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Opinion

Vision Improvement After Radiotherapy

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Somewhere in June 2021, I had problem in swallowing and direct laryngoscopy coupled with biopsy and histopathology led to the conclusion that I was suffering from Squamous cell carcinoma of supra glottic region. My Oncologist at Tata Memorial Cancer hospital, Mumbai, advised 35 sessions of radiotherapy. Radiotherapy induced many side effects such as many recurring ulcerations in mouth, tongue and palate with zerostomia. To my dismay, I noticed some positive effects too. One of them was marked improvement in my distant vision. I noticed that I could watch TV well from my bed; approximately 15 feet away from the TV and could even read most captions too. I felt better to drive a car without spectacles than with spectacles. I could judge that my vision had changed. This necessitated recheck of vision. My left eye which had worse vision exhibited marked improvement from +4 diopters to +2 diopters. I could not notice any improvement in near vision.

But my apprehension as to improvement continues; whether it is everlasting or shall pass off after some time.

Still, I feel happy to report this positive effect after radiotherapy as a short communication since it will inspire other researchers to undertake further research on this issue and might find out some therapeutic advantage of radiotherapy to be enjoyed therapeutically.

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