

Congenital Esophageal Stenosis Diagnosed during Evaluation of an Esophageal Foreign Body at 20 Months of Age: A Case Report

Konosuke WATANABE, Takashi SAKAGUCHI, Ayako GOTO,
Tatsuki MIYAMOTO, Shinichiro NAGAMITSU

Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Fukuoka University

Abstract

Congenital esophageal stenosis often presents with vomiting and dysphagia at approximately 6 months of age, with commencement of weaning. We report a rare case of congenital esophageal stenosis detected at 20 months of age in a patient with an esophageal foreign body. An 20-month-old female infant ingested a sausage at dinner on X-2 and developed repeated episodes of vomiting immediately thereafter. Vomiting persisted on X, and she was admitted to our department on the same day. An esophagogram obtained on X+2 revealed a circular contrast-enhanced defect in the middle and lower esophagus and stenosis distal to the defect, and the patient was diagnosed with an esophageal foreign body accompanied by congenital esophageal stenosis. A balloon catheter was inserted, and using traction, we removed a piece of sausage (1.8×1.2 cm). The patient has not had recurrent vomiting since this procedure. The patient was readmitted to our pediatric surgery department and underwent upper gastrointestinal endoscopy, which revealed a stricture in the lower esophagus, for which we performed balloon dilation at the same site. The patient has not had recurrence to date (currently age 3 years). Congenital esophageal stricture is usually detected at the time of weaning; however, in some cases, this anomaly may be detected later (as observed in our patient). Congenital esophageal stenosis should be considered in the differential diagnosis in patients with recurrent vomiting immediately after food intake, regardless of the patient's age.

Key words: Congenital esophageal stenosis, Esophageal foreign body, Vomiting, Esophagography, Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy