

Table: Retrospective comparative studies on mistletoe therapy of cancer [25]

Author, year [reference]	Preparation	Tumour type	n	Comparator group	Survival advantage	Type of comparison	Comparison valid?
Stumpf 2009 [47]	n.d.	Pancreas	22	Tumour register	+	Multivariate analysis	-
Beuth 2008 [2a]	H	Breast	167	Multicentric	+ ¹	Multivariate analysis (only for occurrence of symptoms)	(-)
Stumpf 2007 [46]	H, I, others	Colorectal	328	Tumour register	+	Multivariate analysis, CART-analysis	(-)
Matthes 2007 [31]	I	Pancreas	201	Multicentric	+ ¹	Multivariate analysis	(+)
Friedel 2007 [11]	I	Colorectal	429	Multicentric	+ ¹	Multivariate analysis	(+)
Augustin 2005 [2]	I	Melanoma	329	Multicentric	+	Multivariate analysis	+
Stumpf 2003 [17, 45]	div.	Breast	867	Tumour register	+	Stage stratification	-
Bock 2004 [3]	I	Breast	710	Multicentric	+ ¹	Multivariate analysis	(+)
Saied 2003 [33]	A	HCC	16	Same institution	+ ²	Detailed characteristics	(+)
Stumpf 2003 [44]	Mostly I	Melanoma	66	Literature, tumour register	-	Stage stratification	-
Stumpf 2000 [43]	Mostly H	Various leukaemias, lymphomas	223	Same institution, literature	+/-	MT, no MT (n = 14), global	-
Böhlinger 1999 [4]	A, I	Myelo-dysplasia	5	Literature	+	Individual comparison	(+)
Albarrán Weick 1998 [1]	I	Melanoma	273	Cancer register (DDG)	-	Matched pair	(+)
Schaefermeyer 1997-98 [40, 41]	I	Pancreas	292	Literature	+	Stage stratification	-
Hellan 1995 [16]	n. d.	Colorectal	356	Same institution	+	Stage stratification	-
Salzer 1992 [39]	I, H	Colorectal	407	Same institution	+	Differentiation by LN involvement	-
Salzer 1990 [38]	I, H	Stomach	108	Same institution	+	Differentiation by LN involvement	-
Salzer 1990 [37]	I, H	Hepatic M	84	Same institution	+	Global	-
Hollinsky 1987 [22]	n. d.	Breast	110	Same institution	-	Stage T ₁ N ₀ M ₀	-
Hohl 1986 [21]	I	Bladder	54	Same institution	-	Global	-
Leroi 1985 [30]	I	Melanoma	26	Cancer register (DDG)	+	Matched pair	-
Hoffmann 1984 [20a]	I	Colorectal	240	Literature	+	Stage stratification	-
Salzer 1984 [35]	I, H	Hepatic M	35	Same institution	+	Differentiation by primary tumour	-
Buchner 1984 [8]	I	Various	247	Same institution	+ ³	Global	-
Schreiber 1984 [42]	I	Ovarian	97	Literature	+	~ stage stratification	-
Krause 1983 [26, 27]	I	Lung	124	Same institution	+	Stage stratification	-
Gutsch 1982 [14]	H	CML	30	Literature	+	Prognostic comparison, penalty	(+)
Hoffmann 1982 [20]	I	Breast	254	Same institution; literature	+	Long vs. short MT, global	-
Hoffmann 1980 [19]	I	Bladder	72	Other institutions, same institution	+	Global, long vs. short MT	-
Delius-Müller 1979 [9]	I	Pancreas	80	Literature	+	Global	-
Feuchtinger 1979 [10]	I	Melanoma	25	Literature	+	Stage stratification	-
Hassauer 1979 [15]	I	Ovarian	12	Other institutions	+	Stage stratification, penalty	(+)
Hoffmann 1979 [18]	I	Hepatic M	188	Same institution	+	Long vs. short MT	-
Leroi 1979-84 [29]	I	Colorectal	101	Same institution	+	Long vs. short MT	-
Boic 1978-81 [5-7]	H	Hepatic M	63	Literature	+	Prognostic comparison, penalty	(+)
Boic 1978-80 [5, 6]	H	Rectum	27	Partially same institution	+	Prognostic comparison, penalty	(+)
Leroi 1977 [28]	I	Breast	319	Same institution	+	Long vs. short MT	-
Müller-Färber 1975 [32]	I	Breast	60	Literature	+	Global	- ⁴
Günczler 1969 [13]	I	Breast	257	Same institution	+	Before/after 1958	- ⁴
Günczler 1969 [13, 34, 36]	I	Rectum	37	Same institution	+	Sceptical vs. positive doctors, differentiated by LN involvement	-
Günczler 1968-87 [12, 34, 36]	I	Stomach	67	Same institution	+	Sceptical vs. positive doctors, long vs. short MT	-
Günczler 1962 [13]	I	Breast	163	Literature	+	Global	- ⁴

Abbreviations: A = Abnobaviscum®; H = Helixor®; I = Iscador®; n = number of mistletoe-treated patients. Survival advantage: + = advantage, - = no advantage for mistletoe therapy. Comparison valid? (i.e. bias in favour of mistletoe excluded?): + = yes, (+) = partial, -- = no; DDG = German Dermatological Association; MT = mistletoe therapy; hepatic M = hepatic metastases; ~ = approximately.

¹ Advantage of mistletoe therapy in terms of reduction of side effects of conventional treatments and reduction of disease symptoms; in the studies of Matthes 2007 and Friedel 2007 advantage of mistletoe therapy also in terms of improved functional capacity (Karnofsky) and reduced hospitalization; ² advantage of mistletoe therapy in terms of survival and tumour remission; ³ advantage of mistletoe therapy in terms of comparison of analgesic and psychoactive drug use; ⁴ advantage for breast conserving surgery plus mistletoe therapy vs. radical mastectomy with or without radiotherapy.

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