



**DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY HEAD NECK SURGERY**  
**UNIVERSITY OF PAVIA**  
**IRCCS POLICLINICO SAN MATTEO FOUNDATION – PAVIA**  
**Chairman: Prof. Benazzo**



***Elettrochemioterapia***

***ASPETTI TECNICI***

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***A. Occhini, M. Benazzo***



Ospedale  
"Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"

**Incontri**  
**di aggiornamento**  
**del Dipartimento**  
**Oncologico**

**Responsabile Scientifico:**  
**Dott.ssa Stefania Gori**

**16 febbraio - 1 aprile**  
**17 giugno - 24 giugno**  
**2015**

**SEDE**  
**CENTRO FORMAZIONE**  
**Ospedale "Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria"**  
**Via Don Angelo Sempreboni, 5 - 37024 Negrar (Verona)**



# ***ECT: definition***

Local treatment derived from the combination of two effects:

**Administration of reduced drug doses**  
**Electroporation of cell membranes**

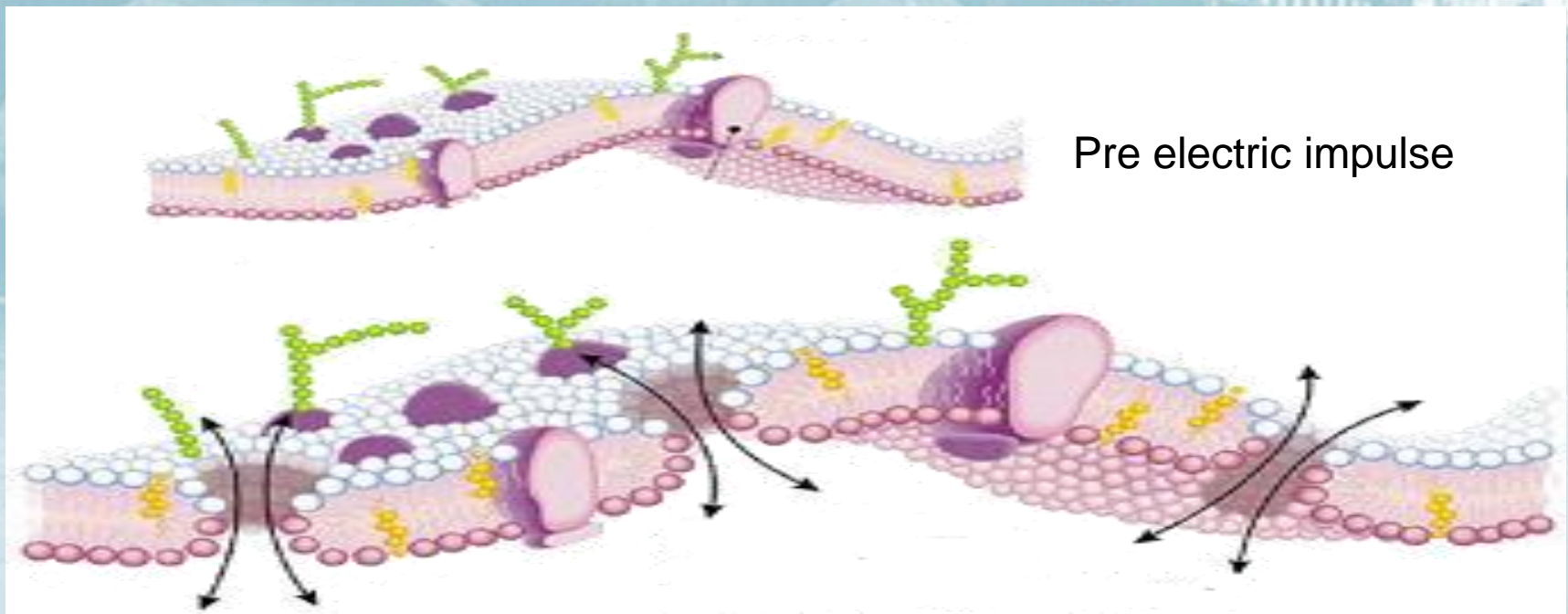
**ECT is a local therapeutic approach to the treatment of tumors which are independent of histology**



# ***ECT: physical principle***

Electroporation is a physical phenomenon which enhances, thanks to electric impulses, cell membrane permeability.

This phenomenon allows drugs to enter the cytoplasm and increases their antitumor activity

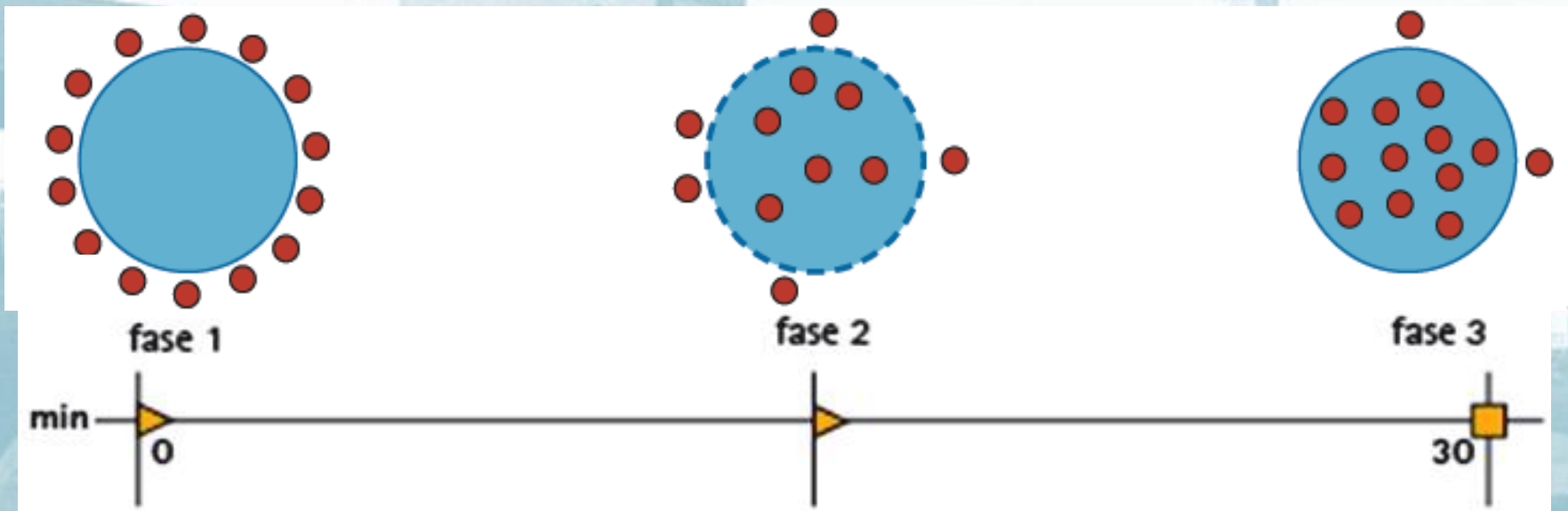


Pre electric impulse

Post electric impulse

Bleomycin

# *ECT: physical principle*



The drug surrounds the cell but can not penetrate.

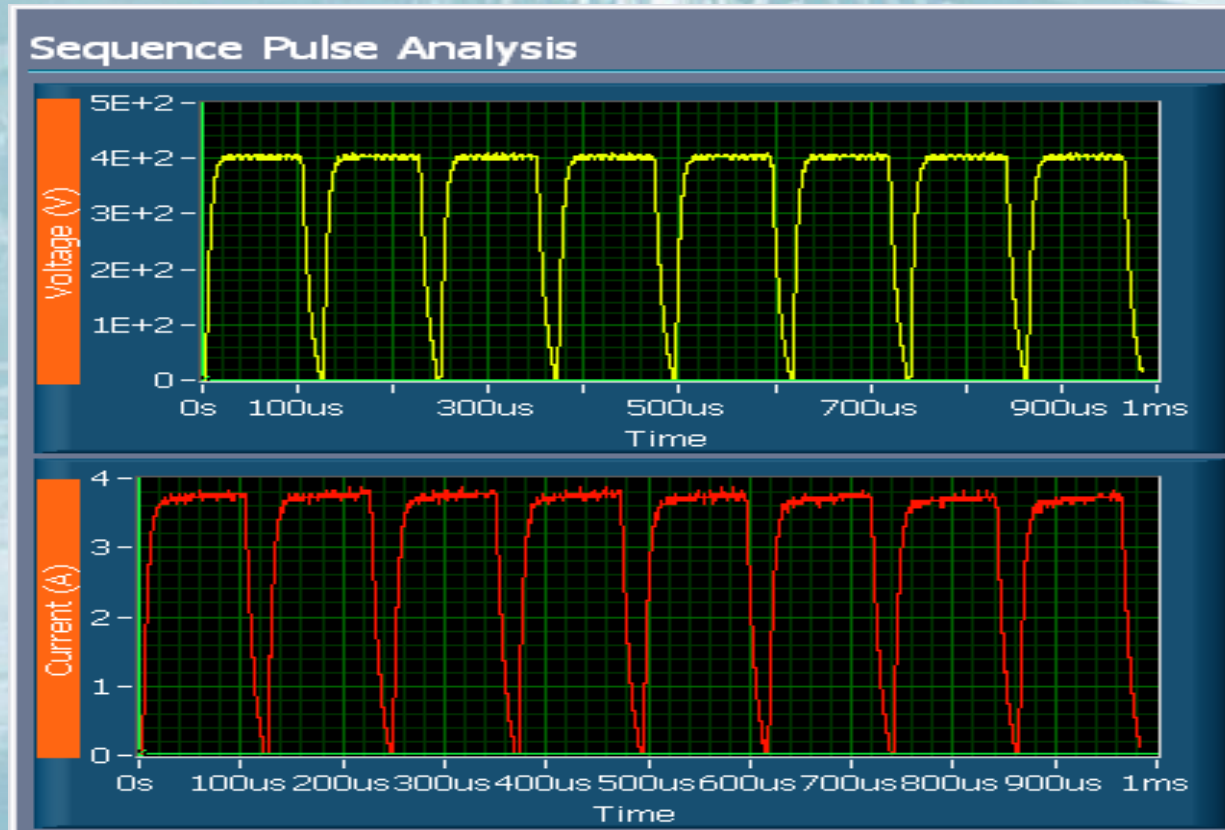
Cell membrane gets less waterproof and the drug can access the cell.

Pores closure  
The drug remains inside the cell

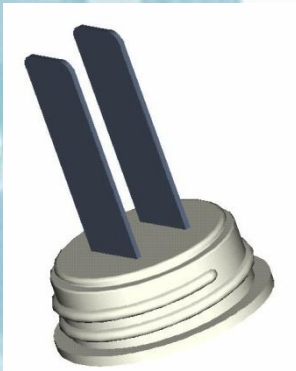
Bleomycin's toxicity increases up to 10 times through cell membranes electroporation in vivo

# *ECT: Cliniporator*

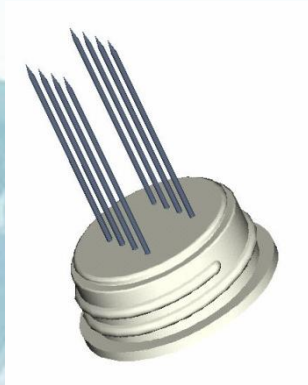
Treatment dosimetry given by the measure of real time electric current takes into the tumoral tissue



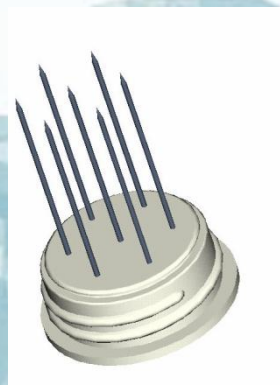
# ECT: Electrodes



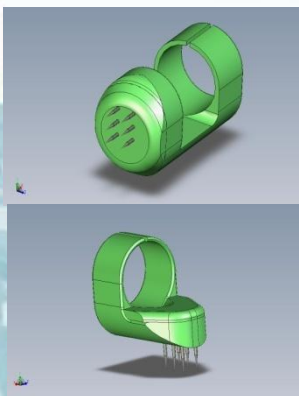
Plate



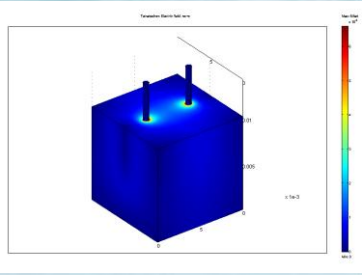
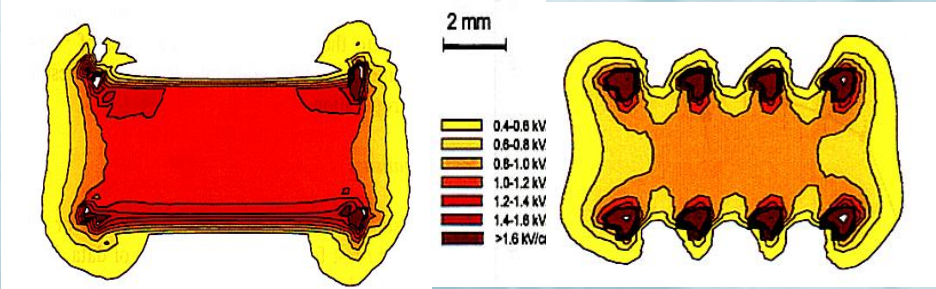
Linear



Hexagonal



Finger



# ***ECT: ESOPE study***

## **ESOPE (2003-2005)**

**(European Standard Operating Procedures of ECT)**

**Safety and efficacy evaluation**

**Define Standard Operating Procedures for  
clinical activity**

# ***ECT: ESOPE study***

NON RANDOMIZED PROSPECTIC MULTICENTRIC STUDY

AIM:

- Evaluate and confirm ECT efficacy and safety with bleomycin & cisplatinum for skin cancers (any histology)
- Define Standard Operating Procedures for clinical activity (SOP)



# ***ECT: ESOPE study***

## Standard operating procedures

- anaesthesia
- drug administration modality
- pulsed erogation
- follow-up
- clinical indications

### **PARTNERS ESOPE**

- Institut Gustave-Roussy, Parigi - France
- Cork Cancer Center, Cork - Ireland
- Institute of Oncology, Lubiana - Slovenia
- Herlev Hospital, Copenhagen - Denmark
- IGEA, Carpi - Italy



# ***ECT: ESOPE study***

## Operative procedures

### Anaesthesia

GENERAL      high numbers of lesions, big dimensions

LOCAL      few lesions, small dimensions, patient non suitable for general anaesthesia

### Drug's infusion

BLEOMYCIN      Intratumoural – Intravenous

CYSPLATIN      Intratumoural

### Electric pulses erogation

**Three models of electrodes:** lamina, linear needles and hexagonal needles

**Pulses erogation frequencies:** 1Hz and 5kHz

# ECT: ESOPE study “drug administration”

## INTRATUMORAL

Volume $\frac{ab^2\pi}{6}$	$D < 0.5 \text{ cm}^3$	$0.5 \text{ cm}^3 < D < 1 \text{ cm}^3$	$D > 1 \text{ cm}^3$
BLM - 1000IU/ml	1ml/cm <sup>3</sup> (> 0,1ml)	0.5ml/cm <sup>3</sup>	0,25 ml/cm <sup>3</sup>
CDDP - 2mg/ml	1ml (2 mg)/cm <sup>3</sup>	0.5ml (1 mg)/cm <sup>3</sup>	0,25 ml (0.5mg)/cm <sup>3</sup>



## INTRAVENOUS

Bleomycin Standard Dose: 15000 IU/m<sup>2</sup>

Electric pulses are applied 8 min after drug administration in order to allow capillary diffusion

Time window for electric pulses application is 20-30 min

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

**Patient selection**

**Nodule selection**

**Route of administration**

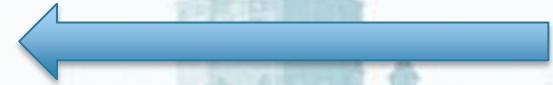
**Treatment modality**

**Anaesthesia**

**Post-op. analgesia**

**Evaluation of tumor response**

**Data collection**



# Standard operating procedures in H&N

## Patient selection

Check	Absolute contraindications	Relative contraindication
Cardiac arrhythmias, pace maker	Thorax application < 7 cm	Head Neck application (> 30 cm from heart)
Pulmonary function (fibrosis)	i.v. bleomycin	< 30% O <sub>2</sub> delivery i.t. bleomycin
Haematology (PLT < 70000/mm <sup>3</sup> , INR>1,5)		Verify type of electrodes
Renal function (Creatinine< 150µmol/l)		Adequate idratation
Difficulties with local/general anaesthesia	yes	
Allergy to bleomycin	yes	
Cumulative dose of bleomycin	>240000 IU/m <sup>2</sup>	

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

**Patient selection**

**Nodule selection**

**Route of administration**

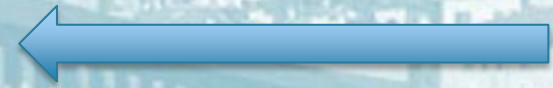
**Treatment modality**

**Anaesthesia**

**Post-op. analgesia**

**Evaluation of tumor response**

**Data collection**



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

## **Nodule selection**

### **Measurement of tumor lesions**

Longest diameter in the plane of measurement must be recorded with a **minimum size** of:

10 mm by CT scan (CT scan slice thickness no greater than 5 mm)

10 mm caliper measurement by clinical examination

### **Measurement of lymph nodes**

≥ 15 mm in **short** axis by CT scan

**RECIST  
criteria**

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

**Patient selection**

**Nodule selection**

**Route of administration**

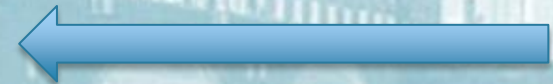
**Treatment modality**

**Anaesthesia**

**Post-op. analgesia**

**Evaluation of tumor response**

**Data collection**





# *Standard operating procedures for HN*

## Route of administration

### INTRATUMORAL

Volume $ab^2\pi/6$	$D < 0.5 \text{ cm}^3$	$0.5 \text{ cm}^3 < D < 1 \text{ cm}^3$	$D > 1 \text{ cm}^3$
BLM (concentration 1000 IU/ml)	1ml (1000 IU)/ $\text{cm}^3$ of tumor	0.5 ml (500 IU)/ $\text{cm}^3$ of tumor	0,25 ml (250 IU)/ $\text{cm}^3$ of tumor

Electroporation  
immediately after injection



# *Standard operating procedures for HN*

## Route of administration

### **INTRAVENOUS**

Bleomycin Standard Dose: 15000 IU/m<sup>2</sup>

Electric pulses are applied 8 min after drug administration in order to allow capillary diffusion

Time window for electric pulses application is 20-30 min



# *Standard operating procedures for HN*

**Patient selection**

**Nodule selection**

**Route of administration**

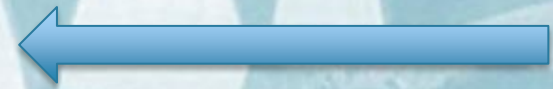
**Treatment modality**

**Anaesthesia**

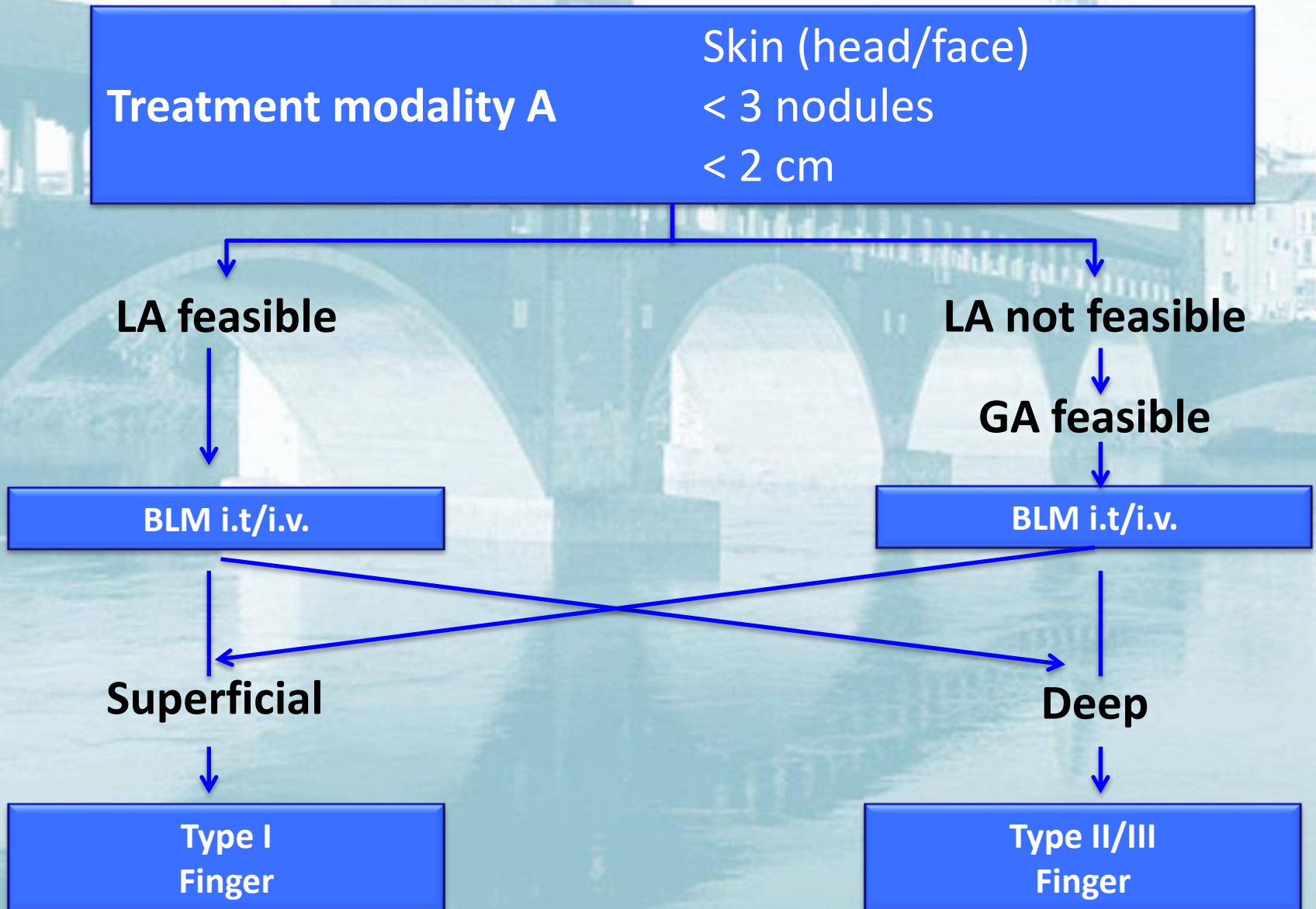
**Post-op. analgesia**

**Evaluation of tumor response**

**Data collection**



# Standard operating procedures in H&N



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

**Treatment modality B**

Skin (head/face)  
> 3 nodules  
> 2 cm

↓  
**GA feasible**

↓  
**BLM i.v.**

↓  
**Deep**

↓  
**Type II/III**

# ***Standard operating procedures in H&N***



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

**Treatment modality C**

Skin (cheek, chin, neck)

Intraoral

Any number

Any size

**GA feasible**

**BLM i.v.**

**Superficial/deep**

**Type II/III  
Finger**



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*



**Mucosal lesions**

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

**Patient selection**

**Nodule selection**

**Route of administration**

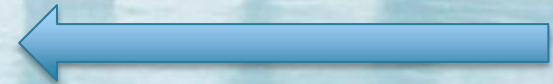
**Treatment modality**

**Anaesthesia**

**Post-op. analgesia**

**Evaluation of tumor response**

**Data collection**



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

## Local anaesthesia ± sedation

- Non-invasive monitoring (ECG, O<sub>2</sub>-Saturation, NIBP)
- Midazolam 2 mg i.v.
- Remifentanil 0.03-0.06 µg/Kg/min
- O<sub>2</sub> 2-4 l/min
- Local infiltration  
Lidocaine  
Mepivacaine+Adrenalin  
etc.

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

## General anaesthesia

- Non-invasive monitoring (ECG, O<sub>2</sub>-Saturation, NIBP)
- Remifentanil 0.1-0.2  $\mu$ /Kg/min
- Narcosis with Propofol 2-3 mg/Kg
- Curarisation Rocuronium 0.3-0.45 mg/Kg
- OTI (LMA) and AMV\*
- Prosecution of narcosis Desflurane 4-6% ET

\*Oro-tracheal intubation (laryngeal mask); Artificial mechanical ventilation

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

**Patient selection**

**Nodule selection**

**Route of administration**

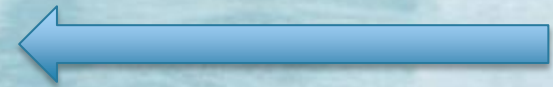
**Treatment modality**

**Anaesthesia**

**Post-op. analgesia**

**Evaluation of tumor response**

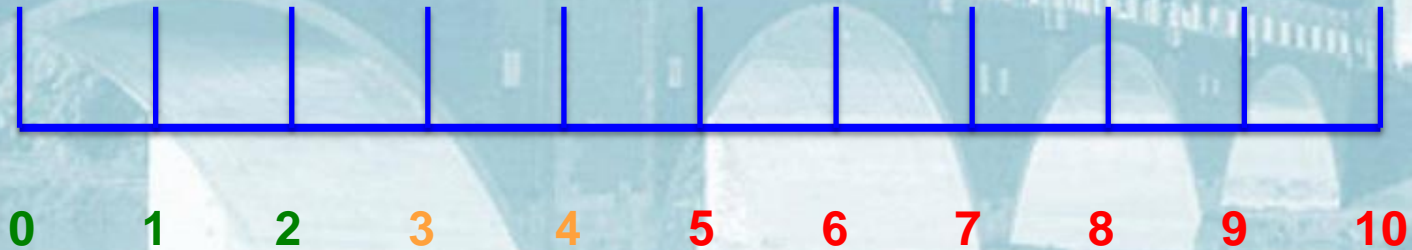
**Data collection**



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

## Post-operative analgesia

### VAS



PROTOCOL A: MILD PAIN (0-2)

PROTOCOL B: MODERATE PAIN (3-4)

PROTOCOL C: SEVERE PAIN (5-10)

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

## **PROTOCOL A: 24 hrs pain monitoring**

**Ketorolac / Ketoprofen  
Paracetamol**

**i.o. (preferably)**

**i.v.**

**Every 8 hrs**

**I.O. gastric protection (protonic pump inhibitors)**

**IF VAS > 4 between two administrations: TRAMADOL**

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

## **PROTOCOL B: 24 hrs pain monitoring**

**intraoperative**

**Ketorolac 30 mg +  
Tramadol 100 mg +  
Ondansetron 4 mg**

**24 hrs elastomer infusion  
(rechargeable)**

**Ketorolac 60 mg +  
Tramadol 200 mg**

**I.V. gastric protection (protonic pump inhibitors)**

**IF VAS > 4 : PARACETAMOL 1 g (i.v. bolus injection)**



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

## **PROTOCOL C: 30 hrs pain monitoring**

**intraoperative**

**Ketorolac 30 mg +  
Morphine 10 mg +  
Ondansetron 4 mg**

**30 hrs elastomer infusion  
(rechargeable)**

**Morphine 20-30 mg**

**I.V. gastric protection (protonic pump inhibitors)**

**IF VAS > 4 : PARACETAMOL 1 g (i.v. bolus injection)**

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

**Patient selection**

**Nodule selection**

**Route of administration**

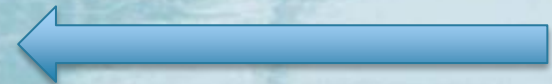
**Treatment modality**

**Anaesthesia**

**Post-op. analgesia**

**Evaluation of tumor response**

**Data collection**



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

## **Evaluation of tumor response (2 months after ECT)**

### **RECIST criteria**

- Complete response (CR):*** disappearance of all target lesions.  
Any pathological lymph node must have reduction in short axis to <10 mm
- Partial response (PR):*** at least 30% decrease in the sum of diameters of target lesions, taking as reference the baseline sum diameters
- Progressive disease (PD):*** at least 20% increase in the sum of diameters of target lesions, or an absolute increase of the sum of diameters of at least 5 mm, or the appearance of new lesions
- Stable disease (SD):*** neither sufficient shrinkage to qualify for PR nor sufficient increase to qualify for PD

# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

**Patient selection**

**Nodule selection**

**Route of administration**

**Treatment modality**

**Anaesthesia**

**Post-op. analgesia**

**Evaluation of tumor response**

**Data collection**



# *Standard operating procedures in H&N*

## **Data collection: according to the INSPECT database**

- prestudy visit
- QoL questionnaires
- treatment chart
- follow up
- performance status and adverse event collection
- off study form



# Save the date

1<sup>st</sup> World Congress on Electroporation  
*and Pulsed Electric Fields in Biology, Medicine  
and Food & Environmental Technologies*

Portorož, Slovenia  
6 to 10 September 2015

Grand Hotel Bernardin  
Portorož

Come...

