

**Table 2** Long-term outcomes of SBRT vs. sublobar resection in general  
 Ordered by degree of confidence that results reflect the effect of the treatment, stage

1 <sup>st</sup> author year (reference)	Study characteristics							Adjustment for confounding							Confid RE Tmt effect	f/u (mo) Surg/SBRT <sup>b</sup>	Adjusted % 5-yr OS SBRT vs. SL			Adjusted % 5-yr LCSS SBRT vs. SL					
	Source	Yrs	n	Stage <sup>a</sup>	Surg extent	Other	Mean Age <sup>b</sup>	% Charlson score ≥2 <sup>b</sup>	Demogr F	CoMorbid	Hi stage	Time span	Q Settings	Q Treatmt			Fav tumor	Statistical methods	# adj for/ Subsets	SBRT	SL	HR	SBRT	SL	HR
SBRT vs. sublobar resection																									
Mayne 2020 (8)	NCDB	04-15	558 <sup>c</sup>	cIA	W	≥90 d	73/73	24/24							MV, PM	15/2	H	28	31	53	1.64	-	-	-	
Chi 2019 (42)	NCDB	04-15	16,525	T <sub>any</sub> NO	Seg		-75 <sup>d</sup>	20/19 <sup>d</sup>							MV, PM	19/4	H	-	32 <sup>f</sup>	62 <sup>f</sup>	1.67	-	-	-	
Chi 2019 (42)	NCDB	04-15	26,756	T <sub>any</sub> NO	W		-75 <sup>d</sup>	20/19 <sup>d</sup>							MV, PM	19/4	H	-	32 <sup>f</sup>	55 <sup>f</sup>	1.49	-	-	-	
Khorfan 2020 (40)	NCDB	04-16	2,146 <sup>c</sup>	T <sub>any</sub> NO	W	Decl S	>70 <sup>d</sup>	12 <sup>d</sup>							PM	11/4	H	-	38	49	>1 <sup>e</sup>	-	-	-	
Yerokun 2017 (58)	NCDB	08-11	3,168 <sup>c</sup>	cIA1,2	W		73/73	15/13							PM	10/4	M	36	31	50	>1 <sup>e</sup>	-	-	-	
Wu 2020 (59)	NCDB	04-14	11,346 <sup>c</sup>	cIA1,2	SL		-	-							PM	15/3	M	32	38	55	1.63	-	-	-	
Wu 2020 (59)	NCDB	04-14	11,797 <sup>c</sup>	cl	Seg		-	-							PM	15/3	M	32	33	57	1.89	-	-	-	
Wu 2020 (59)	NCDB	04-14	18,104 <sup>c</sup>	cl	W		-	-							PM	15/3	M	32	33	48	1.5	-	-	-	
Wu 2020 (59)	NCDB	04-14	19,934 <sup>c</sup>	cl	SL		73/73	17/16							PM	15/3	M	32	34	52	1.6	-	-	-	
Bryant 2018 (9)	VA	06-15	926	cl	SL		-	-							MV	12/2	M	31/18	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	
Bryant 2018 (9)	VA	06-15	1,083	cl-IIA	SL		69/71	45/39							MV	12/2	M	31/18	44 <sup>f</sup>	56 <sup>f</sup>	1.17	55 <sup>f</sup>	68 <sup>f</sup>	1.25	
Bryant 2018 (9)	VA	06-15	157	clIA	SL		-	-							MV	12/2	M	31/18	-	-	-	-	-	1.62	
Puri 2015 (49)	NCDB	98-10	9,110	cl-IIA	W <sup>o</sup>		74/74	14/15							PQ, PM	9/3	L	28/16	25	42	>1 <sup>e</sup>	-	-	-	
Dong 2020 (60)	China x1	12-16	80 <sup>c</sup>	cl-IIA	SL		65/67	-							PM	9	L	49	67	80	>1 <sup>e</sup>	75	85	>1 <sup>e,p</sup>	
Yuan 2021 (61)	China x1	12-15	98 <sup>c</sup>	cl-IIA	SL		68/67	-							PM	6	L	37/32	[85] <sup>h</sup>	[73] <sup>h</sup>	-	[87] <sup>h</sup>	[75] <sup>h</sup>	-	
Ajmani 2018 (62)	NCDB	05-13	4,519 <sup>c</sup>	cl	W	Hi Q	74/74 <sup>d</sup>	18/19 <sup>d</sup>							MV, PM	11/3	L	66	38	66	2	-	-	-	
Ajmani 2018 (62)	NCDB	05-13	4,085 <sup>c</sup>	cl	W	Low Q	74/74 <sup>d</sup>	18/19 <sup>d</sup>							MV, PM	11/3	L	66	38	34	.88	-	-	-	
Iguchi 2020 (63)	Japan x1	02-14	251	cl-IIA	SL	Fav T	67/75	-							PM	14	VL	60/32	64	71	>1 <sup>e</sup>	-	-	-	

Legend (for Tables 1,2): ≥90 d W, delayed wedge ≥90 days after diagnosis vs. early SBRT (within 30 days); CC =0, only patients with Charlson comorbidity category of 0 included; Decl S, patients recommended to have resection, but refused; Fav T, favorable tumors (25% were pure ground glass); f/u, median follow-up duration of cohort; Hi Q, high quality wedge (defined as R0 and >5 nodes assessed); HR, hazard ratio; Incl GG, includes some ground glass tumors; LCSS, lung cancer specific survival; L, lobe, lobectomy; LE >5 y, life expectancy >5 years; Low Q, low quality wedge (defined as R1,2); NCDB, US national cancer database; OS, overall survival; SBRT, stereotactic body radiotherapy; SEER, Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results database; Seg, segmentectomy; SL, sublobar resection; VA, Veterans Health Administration Database (US), W, wedge resection; Yrs, years.

Legend for Adjustment for Confounding: Demogr F, demographic factors (age, sex, socioeconomic); Comorbid, comorbidities; Hi Stage, occult stage inaccuracy due to differences in extent of assessment; Time Span, adjustment for changes during the study period or differential use of the interventions; Q settings, discrepancy in the facilities or settings performing the interventions; Q Treatmt, quality of the treatment (e.g., margin distance, adjuvant therapy); Fav Tumor, selection of less aggressive tumors for an intervention; Statistical methods, methods used to adjust for confounding; Subset, additional subset or sensitivity analyses; # adj for, number of factors adjusted for; Conf RE tmt effect, Confidence that results reflect the effect of the treatment vs. confounding factors. MV, Multivariable model (e.g., Cox regression); PA, propensity score adjustment; PM, propensity matching; PQ, analysis of propensity score quintiles							
Color Code:	Categories of confounding	Addressed	Neutral (likely little effect)	Limited concern	Moderate concern	High concern	Clearly confounded
	Confidence RE treatment effect	VH-very high	H-high	M-moderate	L-low	VL-very low confidence	

<sup>a</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> edition stage classification; <sup>b</sup>, for surgery/SBRT cohort; <sup>c</sup>, propensity matched pairs (total); <sup>d</sup>, % among entire study cohort, not reported by subgroup; <sup>e</sup>, direction of trend is clear but HR not reported; <sup>f</sup>, unmatched cohort; <sup>g</sup>, all VATS resections; <sup>h</sup>, 3-year survival (in brackets because not comparable to 5-year OS); <sup>i</sup>, cancer specific survival (not specifically lung cancer); <sup>j</sup>, "best stage," i.e., mixture of clinical (nonsurgical patients) and pathologic stage (surgical patients); <sup>k</sup>, ≥3; <sup>m</sup>, included 10–20% pneumonectomy and bilobectomy, <sup>n</sup>, 20% sublobar; <sup>o</sup>, ≥80%; <sup>p</sup>, P=0.056.