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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: **IJAR-53283** Date: 14-08-2025

Title: Small Cell Neuroendocrine Carcinoma of the Larynx: A Rare and Aggressive Tumor – Case Report and Literature Review

Recommendation:
Accept as it is .....YES.....
Accept after minor revision.....
Accept after major revision .....
Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality			✓	
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance			✓	

Reviewer Name: Dr Aamina

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

General Overview
The manuscript presents a rare and clinically significant case of small cell neuroendocrine carcinoma (SCNEC) of the larynx, supported by a concise literature review. The report successfully integrates clinical presentation, diagnostic workup, histopathological findings, and therapeutic approach, culminating in a discussion that reflects the tumor's aggressive biological nature and poor prognosis. The rarity of laryngeal SCNEC and its aggressive course are effectively highlighted, making this work valuable for both clinical awareness and academic reference.

Abstract Evaluation
The abstract is well-structured, clearly separating the introduction, case presentation, and conclusion. It provides essential details such as incidence rate, patient demographics, clinical findings, imaging, histopathology, staging, treatment, and clinical outcome. The brief conclusion effectively underscores the clinical message regarding early diagnosis and the need for multidisciplinary management. The inclusion of specific immunohistochemical markers (CK+, chromogranin+, synaptophysin+, TTF1−, rare p40 expression) adds scientific depth.

Introduction Evaluation
The introduction is concise and informative, providing relevant epidemiological data, historical case numbers, and classification details. It situates SCNEC of the larynx within the broader spectrum of neuroendocrine tumors, noting its rarity compared to other primary sites such as the gastrointestinal tract and lungs. The reference to the WHO classification offers clarity on histological categorization, and the epidemiological context reinforces the significance of the reported case.

Case Presentation Evaluation
The case is presented with clinical precision, covering patient history, risk factors (notably heavy

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smoking), clinical examination findings, and detailed imaging results. The description of tumor extension and lymph node involvement is thorough, and the histological and immunohistochemical profile is clearly stated. The staging (T2N1M0) is provided, followed by the therapeutic approach (cisplatin–etoposide chemotherapy) and the patient's rapid clinical decline, which underscores the aggressive course of SCNEC. The narrative effectively conveys the clinical challenges associated with such tumors.

Scientific and Clinical Relevance

This case report contributes important documentation to the limited literature on laryngeal SCNEC. It offers valuable insights into diagnostic parameters, histopathological features, and therapeutic considerations. The outcome reinforces the poor prognosis associated with these tumors, even with timely medical intervention, and the discussion highlights the need for heightened clinical suspicion in at-risk populations.

Overall Assessment

The manuscript is a significant addition to the literature on rare head and neck malignancies. It is scientifically sound, clinically relevant, and well-supported by detailed case documentation and contextual literature data.