

CAROTID STENOSIS SECONDARY TO HEAD AND NECK RADIATION THERAPY, CASE REPORT

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Background:

Carotid stenosis secondary to head and neck radiation therapy is becoming increasingly recognized as a cause of stroke in cancer survivors. Although knowledge of its pathology, natural history, and medical, endovascular and surgical therapy has grown proper guidelines are lacking.

Case description:

We describe a case of a 63 year old man who underwent regular follow up after receiving radiotherapy for a parotid gland cancer. He was never checked for a possible carotid disease until he developed fluctuating neurological signs. At this time the disease became rampant and led to a severe watershed stroke despite medical therapy.

Conclusion:

It is an emergency for the oncological and stroke societies to bring in new guidelines for the vascular screening of head and neck cancer patients treated with radiotherapy.