### In The Name Of

- **DEFINITIONS** The terms dysphagia, odynophagia, and globus sensation are defined as follows:
  - Dysphagia is a subjective sensation of difficulty or abnormality of swallowing.

## Odyno phagia Pain in swallowing+

 Globus sensation is u a functional esophageal disorder characterized by a sensation of a lump, tightness or retained food bolus in the pharyngeal or cervical area that is not due to an underlying structural

**ACUTE DYSPHAGIA** — The acute onset of inability to swallow solids and/or liquids, including secretions, suggests impaction of a foreign body in the esophagus and requires immediate

Food impaction is the most common cause for acute onset of dysphagia in adults. (See

Clinical presentation — Patie nts usually develop symptoms after ingesting meat (most commonly beef, chicken, and turkey), which completely obstructs the esophageal lumen,

**Management** — The food bolus can be removed during upper endoscopy using grasping devices (either en bloc or piecemeal, depending upon the consistency of the bolus), or it can be

consistency of the bolus), or it can be gently pushed into the stomach using an endoscope [7,9]. Endoscopic management of food impaction is discussed in detail separately. (See

EVALUATION OF NONACUTE DYSPHAGIA

Distinguishing oropharyngeal from esophageal dysphagia — The

9dysphagia — The first step in evaluating patients with nonacute dysphagia is to determine if the symptoms are due to oropharyngeal or esophageal dysphagia based on the patient's answers

Oropharyngeal dysphagia -Oropharyngeal or transfer dysphagia is characterized by these features:

- Patients have difficulty initiating a swallow.
  - Patients may point toward the cervical region as the

- the cervical region as the site of their symptoms.
  - Swallowing may be accompanied by

nasopharyngea I regurgitation, aspiration, and a sensation of residual food remaining in the pharynx.

Oral dysfunction can lead to drooling, food spillage, sialorrhea, piecemeal swallows, and

- dysarthria.
  - Pharyngeal dysfunction can lead to coughing or choking during food

14

**Esophageal** dysphagia -Patients with esophageal dysphagia commonly report the following:

Difficulty swallowing several seconds after initiating a swallow, and

16 A sensation that foods and/or liquids are being obstructed in their passage from the upper esophagus to

<sup>17</sup>Patients may point to the suprasternal notch or to an area behind the sternum as the site of obstruction. While

obstruction. While retrosternal dysphagia usually corresponds with the location of the lesion,

suprasternal dysphagia is commonly referred from below [11].

<sup>20</sup>•Solid, liquid, or **both?**—A critical component of the medical history is determining the types of food that produce symptoms (ie,

Dysphagia to solids only is usually present when the esophageal lumen is narrowed to 13 mm or less by a stricture.

 Progressive or intermittent?-It is important to ask if the symptoms are intermittent or are gradually progressive.

#### Progressive Dysphagia

- ▶ 1.Slowly Progressive
- Peptic Stricture due to:
- ▶ GERD Or Radiation
- 2. Rapidly Progressive
- Less Than 6 mo
- CA Of Esophagus

**Peptic stricture** – Peptic stricture is a complication of gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) and results from the healing process of erosive esophagitis. This

#### Dysphagia in GERD

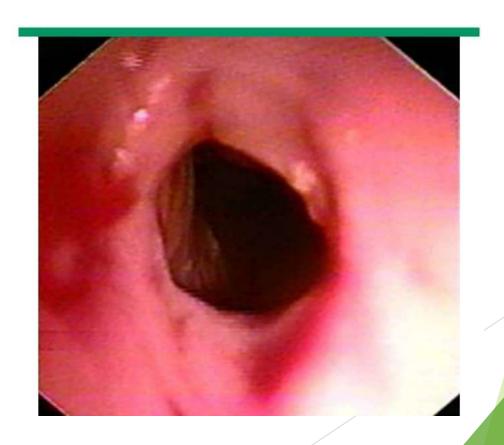
▶ 1.PEPTIC STRICTURE

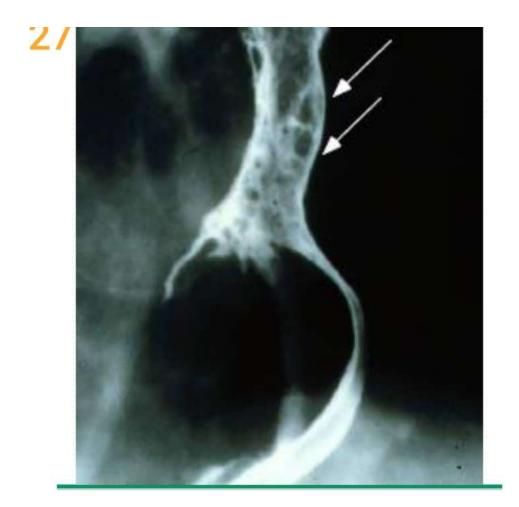
Adeno carcinoma of esophagus

Both seen in prolonged GERD

#### stricture

### Peptic esophageal stricture





Esophagram
demonstrates 6 cm
long distal esophageal

**Carcinoma** — Cancer of the esophagus or gastric cardia is associated with rapidly progressive dysphagia, initially for solids and later for liquids. In addition, patients may have chest pain, odynophagia, anemia, anorexia, and

#### Alarm Signs in Dysphagia

- .Anemia
- .Wt loss 5% in 6 to 12 mo
- .G.I.B
- .Vomiting
- .Older Than 60 year
- .Anorexia
- Odynophagia.
- Chest pain
- Rapid progressive

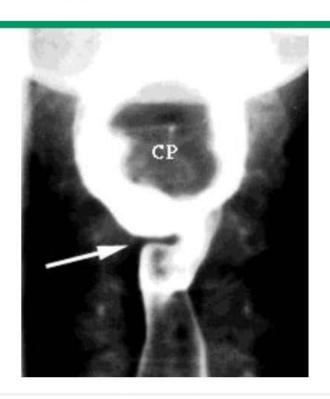
**∕S**Sds only with intermittent **symptoms** – Dysphagi a to solid foods only that is intermittent in nature may be caused by eosinophilic esophagitis, esophageal ring or web, or a vascular anomaly.

# Plummer Vinson syndrome

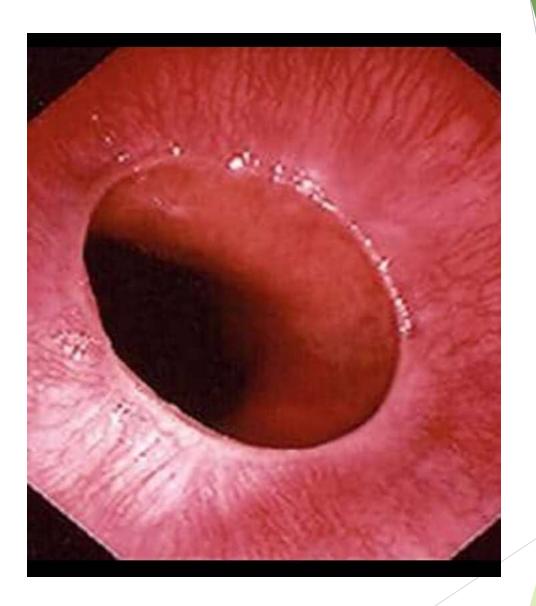


This barium swallow study obtained in a 53year-old female with dysphagia and anemia demonstrates an upper esophageal web (black arrow) immediately above a tight stricture of the esophagus (white arrow).

# Esophageal web on barium swallow







Liquid and/or solid dysphagia — Dysphagi a to liquids alone or to solids and liquids may be related to either an esophageal motility disorder such as achalasia, distal esophageal spasm or hypercontractile

**Achalasia** — Primar y achalasia is a disease of unknown etiology in which there is a loss of normal peristalsis in the distal esophagus and a failure of lower esophageal sphincter (LES) relaxation with

diagnosed in patients between 25 and 60 years. Men and women are affected with equal frequency. Progressively worsening dysphagia for solids (91 percent) and liquids (85 percent) and

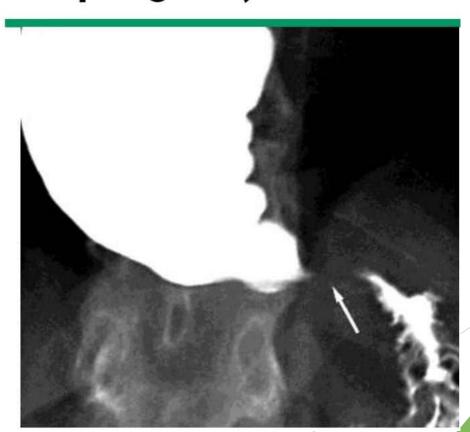
regurgitation of bland, undigested food or saliva are the most frequent symptoms in patients with achalasia. Other symptoms include chest pain, heartburn, and difficulty

### Achalasia

#### 43 Achalasia



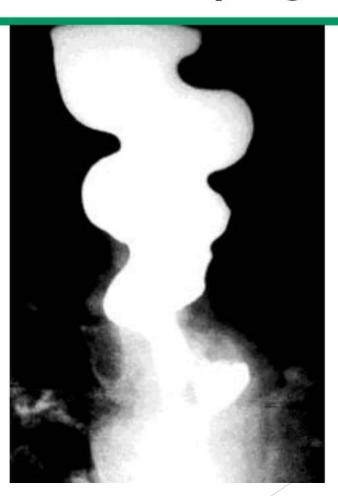
Dilation of the esophagus in a patient with achalasia (barium esophagram)



Hypertensive or spastic motility disorders: Esophageal manometry is obtained to establish the diagnosis of a spastic esophageal motility disorder.

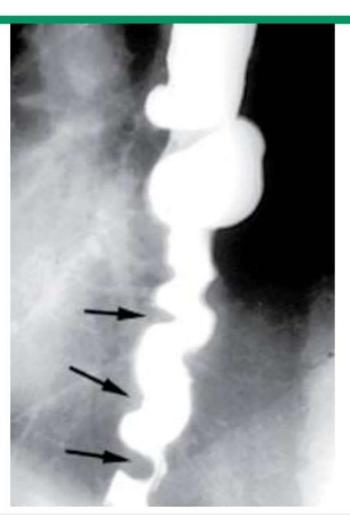
## Corkscrew esophagus

#### **Corkscrew esophagus**



### spasm

### Diffuse esophageal spasm



Associated symptoms — Ass ociated symptoms or findings can help to narrow the differential diagnosis. These

- Heartburn
- Weight loss
- Hematemesis
- Anemia
- Regurgitation of food

Functional 46 dysphagia — Ac cording to the Rome IV criteria, functional dysphagia is defined by the following:

A sense of solid and/or liquid food lodging, sticking, or passing abnormally through the

No evidence that an esophageal mucosal or structural abnormality is the cause of the symptom.

<sup>49</sup>No evidence that GERD or eosinophilic esophagitis is the cause of the symptom.

 Absence of a major esophageal motor disorder (achalasia, esophagogas All criteria must be fulfilled for the past three months with symptom onset at least six months prior to the diagnosis

should be reassured and instructed to avoid precipitating factors and chew

symptoms may improve with time. In patients with severe symptoms, despite these measures, a trial of a smooth muscle relaxant, such as a calcium channel blocker or

tricyclic antidepressant, can be offered. This approach is similar to the initial treatment of distal esophageal spasm,

Empiric dilation with a mechanical (pushtype or Bougie) dilator can be offered, but symptom response is variable.

