LASER IN MANAGEMENT OF CANCER LARYNX

Essay Submitted for the Partial Fulfillment of the Master Degree in Otorhynolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery

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To my mother, my brother who spent many hours helping me to accomplish this work.

On a personal note, I still remember and miss the company of my father, his kindness, his infectious enthusiasm, and his encouragement. Though I still have the pleasure to think of him frequently but always with gratitude and affection.



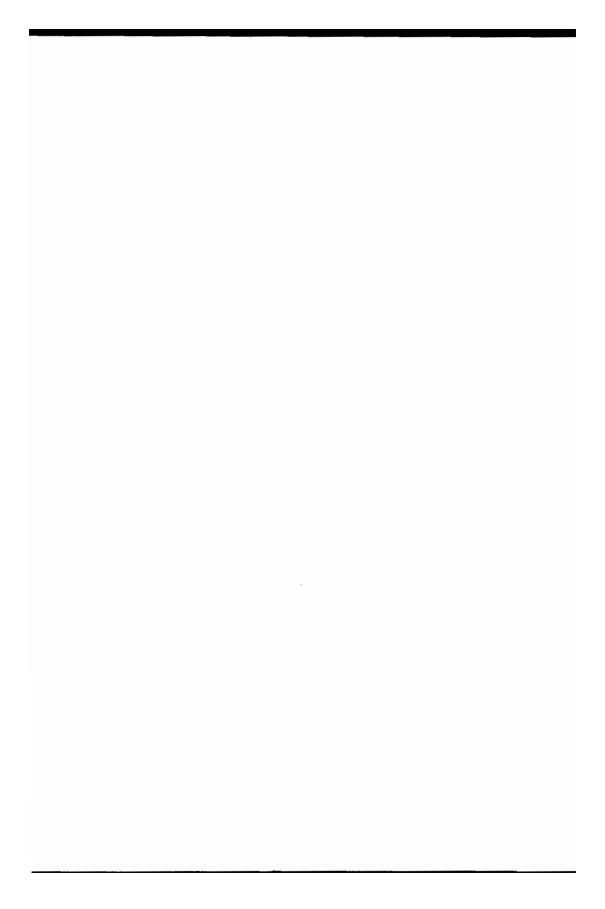
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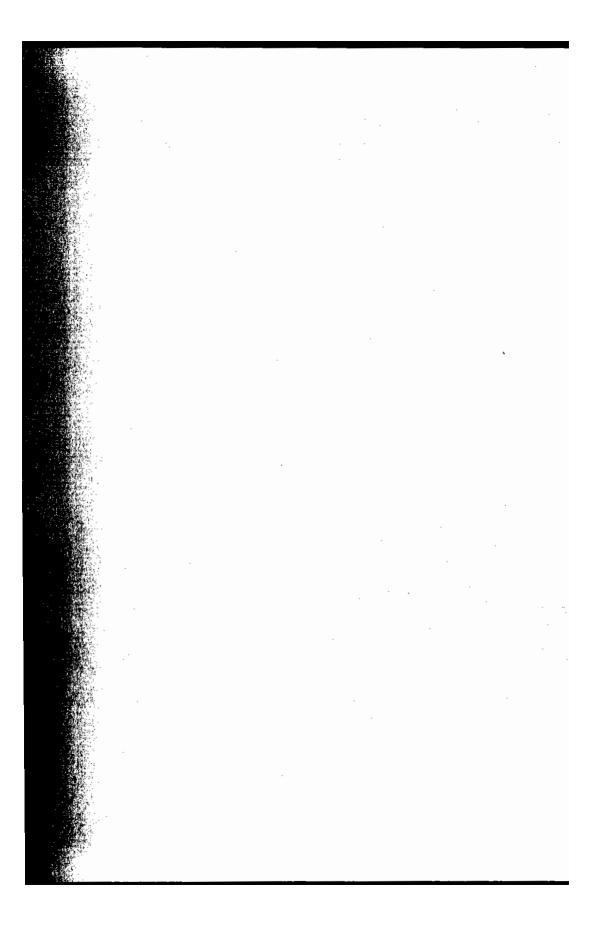


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Introduction



INTRODUCTION

The concept of endoscopic resection of early laryngeal carcinoma has gained considerable popularity since the introduction of the carbon dioxide laser over 20 years ago.

Successful use of the laser began experimentally with Jako (*Jako*, 1972). Subsequently Strong presented his early clinical results in 1975 (*Strong*, 1975).

This endoscopic approach for the treatment of vocal cord carcinoma iss advantageous over conventional partial laryngectomy and radiotherapy (McGruit and Kaufman, 1987).

Although endoscopic laser excision has distinct limitations when used for the treatment of laryngeal carcinoma (Krepsi and Meltzer, 1989), yet it is an increasingly used treatment modality (Stanely et al., 1994).

Endoscopic laser treatment for selected glottic squamous cell carcinoma proved to be an excellent alternative to radiotherapy or open neck surgery (*Peretti* et al., 1994).

CO₂ laser in the treatment of laryngeal tumours gives marvelous results in terms of prognosis (Motta et al., 1991).

Moreover, CO₂ laser is considered a good treatment alternative for early glottic carcinoma in terms of oncological as well as functional results (Mahieu and Patel, 1994).

Phonatory results in patients treated with CO₂ laser were better than those found in patients treated with traditional cordectomy (*Pia et al.*, 1994).

Finally, laser cordectomy is a modern and useful surgical method in the therapy of vocal fold carcinoma provided adequate follow up and the possibility of "salvage" surgery are available (Czinger and Savay, 1994).