

AbstractID:9537 Title: Feasibility of using daily cone-beam-CT to determine dose-surface histogram of oral mucosa in radiotherapy of H&N cancer

Purpose: To develop a novel approach for estimating the oral mucosa dose-surface histogram (DSH) to facilitate assessment of radiation-induced mucositis from radiotherapy of head and neck (H&N) cancer. **Method and Materials:** Mucositis, Xerostomia, and dental caries are common complications from radiotherapy. We hypothesized that a novel method for determining dose distribution to oral mucosa and parotid glands would be a more reliable predictor of these dose-limiting effects. Dose-related morbidity of oral tongue and mouth, we used daily CBCT to delineate the oral cavity and the gum, which were then expanded by 1 mm. The shell of the expanded 1-mm should represent the mucosal layer. A dose-surface histogram (DSH) was then calculated from the difference between the DVHs for the oral cavity from the 1-mm expansion. In addition, the daily CBCT would also allow us to calculate the DVHs to the parotid gland and the thyroid gland and be placed and shrunk during the course of treatment. **Results:** We have successfully applied this method to two patients currently receiving IMRT for H&N cancer. The absolute oral mucosal surface area receiving a high dose (>80% of prescription dose) is significantly different from the volume with thin oral cavity. **Conclusion:** DSH for oral mucosa is achievable using daily CBCT images. The dose distribution to the mucosa may provide a more robust predictor of radiation-induced mucositis and Xerostomia.