Impacted Plastic Electrocardiogram Sticker Liner Foreign body in the Hypopharynx: A Hospital Acquired Foreign Body

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Abstract:

Introduction: We describe an impacted plastic Electrocardiogram (ECG) sticker liner foreign body (FB) in the hypopharynx of a 23 years old healthy gentleman. The patient had no recollection of ingesting the foreign body during his hospital stay a year earlier for undergoing a sigmoidoscopy under general anaesthetic. He remembered an ECG tracing been performed on him prior to and after his sigmoidoscopy for cardiac monitoring.

Case presentation: The patient presented to emergency clinic with odynophagia, haemoptysis and weight loss for 1 year. Clinical examination including flexible nasendoscopy and laryngoscopy revealed findings which were suspicious for a malignancy. Radiological investigations revealed inflammatory changes in the hypopharynx with no evidence of any radio opaque foreign body. The patient then underwent a rigid pharyngo-oesophagoscopy which revealed a plastic radiolucent

hospital acquired foreign body which was successfully removed. There was no evidence of pharyngeal or oesophageal perforation

Discussion: Long standing foreign bodies in the upper aerodigestive tract may cause penetration and extraluminal migration of the ingested foreign body. This may cause severe vascular and/or suppurative complications, occasionally death may occur.

This case highlights a very rare scenario for a mentally able adult patient to inadvertently ingest a plastic ECG sticker liner following an ECG tracing. To our knowledge this is the first case report of a hospital acquired foreign body lodged in the hypopharynx to be retrieved a year later in a healthy mentally able patient.

In this presentation, we aim to emphasise the importance of a high clinical suspicion of a hospital acquired foreign body as well as the need for medical devices to be radio-labelled so as to allow for an early radiological detection.

Biography:

Dr Vinson L.G. Fernandes completed his MBBS and Masters in Otolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery from Goa Medical College, Goa, India. He has also completed his MRCS ENT and is a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

He has 9 publications to his name in reputed international and national journals.

He is very keen on research and is passionate about Otolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery.



My recent publications:

❖Published a case report titled **"Squamous Inclusion Cyst In The Palatine Tonsil Mimicking A Tumor"** in the International Journal of Otolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery. **DOI:** 10.4236/ijohns.2018.75026

❖ Published a rare case report titled **"Congenital Laryngeal Web: A Laryngology Rarity"** in the International Journal of Otolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery in July 2018.

https://doi.org/10.4236/ijohns.2018.74017

❖ Published a case report titled **"Epidermoid Cyst of the Auricle: A Common Cyst at a Rare Site"** in the International Journal of Otolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery Vol.7 No.6, November 2018.

DOI: 10.4236/ijohns.2018.76034

❖ Published an original research article titled **"Study of Voice Disorders Among School Teachers in Goa"** in the Indian Journal of Otolaryngology and Head & Neck surgery in September 2018.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s12070-018-1479-0

❖ Published a case report titled "**Verrucous carcinoma of the glottis and subglottis: a rare case report**" in **the International Journal of Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery (IJORL) in January 2019. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.18203/issn.2454-5929.ijohns20185322**

❖ Published an Original research article titled "**A study on the prevalence of diagonal earlobe crease in patients with cardiovascular disease and diabetes mellitus"** in the Indian Journal of Otology in February 2020. DOI:10.4103/indianjotol.INDIANJOTOL_117_18