

19.3.2.9

Head and Neck:

Early Reactions:

1. Reduced and sticky saliva, loss of taste and appetite, altered sense of smell, nausea.
2. Sore throat, difficulty swallowing, weight loss, fatigue.
3. Skin changes: redness, irritation, scaliness, blistering or ulceration, color change, thickening, hair loss.
4. Hoarseness, cough, loss of voice and swelling of airway.
5. Blockage and crusting of nasal passages.
6. Inflammation of ear canal, feeling of “stopped up” ear, hearing loss, dizziness.
7. Dry and irritable eyes(s), if the eyes or tear glands are in the radiation beam.
8. Depression of blood count leading to increased risk of infection and/or bleeding.
9. These reactions are likely to be intensified by chemotherapy before, during or after radiation therapy.

Late Reaction:

1. Dry mouth and altered sense, or loss, of taste.
2. Tooth decay and gum changes.
3. Bone damage, especially in jaws.
4. Stiffness and limitation of jaw movement.
5. Changes in skin texture and/or coloration, permanent hair loss, scarring of skin, poor healing of surgical wounds, and death of normal tissue.
6. Swelling of tissues, particularly under the chin.
7. Throat damage causing hoarseness, pain, or difficulty breathing or swallowing.
8. Eye damage causing dry eye(s), cataract, loss of vision, loss of eye(s), if the eye is in the radiation beam.
9. Ear damage causing dryness of ear canal, fluid, collection in the middle ear, hearing loss.
10. Brain, spinal cord, or nerve damage causing alteration of thinking ability.
11. Pituitary or thyroid gland damage requiring long term hormone replacement therapy.
12. In children, there may be additional later reactions as follows:
 - a. Disturbances of bone and tissue growth.
 - b. Abnormal development of facial bones.
 - c. Brain damage causing a loss of intellectual ability, learning capacity, and reduced intelligence quotient (I.Q.).
 - d. Second cancers developing in the irradiated area.

I have read the above side effects/complications and understand the possibility of them occurring to me, and I accept such possibility.

Witness: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Written: 2007

Reviewed: November 2008

