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## Chosing a Chemo drug for a musician Carbo vs Cisplatin

Thank you for your help!

My dad (non-smoker, age 69, no chronic conditions, otherwise very healthy) has head and neck cancer. They thought they got it all, but his latest scan showed that a few lymph nodes have cancer. The cancer has not spread beyond this, though.

My dad is a professional cellist. This fact is driving many of his treatment decisions.

His docs say that radiation and surgery will be equally effective and, since there is a chance of severing a nerve that controls an arm, they will be opting for radiation and will not be performing surgery.

Both Carboplatin and Cisplatin have a risk of permanent hearing loss, also devastating to a musician. He knows that carboplatin has a slightly lower chance of hearing loss. He wants to keep his hearing if at all possible, but he wants to keep his life more. He is leaning toward carboplatin.

He is very healthy and strong and has no kidney problems (other than occasional kidney stones).

Is it a generally wise choice for a healthy person to opt for carboplatin + 5 FU rather than cisplatin?

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