INCIDENCE OF PRIMARY HEAD AND NECK CANCERS AT B K L W HOSPITAL & RURAL MEDICAL COLLEGE, A TERTIARY CARE CENTRE IN KONKAN, MAHARASHTRA

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ABSTRACT

Head and neck cancers are among the top ten malignancies worldwide. Their true extent is lacking in konkan area of Maharashtra. There is no known published data covering the subject among konkan. To determine the incidence of primary head and neck cancers at B K L W Hospital, Diagnostic & Research centre, a tertiary care centre, Saware. The present study is a retrospective study carried out in the department of histopathology of B K L Walawalkar Hospital, diagnostic and Research centre, Saware, Maharashtra. A total of 1832 patients underwent histopathological examination between the period January 2012 to December 2013. Data regarding age, site, sex and histopathological diagnosis was analysed.

A total of 1832 cases were reported, out of which 696 were malignant lesions. Among 696, 362 cases were squamous cell carcinoma of head & neck and 188 includes squamous cell carcinomas of cervix, vault, GI tract etc. 146 cases are diagnosed as non Squamous carcinomas which includes breast carcinoma( 104 cases), soft tissue tumors (18 cases), lymphoma 6 cases, metastatic (07 cases)), liver (8 cases) and CNS includes 03 cases. Out of 362 head & neck malignancies, gender wise 240 patients were male and 122 were female patients. Male predominance was seen with male to female ratio 1.8 to 1. The age range varied from 34 to 84 years. The commonest malignant tumor involving the head and neck region was Squamous cell carcinoma. Squamous cell carcinoma is the commonest, occurring more commonly in men than women. The gender ratio is similar to that seen in most countries. This study offers a benchmark for future studies, planning resources and monitoring the efficiency of efforts to manage the different pathologies in this region. Observed incidence patterns in the region are a reminder of widespread unawareness, low healthcare utilization. It also underlines the need to advocate for reliable cost-effective programs to create awareness, for early detection and plan appropriate management strategies.

KEYWORDS: Squamous Cell Carcinoma (SCC), Head & Neck, Histomorphology, Saware.