

Evaluation of a novel automated treatment planning tool for cervical cancer in IMRT

J. Guo, J. Zhou, L. Chen, J. Ni, Y. Xu, G. Gan, W. Gong, C. Ma, Y. Li, W. Zhan, X. Xu, S. Qin

The first affiliated hospital of Soochow University, Suzhou, Jiangsu, China



苏州大学附属第一医院
苏州市第一人民医院
THE FIRST AFFILIATED HOSPITAL OF SOOCHOW UNIVERSITY

INTRODUCTION

uRT-TPS is a commercial treatment planning system provided by Shanghai United Imaging Healthcare (UIH), which includes a novel automated treatment planning tool. It is part of the uRT-Linac 506C system, which was installed at our institution since 2016 for clinical trials. The automated treatment planning tool supports customized protocols for various radiotherapy sites and treatment techniques.



uRT-Linac 506C, an one-stop radiotherapy solution which includes an integrated CT-linac, an oncology information system, and a treatment planning system.

AIM

Evaluated the performance of the automated treatment planning tool in UIH uRT-TPS by comparing the automatically generated plans with the manual plans in intensity modulated radiotherapy (IMRT) for patients with cervical cancer in terms of plan quality and planning efficiency.

METHOD

- Ten definitive cervical cancer patients were involved.
- Prescription: PTV1 1.8x25 Gy, PTV2 2x25 Gy.
- Treatment technique: static simultaneous integrated boost (SIB) IMRT.
- For each patient, three plans were generated:
 - Manually, in uRT-TPS by UIH (UIH-M)
 - Manually, in Monaco by Elekta (Monaco-M)
 - Automatically, using UIH automated planning tool (UIH-AP)
- A list of critical clinical goals was derived from our institutional requirements and was used as input to build the customized protocol for automated planning.
- Monte Carlo dose calculation algorithm was used for all plans.
- Dose endpoints of targets and organs at risk were calculated for plan quality comparison.
- The effective planning time were recorded for UIH-M and UIH-AP.

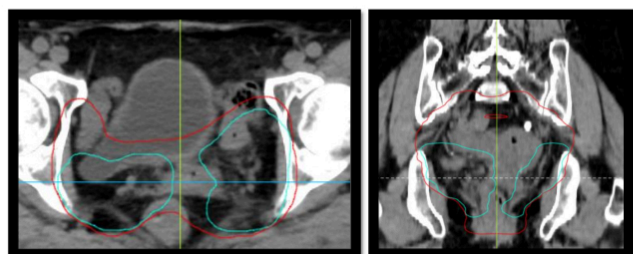


Illustration of a definitive cervical cancer patient target:
 ■ PTV1, red
 ■ PTV2, cyan

RESULTS

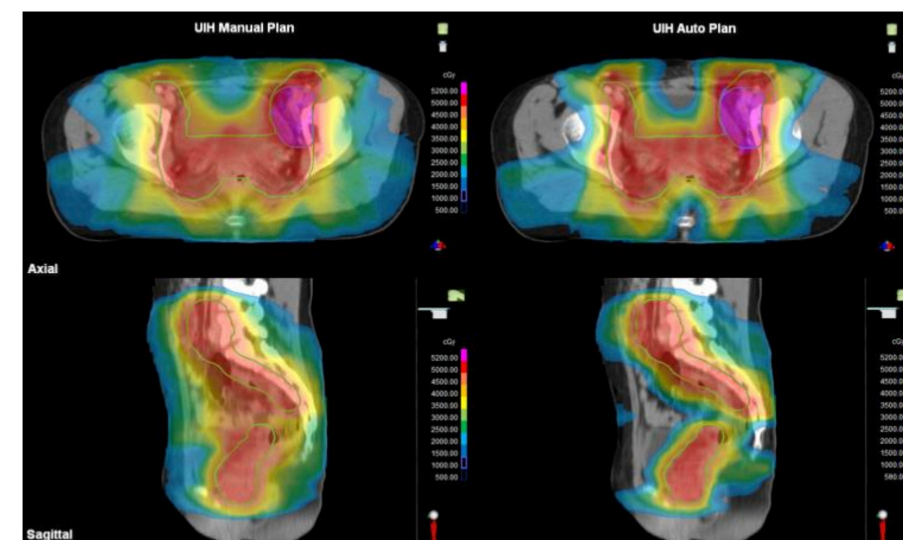
Structure		Monaco-M		UIH-M		UIH-AP		P value*	P value**
		Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
PTV2 50Gy	Dmean(cGy)	5211	43	5142	35	5170	17	<0.05	0.06
	Dmax(cGy)	5445	100	5285	96	5314	31	<0.05	0.42
	CI	0.539	0.064	0.750	0.088	0.738	0.089	<0.05	0.69
	HI	0.081	0.019	0.050	0.013	0.055	0.005	<0.05	0.25
PTV1 45Gy	Dmean(cGy)	4841	131	4799	87	4815	77	<0.05	0.09
	CI	0.834	0.039	0.862	0.035	0.848	0.025	<0.05	0.05
Bladder	Dmean(cGy)	4267	423	4176	428	4037	466	<0.05	<0.05
	V30Gy(%)	86.1	10.7	83.9	11.4	80.0	12.7	0.09	0.05
Rectum	Dmean(cGy)	4568	277	4526	296	4439	284	0.48	0.16
	V30Gy(%)	96.4	3.2	97.0	5.9	93.2	5.4	0.73	0.07
FH-L	Dmean(cGy)	1850	176	1696	120	1475	158	<0.05	<0.05
FH-R	Dmean(cGy)	1793	156	1611	75	1390	144	<0.05	<0.05

FH-L, left femoral head; FH-R, right femoral head.

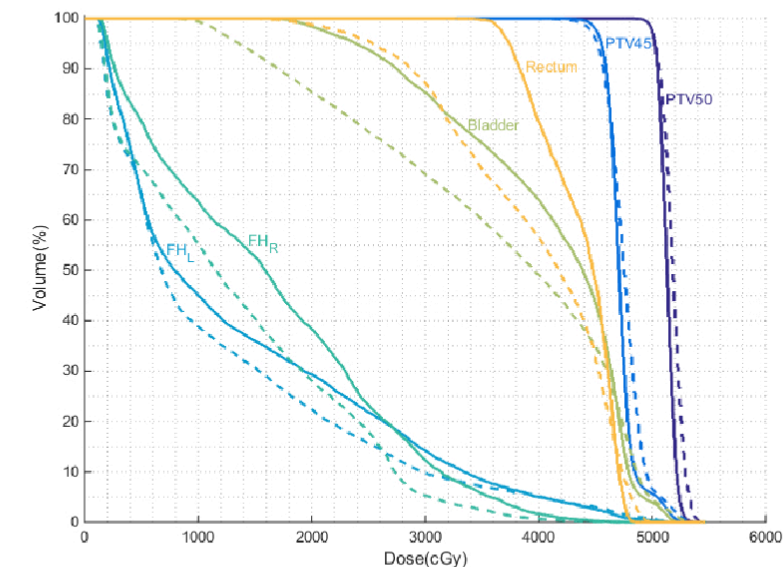
*CI, conformity index, $CI=(TVPIV2/TV*PIV)$; TVPIV, target volume receiving more than prescription dose; TV, target volume; PIV, prescription isodose volume;
 HI, homogeneity index, $HI=(D2\%-D98\%)/DP$; Dx%, minimal dose to the x% highest irradiated target volume;
 Dp, prescription dose.*

**: UIH-M vs Monaco-M; **: UIH-M vs UIH-AP; a P value of <0.05 was considered statistically significant.*

- All plans fulfilled the clinical goals set for targets and organs at risk, and were acceptable for treatment.
- UIH-M achieved preferred PTV dose conformity (CI), homogeneity (HI) and OAR sparing, while Monaco-M achieved higher PTV mean dose.
- Compared to UIH-M, mean dose of bladder, rectum and femoral heads were improved by 3.33% (p=0.01), 1.93% (p=0.16), 13.03% (p<0.01, left) and 13.69% (p<0.01 right) with UIH-AP. PTV dose conformity and homogeneity of UIH-AP were worse, but the differences were not significant.
- The average effective planning time was 13.4±3.1 minutes using UIH-AP, compared to 23.3±1.3 minutes in UIH-M.



Dose distribution of a treatment plan: left, UIH-M; right, UIH-AP.



Dose-volume histogram comparison: solid, UIH-M; dotted, UIH-AP

CONCLUSION

- uRT-TPS by UIH can be used to generate clinical acceptable plans for cervical cancer radiotherapy both manually and automatically.
- Plans generated by the automated planning tool of uRT-TPS showed significantly improved OAR sparing and comparable target coverage, in comparison with the manual plans.
- The effective planning time of automated planning was substantially lower than that of manual planning.
- Using the automated planning tool has the potential to improve clinical work efficiency without compromise the treatment plan quality.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Jian Guo: guojian95@163.com