# Dental Issues In Cancer Patients Using Bone Modifying Agents

# What Every GPO Must Know

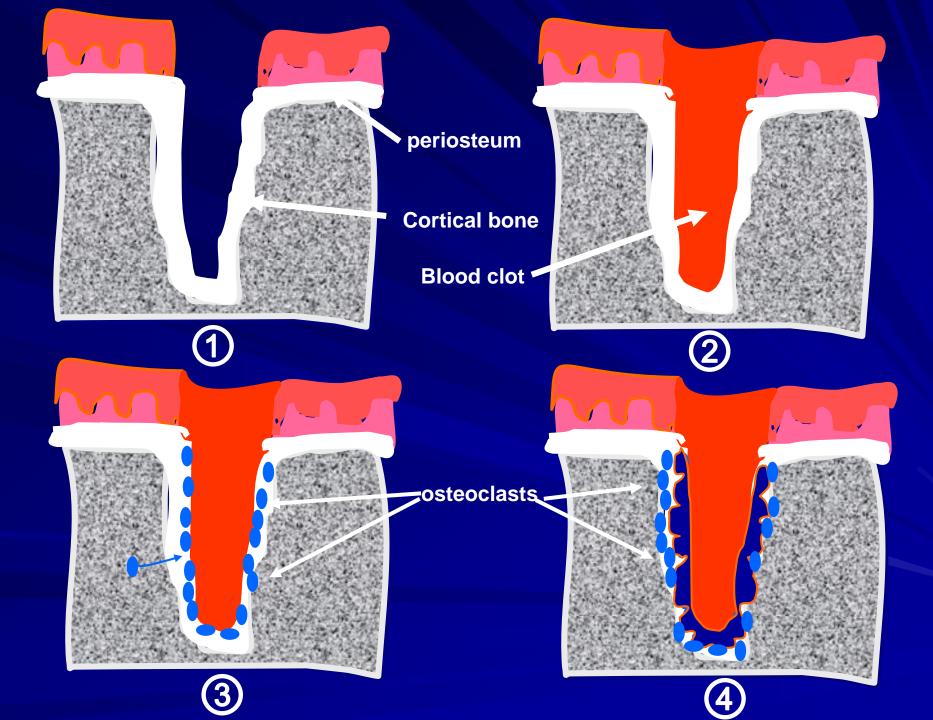
Dr. Allan Hovan, DMD, MSD, FRCD (C) 2016 CAGPO Annual Meeting Four Seasons Hotel, Vancouver, B.C. Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016

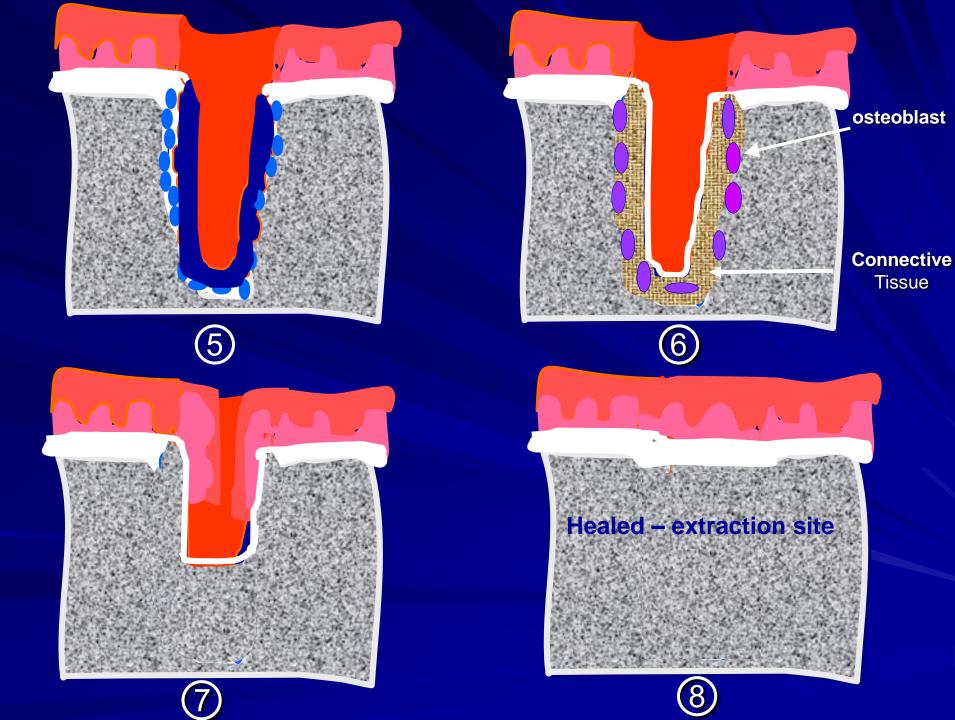
# **No Conflict of Interests**

# **Jaw Osteonecrosis**

### Osteo RADIO necrosis

### Osteo CHEMOnecrosis

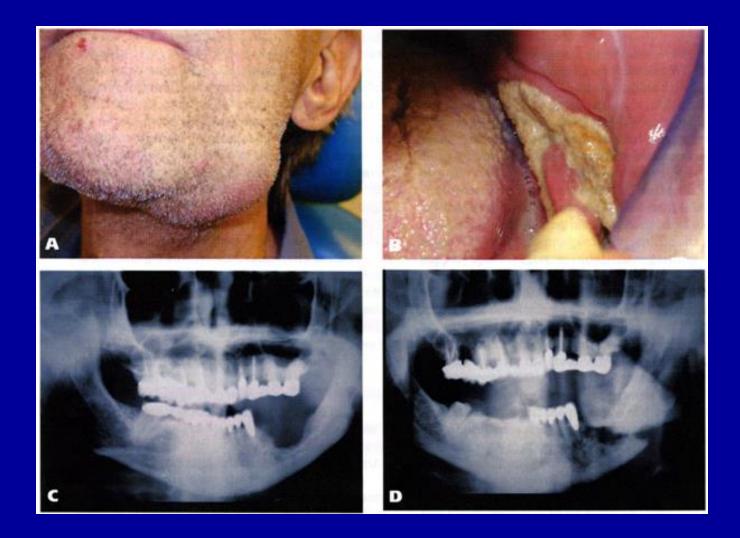




## Osteo*radio*necrosis

Non-healing mucosal or skin opening with underlying exposed devitalized bone in area of previous high-dose RT

# **Potential Sequelae**



# **Prevalence of ORN**

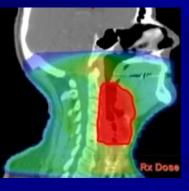
Table 1. Weighted prevalence from 31 studies.<sup>4</sup>

Modality	Prevalence
Conventional RT	7.4%
Intensity Modulated RT	5.2%
Chemoradiotherapy	6.8%
Brachytherapy	5.3%

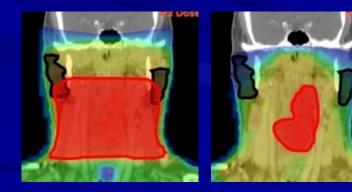
Adapted from Peterson, Hovan et al, 2010



Conventional



IMRT



Conventional

IMRT

# Pathophysiology of ORN

 Previously considered an osteomyelitis in irradiated bone as a result of a triad of RT, trauma and infection

- Marx (1983) redefined ORN as "a metabolic and tissue homeostatic deficiency created by RT-induced cellular injury"; ischemic necrosis of bone; non-infectious
  - Established HBO-guided surgical debridement as treatment of choice for established ORN when conservative management has failed

## **ORN Conservative Management**

"Saucerization" of exposed bone + Low-dose Doxycycline (100 mg/day) + 0.12% Chlorhexidene oral rinse

 If non-responsive/enlarging, consider HBOguided surgical excision of necrotic bone

# **HBO** in the Management of ORN

 Prophylaxis when surgery is performed in previously-radiated tissue

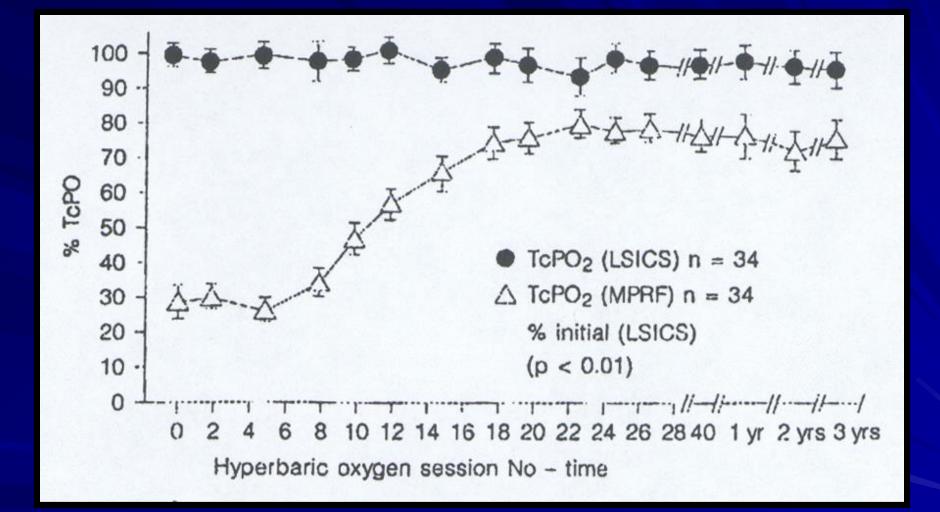
eg. dental extractions, dental implants 20/10

Established ORN

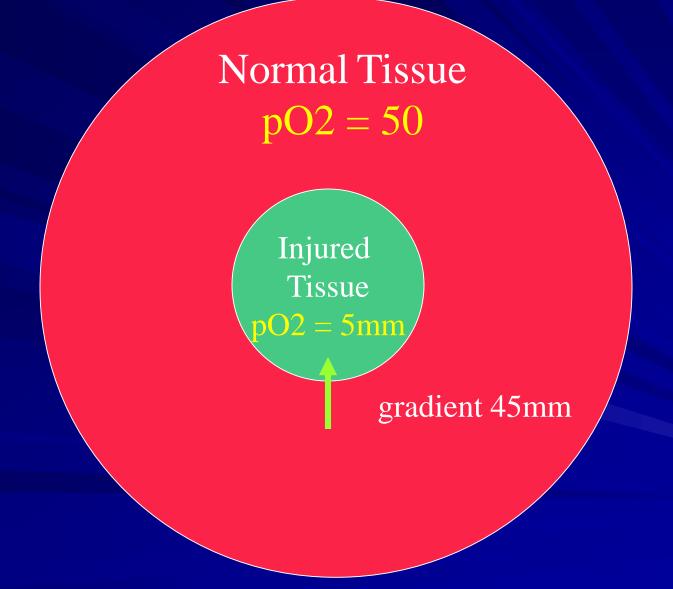
30/10

# What is HBO?

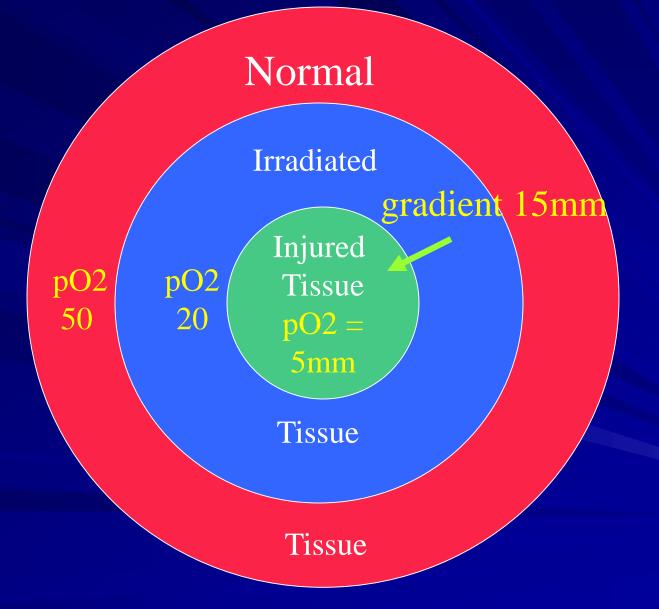
- Patient breathes oxygen at a pressure ~ 2.5X greater than normo-baric pressure (1ATA) for a predetermined period of time
- Typical "dosing" is 2.4 ATA X 90 minutes; each treatment takes approximately 130 minutes



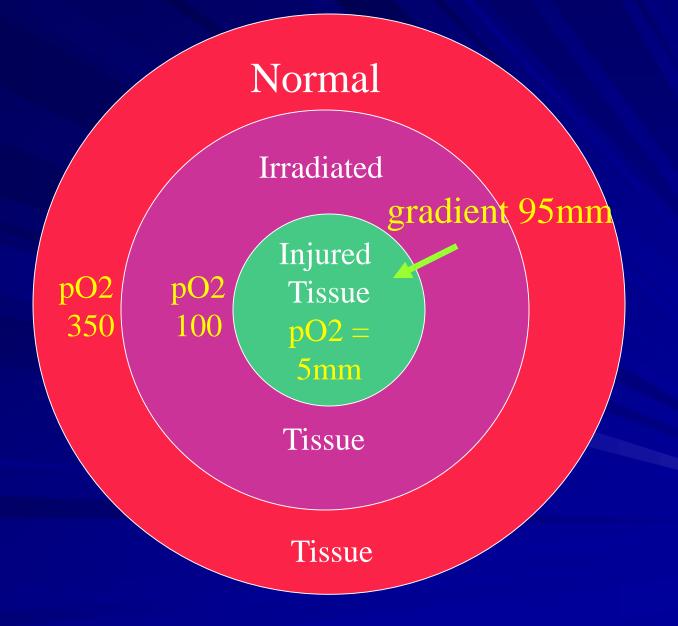
## **Normal Traumatized Tissue**



## **Irradiated Traumatized Tissue**



## **Irradiated Traumatized Tissue + HBO**



# **Tissue Effects of HBO**

### Hyper-oxygenation

Replenishment of Intracellular ATP

New Tissue Production
 (angiogenesis, neo-vascularization, bone production)

## **Osteoradionecrosis Summary**

• **Prevention** is the key

- Life-long risk factor for H&N RT patient
- HBO/surgery approach useful but not 100% successful
  - HBO not completely benign treatment
- Huge impact on patient (time, side-effects, etc)

# Osteochemonecrosis

AKA "BRONJ", "Jaw Necrosis Secondary to Anti-Resorptive/Bone Modifying Medications" etc. etc.....





## **Bisphosphonates**

#### **Bisphosphonates**

#### Intravenous Bisphosphonates

- Aredia™ (pamidronate)
- Zometa<sup>™</sup> (zoledronic acid)

#### **Oral Bisphosphonates**

- Fosamax<sup>™</sup> (alendronate)
- Actonel<sup>™</sup> (risedronate)
- Didronel<sup>™</sup> (etidronate)
- Skelid<sup>™</sup> (tiludronate)

#### **Relative Resorptive Potency of Bisphosphonates**

Bisphosphonate	Relative Potency		
First Generation Agents			
Etidronate	1		
Clodronate	10		
Tilundronate	10		
Second Generation Agents			
Pamidronate	100		
Alendronate	1,000		
Third Generation			
Ibandronate	10,000		
Zoledronate	20,000		

**Bisphosphonates and Dentistry:** Normal sequence of bone repair healing Exposule of bone Bisphosphonates Blood clot coverage Osteoclastic mobilization Resorption of "dead" bone by osteoclasts Connective tissue covers bone (medullary) Coverage by mucosa Osteoblastic bone formation – complete healing Bisphosphonates can inhibit bone repair and healing – extraction sites, surgery, trauma!

### **Clinical Use of Bisphosphonates**

### #1 = osteoporosis

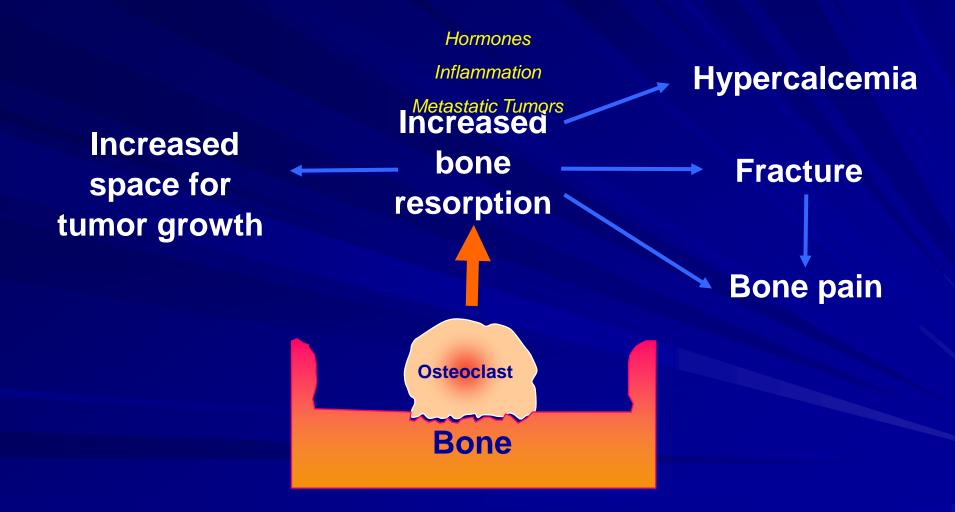
### Also used extensively in cancer setting:

- Preventing metastatic spread to bone (breast, lung, prostate, etc)
  - Multiple Myeloma (1<sup>st</sup> line therapy)
- Preventing hypercalcemia of malignancy

## Clinical Benefit of BPs in Cancer \*\*Unquestioned\*\*

- Limits metastatic tumour spread to bone
  - Prevents hypercalcemia
- Significant reduction in cancer-related SREs (fractures, RT, surgery to bone, etc)
  - Improves quality of life (less bone pain, less analgesic use, greater mobility, etc).

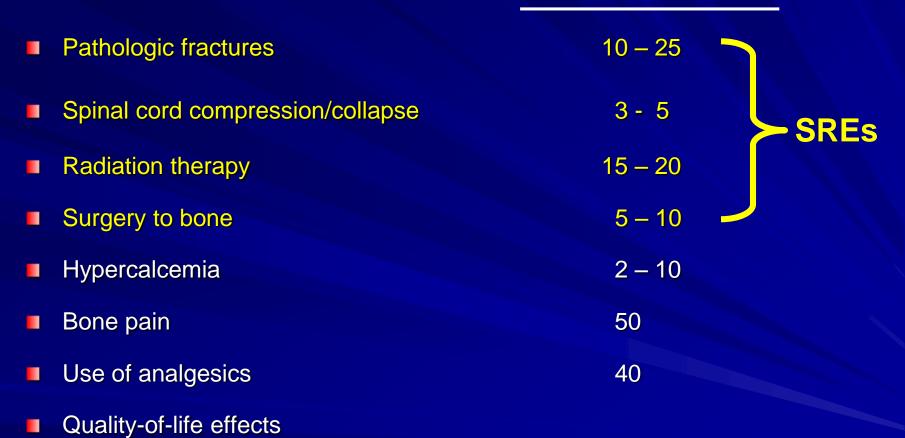
### **Consequences of Increased Bone Resorption**



C

#### Clinical Consequences of Metastatic Bone Disease<sup>†</sup>

#### % of patients / yr



Survival

SREs = Skeletal-related events.

From PLAC arms of randomized clinical trials with Aredia<sup>®</sup> or Zometa<sup>®</sup>. Novartis

### IV Bisphosphonates—Major Impact in Reducing Skeletal Complications for Cancer Pts With Metastatic Bone Disease

	% with SRE			# SREs per yr		
	Placebo	BP	%↓†	Placebo	BP	%↓
Prostate (Saad et al.)	49	Z-38	22*	1.5	0.7	47*
Breast (Hortobagyi et al.) (Kohno et al.)	64 50	A-51 Z-30	20* 40*	3.7 1.42	2.4 0.7	35* 50*
Myeloma (Berenson et al.)	51	A-38	26*	2.0	1.0	50*
Others (Rosen et al.)	46	Z-39	15	2.7	1.7	37*

SRE = Skeletal-related event; Pbo = Placebo; BP = Bisphosphonate; Z = Zometa<sup>®</sup>; A = Aredia<sup>®</sup>; \* P < 0.05; † Relative decrease Bisphosphonate Osteonecrosis (BRONJ) A Recent History

2003 - First literature report (i.v.)

2004 – First literature report (oral)

2005 - FDA statement

2006 – BRONJ monograms (Novartis, Merck)



- Health Canada approval only in 1996
  - Time-dependent phenomenon
- Survival rates for many cancers have improved, allowing more time for the phenomenon to occur; more patients having oral procedures done that put them at risk

# Why the Jaws?

Dental surgery common

Thin mucosa and periosteum

- Masticatory forces lead to microdamage
- Trauma and infection increase the demand for remodeling and repair

Osteonecrosis of the Jaw in Patients Receiving Intravenous Bisphosphonate Therapy \*\*\* MD Anderson Cancer Center Retrospective Chart Review

33 cases of ONJ identified in 4000 cancer patients (16 breast, 15 myeloma, 1 prostate, 1 thyroid):

Overall frequency: Breast cancer: Multiple myeloma: 33/4000 (0.83%)
16/1340 (1.2%)
15/550 (2.8%)

- 33 mandible
  - 27 maxilla
- 4 maxilla and mandible
  - 2 hard palate

\*\*\* true incidence rates hard to establish at this time

MDACC = MD Anderson Cancer Center; ONJ = osteonecrosis of the jaw 1. Hoff AO, et al. Presented at 27th ASBMR; September 23-27; Nashville, Tenn. Abstract 1218. Literature Report of ONJ: Ruggiero et al. 2004\*

### 63 cases between Feb 01- Nov 03

- MM (28), BC (20), prostate (3), other (5), no cancer (7)
- Pamidronate (57%), zoledronic acid (31%), oral BP (12%)
  - 71% female; mandible (63%) / maxilla (37%)
- Typical presentation: pain, non-healing extraction socket, exposed bone
  - Previous dental procedure: 86%
  - \* Ruggiero SL, et al. *J Oral Maxillofac Surg; 2004; 62* (5):527 534.

# **Protocols for Dental Care**

1. Prior to Initiation of Bisphosphonate Therapy

2. Once Patient is On Bisphosphonate Therapy

3. Once BRONJ has occurred.

# Prior to Initiating Bisphosphonate Therapy

- Complete oral exam, including x-rays
- Eliminate potential sources of infection or trauma; restore salvageable teeth
- Extractions, periodontal surgery 4-6 weeks prior to bisphosphonate therapy

### **Once Patient is on Bisphosphonate Tx**

 Encourage routine preventive and restorative treatment (crowns > large fillings)

- frequent prosthesis checks
- Non-surgical perio/endo therapy

 Implants / orthodontics contraindicated in patients on i.v. BPs; worrisome in patients on oral BPs

Patient considered "at risk" after 3 months iv; 3 years oral

## Once BRONJ has occurred...

Unlike ORN, there are currently no known treatments capable of *predictably* healing BP-associated ONJ lesions

# Management of BRONJ What Is Being Used/Tried

**Smaller Necrotic Lesions** 

Gentle removal of sharp bone; protective stent; antibacterial rinses; cross your fingers

**Larger Necrotic Lesions** 

Surgical removal of bone. Issue is establishing necrotic bone margin. Some centres using antibiotic labeling of bone and fluorescent light source to outline margins (BCCA Protocol)

## Should BP Therapy Be Discontinued for Dental Extractions?

Controversial in literature; probably won't help

Pharmacokinetics after infusion unclear

 Half life in bone = YEARS; therefore, compromised healing response will always be present

 Must also consider risks associated with d/c BPs (metastatic bone spread, SREs, etc)

# Denosumab (Xgeva)

- Fully human monocloncal antibody
- Targets RANK ligand on pre-osteoclasts
- Anti-resorptive potency ~ Zoledronic Acid
- Advantages: toxicity profile; half-life ~ 21 days (vs years for iv BPs). Therefore, rationale for drug holiday if dental extraction planned.

## **Other Considerations**

- Most cases of BRONJ/ONJ associated with surgical procedure but spontaneous cases do occur
- Mandible and maxilla ~ equally affected (unlike ORN)
- Emerging # of cases of spontaneous BRONJ in patients on angiogenesis inhibitors, monoclonals, immunotherapetics
  - Suggestion that pre-existing periodontal disease increases risk of post-surgical jaw necrosis

# **Take Home Message**

- ORN a life-long risk in H&N RT patients, Risk relative to XRT dose, complexity of oral surgical procedure and other factors (eg smoking). Management options exist.
- BRONJ risk low in patients on oral BPs; considered at some risk after 3 years of oral BP therapy.
- BRONJ considered significant, life-long risk in patients after 3 months of IV BP therapy. Drug holidays controversial. Management options limited.
  - Whether ORN or BRONJ/ONJ, PREVENTION is key. Pre-treatment dental assessment and ongoing dental care remains the cornerstone to preventing this potentially serious side-effect of cancer therapy