



MORPHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF LARYNGEAL CANCER

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Introduction

Laryngeal cancer is one of the most common malignant tumors of the head and neck. Its development is associated with multiple factors, including the influence of bad habits such as smoking and alcohol consumption, as well as the presence of human papillomavirus (HPV). Understanding the morphological characteristics of laryngeal cancer is essential for diagnosis, prognosis, and determining optimal treatment approaches.

Laryngeal anatomy

The larynx is divided into several anatomical sections: the epiglottis, ventricle and cricoid cartilage. Each of these compartments can be affected by cancer cells. The larynx consists of the mucous membrane, submucous layer and cartilage base, which play an important role in the formation of the malignant process.

Cancer morphology

Histological structure

1. squamous cell carcinoma is the most common type of laryngeal cancer, characterized by changes in the squamous epithelium. Cells become larger, multinucleated and atypical.
2. Adenocarcinoma - noted in the case of damage to the small salivary glands, has a more complex structure with the formation of acinar and tubular formations.
3. undifferentiated and squamous cell carcinomas - can show aggressive behavioral characteristics, with rapid growth and metastases.

Macroscopic features

At the macroscopic level, a tumor may look like:

- Change in mucosal color (usually pale pink or bright red).
- Ulcers, protruding nodes or tissue infiltration.
- Signs of necrosis in the tumor mass.

Metastasis

Laryngeal cancer often metastasizes to the regional lymph nodes of the neck, which also has morphological features. Metastases usually have a structure similar to the primary tumor, however they may exhibit varying degrees of atypism.



Conclusion

The morphological features of laryngeal cancer vary depending on the type of tumor and the stage of the disease. Understanding these characteristics not only helps in diagnosis, but also forms the basis for a clinical approach to treating patients. Further research in laryngeal cancer morphology and molecular biology could lead to improved diagnostic methods and therapies.

References

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