

Management of Dysphagia in Sanjad Sakati Syndrome: A Case Series Account

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Abstract

Sanjad Sakati Syndrome (SSS) was first described in the literature in 1998 and is characterized by short stature; dysmorphic features and congenital hypoparathyroidism. There is little documentation on the swallowing function in these children. This is a case series presentation outlining the feeding characteristics of children admitted to a tertiary center between 2016 and 2018. All four children, three boys and one girl, were referred to Speech and Language Therapy following concerns of aspiration. All showed risk signs of aspiration on bedside assessment, however two of the cases would not accept enough orally for a videofluoroscopy swallow study (VFSS) to be completed. On VFSS, case1 presented with mild oro-pharyngeal dysphagia and risk of aspiration of thin fluids characterized by a delayed swallow trigger with intermittent pooling in the pyriform fossae prior to swallow initiation and mildly reduced laryngeal vestibule closure. Case2 presented with oro-pharyngeal dysphagia characterized by incoordination of bulbar muscle sequencing leading to retrograde movement of fluid through the pharynx, residue and aspiration. All patients required supplementary tube feeding to support their nutrition in the context of their oral feeding presentation. This case emphasizes the importance of Speech and Language Therapists in the identification and management of oro-pharyngeal dysphagia with children with SSS.

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