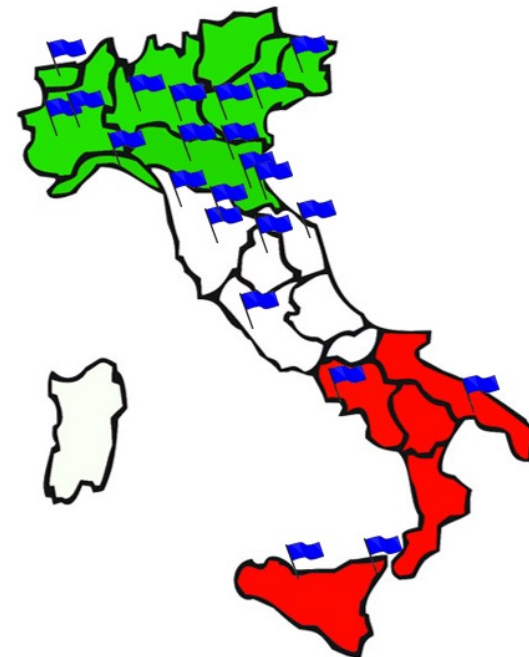


LINAC

apparecchiature per radioterapia/1.000.000 abitanti



TOMO



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Radioterapia Oncologica:
l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti



Di seguito, è stato analizzato l'andamento di quattro specializzazioni tra quelle più carenti

Scuola di specializzazione	Banditi			Immatricolati			
	2022	2023	Totale	2022	2023	Totale	%
Medicina d'emergenza	886	945	1831	356	228	584	31%
Microbiologia	131	121	252	19	13	32	12%
Patologia Clinica	251	251	502	68	36	104	20%
Radioterapia	155	181	336	41	23	64	19%



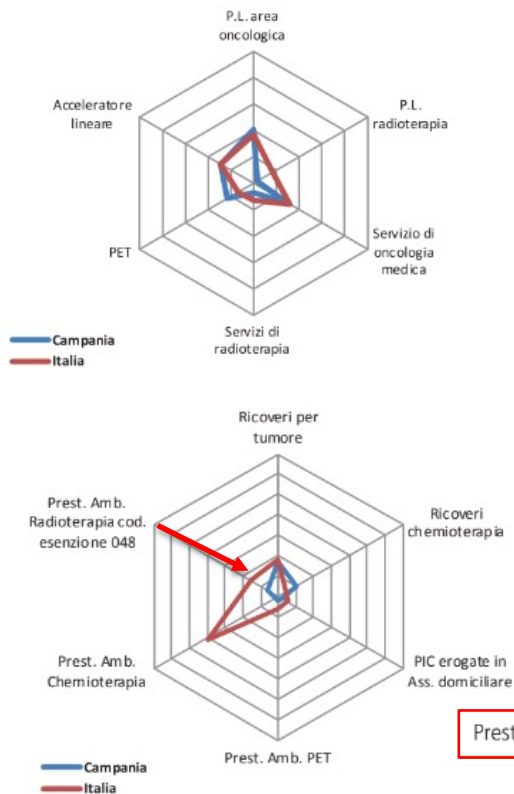
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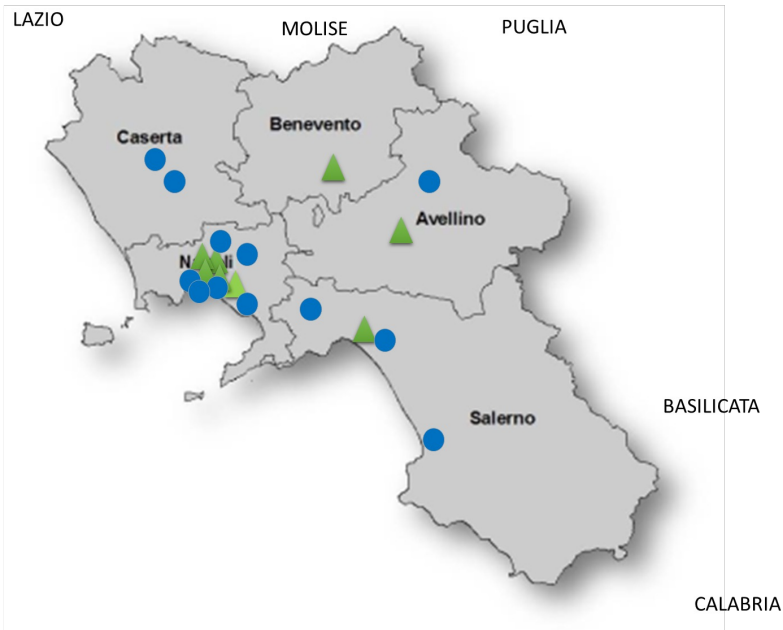


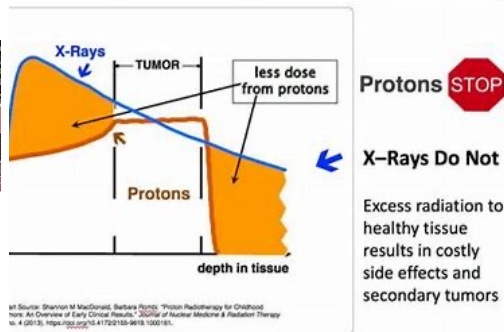
15° Rapporto sulla
condizione assistenziale
dei malati oncologici

31. Le finestre regionali



Prest. Amb. Radioterapia cod. 048 per 100 Ab.	3,27	7,62
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Come accedere al trattamento adroterapico | Iter e regolamentazione (fondazionecnao.it)
Valutazione e accesso alla terapia protonica - Protonterapia Trento (provincia.tn.it)

Come accedere ad un trattamento di adroterapia?

CNAO, Centro Nazionale di Adroterapia Oncologica, è l'unico centro in Italia, insieme ad altri soli cinque nel mondo, in grado di erogare adroterapia sia con protoni che con ioni carbonio (adroni).

I cittadini italiani possono accedere al trattamento tramite il **Servizio Sanitario Nazionale (SSN)** oppure in **regime di solvenza**.

Accesso tramite il Sistema Sanitario Nazionale

Per accedere al trattamento tramite il Sistema Sanitario Nazionale è necessario **inviare a CNAO la propria documentazione clinica**, che sarà sottoposta ad una valutazione preliminare dal nostro team multispecialistico. La documentazione può essere inviata per **posta** oppure direttamente **dal nostro sito**. Di seguito le indicazioni.

CONTINUA A LEGGERE

Accesso in regime di solvenza

Per accedere al trattamento in regime di solvenza è necessario prendere contatto con l'**Ufficio Accettazione di CNAO**.

Il personale fornirà i dettagli per poter inviare la documentazione clinica necessaria alla valutazione preliminare. Di seguito le indicazioni.

CONTINUA A LEGGERE

COME ACCEDERE ALLE PRESTAZIONI

La **protonterapia** è una tipologia di trattamento dei tumori che l'Azienda Provinciale per i Servizi Sanitari della Provincia Autonoma di Trento mette a disposizione dei pazienti autorizzati dai rispettivi Servizi Sanitari di appartenenza.

La richiesta di valutazione per un eventuale **trattamento di protonterapia** può essere inoltrata **dal medico curante, da uno specialista o dal paziente stesso** alla Segreteria dell'Unità Operativa di Protonterapia con le seguenti modalità:

- > compilando il [form on line](#)
- > telefonando (dal lunedì al venerdì dalle 8.30 alle 16.00) ai numeri:
 - > 0461 1953100
 - > 0461 1953101
 - > 0461 1953115
- > inviando una e-mail all'indirizzo: protonterapia@apss.tn.it;
- > rivolgendosi direttamente all'**Unità Operativa di Protonterapia**, in via Al Desert n. 14, negli orari di apertura della segreteria.

La **segreteria dell'Unità Operativa** si occuperà di contattare il richiedente, di fornire le indicazioni in merito alla documentazione sanitaria necessaria ai fini della valutazione del caso clinico, di comunicare l'esito della valutazione e, in caso di accettazione, di fissare l'appuntamento per la prima visita.

La documentazione ricevuta non verrà restituita.

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Protoni



Radioterapia Oncologica:
l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti

Clinical Oncology 35 (2023) e528–e536



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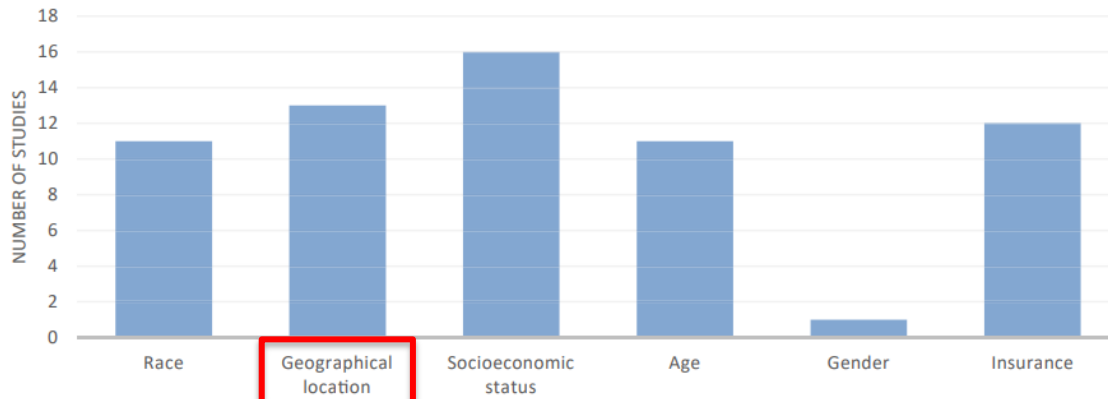
journal homepage: www.clinicaloncologyonline.net



Overview

Assessing Equity of Access to Proton Beam Therapy: A Literature Review

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K.J. Kirkby^{††}, S. Pan[‡], G. Whitfield^{††}, E. Smith^{*††}



Access to Radiation Therapy: From Local to Global and Equality to Equity

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CARLO LEVI
CRISTO
SI È FERMATO A EBOLI

Saggi introduttivi di Italo Calvino e Jean-Paul Sartre

