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Is there a role for Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT) for liver metastasis?

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Liver metastases are a frequent oncological situation in colorectal cancer and globally only 20% of patients presenting them are candidates for surgical resection. While systemic chemotherapy is an option for patients presenting significant metastatic disease burden, radiotherapy (RT) is a safe, well-tolerated local treatment that can offer a longer tumor control and symptoms control. Advances in RT delivery now allow for treatment of liver metastases in one to 5 sessions with high local control rates. There is a growing body of Phase I-II data supporting the use of such RT techniques, including stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT) for the treatment of liver metastases. While there are a variety of local therapies available to patients with liver metastases, RT should be strongly considered in patients with liver metastasis related pain or oligometastatic disease not amenable to surgery. We recommend a multidisciplinary approach when assessing the risks and benefits of the available local treatment modalities for each patient.