



RadioOnkologie



Behandeln  
Forschen  
Lehren

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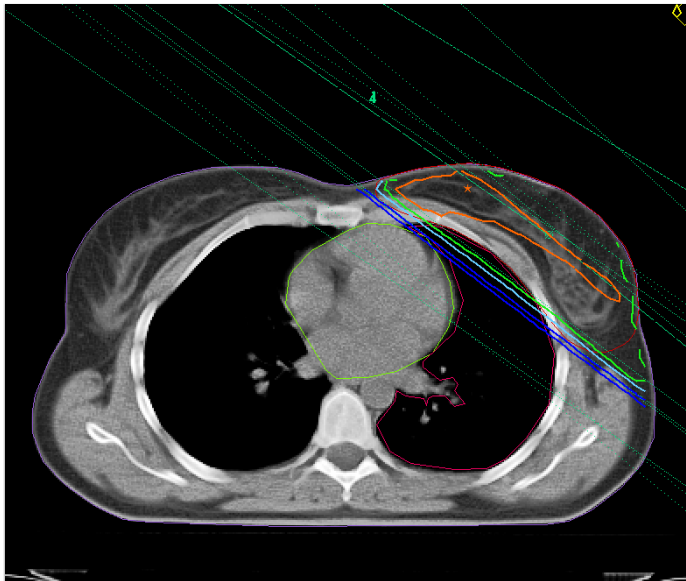
UniversitätsKlinikum Heidelberg

# Standards And Innovation In Adjuvant Radiotherapy After Breast-conserving Surgery (BCS)

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University Heidelberg

# Radiotherapy Breast Cancer

## CT-based 3D treatment planning

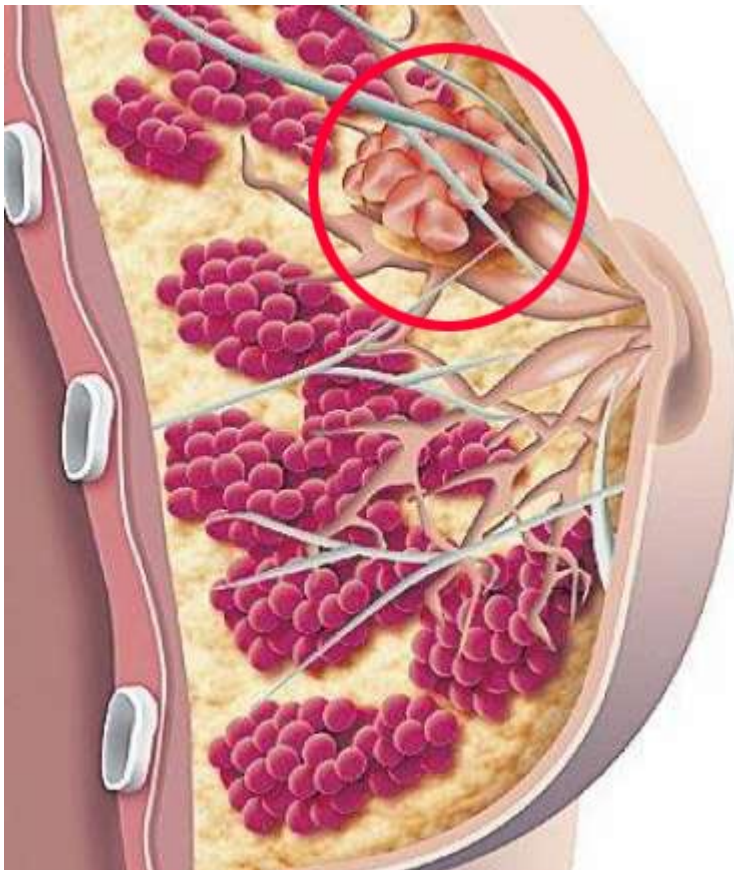


Target volume: whole breast, chest wall  
Organs at risk: lung, heart, contralateral breast



Fractionation: dose application in > 30 sessions  
Aim: to take advantage of DNA-repair in normal cells

# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Carcinoma

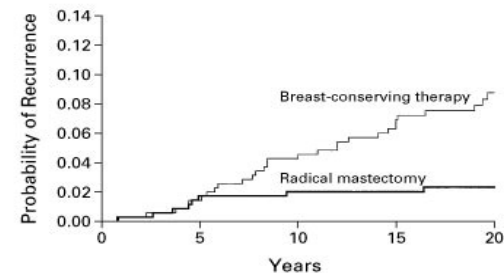


Holland et al., Cancer, 1985:

no residual tumor:	37%
Residual tumor 0-2 cm from PT:	20%
Residual tumor > 2 cm from PT:	43%
Residual tumor > 4 cm from PT:	10%



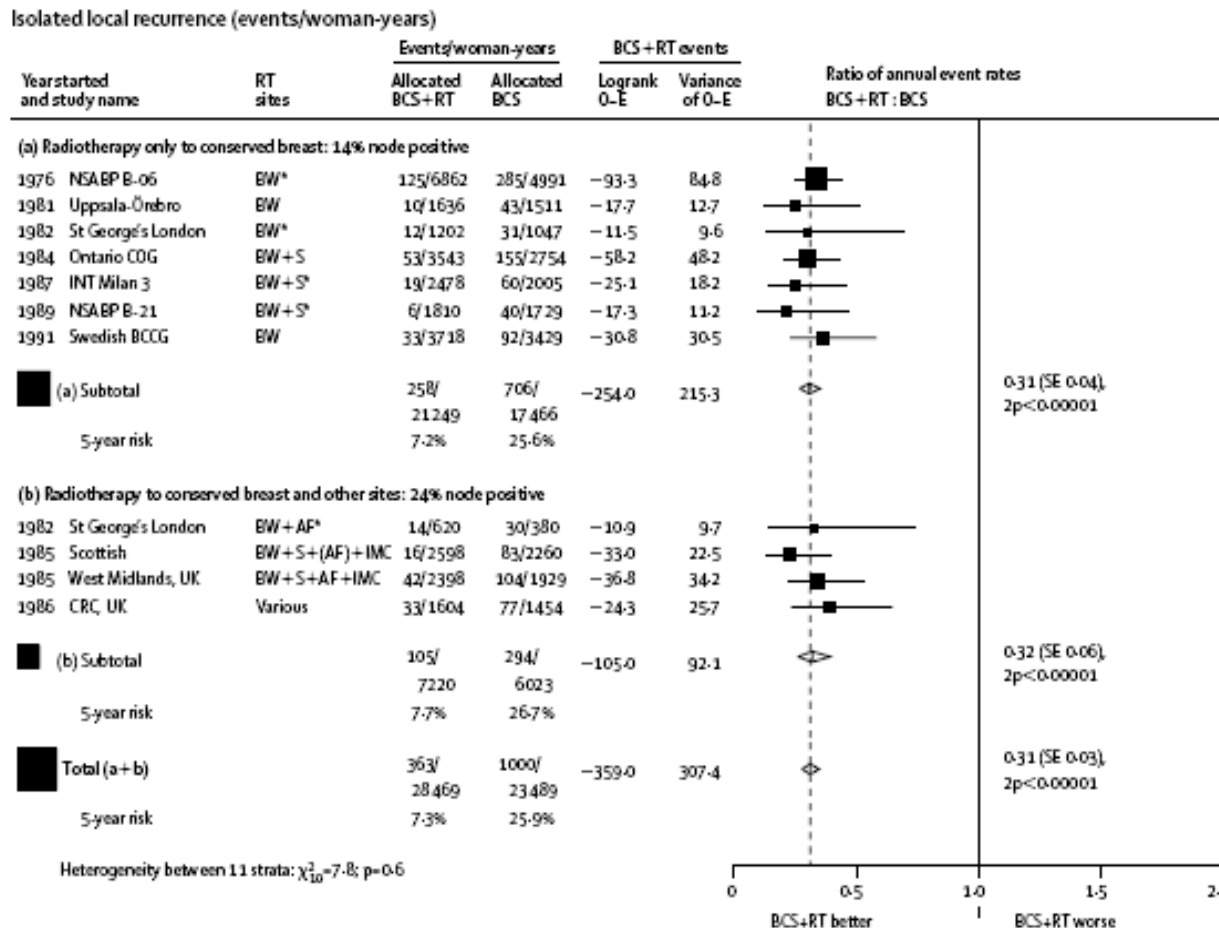
Sole breast-conserving surgery  
associated with significantly higher  
recurrence rates than primary ablation



# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Cancer

Influence of radiation on local tumor control

Metaanalysis Early Breast Cancer Trialists Collaborative Group (EBCTCG) *Lancet* 2005; 366: 2087-2106

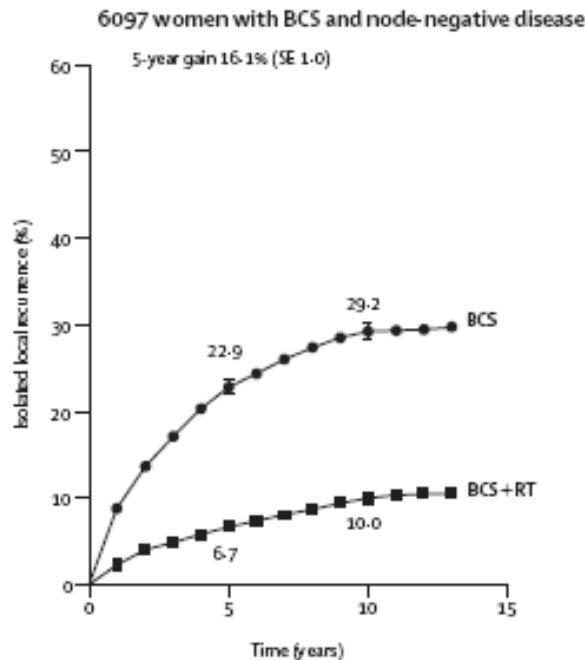




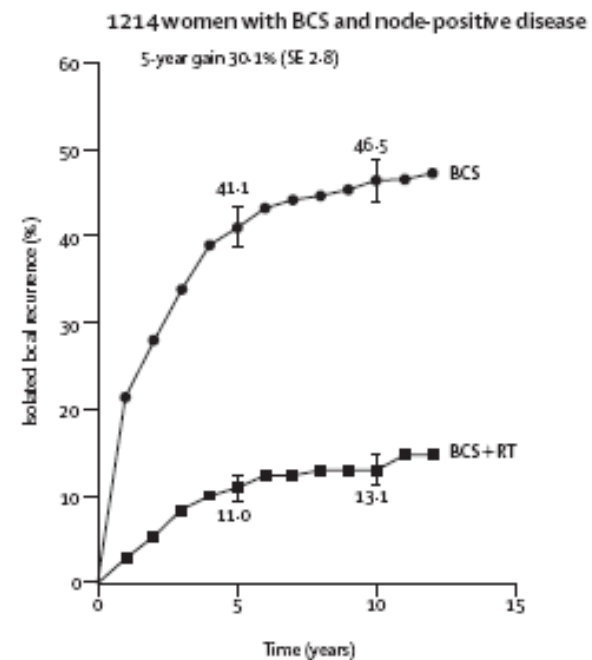
# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Carcinoma

Influence of radiation on local tumor control

Metaanalysis Early Breast Cancer Trialists Collaborative Group (EBCTCG) *Lancet* 2005; 366: 2087-2106



node negative



node positive

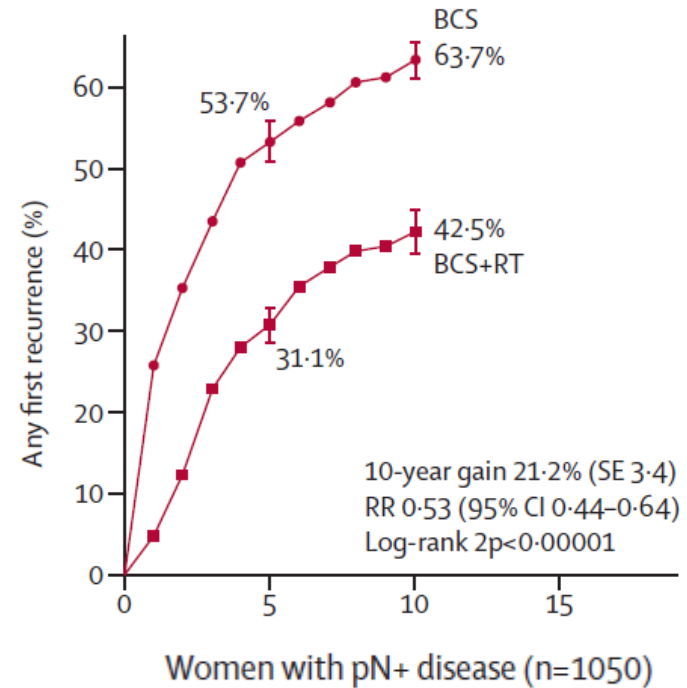
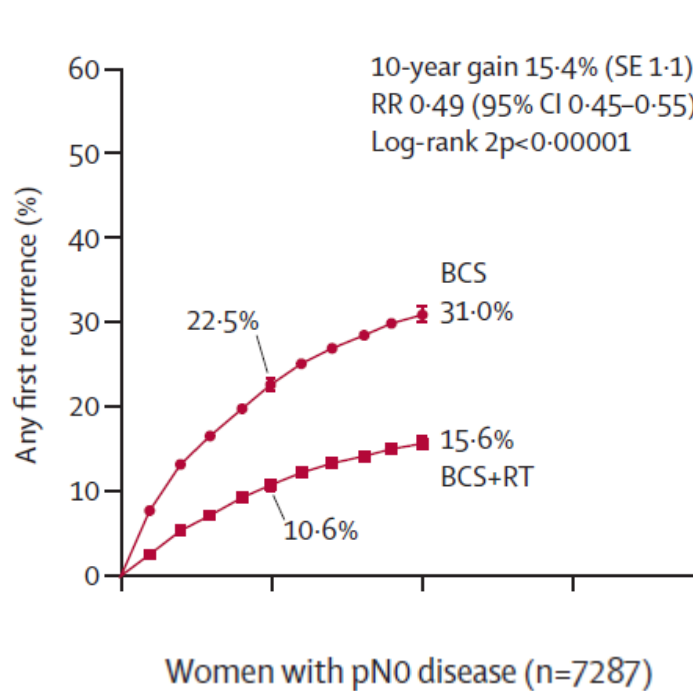
Relative reduction of local recurrence rates of approx. 70%



# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Carcinoma

## Influence of radiation on total recurrence rate

Metaanalysis Early Breast Cancer Trialists Collaborative Group (EBCTCG) *Lancet* 2011; 378: 1707–16

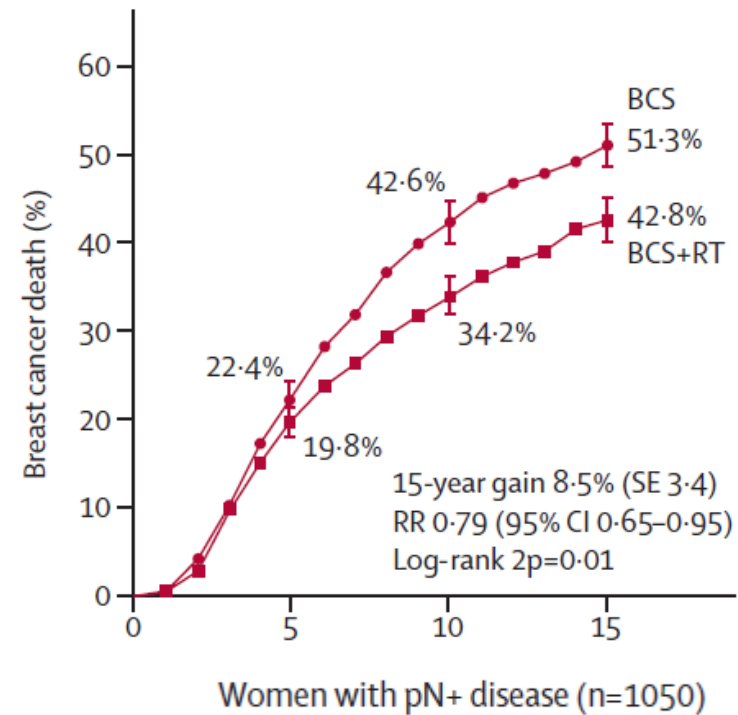
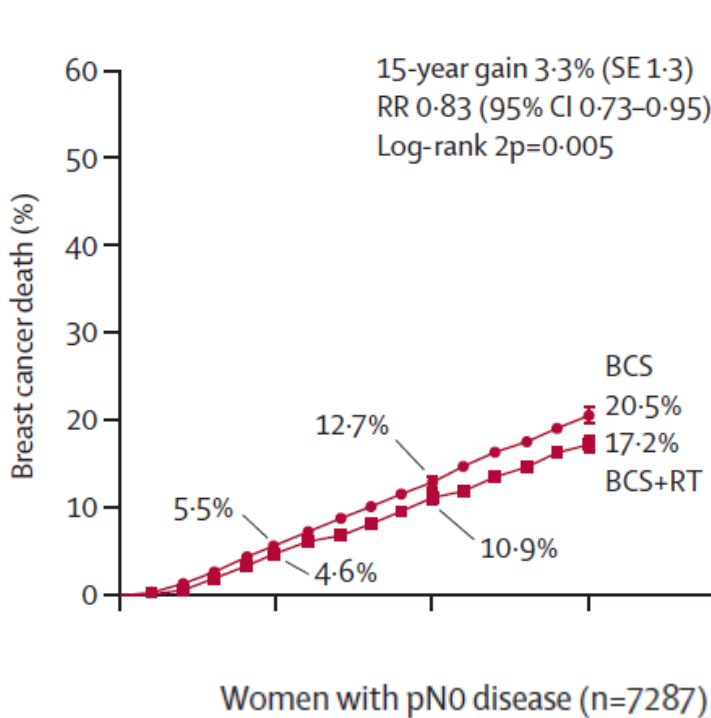


Relative reduction of any recurrence rates of approx. 50%

# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Carcinoma

## Influence of radiation on mortality

Metaanalysis Early Breast Cancer Trialists Collaborative Group (EBCTCG) *Lancet* 2011; 378: 1707–16



**Radiotherapy in BCS improves survival**

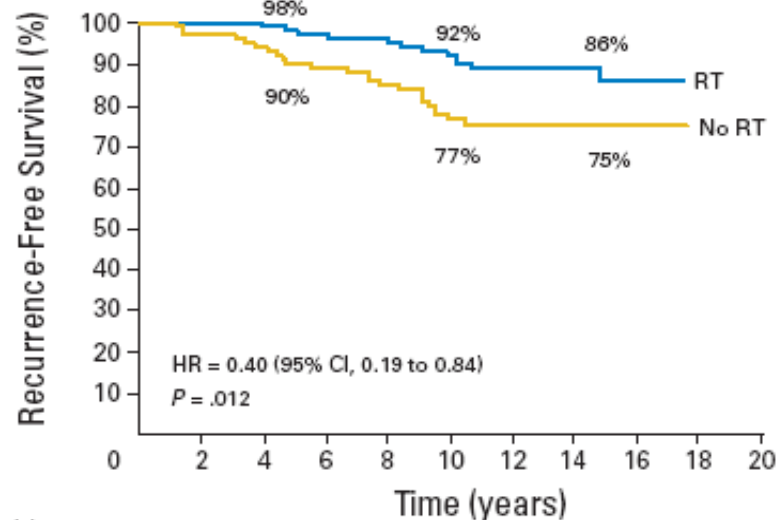


# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Carcinoma

Are there certain subgroups where adjuvant radiotherapy can be omitted?

Holli et al. JCO, 2009

>50J, T1, N0, HR:+, G1-2, RR >1cm



**Adjuvant RT is standard after BCS  
even in patients with favorable prognosis!**





# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Carcinoma

Can outcome be optimized any further by an additional boost-irradiation of the tumor bed?

Reason: 90% of local recurrences occur in proximity of the primary

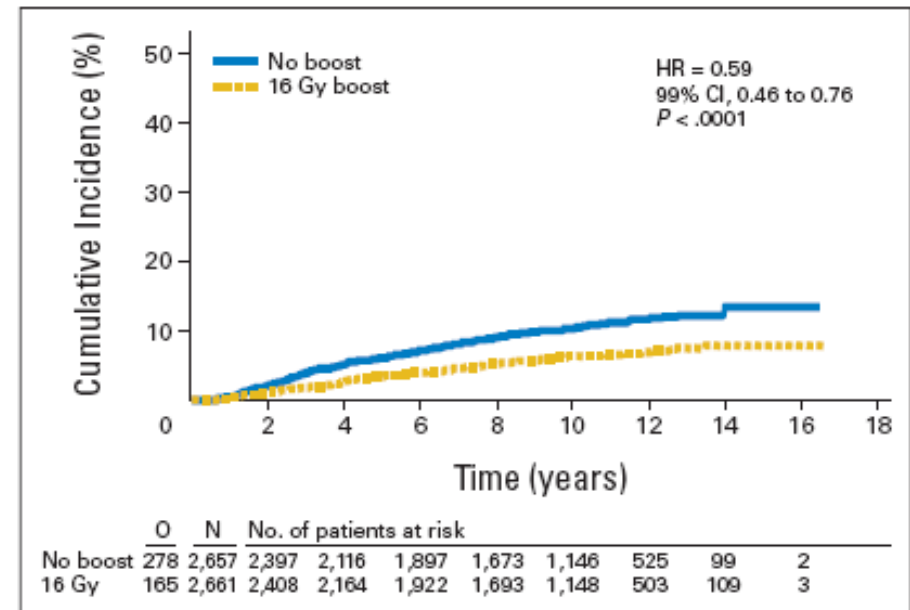
EORTC Trial, Bartelink et al., 2007:

5318 patients, prospectively randomised

Whole-breast RT (50 Gy)

vs.

Whole-breast RT + 16 Gy Boost

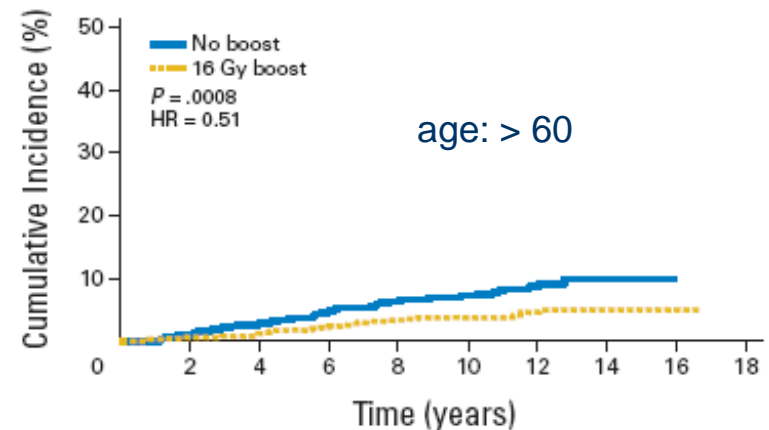
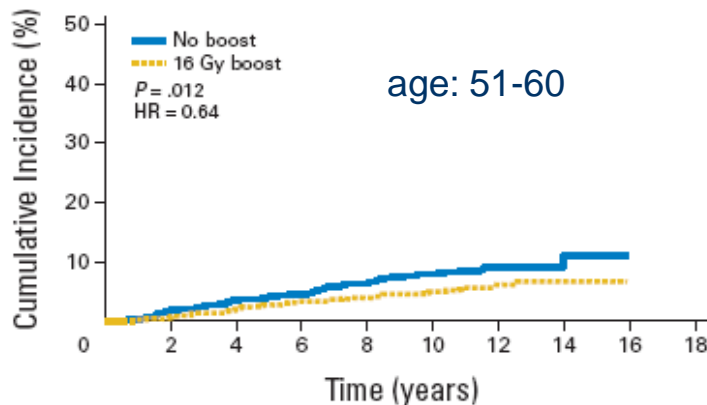
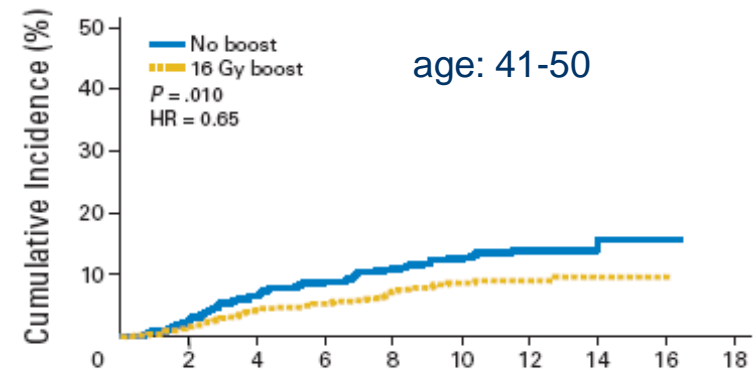
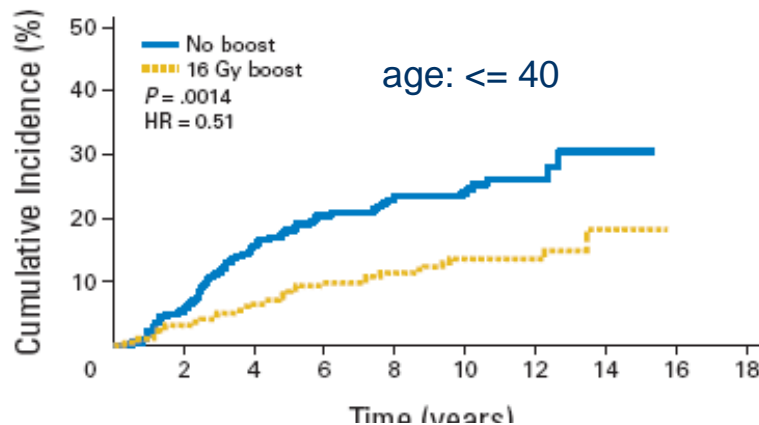




# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Carcinoma

## Boost-irradiation of the tumor bed

EORTC Trial, Bartelink et al., 2007:





# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Carcinoma

Boost-irradiation of the tumor bed

Further risk factors for In-Breast-Recurrences:

- Tumor size >2 cm (T2)
- Close margin (< 3 mm)
- Extensive intraductal component (EIC)
- Lymphangiosis (L1)
- High grade (G3)
- ER/PR-Negativity
- Multifocality



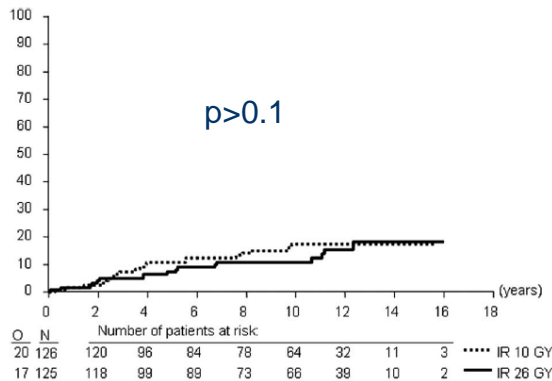
# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Invasive Carcinoma

## Boost-irradiation of the tumor bed

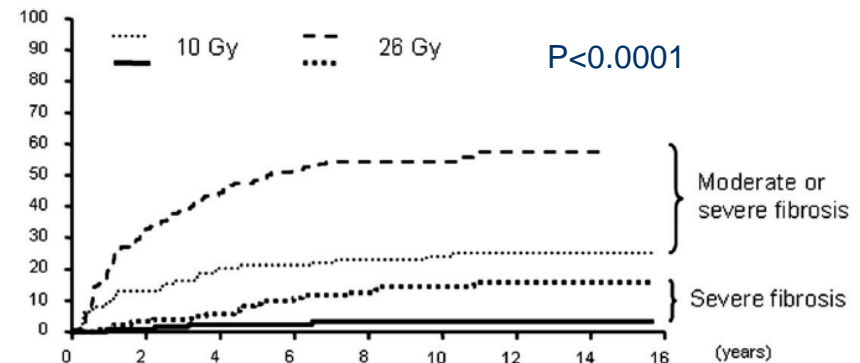
### Can dose escalation of the boost dose compensate for incomplete resections?

Poortmanns et al., Radiother Oncol 2009:

251 patients, T1-2 N0-1, R1-Resection, randomised 10 Gy vs. 26 Gy Boost



Local control

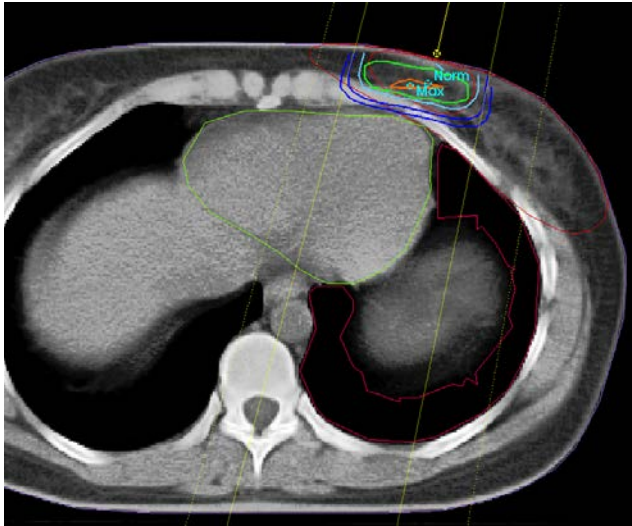


Fibrosis

**Boost dose escalation does not improve local control  
after R1-Resection while late toxicity is increased**

# Boost-irradiation of the tumor bed after surgery

## Percutaneous 3D-planned radiotherapy

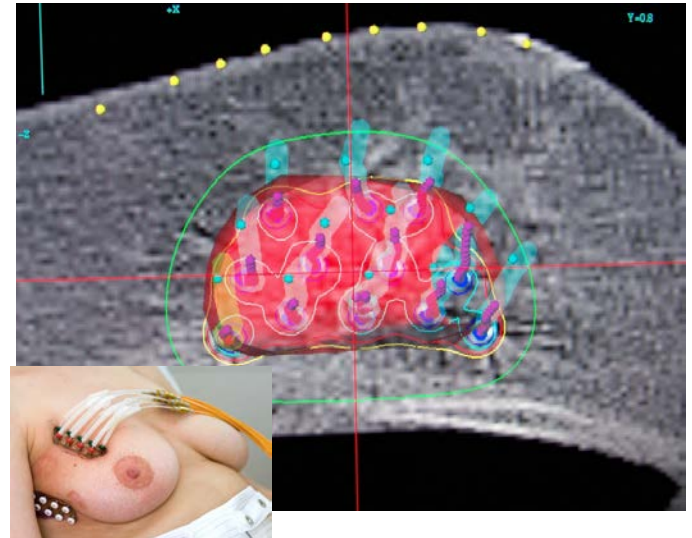


Electrons

Do we hit the target ?



## 3D-planned brachytherapy



Photons

## Intraoperative radiotherapy (IORT)

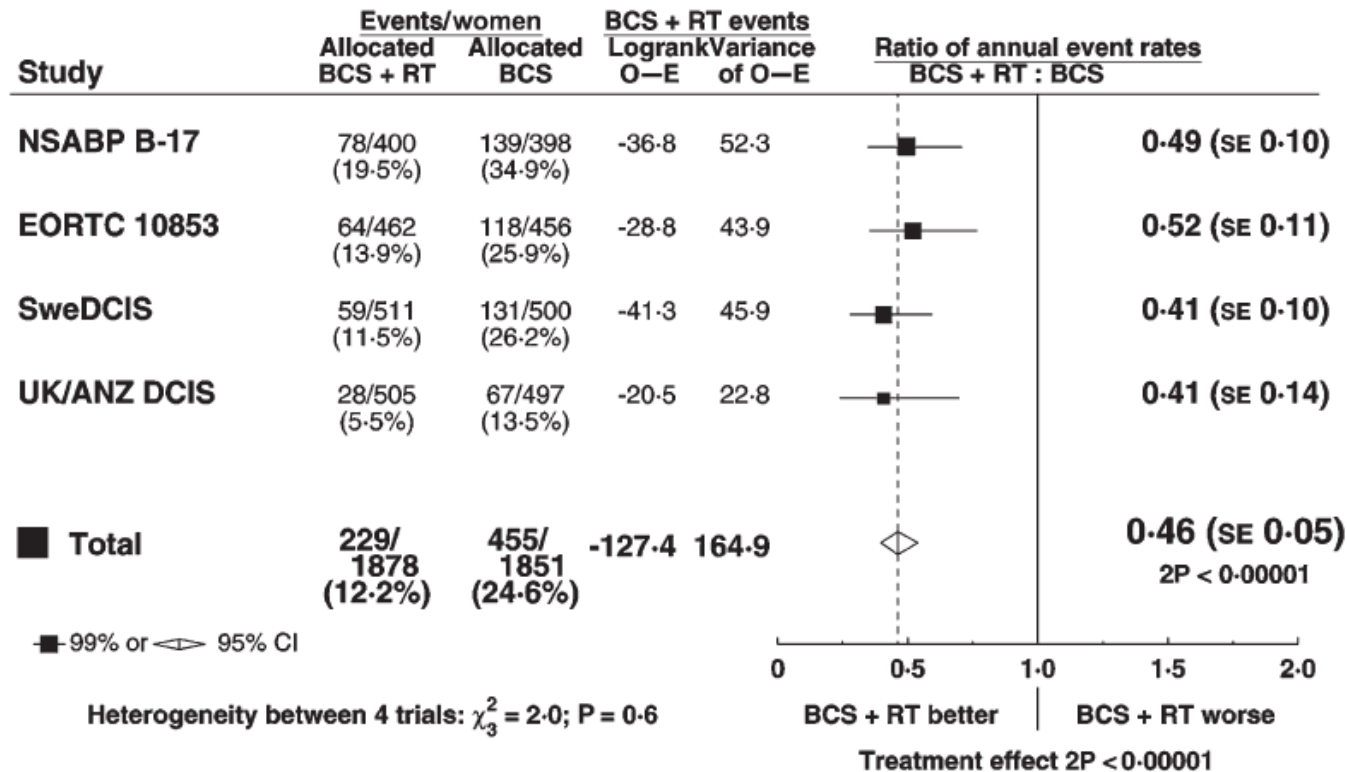


# Adjuvant Radiotherapy DCIS

Is adjuvant RT necessary after BCS for DCIS?

Metaanalysis EBCTCG, 2010:

Journal of the National Cancer Institute Monographs, No. 41, 2010



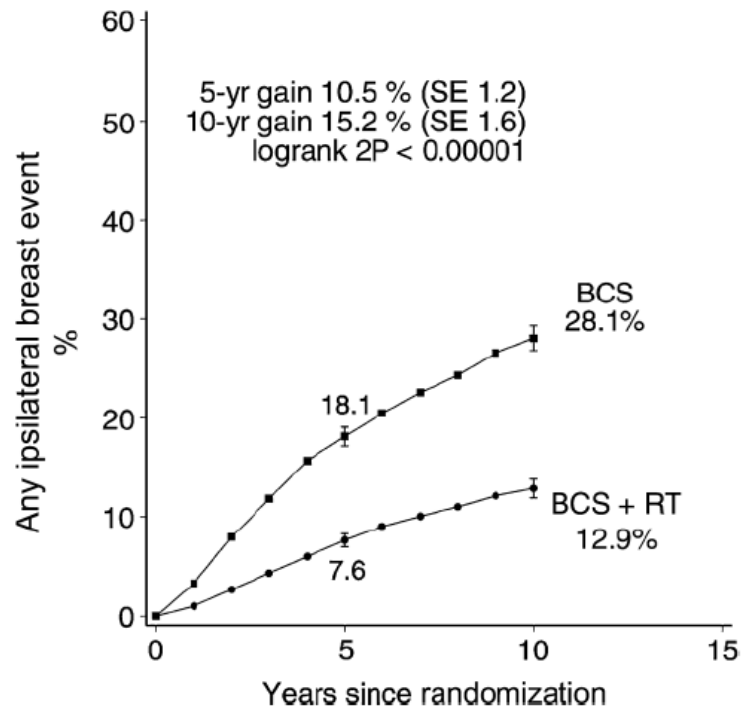


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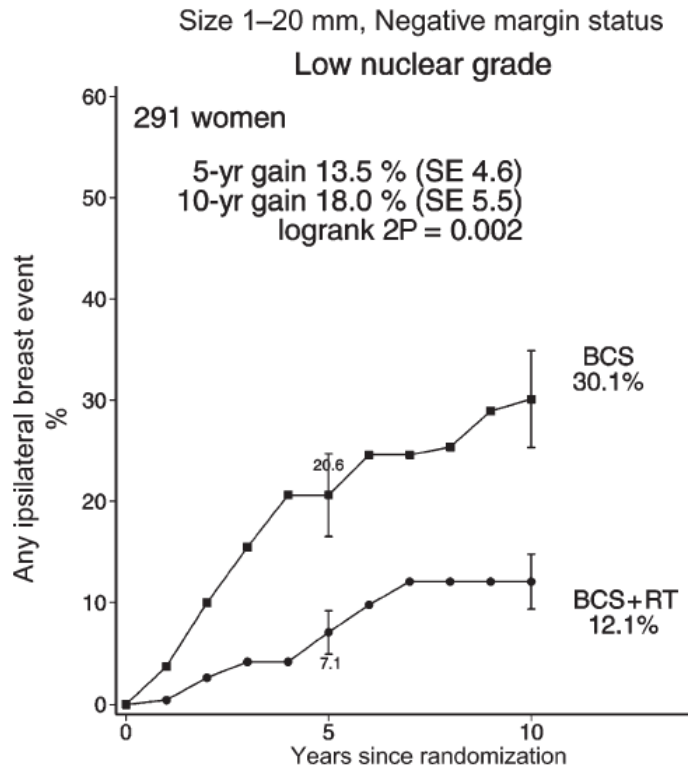


# Adjuvant Radiotherapy DCIS

## Is adjuvant RT necessary after BCS for DCIS?

Metaanalysis EBCTCG, 2010:

Journal of the National Cancer Institute Monographs, No. 41, 2010



No identification of subgroups that do not profit with respect to local control!



# Adjuvant Radiotherapy DCIS

Is adjuvant RT necessary after BCS for DCIS?

Wong et al., JCO, 2006:

Prospectively randomised study: sole BCS vs. BCS+ adjuvant RT  
planned patient number: 200

*Inclusion criteria:*

G1-2

Margins  $\geq 1$  cm

Tumor size  $\leq 2,5$  cm

Van Nuys Prognostic Index (VNPI)  $< 7$

Premature study termination after 158 patients because of high recurrence rates!

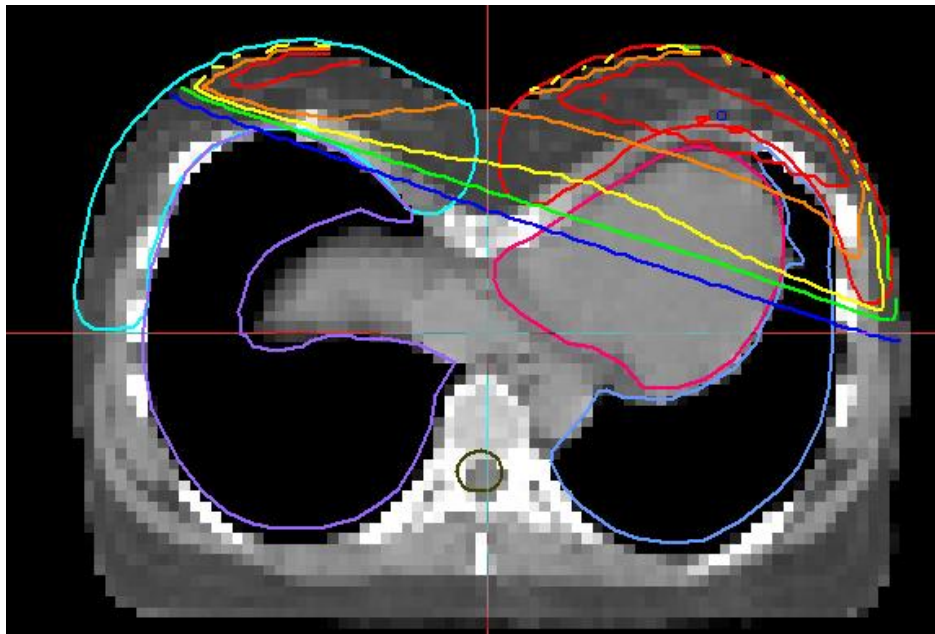
5-year recurrence rates: approx. 12% (70% DCIS, 30% invasive)

**No identification of subgroups without benefit from adjuvant RT!**

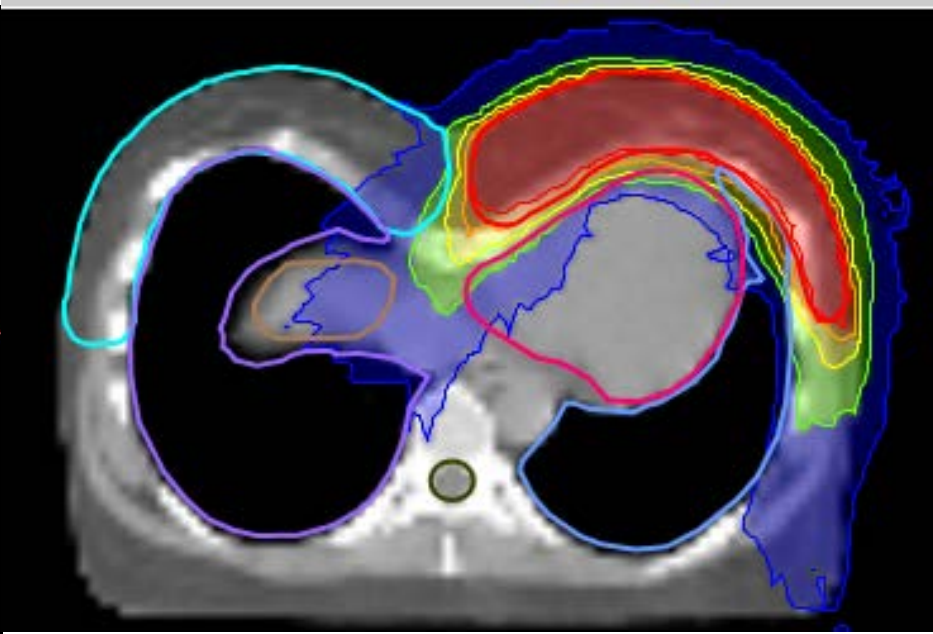
# Technical Developments:

## Aim: Better Conformation Of Dose:

### Intensity **M**odulated **R**adio**T**herapy (IMRT)

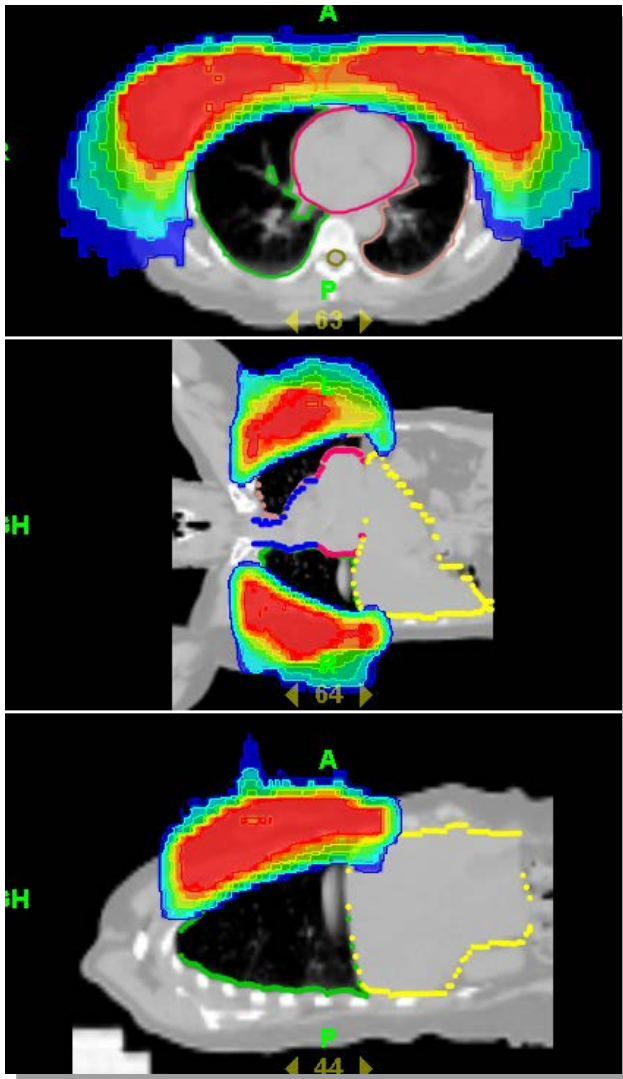


conventional 3D-Plan



IMRT

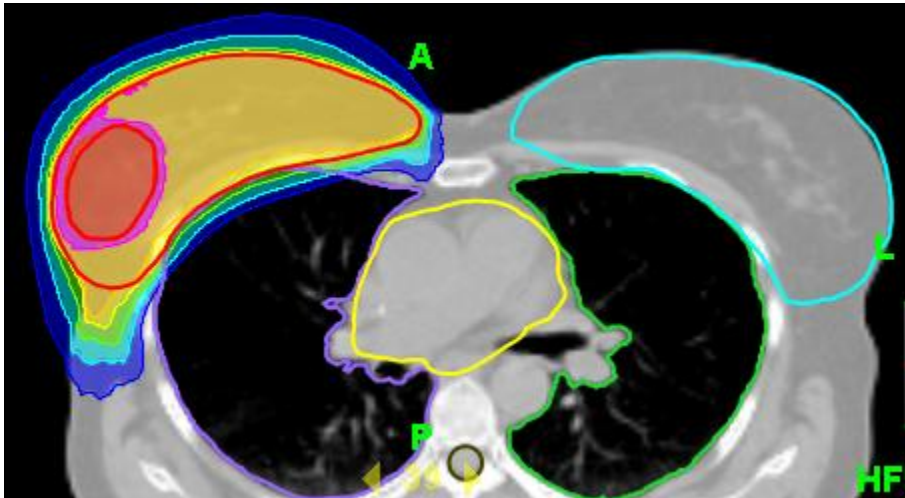
# Intensity Modulated RadioTherapy (IMRT)



40 y old patient  
after bilateral BCS:  
sparing of lung and  
heart tissue

# Intensity Modulated RadioTherapy (IMRT)

## Integrated Boost



Shortening of overall treatment time



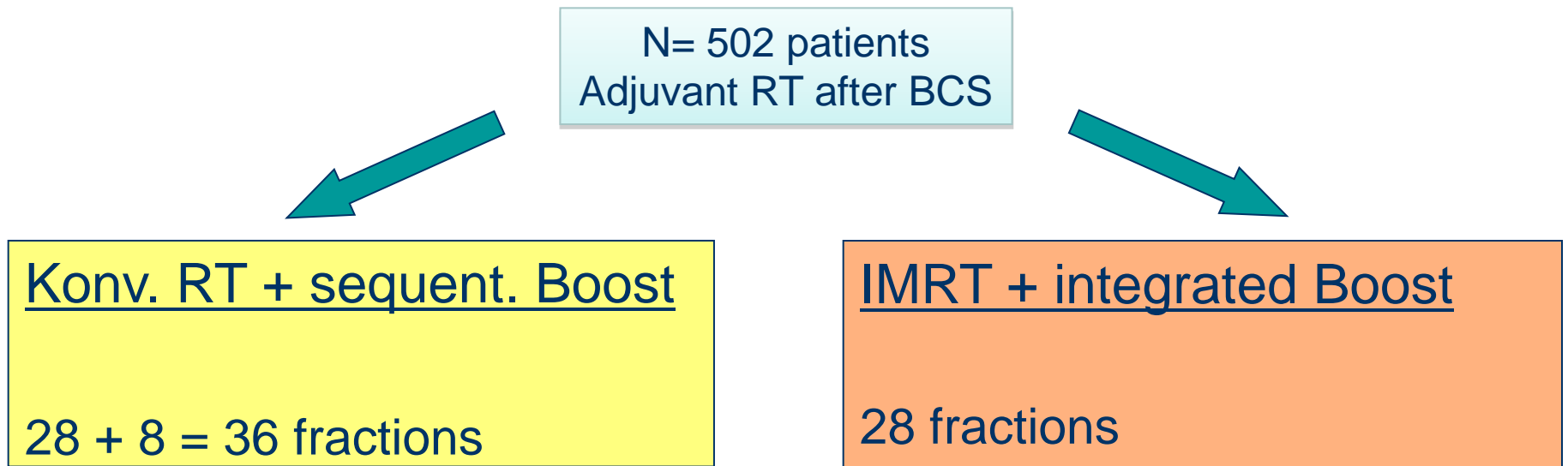
Potentially higher rates of acute and late normal tissue changes by elevated single doses



# MINT-Trial

Prospectively randomised, multicentric phase-III study

Hypothesis: no impairment of the outcome despite the shortened treatment



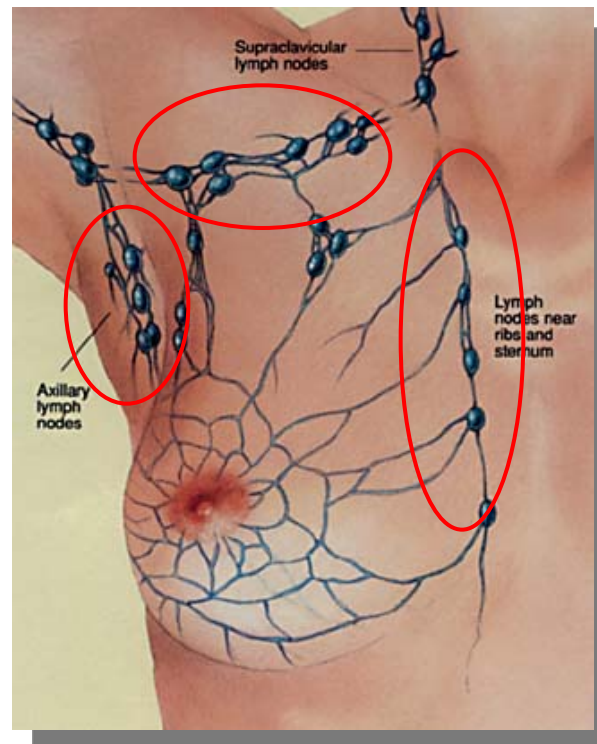
Endpoints: Cosmetics, toxicity and local control

# Adjuvant Radiotherapy

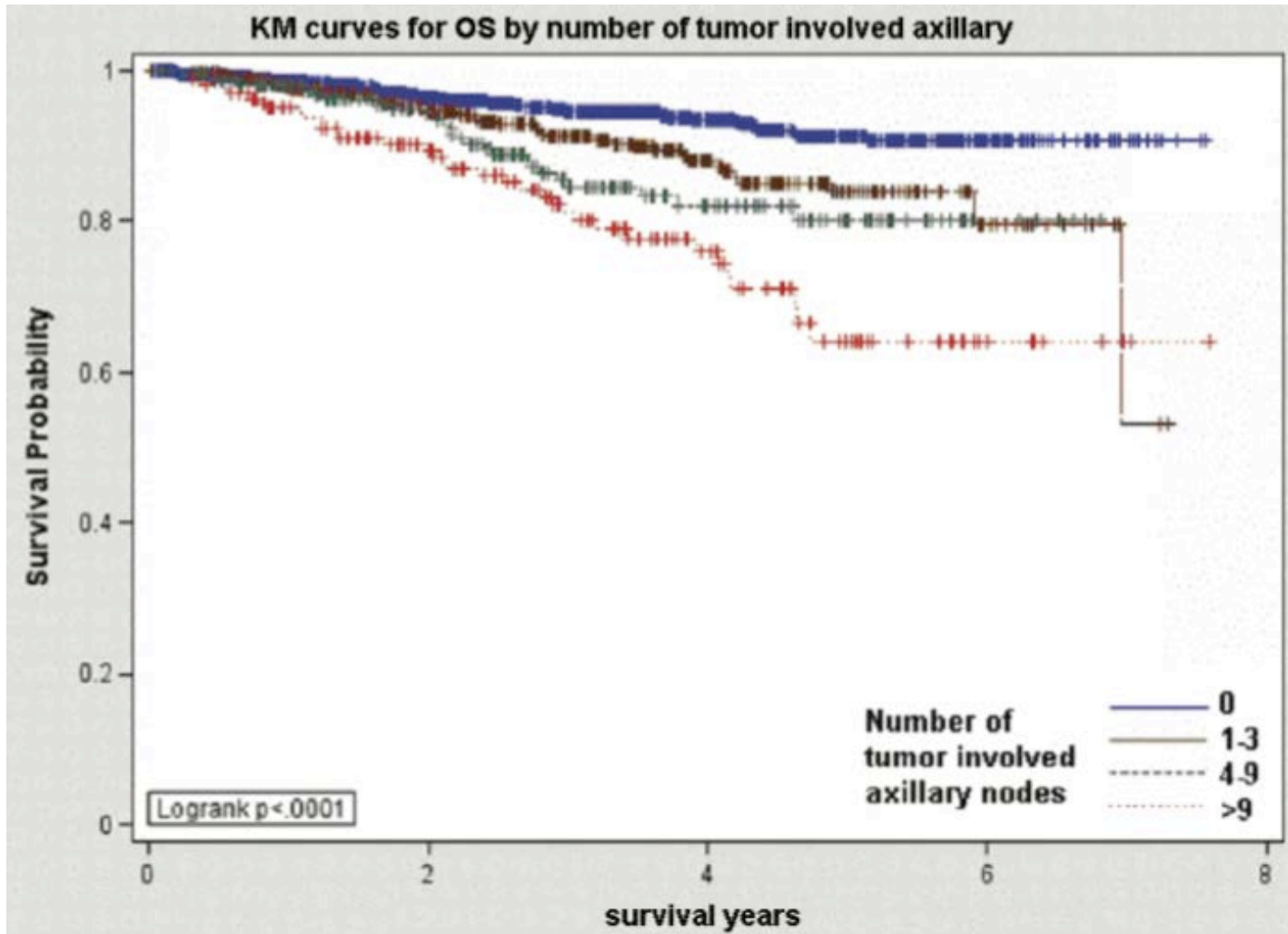
## Regional Lymphatics

Little evidence by clinical studies on adjuvant RT of the lymphatics to date

Most data result from post-mastectomy trials



# The Impact Of Nodal Status On Survival: Heidelberg Cohort 2003-2009 ( N= 3089 all breast cancers )



# Nodal Status Is An Independent Predictor: Heidelberg Cohort 2003-2009 ( N= 2723 inv. breast cancers )

	DFS		DDFS		OS	
	Univariate	Multivariate	Univariate	Multivariate	Univariate	Multivariate
Age	1.01 (0.0288)	1.017 ( $<0.0004$ )	1.014 (0.0037)	1.018 ( $<0.0002$ )	1.029 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.036 ( $<0.0001$ )
pT category	2.105 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.67 ( $<0.0001$ )	2.334 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.882 ( $<0.0001$ )	2.181 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.824 ( $<0.0001$ )
Nodal status	1.655 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.354 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.723 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.368 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.59 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.355 ( $<0.0001$ )
Grading	2.502 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.673 ( $<0.0001$ )	2.701 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.759 ( $<0.0001$ )	3.215 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.804 ( $<0.0003$ )
HR status	0.376 ( $<0.0001$ )	0.421 ( $<0.0001$ )	0.383 ( $<0.0001$ )	0.410 ( $<0.0001$ )	0.27 ( $<0.0001$ )	0.262 ( $<0.0001$ )
HER2 status	2.27 ( $<0.0001$ )	1.05 (0.7811)	2.117 ( $<0.0001$ )	0.968 (0.8586)	2.348 ( $<0.0001$ )	0.822 (0.3988)

DFS, disease-free survival; DDFS, distant disease-free survival; OS, overall survival; HER2, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2; HR, hormone receptor.





# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Axillary Lymphatics

Is additional therapy of the axilla mandatory in positive sentinel node?

Tjan-Heijnen, ASTRO abstract 2009:

retrospective, 2592 pat., no macro mets, only pN0(i-), pN0(i+) or pN1mi

Treatment: **SN only** or **completion ALND** or **axillary RT**

	n	5-year AR(%)	HR AR (95%CI)*
pN0(i-)(sn) cALND	113	1.9	1.00
pN0(i-)(sn) SN	722	2.2	1.07 (0.23 - 4.94)
pN0(i+)(sn) cALND or ax RT	459	1.1	1.00
pN0(i+)(sn) SN	340	1.7	2.14 (0.57 - 7.96)
pN1mi(sn) cALND or ax RT	828	1.2	1.00
pN1mi(sn) SN	130	6.2	4.45 (1.46 - 13.54)

**Significantly higher axillary recurrence rate in pN1mi when no further treatment (surgery or RT) is performed**



# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Axillary Lymphatics

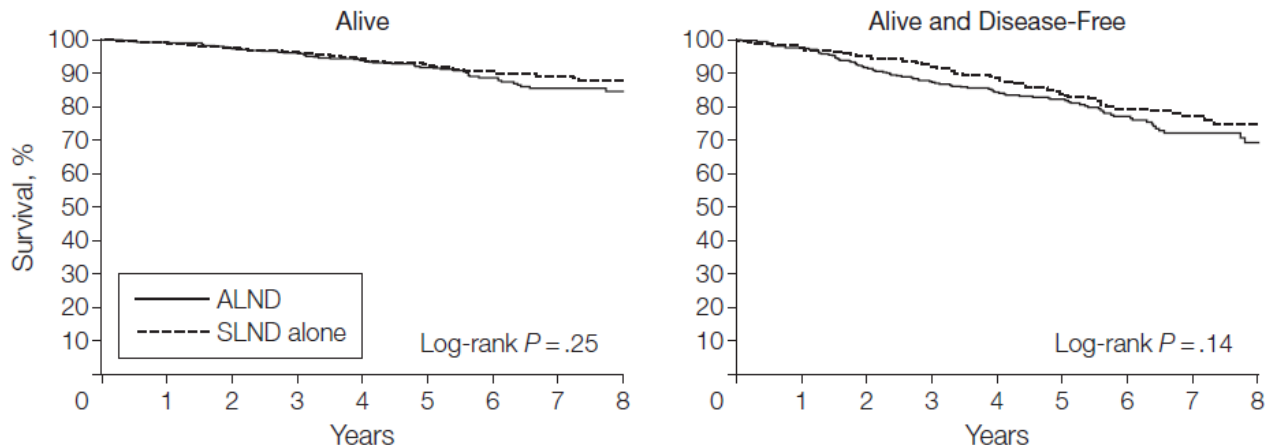
Is additional therapy of the axilla mandatory after positive SLND?

Giuliano et al., JAMA 2011: ACOSOG Z0011 trial

randomized, closed prematurely: 856 of 1900 planned patients  
T1-2, cN0, sentinel node biopsy positive (1-2 SNB+)

Treatment: **BCS, adjuvant tangential RT (breast only, not axilla)**

Randomisation: completion ALND vs. no further dissection





# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Axillary Lymphatics

Is additional therapy of the axilla mandatory after positive SLND?

Giuliano et al., JAMA 2011: ACOSOG Z0011 trial

Conclusion: „in patients with limited positive SLN disease, treated with breast conservation +/- systemic therapy, the use of SLND alone compared with ALND did not result in inferior survival“

## But:

- Study not powered for the limited patient number
- Primary endpoint overall survival, not locoregional recurrence
- Short follow-up (median 6.3 y) for detection of survival differences
- Radiotherapy not further specified, espec. concerning inclusion of axilla

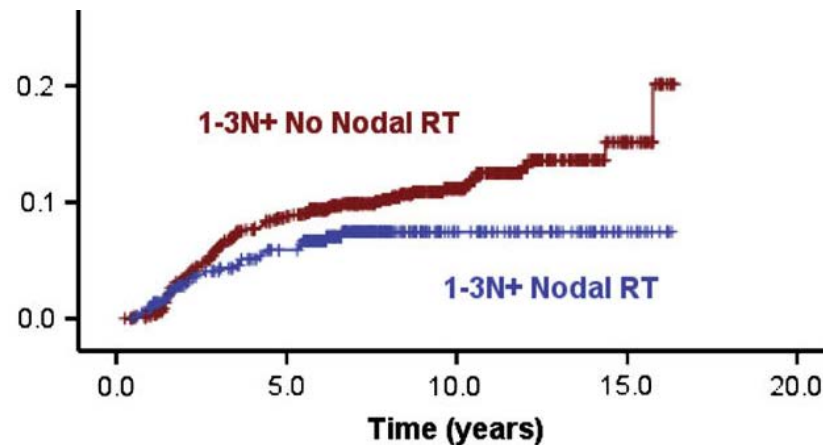
**Results should be interpreted very carefully**



# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Supraclavicular Lymphatics

Irradiation of the supraclavicular lymphatics even in less than 4 affected axillary nodes?

Truong et al. 2009: retrospective, 5699 Pat., T1/2, N0-1a, M0



1-3 pos. ax. LN: **age<50** or **G3** or **ER-neg.**: locoregional recurrence risk **15-20 %**

**significant reduction of regional recurrence by supraclavicular RT**

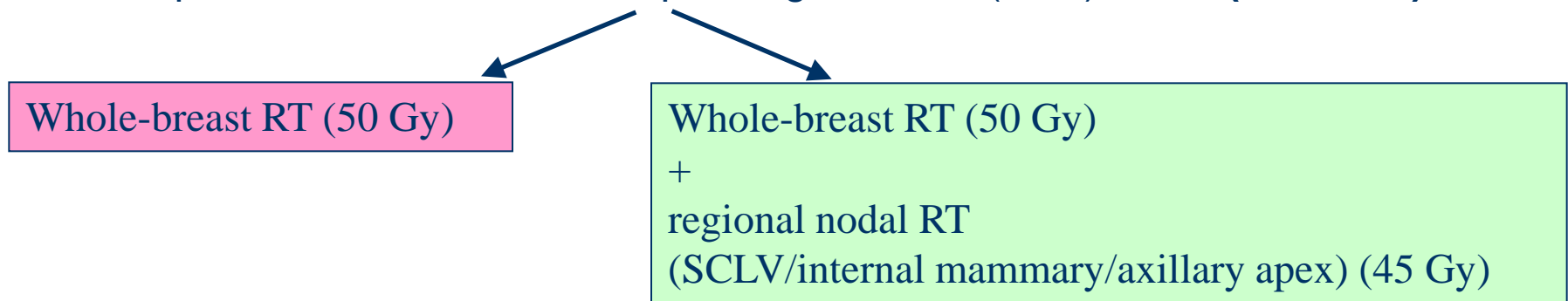


# Adjuvant Radiotherapy Supraclavicular Lymphatics

Irradiation of the supraclavicular lymphatics even in less than 4 affected axillary nodes?

Whelan, ASCO Abstract 2011: Intergroup / NCIC-CTG MA.20 trial

Prospective, multicenter, 1832 pts., high-risk N0 (10%) or **N+ (85% N1a)**



Impact of WBI+RNI on :

- isolated locoregional 5-yr DFS: 96.8% vs 94.5% (SS)
- distant DFS: 92.4% vs 87.0% (SS)
- DFS: 89.7% vs 84.0% (SS)
- OS: 92.3% vs 90.7% (trend p=0.07)



# Summary

- **Invasive carcinoma:** Adjuvant RT improves local control and overall survival  
further improvement of local control by Boost-RT
- **In-situ carcinoma:** Adjuvant RT after BCS improves local control  
no identification of subgroups not profiting to date
- **IMRT:** improved dose conformality and normal tissue sparing  
possibility of integrated boost concept
- **Regional lymphatics:** SLN+: omission of cALND only in selected cases  
1-3N+: RT of supraclavicular lymphatics (G3, <50y, ER/PR -)  
4-N+: supraclavicular RT generally recommended