Objectives: Over the study interval from 1996-2009, 48 patients with non-melanoma cutaneous malignancies were followed at our tertiary university otolaryngology practice. We analyze the survival outcomes of patients in our cohort. We also studied the incidence of immunosuppression in leading to poor outcomes.

Results: In this study, 113 squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) and 48 basal cell carcinoma (BCC) were identified. Among SCC patients, 54% had parotid lymph node metastases and 47% had recurrence. Among BCC patients, there was a 15% incidence of metastases and a 5% incidence of recurrence. Among 23 SCC patients with a history of immunosuppression, 91% had parotid lymph node metastases and 78% had recurrence.

Conclusions: The incidence of poor outcomes in head and neck non-melanoma skin carcinomas was higher in patients with an immunosuppressed status. The presence of immunosuppression may be a significant predictive factor for patients with SCC who underwent apparent complete resection of disease.