

Supplement

Table S1. Additional patient characteristics and p-values for the correlation between the D95 > 95% requirement in PTV70 and occurrence of local recurrence for a given calculation mode (AXB_m, AXB_{m,FFF}, AXB_w or AXB_{w,FFF})

Patient	Age	Sex	Site	T stage	N stage	D95 > 66.5 Gy with AXB _m (p = 0.117)	D95 > 66.5 Gy with AXB _w (p = 0.211)	D95 > 66.5 Gy with AXB _{m,FFF} (p = 0.53)	D95 > 66.5 Gy with AXB _{w,FFF} (p = 0.178)	Time of occurrence of recurrence since completion of treatment (months)
1	60	M	Larynx	T4	4a	NO	YES	NO	NO	2.8
2	66	M	Hypoph	T2	1	YES	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
3	62	M	Larynx	T4	2c	YES	YES	YES	YES	1.3
4	62	M	Larynx	T4	0	YES	YES	YES	YES	No recurrence
5	53	F	Oral	T4	0	YES	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
6	59	M	Larynx	T3	1	NO	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
7	71	M	Nasopha	T1	0	YES	YES	NO	NO	No recurrence
8	66	M	Orophar	T3	0	YES	YES	YES	YES	No recurrence
9	56	M	Larynx	T2	0	YES	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
10	55	M	Hypoph	T3	2	YES	YES	YES	YES	No recurrence
11	60	F	Oral	T4	2b	NO	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
12	78	F	Larynx	T2	2b	NO	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
13	65	M	Nasopha	T4	1	YES	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
14	69	M	Orophar	T4	2	YES	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
15	71	F	Larynx	T3	2c	YES	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
16	52	M	Larynx	T4	2b	NO	YES	NO	NO	No recurrence
17	67	M	Hypoph	T3	0	YES	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
18	70	M	Larynx	T3	0	YES	YES	NO	YES	No recurrence
19	60	M	Larynx	T1	2	NO	NO	NO	NO	No recurrence
20	65	M	Larynx	T4	2c	NO	YES	NO	YES	7.2

Appendix A: Measurement of ion recombination and volume-averaging effects

Two small-volume chambers, namely, the IBA CC013 scanning chamber and the PTW 31021 Semiflex 3D chamber, and the PTW 30013 Farmer-type chamber were used to assess the difference between the corrected and uncorrected PDD(10) in terms of ion recombination efficiency. The corrected PDD(10) was calculated using the relation [33]:

$$\text{PDD}(10)_c = 100 \frac{M_{d10} k_{s,d10}}{M_{dmax} k_{s,dmax}}$$

where $k_{s,dmax}$ and $k_{s,d10}$ are the ion recombination correction factors at the depth of the maximum dose and at 10 cm depth, respectively. The two-voltage technique for both polarities was used to obtain these factors, which is an accurate method for determining the ion recombination correction in FFF beams [48–51]. M_{d10} and M_{dmax} are the raw measurements of the collected charge at 10 cm depth and the depth of the maximum dose, respectively.

The relative error between the uncorrected and the corrected PDD(10)_c was calculated as follows [33]:

$$\Delta_{\% \text{PDD}(10)} = 100 \frac{(\text{PDD}(10)_c - \text{PDD}(10)_u)}{\text{PDD}(10)_c}$$

where PDD(10)_u is the uncorrected value for ion recombination PDD(10), which is typically used to calculate the absolute dosimetry.

In addition, to assess the error in the absolute dosimetry that was due to volume-averaging effects in the unflattened beam, the simplified formalism that was proposed by Sudhyadhom et al. [32] was used to determine the volume-averaging effect correction factor, P_{rp} , according to the following equation:

$$P_{rp} = \left(\text{OAR} \left(\frac{L}{\sqrt{12}} \right) \right)^{-1}$$

where factor P_{rp} accounts for any off-axis variation in the intensity profile of the radiation field over the sensitive volume of the ionization chamber [31], and OAR is the off-axis ratio (along the long axis of the chamber) that is obtained at a distance of $L/\sqrt{12}$ (where L is the nominal chamber length) for the unflattened beam under the calibration conditions. OAR was obtained with a Semiflex 3D PTW 31021 ion chamber, and P_{rp} was calculated for the Farmer-type PTW 30016 ion chamber, which was used to determine the absorbed dose to water in the unflattened beam.

As a result, the relative error in the measurements for the determination of the absorbed dose to water that was due to volume-averaging effects in the unflattened beam was calculated as follows:

$$\Delta_{\%vol} = 100 \times (1 - P_{rp})$$