

DIFFERENT MODALITIES IN MANAGEMENT OF TRACHEAL STENOSIS

Essay

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

" قالوا سبحانك لا علم لنا إلا ما علمتنا
إنك أنت العليم الحكيم "

صدق الله العظيم
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TO MY FAMILY

ABSTRACT

This essay deals with the problem of tracheal stenosis. Discussing some important anatomical, embryological, and histological features of the trachea. Give an idea about causes of tracheal stenosis and their clinical presentation we also discussing the diagnostic techniques for tracheal lesion and different modalities in management of tracheal stenosis.

Keywords:

Tracheal stenosis - Tracheal reconstruction - tracheal stenting - Laser therapy – brachytherapy

Table of Contents

	Page
List of Tables	I
List of Figures	II
List of Abbreviations	V
Introduction and Aim of work	1
Review of Literature:	4
1. Historical Background	5
2. Etiology of Tracheal Stenosis	16
3. Clinical Presentation	31
4. Diagnostic Procedures	33
5. Non-Surgical Management of Tracheal Stenosis	37
6. General Principles of Surgery of the Tracheal	43
7. Carinal Reconstruction	52
8. Complications of Tracheal Reconstruction	57
9. Tracheal and Bronchial Stenting	59
Summary and Conclusion	91
References	96
Arabic Summary.....	106

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Title	Page
1	Tracheal diameter and distance between the upper incisors and tracheal bifurcation	7
2	Other Primary Tracheal Tumors	28
3	Incidence of primary tracheal tumors by age	29
4	Operative approach for different parts of the trachea	43
5	Characteristics of major airway stents	61
6	Etiology of obstructive airway lesions	64
7	Anatomic criteria for airway stenting	65
8	Criteria for airway stenting	70
9	Relative advantages and disadvantages of silicone versus expandable metal stents	76

LIST OF FIGURES

Fig.	Title	Page
1	Principal features of the larynx and trachea. Anterior view. Tracheobronchial angles vary widely. LMB, RMB = left, right main bronchus	6
2	Relationships of trachea to surrounding structures. A, Anterior view. Note the tight packing of major mediastinal vessels adjacent to the trachea	9
3	Right-sided oblique view shows the complete access to the intrathoracic trachea, crossed only by the vagus nerve and azygos vein. LMB, RMB= left, right main bronchus	10
4	Cross-sectional computed tomography views of tracheal anatomic relationships in the mediastinum. Diagram shows level of sections A at T3-4, and B at T4-5, Thoracic trachea. B, Supracranial trachea. Mediastinal structures are labeled	11
5	Tracheal blood supply. A, Left anterior view. Reproduced, by permission of Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research (Salassa et al., 1977)	12
6	Right anterior view. Note the basically segmental nature of distribution. Reproduced, by permission of Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research (Salassa et al., 1977)	13
7	Microscopic blood supply of the trachea. See text. Reproduced, by permission of Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research (Salassa et al., 1977)	15
8	Types of congenital stenosis of the trachea	17
9	Mechanism of the impact of the chest against the steering wheel of a car (Perelman, 1984)	18
10	Locations and types of upper airway lesions evolving from injuries caused by endotracheal tubes and cuffed tracheostomy tubes (Grillo, 1970)	21
11	Principal postintubation lesions	24

Fig.	Title	Page
12	Double aortic arch. The posterior arch is the main one, while the anterior arch is the accessory. The trachea and the esophagus are in the aortic ring (Perelman, 1984)	25
13	Schematical representation of alterations of the tracheal lumen in normal conditions (left) and in expiratory stenosis (right). Mean position (1); inspiration (2); expiration (3) (Perelman, 1984) ...	26
14	Sites of primary and secondary neoplastic lesions are depicted (Mansour et al., 1994)	27
15	Localization and measurement of the length of components of the upper airway and of a lesion	36
16	Incisions for tracheal resection	44
17	Reconstruction of the upper trachea	47
18	Operative repair of anterolateral stenosis of the subglottic larynx and upper trachea	50
19	Repair of traumatic injury to trachea and esophagus	51
20	Resection with restitution of the carina. This technique is applicable only for small, centrally placed tumors (after Grillo, 1982b)	54
21	Carinal reconstruction with trachea anastomosed end-to-end to either the left or the right main bronchus and the other bronchus placed into the lateral wall of the trachea above the first anastomosis (after Grillo et al., 1976)	55
22	More extensive tracheal resection with advance of the right main bronchus to the end of the trachea and implantation of the left main bronchus into the bronchus intermedius (upper right). The reverse procedure (lower right) is rarely done (after Grillo, 1982b)	55
23	Carinal resection with right upper lobectomy (after Grillo, 1982b)	56
24	Right pneumonectomy with carinal resection	56

Fig.	Title	Page
25	Carinal resection after prior pneumonectomy (after Grillo, 1982b)	56
26A	Photograph of airway stents Hood tracheal, bronchial and Y stents with flanges or studs for airway seating	62
26B	Dynamic stent with bifurcated mainstem limbs and reinforced anterolateral walls	62
26C	Wallstent with Permalume coating within the delivery sheath, partially deployed, and fully deployed over the delivery sheath ...	63
27	Tracheal compression from recurrent metastatic sarcoma producing marked tracheal compression and critical airway stenosis	66
28	A, Computed tomography (CT) scan showing a right mainstem bronchial tumor and compression from a metastatic sarcoma. B, CT scan showing a clear bronchus intermedius, confirming a patent distal airway favoring successful stenting	67
29	A, Metastatic renal cell carcinoma to subcarinal lymph nodes with both endoluminal and extrinsic obstruction of the right lung. B, Mechanical core-out of tumor with the tip of the rigid bronchoscope. C, Further debridement of the endoluminal tumor with biopsy forceps. D, Hemostasis and vaporization of the tumor bed with an Nd: YAG laser	68-69
30	Algorithm for management of central airway obstruction	72
31	The stent placed outside the rigid bronchoscope with an endotracheal tube inserted as a sheath over the proximal part to prevent the stent from sliding upward during insertion	76
32	Dumon stents of different sizes and lengths	80
33	Silicone Hood stents almost have the same characteristics as the Dumon stents but with no studs on the outer surface	80
34	Palliation by placement of a tracheal Wallstent producing immediate resolution of airway symptoms	84
35	Uncovered and covered ultraflex stent	86
36A	CXR lateral view with the Dynamic stent in place	87
36B	Dynamic stent	88

Abbreviations

LMB	:	Left main bronchus
RMB	:	Right main bronchus
C.T	:	Connective tissue
CT	:	Computed tomography
MRI	:	Magnetic resonance imaging
YAG laser	:	Yettrium/Admium/Gullin Laser
LDR	:	Low dose rate
HDR	:	High dose rate
¹⁹⁵ Ir	:	Radioactive iodine

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

The concept of surgery of the trachea until recently was almost identified with the performance of small operations in its cervical portion, tracheostomy in the first place. In lesions of the thoracic portion and the bifurcation, surgical manipulations remained hardly practicable for a long time due to considerable hazards of severe respiratory disturbance and the difficulty of restoring the respiratory tract (**Grillo, 1978**).

The advent of endotracheal intubation and general anesthesia in the mid-1800s awakened surgeons to the possibility of attacking the airway and the pulmonary parenchyma, however it was more than a century before clinical and laboratory attempts were made to resect and reconstruct the trachea.

The principle clinical manifestations of tracheal stenosis are dyspnea, stridulous breathing, cough, sometimes cyanosis and disturbances of lung ventilation. Chronic disturbance in pulmonary ventilation in stenosis of trachea leads to hypoxia and pathological changes in various organs and tissues. That is why reconstructive surgery of the tracheal lesions is essential for the complete recovery of the patient (**Andrews and Pearson, 1973**).

Throughout the past years various attempts at partial resection and tracheoplasty, limited resection, primary repair, and replacement have been attempted with little success. Resection generally failed because of flawed technique, inadequate anesthesia and limited knowledge of tracheal anatomy. Laboratory research and clinical pioneering by Grillo, Pearson and Cooper defined the problems and provided the answers for modern tracheal surgical endeavors. Early anatomic studies by Miura and Grillo defined the blood supply of the trachea in 1966. Further elucidation by Salassa and associates clarified the all important lateral longitudinal blood supply of the trachea. Basic surgical technique and principles of tracheal mobilization were delineated by Grillo and coworkers in both the clinical and laboratory theaters. These accomplishments of the early and mid-1960s made tracheal surgery a reality.

Currently tracheal surgery is performed for the management of congenital, traumatic, iatrogenic, and neoplastic lesions of the trachea. The severity of the tracheal stricture is the major factor in deciding which

method of treatment to be used. Severe strictures in which the diameter of the tracheal lumen is reduced to 5mm or less, tend to be treated surgically since there is no evidence that they can be managed effectively by dilatation. Although dilatation is usually used to maintain a satisfactory airway while waiting for the optimum time for surgical interventions (Grillo et al., 1996).

Endoscopic diathermy - coagulation is usually needed as therapy supplementary to dilatation or operative treatment. It seems to be effective mainly in resectable lesions narrowing the trachea. Endoscopic laser therapy has been advocated for a number of benign and malignant conditions of the respiratory tract.

Most of tracheal defects can be repaired primarily by end-to-end anastomoses. Some however can not be repaired by this technique because too much of the trachea must be resected or adequate tracheal mobilization is not possible. Various types of autogenous free grafts and pedicled flaps have been used to reconstruct partial tracheal defects.

Even though the superiority of using the patient's own tissue for tracheal reconstruction is acknowledged. The degree of tracheal disease, the decrease in elasticity of the airway, and the extent of fibrosis from previous surgical procedures may preclude primary repair. Under these circumstances, it is imperative to use a prosthesis to restore airway continuity (Hermes C Grillo, 2003).

AIM OF THE WORK:

The aim of this work is to review the literature discussing different etiology, pathology, and clinical presentations of tracheal lesions requiring reconstruction.

Also the methods of diagnosis, the indications of tracheal reconstruction and the different surgical techniques including their complications and results will be studied.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE