

# PROGNOSIS AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN PATIENTS WITH LARYNGEAL CANCER

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## INTRODUCTION

Laryngeal cancer accounts for 25% of head and neck cancer and 2% of all malignancies, accounting for the death of 83.000 people per year worldwide. According to INCA, for the 2018-2019 biennium, 7.670 new cases are estimated, with 6.390 new cases in men and 1.280 in women corresponding in incidence to 8th place for males and 16th for females.<sup>1,2</sup> Laryngeal cancer and its various types of treatment can have a considerable impact on the daily life of patients.<sup>3,4</sup> These treatments may result in some degree of dysfunction in speech, swallowing, breathing and appearance, making it of paramount importance to assess the quality of life of these patients.<sup>5,6,7,8</sup> The instruments of evaluation of QOL are important tools to measure the effect of these treatments on the life of the patients.<sup>9,10</sup>

## OBJECTIVE

Evaluate the quality of life and prognostic factors of patients with laryngeal cancer covering all modalities of treatments, enrolled in the head and neck surgery section of INCA.

## METHODOLOGY

Cross-sectional study in patients with laryngeal cancer, stages I to IV, covering all modalities of treatments, enrolled in the head and neck surgery section of the INCA. The fourth version of the University of Washington Quality of Life Questionnaire was used.

## PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Of the 383 patients evaluated to date, the following results were found; in relation to staging, T0 / Tis 4%, T1 14%, T2 31%, T3 34%, T4 17%. About 61% did radiotherapy. Considering the surgical modalities, 19% performed total laryngectomy, 78% partial surgeries and 3% microsurgeries. About 88% were men, 62% were smokers at diagnosis and 52% were alcoholics, 9% required TQT prior to treatment. In the UW-QOL questionnaire, 52% of the patients presented composite scores above 80.

## FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

This Project is approved by CEP/INCA under No. 96/09. Despite the relatively low incidence of laryngeal cancer compared to other types of cancer, the disease's impact remains high because of treatment-related outcomes, which may have a negative functional and psychosocial impact on patients' lives. Reason that highlights the importance of studying these patients to evaluate how the different staging of the disease, its treatments and how other socio-demographic characteristics influence QOL and overall survival.

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