

Version 25 September 2014

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# Stereotactic ablative radiotherapy (SABR) in early-stage I NSCLC

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## Objectives

- Review the different techniques of stereotactic radiotherapy for peripheral and central lung tumours
- Pro and cons of SABR versus standard radiotherapy in patients with poor lung function
- Pro and cons of SABR versus sublobar resection in patients with borderline lung function



# Definition SABR (or SBRT)

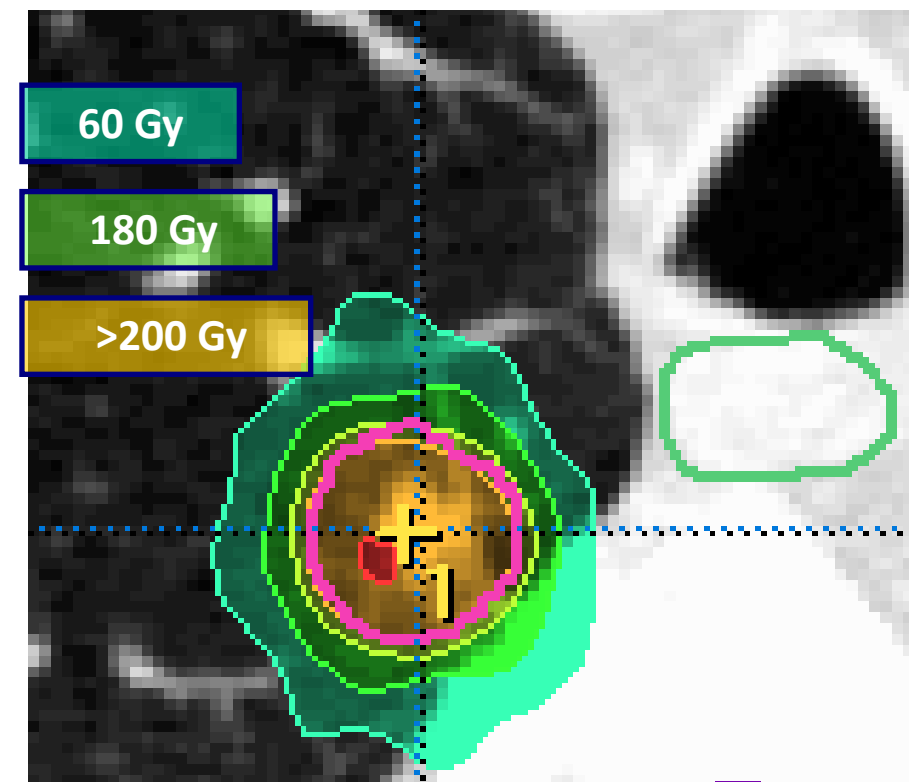
A technique for delivering external beam radiotherapy to an extra-cranial target

- (i) with a high degree of accuracy,
- (ii) using high doses of irradiation,
- (iii) delivered in 1-8 treatment fractions.

Senan, Guckenberger, Ricardi, 2014

Key feature of SABR delivery

- Steep dose-gradients

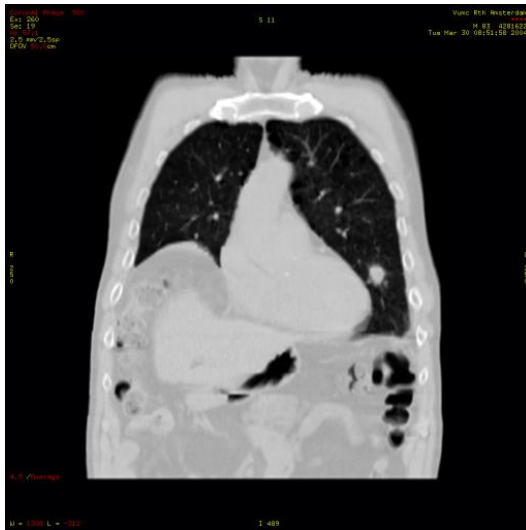


- Surgery is preferred if patients accept procedure-related risks
- In patients who are unfit, stereotactic ablative radiotherapy (SABR) is the preferred treatment because of low toxicity and low failure rates

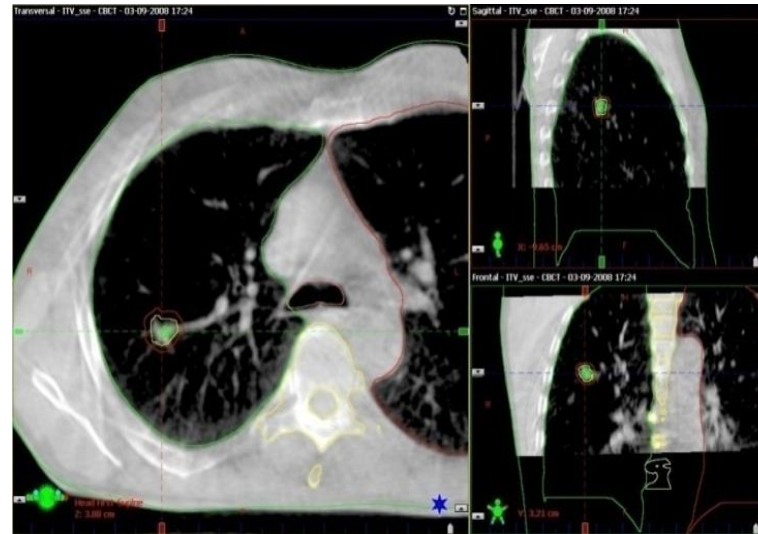
*Clinical Practice Guidelines of the European Society for Medical Oncology, endorsed by the Japanese Society of Medical Oncology [Vansteenkiste J, Ann Oncol 2013]*



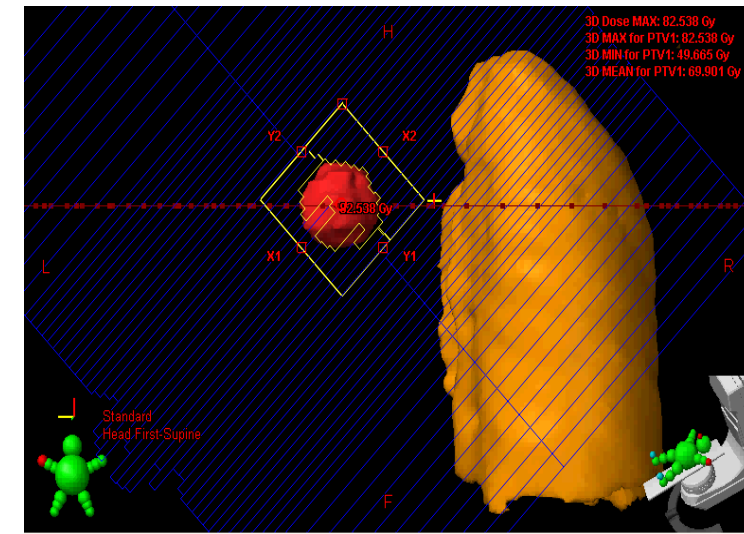
## Image-guided radiotherapy technique at VUMC, Amsterdam



4-D imaging



CT scan on treatment couch



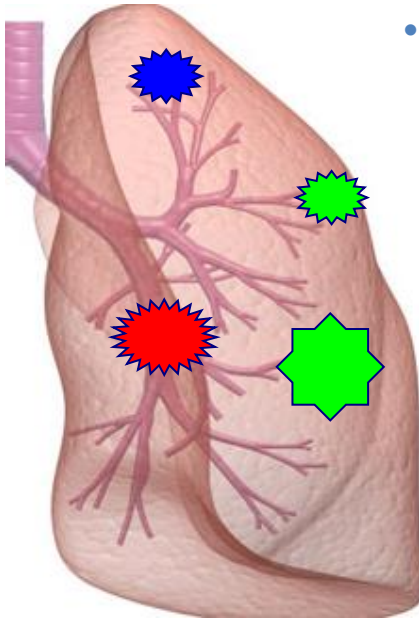
Delivery in <4 mins (Ong CL, 2012)

Many delivery platforms exist. No differences observed in either overall survival, or local progression-free survivals using different radiotherapy equipment [Solda F, Radiother Oncol 2013]





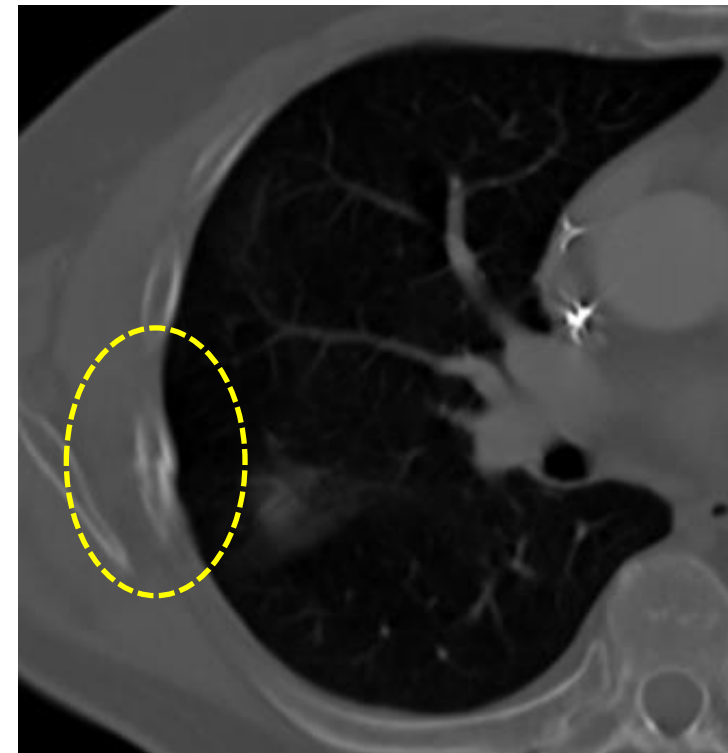
Lagerwaard FJ, IJROBP 2008



- **Risk adapted fractionation (fr) scheme:**
  - **3 fr of 18Gy** : T1 lesions, not adjacent to chest wall
  - **5 fr of 11Gy** : T1 lesions with broad chest wall contact, and T2 lesions
  - **8 fr of 7.5Gy** : central lesions showing limited overlap with mediastinal structures
- ITV = internal target volume encompassing all motion on 4DCT
- PTV = planning target volume = ITV + 5mm



- 500 patients with T1-2N0 tumors (2003-2009)
- Median follow-up 33 months (13-86 months)
- Severe chest wall toxicity uncommon
  - severe pain in 2.2%,
  - rib fractures in 2.7%





- 505 lung tumors in 483 patients
- Median time to pneumonitis: 0.4 years

Pneumonitis grade	incidence
Grade 2 or higher	7%
Grade 3 or higher	2%
Grade 5	0.2%



Japanese multi-institution analysis

Radiation pneumonitis  $\geq$  Grade 3 (CTCAE V3.0)


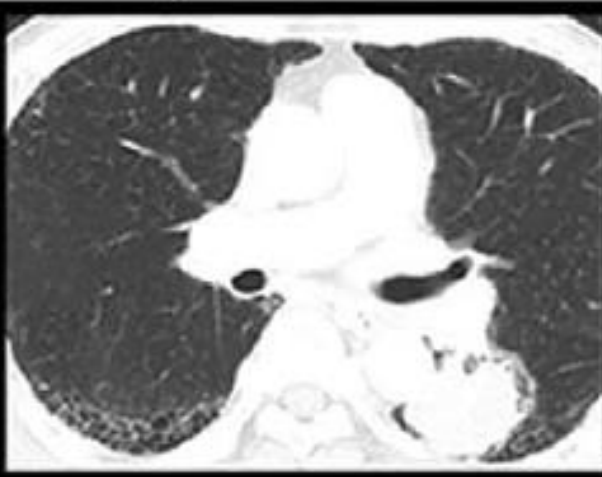
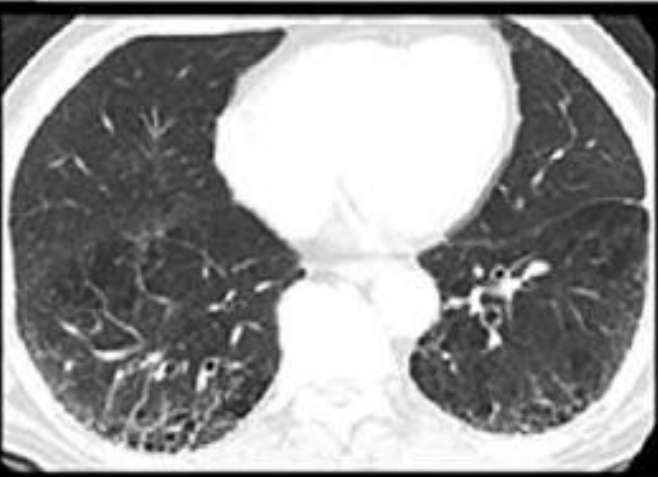
subgroup		Grade 3,4,5	Grade 5
All patients (n= 2278 pts)		3.3%	0.6%
Operable patients (n= 683 pts)		1.9%	0.4%
Pulmonary emphysema (+) (n= 449 pts)		4.4%	1.1%
Pulmonary fibrosis (+) (n= 243 pts)		11.9%	5.9%

No pathological diagnosis: 606 pts



score	Pulmonary Fibrosis Score (PFS)
0	No fibrosis
1	Interlobular septal thickening; no discrete honeycombing
2	Honeycombing (with or without septal thickening) involving <25% of the lobe
3	Honeycombing involving 25 - 49% of the lobe
4	Honeycombing involving 50 - 75% of the lobe
5	Honeycombing involving > 75% of the lobe

		
score 1	score 2	score 3



Dutch surgical series in FDG-PET era show a  $\leq 6\%$  likelihood of benign lesions in resected specimens

(Van Tinteren H, Lancet 2002; Herder G, JCO 2006; Verstegen N, Ann Oncol 2013)

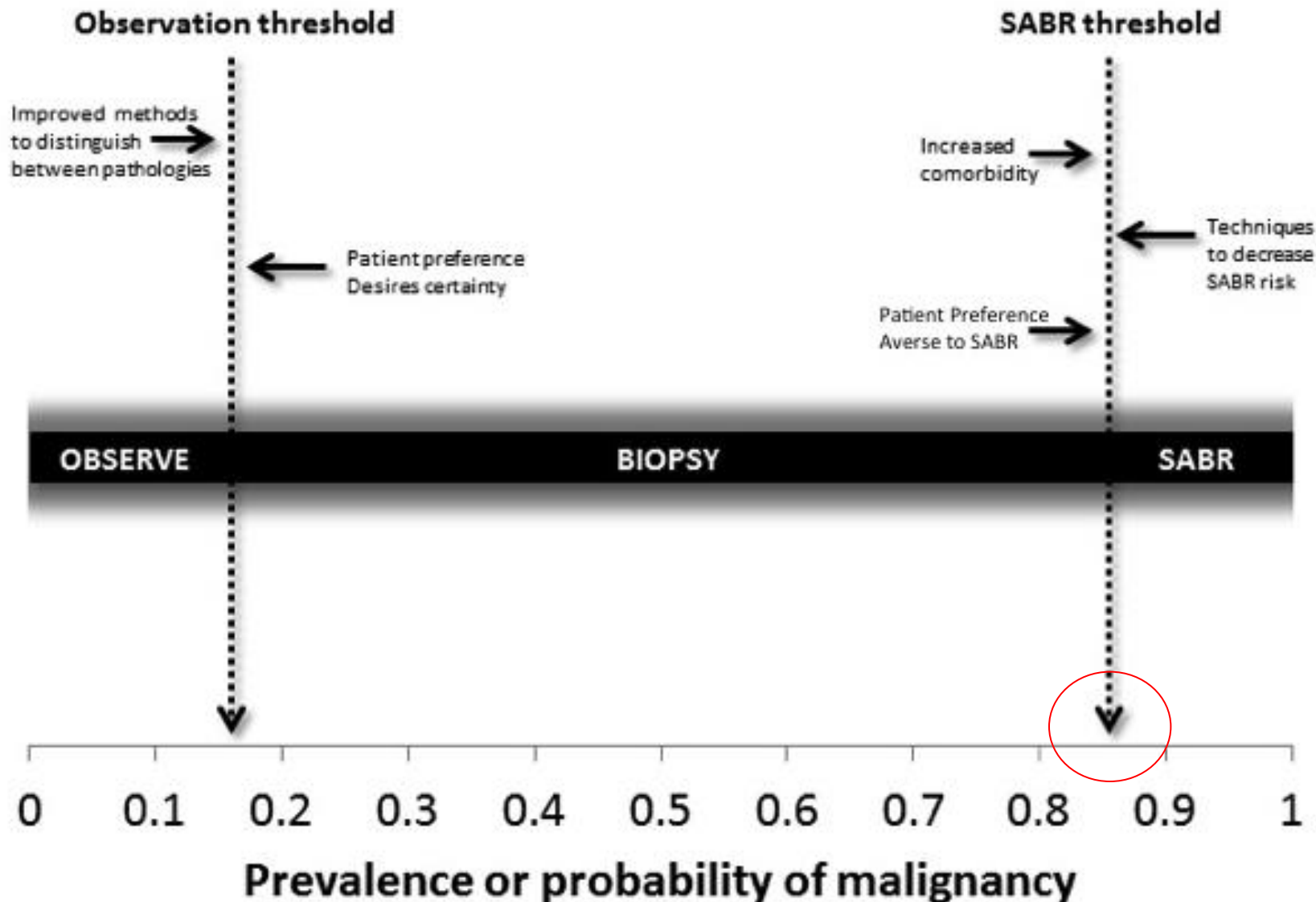
Italian series of 1571 lung resections for suspicious lesions showed a final benign diagnosis in  $22\%$

(Veronesi G, JTO 2014)

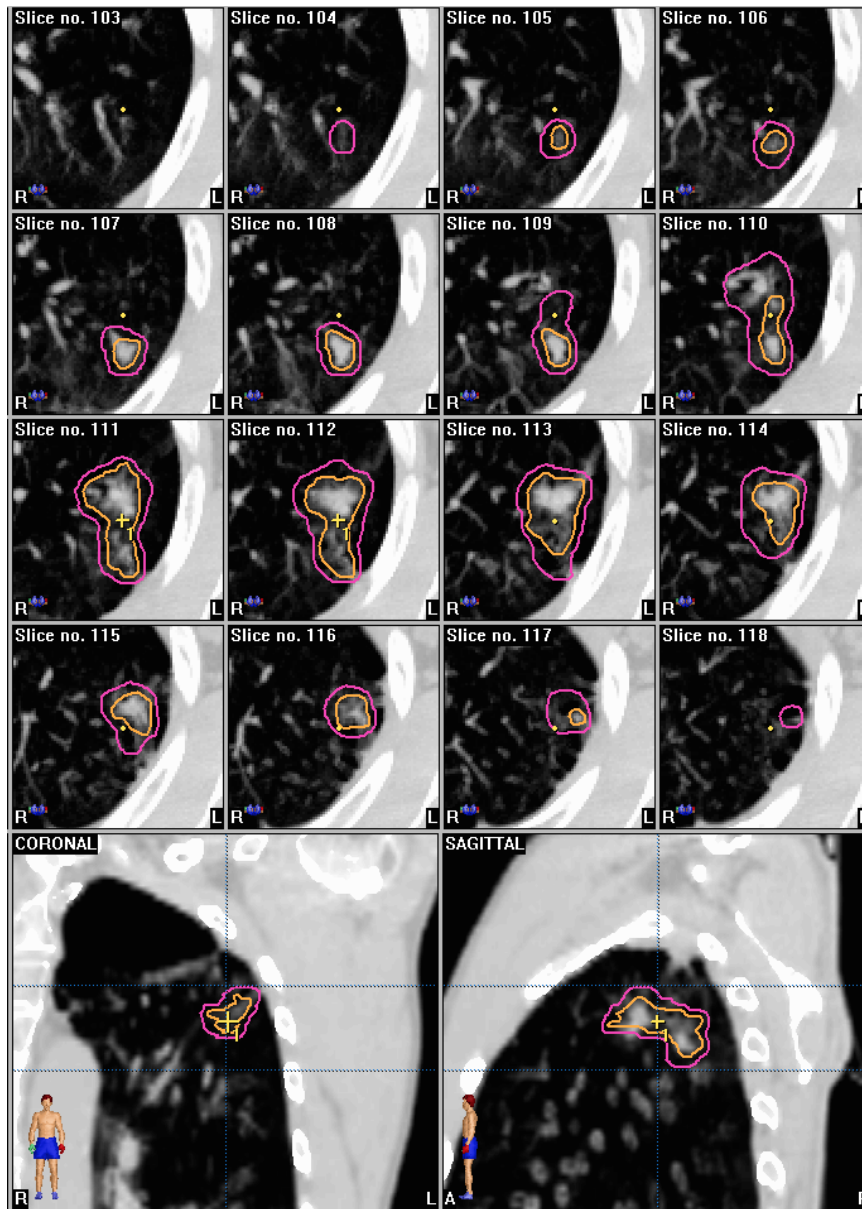


# Establishing a pre-treatment diagnosis

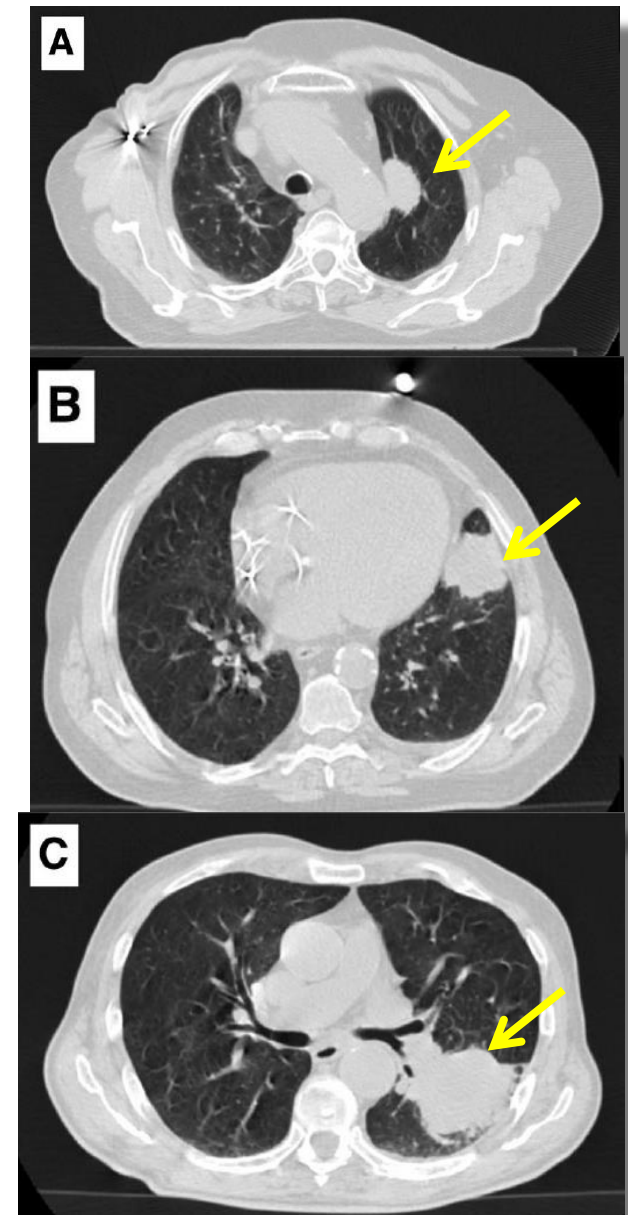
When is a Biopsy-proven Diagnosis Necessary before Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy (SABR) for Lung Cancer? A Decision Analysis



# SABR for central tumors?



Peripheral lung tumor



Central lung tumors  
Haasbeek CJ, JTO 2011





## Systematic review of SABR for central tumors

20 publications: 563 central lung tumours  
(315 were early-stage NSCLC)

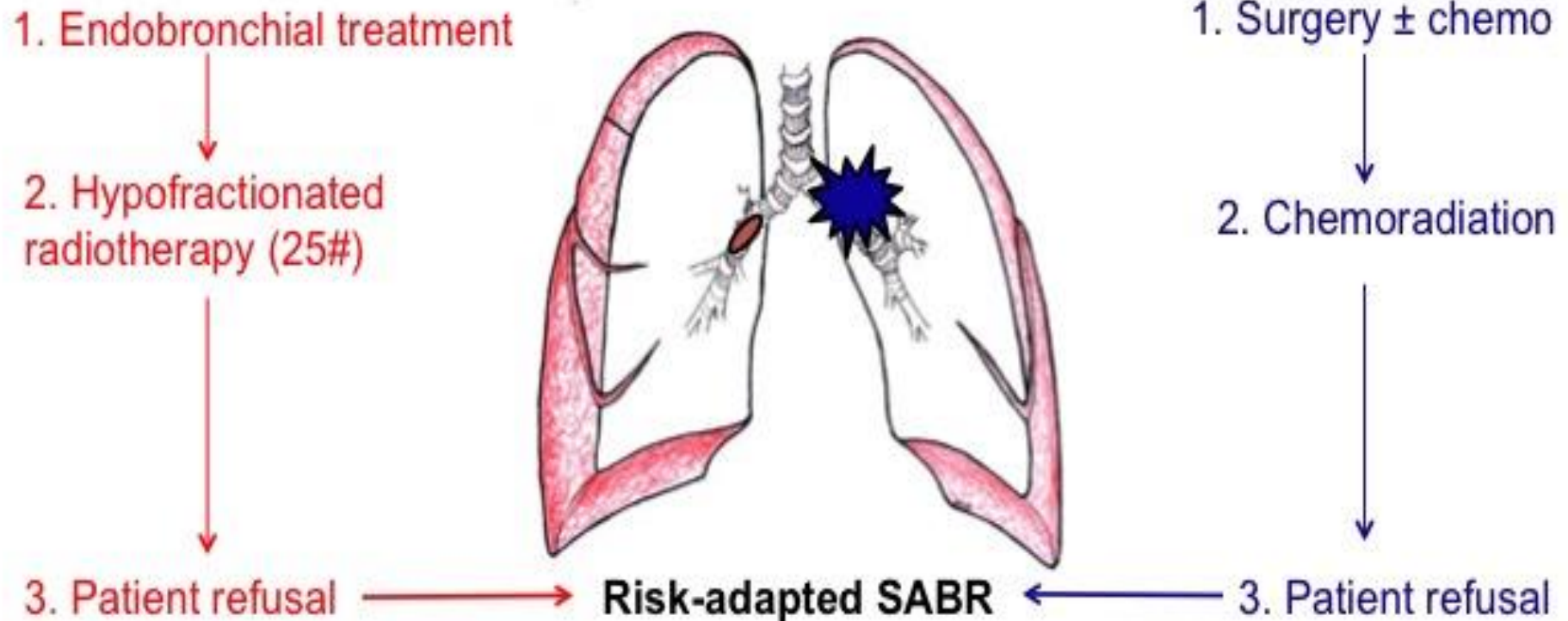
Local control rates  $\geq 85\%$  when prescribed  
dose ( $BED_{10}$ ) was  $\geq 100$  Gy.

Treatment-related mortality **2.7%** overall  
versus **1.0%** when normal tissue dose  
( $BED_3$ ) was  $\leq 210$  Gy

Grades 3-4 toxicities appear commoner  
following SABR for central tumours, but  
occurred in less than **9%** of patients.



## Suggested algorithm for high-risk central tumors



# Randomized trials of SABR vs. conventional RT

	<b>SPACE</b> NCT01920789	<b>CHISEL</b> NCT01014130
Study arms	SABR: 66 Gy in 3 frac (isocenter) CFRT: 66 Gy (2Gy frac)	SABR: 54 Gy in 3 frac CFRT: 60-66Gy (2Gy frac)
Primary End-point	Freedom from tumor progression at 36 mo.	Time to Local Failure at 24 mo.
Secondary end- points	OS at 36 mo. Toxicity, QoL	OS, CSS, Toxicity QoL
Total enrolled	102 pts (completed)	100 pts (76 enrolled)



# Prospective RCT: SPACE trial

	A SBRT	B Conventional	All patients
Local recurrence	11 %	13 %	12 %
Regional recurrence	7 %	8 %	7 %
Distant metastases	24 %	23 %	23 %
Patients with progression	35 %	35 %	35 %

Fewer cases with pneumonitis (16 versus 34%) and esophagitis (9 versus 32%) in SBRT arm. Any G3-5 toxicity seen in 16 vs 18%



**Table 37.2. Overview of Results of Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy after Delivery of Radiation at More than 106 Gy Biologic Effective Dose**

Author (Year)	No. of Patients	Patients with Histopathologic Confirmation of NSCLC (%)	Overall Survival at 2-3 Years (%)	Freedom from Local Progression at 2-3 Years (%)
<b>Prospective Phase II Trials</b>				
Nagata et al. (2005) <sup>71</sup>	45	100	75	98
Baumann et al. (2009) <sup>72</sup>	57	67	60	92
Fakiris et al. (2009) <sup>73</sup>	70	100	43	88
Ricardi et al. (2010) <sup>74</sup>	62	65	51	88
Bral et al. (2010) <sup>75</sup>	40	100	52	84
Timmerman et al. (2010) <sup>76</sup>	54	100	56	98
<b>All prospective studies<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>328</b>	<b>87.6</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>91.2</b>
<b>Large Retrospective Series</b>				
Grills et al. (2010) <sup>77</sup>	434	64	60	94
Senthi et al. (2012) <sup>78</sup>	676	35	55	95
Guckenberger et al. (2013) <sup>79</sup>	514	85	46 62 <sup>b</sup>	80 93 <sup>b</sup>
<b>All retrospective studies<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>1,624</b>	<b>58.8</b>	<b>53.5</b>	<b>90.0</b>

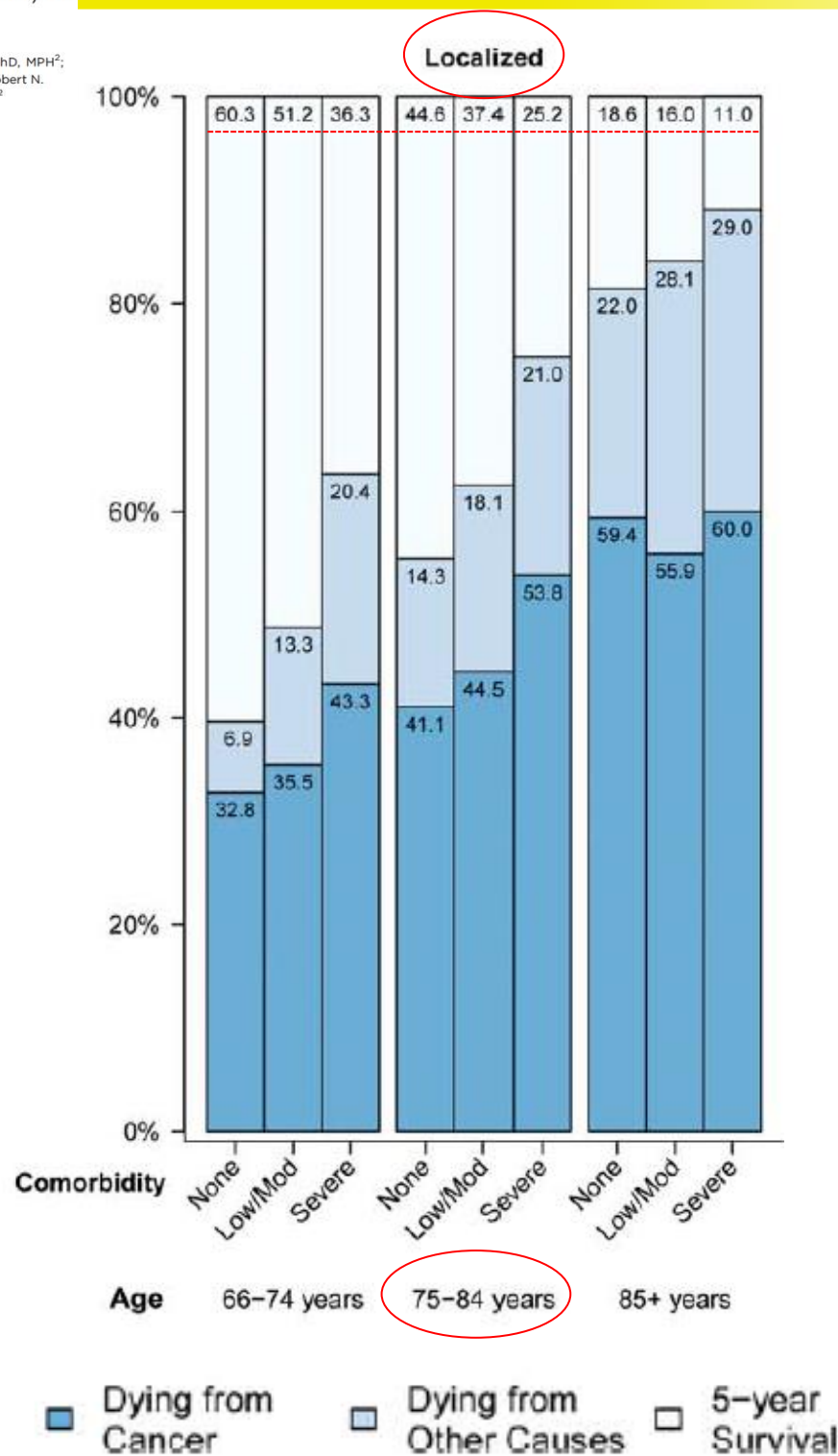
<sup>a</sup>The weighted average values are calculated for the summary of all prospective and retrospective studies.

<sup>b</sup>Subgroup of 164 patients treated with  $\geq 106$  Gy biologically effective dose.



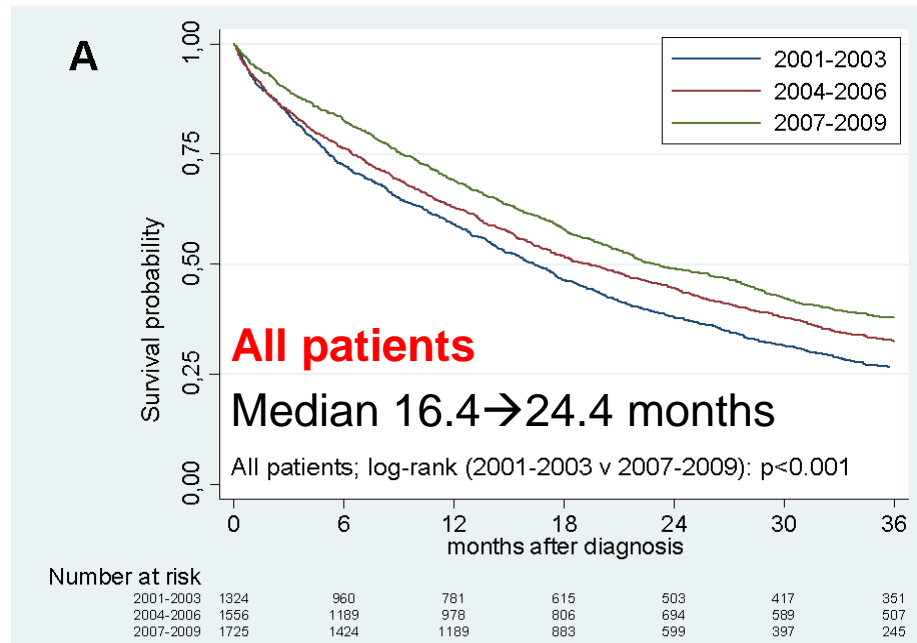
# Annual Report to the Nation on the Status of Cancer, 1975-2010, Featuring Prevalence of Comorbidity and Impact on Survival Among Persons With Lung, Colorectal, Breast, or Prostate Cancer (Cancer 2014)

Brenda K. Edwards, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Anne-Michelle Noone, MS<sup>1</sup>; Angela B. Mariotto, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Edgar P. Simard, PhD, MPH<sup>2</sup>; Francis P. Boscoe, PhD<sup>3</sup>; S. Jane Henley, MSPH<sup>4</sup>; Ahmedin Jemal, DVM, PhD<sup>2</sup>; Hyunsoon Cho, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Robert N. Anderson, PhD<sup>5</sup>; Betsy A. Kohler, MPH<sup>1</sup>; Christie R. Ehemann, PhD<sup>4</sup>; and Elizabeth M. Ward, PhD<sup>2</sup>





## Survival in 4605 patients aged $\geq 75$ years



Study	Study Design	Number of patients	Surgical Procedure	Overall Survival		Conclusions/Comments
				Surgery	SABR	
Crabtree [57]	Propensity-score matching	Unmatched: Surgery 458, SABR 151 Matched: 112/group	(Bi)lobectomy, 78% Sublobar, 19% Pneumonectomy, 4%	78%, 3yrs	47%, 3yrs	Although surgical resection seems to result in better OS versus SABR, matching these patients remains challenging
Puri [47]	Propensity-score matching	57/group	Lobectomy, 81% Sublobar, 19%	68%, 3yrs	52%, 3yrs	No significant difference in OS, however, no significant difference in DFS
Shirvani [58]	Retrospective cohort	100	Lobectomy, 100%	58%, 3yrs	46%, 3yrs	DFS was significantly better in the surgery group
Soldati [59]	Retrospective cohort	100	Lobectomy, 100%	58%, 3yrs	46%, 3yrs	DFS was significantly better in the surgery group
Varlotto [60]	Retrospective cohort	100	Lobectomy, 100%	58%, 3yrs	46%, 3yrs	DFS was significantly better in the surgery group
Verstegen [61]	Retrospective cohort	100	Lobectomy, 100%	58%, 3yrs	46%, 3yrs	DFS was significantly better in the surgery group
Grills [62]	Retrospective cohort	100	Lobectomy, 100%	58%, 3yrs	46%, 3yrs	DFS was significantly better in the surgery group
Louie [63]	Markov Model	Lobectomy and SABR outcomes modelled from various sources		At 5yrs, Surgery 2-3% benefit in OS		patients tended to be older with more comorbidities Large patient numbers would be required to detect small differences in OS
Shah [46]	Markov Model	Lobectomy, wedge resection and SABR outcomes modelled from various sources		Not reported, model validated based on recurrence patterns		SABR is the dominant strategy when compared to wedge resection. In patients eligible for lobectomy, surgery is the most cost-effective option

Most suggest that local control / DFS after SABR is at least equivalent, if not better, than after surgery

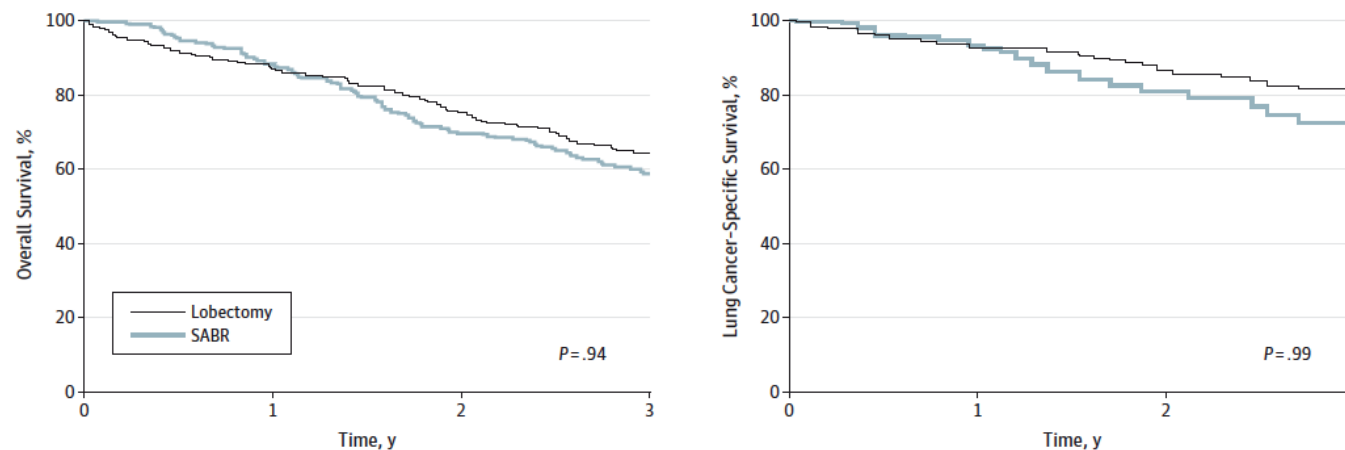
Most suggest that overall survival after SABR is either equivalent or worse than surgery cohorts (patient factors)



**DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS** The Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results database linked to Medicare was used to determine the baseline characteristics and outcomes of 9093 patients with early-stage, node-negative NSCLC who underwent definitive treatment consisting of lobectomy, sublobar resection, or stereotactic ablative radiotherapy (SABR) from January 1, 2003, through December 31, 2009.

Figure. Outcomes for Propensity Score-Matched Cohorts

**B** Lobectomy vs SABR



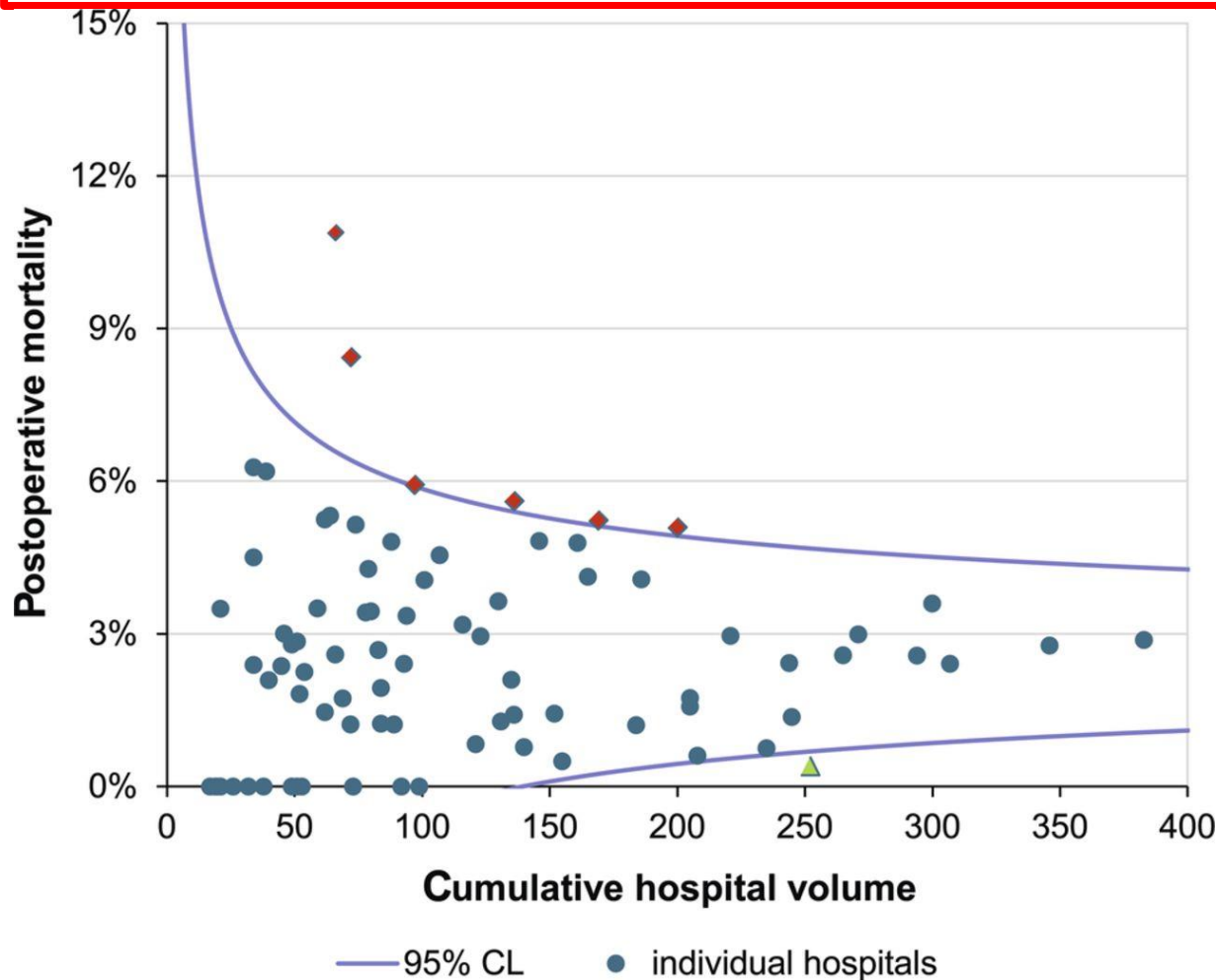
A, Comparison of groups treated with lobectomy and sublobar resection. B, Comparison of groups treated with lobectomy or stereotactic ablative

radiotherapy (SABR).



## 30-day post-operative mortality

		n	%	30-d (%)	OR
Leeftijd	20-59	2825	29	1,2	1
	60-69	3576	36	2,0	1,6
	70-79	3138	32	4,3	3,5
	80+	313	3	6,7	6,4



# 30-day versus 90-day mortality

90-day mortality is up to double that of the 30-day figure

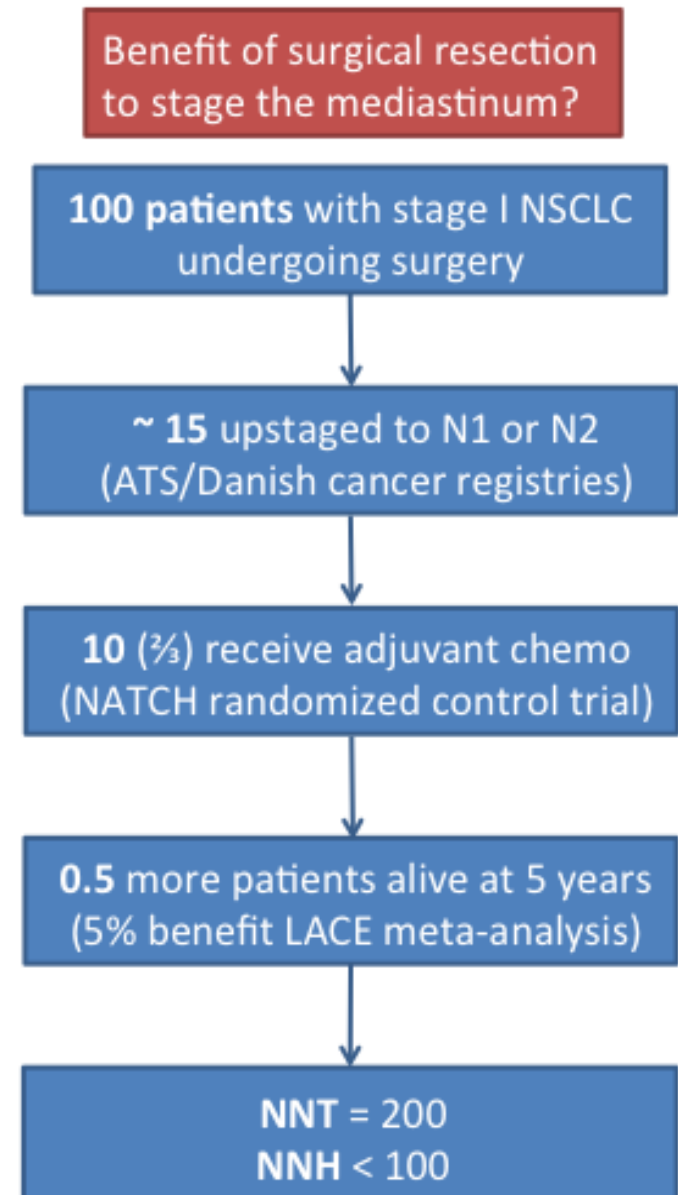
Recent studies reporting 30-day and 90-day mortality following surgery or SABR.

Author	Type	Time	n	Stage I	Stage II	Sublobar resections	30-day (%)	90-day (%)	Ratio 90/ 30-day
<i>Surgery</i>									
Fernando (2011) [3]	Multi-centre RCT	2005–2010	222	100%	–	100% (all <3 cm)	1.4	2.7	1.9
Powell (2013) [13]	National registry	2004–2010	10,991	48%	17%	22%	3.0	5.9	2.0
Haasbeek (2012) [14]	National registry	2001–2009	1698	100%	–	6%	5.4	9.3	1.7
Rueth (2012) [4]	State registry	2000–2005	4171	100%	–	0%	4.2	6.3	1.5
Cheung (2009) [15]	State registry	1998–2002	13,469	59% 'local'	35% 'regional'	14%	2.3	6.3	2.7
Damhuis (2013) [16]	Regional registry	1997–2008	2668	Not reported		0%	4.5	7.5	1.7
Rivera2011 [17]	Voluntary registry	2004–2008	1969	74%	26%	8%	3.6	4.7	1.3
Greillier (2007) [18]	Single-centre prospective	2002–2004	110	55%	27%	0%	3.2	9.5	3.0
Bryant (2010) [2]	Single-centre retrospective	2002–2008	1845	Not reported		39%	4.1	6.4	1.6
He (2011) [6]	Single-centre retrospective	2000–2007	1058	41%	28%	5%	2.7	4.1	1.5
Schuchert 2012 [5]	Single-centre retrospective	2002–2010	785	81%	8%	100%	1.1	3.0	2.7
St Julien (2012) [19]	Single-centre retrospective	2005–2010	78	100%		89%	3.8	6.4	1.7
<i>Stereotactic ablative radiotherapy</i>									
Crabtree (2013) [20]	Multi-centre prospective	2004–2006	59	100%	–	–	0.0	0.0	–
Verstegen (2013) [21]	Single-centre retrospective	2003–2012	64	100%	–	–	0.0	0.0	–



Schematic demonstrating **the number needed to treat (NNT)** when considering surgery to guide adjuvant chemotherapy decision-making for stage I NSCLC at 5 years.

Conversely, number needed to harm (NNH) when considering post-operative mortality of at least 1%, is 100 or less.





**5%** had a second primary in same lobe [I-ELCAP, Altorki N, 2014]

**9.1%** had multifocal disease [COSMOS trial, Veronesi G, 2014]

**7%** (VATS) and **12%** (thoracotomy) had synchronous primary tumors identified at the initial operation [MSKCC, Flores RM 2011]

- Surgery is preferred if patients accept procedure-related risks
- In patients who are unfit, stereotactic ablative radiotherapy (SABR) is the preferred treatment because of low toxicity and low failure rates

*Clinical Practice Guidelines of the European Society for Medical Oncology, endorsed by the Japanese Society of Medical Oncology [Vansteenkiste J, Ann Oncol 2013]*



Thank you for your attention.

