

Methods and Materials: Between September 2009 and march 2011, we treated 13 patients with sinonasal tumours and 7 with nasopharyngeal tumours through HT in our institution. 14 patients were males and 6 females, with a mean age of 55 (range 40–81).

Sinonasal tumour location was: 6 nasal cavity, 5 ethmoid cells, 1 maxillary sinus and 1 multiple location. Pathologically, there were 4 squamous cell, 3 adenoid cystic, 3 intestinal-type adenocarcinoma, 2 small cell neuroendocrine and 1 undifferentiated neuroendocrine large cell. 12 patients of them presented locally advanced disease (cT3–4) with nodal involvement in only 2 patients. Partial resection was performed in 10 prior to radiotherapy.

Nasopharyngeal tumours were UICC stage I in 1 case, stage II in 2 and stage III in 4. All of them were pathologically lymphoepithelial carcinoma. 11 patients received concomitant platinum-based chemotherapy and 2 concomitant cetuximab.

Results: For sinonasal tumours, the median prescribed dose was 64.8 Gy (range 56–70) reaching a coverage of 90%. Elective nodal irradiation has not been performed in any patient. The median maximum dose values in the OAR were: ipsilateral optic nerve 57.7 Gy (range 34.58–62); contralateral optic nerve 52.5 Gy (range 23.5–58.4); optic chiasm 49.4 Gy (range 21.3–56.2); ipsilateral lens 12.4 Gy (range 8.1–51.5); contralateral lens 12.4 Gy (range 7.93–20.3); brainstem 52.4 Gy (range 27.3–61.6), spinal cord 30.3 Gy (range 13.9–41.2) and 20% oral cavity received 45 Gy. Should be noticed that dose level admitted to ipsilateral optical structures has been over the known tolerance in order to achieve control dose in PTV when previous blindness.

For nasopharyngeal tumours the median prescribed dose was 69.6 Gy (range 68.5–70) reaching a coverage of 95% of the PTV. Elective nodal irradiation was performed in every patient, reaching a coverage of 96% of PTV by 55 Gy. The median maximum dose values in the OAR were: spinal cord 37.15 Gy (range 31.2–45.6); brainstem 56.41 Gy (range 41.13–64.2); ipsilateral and contralateral optic nerves: 50.8 Gy (range 41.5–55.7) and 50.7 Gy (range 34.2–54.2) respectively.

14 patients presented grade 2–3 acute mucositis and 2 patients presented grade 1 conjunctivitis. With a median follow up of 7 months: 6 patients presented complete response; 3, partial response; 5 stable disease; 1 patient died. No available follow up for 5 patients.

Conclusion: Helical tomotherapy provides an accurate and reasonably tolerated treatment for tumours that involve the optical structures or are close to them. Further experience and protracted follow up is needed in order to evaluate late neurological toxicity.

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POSTER

Radiotherapy for High-risk Thyroid Malignancies – Report of Acute Toxicities of a Phase I Sequential Cohort Dose-escalation IMRT Study

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Background: The primary objective of this Phase I sequential cohort study was to determine the feasibility of delivering modest acceleration and dose-escalated IMRT in locally advanced high-risk thyroid cancers. We report the incidence and prevalence of acute toxicities of 2 dose fractionation regimens.

Methods and Materials: Patients with high-risk locally advanced thyroid cancer (medullary, differentiated and Hurthle) who required post-operative radiotherapy (RT) were recruited. Dose level 1 (DL1) delivered 58.8 Gy/28 fractions (F) (daily) to the primary tumour bed and involved nodes and 50 Gy/28 F to the elective nodes. Dose level 2 (DL2) delivered 66.6 Gy/30 F (daily) to the primary tumour bed, 60 Gy/30 F to the involved nodes and 54 Gy/30 F to the elective nodes. Acute toxicities (NCI-CTCAE v.3.0) were collected weekly during radiotherapy and weeks 1–4 and week 8 after RT. Late toxicities (RTOG and LENTISOMA) were recorded at 3, 6, 12, 18, 24 months and yearly to 5 years. Each DL recruited 15 patients with expansion of the cohort to 30 patients if one patient experienced high grade (G) (\geq G3) at 1 year. Dose limiting toxicity was defined as \geq 2/30 patients experiencing \geq G3 at 1 year.

Results: Between 02/2002 and 12/2010, 15 patients were enrolled to DL1 and 30 patients to DL2. Indications for RT were: locally advanced disease with positive resection margins and/or extensive nodal disease. Incidences of G2 and G3 toxicities in DL1 were: dermatitis (29%, 36%), dysphagia (64%, 29%), fatigue (50%, 7%), mucositis (50%, 29%), pain (43%, 21%) and xerostomia (23%, 8%). For DL2, incidences of G2 and G3 toxicities were: dermatitis (52%, 21%), dysphagia (62%, 17%), fatigue (38%, 0%), mucositis (45%, 10%), pain (55%, 14%) and xerostomia (55%, 10%). All patients completed RT without treatment breaks. Peak prevalence of G3 dysphagia was at 6 weeks post IMRT for DL1 (29%) recovering to 0% at

8 weeks post-RT and at 1 week post RT for DL2 (17%) recovering to 5% at 8 weeks post-RT.

Conclusions: Modest acceleration and dose-escalation is safe and feasible. The incidence and prevalence of acute toxicities are similar in both cohorts. Longer follow-up is required to determine if dose-escalation continues to be safe at 1 year post-RT and whether there is any impact on local control.

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POSTER

Laryngeal Carcinoma in Young Adults Under Forty Years Old

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Background: Larynx cancer represents 5% of all the male cancers and 25% of the upper digestive airways. These cancers are mainly noticed men (95% of the cases), from 45 years to 70 years old. They are rare before the age of 40 (5%). Laryngeal cancer often occurs in alcoholic-smoking patients leading to a late diagnosis problem.

Material and Methods: This is a retrospective study involving a series of larynx cancer in the subject under 40 years old over a period of 10 years. We report the findings of our experience as well as a review of literature. The overall survival was calculated according to Kaplan–Meier method.

Results: During this period, 880 patients were treated for larynx cancer. Among them, 23 patients were under the age of 40 years, but only 13 patients were evaluable. The mean age of our patients was 35 years with extremes of 25 to 40 years. 69.5% of the patients were smokers. Dysphonia was the most frequent motive behind consultation. It was noticed in 19 patients (82.6%). The affection of three floors of the larynx has been reported in 15 patients.

The extra laryngeal extension was noticed in 10 patients. Nine patients underwent whole laryngectomy combined to lymph dissection; 4 of them bilateral and 4 were homolateral, one patient underwent saving laryngectomy without lymph dissection.

Among the 8 nodes samplings, 3 were metastatic with capsular rupture. The chemotherapy–radiotherapy association with curative aim was used in 9 patients.

8 patients are in complete remission. 4 patients had therapeutic failure and one is lost to follow-up.

Conclusion: Larynx epidermoid carcinoma, despite its rareness has to be evoked whenever there is a chronic dysphonia in the young subject even in the absence of risk-factors. This allows diagnosis and precocious treatment. The biologic behaviour of the larynx epidermoid carcinomas in young adult patients does not seem to be worse than larynx cancers of comparable size in older patients. The treatment must lead to a compromise between the aggressive character of larynx epidermoid carcinomas and the importance of the psychological impact of the functional sequels caused by radical surgical treatment.

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POSTER

The Characteristics of Tumour and Involved Lymph Nodes in Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Related Oropharyngeal Carcinoma Determined by Gross Tumour Volumes (GTV) Defined for Radiotherapy Planning

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Background: HPV-related [HPV(+)] oropharyngeal carcinoma (OPC) has well described differences in epidemiology and prognosis compared to HPV-unrelated [HPV(–)] OPC. The differences in the distribution of gross disease are less well described. This study compared the characteristics and distribution of primary tumour and involved lymph nodes (LNs) between HPV(+) and HPV(–) OPCs based on gross tumour volumes (GTVs) defined for radiotherapy (RT) planning.

Methods and Materials: All OPC patients treated with IMRT from 2005–2009 were included. HPV status was ascertained by p16 staining. GTV of primary tumour (GTV-T) and LN (GTV-N) were delineated on planning CT for treatment by Radiation Oncologists blinded to HPV status. GTV-N was defined as a nodal GTV designated to receive full RT dose. Clinical and radiological features (location, dimensions, number and volume) were determined for GTV-T and GTV-N and compared between HPV(+) and HPV(–) OPCs.

Results: HPV status was evaluated in 230/499 (46%) OPC cases, revealing 180 (78%) HPV(+) and 50 (22%) HPV(–). HPV(+) OPC arose almost exclusively in tonsil or base of tongue compared to HPV(–) (96% vs. 66%, $p < 0.01$), for whom 34% arose in soft palate, or pharyngeal walls. HPV(+) OPC was less likely to be T4 (16% vs. 30%, $p = 0.03$) with smaller GTV-T (81% < 6 cm vs. 70%, $p = 0.03$) and (70% ≤ 30 cc vs. 54%, $p = 0.03$). A GTV-N was defined in 90% of HPV(+) cases in contrast to 76% of HPV(–) cases ($p = 0.01$). The largest GTV-N was larger for HPV(+) cases (82%