

The health policy implications of lung cancer are significant in terms of both cancer incidence and mortality ranging from the local to international perspectives. Although the rates of smoking-related lung cancers appear to be easing among various patient populations, mortality from lung cancer continues to be high despite advancements in imaging, surgery, radiation therapy and systemic therapies. Advancements in health policy interventions, patient screening, molecular subtyping and immunotherapy may hold promise in further reversing these incidence and mortality trends.

Radiotherapy has a central and important role in the management of NSCLC to optimize patient outcomes. In resectable disease, meta-analyses and guidelines have provided important information regarding the selection of patients and dose-fractionation for post-operative radiotherapy. Similarly, four decades of clinical trial experience have clarified the indications, dose-fractionation, and use of concurrent chemoradiation for the management of locally-advanced NSCLC. More recent investigations of stereotactic ablative radiotherapy as an alternative to surgery for early stage disease have provided patients with an important option for the management of this clinical entity. Additionally, other palliative radiotherapy indications exist to optimize health-related quality-of-life and to reduce tumour-related symptoms.

In “*Radiation and Combined Therapies for Lung Cancer*” this central role of radiotherapy in the management of NSCLC is further explored by experts in the field to provide the reader a review of what is currently known for a variety of clinical NSCLC scenarios but also to look forward to where the field is potentially heading. Specifically, the areas of radiation modality and technique are explored in terms of potential improvements in the therapeutic ratio within the radiotherapy modality. Additionally, issues surrounding the inclusion and sequencing of multimodal treatment combining radiation with surgery, chemotherapy, targeted therapy, and immunotherapy are explored by multiple authors in this book.

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