

Title: Intellectual Disabled Pediatric Case With Unilateral Vocal Fold Paralysis

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Introduction:

The aim of this case report is present the assessment and therapy program for right sided vocal fold paralysis of a pediatric patient with mild intellectual disability.

Materials and Methods:

Z.K., an 11 years old female patient has dextrocardia, history of cardiological surgery and intubation. Functional evaluation of the case was made by Speech Language Pathologists (SPL) and Videolaryngostroboscopy (VLS) records was performed by the ENT doctors. Voice and aerodynamic analyzes were completed within the evaluation of SPL, before and after therapy. 9 session voice therapy were applied once a week. Voice therapy programme (VTP) includes voice hygiene and exercises that aim to increase the maximum phonation time (MPT) and support adduction. Each sessions were 30-45 minutes.

Conclusion:

After VTP, a decrease in all parameters was observed in GRBAS scores compared to the first evaluation. An increase in MTP and decrease in s/z ratio were observed. The fundamental frequency increased from 248 Hz to 296 Hz after VPT. A decrease in signal noise ratio and shimmer value were observed. An improvement was observed in voice related quality of life (from 38 to 19) and voice handicap index (from 74 to 35).

Discussion: Considering the other ezisting problems and diagnosis of the patient and designing an individualized therapy programme may increase the benefit of the patient from the VTP.

Key words: unilateral vocal fold paralysis, pediatric voice therapy