Platinum-based Doublet Chemotherapy is standard first-line treatment for NSCLC
- increased survival time, improved quality of life & symptom control

Efficacy --> Effectiveness?
- Phase IV Studies

Routine collection of patients’ Edmonton Symptom Assessment System (ESAS) scores across Ontario’s Regional Cancer Centres
- enables examination effectiveness of palliative chemotherapy
Methods

• Retrospective cohort, first-line platinum-based doublet, palliative intent, Ontario’s Regional Cancer Centres, April 2008 - November 2010
  - excluded previous CT or concurrent RT

• Main Outcomes
  - Patient wellbeing
    - change in ESAS Wellbeing after 2 months of treatment
    - improved/stable vs. deteriorated
  - Survival
    - from initiation of chemotherapy

• Compared to two relevant randomized controlled trials
Results

• 940 patients, 42% baseline ESAS Wellbeing were not significantly different from those without
• 65 years of age (35-88), 54% male, 64% stage IV, 51% adenocarcinoma

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved/Stable Wellbeing or</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>63%</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Quality of Life (at 2</td>
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<td>months)</td>
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<td>Median Survival</td>
<td>28-32 weeks</td>
<td><strong>35 weeks</strong></td>
<td>38 weeks</td>
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Conclusion

• Effectiveness ~ Efficacy