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## CLINICAL PRESENTATION OF NASOPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA IN WEST SUMATRA INDONESIA

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**Background:** Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma (NPC) is the most common head and neck cancer in West Sumatra. Most patients with nasopharyngeal carcinoma have advanced stage at presentation. Recognizing the common symptoms is important to diagnose the disease at an early stage. No studies have been conducted to evaluate the clinical presentation of NPC in West Sumatra. **Objective:** to describe the clinical presentation of nasopharyngeal carcinoma in West Sumatra Indonesia. **Methods:** This was a retrospective review of all patients with nasopharyngeal carcinoma admitted to the department of otorhinolaryngology Dr. M. Djamil hospital, Padang, Indonesia from July 2010 to June 2012. **Result:** A total number of 38 patients with histologically confirmed nasopharyngeal carcinoma presented during the study period. There were 20 males and 18 females (ratio 1.1:1) with a mean age of 46.6 ± 14.1 years. Most patients present with stage IV 30 (78.9%) followed by stage III and II respectively 4 (10.5%). All of the patients presented with multiple symptoms, cervical lymphadenopathy is the most common symptom (97.3%) followed by nasal obstruction 27 (71.1%), tinnitus 23(60.5%), epistaxis 19 (50.0%) and headache 19 (50.0%). Other were hearing loss 17 (44.7%), diplopia 15 (39.4%), impaired sense of smell 10 (26.3%) and otalgia 5 (13.1%). **Histologically,** undifferentiated carcinoma was the most common 21(55.2%) followed by differentiated nonkeratinizing squamous cell carcinoma 16 (42.1%) and keratinizing squamous cell carcinoma 1(2.6%). **Conclusion:** All of the patients with nasopharyngeal carcinoma presented with multiple symptoms, which cervical lymphadenopathy is the most common symptom and chief complain of patient at presentation.

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**Keywords:**Nasopharyngeal carcinoma, clinical presentation, west Sumatra, Indonesia

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