RADIATION ONCOLOGY: Techniques, Side Effects, and Oligometastases

Dr Siobhra O'Sullivan 2nd April 2022



Overview



Technological advances in Radiotherapy

What that means for your patients

Resources for managing side effects

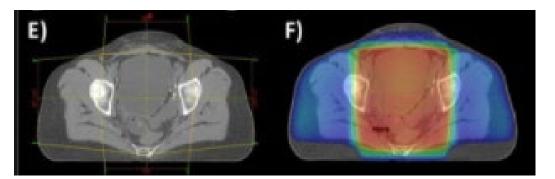
Cases



2D Radiotherapy:

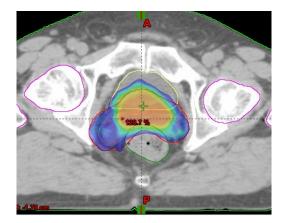


3D Radiotherapy:





Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT):

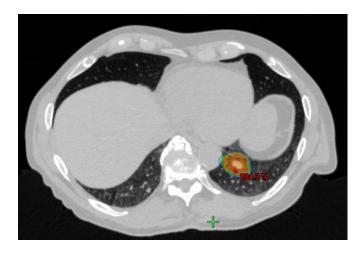


4D Radiotherapy:

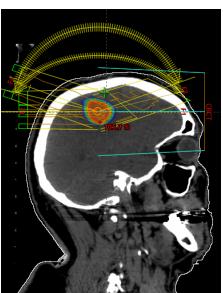




Stereotactic Radiotherapy:



Ultra-high doses Precise delivery <1mm



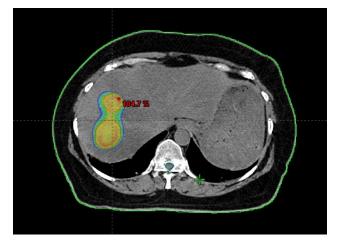
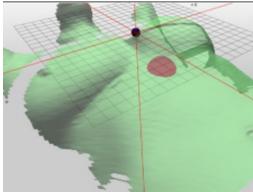




Image-guided Radiotherapy: (IGRT)





External (Surface contour and respiratory motion)



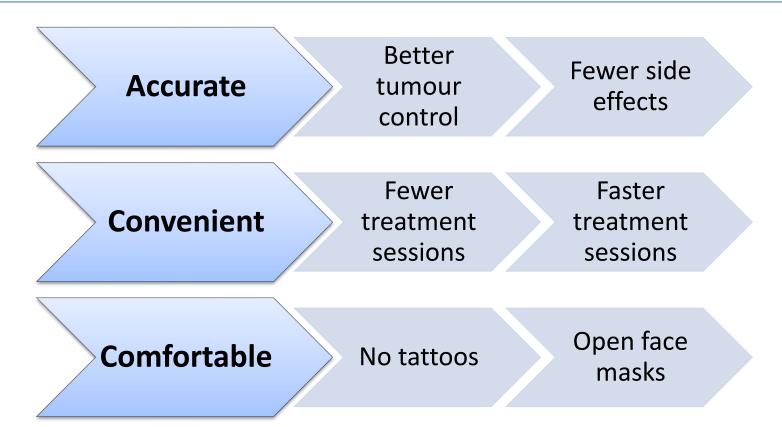
Internal (CT fusion)



What does all of this mean for your patients?



Treatments are Now More:

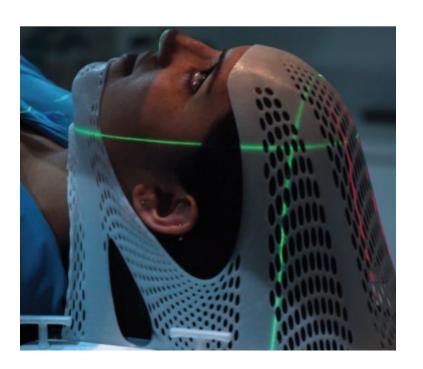






Surgical fixed frame (with screws!)

VS



Non-invasive open face mask

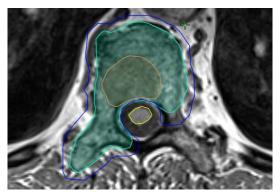


CT Simulation: Day 1

Design: Day 2-8

Begin Treatment: Day 9-10









Side Effects: Related to treatment site and technique



Skin care:

Mild soap/baby shampoo
No wet shaving
E45/aveeno
Topical hydrocortisone if pruritic
Allevyn non-adhesive dressings if skin broken

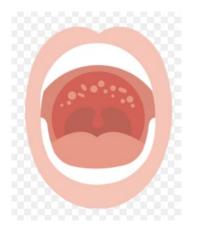
Resources:

Cancer care team and nurse

www.beaconhospital.ie/department-service/cancer-care www.cancercareontario.ca/en/symptom-management www.arccancersupport.ie



Side Effects: Related to treatment site and technique



Oral mucositis:

Soft toothbrush
Regular sips of water
Sodium bicarbonate rinses (1tsp in 1L water)
Mycostatin for fungal infection
BMX mouthwash (lignocaine)
Gelclair®

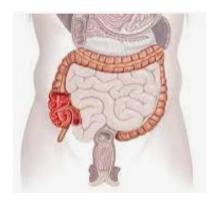
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Side Effects: Related to treatment site and technique



GI (diarrhea/urgency):

Small, frequent meals Limit caffeine, spicy foods, sorbitol (sugar-free gum etc), peeled fruits/veg Anti-diarrheal

Proctitis: specialist care (consider suppositories containing hydrocort/5ASA)

Resources:

Cancer care team and nurse

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Case Examples:

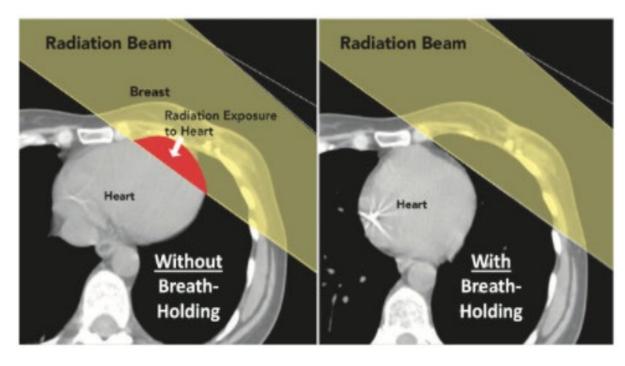
Left sided breast cancer

Inoperable Early Stage Lung Cancer

Stereotactic Radiosurgery for Brain metastases



Case 1: Left Sided Breast Cancer



38yo Stage I breast cancer

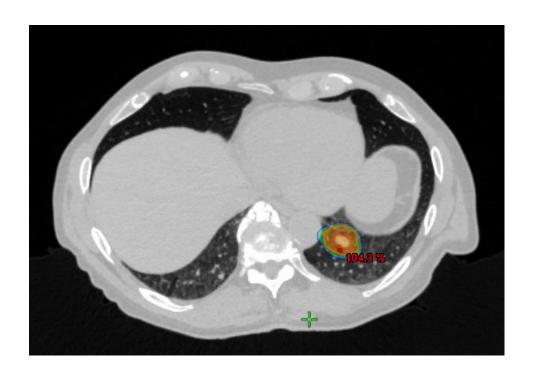
Deep Inspiratory Breath-hold

Less cardiac exposure

Lower rates of ischaemic heart disease long term



Case 2: Inoperable Early Stage Lung Cancer



72yo Stage I adenocarcinoma

Multiple co-morbidities Medically inoperable

5 fractions Stereotactic Radiotherapy

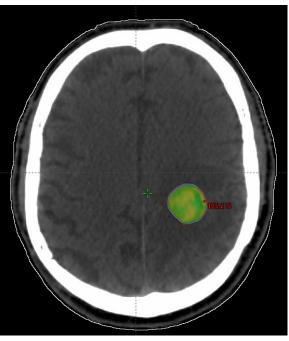
Non-invasive, outpatient

Outcomes comparable to surgery



Case 3: Stereotactic Radiosurgery for Brain Metastases





65yo
Feb 2020: stage IV oesophageal ca
with 2 brain metastases

Treatment combination:
Chemotherapy,
Stereotactic radiosurgery to brain
2020 and 2021,
Radiotherapy to oesophagus 2021,
Stereotactic radiosurgery 2022

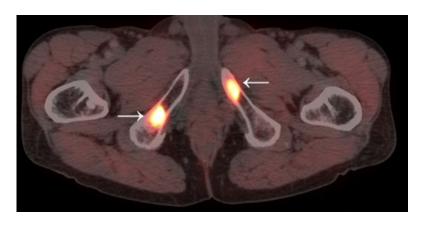
Still alive and active!



What are Oligometastases and why do they matter?



Possibility of Cure



Limited number of metastases (≤5)

All sites must be treatable with either stereotactic radiotherapy or surgery

Longer survival



Take Home Messages

Technological advances

Impacts patient outcomes and experience

Managing side effects

Practical approaches and resources

Metastatic disease

Changing landscape and potential for long term survival



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