

# Prognosis, Follow-up and Recurrence for Endometrial Cancer

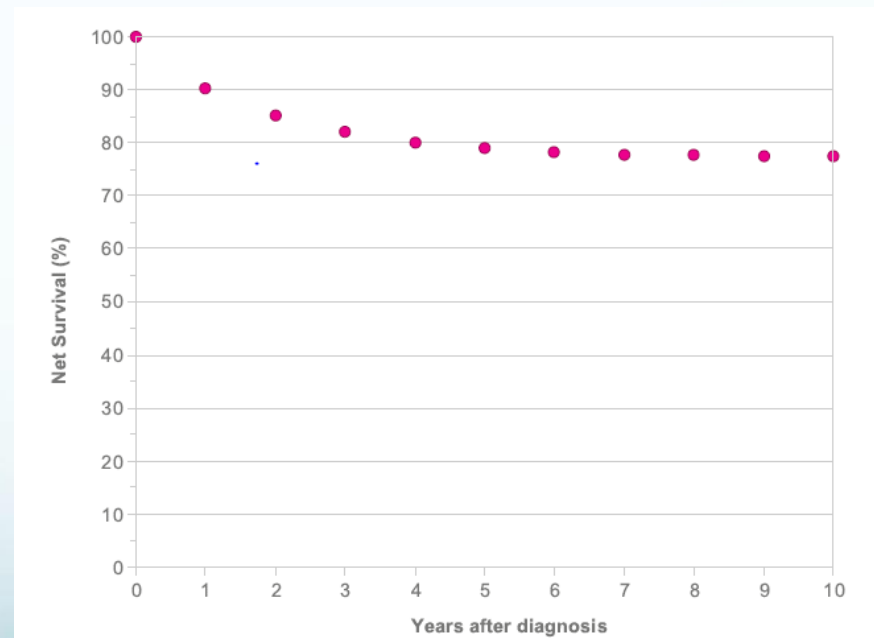
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22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018

# Prognosis

# Prognosis

- Overall 5-year survival is 77% \*

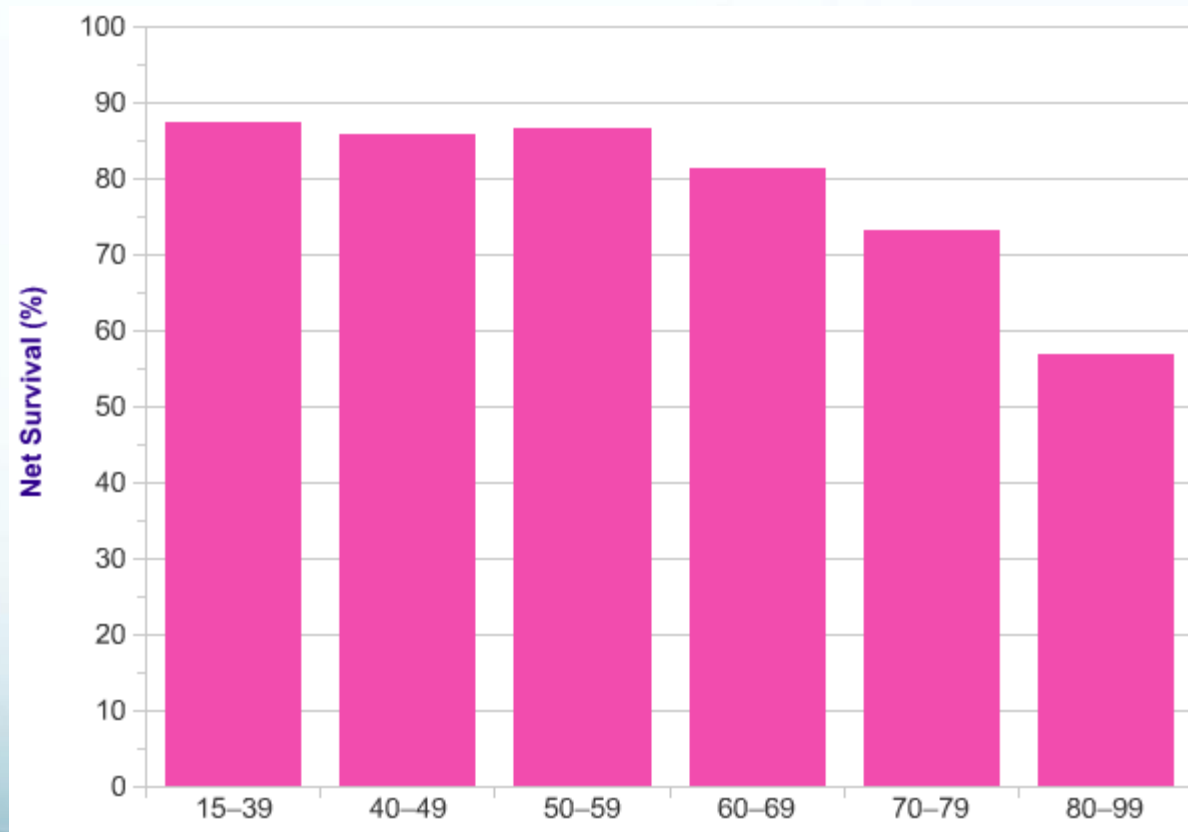
- This depends on:
  - Patient's Age
  - Staging
  - Histological Grading
  - Type of Tumour



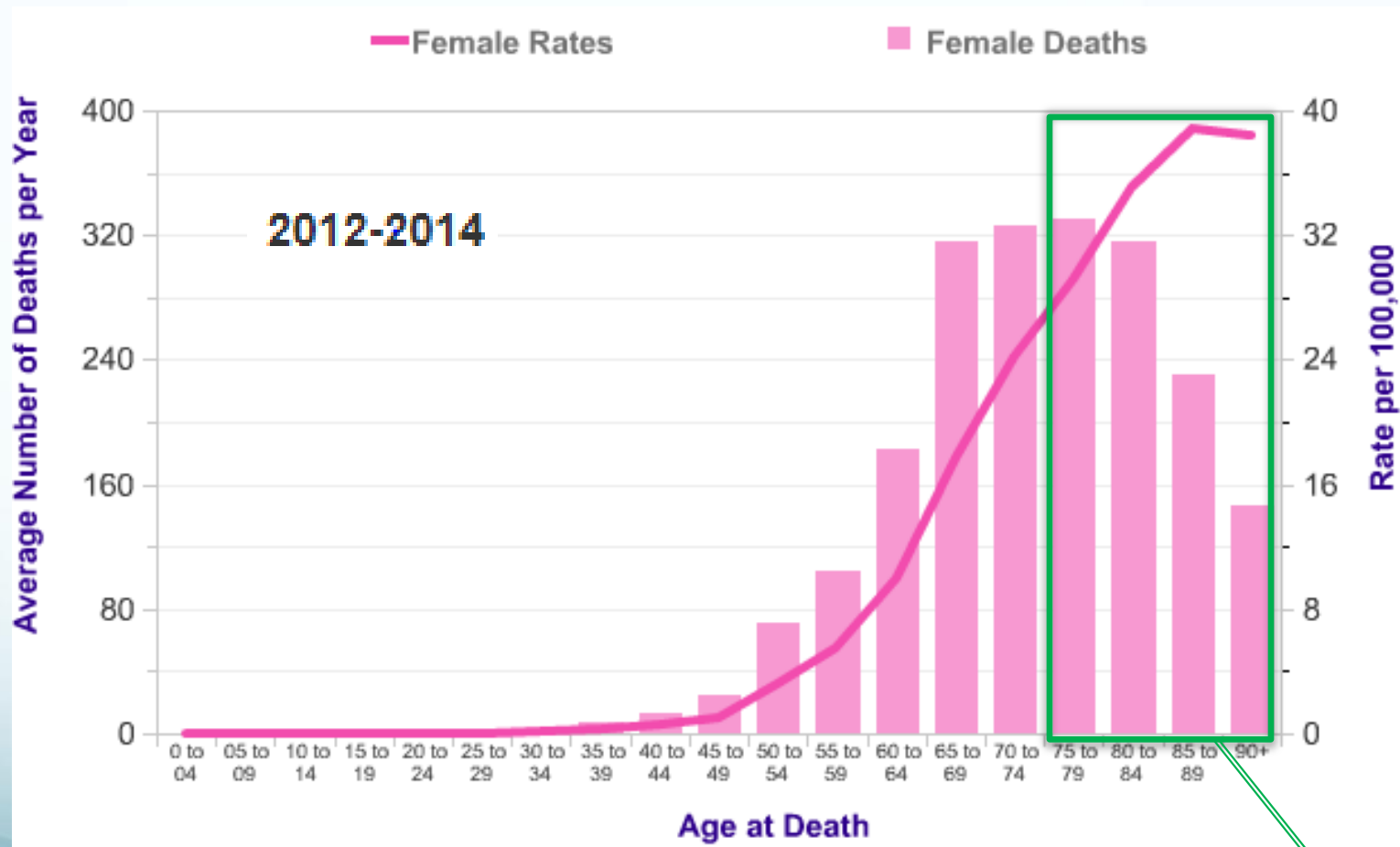
\* Office for National Statistics – Cancer Survival in England: Adults Diagnosed 2010-2014, followed up to 2015 and Adults Diagnosed 2011-2015, followed-up to 2016 (released 29/06/2017)

# Prognosis based on Age

- **Five year survival by Age, England 2009-2013**

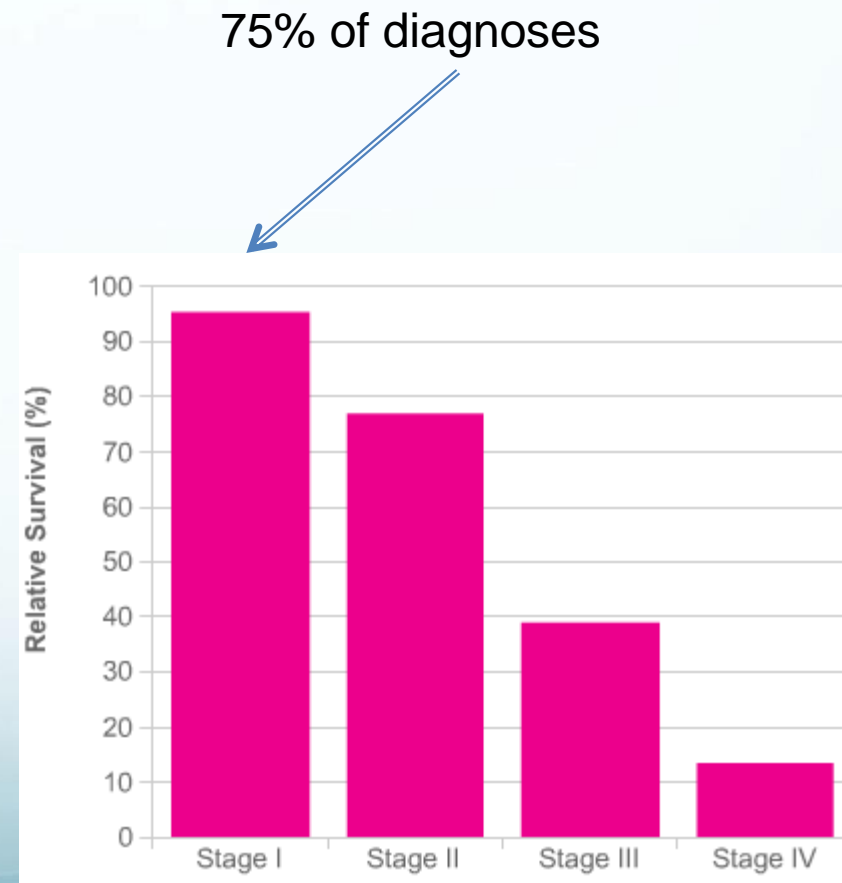


# Mortality by Age



# Prognosis based on Staging

FIGO Stage	5-year survival (%)
I	95
II	77
III	40
IV	15



# Prognosis based on Grading

- Grade = degree of histologic differentiation

Grade	5-year survival (%)
1	94
2	84
3	72

In ♀ with stage I or occult stage II endometrioid adenocarcinoma

# Prognosis base on Type

Tumour Type	Incidence	Oestrogen Dependent	Prognosis
Endometrioid adenocarcinoma	77%	Yes	Good
Serous carcinoma	5%	No	Poor
Clear cell	1-2%	No	Poor
Mixed epithelial and mesenchymal	6%	No	Poor
Leiomyosarcoma	2%	Yes	Poor



# Follow-up

# Follow-up

- **Aim**
  - To detect recurrence and improve patient survival chances
  - To assess morbidity due to treatment
    - eg. sexual dysfunction, psychological distress

# Follow up

- As:
  - most patients with endometrial cancer do well
  - there is no clear evidence that early detection of disease recurrence improves outcomes
- **Debate**
  - frequency of follow-up visits
  - extent of surveillance tests
  - cost-effectiveness

# Literature Review

Gynecologic Oncology 101 (2006) 520–529

## Follow-up after primary therapy for endometrial cancer: A systematic review

Michael Fung-Kee-Fung<sup>a,\*</sup>, Jason Dodge<sup>b</sup>, Laurie Elit<sup>c</sup>, Himu Lukka<sup>c</sup>,  
Alex Chambers<sup>d</sup>, Tom Oliver<sup>d</sup>

On behalf of the Cancer Care Ontario Program in Evidence-based Care Gynecology  
Cancer Disease Site Group

2955 patients

<sup>a</sup> Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre, Ontario, Canada

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### Abstract

*Objective.* To determine the optimum follow-up of women who are clinically disease-free following potentially curative treatment for endometrial cancer.

*Methods.* A systematic search of MEDLINE, EMBASE and the Cochrane Library databases (1980 to October 2005) was conducted. Data were pooled across trials to determine overall estimates of recurrence patterns.

*Results.* Sixteen non-comparative retrospective studies were identified. The overall risk of recurrence was 13% for all patients and 3% or less for patients at low risk. Approximately 70% of all recurrences were symptomatic, and 68% to 100% of recurrences occurred within approximately the first 3 years of follow-up. No reliable differences in survival were detected between patients with symptomatic or asymptomatic recurrences nor were differences in patient outcomes reported by type of follow-up strategy employed. Detection of asymptomatic recurrences ranged from 5% to 33% of patients with physical examination, 0% to 4% with vaginal vault cytology, 0% to 14% with chest X-ray, 4% to 13% with abdominal ultrasound, 5% to 21% with abdominal/pelvic CT scan, and 15% in selected patients with CA 125.

*Conclusions.* There is limited evidence to inform whether intensive follow-up schedules with multiple routine diagnostic interventions result in survival benefits any more or less than non-intensive follow-up schedules without multiple routine diagnostic interventions. Routine testing seems to be of limited benefit for patients at low risk of disease. Most recurrences tend to occur in high risk patients within 3 years, and most recurrences involve symptoms. The most appropriate follow-up strategy is likely one based upon the risk of recurrence and the natural history of the disease. Counseling on the potential symptoms of recurrence is extremely important because the majority of patients with recurrences were symptomatic. A proposed routine follow-up schedule is offered.

# Results – systematic review

## **Recurrences**

- Overall 13%
- 70% symptomatic
- 61% involved distant metastasis – poor prognosis
- 68-100% occurred within 3 years

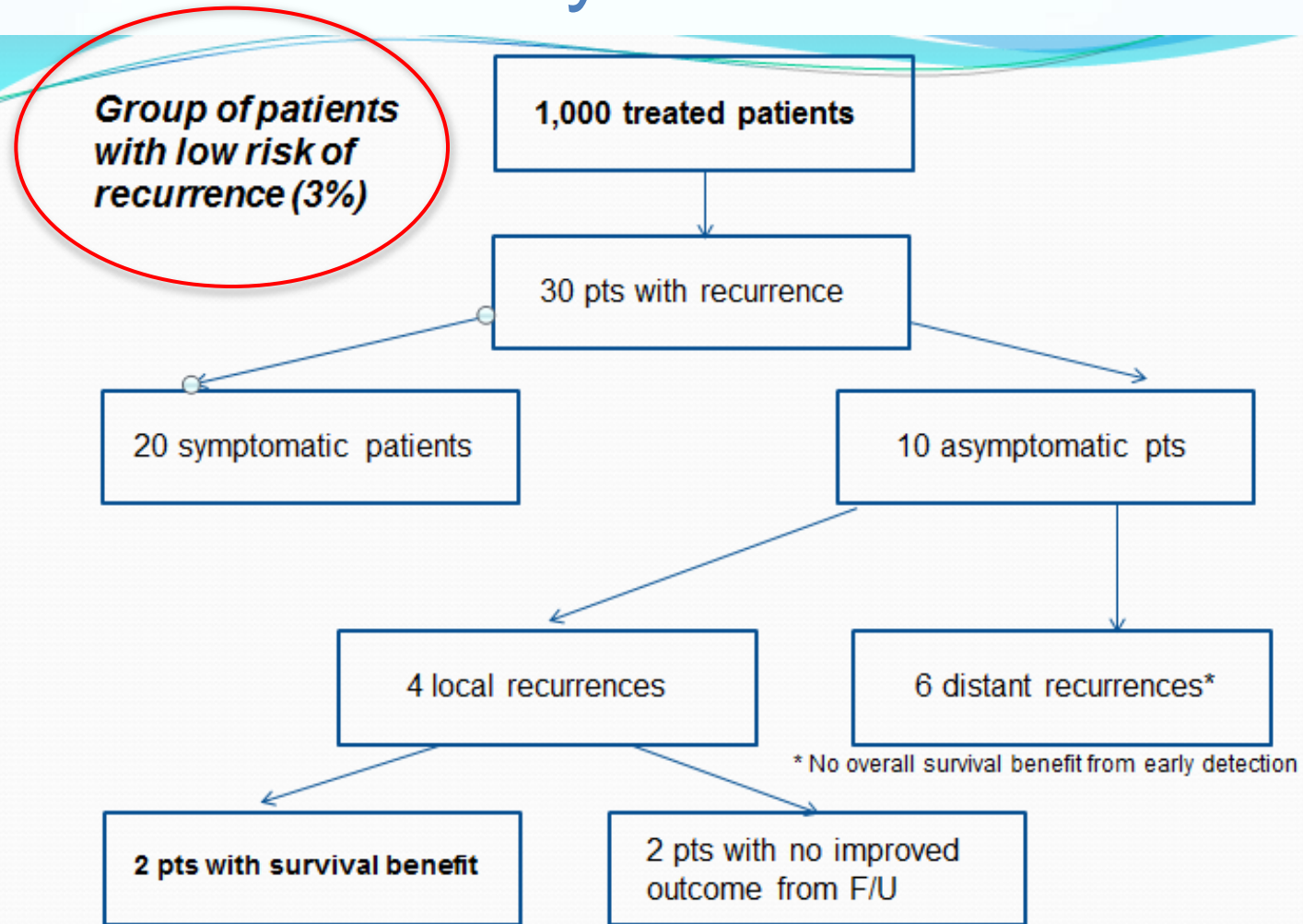
## **Detection of asymptomatic disease**

- On physical examination: 5-33%

## **Survival rate**

- Same between symptomatic and asymptomatic patients
- Same with different F/U strategies

# Results – systematic review



High risk of recurrence (13%) group: 7 patients would benefit from F/U

# Conclusions – systematic review

- Limited evidence for intensive F/U schedule
- Recurrences occurred mainly:
  - in high risk patients
  - within 3 years
  - involved symptoms
- Therefore F/U should be based on risk of recurrence
- Counselling on the potential symptoms of recurrence essential

# Role of hospital follow-up - studies

Int J Gynecol Cancer. 2010 Nov;20(8):1307-20.

## **The value of gynecologic cancer follow-up: evidence-based ignorance?**

Lajer H, Jensen MB, Kilsmark J, Albæk J, Svane D, Mirza MR, Geertsen PF, Reerman D, Hansen K, Milner MC, Mogensen O.

Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Copenhagen University Hospital Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen, Denmark. lajer@dadlnet.dk

Int J Gynecol Cancer. 2014 Mar;24(3):556-63. doi: 10.1097/IGC.000000000000088.

## **Why routine clinical follow-up for patients with early stage endometrial cancer is not always necessary: a study on women in South Wales.**

Aunq L<sup>1</sup>, Howells RE, Lim KC, Hudson E, Jones PW.

Cancer Nurs. 2015 May-Jun;38(3):232-8. doi: 10.1097/NCC.0000000000000177.

## **Nurse-Led Telephone Follow-up: Improving Options for Women With Endometrial Cancer.**

Smits A<sup>1</sup>, Lopes A, Das N, Bekkers R, Kent E, McCullough Z, Galaal K.



# Role of hospital follow-up - studies



**BJOG**

An International Journal of  
Obstetrics and Gynaecology

DOI: 10.1111/1471-0528.14000

[www.bjog.org](http://www.bjog.org)

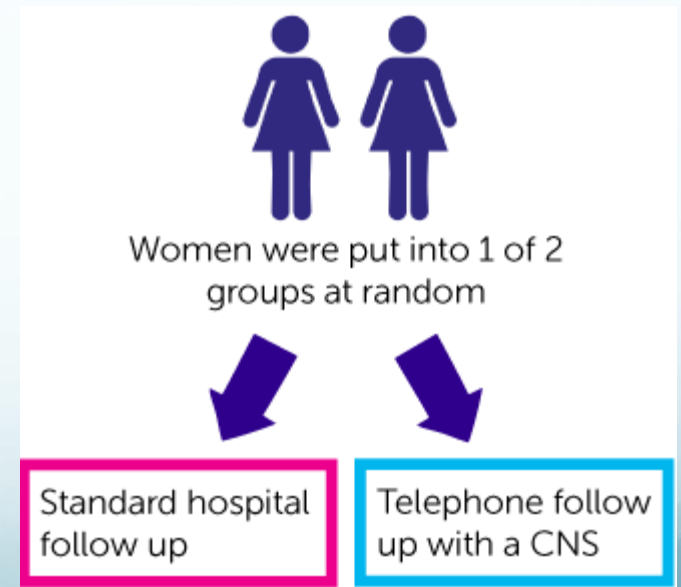
Gynaecological oncology

## Comparing hospital and telephone follow-up for patients treated for stage-I endometrial cancer (ENDCAT trial): a randomised, multicentre, non-inferiority trial

K Beaver,<sup>a</sup> S Williamson,<sup>a</sup> C Sutton,<sup>b</sup> W Hollingworth,<sup>c</sup> A Gardner,<sup>d</sup> B Allton,<sup>e</sup> M Abdel-Aty,<sup>f</sup>  
K Blackwood,<sup>g</sup> S Burns,<sup>g</sup> D Curwen,<sup>h</sup> R Ghani,<sup>e</sup> P Keating,<sup>i</sup> S Murray,<sup>i</sup> A Tomlinson,<sup>j</sup> B Walker,<sup>f</sup>  
M Willett,<sup>f</sup> N Wood,<sup>i</sup> P Martin-Hirsch<sup>i</sup>

# ENDCAT study

- Published in 2016
- Five hospitals in North West England
- Patients randomised:
  - Standard hospital follow-up
  - Telephone F/U with a CNS
  - 130 women in each group



# ENDCAT study

- Five recurrences in both groups and similar time to diagnosis
- Patients found telephone F/U more convenient
- Quality of life and satisfaction scores were high in both groups
- Conclusion: telephone F/U by CNS is effective and can be used instead of hospital F/U in patients at low risk of recurrence

# Prevention of recurrence

# Cochrane Review 2012



**Cochrane**  
**Library**

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

**Laparoscopy versus laparotomy for the management of early stage endometrial cancer (Review)**

Galaal K, Bryant A, Fisher AD, Al-Khaduri M, Kew F, Lopes AD

# Laparoscopic Treatment

- All RCTs comparing laparoscopy vs. laparotomy for early stage endometrial cancer (up to Apr 2012)
- Eight trials (3644 women)
- Conclusions:
  - For early stage endometrial cancer, laparoscopy is associated with similar overall and disease-free survival
  - Laparoscopy is associated with reduced operative morbidity and hospital stay
  - No difference in severe post-op morbidity (death, blood transfusion, bladder/ureteric/bowel/vascular injury)

# Cochrane Review 2017



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Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

**Lymphadenectomy for the management of endometrial cancer (Review)**

Frost JA, Webster KE, Bryant A, Morrison J

# Lymphadenectomy

- All RCT comparing lymphadenectomy vs. no lymphadenectomy in women diagnosed with endometrial cancer (up to March 2017)
- Two trials (1945 women)
- Conclusion:
  - No evidence that lymphadenectomy decreases the risk of death or disease recurrence in women with presumed stage I disease
  - Lymphadenectomy group had higher serious adverse events (surgically related morbidity and lymphoedema)



# Cochrane Review 2012



**Cochrane**  
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Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

## **Adjuvant radiotherapy for stage I endometrial cancer (Review)**

Kong A, Johnson N, Kitchener HC, Lawrie TA

# Adjuvant Radiotherapy

- All RCT comparing post-op adjuvant radiotherapy (both pelvic external beam radiotherapy and vaginal intracavity brachytherapy) vs. no radiotherapy (up to Jan 2012)
- Eight trials (3628 women) included
- Trials included:
  - ASTEC/EN5: EBRT vs. no radiotherapy
  - PORTEC-1
  - PORTEC-2
  - GOG 99
  - Aalders 1980, Soderini 2003, Sorbe 2009, Sorbe 2011

# Adjuvant Radiotherapy

- Conclusions:
  - EBRT\* reduces risk of loco-regional recurrence but has no impact on cancer-related deaths or overall survival
  - EBRT\* is associated with significant morbidity (toxicity, rectal and bladder dysfunction) and reduction in quality of life
  - EBRT\* may have an adverse effect on endometrial cancer survival in uncomplicated low-risk group
  - VBT\*\* alone appears adequate in ensuring vaginal control for the intermediate-high risk group

# Cochrane Review 2011



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Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

## **Adjuvant progestagens for endometrial cancer (Review)**

Martin-Hirsch PPL, Bryant A, Keep SL, Kitchener HC, Lilford R

# Adjuvant Progestagens

- All RCT of progestagen therapy in women who have had surgery for endometrial cancer (up to April 2009)
- Seven trials (4556 women)
- Conclusion:
  - No evidence to support the use of adjuvant progestagen therapy following primary surgery to reduce the risk of recurrence

# Cochrane Review 2011



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**Library**

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

## **Adjuvant chemotherapy for endometrial cancer after hysterectomy (Review)**

Johnson N, Bryant A, Miles T, Hogberg T, Cornes P

# Adjuvant Chemo

- All RCTs comparing adjuvant chemotherapy with any other adjuvant treatment or no other treatment (up to Aug 2010)
- Five trials (2197 women treated surgically with *curative intent*)
- Conclusion:
  - Post-op platinum-based chemotherapy offers a small benefit in progression-free survival and overall survival irrespective of radiotherapy
  - It reduces the risk of developing metastases

# Cochrane Review 2014



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**Library**

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

## **Adjuvant chemotherapy for advanced endometrial cancer (Review)**

Galaal K, Al Moundhri M, Bryant A, Lopes AD, Lawrie TA



# Adjuvant Chemo

- All RCTs of adjuvant chemotherapy vs. radiotherapy or vs. chemo-radiation in women with FIGO stage III and IV endometrial cancer (up to Nov 2013)
- Four trials (1269 women)
- Conclusion:
  - Moderate evidence that chemotherapy increases survival time after primary surgery by 25% compared to radiotherapy in stage III and IV endometrial cancer
  - It may be associated with more adverse effects

# Prevention of Recurrence

- **Offer advantages**
  - Laparoscopic treatment
  - Vaginal brachytherapy for intermediate-high risk groups only
  - Platinum-based chemotherapy for stage III and IV
- **No advantages**
  - Lymphadenectomy in early stage disease
  - External beam radiation of pelvis for stage I disease
- **No evidence**
  - Adjuvant progestagens

# Recurrence

# Recurrence

## How they present

*70 % symptomatic*

vaginal bleeding and pelvic pain

O/E: mass at vaginal vault

## When they occur

34% within 1 year

76% within 3 years

10% after 5 years

# Recurrence

## Where they occur

*Local recurrence: 50%*

Distant metastases: 29%

Simultaneous local and distant metastases: 21%

NB: these patients have an ↑ risk of developing cancer of the ovary, colon and breast

# Recurrence - Investigation

To diagnose lesion & detect associated metastatic foci

- CXR
- CT
- MRI
- FNA cytologic testing of suspicious nodules
- Serum CA-125:
  - usually elevated in patients with intra-peritoneal recurrence

# Recurrence - Management

## Isolated vaginal metastases:

- most amenable to therapy with curative intent  
[75% PORTEC trial]
- Surgery: isolated lesions  
surgical debulking / exenteration
- *Radiotherapy*:  
local recurrence if not previously irradiated

# Survival After Relapse



# Survival after relapse

PRESS

Gynecologic Oncology 89 (2003) 201–209

[www.elsevier.com/locate/ygyno](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ygyno)

## Survival after relapse in patients with endometrial cancer: results from a randomized trial☆

Carien L. Creutzberg, M.D.,<sup>a,\*</sup> Wim L.J. van Putten, M.Sc.,<sup>b</sup> Peter C. Koper, M.D.,<sup>a</sup>  
Marnix L.M. Lybeert, M.D.,<sup>c</sup> Jan J. Jobsen, M.D.,<sup>d</sup> Carla C. Wárlám-Rodenhuis, M.D.,<sup>e</sup>  
Karin A.J. De Winter, M.D.,<sup>f</sup> Ludy C.H.W. Lutgens, M.D.,<sup>g</sup>  
Alfons C.M. van den Bergh, M.D.,<sup>h</sup> Elzbieta van der Steen-Banasik, M.D.,<sup>i</sup>  
Henk Beerman, M.D.,<sup>j</sup> and Mat van Lent, M.D.,<sup>k</sup> for the PORTEC Study Group

<sup>a</sup> *Department of Radiation Oncology, Erasmus MC-Daniel den Hoed Cancer Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands*

Relapse in patients with stage I endometrial cancer

# Survival after relapse

- Survival after relapse was better in the patient group without previous radiotherapy treatment

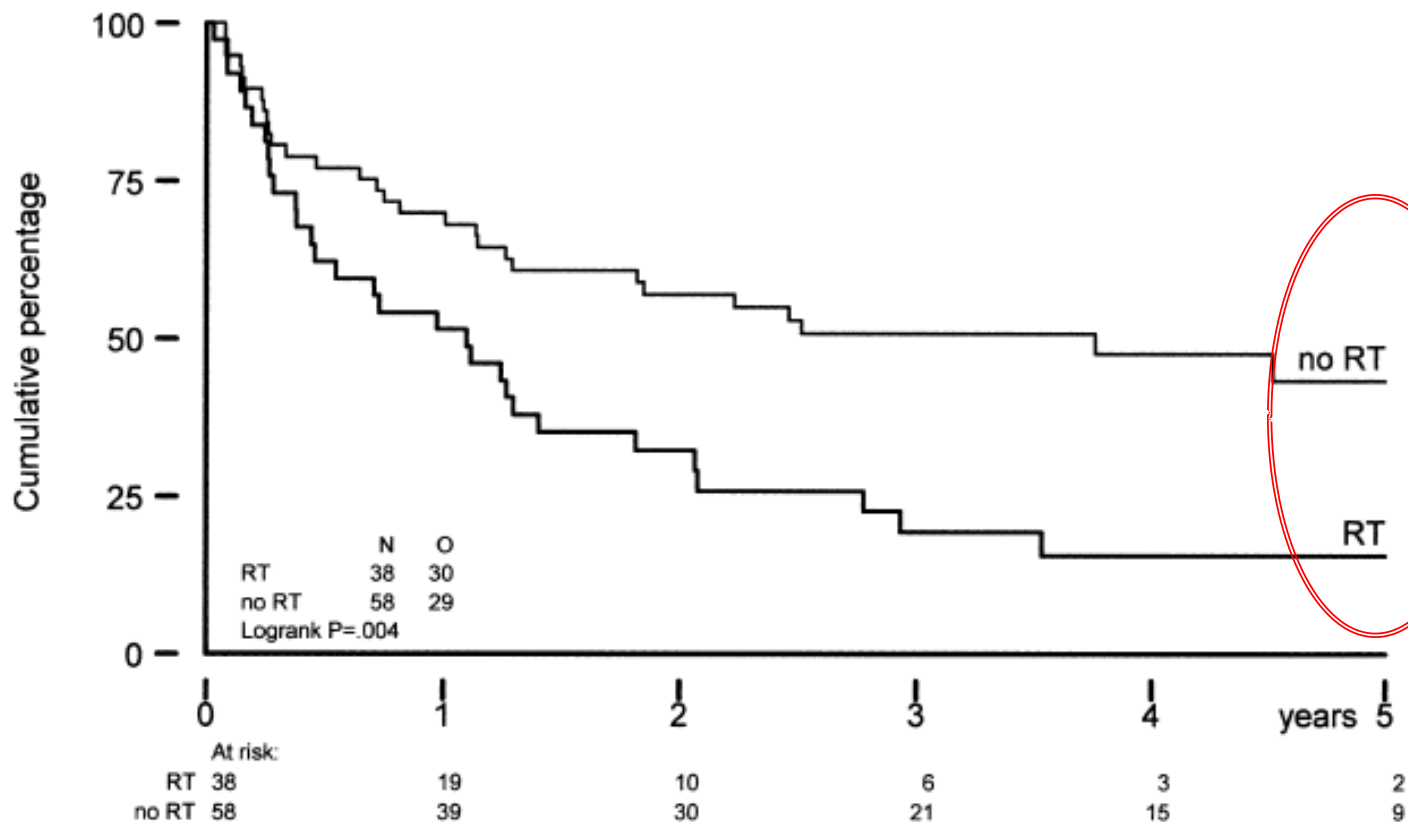
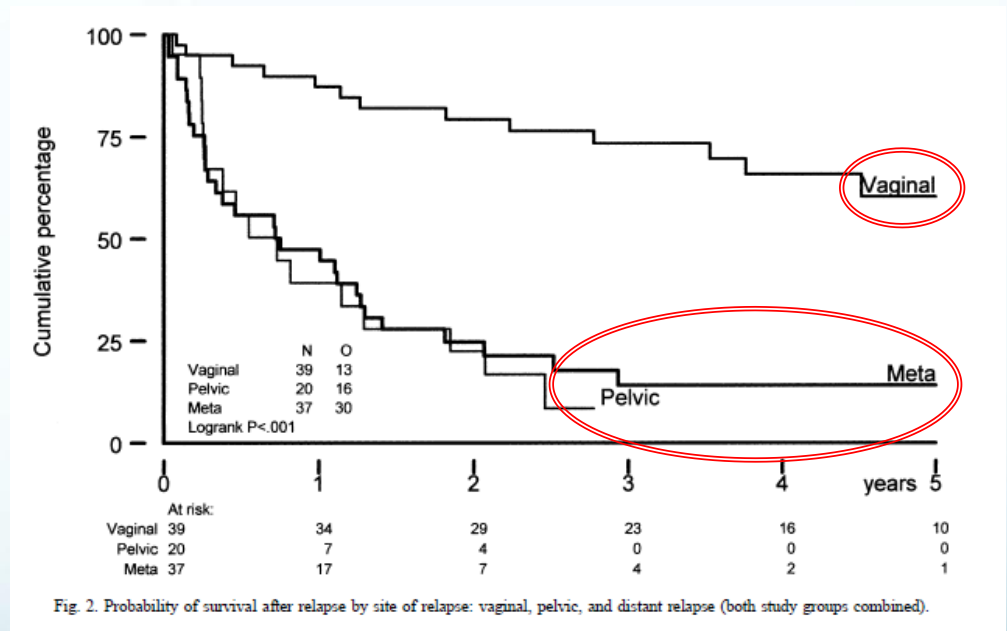


Fig. 1. Probability of survival after first relapse for patients assigned to postoperative radiotherapy (RT) or no further treatment (no RT).

# Survival after relapse

- Treatment for vaginal relapse was effective (radiotherapy or surgery):
  - 89% complete remission
  - 65% 5-year survival
- No difference in survival in patients with pelvic relapse or distant metastases
  - Therefore pelvic radiotherapy improved local control but not survival



# Cochrane Review 2012



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Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

## **Chemotherapy for advanced, recurrent or metastatic endometrial carcinoma (Review)**

Vale CL, Tierney J, Bull SJ, Symonds PR

# Chemotherapy

- All RCTs comparing chemotherapy vs. another intervention in advance disease (up to Jan 2012)
- Fourteen trails (1519 women)
- Conclusion:
  - More intense chemotherapy may improve overall survival and progression-free survival for women with advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer
  - The optimum regime is still to be found

# Cochrane Review 2010



**Cochrane**  
**Library**

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

## **Hormonal therapy in advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer (Review)**

Kokka F, Brockbank E, Oram D, Gallagher C, Bryant A

# Hormonal Treatment

- All RCTs that studies hormonal therapy in adult women diagnosed with advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer (up to May2009)
- Six trials (542 women)
- Conclusion:
  - Insufficient evidence that hormonal treatment in any form, dose or part of combination therapy improves survival of patients with advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer

# Conclusion



# Conclusion

- Survival good
- Recurrence:
  - usually in first 3 years
  - symptomatic in 70% of cases
  - 50% at vaginal cuff = potentially curable
- Recurrence Treatment:
  - Radiotherapy = first line
  - Chemo = palliative

# Conclusion

- F/U
  - Questions remain as to who should carry this out
    - ? Hospital, nurse, telephone, GP
  - Follow-up recommended for at least 2 years
  - Patients should be educated about possible symptoms of recurrence