

CHALLENGING THE PARADIGMS OF CERVICAL CANCER
NEOADJUVANT THERAPY

Three-weekly carboplatin + paclitaxel NACT → definitive CCRT in locally advanced cervical cancer in LMICs

Study from a large cancer center in Pakistan | 2017–2022

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222

treated patients

86.5%

objective response rate

75.2%

3-year OS

65.3%

3-year PFS

CLINICAL QUESTION

Can three-weekly carboplatin–paclitaxel NACT before definitive CCRT be feasible and effective in LACC?

STUDY DESIGN

DesignRetrospective analysis

Eligibility≥18 years; ECOG 0–1; FIGO IIB–IVA; SCC/AC/ASC

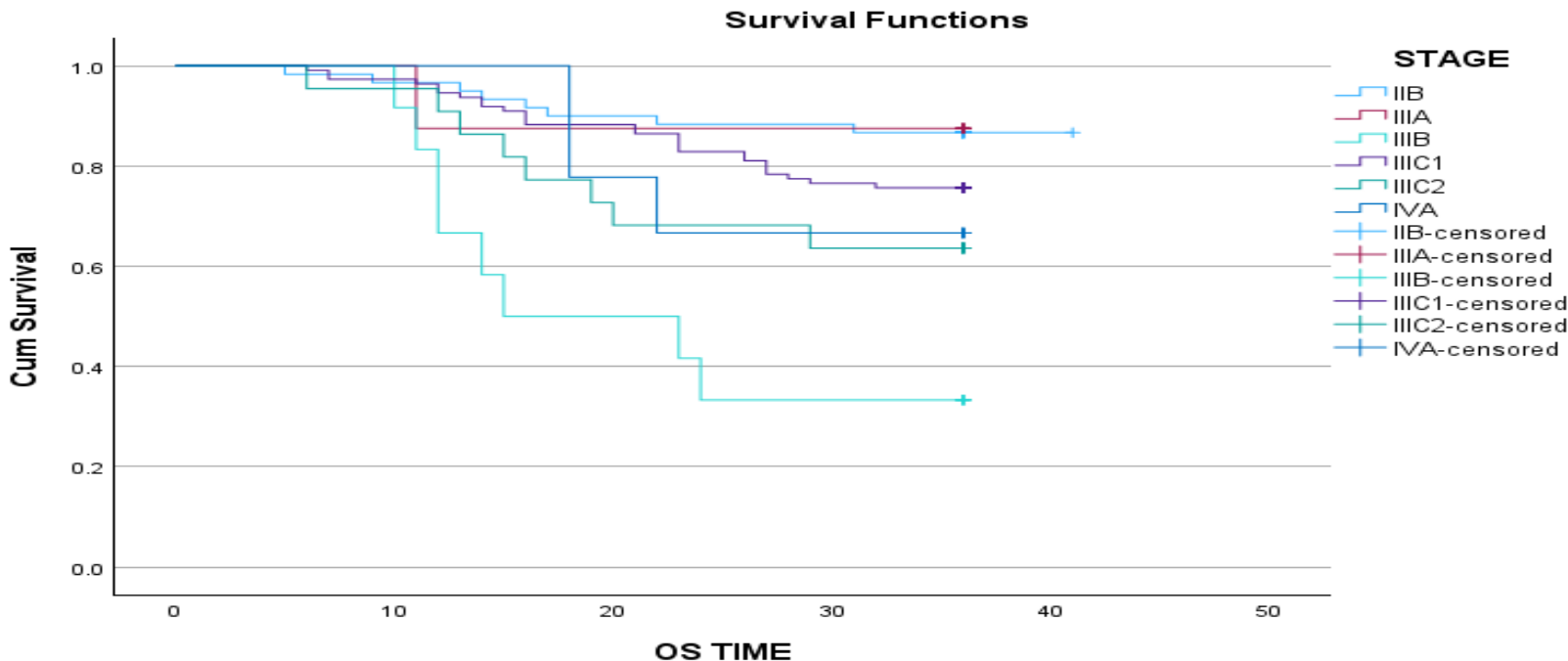
Setting: Shaukat Khanum Cancer Hospital, 2017–2022

Cohort: 222 analyzed

TREATMENT PATHWAY

- 1 **NACT ×2**
Paclitaxel 175 mg/m² + carboplatin AUC 5, q3 weeks
- 2 **CCRT**
IMRT 50.4 Gy/28 fx + cisplatin 40 mg/m² weekly during RT
- 3 **BRACHYTHERAPY**
HDR 24 Gy/4 fx (6 Gy/fx) to Point A
- 4 **TIMING**
RT started with 2 weeks after NACT; course targeted ≤45 days

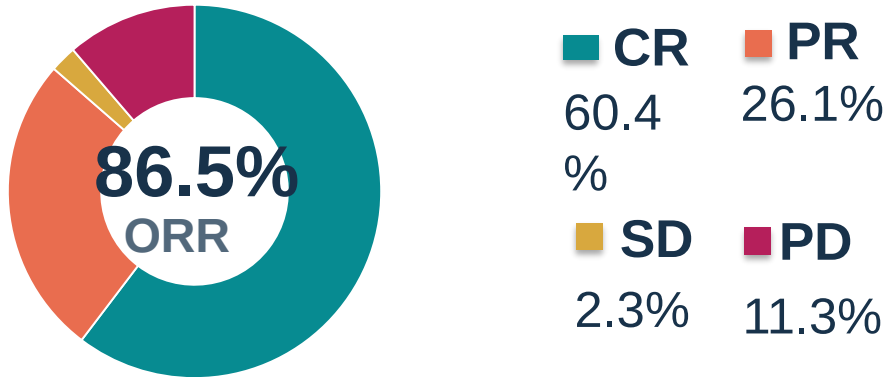
Kaplan-Meier OS BY FIGO STAGE



Log-rank $p < 0.001$

KEY RESULTS

12-week RECIST 1.1 response



COHORT PROFILE

Characteristic	n / value
Median age	49 y (30–70)
SCC	196 (88.3%)
Adeno / adenosquamous	26 (11.7%)
FIGO IIIC	133 (59.9%)
Pelvic LN positive	111
Para-aortic LN positive	22

3-YEAR OS / PFS

FIGO	OS	PFS
IIB	86.7%	73.3%
IIIA	87.5%	87.5%
IIIB	33.3%	25.0%
IIIC1	75.7%	66.7%
IIIC2	63.6%	50.0%
IVA	66.7%	66.7%

HISTOLOGY

3-year OS
SCC 75.5%
Non-SCC 73.1%

3-year PFS
SCC 66.8%
Non-SCC 53.8%

OS $p=0.777$ • PFS $p=0.192$

Parameter	GCIG INTERLACE Trial (Phase III, 2023)	SKMCH Cohort (Current Study)
Design (n)	Randomized phase III trial (n = 500)	Retrospective single-arm cohort (n = 222)
NACT regimen	Carboplatin AUC 2 + Paclitaxel 80 mg/m ² weekly × 6 cycles	Carboplatin AUC 5 + Paclitaxel 175 mg/m ² every 3 weeks × 2 cycles
Survival outcomes	5-year PFS: 72% 5-year OS: 80% (HR for PFS 0.65; HR for OS 0.60)	3-year PFS: 65.3% 3-year OS: 75.2%