

The impact of waiting time and overall treatment time on locoregional control and survival in normofractionated radical radiotherapy for squamous cell head and neck cancer was evaluated. There is evidence for decreased locoregional control of missed radiotherapy treatment days (one week prolongation amounts for 7-10% loss of local control). There are three main compensation methods for treatment gaps (1. weekend treatment days and two fractions per day to catch up; 2. retain overall treatment time and increase dose per fraction; 3. accept protraction and give extra fraction to compensate for gap).