

Head and Neck Cancer for the Primary Care Physician: Oral Cavity and Sinonasal Malignancies

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#### **Disclosures**

- Biomedical Engineering background
- Research interests in 3D printing and medical device development
- 4 Patents filed/pending
  - Tegmen reconstruction prosthesis, ferroform, trach plug, vent splitter
- KLS Martin supports lab Post Doc
- MakeMedical LLC Cofounder
- Contributions from Partners

#### **Outline**

- Basic Statistics
- Subsites
- Sinonasal Malignancies
- Oropharynx Malignancies
- Oral Cavity Malignancies

# Head and Neck Cancer • 7th most common Cancer • 70:30 M:F • Mucosal and Non-Mucosal Origins • Major Risk Factors: • Tobacco • Alcohol • Human Papilloma Virus

Dhull AK, Atri R, Dhankhar R, Chauhan AK, Kaushal V, Major Risk Factors in Head and Neck Cancer: A Retrosp Analysis of 12-Year Experiences. World J Oncol. 2018;9(3):80-84. doi:10.14740/wjon1104w

#### Treatment takes a Village

- · High morbidity
- Multi-modal treatment
- Rehabilitation
  - Speech
  - Swallowing
  - Mastication
  - · Cosmesis/Aesthetics
- Oncologic outcome







#### **Subsites of Head and Neck Cancer**

Mucosal	Non-Mucosal
Oral Cavity \Diamond	Skin Cancer
Oropharynx ◊	Salivary Gland Cancer (Parotid, submandibular)
Larynx	Thyroid Cancer
Hypopharynx	Neck (unknown primary)
Nasopharynx	Sarcoma
Sinonasal ◊	

#### Case 1- The challenge of Sinonasal Malignancies

- 52 y/o woman
- Left sided nasal obstruction
  - Typical case that highlights the complexity of sinonasal disease
- · Diagnostic dilemma:
  - 20-30% Allergic rhinosinusitis
  - 70% Deviated Nasal Septum
  - · 30 million Americans receive Abx for Sinusitis yearly
- Nasal symptoms comprise up to 20% of non-maintenance PCP visits

# Sinonasal Complaints: When to be concerned about Malignancy

- Detailed history for this patient:
  - Progressive unilateral left obstruction
    - Does not alternate
    - Decongestants don't help
  - Occasional Epistaxis
  - No vision changes
  - No numbness
  - · No dental complaints

Warning Signs	
Unilateral obstruction *	
Fixed obstruction *	
Epistaxis *	
Diplopia	
Proptosis	
Numbness (V2)	
Loose teeth	

#### Case 1:

- Detailed PCP exam
  - Red Polyp
- Failed course of Augmentin
- 3 weeks later, referral to local ENT
  - Endoscopic examination confirms polyp
  - Presumed Allergic Polyposis
- Endoscopic Sinus Surgery
  - Ethmoidectomy and Maxillary antrostomy, Septoplasty



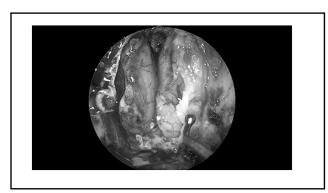
# **Case 1: Incidental Pathology**

- Olfactory Neuroblastoma
  - Rare Neuroectodermal Malignancy
  - ~10% Sinonasal Malignancies



- Nasal Cavity and Paranasal sinuses Harbor more tumor histologic diversity than any other location in the human body
  - WHO Classifies 74 different sinonasal tumor pathologies
    - ~70% malignant





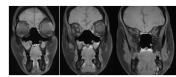
#### **Endoscopic Tumor Resection**

- Developed over the last 20 years
  - Largely Pioneered at OSU
- Reduced morbidity for patients
  - No brain retraction
  - No large bone removal
  - Vascular Reconstruction
- Equivalent Oncologic Outcomes\*



#### **Case 1: Conclusion**

- Prior surgical contamination
- Extended endoscopic resection
  - Skull base/Dura resection, Nasoseptal flap reconstruction
  - · Margins negative
- Adjuvant radiation
- Sinonasal cavity and left neck
- NED 4 years out

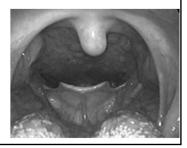


# **Conclusion: Sinonasal Malignancies**

- Very challenging to diagnose
- Key warning signs to distinguish inflammatory sinonasal disease from tumors: Epistaxis, numbness, vision changes
- CT sinus imaging can be a helpful adjunct if suspicious exam
- Diverse tumor pathologies
- Complex multimodal treatment
  - Endoscopic resection reduces morbidity

#### **Switching Gears: Oropharynx Cancer**

- Palatine Tonsils \*
- Tongue Base \*
- Tonsillar Pillars
- Soft Palate



#### The HPV Era

• Despite declining prevalence of larynx, oral cavity cancer, OPSCC on the rise



# Typical Presentation of HPV-related oropharyngeal cancer

- Patients tend to be **younger**.
- Are more likely to be <u>males</u>, <u>married</u> and <u>college-educated</u>.
- Typically present <u>without</u> a significant history of tobacco or alcohol abuse.
- Have **sexual risk factors** for oral or genital HPV exposure.
- Present with <u>low T</u> and <u>high N</u> stage tumors.
- Usually non-keratinizing, poorly-differentiated, and of basaloid morphology on Histology.

#### **HPV: The Basics**

- ds-DNA virus that infects skin and mucosa
- Low-risk: HPV-6 and 11
- High-risk: HPV-16, 18, 33, 35
- Associated with oropharyngeal cancers
- Viral oncogenesis: HPV proteins E6 and E7 degrade p53 and retinoblastoma protein, respectively
- Transmission through intimate contact with an infected partner
- In most cases, oral infection clears without intervention within 1 year
- 70-80% US Adult Population

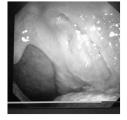


#### **HPV-Related Oropharynx Cancer**

- Oropharyngeal SCC (OPSCC) in which HPV DNA is detectable within the tumor
  - NO LONGER ACTIVE INFECTION
  - 20 years after infection cleared
  - Persistent Viral DNA results in increased cellular turnover
- •90% of Oropharynx cancer today

# **Physical examination**

- Firm, 2 cm nodular mass of left tonsil.
  - Does not involve the tongue base/Palate
- No palpable adenopathy
- Biopsy: HPV+ squamous cell carcinoma
- CT Neck and Chest:
  - No regional or distant metastasis
- •T1 N0 M0 HPV+ SCC Left Tonsil



# **Treatment Options?**

- Early Tonsil Cancer, HPV+, Non-smoker
- Many good options:

Surgical: Transoral robotic tonsillectomy, selective neck dissection, possible adjuvant tx

· Nonsurgical: Radiation treatment

#### **Multidisciplinary Tumor Board Discussion**

- Head and Neck Surgeons
- · Head and Neck Radiation Oncology
- Neuroradiology
- · Head and Neck Pathologists

#### **TORS Robotic Resection and Neck Dissection**



#### **Case 2 Conclusion**

- TORS Margin Negative Resection
- No pathologic adenopathy on final pathology
- No further treatment
- •2 years out, NED...



## **Conclusions: Oropharynx Cancer**

- Incidence is on the rise
- HPV has changed the face of OPSCC
- HPV related tumors have much better prognosis
  - ~80% 5 year survival vs. 35% 5 year survival
- Many successful treatment options, multidisciplinary decision making
- Surgery +/- adjuvant radiation = chemoradiation
- Cystic neck mass in adult: HPV-related OPSCC until proven otherwise
- · Vaccination may reduce OPSCC in future generations

## **Oral Cavity Cancer**

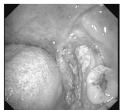
- Oral Tongue, Mucosal Lips, Buccal mucosa, Floor of Mouth, Gingiva, Hard Palate
- Risk Factors: Alcohol, Cigarette, Chewing Tobacco

• ~70:30 M:F

http://www.aboutcancer.com/tongue.htm

# **Case 3: Oral Cavity Cancer**

- 59 yo M painful lesion right posterior mandible x 2 months
- Not alleviated by any topical treatments
- 35 py Smoking history
  - Leukoplakia
  - Palpable nodular firm mass



#### **Lesions in the Oral Cavity**

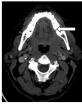
- Common complaint for PCP or Dentist
  - Myriad of Etiologies
- · Warning signs:
  - Pain
  - Persistence
  - Palpable
- · Low Threshold for biopsy



Lesions of the Oral Cavity

#### **Case 3 Continued**

- Dentist biopsies lesion: Squamous Cell Carcinoma
- CT Scan (Neck/Chest): questionable mandibular erosion
  - No sign of regional or distant Metastatic disease



#### **Treatment of Oral Cavity Cancer**

- Unlike OP cancer, Surgical resection confers survival advantage
- Margin Negative Surgical Resection
  - Neck Dissection for regional disease, even if N0 on imaging
- These surgeries result in significant functional impairment • Speech, Swallowing, Mastication, Aesthetics
- Surgical ablation requires complex reconstructive plan

#### **Case 3 Concluded**

- Undergoes left segmental mandibulectomy and resection of floor of mouth and lateral tongue
- · Left neck dissection
- · Margin Negative, no positive lymph nodes • T3N0
- Given T3 (10mm DOI) with nerve invasion Adjuvant Radiation
- · Reconstructed with Microvascular free flap



# **Conclusions: Oral Cavity Cancer**

- · Strongly associated with Tobacco and Alcohol use
- · Leukoplakia, Erythroplakia
- Palpable, painful nodular lesion
  - Diverse potential pathologies
  - · Low threshold for biopsy
- Definitive surgical resection followed by adjuvant radiation if needed
  - · Complex functional reconstructions required with microvascular free flaps



#### **Contemporary Management of Oral Cancer: Mandibular Carcinoma and Reconstruction**

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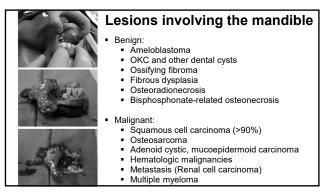
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# **Disclosures**

None

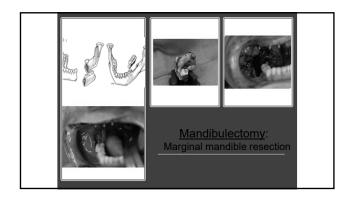
# **Topics**

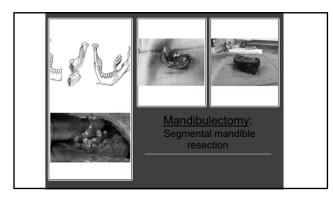
- Lesions involving the mandible
- Treatment and surgical resection
- Reconstructive options
- Maximizing form and function

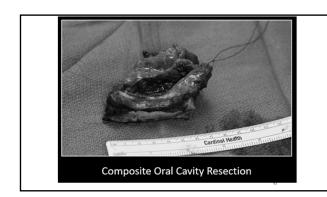


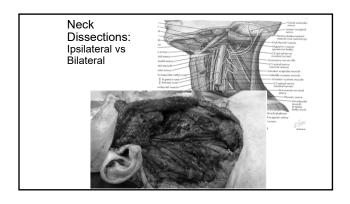
**Treatment Options** 

- Surgery with adjuvant radiation and/or chemoradiation therapy
- Induction chemotherapy followed by surgical intervention with adjuvant therapy
- Upfront chemoradiation therapy
- Palliative/Hospice Care
- All cases presented at Multi-Disciplinary Tumor Board









# Reconstruction

#### **Restoring Form and Function:**

- Maintain dental occlusion
- Reconstructive Goals
- Enable and maintain bite force
- Prevent plate exposure
- Restore cosmesis
- Improve tolerance of radiation therapy

# Reconstructive Philosophy - Have a large "toolbox" - Plan ahead - Consider every patient individually - Consider early and long-term outcomes - Be creative



