

Isolated unilateral hypoglossal nerve paralysis: a case report

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Abstract

Isolated unilateral hypoglossal nerve paralysis is a rare condition. The etiologic factors that may cause this are cancer metastases, infection, endocrine, neurological, autoimmune and vascular reasons. A 56-year-old male patient complained of swelling, speech impairment and biting the left side of the tongue for 2 years.

Keywords: Hypoglossal nerve, paralysis, MRI, CT

Case Report

Isolated unilateral hypoglossal nerve paralysis is a rare condition. The etiologic factors that may cause this are cancer metastases, infection, endocrine, neurological, autoimmune and vascular reasons. It has been reported that it can develop after head-neck trauma [1,2]. A 56-year-old male patient complained of swelling, speech impairment and biting the left side of the tongue for 2 years. Earlier in the history of 20 years he had a history of head trauma to the back side with an ax. On neurological examination, the tongue was deviated to the right side in the mouth and slightly deviated to the outside of the mouth, and the left side of the tongue was atrophic (Figure 1A).

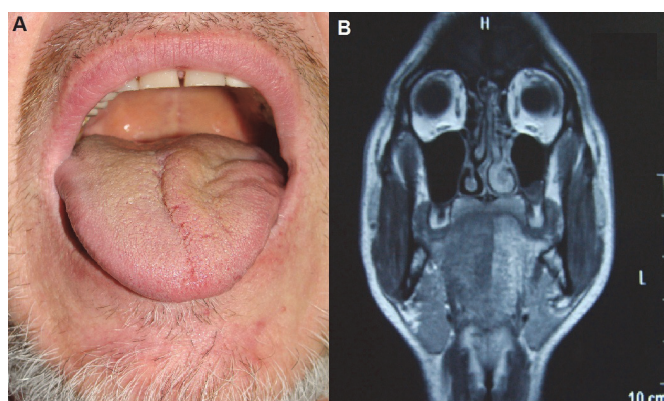


Figure 1. Atrophy is observed in the left tongue of the patient (A). Axial sections of the cranial MR T1 sequence show atrophic changes in the left tongue

Uvula on midline, gag reflex + / +, the presence of fasciculation was seen on the left side of the tongue. Cranial MRI coronal section T2 sequences, there were atrophic fatty changes in the left tongue half (Figure 1B) and irregularity in the hypoglossal canal in the axial section T2 sequences (Figure 2A). In addition, in Cranial CT, a fractured sekonder irregularity (previous head trauma) was observed in the occipital bone posterior to the occipital condyle (Figure 2B).

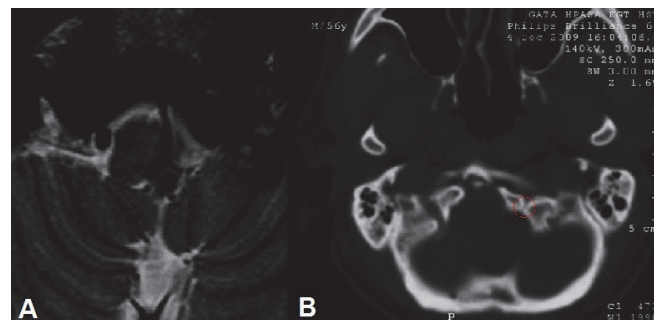


Figure 2. The cranial MR T2 axial images irregularities in the left hypoglossal canal (A) and cranial CT in the right hypoglossal canal irregularities in the left hypoglossal canal with normal (red circle) and shortness seems (B)

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