



Are MDM treatment recommendations being implemented?

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Background

Multidisciplinary team meetings (MDMs) strive for consensus driven, evidence-based treatment recommendations based on best available information and patient preference. A preliminary exploration compared the recommended treatment plans recorded in Queensland Oncology Online (QOOL) with actual treatment received to measure if MDM treatment decisions are being implemented.

Methods

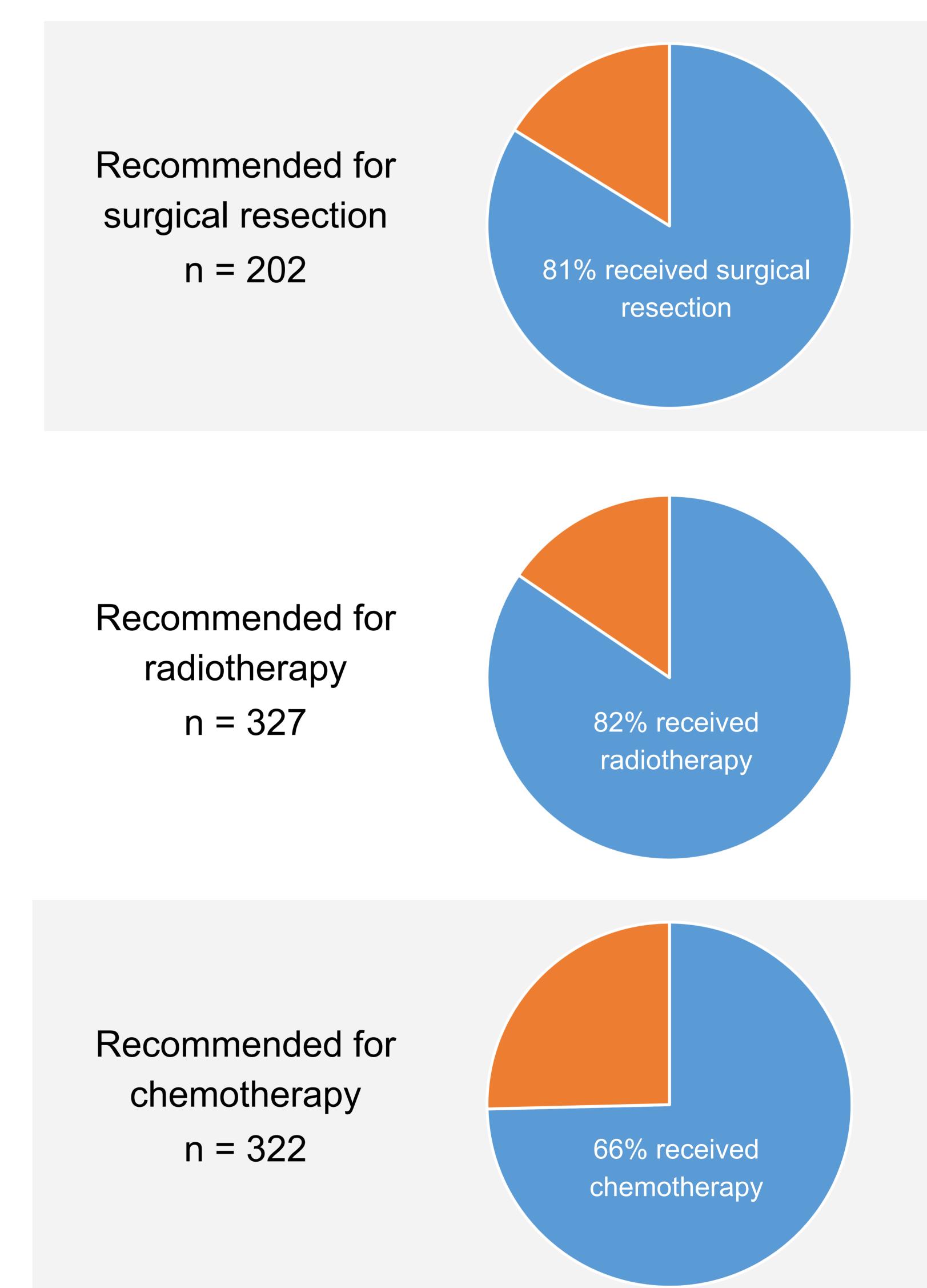
Data from seven Lung MDMs in Qld, for patients diagnosed with NSCLC in 2014 and whose treatment plan included surgery, chemotherapy or radiotherapy were linked with treatment data from surgical, radiotherapy and intravenous systemic therapy source systems to review the uptake of recommended treatment plans.

Results

There were 760 patients diagnosed with NSCLC in Qld in 2014, who were reviewed by seven lung MDMs with patient data recorded in QOOL. Of these 732 (96%) had a recommended treatment plan recorded. There were 202 patients recommended for surgical resection and of these 163 (81%) received either partial resection, lobectomy or pneumonectomy. There were 327 patients with radiotherapy recommended and 267 (82%) received radiotherapy as part of their treatment plan. Chemotherapy was recommended for 322 patients and this was given 66% of the time. In total when patients were recommended to receive surgery, radiotherapy or chemotherapy they received it 75% of the time.

Conclusion

This preliminary investigation starts to quantify the rate of implementation of MDM recommendations. Further investigation by individual multidisciplinary teams is required to understand the various factors affecting the uptake of treatment plans for best outcomes for lung cancer patients.



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