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detecting modest but real differences at the significance level.\textsuperscript{12} On the other hand, the cumulative evidence from many small, nonsignificant studies can be very compelling, if their results lead in one direction . . . and a unidirectional bias can be excluded. Actually, one could hypothesize that oncologists, investigating the value of chemotherapy for NSCLC, would have preferred a result legitimizing their time-consolidated therapeutic approach or to have had some other reason for partiality (read: publication bias). On the contrary, it happened that the authors of nonsignificant reports emphasized in all their articles—and often in the very title—the negativity of results, clearly showing an unconscious inclination against chemotherapy. In this regard, our case is exemplary. After accruing 86 patients, we performed a preliminary analysis of the results.\textsuperscript{15} Obviously, the power of the test was not great, but, nonetheless, we entitled it: "MACC-chemotherapy does not prolong survival . . .". Later, we had to reverse this title—and opinion—when the continuation of the study unequivocally contradicted our position.\textsuperscript{11}

In conclusion, the overall survival benefit of chemotherapy for unresectable NSCLC must be real, since eight concordant results from eight independent studies cannot be obtained solely by chance and the existence of a unidirectional bias is very unlikely. The real size of the survival improvement, however, must be small or quite modest; hence, the difficulty of detecting it at the statistical level of significance. In this setting, other end-points, such as quality of life and costs, become important and warrant new specifically addressed trials. By now, the equilibrated judgment of the available evidence should suggest that we offer chemotherapy to all suitable patients with unresectable NSCLC. This suggestion will continue to be valid in the future, unless negative reports from ongoing psychosocial studies should come to light in the literature of this intriguing argument.

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