

Case Presentation

**Topic: Difficult to Ventilate
 Difficult to Intubate**

Dr. K. Shruthi Jeevan

1st Year Post Graduate

Department of Anaesthesiology

CASE SCENARIO : 1

- A 65 years old female patient, resident of Bhongir came with C/o
 1. Swelling over the Right cheek since 1month
 2. Restricted mouth opening since 1 month
- The swelling gradually increased in size since 1 month and was associated with tenderness on mouth opening along with restriction, blisters over the swelling since 15days.
- K/c/o Hypertension sine 5 yrs on regular medication Tab. Atenolol 50mg+ Tab. Amlodipine 5mg once daily.

- She was a **Chronic TOBACCO and BEETLE NUT** chewer sine 20years.

- **General Examination:**

Patient is conscious, cooperative and coherent

Heart rate:84 bpm

Blood pressure : 120/80mm Hg

CVS : S1 S2 heard no murmurs

RS: Bilateral air entry +, no added sounds

Airway Assessment:

- 1. Nose:** B/L nares patent with deviation of nasal septum to the left.
- 2. Oral cavity:** a) Unhygienic with ulceration in the right buccal mucosa
b) Mouth opening: 1 ½ finger breath.
- 3. Teeth :** Bucking +
Inter incisor distance = 3 cms
- 4. Palate :** Normal
- 5. Jaw protusion:** Class C (lower incisors cannot be brought edge to edge with upper incisors).

6. Temporo mandibular joint movement:

Restricted

7. Sub mental space :

- a) Hyomental distance: grade 3 = <4cms
- b) Thyromental distance: : 2 and half fingers
- c) Stenomental distance :10 cms

8. Modified Mallampati score: Grade 4

9. Neck: Short and Thick

Neck mobility : Normal

Ability to assume sniffing position: +



Image showing swelling in the right cheek



Image showing restricted mouth opening

Diagnosis: Right buccal mucosa carcinoma

Problems Anticipated:

1. Difficult mask ventilation.
2. Difficult oral intubation.
3. Difficult nasal intubation.

MANAGEMENT

- Premedication.
- Preoxygenation with 100% O₂ for 5 min (due to leak in mask seal).
- With help of oro pharyngeal airway, Mask ventilation was done and patient was Induced.
- Chest rise was noted.
- Short acting muscle relaxant was given.
- Planned for Nasal Intubation.

- Due to obstruction and bleeding Nasal Intubation failed.
- Due to risk of bleeding and high rate of metastatic spread Oral Intubation was avoided.
- Planned for Open Tracheostomy with mask ventilation.
- 7mm Tracheostomy tube was introduced and chest rise was noted with Spo2 maintained at 100%.

Intra operative Tracheostomy



CASE SCENARIO : 2

- A 80 yr old morbid obese male patient, resident of Pochampally presented with c/o
 - 1.Shortness of breath since 10 days
 - 2.Change in voice since 5 days
- Shortness of breath was sudden in onset gradually progressed for grade 2 to grade 3 (NYHA) , more on lying down and relieved in propped up position
- Change in voice was sudden in onset and worsen gradually.
- No h/o chest pain, palpitation, fever or cough.

- *K/c/o*

1. **Hypertension** since 6yrs on Tab. Amlodipine 50mg+Tab. Atenolol 5mg once daily.
2. **Diabetes Mellitus type 2 (denovo)** since 6 months on irregular medication.
3. H/o **Left Hemiparises** 1 year back.
4. h/o similar complaints of shortness of breath 6 months back.

- He was a Chronic Alcoholic since 30years.

- **General Examination:**

Patient is irritable, non cooperative and not coherent and was on CPAP; SpO2:50%

Heart rate:120 bpm

Blood pressure : 140/110mm Hg

CVS : S1 S2 heard, no murmurs

RS: Bilateral minimal air entry with wheeze

Airway Assessment:

1. Nose: B/L nares patent

2. Oral cavity: a) Unhygienic.

b) Mouth opening: 3 finger breath.

3. Teeth : Bucking : Not present

Inter incisor distance = 5 cms

4. Palate : Normal

5. Jaw protusion: Class B (lower incisors can be brought edge to edge with upper incisors).

6. Temporo mandibular joint movement:

Normal

7. Sub mental space :

- a) Hyomental distance: Grade 3 = < 4cms
- b) Thyromental distance: < 2 and half fingers
- c) Sternomental distance : < 10 cms

8. Modified Mallampati score: Grade 3

9. Neck: Short and Thick


Neck mobility : Restricted

Inability to assume sniffing position

ENT examination

Findings on Video laryngoscopy

Base of Tongue
Aryepiglottic fold
Epiglottis



= Normal

Pyramiform sinus = No pooling of saliva

False cords = Bulky

True vocal cords = Fixed in Paramedian position.

VIDEO LARYNGOSCOPY IMAGE



Image showing B/L vocal cords fixed in
paramedian position

Diagnosis: 1.? Acute exacerbation of Asthma.
2.? Bilateral abductor palsy.

Problems Anticipated:

1. Difficult mask ventilation.
2. Difficult oral intubation.

MANAGEMENT

- Patient was kept in head up position 10-15 degrees with a pillows and Ramp position was maintained.
- Premedication was given.
- Patient was Sedated.
- With help of oro pharyngeal airway mask ventilation was attempted with 2 hands.
- Patient was able to be Ventilated, minimal chest rise was noted.
- Spo2 increased from 50-75% and continued mask ventilation until SPo2 >95%.

- Oral intubation was attempted after induction.
- Cormack Lehane classification direct laryngoscopy –grade 2 and 2 mm distance between the cords and fixed cords were present.
- Endo tracheal Tube no 6 and 5.5 failed to passed through the cords.
- Final attempt with Bougie also failed.
- Continued Mask ventilation.
- Planned for Tracheostomy.
- Confirmation of the tube was done with help of +ve ETCO₂ graph in Capnography.

CASE SCENARIO : 3

- A 45 yr old female patient, resident of Katangur presented with c/o
 - 1.Swelling over the left side of neck since 1 year.
 - 2.Change in voice and shortness of breath Grade 2 (NYHA) since 15 days.
- No h/o chest pain, palpitation, weight gain or loss, no change in appetite

- **General Examination:**

Patient is conscious, cooperative and coherent.

Heart rate:84 bpm

Blood pressure : 120/80mm Hg

CVS : S1 S2 heard no murmurs

RS: bilateral air entry +, no added sounds

Airway Assessment:

1. **Nose:** B/L Nares patent
2. **Oral cavity:**
 - a. Hygienic.
 - b. Mouth opening: 2 ½ finger breath.
3. **Teeth :** Bucking :not present
Inter incisor distance = 5 cms
4. **Palate :** Normal
5. **Jaw protusion:** Class B(lower incisors can be brought edge to edge with upper incisors).

6. Temporo mandibular joint movement:

Normal

7. Sub mental space :

a) Hyomental distance: < 2 fingers

b) Thyromental distance: < 3 fingers

c) Sternomental distance : < 9 cms

8. Modified Mallampati score: Grade 2

9. Neck: Short neck : +

Neck mobility : Normal

Ability to assume sniffing position : +

Radiographic image showing Trachea deviation



ENT examination:

Findings on Indirect laryngoscopy and Video laryngoscopy :

Larynx could not be visualised due to a bulge over the posterior pharyngeal wall

? CERVICAL OSTEOPHYTES.

- Patient was posted for Total Thyroidectomy under General Anaesthesia and Intubated with Endotracheal tube : 7.00 mm
- Perioperative period were uneventful and patient was extubated on POD 1
- Patient's vitals were stable on POD 2, 3, 4.

POD 5:

1. Patient was in **Stridor** in propped up position and it worsen in supine position.
2. Spo2: 84 % with 6 lit of oxygen.
3. Perspiration was present.
4. Supra sternal recession was present.
5. Neck : No haematoma, wound was healthy.

POSSIBLE CAUSE: 1. *Laryngeal odema/
oropharyngeal odema*
2. *Bilateral vocal cord paralysis.*



**IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY TRACHEOSTOMY with help of
MASK VENTILATION.**

POST TRACHEOSTOMY

1. Patient was kept on T piece with 6 litres of Oxygen.
2. SPO2 = 99%
3. Pulse rate= 88bpm
4. Blood pressure =120/70mm Hg.
5. Patient was discharged on POD 14/9 with a metallic tracheostomy tube no.30 in situ.



Thank You!

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