
Oesophageal Motility Disorders

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The literature is reviewed with special consideration on Anatomy of the oesophagus due to its importance in studying oesophageal motility disorders. In this part we discuss the relations of oesophagus in the neck, in the thorax and in the abdomen then we discuss muscles of the oesophagus at the inlet, in the body and at the lower portion of the oesophagus. We also gave a note about the diaphragmatic oesophageal hiatus. The arterial supply, venous drainage, nerve supply and lymphatics of oesophagus has been also reviewed. At the end of this part we give a hint about the histology of the oesophagus. In the second part of this review of literature, Physiological considerations about oesophagus has been discussed with special attention to the sphincteric tone, its neural and hormonal control and factors affecting the lower oesophageal competence which are:-1)The lower oesophageal sphincter.2)The intra-abdominal segment of Oesophagus.3)The acute angle of entry of oesophagus into the stomach.4)Mucosal Rosette at the cardia.5)The phreno-oesophageal ligament(Allison's ligament".6)The pin-cock action of the diaphragmatic crura.7)The relation of the diaphragm to the lower oesophageal sphincter. In the third part of the review, oesophageal motility disorders has been classified according to Separation of the organ into its upper sphincter on the one hand and the body of the oesophagus & lower sphincter on the other. (A) Oesophageal Motility disorders in the upper sphincter:-1) Idiopathic pharyngoesophageal diverticulum.2) Neuromuscular diseases.a) C.N.S. diseases. •Cerebrovascular accident. •Bulbar poliomyelitis. •Multiple sclerosis.b) Muscular diseases. •Muscular dystrophy. Myasthenia gravis. •Dermatomyositis. •Thyrotoxic myopathy.3) Radical oropharyngeal surgery. (B) Oesophageal Motility disorders in Body and lower sphincter of the oesophagus:-1) Hypomotility: •Achalasia. •Hypotensive lower sphincter. •Idiopathic. •Hiatus hernia. •Post operative. •Miscellaneous conditions.2) Hypermotility: •Diffuse spasm of the oesophagus and hypotensive lower sphincter. •Localized oesophageal spasm e.g.: •Plummer-Vinson syndrome. •Lower oesophageal ring. •Mallory-Weiss syndrome. (3) Miscellaneous conditions: •Dermatomyositis. •Myasthenia gravis. •Muscular dystrophy. •Cerebrovascular accident. •Parkinson's disease. •Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. •Multiple sclerosis. •Diabetic neuropathy. •Alcoholic neuropathy. In the fourth part of the review of literature, the oesophageal motility disorders was discussed in details and the summary of this discussion is as follows (A) Oesophageal Motility Disorders in the upper sphincter: (1) Idiopathic pharyngoesophageal "Zenker's diverticulum": a) Aetiology & pathogenesis:-It is an acquired herniation of

pharyngeal mucosa through a muscular defect in the posterior laryngeal wall due to :71)Increase in the intraluminal pressure.2)Congenital weakness in the musculature of the hypopharynx.b) Clinical Features:-L) cervical obstruction to swallowing.2) Retention and regurgitation of fresh food and saliva.3)Noisy swallowing.4)Foul breath.5)Respiratory complications.6)Nutritional depletion.7)Squamous cell carcinoma is infrequent.(C) Diagnosis:-1)Clinically, unremarkable unless a diverticulum can be palpated as a soft, doughy cervical mass.2)Contrast radiography is the only confirmation in diagnosis.(D) Surgical treatment:-1)One-stage transcervical diverticulectomy-Endoscopic, diathermic procedure.(2) Neuromuscular disorders:-Some diseases affect oesophageal motility as discussed in the review:-For example: a) Myasthenia gravis.b) Myotonia dystrophica.c) Parkinson's disease.d) Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.e) Multiple sclerosis.f) Bulbar poliomyelitis.g) Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.h) After radical oral laryngeal surgery.(B) Oesophageal Motility Disorders in the body and lower sphincter of the oesophagus:-1) Hypomotility:-1) Achalasia of the oesophagus:-Aetiology:-1)Neuromuscular disorder2)Absence of peristalsis in the body of oesophagus.3)Failure of the lower oesophageal sphincter to relax.* Pathology:1)Spasm in the lower oesophageal sphincter.2)Dilatation and hypertrophy of the body of oesophagus.3)Elongation & herniation of the Oesophagus into the abdomen.* Clinical Course:1)obstruction to swallowing.2)Regurgitation.3)Pain.4)Hugely dilated oesophagus may act as a reservoir for food.5)Pressure symptoms may appear due to pressure of the oesophagus on the surrounding organs in the mediastinum.* Complications:-1; Small mucosal ulcerations.2)Aspiration of regurgitated oesophageal contents. Leading to respiratory complications.3)Carcinoma of the oesophagus.* Diagnosis:-1)Radiographic examination of oesophageal narrowing.2)Manometric studies.* Treatment:-1)Medical treatment to eliminate the hyper-selectivity of the lower sphincter to gastrin.2)Forceful dilatation by mechanical, pneumatic or hydrostatic dilators.3) Surgical Treatment:-1) Longitudinal incision of the Oesophagogastric Junction with transverse closure (Hanche Mikulicz cardioplasty).2)U-shaped incision extending from the cardia across the oesophagogastric junction with closure forming a wide oesophagogastric anastomosis (Hegrovsky or Judd cardioplasty).3)Resection of the lower oesophagus and adjoining part of the stomach with oesophagojejunostomy.4)Resection of the oesophagogastric junction with oesophageal jejunostomy and preservation of most of the stomach.5)The Heller operation.6)Modified Heller operations.(2) Hypotensive lower sphincter "Hiatus Hernia";-* Clinical picture of hiatus hernia:1)Pain in the high epigastric area.2)Burning sensation.3)Regurgitation4)Throat & Respiratory symptoms.5)Dysphagia.6)Bleeding.* Aetiology:1)The positive intra-abdominal pressure & the negative intrathoracic pressure.2)The tendency of longitudinal muscles of the oesophagus to contract.3)Atrophic and flabby muscles of the oesophagus in old patients.4)Congenital malformations of the hiatus.5)Stretching and weakening of the phreno-oesophageal ligament.* Types & classification of hiatus hernia Type I:- Sliding or axial hiatus hernia.Type II; Para oesophageal or rolling hernia.Type III:- Combined from type I & type II.Type IV :- Complicated type in which other organs such as the colon, spleen, pancreas or small intestine may enter the

hernial SeCe* Treatment of Hiatus hernia:- a) Medical treatment:-Elevation of the head of the bed.-Weight reduction.-Dietary restriction.-Antacids and other drugs.b) Indication for operations:-?! Very large sliding hernia.-Any para oesophageal hernia.-Severe oesophagitis.-Bleeding - Aspiration.-Stenosis - Significant functional disorders.-Failure of medical therapy.-Recurrent hernia or ulcer surgery.c) Operative Technique:--Allison technique.-Belsey technique-Hill technique- Nissen technique.d) Other operations and Modifications:-Discussed in details in the review of literature.(B) Hypermotility:1)Diffuse spasm of the esophagus and hypertension of the lower oesophageal sphincter.2)Localized oesophageal spasm.- Plummer-Vinson syndrome.-Lower oesophageal ring.-Mallory weiss syndrome.