

# Salvage Radiotherapy Management Decisions in Postprostatectomy Patients with Recurrent Prostate Cancer Based on $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine PET/CT Guidance

Olayinka A. Abiodun-Ojo<sup>\*1</sup>, Ashesh B. Jani<sup>\*2</sup>, Akinyemi A. Akintayo<sup>1</sup>, Oladunni O. Akin-Akintayo<sup>1</sup>, Oluwaseun A. Odewole<sup>1</sup>, Funmilayo I. Tade<sup>3</sup>, Shreyas S. Joshi<sup>4</sup>, Viraj A. Master<sup>4</sup>, Bridget Fielder<sup>1</sup>, Raghuveer K. Halkar<sup>1</sup>, Chao Zhang<sup>5</sup>, Subir Goyal<sup>6</sup>, Mark M. Goodman<sup>1,7</sup>, and David M. Schuster<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia; <sup>2</sup>Department of Radiation Oncology, Winship Cancer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia; <sup>3</sup>Department of Radiology, Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, Illinois; <sup>4</sup>Department of Urology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia; <sup>5</sup>Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia; <sup>6</sup>Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Shared Resource, Winship Cancer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia; and <sup>7</sup>Emory University Center for Systems Imaging, Atlanta, Georgia

Imaging with novel PET radiotracers has significantly influenced radiotherapy decision making and radiation planning in patients with recurrent prostate cancer (PCa). The purpose of this analysis was to report the final results for management decision changes based on  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT findings and determine whether the decision change trend remained after completion of accrual. **Methods:** Patients with detectable prostate-specific antigen (PSA) after prostatectomy were randomized to undergo either conventional imaging (CI) only (arm A) or CI plus  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT (arm B) before radiotherapy. In arm B, positivity rates on CI and  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT for detection of recurrent PCa were determined. Final decisions on whether to offer radiotherapy and whether to include only the prostate bed or also the pelvis in the radiotherapy field were based on  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT findings. Radiotherapy decisions before and after  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT were compared. The statistical significance of decision changes was determined using the Clopper–Pearson (exact) binomial method. Prognostic factors were compared between patients with and without decision changes. **Results:** All 165 patients enrolled in the study had standard-of-care CI and were initially planned to receive radiotherapy. Sixty-three of 79 (79.7%) patients (median PSA, 0.33 ng/mL) who underwent  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT (arm B) had positive findings.  $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine PET/CT had a significantly higher positivity rate than CI did for the whole body (79.7% vs. 13.9%;  $P < 0.001$ ), prostate bed (69.6% vs. 5.1%;  $P < 0.001$ ), and pelvic lymph nodes (38.0% vs. 10.1%;  $P < 0.001$ ). Twenty-eight of 79 (35.4%) patients had the overall radiotherapy decision changed after  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT; in 4 of 79 (5.1%), the decision to use radiotherapy was withdrawn because of extrapelvic disease detected on  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT. In 24 of 75 (32.0%) patients with a final decision to undergo radiotherapy, the radiotherapy field was changed. Changes in overall radiotherapy decisions and radiotherapy fields were statistically significant ( $P < 0.001$ ). Overall, the mean PSA at PET was significantly different between patients with and without radiotherapy decision changes ( $P = 0.033$ ). **Conclusion:**  $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine PET/CT significantly altered salvage radiotherapy decisions in patients with recurrent PCa after prostatectomy. Further analysis to determine the impact of

$^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT guidance on clinical outcomes after radiotherapy is in progress.

**Key Words:**  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine; PET/CT; prostate cancer; radiotherapy; management change

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**D**espite advances in prostate cancer (PCa) treatment, approximately 40% of patients treated with prostatectomy experience a rise in prostate-specific antigen (PSA) levels (1,2). Radiotherapy with or without hormone therapy has been the mainstay of recurrent PCa treatment after prostatectomy (3,4). Nonetheless, PSA failure is noted in about 50% of patients after salvage radiotherapy (5), partly because of inappropriate patient selection and nontargeted therapy (3,6).

Imaging has played an essential role in disease localization and treatment planning for salvage radiotherapy in patients with recurrent PCa (7–9). Conventional imaging (CI), including bone scanning, CT, and MRI, has been the standard of care for PCa restaging and radiotherapy planning (7,10,11). Yet, CI has limited ability to accurately define the location and extent of recurrent disease, especially in patients with low PSA levels (6,12–14).

Imaging with novel PET radiotracers has significantly influenced radiotherapy decision making and radiation planning in patients with recurrent PCa (3,9,15,16).  $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine (Axumin; Blue Earth Diagnostics, Ltd.) is a nonnatural amino acid PET radiotracer that is approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the detection of recurrent PCa in patients with rising PSA. Because of its high specificity for extraprostatic disease,  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine is able to identify both prostatic and extraprostatic recurrence across all PSA levels (17,18). In a preliminary interim analysis of this study, at 87 of 165 accrual, a 40.5% change in salvage radiotherapy management was seen in postprostatectomy patients after guidance with  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT (19). The purpose of this analysis was to report the final results for management decision changes and determine whether the decision change trend remained after completion of accrual.

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For correspondence or reprints, contact Olayinka Abiodun-Ojo (olayinka.abiodun-ojo@emory.edu).

\*Contributed equally to this work.

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## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This prospective randomized clinical trial (ClinicalTrials.gov identifier NCT01666808)—Emory Molecular Prostate Imaging for Radiotherapy Enhancement (EMPIRE-1)—consisting of 2 groups (arms A and B), was conducted in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and approved by the Institutional Review Board.

Patients 18 y or older with a history of prostate adenocarcinoma, detectable PSA after prostatectomy, no evidence of extrapelvic disease on CI, and a Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group performance status of 0–2 were enrolled. Exclusion criteria include contraindications to radiotherapy, prior pelvic radiotherapy, previous invasive malignancy (unless disease-free for at least 3 y), and severe acute morbidity. All patients provided written informed consent.

Before randomization, the treating radiation oncologist completed an intention-to-treat form. Patients were randomized to receive either CI (abdominopelvic CT or MRI) only (arm A) or CI plus  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT (arm B) before radiotherapy using a computer-generated schedule. All patients had standard-of-care  $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ -methylene diphosphonate bone scanning. Patient follow-up for a minimum of 3 y with PSA and other clinical parameters (every 6 mo) is ongoing. This current report will focus mainly on management decision changes based on  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT guidance (arm B only), because data on these changes are available earlier than cancer control outcomes.

### $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine PET/CT Imaging Protocol

$^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine was prepared as previously reported (20). After at least 4 h of fasting, patients ingested an oral contrast medium. One hour later, abdominopelvic CT (slice thickness, 3.75 mm; spacing, 3.25 mm) was completed for anatomic imaging and attenuation correction (~100 mAs and 120 kVp). After this,  $370 \pm 11.1$  MBq ( $10.1 \pm 0.3$  mCi) of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine were injected intravenously. Afterward, dual-time-point (5–15.5 min and 16–27.5 min) imaging was completed, using 4 consecutive 2.5 min/bed position PET acquisitions from pelvis to diaphragm. PET/CT images were acquired on a Discovery MV690 16-slice integrated scanner (GE Healthcare). Images were reconstructed with iterative technique (VUE Point Fx [GE Healthcare]; 3 iterations, 24 subsets, 6.4-mm filter cutoff) and transferred to a MIMVista workstation (MIM Software) for interpretation.

### Image Analysis

CI was performed and interpreted per institutional protocol before the  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT scan.  $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine PET/CT images

were interpreted independently by 2 board-certified nuclear medicine physicians (over 20 y experience each), with consensus agreement on discordant interpretations. The readers did not know the patient's clinical history (beyond inclusion criteria) and other imaging results, to avoid interpretation bias.  $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine PET positivity in the prostate bed, lymph nodes, or bone was defined as persistent nonphysiologic moderate (greater than marrow) focal uptake (17).

### Management Decision Criteria

The prostate bed and pelvic lymph nodes were evaluated using the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group contouring guidelines (21). Initial (prefluciclovine) radiotherapy decisions were based on clinical history, histopathology findings at prostatectomy (lymph node–positive, margin–positive, seminal vesicle–positive, and extracapsular extension), PSA trajectory, and CI findings using well-recognized clinical criteria (22). Final radiotherapy decisions were based on  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT findings. If there was no uptake or if uptake was in the prostate bed only, radiotherapy (64.8–70.2 Gy in 1.8-Gy fractions) was delivered to only the prostate (surgical) bed as the standard field, or additionally to the area of uptake, respectively. If there was pelvic nodal uptake or pN1 (regional node involvement), radiotherapy (45.0–50.4 Gy in 1.8-Gy fractions) was performed to the pelvis plus the prostate (surgical) bed. If there was extrapelvic uptake, no radiotherapy was performed; instead, systemic therapy was offered.

### Statistical Analysis

We calculated that a sample of 146 patients (73 in each arm) were needed to test a 20% difference in 3-y failure-free survival (50% vs. 70%) between arms at a 0.05 level of significance with 80% power (23). Assuming a withdrawal or dropout rate of 10%, the overall target enrollment was a minimum of 162 subjects. Positivity rates on CI and  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT for detection of recurrent PCa were determined and compared using the  $\chi^2$  or Fisher exact test. The  $\kappa$ -statistic was used to determine interreader agreement for  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT.

Treatment plans before and after  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT were compared and changes noted. The statistical significance of changes regarding the overall radiotherapy decision, the decision on whether to offer radiotherapy, and the decision on the extent of the radiotherapy field (i.e., whether to treat only the prostate bed or to include the pelvic nodes) was calculated using the Clopper–Pearson (exact) binomial method. Two-sample  $t$  testing and Kruskal–Wallis testing were used to determine the differences in mean PSA at PET, Gleason score, and prostatectomy-to-PET interval between patients with and without decision changes. A  $P$

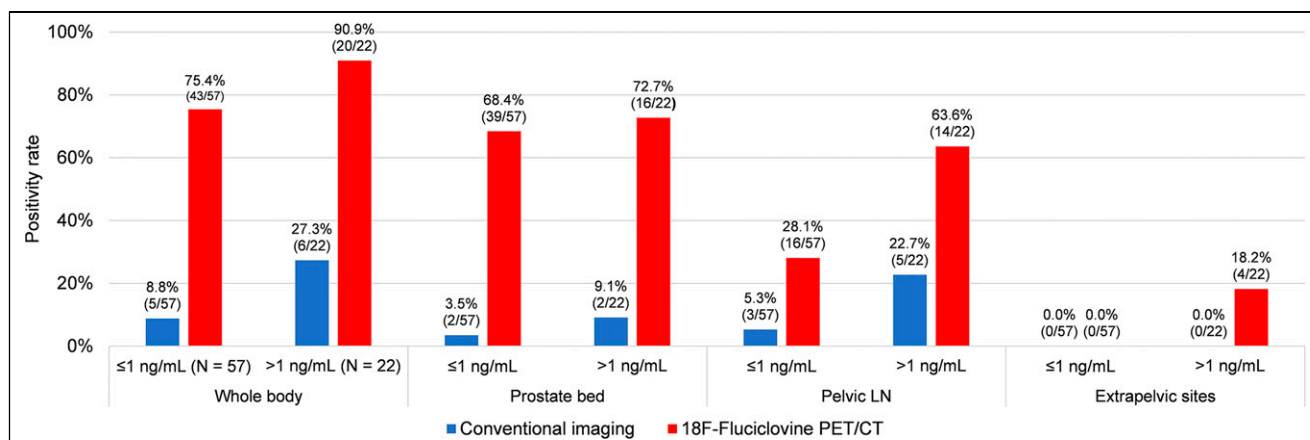


FIGURE 1. Comparison of positivity rates on CI and  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT. LN = lymph node.

**TABLE 1**  
Demographic, Clinical, and Histopathologic Characteristics of Arm B (CI Plus <sup>18</sup>F-Fluciclovine PET; n = 79)

Characteristic	Data
Mean age (y)	61.6 (SD, 7.6)
Median PSA at PET scan (ng/mL)	0.33 (range, 0.02–31.00)
Gleason score (n)	
3 + 3 (grade group 1)	8 (10.1%)
3 + 4 (grade group 2)	27 (34.2%)
4 + 3 (grade group 3)	23 (29.1%)
≥4 + 4 (grade groups 4 and 5)	21 (26.6%)
Primary tumor stage (n)	
T1–T2	37 (46.8%)
T3–T4	42 (53.2%)
Extracapsular extension (n)	
Seminal vesicle invasion (n)	24 (30.4%)
Margin-positive (n)	
Node-positive (n)	15 (19.0%)
Ongoing ADT at PET* (n)	12 (15.4%)
Mean duration on ADT before PET (d)	40 (SD, 31)
Median prostatectomy-to-CI interval (y)	1.6 (range, 0.0–11.3)
Median prostatectomy-to-PET interval (y)	1.7 (range, 0.2–11.5)

\*n = 78 patients.

value of less than 0.05 was regarded as statistically significant. Data were analyzed using SAS, version 9.4 (SAS Institute Inc.).

## RESULTS

### Patient Characteristics

Eighty-three of 165 patients enrolled in the study between September 2012 and March 2019 were randomized into arm B. Four of 83 patients did not undergo <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET. Therefore, only 79 patients were analyzed. The median PSA at PET was 0.33 ng/mL (range, 0.02–31.00 ng/mL). Patient characteristics are outlined in Table 1. Supplemental Table 1 describes Arm A (CI only)

demographics (supplemental materials are available at <http://jnm.snmjournals.org>).

### Detection of Recurrence on <sup>18</sup>F-Fluciclovine PET/CT

Sixty-three of 79 (79.7%) patients had positive <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT results. On whole-body analysis, the positivity rate on <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT was 75.4% for PSA 1 ng/mL or lower and 90.9% for PSA higher than 1 ng/mL (Table 2). κ was 0.59 in the prostate, 0.83 in the pelvis, and 0.67 in the extrapelvic regions.

### CI Analysis

Seventy-one MRI and 8 CT scans were performed. On whole-body analysis, the positivity rate on CI was 8.8% for PSA 1 ng/mL or lower and 27.3% for PSA higher than 1 ng/mL (Table 2). No patient had extrapelvic metastasis, per the inclusion criteria.

### Comparison Between Positivity Rates on <sup>18</sup>F-Fluciclovine PET/CT and CI

<sup>18</sup>F-Fluciclovine PET/CT had a significantly higher positivity rate than CI for the whole body (79.7% vs. 13.9%; *P* < 0.001), prostate bed (69.6% vs. 5.1%; *P* < 0.001), and pelvic lymph nodes (38.0% vs. 10.1%; *P* < 0.001). These differences were significant across PSA levels (Fig. 1; Table 2). <sup>18</sup>F-Fluciclovine PET/CT detected extrapelvic disease not previously seen on CI in 4 of 79 (5.1%) patients; 2 patients had uptake in extrapelvic lymph nodes, whereas 2 other patients had uptake in bone with or without extrapelvic lymph nodes.

### Management Decision Change

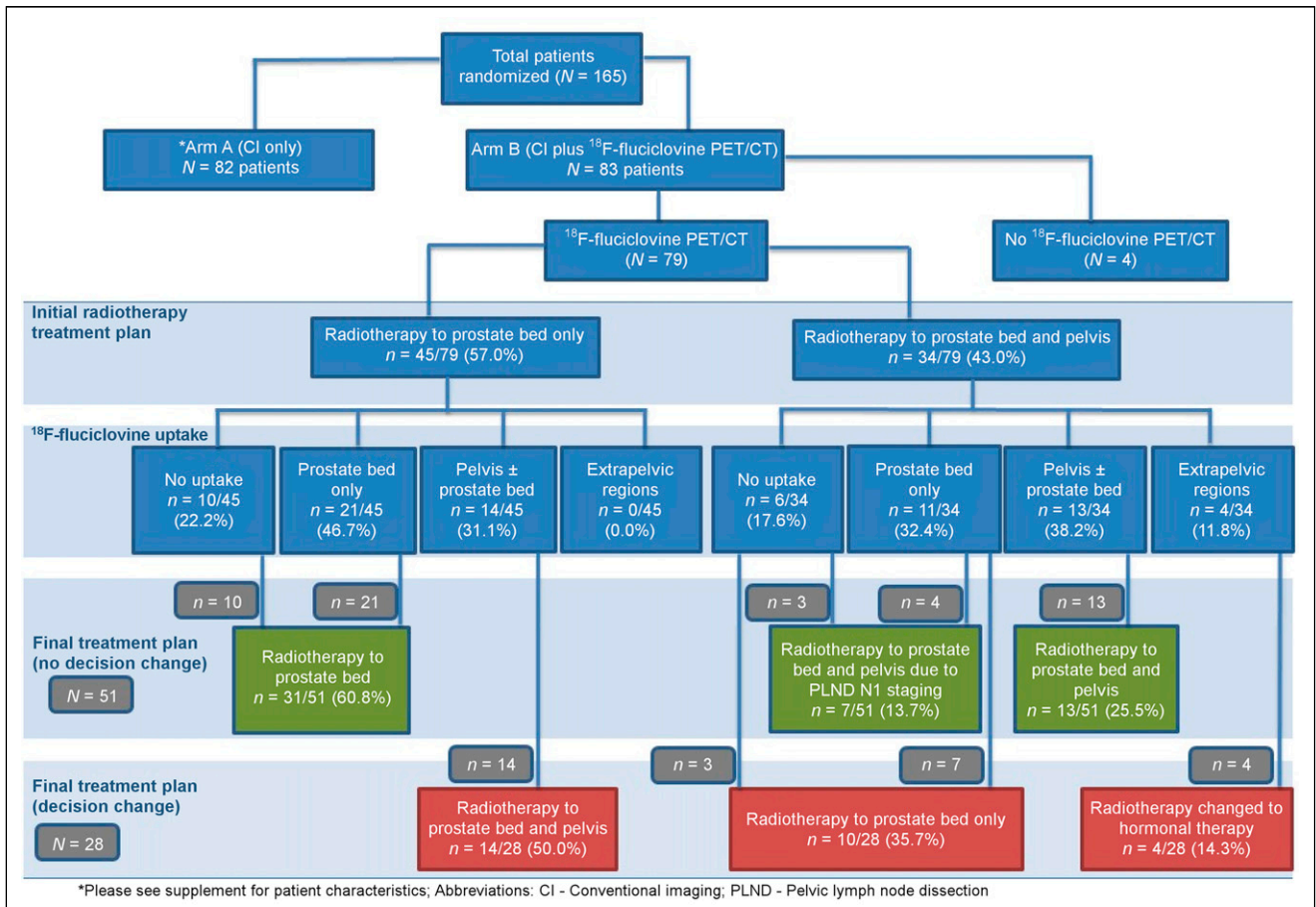
All 79 patients were initially planned to receive radiotherapy either to the prostate bed only (45 patients) or to the prostate bed and pelvis (34 patients). Details of the <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine uptake pattern and the initial and final treatment decisions are shown in Figure 2.

**Overall Decision Change.** On the basis of the <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT findings, the overall radiotherapy decision was changed in 28 of 79 (35.4%) patients (Table 3). Although there were 4 major decision changes to not offer radiotherapy because of extrapelvic disease detected on PET, this difference, when considered alone, did not reach statistical significance (*P* = 0.120, Table 4). Subgroup analyses showed a 76.5% positivity rate on <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT and a 29.4% management change in patients with PSA lower than 0.5 ng/mL. Additionally, androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) decisions were changed in 5 patients; 2 patients who had not been offered ADT before <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT were offered ADT afterward, and 3 patients initially

**TABLE 2**  
Comparison of Positivity Rates on CI and <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET

Group	Whole body			Prostate bed			Pelvic lymph nodes		
	CI	PET	<i>P</i>	CI	PET	<i>P</i>	CI	PET	<i>P</i>
All patients (n = 79)	11/79 (13.9)	63/79 (79.7)	<0.001	4/79 (5.1)	55/79 (69.6)	<0.001*	8/79 (10.1)	30/79 (38.0)	<0.001
≤1 ng/mL (n = 57)	5/57 (8.8)	43/57 (75.4)	<0.001	2/57 (3.5)	39/57 (68.4)	<0.001*	3/57 (5.3)	16/57 (28.1)	0.002*
>1 ng/mL (n = 22)	6/22 (27.3)	20/22 (90.9)	<0.001*	2/22 (9.1)	16/22 (72.7)	<0.001*	5/22 (22.7)	14/22 (63.6)	0.014

\*Fisher exact test.  
Data are number followed by percentage in parentheses.



**FIGURE 2.** Study flow diagram showing initial and final radiotherapy decisions.

planned for short-term ADT were offered long-term ADT because of extrapelvic disease detected on  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT.

**Radiotherapy Field Change.** As shown in Table 5, in 24 of 75 (32.0%) patients with a final decision to undergo radiotherapy, the radiotherapy fields changed after  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT. Changes in the overall radiotherapy decision and in the radiotherapy field were both statistically significant ( $P < 0.001$ ). Representative images showing extrapelvic, pelvic, and prostate bed  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine uptake are shown in Figures 3, 4, and 5, respectively.

Among the prognostic factors examined, the overall mean PSA at PET was significantly higher in patients with radiotherapy decision changes than in those without (Table 6).

## DISCUSSION

Accurate localization and early detection of recurrent PCa are essential for patient selection, targeted therapy, and improved clinical outcomes. This prospective intention-to-treat clinical trial was designed to explore the influence of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT on

**TABLE 3**  
Influence of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine on Overall Decision Change

Prefluciclovine decision	Postfluciclovine decision			Decision change	P
	Prostate bed only	Pelvis ± prostate bed	No XRT		
Overall XRT decision (n = 79)					<0.001
XRT to prostate bed only	31	14*	0	14/79 (17.7%)	
XRT to prostate bed + pelvis	10*	20	4*	14/79 (17.7%)	
No XRT	0	0	0	0/79 (0.0%)	
Overall decision change				35.4%	

\*Decision change.  
XRT = radiotherapy.

**TABLE 4**  
Influence of <sup>18</sup>F-Fluciclovine on Radiotherapy Decision Change

Prefluciclovine decision	Postfluciclovine decision			P
	Offer XRT	No XRT	Decision change	
XRT decision (n = 79)				0.120
Offer XRT	75	4	4/79 (5.1%)	
No XRT	0	0	0/79 (0.0%)	

XRT = radiotherapy.

radiotherapy planning in postprostatectomy patients with PSA failure.

In this study, <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT resulted in a significant 35.4% change in overall radiotherapy decisions and 32.0% change in radiotherapy fields. The decision to offer radiotherapy was withdrawn and systemic therapy offered in 5.1% of patients because of extrapelvic disease detected only on <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT. In an interim analysis of this study of 42 patients who underwent <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT, we reported a 40.5% overall decision change and a 37.5% radiotherapy field change (19), comparable to the current findings.

The whole-body positivity rate on <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT was 79.7% in this study population, consistent with the reported positivity rates of 79.3% by Pernthaler (24) and 81% by Savir-Baruch (25). In contrast, relatively lower positivity rates on <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT have been found by other studies (26,27), likely related to differences in mean PSA and PSA kinetics. Similar to other studies, we found that the detection rate of recurrent PCa on <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT improves with increased PSA levels: 75.4% for PSA 1 ng/mL or lower and 90.9% for PSA higher than 1 ng/mL (19,25,28,29).

The choice of the radiotherapy field in postprostatectomy patients with recurrent PCa is based primarily on imaging findings (8–11,17). In this study, positive findings on <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT were identified in 53 patients who had negative CI findings. Furthermore, 23 of 28 patients with a management change had negative CI findings. Our results agree with previous studies that have found <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT to perform better than CI in detection of recurrent PCa (17,29). Distant metastases on <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT, not seen on CI, led to the decision to withdraw

salvage radiotherapy and offer systemic therapy. These patients may have benefited from the early onset of systemic therapy and been spared the side effects of salvage radiotherapy.

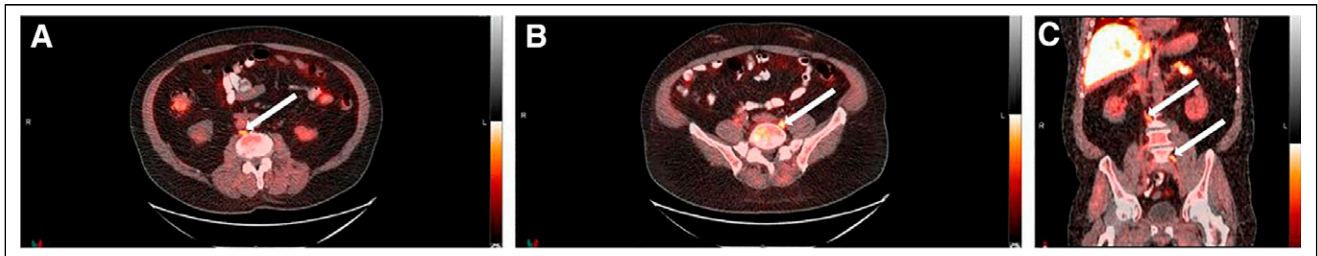
In a prospective multicenter study of 104 men with biochemical recurrence and a median PSA of 0.79 ng/mL, a 64% management change after <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT was reported (26). The lower management change found in our study is likely due to the homogeneous patient population, lower median PSA, exclusion of patients with evidence of extrapelvic disease on CI, and strict predefined major treatment changes. Comparable to our finding, Solanki et al. reported a 48% management change after <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT in 114 postprostatectomy patients with biochemical recurrence (median PSA, 0.42 ng/mL) intended to undergo radiotherapy (27).

In studies evaluating the role of prostate-specific membrane antigen PET/CT in treatment planning, a range of 30.2%–76% has been reported for management change (30–32). Our result of a 29.4% management change in patients with PSA lower than 0.5 ng/mL is similar to that of a retrospective study of <sup>68</sup>Ga-PSMA-11 PET/CT in patients with early PSA failure (PSA < 0.5 ng/mL) after prostatectomy, which reported an intended treatment change in 30.2% of patients (30). Treatment modification was also found in 13%–46.7% patients with biochemical recurrence after <sup>11</sup>C-choline or <sup>18</sup>F-fluorocholine PET (33–35). Thus, our finding of a 35.4% management change is on the lower end of the reported prostate-specific membrane antigen range and the higher end of the choline range. In a recent preliminary report on the primary endpoint of this trial, cancer control, we found that <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT resulted in significant improvement in failure-free survival between the 2 arms at 3 and 4 y after radiotherapy (36).

**TABLE 5**  
Influence of <sup>18</sup>F-Fluciclovine on Radiotherapy Field Change

Prefluciclovine decision	Postfluciclovine decision			P
	Prostate bed only	Pelvis ± prostate bed	Decision change	
Radiotherapy field (n = 75) <sup>†</sup>				<0.001
Prostate bed only (n = 45)	31	14*	14/75 (18.7%)	
Prostate bed + pelvis (n = 30)	10*	20	10/75 (13.3%)	
Field change			32.0%	

\*Decision change.  
<sup>†</sup>Four patients excluded because of extrapelvic uptake.



**FIGURE 3.** A 72-y-old patient with biochemical recurrence after prostatectomy (PSA, 3.46 ng/mL; Gleason score, 5 + 4 = 9; T3bN1M0). Transaxial (A and B) and coronal (C) PET/CT images show abnormal  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine uptake (arrows) in retroperitoneal lymph nodes. Radiotherapy decision was withdrawn, and hormonal therapy only was offered.

Although other PET radiotracers have reported a change in management comparable to that of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET, clinical outcome as a primary endpoint in a prospective, randomized, controlled manner for these radiotracers has yet to be reported (37,38).

The randomized prospective design, 2 independent readers with consensus agreement, and homogeneous population of prostatectomy patients were strengths of this study. Our study had several limitations. First, prefluciclovine radiotherapy decisions were made by several radiotherapy providers. These decisions likely represent a cross-section of decisions made in the prostate radiotherapy community. However, our study was quite rigorous, compared with virtually all other trials, with respect to the handling of post-PET decisions, as these were clearly declared at the outset and providers were held to these decisions. Second, most patients in this study did not have histologic investigation of imaging findings, as the study was not designed to validate the diagnostic performance of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine. Prior studies have reported a high positive predictive value for  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT using validated histology data (28). Finally, malignant extraprostatic lesions, especially osteoblastic bone lesions, may have been missed because of inherent radiotracer characteristics such as lower sensitivity in detection of small-volume disease and lack of uptake in some indolent sclerotic lesions (39). However,  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine has demonstrated superior performance in the prostate bed because of very low urinary excretion (24).

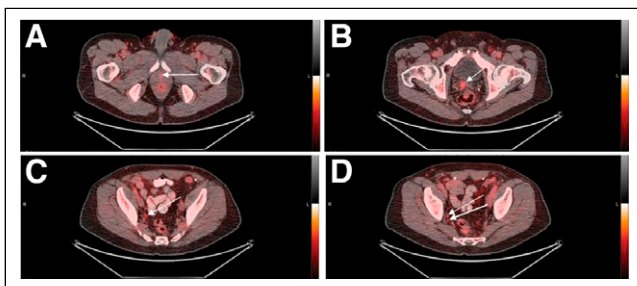
## CONCLUSION

This study showed that  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT changes patient management even at low PSA levels. In the setting of

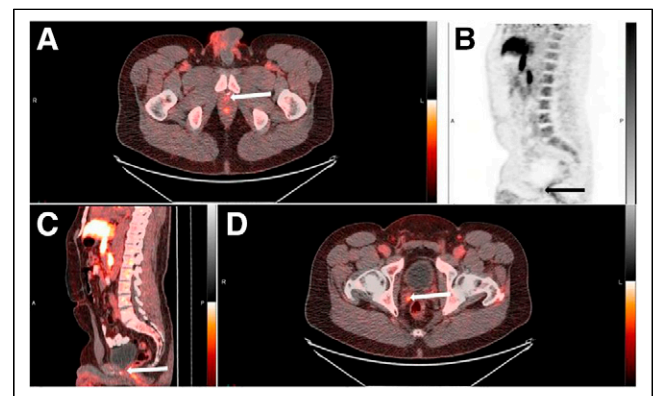
treatment planning for salvage radiotherapy after prostatectomy in patients with biochemical recurrence, our findings suggest that imaging with  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT can guide treatment decisions. Follow-up of these patients continues, and further study is ongoing to determine the impact of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine PET/CT-guided treatment on clinical outcomes after radiotherapy.

## DISCLOSURE

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**FIGURE 4.** A 64-y-old patient with biochemical recurrence after prostatectomy (PSA, 0.96 ng/mL; Gleason score, 4 + 3 = 7; T3aN0M0). Transaxial PET/CT images (A–D) show abnormal  $^{18}\text{F}$ -fluciclovine uptake (arrows) at vesicourethral anastomosis (A), right seminal vesicle (B), right internal iliac lymph node (C), and right obturator lymph node (D). Treatment decision changed from radiotherapy of prostate bed only to radiotherapy of prostate bed and pelvis.



**FIGURE 5.** A 53-y-old patient with biochemical recurrence after prostatectomy (PSA, 0.23 ng/mL; Gleason score, 3 + 4 = 7; T2N0M0). Abnormal  $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluciclovine uptake (arrows) is seen at vesicourethral anastomosis on transaxial PET/CT (A), sagittal PET (B), and sagittal PET/CT (C) images and at right seminal vesicle on transaxial PET/CT image (D). Treatment decision changed from radiotherapy of prostate bed and pelvis to radiotherapy of prostate bed only.

**TABLE 6**  
Prognostic Factors and Radiotherapy Decision Change

Prognostic factor	Decision change (n = 28)	No decision change (n = 51)	P
PSA at PET (ng/mL)	2.67 (6.10)	1.21 (2.30)	0.033
≤1 (n = 57)	0.36 (0.23)	0.25 (0.18)	0.054
>1 (n = 22)	6.59 (7.43)	4.33 (3.18)	0.380
Gleason score	7.25 (0.89)	7.39 (0.92)	0.507
≤3 + 4 (n = 35)	6.69 (0.48)	6.82 (0.40)	0.406
≥4 + 3 (n = 44)	7.73 (0.88)	7.83 (0.97)	0.754
Prostatectomy-to-PET interval (y)	3.91 (3.64)	2.51 (2.69)	0.055
≤2 (n = 45)	0.88 (0.61)	0.81 (0.52)	0.706
>2 (n = 34)	6.53 (3.05)	5.36 (2.43)	0.223

Data are mean followed by SD in parentheses.

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#### KEY POINTS

**QUESTION:** Can <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT influence salvage radiotherapy management decisions in patients with PCa recurrence after prostatectomy?

**PERTINENT FINDINGS:** In this prospective clinical trial exploring the influence of <sup>18</sup>F-fluciclovine PET/CT on salvage radiotherapy decision planning in patients with PCa recurrence after prostatectomy, we found a significant 35.4% change in overall radiotherapy decisions and a 32.0% change in radiotherapy fields.

**IMPLICATIONS FOR PATIENT CARE:** Appropriate patient selection and targeted therapy through advanced imaging are essential to reduce high biochemical failure rates after salvage radiotherapy.

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