TomoTherapy stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT) for the salvage treatment of locally recurrent esophageal adenocarcinoma following trimodality therapy: a case report

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ABSTRACT

Esophageal cancer patients with local recurrence after chemoradiation and surgery (trimodality therapy) have limited palliative treatment options. We present a case of local recurrence successfully palliated using TomoTherapy stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT). The patient was a 58-year-old man with distal esophageal adenocarcinoma initially treated with trimodality therapy. Symptomatic local recurrence developed 4 years later. Using TomoTherapy SBRT successful palliation was achieved with 3500 cGy in 7 fractions given every other weekday. He remained free of local recurrence without requiring further local therapies, eventually succumbing to metastatic disease 11 months after radiation. Presently there are no reported cases of malignant esophageal obstruction treated with SBRT. Radiosurgery is increasingly used in extracranial sites such as the liver, lung and spine. Reirradiation was convenient and well tolerated by our patient and the response durable. Palliation of local recurrence in esophageal cancer initially treated with trimodality therapy can be achieved using SBRT and is a reasonable option in appropriately selected patients. Further studies are needed to clarify its role in this and other body sites.

Key words: esophagus, TomoTherapy, SBRT, salvage.