



Role of lymphoscintigraphy and SPECT-CT in sentinel lymph node detection in early stage squamous cell carcinoma of oral cavity: Our experience



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Abstract

Objective: A multidisciplinary team trial in a tertiary care centre in patients with early stage oral cancer to review the role of advanced imaging modalities like lymphoscintigraphy and SPECT-CT in sentinel lymph node identification and to layout our experience in performing this modality.

Methods: A randomised, prospective, case control study of diagnosed cases of T1/T2 N0 squamous cell carcinoma of oral cavity from December 2016 to January 2018 at our institution. Patients in study group underwent SLNB guided neck dissection and patients in control group underwent Elective Neck Dissection. We compared both groups statistically for operating time, postop histopathology, diagnostic accuracy and outcomes. Also we analyzed efficacy of static and dynamic lymphoscintigraphy followed by SPECT-CT in identifying sentinel lymph node areas in neck and intra-operative gamma probe to precisely locate sentinel nodes.

Results: Out of 40 patients, 20 each in study and control groups were included. The SLN identification rate was 100% with combined SPECT-CT and gamma probe use whereas it was 70% with imaging alone. The sensitivity, specificity, positive predictive value and negative predictive value of SLNB and END were 80%, 56.58%, 9.61%, 98% and 78.5 %, 73.48%, 10.67 %, 98.8 % respectively. Operating time was less in SLNB group with statistically significant difference between two groups.

Conclusion: High SLN identification rate with combined use of SPECT-CT and gamma probe and high NPV render SLNB as a reliable modality in the management of early stage oral cavity cancers in a centre with a multidisciplinary team set up and appropriate facilities.

Biography

Jaimanti Bakshi is working as a consultant and surgeon of head and neck surgery in the post graduate institute of medical education and research. She is the professor and unit head of the department. She has over 80 publications in the national and international journals that have been cited over 200 times and has been serving as a reviewer expert of reputed Journals.



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