gutflix
GI learning, personalised

Summary

Oesophageal involvement in myasthenia gravis: A hidden contributor to dysphagia

Anne Jung

Postgraduate Teaching Programme Barcelona 2026 | Presentation

Oesophagus | Neurogastroenterology & Motility

October 18, 2026

The speaker presented a case of an 88-year-old man with myasthenia gravis to illustrate that oesophageal involvement can be an underrecognized contributor to dysphagia in this disease.

KEY POINTS

- The patient presented with acute onset dysphagia as the first manifestation of myasthenia gravis, unable to swallow liquids or semi-solid consistencies with immediate regurgitation.
- Fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing revealed oropharyngeal dysphagia with abnormal non-swallow related opening of the upper oesophageal sphincter and regurgitation, suggesting both oropharyngeal and oesophageal involvement.
- Diagnosis was confirmed by positive acetylcholine receptor antibodies and a quantitative myasthenia gravis score of 21 out of 39, indicating substantial disease burden.
- Treatment with intravenous immunoglobulin and pyridostigmine resulted in marked oropharyngeal improvement within one day after the last IVIg dose, but oesophageal dysfunction with regurgitation persisted.
- The speaker emphasized that despite the commonly emphasized oropharyngeal phase impairment in myasthenia gravis, the oesophageal phase may be a major limiting factor in regaining oral diet and treatment response may differ between swallowing phases.

VIEW THIS CONTENT ON GUTFLIX

https://gutflix.eu/search/d/e9a6a34e-d14f-11f1-b1f3-daaa6dbee0a2

AI-generated summary

This summary was generated by an AI large language model based on the content transcript. It is for informational purposes only and should not be considered a substitute for clinical judgment. Always rely on your professional expertise and the full clinical context when making clinical decisions.