

直肠癌新辅助治疗后临床完全缓解非手术治疗与根治手术的对比：一

项 Markov 决策分析

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摘要

背景: 对新辅助化疗后临床完全缓解的直肠癌患者采取非手术治疗, 以避免与根治手术相关的短期和长期手术并发症。

目的: 明确新辅助化疗后临床完全缓解的局部进展期直肠癌患者非手术治疗和根治手术的预期生命年和质量调整生命年。

设计: 使用 Markov 模型模拟 10 年内接受非手术治疗和根治性手术的基础病例情况。通过广泛的文献检索获得

各种临床变量的估计值。结果以生命年和质量调整生命年表示。完成确定型敏感性分析, 以评估关键参数变化的影响。

设定: 构建 Markov 模型作为决策分析模型。

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患者：基础病例为新辅助放化疗后临床完全缓解的、65 岁男性远端直肠癌患者。

主要观察指标：生命年和质量调整生命年。

结果：非手术治疗与根治性手术的质量调整生命年（非手术治疗 5.79 年 vs 根治性手术 5.62 年）和生命年（非手术治疗 6.92 年 vs 根治性手术 6.96 年）相似。首选治疗策略与非手术治疗中局部再生的概率、局部再生后挽救性手术的概率、非手术治疗和低位前切除的效用及低位前切除综合征的严重程度相关。该模型对造口、化疗及术后并发症发病率和死亡率不敏感。

局限性：本研究受到建模固有假设的限制。

结论：非手术治疗和根治性手术（质量调整）生命年相似。因此，非手术治疗应被视为一种合理的治疗选择。

关键词：完全缓解；决策模型；生命年；Markov；非手术治疗；质量调整生命年；直肠癌；观察等待。See Video Abstract at <http://links.lww.com/DCR/B246>.

前言

术前放化疗（CRT）后手术治疗是目前局部进展期直肠癌的标准治疗方法¹，但这种治疗方法可能产生诸多并发症，包括吻合口漏和二次手术，最终导致手术死亡率高达 2%²⁻⁴。此外，大约三分之一的手术患者会因肿瘤侵及肛门括约肌，或转流性造口无法还纳而处于永久性造口状态⁵⁻⁷。这些患者即使进行还纳手术也会出现明显的功能损

害。CRT 联合手术治疗在 50-75% 的患者中可能导致一系列“低位前切除综合征（LARS）”的症状，包括排便频率增加、失禁和排空不全⁸。

近年来，由于上述手术相关并发症的发生，使人们愈发关注局部进展期直肠癌 CRT 后临床完全缓解（cCR）的非手术治疗策略（non-operative management, NOM）。虽然 NOM 可能会使患者前期不用进行手术治疗，但它需要严格的随访，以监测大约三分之一患者的局部再生¹⁰。局部再生的患者需要手术治疗，但目前尚不清楚延迟手术是否会导致并发症的增加和/或肿瘤学结果的恶化¹¹。尽管接受 NOM 的患者生活质量较好，但并不能完全避免功能损害。据报道，仅接受 CRT 治疗的患者中，高达 30% 的患者出现了 LARS¹²。

在一项汇总分析中显示，NOM 和根治性手术的总生存率相似，但尚没有比较这两种治疗方式的随机对照研究¹³。因此，仍不能确定 CRT 后 cCR 患者的最佳治疗方案。我们采用 Markov 模型进行决策分析（DA），通过引入基于临床概率事件率和效用值进行敏感性分析，来模拟两种治疗方案之间的差别。

因此，本研究的目的是使用 Markov 模型进行 DA，以确定局部进展期直肠癌 CRT 后达到 cCR 的患者接受 NOM 和根治手术的预期预后，包括生命年（LYs）和质量调整生命年（QALY）。

材料和方法

模型设计（图 1）

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构建一个包含 Markov 程序的比较 DA 树, 比较 CRT 后 cCR 的直肠癌患者接受根治手术或 NOM 的预后(用 QALY 和 LYs 表示)。采用 Markov 模型, 在基本病例(即虚拟患者)的基础上, 模拟随着时间的推移, 在临床预定的时间间隔(时间周期), 按照预定的概率(转移概率)从一种健康状态(如缓解)过渡到另一种健康状态(如局部再生)。

该 DA 模型构建的研究时限为 10 年。由于 NOM 后的局部再生通常发生在前 2 年内, 因此 10 年的研究时限将收集大多数有意义的事件¹⁵。选择 3 个月为一个循环周期, 因为这是常规实施的随访方案可以检测到临床变化的最小时间单位。用 TreeAgePro®2017 软件(TreeAge Software, Williamstone, USA)来构建模型。

基础病例

基础病例为 65 岁男性, 无远处转移(II 期或 III 期)的低位局部进展期直肠癌患者, 适合接受手术, 合并症最少(Charlson-Deyo 评分<3 分)。给予 CRT, 包括以输注 5-FU 为基础的化疗, 及 28 次放疗, 总剂量为 50.4Gy。在新辅助治疗结束 8 周后, 通过指诊、软质内镜和磁共振成像(MRI)确定患者是否达到 cCR。如果患者达到 cCR, 则进行手术或 NOM。

手术组

根据肿瘤距肛门括约肌的距离, 基础病例接受低位前切除术(LAR)伴转流性回肠造口术, 或腹会阴切除术

(APR), 术后可能出现并发症, 包括早期再手术的风险和术后死亡。接受 LAR 的患者, 当回肠造口还纳后可能出现 LARS。APR 的变量与 LAR 相同, 但造口还纳和 LARS 除外。LAR 和 APR 模型中所有变量的概率和效用值如表 1 和 2 所示^{4,6,11-13,16-36}。

NOM 组

接受 NOM 的基础病例, 按照预设的概率有发生 LARS 的风险。模型中还包括放疗特异性死亡的概率。

治疗后监测

监测阶段使用 Markov 程序建模。在这个阶段, 基础病例应当出现缓解。随着时间的推移, 可能会发生局部再生/复发和远处转移, 并导致手术联合或不联合化疗(最多两周期)。局部再生后采用 LAR 或 APR 手术, 局部复发采用 APR 或盆腔脏器切除术。治疗成功后, 基础病例可以恢复缓解。如果疾病复发后无法进行手术治疗, 可以进行姑息性化疗或最佳支持治疗(无需进一步化疗), 并转到姑息状态。

假设

该模型基于以下假设:

- 只允许一处局部复发(或 NOM 病例的局部再生)和一处远处转移(包括同时性远处转移, 如肝和肺)。发生第二次异时局部复发或远处转移则进入姑息状态进行姑息化疗或最佳支持治疗, 禁止进行

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进一步化疗。

- 每次局部复发或远处转移，都可以通过手术切除治疗，联合或不联合化疗。
- 在手术组中，LAR后可切除的局部复发进行APR，而APR后的局部复发进行盆腔脏器切除术。在该模型中，APR和LAR术后的局部复发率被假定是相同的，在cCR的背景下也是合理的³⁷。
- NOM局部再生进行LAR或APR的概率与手术组相同。NOM再生后两种手术方式的手术并发症发生率假定与根治性手术组的发病率相似。

结果

DA的结果用LY和QALY表示。LY反映了总体预期寿命，而QALY则是总体预期寿命加“效用”的结果。效用是量化患者相对于死亡(=0)和完全健康(=1)，而生活在特定健康状态(例如直肠癌NOM后缓解)的偏好的值³⁸。因此，每个健康状态都与0到1之间的数字相关。以回肠造口为例，本模型中回肠造口的效用为0.9。在具有特定健康状态的患者群体中，通过文献报道的验证方法测量效用值³⁸。QALY表示根据效用调整后的预期寿命，是LY与效用值的乘积：一年生存期(LY=1)伴低效用值(<1)将导致低QALY(QALY=LY*效用值)。因此，QALY反映在特定健康状态(如回肠造口)下的效用加权时间，也反映了保持在该状态的意愿。回到我们的回肠末端造口的例子，每年一个患者通过回肠末

端造口存活下来的数量将为0.9 QALY(1*0.9)。其后的想法是，效用差或不太理想的健康状态(效用<1)下的一年预期生命比完美健康状态下的一年预期生命(效用=1)价值低。因此，QALY反映了患者保持在特定健康状态(例如回肠造口术)的效用加权时间，也反映保持在该状态的意愿³⁸。回到回肠造口的例子：每年回肠造口患者的生存将计数为0.9 QALY(1*0.9)。其内在的含义是伴随低效用或不理想的健康状态一年的预期寿命(效用值<1)，因为它不如一年预期寿命和完全健康(效用值=1)有价值。

模型概率(表1和表2)

所有的概率和效用值都是从文献中最佳证据中获得，并通过专家一致共识来选择最合适的概率和效用值。

手术后发生LARS的概率源自一项基于人群的横断面调查研究，该研究报道了938例接受直肠切除术的患者¹⁷。NOM后LARS的概率是根据一项CRT后配对病例对照研究确定的¹²。

术后局部复发率是来自于一项评估腹腔镜直肠切除术和开放性直肠切除术的结果的大型前瞻性研究，以及另一个探讨新辅助化疗对直肠手术肿瘤预后的影响大型回顾性研究¹⁹⁻²¹。

最近一项关于NOM后局部再生的系统综述对选择NOM后局部再生概率提供了最佳可用证据¹³。我们选择该系统综述中最大的比较队列报道的局部再生概率。该研究具有高质量的数据和必要的粒度，这是计算时间周期特定概率所必需的^{11,13}。

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如果可用，用表格将相当于模型时间周期的条件概率输入到模型中，允许随时间调整概率（附录 1 和附录 2 作为补充数字内容）。用加拿大生命表估计特定年龄人口的死亡率²⁶。由于没有进行成本效益分析，模型中没有计算贴现率。

敏感性分析

单向确定型敏感性分析旨在评估当每个变量在其合理范围内，而其他变量的点估计值保持不变时的首选治疗策略（NOM 或手术）。该分析通过测量某个变量对模型结果的影响，从而确定首选治疗策略。如果模型结果在变量的合理范围内没有变化，则认为模型对该变量“不敏感”，如果模型结果发生变化，则认为模型对该变量“敏感”，其阈值是模型结果翻转时该变量的值。这同样适用于双向敏感性分析。不是只处理一个变量，而是处理两个变量在其合理范围来测量它们之间的相互关系（局部再生的概率与挽救性手术的概率）。

结果

该模型的结果表明，将 LY 作为研究结果时，手术组略有获益（6.96 vs 6.92），将 QALY 作为研究结果时，NOM 组略有获益（5.79 vs 5.62）。结果对以下变量敏感（即改变首选治疗策略）：局部再生概率、挽救性手术概率以及 NOM 和 LAR 的效用值。结果对手术后的并发症发生率和死亡率以及与造口和化疗相关的效用不敏感。表 3 总结了单向敏感性分析的所有阈值。

NOM 后局部再生及挽救性手术

单向敏感性分析表明，模型对 NOM 后的局部再生很敏感（图 2a）。3 个月局部再生的概率达到了 7.6% 的阈值，转换后，与 32% 的年发病率一致。换言之，如果 3 个月内再生的概率为 7.6% 或更高，则提前手术有优势。

此外，基于单向敏感性分析，局部复发后挽救性手术的概率大于 0.82（基础病例：0.93）对 NOM 有利（图 2b），表明该模型对局部再生后挽救手术的概率也很敏感。

双向敏感性分析对局部再生和挽救性手术之间的关系进行了额外评估，如图 2c 所示。这表明，挽救性手术的机率越高，此模型对局部再生的敏感性越低。换言之，挽救性手术的机率越高，局部再生的耐受性越高。

NOM 和根治性手术的效用

该模型对与 NOM 和 LAR 相关的效用值敏感，如果 LAR 的效用值低于 0.88（基础病例：0.86），或者 NOM 的效用值高于 0.89（基础：0.91），则支持 NOM 策略（图 3a 和 3b）。如前所述，这意味着当 NOM 的效用值在 0.4-0.95 范围内，模型的结果在阈值 0.89 的情况下从 NOM 有利转为手术有利。在同一范围内处理 LAR 的效用值，当达到 0.88（LAR 的效用值）时，手术成为首选策略。这在双向敏感性分析中得到了证实（图 3c）。但该模型对 APR 的效用值不敏感。

造口与术后并发症发生率和死亡率

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使用敏感性分析发现，手术后并发症发生率和死亡率的概率及造口和化疗相关的效用，在合理范围内并没有使最佳策略选择发生改变（结果未公布）。

讨论

在我们的决策模型中，两种治疗策略产生了相似的结果。手术组和 NOM 组之间的 LY 差异为 0.04，这意味着在 10 年内有 15 天的生存优势。同样，在分析 QALY 时，NOM 组的患者获益 0.17 个 QALY 或 62 天。在决策分析的相关文献中，大多数作者都认为，几天或几周的 QALY 无明显临床意义³⁹⁻⁴¹。因此，本模型的结果可能被解读为“难分伯仲”，表明两种治疗方案都是合理的，主要取决于患者的个人偏好。最近的一项研究表明在支持 NOM 方面，医生会接受两种结果的 5% 的绝对增加或减少，但患者愿意接受 20% 的绝对增加或减少⁴¹。这再次强调了患者参与决策的重要性，特别是考虑到该模型中治疗方案之间的最小差异。

本研究中的 QALY 和 LY 的范围与 Neuman 等人先前的研究相似；但在他们的研究发现手术在两种治疗方式中占优势³⁰。这种差异的一个原因是我们的模型中考虑了与各种参数相关的效用，如 LARS、造口和化疗。这导致手术组 QALY 的整体差异性降低，这在先前的研究中没有涉及。此外，为了代表一个更真实的模型，我们纳入了可能的造口还纳、多周期化疗和异时转移的手术。此外，我们利用表格来表示局部再生、复发和生存率相对于时间函数的动态变化，模型提供了对累积测量结果的更真实的估算。

对 NOM 的长期安全性的主要关注点之一是局部再生的风险和进行挽救性手术的可能^{42,43}。这反应在我们的模型中对局部再生发生率的敏感性，如果局部再生超过报道的阈值，手术是首选。该阈值（单向敏感性分析为 32%，双向敏感性分析为 28%）与文献报道的 NOM 后第一年局部再生的发生率接近¹¹。根据 Renehan 等人论文中的累积发病率曲线，第一年局部再生的发生率为 28%，接近外科手术是首选方案的阈值¹¹。一年以后，累积的再生生长事件发生率较低（第二年和第三年为 5%），这支持 NOM 作为治疗选择。如文献所述，该阈值已经包含了局部再生后挽救性手术的高概率事件¹⁶。敏感性分析还表明，当挽救性手术的成功率低于 82% 时，手术是首选方案，并提示挽救性手术的成功率越高，对局部再生的耐受性越好。这意味着必须进行密切监测，以增加局部再生的检出和挽救性手术的可能性。此外，可以预期，随着局部再生机率下降患者的选择不断优化，NOM 在未来可能成为一个更具吸引力的选择。事实上，更好地预测 pCR 可以显著降低局部再生率，从而有利于 NOM。磁共振成像作为病理完全缓解的一种预测方法正在 TRIGGER 研究中进行探讨⁴⁴。在更好的预测指标出现之前，应该充分告知患者局部再生的相对高风险，因为这可能会影响患者的决策。

本研究存在一定的局限性。首先，对建模的基本假设可能导致研究的普适性下降。其中一个假设是定义了一个 65 岁的合并最少共发病的基础病例，这并不能代表所有直肠癌患者。因此，该模型仅适用于与基础病例特征相同的

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患者。但是，一个没有严重共发病的基础病例是最可能具有普遍性的模型。由于同样的原因，本模型中没有包括更具体的危险因素（如初始 T 分期对局部再生率的影响、局部再生病理分期对生存率的影响等）。此外，初次手术的手术入路没有明确规定，局部切除也不认定为挽救性手术。另外，由于缺乏关于各种特定术后状态的数据，我们必须通过合并与每个状态的组成部分相关的效用值来计算相关的效用。这可能导致对这些参数的高估或低估。在这种情况下，我们在效用值的范围内进行敏感度分析，已经考虑到了这种潜在的偏倚。最后，我们选择 10 年的研究时限，而不是进行寿命估算。然而，考虑到 NOM 缺乏可靠的长期结果，以及直肠癌的平均发病年龄为 65 岁，10 年的时限是可以接受的。同时，我们确实认识到，终身视角将有助于更有效地与其他卫生保健干预措施进行比较⁴⁰。

我们的 DA 模型显示在基础病例场景下，手术和 NOM 具有相似的 LY 和 QALY。该模型对局部再生的风险、局部再生后的挽救性手术以及 NOM 后与 LARS 相关的效用敏感。这些结果强调了患者偏好及对监测方案的依从性在治疗决策中的重要性。总之，本研究补充了现有的证据，支持 NOM 作为 CRT 后临床完全缓解的局部进展期低位直肠癌的合理治疗选择。

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表 1. 模型中使用的估计概率。总结随时间变化的概率，并在附录 1*和 2**中进一步报告。

模型参数	基础病例(%)	敏感度范围 (%)	参考文献
LARS 概率			
NOM 后	35.9	0-70	Hupkens 等. ¹²
LAR 后	50	0-80	Bregendahl 等. ¹⁷
LAR 及吻合口瘘后	75	0-90	Bregendahl 等. ¹⁷
接受围手术期化疗的概率			
简单 LAR 后	79.6	40-90	Bosset 等. ¹⁸
LAR 吻合口漏后	73.1	20-90	Bosset 等. ¹⁸
复发率			
NOM 后局部再生	3 年中 38*	0-80	Dossa 等. ¹³ Renehan 等. ¹¹
LAR / APR 后局部复发	3 年中 5*	0-50	Martijnse 等. ¹⁹ Bonjer 等. ²⁰ Jayne 等. ²¹
NOM 或手术后远处转移	5 年后 20*	0-50	Breugom 等. ²² Lange 等. ²³
死亡率			
放化疗相关死亡率	0.2	0-5	Van Gijn 等. ²⁴
与简单 LAR 相关的死亡率	0.4	0-30	Matthiessen 等. ²⁵
与 30 天内并发症相关的 LAR 死亡率	2.7	0-40	Matthiessen 等. ²⁵
LAR 合并吻合口漏的死亡率	3.1	0-50	Matthiessen 等. ²⁵
LAR 合并吻合口漏与 30 天内并发症相关的死亡率	5.8	0-60	Matthiessen 等. ²⁵
盆腔脏器切除相关死亡率	3	0-50	Renehan 等. ¹¹
生存率			
加拿大生存基线	附录 1a	-	Statistics Canada ²⁶
姑息治疗	1 年中 35**	-	Ahmed 等. ²⁷
最佳支持治疗	1 年中 10**	-	Hashimoto 等. ²⁸
30 天并发症发生率			
与 LAR 相关的并发症发病率（伴造口）	39	0-60	Bennis 等. ⁴
LAR 术后吻合口漏的发生率	7	0-30	Bennis 等. ⁴
与 APR 相关的并发症发病率	27	0-60	Schluskel 等. ²⁹
盆腔脏器切除相关并发症发病率	50	0-80	Renehan 等. ¹¹
再手术率			
NOM 后局部再生长的挽救性手术概率	93	40-100	Habr-Gama 等. ¹⁶

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早期手术后局部复发的挽救性手术概率	40	10-70	Renehan 等. ¹¹
低位前切除术 30 天并发症发生率	16.9	0-30	Bennis 等. ⁴
低位前切除伴漏	60	0-80	Bennis 等. ⁴
低前切除术伴漏及 30 天并发症发生率	76.9	0-90	Bennis 等. ⁴
造口还纳率			
简单 LAR 后	81.9	40-100	Holmgren 等. ⁶
LAR 术后吻合口漏	50	20-100	Holmgren 等. ⁶

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表 2. 模型效用的估算

模型参数	基础病例	灵敏度范围	参考文献
LAR 相关的效用	0.86	0.3-0.92	Neuman et al. ³⁰
APR 相关的效用	0.85	0.3-0.9	Neuman et al. ³⁰
NOM 相关的效用	0.91	0.4-0.95	Konski et al. ³¹
造口相关的负效用	0.1	0.01-0.5	Ness et al. ³²
化疗相关的负效用	0.14	0-0.4	Wiering et al. ³³
LARS 相关的负效用	0.07	0.02-0.5	Neuman et al. ³⁰ Gosselink et al. ³⁴
术后发病率相关的负效用	0.22	0.1-0.5	Wiering et al. ³³
局部复发相关的效用	0.78	0.3-0.85	Miller et al. ³⁵
远处复发相关额效用	0.7	0.3-0.80	Van Den Brink et al. ³⁶

表 3. 单向敏感度分析中各种参数的阈值

变量	基础病例	阈值
死亡（NOM）	0.002	0.032
远处转移（NOM）	0	0.009
局部复发（NOM）	0.005	0.076
局部再生后挽救性手术（NOM）	0.93	0.82
低前切除效用值	0.86	0.88
NOM 效用值	0.91	0.89
LARS 效用值（NOM）	0.07	0.17

Citation: de Buck van Overstraeten A, Khorasani S, Kennedy E, Look Hong NJ. Nonoperativ management versus radical surgery of rectal cancer after neoadjuvant therapy-induced clinical complete response: a Markov decision analysis. *Dis Colon Rectum* 2020;63:1080-1089.

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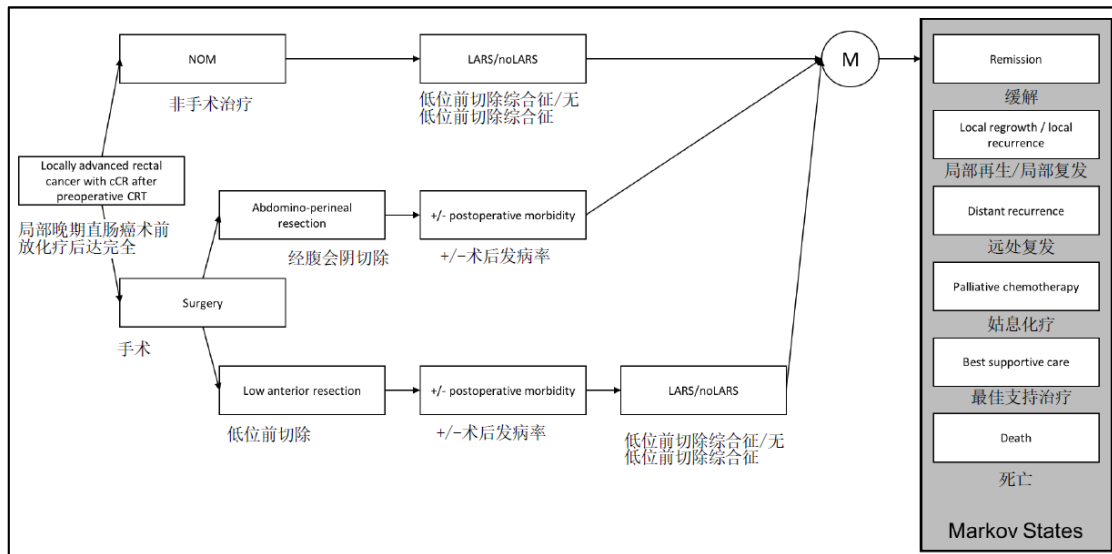


图1. 表示Markov队列模型（包括Markov预决策树）的示意图。基础病例局部进展期直肠癌达到临床完全缓解（cCR）后可采用非手术治疗（NOM）或手术治疗。手术分为低位前切除组或经腹会阴切除组。随后，将术后并发症，包括低前切除综合征（LARS）的发生率添加到模型中。患者治愈后（病情缓解）进入马尔可夫模型（M），并且可以用预先定义的概率从一个Markov状态过渡到另一个状态。

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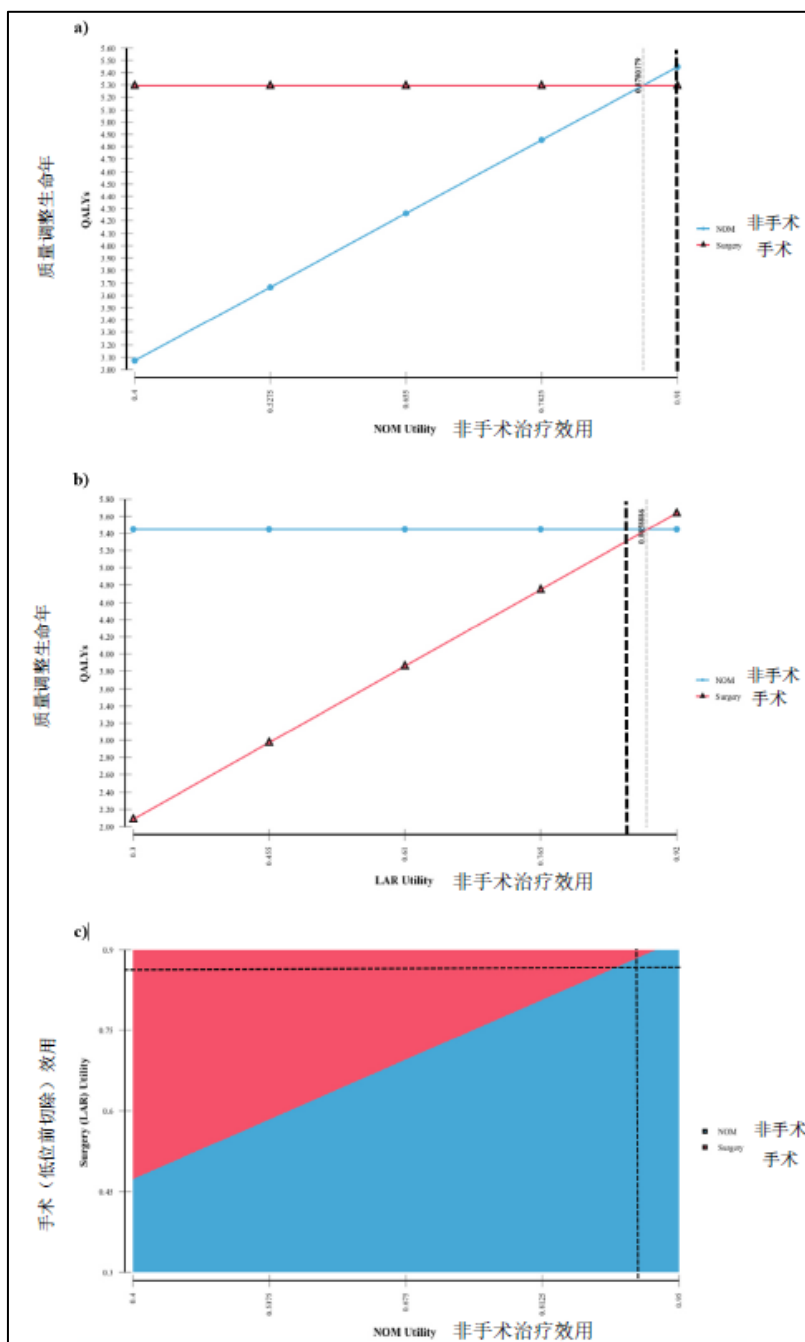


图2. 单向和双向敏感性分析，根据a) 单向敏感性分析中NOM后局部再生的概率，b) 双向分析中，c) 和挽救手术的概率，测量手术阈值与NOM的关系。基本情况用虚线表示。如图2c所示，基础病例的挽救性手术（沿X轴）的概率远远高于阈值，有利于NOM；然而，如果该概率降低到0.81以下，则首选手术。

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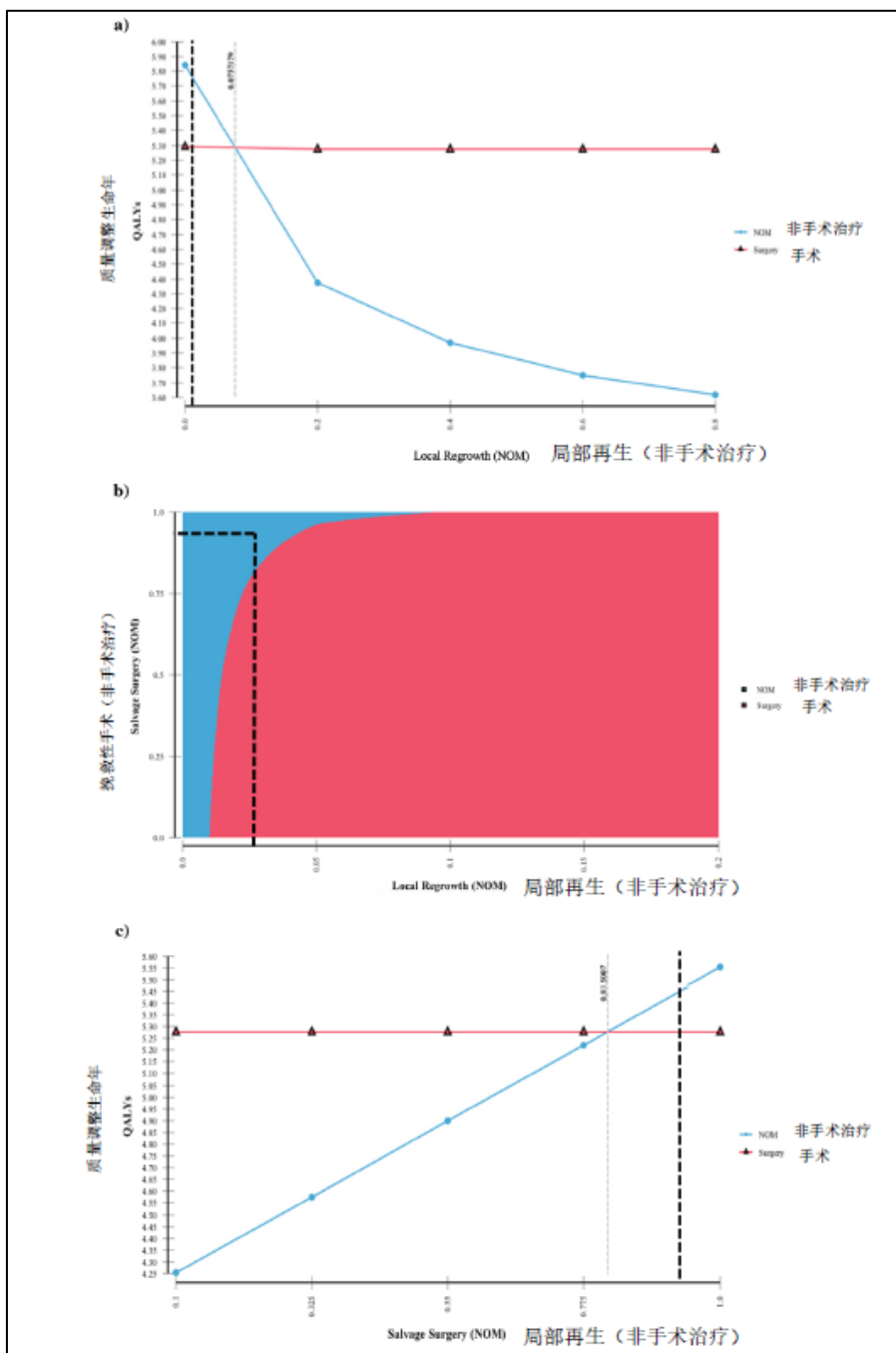


图3. 单向和双向敏感性分析，测量a) 根据NOM的效用值，对比手术与NOM阈值，b) LAR的效用值，c) 在双向敏感性分析中，NOM的效用与LAR的效用相反。基础病例用虚线表示。如图3a所示，基础病例的NOM（沿X轴）的效用值高于阈值，有利于NOM；如果该效用值低于0.87，则首选手术。

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