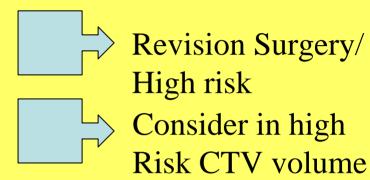
### Post operative head and neck cancers - delineation issues

Punita Lal

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## Indications for postoperative RT

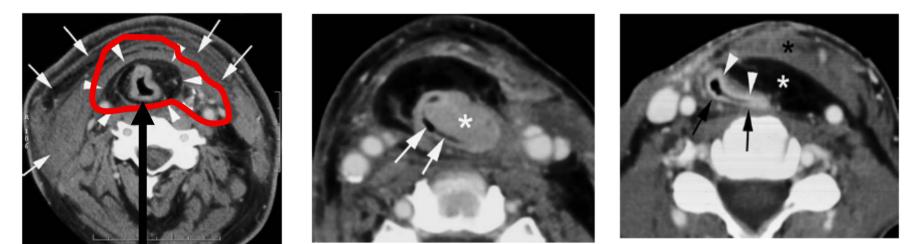
- Residual disease (R1/R2 resection)
- Close margin
- Soft tissue extension/ ECE
- Perineural extension



# Some basic facts in postoperative situations

- Staged reconstruction not advocated –so as not to delay post op RT
- Surgical information needed
- Anatomical barriers disrupted
- Local excision & regional dissection a common field
- Entire surgical bed to be encompassed
- Lack of sufficient tissue
- Case for case greater volume of RT treated to include scar, drain sites.

### Total laryngectomy +neopharynx reconstruction



## Postop CTV Difficult to identify the bed!

For delineation may need to refer to the preop findings, surgeon's notes, preoperative CT scans or opposite side anatomy.

### Guidelines for including the tumor bed

- Preop GTV + 2cm margin
- By Surgical clips or tissue inflammation or fibrosis (on CT scan), at times the graft may overlie the bed.
- To take care of residual disease, soft tissue extension and surgical spillage

Gregoire et al, Radiother Oncol, 2006:79;15-20

Lee et al, IJROBP, 2003:57;49-60

### Postoperative CTV primary must include

Site	Procedure	Residual tu. + Tumor bed + margin	CTV must include
Buccal mucosa	WLE +SOND	+	GB sulcus (S-I), ITF, submanibular gland, lip to RMT
Tongue	Hemiglossect omy +SOND	+	Muscles, BOT, FOM, GT sulcus, ATP
Larynx	TL + RND	+	Entire Lx, PFS, vallecula, PES, PGS, thyroid cartilage, Tracheostomy site
Hypopharynx	TL+ PP+ NTT +RND+ GPU	+	PPS, PPW, hemiLx, I/L thyroid lobe, PGS, AEF

Eisbruch, 2002; Semin Radiat Oncol vol 12(3):238-249

### Node negative neck - CTV definitions



Radiotherapy and Oncology 69 (2003) 227-236



www.elsevier.com/locate/radonline

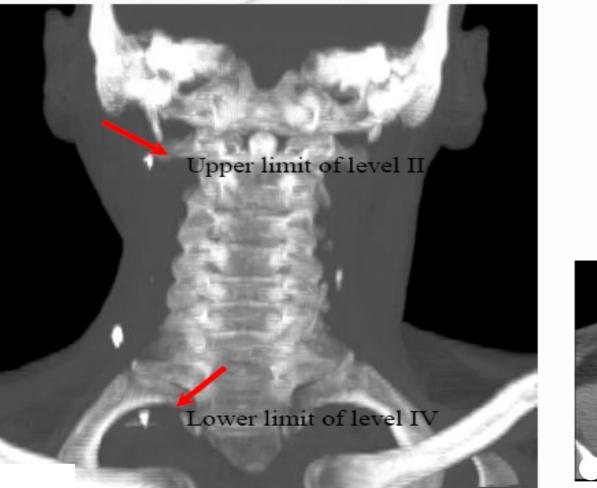
#### CT-based delineation of lymph node levels and related CTVs in the node-negative neck: DAHANCA, EORTC, GORTEC, NCIC, RTOG consensus guidelines

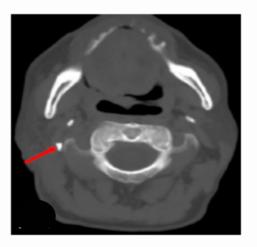
Vincent Grégoire<sup>a,\*,1</sup>, Peter Levendag<sup>b,1</sup>, Kian K. Ang<sup>c</sup>, Jacques Bernier<sup>d</sup>, Marijel Braaksma<sup>b</sup>, Volker Budach<sup>c</sup>, Cliff Chao<sup>c</sup>, Emmanuel Coche<sup>f</sup>, Jay S. Cooper<sup>c</sup>, Guy Cosnard<sup>f</sup>, Avraham Eisbruch<sup>c</sup>, Samy El-Sayed<sup>g</sup>, Bahman Emami<sup>c</sup>, Cai Grau<sup>h</sup>, Marc Hamoir<sup>i</sup>, Nancy Lee<sup>c</sup>, Philippe Maingon<sup>j</sup>, Karin Muller<sup>b</sup>, Hervé Reychler<sup>k</sup>

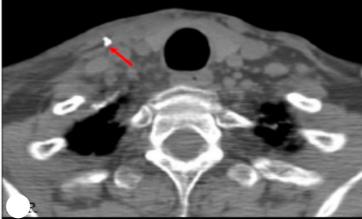
> DAHANCA: http://www.dshho.suite.dk/dahanca/guidelines.html EORTC: http://www.eortc.be/home/ Radio/EDUCATION.htm RTOG: http://www.rtog.org/hnatlas/main.htm

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### CT based delineation of LN levels in the neck - Brussels-Rotterdam consensus guidelines







## Patterns of failure

n	site	Follow up	LRR	Marginal recurrence	Comments	
135	Ophx (80)	32 mo	21	4	Marginal recurrence occurred in Base skull leve II LN region (beyond delineated region)	1

Eisbruch, 2004:IJROBP; 59:28-42

### Som et al; Arch Otolaryngol HN Surg. 1999;129; 388-396

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Target volume delineation

## Proposal for the delineation of the nodal CTV in the node-positive and the post-operative neck

Vincent Grégoire<sup>a,\*</sup>, Avraham Eisbruch<sup>b</sup>, Marc Hamoir<sup>c</sup>, Peter Levendag<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Head and Neck Oncology Program and Center for Molecular Imaging and Experimental Radiation Oncology, Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, <sup>b</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA, <sup>c</sup>Department of Head and Neck Surgery and Head and Neck Oncology Program, Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, <sup>d</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

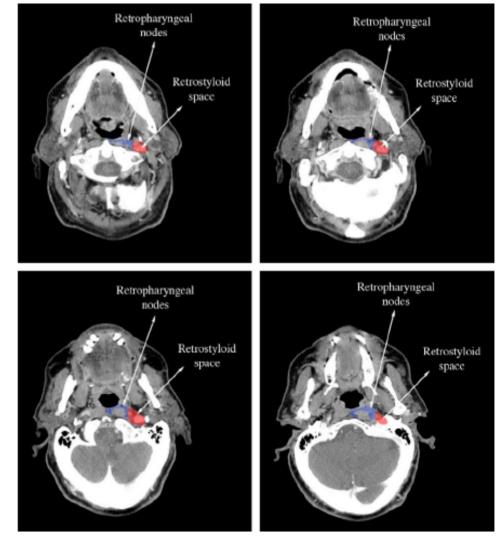
### Cranial extension- Retrostyloid space

Eisbruch et al observed marginal recurrences in N+ neck at base skull

Explanation – positive LN may induce retrograde lymph flow

Consensus guidelines modified Level II delineation

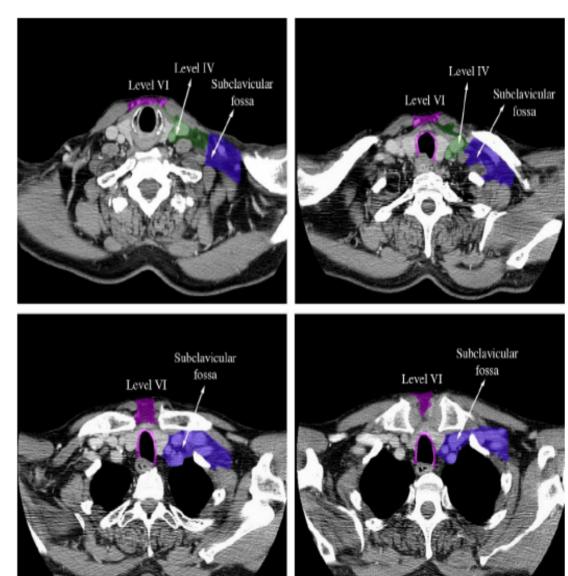
*Eisbruch et al, Int J Radiat Oncol, 2004:59;28-42* 



Gregoire et al, Radiother Oncol, 2006:79,15-20

### Caudal extension

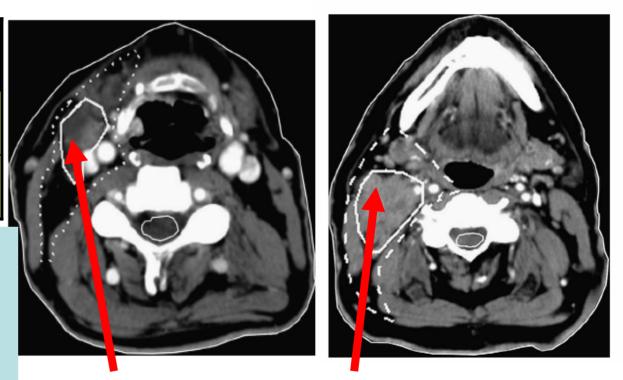
- In Level IV LN involvement – SCF to be included
- SCF Fatty space up to clavicles



### ECE- another issue in N+ disease!

Size	Involve	Spread
<1cm	26%	<1cm
>3cm	81%	large

Fascia is a barrier. Once disrupted, cells migrate easily in fatty tissue along muscle fibres.



Node involving the muscle

Entire muscle in that level to be included!

Gregoire et al, Radiother Oncol, 2006:79;13-20

### Neck dissection - another example



In Neck Dissection-LN level I-V Internal Jugular vein Sternocleidomastoid Spinal Accessory N

### IJV removed on left side

For delineation may need to refer to preoperative CT scans or opposite side anatomy.

# Do we include the scar in Post op situations?

- Traditionally speaking Yes?
- Reasons tumor cells get entrapped in scar hypoxic fibrotic zone
- Dose required 50Gy
- Boost -10Gy incases of extensive scarring & +ve margins
- Scar recurrence rate falls from 30% to 10% with RT

Fletcher GH, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Lea & febiger, 1980

## Do we need to bolus the scar?

- Traditionally speaking Yes!
- Especially with 4-6MV linac as compared to Cobalt for reasons of depth of build up.
- Thickness depends upon the beam energy

- IMRT using Linacs or Tomotherapy questioned the need.
- Reasons oblique incidence of multiple beams
- Better surgical techniques

### Answer – probably safe omit in IMRT

How to place the bolus? Inside the cast Add as structure on TPS

### Summary

For delineation one may need to refer to preoperative findings, preoperative CT scans, Surgical information or take help from opposite side anatomy.