

Oral cavity cancers- Radiation

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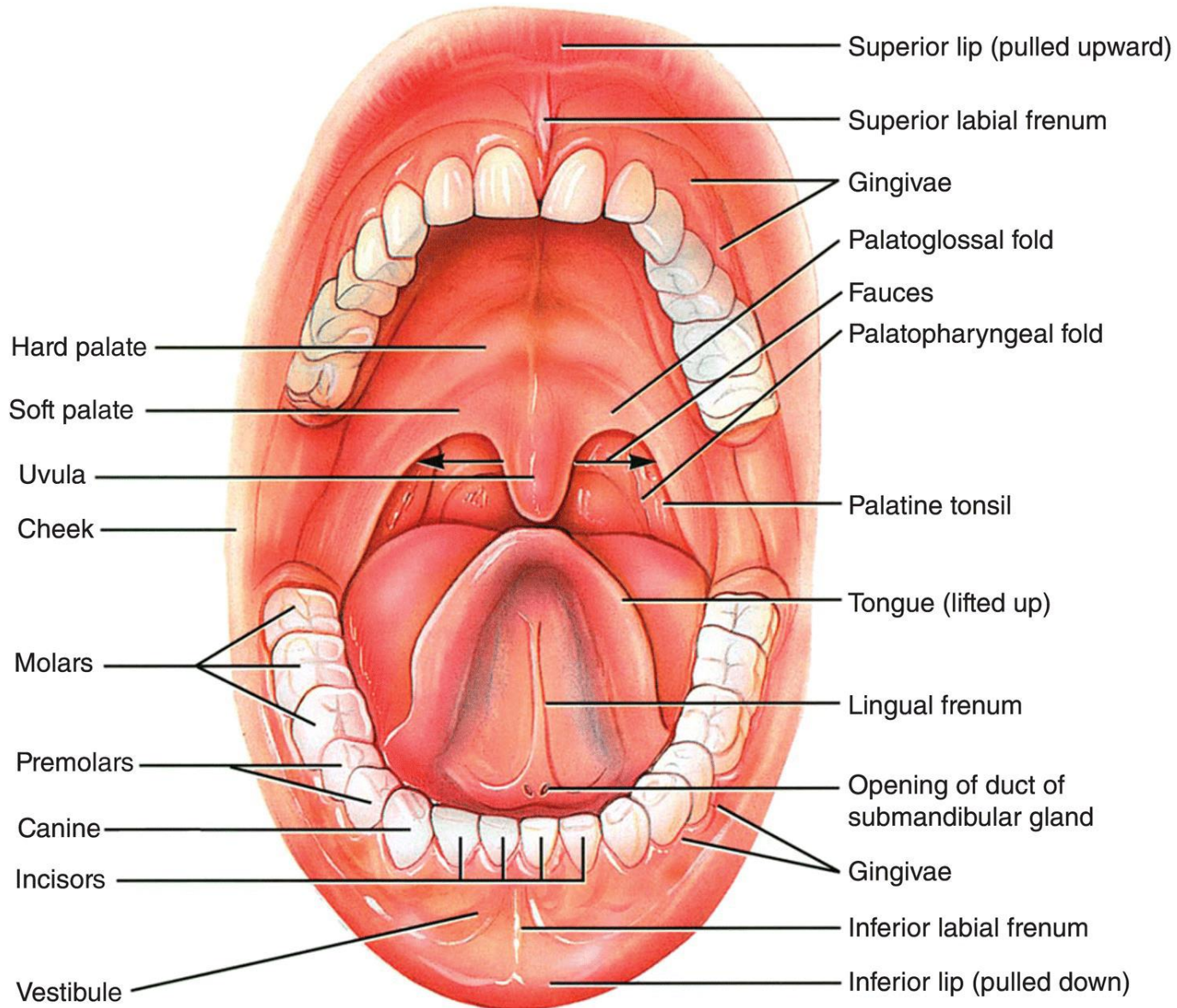
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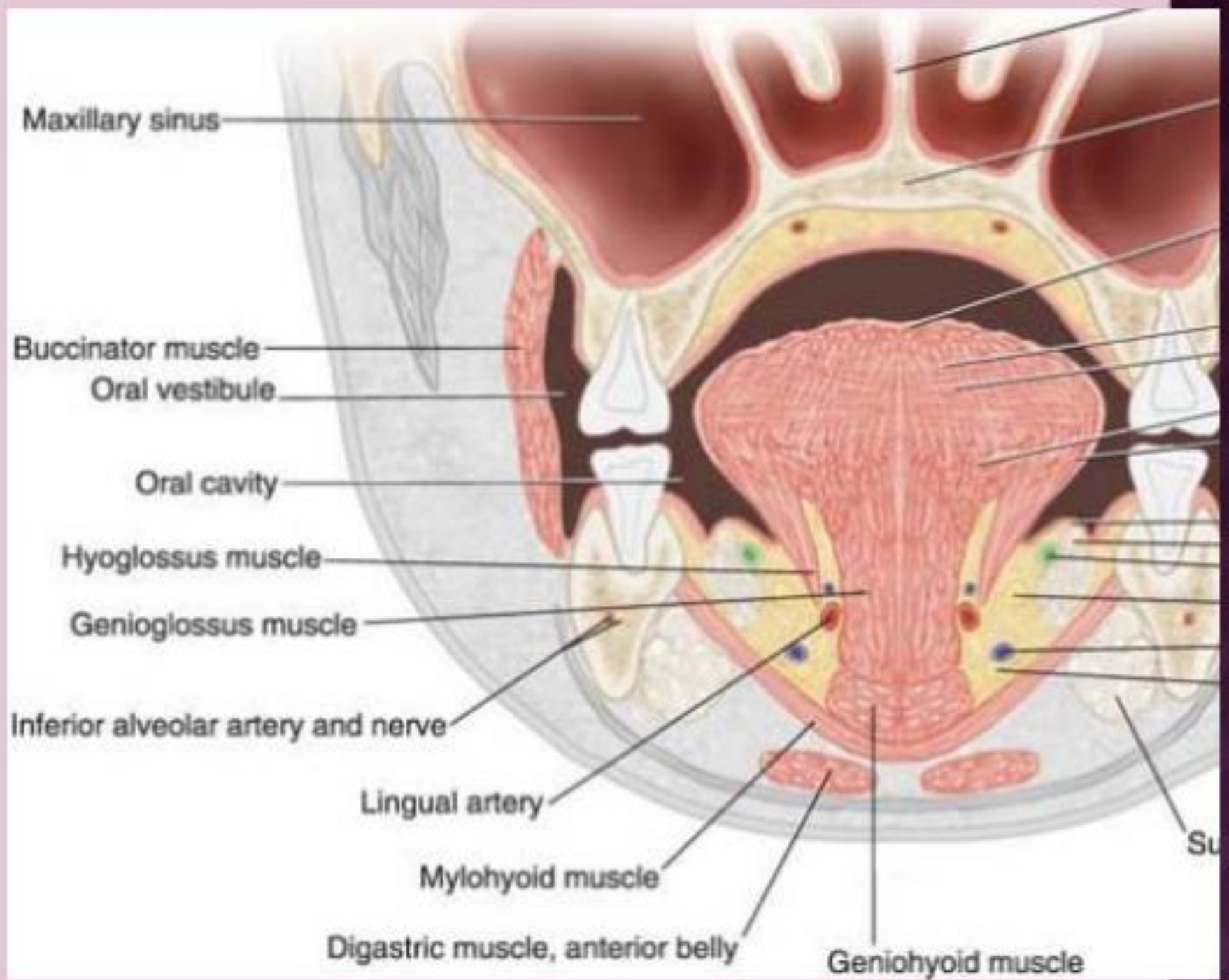


Agenda

- Anatomy & sites
- Staging
- Management overview
- Surgery
- Adjuvant Radiation indications
- Adjuvant Radiation- Fields & Contouring
- Chemotherapy
- Definitive treatments
- Brachytherapy
- Side effects

Anatomy: Oral cavity





Oral cavity cancers: Tumour sites

- Buccal mucosa
- Gingivo-buccal sulcus
- Tongue
- Floor of mouth
- Hard palate
- Retromolar trigone
- Lip

Oral cavity cancers: T Staging

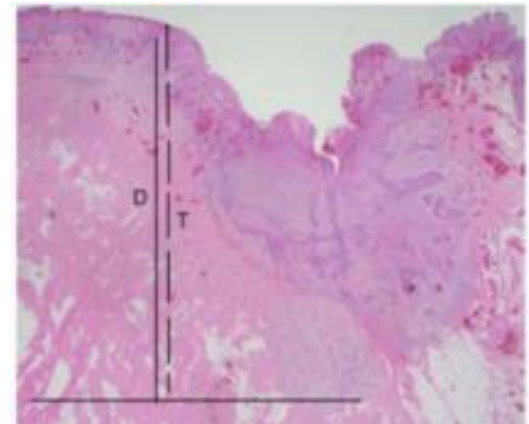
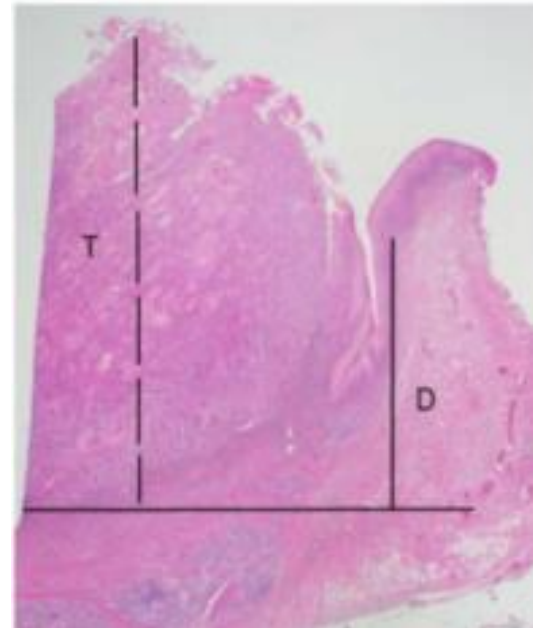
T stage, AJCC 8 th edition	
T0	No evidence of primary tumor
T1	≤ 2 cm size AND * ≤ 5 mm depth
T2	≤ 2 cm size AND depth > 5 mm but ≤ 10 mm OR > 2 cm but ≤ 4 cm with depth ≤ 10 mm
T3	Tumor > 4 cm OR > 10 mm depth
T4	Locally advanced disease
T4a	Moderately advanced local disease (e.g. invades through cortical bone, inferior alveolar nerve, FOM/intrinsic tongue muscles, skin of face, maxillary sinus)
T4b	Very advanced local disease (e.g. invades masticator space, pterygoid plates/space, skull base, encases internal carotid artery)

*AJCC 8th edition includes depth of invasion (DOI)

Depth of invasion (DOI) versus Tumor Thickness

DOI = perpendicular distance from the basement membrane region to the deepest point of the infiltrative front of the tumor

Tumor Thickness = perpendicular distance between the highest point of the tumor surface to the deepest point of the infiltrative front of the tumor



Oral cavity cancers: N staging

N stage, AJCC 8 th edition	
N0	No regional lymph node metastasis
N1	Metastasis in a single ipsilateral lymph node, ≤ 3 cm, ENE-
N2	Single ipsilateral LN (> 3 cm but ≤ 6 cm) or multiple LN (≤ 6 cm)
N2a	Metastasis in single ipsilateral lymph node (> 3 cm but ≤ 6 cm)
N2b	Metastasis in multiple ipsilateral lymph nodes (all ≤ 6 cm)
N2c	Metastasis in bilateral or contralateral lymph nodes (all ≤ 6 cm)
N3*	Metastasis in a lymph node > 6 cm and ENE- <u>OR</u> clinically overt ENE+
N3a	Metastasis in a lymph node > 6 cm and ENE-
N3b	Clinically overt ENE+

*N3 in AJCC 8th edition is now N3a and N3b

Oral cavity cancers: Stage grouping

AJCC 8 th Edition Stage Grouping			
0	Tis	N0	M0
I	T1	N0	M0
II	T2	N0	M0
III	T3	N0 or N1	M0
	T1 or T2	N1	M0
IVA	T4a	N0, N1, or N2	M0
	T1, T2, or T3	N2	M0
IVB	Any T	N3	M0
	T4b	Any N	M0
IVC	Any T	Any N	M1a or M1b

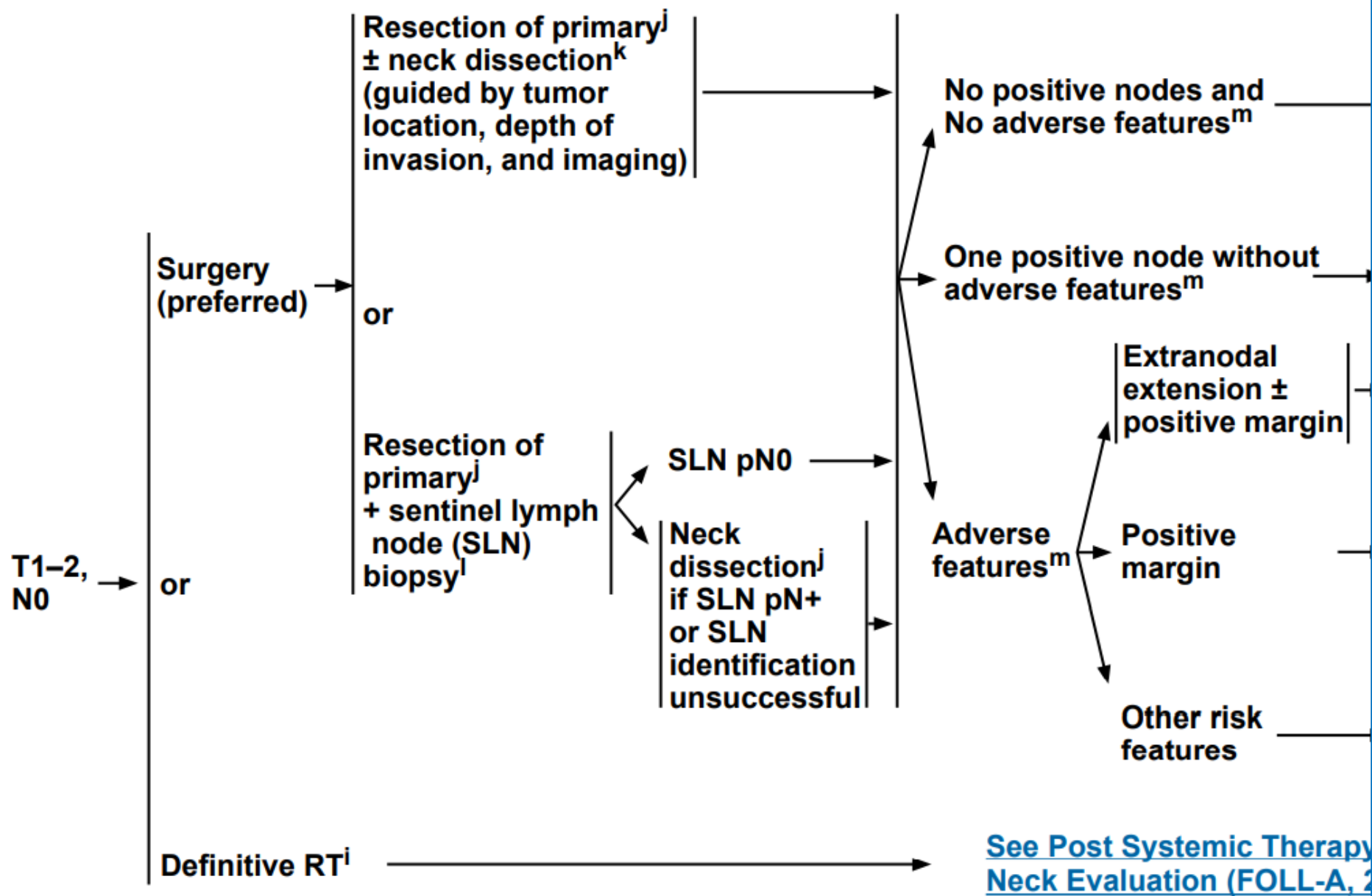
Oral cavity cancers: Management

Early stage lesions: T1-2 N0-1

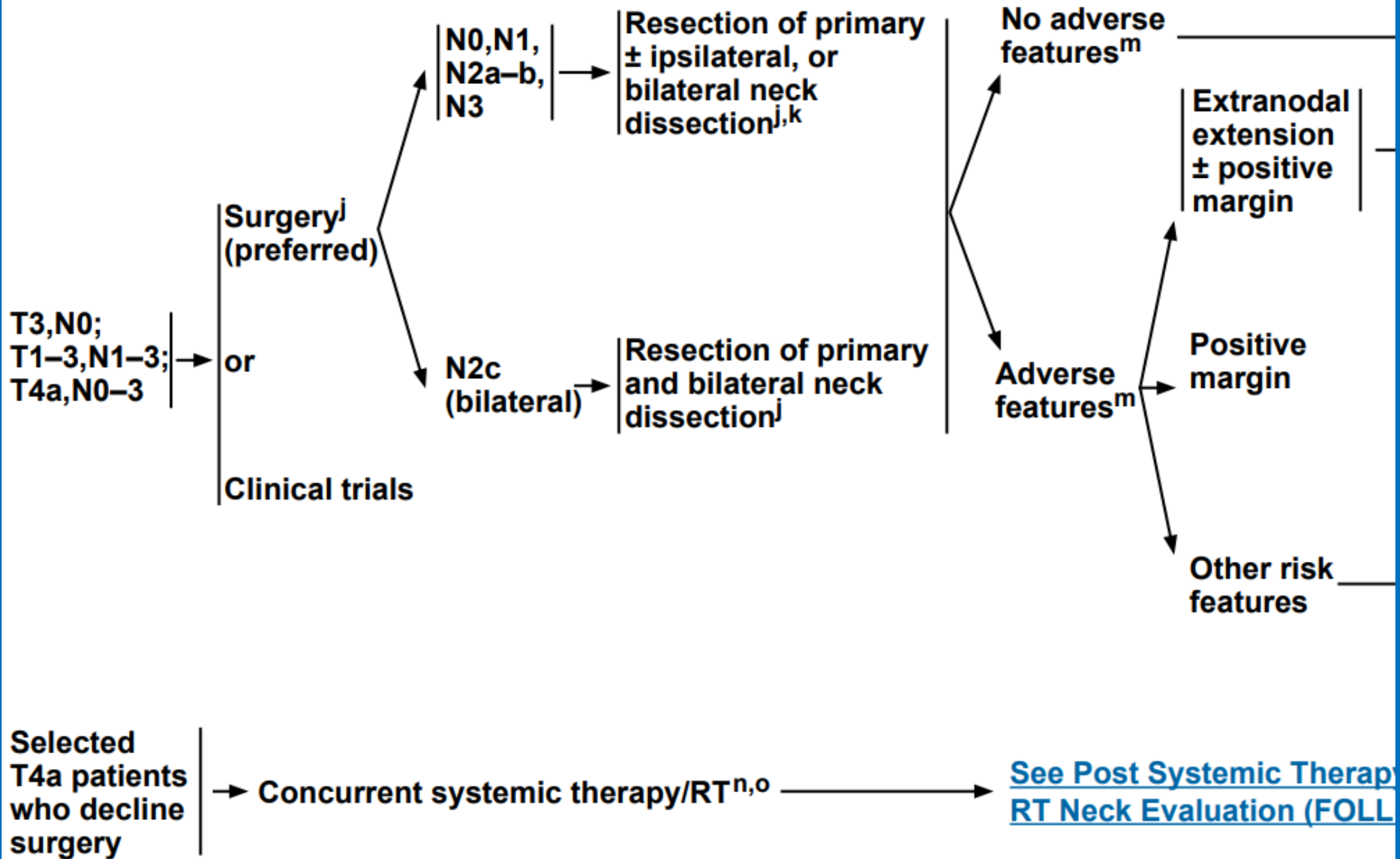
- Surgery preferred
- Chemo-radiation if inoperable
- Brachytherapy for very early tumours

Locally advanced tumours: T3-4, N+

- Surgical resection
- Followed by adjuvant radiation therapy
- Add chemotherapy as indicated
- Definitive chemo-radiation if unresectable



STAGING



What does the surgery look like?

- Primary tumour excised as wide local excision or simultaneous mandibulectomy (COMMANDO)
- Extent of neck dissection based on location of tumour; clinical and imaging findings.
- Grafts used for support, symmetry and cosmesis

Surgery- Additional details

- Neck dissection- always or selected patients
- Extent
- When bilateral

Radiation therapy

Indications

- T3/T4
- LVI
- PNI
- N+
- Margins (R2/R1/close)
- WPOI*
- DOI*

Concurrent chemotherapy

Indications:

- ENE
- Positive margin

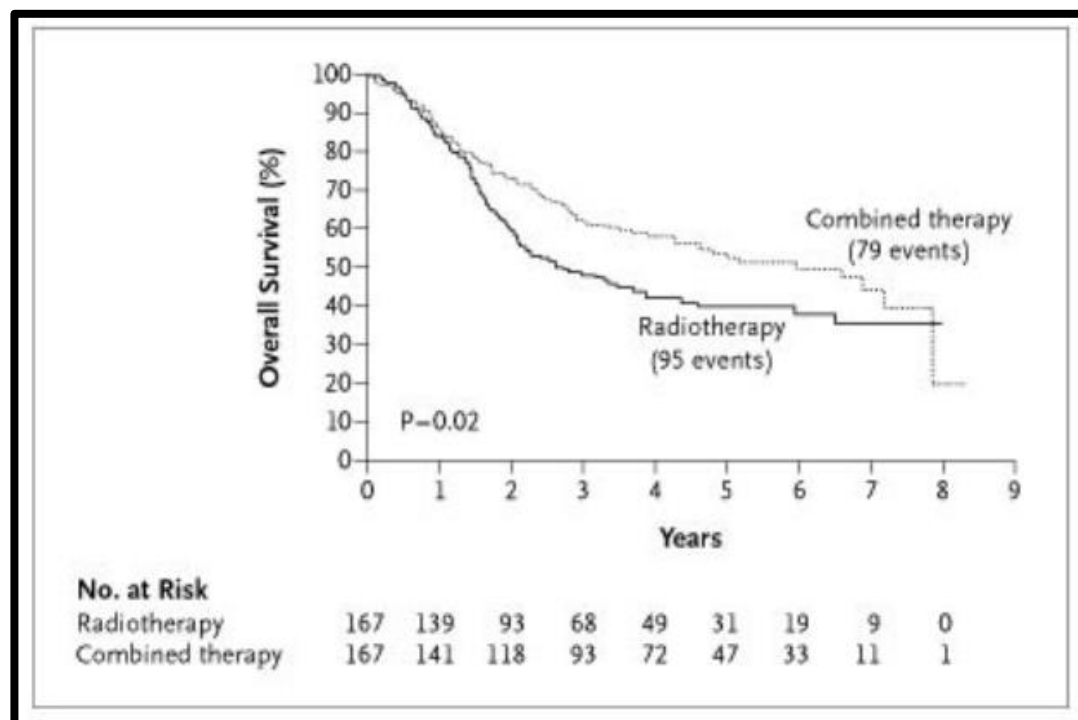
Always, keep the patient in mind!
(age, KPS, comorbidities)

EORTC 22931

Included

Stage III and IV

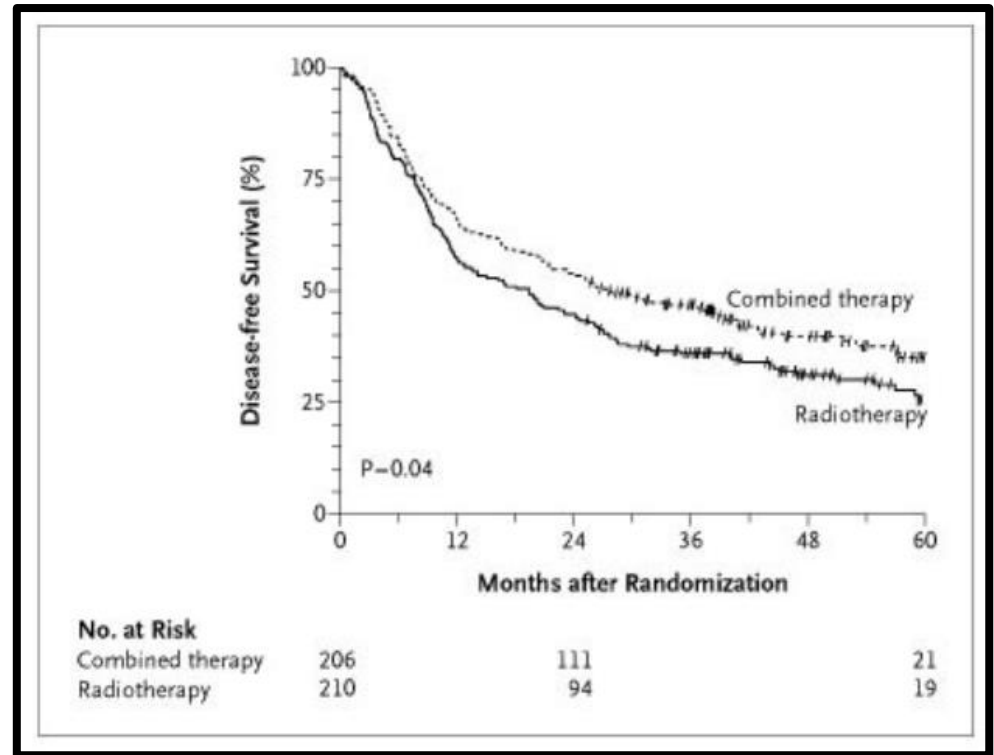
- pT3/pT4; any N
- T1/2 with a N2/3 M0
- Patients with stage T1/ T2 and N0/1 with unfavorable pathological findings
 - ENE
 - positive resection margins
 - PNI+
 - LVI
- oral-cavity or oropharyngeal tumors with involved lymph nodes at level IV or V,



RTOG 9501

Included

- Resection margin positive
- ENE
- 2 or more nodes



No significant OS benefit!

EORTC 22931
(n= 334)

**“High-risk”
ECS +/-or positive
margin**

RTOG 9501
(n=416)

Stage III-IV

OC/OP Level 4/5 LN

Perineural invasion

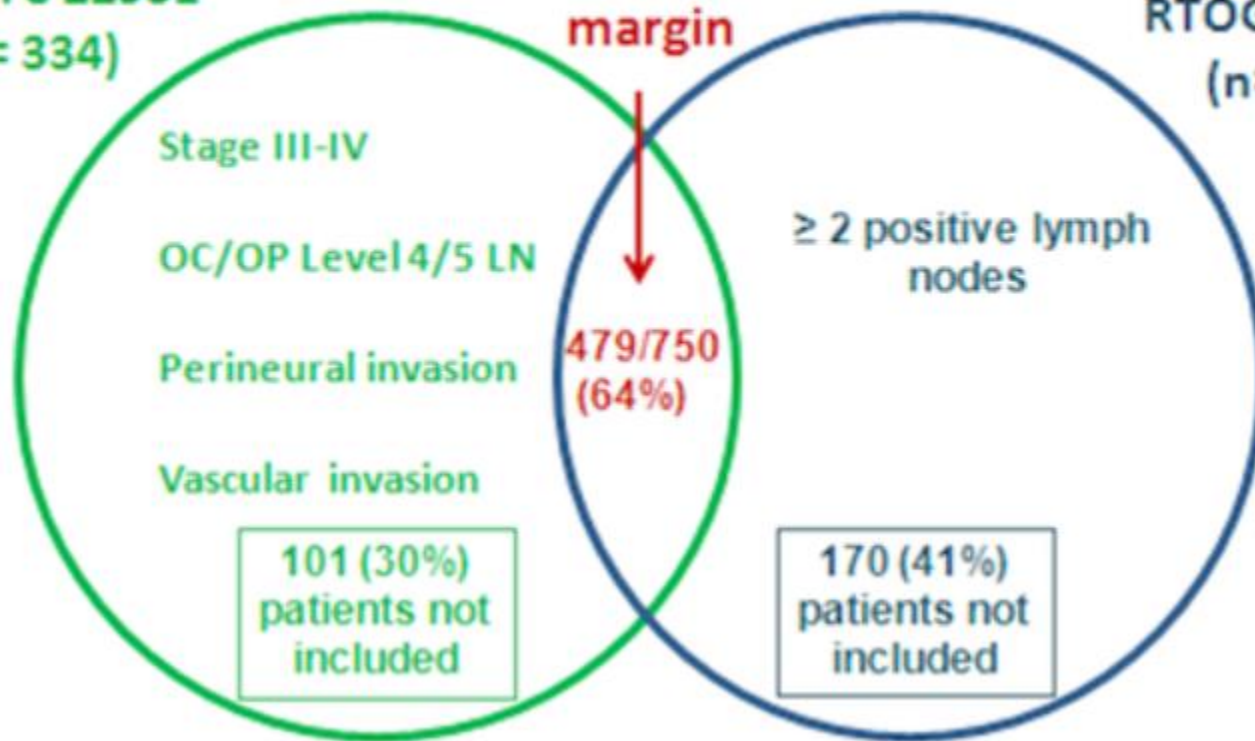
Vascular invasion

≥ 2 positive lymph
nodes

479/750
(64%)

101 (30%)
patients not
included

170 (41%)
patients not
included



Pre- radiation counselling

- Dental prophylaxis : Caries/cavities/Fluoride treatment
- Speech and swallowing assessment
- Feeding assessment and counselling

RT planning

CT simulation:

Position: Supine in thermoplastic mask (3 or 4 clamp)

Head rest: Comfortable neck position

± Bite block

CT with IV contrast

Consider wiring scars

Extent: Entire skull/orbits to carina

Treatment volumes

- OARs
- Targets
- Pertinent anatomy

For contouring/dose guidelines with conventional fractionation/SIB see: <https://econtour.org/cases/28>

Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy for Head and Neck Cancer: Emphasis on the Selection and Delineation of the Targets

Avraham Eisbruch, Robert L. Foote, Brian O'Sullivan, Jonathan J. Beitler, and Bhadrasain Vikram

Seminars in Radiation Oncology, 2002

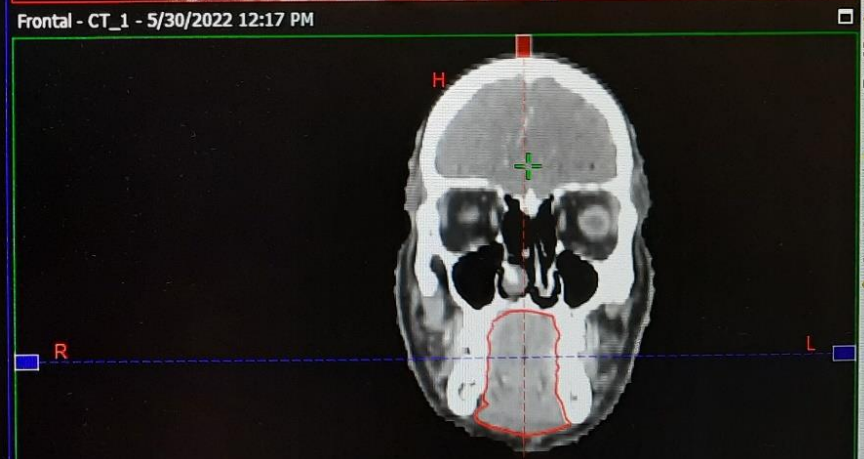
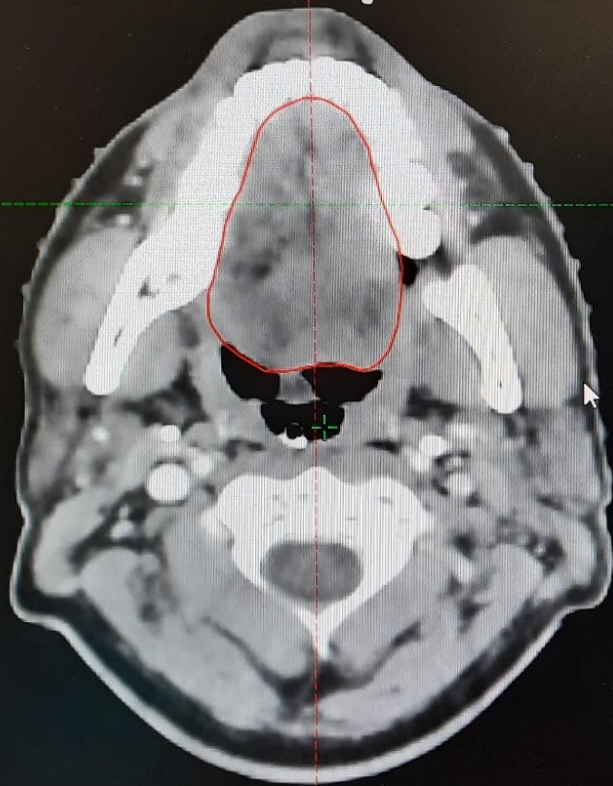
Buccal mucosa: Due to lack of barriers to submucosal spread, CTV extends cranially to include bucco-gingival sulcus and infra-temporal fossa; caudally to buccogingival sulcus and submandibular salivary glands; anteriorly to behind the lip commissure and posteriorly to include retromolar trigone

Tongue: whole tongue (extrinsic and intrinsic musculature), floor of mouth, glosso-tonsillar sulcus and anterior tonsillar pillar

Floor of mouth: Genioglossus, geniohyoid, sublingual and submandibular salivary glands (ipsilateral or bilateral), adjoining alveolar ridge and mandible, muscles at root of tongue

Contouring- primary

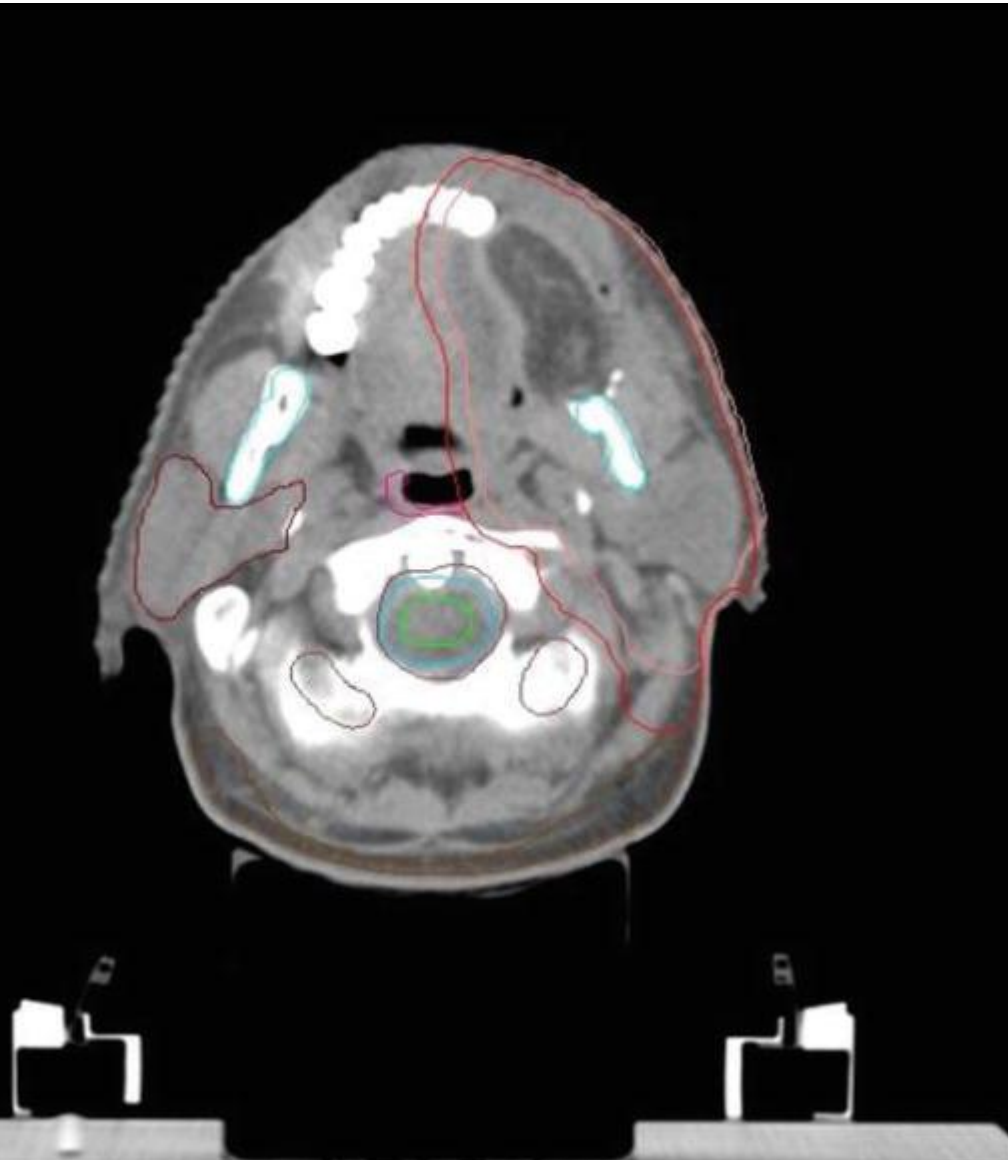
- GTVpre-op
- CTV-HR- areas of positive margin or ENE
- CTV- (Pre-op GTV/tumour bed)+margin



CARCINOMA TONGUE



CARCINOMA BUCCAL MUCOSA



Neck

In pN0,

Pathologic nodal disease by T Stage and site for cN0 neck

– Byers et al. Head Neck Surg 1988

Site	Tx-T1-T2	T3-T4	Total
Oral tongue (n=48)	18.6%	31.6%	25%
FOM (n=62)	18.6%	26.3%	21%
Lower gum (n=41)	11.5%	13.3%	12.2%
Buccal mucosa (n=10)	0%	0%	0%
Retromolar trigone (n=23)	36.4%	33%	34.8%

Byers et al 1992

Should the undissected level IV be included in RT fields?

- Warshavsky et al, JAMA OHNS 2019
- Rate of level IV involvement in cN0 neck is 2.53% in fixed-effects model

In pN+,

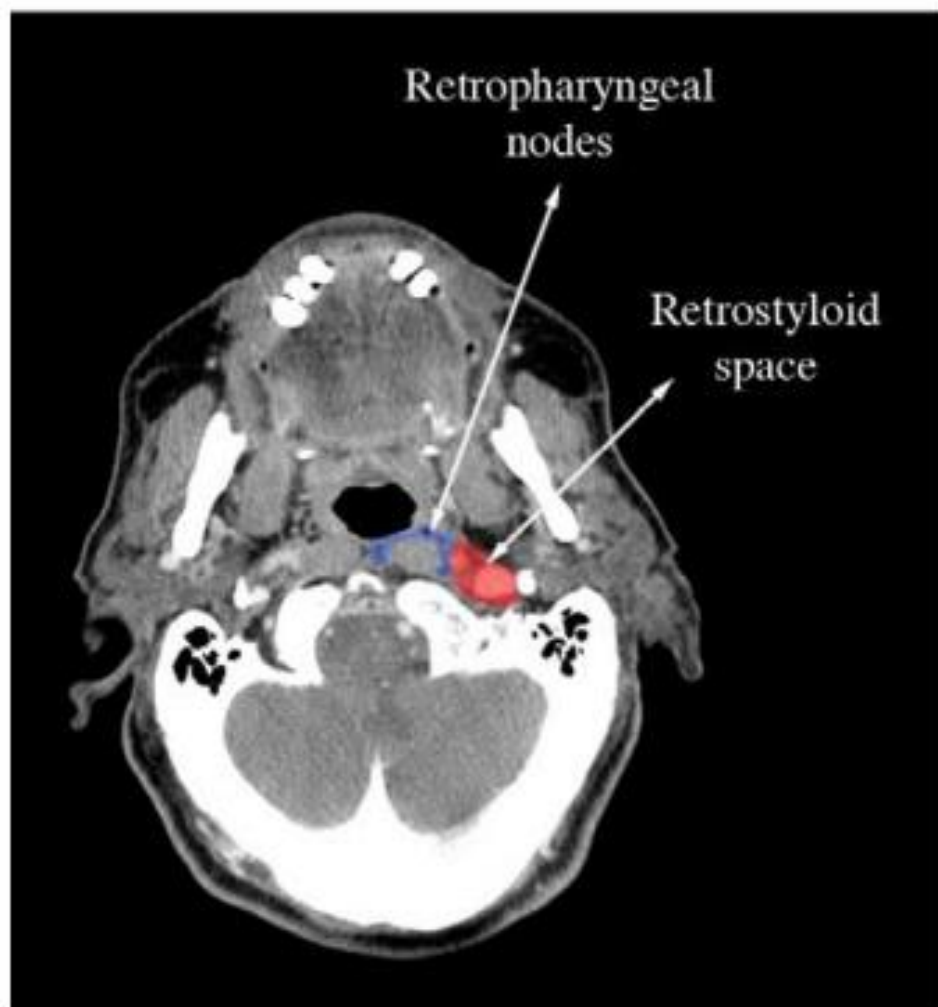
Ipsilateral neck IA + Level IB to V is included to 46-54Gy

Involved nodal levels to receive 60Gy

ENE area to 66Gy

- If level II is involved, extend superior border to base of skull (including retrostyloid space)
- If level IV or Vb involved, extend lower border down to clavicle (including SCF)
- If pre-operatively nodes abuts/infiltrates muscle, include it
- Include adjacent levels of involved node levels to be included

Vincent Gregoire et al, Green Journal, 2006





ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Oral Oncology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/oraloncology

Target volume selection and delineation (T and N) for primary radiation treatment of oral cavity, oropharyngeal, hypopharyngeal and laryngeal squamous cell carcinoma



Vincent Grégoire^{a,*}, Cai Grau^b, Michel Lapeyre^c, Philippe Maingon^d

Recommendations for selection of Clinical Target Volume in the neck for oral cavity and oropharyngeal tumors.

Nodal category (AJCC/UICC 8th ed.)	Levels to Be Included in CTV	
	Ipsilateral neck	Contralateral neck (when indicated)
<i>Oral cavity</i>		
N0-1 (in level I, II, or III)	Ia-b, II, [*] III, + IVa [†]	Ia-b, II, [*] III, + IVa [†]
N2a-b	Ia-b, II, III, IVa [#] , Va,b ^{§,§}	Ia-b, II, [*] III, + IVa for anterior tongue tumor
N2c	According to N category on each side of the neck	According to N category on each side of the neck
N3	Ia-b, II, III, IVa [#] , Va,b ± adjacent structures according to clinical and radiologic data, [§]	Ia-b, II, [*] III, + IVa for anterior tongue tumor

Dose prescription

46 - 50Gy to low risk volume (elective nodal areas)

60Gy to tumour bed and involved nodal areas

66Gy to focal areas of margin positivity and ENE

Conventional fractionation; 2Gy/fr, 5Fr/week over 6 weeks

Radiation therapy

- IMRT or VMAT preferred; Tomotherapy!
- Verification with MV/KV or CBCTs
- Weekly reviews

2D planning

- Superior border based on site
- Caution : anterior border!

Definitive RT

- In selected early tumours T1-2 N0
(when medically inoperable or refusing surgery)
- Ext RT or Brachytherapy may be performed
- Volumes:
 - Primary: disease+margin
 - Nodes: as per nodal involvement or elective nodal irradiation

Brachytherapy

- It is placement of sealed sources into or immediately in vicinity of target tissues
- Sites in oral cavity amenable to brachytherapy
Lip, buccal mucosa, anterior tongue, floor of mouth (interstitial) & hard palate (surface mould)

Patient selection

Site	Brachytherapy Alone	Ext RT+ BRT
Lip	Tumors <5cm	Larger tumors
Buccal Mucosa	Tumor <4cm, thickness <1.5cm	Larger tumors
Tongue	Upto 3cm, N0	>3-4cm, N1
Floor of mouth	T1N0M0	>3-4cm, N1

General principles

T1/2, N0, accessible for BT, adequate mouth opening, not abutting bone

Procedure nitgrits

- Under GA with head extended (round pillow under head and soft towel under shoulder)
- Nasal intubation
- Tongue stitch and throat pack
- EUA
- Steel needles and plastic catheters



APPLICATIONS

Dose 65Gy as monotherapy or 15-25Gy as boost (LDR equivalent)

Images sourced online

Side effects: On RT management

- Pain (post op and RT induced)
 - pain management
- Dermatitis
 - Skin cream, gentian violet
- Mucositis
 - Topical gels, syp sucrafil, anti-inflammatory, benzydamine
- Xerostomia
 - counselling, frequent sips of liquids
- Nutritional deficit
 - counselling, altered recipes by dietician
- Lab abnormalities

Thank you