

Records identified through database  
searching  
(n = 145)

Additional records identified through  
other sources  
(n = 0)

Records after duplicates removed  
(n = 31)

Records screened  
(n = 114)

Records excluded by title or abstract  
(n = 52)

Full-text articles assessed for  
eligibility  
(n = 62)

Full-text articles excluded  
(n = 57)

Not comparing chemo-/radio-therapy and surgery  
No outcomes of interest were reported  
Including solid tumors  
Overlap between authors, centers and patient cohorts  
Review or Protocol only

Studies included in  
qualitative synthesis  
(n = 5)

Studies included in  
quantitative synthesis  
(meta-analysis)  
(n = 5)