Summary

1413 patients (1236 males and 177 females) with cancer of the larynx or hypopharynx were treated in the ENT Department of the Pomeranian Medical Academy in Szczecin from 1990 to 2000. The patients were aged between 26 and 87 years. In the paper, based on the review of the cases history the following aspects have been determined: incidence rate of the laryngeal cancer in the West Pomerania region, cigarette smoking, size and primary site of the tumor, nodular metastases and clinical stage of the disease. The incidence rate in men was 9.9, in women 1.4 and on average in the whole region 5.6. 91.5% of the patients were cigarette smokers. The most common primary site of the tumor was supraglottis - 788 cases (56.6%), next glottis - 433 cases (29.9%), hypopharynx 172 cases (12.2%), subglottis - 10 cases (0.7%), and also 10 cases (0.7%) unidentified. With regard to the local manifestation of the tumor (T) the most numerous group was T4 - 580 cases (41%) and then T3 - 452 cases (32%). Cervical nodular metastases were observed in 547 patients (38.7%). The greatest number of patients were in the clinical stage IV - 602 cases (48.7%) and next in stage III - 394 cases (27.9%). Clinical stage II concerned 152 cases (10.8%) and stage I - 189 cases (13.4%). In the period from 1990 to 2000 in the West Pomerania region the increase of incidence of laryngeal cancer was observed and in some areas was statistically significant. There was also a statistically significant increase of the number of patients with hypopharyngeal cancer and at stage IV of the disease.