



Difficulty and Obstacle in the Management of an Tracheoesophageal Fistula by Accidental Inhalation of a Foreign Body (Chicken Bone), in a 16-month-old Infant at the Amissa Bongo Regional Hospital Center in Franceville

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DOI: 10.31080/ASMS.2022.06.1190

Received: December 08, 2021

Published: February 11, 2022

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Abstract

The inhalation of foreign bodies is a frequent, poorly listed and multifactorial situation. It may be accidental or voluntary. Through this observation in 16-month-old infants, we try to show that foreign workers can present an immediate danger. The Tracheoesophageal fistula is a medical-surgical emergency that requires multidisciplinary management involving clinicians, radiologists, surgeons and endoscopists. Lack of adequate equipment can lead to death.

Keywords: Difficulty; Tracheoesophageal Fistula; Infant

Introduction

Foreign body inhalation is a frequent, poorly documented and multifactorial situation. It can be accidental or voluntary and especially common in children. In adults, it often occurs on a particular terrain, edentulous elderly subjects, patients with psychotic disorders or prisoners. Foreign corps may present an immediate danger, delayed during disposal or even during extraction. It is a medical-surgical emergency that requires multidisciplinary care involving clinicians, radiologists, surgeons and endoscopists. This observation relates to a case of o-tracheal fistula by accidental inhalation, in order to identify the diagnostic approach and the therapeutic difficulty in our environment often marked by the lack of adequate means of management.

Observation

This was a 16-month-old male infant who had been admitted

for dyspnea, fecal vomiting (mouth and nostrils) and agitation after ingestion of a chicken bone one hour after the meal. On arrival, there was respiratory distress, hypotension 10/6, saturation at 80%, normal temperature, weight of 20 kg. The clinical examination noted a violent coughing, expelling coughing, cyanosis of the extremities, abdominal bloating and poor abdominal thoracic ampliation. At the auscultation there were pulmonary and abdominal tremors. It is concluded that there is a penetration syndrome. Imaging noted right lower lobar pneumonia by incomplete obstruction of the right strain bronchus in connection with a slender in tracheoesophageal foreign body crossing the tracheal bifurcation: chicken bone, complicated bronchial compression with downstream pneumonia. We had undertaken resuscitation measures with monitoring. Mofenson's maneuver without success, brought back fecal content through nostrils and an increase in the abdominal cavity. Ventilation and intubation were impossible through the barrage of

the foreign body (chicken bone). Endoscopic extraction was indicated with an occlusive risk. The foreign body was not visible. We note the unavailability of endoscopic and emergency extraction equipment; hence the indication of medical evacuation. Evacuation to a reference structure was impossible. We see a gradual desaturation and an evolution towards sudden death.

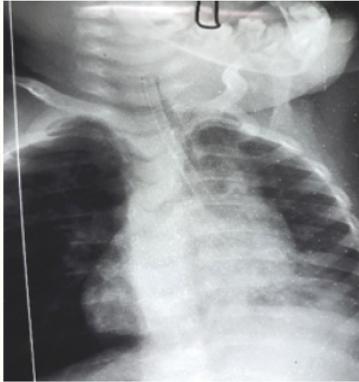


Photo 1: Slender intraesophageal foreign body crunching the tracheal bifurcation (image Offobo Silvere).

Discussion

In most statistics, peanuts account for more than 50% of foreign bodies inhaled in children [1-3]. Our case, this is chicken bone in a 16-month-old infant. In the United States, hot dogs, such as balloon fragments, are responsible for several deaths by asphyxiation [4]. In adults, food accounts for most inhaled bodies. Dental prostheses and fragments also remain prominent among this catalogue [5]. Inhalation of foreign bodies related to oral or maxillofacial surgery has been described [6], as well as the intra bronchial position of the esogastric tube. In the child, it is the little boy who pays the heaviest price (2/3 of the cases) [7]. In adults, the frequency of the accident increases with age and occurs especially from the seventh decade [8,9]. Metallic foreign bodies are often better tolerated by the bronchial mucosa than food foreign bodies. Among the latter, oilseeds are responsible for a neighborhood bronchial inflammation (peanut bronchitis) [10]. The most frequent localizations are laryngo-tracheo-bronchial according to different reviews of the literature [1,11-13]. In our case the chicken bone is located straddle between the esophagus and the tracheal bifurcation. Rarer symptoms may be observed (hemoptysis, pleurisy, lung abscesses or even pneumothorax or pneumo mediastinum) [14] [15]. Finally, a normal

clinical examination does not in any way eliminate the presence of a foreign body. Any delay in diagnosis can be seriously prejudicial to the patient [16,17]. In some cases, chest computed tomography may be indicated [19] and magnetic resonance imaging could allow the visualization of fatty bodies in the peripheral bronchi [20,21]. The principle of the Heimlich maneuver consists in the creation of a brutal intra-tracheo bronchial hyperpressure [22]. In infants under one year of age, most authors advise against the Heimlich maneuver because of more frequent indulgences at this age [23]. In our case Mofenson's maneuver was unsuccessful. Direct tracheal puncture is the fastest rescue method [24]. Percutaneous cricothyroidotomy devices are not common or easy to use. Several kits are available on the market (Quick trach®, Trachéoquick®, Minitrach®). The success of the gesture depends above all on the experience of the operator [25]. Complications are not uncommon and can sometimes even worsen ventilatory situation [26]. Surgical cricothyroidotomy would be for some, the most satisfactory method in emergency situations [27]. Corticosteroid therapy can be prescribed by inhalation [28]; similarly, an adrenaline aerosol can be administered (0.25% adrenaline solution; 0.5-1 mL · kg⁻¹ diluted in saline with oxygen as a carrier gas) [29]. Several authors combine a rigid tube bronchoscope and a fibroscope to locate and extract certain distorted foreign bodies [30]. Anesthesia for endoscopic laryngo-tracheo-bronchial is necessary [7,31,32]. It is necessary to have at its disposal a Fogarty probe to open up certain round foreign bodies, or even a Dormia type basket probe [33,34]. Some authors consider that the lesions are definitive beyond 30 days after the accident [35]. Finally, if endoscopic extraction of the foreign body does not appear possible (isolation, major bronchial lesions), the surgical indication should be discussed [36,37].

Conclusion

Foreign bodies of the airways and digestive tract remain a topical issue. In small children, the causes are multiple. Progress has also been marked by rapid diagnosis of the foreign body as soon as it is used by endoscopic examination. The diagnosis of tracheal fistula may be obvious but has been managed is limited. The remote health regions must strengthen the technical platform of endoscope and a multidisciplinary team of clinicians resuscitator, radiologist, surgeons, endoscopy.

Conflicts and Interests

No conflict and interests.

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