

CRT may be preferred strategy for elderly with lung cancer

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pharmaceutical industry.

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(HealthDay)—Chemoradiotherapy (CRT) is associated with survival benefit over chemotherapy (CT) alone for elderly patients with limited-stage small-cell lung cancer, according to a study published online Oct. 19 in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Christopher D. Corso, M.D., Ph.D., from the Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, Conn., and colleagues examined outcomes for elderly patients (≥70 years) treated with CT versus CRT. Data were included for 8,637 patients with limited-stage small-cell lung [cancer](#) in the National Cancer Data Base between 2003 and 2011.

The researchers found that 43.7 and 56.3 percent of the patients received CT and CRT, respectively. CRT receipt was less likely with increasing age, clinical stage III disease, female sex, and the presence of medical comorbidities (all P survival benefit with concurrent versus sequential CRT (median overall survival, 17.0 versus 15.4 months; log-rank P = 0.01).

"Our findings suggest that CRT should be the preferred strategy in [elderly patients](#) who are expected to tolerate the toxicities of the combined approach," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to the

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