

**THE ROLE OF RADIATION  
THERAPY IN  
MANAGEMENT OF  
PANCREATIC  
ADENOCARCINOMA**

**TIMUR MITIN, MD, PhD**

RESECTABLE DISEASE

# MANAGEMENT: RESECTABLE DISEASE

- Resection offers the only possibility of long term survival
- This possibility is not high:
  - 5 yr survival after R0 resection is ~20%
- Median survival for resectable disease is ~20 months

# A TALE OF TWO CONTINENTS

## United States (support for CRT)

- GITSG 91-73
- RTOG 97-04



## Europe (support for chemo alone)

- EORTC 40891
- ESCPAC-1
- CONKO-1 (chemo alone study)
- ESPAC-3 (chemo alone study)

# RTOG 97-04

## SECONDARY ANALYSIS

*Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2012 February 1; 82(2): 809–816. doi:10.1016/j.ijrobp.2010.11.039.

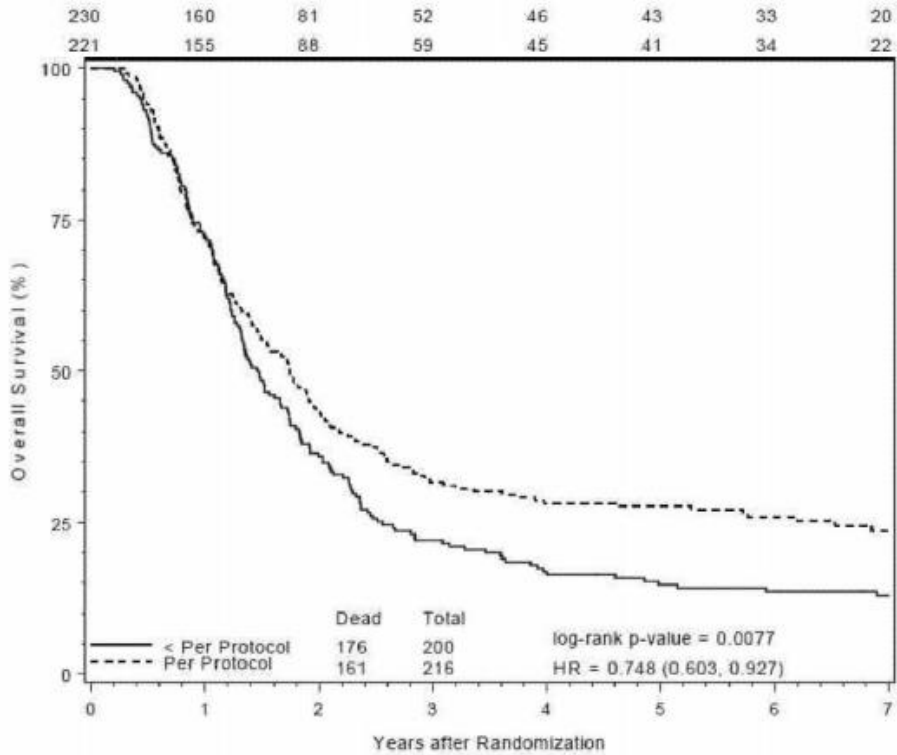
### **Failure to Adhere to Protocol Specified Radiation Therapy Guidelines Was Associated With Decreased Survival in RTOG 9704 - A Phase III Trial of Adjuvant Chemotherapy and Chemoradiotherapy for Patients with Resected Adenocarcinoma of the Pancreas**

Ross A. Abrams, M.D.<sup>1</sup>, Kathryn A. Winter, M.S.<sup>2</sup>, William F. Regine, M.D.<sup>3</sup>, Howard Safran, M.D.<sup>4</sup>, John P. Hoffman, M.D.<sup>5</sup>, Robert Lustig, M.D.<sup>2</sup>, Andre A. Konski, M.D.<sup>6</sup>, Al B. Benson, M.D.<sup>7</sup>, John S. Macdonald, M.D.<sup>8</sup>, Tyvin A. Rich, M.D.<sup>9</sup>, and Christopher G. Willett, M.D.<sup>10</sup>

# RTOG 97-04 SECONDARY ANALYSIS

## Patients at Risk

RT + 5-FU  
RT + Gemcitabine



## Patients at Risk

< Per Protocol  
Per Protocol

Years after Randomization	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
< Per Protocol	200	145	71	43	31	27	24	18
Per Protocol	216	154	93	64	56	54	40	21

# RTOG 97-04

## SECONDARY ANALYSIS

### Head of Pancreas Patients Only (n=359)

Adjustment Variables	Comparison	Adjusted HR	p-value <sup>†</sup>
Treatment	Gemcitabine vs. 5-FU	0.79 (0.62, 0.99)	0.043
Nodal Involvement	No vs. Yes	1.47 (1.13, 1.91)	0.0036
Tumor Diameter	<3 vs. ≥ 3cm	1.25 (0.98, 1.59)	0.070
Surgical Margin Status	Negative	Ref level	--
	Positive	1.07 (0.82, 1.40)	0.64
	Unknown	0.94 (0.69, 1.27)	0.68
RT QA Score	< PP vs. PP	0.75 (0.60, 0.95)	0.016

Abbreviations: 5-FU, fluorouracil; HR, hazard ratio; C.I., confidence interval

Hazard Ratio (HR) > 1 indicates increased risk of death for the second variable; HR < 1 indicates decreased risk of death for the second variable

<sup>†</sup> p-value from Chi-square test using the Cox proportional hazards model.

# RTOG 0848

S  
T  
R  
A  
T  
I  
F  
Y

Gemcitabine x 5 cycles

If no progression, then:

R  
A  
N  
D  
O  
M  
I  
Z  
E

Arm 3:  
1 cycle of chemotherapy

Arm 4:  
1 cycle of chemotherapy followed  
by  
XRT with either capecitabine or 5-  
FU

**Nodal Status:**

- 1: involved
- 2: uninvolved

**CA19-9 result:**

- 1:  $\leq 90$
- 2:  $> 90 - 180$

**Surgical margins:**

- 1: positive (R1)
- 2: negative (R0)

Accrual: 347/950



# SEER REGISTRY ANALYSIS

- National Propensity-Adjusted Analysis of Adjuvant RT
- McDade et al., Cancer 2010
  - 1988-2005, 5676 patients, 40% received adjuvant RT
  - Predictors of improved OS on MVA: white race, married status, earlier stage, tumors < 2 cm, well-differentiated path, LN-, recent diagnosis (within 6 years) and receipt of adjuvant RT.
  - RT: HR of 0.587 (0.545 – 0.631,  $p < 0.0001$ )
  - Benefit remained significant after propensity adjustment for the likelihood of receiving RT (HR 0.774; 0.719-0.834).
  - Median survival: 10 months no RT vs 18 months with RT ( $p < 0.0001$ )
- Sugawara et al., Journal of Surgical Oncology 2014
  - 2004 – 2009, 2532 patients, 40% received adjuvant RT
  - On MVA RT associated with improved cause-specific survival (HR 0.654) and OS (HR 0.647)
  - Median survival: 16 months no RT vs 20 months with RT ( $p < 0.0001$ )

# LOCAL VS SYSTEMIC DISEASE

- Most, but not all, pancreatic cancers are metastatic
  - 12% of patients with no metastatic disease at autopsy
  - 18% of patients with limited metastatic burden, not deemed directly contributing to their cause of death
- Genetic markers may help distinguish pancreatic cancer with predilection for local progression vs systemic spread
- SMAD4 (Dpc4) tumor suppressor gene
  - Lost in up to 80% of pancreatic cancers
  - Immunohistochemical assessment of SMAD4 protein is a reliable predictor of gene status
  - Loss in a surgically resectable carcinoma corresponds to a relative risk of 3.3 of development of widespread mets compared to those with intact Dpc4 labeling.

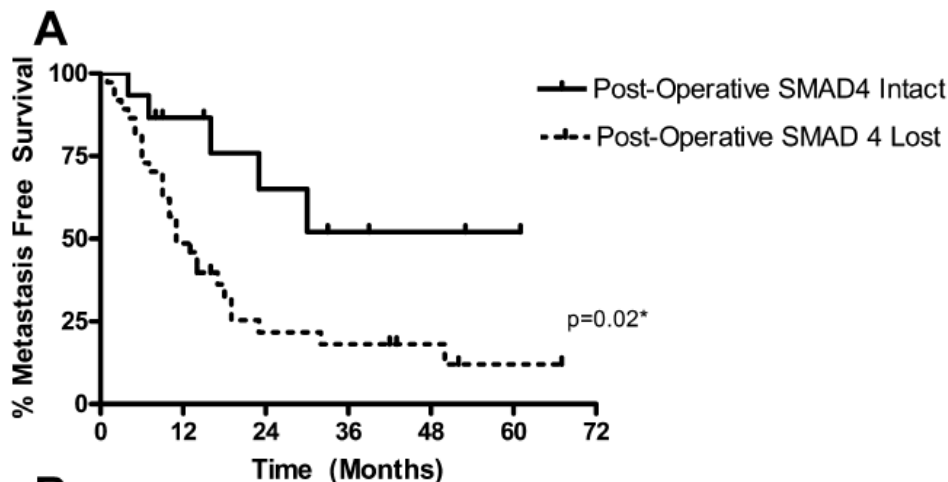
# SMAD4 GENE STATUS

**Table 3.** Relationship of Genetic Features to Patterns of Failure in Advanced Stage Pancreatic Cancer

Metastatic Burden by Gene for Primary Carcinoma	Locally Destructive				Locally Confined				<i>P</i>
	0		1-10		11-99		100s-1,000s		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
<i>KRAS2</i> (n = 59)	6/7	86	11/11	100	19/21	90	20/20	100	.283
							39/41; 95%		.672
<i>TP53</i> (n = 58)	6/6	100	6/11	54	16/21	76	18/20	90	.083
							34/41; 83%		.037
<i>DPC4</i> (n = 65)	2/9	22	5/11	45	17/24	71	16/22	73	.032
							33/46; 72%		.007

# SMAD4 GENE STATUS

- Boone et al., J of Surg Onc, 2014. Univ of Pittsburgh
  - Retrospective review of 117 patients undergoing resection
  - SMAD4 loss in 70%
  - Metastatic disease:
    - 13.3% vs 51.4% at 1 year
    - 36.8% vs 78.5% at 2 years
  - On logistic regression analysis:
    - SMAD4 loss was associated with 6 times odds ratio of developing metastatic disease
    - Neoadjuvant treatment did not affect the predictive value of preoperative SMAD4



**B**

# THE ROLE OF SBRT IN ADJUVANT SETTING

- 2006 – 2010, 24 patients at Univ of Pittsburgh
  - 8 patients with close margins of 1 – 2.5 mm
  - 16 patients with positive margins
- Single fraction SBRT 20-24 Gy
- Median target volume 11 cc (4.5 – 30 cc)
  
- Results:
  - Median followup 12.5 months
  - Median OS 26.7 months
  - OS1: 80%, OS2: 57%
  - Freedom from Local Progression:
    - at 6 mos: 95%, at 1 year 66%, at 2 years 44%
  - 19/24 patients resumed or started a 6-month course of gemcitabine at a median interval of 18 days (range, 9-31 days) post-SBRT
- Toxicity:
  - No grade 3 - 5 toxicity
  - 3 patients (12.5%) grade 1-2 acute GI toxicity
  - 2 patients (8.3%) grade 1-2 late toxicities

# THE ROLE OF SBRT IN ADJUVANT SETTING

- BIDMC, Boston
- 8 patients with pT3N0-1, positive margins
  - 7 head and 1 tail lesions
  - 10 Gy SBRT boost to positive margins, followed by 45-50.4 Gy of fractionated RT to pancreatic bed with concurrent capecitabine
  - With a median followup of 8.8 months:
    - PFS 75% (2 patients progressed systemically and died)
    - Remaining 6 patients were free of disease
    - 100% local control at death or last follow-up.

# LOCALLY ADVANCED DISEASE

# LOCALLY ADVANCED

- Median survival 7-12 months
- Ideally enroll on protocol



# GERCOR

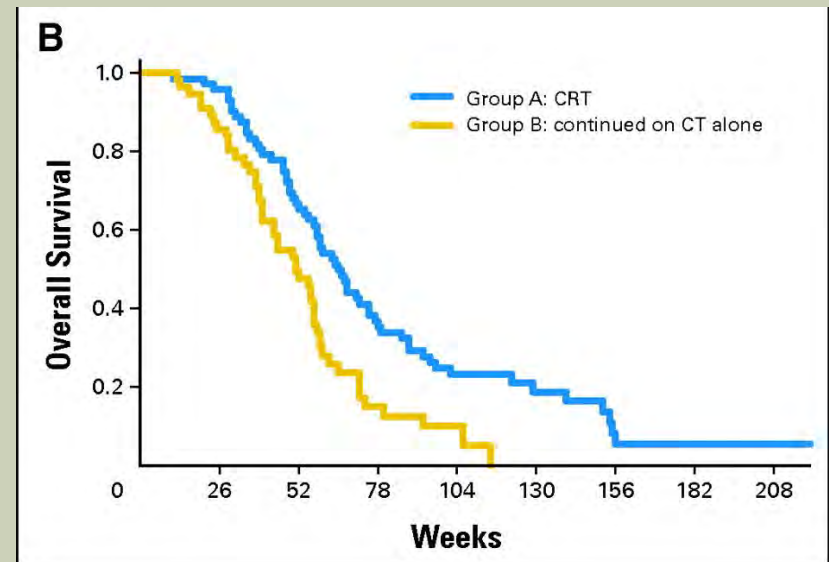
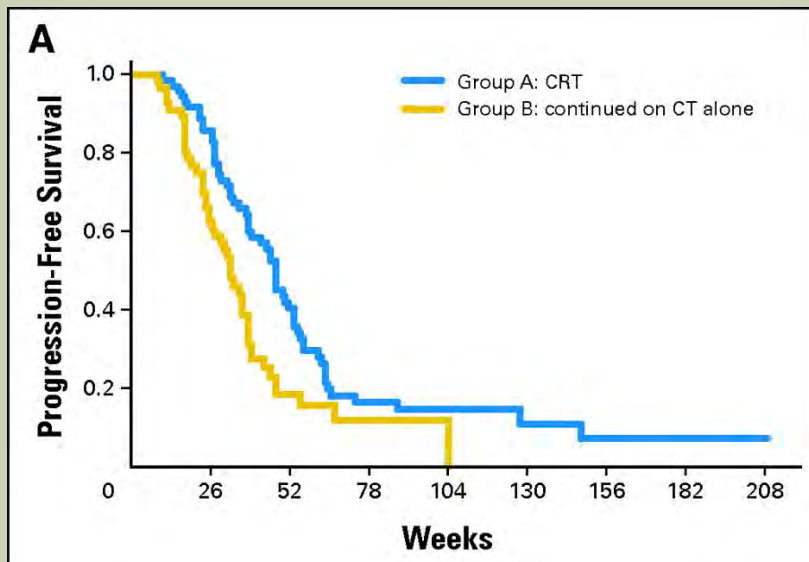
HUGUET et al. JCO. 2007

- Rationale: Management of locally advanced disease was controversial.
- Retrospective analysis of 181 pts from 4 prospective Phase II and III GERCOR studies
- Compared chemotherapy to chemoradiation (decision was investigator's choice)
  - Gem based chemo x 3 months → Chemo
  - Gem based x 3 months → chemoradiation (55 Gy + 10 Gy boost + 5-FU)

# GERCOR

HUGUET et al. JCO. 2007

- 30% developed metastatic disease within 3 months of chemo
- 70% (128) eligible



# GERCOR

HUGUET et al. JCO. 2007

	Chemo	CRT
PFS	7.4 mon	10.8 mon
OS	11.7 mon	15 mon
1 yr survival	47.5%	65.3%

## Conclusions:

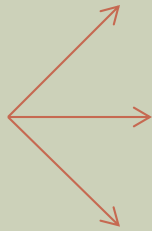
- Chemotherapy should be first line treatment for LAPC.
- If no progression of disease after three months, CRT could increase survival.

# LOCALLY ADVANCED

- Median survival 7-12 months
- Ideally enroll on protocol
- Otherwise, FOLFIRINOX based chemo x 2-4 months → 5FU based chemoradiation
- Begin chemoradiation if:
  - Radiographic local progression
  - CA 19-9 increase
  - Symptoms
  - Chemo poorly tolerated

# RTOG 1201

Gem/abraxane x 3



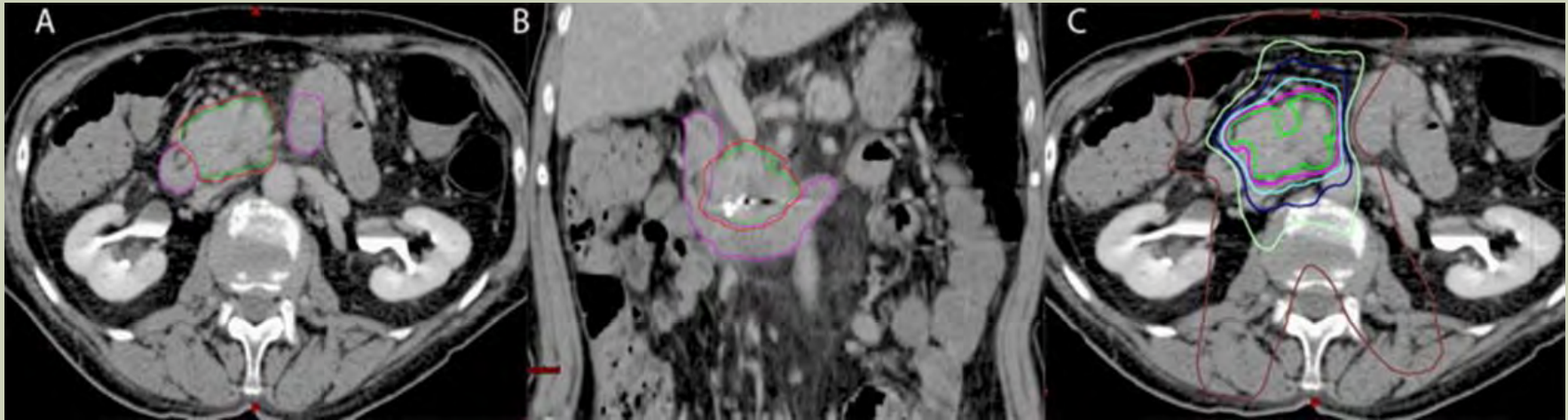
Gem/abraxane x 3

Gem/abraxane x 1 + IMRT 63 Gy

Gem/abraxane x 1 + RT 50.4 Gy

Stratify by:  
Ca19-9 < 90  
SMAD4 status

# SBRT IN LOCALLY ADVANCED



Representative pancreatic SBRT plan:

(A) axial view showing pancreatic tumor (GTV: green), a typical PTV (red), and the duodenum (magenta);

(B) coronal view demonstrating tumor relationship with the duodenum;

(C) dose distribution for a plan treating to 33 Gy in 5 fractions. Isodose lines: green = 45 Gy; magenta = 40 Gy; cyan = 33 Gy; blue = 30 Gy; light green = 20 Gy; and brown = 10 Gy.

# Trakul et al., Seminars in Radiation Oncology, 2014

**Table** Outcomes in Reported Studies of Pancreatic SBRT

References	Patients	Dose	Local Control (1 y Unless Specified)	Median Survival (mo)	Toxicity	Chemo
Koong et al <sup>26</sup>	15 LA or LR	15-25 Gy × 1	100%	11	33% Grades 1 and 2 0% ≥ Grade 3	None
Koong et al <sup>27</sup>	16 LA	25 Gy × 1 (boost)	94%	8.3	69% Grades 1 and 2 12.5% ≥ Grade 3	5-FU with EBRT prior to boost
Hoyer et al <sup>34</sup>	22 LA	15 Gy × 3	57%	5.4	79% ≥ Grade 2 4.5% Grade 4	
Schellenberg et al <sup>28</sup>	16 LA	25 Gy × 1	100%	11.4	19% Acute 47% Late	1 Cycle induction GEM + post-SBRT GEM
Didolkar et al <sup>35</sup>	85 LA or LR	5-10 Gy × 3	92%	18.6	22.3% ≥ Grade 3	Post-SBRT GEM
Mahadevan et al <sup>30</sup>	36 LA	8-12 Gy × 3	78%	14.3	33% Grades 1 and 2 8% Grade 3	Post-SBRT GEM
Polistina, et al <sup>32</sup>	23 LA	10 Gy × 3	82% 6 mo 50% 1 y	10.6	20% Grade 1 0% ≥ Grade 2	6 wk induction GEM
Mahadevan et al <sup>31</sup>	39 LA	8-12 Gy × 3	85%	20	41% Grades 1 and 2 0% ≥ Grade 3 (acute) 9% Grade 3 (late)	2 Cycles induction GEM
Rwigema et al <sup>36</sup>	71 LA, LR, RPM, and MD	24 Gy (med) × 1 (94%) 8-10 Gy × 2-3 (6%)	71.7% 6 mo 48.5% 1 y	10.3	39.5% Grades 1 and 2 4.2% Grade 3	90% Received chemo (various regimens)
Schellenberg et al <sup>29</sup>	20 LA	25 Gy × 1	94%	11.8	15% Grades 1 and 2 5% ≥ Grade 3	1 Cycle induction GEM + post-SBRT GEM
Goyal et al <sup>37</sup>	19 LA or LR	20-25 Gy × 1 8-10 Gy × 3	81%	14.4	11% Grades 1 and 2 16% Grade 3	68% Received chemo (5-FU or GEM based)
Lominska et al <sup>40</sup>	28 LA or LR	4-8 Gy × 3-5	86%	5.9	7% Grade 3 (late)	5-FU or GEM prior to SBRT
Gurka et al <sup>33</sup>	10 LA	5 Gy × 5	40%	12.2	0% ≥ Grade 3	1 cycle GEM prior, 6 cycles GEM total
Chuong et al <sup>38</sup>	73 BR or LA	5-10 Gy × 5	81%	16.4 BR 15 LA	5% Grade 3 (late)	3 cycles GTX

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**THANK YOU!**