

# Precision Radiation Therapy for locally advanced unresectable pancreatic cancer



# Outline of session

- Principles and practice of precision RT with a focus on Stereotactic Ablative Body Radiotherapy (SABR)
- Evidence base in Pancreatic Cancer  
Published data, Patient – public input and UK Clinical Oncology perspectives
- Future developments on the horizon  
Promise of newer technologies



# Core principles for Precision RT

- Image Guided RT = IGRT
  - Patient derived treatment volumes (personalised)
  - Adaptive Treatment (on line imaging)
  - Motion management
- High Dose to Target Volume
  - Increasing Biological effective doses (BED)
    - dose per treatment higher than conventional regimes (e.g. SABR)
    - Addition of drug to sensitise to RT or RT to sensitise to drug (e.g immune priming) or Drug to protect normal tissue to allow increase dose to tumour
- Maximal sparing of normal tissue
  - Dose sculpting
  - Knowing when / how to compromise dose / target coverage



# Pancreatic RT challenges

- Target Volume delineation

  - Difficult to outline

  - Imaging underestimates tumour

- Organs at Risk

  - Close proximity

  - Narrow therapeutic index

- Motion



# Principles of radiation therapy in Pancreatic tumours

## Therapeutic Index

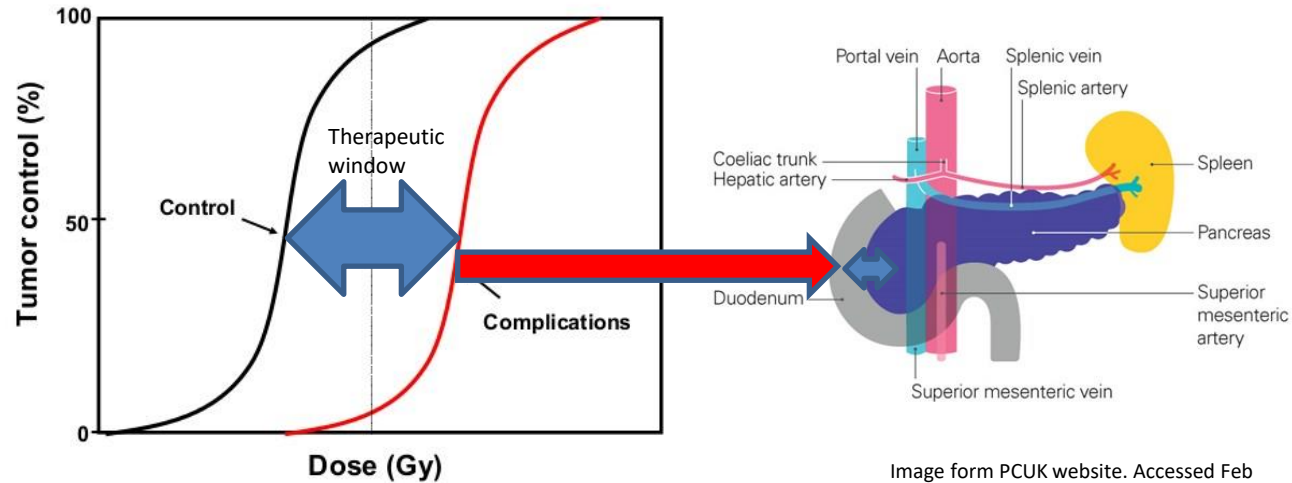
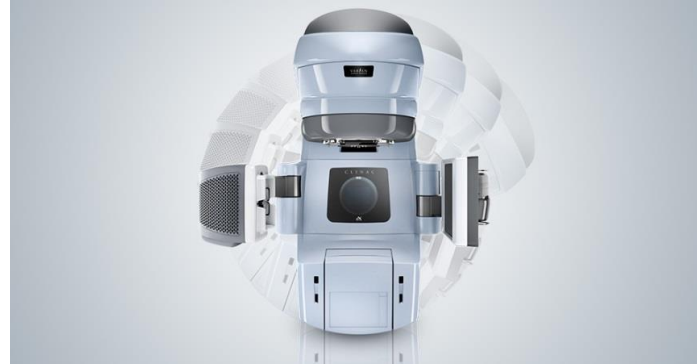


Image from PCUK website. Accessed Feb 2019



# Linear Accelerators



# SABR

Stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR) refers to the precise irradiation of an image-defined extra-cranial lesion with the use of high radiation dose in a small number of fractions

UK SABR Consortium guidelines 2013





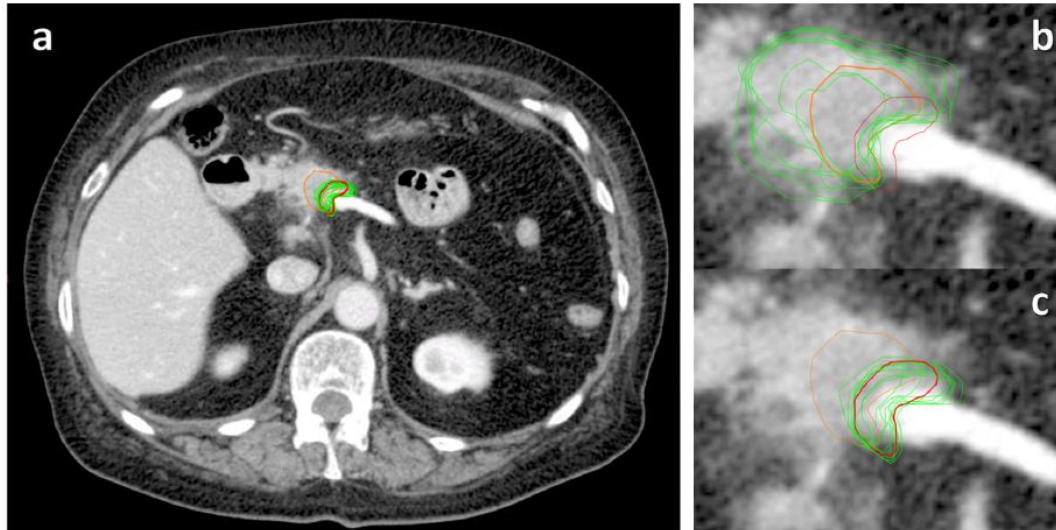
Pancreatic cancer SBRT

## Conformity analysis to demonstrate reproducibility of target volumes for Margin-Intense Stereotactic Radiotherapy for borderline-resectable pancreatic cancer



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Target volume definition

## Comparison of investigator-delineated gross tumour volumes and quality assurance in pancreatic cancer: Analysis of the on-trial cases for the SCALOP trial



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		Univariable analysis				Multivariable analysis			
		n	Odds ratio	95% CIs	p	n	Odds ratio	95% CIs	p
gsGTV	continuous	58	1.02	0.98–1.05	0.341	58	0.99	0.96–1.04	0.876
JCI GTV	<0.7	32	1.00			32	1.00		
	≥0.7	26	5.71	1.81–18.08	0.003	26	7.43	1.86–29.7	0.005
JCI PTV	<0.8	28	1.00						
	≥0.8	30	2.5	0.84–7.42	0.099				
Trial arm	Cem	35	1.00			27	1.00		
	Cape	35	0.65	0.24–1.82	0.355	31	0.57	0.15–2.21	0.417
WHO PS	0	29	1.00			24	1.00		
	1–2	41	1.41	0.54–3.73	0.484	34	1.45	0.39–5.43	0.583
Sex	Male	40	1.00			34	1.00		
	Female	30	2.12	0.81–5.59	0.127	24	2.94	0.77–11.21	0.113
Age	<65	36	1.00			30	1.00		
	≥65	34	0.55	0.21–1.42	0.216	28	1.43	0.33–6.11	0.632
RT fractions	0–26	12	1.00			10	1.00		
	27+	50	0.47	0.13–1.66	0.240	48	0.57	0.11–3.03	0.508





Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

## Radiotherapy and Oncology

journal homepage: [www.thegreenjournal.com](http://www.thegreenjournal.com)



Pancreatic cancer

### MRI-based tumor motion characterization and gating schemes for radiation therapy of pancreatic cancer

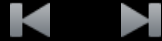


Hanne D. Heerkens<sup>a,\*</sup>, Marco van Vulpen<sup>a</sup>, Cornelis A.T. van den Berg<sup>a</sup>, Rob H.N. Tijssen<sup>a</sup>, Sjoerd P.M. Crijns<sup>a</sup>, Izaak Q. Molenaar<sup>b</sup>, Hjalmar C. van Santvoort<sup>b</sup>, Onne Reerink<sup>a</sup>, Gert J. Meijer<sup>a</sup>

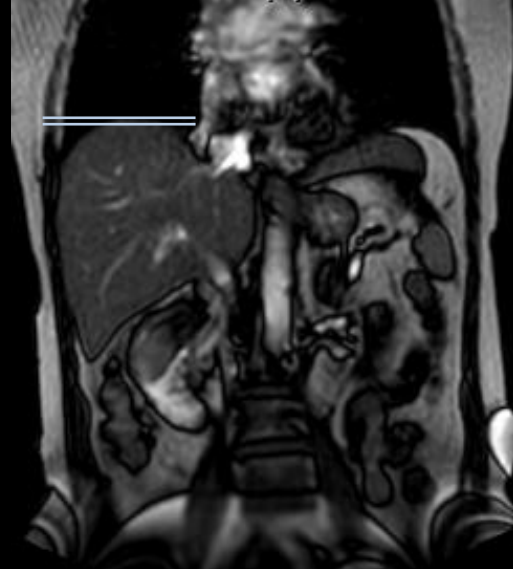
<sup>a</sup>Department of Radiotherapy; and <sup>b</sup>Department of Surgery, University Medical Center Utrecht, The Netherlands

Motion management strategies crucial for precision RT delivery





F1



r1



Slide courtesy John Rogers & Lisa McDaid

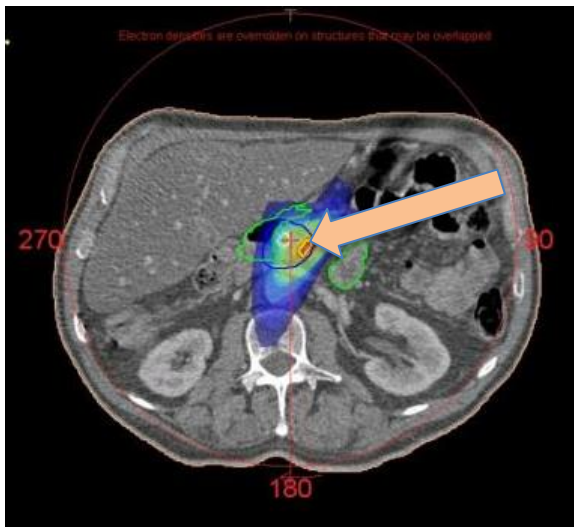
The evidence build

# SABR FOR PANCREATIC CANCER

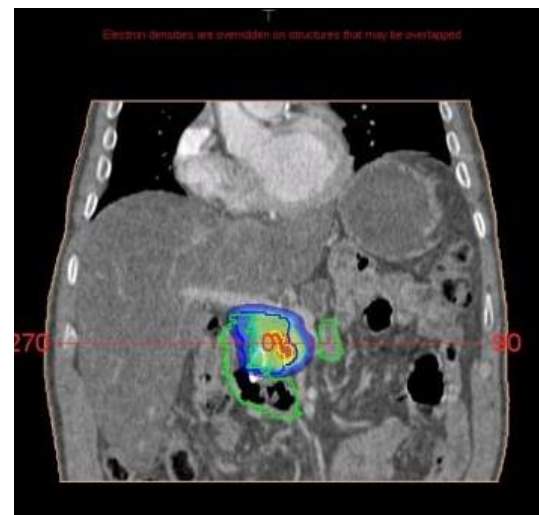


# SABR pancreas

- High dose to vessel contact



- Dose sculpting away from duodenum



# Pooled analysis SABR for LAPC

- 19 published series (1009 pts); follow up 6-21 months
- **Heterogeneous** with including LAPC and BRPC, different SACT schedules and regimens, variable dose- fractionation, varying platforms
- $BED_{10}$  37.5 – 120 Gy
- 1 year OS = 51.6% (13 trials) median OS = 5.7 – 47 months
- Local Control rates = 72.3% (95%CI 58.5%- 79%)  
Total dose and higher fractions significantly better 1year LCR
- PFS = 4.8 – 27 months
- Toxicity = late G3/4 < 11% ;  
in 6 series g3/4 rate 0%



# Level 1B evidence

## Cancer

Original Article

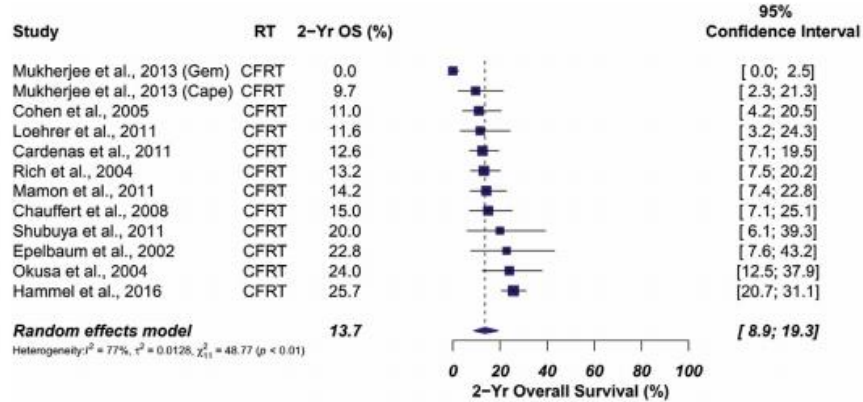
Conventionally fractionated radiation therapy versus stereotactic body radiation therapy for locally advanced pancreatic cancer (CRiSP): An international systematic review and meta-analysis

Leila T. Tchelebi MD , Eric J. Lehrer MD, Daniel M. Trifiletti MD, Navesh K. Sharma DO, Niraj J. Gusani MD, MS, Christopher H. Crane MD, Nicholas G. Zaorsky MD

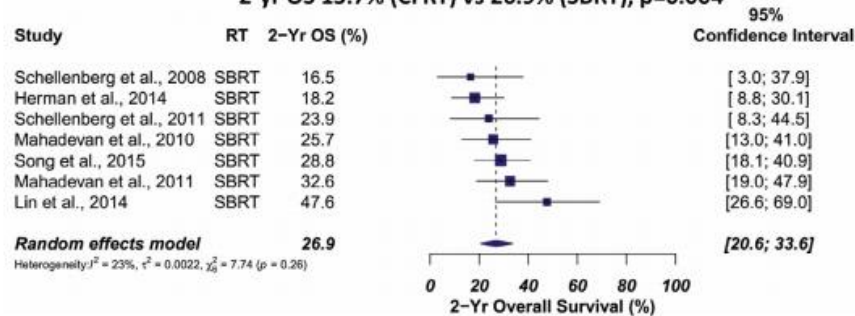
First published: 03 March 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/cncr.32756> | Citations: 5



# 2 year survival



2-yr OS 13.7% (CFRT) vs 26.9% (SBRT),  $p=0.004$



Superior 2Yr OS favouring SABR (statistically significant  $p < 0.05$ )





# Side effect profile



Grade 3-4 Acute Tox 37.7% (CFRT) vs 5.6% (SBRT),  $p=0.013$

Grade 3-4 Late Tox 10.1% (CFRT) vs 9.0% (SBRT),  $p=0.85$



Less acute toxicity and trend towards less late toxicity favouring SABR



# Potential benefits of SABR

- Reduction in number of treatment visits  
Jones, C.M., *et al. Br J Cancer* **123**, 709–713 (2020).
- Longer freedom from treatment time / PFS  
Suker et al. *EClinicalMed* 17(2019)
- Improved local control  
Tangible benefit in reduction in pain  
Herman et al. *Cancer* April 2015
- Effects of SABR beyond primary disease control  
Griffin et al. *IJROBP* 2020. 107(4); 766-778
- Improved tolerability



LETTER | [VOLUME 33, ISSUE 3, E198, MARCH 01, 2021](#)

Purchase

## Stereotactic Ablative Body Radiotherapy for Locally Advanced Unresectable Pancreatic Cancer: Current Views of the Public and Professionals

[A. Brocklehurst](#) • [C.L. Barker](#) • [S. Mukherjee](#) • ... [A. Lakey](#) • [H. Smith](#) • [G. Radhakrishna](#) • [Show all authors](#)Published: November 03, 2020 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clon.2020.10.015> •

Check for updates



# Patient- carer perspective – PCUK project



The Christie  
NHS Foundation Trust

- The PPE was conducted in a virtual format

online survey (8 participants) or join an online focus group with Consultant Clinical Oncologists (5 participants).

Baseline knowledge was low with 50% having no prior knowledge of SABR and 75% unaware of its role in LAPC.

If SABR was offered 92.3% (12 of 13) would opt for this as the treatment of choice over CRT discussions highlighted that the rationale for this approach should be clearly presented.

The group emphasised quality of life as a key potential advantage of SABR, 100% feeling avoidance of chemotherapy, and 87.5% reduction in hospital visits - important or very important.

75% were prepared to travel for access to SABR.



# Clinical Oncologists perspective

- 25 HPB Clinical Oncology consultants across 21 UK centres.
- Support for SABR in LAPC was high:
- 100% felt it would be supported by local MDT and 96% agreed to offer within this indication.
- Capacity for implementation was limited with only 68% of centres able to adapt current
- equipment for abdominal SABR and 72% requiring support to establish the service in their centre.
- Suggestions included external peer review (73% support), CPD accredited training (68% support) and mentoring from another institution (43% support).



# RT options

- Dose fractionation schedules

Selection based on expertise

Usually adapted based on Organ at Risk tolerances / Treatment volume



# Key outcome data SCALOP 2

	50.4 Gy in 28# (n= 45)	60 Gy in 30# (n= 46)	Events* within 12 months of registration n (%)	50.4 Gy in 28# Arms A+B (n= 45)	60 Gy in 30# Arms C+D (n= 46)
			Local progression (with or without metastasis)	15 (33.3)	11 (23.9)
<b>Induction chemo</b>			Metastasis (no local progression)	11 (24.4)	16 (34.8)
Total no. of patients with grade 1-5 SAEs	20 (44.4)	30 (65.2)	Deaths	11 (24.4)	12 (26.1)
Total no. of patients with SARs/SUSARs	13 (28.9)	22 (47.8)	Evidence of local progression (with or without metastasis)	7	3
Patients with grade 3-4 SAEs	13 (28.9)	24 (52.2)	No local progression	4	9
Patients with grade 3-4 SARs/SUSARs	8 (17.8)	16 (34.8)	Deaths before any known progression	0	0
<b>CRT</b>	(40 started CRT)	(39 started CRT)			
Total no. of patients with grade 1-5 SAEs	9 (20)	6 (13)			
Total no. of patients with SARs/SUSARs	5 (11.1)	4 (8.7)			
Patients with grade 3-4 SAEs	8 (17.8)	6 (13)			
Patients with grade 3-4 SARs/SUSARs	5 (11.1)	4 (8.7)			

Slide information courtesy Dr. S Mukherjee

# Fractionation schedules

- Chemo radiation

1.8 – 2Gy per fraction – scalop 2

ESMO 2022

28 – 30 treatments over 5.5 to 6 weeks

- 15 fraction option

As per pre op panc

Usually concurrent with chemo (capecitabine or gemcitabine)

Can be RT alone if ultrahypofractionated to 67.5Gy in 15 fractions

- Koay EJ, Hanania AN, Hall WA, et al. Dose-Escalated Radiation Therapy for Pancreatic Cancer: A Simultaneous Integrated Boost Approach. *Pract Radiat Oncol.* 2020;10(6):e495-e507. doi:10.1016/j.prro.2020.01.012
- 6. Colbert LE, Moinigi S, Chadha A, et al. Dose escalation with an IMRT technique in 15 to 28 fractions is better tolerated than standard doses of 3DCRT for LAPC. *Adv Radiat Oncol.* 2017;2(3):403-415. doi:10.1016/j.adro.2017.02.004
- 7. Reyngold M, Parikh P, Crane CH. Ablative radiation therapy for locally advanced pancreatic cancer: techniques and results. *Radiation Oncology.* 2019;14(1):95. doi:10.1186/s13014-019-1309-x
- 8. Crane CH. Hypofractionated ablative radiotherapy for locally advanced pancreatic cancer. *J Radiat Res.* 2016;57(S1):i53-i57. doi:10.1093/jrr/rrw016
- 9. Krishnan S, Chadha AS, Suh Y, et al. Focal Radiation Therapy Dose Escalation Improves Overall Survival in Locally Advanced Pancreatic Cancer Patients Receiving Induction Chemotherapy and Consolidative Chemoradiation. *International Journal of Radiation Oncology\*Biophysics.* 2016;94(4). doi:10.1016/j.ijrobp.2015.12.003





The promise of newer technology

# IMPROVING THE THERAPEUTIC INDEX



# MR\_Linac



Original Report

## Recommendations for MRI-based contouring of gross tumor volume and organs at risk for radiation therapy of pancreatic cancer



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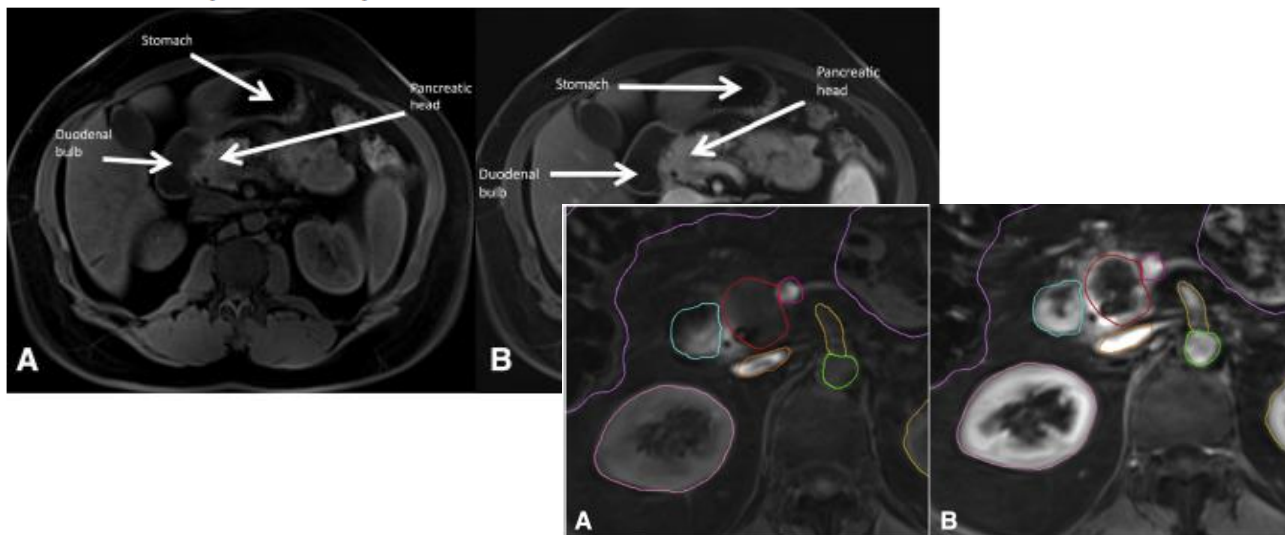
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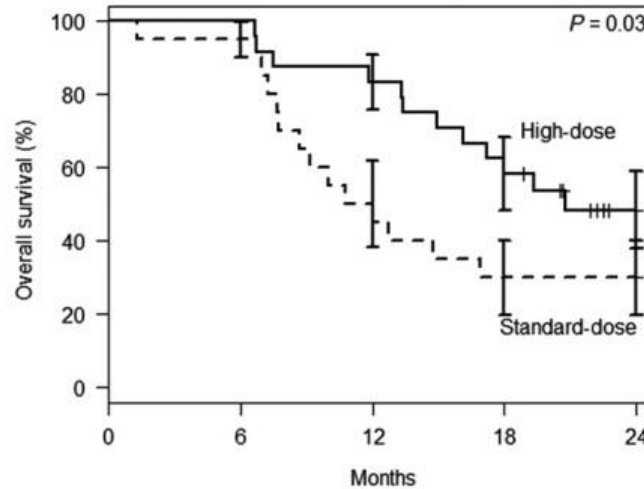
<sup>f</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Royal Marsden Hospital London, England

Received 8 September 2016; accepted 10 October 2016





# Dose escalation with MRgRT



High-dose	24	24	20	14	5
Standard-dose	20	19	10	6	5

Multicentre, retrospective cohort from 5 centres

Improved outcomes with BED > 70Gy

- 2 year OS high dose vs. standard dose = 49% vs. 30%
- 2 year FFLP high dose vs. standard dose = 77% vs. 57%



# Stereotactic MR guided Adaptive Radiotherapy SMART

- Development of Phase 2 studies underway
- Opportunity to evaluate dose escalation with MRgRT

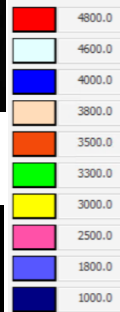
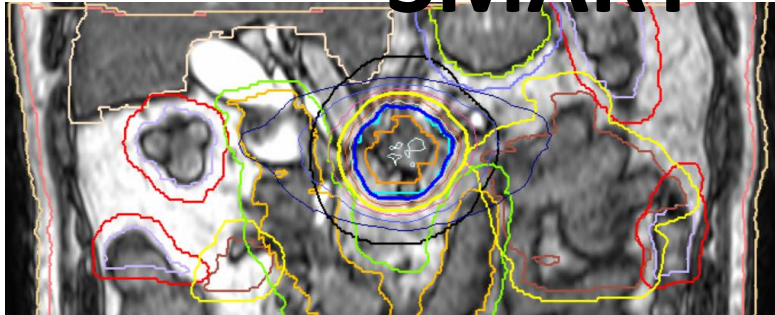


# SABR MRg ART and SMART

Stereotactic MR-guided online adaptive radiotherapy (SMART)

utilises advanced image guidance with sufficient quality to visualise the tumour and OAR and adapt the plan to daily anatomy

allowing for safe dose escalation.



pre

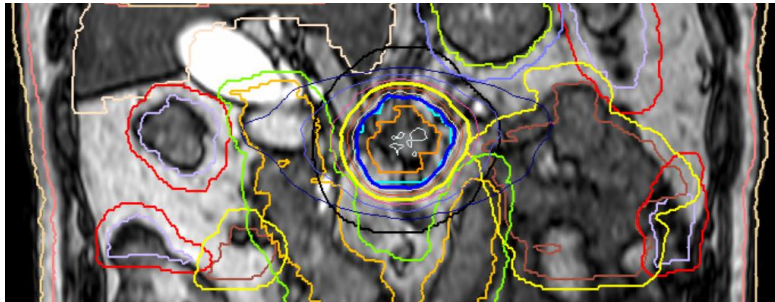




Image courtesy K.Owczarczyk

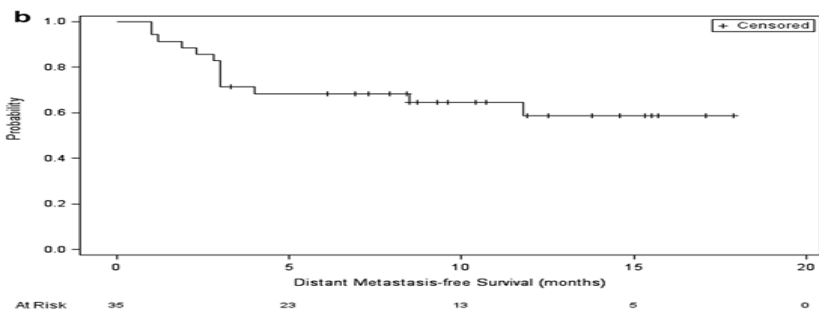
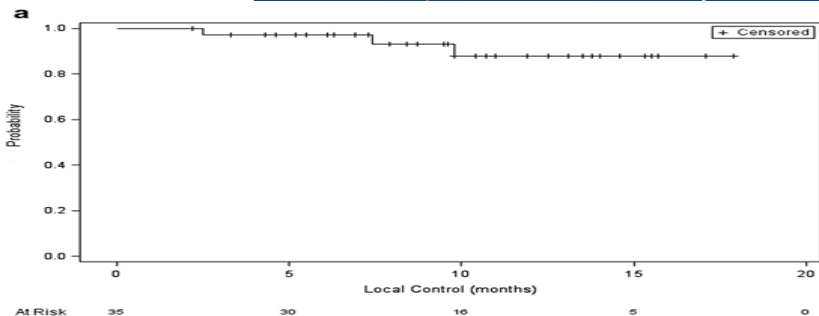


BASIC ORIGINAL REPORT | VOLUME 11, ISSUE 2, P134-147, MARCH 01, 2021

# Ablative 5-Fraction Stereotactic Magnetic Resonance–Guided Radiation Therapy With On-Table Adaptive Replanning and Elective Nodal Irradiation for Inoperable Pancreas Cancer

Michael D. Chuong, MD   • John Bryant, BS • Kathryn E. Mittauer, PhD • ... Vivek Mishra, PhD • Gustavo Luciani, CMD • Alonso N. Gutierrez, PhD, MBA • [Show all authors](#)

[Open Access](#) • Published: September 15, 2020 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.prro.2020.09.005> •



Single inst n= 35  
 50Gy in 5F ; BED  
 100Gy<sub>10</sub>  
 > 90% Induction  
 SACT

G3 acute & late toxicity  
 2.9%  
 1 Yr LCR = 87.8%  
 1 Yr DMFS = 63.1%  
 1 yr OS = 58.9%



1

Roll out of SABR will be underway  
SOON

- First phase within next few months with national roll out from November onwards

2

Access to treatment

- Determine pathways and MDTs aware and refer appropriately

3

Need for clinical trials

- Biomarker driven trials Precision oncology
- Integrating technologies , e.g. SMART (Stereotactic MR-guided Adaptive RT) and PBT
- EMERALD trial Som Mukherjee – oxford
- Accelerate drug-RT studies integrating SABR type options into Systemic treatment and use of newer agents e.g Immuno
- GRECO – Ajith Thankamma - Cambridge



# Acknowledgements

- Patients and carers
- PCUK team
  - Dr C Macdonald
  - Harri Smith and Anna Lakey
  - Abi Lester
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- Pancreatic Technical RT teams at the Christie and Leeds

