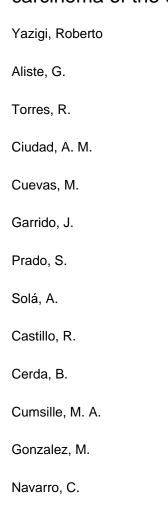
Phase III randomized pilot study comparing interferon ?- 2b in combination with radiation therapy versus radiation therapy alone in patients with stage III-B carcinoma of the cervix



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This randomized pilot study was designed to determine whether the addition of interferon ?-2b to standard radiation therapy offered an advantage in loco-regional control and survival over radiation therapy alone in a homogeneous group of patients with stage IIIB carcinoma of the cervix. Thirty-six patients were treated with a combination of interferon ?-2b plus radiation therapy, and 38 patients were treated with radiation therapy alone. Patients with evidence of ureteral obstruction were excluded from the study. Evaluation of loco-regional response was determined by pelvic examination, cervical cytology, biopsies and CT scans when indicated. Survival time was measured from initiation of treatment to date of death or last follow-up. Patient characteristics were comparable between both study arms. The objective complete response rate was 67% in the combined therapy

group and 55% in the radiation alone group (P = 0.454). With a median follow-up of 17 months for all patients and 31 months