

Editor's Speak

(Vertigo I)

There are many issues that are disturbing when brought into light; the fact that most otorhinolaryngologists shy away from understanding vertigo comes first.

In a field where for a majority of practitioners, the 'surgical work' determines the success of one's practice, an in-depth understanding, interest and effort to treat vertigo is a rarity. Added to that is the hype created by many teachers, about the complexity of the symptom and its even more complex etiology.

Indeed, vertigo is a complex symptom with numerous interpretations and varied treatments. As a practicing otorhinolaryngologist, although it may be imperative to be able to treat this symptom, it is heartening to realize, that there are not more than a handful of vertiginous disorders, that afflict a vast majority of these patients and a reasonable understanding of these few disorders would make a relatively busy vertigo practice. Given the large number of patients that may suffer from a vertiginous episode at some point of time in their lives, the magnitude of the problem can only be estimated.

Notwithstanding the benefits, it helps to know that the 'stigma' associated with treating vertigo can easily be done away with just a little effort to understand this symptom and its common etiologies.

The forthcoming issues dedicated to vertigo have been a small effort to regenerate an interest in this symptom, and target one's diagnostic, therapeutic and referral techniques to treat the cause in a simplistic manner.



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