

FDG-PET to evaluate preoperative radiochemotherapy of oral cancer

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Abstract

Combination radiochemotherapy has been shown to be effective in controlling squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck. Clinically, FDG PET has been shown to be useful in the evaluation of the therapeutic response. We evaluated the optimal cut-off point to judge tumor cell free from FDG uptake. Thirteen patients with squamous cell carcinoma of the oral region were included in this study. They complete the treatment regimen and underwent FDG PET before and 4 week after radiochemotherapy. Five patients were showed residual viable tumor cell after the treatment, whereas seven patients were successfully treated. The optimal cut-off point with tumor cell free was 3.5, giving a sensitivity of 100 % and a specificity of 63 %.