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Initial Safety and Tumor Control Results from a “First-in-Human” Multicenter Prospective Trial Evaluating a Novel Alpha-Emitting Radionuclide for the Treatment of Locally Advanced Recurrent Squamous Cell Carcinomas of the Skin and Head and Neck

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PII: S0360-3016(19)34040-4

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijrobp.2019.10.048>

Reference: ROB 26039

To appear in: *International Journal of Radiation Oncology • Biology • Physics*

Received Date: 11 June 2019

Revised Date: 4 October 2019

Accepted Date: 21 October 2019

Please cite this article as: Popovtzer A, Rosenfeld E, Mizrachi A, Bellia SR, Ben-Hur R, Feliciani G, Sarnelli A, Arazi L, Deutsch L, Kelson I, Keisari Y, Initial Safety and Tumor Control Results from a “First-in-Human” Multicenter Prospective Trial Evaluating a Novel Alpha-Emitting Radionuclide for the Treatment of Locally Advanced Recurrent Squamous Cell Carcinomas of the Skin and Head and Neck, *International Journal of Radiation Oncology • Biology • Physics* (2019), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijrobp.2019.10.048>.

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**Initial Safety and Tumor Control Results from a “First-in-Human”
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Radionuclide for the Treatment of Locally Advanced Recurrent
Squamous Cell Carcinomas of the Skin and Head and Neck**

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Funding Information:

Alpha Tau Medical funded this study.

Disclosures:

Aron Popovtzer, MD (future options in the company)

Yona Keisari, PhD (salary and stock options)

I. Kelson, PhD (salary and stock options)

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Abstract

Purpose: To report the feasibility and safety of Diffusing Alpha-emitter Radiation Therapy (DaRT), which entails the interstitial implantation of a novel alpha-emitting brachytherapy source, for the treatment of locally advanced and recurrent squamous cancers (SCC) of the skin and head and neck.

Materials and Methods: This prospective first-in-human, multi-center clinical study evaluated 31 lesions in 28 patients. The primary objective was to determine the feasibility and safety of this approach and the secondary objectives were to evaluate the initial tumor response and local progression-free survival. Eligibility criteria included all patients with biopsy-proven SCC of the skin and head and neck with either primary tumors or recurrent/previously treated disease by either surgery or prior external beam radiotherapy; 13 of 31 lesions (42%) had received prior radiotherapy (RT). Toxicity was evaluated according to the Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE v 4.03). Tumor response was assessed at 30-45 days at a follow-up visit using the Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (RECIST) (Version 1.1). Median follow-up time was 1 year.

Results: Acute toxicity included mostly local pain and erythema at the implantation site followed by swelling and mild skin ulceration. For pain and Grade 2 skin ulcerations, 90% of patients had resolution within 3-5 weeks. Complete response (CR) to the Ra-224 DaRT treatment was observed in 22 lesions (22/28; 78.6%); six lesions (6/28, 21.4%) manifested a partial response (>30% tumor reduction). Among the 22 lesions with a CR, 5 (22%) developed a subsequent local relapse at the site of DaRT implantation at a median time of 4.9 months (range: 2.43-5.52 months). The 1-year local progression-free survival (PFS) probability at the implanted site was 44% overall (Confidence Interval, CI: 20.3-64.3%) and 60% (95% CI: 28.61-81.35%)

for complete responders. Overall survival rates at 12 months post-DaRT implantation was 75% (95% CI: 46.14-89.99%) among all patients and was 93% (95% CI: 59.08-98.96%) among complete responders.

Conclusions: Alpha emitter brachytherapy using DaRT achieved significant tumor responses without Grade 3 or higher toxicities observed. Longer follow-up observations and larger studies are underway to validate these findings.

Introduction

While brachytherapy along with beta- and gamma-emitting radionuclides has been used for the treatment of solid tumors for many years, the use of alpha-emitting radioisotopes also presents a promising approach supported by compelling radio-biologic rationale. Alpha-emitting radionuclides possess a high linear energy transfer, which produces a dense track of ionization events within cells and DNA, resulting in complex DNA damage and more effective cytotoxic effects than more sparsely ionizing forms of radiation, such as gamma-rays or x-rays (1). In addition, alpha-emitting radionuclides exhibit a higher relative biologic effect compared to gamma or x-rays due to their relative independence to cancer cellular radio-sensitivity associated with cell cycling. Finally, alpha-emitting radionuclides are relatively insensitive to hypoxia, which is associated with radio-resistance and common as tumors outgrow their vascular blood supply.

Recently, a novel method to deliver alpha particles for solid tumor radiotherapy has been described (1, 2). This method, called Diffusing Alpha-emitters Radiation Therapy (DaRT),

includes interstitial intratumoral placement of a Radium-224 seed (3.7-day half-life) that releases short-lived (approximately 1-minute half-life) radioisotope Radon-220, which results in a subsequent cascade of decay events. Radon-220 migrates in the tumor microenvironment until it decays, which is followed by the decay of its daughter radioisotope, Polonium-216. Lead-212, the result of this last decay, gives rise to Bismuth-212, which emits yet another alpha particle. The final result of these decay events leads to the release of alpha particles, which kill the tumor cells (3). The decay products diffuse into the tumor from the seed over a distance of 2-3 millimeter (mm), facilitating its ability to treat tumors when multiple DaRT seeds are deployed within a tumor. As the radioisotope has a short half-life, nearly the entire radiation absorption occurs within the tumor, rather than elsewhere in the body.

Based on multiple pre-clinical studies that have demonstrated the capability of DaRT to eliminate cancer cells *in vitro* and produce tumor responses *in vivo*, we initiated a feasibility study in 2017 to evaluate this novel approach to treat patients with squamous cell carcinomas (SCC) of the skin and head and neck (4). In this report, we describe the feasibility, safety profile, and initial tumor control outcomes from this first-in-human clinical trial.

Materials and Methods

Patient Enrollment

Patients with SCC lesions were enrolled in the trial between February 2017 and March 2019 from the Rabin Medical Center Petach (RMC) in Tikva, Israel and the Istituto Scientifico Romagnolo per Lo Studio e la Cura dei Tumori (IRST) in Meldola, Italy. Both

medical centers received approval from their respective institutional ethical committees, as well as the local ministries of health. All patients received informed consent prior to initiating protocol therapy.

The primary objective of this study was to serve as a pilot study and evaluate the safety of the Ra-224 DaRT seed treatment, including incidence, severity, and frequency of adverse events (AEs) as characterized by the Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (Version 4.03) classification. The secondary objectives of the study were to evaluate the early tumor responses to the Ra-224 DaRT seed treatment based on clinical and imaging assessments made 30-45 days post-DaRT insertion and preliminary evaluation of local PFS.

Eligibility criteria included all patients with biopsy-proven SCC of the skin and head and neck. Most patients (60.7%) had recurrent and previously treated disease by either surgery, prior external beam radiotherapy or both; 13 of 31 (42%) had received prior RT. The rest (39.3%) had a primary tumor. Additional inclusion criteria included a required tumor size of ≤ 5 centimeters in the longest diameter, lesions without nodal spread. Patients had to be ≥ 18 years old with an Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) Performance Status Scale of ≤ 2 and a life expectancy of more than 6 months.

Three patients had major protocol deviations. In one patient, immunosuppressant medications were taken due to a previous kidney transplant, although this was part of the exclusion criteria. In another case, a patient had a parasitic infection, which developed while the DaRT implant was in place and necessitated its premature removal 10 days post placement. One additional patient was not evaluable, as she expired due to an unrelated pneumonia, which clinically manifested three weeks after the DaRT procedure. While these patients were included

in the toxicity analysis, they were not evaluable for tumor response. Therefore, they are not included in all statistics related to response and outcome. As a result, toxicity analysis and baseline measurements are reported for all treated lesions (31 lesions in 28 patients, Table 1). 28 lesions in 25 patients were evaluable for response at 30-45 days post insertion and they are reported in the response analysis.

Study Design

Initially, four patients were enrolled to demonstrate feasibility, which was defined as the ability to implant the tumor without Grade 3 toxicity at 3 months. Once feasibility was established, an additional 24 patients were included to further evaluate toxicity and initial efficacy. Patients were screened based on the described protocol eligibility criteria and were enrolled in the trial once written informed consent was obtained. During the screening visit, demographic information and concomitant medications were obtained. The ECOG Performance Status scale was also evaluated at baseline.

Lesions were photographed and measured physically. Additional baseline (pre-insertion) examinations included complete blood test, liver and kidney function tests, urinalysis, and radioactivity measurements in blood and urine. Following enrollment, eligible patients underwent a computed tomography (CT) scan to obtain pre-treatment tumor volume. These values were used to determine the appropriate number of DaRT seeds required to encompass tumor volume. Prior to treatment, an experienced head and neck surgeon evaluated all patients to assess feasibility for further salvage surgery.

Treatment Technique and Dosing

Initially, CT simulation was performed, and the Clinical Tumor volume (CTV) was delineated based upon clinical examination and baseline CT or MRI evaluation. The Planning Target Volume (PTV) was defined as a 5 mm extension beyond the CTV, a geometrical loading pattern and technique. For placement of the Alpha DaRT, strands were used at 5-mm interval spacing and DaRT seeds were placed 5 mm beyond the tumor edge for adequate dosimetric coverage. For larger tumors >5 mm depth, bi- or multi-planar needle geometry was employed. Treatment was delivered through radioactive seeds containing 2 μCi ^{224}Ra per seed inserted into the tumor under local anesthesia in an outpatient setting.

In contrast to gamma and beta sources for which the dose at any point is determined by the source geometrical arrangement, DaRT source dose depends both on geometric position and on the diffusion characteristics of the alpha emitters in the tumor. However, pre-clinical study of SCC tumors implanted in mice provided quantitative information on the diffusion parameters and on the dose required to achieve tumor cell elimination (1). A direct comparison was made between the actual distribution of radioactive atoms (from which the dose and the dose rate could be measured) and the observed region of cell death in the tumor. A minimal total dose of approximately 10 Gray was required and the resultant kill region around the source had a diameter of 5 mm. The treatment plan was based on these pre-clinical findings.

DaRT seeds were inserted according to the pre-plan with the calculated number of applicators and DaRT seeds per applicator. Following placement of the DaRT seeds, a standard post-procedure brachytherapy CT was obtained to assess final seed positions within the tumor

for quality assurance evaluation. This QA check corroborated that 95% of the tumor volume was consistently covered with DaRT seeds. If under-coverage was detected based on this QA check (n=3), seeds were added before completing implantation.

DaRT seeds were implanted at a distance of 10 mm from major blood vessels (e.g., the carotid artery). A radiation Geiger Monitor with a collimator was used to check emission of radioactivity from the seeds immediately after insertion. Seeds were removed 15-30 days after implantation with or without local anesthesia, depending on the anatomic location of the implanted site.

Radionuclide and Applicators

The DaRT seeds were administered using an applicator produced by Alpha Tau Medical, Limited (Tel Aviv, Israel). Each seed consists of a 10 mm long and 0.7 mm-diameter 316LVM stainless steel hollow wire with Radium-224 fixed on its surface. The seeds were linearly threaded on a single monofilament suture. The seeds are contained within the applicator needle and encapsulated with glycerin; each applicator holds 1-6 seeds.

The DaRT applicator consists of two major components which are commonly part of interstitial brachytherapy applicators as follows: a needle (with attached hub) used to place the DaRT percutaneously into the tumor and a stylet (with attached hub) used to deploy the DaRT encapsulated seed(s) in the appropriate location within the tumor (**Figure 1**). In addition, the device (applicator and seeds) is provided with a protective cap that is kept over the tip of the needle to prevent damage to the needle, and a safety pin is provided to prevent inadvertent

detachment of the needle and stylet. The DaRT seeds within the DaRT applicator comprise the Alpha DaRT device.

Follow Up

Study follow-up examinations included repeat blood tests and urinalysis, additional blood and urine radiation measurements, and assessment of ECOG Performance Status scale at 4, 9 and 30 days post-DaRT insertion. Any changes in concomitant medications were recorded during the study. Adverse events were assessed at each study visit and recorded on case report forms. Tumor size was measured again at 30-45 days post Ra-224 DaRT seed insertion. Change in tumor size was defined by physical examination, when obvious and, in most cases, imaging, including positron emission tomography (PET)-CT scans and/or CT scans, were also used to assess response.

Tumor response was assessed at a 30-45 days follow-up visit using the Response Evaluation Criteria in Solid Tumors (Version 1.1). Only the irradiated tumor was considered a target lesion assessed for response. For this report, 28 of the 31 lesions were evaluable for response, as noted in the patient enrollment section above.

Response criteria were defined as follows: Complete Response (CR), disappearance of the irradiated tumor; Partial Response (PR), at least a 30% decrease in the longest dimension of the irradiated tumor; Progressive Disease (PD), at least a 20% increase in the longest dimension of the irradiated tumor, taking as reference the smallest longest dimension recorded since radiotherapy; Stable Disease (SD), neither sufficient shrinkage to qualify for PR nor sufficient increase to qualify for PD, taking as reference the smallest sum since the treatment started.

Four-to-six weeks post Ra-224 DaRT seed insertion, a biopsy was obtained (n=5) if there was clinical suspicion of residual disease. In cases of histopathologically confirmed residual disease, surgery or systemic therapy was carried out. Patients were subsequently evaluated every two months for continued follow-up observation.

Statistical Methods

Statistical analyses were performed using SAS Version 9.4 (SAS Institute, Cary, NC, USA). Study results were tabulated, continuous measures are summarized as mean, standard deviation (SD), minimum, median, and maximum values; binary variables are presented as a count and percentage. Serious adverse event (SAE) incidence rates are presented with two-sided 95% score confidence intervals (CI). Kaplan-Meier estimates for the overall survival (OS) probability and of local progression-free survival (PFS) probability were calculated. Two survival curves were compared using a log-rank test. OS was measured from the DaRT insertion procedure date. Local PFS was stratified based on the recorded initial response date. The median follow-up was 6.7 months (range: 1.45-23.36 months).

Results

Thirty-one lesions in 28 patients were evaluated in this study between February 2017 and March 2019, including twenty-two (22) patients from RMC, Israel, and six (6) from IRST, Italy. Of these 28 patients, three were treated twice for two separate tumors, for a total of 31 lesions. Baseline demographics, disease characteristics, and tumor location of these 28 treated patients are summarized in **Table 1**. Specific sites treated included skin (n=12, 4 of which were in the

extremities), ear (n=7), lip (n=5), tongue (n=3), nose (n=2), and parotid (n=2). All tumors were SCC.

The average number of Ra-224 DaRT seeds inserted into the tumors was 27.72 seeds (range: 3-169 seeds), with an average treatment duration of 16.3 ± 4.3 days. The average activity of the seeds on the day of insertion was 55.42 ± 61.46 μ Ci.

Biosafety Evaluation

Radioactivity measurements (at insertion site, at different body areas, and in blood and urine samples), vital signs, and a general assessment of the patients' medical condition were recorded at baseline and at follow-up visits. Among patients undergoing the procedure, the average radioactivity in the blood and urine approximately four days after treatment was 41.2 ± 34.4 and 6.1 ± 5.3 kBq/L, respectively. The average radioactivity in the blood and urine decreased to 12.7 ± 10.2 kBq/L and 2.5 ± 2.9 kBq/L, respectively, approximately nine days after treatment. There was no measurable radioactivity in the blood and urine 30 days after treatment, except in one patient who was treated with DaRT seeds in 2 SCC lesions in two separate sessions 15 days apart; due to this overlap, radioactivity was still detectable at day 30 following the first insertion procedure. By day 30 following the second procedure, there was no measurable radioactivity in the blood and urine in this patient.

The estimated average alpha doses to the lungs, kidneys, and bone marrow from the radioactive decay product of DaRT (Pb-212) were calculated from blood and urine radioactivity results using the model described by Arazi et al. (2010) (5). The Pb-212 leakage probability (fraction of Pb-212 leaving the tumor through the blood) was 0.40 ± 0.15 (40%). The mean \pm SD

alpha dose levels to the lungs, kidneys, and bone marrow were as follows: $0.03.2\pm 0.02$, $0.02.8\pm 0.017$, and 0.012 ± 0.007 cGy, respectively. These values are well within the maximum tolerable doses of radiation for the lungs, kidneys, and bone marrow at 1,500, 500, and 100 cGy, respectively (5).

Toxicity

Table 2 summarizes the incidence of acute toxicity events observed up to three months following the DaRT insertion procedure.

Acute toxicity of Ra-224 DaRT seed treatment (considered to be possibly or most probably related to protocol therapy) included mostly local pain (n=11) and erythema (n=10) at the implant site, followed by swelling (n=8) and mild skin ulceration (n=4). For pain and Grade 2 skin ulcerations, 90% of patients had resolution within 3-5 weeks. In general, these acute toxicities were resolved within a median time of 15 days (range: 4-183 days). In 8 patients the DaRT seeds were inserted adjacent (less than 5 mm) to bone and teeth; none developed osteoradionecrosis.

Two SAEs were reported, both of which were determined to be unrelated to the protocol therapy. One patient developed pneumonia following therapy and subsequently expired due to their underlying poor performance status and multiple comorbidities. In a second patient treated with DaRT for a SCC confined to the nose, cerebral edema was attributed to a prior course of radiotherapy to the base of skull and posterior orbit. No device-related SAEs were observed during the course of treatment or follow up. The incidence rate of device-related SAEs was 0%

over time (95% CI: 0-12.06%) and the incidence rate of unrelated SAEs was 7.14% (95% CI: 1.98-22.65%). To date, no late toxicities have been observed.

Initial Tumor Response

Of the 28 patients treated, 28 out of 31 treated lesions were evaluable to determine tumor response. This evaluation was limited to patients who met the study eligibility criteria, received the planned DaRT therapy protocol, and completed the minimum follow-up at six weeks after treatment.

CR to the Ra-224 DaRT seed treatment (reduction in tumor dimensions of 100%) was achieved in 22 lesions (78.6%) and six lesions (21.4%) manifested a PR (tumor reduction between 30% to 100%). Therefore, all patients exhibited some level of response to treatment. An example of a complete response is shown in **Figure 2**. Among patients who did not receive prior RT, 15 of 16 patients (94%) demonstrated a CR and, among those who were previously treated with RT, 7 of 12 (58%) had a CR.

Among the 22 lesions that achieved a CR, five developed a local relapse at the site of DaRT implantation at a median of 4.9 months (range: 2.43-5.52 months) following treatment. The Kaplan-Meier estimated local PFS rate for all patients at 1 year was 44% (CI: 20.3-64.3%). Among patients with an initial CR to treatment, the Kaplan-Meier estimated local PFS rate at 1 year was 60%. Only 32% of the patients had a full year follow-up. Patients who achieved an initial CR had significantly higher local PFS and overall survival rates at one year compared to those who achieved a PR (60.1% and 93% compared to 0% and 0%, respectively) (**Figures 3**). Overall survival rates to 12 months post-DaRT implantation was 75% (95% CI: 46.14-89.99%)

among all patients and was 93% (95% CI: 59.08-98.96%) among complete responders. The median follow-up was 6.7 months (range: 1.45-23.36 months).

One patient who was treated twice for skin SCC exhibited a unique response, as each time one lesion was treated, a second unrelated lesion responded as well, manifesting as CR to the treatment.

There was no statistically significant difference in local PFS between primary (newly diagnosed) and recurrent lesions at one year ($P=0.9$). Median local PFS among patients with recurrent tumors was 5.5 months and was 5.09 months for those with primary tumors. There was no statistically significant difference in local PFS between recurrent or primary lesions ($P=0.59$) either. There was no significant difference in initial response rates and toxicity outcomes between patients who received prior radiotherapy ($n=12$) and those who did not ($n=16$) ($P=0.59$). Median local PFS among patients with prior radiation was 5.2 months and was 5.1 months for those without previous radiation.

Discussion

Here, we report the first-in-human clinical results of a feasibility and safety prospective study evaluating the early toxicity and tumor response of an alpha-emitting brachytherapy source for the treatment of locally advanced and recurrent SCCs of the head and neck. As the primary focus of this trial was a feasibility study, the treated population was heterogeneous, with different sites of the head and neck and skin treated. The cohort in this report represented a very unfavorable prognostic risk group; many elderly patients unfit for surgery (median age = 80.5), furthermore, the majority of this study population was previously treated with surgery or prior

chemotherapy/radiotherapy. Based on pre-treatment evaluation by the head and neck surgeon of all patients, further surgery instead of the DART brachytherapy treatment was presumed to increase risk of morbidity. Despite the heavily pre-treated nature of these patients, observed toxicity to date has been limited with 48% with acute Grade 2 toxicity; no patients developed Grade 3 or higher toxicity. Furthermore, in all cases the toxicity resolved within a month.

The favorable tolerance results may be related to the highly conformal dose distribution achieved with the DaRT method. This novel approach takes advantage of the decay of radium-224 that releases short-lived Radon-220, into which its daughter atoms disperse in the tumor microenvironment creating a dose cloud that does not diffuse much beyond 5 mm (1). With proper seed placement geometry, a tight dose distribution is achieved, limiting exposure to surrounding organs. While our reported results are encouraging, longer follow up is necessary to confirm these observations.

Our report also highlights impressive early tumor responses observed despite the recurrent and relatively radioresistant tumors that characterized this patient cohort. Dramatic tumor reduction following DaRT placement was relatively rapid, often noted with the first two weeks post placement; so far, the response has been durable in the majority of cases. The initial local response, with 60% manifesting complete resolution of disease, seems superior compared to outcomes previously reported using standard re-irradiation with external beam or traditional brachytherapy approaches in which the response rates are lower than 40% (6, 7). Complete responses were noted in 58% of radio-recurrent patients and in 94% of those who never previously received RT. These findings may in part be attributed to the enhanced radiobiologic attributes associated with alpha particle therapy, which could potentially overcome radioresistant clones and achieve greater efficacy compared to traditional brachytherapy gamma sources.

The current study represents an excellent example of successful recapitulation and validation of pre-clinical studies that demonstrated impressive tumor responses (1-4, 8-12). The innovative development of a brachytherapy dose delivery that takes advantage of short-range diffusion of alpha particles is unique and could potentially be paradigm-changing. Brachytherapy has relied on radioactive beta and gamma sources for many years, and new radiobiologically more potent sources could provide great benefit for patients with other solid tumors whose prognosis is poor. Other feasibility and safety trials are underway evaluating the role of DaRT therapy for other solid tumors such as pancreatic tumors and recurrent breast, prostate, and vulvar cancers (personal communication YK).

Pre-clinical studies have suggested that DaRT therapy may be employed to harness the immune response when used in conjunction with immunotherapy (12, 13). One patient in this report experienced an immune repose with reduced disease at other tumor sites concomitant with treatment of one of the symptomatic lesions with DaRT therapy in the absence of any other therapy. In selected tumors with oligometastases, the use of DaRT targeted to a lesion in conjunction with immunotherapy could further augment the immune response compared to immunotherapy alone; trials are currently in development to test this hypothesis. Systemic alpha radiotherapy using Radium-223 showed a significant survival advantage in castrate-resistant prostate cancer, which could possibly be related in part to an immunologic mechanism that could impact further metastatic progression of disease.

Based on the current pilot study, we certainly cannot make any definitive conclusions regarding response rates; nevertheless, these data are reported as part of our preliminary observations for this small pilot study. Our early results are promising and suggest that alpha particle brachytherapy may represent a new opportunity and fertile area for continued research

exploration with tumors heretofore considered radioresistant and non-responsive. These findings also indicate that DaRT therapy is a feasible approach and should be considered under the category of reirradiation, which has promise for potentially less morbidity for patients compared to stereotactic body radiation therapy or other external beam techniques.

Phase I/II prospective studies are currently being initiated in more homogeneous patient populations among those with recurrent and persistent local disease where surgery and external beam radiation therapy have already been exhausted. In these studies, there will be better assessment of late toxicity and secondary endpoints will include tumor control outcomes. Opportunities to harness the immune system with targeted DaRT therapy to a lesion could have value as well and will need to be tested in prospective trials. While standard modes of treatment planning methods were used for these patients, it appears that radiobiologic-based treatment planning and new methods will be helpful and, in fact, critical when integrating alpha source brachytherapy with other established therapies. These new paradigms in treatment planning coupled with novel approaches integrating this therapy with other established therapeutic strategies must be accomplished through larger well-designed prospective trials.

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Figure Legends

Table 1. Patient and disease characteristics

Table 2. Incidence of acute local toxicity

Figure 1. DaRT applicator and components (18 gauge needle 140 mm in length)

Figure 2. Deeply infiltrating SCC of the scalp with complete response noted at Day 30

Figure 3. Local progression-free survival stratified by response status

Table 1. Patient and disease characteristics

Age (years)		Number of Patients	28
		Mean (SD)	78.7±11.2
		Median [Range]	80.5 [59, 94]
Gender	Male	% (n/N)	71% (20/28)
	Female	% (n/N)	29% (8/28)
1.1.1.	1.1.2.	1.1.3.	1.1.4.
1.1.5.	1.1.6.	1.1.7.	1.1.8.
Tumor Volume (cm³)		Number of Lesions	31
		Mean (±SD)	3.9 (±6.4)
		Median [Range]	1.7 [0.2, 33.9]
Primary vs. Recurrent	Primary	% (n/N)	35.5% (11/31)
	Recurrent	% (n/N)	64.5 % (20/31)
Tumor Location	Non-Head and Neck	% (n/N)	13% (4/31)
	Head and Neck	% (n/N)	87% (27/31)
Previous RT	Yes	% (n/N)	42% (13/31)
	No	% (n/N)	58% (18/31)
Previous Surgery	Yes	% (n/N)	61.3% (19/31)
	No	% (n/N)	38.7% (12/31)

Table 2. Incidence of acute local toxicity (all treated lesions, N=31)

Acute Local Toxicity	Incidence (%)		
	Severity Grade		
	1	2	3
Erythema	11 (35%)	9 (29%)	0 (0%)
Swelling	6 (19%)	8 (26%)	0 (0%)
Pain	9 (29%)	11 (35%)	0 (0%)
Discharge	2 (6%)	6 (19%)	0 (0%)
Ulcer	4 (13%)	3 (10%)	0 (0%)
Paresthesia	3 (10%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Pruritus	3 (10%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Scarring	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	0 (0%)

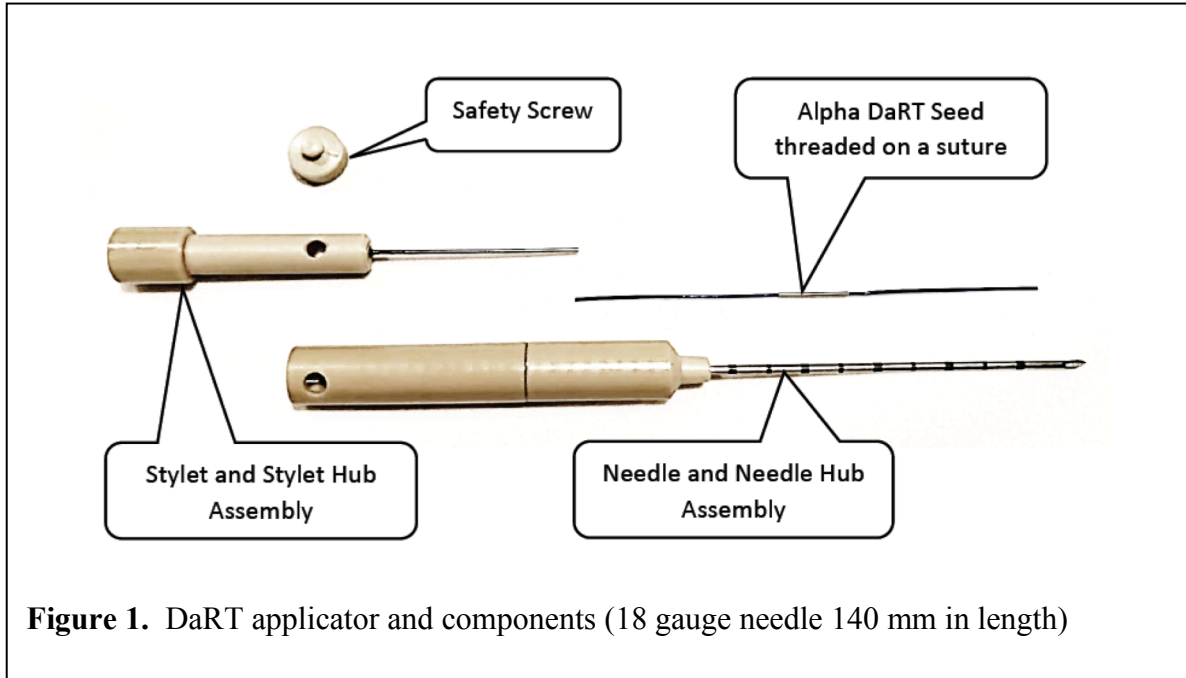


Figure 1. DaRT applicator and components (18 gauge needle 140 mm in length)

Journal Pre

Figure 2. Deeply infiltrating SCC of the scalp with complete response noted at Day 30



Pre-Treatment



DaRT Insertion



**Day 30 After DaRT
Insertion**



**5.5 Months After
DaRT Insertion**

Figure 3. Local progression-free survival stratified by response status