Oesophageal Disorders

Anatomy



Symptoms Of Oesophageal Disorders

Dysphagia
Odynophagia
Heartburn
Atypical Chest Pain
Regurgitation

Diagnostic Tools

Barium Swallow
Endoscopy
Motility Studies
Oesophageal pH monitoring
Impedance

Barium Swallow



Endoscopy





Achalasia

There is failure of relaxation of the lower oesophageal sphincter.
 There is non peristaltic contractions in the body of the oesophagus.
 There is loss of intramural inhibitory neurons (VIP, Nitric oxide)

Achalasia

Psuedoachalaisa or secondary causes of achalasia include: **Gastric carcinoma** lymphoma chagas disease eosinophilic gastroenteritis neurodegenarative disorders.

Clinical Features

Dysphagia.
Chest pain.
Regurgitation.
Difficulty in belching.

Diagnosis

Symptoms and signs. CXR: absence of gastric bubble. Air fluid level. tubular mass in the mediastenum. Barium swallow: Dilatation. Beak-like narrowing in the lower end. Abnormal peristalsis.



Achalasia PA and lateral chest x-rays from a patient with achalasia. The major findings are a widened mediastinum caused by the dilated esophagus, an air-fluid level in the upper chest due to retained fluid in the dilated esophagus (arrows), and absence of the gastric air bubble. Reproduced, courtesy of the Clinical Teaching Project of the American Gastroenterological Association©. This slide cannot be downloaded but may be purchased as part of a set from the AGA through Milner-Fenwick, Inc. at 1-800-432-8433.

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Achalasia Barium swallow in a 62 year old man demonstrates a dilated barium-filled esophagus with a region of persistent narrowing (arrow) at the GE junction, producing the so-called birds beak appearance. Achalasia was confirmed with manometry and the patient underwent successful dilation of the esophagus. Courtesy of Jonathan Kruskal, MD.

Barium Swallow



Diagnosis

Manometry: Normal or elevated LOS pressure. Failure of relaxation of the LOS during swallowing. Elevated pressure in the body of oesophagus. Waves are non peristaltic.



Manometric features of achalasia There are three characteristic manometric features of achalasia: elevated resting lower esophageal sphincter (LES) pressure (above 45 mmHg); incomplete LES relaxation after a swallow (S); aperistalsis in the smooth muscle portion of the body of the esophagus. Swallows may elicit no esophageal contraction or may be followed by simultaneous contractions. The esophagus may also contract spontaneously in a simultaneous fashion. In some cases, the simultaneous esophageal contractions have amplitudes >60 mmHg, a condition known as "vigorous" achalasia. Reprinted, courtesy of the Clinical Teaching Project of the American Gastroenterological Association©. This slide cannot be downloaded but may be purchased as part of a set from the AGA through Milner-Fenwick, Inc. at 1-800-432-8433.



Endoscopy

Dilated lumen contains food and fluids
 Narrow sphincter with resistance to the passage of the endoscope.

Important to exclude secondary causes.



Treatment

Soft food, sedatives and and anticholenergic drugs.
Nitrate and calcium channel blockers.
Botulinum toxins injection.
Balloon dilatation.
Hellers extra mucosal myotomy.

Hypertensive LES

Increase resting pressure >40 mmHg of LES

Normal peristalsis and normal LES relaxation with wet swallows

Diffuse oesophageal spasm

Simultaneous pressure wave in the smooth muscle> 30 % swallows
 Periods of normal peristalsis
 Prolonged duration of some pressure wave

Nutcracker oesophagus

Mean amplitude peristaltic pressures by wet swallows >180 mmHg

Other disorders

CERST: atrophy of smooth muscle
 Eosinophilic esophagitis: Rx with steroids inhaler (swallowed)



Gastro-oesophageal Reflux disease

The flow back of the gastric content to the oesophagus at a rate more than the physiological one.

High prevalence in the general population.There is failure of anti-reflux mechanism.

Anti Reflux Mechanism



Causes OF Reflux

Decrease in LOS tone, and or peristalsis: Muscle weakness. Scleroderma. Pregnancy. Smoking. **Anticholenergics** Nitrate, aminophylins, B agonists Surgical cause. Oesophagitis

Causes OF Reflux

 Increased Gastric Volume. Stasis
 Pyloric stenosis.
 Hiatus Hernia.
 Increase gastric pressure (preg,Asci)
 Incompetence of the crural muscles.

Patho-Physiology

Percent of time oesophageal Ph<4 correlate with degree of damage.
Oesphagitis is the result of persistent reflux which can be mild to sever (ulceration).

Fibrosis and stricture can result from server reflux.

Clinical Features

Asymptomatic. Regurgitation. Heart burn. Chest pain. Dysphagia Hoarsens, cough, Aspiration pneumonia, asthma.

Diagnosis

Barium Swallow. Endoscopy. 24hrs ph monitoring. Bernstein test. Laryngoscopy. High reselution Manometry & Impedence.

Treatment

Life style adjustment.
H2 receptors blockers
PPI.
Fundoplication.



Barrett's Oesophagus

As a result of long standing reflux.
There is transformation of normal squamous to columnar type epithelium in the lower part of oesophagus.
There is increased risk of adenocarcinoma which is 30-125 times than the general population.

population.

Diagnosis

3. Biopsy showing intestinal epithelium

2. Recognize the
 Metaplastic columnar epithelium

gastro-esophageal
 junction

AGA, Gastroenterology 2011;140:1084

Gastro-Esophageal Junction and Barrett's Esophagus



Abu sneineh et al GUT supp 2004

Prague Classification



C3M6



Abu sneineh et al GUT supp 2004

Treatment

Treat GORD
Surveillance for dysplasia
Endoscopic therapy for dysplasia
Surgery

Corrosive oesophagitis

- Caused by ingestion of strong alkali or acid.
- May cause sever ulceration and end up in fibrosis and stricture formation.



Zinker Diverticula

- Occurs in the posterior hypopharyngeal wall.
- Halitosis and food regurgitation
- Cricopharyngeal myotomy

Oeophageal Webs

Congenital or inflammatory constrictions usually in the hypo pharynx.

- May cause dysphagia.
- May be associated with Iron deffeciency anemia.
- Treatment by dilatation.

Schatzki Ring

- Thin constriction at the Squamo-columinar junction.
- Common cause for dysphagia and underlies food bolus obstruction.
- Treated by dilatation.



Hiatus Hernia

Sliding : the gastro-oesophageal junction and part of the fundus lies in the thoracic cavity.

- May contribute to GORD
- Para-Oesophageal hernia: part of the stomach is herniated beside the G/O junction which is normally located.
- May incarcerate ulcerate or cause dysphagia.





Mallory-Weiss Syndrome

- Usually preceded by vomiting and retching.
- Tear at the gastro-oesophageal junction.
 Patients presents with upper GI bleed
 Most cases resolves spontaneously.