

NEOADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY OF HEAD AND NECK CANCERS:  
PREDICTION OF RESPONSE BY LOGISTIC DISCRIMINANT  
ANALYSIS.

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A combination of bleomycin(10 mg), cis-platinum (15 mg), etoposide (100 mg), fluorouracile (500 mg) and ifosfamide (500 mg) was given on days 1,3,5;15,17 19 and 29,31,33 to 321 patients (stage I=10%; II=14% III=23%; IV=53%) 70% response was obtained in 253 cases: 9% CR + 61% PR. A 3/4 tumour reduction (=major response) occurred in 26%. Logistic discriminant analysis gives prognostic indexes and corresponding probabilities. The predictive value is confirmed prospectively in 70 further cases. Three subgroups can be identified with observed major response rates of 80%,33% and 9% whereas major response rate of the whole group amounts to 29%. Owing to the prognostic importance of chemotherapy response in long term survival and the parallelism between chemosensitivity and radiocurability, our model may help to select appropriate treatment strategy for defined patients subsets.