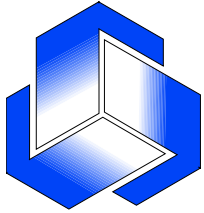


Head and Neck Cancer Module

EORTC QLQ-H&N35

- Revision -

Susanne Singer
EORTC QoL Group Meeting
Rome 2010



Rationale of Revision

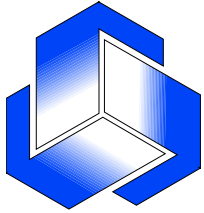
- **new treatments:**
 - chemo-radiation
 - biological agents

Quality of Life issues not covered by “old” H&N35?

- **different treatment „cultures“ in different countries**

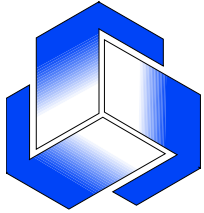
to do:

- incorporate “new” side effects into QLQ-H&N35
- check for relevance regarding quality of life
- improve cross-cultural validity



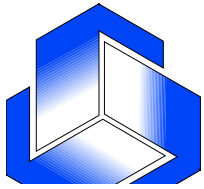
Outline

- Phase I: focus groups & review → new issues ✓
- Phase II: patient and expert interviews → new questions
- Phase III: pilot test of revised module
- Phase IV: field test, validation of revised module

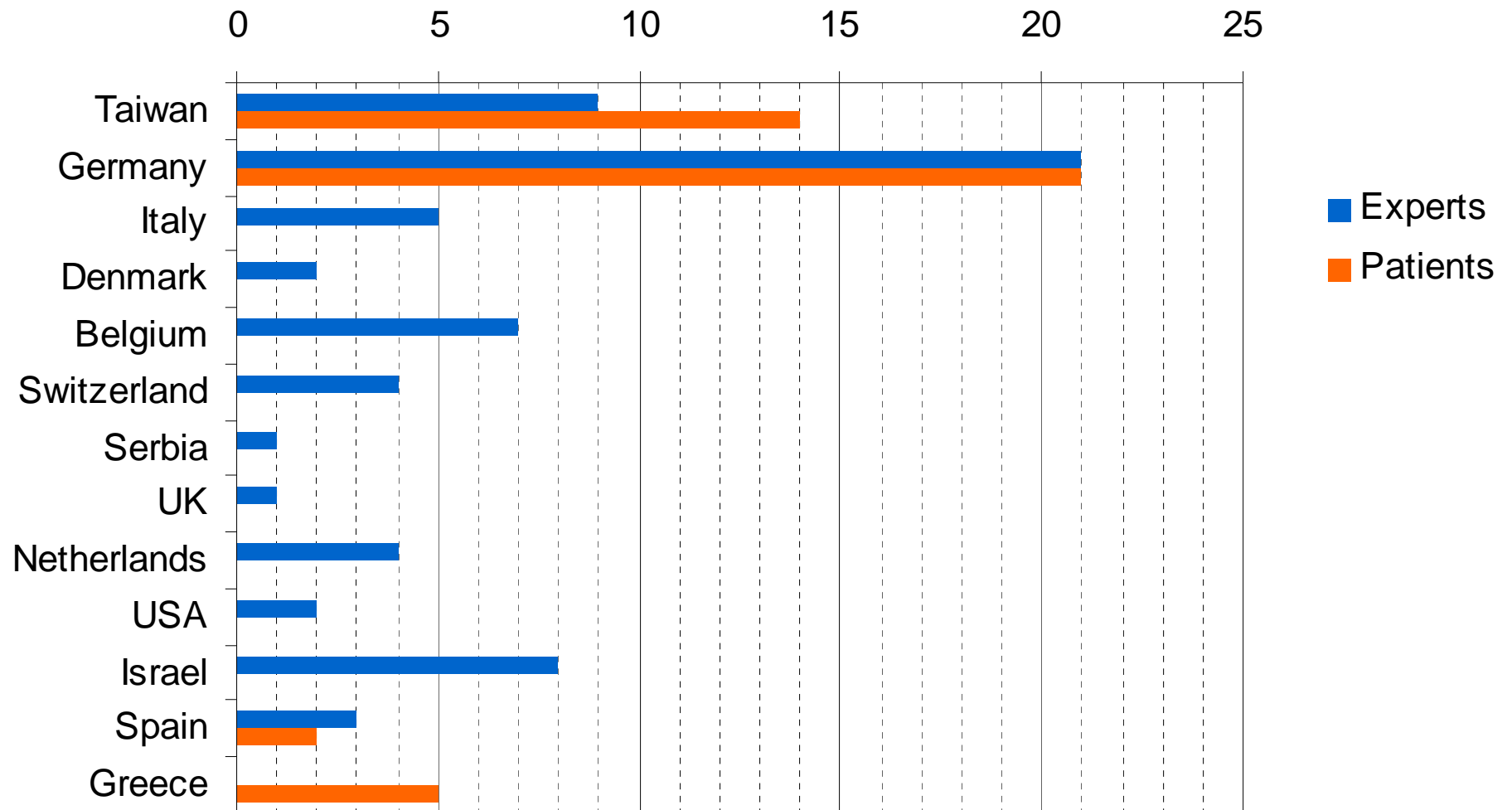


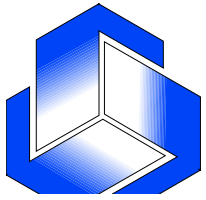
Phase II - Interviews

- **Start: December 2009**
- **Method:**
 - show “old” version plus new issues
 - ask for relevance and if it should be included
- **Recruitment:**
 - via EORTC H&N Group
 - via EORTC QoL Group
 - emails to experts in the field
- **by April 5th 2010:**
 - N = 69 experts, N=42 patients
 - 6 Languages: English, German, Mandarin, Efrt, Spanish, Danish, Greek

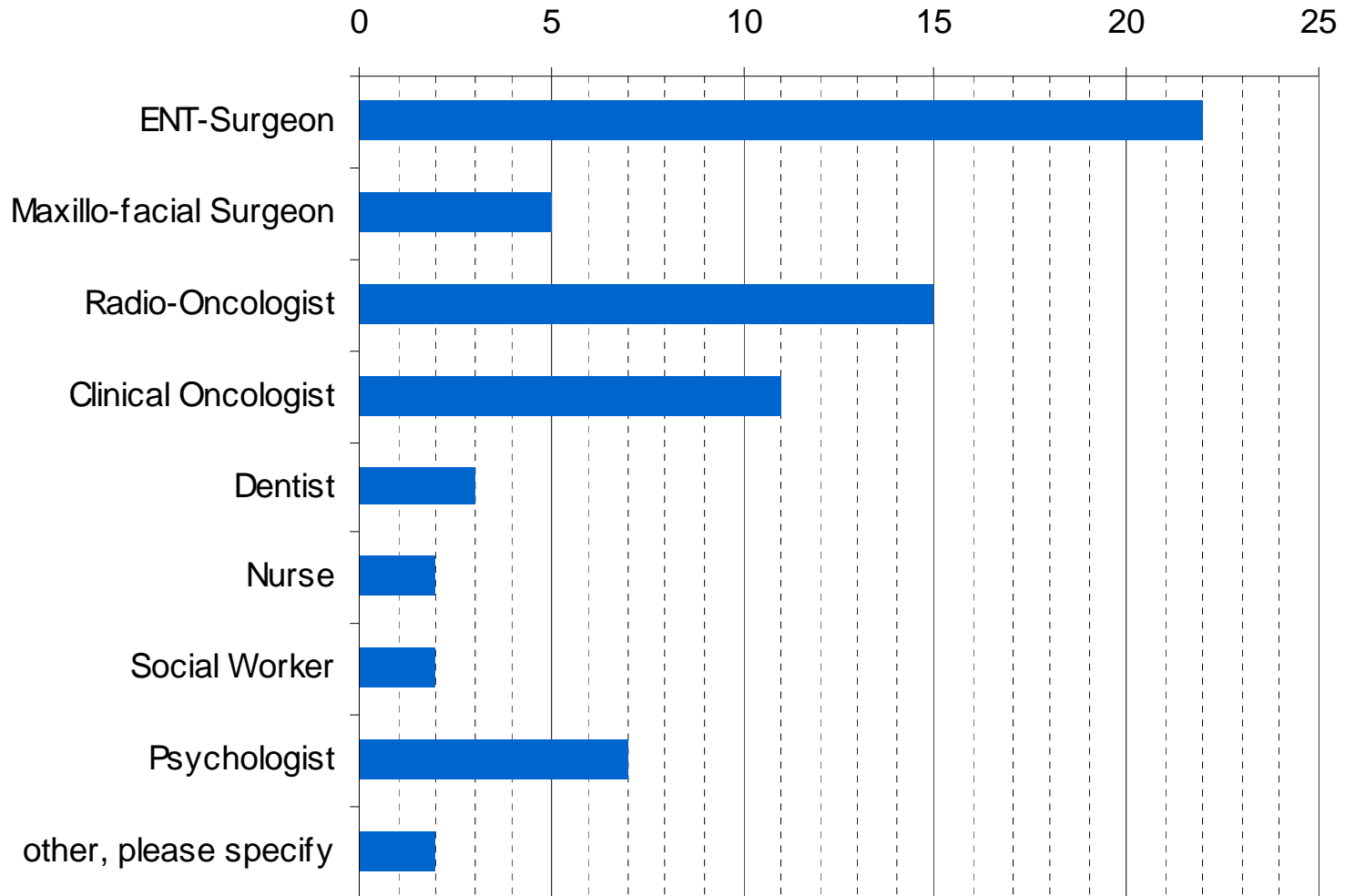


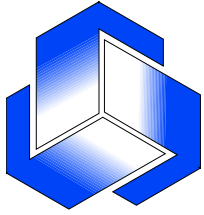
Recruitment per Country





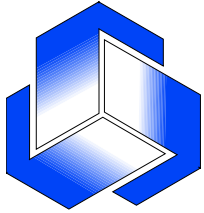
Professions



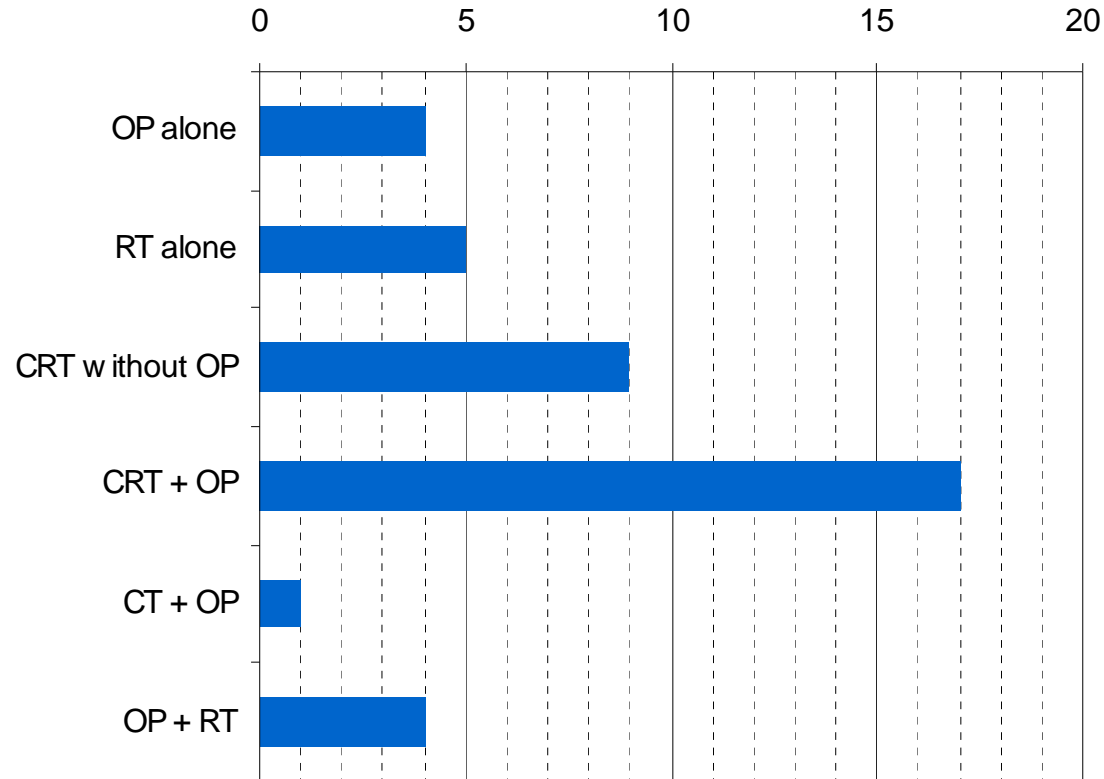


Patients

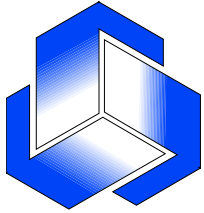
- **gender: male n=35, female n=7**
- **age: 27 – 83 years (average: 57 years)**
- **site: larynx n=12, hypopharynx n=2, oropharynx n=9, nasopharynx n=7, oral cavity n=8, other n=2**
- **UICC: I n=2, II n=4, III n=15, IV n=18**
- **11 with recurrent cancer**



Patients - Treatment

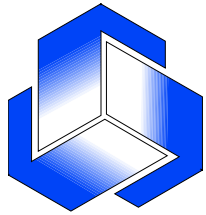


- 5 before, 18 during, 14 < 6m after, 2 > 6m after treatment
- 12 with cetuximab, 27 with any form of chemotherapy



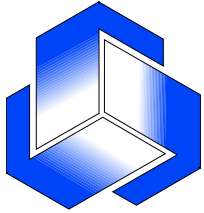
15 most relevant issues - experts

Number	Question	in old version	Mean
64	problems swallowing solid food	x	3.6
68	dry mouth	x	3.6
76	trouble eating	x	3.6
62	problems swallowing liquids	x	3.5
42	problems with talking		3.5
43	problems with articulation / to speak clearly		3.5
90	use of feeding tube	x	3.4
71	problems with sense of taste	x	3.4
50	problems with chewing		3.3
54	return to work /change of job		3.3
58	pain in the mouth	x	3.3
63	problems swallowing pureed food	x	3.3
57	self-esteem reduced because of facial disfigurement		3.3
69	sticky saliva	x	3.3
91	weight loss	x	3.3



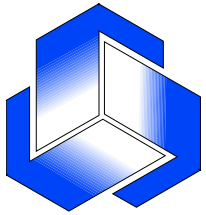
15 most relevant issues - patients

Number	Question	in old version	Mean
55	worry that cancer will come back		3.0
56	worry that new cancer might develop		2.9
69	sticky saliva	x	2.9
71	problems with sense of taste	x	2.8
44	voice quality		2.8
64	problems swallowing solid food	x	2.8
43	problems with articulation / to speak clearly		2.8
68	dry mouth	x	2.8
76	trouble eating	x	2.6
42	problems with talking		2.6
79	trouble enjoying meals	x	2.6
70	problems with sense of smell	x	2.6
50	problems with chewing		2.5
91	weight loss	x	2.5
45	strength of voice		2.5

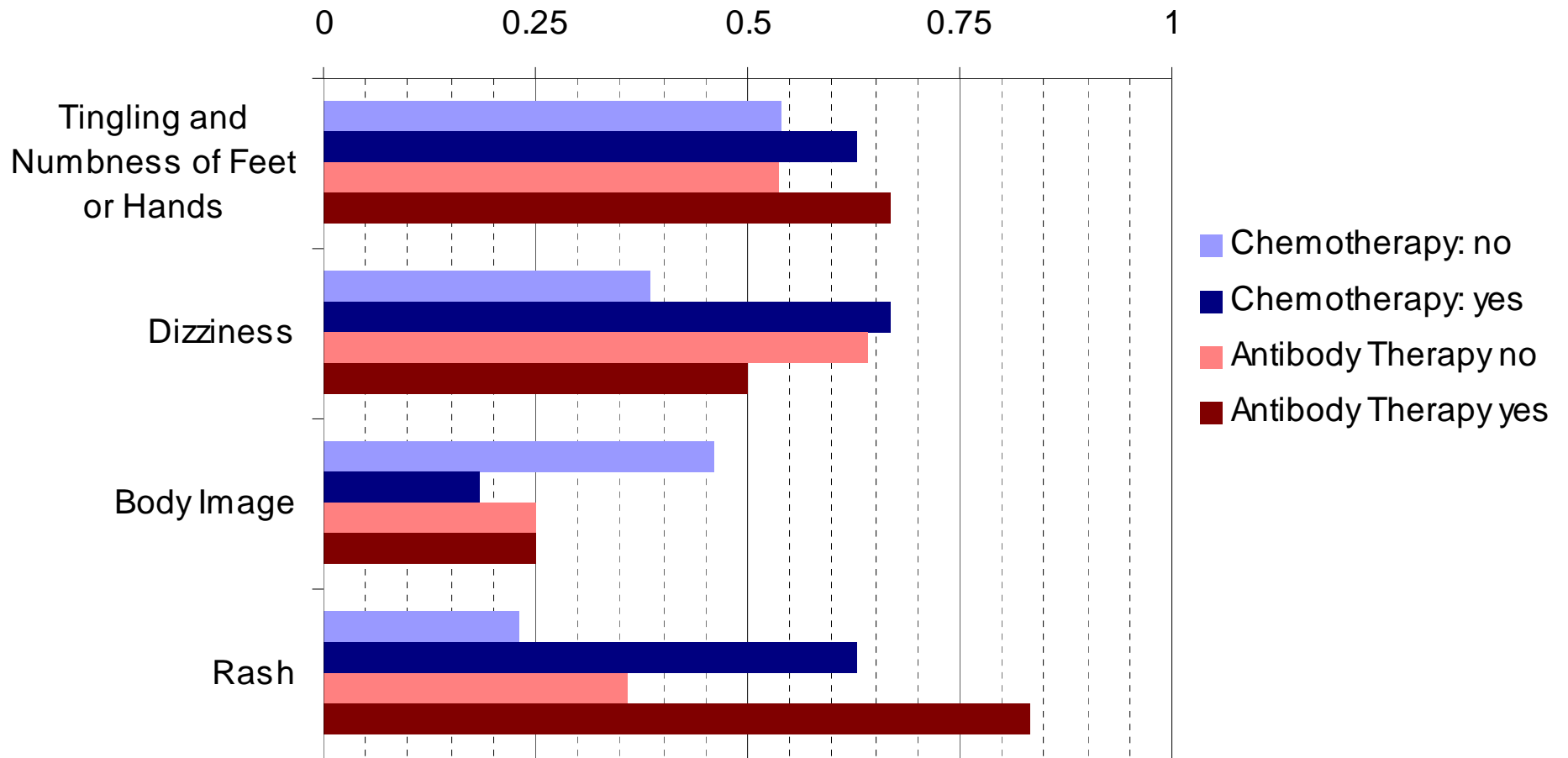


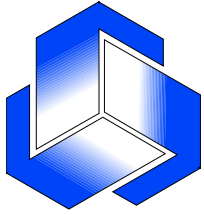
Inclusion? – Patients vs. Experts

Number	Question	Patients	Experts
31	oedema / swelling in head and neck	0.62	0.64
32	problems with wound healing	0.67	0.45
33	dry skin	0.50	0.13
34	tingling and numbness of feet or hands	0.57	0.22
35	dizziness	0.60	0.14
36	nail changes	0.10	0.09
37	rash	0.48	0.23
38	problems with hearing because of treatment	0.45	0.42
39	loss of hearing because of treatment	0.43	0.49
40	pigmentation / change of skin colour	0.26	0.19
41	itching skin	0.38	0.10
42	problems with talking	0.69	0.75
43	problems with articulation / to speak clearly	0.69	0.62
44	voice quality	0.57	0.58



Inclusion? - Treatments





Conclusion

- **Revision is worthwhile**
- **Patients and Experts have different views – compilation of both perspectives necessary**
- **More patient interviews needed**