

## Chondrosarcoma of the larynx: presentation of a case and review of the literature

Santino Rizzo<sup>1</sup>, Francesco Strinati<sup>1</sup>, Fabrizio Longari<sup>2</sup>, Cristina Bizzotti<sup>1</sup>, Guido Altissimi<sup>1</sup>, and Antonio Frenguelli<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Otolaryngology Clinic, University of Perugia, Terni; <sup>2</sup>Otolaryngology Clinic, University of Perugia, Perugia, Italy

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### ABSTRACT

Chondrosarcoma of the larynx is a rare tumor of the upper respiratory tract that originates from cartilaginous tissue. The cricoid cartilage is the most frequent site of onset at the larynx. The diagnosis is not always easy, given the tumor's slow growth rate, the aspecificity of the symptoms, and the low degree of malignancy with which most cases present and which often causes it to be mistaken for a chondroma. A case is presented of a 61-year-old woman with a chondrosarcoma of the larynx, grade 2, originating from the cricoid cartilage and measuring about 3 cm in diameter. The patient underwent extirpation of the tumor together with the cricoid cartilage, with a successive thyrotracheal anastomosis because she refused a total laryngectomy, which would have been the indicated intervention on the basis of the extent and grade of the neoplasm. At 6 years from surgery, the patient is in a good state of health with good laryngeal function and without recurrence of the disease. This fact confirms that the surgical approach to chondrosarcoma of the larynx can in most cases be conservative, reserving demolitive surgery for the more aggressive forms, for tumors of greater extent, and for recurrences. In fact, good laryngeal function and therefore a good quality of life can be maintained even for long periods of time.

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Correspondence to: Santino Rizzo, MD, Clinica Otorinolaringoiatrica, Azienda Ospedaliera "S. Maria", Via T. Joannuccio 1, 05100 Terni, Italy.  
Tel +39-0744-205545;  
+39-335-6920268;  
fax +39-0744-287600;  
e-mail rizzosantino@libero.it

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