

INTEGRATING ELECTRONIC PATIENT-REPORTED OUTCOME MEASURES (EPROMS) INTO PERSONALISED FOLLOW-UP FOR PATIENTS UNDERGOING RADIOTHERAPY. A PILOT STUDY

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Introduction

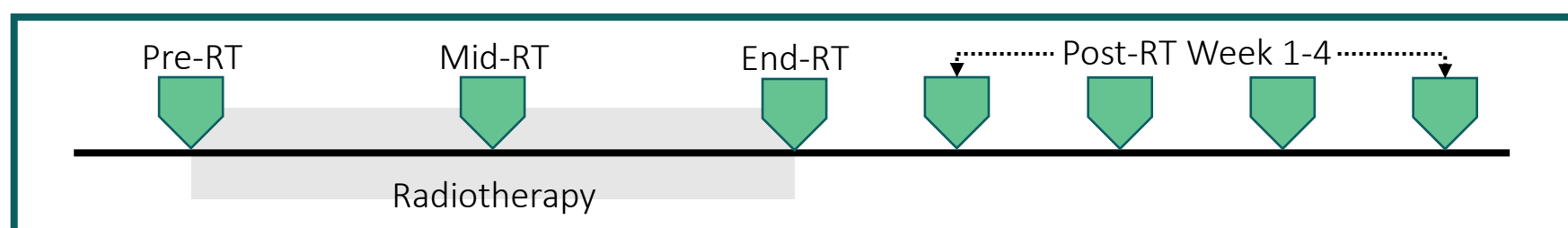
Personalised follow-up has the potential to tailor care to the needs of patients undergoing cancer treatment. Electronic patient-reported outcome measures (ePROMs) allow physicians to better understand patients' symptoms and identify those needing earlier review and intervention.

We aimed to evaluate the practicality and acceptability of integrating ePROMs into a personalised follow-up strategy for patients undergoing radiotherapy (RT).

Methods

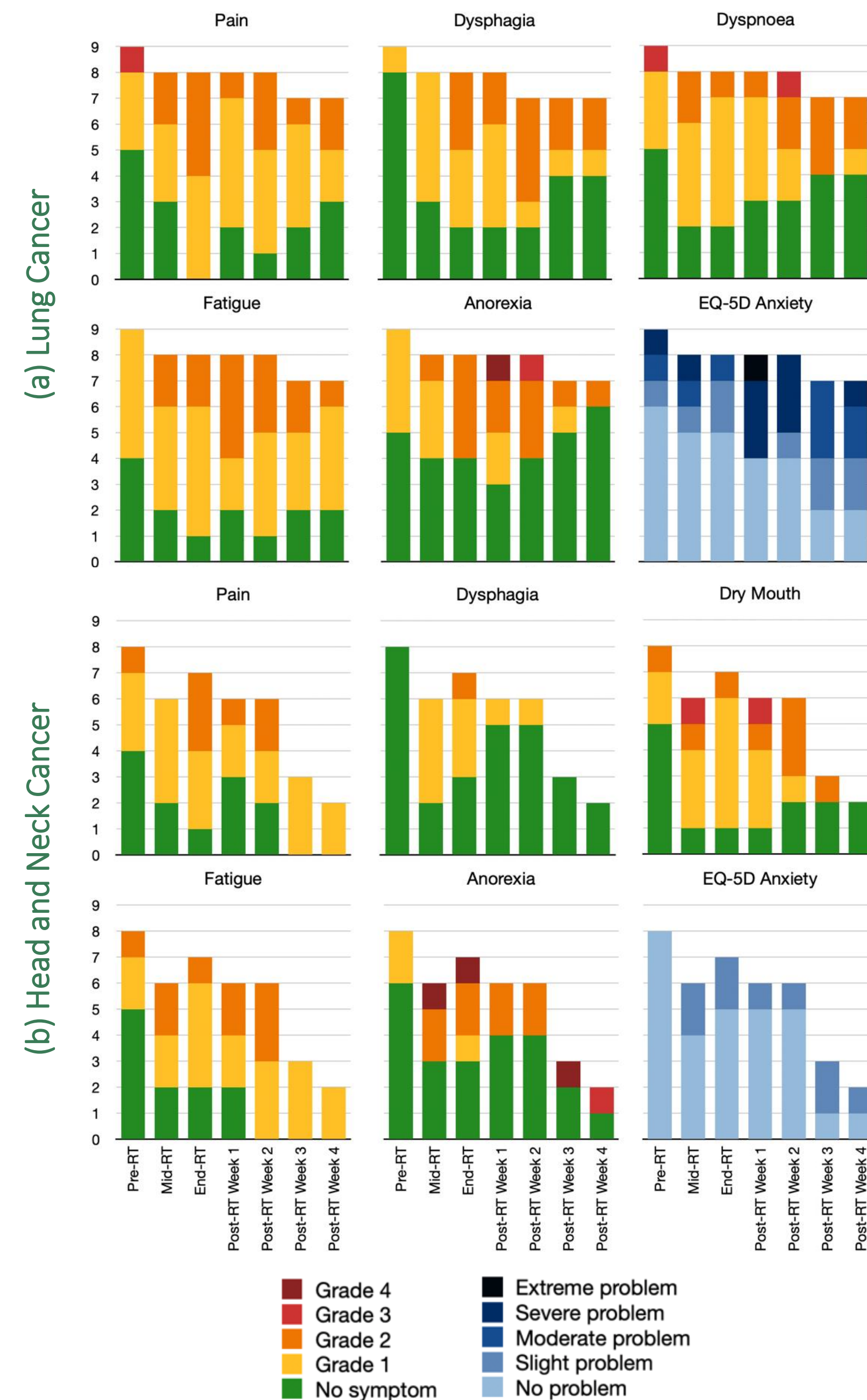
Patients diagnosed with lung or head and neck (HN) cancer were enrolled in a pilot study between March and April 2023.

ePROMs questionnaire, comprising 14 lung or 19 HN cancer-specific questions adapted from CTCAE v5.0 and the EuroQol EQ-5D-5L tool, were sent to patients at seven timepoints: pre-RT, mid-RT, end-RT, and weekly for 4 weeks post-treatment. Automated advice was offered upon completion of the questionnaire based on responses. Grade 3 or above symptoms were escalated to the clinical team for support.



Patient experiences and feedback were captured through structured telephone interviews.

Figure 1. The proportion of symptom severity and anxiety level reported by patients with (a) lung or (b) head and neck cancer undergoing radiotherapy at all seven timepoints.



Results

19 (10 Lung, 9 HN) patients participated in this service: 13 patients received concurrent chemoradiotherapy, 6 received radiotherapy alone. 17/19 completed ePROMs at least once with an overall completion rate of 78.2%.

14 patients participated in the structured interviews

Question	Percentage Agree
The questionnaire was easy to understand and complete.	100%
The questionnaire took an acceptable amount of time to complete.	100%
The questions were relevant to me.	85.7%
The questions covered all my symptoms and physiological needs.	57.1%
Completing questionnaires during radiotherapy made me feel better supported.	100%
Completing questionnaires after radiotherapy made me feel better supported.	100%
Self-care advice messages are helpful.	100%

Conclusion

The implementation of ePROMs into a personalised follow-up strategy has shown to be feasible and acceptable to patients as evidenced by completion rates and patient-reported experiences.

ePROMs data provide insights into patients' symptoms during and after radiotherapy, highlighting the need for a tailored approach, instead of one-size-fits-all follow-up model.

Acknowledgement

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