

# A case of stridor

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# Introduction

- Emergency Room
- 13 year old boy
- Shortness of breath
- Onset 30 minutes ago
- Sat 100%



Navn (Sidehoved/fod)

Titel/beskrivelse (Sidehoved/fod)

# The History

- Eating dinner
- Sudden shortness of breath
- Difficulty in swallowing
- Hoarse voice
- Past history



# Clinical appearance and examination

- Alert and relaxed
- Inspiratory stridor
- Values:
  - BP 140/65 mmHg
  - P 109
  - Sat 98% (atm O<sub>2</sub>)
  - Temp 38.9 °C
- Symmetrical tonsillar swelling

# Differential diagnosis?

- Aspirated food bolus
- Infection:
  - Epiglottitis
  - Laryngotracheobronchitis (croup)
  - Tonsillitis/pharyngitis
- Allergic reaction
- Miscellaneous

# Initial Management

- Inhalation adrenaline
- Iv glucocorticoid
- Iv antihistamine
  
- Broad spectrum antibiotics
  - Cefuroxime
  - Metronidazole



# Investigations

- Blood tests: slight leucocytosis
- Arterial blood gas: normal
  
- Indirect laryngoscopy
  - Pharyngeal redness
  - Normal epiglottis

# Management and progress

- Tentative diagnosis
  - acute laryngitis-pharyngitis
  - allergic reaction
- Referred to Intensive Care Unit
- Next morning...
- In the afternoon the patient suddenly has difficulty walking

# Progress

- Examination
  - Weakness of lower limbs
  - Loss of achilles reflexes

- Diagnosis?

## **Guillian Barré Syndrome**

### **Clinical criteria**

- Progressive motor weakness > 1 limb
- Areflexia

### **Supportive criteria**

- Progression of symptoms
- Symmetry
- Cranial nerve involvement
- Recovery
- Autonomic dysfunction
- Absence of fever at onset of neuritic symptoms



# Management

- Immunotherapy
  - Immunoglobulin
  - Plasmaferese
- Supportive Care
  - Respiratory
  - Autonomic Nervous System
  - Deep Vein Thrombosis
  - Pain

Diagnostic tools:

- CSF analysis
- Electrodiagnostic testing

Both may normal in the early phase of GBS

# Take home message

Guillian Barrés Syndrome is a clinical diagnosis based on thorough examination and history taking

# Thank you!







# GBS in children

**Table 1 Clinical features of patients**

<b>Clinical data</b>	<b><i>n</i></b>	<b>%</b>
Sex (female/male)	18/28	39.1/60.9
Antecedent infection	28	60.9
Upper respiratory infection	23	82.1
Gastrointestinal infection	3	10.7
Varicella	2	7.2
Seasons		
Spring	17	37.0
Winter	14	30.4
Autumn	10	21.7
Summer	5	10.9
Signs and symptoms		
Weakness	33	71.8
Paresthesia	14	30.4
Cranial nerve involvement	17	36.9
Autonomic changes	21	45.7
Motor nerve studies		
AIDP	26	56.5
AMAN	18	39.1
AMSAN	2	4.4

# References

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