

# **EVIDENCE AND PRACTICE CHANGING TREATMENTS IN HEAD AND NECK TUMORS**

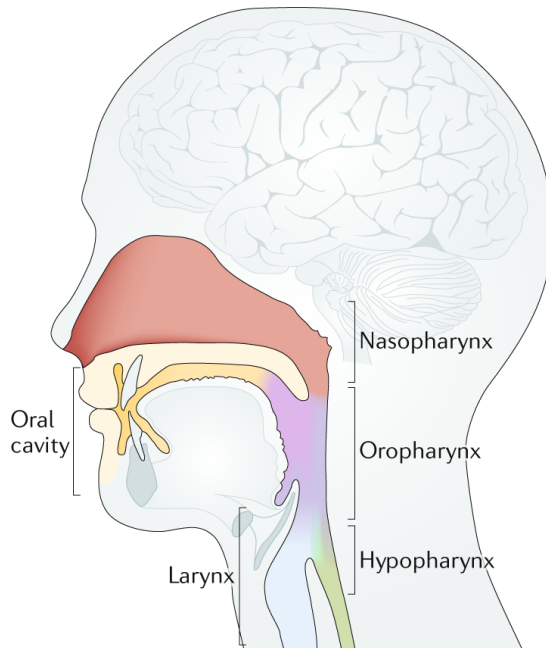
**D. Alterio<sup>1</sup> and L. Belgioia<sup>2</sup>**

**1 Istituto Europeo di Oncologia, Milano**

**2 Università degli Studi di Genova, IRCCS Ospedale Policlinico San Martino**

## Agenda

- Head and Neck cancer – overview
- Oropharyngeal cancer
- Nasopharyngeal cancer**
- Oral cavity cancer
- Laryngeal Cancer
- Focus on Protontherapy



## Role of chemotherapy in patients with nasopharynx carcinoma treated with radiotherapy (MAC-NPC): an updated individual patient data network meta-analysis

	Overall survival (primary endpoint)	Progression-free survival	Locoregional progression	Distant progression	Nasopharynx cancer death	Non-nasopharynx cancer death
Treatment data	28 trials; 36 comparisons; 8214 patients; 3073 events	28 trials; 36 comparisons; 8214 patients; 3694 events	24 trials; 32 comparisons; 7239 patients; 1170 events	24 trials; 32 comparisons; 7239 patients; 1481 events	25 trials; 33 comparisons; 7498 patients; 2217 events	25 trials; 33 comparisons; 7498 patients; 457 events
Concomitant chemoradiotherapy	1 (ref); 46%	1 (ref); 33%	1 (ref); 28%	1 (ref); 39%	1 (ref); 47%	1 (ref); 38%
Induction chemotherapy with taxanes followed by chemoradiotherapy	0.75 (0.59-0.96); 92%	0.72 (0.58-0.89); 89%	0.82 (0.55-1.24); 58%	0.66 (0.47-0.93); 87%	0.70 (0.53-0.91); 94%	1.11 (0.53-2.34); 33%
Induction chemotherapy without taxanes followed by chemoradiotherapy	0.81 (0.69-0.95); 87%	0.72 (0.63-0.83); 82%	0.79 (0.62-1.00); 67%	0.65 (0.53-0.80); 91%	0.77 (0.64-0.92); 87%	0.80 (0.44-1.47); 62%
Chemoradiotherapy followed by adjuvant chemotherapy	0.88 (0.75-1.04); 72%	0.84 (0.72-0.98); 68%	0.80 (0.61-1.06); 63%	0.85 (0.68-1.06); 60%	0.87 (0.72-1.05); 71%	0.90 (0.53-1.51); 49%
Induction chemotherapy followed by radiotherapy	1.01 (0.83-1.22); 45.7%	0.89 (0.75-1.06); 55%	0.96 (0.73-1.27); 24%	0.78 (0.57-1.07); 70%	1.04 (0.82-1.31); 41%	1.14 (0.49-2.63); 30%
Induction chemotherapy followed by radiotherapy followed by adjuvant chemotherapy	1.15 (0.76-1.75); 28%	1.10 (0.77-1.57); 24%	0.62 (0.35-1.10); 80%	1.54 (0.92-2.56); 7%	1.15 (0.74-1.78); 30%	0.94 (0.16-5.67); 48%
Radiotherapy followed by adjuvant chemotherapy	1.22 (0.88-1.68); 18%	1.01 (0.73-1.39); 36%	0.75 (0.43-1.32); 75%	1.09 (0.67-1.76); 33%	1.22 (0.84-1.77); 22%	0.75 (0.34-1.64); 66%
Radiotherapy	1.26 (1.08-1.47); 11%	1.25 (1.09-1.44); 4%	1.13 (0.88-1.44); 5%	1.29 (1.03-1.61); 14%	1.34 (1.11-1.60); 8%	0.72 (0.43-1.22); 75%

- 28 trials
- 8214 patients
- 1988-2016

Petit C et al, Lancet Oncol 2023; 24: 611-23

## Summary

- 1- treatment modalities containing concomitant CRTT ranked better OS than methods without concomitant chemoradiotherapy
- 2- concomitant chemotherapy: ICH better than adjuvant chemotherapy or concomitant chemotherapy alone
- 3- ICH the greatest benefit for distant progression
- 4- adjuvant chemotherapy greatest benefit for locoregional progression
- 5- adverse events: the schedules containing more than one timing of chemotherapy generally resulted in more toxicity than the use of only one timing.

Petit C et al, Lancet Oncol 2023; 24: 611–23

Systematic Review

Efficacy and toxicities of elective upper-neck irradiation versus whole-neck irradiation of the uninvolved neck in patients with nasopharyngeal carcinoma: A meta-analysis

Xiaoxu Ding<sup>a,1</sup>, Xiangguo Cui<sup>a,1</sup>, Xiao Cui<sup>b,\*</sup>, Sai Wang<sup>b,\*</sup>



- 2 RCTs + 6 retrospective cohort studies (2005-2022)
- 2568 pts: 55,6% (1427) UNI vs 44,4% (1141) WNI

UNI:

- N0 (except RLN)-> elective irradiation to bilateral II, III, Va
- RLN positive, and unilateral cervical lymph node positive -> RT to whole neck on the involved side and to upper neck on the contralateral uninvolved side for patients with unilateral cervical LN involvement.

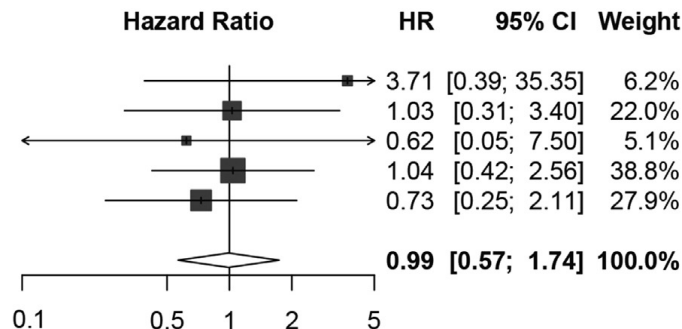
## Regional relapse-free survival

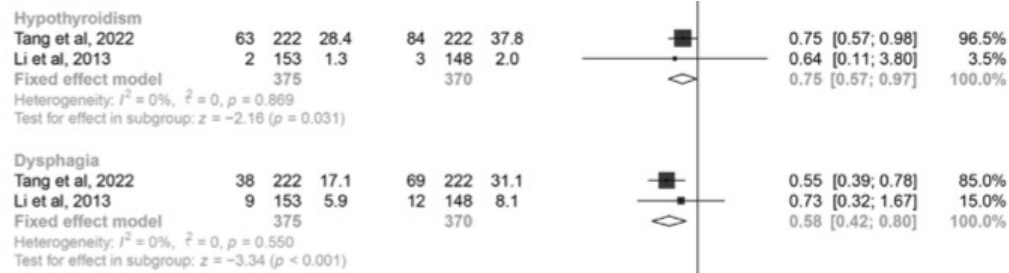
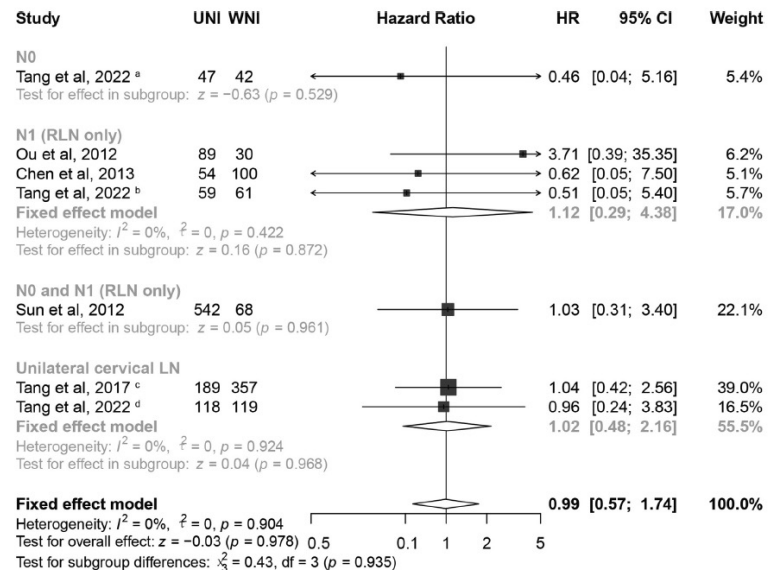
Study	UNI	WNI	Hazard Ratio	HR	95% CI	Weight
Ou et al, 2012	89	30		3.71	[0.39; 35.35]	6.2%
Sun et al, 2012	542	68		1.03	[0.31; 3.40]	22.0%
Chen et al, 2013	54	100		0.62	[0.05; 7.50]	5.1%
Tang et al, 2017	189	357		1.04	[0.42; 2.56]	38.8%
Tang et al, 2022	224	222		0.73	[0.25; 2.11]	27.9%

similar LC, DM and PFS between UNI and WNI

**Fixed effect model**

Heterogeneity:  $I^2 = 0\%$ ,  $\tau^2 = 0$ ,  $p = 0.775$   
 Test for overall effect:  $z = -0.03$  ( $p = 0.975$ )

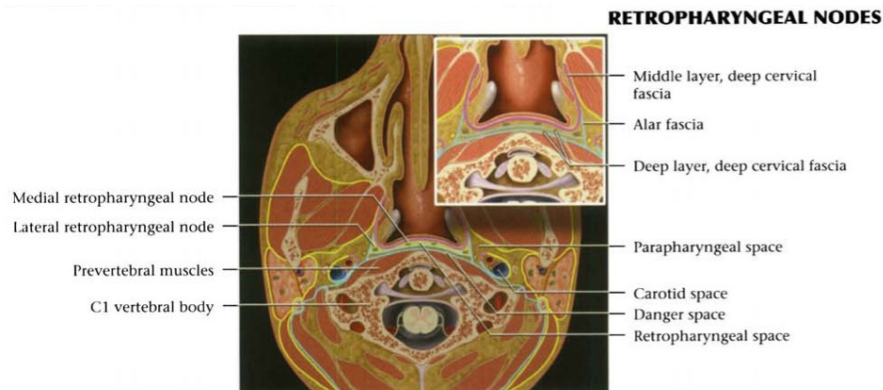




lower incidences: G1-2 hypothyroidism and G1-2 dysphagia for UNI vs WNI

UNI had similar efficacy and fewer toxicities compared with WNI for patients with unilateral or bilateral node-negative NPC

Medial retropharyngeal nodal region sparing radiotherapy versus standard radiotherapy in patients with nasopharyngeal carcinoma: open label, non-inferiority, multicentre, randomised, phase 3 trial



The MRLN lies between the pharyngeal constrictors and the prevertebral fascia near the midline

Inclusion criteria:

- non-keratinising NPC
- T1-4 N0-3 M0
- 18-65 years
- KPS>70

1 outcome: LRFS

2 outcomes: OS, DMFS, RRFs, acute and late toxic effects, and quality of life.

Low risk CTV:

- Standard RT group (283 pts): LRLN+MRLN regions from a base of the base of skull to the caudal border of hyoid bone or caudal border of C3
- MRLN sparing RT group (285 pts) : only the LRLN region

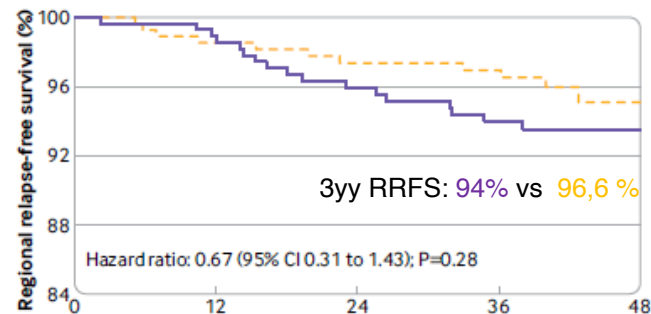
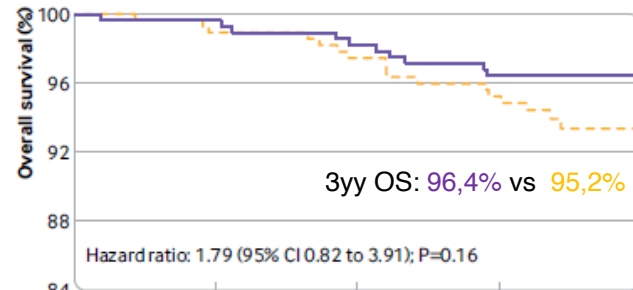
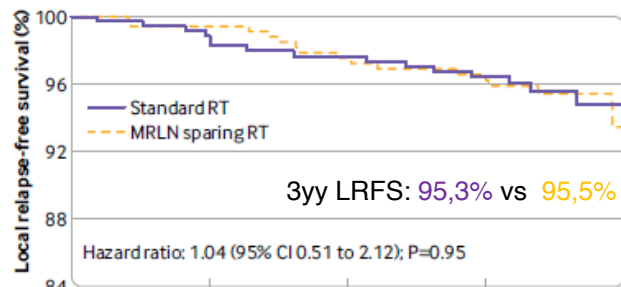
# HIGHLIGHTS in RADIOTERAPIA

Table 1 | Baseline characteristics. Data are number (percentage) unless otherwise stated

	MRLN sparing RT (n=285)	Standard RT (n=283)
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	215 (75.4)	209 (73.9)
Female	70 (24.6)	74 (26.1)
Median age (range), years	46 (19-64)	49 (23-65)
<b>Karnofsky performance score</b>		
70-80	9 (3.2)	8 (2.8)
90-100	276 (96.8)	275 (97.2)
<b>Histology</b>		
WHO II	0	3 (1.1)
WHO III	285 (100)	280 (98.9)
<b>Tumour category*</b>		
T1	26 (9.1)	26 (9.2)
T2	47 (16.5)	51 (18.0)
T3	129 (45.3)	133 (47.0)
T4	83 (29.1)	73 (25.8)
<b>Nodal category*</b>		
N0	23 (8.1)	25 (8.8)
N1	109 (38.2)	106 (37.5)
N2	106 (37.2)	96 (33.9)
N3	47 (16.5)	56 (19.8)
<b>Stage*</b>		
I	7 (2.5)	8 (2.8)
II	38 (13.3)	25 (8.8)
III	123 (43.2)	126 (44.5)
IVA	117 (41.1)	124 (43.8)
<b>Treatment modality†</b>		
RT	18 (6.3)	21 (7.4)
Concurrent chemoradiotherapy	96 (33.7)	90 (31.8)
IC+concurrent chemoradiotherapy	165 (57.9)	167 (59.0)
IC+RT	5 (1.8)	4 (1.4)
Pre-treatment Epstein-Barr virus DNA test‡	250 (87.7)	251 (88.7)
DNA <2000 copies per mL	147 (51.6)	154 (54.4)
DNA ≥2000 copies per mL	103 (36.1)	97 (34.3)
DNA (copies per mL), median (IQR)	1190 (271-7853)	1030 (388-6030)

CCRT=concurrent chemoradiotherapy; EBV=Epstein-Barr virus; IC=induction chemotherapy; IQR=interquartile

wide  
ranging  
eligibility  
criteria



Mao YP et al, BMJ 2023;380:e072133 |



**Table 2 | Acute and late toxicities related to radiation. Data are number (percentage), unless otherwise specified**

	MRLN sparing RT (n=282)				Standard RT (n=282)				P value for events grade ≥1	P value for events grade ≥3
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4		
<b>Any acute toxicities</b>										
Dermatitis	106 (37.6)	41 (14.5)	3 (1.1)	0	127 (45.0)	30 (10.6)	3 (1.1)	1 (0.4)	0.35*	>0.99*
Mucositis	55 (19.5)	106 (37.6)	28 (9.9)	2 (0.7)	34 (12.1)	144 (51.1)	43 (15.2)	4 (1.4)	0.001*	0.04*
Dry mouth	88 (31.2)	98 (34.8)	2 (0.7)	0	88 (31.2)	106 (37.6)	4 (1.4)	0	0.36*	0.68*
Dysphagia	34 (12.1)	34 (12.1)	4 (1.4)	0	51 (18.1)	39 (13.8)	9 (3.2)	0	0.01*	0.16*
Weight loss	100 (35.5)	31 (11.0)	1 (0.4)	0	63 (22.3)	95 (33.7)	5 (1.8)	0	0.009*	0.22*
Trismus	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.4)	0	0	>0.99†	—
Subcutaneous soft tissue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
<b>Any late toxicities†</b>										
Skin	63 (22.6)	8 (2.9)	0	0	56 (20.0)	22 (7.9)	0	0	0.52*	—
Neck tissue damage	48 (17.2)	22 (7.9)	0	0	52 (18.6)	20 (7.1)	4 (1.4)	0	0.58*	0.13*
Dysphagia	51 (18.3)	15 (5.4)	1 (0.4)	0	71 (25.4)	24 (8.6)	1 (0.4)	0	0.008*	>0.99*
Hoarseness	2 (0.7)	0	0	0	4 (1.4)	0	0	0	0.68*	—
Dry mouth	116 (41.6)	66 (23.7)	8 (2.9)	0	112 (40.0)	72 (25.7)	16 (5.7)	0	0.39*	0.10*
Trismus	11 (3.9)	3 (1.1)	0	0	13 (4.6)	6 (2.1)	0	0	0.38*	—
Auditory/hearing	108 (38.7)	21 (7.5)	4 (1.4)	0	107 (38.2)	40 (14.3)	8 (2.9)	0	0.07*	0.25*
Temporal lobe injury	18 (6.5)	1 (0.4)	0	0	24 (8.6)	0	0	0	0.43*	—

MRLN sparing region from elective RT volumes is a safe way for local control and effectively preserves swallowing function, which could benefit almost all patients with non-keratinising, nonmetastatic nasopharyngeal carcinoma.

Hyperfractionation compared with standard fractionation in intensity-modulated radiotherapy for patients with locally advanced recurrent nasopharyngeal carcinoma: a multicentre, randomised, open-label, phase 3 trial

SF: 60-60-54 Gy in 27 fx once a day vs  
Hyperfx: 65-65-54 Gy in 54 fx twice daily

Primary endpoints: severe ( $\geq$ G3) late complications and OS

	Hyperfractionation group (n=72)	Standard fractionation group (n=72)
144 pts enrolled		
(Continued from previous column)		
Recurrent T classification		
T2	5 (7%)	8 (11%)
T3	49 (68%)	47 (65%)
T4	18 (25%)	17 (24%)
Recurrent N classification		
N0	45 (63%)	42 (58%)
N1	20 (28%)	25 (35%)
N2	7 (10%)	5 (7%)
Recurrent stage		
II	5 (7%)	8 (11%)
III	49 (68%)	47 (65%)
IV	18 (25%)	17 (24%)
Median time from primary diagnosis to local recurrence, years	3.0 (1.9-5.2)	2.8 (1.6-4.9)
Radiotherapy technique in first treatment		
Two dimensional radiotherapy	14 (19%)	10 (14%)
Three dimensional radiotherapy	10 (14%)	14 (19%)
Intensity-modulated radiotherapy	43 (60%)	41 (57%)
Unknown	5 (7%)	7 (10%)

*You R et al, Lancet 2023; 401: 917-27*

# HIGHLIGHTS in RADIOTERAPIA

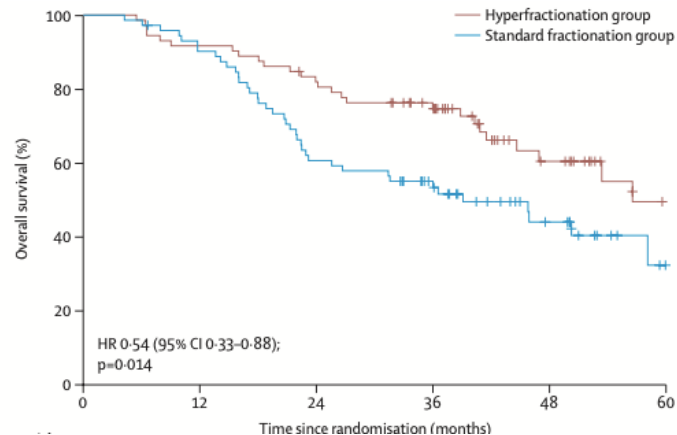
Gli Studi che hanno cambiato la pratica clinica:  
Novità 2023

	Hyperfractionation group (n=68)				Standard fractionation group (n=68)			
	Grade ≥3	Grade 1-2	Grade 3-4	Grade 5	Grade ≥3	Grade 1-2	Grade 3-4	Grade 5
Any late adverse events	23 (34%)	45 (66%)	18 (26%)	5 (7%)	39 (57%)	29 (43%)	23 (34%)	16 (24%)
Nasopharyngeal mucosal necrosis	15 (19%)	10 (15%)	13 (19%)	0	22 (32%)	13 (19%)	20 (29%)	2 (3%)
Nasal haemorrhage	5 (7%)	12 (18%)	0	5 (7%)	14 (21%)	14 (21%)	3 (4%)	11 (16%)
Eye disorders	4 (6%)	15 (22%)	4 (6%)	0	5 (7%)	23 (34%)	5 (7%)	0
Hearing impairment	15 (22%)	23 (34%)	15 (22%)	0	17 (25%)	30 (44%)	17 (25%)	0
Trismus	7 (10%)	27 (40%)	7 (10%)	0	10 (15%)	32 (47%)	10 (15%)	0
Dry mouth	1 (1%)	34 (50%)	1 (1%)	0	2 (3%)	28 (41%)	2 (3%)	0
Dysphagia	5 (7%)	23 (34%)	5 (7%)	0	8 (12%)	15 (22%)	8 (12%)	0
Skin reaction	0	18 (26%)	0	0	0	15 (22%)	0	0
Neck tissue damage	8 (12%)	11(16%)	8 (12%)	0	9 (13%)	10 (15%)	9 (13%)	0
Temporal lobe necrosis	7 (10%)	21 (31%)	7 (10%)	0	18 (26%)	21 (31%)	15 (22%)	3 (4%)

-23% G3 AEs

21% pts in the hyperfractionation group and 44%pts in the standard fractionation group died from late complications.

## Overall Survival:



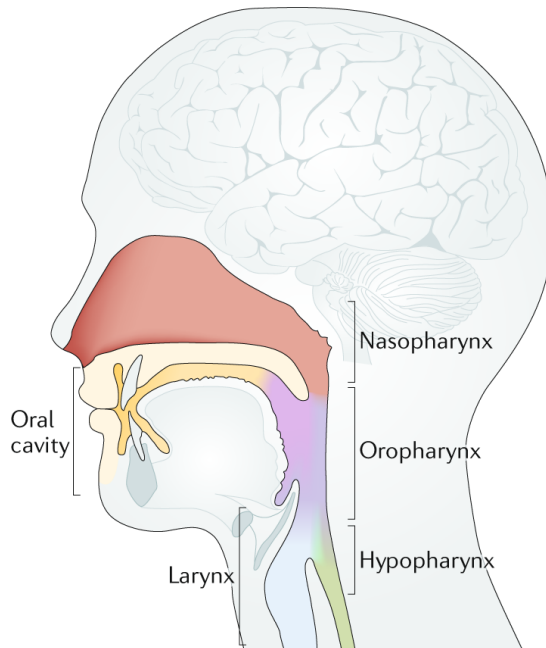
You R et al, Lancet 2023; 401: 917-27

## Take Home message: Nasopharyngeal cancer

- Role of chemotherapy
- Contouring: Medial RNF Nodes and Upper neck RT
- Recurrence: Hyperfractionation re-RT

## Agenda

- Head and Neck cancer – overview
- Oropharyngeal cancer
- Nasopharyngeal cancer
- Oral cavity cancer**
- Laryngeal Cancer
- Focus on Protontherapy



JAMA Otolaryngology–Head & Neck Surgery | **Original Investigation** | FROM THE AMERICAN HEAD AND NECK SOCIETY

## Oncologic Significance of Therapeutic Delays in Patients With Oral Cavity Cancer

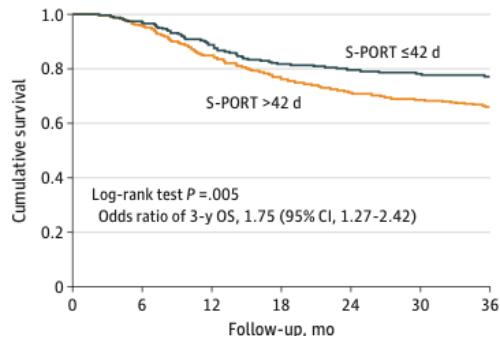
- Retrospective analysis: multicenter cohort of **1368** OCSCC pts
- 2005-2019
- Primary curative surgery
- Adjuvant RT or CTRT

1 Endpoint: OS

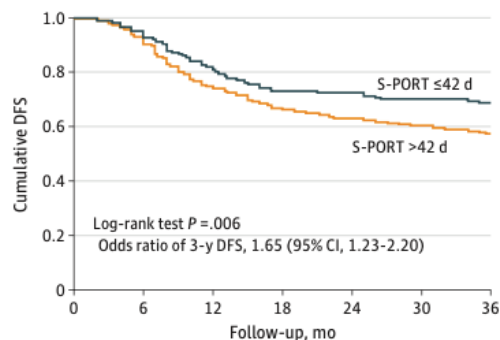
2 Endpoint: DFS

- Median overall S-PORT interval: 56 days
- 80% of patients initiated RT > 42 days after surgery
- Median RTI: 43 days
- 26% of pts had a prolonged RTI

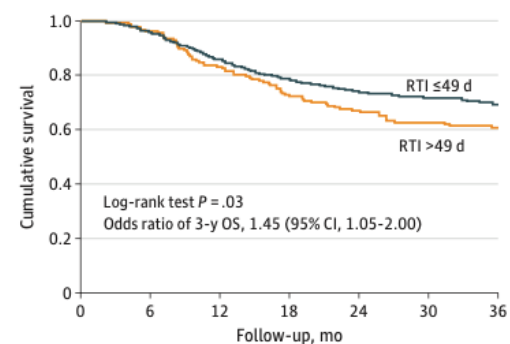
Dayan GS et al, *JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.* 2023;149(11):961-969



3yy OS: 66% vs 77% (S-PORT>42 d)



3 yy DFS: 57% vs 67% (S-PORT> 42d)



3yy OS: 57% vs 67% (RTI >49 d)

10% difference in 3-year OS between patients who completed S-PORT by 42 days and those who did not

- Retrospective nature
- Not pts restage to 8<sup>th</sup> ed TNM (DOI, ENE?)
- Not explore reasons for prolonged treatment times -> Critical importance of the postoperative period (postoperative complications and prolonged wound healing, delays in pathology reports...)

Long-term outcomes of neo-adjuvant chemotherapy on borderline resectable oral cavity cancers: Real-world data of 3266 patients and implications for clinical practice

Vanita Noronha<sup>a,1</sup>, Aditya Dhanawat<sup>a,1</sup>, Vijay Maruti Patil<sup>a,1</sup>, Nandini Menon<sup>a</sup>, Ajay Kumar Singh<sup>a</sup>, Pankaj Chaturvedi<sup>b</sup>, Prathamesh Pai<sup>b</sup>, Devendra Chaukar<sup>b</sup>, Sarbani Ghosh Laskar<sup>c</sup>, Kumar Prabhash<sup>a,\*</sup>

NACT x 2-3  
cycles (TF  
or TPF)

Radiologically  
re-evaluation

- Surgery + PORT
- CRTT
- Palliative CT

Treatment received after completion of NACT.

Treatment received	Number of patients (n = 2905)
Surgery + Adjuvant CRTT	873 (30.1%)
Surgery + Adjuvant RT	41 (1.4%)
Surgery alone	15 (0.5%)
Definitive CRTT	429 (14.8%)
Palliative Chemotherapy	1168 (40.2%)
Palliative Radiotherapy	242 (8.3%)
Best supportive care	87 (3%)
Defaulted	21 (0.7%)
Death	29 (1%)

- prospectively collected dataset of 3266 OCSCC
- 2008-2020
- Borderline resectable
- 1 Endpoint: OS

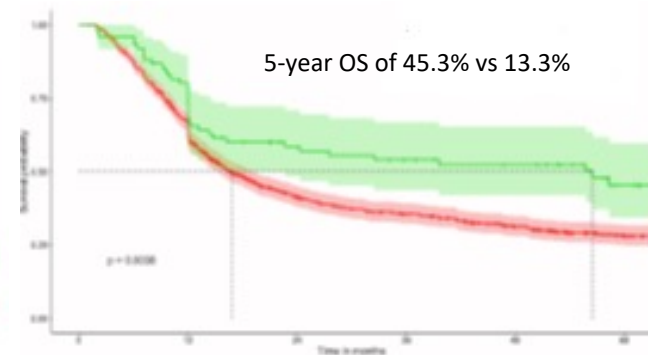
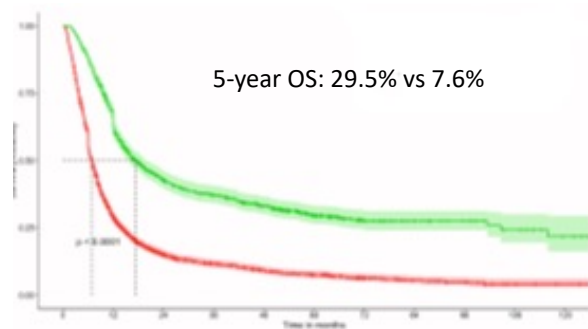
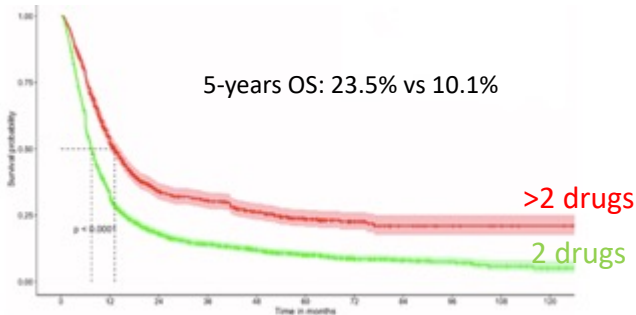
- Median f up: 52,6 months
- > 2 drugs NACT : 32,9%
- Response rate to NACT: 32,5%
- 46,8% pts received a curative treatment after NACT ( 32% Surgery – 14,8% CRTT)
- Surgery: 98,4% R0
- 8,2% pts pCR



2 drugs vs > 2 drugs

Surgery vs non surgery

pCR vs no pCR



## NACT

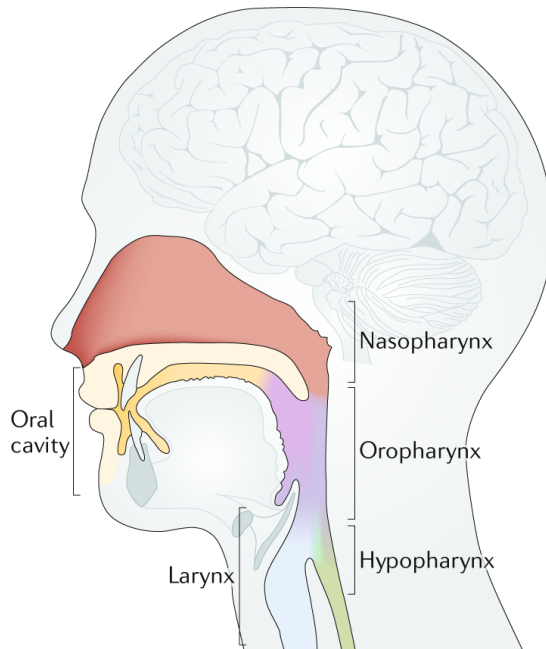
- improves resectability in upfront technically unresectable tumours
- leads to long term survival benefit (>2-drug regimen better than 2-drug regimen)
- Patients who achieve a CR/PR and undergo surgical resection post NACT have a significantly longer survival

## Take Home message: Oral Cavity

- Timing:
  - S-PORT interval impact on OS e DFS and RTI
- Intensification of treatment:
  - NACT in borderline resectable disease

## Agenda

- Head and Neck cancer – overview
- Oropharyngeal cancer
- Nasopharyngeal cancer
- Oral cavity cancer
- Laryngeal Cancer (early vs advanced)**
- Focus on Protontherapy

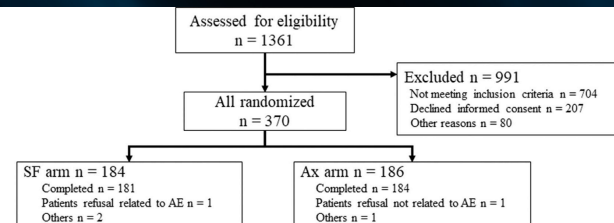


# HIGHLIGHTS in RADIOTERAPIA

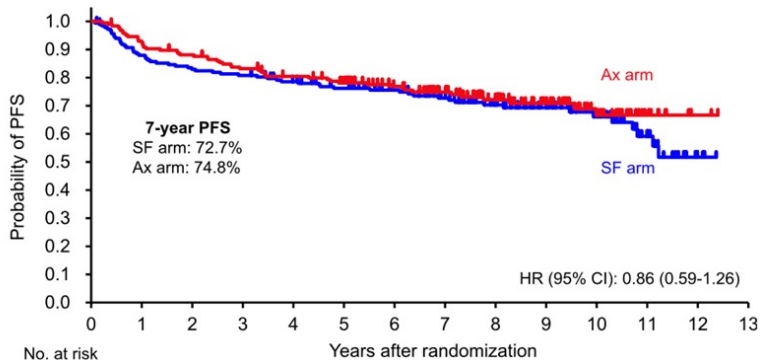
Gli Studi che hanno cambiato la pratica clinica:  
Novità 2023

**Long-Term Follow-up of a Randomized Controlled Trial on Accelerated Radiation Therapy Versus Standard Fractionated Radiation Therapy for Early Glottic Cancer (JCOG0701A3)**

T1/T2 lesions, N0, M0 disease  
2007- 2013  
1 endpoint: PFS



SF: 66/70 Gy for T1/T2    60/64.8 Gy in 2.4 Gy/fraction



Toxicity	SF					Ax				
	G1	G2	G3	G4	G2-4	G1	G2	G3	G4	G2-4
Bleeding: larynx	0.6	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0
Laryngeal edema	22.2	1.1	0	0.6	1.7	22.3	0.5	0	0	0.5
Pain: pharynx/larynx	5.5	2.2	0.6	0	2.7	8.7	0	0.5	0	0.5
Soft tissue necrosis: cervix	-	0	0	0.6	0.6	-	0.5	0	0	0.5
Lymphedema: skin	8.3	0.0	-	-	0	5.4	0	-	-	0
Induration	3.0	0.6	0	-	0.6	1.6	0.5	0	-	0.5
Voice change	45.1	9.3	0	0.0	9.3	45.9	4.9	0.5	0	5.4
CNSI	-	1.8	0.6	1.8	4.1	-	0.6	0.6	0	1.1
Any					2.7					7.6

≥ G2 Late Aes: 14,3% SF vs 7,6% Ax (p=0,045)

AX Arm show comparable efficacy to SF and a tendency for better safety

Kodaira T et al, Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys. 2023 Dec 1;117(5):1118-1124.

European Archives of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology (2023) 280:2911–2926  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00405-023-07871-8>

HEAD AND NECK



## Oncological and functional impact of adjuvant treatments after open partial laryngeal surgery: a systematic review of the literature and a meta-analysis

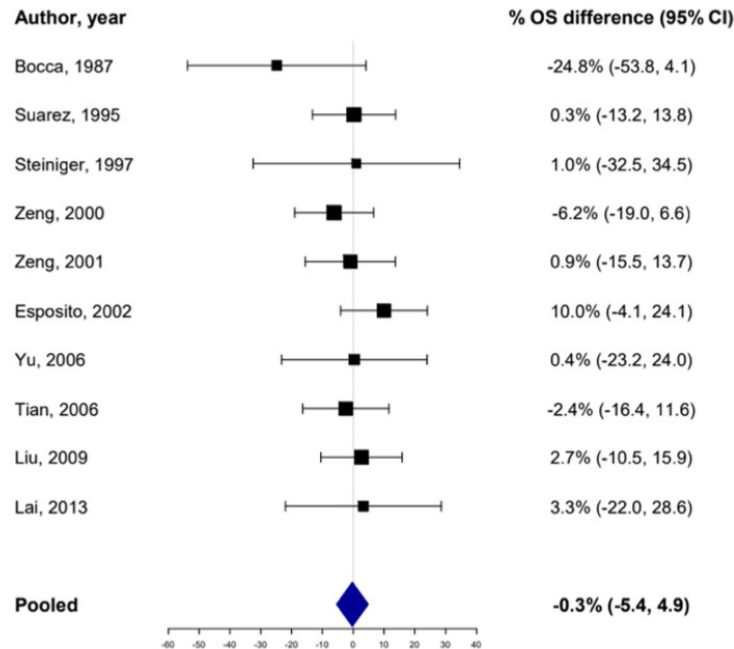
Luca Giovanni Locatello<sup>1,2,3</sup> · Serena Jiang<sup>1</sup> · Lixiao Chen<sup>3</sup> · Saverio Caini<sup>4</sup> · Giandomenico Maggiore<sup>1</sup> · Pin Dong<sup>3</sup> · Oreste Gallo<sup>1,5</sup>

1969-2010:

10 articles for a total of 1198 patients

- 40.9% (491) PORT

- 59.1% (707) without PORT



No OS difference for patients receiving or not PORT, but PORT group show a more advanced disease (worse prognosis) compared to those treated with surgery alone.

**Table 2** Complications related to PORT after OPLS (14)

Reference (year, country)	Sufficient oral intake (%)	Need of NGT/PEG (%)	Time of NGT (months)	Comparison between surgery alone vs. surgery + PORT
Costa et al. (2016, Italy) [16]	92	NA	NA	NA
Buglione et al. (2015, Italy) [17]	100	NA	NA	NA
Oksuz et al. (2008, Turkey) [20]	91.1	1.3	NA	NA
Bron et al. (2005, Switzerland) [12]	79	10.3	< 3	NA
Sessions et al. (2005, USA) [34]	78.2	7.9	NA	Overall 37.8% of complications in surgery + PORT and 38 in surgery alone ( $p = NS$ )
Laccourreye et al. (2000, France) [26]	94.5	2.2	NA	NA
Spriano et al. (2000, Italy) [11]	81	NA	NA	NA
Steiniger et al. (1997, USA) [27]	65	35	34.8	All surgery-alone patients were able to gain an adequate oral intake between 2 and 30 weeks, and none required permanent feeding gastrostomies Time to decannulation: PORT group 62.5% delayed decannulation (> 3 week), 43.7% delayed decannulation (> 3 months) VS surgery-alone group 33% delayed decannulation (> 3 week), 16.6% (> 3 months) ( $p = 0.32$ for 3 weeks and .13 for 3 months) Adequate oral intake (mean): PORT group after 34.8 weeks and surgery-alone group after 7.5 weeks ( $p = 0.20$ ) Delayed development of full oral intake > 3 weeks/> 3 months: PORT group 56.2%/31.2% VERSUS surgery-alone group 41.6%/25.0% ( $p = 0.18/0.52$ )
Naudo et al. (1997, France) [35]	91	2.5	NA	Time of decannulation between the irradiated and non irradiated groups
Gregor et al. (1996, South Africa) [36]	100	0	NA	PORT with or without bilateral neck dissection did not show an increase in postoperative morbidity
Wang et al. (1990, USA) [31]	91.7	20.8	NA	NA
Spaulding et al. (1989, USA) [37]	93.9	NA	NA	NA
Robbins et al. (1988, USA) [38]	32	8	NA	OPL versus OPL + PORT: aspiration in 33% VS 44%; weight loss (> 10% of body weight) in 0% VS 12%; NGT 0% VS 8%; pneumonia 0% VS 16%; tracheostomy 0% vs. 8%

Low level of evidence regarding the oncological role of PORT

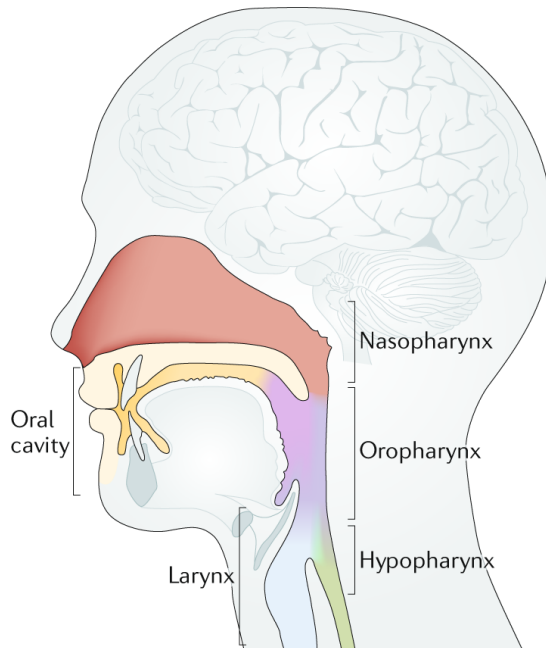
this holds also true for the functional complications of RT

## Take Home message: Laryngeal cancer

- Early stage: Ax schedule
- PORT

## Agenda

- Head and Neck cancer – overview
- Oropharyngeal cancer
- Nasopharyngeal cancer
- Oral cavity cancer
- Laryngeal Cancer
- Focus on Protontherapy**





Original Investigation | Oncology

## Evaluation of Proton Therapy Reirradiation for Patients With Recurrent Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma

242 pts PT-ReRT for recurrent/2 T HNSCC in a previously irradiated field (2013- 2020)

Subsequent treatment site, No. (%)	Characteristic	Finding (N = 242)
Pharyngeal mucosa	Reirradiation fractionation, No. (%)	
Oropharynx	Fractionated	154 (63.6)
Lip and oral cavity	Quad shot	88 (36.4)
Larynx or hypopharynx	Proton therapy treatment year, No. (%)	
Nasal cavity or paranasal sinus	2013	4 (1.7)
Nasopharynx	2014	27 (11.2)
Neck	2015	28 (11.6)
Neck	2016	49 (20.2)
Auricular region	2017	38 (15.7)
Skull base	2018	43 (17.8)
Orbit	2019	44 (18.2)
Cheek	2020	9 (3.7)
Scalp	Age at reirradiation, median (IQR), y	63 (55-71)
Salvage surgery, No. (%)	Prior irradiation dose, median (IQR), cGy	6996 (6214-7020)
No	Proton reirradiation dose, median (IQR), CGE	66.0 (44.4-70.0)
Yes	Fractionated reirradiation dose, median (IQR), CGE	70 (66-70)
Concurrent systemic treatment with reirradiation, No. (%)	Quad shot reirradiation dose, median (IQR), CGE	44.4 (18.5-44.4)
No	No. of cycles, median (IQR)	3 (1-3)
Yes	Interval between irradiation courses, median (IQR), mo	22 (11-69)
	Follow-up, median (IQR), mo	12.0 (5.8-26.0)
	Follow-up of living patients, median (IQR), mo	24.5 (13.8-37.8)

- Early toxicity: 73 were G3 toxic effects (2 G4 dysphagia and 4 G4 dermatitis)
- Late toxicity 79 were potential grade 3 toxic effects
- 5 potentially re Rt related G5 bleeding events.

Lee A et al, JAMA Network Open. 2023;6(1):e2250607

Table 3. Cox Proportional Hazards Model for Local Control of Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma

Variable	Univariate		Multivariate	
	HR (95% CI)	P value	HR (95% CI)	P value
Prior irradiation dose, cGy	1.00 (1.00-1.00)	.03	1.00 (1.00-1.00)	.12
Proton reirradiation dose, CGE	0.98 (0.96-0.99)	.004	0.97 (0.95-1.00)	.01
Interval between irradiation courses	1.00 (0.99-1.00)	.21	NA	NA
Smoking or tobacco use				
Never	1 [Reference]	NA	NA	NA
<10 pack-years	0.92 (0.42-2.02)	.82	NA	NA
≥10 pack-years	0.73 (0.44-1.21)	.22	NA	NA
Disease status at the time of irradiation				
Locoregional	1 [Reference]	NA	NA	NA
Distant metastases	1.59 (0.39-6.50)	.52	NA	NA
Salvage surgery				
No	1 [Reference]	NA	1 [Reference]	NA
Yes	0.42 (0.25-0.71)	.001	0.40 (0.22-0.74)	.003
Concurrent systemic treatment with reirradiation				
No	1 [Reference]	NA	NA	NA
Yes	0.79 (0.49-1.27)	.34	NA	NA
Reirradiation fractionation				
Fractionated	1 [Reference]	NA	1 [Reference]	NA
Quad shot	1.66 (1.01-2.73)	.046	0.56 (0.26-1.22)	.14

The 1-year LC:68.4%,  
1 year LC for fractionated reRT: 71.8%  
1-year OS for fractionated reRT: 66.6%

Single-institution, nonrandomized cohort, including challenges with medical record review and the availability of data

Difficult assessment of toxic effects -> many patients present with adverse effects from their first course of treatment

Thank  
you