258 Proffered Papers

and scoring using the common toxicity criteria version 3. Dose volume analysis was performed for pelvic bone marrow (PBM) receiving 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 Gy. The Wilcoxon rank sum-test was used for comparison of median locations, and the Bonferroni correction was used for multiple comparisons.

Results: Patients treated with IMRT and 3D-CRT had respectively 33% (6/18) G3 and 15.6% (5/32) G3-5 hematological toxicity. There were 4 HIV positive patients in the 3D-CRT as compared 1 patient in the IMRT group and no difference in the median age (62-63 years) in two-treatment groups. Table 1 shows the comparative mean dose volumes to PBM for both techniques. A significant difference is observed at low dose levels (5 to 15 Gv).

Conclusions: IMRT provides better dose conformity at high dose level but also increases significantly the exposed PBM volume to low radiation doses. The observed enhanced bone marrow toxicity during pelvic IMRT and chemotherapy for patients with anal canal cancer suggests a chemosensitizing effect of PBM at low dose radiation levels.

Table 1. Pelvic bone marrow toxicity as a function of dose volume parameters for anal cancer patients treated with IMRT and CRT in combination with chemotherapy (BM+ is grade 3 or higher BM toxicity)

Technique	Parameter	Toxicity	V5 (%)	V10 (%)	V15 (%)	V20 (%)	V25 (%)
3D-RT IMRT	Average Average P value (bilateral)	BM +		26.18 54.80 0.008	42.44	17.97 28.00 0.095	12.72 16.10 1.000
3D-RT IMRT	Average Average P value (bilateral) VolumeRatio IMRT/3DCRT	BM- BM + BM-		31.51 38.92 1.000 2.09 1.24			19.26 7.42 0.008 1.27 0.39

3072 POSTER Quantitative intra-operative assessment of peritoneal carcinomatosis – a comparison of three prognostic tools

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Aims: To compare the efficacy of three quantitative intra-operative assessment tools of peritoneal carcinomatosis used to select patients for combined modality treatment of cytoreductive surgery and Hyperthermic Intra-PEritoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC).

Methods: 92 procedures performed between 1999 and 2005 were prospectively scored using the Simplified Peritoneal Cancer Index (SPCI) and a 7 Region Count. Using the SPCI tool, operative notes and pathological reports patients were retrospectively scored using the Peritoneal Cancer Index (PCI). The predictive power of the three prognostic tools on completeness of cytoreduction and overall survival was evaluated by a logistic regression and a receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve. Results: After a median follow-up of 31 months, the median overall survival was 25.6 months. The overall survival decreased from 26.2 to 7.3 months, when cytoreduction was incomplete (p = 0.001, hazard ratio 3.9, 95% CI 1.7-8.8). In the univariate analysis, both an increased PCI and SPCI, as well as an increased number of regions were associated with a decrease in probability of complete cytoreduction (p < 0.05). With complete cytoreduction as outcome, the ROC area for the PCI, SPCI and 7 Region Count were 0.92, 0.94 and 0.90 respectively (p = 0.14). Using a cut-off value of 16 in the PCI system (p = 0.03), 13 in the SPCI system (p = 0.04) and 6 regions in the 7 Region Count (p = 0.0002) the overall survival decreased significantly when the cut-off was scored or exceeded. Conclusion: The PCI and the SPCI scoring systems, as well as the 7 Region Count, are useful and equally effective prognostic tools for completeness of cytoreduction and associated survival after cytoreductive surgery and intra-operative HIPEC. The 7 Region Count is adequate and may be preferred due to its practical simplicity.

3073 POSTER

Optimisation of radiotherapy planning for rectal cancer: a comparison of supine CT and MRI defined target and normal tissue dose volume data

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Background: We have previously demonstrated that the volume of bowel receiving higher dose levels in the pelvic radiation field for rectal cancer is not significantly different in the prone or supine position. This planning study compares supine CT and MRI defined gross tumour volumes (GTV) and planned target volumes (PTV), and dose to organs at risk (OAR). Materials and Methods: 20 patients undergoing preoperative chemoradiotherapy (CRT) for rectal cancer had planning CT scans in the prone and supine positions. Patients then had a T2 MRI scan in the same supine position. MR datasets were imported into Pinnacle TPS version 7.4f and manually fused with CT datasets, using bony anatomy. GTVs were delineated for CT (GTVCT) and MR (GTVMR) plans. All GTVs were reviewed by a single radiologist (GB). PTV Phase I and II were defined (PTVCT, MR Phase I, II). The Phase II volume encompassed the entire portion of the rectum containing the tumour with a 2 cm margin in all dimensions. OARs (bladder, femoral heads, penile bulb, levators and bowel within and 2 cm superior to the PTV) were outlined.

All patients received CT-planned conformal RT, phase I pelvis: 45 Gy/25 fractions and phase II: 5–9 Gy/3–5 fractions. A 3 field conformal technique using multi-leaf collimation was employed for both phases. The volume of each OAR receiving doses in increments of 5 Gy to 50 Gy was calculated using Dose Volume Histograms (DVH) of composite phase I and II plans. P-values were obtained using a student t-test.

Results: For these first 5 patients analysed, GTVMR were consistently smaller than GTVCT (31.943 vs 38.877; 9.061 vs 7.092; 19.656 vs 35.284; 3.281 vs 16.36; 187.523 vs 277.833, all cm³, p=0.21). While PTVCT and PTVMR phase I volumes were similar, PTVMR phase II were significantly smaller than PTVCT volumes in all cases (565.88 vs 625.258; 270.104 vs 293.172; 364.378 vs 450.457; 464.169 vs 712.476; 1017.92 vs 1126.93, all cm³, p=0.05). Composite OAR DVHs are currently similar for all dose levels.

Conclusions: MRI planning results in a trend to smaller GTVs and significantly smaller phase II volumes, and may prove to reduce dose to OARs. Given the proven superiority of MRI over CT in staging and delineation of rectal tumours, it is assumed that these smaller MR volumes are more accurate. Final results will be presented at the meeting.

3074 POSTER

Pulmonary resection for metastases from colorectal cancer

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Background: The lung is the most common extra-abdominal site for metastases from colorectal cancer. Patients with untreated metastatic disease have a median survival of less than 10 months and a 5-year survival of less than 5%.

The purpose of this study was to evaluate long-term survival in patients who underwent pulmonary resection for metastases from colorectal cancer.

Methods: Between Jan 1990 and Jan 2005, 23 patients underwent 29 operations for resection of lung metastases.

Results: Median age was 68 years (range: 46–80 years). Median follow-up was 30 months (range: 12–149 months). The two-year and five-year overall survival was 64% and 26% respectively. Of the 23 patients, 16 patients had a solitary lesion and 7 patients had multiple lesions. The five-year survival was 23% and 33%, respectively (NS).

The median disease free interval (DFI) – the interval between colon resection and the appearance of lung metastases – was 43 months (1–168). Ten patients had a DFI < 36 months and 13 patients had a DFI of more than 36 months. The three-year survival was 20% and 38%, respectively (NS)

Recurrence of lung metastases was diagnosed in 7 patients; 3 patients underwent a second resection. They are are alive today with a median follow-up of 18 months. Patients who did not undergo a second resection had a median survival of 12 months.