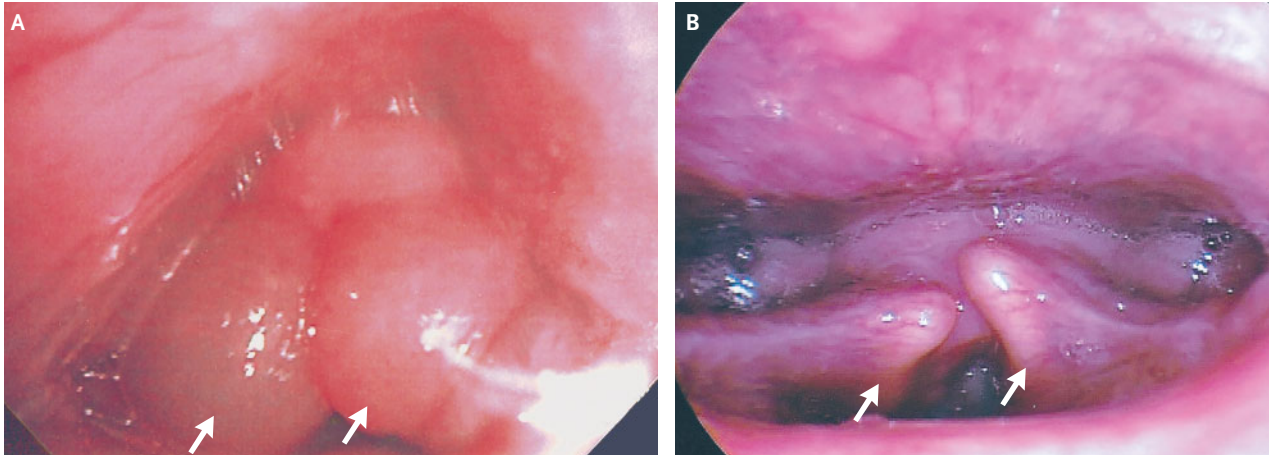


Angioedema of the Arytenoids



A 42-YEAR-OLD WOMAN REPORTED FEELING AS IF SOMETHING WERE stuck in her throat (pointing to her thyroid cartilage) since eating a steak dinner two hours earlier. She had a hoarse, raspy voice but was able to drink water without difficulty and had no respiratory symptoms. Her medical history included only hypertension, for which she received lisinopril. Her respiratory rate was normal, and there was no stridor. There was no swelling of the lips, tongue, or oropharynx. On physical examination, her lungs were clear, and she had no wheezing. Endoscopy showed a normal esophagus without food impaction but bilateral angioedema of the arytenoids (Panel A, as compared with normal arytenoids shown in Panel B; arrows in both panels) without inflammation of the epiglottis. She was given intravenous diphenhydramine and methylprednisolone, and after six hours of observation, her voice had normalized. Nasopharyngoscopy revealed moderate improvement in swelling. The lisinopril was discontinued, and the patient remained without symptoms one week later.

Joseph R. Shiber, M.D.

East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27834

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