

Meta-analysis of randomized clinical trials in patients treated for Hodgkin lymphoma: secondary malignant neoplasms, progression-free survival and overall survival



9498 Patients with newly diagnosed Hodgkin lymphoma



Treatment within 16 randomized controlled trials



Between 1984 and 2007



Analysis of

- Secondary malignant neoplasms
- Progression-free and overall survival



Five study questions

- 1 Combined-modality treatment vs chemotherapy alone
- 2 More extended vs involved-field radiotherapy
- 3 Radiation at higher doses vs radiation at 20 Gy
- 4 More vs fewer cycles of the same chemotherapy protocol
- 5 Standard-dose chemotherapy vs intensified chemotherapy



7.4 years median follow-up

Dose intensified chemotherapy



- better progression-free survival ($p=0.007$)
- increased risk of therapy-related acute myeloid leukemia/myelodysplastic syndromes ($p=0.0028$)

Combined-modality treatment



- same progression-free or overall survival as chemotherapy alone
- more secondary malignancies ($p=0.010$)