The Swallowing Mechanism after Removal of the Basis of the Tongue and the Epiglottis

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The mechanism of swallowing is demonstrated by a roentgeno-logical serial examination in a patient in whom the basis of the tongue, the epiglottis and the medial part of the os hyoideum were resected, because there was a recidivism of an epiglottis carcinoma. A comparison is made with the normal swallowing mechanism. Apparently the swollen arytenoids protect the laryngeal vestibulum against inflow of the contrast. The patient has also learnt to use an air bubble for the downward movement of the bolus in the hypopharynx. He manages to swallow liquids quite satisfactorily in this way.

Staal, H.: Pract. oto-rhino-laryng. 19, 439, 1957

Labyrinth Disorders in a Case of M. Recklinghausen.

By H. STAAL.

A 38-year-old man complained of headache diplopia and deafness in the left ear.

Positive neurological findings were high brain pressure and disorders of the brain nerves on the left side: the N. trigeminus, N. abducens, N. facialis and N. cochlearis; on the right side: the N. vestibularis.

Presumptive diagnosis: tumor of the cerebello positive angle on the left side. Unexplainable, however, was the crossed loss of function of the N. cochlearis (left) and the N. vestibularis (right).

Findings during the operation: the left side seemed to be free, the right side showed a large neurinoma of the nervus acusticus.

A post mortem examination (the patient died 24 hours later) showed that the tumor was completely removed.

Histological findings explained the mysterious crossed lesion of the N. cochlearis and N. vestibularis

while besides the already mentioned tumor on the right side a microscopically small neurinoma was found in the left N. cochlearis.

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