Morbidity of radiotherapy carcinoma prostate



Dr. V. Kannan, MD Consultant & Head, Radiation Oncology P.D. Hinduja National Hospital Mumbai

- 1. Gastro-intestinal effects (GI)
- 2. Genitourinary effects (GU)
- 3. Erectile dysfunction (ED)

Acute GI effects

Acute GI effects - RTOG grade

Grade I

- Increased stool frequency
- Rectal discomfort
- Change in quality of bowel habit
 - No drugs required

Grade III

- Diarrhoea, needs I.V.
- Mucus / blood discharge, pads needed
- Abdominal distension

Grade II

- Diarrhoea, needs drug
- Mucus discharge, no pads
- Pain rectum, needs drug, occasional narcotic

Grade IV

- Sub acute or acute obstruction / fistula / perforation
- GI bleed, needs transfusion
- Abdomen pain / Tenesmus, needs bowel diversion or tube decompression.



- > Mild effects due to radiation 6 37.5 %
- > Severe effects, 0 10 %, interrupts treatment
- > Weekly evaluation 90 95 % \leq grade II

Acute GI effects



Acute GI effects IMRT

| Grade 0 | 34% |
|---------|-----|
| Grade 1 | 39% |
| Grade 2 | 27% |
| Grade 3 | - |



De Meerleer etal., IJROBP 2004, 60, 777



N = 306, GETUG, Multicentre, France, 3DCRT, 70 vs 80 Gy

| Grade | 70 Gy, n=153 | 80 Gy, n=153 |
|-------|--------------|--------------|
| 0 | 42 | 50 |
| 1 | 66 | 57 |
| 2 | 42 | 43 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 |

- GI acute effects 70 %
- Increases with increase in CTV
- No treatment interruption

Acute GI effects

Intrarectal balloon, N 100, IMRT 75.8 Gy



| Grade 0 | 83% |
|----------|-----|
| Grade I | 11% |
| Grade II | 6% |

Teh BS etal. IJROBP, 2001, 49, 705



3DCRT(1997 - 2002), 72 Gy/40f, n=51

P.D. Hinduja National Hospital, Mumbai

| Rectal Toxicit | t <u>y (RTOG)</u> |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Grade 0 | 4 |
| Grade 1 | 31 |
| Grade 2 | 16 |

Kannan V et al, JCRT, 2005, 1, 34

Acute GI effects, Pathophysiology

Rectal mucosa

- Edema, Hyperemia, Excess Mucus
- Acute inflammatory cells (eosinophil, mast cell) in lamina propria
- Crypt abscess

The severity of histological changes peaks at 2 weeks and improves at 6 weeks despite increase in severity of symptoms

Late GI effects

Late GI effect, RTOG grade

Grade I

- mild diarrhea/cramp
- bowel movement $\leq 5/day$
- slight rectal discharge/bleed

Grade II

- mild diarrhea & colic
- bowel movement >5/day
- excess rectal discharge/ intermittent bleed

Grade III

 obstruction/bleed requiring surgery

Grade IV

Necrosis/perforation/fistula



Late GI effect, pathophysiology

> Mucosa: flattened surface epithelium

- Submucosa: myxoid change, edema, hyaline fibrosis, atypical plump fibroblasts
- Vascular changes: atypical endothelial cells, intimal fibrosis, lipid deposition, intraluminal thrombosis, adventitial fibrosis
- > Telangiectasia

Late GI effect, Ano-rectal physiology

Manometric study of ano-rectal mucosa shows decreased

- sensory threshold
- maximum tolerated volume
- voluntary squeeze
- basal resting pressure

leading to fecal urgency

Epithelial, vascular, extracellular components and enteric nervous system all contribute to late injury



Risk factors

- **1.** Presence of anal symptoms prior to treatment
- 2. Older age
- 3. Diabetes
- 4. Acute GI effects
- 5. Dose/2D/3DCRT
- 6. Rectal dose volume
- 7. Anal dose volume
- 8. IMRT
- 9. Hypofraction

1. Anal symptoms



Pretreatment presence of GI symptoms increases the risk of post treatment GI morbidity

Borghede G et al, RT&Oncol, 1997, 43,139 Peeters ST et al IJROBP, 2006, 64, 1151

2. Older age

Late GI effect

Older patients have higher risk of grade II rectal bleed

N=171, 3DCRT-64.8 to 81 Gy, T1-T3, MSKCC

Late rectal grade II bleeding patients were slightly older than non-bleeding patients (69.7 vs 68.3)

Late GI effect

N=52, 69Gy at 3Gy/f, PTV-prostate, 4field

- Age
- T stage
- DM
- Dosimetric factors studied

Only DM was significant for late grade \geq 2 toxicity

4. Acute GI effects

Late GI effect

N 1571, T1-T3, 3DCRT / IMRT, 68 - 81 Gy (MSKCC)

| Acute morbidity | Late morbidity |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| ≥2 | 42 % |
| < 2 | 9 % |

acute GI \geq II, increased late G-II

Zelefsky MJ et al, IJROBP, 2008, 70, 1124

5.0 Dose

Late GI effect

Prostate cancer, Dose response



9 institutions data

1994-1995, N=1325, T1,2 Median follow-up =5.8 years

8 year PSA DFS = 62%

Dose >72Gy : **improves outcome**

Kupelian P et al, IJROBP,2005 61, 415

5.1 Dose

Late GI effect

Severe proctitis / necrosis/ fistulae / stenosis
 ➤ TD_{5/5} 60 Gy for entire rectal circumference
 ➤ TD_{50/5} 80 Gy

Emami et al, 1991

Minimal late risk with 50 to 60 to posterior rectal wall

Risk of late complication increases with 1. Post. Rectal wall dose 65-70 Gy 2. Ant rectal wall dose 75 Gy

5.2.1. Dose, 2D vs 3D

Late GI effect

Standard dose

Conformal Therapy reduces risk of grade II and III proctitis compared to conventional therapy

Nguyen LN et al, Urology, 1998, 51, 991 Sandler HM et al, IJROBP, 1995, 33, 797 Schultheiss TE et al, IJROBP, 1995, 32, 643

N 225, 2D vs 3D, 64 Gy

Remaining free of \geq grade II proctitis, 5years

| 2D | 3D |
|------|------|
| 82 % | 92 % |

RMH, Dearnaley DP, Lancet, 1999, 353, 267

Late GI effect

5.3.1 Dose, 3DCRT Prospective study

3DCRT(1997 – 2002), 72 Gy/40f, n=51

P.D. Hinduja National Hospital, Mumbai

| <u>Rectal Toxi</u> | <u>city (RTOG)</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Grade 0 | 41 |
| Grade 1 | 3 |
| Grade 2 | 5 |



Kannan V et al, JCRT, 2005, 1, 34



5.3.2. Dose, 3DCRT Prospective study

3D-CRT, RTOG 9406, 78 Gy, n=218,

Late ≥Grade 2 Rectal complication: 30 – 33%

Michalski JM et al, IJROBP, 2005, 62, 706



5.3.3. Dose, 3DCRT Prospective study

Fox Chase Cancer Center

n=230, Dose 63-79 Gy

75-76 Gy : Grade 2 - 32%

Hanks GE et al, IJROBP, 1998, 41, 501



5.3.4. Dose, 3DCRT Prospective study

N 1571, T1-T3, 3DCRT, MSKCC

Grade II - 9% at 10 years

| 70.2, 3D | 75.6, 3D |
|----------|----------|
| 7% | 18% |

Zelefsky MJ et al, IJROBP, 2008, 70, 1124

Late GI effect

5.3.5. Dose, 3DCRT **Prospective randomized study**

Higher dose increases morbidity – 3DCRT

MGH Boston, Loma Linda

Zietman AL etal, JAMA, 294, 1233, 2005

| 70.2 GyE | 79.2 GyE |
|----------|----------|
| 8% | 17% |

MRC RT01, UK

Dearnaley DP etal, Lancet Oncol, 2007, 8, 475

| 64 Gy | 74 Gy |
|-------|-------|
| 24% | 33% |

MD Anderson Hospital

Kuban etal, IJROBP,2008, 70, 67

| 70 Gy | 78 Gy |
|-------|-------|
| 13% | 26% |

Late GI effect

N=124, 3DCRT, 70 Gy

Rectal volume receiving \geq 70 Gy (V₇₀) was most predictive of grade2 morbidity

| V70 < 20% | 37% |
|-----------|-----|
| V70 ≥20% | 61% |

van der Laan etal, IJROBP, 2008, 70, 1138

6.2 rectal dose volume

Late GI effect

Rectal dose volume

| Vargas et al, 2005 | V70 >40% |
|--------------------|------------|
| Kuban et al, 2003 | V70 ≥26% |
| Huang et al, 2002 | V70 ≥26.2% |
| Storey et al, 2000 | V70 >25% |

Storey NR etal, IJROBP, 2000, 48, 65



Rectal volume with doses < 60 Gy might be more strongly associated with rectal morbidity

- At prostate dose 70.2 75.6 Gy when 50% isodose encompasses entire rectal volume at isocentre slice – higher grade II bleeding ⁽¹⁾
- 2. Grade II or more morbidity for V32 for rectal wall \geq 80 % ⁽²⁾

- 1. Skwarchuk MW et al, IJROBP, 2000, 47, 103
- 2. Tucker SL et al, IJROBP 2004, 60, 1589



- 1. A new class of NTCP models called "cluster models" have been developed in which spatial distribution of dose to normal tissue (rectum) is taken explicitly into account.
- 2. The size of rectal wall exposed to doses between 27 and 43 Gy, with cluster model analysis, was found to be significantly associated with late GI effect

Tucker SL et al IJROBP 2006, 64, 1255

Late GI effect

Endorectal balloon (ERB)



- 1.Reduced rectal volume exposed to >40Gy
- 2.Reduction in late rectal mucosal changes
- 3.Reduction in late rectal toxicity

6.5 rectal dose volume

- ERB pushes the lateral and posterior wall away from high dose region
- Air filled ERB may cause additional dose reduction to superficial anterior rectal mucosa because of dose build up effect without under dosing prostate gland



Th.van Lin ENJ et al, IJROBP, 2007, 67, 799

Late GI effect

Incontinence requiring pads

- mean anal wall dose > 33 Gy
- no correlation to rectal dose



Peeters ST et al IJROBP, 2006, 64, 1151

7. Anal dose volume



Late rectal bleed - correlates

with anorectal V65dosimetry (relative wall volume receiving 65 Gy)

- V65 < 30% reduced risk of bleed
- V65 increase from 19 to 43% bleed 1 to 9%

8.1. IMRT

Late GI effect

N 1571, T1-T3, 3DCRT / IMRT, 68 – 81 Gy (MSKCC)

Grade II 9% at 10 years

| 70.2, 3D | 75.6, 3D | 81, IMRT |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 7% | 18% | 5% |

| | IMRT | 3D-CRT |
|--------------------------------|------|--------|
| Target volume coverage (81 Gy) | 98% | 95% |
| % of rectal wall – 75 Gy | 9% | 13% |

IMRT reduced late g – II Rectal morbidity

8.2. IMRT

Late GI effect

Prospective IMRT studies

| Author | Patient no. | Dose fraction | FU (mo) | Grade II morbidity |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------|-----------------------|
| De Meerleer et al, 2007 | 133 | 74 – 76 Gy | 36 | 17 % |
| Vora et al, 2007 | 145 | 75.6 Gy | 48 | 23 % |

Cahlon O et al Semin Radiate Oncol 2008, 18, 48

9. Hypofraction

Late GI effect

Prospective hypofractionation studies

| Author | Patient no. | Dose fraction | NTD _{2Gy} (α/β – 1.5) | Grade II morbidity |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Kupelian, 2007 | 770 | 70 Gy / 2.5 Gy | 80 Gy | 4.5 % |
| Tsuji, 2005 * | 201 | 66 GyE / 3.3 GyE | 90.5 Gy | 1 % |
| Martin, 2006 | 92 | 60 Gy / 3 Gy | 77 Gy | 2 % |
| Madsen, 2007 | 40 | 33.5 Gy / 6.7 Gy | 78.5 Gy | 7.5 % |

* C ion, 4f / week, daily CT imaging, daily bladder filling and rectal enema – no ≥ grade III toxicity

Late GI effect

RT + hormones: RTOG 8531, 8610, 9202 N=2922, follow up 10.3 years

Short course hormone, neoadjuvant + concurrent shows lesser grade III morbidity

Lawton CA et al, IJROBP, 2008, 70, 437

Late GI morbidity fades with time



Karlsdottir H et al, IJROBP, 2008, 70, 1478

Treatment of radiation proctitis: acute

Amifostine, s.c & intrarectal, was found to reduce acute rectal morbidity

SynodinouMenegaki M et al, IJROBP, 2002, 64, s268 Singh AK et al IJROBP, 2006, 65, 1018 & 2008,70, 90

Treatment of radiation proctitis: late

- 1. Sucralfate / steroid enema,
- 2. Sulfasalazine oral
- **3. Pentosan-polysulfate**, (fibrinolytic anti-inflammatory mucoprotective)
- 4. Formalin application to the rectal mucosa
- 5. Laser therapy (Argon, Nd:YAG) Risk: transmural necrosis
- 6. Butyric acid (short chain fatty acid) enema

Surgical fecal diversion

Treatment of radiation proctitis: late

Animal studies

- Late radiation intestinal morbidity stromal accumulation of fibrogenic mediator connective tissue growth factor (CTGF). It acts through Rho/Rho cell signaling pathway
 Pravastatin (a statin) inhibits Rho isoprenylation and CTGF. ⁽¹⁾
- RT -> endothelial injury through loss of thrombomodulin (TM)
 Simvastatin upregulates TM, with protection of endothelium & reduction of late effects. ⁽²⁾

1. Haydont V et al, IJROBP, 2007, 68, 1471 2. Wang J et al, IJROBP, 2007, 68, 1483

Treatment of radiation proctitis: late

Hyperbaric oxygen

- Improvements observed for incontinence, diarrhoea, bleeding and pain
- Incontinence and mild bleeding resolve the most

Woo TCS et al, IJROBP, 1997, 39, 690



Nakabayashi M et al, Urol Oncol Semin, 2006, 24, 503

Acute GU effects

Acute GU effects - RTOG grade

Grade I

- •Frequency/nocturia twice pre RT •dysuria
- No drugs required

Grade III

- Frequency/nocturia hourly or more
- •Dysuria, pain, spasms frequent narcotis
- •Gross hematuria, needs transfusion
- •Catheter for urinary obstruction/clots

Grade II

- •Frequency/nocturia less frequent than hrly
- •Dysuria, spasms
- Needs drugs , occasional narcotis

Grade IV

- •Gross hematuria, needs > 1 transfusion
- •Hospitalization for sepsis due to obstruction,
- ulcer, necrosis of bladder

Acute GU effects

- Acute GU symptoms appears in 3rd week of RT (frequency, nocturia, urgency, dysuria)
- 60 % require medication

| Dose | Acute GU morbidity | |
|------|--------------------|----------|
| (Gy) | Grade III | Grade IV |
| 70 | 3% | 1% |
| 78 | 4% | 1% |

Acute morbidity correlates with percentage of bladder treated to \geq 70 Gy



N 114, IMRT, 74 – 78 Gy, Belgium

| G 0 | 10 % |
|-------|------|
| G I | 47 % |
| G II | 36 % |
| G III | 7 % |

- 1. More pronounced than GI morbidity
- 2. Higher with increasing dose
- 3. Cause- urethral/bladder neck inflammation



3DOG / RTOG 9406, 68.4 / 73.8 Gy

Acute GU effect increases with neo adjuvant + concurrent hormone therapy

Michalski JM etal, IJROBP, 2000, 46, 391

De Meerleer etal., IJROBP, 60, 777-87,2004, Belgium

Late GU effects

Late GU effects - RTOG grade

Grade I

•Slight epithelial atrophy

- Minor telangiectasia
- Microscopic hematuria

Grade III

- •Severe frequency & dysuria
- Generalized telangiectasia (petechiae)
- Frequent hematuria
- Reduction in bladder capacity (<150cc)

Grade II

- •Moderate frequency
- •Generalized telangiectasia
- •Intermittent microscopic hematuria

Grade IV

- Necrosis
- •Bladder capacity <100cc
- •Severe hemorrhagic cystitis

RTOG 7506, 7706, N= 1020 patients, hospitalization due to chronic urinary sequelae (cystitis, hematuria, urethral stricture, bladder contracture) occurred in 7.3% patients.

Surgical intervention due to urinary toxicity - in 0.5%.

The commonest late urinary complication was urethral stricture occurring mostly in patients with previous TURP

Prospective studies

Bladder, urethral morbidities > grade 2 do not show any consistent increase in incidence at escalated dose compared to standard dose

Prospective randomized studies

Higher dose no increase in morbidity – 3DCRT

MGH Boston, Loma Linda

Zietman AL etal, JAMA, 294, 1233, 2005

| 70.2 GyE | 79.2 GyE |
|----------|----------|
| 18% | 20% |

MRC RT01, UK

Dearnaley DP etal, Lancet Oncol, 2007, 8, 475

| 64 Gy | 74 Gy |
|-------|-------|
| 6% | 8% |

Dutch multicentre

Peeters et al JCO, 2006, 24, 1990

| 68 Gy | 78 Gy |
|-------|-------|
| 41% | 39% |

N 1571, T1-T3, 3DCRT / IMRT, 68 – 81 Gy (MSKCC)

At 10 years ≥grade II – 15% 81 Gy - 20% < 81 Gy - 12 %

Occurrence of acute GU morbidity ≥ 2 significantly increased late GU toxicity

N= 331, 3DCRT - 75.6Gy (Michigan)

Strong predictors for chronic GU toxicity 1.Acute urinary toxicity 2.Bladder dose-volume

Erectile tissue dysfunction (ED)

Erectile tissue dysfunction

There is a fall in potency after curative RT

N=743, post RT likelihood of potency loss 60%

Zelefsky MJ et al, Cancer, 1999, 85, 2460

N=268, 3DCRT, 68 to 78 Gy 3 years post RT only 38 % had potency

Van der Wielen GJ et al, et al, IJROBP, 2007, 68, 479

Erectile tissue dysfunction

Cause of ED : RT to penile bulb & vascular tissue (CC)

MRC RT01: Penile Bulb - D50 \geq 60 Gy, significant risk of Erectile dysfunction

Stephen M etal., IJROBP, 2005, 63, S126,

McLaughlin PW etal., IJROBP, 2005, 61, 20-31, Michigan

Erectile tissue dysfunction

N-10, IMRT 80 Gy, Vessel sparing protocol, MRI & CT

Time-of-flight MRI angio to define Int.pud.artery(IPA)

- D₅₀ for IPA 35 Gy
- 70% of PB 9.7 Gy

Thank You

