

中文題目：心-聲帶症候群——聲帶沙啞的少見原因

英文題目：Cardio-vocal syndrome – an uncommon cause of hoarseness

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Introduction: Hoarseness is a common clinical symptom, and recurrent laryngeal nerve palsy is an important underlying mechanism. Because left recurrent laryngeal nerve passes underneath the aortic arch, a lesion in the aortopulmonary window, such as mediastinal lymphadenopathy, may cause left vocal palsy. Herein, we present a case of left vocal palsy caused by aortic arch aneurysm.

Case report: A 38-year-old man with an unremarkable medical history presented to the emergency department with sudden-onset backache with radiation to the anterior chest. He was afebrile and hypertensive (181/113 mmHg). The chest radiography showed mildly dilated upper mediastinum. The computed tomography (CT) revealed type B aortic dissection, from the distal aortic arch to the descending thoracic aorta, as well as a saccular aortic arch aneurysm protruding into the aortopulmonary window. He was admitted to the intensive care unit for intensive blood pressure control with plan to follow CT a week later. However, he developed hoarseness on the third hospital day. The follow-up CT showed interval enlargement of the aortic arch aneurysm and left vocal palsy (arrowheads). He received thoracic endovascular aortic repair. After the operation, his hoarseness improved partially. He had an uneventful recovery and was discharged about two weeks postoperatively. Followed in the clinic, his hoarseness improved gradually.

Discussion: Cardio-vocal syndrome, also known as Ortner's syndrome, is hoarseness related to left vocal palsy, caused by mechanical affection of the left recurrent laryngeal nerve from cardiovascular structures, such as aortic aneurysm, pulmonary artery aneurysm, and distended left atrium secondary to mitral stenosis. Early recognition is important in identifying the potential life-threatening underlying condition.