



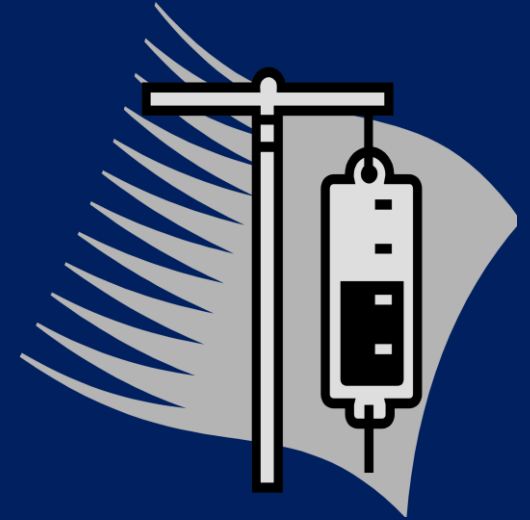
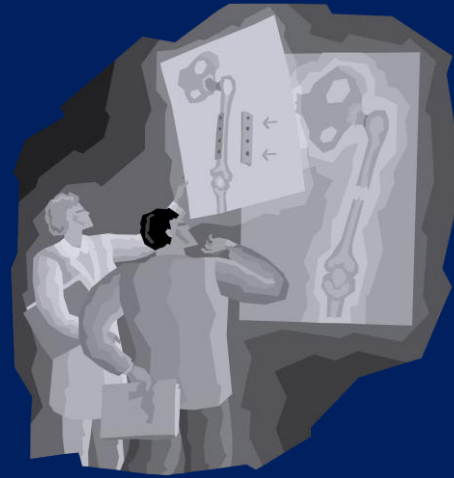
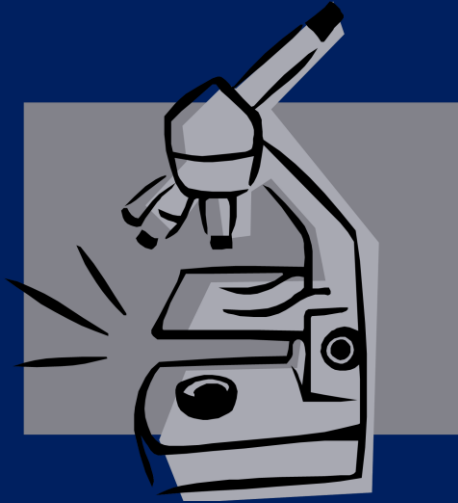
# European Action Against Rare Cancers

***Best practice examples***

## **Head & Neck cancers**



**Lisa Licitra**  
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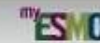


GOOD SCIENCE  
BETTER MEDICINE  
BEST PRACTICE

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## ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines

The ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) are intended to provide the user with a set of recommendations for the best standards of cancer care, based on the findings of evidence-based medicine. Each CPG includes information on the incidence of the malignancy, diagnostic criteria, staging of disease and risk assessment, treatment plans and follow-up.

ESMO is pleased to release the latest enhanced and revised set of guidelines designed to help oncologists deliver an appropriate quality of care to their patients.

ESMO Consensus Conferences

ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines, May 2010: Vol. 21, Supplement No. 5

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## Welcome to ESTRO

Founded in 1980, ESTRO exists to advance all aspects of radiation oncology through a range of activities for its members and the wider healthcare and patient communities.

ESTRO promotes excellence through education, professional development, promotion of research and dissemination of outcomes, courses and conferences. ESTRO is focused on improving all aspects of patient care and supports the role of radiation oncology in the multimodality treatment of cancer.

The ESTRO Radiotherapy Information Centre is an open access resource with sections for patients, health professionals, journalists and researchers as well as data on cancer and its treatment across Europe.

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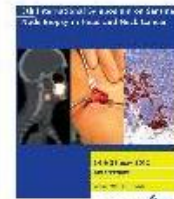
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Latest News

EUROGIN 2012

Prague - July 8-11, 2012  
Human Papillomavirus and Head & Neck Cancer Forum

[Click here for more Info.](#)



5th Symposium on Sentinel Node Biopsy  
May 24 and 25, 2012  
Amsterdam

[Click here for more info.](#)



Events Calendar

February 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	1	2	3



clinical practice guidelines

*Annals of Oncology* 21 (Supplement 5): v184–v186, 2010  
doi:10.1093/annonc/mdq185

## **Squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck: EHNS–ESMO–ESTRO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up**

V. Grégoire<sup>1</sup>, J.-L. Lefebvre<sup>2</sup>, L. Licitra<sup>3</sup> & E. Felip<sup>4</sup>

On behalf of the EHNS–ESMO–ESTRO Guidelines Working Group\*

<sup>1</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, St-Luc University Hospital, Brussels, Belgium; <sup>2</sup>Department of Head and Neck Surgery, Centre Oscar Lambret, Lille, France; <sup>3</sup>Medical Oncology Head and Neck Unit, Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy; <sup>4</sup>Medical Oncology Service, Vall d'Hebron University Hospital, Barcelona, Spain

clinical practice guidelines

*Annals of Oncology* 21 (Supplement 5): v187–v189, 2010  
doi:10.1093/annonc/mdq186

## **Nasopharyngeal cancer: EHNS–ESMO–ESTRO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up**

A. T. C. Chan<sup>1</sup>, V. Grégoire<sup>2</sup>, J.-L. Lefebvre<sup>3</sup>, L. Licitra<sup>4</sup> & E. Felip<sup>5</sup>

On behalf of the EHNS–ESMO–ESTRO Guidelines Working Group\*

<sup>1</sup>Department of Clinical Oncology, Prince of Wales Hospital, Chinese University, Hong Kong; <sup>2</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, St-Luc University Hospital, Brussels, Belgium; <sup>3</sup>Department of Head and Neck Surgery, Centre Oscar Lambret, Lille, France; <sup>4</sup>Medical Oncology Head and Neck Unit, Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy; <sup>5</sup>Medical Oncology Service, Vall d'Hebron University Hospital, Barcelona, Spain

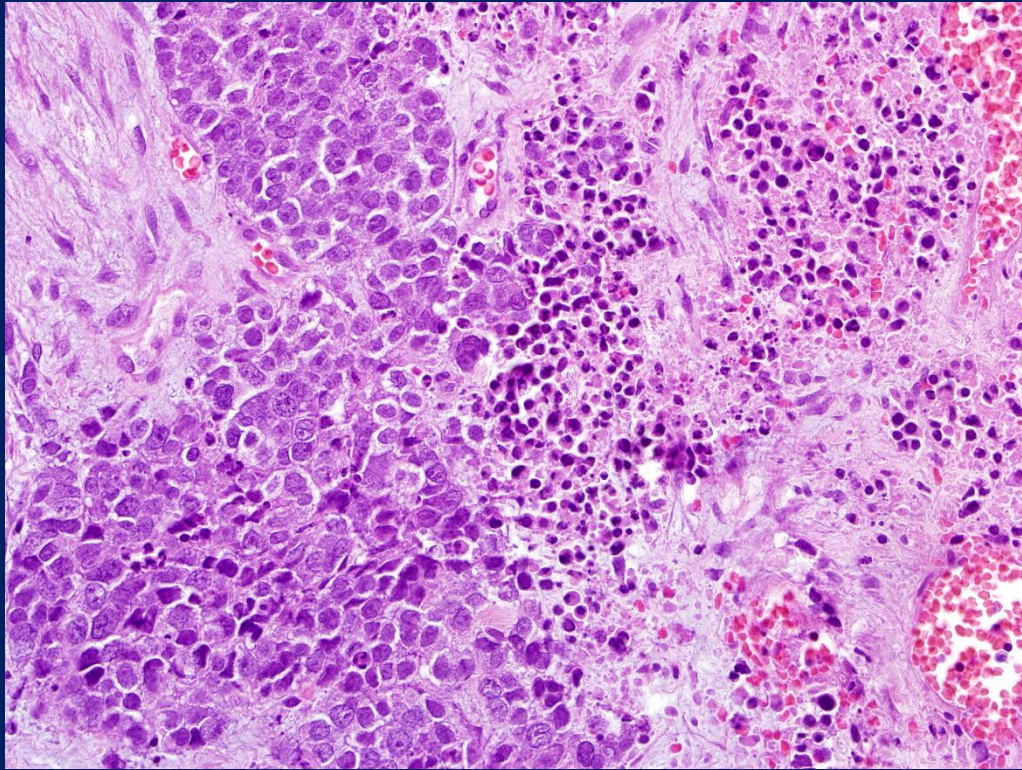
## **diagnosis**

Pathological diagnosis should be made according to the World Health Organization classification from a surgical biopsy sample.

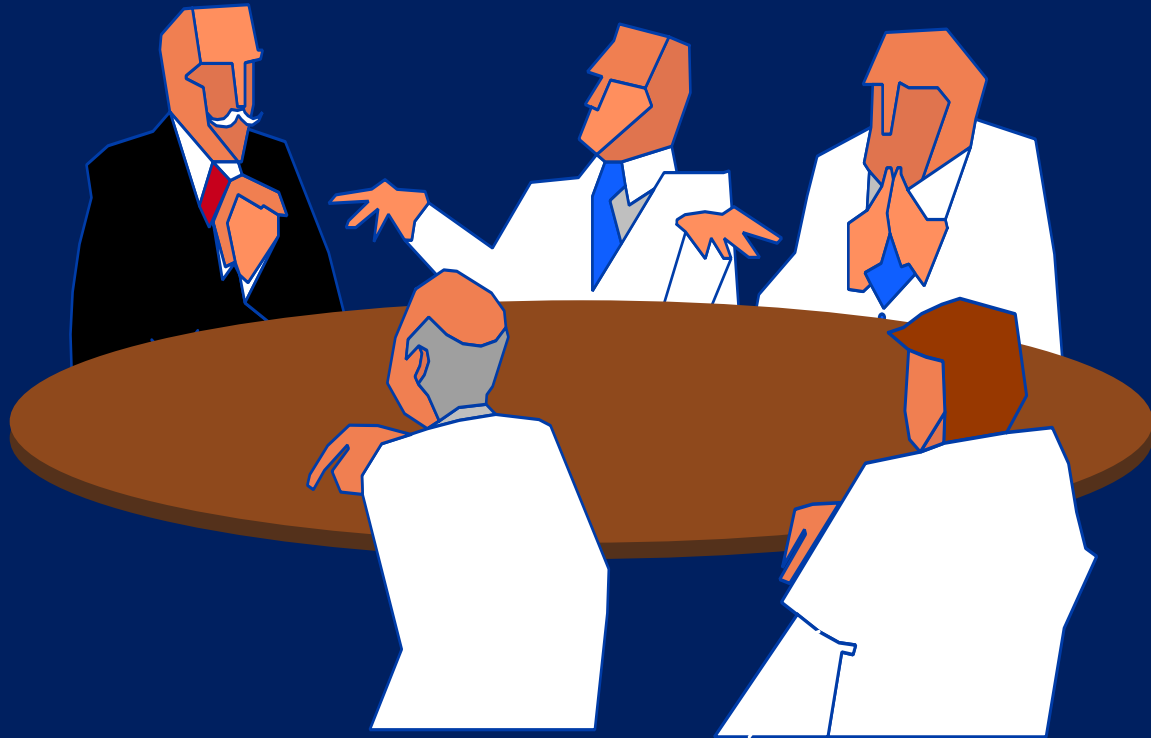
Routine staging includes physical examination, chest X-ray, head and neck endoscopy, and head and neck computed tomography (CT) scan or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). MRI is the preferable staging procedure for every tumour subsite except laryngeal and hypopharyngeal cancers. A thoracic CT scan may be performed to rule out metastatic disease and or second lung primaries. The role of 2-[<sup>18</sup>F]fluoro-

The role of induction chemotherapy (ICT) has been reconsidered since the introduction of taxane–platinum-based (TPF) combinations that have proved to be superior to platinum–fluorouracil PF schedule in loco-regionally advanced disease [1, A]. However, at present, induction chemotherapy is not considered standard treatment in advanced disease. ICT followed by RT-CT (so-called sequential CT-RT) is still under evaluation. The overall toxicity of this approach can be substantial thus compromising the final result.





resectable patients [I, A]. Radiotherapy given concomitantly with cetuximab has demonstrated a higher response rate, longer disease-free progression and longer overall survival versus radiotherapy alone [II, B]. There is no formal comparison between the combination of radiotherapy with cisplatin or cetuximab. In this context the therapeutic decision is difficult to take. However, it should be considered that results of concomitant chemoradiation are based on thousands of patients, that this combination is associated with significant toxicity and that its efficacy in the elderly population is questioned. On the other hand results of cetuximab + radiation are based on 200 patients, the magnitude in effect was similar or even better than that achieved by concomitant chemoradiation, it proved to be less toxic and the benefit in the elderly subgroup is also questioned.



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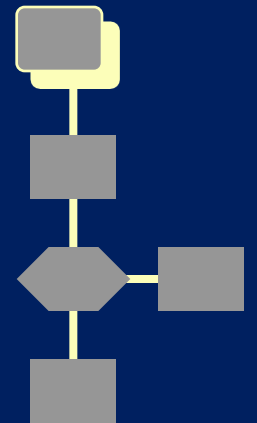
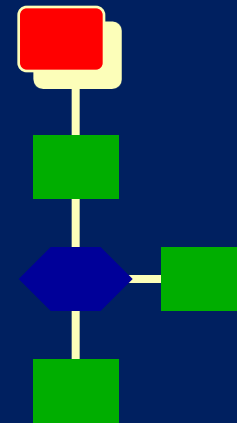
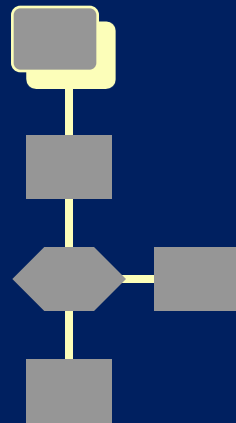
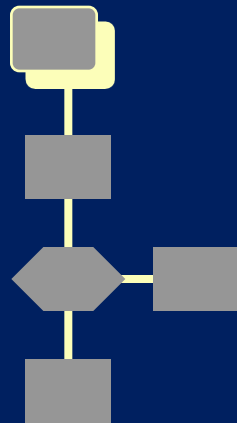
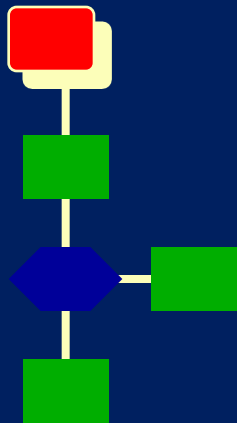
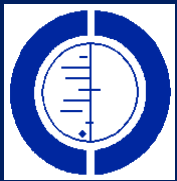
ASCO SPECIAL ARTICLE

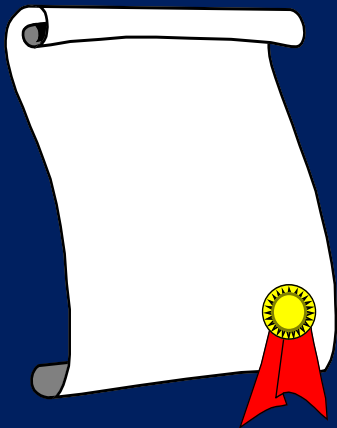
## American Society of Clinical Oncology Clinical Practice Guideline for the Use of Larynx-Preservation Strategies in the Treatment of Laryngeal Cancer

*David G. Pfister, Scott A. Laurie, Gregory S. Weinstein, William M. Mendenhall, David J. Adelstein,  
K. Kian Ang, Gary L. Clayman, Susan G. Fisher, Arlene A. Forastiere, Louis B. Harrison, Jean-Louis Lefebvre,  
Nancy Leupold, Marcy A. List, Bernard O. O'Malley, Snehal Patel, Marshall R. Posner, Michael A. Schwartz,  
and Gregory T. Wolf*



# The “grey zone” of evidence-based medicine





**international  
evidence-based  
consensus**



**willingness  
to pay**

# Bayesian approaches to summarizing evidence?



$$P[A|B] = P[A] \times \frac{P[B|A]}{P[B]}$$

*Mr. Bayes & Mr. Price. Phil Trans 1763;53:370*



# European Action Against Rare Cancers



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