



LIMBURGS  
ONCOLOGISCH  
CENTRUM  
V Z W

# PBMT for mucositis and radiodermatitis



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Post-MASCC 2018

23/11/2018

Parker Hotel Brussels Airport, Diegem



# Outline part 1

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- What is PBMT?
- PBMT for mucositis: update
- Safety issues?



## Low-level laser

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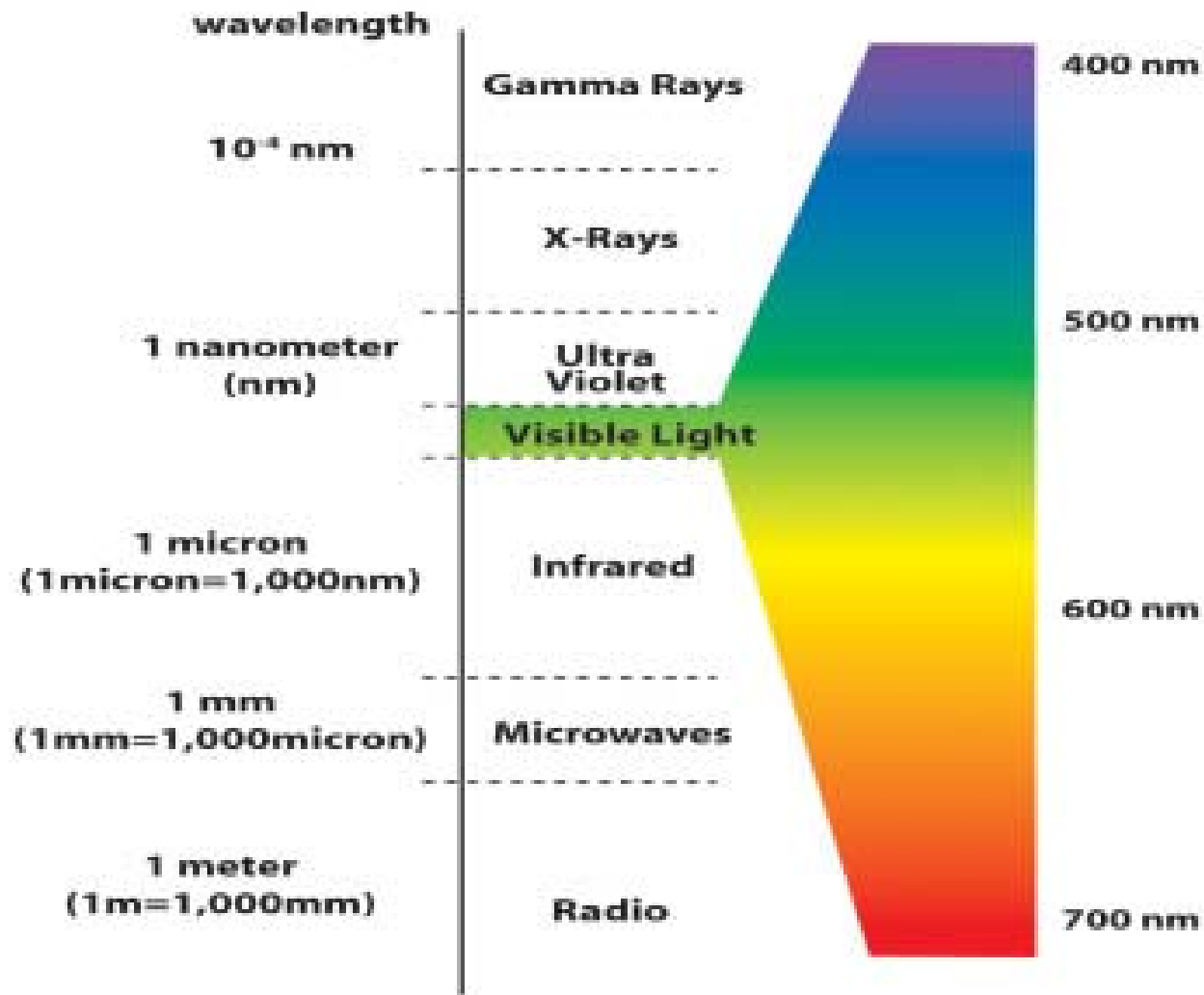
- 1967
- Endre Mester, Budapest
- “effects of laser on skin cancer”



Laser  
biostimulation



# Electromagnetic spectrum





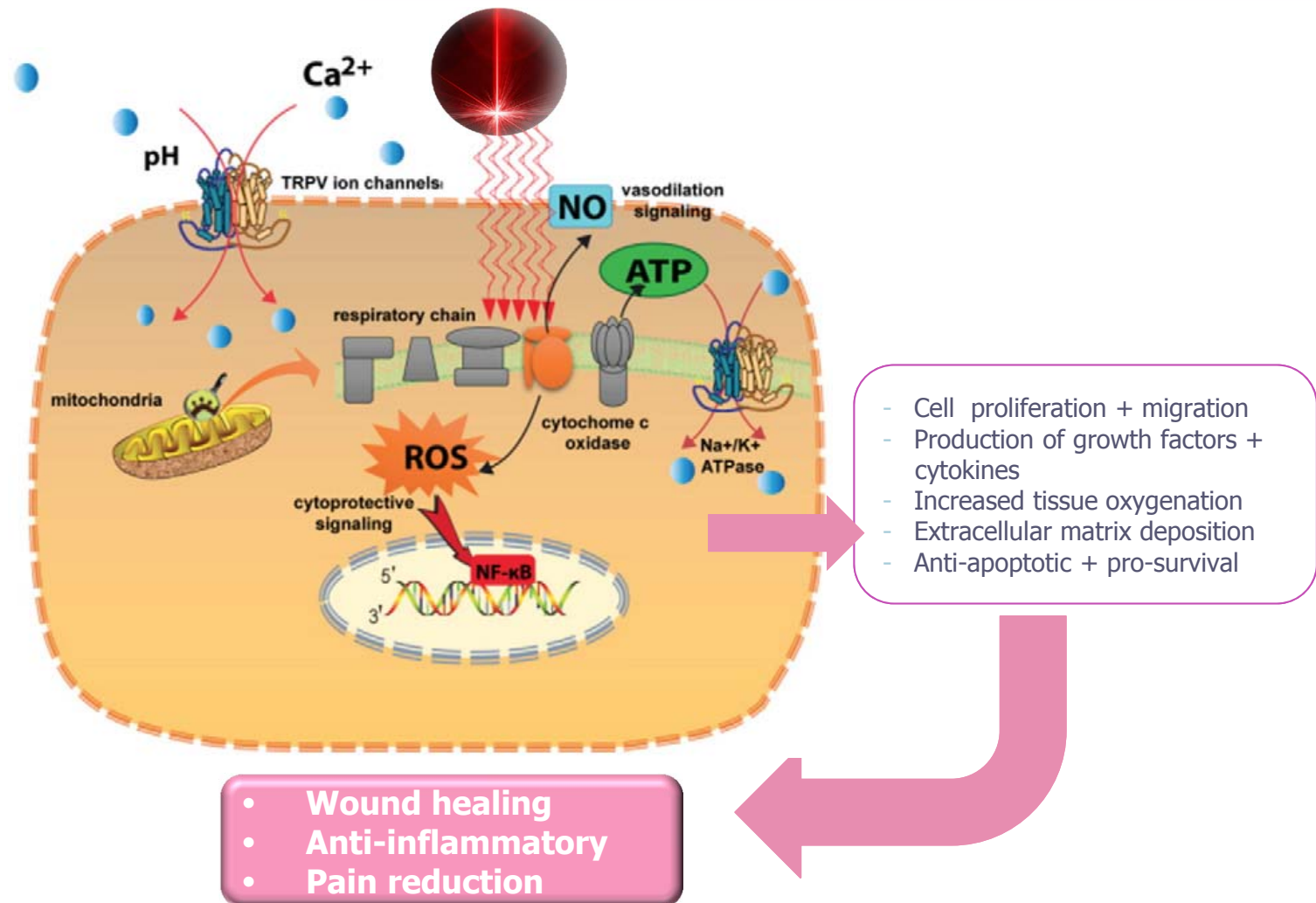
# High vs Low-level lasers

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High	Low
Surgical lasers	Medical lasers
Hard lasers	Soft lasers
Thermal	Energy 1-500 mW
Energy : 3000-10000mW	600-1000 nm light



# Biological effects



Hamblin, M. et al. *Low-Level Light Therapy: Photobiomodulation*. SPIE press, 2018.  
Robijns, J. et al. *BELG J MED ONCOL* 2017



## Research

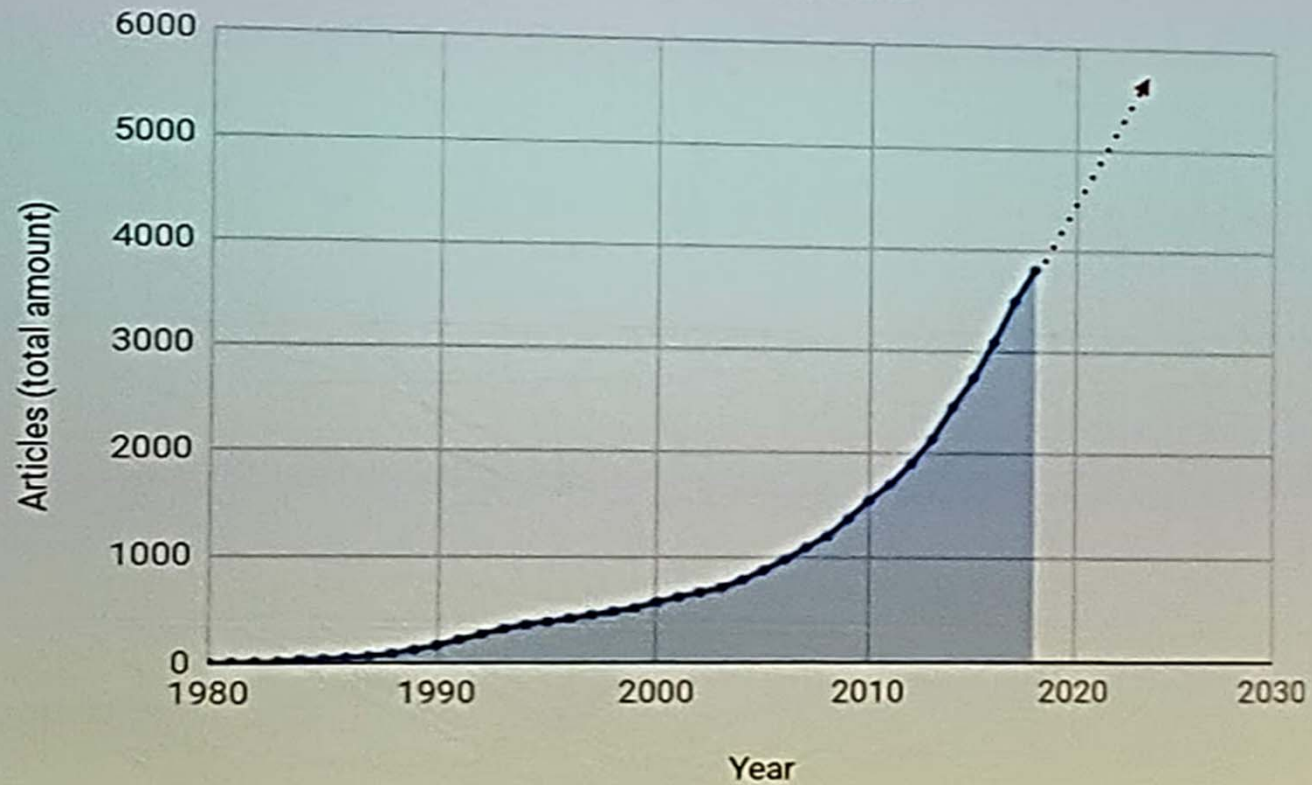
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- ✿ Since 1967: >400 double blind, RND trials
- ✿ first clin application: wound healing
- ✿ Experiences from lab and clinic:
  - Reduction inflammation
  - Prevention fibrosis
  - Reduces pain
  - Neuroprotective



# Research

Total amount of PBM/LLLT articles







# Our own experience

## LLLT in breast cancer patients: retrospective analysis

Table 1. Patients' status at the start and the end of Low Level Laser Therapy (LLLT)

Outcome	Start LLLT	End LLLT	N improved
Mean number of treated areas	3.89	2.16*	66 (71%)
Mean OM score	6.60	2.78*	75 (80.6%)
Mean pain score <sup>a</sup>	5.14	1.64*	20 (90.9%)
N (%) WHO grade 1	11 (11.8%)	60 (64.5%)*	60 (64.5%)

<sup>a</sup> Pain scores were available for 22 (of the 93) patients. \*  $p < 0.0001$  (t-test or chi-square, as appropriate).



# Our own experience

## LLLT in cancers other than head and neck cancer.

**1. POPULATION**

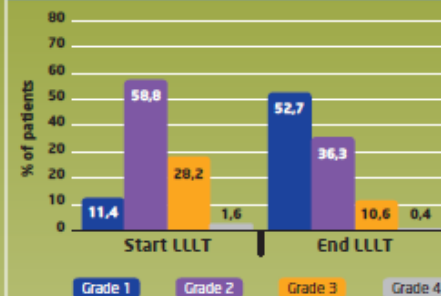
**PATIENTS' CHARACTERISTICS (N = 245)**

▶ Age (years)		▶ Tumour Stage	N (%)
Mean (M)	59.56	0	4 (1.63)
Standard deviation (SD)	11.80	1	17 (6.94)
▶ Tumour Location	N (%)	2	61 (24.90)
Brain	3 (1.22)	3	59 (24.08)
Breast	100 (40.82)	4	51 (20.82)
Colorectal	31 (12.65)	Unknown	53 (21.63)
Gastro-Intestinal	19 (7.76)		
Gynaecologic	13 (5.31)	▶ Cancer therapy	N (%)
Hematologic	10 (4.08)	Chemotherapy	183 (74.69)
Lung	17 (6.94)	Chemo-radiotherapy	27 (11.02)
Neuroendocrine	5 (2.04)	Radiotherapy	22 (8.98)
Skin	4 (1.63)	Other	9 (3.67)
Urogenital	26 (10.61)	Unknown	4 (1.63)
Unknown	17 (6.94)		
▶ Number of LLLT sessions received		▶ Time since start cancer therapy (days)	
M	6.11	M	55.38
SD	5.89	SD	69.13

### 2. OM GRADINGS

At the end of LLLT, there was a **significant improvement** of OM ( $p < .0001$ ), with an increased proportion of patients with OM grade 1 (and a decrease of OM  $\geq$  grade 2).

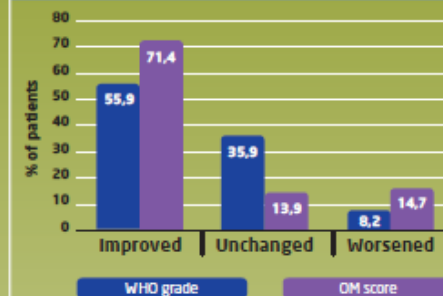
#### WHO GRADINGS OF ORAL MUCOSITIS



### 3. OM SCORES

- OM scores **significantly decreased** (M = 3.66 at the end vs 6.67 at the start of LLLT,  $p < .0001$ )
- At the end of LLLT, patients were categorised according to their status (OM worsened, unchanged, or Improved), based on their (highest) WHO grades and OM scores:

#### PATIENTS' OM STATUS AT THE END OF LLLT





# Review 2011

## 11 RCT

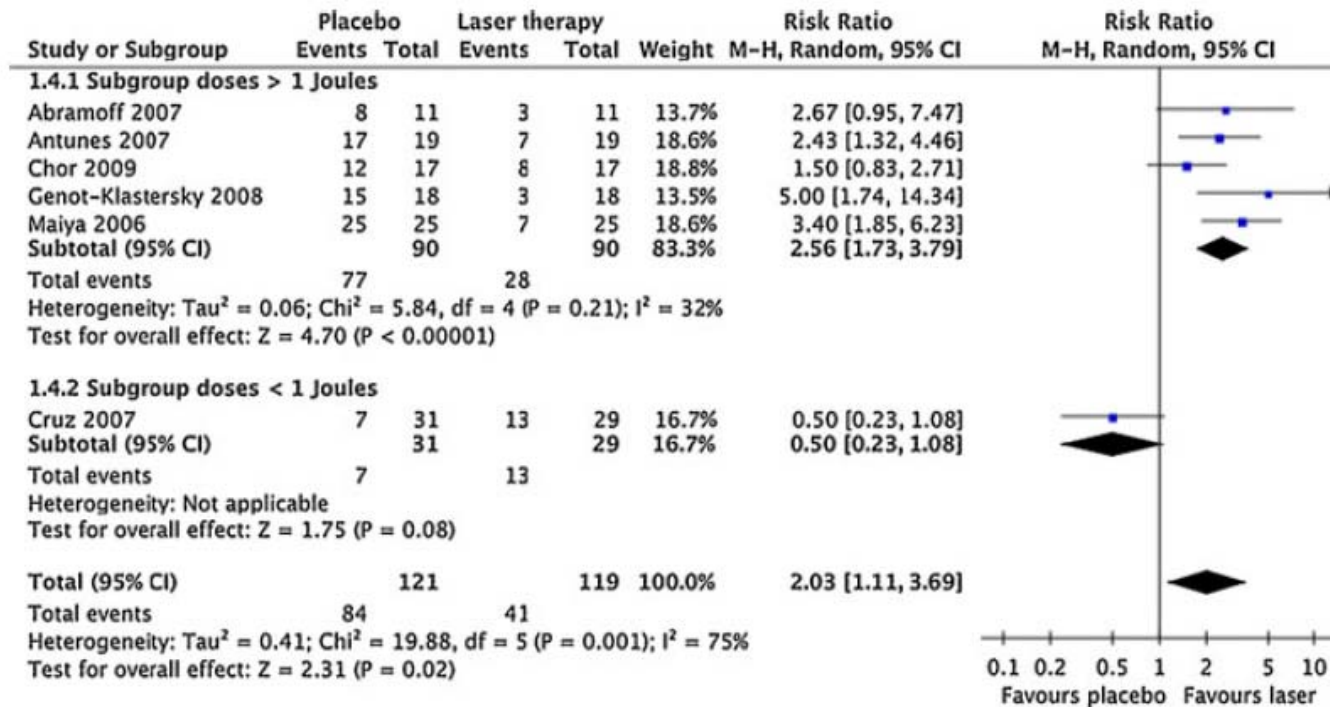
**Table 1** Trial characteristics

First author (year)	Patient numbers (cancer therapy)	Wavelength (nm)	Laser output (mW)	Spot size (cm <sup>2</sup> )	Dose (J)	Irradiation time (s)	Outcomes and effect (+/-)
Cowen 1997	30 (chemo/radio)	633	30	0.5	3.5	105	Days+/OMI+
Bensadoun 1999	30 (radiation)	633	60	0.5	2	33	Pain+/OMI+
Arun Maiya 2006	50 (radiation)	633	10	1.0	4	600	Pain+/OMI+
Schubert 2007	70 (transplant)	650/780	40/60	0.04	2	33–50	655 nm only pain+/OMI+
Cruz 2007	60 (chemo/child)	633	50	0.04	0.18	3	n.s.
Kuhn 2007	34 (chemo)	830	100	0.06	6	54	Days+/OMI+
Antunes 2007	38 (transplant)	660	47	0.2	4	17	Pain+/WHO+
Genot- Klastersky 2008	36 (chemo)	650	100	0.45	5	33	Days+/OMI+
Kuhn 2009	21 (chemo/child)	830	100	0.06	6	56	Days+/OMI+
Abramoff 2009	22 (chemo)	685	35	0.5	3	54	Days+/OMI+
Chor 2009	24 (chemo)	660	50	?	2	40	Days+/others–

First column identifies trial by first author's last name and the publication year. Other columns represent: sample size (type of cancer therapy), laser wavelength in nm, laser output in mW, spot size in cm<sup>2</sup>, dose in Joules, irradiation time per point, outcomes reported including mucositis severity scales (WHO or OMI), pain and duration of OM in days and dichotomized overall results given by: (+) significantly in favour of LLLT or (–) non-significant between LLLT and placebo



# Review 2011



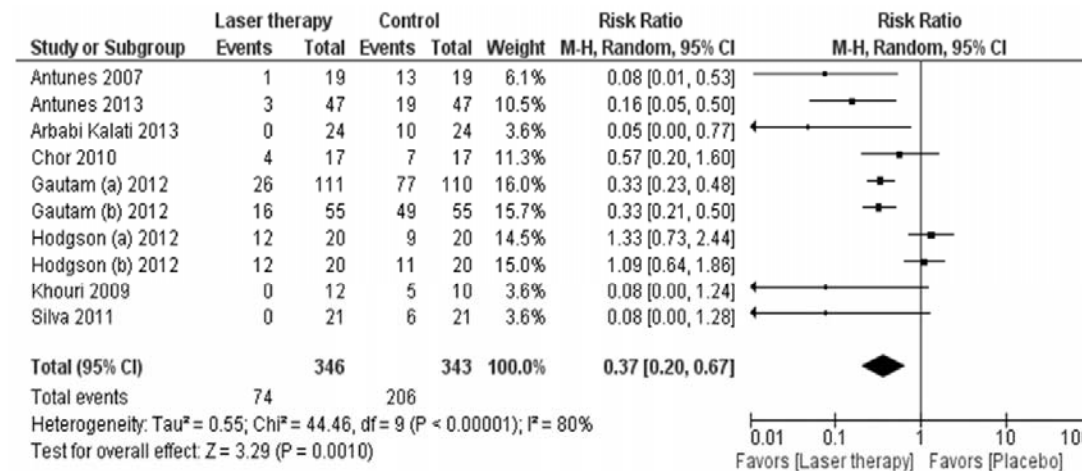
Doses 1-6J

Reduction of OM prevalence, severity, duration and pain.



# Review 2014

## RCT 18



**Figure 2. Forest plot of overall incidence of severe (grade 3 or 4) mucositis.** Squares to the left of the vertical line indicate that low level laser therapy reduces mucositis. Horizontal lines through the squares represent 95% confidence intervals (CIs). The size of the squares reflects each study's relative weight, and the diamond represents the aggregate risk ratio and 95% CI.  
doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0107418.g002



# Review 2014

**Table 2.** Summary of outcomes of low level laser therapy as compared to placebo/no treatment.

Outcome	Number Studies	Number Patients	Effect	95% CI <sup>‡</sup>	I <sup>2</sup>	P
Overall incidence of severe (grade 3 or 4) mucositis	10	689	RR 0.37	0.20 to 0.67	80%	0.001
Incidence of severe (grade 3 or 4) mucositis at anticipated time of maximal mucositis*	6	546	RR 0.34	0.20 to 0.59	62%	0.0001
Overall mean grade of mucositis	8	603	SMD −1.49	−2.02 to −0.95	86%	<0.0001
Duration of severe (grade 3 or 4) mucositis	3	361	WMD −5.32	−9.45 to −1.19	94%	0.01
Incidence of any pain	7	591	RR 0.89	0.76 to 1.04	96%	0.15
Incidence of severe pain**	2	331	RR 0.26	0.18 to 0.37	0%	<0.0001
Overall mean pain scores	5	222	WMD −2.46	−4.41 to −0.77	97%	0.004
Number of patients requiring opioid analgesia	5	530	RR 0.47	0.37 to 0.60	0%	<0.0001
Unplanned radiotherapy interruption due to mucositis in head and neck cancer patients	5	560	RR 0.23	0.12 to 0.44	0%	<0.0001

Abbreviations: RR - risk ratio; SMD - standardized mean difference; WMD - weighted mean difference; CI - confidence interval;

\*Maximum anticipated mucositis was week 6±1 in head and neck cancer radiotherapy/chemo-radiotherapy trials and day 10±4 in chemotherapy and hematopoietic stem cell transplantation trials (from date of chemotherapy initiation and stem cell infusion respectively).

\*\* Severe pain defined as a visual analogue scale score >7.

‡All analyses used a random-effect model. A risk ratio <1 and a standardized mean difference or weighted mean difference <0 with 95% CIs that do not include 1 or 0 respectively, suggest that low level laser is better than placebo/no therapy.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0107418.t002



# Review 2014

**Table 3.** Effect of low level laser therapy as compared to placebo/no therapy on overall incidence of severe (grade 3 or 4) mucositis stratified by patient, laser and risk of bias characteristics.

Subgroup	Number Studies	Number patients	RR	95% CI <sup>†</sup>	P for interaction
Population Age					0.90
Adult	8	607	0.33	0.18 to 0.59	
Pediatric or both adult/pediatric	2	82	0.41	0.02 to 10.87	
Underlying Condition					0.85
Chemotherapy or HSCT	7	264	0.35	0.13 to 0.98	
Head and neck cancer radiotherapy/chemo-radiotherapy	3	425	0.32	0.24 to 0.42	
Type of Laser Delivery					<0.0001
Intraoral	8	609	0.29	0.19 to 0.42	
Extraoral	2	80	1.19	0.80 to 1.78	
Energy Density of Laser					0.06
≤4 J/cm <sup>2</sup>	8	619	0.43	0.23 to 0.78	
>4 J/cm <sup>2</sup>	2	70	0.06	0.01 to 0.43	
Participants, Personnel and Assessors Blinded					0.11
Yes	8	625	0.42	0.23 to 0.76	
No or unclear	2	64	0.08	0.01 to 0.56	
Allocation Concealment Adequate					0.03
Yes	4	411	0.61	0.30 to 1.25	
No or unclear	6	278	0.16	0.07 to 0.41	

Abbreviations: RR – risk ratio; CI – confidence interval; HSCT – hematopoietic stem cell transplantation.

<sup>†</sup>All analyses used a random-effect model. A risk ratio <1 with 95% CIs that do not include 1, suggests that low level laser is better than placebo/no therapy.  
doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0107418.t003





**TABLE 2.** Summary of reviews with meta-analysis investigating the use of PBMT for the prevention and management of OM in cancer patients.

First author (ref.)	Year	Publication type	Type + number of studies included	Sample size	Wavelength (nm)	Power (mW)	Energy density (J/cm <sup>2</sup> )	Laser schedule	Results
Bjorndal <sup>15</sup>	2011	Systematic review with meta-analysis	11 placebo-controlled RCTs	415	- Red (633–685) - Infrared (780–830)	-Red (10-60) -Infrared (50-100)	1-6 J/point	Minimum 3 sessions/week	Reduced OM prevalence, severity, duration, and associated pain.
Migliorati <sup>17</sup>	2012	Systematic review with meta-analysis	24 clinical trials	NA	400-1200	10-500	2-70	NA	<b>Recommendation:</b> - Prevention of OM in adult patients receiving HSCT (650 nm, 40 mW, and 2 J/cm <sup>2</sup> ). <b>Suggestion:</b> - Prevention of OM in HNC patients undergoing RT without CTx(632.8 nm).
Oberoi <sup>16</sup>	2014	Systematic review with meta-analysis	18 RCTs and quasi-RCTs	1144	632.8-780	10-100	1.5-6.3	5 sessions/week - daily	Prophylactic PBMT reduced severe OM and pain in patients with cancer and HSCT recipients.

Partially adapted from Robijns et al. (2017)<sup>5</sup>

Abbreviations: OM, oral mucositis; CTx, chemotherapy; HNC, head and neck cancer; HSCT, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation; RCT, randomised controlled trial; NA, not available; ref, reference; PBMT, photobiomodulation therapy.





# Guidelines

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## ➤ MASCC/ISOO

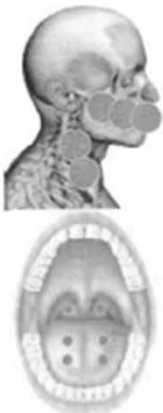
- Recommendation for prevention of OM in HDSCT +/- TBI
- Recommendation for prevention of OM in HeN RT
- Recommendation for prevention of OM in HeN RT + CT

## ➤ ESMO

## ➤ NCCN



# Guidelines

Complication	Treatment protocol	Treatment area	PBM device characteristics and application	Therapeutic PBM dose	Optional target tissues
<b>Oral Mucositis</b>	<p><i>Prophylactic:</i>  <i>Chemotherapy:</i> Protocols vary. Start PBM treatment at first day of CT or prior to therapy and continue during all courses of chemotherapy</p> <p><i>Radiotherapy:</i> Start PBM treatment the first day of RT or prior to RT and continue during all days of RT (no requirement regarding the timing of PBM sessions, before or after RT session)</p> <p><i>Therapeutic:</i> Continue treatment at least 3 times a week until symptoms improve</p> <p>Daily treatment is recommended in case of severe mucositis</p>		<p><i>Extra-oral:</i> IR LED cluster or mixed red and IR LED cluster  20–80 mW cm<sup>-2</sup></p> <p><i>Intra-oral:</i>  630–830 nm  20–80 mW</p>	<p><i>Extra-oral:</i> 3 J cm<sup>-2</sup>  IR LED cluster</p> <p><i>Intra-oral:</i>  <i>Prophylactic:</i> 2 J per point</p> <p><i>Therapeutic:</i> 4 J per point until the whole area involved is covered (2 J for prophylactic use)</p>	<p><i>Extra-oral:</i> Lips, cutaneous surface corresponding to the buccal mucosae, bilateral cervical lymphatic chain</p> <p><i>Intra-oral:</i>  <i>Prophylactic:</i> treat each of the at risk mucosal surfaces</p> <p><i>Therapeutic:</i> sites vary, depending upon the site of mucositis</p>



## Safety: in vitro

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- PBM has been shown to promote cell proliferation, angiogenesis, analgesia/pain control
- Mechanisms: Cytochrome C Oxidase, electron transport → ATP, NO
- → growth factors, anti-inflammatory cytokines, HSP, MMP, ROS
- Are cell-cultures sufficient?



## Safety: in vitro

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- PBM therapy with visible and near-infrared sources are **safe** (non-genotoxic, non-mutagenic)
- PBM treatments have differential effects on cells of discrete lineages
- PBM treatments evoke different responses in normal and cancer stem cells



## Safety: in vivo

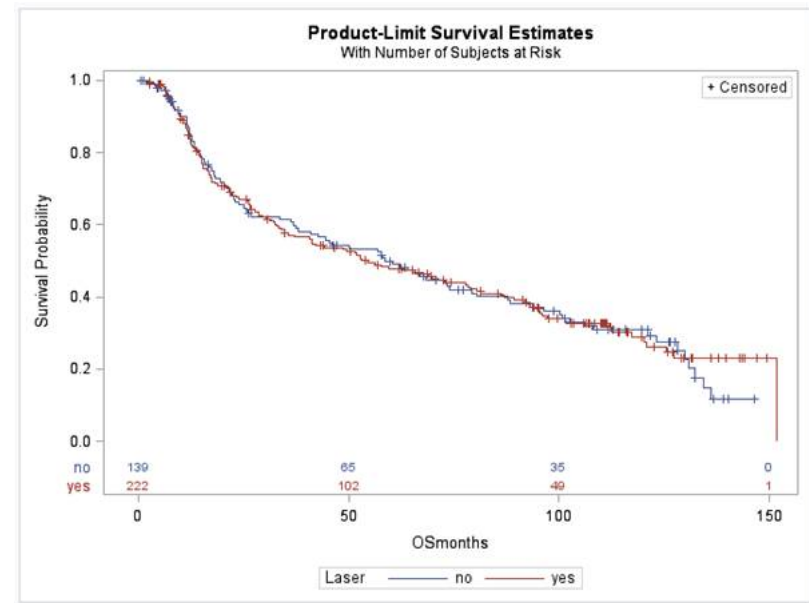
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- Retrospective analysis of potential stimulation of tumor growth by PBM used for management of therapy-induced mucositis in head and neck cancer patients.



# Safety: in vivo

- 361 pts
  - 139 (39%) without LLLT
  - 222 (62%) with LLLT



Overall survival (OS) is defined as time from diagnosis till date of death. Patients alive at last follow-up are censored at the date of last follow-up → 232 OS events

There is no statistical evidence for a difference in overall survival between patients with and without low level laser (LLL):  
P-value 0.86 (logrank test).

5-year OS

- in patients without LLL: 50%

- in patients with LLL: 48%

Hazard ratio (laser vs not): 0.98 (95% CI, 0.75 to 1.27)



# Safety: in vivo

Supportive Care in Cancer (2018) 26:2417–2423  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00520-018-4046-z>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



## Locally advanced oral squamous cell carcinoma patients treated with photobiomodulation for prevention of oral mucositis: retrospective outcomes and safety analyses

Thaís Bianca Brandão<sup>1,2</sup> · Karina Morais-Faria<sup>1,2</sup> · Ana Carolina Prado Ribeiro<sup>1,2,3</sup> · César Rivera<sup>2</sup> · João Victor Salvajoli<sup>4</sup> · Marcio Ajudarte Lopes<sup>2</sup> · Joel B. Epstein<sup>5,6</sup> · Praveen R. Arany<sup>7</sup> · Gilberto de Castro Jr<sup>8</sup> · Cesar Augusto Migliorati<sup>9</sup> · Alan Roger Santos-Silva<sup>1,2</sup>

- Retrospective analysis, 152 advanced OSCC pts, prophylactic OM, 1/2009-12/2014
- 12,5% St III, 87,5% st IV
- 34,2% HK ; RT
- 61,8% CRT
- 4% ICT; HK+RT



# Safety: in vivo

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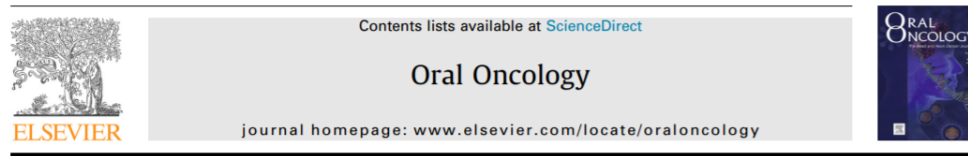
**Table 3** Summary of results reported in the literature from randomized controlled trials including treatment outcomes and survival rates of patients with oral squamous cell carcinoma treated with multimodal therapy. *OS* overall survival, *DFS* disease-free survival, *CT* chemotherapy, *y* year

Author	Year	No. patients	Stage	OS%	DFS%	Local-regional relapse	Distant relapse	Second primaries
<i>Licitra et al. 2003 [13]</i>	1989–1999	195	II–IV	57% (5 y)	–	31%	6.1%	8.2%
Including CT				68.2% (2 y)	63.6% (2 y)	30.5%	8.7%	–
Excluding CT								
<i>Zhong et al. 2013 [14]</i>	2008–2010	256	III or IVA					
Including CT				68.8% (2 y)	62.2% (2 y)	31.3%	5.5%	–
Excluding CT				68.2% (2 y)	63.6% (2 y)	30.5%	8.7%	–
<i>Bossi et al. 2014 [15]</i>	–	198	II–IV					
Including CT				46.5% (10 y)	48.5% (10 y)	29.6% (10 y)	4.1% (10 y)	10.6%
Excluding CT				37.7% (10 y)	36% (10 y)	32% (10 y)	9.3% (10 y)	22.1%
<i>Zhong et al. 2015 [16]</i>	2008–2015	256	III or IVA					
Including CT				61.1% (5 y)	52.7% (5 y)	31.3%	7%	3.1%
Excluding CT				61.1% (5 y)	52.7% (5 y)	39.1%	10.9%	7%
Current series	2009–2014	152	III–IV	46.7% (3.4 y)	51.8% (3.4 y)	29.6%	6.57%	12.5%





# Safety: in vivo



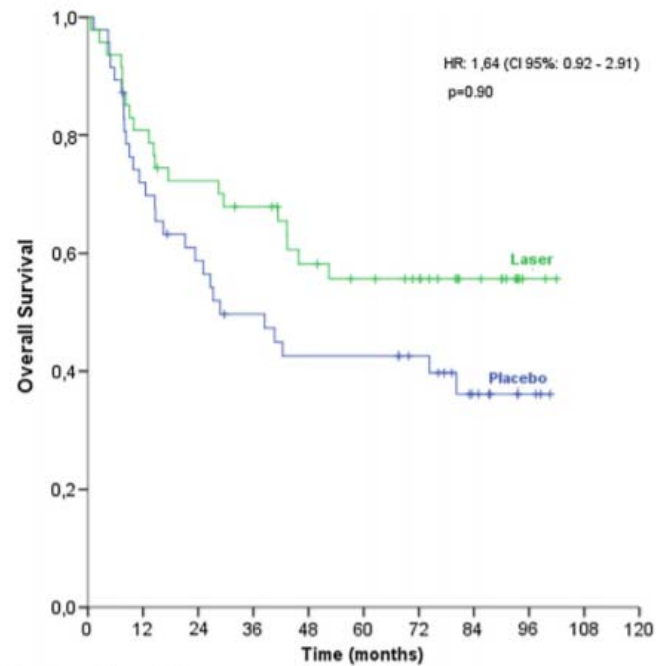
Long-term survival of a randomized phase III trial of head and neck cancer patients receiving concurrent chemoradiation therapy with or without low-level laser therapy (LLLT) to prevent oral mucositis



Héilton S. Antunes<sup>a,\*</sup>, Daniel Herchenhorn<sup>b</sup>, Isabele A. Small<sup>a</sup>, Carlos M.M. Araújo<sup>c</sup>, Celia Maria Pais Viégas<sup>c</sup>, Gabriela de Assis Ramos<sup>a</sup>, Fernando L. Dias<sup>d</sup>, Carlos G. Ferreira<sup>e</sup>

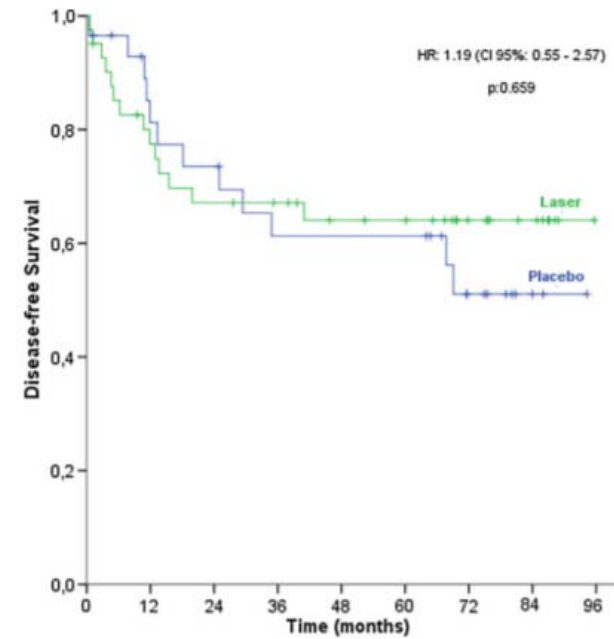
<sup>a</sup> Clinical Research Division, Instituto Nacional de Câncer (INCA), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

- 94 pts with oro, naso and hypopharynxca in phase III trial
- Evaluation from 2007-2015
- CRT (HD CDDP)
- LLLT (660nm-100mW-1J-4J/cm<sup>2</sup>)
- Med FU 41,3 months



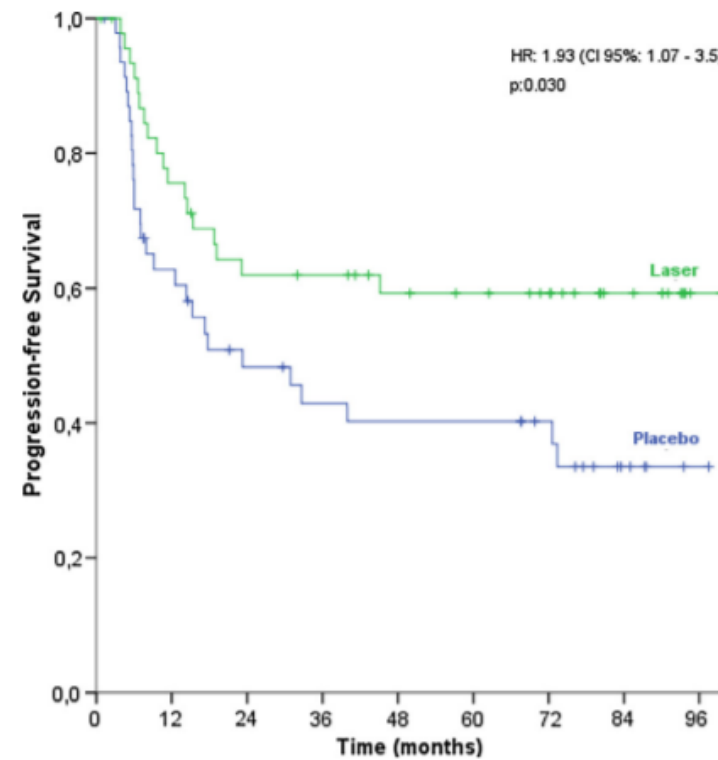
Number of remaining cases									
	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108
Laser	38	33	30	24	21	17	11	2	0
Placebo	33	26	21	18	18	15	8	3	0

**Fig. 1.** Overall survival.



Number of remaining cases									
	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108
Laser	30	26	24	20	18	12	8	0	0
Placebo	21	19	15	15	15	8	2	0	0

**Fig. 2.** Disease-free survival.



	Number of remaining cases								
	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108
Laser	34	27	26	22	20	15	10	1	0
Placebo	27	19	16	16	16	12	5	1	0

**Fig. 3.** Progression-free survival.



## Newer approaches

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- Treatment of radiation fibrosis in Head and neck cancer patients
- Treatment of GVHD



## Conclusion part 1

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- PBM recommended in OM treatment in most guidelines
- Safety seems reconfirming in vitro and in vivo in appropriate doses
  - Preclinical in-vivo models needed
  - Short and long term cancer outcomes
  - Consistency of PBM parameters



## Outline part 2

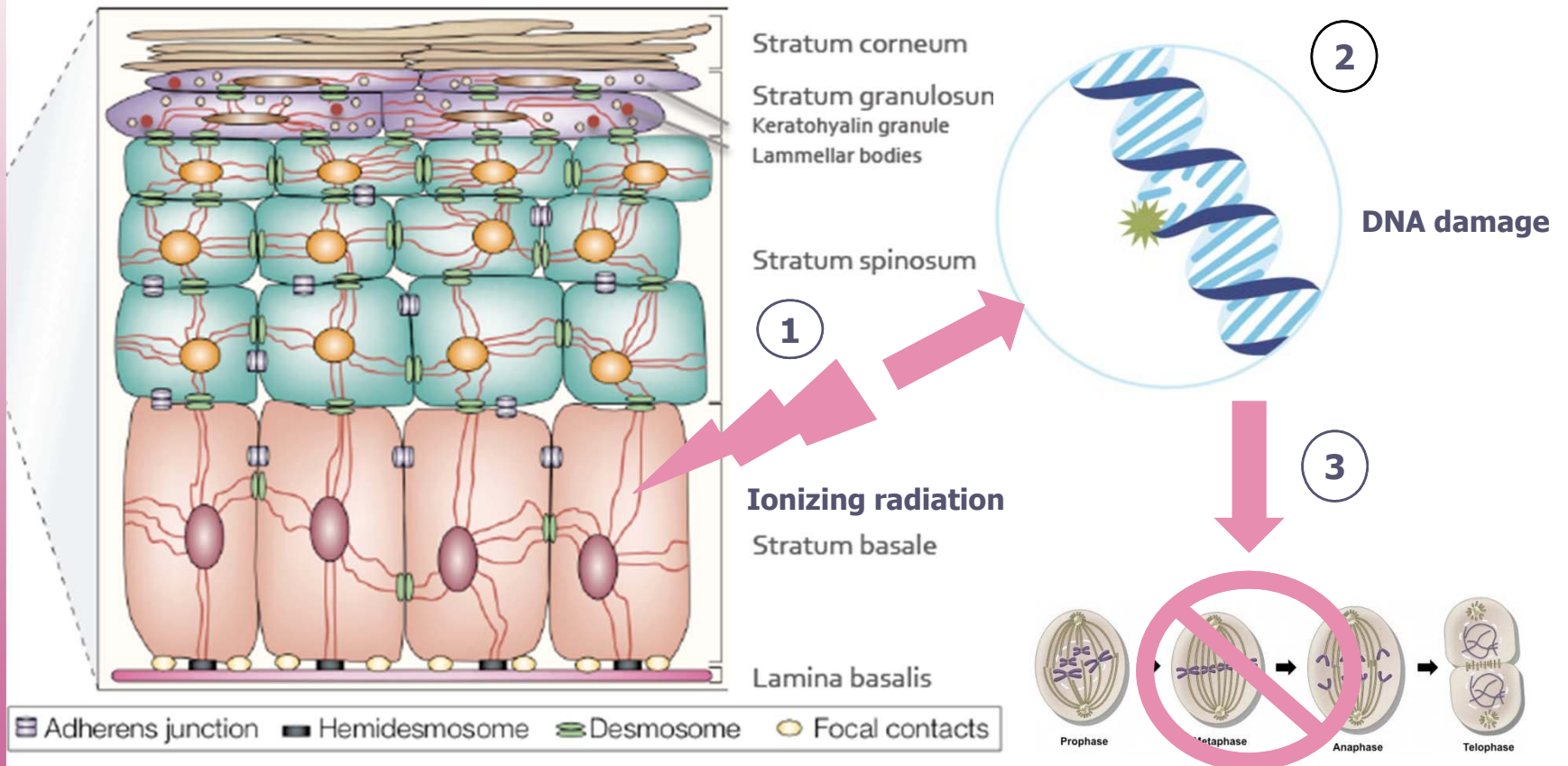
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- Radiodermatitis
- PBMT and radiodermatitis
  - Previous research
  - Our own experience
- Conclusion
- Future perspective



# Acute radiodermatitis (RD)

**What?** Inflammatory skin reaction at the irradiated area



Wells, M. and S. MacBride, *Radiation skin reactions*, 2003.  
Robijns et al. *JEWDS*, 2018.



# Acute radiodermatitis (RD)

## Patient experience

- ☞ Pain
- ☞ Burning sensation
- ☞ Itching



- Affects daily activities → Quality of life
- Radiotherapy interruption

## Prevention & treatment

- ☞ General skin care advice
- ☞ Hydrating creams/gels
- ☞ Topical steroids
- ☞ Wound dressings



**No consensus on standardised guidelines**







# Grading acute RD

## Radiotherapy Oncology Group Criteria

### RTOG grade 1

Acute follicular  
erythema / depilation  
/ dry peeling /  
decreased sweating



### RTOG grade 2

Bright erythema /  
moist desquamation in  
the skin folds/  
moderate oedema



### RTOG grade 3

Confluent moist areas  
of peeling outside the  
folds / pitting oedema



### RTOG grade 4

Ulceration, bleeding,  
necrosis (rarely seen)





# PBMT and acute RD

	Schindl et al.(1999)	DeLand et al. (2007)	Fife et al. (2010)	Strouthos et al. (2017)
<b>PBMT type</b> •Wavelength •Fluence •Irradiance	Laser diode •632.8 nm •30 J/cm <sup>2</sup> •3 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>	LED •590 nm •0.15 J/cm <sup>2</sup> •Not specified	LED •590 nm •0.15 J/cm <sup>2</sup> •Not specified	LED •660 + 850 nm •0.15 J/cm <sup>2</sup> •44.6 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>
<b>Patient type</b>	<b>Limited scientific evidence</b>			
<b>PBMT set up</b>				
<b>Control group</b>	/	Retrospective	Placebo	Institutional skin care
<b>Results</b>	Accelerated wound healing	Significantly reduced incidence of RD grade $\geq 2$	No significant effects	Significantly reduced incidence of RD grade $\geq 2$

Schindl et. al. Photodermatology, photoimmunology & photomedicine, 1999

DeLand et.al. Lasers in Surgery and Medicine, 2007.

Fife et. al. Dermatol Surg, 2010

Strouthos et. al. Strahlenther Onkol, 2017



# Our own experience

01

**DERMIS trial**

2013-2014





# DERMIS trial

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## Goal

Investigate the efficacy of PBMT in the **treatment** of ARD in **breast cancer patients** undergoing RT



# DERMIS trial



## Study design

Prospective, quasi-experimental study



## Patients

- Breast cancer patients
- Post-lumpectomy
- RT regimen: 25x2Gy (whole breast) + 8x2Gy (boost)
- Jessa Hospital– LOC (Hasselt)

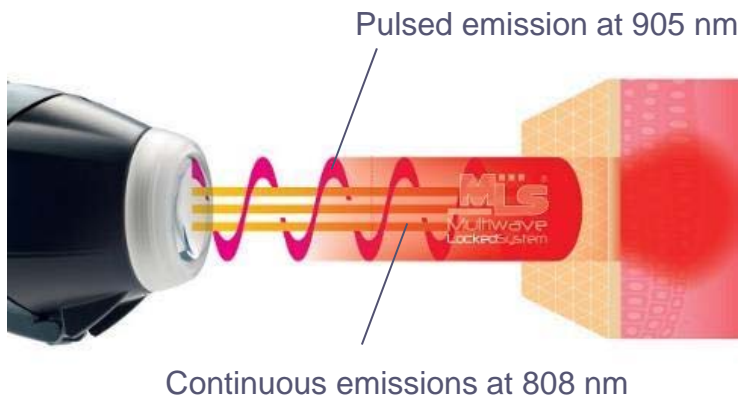


# DERMIS trial

## PBMT

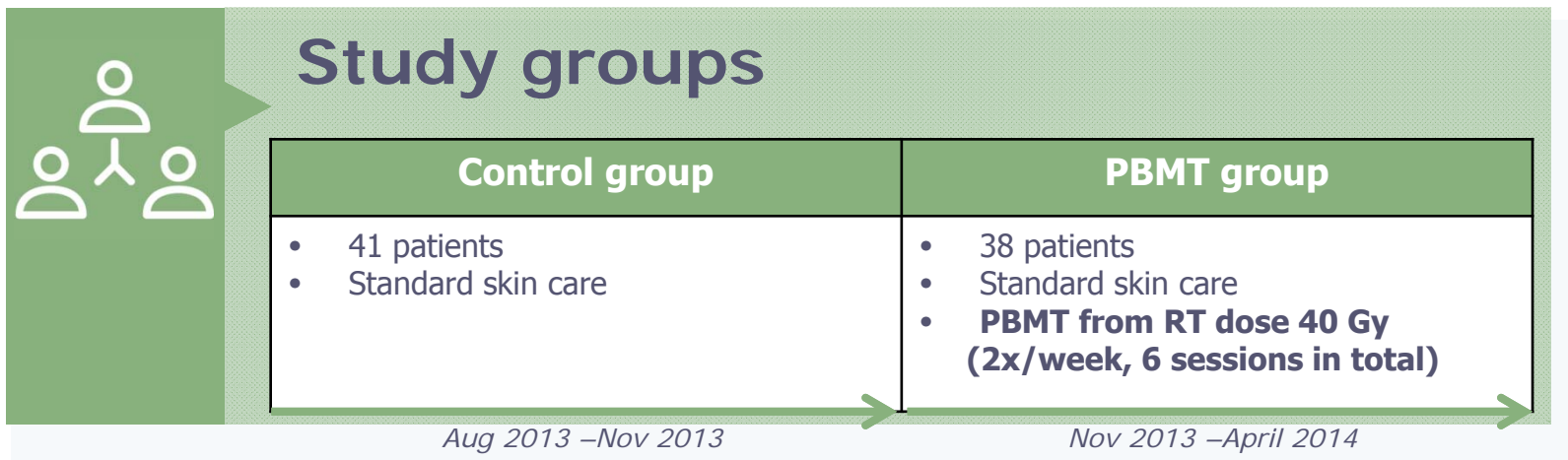


Parameter	Laser diode 1	Laser diode 2
Emission mode	Pulsed mode	Continuous mode
Wavelength	905 nm	808 nm
Dose	4 J/cm <sup>2</sup>	
Treatment area	Whole breast, axilla, inframammary fold	
Treatment time	10-15 min. depending on the size of treated area	



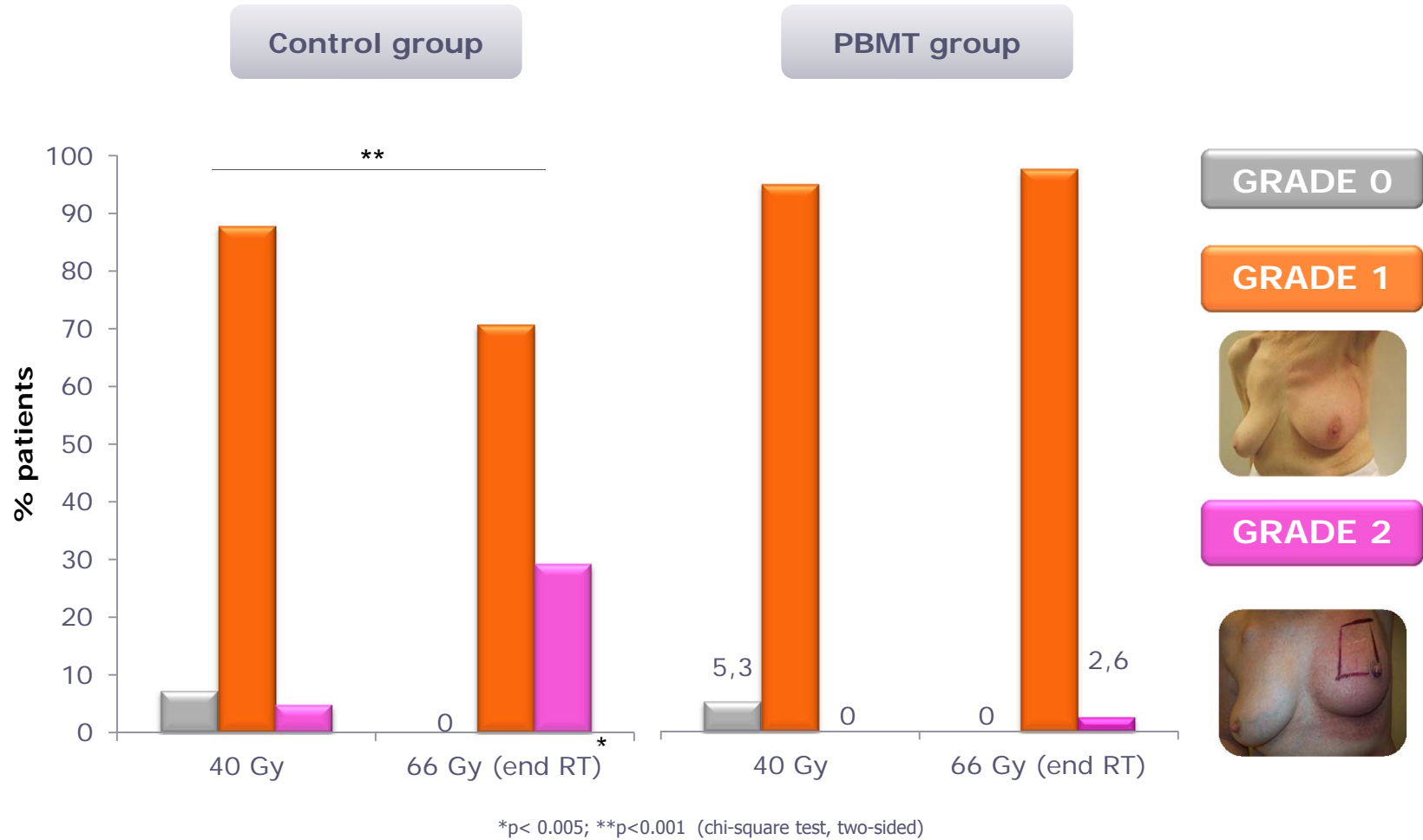


# DERMIS trial





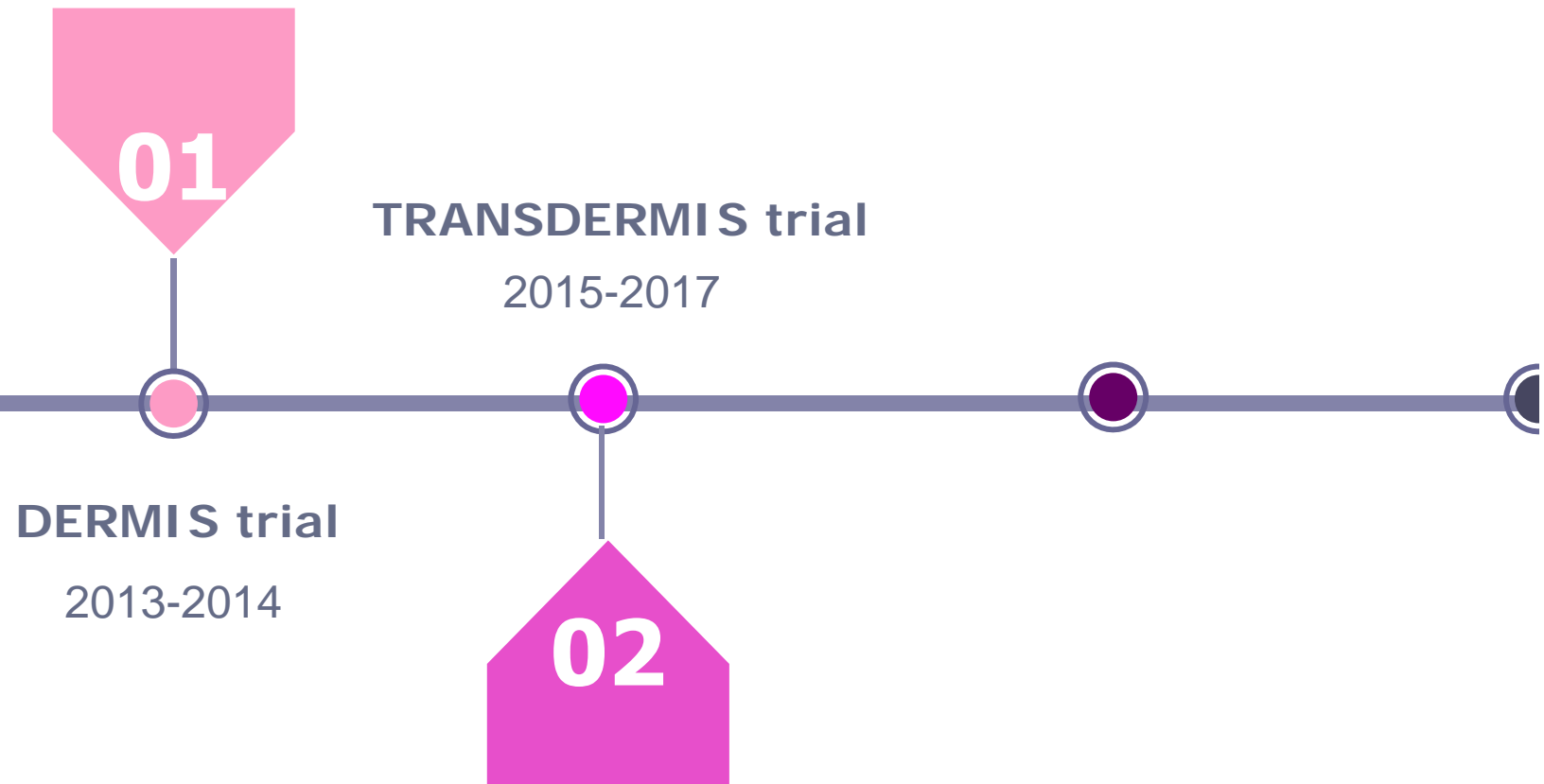
# DERMIS trial: skin assessemnt







# Our own experience





# TRANSDERMIS trial

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## Goal

Investigate the efficacy of PBMT in the **prevention** of ARD in **breast cancer patients** undergoing RT



# TRANSDERMIS trial



## Study design

Prospective, randomized placebo-controlled trial



## Patients

- Breast cancer patients
- Post-lumpectomy
- RT regimen: 25x2Gy (whole breast) + 8x2Gy (boost)
- Jessa Hospital– LOC (Hasselt)

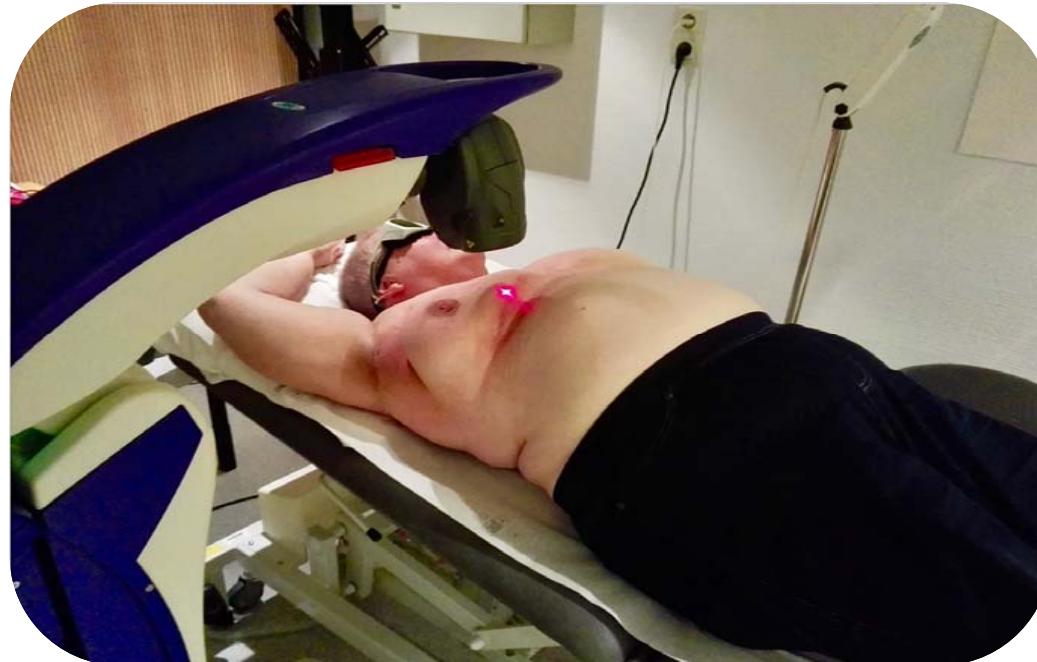


# TRANSDERMIS trial



## PBMT

Same parameters as in the DERMIS trial





# TRANSDERMIS trial



## Study groups

Randomisation based on breast volume (small, medium, large)

Control group	PBMT group
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 60 patients</li><li>• Standard skin care</li><li>• Placebo laser from start RT (2x/week, 14 sessions)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 60 patients</li><li>• Standard skin care</li><li>• <b>PBMT from start RT (2x/week, 14 sessions)</b></li></ul>

## Patient characteristics

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mean age</b></li><li>• <b>Mean breast volume</b></li><li>• <b>Mean percentage chemotherapy patients</b></li><li>• <b>RT energy</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6 MV</li><li>• 6 + 15 MV</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Type boost</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Photons</li><li>• Electrons</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>65 y 25 cm<sup>3</sup> 74% 77% 23% 50% 50%</p>
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# TRANSDERMIS trial

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## Outcome measures

01

Clinical



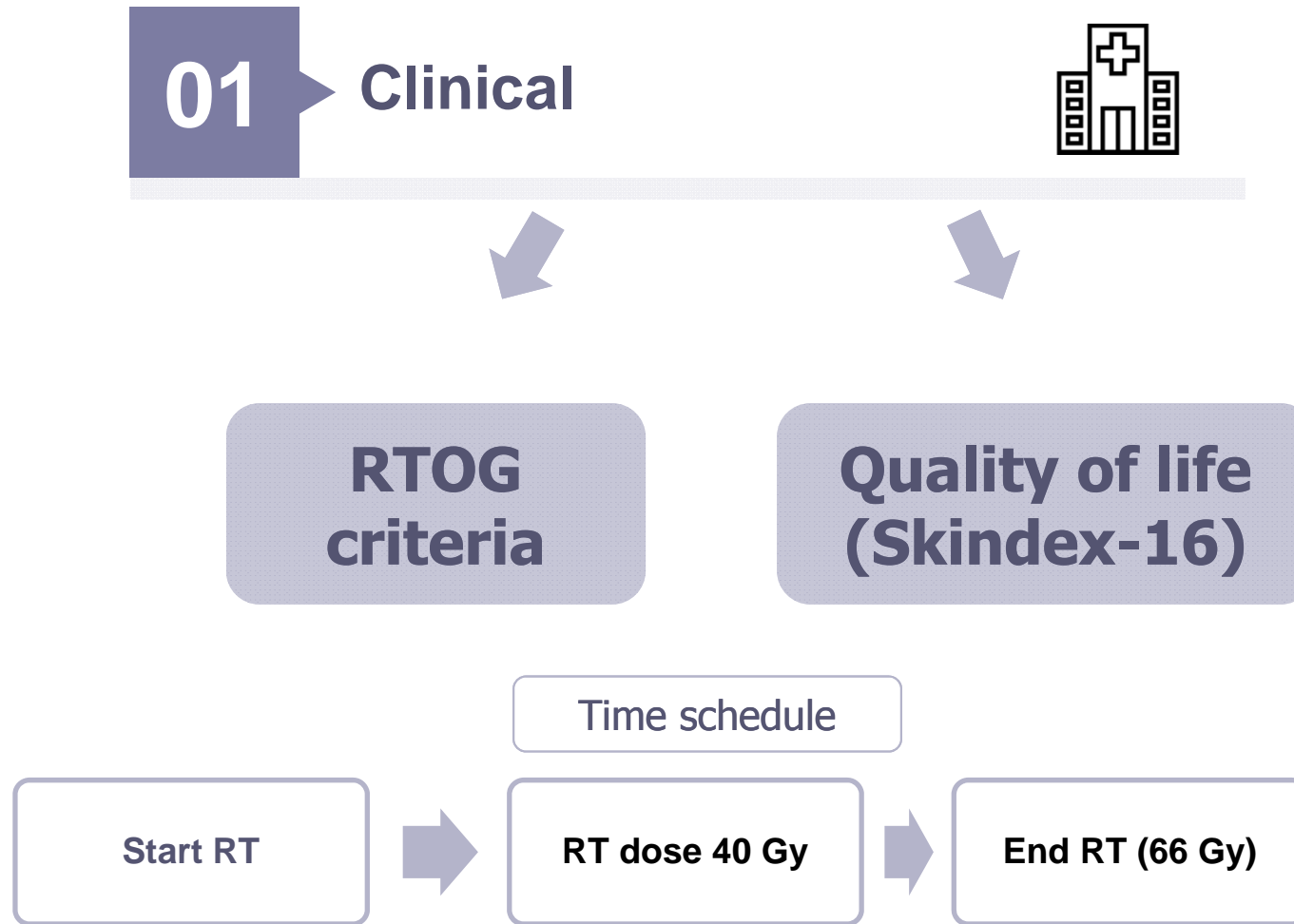
02

Biophysical



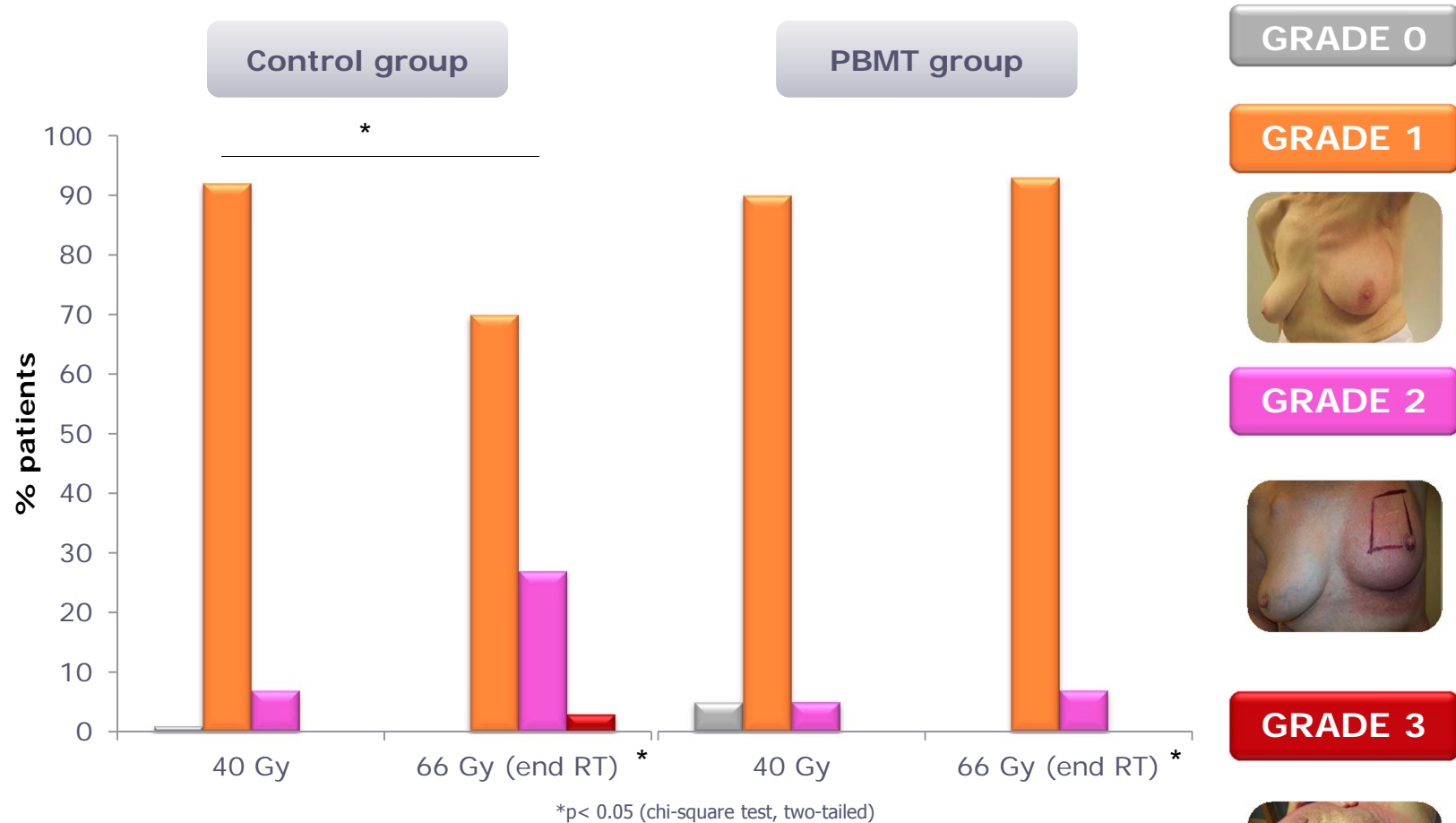


# TRANSDERMIS trial





## TRANSDERMIS trial: Skin assessment



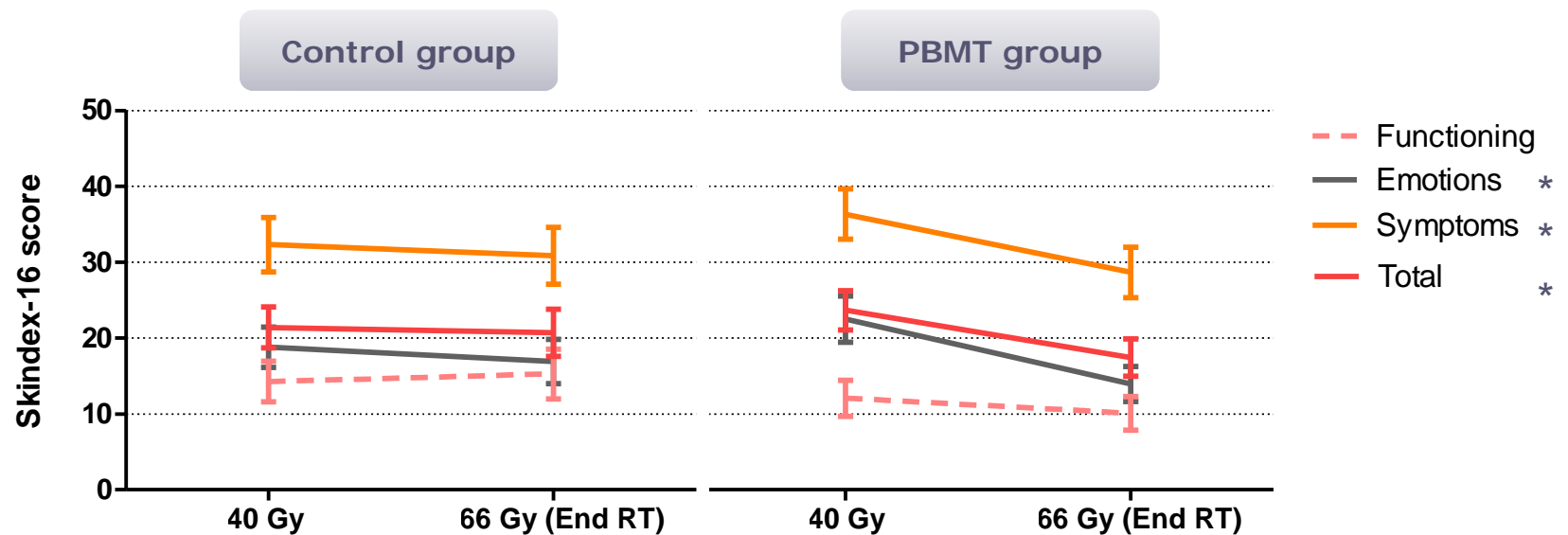
**Significant less patients with  $\geq$  grade 2 acute RD in PBMT group**







## TRANSDERMIS trial: Quality of life



\* Significant main time, group and interaction effect (group x time)  $p < 0.05$ , 2X2 ANOVA

**Significant increase in quality of life in PBMT group**



# TRANSDERMIS trial

02

Biophysical



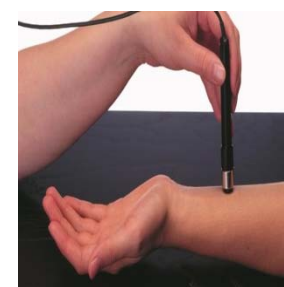
Pigmentation



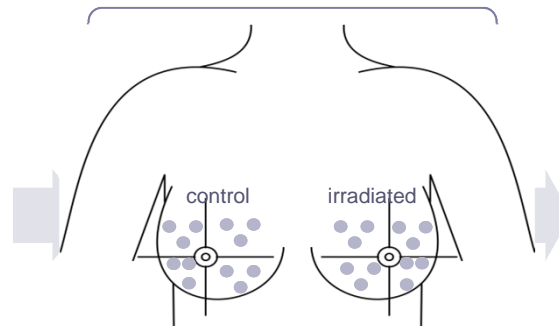
Trans epidermal  
water loss (TEWL)



Hydration



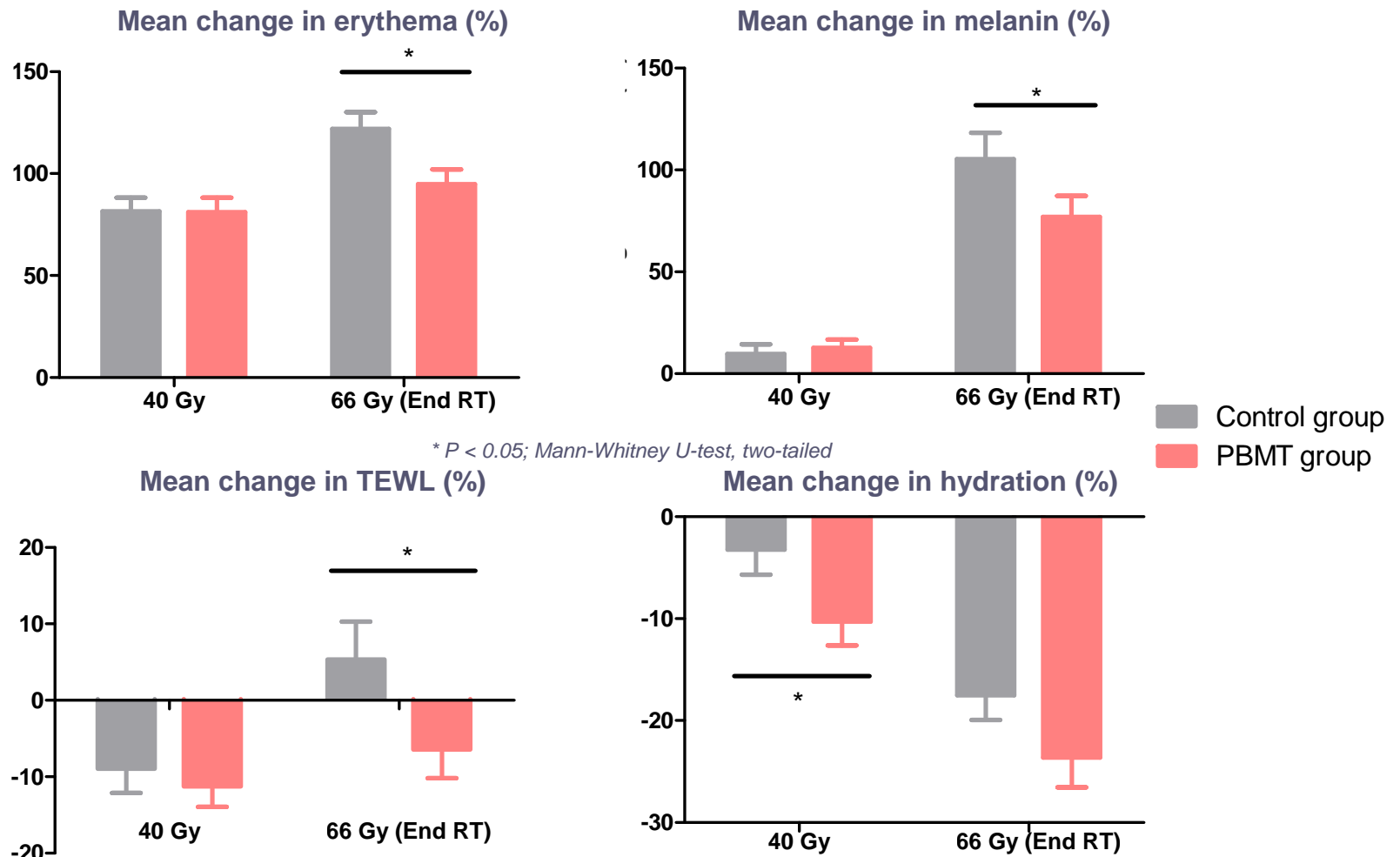
Baseline



End RT (66 Gy)



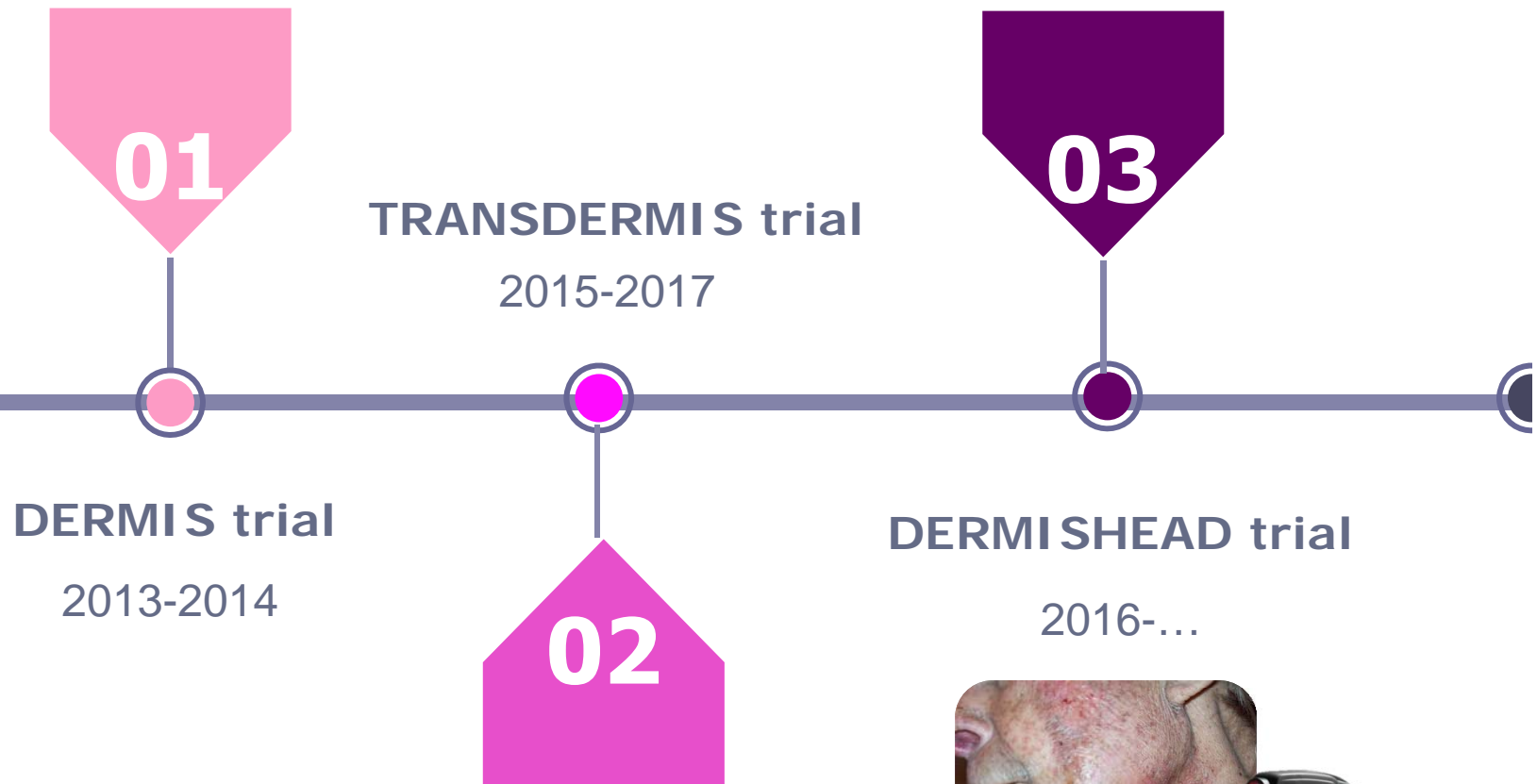
## TRANSDERMIS trial: biophysical measures



**PBMT reduces the degree of pigmentation and improves the skin barrier function**



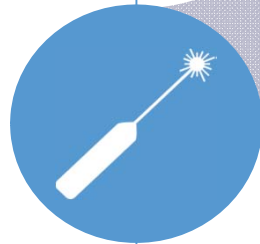
# Our own experience





## Conclusion part 2

PBMT reduces  
incidence of severe  
acute RD



Reduced pain +  
discomfort  
during/after RT

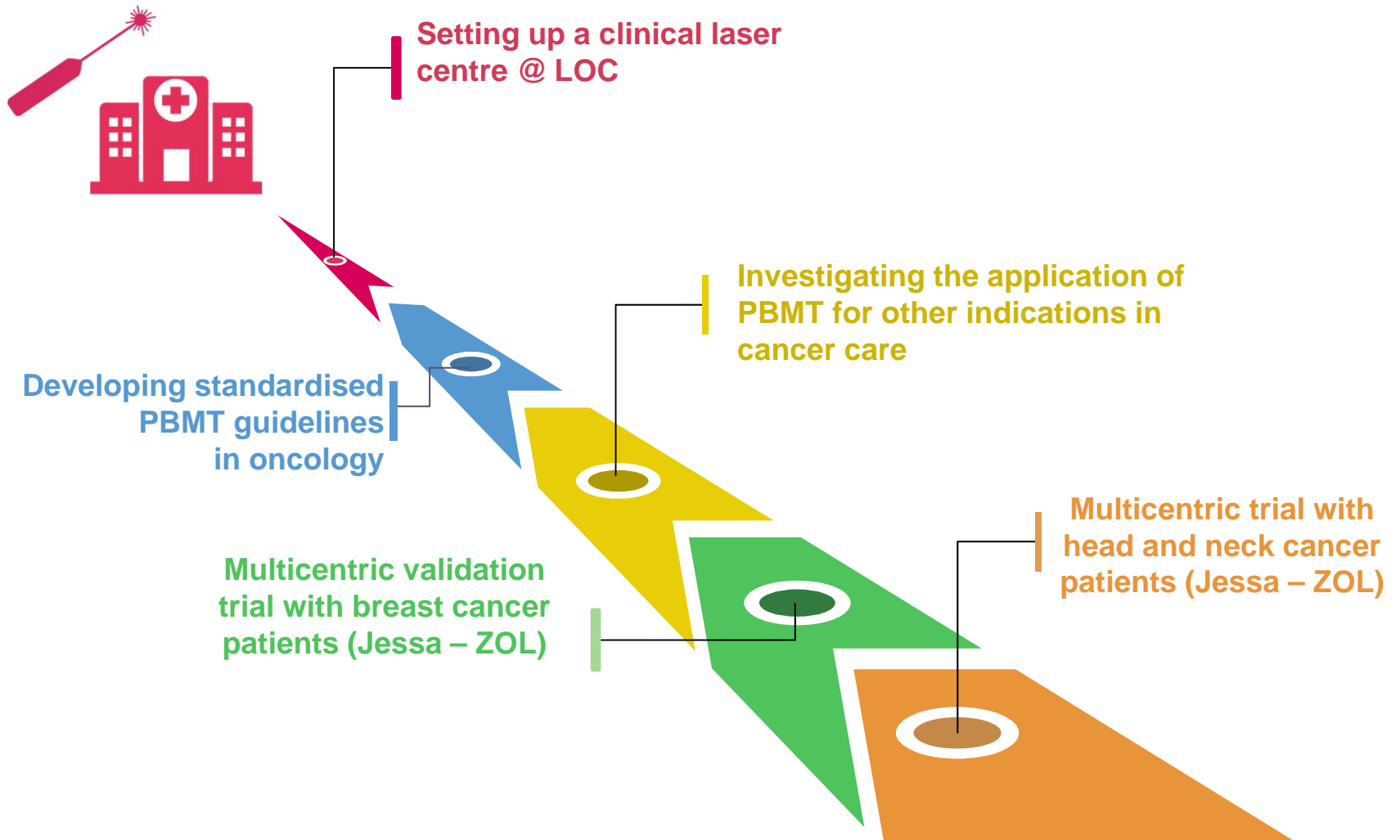
Improved  
patient's quality  
of life



Improved  
patient care






# Future perspective





# Acknowledgments

	<p>Prof. dr. Veerle Somers          Prof. Dr. Ivo Lambrechts          Prof. dr. Niels Hellings          Joy Lodewijckx</p>
 	<p>Dr. Paul Bulens          Dr. Annelies Maes          Dr. Leen Noé          Dr. Marc Brosens          Dr. An Timmermans          dr. Sandrine Censabella          Luc Pannekoeke          Leen Van Bever          Stefan Claes          Hilde Lenders          Sandra Bortels          Ruth Hilkens</p>

*This research is part of the Limburg Clinical Research Program UHasselt-ZOL-Jessa, supported by:*

