

UPPER AERODIGESTIVE TRACT CARCINOMAS FROM DIAGNOSIS TO TREATMENT

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INTRODUCTION:

To assess the incidence and therapeutic alternatives for upper aerodigestive tract carcinomas in ENT Department Timisoara. One of the most important developments in head and neck oncology of the past decade is the demonstration that patients with human papillomavirus (HPV)-mediated oropharyngeal cancers have significantly improved outcomes, compared to HPV-negative counterpart patients. This has become the basis for clinical trials investigating the impact on "treatment deintensification" for patients with HPV-mediated oropharyngeal cancers. Unfortunately, the significance of HPV in non-oropharyngeal head and neck cancers is much less certain.

METHODS:

Our study included 219 patients (11.08%) out of 1976 patients admitted in ENT Department from 01.01.2012 to 01.03.2013. The mean age was 59 years (43-79). The patients were assessed regarding onset signs and symptoms, histopathological exam, were staged and the therapeutic options were followed. The mean age was 59 years (43-79).

RESULTS:

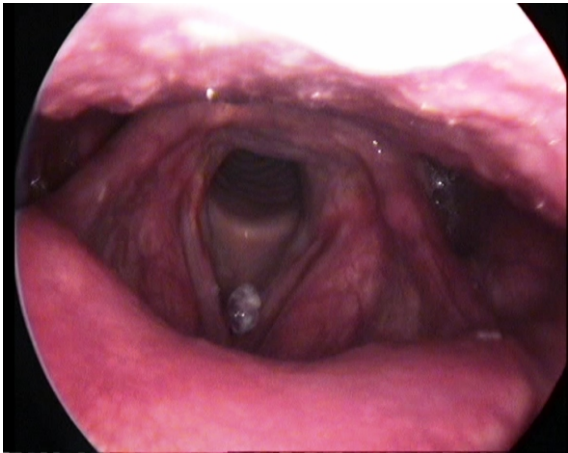
Out of 219 patients 121 (55.25%) presented the tumour localized in the larynx, 21 patients (9.58%) - hypopharyngeal carcinoma, 16 patients (7.3%) - metastatic carcinoma of unknown primary, 14 patients (6.39%) - oropharyngeal carcinoma (palatine tonsils and soft palate) and 7 patients (3.19%) (base of tongue carcinoma), 13 patients (5.93%) rhinopharyngeal carcinoma, 10 patients (4.56%) pharyngolaryngeal carcinoma, 8 patients (3.65%) - naso-sinusal carcinomas, 6 patients (2.73%) auricular carcinoma, 1 patient (0.45%) with upper labial carcinoma, oesophageal carcinoma and thyroid cancer.

Out of 219 patients:

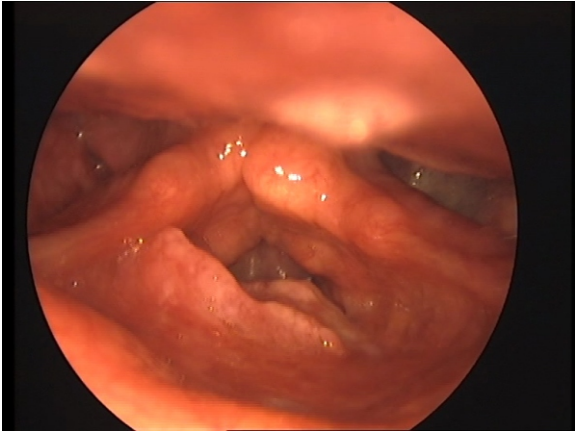
- Stage I 16 patients (7,3%)
- Stage II 29 patients (13,24%)
- Stage III 43 patients (19,63%)
- Stage IV 122 patients(55,7%)



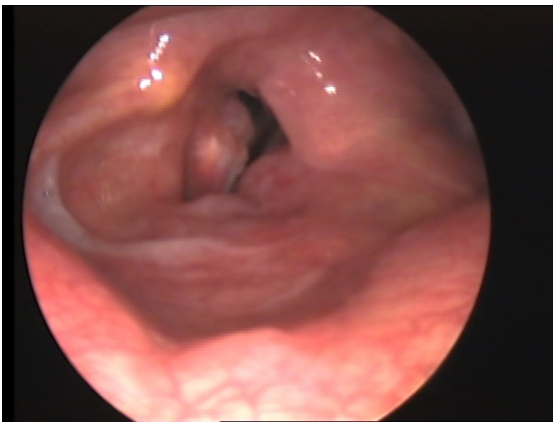
T1a Left vocal cord tumor



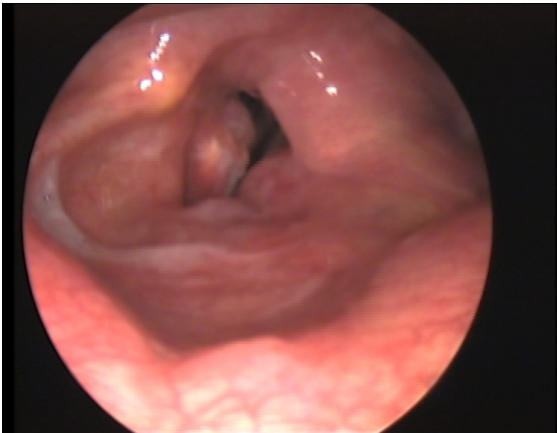
T1a Left vocal cord tumor



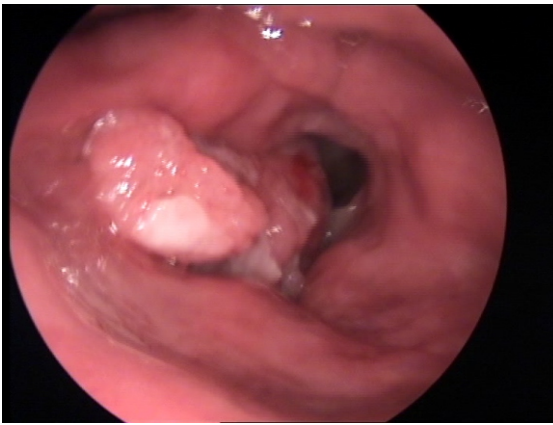
Glotto-Supraglottic carcinoma (infrahyoid epiglottis and anterior commissure involvement).



T2 Right vocal cord carcinoma



T2 Right vocal cord tumor



T3 supraglottic carcinoma with glottic extension



T3 supraglottic carcinoma



Stage III T3N0Mx. Infiltrative-exophytic tumor localized at glottic level, involving anterior commissure (T3). It was performed a total laryngectomy and lateral neck dissection (cervical lymph nodes 2-4).

The therapeutic options included: surgical treatment performed in 57 patients (26.02%), radio-chemotherapy in 83 patients (37.89%), surgical treatment followed by radio-chemotherapy in 66 patients (30.13%), palliative therapy in 4 patients (1.82%), while 9 patients (4.1%) refused any treatment modality.

CONCLUSION:

The incidence of upper aerodigestive tract carcinomas is as high as 11.08% of ENT Department admitted patients. The therapeutic options are variable (surgical treatment, radio-chemotherapy, surgery followed by radio-chemotherapy, palliative therapy).

Vaccination against human papillomavirus (HPV) is safe and effective. It is recommended for females age 9 to 26 and males age 11 to 26, yet vaccination rates are low.

Oropharyngeal cancer: HPV types 16, 18, 31, 33, and 35 cause oropharyngeal cancer. HPV 16 accounts for more than 90% of cases of HPV-related oropharyngeal cancer.