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Successful Total Laryngectomy at Jupiter Hospital Marks Milestone in Cancer Treatment

Total laryngectomy with voice prosthesis placement showcases cutting-edge advancements in cancer treatment

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A remarkable case unfolded at Jupiter Hospital, Pune, with Mr. Kishor Pandey (name changed), a 70-year-old man facing a recurrence of vocal cord cancer. Previously treated with definitive radiotherapy in 2022 under care of Dr. Vikas Kothawade at Jupiter Hospital, Mr. Pandey's recent symptoms of cough and hoarseness signaled the return of cancer in both vocal cords.

On investigation he was found to have recurrence of cancer in both of his vocal cords. PET CT scan showed a growth involving both cords, anterior commissure and an exo laryngeal spread with erosion of both sides of thyroid cartilage.

Under the care of Dr. Inderdeep Singh, ENT, Head and Neck Surgeon, and Dr. Chirag Bhirud, Surgical Oncologist, Mr. Pandey underwent a total laryngectomy with bilateral selective neck dissection on April 18, 2024. This extensive surgery involved removing his voice box and thyroid gland, leading to a permanent hole in his windpipe for breathing and a new connection between his windpipe and food pipe for speaking. To ensure thorough cancer removal, surgery also included removing lymph nodes from both sides of his neck.





Despite the challenges posed by Mr. Pandey's previous radiation treatment, the surgical team successfully navigated the complexities of the case. Dr. Singh explained, "Removing the voice box is tricky, especially after radiation, as it affects tissue healing quality. Our teamwork allowed us to tailor the surgery to Mr. Pandey's needs for the best outcome."

A critical aspect of Mr. Pandey's treatment was fitting a voice prosthesis during the same surgery. Dr. Bhirud stressed, "Maintaining speech is vital after laryngectomy. By placing the voice prosthesis during surgery, we aimed to give Mr. Kishor Pandey a natural-sounding voice afterward."



Post-surgery, Mr. Pandey had a smooth recovery and adapted well to a semisolid diet before being discharged. 3 weeks later, Patient developed spontaneous bleeding secondary and accelerated hypertension which required explanation and clot evacuation. Leading to delayed anastomotic leak which was managed conservatively.

He continues to be monitored regularly at Jupiter Lifeline Hospital, focusing on restoring his ability to speak and swallow, as well as managing the permanent hole in his windpipe.

Dr. Singh emphasized the ongoing challenges, saying, "We're working on helping Mr. Pandey speak and swallow better. Also, managing the permanent hole in his windpipe needs special care to ensure he can breathe properly." To assist with this, Mr. Pandey was provided with a device (Larry button with micro HME) to cover the hole and keep it moist for easier breathing.



MR. PANDEY'S SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS THE EXPERTISE AND TEAMWORK AT JUPITER LIFELINE HOSPITAL, WHERE PATIENTS LIKE HIM RECEIVE PERSONALIZED CARE FOR THEIR SPECIFIC NEEDS.