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HPV in the Larynx: Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis –Past, Present, Future

Abstract:

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) in the larynx can present as both benign and malignant lesions. The most common benign neoplasm of the larynx and airway is the HPV-related recurrent respiratory papillomatosis (RRP). The purpose of this presentation abstract is to inform conference attendees about the importance of recognizing HPV in the larynx, differentiating it from other pathology, such as malignancy from squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx, and reviewing options for management of the disease process. Methodology includes up-to-date evidence-based literature review of laryngeal papillomatosis diagnosis, treatment options, including surgical and office-based treatment, and a thorough review of the adjuvant treatment for HPV in the larynx, beyond surgical treatment alone. Review of the novel therapeutic treatment of RRP with Avastin (bevacizumab) and how it can be used with both in-office treatment for localized disease to the larynx, as well as review of its systemic administration will be addressed. The role of HPV vaccination in treatment and prevention will also be addressed. In conclusion, attendees should be able to recognize the importance of HPV in the larynx, understanding typing as implication in management of the disease, as well as become familiar with adjuvant treatments for RRP beyond surgical intervention alone.

Keywords: HPV, larynx, recurrent respiratory papillomatosis, treatment

Biography: Dr. Barbu is board-certified in Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery and fellowship-trained at Harvard Medical School in Laryngeal Surgery, where her clinical research in laryngeal HPV resulted in the first prospective trial of bevacizumab in the treatment of papillomatosis. After fellowship, she remained on Harvard's faculty and became the first woman surgeon in the Division of Laryngeal Surgery at the #1 hospital in the U.S. at that time. Dr. Barbu is currently Associate Professor of Surgery at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Her laryngology practice has an emphasis on early laryngeal cancer, papillomatosis, and care of the professional voice.