Comparable Disease-Free Survival and Overall Survival for T1N0 and T2N0 Oral Cavity Cancers who were Treated with Elective Neck Dissection Versus Observation at 3 Years

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Objectives:

To evaluate if elective neck dissection (END) in early stage oral cavity cancer (T1N0 and T2N0) affects disease-free survival (DFS) and overall survival (OS).

Methods:

Two institution retrospective chart review from 2009-2019 of patients who had clinical T1N0 or T2N0 OCC treated primarily with surgery. Clinical negative neck disease (N0) was determined by physical exam and imaging. Overall survival and DFS will be estimated with Kaplan-Meier curves and significance determined by log-rank test.

Results:

Results from preliminary data collected from approximately 180 patients show that there is likely no difference in OS or DFS between the neck dissection and observation groups with both T1N0M0 OCC and T2N0M0 OCC. The data are in the final stages of preparation and will undergo statistical analysis in the near future. Final results will be presented upon completion of statistical analysis.

Conclusions:

There is expected to be no significant difference in DFS and OS for patients at 3 years with T1N0 and T2N0 oral cavity cancer treated with elective ND compared to those who were observed. Final conclusions will be presented after statistical analysis is complete but preliminary data point to this conclusion.