

Otolaryngology: ENT Surgery

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Our Experience in an advanced recurrent Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma

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Purpose/Objective: Treatment of nasopharyngeal carcinoma is mainly based on radiation therapy, but some tumors do not respond well to radiation therapy, resulting in residual tumors or recurrence. Chemotherapy, surgery and, in some conditions, immunotherapy are currently available for such conditions.

Material/methods: We experienced a 47-year-old female new resident of Vietnamese descent who was diagnosed with nasopharyngeal cancer in 2018 and received concurrent chemoradiation therapy. However, the sphenoid sinus had always had tumor remnants, and the tumor had been successfully eradicated by endoscopic resection and adjuvant chemotherapy.

Results: Unexpectedly, a few months later, the tracking found that there was a metastasis of the pterygopalatine fossa which gradually spread to the infratemporal fossa. Because the patient's conditions cannot meet the health insurance criteria for immunotherapy, the targeted therapy was used with radiation therapy. The tumor was still unable

to be effectively controlled, so a trans pterygoid endoscopic tumor resection was arranged plus postoperative adjuvant chemotherapy. However, the tumor continued to proliferate and spread over several months, eventually taking palliative treatment.

Conclusion: For the recurrence of nasopharyngeal cancer in late stages, surgery or chemoradiation are always topics worth discussing. And according to the literature, the role of surgical management on rT3 disease is equivocal, which truly reflects the condition we met. So patient selection is pivotal.

Biography

Teng Chin W. completed his MD at the age of 26 years from Chung Shan Medical University, Taiwan. He is the director of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology, at Tainan municipal hospital, Taiwan. He is a member of the Taiwan Rhinology Society and the Taiwan Academy of Allergy Asthma and Clinical Immunology.

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