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[Links](#)**External beam irradiation and the combination of cisplatin and carmustine followed by carmustine alone for the treatment of high-grade glioma: a phase 2 Southwest Oncology Group trial.**[Blumenthal DT](#), [Rankin C](#), [Eyre HJ](#), [Livingston RB](#), [Spence AM](#), [Stelzer KJ](#), [Rushing EJ](#), [Berger MS](#), [Rivkin SE](#), [Cohn AL](#), [Petersdorf SH](#).

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**BACKGROUND.:** The poor prognosis reported for patients with high-grade glial neoplasms indicates a need for the development of multimodality therapeutic approaches. The addition of chemotherapy has contributed variably to increased survival. The objective of the current study (Southwest Oncology Group [SWOG] 9016) was to determine whether concurrent radiotherapy and chemotherapy with the combination of carmustine and cisplatin could be given safely in a cooperative group setting. Additional objectives included the estimation of response rate, the rate of disease stabilization, and the probability of 1-year survival. **METHODS.:** SWOG 9016 study included 59 eligible patients with grade III or IV astrocytoma who received radiotherapy concurrently with carmustine/cisplatin chemotherapy. Patients were required to have either measurable or evaluable disease. The therapeutic endpoints were comprised of complete response (CR), partial response (PR), or progressive disease (PD). **RESULTS.:** Six patients achieved a CR (CR rate of 10%; 95% confidence interval [95% CI], 4-21%), 4 achieved a PR (PR rate of 7%; 95% CI, 2-16%), and 2 patients (3%) experienced an unconfirmed response. Twenty-four patients (41%; 95% CI, 28-54%) had stable disease and 10 patients (17%) demonstrated PD. The overall disease stabilization rate (CR + PR + stable disease, excluding unconfirmed response) was 58% (95% CI, 44-70%). **CONCLUSIONS.:** Despite the presence of a cohort of long-term survivors, the results of the current study do not appear to support the additional study or routine use of concurrent cisplatin and carmustine. *Cancer* 2008. (c) 2008 American Cancer Society.

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