

# EURECCA THE ROLE OF RESECTION OF THE PRIMARY TUMOUR FOR ASYMPTOMATIC INCURABLE METASTATIC COLORECTAL CANCER

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## OVERVIEW

### 1. Background & rationale

Approximately 20-25% of all newly diagnosed patients with colorectal cancer have metastatic (stage IV) disease at initial presentation. In patients with asymptomatic metastatic colorectal cancer, the role of surgery of the primary tumour is still debated. Several retrospective studies suggested a benefit of surgery of the primary tumour, but no solid conclusions can be drawn based on these studies because confounding by indication cannot be excluded

### 2. Research Questions

Is there an association between different treatment strategies in countries with a high versus a low proportion of surgery of the primary tumour and overall survival and relative survival using country as an instrumental variable for patients with incurable metastatic colorectal cancer who did not undergo emergency surgery of the primary tumour?

### 3. Methodology

Retrospective, international cohort study with instrumental variable analysis. Data from the two participating countries consists of cancer registry data or data from national/regional audits. Specific attention will be given to a uniform definition of the variables and comparable patient and tumour characteristics.

### 4. Study population

Patients with synchronous metastatic colorectal cancer, who were diagnosed between January 2007 and December 2013  
all ages  
colon and rectum  
male and female  
all morphology

### 5. Countries

Norway

Netherlands

## 6. Progress

NL 16,599, NO 5,052

Current status: analysing the data and writing manuscript

### WORK GROUP

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