

SUBGLOTTIC AND TRACHEAL STENOSIS DUE TO WEGENER'S GRANULOMATOSIS

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Wegener's granulomatosis (WG) is characterized histologically by necrotizing granulomatous angitis that most commonly involves the upper, lower respiratory tract and kidneys, but may affect any organ system. Otolaryngological manifestation are frequent and diverse but subglottic and tracheal stenosis (SGS, TS) are less common. The aim of the study was to assess the clinical features and response to treatment in WG patients with SGS and TS. The disease activity at the time of examination was scored in 55 patients with WG according to clinical, serological, radiological and bronchoscopic findings: Subglottic and tracheal stenosis was observed in 9% and 5% respectively. CT scan of larynx and trachea showed mucosal thickening extended 3-4 cm below the vocal cords in 3 and the thyroid cartilage in one. The degree of narrowing of the axial luminal diameter range from 50%-to 90%. Mechanical dilation of the stenosis (ILCD) and long-acting local corticosteroid may be a helpful therapy together with conventional immunosuppressive treatment

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