



8. ETIOLOGICAL, DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT ASPECTS OF CHRONIC LARYNGITIS.

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Introduction. Inflammatory processes affecting the upper respiratory tract can simultaneously exert a significant influence on the larynx and the surrounding mucosal surfaces. Inflammation in the larynx can be the direct result of exposure to irritants, toxins and antigens, but it can also be due to the involvement of mechanical and infectious factors. It can also occur as a consequence of a person's behavioral tendencies. Laryngitis is an inflammation caused by factors such as overuse, irritation or prolonged infection of the larynx. This manifests itself at the level of the laryngeal mucosa through edema, congestion, infiltration and proliferation of the epithelium, causing a chronic non-specific and non-tumoral alteration of it. Chronic inflammatory and degenerative processes, resulting from local irritant factors, contribute to damage to the laryngeal epithelium and can lead to the development of dysplasia and hyperplasia, including cancer. Chronic laryngitis, which manifests itself through voice disturbances and inability to talk, especially in cases of professionals that utilize mostly their speech, is also a social problem. A laryngitis that persists for more than 3 weeks is considered to be chronic laryngitis.

Aim of study. The aim of the paper is to review the etiological, diagnostic and treatment aspects of chronic laryngitis in the context of contemporary technical-scientific development.

Methods and materials. Specialized literature was used, while processing the information through the narrative synthesis method. Information was collected from the web field, namely publications from "pubmed", "reasearch4life" and other platforms, as well as national clinical protocols, national and international guidelines for the "ENT" field, manuals, articles, etc. all of these materials being published within 5-10 years from the date of access.

Results. There are numerous forms of chronic laryngitis, but all of them fall into these two big entities, namely: specific and non-specific laryngitis. In this study, all aspects of chronic laryngitis are addressed, from forms, symptoms to diagnosis and treatment.

Conclusion. We can say with confidence that chronic laryngitis is a complex pathology that requires a multidisciplinary approach, especially when discussing the specific types of laryngitis. Contemporary investigative methods currently available to specialists are essential, valuable and indispensable when it comes to diagnosing this pathology. The diagnosis and treatment of chronic laryngitis must begin as early as possible to avoid its transformation into cancerous forms, since chronic laryngitis itself is a precancerous stage.