

SUBJECTIVE AND OBJECTIVE DEGLUTITION OUTCOMES AFTER SWALLOWING (SWOARS)-SPARING IMRT IN HEAD AND NECK CANCERS: DEFINITIVE RESULTS FROM A PROSPECTIVE MULTICENTER STUDY ENDORSED BY THE HEAD AND NECK STUDY GROUP (HNSG) OF THE ITALIAN ASSOCIATION OF RADIOTHERAPY AND CLINICAL ONCOLOGY (AIRO)

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Stefano Ursino declares the following conflicts of interest:

- Travel and Congress grants (Merck Serono; Astra Zeneca)
- Congress and courses support grants (Merck Serono; Nestlè; Kyowakirin)
- Meeting Honoraria (Cliningen Specialty Pharmaceuticals)

Radioterapia Oncologica: l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazient

COMPLETED 1

Dysphagia Assessment After Swallowing Sparing RadioTherapy (DASRT)

ClinicalTrials.gov ID 1 NCT03448341

AIRO HN Study Group

Sponsor 1 Azienda Ospedaliero, Universitaria Pisana

Information provided by 1 Stefano Ursino, MD, Azienda Ospedaliero, Universitaria Pisana (Responsible Party)

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Participating centers

- Pisa (Promoting center)
- Roma Policlinico Umberto I
- Torino Le Molinette
- Firenze Careggi
- Lucca
- Verona Negrar





Endpoints of the Study

Primary aim

To assess the variations of MDADI, FEES and VFS scores from baseline to 6 and 12 months after treatment

Secondary aim

- 1. To correlate **swallowing-related QoL** (MDADI scores) with **objective swallowing function** (FEES and VFS scores) results
- 2. To correlate RT dose received by the different SWOARs with the variations of clinical (MDADI) and instrumental (FEES and VFS) scores



Materials and Methods

Inclusion Criteria	Esclusion Criteria
Primary subsite Nasopharynx and Oropharynx	Primary subsite different from Nasopharynx and Oropharynx
Stage (7° TNM Ed.)	
Nasoparynx II-III (T1N2; T2a-bN2; T3N0-2) Oropharynx III (T1-2N1; T3N0-1) IVA (T1N2; T2-3N2; T4aN0-2)	Nasopharynx IV (T4 ogni N; ogni T N3;M1) Oropharynx IVB (T4b ogni N; ogni T N3) IVC (M1)
ECOG Status 0-2	ECOG Status 3
Age <75 <u>yrs</u>	Age≥ 75 anni
Cisplatin-based Radiochemotherapy (100mg/mq triweekly o 40 mg/mq weekly)	Prior induction chemotherapy
	Prior head and neck oncologic surgery
	Prior radiotherapy on head and neck region
	Concomitant disease that might affect swallowing function (es.Multiple sclerosis; Amyotrophic Lateral Scierosis; Connective disease)

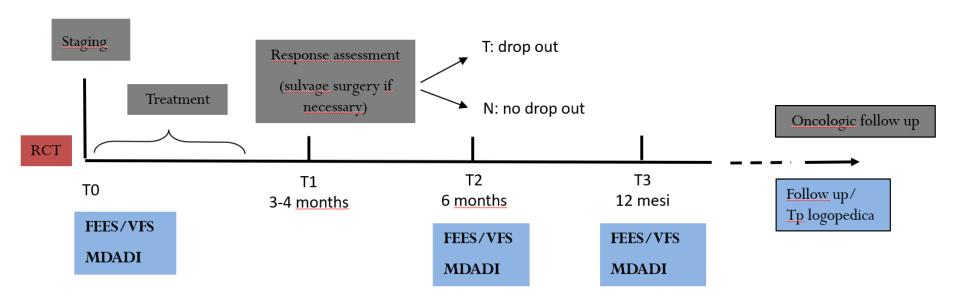
Radioterapia Oncologica: l'evoluzione al servizio dei pazienti

Materials and Methods

FEES VFS MDADI score •≥80 Optimal **l**/Poor» **SUBJECTIVE OBJECTIVE OUTCOMES OUTCOMES** (SWALLOWING-RELATED QoL) (SWALLOWING FUNCTION) Pharyngear Kesidue Penetration/Aspiration **MCID** (PR-Score) (Minimal Clinical Interest Difference) 0-1: Normal 0: Absence 2-5: Penetration 10 points 1: Mild 6-8: Aspiration (Hutcheson et al. Laryngoscope 2016) 2: Moderate 3: Severe



Flow Chart



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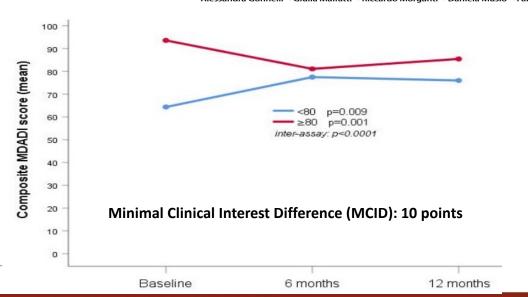
https://doi.org/10.1007/s00455-022-10434-4

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Patient-Reported Outcomes After Swallowing (SWOARs)-Sparing IMRT in Head and Neck Cancers: Primary Results from a Prospective Study Endorsed by the Head and Neck Study Group (HNSG) of the Italian Association of Radiotherapy and Clinical Oncology (AIRO)

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OPTIMAL GROUP

Statistically significant but **NOT CLINICALLY**

RELEVANT WORSENING of MDADI-C score

ADEQUATE/POOR GROUP

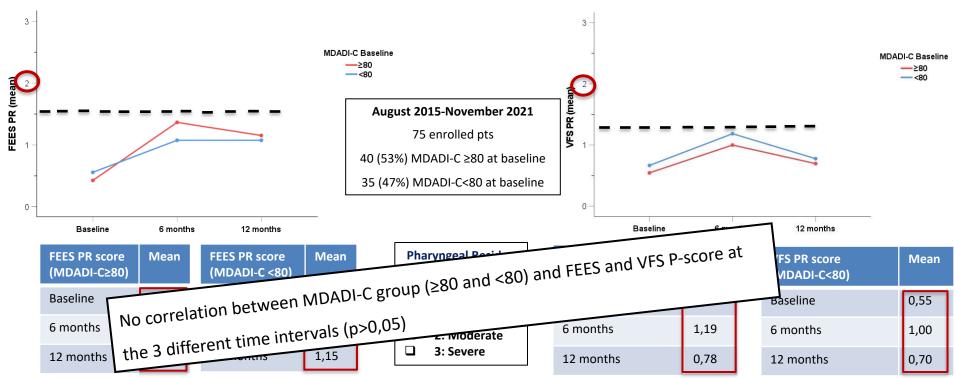
Both statistically significant and **CLINICALLY**

RELEVANT IMPROVEMENT of MDADI-C score

AIRO2023

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Results

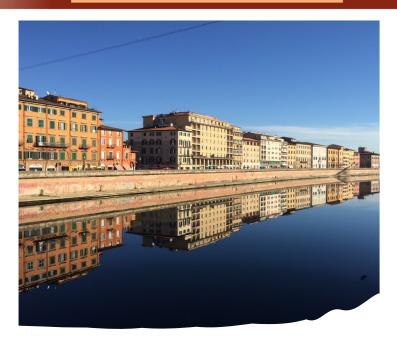




Conclusions

- Doubly clinical benefit of SWOARs-sparing IMRT: recovery from cancer-related dysphagia (MDADI-C <80) and reduction of radiation sequalae (MDADI-C≥80) and (Ursino et al. Dysphagia 2023)
- ➤ Swallowing function preservation of SWOARs-sparing IMRT: low objective scores after treatment both in MDADI-C ≥80 and in MDADI-C<80 pts group
- Lack of correlation between SUBJECTIVE and OBJECTIVE deglutition outcomes: referred post-radiation dysphagia (PROs) is likely not to be associated to functional deglutition impairment rather to persistence of inflammation of SWOARs





Thanks for your attention

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