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International Federation

# Salvage Surgery in Recurrent Oropharyngeal SCC

Ehab Hanna

#### Recurrent SCC of the Oropharynx

- The most common primary treatment of OPC-SCC is CRT or XRT
- When patients fail primary treatment, salvage options are limited.
- Options
  - Salvage surgery
  - Re-irradiation +/- chemo
  - Palliative chemo
  - Supportive care

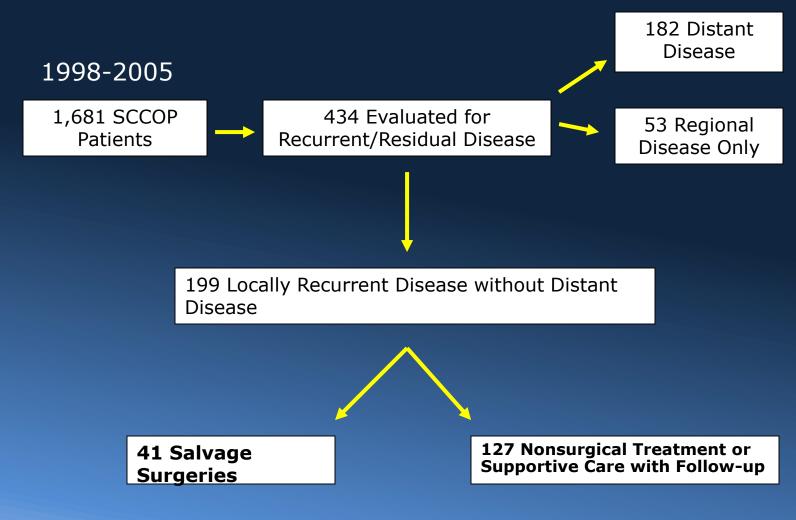


### Objective

- To comprehensively review salvage surgery for SCCOP
  - survival
  - quality of life
  - factors predicting outcome



### Methods





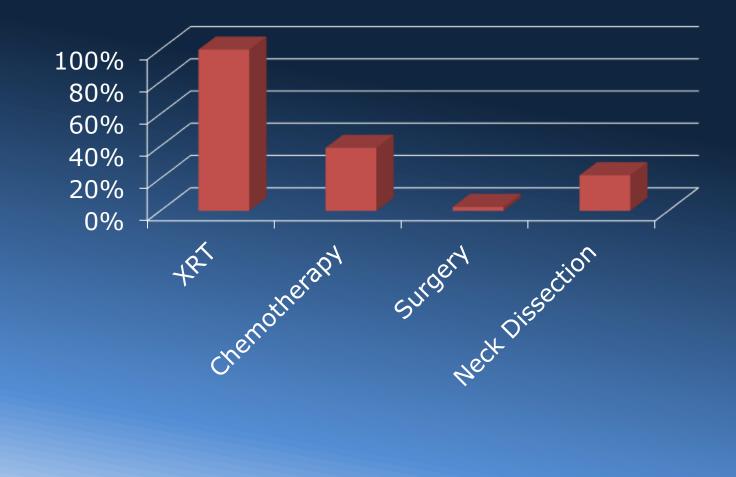
Zafereo M, et al. The Role of Salvage Surgery in Recurrent Oropharyngeal Squamous Cell Carcinoma. Cancer 2012

#### Demographics and Site of tumor



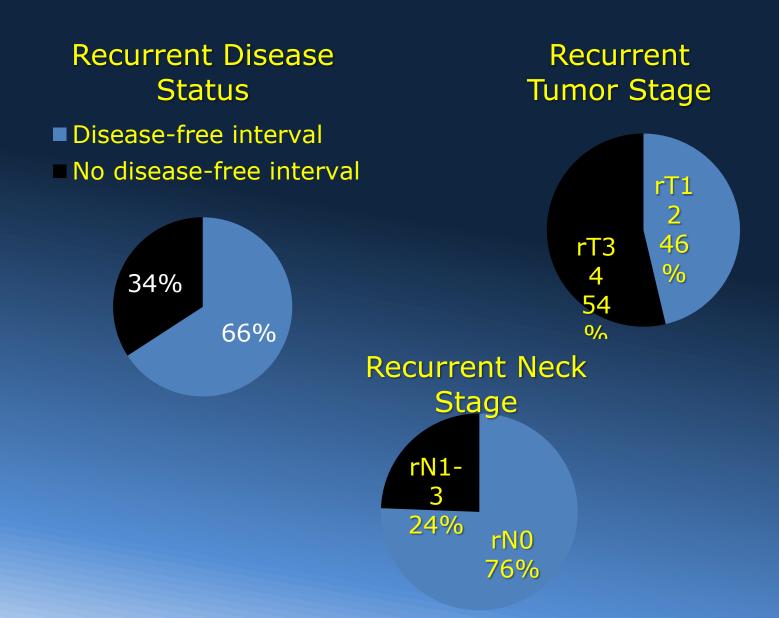


#### Treatment of initial tumor





#### **Recurrent Tumor Characteristics**



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#### Comparison of Salvage Surgery versus Nonsurgical Treatment

- Salvage surgery
   patients more likely
   than nonsurgical
   candidates to have had:
  - Disease-free interval following primary treatment

(P = 0.047)

- Early primary tumor stage (P = 0.015)
- Early recurrent tumor and overall stage (P < 0.001)</li>

- Salvage surgery

   patients less likely
   than nonsurgical
   candidates to have
   had:
  - Surgery for initial tumor (P = 0.021)
    Chemotherapy for initial tumor (P = 0.049)



#### Salvage Oropharyngeal resection

- Composite resection
  - 18 (44%) Segmental mandibulectomies
  - 7 (17%) Total laryngectomies
- Reconstruction
  - 28 (68%) Microvascular free flap reconstructions
  - 5 (12%) Pectoralis myocutaneous flap reconstructions
  - 8 (20%) Primary closure
- Adjuvant treatment
  - 3 (7%) Reirradiation only
  - 12 (29%) Chemotherapy only
  - 2 (5%) Both reirradiation and chemotherapy

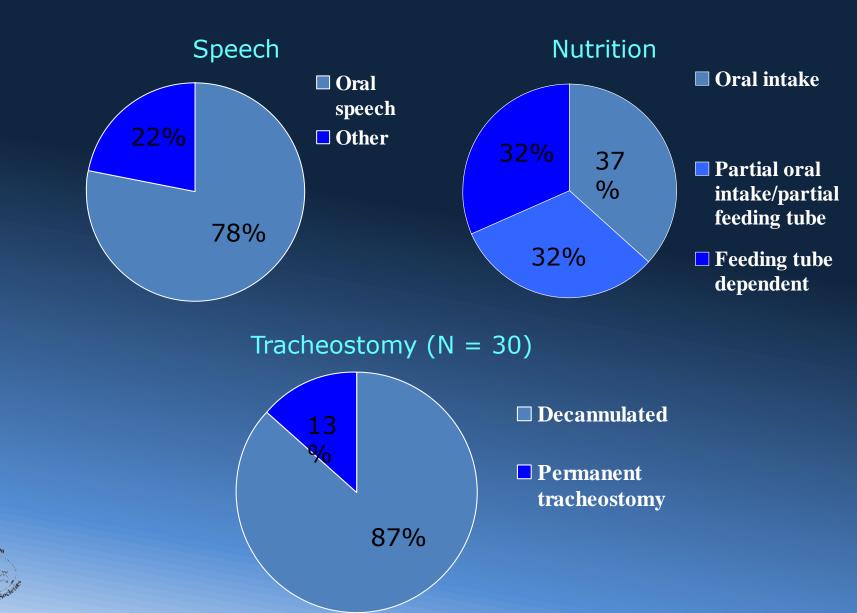


### **Postoperative Course**

- 19 patients (47%) had postoperative complications
  - 7 Surgical Wound Infections
  - 6 Fistulas
  - 5 Donor site complications
  - 4 Postoperative pneumonias
  - 3 Mandibular osteoradionecroses
- No perioperative deaths or postoperative partial or total flap loss
- Average \$82,500 in professional and hospital charges per patient



#### Quality of life

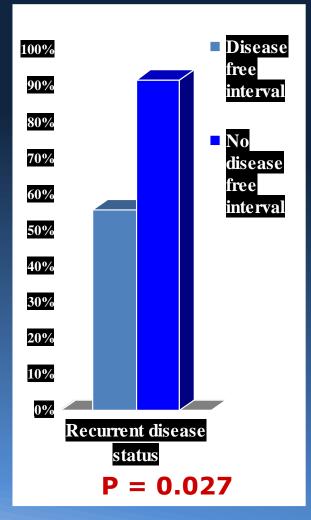


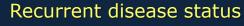
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#### Crude Second Recurrence Rates in Patients Undergoing Surgical Salvage

Total cohort: 26/39 (66.7%) developed second recurrence





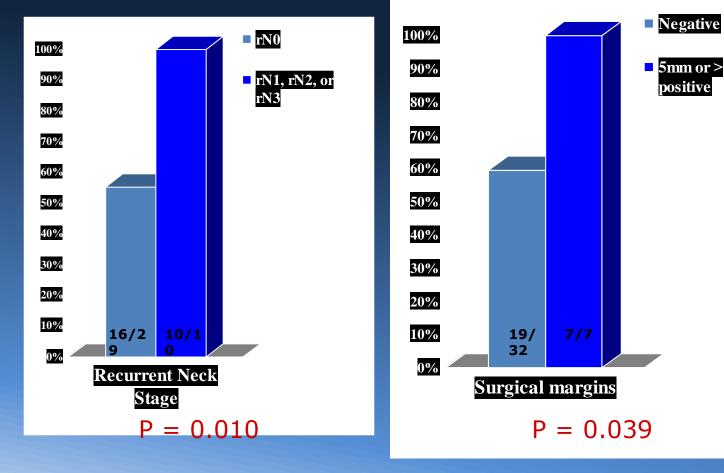


#### Crude Second Recurrence Rates in Patients Undergoing Surgical Salvage

Total cohort: 26/39 (66.7%) developed second recurrence

Recurrent neck stage

Surgical margins





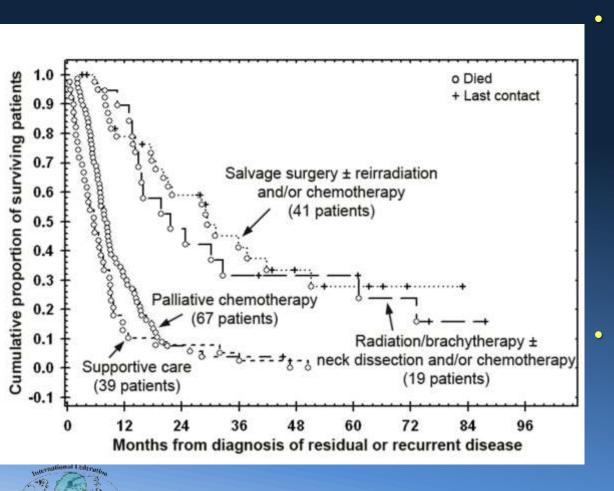
#### Age and Overall Survival for Surgical Salvage Patients

- Mean age of patients (censored at the time of diagnosis of recurrent disease):
  - 50 years for those who were alive at 3 years following salvage surgery
  - 60 years for those who had died at
     3 years following salvage surgery

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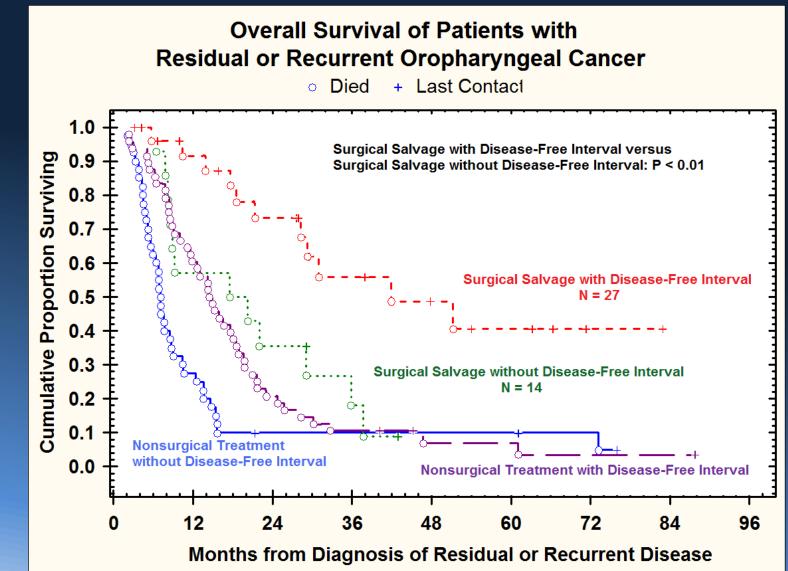
-P = 0.03

# **Overall Survival**



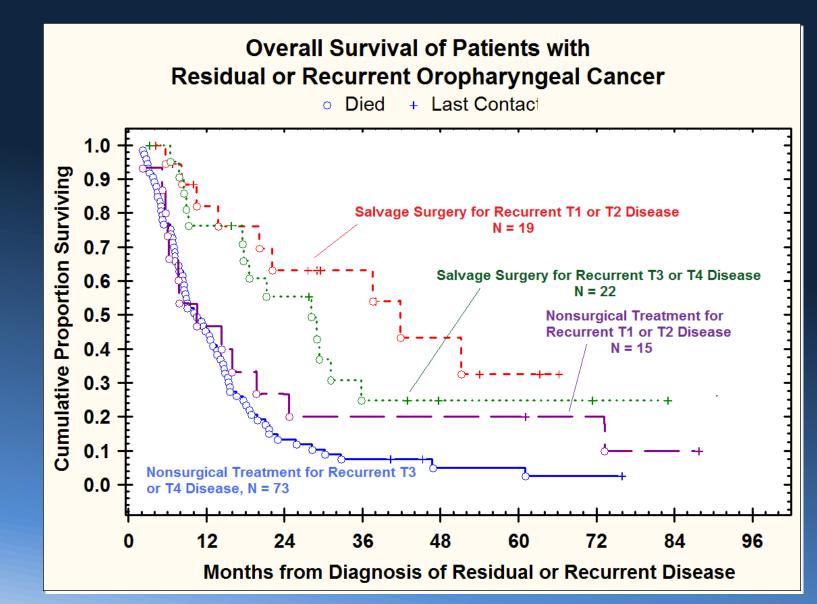
- 3-year Overall Survival (following diagnosis of second recurrence):
  - 42% for surgical salvage (N = 41)
  - 32% for reirradiation (N = 19)
  - 4% for palliative chemotherapy (N = 67)
  - 5% for supportive care
     (N = 39)
- 3-year Recurrence-Free Survival:
  - 26% for surgical salvage

# The effect of disease free interval on overall survival



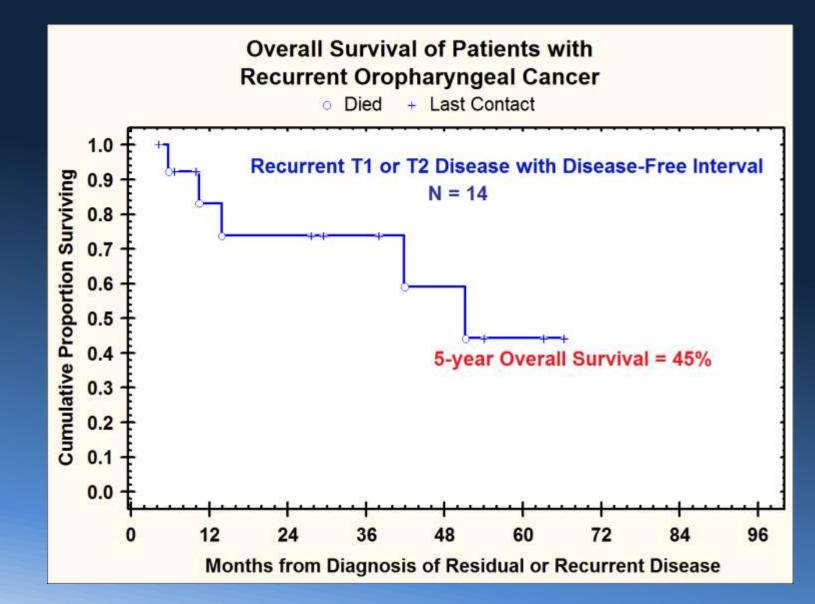


# The effect of recurrent tumor stage of on overall survival





#### Overall Survival, Disease-Free Interval, and Recurrent Tumor Stage





# Conclusions

- Favorable salvage surgery candidates:
  - Disease-free interval after definitive therapy
  - Small recurrent tumors
  - -Younger
  - No recurrent neck disease
- Salvage surgery can provide a very select group of patients with long-term disease control and quality of life.



### **Case Presentation**

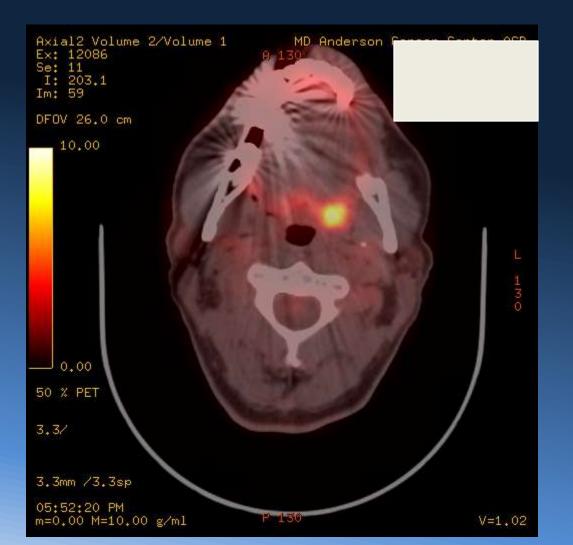
• 57 yo WF

 Recurrent T2 SCC of the soft palate and tonsil





# RADICAL TONSILLECTOMY

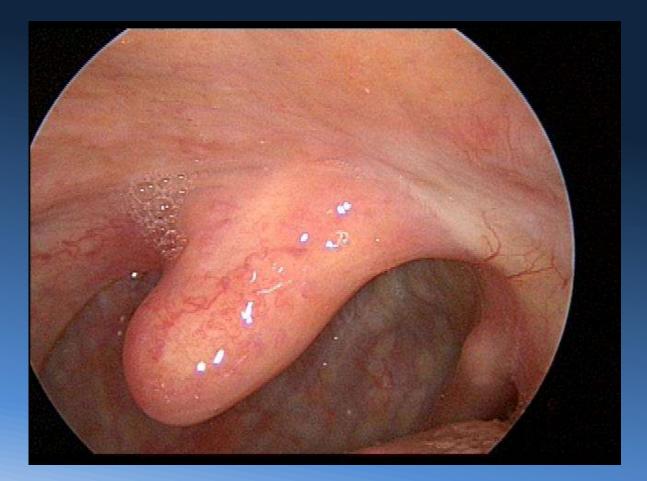




# TORS: Recurrent Tonsil Cancer



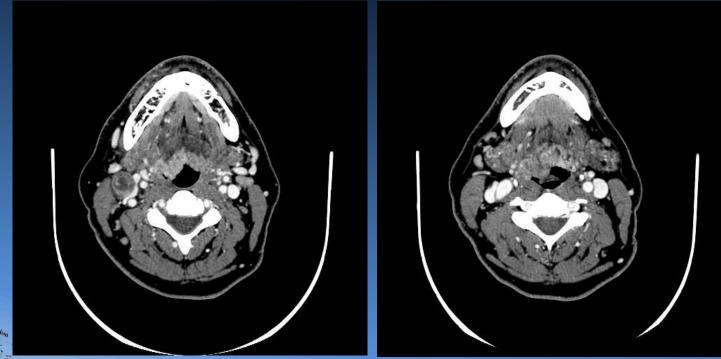
#### Post-Op Outcome: Healing by Secondary Intention no flap required





# Recurrent Base of Tongue

#### • 49yo WM



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### Case Presentation





# TONGUE BASE RESECTION



#### Surgical Pathology: pT2pN1M0



#### **Postoperative Outcome**

#### Early Postoperative

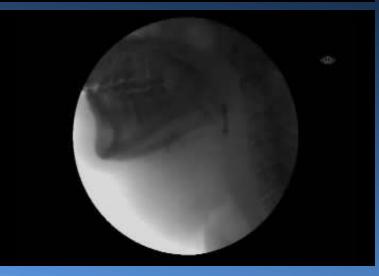


#### Post Radiation Therapy



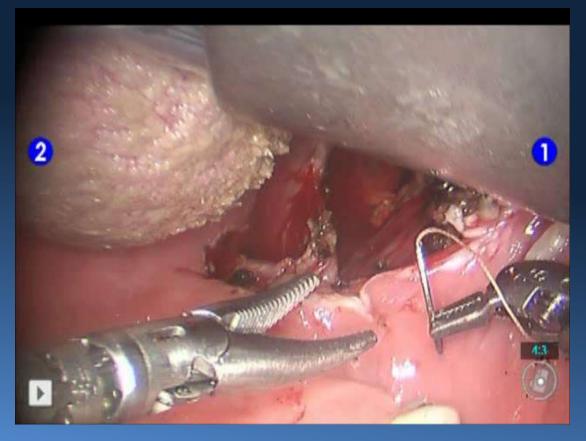


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# RECONSTRUCTION

- Secondary intention
- Primary closure
- Local flaps
- Free flaps





# Timing of Neck Dissection

- Immediate vs. Delayed
  - Risk of fistula
    - 30% pharyngocervical connection
    - 5% fistula rate
  - Margin control
  - Logistics





# TRANS-ORAL ROBOTIC INSET



Courtesy of J Selber MD, PRS, MDACC

### Free Flap Reconstruction





#### POST-OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

- Airway Management – Extubate, ETT, Trach.?
- Antibiotic Prophylaxis
- Oral Intake
  - NPO x 24 hours
  - Neck Dissection?
    - No fistula  $\rightarrow$  NPO x 48 hours
    - Fistula  $\rightarrow$  NPO x 5 days
  - Prior XRT
    - NPO x 48 hrs
    - Swallow evaluation



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# Thank you

