

Long-term survival data and prognostic factors of a complete response to chemotherapy in patients with head and neck cancer treated with platinum-based induction chemotherapy: a Hellenic Co-operative oncology Group study.

[Fountzilas G](#), [Kosmidis P](#), [Avramidis V](#), [Nikolaou A](#), [Kalogera-Fountzila A](#), [Makrantonakis P](#), [Bacoyiannis C](#), [Samantas E](#), [Skarlos D](#), [Daniilidis J](#).

Source

AHEPA Hospital, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.

Abstract

A group of 154 patients with locally advanced head and neck cancer, treated with platinum-based induction chemotherapy, were followed up for 5 years and several pretreatment characteristics were analyzed for possible correlation to a complete response (CR) to chemotherapy, time to progression (TTP) and overall survival (OS). Clinical stage ($p = 0.0024$) and a history of smoking ($p = 0.0125$) were selected as important prognostic factors for CR by step wise logistic regression. We also identified response to chemotherapy ($p = 0.0120$), age ($p = 0.0066$), clinical stage ($p = 0.0363$), N stage ($p = 0.0028$), and tumor grade ($p = 0.0101$) as significant prognostic variables for TTP. Response to chemotherapy ($p < 0.0001$) and age ($p = 0.0017$) were found also significant for OS. These long-term prognostic factors which retain their prognostic significance after several years of follow-up could be helpful in the design of future trials in this patient population.