

INTRODUCTION AND AIM  
OF THE WORK

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Cancer becomes a more prevalent disease in different countries all over the world . Cancer of the larynx accounts for about 2% of all reported cases of malignant disease, ( Martin, 1948- ) . According to Aboul Nasr and Boutros(1978). the percentage of cancer larynx to total registered cases for the Metropolitan Cairo area is 5.4 %.

The immune response as a principal defense mechanism against neoplasia has deeply influenced cancer research during the past decade. This idea was suggested by Poul Ehrlich (1909) , then reformulated by Thomas (1959), and lastly crystallized as a general theory of immunologic surveillance by Burnet (1970).

Investigations have demonstrated that malignant disease may impair immune function as measured by humoral and cell-mediated immunity ( Harrison and Sinkovics, 1970).

The studies of the immune response to tumours have consistently shown that tumour rejection is essentially dependent upon cell mediated immunity, whereby lymphocytes and macrophages are the most important ones. Other cells , humoral immunity as well as some non-specific humoral factors also contribute to this response ( Hokama and Nakamura, 1982-F).