course of IA mean free T4 was 30 pmol/L and 11.4 pmol/L respectively (range: 9.4 to 22.7 pmol/L). There were no adverse effects to IA. There were no complications following surgery.

**Conclusions:** Lopanoic acid is safe and effective in rapidly controlling thyrotoxicosis prior to total thyroidectomy.

**0623: SESTA-MIBI SCANS, CAN THEY PREDICT INTRATHYROID PARATHYROID ADENOMA?**

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**Aim:** To evaluate the role of sesta-mibi scans in predicting intrathyroid parathyroid adenoma in primary hyperparathyroidism.

**Method:** Retrospective analysis of parathyroidectomies performed in a district general hospital during the last 6 years (2005–11). Sesta-mibi scans were performed pre-operatively in all patients with primary hyperparathyroidism. Where no adenoma was identified during exploration of neck, a hemithyroidectomy was performed on the side suggested by sestamibi scan.

**Results:** 78 patients had exploration of neck, 82% female, 18% male, with a mean age 62 years. Sestamibi was positive in 60 patients and 54 had parathyroid adenoma identified on exploration. 6 patients after a failed neck exploration underwent hemithyroidectomy. Histology revealed intrathyroidal parathyroid adenoma in 5 patients (83%). Out of 18 patients with negative scans 14 had an adenoma removed. Sestamibi scans had a sensitivity of 81% and positive predictive value of 98.3%.

**Conclusion:** Sestamibi scan helped to identify patients with intra-thyroidal parathyroid adenoma when neck exploration was negative. When no adenoma is visible on exploration a hemithyroidectomy was performed on the side suggested by sestamibi scan.

**98.3%**.

**Conclusion:** Sestamibi scanning is useful in the planning of parathyroidectomy as it reduces the need for bilateral exploration, reducing postoperative morbidity. We acknowledge that surgical experience is also important in improving the accuracy of parathyroidectomy.

**0912: OUTCOME AFTER THYROID SURGERY - PATIENTS’ PERSPECTIVE**

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**Aim:** The quoted risk of morbidity after thyroid surgery is based on published data from large series but patients’ perception remains insufficiently explored. The aim was to explore and categorise outcomes of thyrotoxicity into voice change, swallowing, scar, need for medication and calcium supplementation, and assess these complications from a subjective patients’ point of view. Options of robotic thyroid surgery was also explored with patients.

**Method:** A standardized questionnaire was mailed to 312 patients who underwent thyroid surgery in a large university hospital over 5 years.

**Results:** Subjective voice assessment using a visual analogue scale normal in 130 (67%) patients, deteriorated in 34 (18%), improved in 28 (15%) patients. Voice Handicap Index scores: normal 122 patients, increased in 70 (36%) patients to a median of 17 (range 11–29). As a consequence Voice-Related-Quality-of-Life outcome was excellent in 100 (53%) patients, fair-to-good in 81 (41%) patients and poor-to-fair in 11 (6%) patients. Subjective assessment of swallowing: normal 80 patients; moderately affected 112 patients. Appearance of the scar assessed using the Manchester score ranged from 1-16 (median 7).

**Conclusions:** On direct questioning a large proportion of patients report persistent moderate voice and swallowing problems after thyroid surgery. These findings are similar to the recent international multi-centre survey.

**0961: IS PRE-OPERATIVE 99m-Tc SESTAMIBI SCANNING PREFERABLE TO NO PRE-OPERATIVE SCANNING IN PATIENTS WITH PRIMARY HYPERPARATHYROIDISM?**

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**Aim:** Parathyroidectomy is key in the management of hyperparathyroidism, yet the methods used to preoperatively localize parathyroid pathology are controversial. 99m-Tc sestamibi scanning is the most commonly used method, however, some argue that surgical experience is sufficient. The aim of this study is to establish whether preoperative 99m-Tc sestamibi scanning is preferable to surgical experience alone in the identification of pathology in patients with primary hyperparathyroidism.

**Methods:** Retrospective case-note review of 258 patients with primary hyperparathyroidism (199 female; mean age 61.1 ± 13.1 years) who underwent parathyroidectomy between 2003 and 2010 in one centre.

**Results:** 87.2% of patients underwent pre-operative sestamibi scanning. The technique had a sensitivity of 95.8% and a Positive Predictive Value of 96%. The rate of localisation to the correct side was 81.8%. 49.3% of scans could correctly localize the abnormal gland. Where no preoperative scanning was used, the abnormal gland was identified in 97% of cases.

**Conclusions:** Surgical experience alone can successfully identify parathyroid pathology, however, bilateral neck exploration is necessary. Sestamibi scanning is useful in the planning of parathyroidectomy as it reduces the need for bilateral exploration, reducing postoperative morbidity. We acknowledge that surgical experience is also important in improving the accuracy of parathyroidectomy.