

PREOPERATIVE RADIOTHERAPY IN ESOPHAGEAL CANCER: A CASE REPORT

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Carcinoma of the esophagus is a relatively rare tumor, accounting for 1.5% of overall cancer morbidity. Throughout the world, 480,000 people are affected by the disease each year and men twice as often as women, causing about 400,000 deaths a year.

Most cases are reported in underdeveloped environments, among the middle-aged or elderly. Smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, deficiencies of some dietary microelements and vitamins are among the principal risk factors for the disease. The main symptoms of the disease are progressive dysphagia and dyspepsia, while pain, hoarseness, and cough are common in more advanced disease stages. The diagnosis is established on the basis of histopathology confirmation of the disease from the biopsied material sampled by way of esophagogastroscope or from the material obtained by way of endoscopic resection. The therapy used in the treatment of esophagus cancers is multidisciplinary. The most common is surgery, radiotherapy, and chemotherapy. Often, these three basic forms of therapy are combined. In this case report, the neoadjuvant therapy consisting of chemotherapy according to the PF protocol and transcutaneous radiotherapy gave an extremely good therapeutic response, and the disease from an unresponsive state was converted into a state of radical operability.

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