

Essential Pillars to Advance Oncology Practice

Brian O'Sullivan

Bartley-Smith / Wharton Chair
Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology
The Princess Margaret / University of Toronto
Radiation Oncology Chair
United States NCI Head and Neck Steering Committee

15:00 ~ 15:25
20 May 2017

**Hong Kong
International Oncology
Forum 2017**

19 - 20 May 2017 JW Marriott Hotel Hong Kong

Advances in Precision Medicine
and Immuno-oncology










Conflict of Interest

- None

Translating the Science of Cancer into Practice
The Princess Margaret Hospital Cancer Program
Strategic Plan – 2008-2015

Strategic Plan Steering Committee

- Dr. Brian O'Sullivan, Chair, PMH Cancer Program Strategic Planning Initiative
- Dr. Mary Gospodarowicz, Medical Director, PMH Cancer Program
- Sarah Downey, Executive Director, PMH
- Dr. Benjamin Neel, Director, Ontario Cancer Institute
- Anna Greenberg, Director, Cancer Program Planning, PMH
- Grace Bugg and Sue Dallhoff, Principals, Strategic Leverage Consulting, Inc.



Princess Margaret Hospital
University Health Network

UHN Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

World Class Personalized Cancer Medicine
The Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

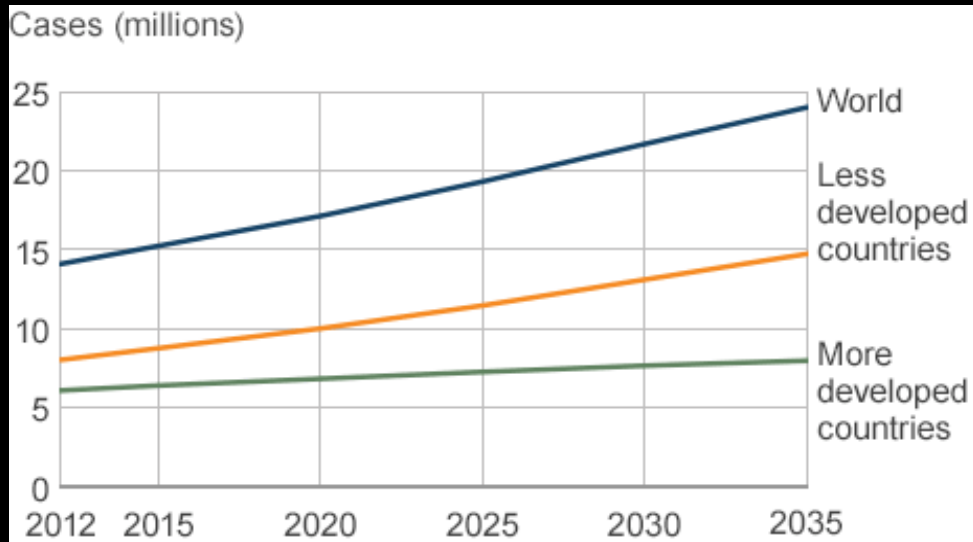
Strategic Plan Steering Committee

- Mary Gospodarowicz
- Marnie Escaf
- Roxana Sultan
- Brian O'Sullivan

Strategy 2013-2018

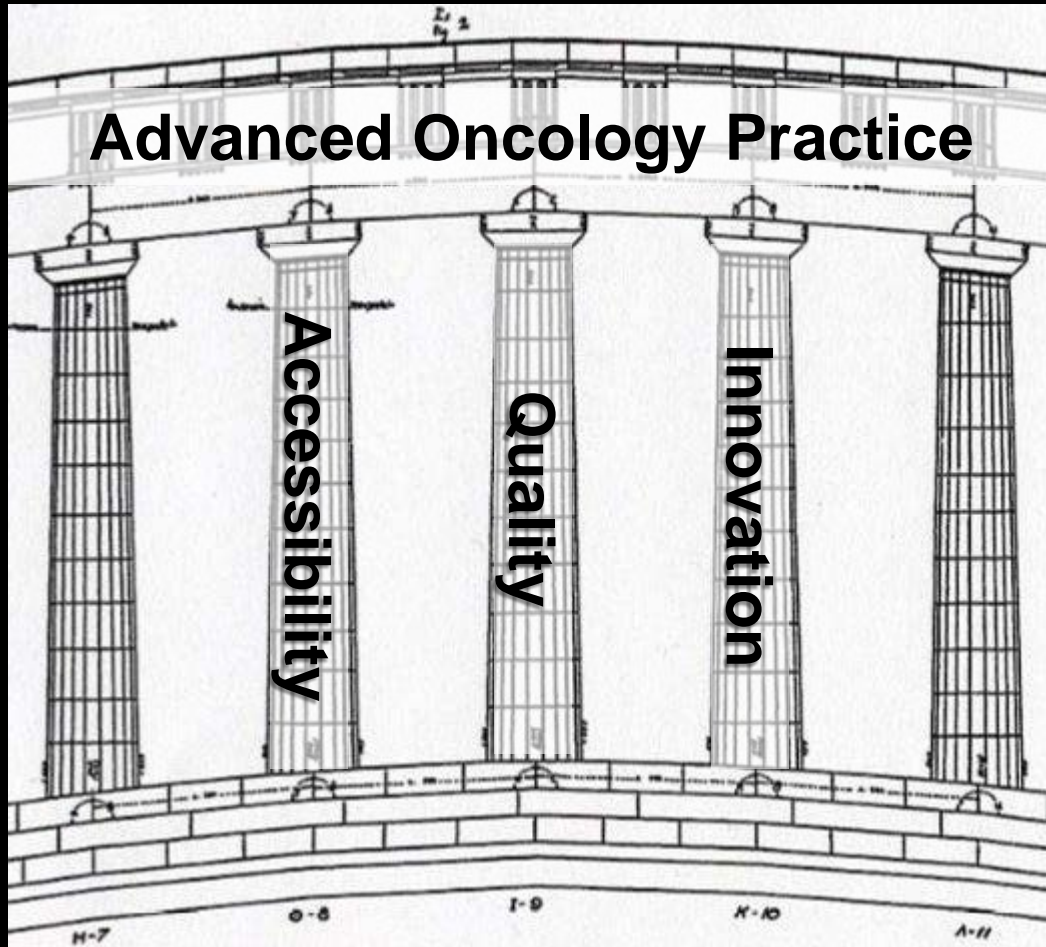


Princess Margaret Cancer Centre



- ## Challenges with cancer care:
- Rising volumes / costs
 - Safety and quality
 - Shortages of health human resources
 - Fragmented systems
 - Rising patient expectations

Essential Pillars to Achieve “Advanced Practice”



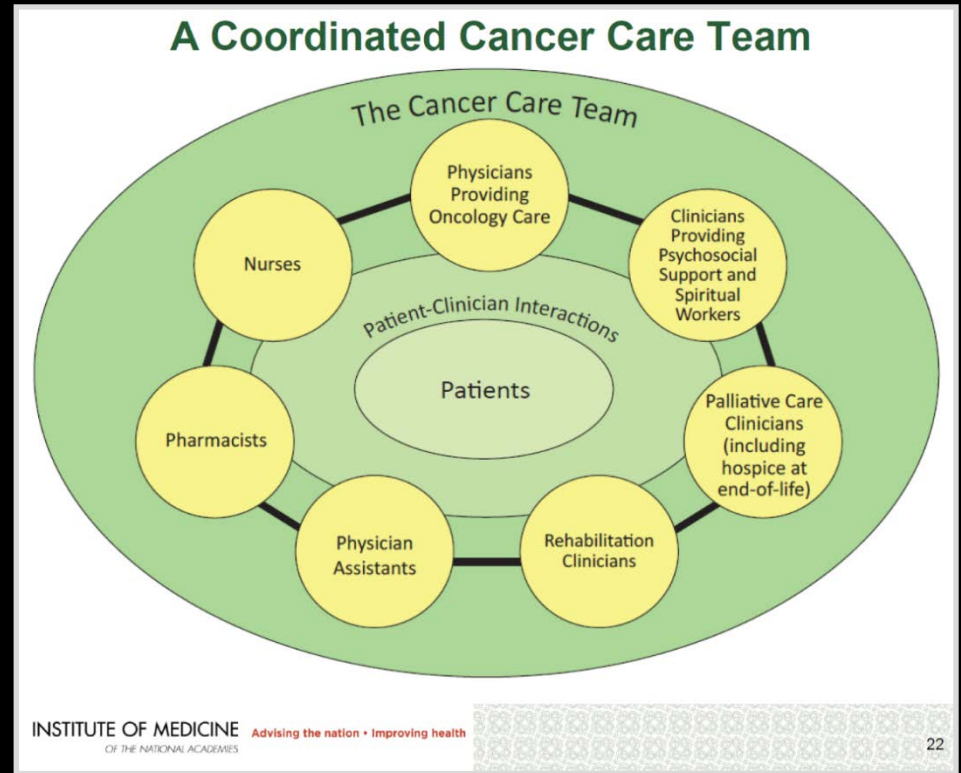
Stylobate: Fundamental Components of Cancer Care



- **Accessibility:**
 - Capacity
 - Affordability / Equity
 - Public awareness
- **Quality of care:**
 - Standards
 - Guidelines
 - Peer-reviewed QA
- **Innovation:**
 - Gathering information
 - Appraisal of evidence
 - Clinical trials
 - “Disciplined” new approaches

Fundamental Components of Cancer Care

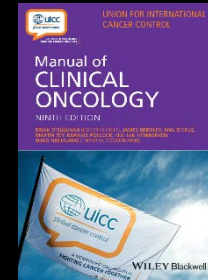
- **Diagnostic**
 - Laboratory/pathology
 - Imaging
- **Surgery**
- **Radiotherapy**
- **Chemotherapy**
- **Supportive care**
 - Psychosocial
 - Nutrition
 - Pain management
 - Others



Brian O'Sullivan, James Brierley and Mary Gospodarowicz

Department of Radiation Oncology, The Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada

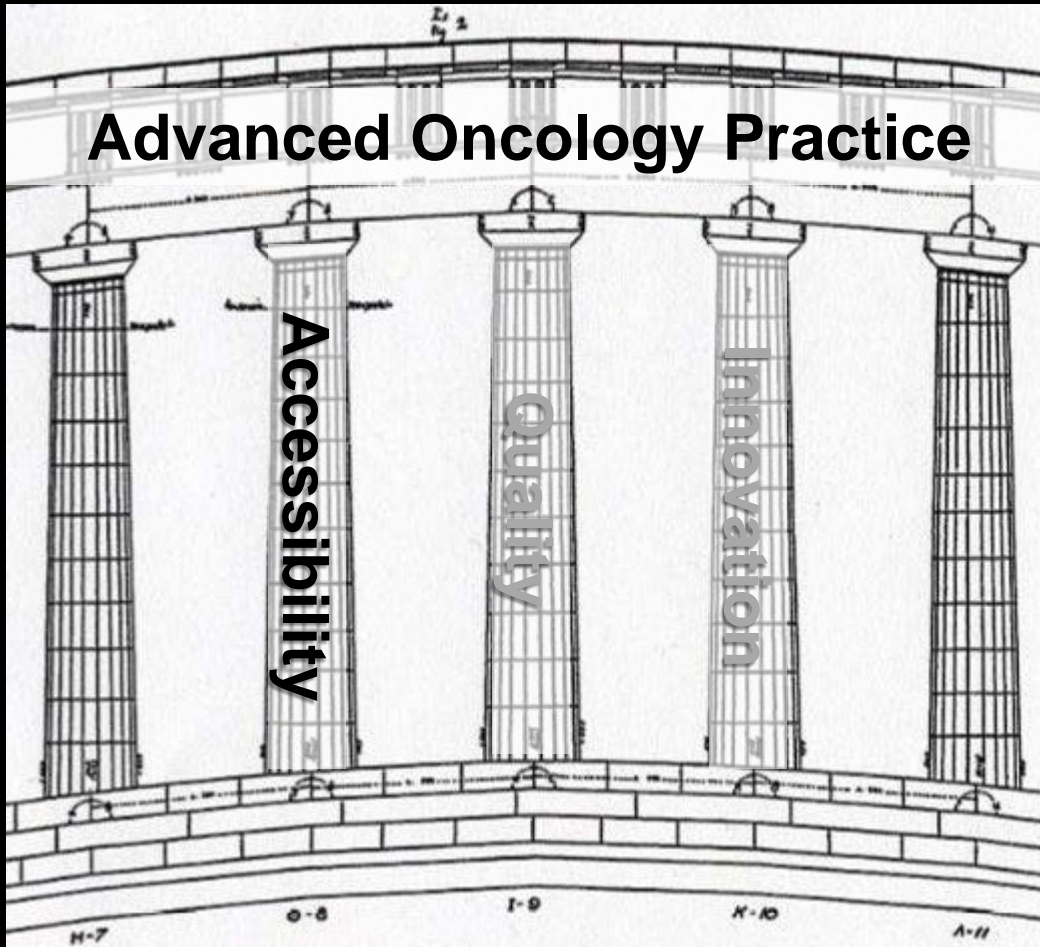
*O'Sullivan, Brierley,
Gospodarowicz
(MCO 9th ed, 2015)*



SETTING OR ENVIRONMENT FOR A PATIENT(S)

	Treatment	Education	Quality
Physician	Choice of physician or specialty: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of diagnosis • Accuracy of staging Choice of treatment Expertise of physician: 'narrow experts' Timeliness of treatment Ageism	Ignorance of medical profession Access to internet Knowledge, education of the patient Participation in clinical trials Participation in continuing education	Quality of treatment Skill of the physician Treatment verification
Healthcare system	Access to appropriate diagnostic methods Access to care: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distance • Waiting lists • Monopoly control of access to care Availability of publicly-funded screening programmes	Continuing medical education Lack of audit of local results Access to internet Development of practice guidelines Dissemination of new knowledge	Quality of equipment Quality management in treatment facility Maintenance of health records Availability of universal health insurance Quality of diagnostic services Implementation of screening programmes Promotion of an error-free environment
Society	Preference for unconventional therapies Socioeconomic status Appropriate geographical distribution of cancer centres Individual payment status Access to transportation, car, etc. Ageism	Literacy Access to information	Access to an affordable health programme Nutritional status of the population

Essential Pillar: Accessibility



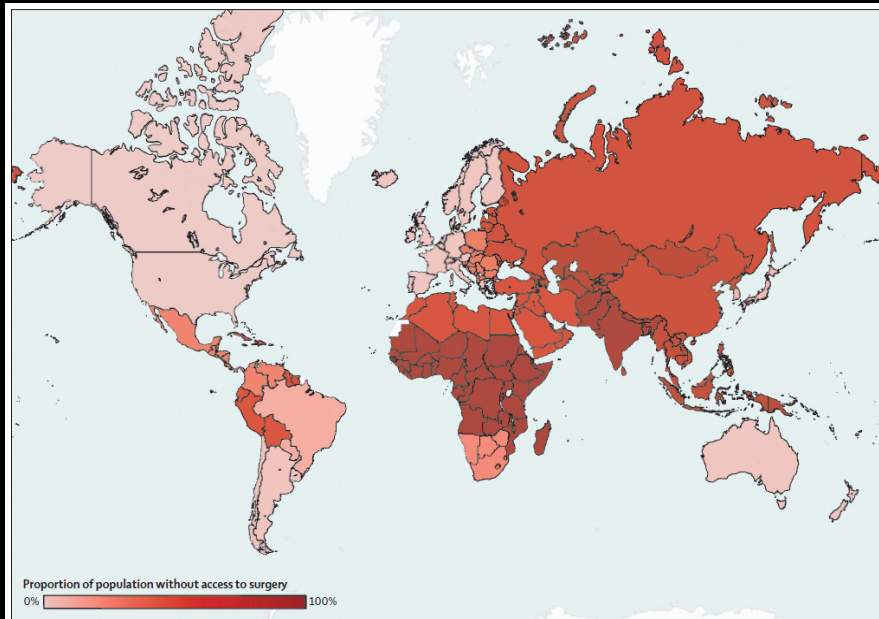
Stylobate: Fundamental Services for Cancer Care



- **Accessibility:**
 - **Capacity**
 - Closing equity gap ?
 - Training, Staffing, Facilities, Equipment
 - **Affordability**
 - Equitable health coverage
 - Good Value Health Care
 - **Public awareness**
 - Early diagnosis
 - Dispel myths
 - Advocacy

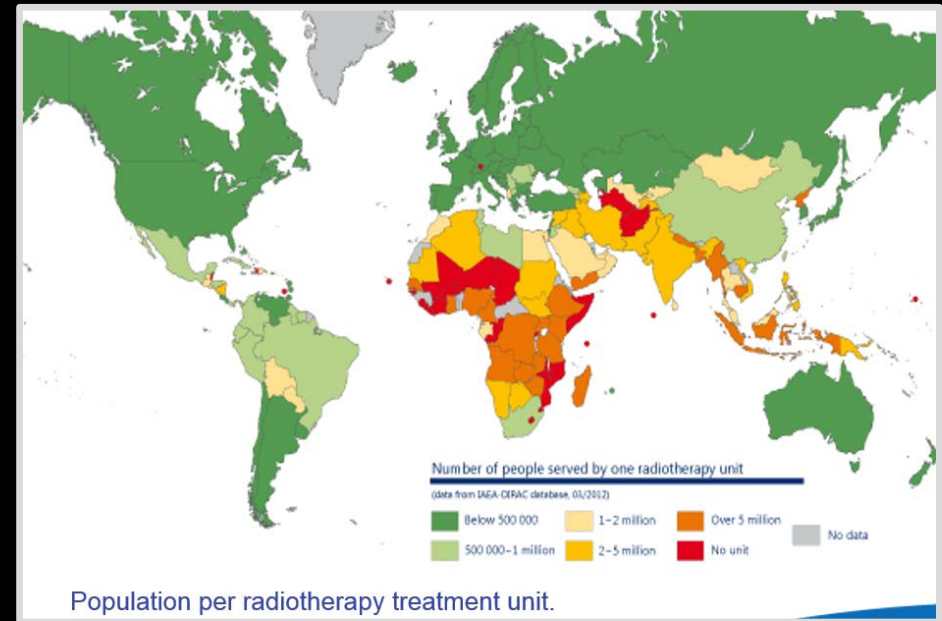
Access to Cancer Care: The Equity Gap

Proportion of Population without Access to Surgery



Meara et al, Lancet 2015

Population per Radiotherapy Treatment Unit



Atun et al, Lancet 2015

Global cancer surgery: delivering safe, affordable, and timely cancer surgery

Richard Sullivan, Olusegun Isaac Alatise, Benjamin O Anderson, Riccardo Audisio, Philippe Autier, Ajay Aggarwal, Charles Balch, Murray F Brennan, Anna Dare, Anil D'Cruz, Alexander M M Eggermont, Kenneth Fleming, Serigne Maguete Gueye, Lars Hagander, Cristian A Herrera, Hampus Holmer, André M Ilbawi, Anton Jarnheimer, Jia-fu Ji, T Peter Kingham, Jonathan Liberman, Andrew J M Leather, John G Meara, Swagato Mukhopadhyay, Shilpa S Murthy, Sherif Omar, Groesbeck P Parham, C S Pramesh, Robert Riviello, Danielle Rodin, Luiz Santini, Shailesh V Shrikhande, Mark Shrlime, Robert Thomas, Audrey T Tsunoda, Cornelis van de Velde, Umberto Veronesi, Dehannathparambil Kottarathil Vijaykumar, David Watters, Shan Wang, Yi-Long Wu, Moez Zeiton, Arnie Purushotham

THE LANCET Oncology

Volume 16 · Issue 11 · September 2015

www.thelancet.com/oncology

Global cancer surgery: delivering safe, affordable, and timely cancer surgery



"Surgery is essential for global cancer care...[and] must be at the heart of global and national cancer control planning."

Expanding global access to radiotherapy

Rifat Atun, David A Jaffray, Michael B Barton, Freddie Bray, Michael Baumann, Bhadransain Vikram, Timothy P Hanna, Felicia M Knaul, Yolande Lievens, Tracey Y M Lui, Michael Milosevic, Brian O'Sullivan, Danielle L Rodin, Eduardo Rosenblatt, Jacob Van Dyk, Mei Ling Yap, Eduardo Zubizarreta, Mary Gospodarowicz

THE LANCET Oncology

Volume 16 · Issue 10 · September 2015

www.thelancet.com/oncology

Expanding global access to radiotherapy



"...investment in radiotherapy not only enables treatment of large number of cancer cases to save lives; it also brings positive economic benefits."

Closing the Equity Gap: *Radiotherapy*

The Lancet Oncology Commission

Expanding global access to radiotherapy *Lancet Oncol 2015; 16: 1153-86*

Rifat Atun, David A Jaffray, Michael B Barton, Freddie Bray, Michael Baumann, Bhadrasain Vikram, Timothy P Hanna, Felicia M Knaul, Yolande Lievens, Tracey Y M Lui, Michael Milosevic, Brian O'Sullivan, Danielle L Rodin, Eduardo Rosenblatt, Jacob Van Dyk, Mei Ling Yap, Eduardo Zubizarreta, Mary Gospodarowicz

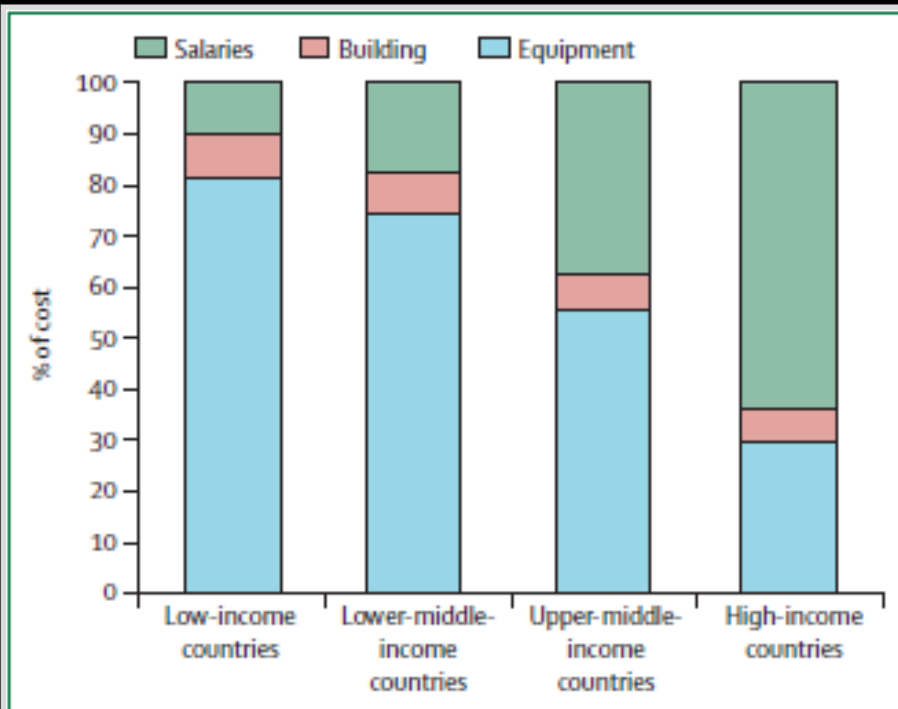


Figure 8: Cost breakdown for salaries, buildings, and equipment needed for radiotherapy, by gross-national-income region

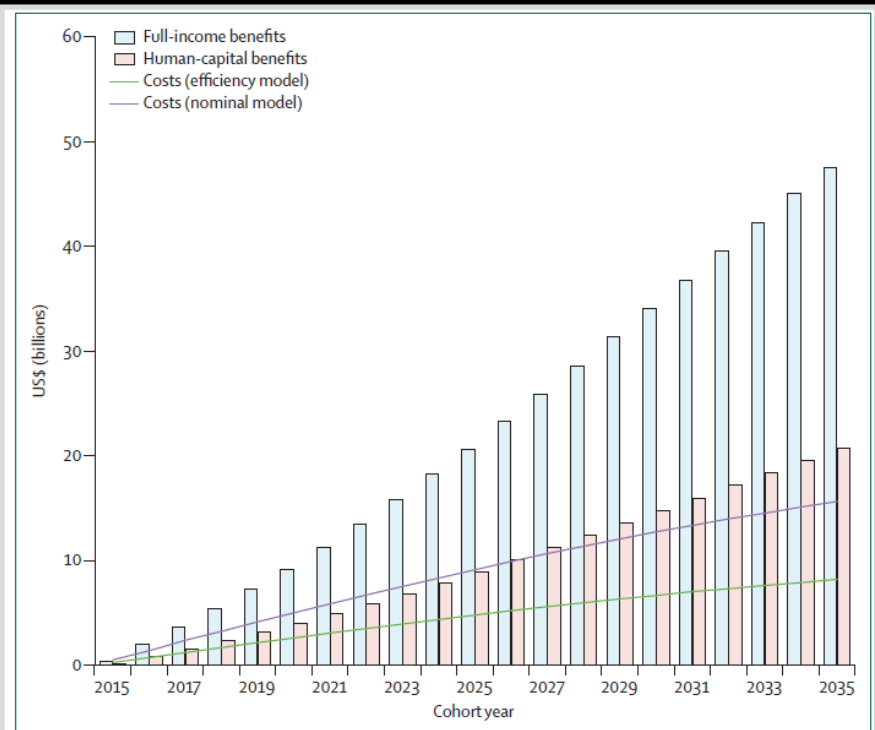


Figure 11: Cost and benefits of investments to scale up radiotherapy services in low-income and middle-income countries, 2015-35. The costing models are described in the text and include both operational and capital costs.

Essential medicines for universal health coverage

Veronika J Wirtz*, Hans V Hogerzeil*, Andrew L Gray*, Maryam Bigdeli, Cornelis P de Joncheere, Margaret A Ewen, Martha Gyansa-Lutterodt, Sun Jing, Vera L Luiza, Regina M Mbindyo, Helene Möller, Corrina Moucheraud, Bernard Pécoul, Lembit Rägo, Arash Rashidian, Dennis Ross-Degnan, Peter N Stephens, Yot Teerawattananon, Ellen F M 't Hoen, Anita K Wagner, Prashant Yadav, Michael R Reich

■ Problems:

- Overuse
- Underuse
- Misuse
- Unnecessary use of highly priced medicine

Also 'substandard and falsified medicines'

-related correspondence

■ Initiatives:

- Paying for a basket of essential medicines
- Making essential medicine affordable
- Promoting quality use of essential medicines
- Developing missing essential medicines

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Browse guidance by area:

Conditions and diseases

Health protection

Lifestyle and wellbeing

Population groups

Service delivery, organisation and staffing

Settings

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- Since 1999, we have provided the NHS, and those who rely on it for their care
- range of advice on effective, good value healthcare
- reputation for rigor, independence and objectivity

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News and features

11 April 2017

NICE says head and neck cancer drug is not cost effective

Share

NICE has published draft guidance saying the cost of using nivolumab to treat head and neck cancer is too high for routine NHS use.



NICE have assessed the benefits of using nivolumab to treat different types of cancer. For some types, such as [kidney cancer](#), NICE has been able to recommend the drug.

For others, such as [head and neck cancer](#), the evidence is not as strong and NICE has therefore not recommended it to be offered routinely on the NHS.

Professor Carole Longson, director of the health technology evaluation centre at NICE, said: "We understand that treatment options in this area are limited, and it's important to patients that treatments both extend and improve their quality of life.

"Evidence for nivolumab extending the long-term survival and quality of life for people with head and neck cancer is uncertain. Therefore, the additional costs for these potential benefits was considered too high for NHS use at present."

There are almost 10,000 cases of newly diagnosed head and neck cancer per year in the UK. Up to 600 people are estimated to be eligible for nivolumab if it were to be recommended.

Nivolumab (Opdivo, Bristol Myers-Squibb) is an innovative immunotherapy drug. It works by harnessing the power of the patient's own immune system to destroy their cancer cells.

The evidence showed survival rates significantly improved with nivolumab in the short term, but its costs were still too high to be considered for routine NHS use at present.

"This is not our final recommendation for nivolumab, added **Professor Longson**.

"The draft guidance is now out for consultation, and I think it's important that consultees, including the company, healthcare professionals and the public submit their comments on this draft recommendation so that they can be considered by the committee."

The draft guidance is open for public consultation until Thursday 4 May.

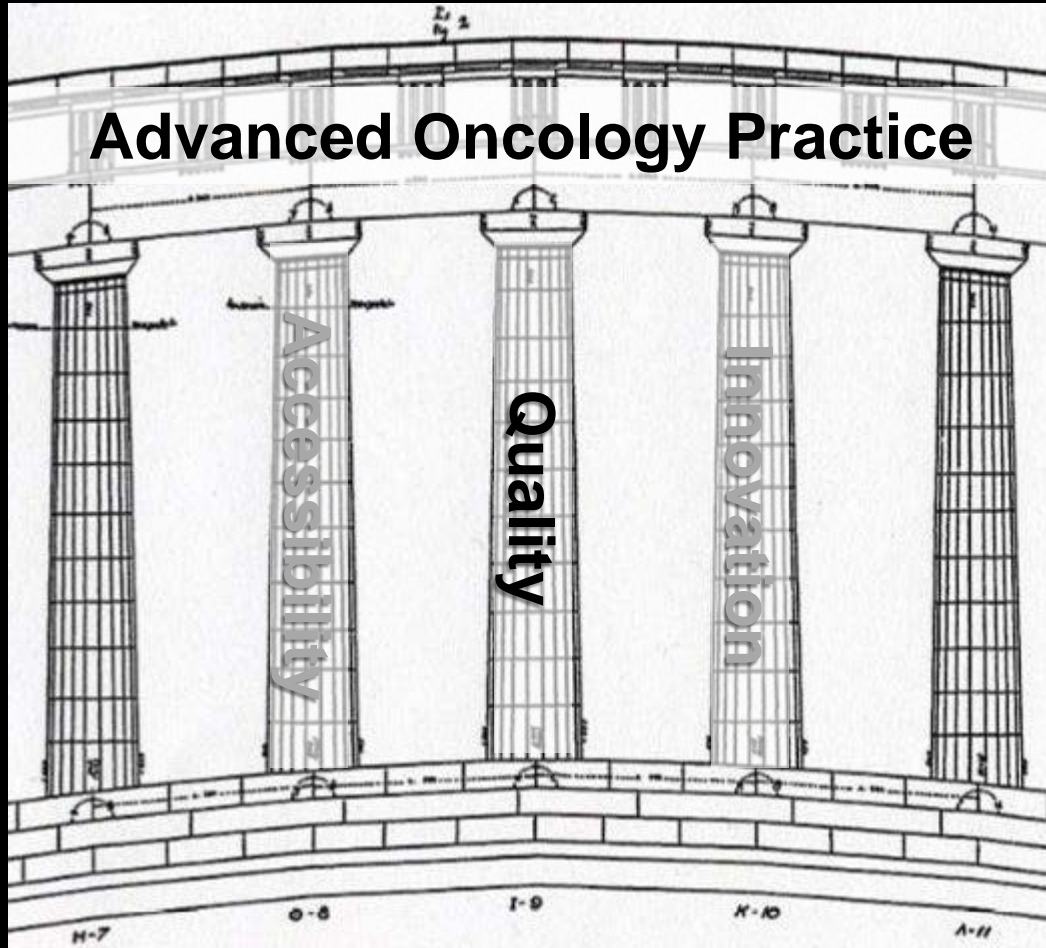
Until final guidance is issued NHS bodies should make decisions locally on the funding of specific treatments.

“Evidence for nivolumab extending the long-term survival and quality of life for people with head and neck cancer is uncertain.”
Professor Carole Longson, director of the health technology evaluation centre at NICE

Related Resources

[Read nivolumab draft guidance documents for consultation here](#)

Essential Pillar: Quality



Stylobate: Fundamental Components of Cancer Care

- **Quality:**
 - Standards
 - Guidelines
 - Peer-reviewed quality assurance
 - Timely feedback loop



Standards and Guidelines

Standards (things to be accomplished):

- Statements to facilitate performance:
 - Articulate “desirable” levels of performance
 - Describe expected outcomes

Guidelines (ways to do things):

- Statements of principles/procedures to facilitate:
 - Quality in practice (clinical, biomedical research, and health services)
 - Patient care decisions

Ontario Cancer System

Cancer System Overview

Cancer Surveillance

Clinical Programs

Quality & Performance Improvement

Regional Cancer Programs

Wait Times

Understanding Wait Times

Radiation Treatment Wait Times

Systemic Treatment Wait Times

CCO Wait Time Information Office

Wait Times Highlights

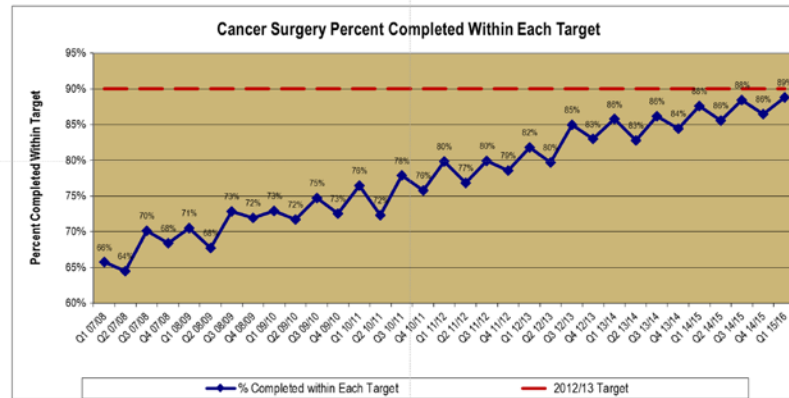
Surgical and Diagnostic Wait Times Reporting

Wait Times Toolkit - Surgery

Alternate Level of Care

Wait Times Measurement Toolkit and Resources for Cancer Surgery

Surgical Wait Times - Decision to Treat to Surgery

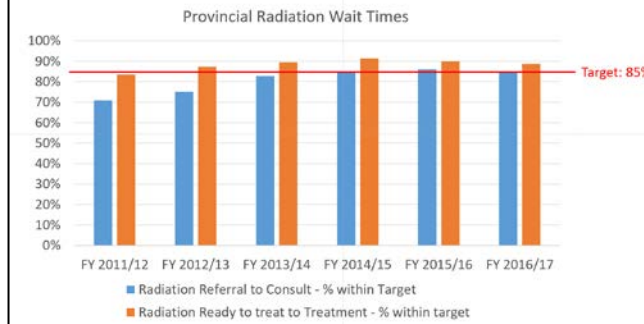


Related Resources

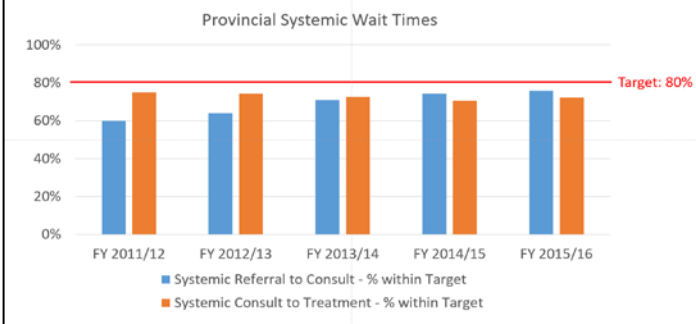
[Wait Time Targets for Cancer Treatments: Executive Summary](#)

[Surgical Oncology Program](#)

Radiation Wait Times



Systemic Wait Times

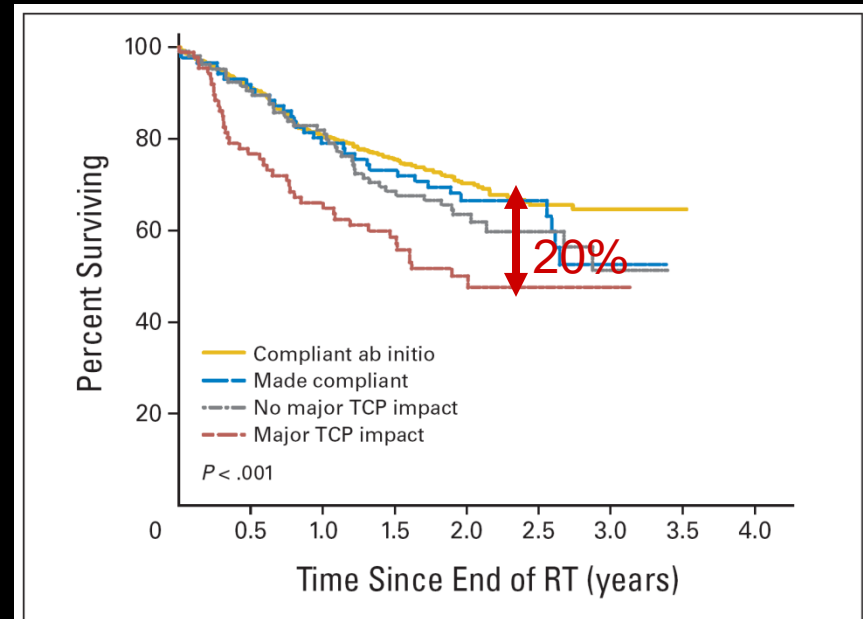
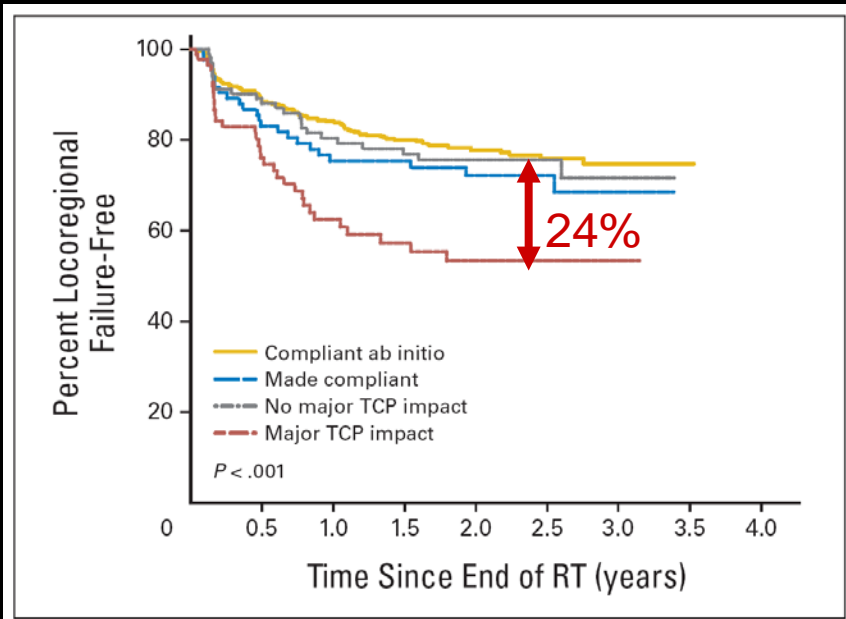


- Radiotherapy 'waiting' has disappeared in Ontario

- >800 patients across four Continents
- Influence by center' accrual numbers
- Multivariate adjustment for disease stage

Critical Impact of Radiotherapy Protocol Compliance and Quality in the Treatment of Advanced Head and Neck Cancer: Results From TROG 02.02

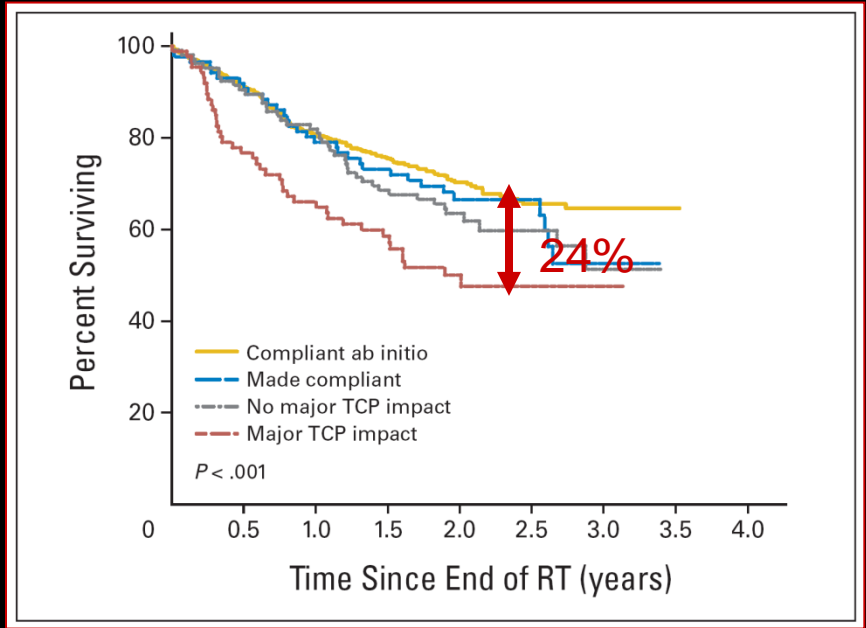
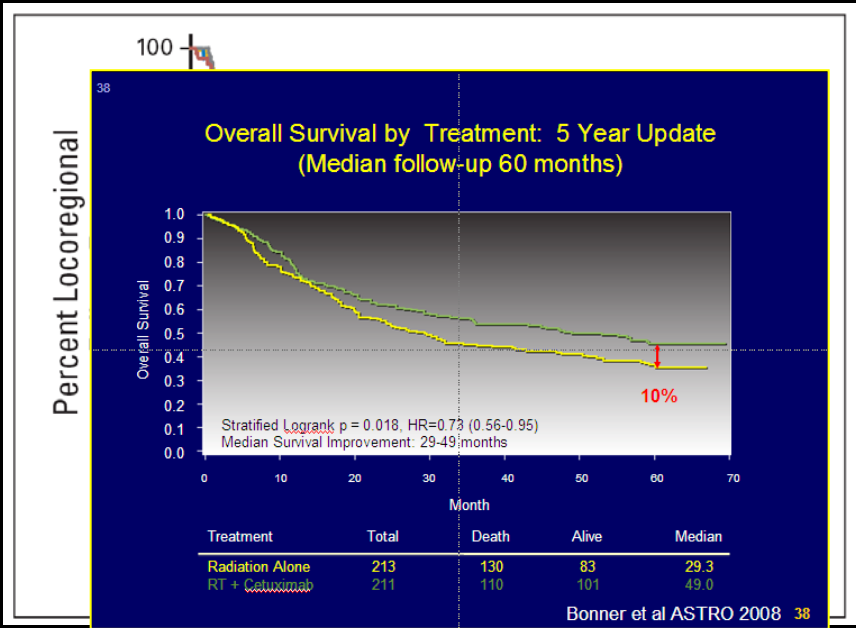
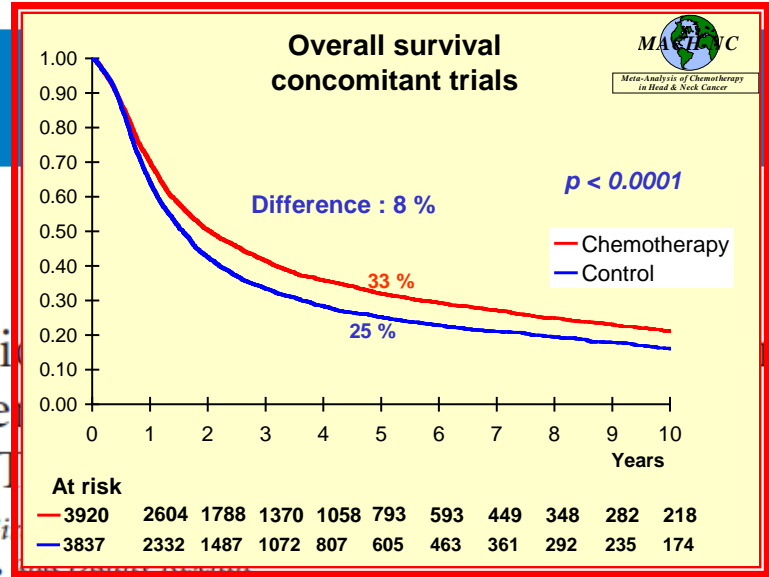
Lester J. Peters, Brian O'Sullivan, Jordi Giralt, Thomas J. Fitzgerald, Andy Trotti, Jacques Bernier, Jean Bourhis, Kally Yuen, Richard Fisher, and Danny Rischin



Radiation Quality Matters: Results by deviation status

Critical Impact of Radiation Quality in the Treatment of Head and Neck Cancer: Results From T

Lester J. Peters, Brian O'Sullivan, Jordi Gil, Jean Bourhis, Kally Yuen, Richard Fisher,



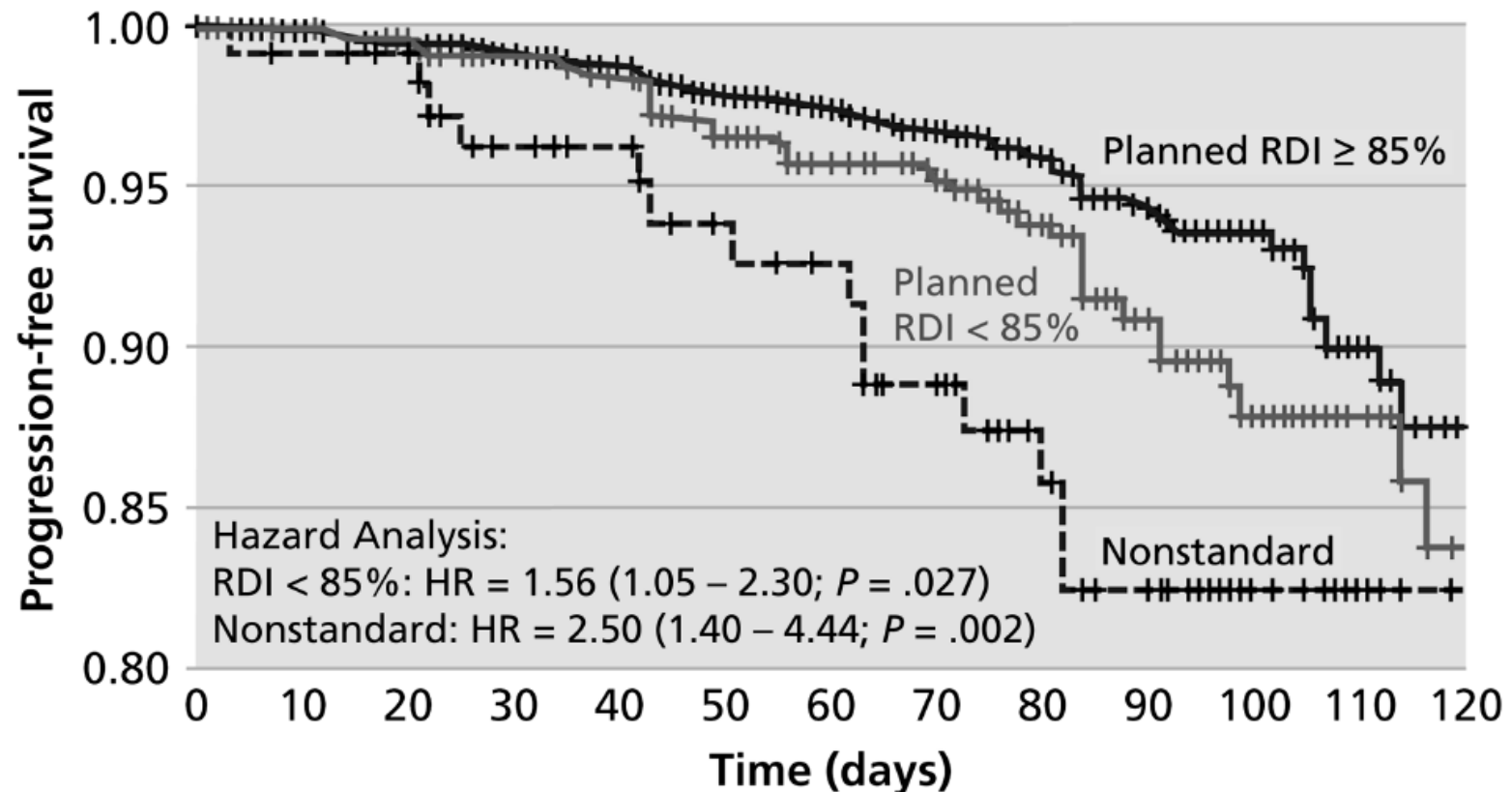
Impact of Chemotherapy Dose Intensity on Cancer Patient Outcomes

JNCCN

The official journal of the
National
Comprehensive
Cancer
Network*

Gary H. Lyman, MD, MPH, FRCP (Edin), Durham, North Carolina

(JNCCN 2009;7:99–108)



RDI: relative dose intensity

Oncologist's Experience Matters: *Surgery*

Original Research—Head and Neck Surgery

 AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
OTOLARYNGOLOGY—
HEAD AND NECK SURGERY
FOUNDATION

Transoral Robotic Surgery: A Population-Level Analysis

2014

Michelle M. Chen¹, Sanziana A. Roman, MD²,
Dennis H. Kraus, MD³, Julie A. Sosa, MD², and
Benjamin L. Judson, MD¹

Otolaryngology—
Head and Neck Surgery
2014, Vol. 150(6) 968–975
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Otolaryngology—Head and Neck
Surgery Foundation 2014
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sagepub.com/journalsPermissions.nav
DOI: 10.1177/0194599814525747
<http://otojournal.org>

 SAGE

- NCDB database: 877 patients
- TORS 2010-2011
- High-volume (vs. low-volume) TORS centers had lower rate of positive margins (16% vs 26%, $p < 0.001$) and unplanned readmissions (3% vs 6%, $p = 0.03$)

RT QA Rounds: Constructive culture without penalty

QA Initiative: Radiation Medicine



- Needed because we make mistakes
- As treatment complexity increases we are more susceptible to mistakes
- As treatment conformality increases so does the requirement for correct target selection

Why do we need these?

- Once weekly
 - Multidisciplinary among RMP professionals
 - Real time audit
- Case presentation
 - Clinical description
 - Imaging
 - Planning CT with contoured volumes
 - GTV (primary and nodal)
 - HTV (“High Risk” post operative tissues at risk)
 - All associated CTVs

Prospective Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of Real-Time Peer Review Quality Assurance Rounds Incorporating Direct Physical Examination for Head and Neck Cancer Radiation Therapy

Carlos E. Cardenas, MS,* Abdallah S.R. Mohamed, MD, MS,^{1,2} Randa Tao, MD,¹ Andrew J.R. Wong, BS,¹ Mussadiq J. Awan, MD,¹ Shirley Kuruwila, BS, CMD,¹ Michalis Aristophanous, PhD,³ G. Brandon Gunn, MD,¹ Jack Phan, MD, PhD,¹ Beth M. Beadle, MD, PhD,¹ Steven J. Frank, MD,¹ Adam S. Garden, MD,¹ William H. Morrison, MD,¹ Clifton D. Fuller, MD, PhD,¹ and David I. Rosenthal, MD¹

MDACC Data

Cardenas, Rosenthal et al. IJROBP, 2016 (in-press)

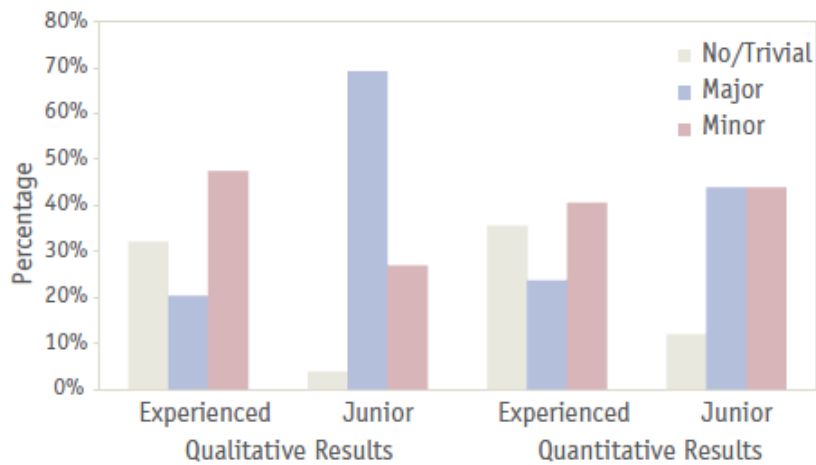
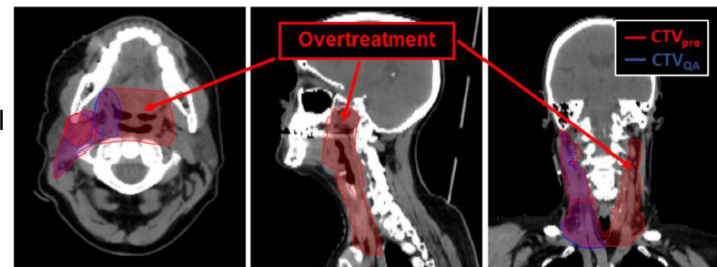


Fig. 2. Percentage for each type of qualitative and quantitative change per physician experience. Quantitative change type was determined according to Dice similarity coefficient classification.

T1N1 Tonsil



T4N2c Tonsil

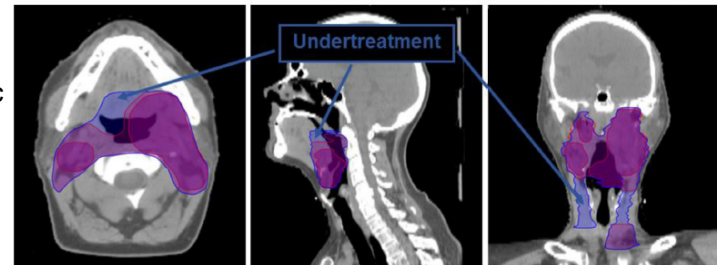


Fig. 1. Patient images showing differences in clinical target volume (CTV) changes and their effect on false-negative Dice (*FND*) and false-positive Dice (*FDP*) metrics. Top row, simulation CT images for a patient with T1N1 cancer of the right tonsil. Differences in contours before (red) and after (blue) quality assurance (QA) are visualized. For this patient, high *FND* and Dice similarity coefficient (overtreatment) values were recorded for CTV1 and CTV3, as can be visually assessed on the axial and coronal images. Bottom row, a patient with T4N2c of the left tonsil who was treated with definitive radiation therapy. CTV volumes after QA (blue) show regions that were added and could be considered potential near misses.

- Data from a major US cancer center: **1/3** patients had major changes after peer-review
- Although junior physicians had more major changes, experienced ones were not immune from major errors

Impact of Guidelines in Cancer Outcomes

Table 5. Local control by size category of RT Margin

RT margin	Total No.	No. controlled	control %
< 1 cm	47	14	30
1-2 cm	110	95	86
> 2 cm	71	67	94
Total	228	176	77

$p < 0.0001$.

- A change to better coverage of the target volume coincided with the introduction of written policies

- Policies required 2 cm clinical target volume (CTV) coverage around gross tumor volume (GTV)
- Planning 3D volumes without CT planning was abandoned at PMH



Int. J. Radiation Oncology Biol. Phys., Vol. 51, No. 2, pp. 332-343, 2001
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 0360-3016/01/\$-see front matter

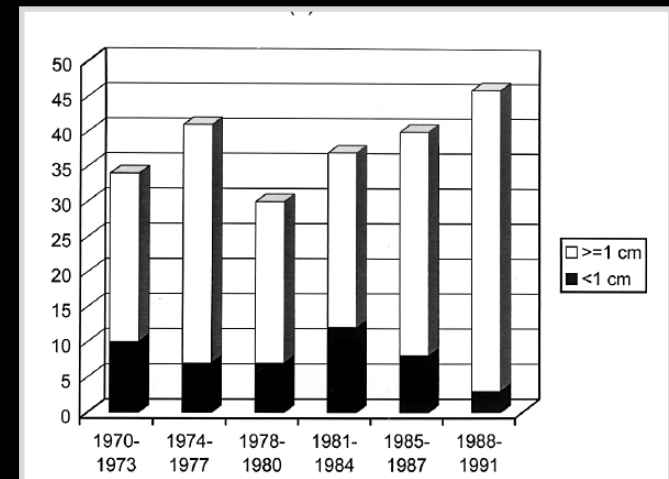
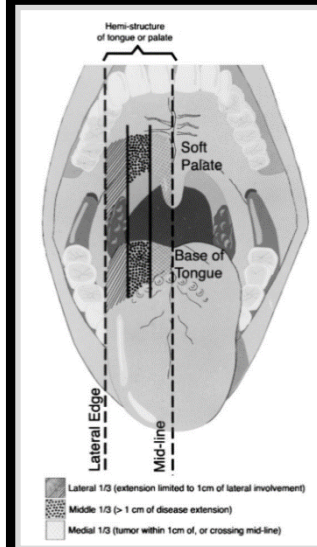
PII S0360-3016(01)01613-3

CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

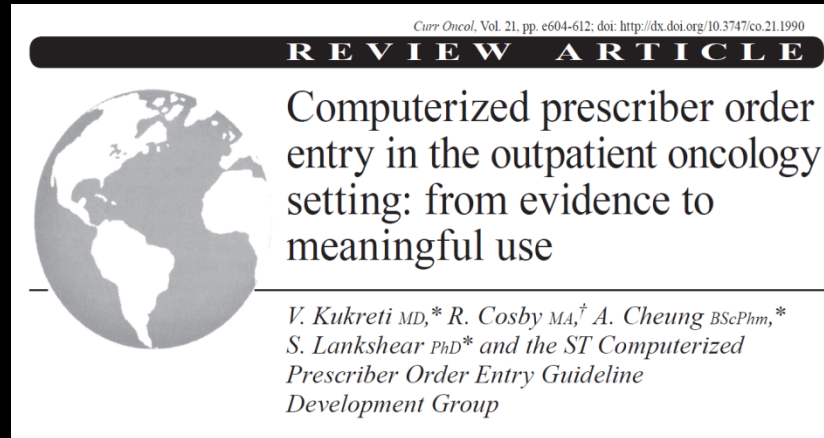
Head and Neck

THE BENEFITS AND PITFALLS OF IPSILATERAL RADIOTHERAPY IN CARCINOMA OF THE TONSILLAR REGION

B. O'SULLIVAN, M.B., F.R.C.P.C.,* P. WARDE, M.B., F.R.C.P.C.,* B. GRICE, M.R.T.(T),*
 C. GOH, M.B., F.R.C.S.,† D. PAYNE, M.D., F.R.C.P.C.,* F-F. LIU, M.D., F.R.C.P.C.,*
 J. WALDRON, M.D., F.R.C.P.C.,* A. BAYLEY, M.D., F.R.C.P.C.,* J. IRISH, M.D., F.R.C.P.C.,†
 P. GULLANE, M.B., F.R.C.S.C.,† AND B. CUMMINGS, M.B., F.R.C.P.C.*



QA Initiative: Medical Oncology



**Kukrett et al
2014**

- “Computerized prescriber order entry” (CPOE) should be used in outpatient chemotherapy to reduce chemotherapy-related medication errors
- Adoption will be enhanced by CPOE processes that complement current practice and workflow processes

QA Initiative: Surgical Practice

N Engl J Med 2009;360:491-9.

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

A Surgical Safety Checklist to Reduce Morbidity and Mortality in a Global Population

Alex B. Haynes, M.D., M.P.H., Thomas G. Weiser, M.D., M.P.H.,
William R. Berry, M.D., M.P.H., Stuart R. Lipsitz, Sc.D.,
Abdel-Hadi S. Breizat, M.D., Ph.D., E. Patchen Dellinger, M.D.,
Teodoro Herbosa, M.D., Sudhir Joseph, M.S., Pascience L. Kibatata, M.D.,
Marie Carmela M. Lapitan, M.D., Alan F. Merry, M.B., Ch.B., F.A.N.Z.C.A., F.R.C.A.,
Krishna Moorthy, M.D., F.R.C.S., Richard K. Reznick, M.D., M.Ed., Bryce Taylor, M.D.,
and Atul A. Gawande, M.D., M.P.H., for the Safe Surgery Saves Lives Study Group*

Table 5. Outcomes before and after Checklist Implementation, According to Site.*

Site No.	No. of Patients Enrolled		Surgical-Site Infection		Unplanned Return to the Operating Room		Pneumonia		Death		Any Complication	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
	<i>percent</i>											
1	524	598	4.0	2.0	4.6	1.8	0.8	1.2	1.0	0.0	11.6	7.0
2	357	351	2.0	1.7	0.6	1.1	3.6	3.7	1.1	0.3	7.8	6.3
3	497	486	5.8	4.3	4.6	2.7	1.6	1.7	0.8	1.4	13.5	9.7
4	520	545	3.1	2.6	2.5	2.2	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.6	7.5	5.5
5	370	330	20.5	3.6	1.4	1.8	0.3	0.0	1.4	0.0	21.4	5.5
6	496	476	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.2	2.0	1.9	3.6	1.7	10.1	9.7
7	525	585	9.5	5.8	1.3	0.2	1.0	1.7	2.1	1.7	12.4	8.0
8	444	584	4.1	2.4	0.5	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.3	6.1	3.6
Total	3733	3955	6.2	3.4	2.4	1.8	1.1	1.3	1.5	0.8	11.0	7.0
P value			<0.001		0.047		0.46		0.003		<0.001	

* The most common complications occurring during the first 30 days of hospitalization after the operation are listed. Bold type indicates values that were significantly different (at $P < 0.05$) before and after checklist implementation, on the basis of P values calculated by means of the chi-square test or Fisher's exact test. P values are shown for the comparison of the total value after checklist implementation as compared with the total value before implementation.



Original Article

Laryngeal Cancer Treatment and Survival Differences across Regional Cancer Centres in Ontario, Canada

P.A. Groome *, B. O'Sullivan †, W.J. Mackillop *, J. Irish ‡, K. Schulze *, L.D. Jackson *, R.J. Bissett §, P.F. Dixon §, L.J. Eapen §, S.P. Gulavita §, J.A. Hammond §, D.I. Hodson §, R.G. Mackenzie §, K.M. Schneider §, P.R. Warde †

Multivariate analysis:
➤ cause-specific survival differences
➤ not explained by control for case-mix, treatment or waiting times.

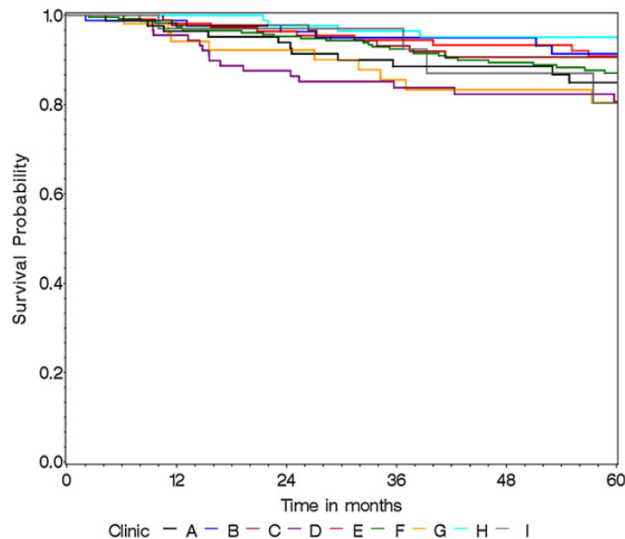


Fig. 1. Stage I and II laryngeal cancer: cause-specific survival by regional cancer centre. (Log-rank $P=0.06$).

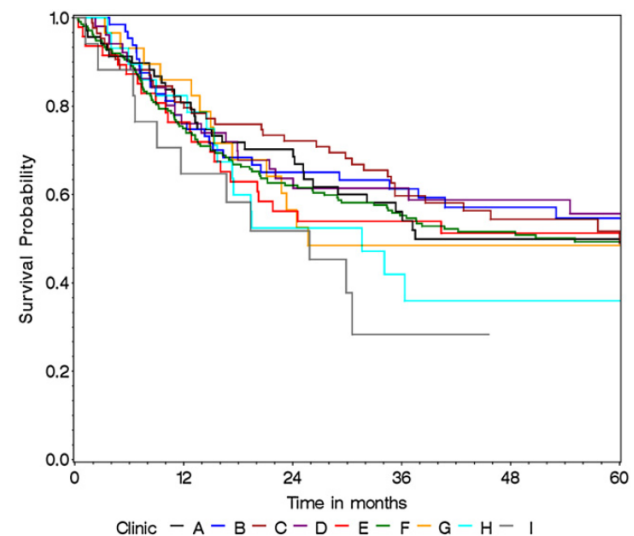


Fig. 2. Stage III and IV laryngeal cancer: cause-specific survival by regional cancer centre (Log-rank $P=0.58$).

Differences ranged compared with reference (centre A) adjusting for covariates:

- Stage I and II group: 82% risk reduction in one centre ($P = 0.008$)
- Stage III and IV group: 153% increase in risk ($P = 0.02$).



**cancer care
ontario**

program in
evidence-based care

**action cancer
ontario**

programme de soins
fondé sur des preuves

The Management of Head and Neck Cancer in Ontario

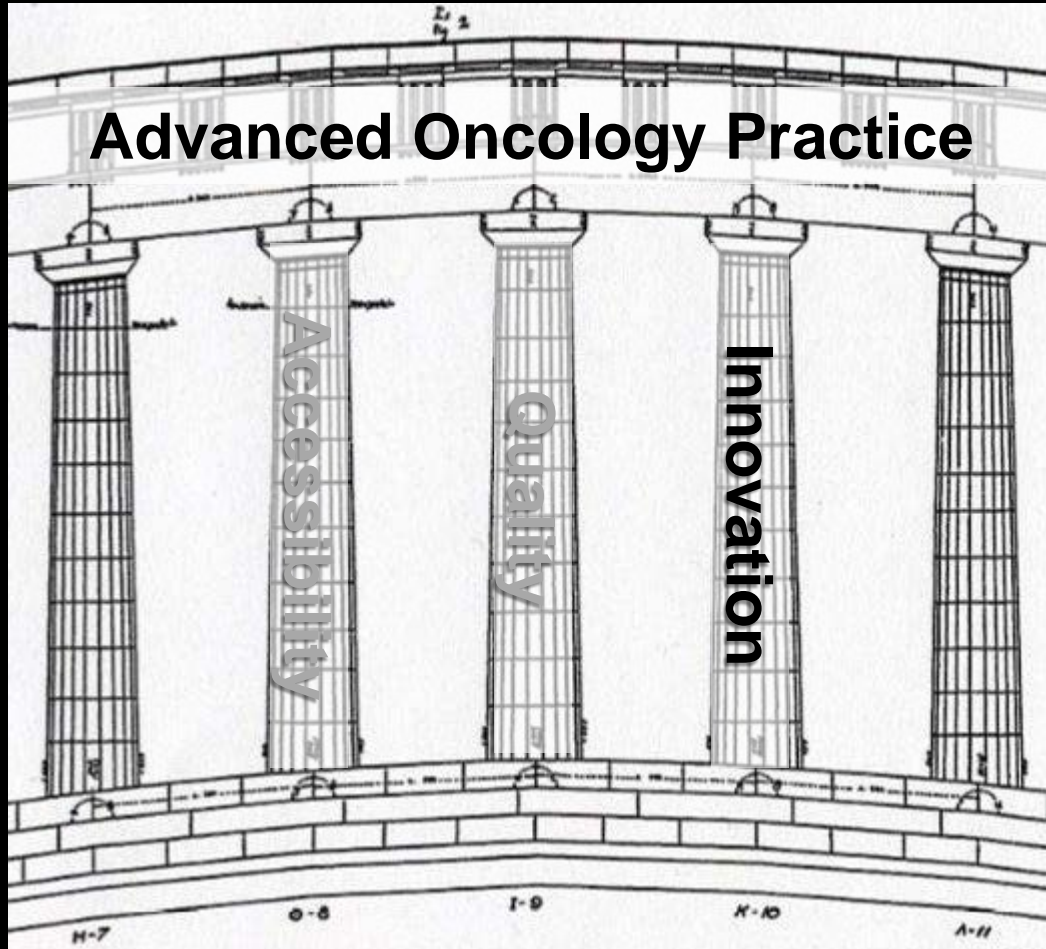
*R Gilbert, M Devries-Aboud, E Winquist, J Waldron, M McQuestion,
and the Head and Neck Disease Site Group*

A Quality Initiative of the
Program in Evidence-Based Care (PEBC), Cancer Care Ontario (CCO)

Report Date: December 15, 2009

Core Team Member	<i>Recommendations for minimum volumes required</i>
Surgery/ Oncology	Assess 50 new patients and major surgery* on 40 patients per year (Source: HNMWG* and NICE)
Surgery/Reconstructive	20 microsurgery cases annually (Source: HNMWG*)
Medical Oncologist	1.0 FTE per 200 head and neck cancer patients seen in consultation and a minimum of 25 patients treated annually (Source: NICE)
Radiation Oncologist	1.0 FTE per 150 head and neck cancer patients seen in consultation and a minimum of 50 patients treated annually (Source: NICE)
Specialized Oncology Nurse	1.0 FTE per 100 patients seen in consultation per year (Source: HNMWG*)
Advanced Practice Nurse	1.0 FTE per H&N site group (especially with larger site groups seeing > 200 patients in consultation per year OR shared across another site group) (Source: HNMWG*)
Speech Language Pathologist	1.0 FTE per 150 patients seen in consultation per year (Source: HNMWG*)
Registered Dietitian	1.0 FTE per 150 patients seen in consultation per year (Source: HNMWG*)
Social Worker	1.0 FTE per 150 patients seen in consultation per year (Source: HNMWG*)

Essential Pillar: Innovation



Stylobate: Fundamental Components of Cancer Care

- **Innovation:**
 - Gathering information
 - Appraisal of evidence
 - Clinical trials
 - “Disciplined” new approaches



From Health Systems to Learning Health Systems



Best Care at Lower Cost

The Path to Continuously Learning Health Care in America

Sources of Evidence

■ Published literature

- Various quality: high level of evidence is scant
 - Be aware of publication bias, reporting bias, reviewers' bias, omission bias

■ Official and unofficial communication

- Presentations at conference/courses/symposium
 - Subject to bias, especially vendor sponsored symposium

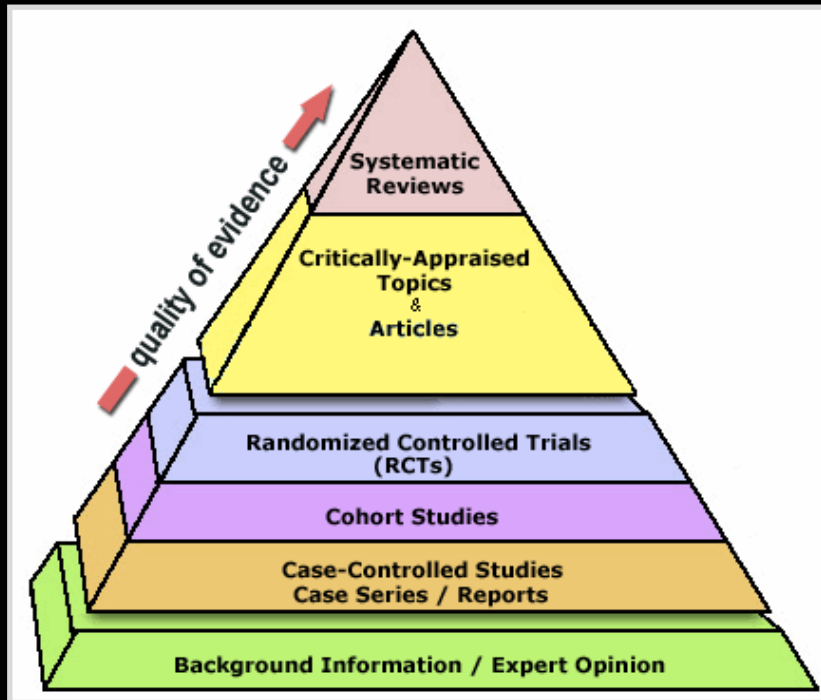
■ Textbooks

- Could be out-of-date

■ Guidelines

- E.g. NCCN, ASTRO, ASCO, ESTRO, CCO, Institutional
 - Not all guidelines are revised frequently
 - High level of evidence may not always available

The Hierarchy of Published Evidence in Medicine



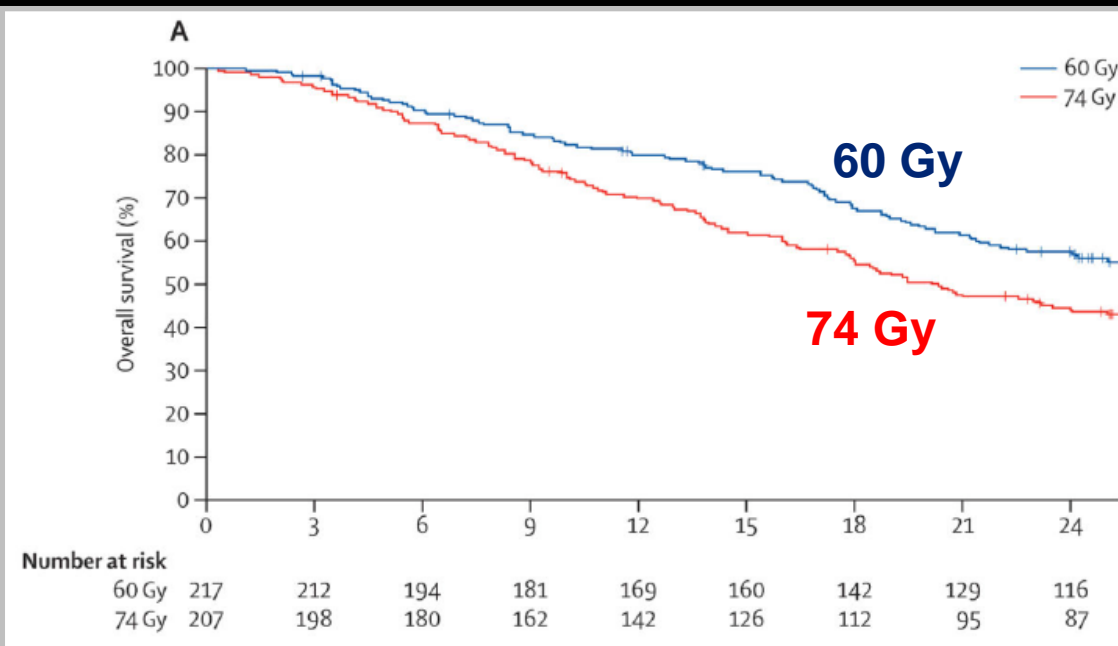
- Major treatment guidelines (e.g. NCCN) making evidence based recommendations
- Strength of recommendations depends on levels of evidence
- Caveats of clinical trials:
 - “*Ideal*” vs “*real*” world
 - Confounding elements

Guyatt et al. JAMA 2000

A 'New' Approach May Not Always Be Better

Standard-dose versus high-dose conformal radiotherapy with concurrent and consolidation carboplatin plus paclitaxel with or without cetuximab for patients with stage IIIA or IIIB non-small-cell lung cancer (RTOG 0617): a randomised, two-by-two factorial phase 3 study

Jeffrey D Bradley, Rebecca Paulus, Ritsuko Komaki, Gregory Masters, George Blumenschein, Steven Schild, Jeffrey Bogart, Chen Hu, Kenneth Forster, Anthony Magliocco, Vivek Kavadi, Yolanda I Garces, Samir Narayan, Puneeth Iyengar, Cliff Robinson, Raymond B Wynn, Christopher Koprowski, Joanne Meng, Jonathan Beitler, Rakesh Gaur, Walter Curran Jr, Hak Choy



Counter-intuitive result of RTOG 0617

- A planned interim analysis showed:
 - The tested higher RT dose (74 Gy) had lower OS compared with the standard dose of 60 Gy
- On June 17, 2011, two of the four arms in the RTOG 0617 protocol were closed to accrual

Bradley, *et al.*
Lancet Oncol. Feb, 2015

Emphasizes the importance of 'stopping' rules and interim analysis

RTOG 0522: Huge Investment in Patients and Resources and No Benefit With Addition of Cetuximab to Radiotherapy—Why Did This Occur?

A large Phase III trial that followed a Phase II trial without preceding Phase I safety data

- Adding cetuximab to cisplatin and accelerated radiation therapy (RT) compared with cisplatin and radiation (CRT) alone:
 - It did not improve outcome
 - It resulted in more interruptions in RT, and more morbidity and treatment-related death
 - “These results are extremely disappointing due to the precipitous study design”
- RTOG 0522 phase III trial was based on a small single centre phase II trial (n=22) that closed early due to adverse events without a prior phase I trial – these investigators had concluded that evaluation of the safety profile was needed
- *My additional comment:*
 - *The standard arm was based on putative superiority of a previous experimental arm but result was not known yet and was never proven.*

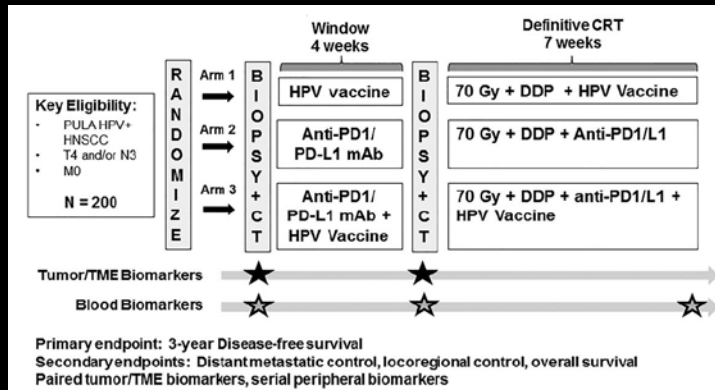
*Douglas Adkins, Jessica Ley, Tanya M. Wildes,
and Loren Michel*

Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, MO

Immunotherapy of Head and Neck Cancer: Emerging Clinical Trials From a National Cancer Institute Head and Neck Cancer Steering Committee Planning Meeting

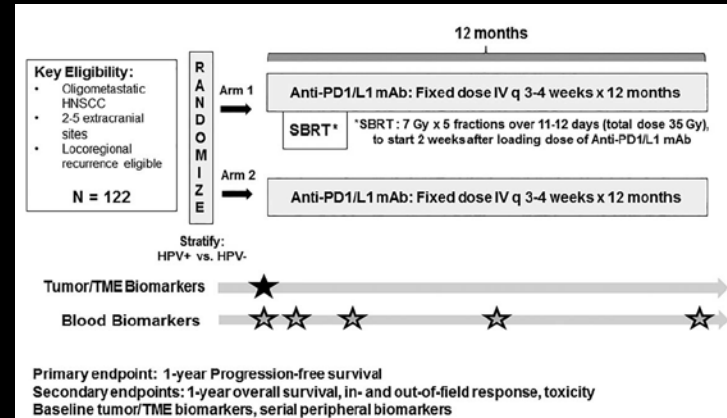
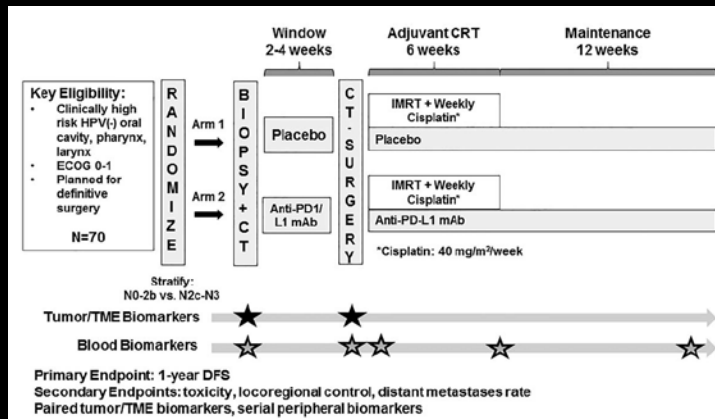
Julie E. Bauman, MD, MPH¹; Ezra Cohen, MD²; Robert L. Ferris, MD, PhD³; David J. Adelstein, MD⁴; David M. Brizel, MD⁵; John A. Ridge, MD, PhD⁶; Brian O'Sullivan, MD⁷; Barbara A. Burtneiss, MD⁸; Lisa H. Butterfield, PhD¹; William E. Carson, MD⁹; Mary L. Disis, MD¹⁰; Bernard A. Fox, PhD¹¹; Thomas F. Gajewski, MD, PhD¹²; Maura L. Gillison, MD, PhD¹³; James W. Hodge, PhD, MBA¹⁴; Quynh-Thu Le, MD¹⁵; David Raben, MD¹⁶; Scott E. Strome, MD¹⁷; Jean Lynn, RN, MPH¹⁸; and Shakun Malik, MD¹⁸

Working Group 1:
HPV(+) T4 and N3
Window study:
CRT +/- AntiPD1/L1
+/- vaccine



Working Group 3:
2-5 extracranial
Oligometastases Anti-
PD-1/L1 +/- SBRT

Working Group 2:
HPV- Planned for
Surgery and
Window study:
Post-op CRT +/-
AntiPD1/L1



**Practice evolved:
preference for SBRT**

Development of “Responsible” New approaches

- **Will always exist**, underpinned by need to improve:
 - Governed by principles: safety, oversight, regulations
 - Driver is “unmet needs” and shortcomings of existing treatment
 - E.g. problems of compromised management, toxicity, efficiency, cost
- **Constant tension** governed by:
 - Ethics, innovation, resources, skill-set, culture / tradition, reasonable vs unreasonable expectation
- **Many examples** (technical/clinical without randomised trials):
 - IMRT, laparoscopic surgery, robotic surgery, imaging (MR / PET)
 - Clinical: “breast conservation”, larynx conservation, limb preservation
- **Appropriate principles**:
 - Measurement, training, protocols, infrastructure and redundancy

“Only if we identify problems worth solving will we develop solutions worth pursuing”: Azagury D: Stanford Biodesign: “Patient Safety in Surgery” 2014

Summary About Advancing Practice

- Advancing oncology practice requires efforts from all stakeholders:
 - Medical professionals
 - Health care system
 - Society, government, industry
- Essential pillars comprise:
 - Accessibility
 - Building capacity, affordability, public awareness
 - Quality of care
 - Vigilance, monitoring, SOPs
 - Innovation
 - Encouraging “disciplined” novel ideas and generating and interpreting high level of evidence