It is with great interest that the reviewer read this book by Dr Sultan Pradhan. There was, as comparison, the classic by Carl Silver, *Surgery of Larynx*, which the reviewer readily devoured during his training in surgical oncology and head and neck oncology some 20 years ago. Since then, there has been significant progress in the field of laryngeal oncology and surgery including organ conservation regimens with chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy, new operations popularized such as supracricoid partial laryngectomy and endoscopic microlaryngoscopic laser surgery. These new topics are extensively covered in Dr Pradhan’s new book and is to be welcomed as it provides for the modern head and neck surgical oncologists a new reference for practice.

The book chapters are well and systematically outlined. A historical perspective is given at the start of the book and is particularly useful as it serves to highlight not only the pioneering work of our surgical forefathers but also the dynamic evolution of management of this disease and the therapeutic dilemmas involved in attempting to preserve form and function without losing the best possible chance of a cure. The embryological and pathological basis for laryngeal conservative surgery is next highlighted. It would have been useful in this chapter to have anatomical drawings of the larynx to better appreciate the important points highlighted in the biology of laryngeal cancer. The anatomical drawings could also be augmented by radiological images from MRI and CT scans. It would provide a three-dimensional understanding of a very complex anatomical and physiological organ. The routes of spread of cancer and the embryological basis for partial laryngectomies can then be appreciated. Surgery is, after all, a very visual science.

The management algorithms in the various stages of cancer of the larynx and its various subsites are outlined next. While the reviewer agrees with most of the author’s recommendations, it would be useful if readers were provided with relevant references for his recommendations. This omission may be a reflection of the extensive experience of the author. The technical aspects of laryngeal surgery are well described in subsequent chapters. One cannot help but be impressed by the authoritative chapters and discussions of the various types of voice conservation surgery. There is, in addition, a very useful introductory chapter on transoral microlaryngoscopic laser surgery.

Dr Pradhan is to be congratulated for authoring such a useful book. It provides neophytes with a useful reference, and for those actively involved in the management of laryngeal and hypopharyngeal cancers, considerable reading pleasure. It is very readable and informative and I highly recommend it.

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