A total of 93 patients (63 males, 30 females) with chronic respiratory failure (including 39 patients with chronic obstructive lung disease; COPD) on long-term oxygen therapy (LTOT) were included in the survival analysis. The overall survival was 79.8%, 71.1%, 44.7% and 27.7% at 1, 2, 5 and 10 years, respectively, which was not significantly different with that of COPD patients (91.4%, 79.2%, 58.6% and 15.6% at 1, 2, 5 and 10 years, respectively). In the univariate analysis, the only bad prognostic factor was a high infection index ($\geq 1$, $p < 0.0005$). 8 patients (38%) survived for ten years after their LTOT initiation, which was between 1989 and 1991. The long-surviving 8 patients kept their body mass index for 10 years and had a low infection index (0.6±0.4).

Key Words: oxygen therapy, COPD, long-survival
institutes, and 6% of the institutes were equipped with stroke care units.

Key Words : acute cerebral infarction, treatment, Ehime

1年間の甲状腺超音波検査の臨床的検討
宮内 省蔵
市立宇和島病院内科
愛媛医学 24(3):240-242, 2005

Summary
We performed thyroid ultrasonography in 635 patients in 2004, and of these patients, this was the first examination in 386 patients. Among the first examination patients, 261 patients (67.6%) had nodular goiter, 161 patients (41.7%) had diffuse goiter, 101 patients (26.1%) had the coexistence of nodular goiter and 55 patients (14.2%) had normal thyroid glands.

Although the prevalence of diffuse goiter was the same as previous reports, the prevalence of nodular goiter was higher in our study than previous reports. This may be mainly due to the enhanced performance of ultrasonographic equipment we used.

We believe that it is necessary to evaluate thyroid functions using ultrasonography to clarify relations between functional abnormalities and morphological findings in thyroids.

Key Words : thyroid ultrasonography, diffuse goiter, nodular goiter

症例報告
バイトプレートによる治療が奏功した空気嚥下症の1例
中谷 輝一郎, 住田 知樹, 荒本 孝良, 新谷 悟, 浜川 裕之
愛媛大学医学部歯科口腔外科学
愛媛医学 24(3):243-246, 2005

Summary
Aerophagia refers to a rather rare disorder that may occur in both children and adults that features repetitive air swallowing and that may result in abdominal discomfort because of the massive distension of the bowel. Sometimes patients complain of belching, headaches, stiff shoulders, chest pain, and vertigo. Since this disorder sometimes is associated with depression, patients are administered with antidepressants. The treatment, however, is not always successful.

In this report, a case of chronic aerophagia with depression successfully treated with a biteplate is presented. A female patient had taken antidepressants for 10 years, but they were not effective. During her first visit to our clinic, she clenched, swallowing and belching air many times throughout the examination. She had bruxism during sleep, and her teeth revealed abrasions. Therefore, we recommended that she use a biteplate. A week after using it, she noticed a decrease in her swallowing and belching. Moreover, her other symptoms related to her aerophagia also disappeared. An X-ray examination showed that massive distension of the patient's bowel had reduced.

Key Words : Aerophasia, Biteplate, Belching

抗凝固治療中に左房内血栓を発症し,血栓除去術後突然死した肥大型閉塞性心筋症の1例
飯森 俊介1), 濱田 希臣1), 池田 俊太郎1), 風谷 幸男2), 石戸 谷浩3), 佐藤 晴瑞3)
Summary

A 66-year-old patient with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) had been treated with warfarin in an outpatient clinic. We believe that the warfarin control was well maintained, because her prothrombin levels ranged between 35% and 42%. However, an echocardiogram in an outpatient clinic showed that she had a left atrial thrombus, and she was admitted to our hospital thereafter. The left atrial thrombus remained unchanged even after using heparin, so she had an open heart surgery to remove that. After the surgery, her condition was steady, but she died suddenly while in our hospital. A thrombus formation in her left atrium may be related to hypercoagulability in HCM.

Key Words : HCM, thrombus, warfarin

Summary

A 65-year-old female visited a private clinic of otolaryngology because of sore throat. She complained that she might have hemoptysis when her condition did not improve, so she was referred to our hospital on April 20, 2004. An endoscopic examination revealed small punched-out and superficial, geographical ulcers. Biopsy specimens taken from the margin of the ulcers showed inclusion bodies in the epithelial cells. An immunohistological examination of the specimens revealed the presence of antigens to the Herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) in the lesion. From these findings, we diagnosed that the multiple ulcers in the patients esophagus were caused by an HSV-1 infection. The patient had a history of hemorrhagic pharyngitis five times which was diagnosed as herpes pharyngitis. This fact suggests that herpes esophagitis may have occurred in succession of herpes pharyngitis. Only 10 cases of herpes esophagitis in otherwise healthy patients, including this case, have been reported in Japan.

Key Words : Herpes Esophagitis, Herpes Pharyngitis, Herpes Simplex Virus

Summary

A 47-year-old man was admitted to our hospital due to general fatigue for 6 days. He was mildly somnolent and had tachypnea when he was admitted. His serum glucose level revealed severe hyperglycemia (1,192 mg/dL) with high-anion gap acidosis, and ketone bodies were detected in his urine. Therefore, he was diagnosed with diabetic ketoacidosis. After adequate fluid therapy and insulin therapy, his condition gradually improved. However, severe acute pancreatitis with abdominal pain developed, and so continuous artery injection therapy of nafamostat mesilate was administered at our hospital's ICU. Following this, the patient's severe acute pancreatitis alleviated.
The relationship between diabetic ketoacidosis and severe acute pancreatitis in the present case is not clear. One explanation for this relationship seems to be the onset of acute pancreatitis in association with diabetic ketoacidosis.

Key Words: diabetic ketoacidosis, severe acute pancreatitis, diabetes mellitus