

KERATOSIS LARYNX

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DEFINITION

Clinical terminology used to describe a group of epithelial lesions which include

- i acanthosis
- ii keratosis
- iii hyperkeratosis
- iv dyskeratosis
- v cellular atypia
- vi malignant dyskeratosis

- * Leukoplakia → clinical term used for a white plaque like lesion over the mucosa of vocal cord
- * Papillary keratosis → warty verrucous type of lesion, more localised, often peeling seen
- * Above epithelial changes may undergo malignant transformation into carcinoma-in-situ

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ETIOLOGY

[Tobacco & other carcinogens]
[Elderly males]



Mucosal thickening



Keratosis & other changes

- (3) PATHOLOGY
- i, small localised white patch
 - ii, extensive white sheet occupying whole cord
 - iii, verrucous warty appearance
(papillary keratosis)

(4) HISTOPATHOLOGICAL CHANGES

1. thickening of stratum corneum
2. submucosal edema
3. hyperplasia & hyperkeratosis
4. dysplasia, acanthosis, parakeratosis
5. cellular atypia, anaplasia → dysplastic changes
6. epithelial atypia & subepithelial inflammation
(papillary keratosis)

(5) SYMPTOMS

1. Hoarseness
2. frequent throat clearing
3. Sticky feeling in throat

SIGNS

thick raised white area on vocal cords on IDL
(or other pathological features as mentioned above)

(6) INVESTIGATIONS

- Micro-laryngoscopy
- Supravital staining using toluidine blue
- Biopsy

(7) TREATMENT

1. Micro-laryngoscopic stripping of affected cord & histopathological exam of specimen
2. Quit tobacco
3. Chemoprevention for malignancy by antioxidant/s/ β -carotene