



HPV Advances: A Patient Education Program

Induction Chemotherapy

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So, another method for identifying who we can de-escalate treatment for is induction chemotherapy to guide radiation. And there's one trial I'll tell you about here that's for intermediate or advanced stage head and neck cancers, ECOG 1308. It used induction chemotherapy with the drugs listed here. And patients who got a complete clinical response, which was about 70% of the patients, were able to get a decrease radiation dose with cetuximab. And those who did not get a complete clinical response got full dose radiation plus cetuximab, and decreased dose to uninvolved lymph nodes bilateral. So, this trial showed good early swallowing function, and here are the curves for survival, this is progression-free survival, and this is overall survival. And you can see pretty good progression-free and overall survival for these intermediate or advanced-stage tumours. So once again, a very hopeful trial that we may be able to decrease treatment morbidity by de-escalation of the radiation dose.