

A SIMPLE APPROACH TO AIRWAY MANAGEMENT IN A CHILD WITH A GIANT TONGUE HEMANGIOMA

- A Case Report -

ANIS BARAKA *

Raveenthiran et al reported “A simple approach to airway management for a giant sublingual dermoid cyst”¹. Prior to induction of anesthesia the cyst was completely decompressed by aspiration of its contents.

We experienced a similar situation in a five-year-old boy who had a giant lingual hemangioma which filled the entire oral cavity (Fig 1). Squeezing the hemangioma manually with a wet gauze decompressed the hemangioma to a great extent (Fig 2) which facilitated induction of general anesthesia and orotracheal intubation. An oral airway was gently inserted above the tongue into the oral cavity. Anesthesia was induced by sevoflurane in 100% oxygen. Macintosh laryngoscopy was then performed to be followed by orotracheal intubation.

* Anis Baraka, MD,FRCA, Professor & Chairman, Department of Anesthesiology, American University of Beirut. P.O. Box: 11 0236, Beirut 1107 2020, Lebanon. E-mail: abaraka@aub.edu.lb.

Fig. 1
The giant lingual hemangioma filling the oral cavity and protruding out from the mouth..



Fig. 2
The hemangioma after manual decompression



References

1. RAVEENTHIRAN V, SAM CJ, SRINIVASAN SK: A simple approach to airway management for a giant sublingual dermoid cyst. *Can J Anesth*; 53:12, 1265-66, 2006.