

Long-term results of dose escalation (80 vs 70 Gy) combined with long-term androgen deprivation in high-risk prostate cancers: GETUG-AFU 18 randomized trial.

Christophe Hennequin, Paul Sargos, Lise Roca, Marlon Silva, Igor Latorzeff, Didier Peiffert, Salvatore Cozzi, Ahmed Benyoucef, Ali Hasbini, Stephane Supiot, Philippe Ronchin, Thierry Wachter, David Azria, Pierre-Etienne Cailleux, Luc Cormier, Mallik Zibouche, Grégoire Pigné, French Genito-Urinary Tumours Study Group (GETUG); Department of Radiation Oncology, Saint-Louis Hospital, Paris, France; Department of Radiation Oncology, Institut Bergonié, Bordeaux, France; Montpellier Cancer Institute, Montpellier, France; Centre François Baclesse, Caen, France; Groupe Oncorad Garonne, Toulouse, France; Cancer Institute of Lorraine, Vandœuvre-Lès-Nancy, France; Leon Berard Cancer Center, Lyon, France; Henri Becquerel Center, Rouen, France; Finisterian Center of Radiotherapy and Oncology, Brest, France; Institut de Cancérologie de l'Ouest, Saint Herblain, France; Azuréen Center of Oncology, Mougins, France; Regional University Hospital of Orléans, Orléans, France; Department of Radiation Oncology, Montpellier Cancer Institute ICM, Montpellier, France; Oncology and Radiotherapy Center 37, Chambray -Les-Tours, France; University Hospital of Dijon - Urology, Dijon, France; Unicancer - GETUG Groupe, Paris, France; University Institute of Cancerology and Hematology of Saint-Etienne, Saint-Etienne, France

Background: Radiotherapy (RT) delivered in combination with androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) improve survival for patients with prostate adenocarcinoma. RT given at a dose of 80 Gy is generally well tolerated but the occurrence of grade 3-4 toxicities is significantly more frequent than at a dose of 70 Gy. Furthermore, ADT has been reported to increase RT-related toxicity. Thus, we aimed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of dose escalation in combination with long term ADT in high-risk prostate cancer patients. **Methods:** The GETUG-AFU 18 study, sponsored by Unicancer, is a phase III randomized trial. Eligible patient had high-risk (cT3-T4 or PSA \geq 20 ng/ml or Gleason score \geq 8-10) prostate adenocarcinoma with negative lymph-nodes status on CT-scan or MRI. Patients were randomly assigned to dose-escalated RT (80 Gy) or conventional-dose (70 Gy) with 3 years of ADT in both arms. Randomization (1:1) was stratified on pelvic lymph-nodes dissection (PLND; yes or no) and institution. Pelvic nodal irradiation (46 Gy) was performed for all patients except in case of negative PLND. The primary endpoint is the biochemical or clinical progression-free survival (bcPFS) at 5 years following ASTRO-Phoenix definition. Secondary endpoints are overall survival (OS), acute and late toxicity (CTCAE v3), and quality of life. To improve bcPFS from 65 to 75% (Hazard Ratios [HR] = 0.67), 500 patients were required (α = 5% and $1-\beta$ = 80%) with 197 events at 5 years. **Results:** 505 patients were included between June 2009 and January 2013. Main characteristics of the population were median age of 70.6 years (range 52-80); 268 (53.1%) patients with a Gleason score \geq 8; median PSA value of 13.8 ng/ml (0.4-109.9); 62.3% of patient with cT3, and 16.4% with PLND. There was no imbalance between groups for major prognostic factors. The bcPFS was significantly improved in the dose-escalated RT arm compared with conventional RT arm (HR = 0.56, [95% CI, 0.40-0.76], p = 0.0005). The 5-year bcPFS was 91.4% (95% CI, 87.0-94.4) and 88.1% (95% CI, 83.2-91.6), and the 7-year bcPFS 88.1% (95% CI, 83.1-91.7) and 79.2% (95% CI, 73.1-84.0) in dose-escalated RT and conventional RT, respectively. We did observe significant differences in prostate cancer-specific survival (HR = 0.48 [95% CI, 0.27-0.83], p = 0.0090) and overall survival (HR = 0.61 [95% CI, 0.44-0.85], p = 0.0039). No prognostic factors were identified for bcPFS. Regarding late toxicities, there was no significant difference between arms with 78.2% and 76.1% of \geq Grade 2 toxicity with dose-escalated RT and conventional RT, respectively. **Conclusions:** Dose-escalation RT in combination with long-term ADT is effective and safe, increasing not only the bcPFS rate but also specific survival and overall survival in high-risk prostate cancer patients without increasing long-term toxicity. Clinical trial information: NCT00967863. Research Sponsor: French National Cancer Institute; French National Cancer League; AstraZeneca.