

Editorial

The purview of Head-Neck covers the entire gamut of entities: congenital, traumatic, infective and neoplastic. In this edition of IJHNS, readers will find a sprinkle of all of the entities. A comprehensive account of intracerebral hemorrhages, their etiologies and outcomes is presented in this issue. Deep neck space infections represents one of the most grievous head-neck infections, and Ludwig's angina often is most common among these. Another series covers the etiology, manifestations, treatment and outcomes of these common but serious infections.

Early Stage of Laryngeal (in particular, glottis cancer) has been a contentious issue regarding its treatment modalities, and the pros-cons and outcomes thereof. Readers are especially directed to the elegant retrospective study by Shenoy et al (see p. 15-20) comparing transoral laser microsurgery (TLM) *vs* radiotherapy (RT) for early glottic cancer. This single institution retrospective experience shows that these modalities do not differ in terms of disease free and overall survival, while TLM held an advantage over RT in larynx preservation rate and laryngectomy free survival (which is composite end point). The voice quality was however better with RT in all tumors, but for T1A, we believe that the ratio of 3:1 in favour of patients undergoing TLM in this study implies the institute preference and expertise in TLM. These results may therefore not necessarily be applicable outside high experience centres. Similar to most contentious issues in Head-Neck oncology today, only a large high quality randomised controlled trial will answer the question of the ideal treatment modality in early glottis cancers.

Readers will also find a study evaluating the prognostic importance of Invasive Pattern Grade Scoring (IPGS) in oral cancers. A host of pathological and molecular prognostic factors have been described in literature for oral cancers. The quest is to find prognostic factors that are specific, consistent and reproducible across studies; and therefore simple and elegant. The study included in this issue found IPGS as an independent prognostic factor in a small cohort of oral cancers.

The issue ends with interesting case reports spanning the scope of Head-Neck. As always, we hope the issue will provide a fruitful reading.

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