



Figure. (A) Magnetic resonance sagittal spin-echo T1-weighted and (B) axial fluid-attenuated inversion recovery T2-weighted images without contrast. (C) Coronal and (D) axial fast spin-echo T1-weighted images after contrast. A 3-cm tumor, is seen in the enlarged left jugular foramen, involving the extra- and intracranial portions of the IX, X, and XI cranial nerves and the intracranial portion of the VIII nerve. Homogenous signal intensity and contrast enhancement, well-shaped margins, and a smooth enlargement of foramen suggest a diagnosis of schwannoma. (E) Photograph of the patient showing atrophy of the left trapezius.

An unusual cause of dysphagia and dysphonia

V. Di Lazzaro, MD; E. Saturno, MD; F. Pilato, MD; F. Molinari, MD; M. Dileone, MD; A. Oliviero, MD; and P.A. Tonali, MD, Rome, Italy

The glossopharyngeal, vagus, and accessory cranial nerves pass through the jugular foramen and may be involved by transforaminal tumors.^{1,2} Weakness of the muscles supplied by these cranial nerves may simulate the bulbar variant of ALS or myasthenia gravis. Here we report a 94-year-old woman with a

schwannoma of the left jugular foramen (figure, A, B, C, D) who presented with a 4-year history of worsening dysphonia and mild dysphagia. Clinical examination revealed weakness and hypotrophy of the left sternocleidomastoid and trapezius (see figure, E), dysphagia and dysphonia with the left vocal cord in adduction, hypoesthesia of pharyngeal left posterior mucosa, bilateral hearing loss (more severe on the left), and tinnitus. EMG showed total denervation in the upper part of the left trapezius muscle. Stereotactic radiosurgery was planned.

Copyright © 2005 by AAN Enterprises, Inc.

Address correspondence and reprint requests to Dr. V. Di Lazzaro, Istituto di Neurologia, Università Cattolica, L.go A. Gemelli 8, 00168 Rome, Italy; e-mail: vdilazzaro@rm.unicatt.it

1. Eldevik OP, Gabrielsen TO, Jacobsen EA. Imaging findings in schwannomas of the jugular foramen. *AJNR Am J Neuroradiol* 2000;21:1139–1144.
2. Caldemeyer KS, Mathews VP, Azzarelli B, Smith RR. The jugular foramen: a review of anatomy, masses, and imaging characteristics. *Radiographics* 1997;17:1123–1139.

Neurology[®]

An unusual cause of dysphagia and dysphonia

V. Di Lazzaro, E. Saturno, F. Pilato, et al.

Neurology 2005;64;922

DOI 10.1212/01.WNL.0000145829.81585.7C

This information is current as of March 7, 2005

Updated Information & Services	including high resolution figures, can be found at: http://n.neurology.org/content/64/5/922.full
Supplementary Material	Supplementary material can be found at: http://n.neurology.org/content/suppl/2007/04/02/64.5.922.DC1
References	This article cites 2 articles, 0 of which you can access for free at: http://n.neurology.org/content/64/5/922.full#ref-list-1
Citations	This article has been cited by 1 HighWire-hosted articles: http://n.neurology.org/content/64/5/922.full##otherarticles
Subspecialty Collections	This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s): All Oncology http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/all_oncology Anterior nerve cell disease http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/anterior_nerve_cell_disease Cranial neuropathy http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/cranial_neuropathy Nerve tumor http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/nerve_tumor
Permissions & Licensing	Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at: http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions
Reprints	Information about ordering reprints can be found online: http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright . All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.

