

Gastroenterology Year in Review



Maireade McSweeney, MD, MPH

9/4/2025

Aerodigestive Center

Boston Children's Hospital

Disclosures

- None

Outline

- Gastroesophageal reflux
- Eosinophilic esophagitis
- Two newly released GI guidelines
- Enteral tube feeding
- Aero “potpourri”
- Future considerations

Gastroesophageal Reflux



Ten-Year Trends in Pharmacologic Management of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease and Pediatric Feeding Disorders in Young Children

Suzanna Hirsch, MD¹, Enju Liu, MD, PhD², Samuel Nurko, MD, MPH¹, and Rachel Rosen, MD, MPH¹

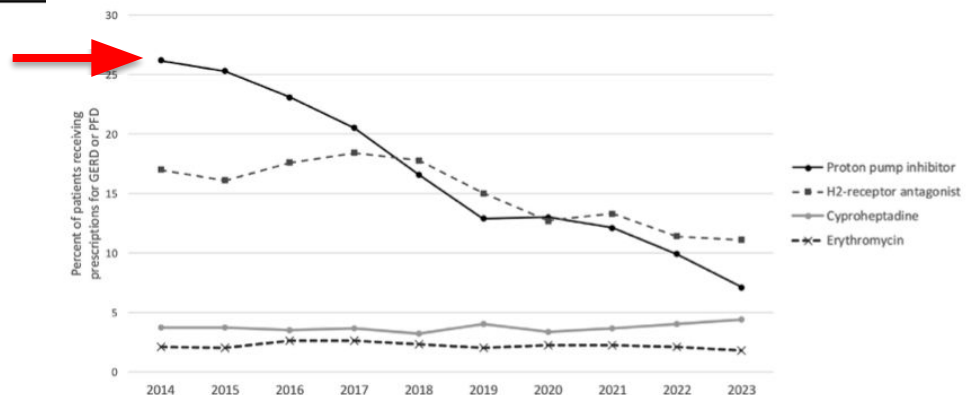
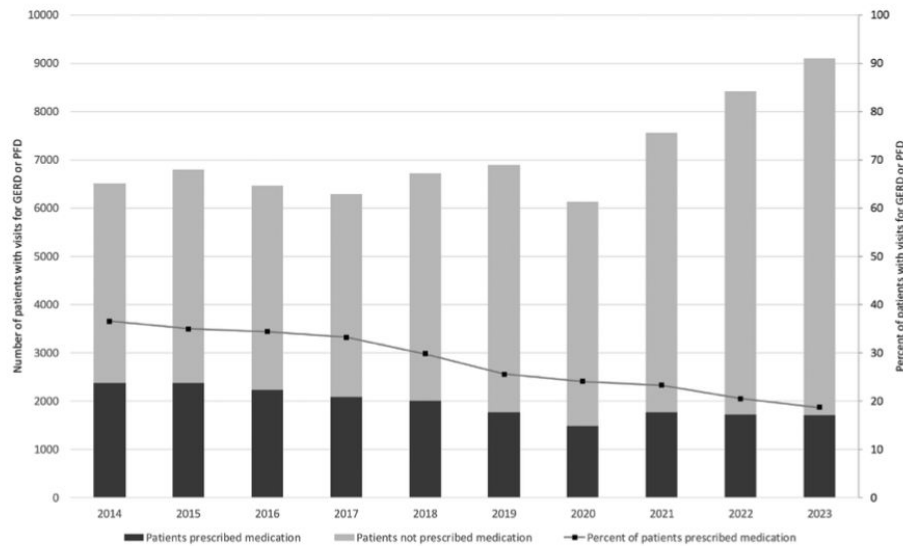
J Pediatr 2025; 283.

- Retrospective review
- Prescription use in children ≤ 2 yrs with ICD-9/-10 codes: GERD and feeding disorders
- Jan 2014-Dec 2023
- N= 49,483 patients
- Excluded post-surgical, GI bleeding, or pts needing empiric antacid treatment (e.g. steroid tx)

Ten-Year Trends in Pharmacologic Management of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease and Pediatric Feeding Disorders in Young Children

Suzanna Hirsch, MD¹, Enju Liu, MD, PhD², Samuel Nurko, MD, MPH¹, and Rachel Rosen, MD, MPH¹

J Pediatr 2025; 283.



Proton Pump Inhibitors and Risk of COVID-19 Infection in Children

Suzanna Hirsch, MD¹, Enju Liu, PhD², and Rachel Rosen, MD, MPH¹

J Pediatr 2024; 274.

- Retrospective case-control study
- Children ≤ 21 yrs age who had a COVID-19 infection (based on PCR testing)
 - Exposures: current, past, or “never” use of PPI
- 116,209 pts with 234,867 COVID tests
- 5,540 (5%) current PPI uses, 940 (1%) past users, 109,729 (94%) non-users at time of first COVID test

Proton Pump Inhibitors and Risk of COVID-19 Infection in Children

Suzanna Hirsch, MD¹, Enju Liu, PhD², and Rachel Rosen, MD, MPH¹

J Pediatr 2024; 274.

- No increased risk found with PPI use and COVID infection

Table V. Risks of hospitalization after COVID-19 infection

| Risk factor | Univariable | | Multivariable | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|
| | RR (95% CI) | P value | RR (95% CI) | P value |
| PPI use | | | | |
| Nonuser | 1.00 | | 1.00 | |
| Past user | 4.48 (2.53, 7.94) | <.001 | 0.70 (0.40, 1.22) | .21 |
| Current user | 5.15 (3.84, 6.92) | <.001 | 0.85 (0.64, 1.13) | .26 |
| Age | | | | |
| 0-2, % (n) | 1.00 | | | |
| 2-5, % (n) | 0.82 (0.58, 1.15) | .25 | 0.88 (0.65, 1.21) | .43 |
| 5-12, % (n) | 0.51 (0.36, 0.72) | <.001 | 0.65 (0.47, 0.90) | .01 |
| >12, % (n) | 1.21 (0.92, 1.59) | .17 | 1.13 (0.87, 1.45) | .36 |
| Number of comorbidities | | | | |
| 0 | 1.00 | | 1.00 | |
| 1 | 8.75 (6.03, 12.69) | <.001 | 8.34 (5.73, 12.15) | <.001 |
| 2 | 19.83 (13.46, 29.20) | <.001 | 19.16 (12.98, 28.28) | <.001 |
| 3+ | 34.99 (25.73, 47.59) | <.001 | 36.49 (26.37, 50.48) | <.001 |

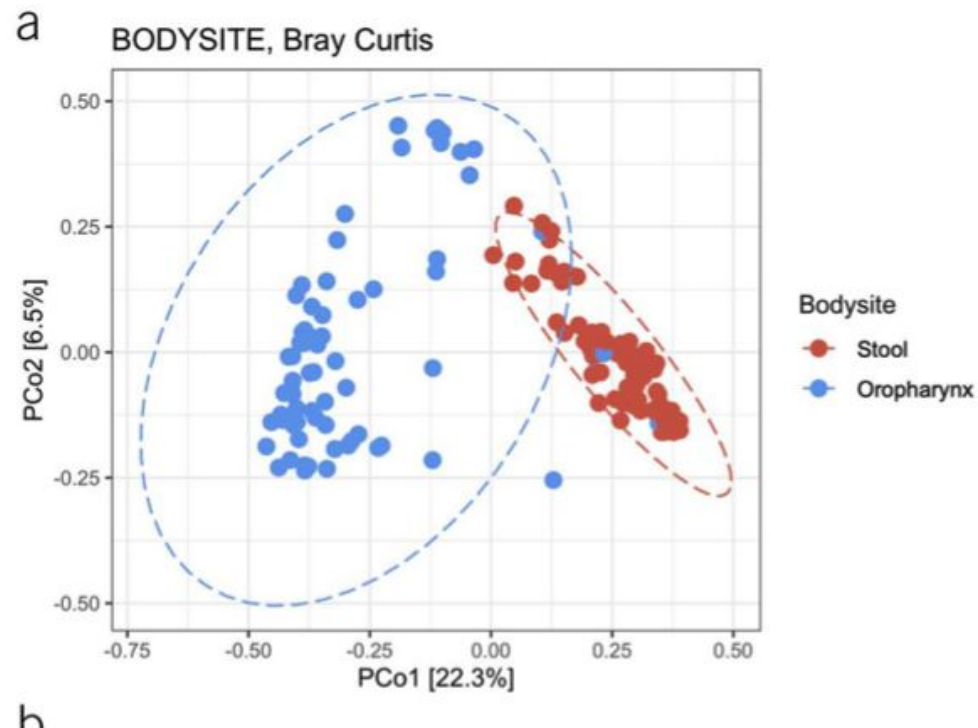
CI, confidence interval; RR, relative risk.

Longitudinal Microbiome Changes in Children Exposed to Proton Pump Inhibitors

Yanjia Jason Zhang, MD, PhD^{1,2}, Sarah Conneaney, RN, MSN, CPNP¹, Lisa Hester, RN, BSN, CPNP¹, Maritha Du, BS¹, Andrea Catacora, BS¹, Anna Akkara, BS¹, Anna Wen, BS¹, Lynn Bry, MD, PhD^{3,4}, Eric J. Alm, PhD² and Rachel Rosen, MD¹

Clinical and Translational Gastroenterology 2024; 15

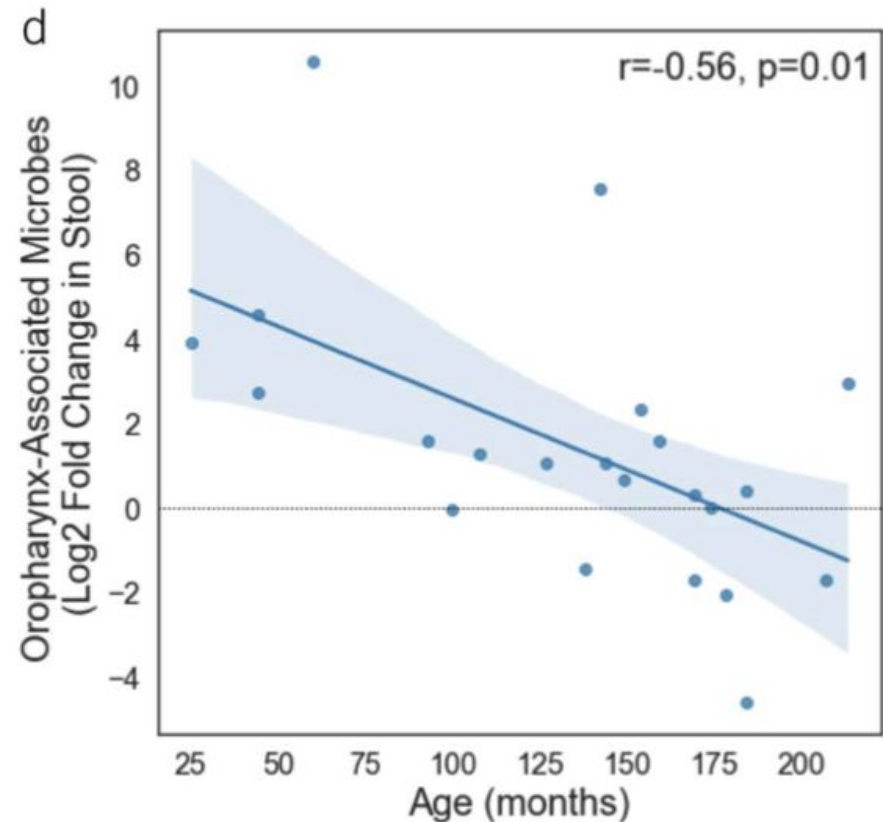
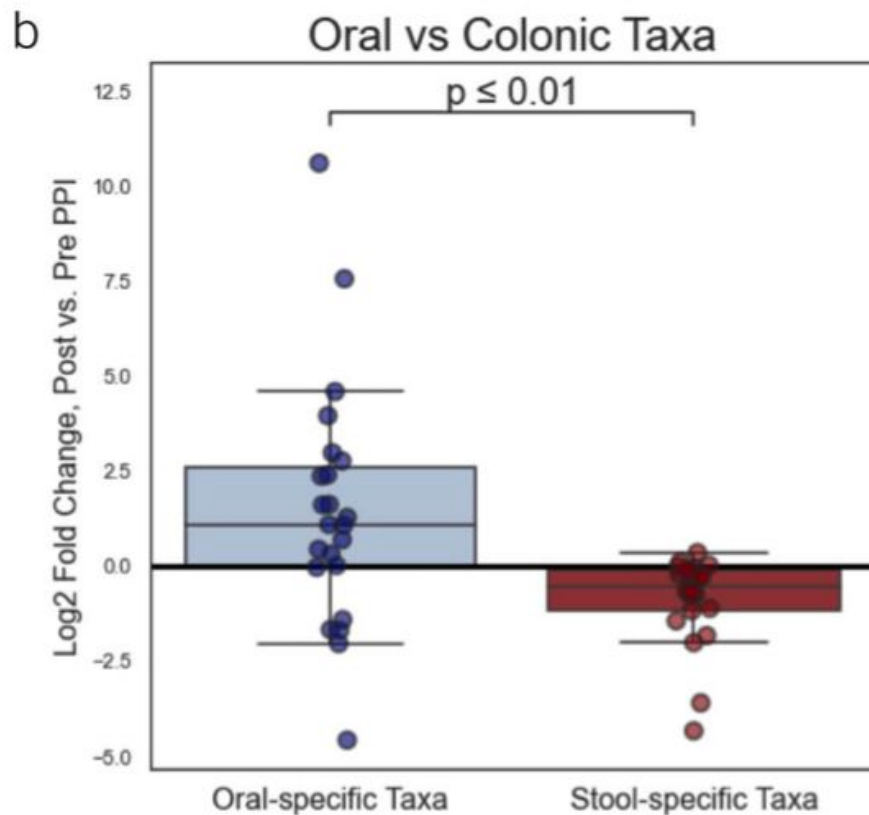
- 34 patients (mean age 9.6 yrs)
- Paired samples of oropharyngeal swabs and stool samples:
 - Before PPI
 - 8 wks after starting PPI



Longitudinal Microbiome Changes in Children Exposed to Proton Pump Inhibitors

Yanjia Jason Zhang, MD, PhD^{1,2}, Sarah Conneaney, RN, MSN, CPNP¹, Lisa Hester, RN, BSN, CPNP¹, Maritha Du, BS¹, Andrea Catacora, BS¹, Anna Akkara, BS¹, Anna Wen, BS¹, Lynn Bry, MD, PhD^{3,4}, Eric J. Alm, PhD² and Rachel Rosen, MD¹

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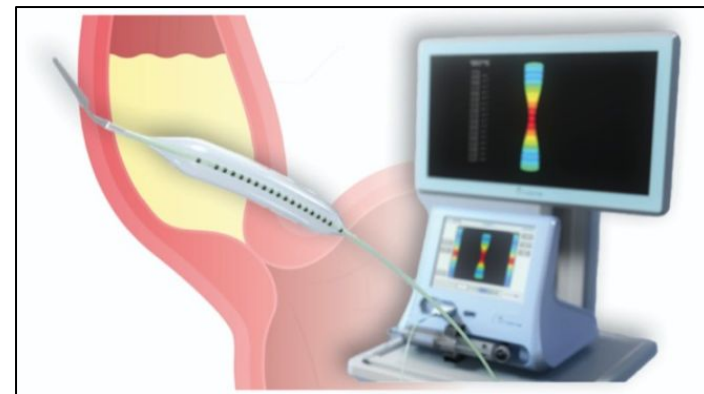
Eosinophilic Esophagitis



EndoFLIP distensibility index correlates with histologic findings in children with eosinophilic esophagitis

Erik Almazan¹  | Tom Z. Liang² | Brenna Hohl³  | Brett J. Hoskins⁴  |
Jacqueline E. Birkness-Gartman⁵  | Kenneth Ng⁶  *JPGN* 2025; 80: 824-831.

- Retrospective study comparing:
 - Validated, composite eosinophilic esophagitis histology scoring system (EoEHSS) **vs**
 - Distensibility Index from Endoluminal functional lumen imaging probe (Endoflip) **vs**
 - Eosinophilia counts/HPF



<https://www.gastroendoneews.com/PrintArticle/73043>

COMPARING ENDOFLIP DISTENSIBILITY INDEX TO THE EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS HISTOLOGY SCORING SYSTEM

The Eosinophilic Esophagitis Histology Scoring System (EoEHSS) is used to diagnose and characterize eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE)

Distensibility index at the 30 mL setting measured by EndoFLIP correlated with EoEHSS subscores indicative of esophageal remodeling

EndoFLIP may complement EoEHSS in evaluation of EoE-associated esophageal remodeling, which may occur independent of eosinophilia



- Retrospective review
- 126 EGDs, biopsies, & EndoFLIP
- Patients grouped by normal/reactive, reflux, or EoE diagnoses



Almazan, et al. EndoFLIP distensibility index correlates with histologic findings in children with eosinophilic esophagitis. *J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr.* (2025)

JPGN
Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition

JPGN 2025; 80: 824-831.

Adverse events are lower in unsedated transnasal esophagoscopy versus sedated esophagogastroduodenoscopy

Yeshai T. Dollin¹ | Jacob A. Mark^{1,2} | Rachel Andrews^{2,3} | Zhaoxing Pan^{3,4} |
Courtney Ort² | Robert E. Kramer^{1,2} | Nathalie Nguyen^{1,2,3} 

JPGN 2025; 81: 140-145.

- Retrospective review of AE data (over 7 yrs) within 72 hrs:
 - 10,023 sedated diagnostic upper endoscopies (EGD) on 7,786 patients
 - 927 unsedated transnasal endoscopies (TNE) on 492 patients

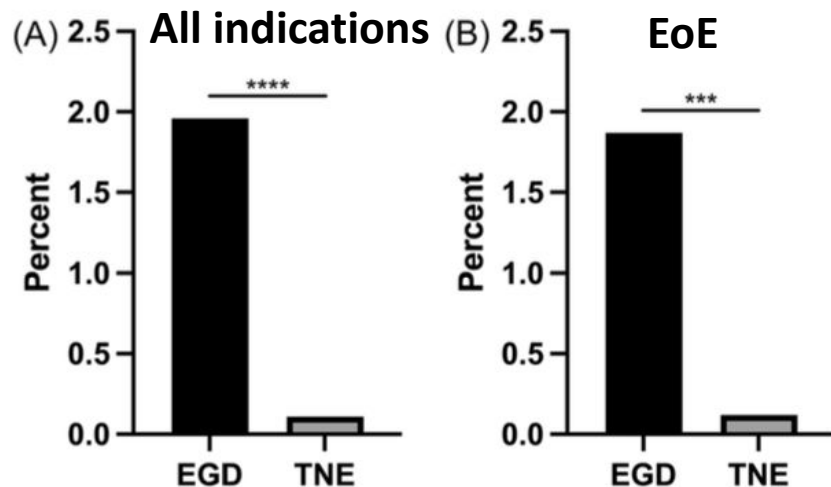


<https://gikids.org/tests-procedures/transnasal-endoscopy/>

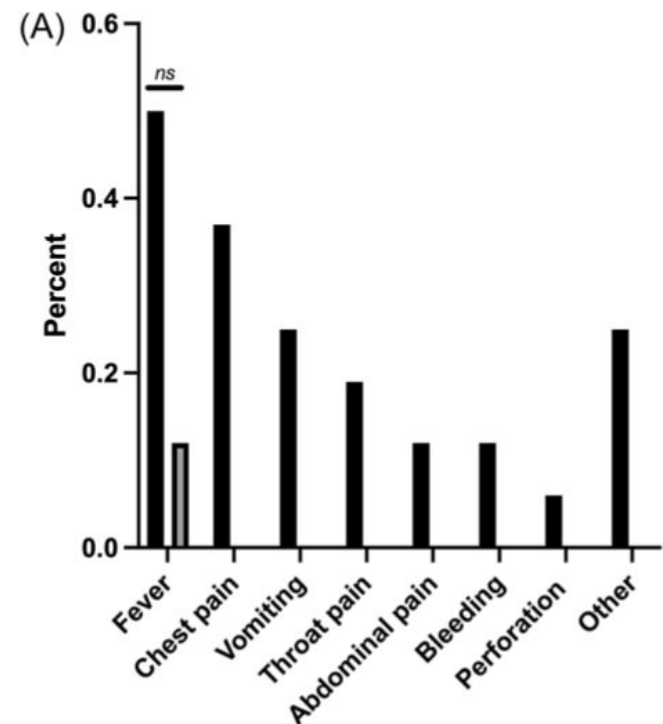
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JPGN 2025; 81: 140-145.



- Authors noted limitation of not reporting tolerability or incomplete procedures



The mouth or the nose: the past, present, and future of ultra-slim gastroscopy of the upper gastrointestinal tract in pediatrics

Paul Tran^{1*}, Rose Lee², Ali Mencin³, Matthew Ryan⁴,
Joel A. Friedlander⁵ and Michael A. Manfredi⁴

¹Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Phoenix Children's Hospital, Phoenix, AZ, United States, ²Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, The Medical College of Wisconsin, Wisconsin, WI, United States, ³Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, NY, United States, ⁴Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, United States, ⁵EvoEndo, Inc., Centennial, CO, United States

Frontiers in Pediatrics July 2025. Review article

Newly released GI Guidelines



North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition 2025 guidelines for management of cyclic vomiting syndrome in children



JPGN. 2025. 80: 1028-1061.

Katja Karrento¹  | John M. Rosen² | Sally E. Tarbell³ | Robert M. Issenman⁴ | Amy A. Gelfand⁵ | Heidi Gamboa⁶ | Sumit Parikh⁷ | Kathleen Adams⁸ | Wojtek Wiercioch⁹ | B U. K. Li¹

- Provides up-to-date recommendations from an expert panel on the management of cyclic vomiting
- Revision from the prior 2008 NASPGHAN consensus statement

Updated Practice Guidelines for Managing Pediatric Cyclic Vomiting Syndrome

Managing pediatric cyclic vomiting syndrome (CVS) has been challenging due to the lack of evidence-based treatment regimens



Multidisciplinary panel



Experts and a patient representative



Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation Evidence-to-Decision frameworks

Evidence-based guidelines for managing pediatric CVS

Highlights of 16 recommendations for abortive (acute) and prophylactic (preventive) interventions

Strong recommendation



Abortive CVS: Anti-migraine agents (triptans, NSAIDs) for patients with a personal or family history of migraine

Conditional recommendations

Abortive CVS



Early presentation for treatment



5-HT₃ and NK-1 receptor antagonists (oral/IV)

Prophylactic CVS



Prescribe supplements and avoid triggers



Utilize biobehavioral and neuromodulation interventions

Prophylactic pharmacological



β -blockers, NK-1 and 5-HT_{2A} receptor antagonists

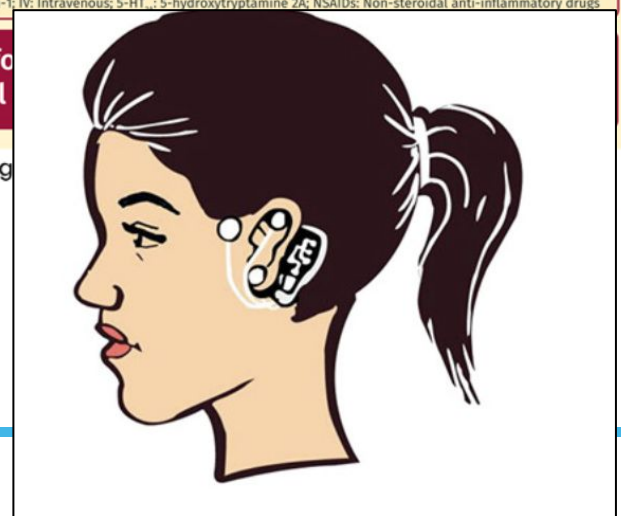


Tricyclic antidepressants for refractory cases

5-HT₃: 5-hydroxytryptamine 3; NK-1: Neurokinin-1; IV: Intravenous; 5-HT_{2A}: 5-hydroxytryptamine 2A; NSAIDs: Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

The updated evidence-based guidelines for pharmacological and non-pharmacological

Karrento, et al. North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition 2025 guidelines for management of cyclic vomiting syndrome in children. J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr. (2025)



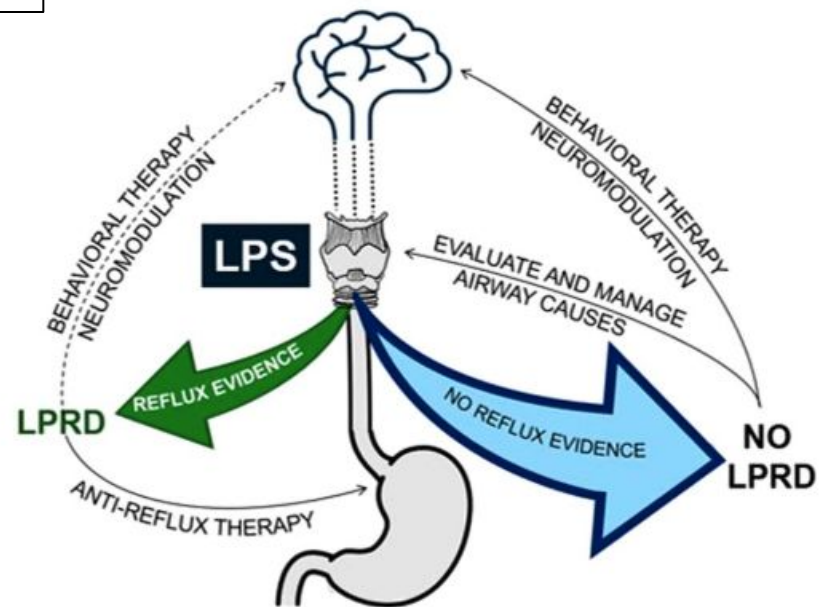
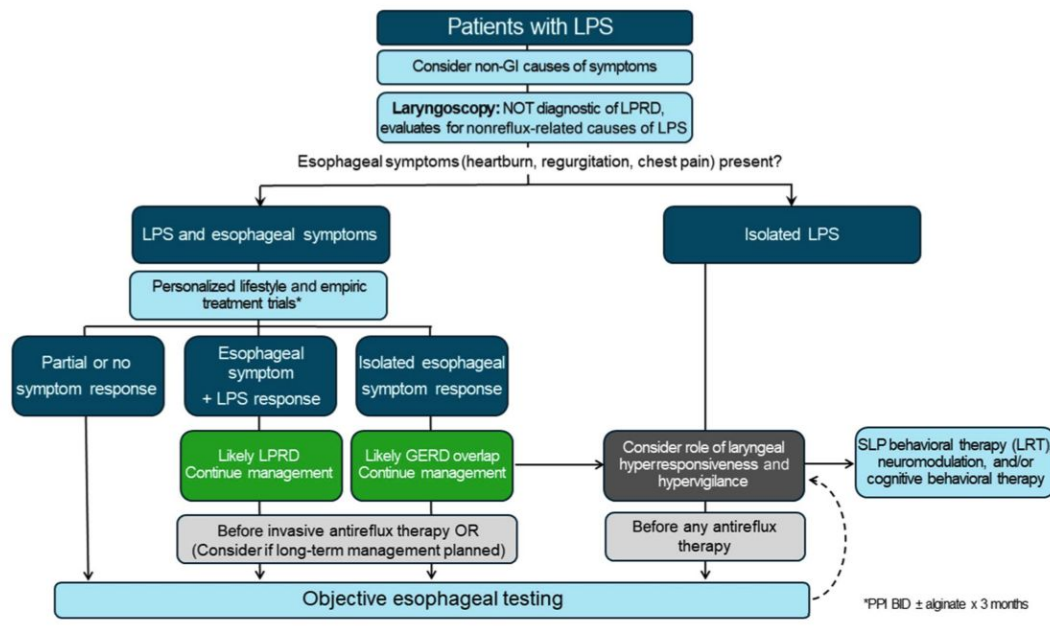
Boston Children's Hospital
Until every child is well™

The San Diego Consensus for Laryngopharyngeal Symptoms and Laryngopharyngeal Reflux Disease

Rena Yadlapati, MD, MS, MSHS, FACP¹, Philip Weissbrod, MD², Erin Walsh, CCC-SLP, IBCLC, BCS-S², Thomas L. Carroll, MD, PhD^{3,4}, Walter W. Chan, MD, MPH, FACP⁵, Jackie Gartner-Schmidt, PhD, CCC-SLP⁶, Livia Guadagnoli, PhD⁷, Marie Jette, PhD⁸, Jennifer C. Myers, PhD⁹, Ashli O'Rourke, MD, MS¹⁰, Rami Sweis, MD, PhD¹¹, Justin Wu, MD¹², Julie M. Barkmeier-Kraemer, PhD, CCC-SLP¹³, Daniel Cates, MD², Chien-Lin Chen, MD, PhD¹⁴, Enrique Coss-Adame, MD¹⁵, Gregory Dion, MD¹⁶, David Francis, MD, MS¹⁷, Mami Kaneko, PhD¹⁸, Jerome R. Lechien, MD, PhD, MS¹⁹, Stephanie Misono, MD²⁰, Anais Rameau, MD²¹, Sabine Roman, MD, PhD^{22,23,24}, Anne Vertigan, PhD^{25,26,27}, Yinglian Xiao, MD²⁸, Frank Zerbib, MD, PhD²⁹, Madeline Greytak, BA¹, John E. Pandolfino, MD, MS, MSCI, FACP⁶ and C. Prakash Gyawali, MD, FRCP, FACP³⁰

- LPS refer to chronic and frequent throat and upper airway
- Laryngoscopy is a necessary part of evaluation of LPS to assess for other nonreflux-related otolaryngologic processes including malignancy; however, LPRD cannot be diagnosed based on laryngoscopy findings alone.
- A diagnosis of LPRD requires chronic troublesome LPS and objective evidence supporting the relationship between symptoms and gastroesophageal reflux.
- The presence of LPS does not equate to LPRD.

American J Gastroenterol. April 2025.




American J Gastroenterol. April 2025.

Enteral Tube Feeding



Short-term and four-year feeding and respiratory outcomes of infants with micrognathia

Kuan-Chi Lai^{1,2} , Laura M. Walker³, Kevin Moran¹, Jordan W. Swanson⁴, Jesse A. Taylor⁴, Janet Liou¹ and Christopher M. Cielo⁵

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J Perinatology. 2025. 45: 1119-1128.

- Retrospective study
- 218 infants (<1yr age) admitted with congenital micrognathia
- Outcomes of micrognathia treatment (medically managed, mandibular distraction osteogenesis, or tracheostomy)
 - Longer term tube feeding needs
 - Whether a genetic syndrome was present

Admission

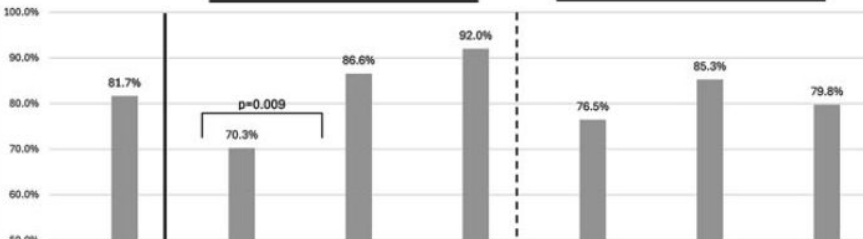
Discharge

Follow-up
(Median age 3.7yrs)

A Feeding Route at Admission

$p=0.008$

$p=0.420$

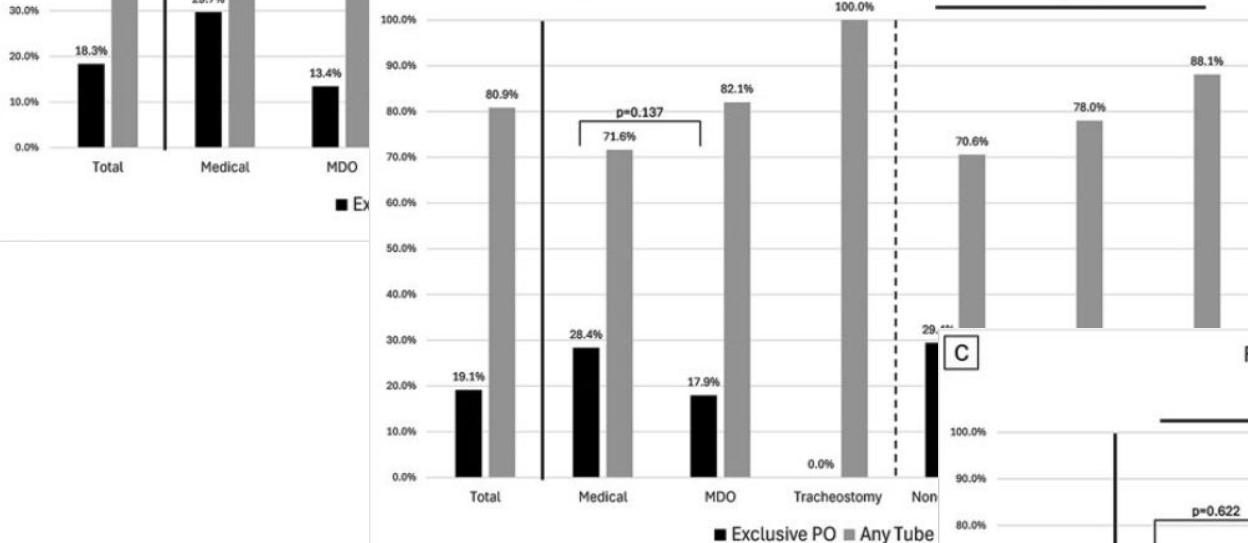


B

Feeding Route at Discharge

$p=0.004$

$p=0.055$

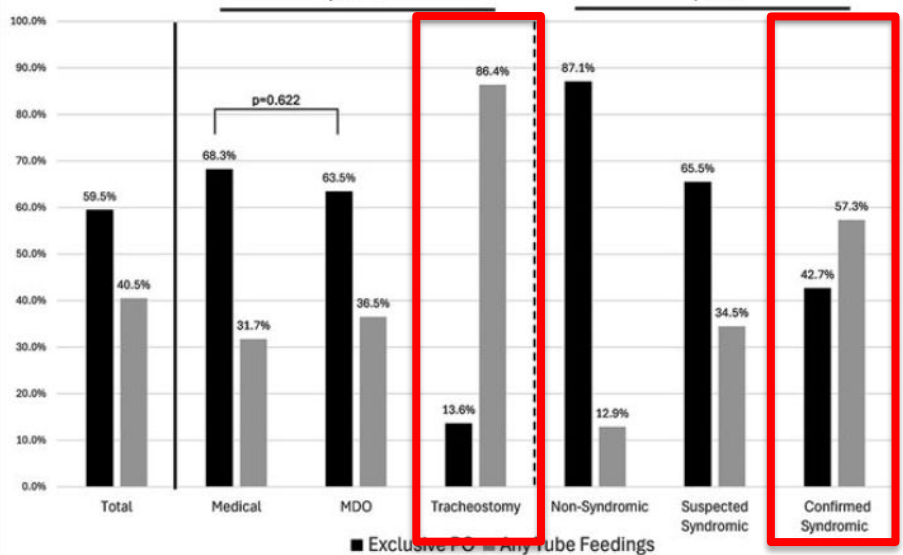


C

Feeding Route at Last Follow-Up

$p<0.001$

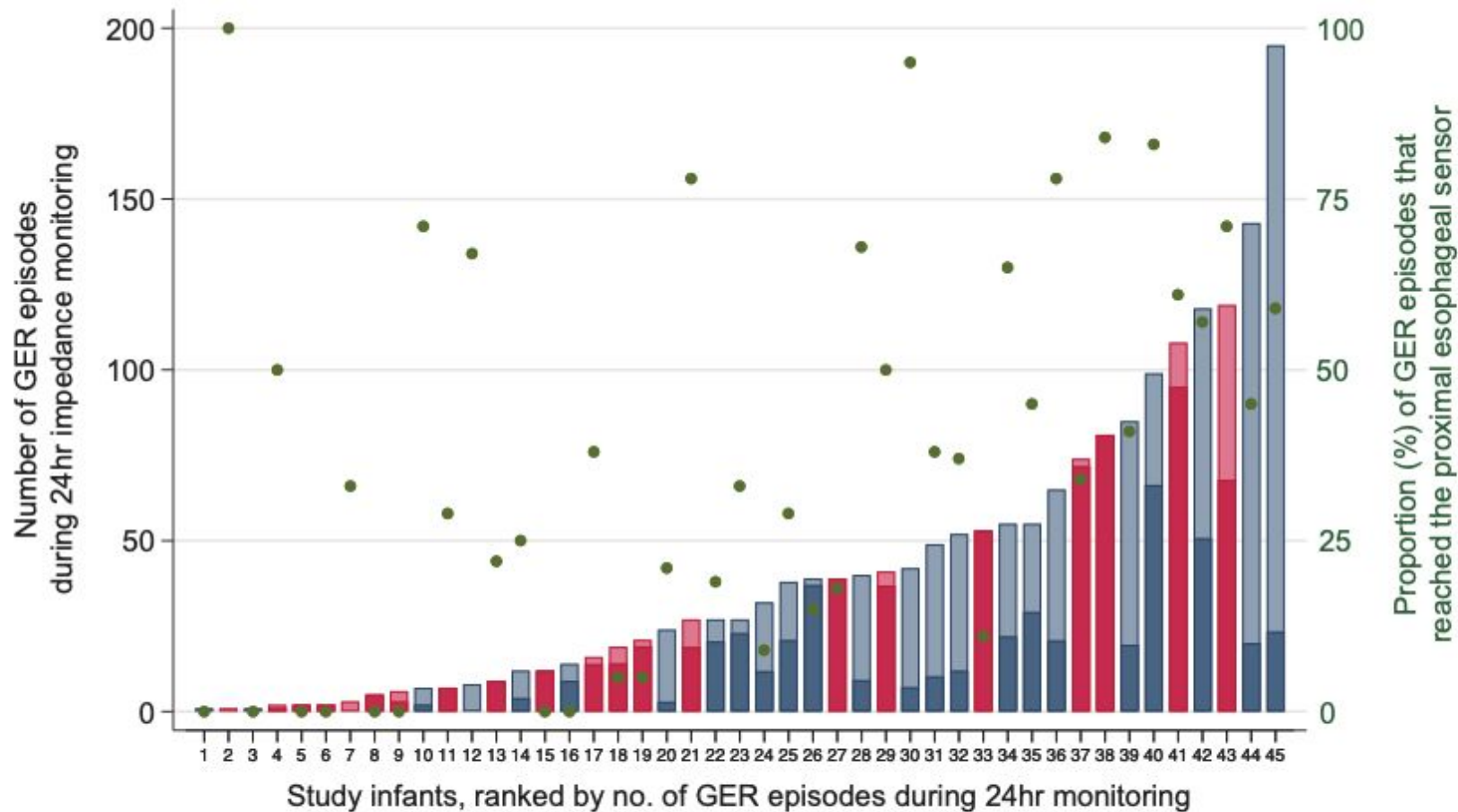
$p<0.001$



Gastroesophageal reflux during postpyloric versus gastric tube feeding in preterm infants with bronchopulmonary dysplasia


Erik A. Jensen ¹✉, Carolyn M. Orians¹, Kathleen Gibbs¹ and Matthew Ryan² *J Perinatol.* April 2025

- Prospective study
- 45 infants in NICU diagnosed with bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD) and enterally fed
 - 21 postpyloric
 - 24 gastric fed
- Compared pH-MII monitoring outcomes in infants postpyloric vs gastric fed



J Perinatol. April 2025


Gastroesophageal reflux during postpyloric versus gastric tube feeding in preterm infants with bronchopulmonary dysplasia

Erik A. Jensen¹ , Carolyn M. Orians¹, Kathleen Gibbs¹ and Matthew Ryan²

| Result | Gastric feeding (n = 24) | Postpyloric feeding (n = 21) | p-value ^a |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Impedance analysis | | | |
| Total no. reflux episodes, n | 40 (19–60) | 16 (5–41) | 0.07 |
| >70 reflux episodes, n (%) | 5 (20.8) | 4 (19.0) | 1.0 |
| >100 reflux episodes, n (%) | 3 (12.5) | 2 (9.5) | 1.0 |
| Proportion of reflux episodes reaching the proximal sensor, % | 40 (20–66) | 29 (5–50) | 0.28 |
| Time proximal sensor exposed to reflux, min | 0.77 (0.16–1.8) | 0.1 (0.005–0.6) | 0.045 |
| Proximal reflux index, % | 0.05 (0.01–0.12) | 0.007 (0.0003–0.04) | 0.04 |
| Proportion of impedance reflux episodes with pH < 4, % | 31 (16–54) | 91 (70–100) | <0.001 |
| pH probe analysis (pH < 4) | | | |
| Total no. of pH only episodes, n | 37 (14–59) | 55 (21–96) | 0.35 |
| Total reflux time, min | 45.5 (12.8–79.2) | 55.0 (27.2–101.4) | 0.39 |
| Acid reflux index, % | 2.9 (1.0–5.8) | 3.7 (1.9–7.2) | 0.29 |
| Acid reflux index >7%, n (%) | 4 (16.7) | 6 (28.6) | 0.48 |
| Acid reflux index >10%, n (%) | 4 (16.7) | 4 (19.0) | 1.0 |

J Perinatol. April 2025


Evaluating gastric emptying in pediatric patients with prior gastrostomy: A retrospective cohort study

Ryan Shargo¹  | Morgan Ekblad² | Jerry M. Brown³ | Jessica V. Baran³ |
Kimberly Fagan⁴ | Emily Coughlin¹ | Jamie Fierstein⁵ | Peter L. Lu⁶ |
Michael Wilsey^{1,7}

- Retrospective review
- 238 patients undergoing gastric emptying study (either liquid or solid)
- Compared patients:
 - Prior g-tube placement
 - No prior g-tube placement

JPGN. Aug 2025

Evaluating gastric emptying in pediatric patients with prior gastrostomy: A retrospective cohort study

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Michael Wilsey^{1,7}

No differences in gastric emptying between patients with prior g-tube placement (vs no prior g-tube)

TABLE 2 Outcomes by prior gastrostomy status.

| Variable | No prior gastrostomy (N = 179) | Prior gastrostomy (N = 59) | p-Value | N |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Positive diagnosis of gastroparesis | 38 (21.3%) | 10 (16.9%) | 0.466 | N = 237 |
| Presence of gastroesophageal reflux (positive) | 29 (16.7%) | 19 (32.8%) | 0.009 | N = 232 |
| GES T½ | 82.5 (42.1) | 85 (47) | 0.836 | N = 233 |
| % Gastric retention at 1 h | 66 (21) | 71 (28) | 0.721 | N = 227 |
| % Gastric retention 1.5 h | 51 (25) | 52.5 (17.5) | 0.932 | N = 193 |
| % Gastric retention 2 h | 46 (23.5) | 43.35 (34.75) | 0.130 | N = 118 |

Note: Median (IQR) values are reported. Cells highlighted in orange indicate statistical significance at $p < 0.05$.

Abbreviations: %, percent; GES, gastric emptying scintigraphy; IQR, interquartile range; T½, gastric half-emptying time.

JPGN. Aug 2025

Blenderized Feeds

- Ongoing hot area of GI research
 - Home blenderized feed or commercially food based blended formulas
- >10 new articles involving “blend” and “tube” and “children” in 2025 to date!



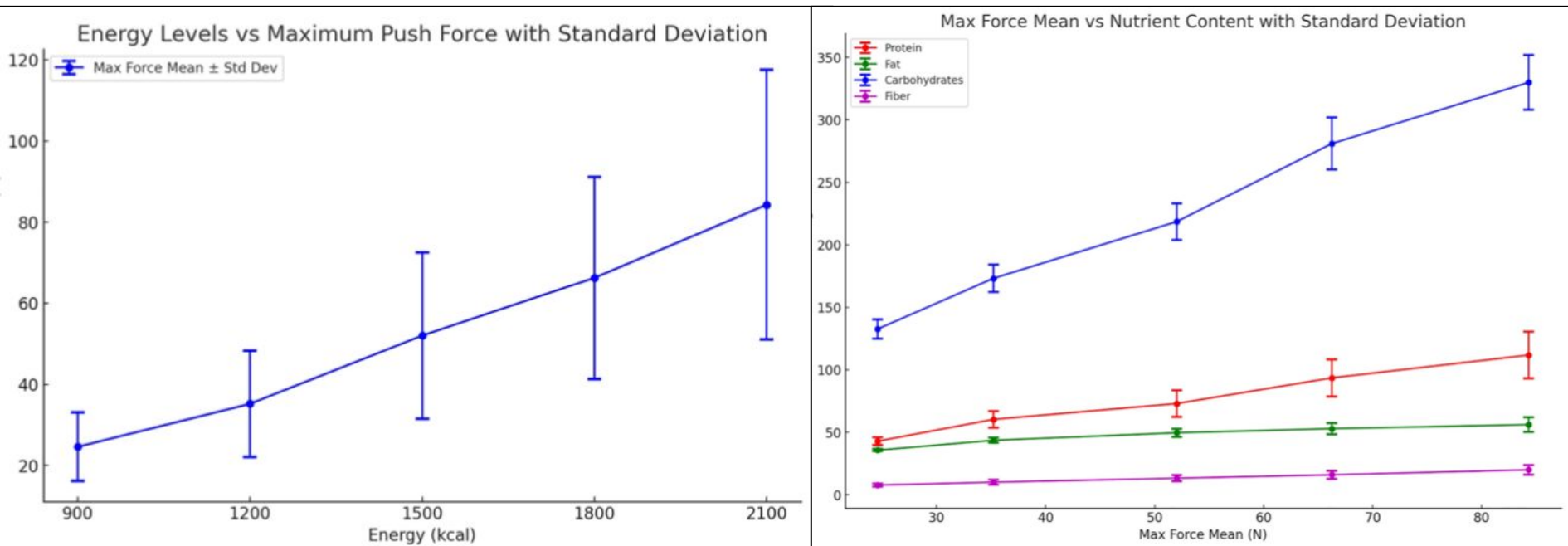
<https://gikids.org/featured/blenderized-tube-feeding/>

JPGN. Mar 2025; 80 (3): 501-509

Optimizing pureed diets via texture analysis: A study on the impact of different energy levels and ingredient ratios on nasogastric tube patency

Muxi Chen^{1,2}, Dongyu Mu¹, Yi Cheng¹, Lingli Zhang^{3,4}, Lei Shi¹, Yuan Liu^{1*}

PLOS One. Aug 2025: 1-19



Aero “Potpourri”



Recurrent croup



Esophageal pathology and the aerodigestive triple endoscopy for pediatric recurrent croup

Stephen Liangtjan Trisno^a, Michael Carver^b, Douglas Sidell^{c,d}, Seema Khan^{a,*}

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^d Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford Aerodigestive and Airway Reconstruction Center, Stanford, CA, USA

Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngol 2025. June: 193.

- Retrospective review of Aero center pts (Jan 2018- Oct 2024)
- 68 recurrent croup
 - 47 had dual or triple endoscopy
- 7 (14.8%) had EoE
- 9 (19.1%) had reflux esophagitis
- 1 (2.1%) had fungal esophagitis

All EoE pts had
GI symptoms
pre-procedure
and more
frequent h/o
food allergies

Esophageal pathology and the aerodigestive triple endoscopy for pediatric recurrent croup

Stephen Liangtjan Trisno^a, Michael Carver^b, Douglas Sidell^{c,d}, Seema Khan^{a,*}

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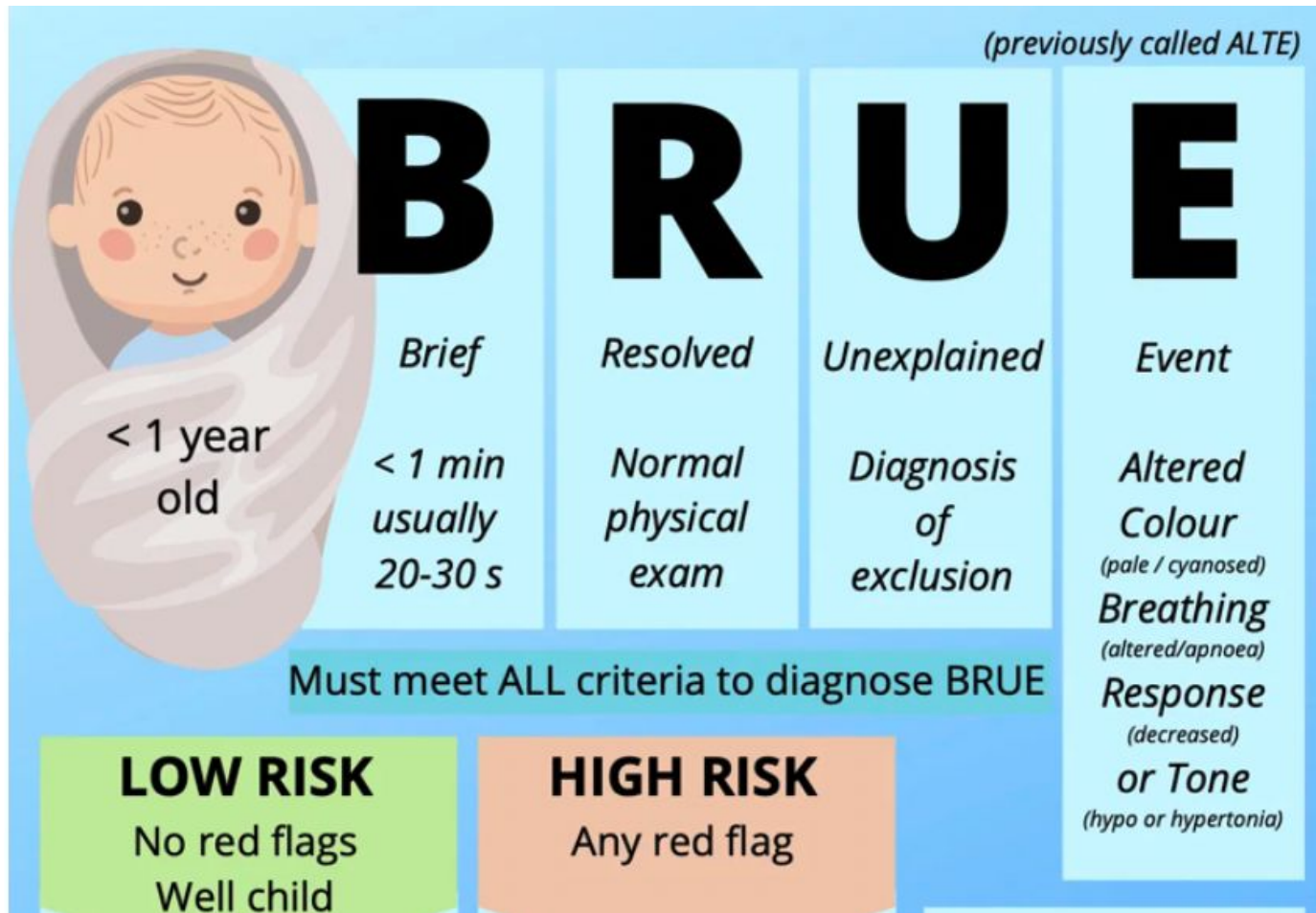
Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngol 2025. June: 193.

Results of airway portion of aerodigestive evaluation.

| Characteristic | Overall N = 47 ^a | No Esophageal disease N = 30 ^a | Other Esophageal disease N = 10 ^a | EoE N = 7 ^a | p-value ^b |
|--|-----------------------------|---|--|------------------------|----------------------|
| Abnormal MDLB | 39 (83 %) | 26 (87 %) | 7 (70 %) | 6 (86 %) | 0.5 |
| Abnormal FB | 34 (81 %) | 21 (75 %) | 8 (89 %) | 4 (80 %) | >0.9 |
| No FB performed | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | |
| Tonsillar/Adenoid hypertrophy ^c | 15 (32 %) | 10 (33 %) | 3 (30 %) | 2 (29 %) | >0.9 |
| Glossoptosis ^c | 10 (21 %) | 7 (23 %) | 0 (0 %) | 3 (43 %) | 0.078 |
| Interarytenoid notch | 12 (26 %) | 8 (27 %) | 3 (30 %) | 1 (14 %) | 0.8 |
| Laryngeal cleft | 4 (8.5 %) | 3 (10 %) | 0 (0 %) | 1 (14 %) | 0.6 |
| Laryngeal web | 1 (2.1 %) | 1 (3.3 %) | 0 (0 %) | 0 (0 %) | >0.9 |
| Subglottic cysts | 3 (6.4 %) | 2 (6.7 %) | 1 (10 %) | 0 (0 %) | >0.9 |
| Subglottic stenosis | 1 (2.1 %) | 0 (0 %) | 1 (10 %) | 0 (0 %) | 0.4 |
| Subglottic shelves | 7 (15 %) | 4 (13 %) | 1 (10 %) | 2 (29 %) | 0.5 |
| Laryngomalacia | 6 (13 %) | 3 (10 %) | 1 (10 %) | 2 (29 %) | 0.4 |
| Tracheo/bronchomalacia | 12 (26 %) | 8 (27 %) | 2 (20 %) | 2 (29 %) | >0.9 |
| Tracheal compression from artery | 9 (19 %) | 3 (10 %) | 1 (10 %) | 5 (71 %) | 0.003 |
| Vascular ring | 1 (2.1 %) | 0 (0 %) | 1 (10 %) | 0 (0 %) | 0.4 |
| Glottic/Subglottic inflammation | 6 (13 %) | 3 (10 %) | 1 (10 %) | 2 (29 %) | 0.4 |
| Tracheal/bronchial inflammation | 23 (49 %) | 15 (50 %) | 5 (50 %) | 3 (43 %) | >0.9 |
| Pouch from TEF repair | 1 (2.1 %) | 1 (3.3 %) | 0 (0 %) | 0 (0 %) | >0.9 |

TEF (tracheoesophageal fistula).

BRUE



<https://www.peminfographics.com/infographics/brue>



Outcomes for infants with BRUE diagnosed with oropharyngeal dysphagia or gastroesophageal reflux disease: a multicenter study from the Pediatric Health Information System Database

Daniel R. Duncan^{1,2}  • Enju Liu^{2,3} • Clare Golden¹ • Amanda S. Growdon^{2,4} • Dionne A. Graham^{2,4} • Christopher P. Landrigan^{2,4,5} • Rachel L. Rosen^{1,2}

Eur J Pediatr 2025. Jan: 184 (2): 134.

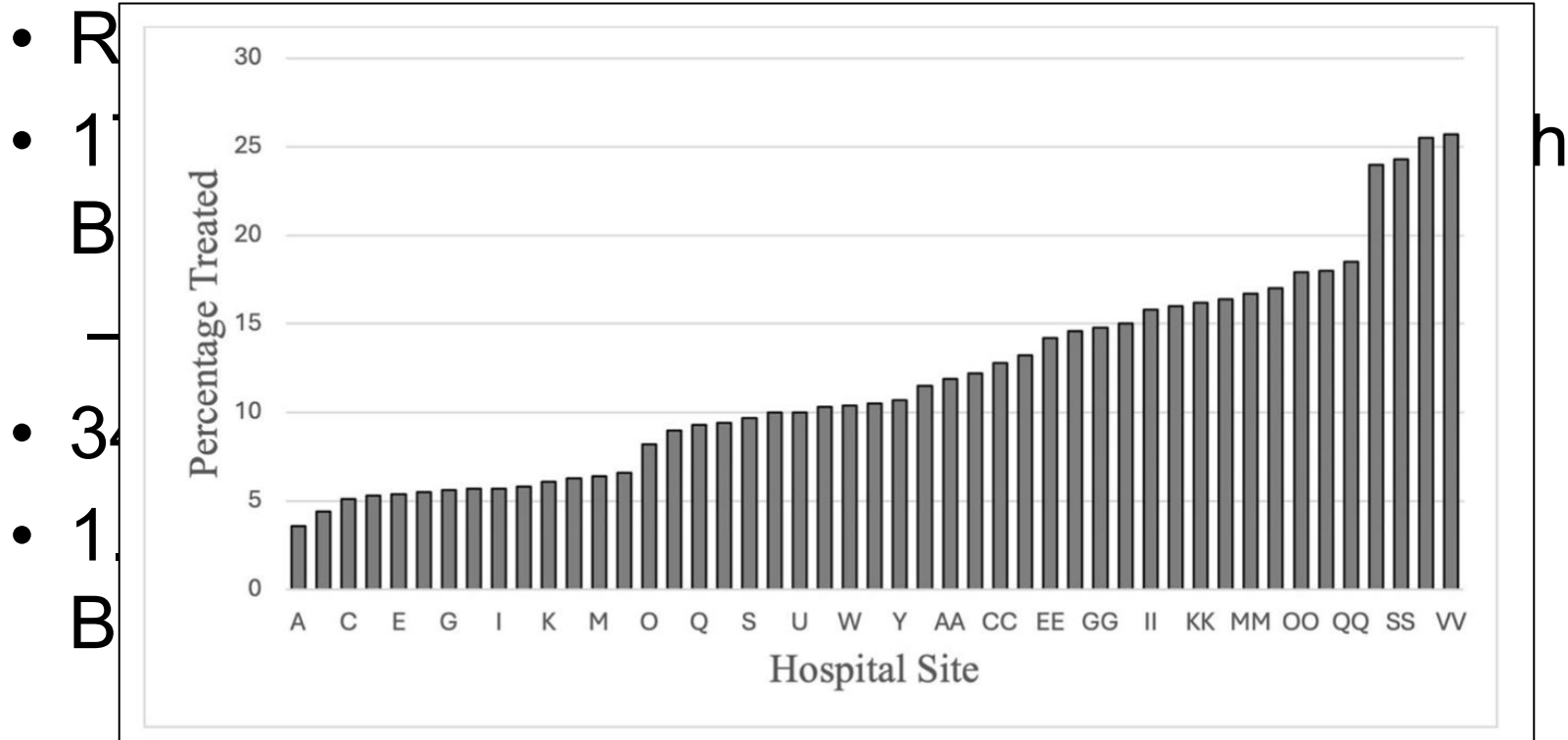


Table 4 Association between patient demographic and clinical characteristics and repeat hospital visit within 6 months of initial encounter for BRUE

| | <i>n/N</i> ^{##} | Univariable | | Multivariable [#] | |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| | | Odds ratio (95% CI) | <i>p</i> value | Odds ratio (95% CI) | <i>p</i> value |
| Sex | | | | | |
| Male | 820/8454 | 1.00 | | 1.00 | |
| Female | 861/9104 | 0.97 (0.88–1.08) | 0.59 | 0.97(0.88–1.08) | 0.60 |
| Age | 1681/17,558 | 0.98 (0.96–1.01) | 0.14 | 0.98 (0.95–1.00) | 0.07 |
| History of prematurity | 171/1138 | 1.75 (1.47–2.07) | <0.001 | 1.46 (1.22–1.75) | <0.001 |
| ICU admission | 100/1090 | 0.95 (0.77–1.18) | 0.64 | | |
| Length of stay | | | | | |
| 1 night | 1040/12,860 | 1.00 | | | |
| 2 nights | 367/2995 | 1.59 (1.40–1.80) | <0.001 | 1.33 (1.16, 1.51) | <0.001 |
| ≥ 3 nights | 274/1703 | 2.18 (1.89–2.52) | <0.001 | 1.39 (1.19, 1.64) | <0.001 |
| Feeding consult | 467/2989 | 2.04 (1.82–2.29) | <0.001 | 1.36 (1.20, 1.56) | <0.001 |
| GI consult | 7/42 | 1.89 (0.84–4.27) | 0.12 | | |
| Impedance study obtained | 27/172 | 1.77 (1.17–2.68) | 0.007 | 0.85 (0.55, 1.33) | 0.48 |
| VFSS obtained | 101/413 | 3.19 (2.53–4.01) | <0.001 | 1.23 (0.94, 1.61) | 0.13 |
| H2RA treatment | 385/1734 | 3.20 (2.82–3.63) | <0.001 | 2.08 (1.80, 2.40) | <0.001 |
| PPI treatment | 137/563 | 3.22(2.64–3.93) | <0.001 | 1.88 (1.51, 2.34) | <0.001 |
| Explanatory diagnosis of gastroesophageal reflux disease | 878/5933 | 2.34 (2.12–2.59) | <0.001 | 1.66 (1.48, 1.86) | <0.001 |
| Explanatory diagnosis of oropharyngeal dysphagia | 72/238 | 4.24 (3.20–5.61) | <0.001 | 2.13 (1.55, 2.91) | <0.001 |

[#]Age, sex, and variables with *p* < 0.05 in univariate analysis were entered into the final multivariable model

^{##} Small *n*'s represent the number of patients with the outcome and capital *N*'s represent the number of patients with the characteristics listed in the row


Eur J Pediatr 2025. Jan: 184 (2): 134.

A prospective study of diagnostic testing and hospital charges after brief resolved unexplained event

Daniel R. Duncan¹  | Clare Golden¹ | Kara Larson¹ | Amanda S. Growdon² | Enju Liu³

JPGN. 2025. 80 (4): 62-632.

What are the Key Drivers of Hospital Charges after Brief Resolved Unexplained Event (BRUE)?

Prospective cohort study of 155  with BRUE



Limited prospective data on hospital care provided to infants after BRUE



Goal to determine how current clinical practice impacts cost



Mean hospitalization charges \$18k




Average infant gets 2.7 tests but <10% contribute to diagnosis



76% with persistent symptoms and 15% repeat hospital visit

Key Findings



Videofluoroscopic swallow study  yield of testing with 70% abnormal



Primary drivers of charges: low-yield testing, length of stay, repeat hospital visit

Duncan, et al. A prospective study of diagnostic testing and hospital charges after brief resolved unexplained event. *J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr*. (2025)

JPGN
Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition

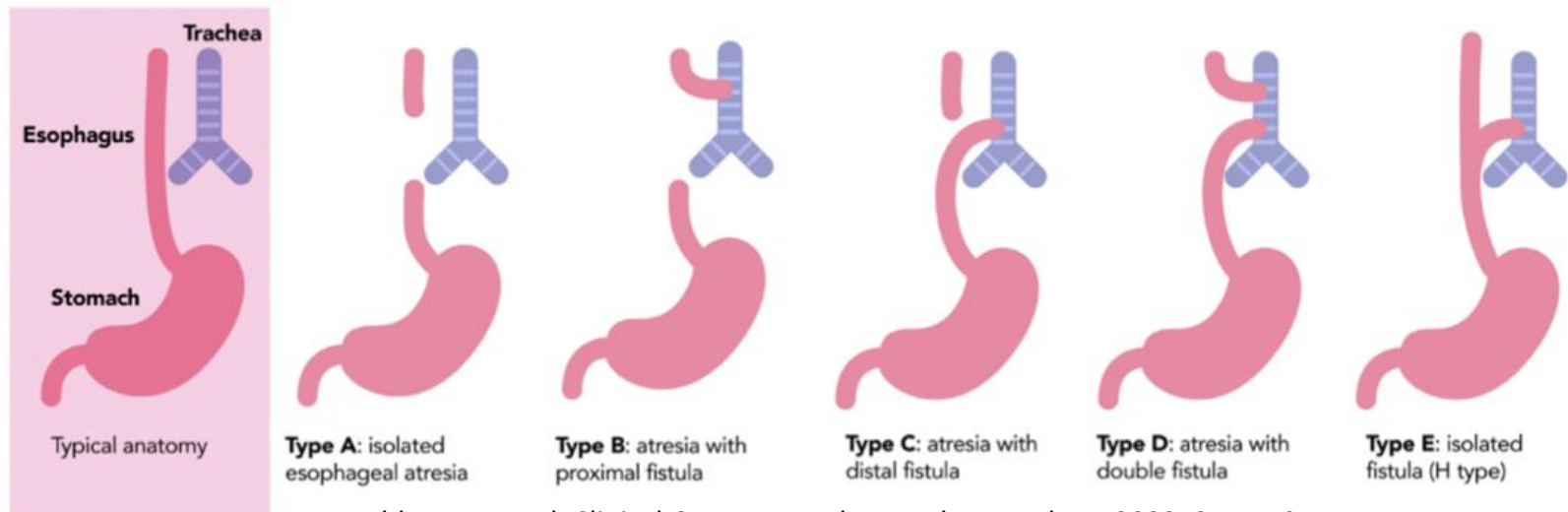


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Esophageal Atresia



Khlevner J et al. Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology. 2023; 21: 15-25.

The prevalence of iron deficiency in pediatric esophageal atresia

Kelly Kiremidjian^{1,2}  | Steven J. Staffa³ | Denis Chang¹ |
Michael Manfredi⁴ | Jessica L. Yasuda¹ 

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²School of Medicine, University of Connecticut, Farmington, Connecticut, USA

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JPGN. July 2025.

- Higher risk population due to poor feeding and often need for chronic antacid use
- Cross-sectional review
- 110 children with EA (ages 12-71 mos)
- To assess the prevalence of iron deficiency and iron deficiency anemia vs NHANES data

| Outcome | Our cohort <i>n</i> = 110 | General population <i>n</i> = 1437 | <i>p</i> -Value |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Iron deficiency | 30.9% (95% CI: 22.4%, 40.4%) | 7.1% (95% CI: 5.8%, 8.6%) | <0.001* |
| IDA | 15.5% (95% CI: 9.3%, 23.6%) | 1.1% (95% CI: 0.6%, 1.8%) | <0.001* |

Note: Prevalence of iron deficiency and IDA in esophageal atresia patients compared to general pediatric population data acquired from the National Health and Examination survey (NHANES) 2007–2010.^{4,5}

p-Values were calculated using a two sample Z test for binomial populations.

Abbreviations: CI, confidence interval; IDA, iron deficiency anemia.

*Denote statistical significance.

No differences found based on age, weight, if on acid suppression (H2 blockers or PPI), presence of erosive esophagitis, or GT fed

JPGN. July 2025.

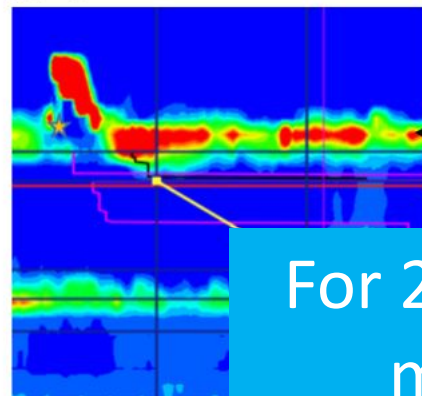
Distinct and reproducible esophageal motility patterns in children with esophageal atresia

Sharman P. Tan Tanny^{1,2,3}  | Assia Comella^{1,2,4}  | Lisa McCall⁵ |
John M. Hutson^{1,2,3}  | Sue Finch⁶ | Mark Safe¹ | Warwick J. Teague^{1,2,3} |
Taher I. Omari⁵  | Sebastian K. King^{1,2,3} 

JPGN. 2025.

- Prospective, longitudinal study
- 75 pts < 18 yrs with EA who had high-resolution impedance manometry
 - 133 HRIM studies performed over time
 - Caregivers completed a validated dysphagia questionnaire at time of manometry
- Comparisons if manometry was done pre- and post- esophageal dilation

(A) Aperistalsis



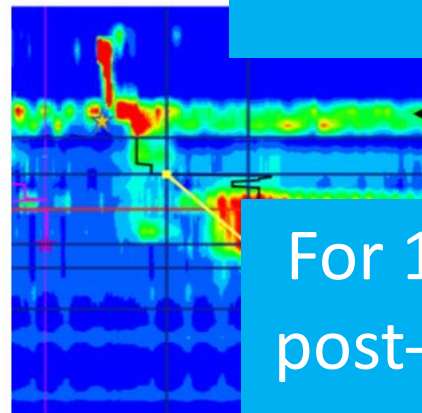
★ Swallow onset

Upper esophageal sphincter

26/72 (36.1%)

For 26/38 (68.4%) patients with repeat testing, motility patterns remained consistent & dysphagia scores unchanged

(B) Distal Contraction



★ Swallow onset

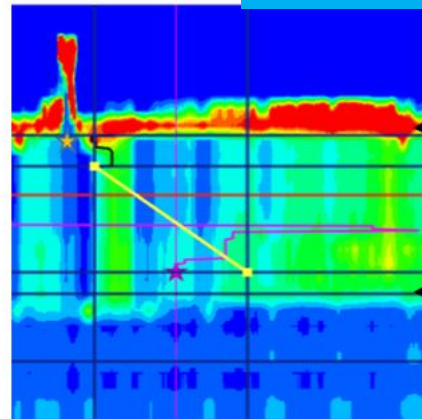
Upper esophageal sphincter

25/72 (34.7%)

2/72 (2.8%)

For 14/17 patients (82.4%) with testing pre-and post-dilation, the dominant motility pattern also unchanged

(C) Pressurization



★ Swallow onset

Upper esophageal sphincter

Lower esophageal sphincter

6/72 (8.3%)

JPGN. 2025.



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The Future!



<https://pg-p.ctme.caltech.edu/blog/ai-ml/the-future-of-ai-a-comprehensive-guide>



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Parental education in pediatric dysphagia: A comparative analysis of three large language models

Bülent Alyanak¹  | Burak Tayyip Dede² | Fatih Bağcier³ |
Mazlum Serdar Akaltun⁴

JPGN. 2025. 81: 18-26

- Assessment of the accuracy, reliability, and readability of 3 major chatbots available on-line offering parental advice on pediatric dysphagia:
 - CHatGPT (OpenAI)
 - Copilot (Microsoft)
 - Gemini (Google)

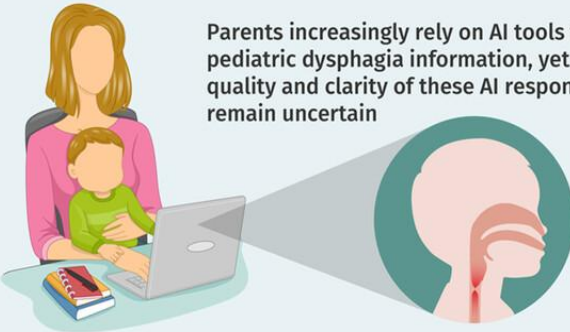
TABLE 1 LLMs' response accuracy evaluated on a Likert scale.

| Questions | ChatGPT-4 Months | | | Copilot Months | | | Gemini Months | | |
|---|---------------------|-----|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|------------------|-----|-----|
| | Aug | Sep | Oct | Aug | Sep | Oct | Aug | Sep | Oct |
| 1 Why do babies have difficulty swallowing? | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 2 What are the symptoms of dysphagia in babies? | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 3 What causes dysphagia in children? | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 4 How to recognize dysphagia in children? | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| 5 Is difficulty sucking dysphagia? | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| 6 How to feed a baby with dysphagia? | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 7 What should a child with dysphagia eat? | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 8 What should be the nutrition program for children with dysphagia? | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 9 Can a child with pediatric dysphagia eat solid foods? | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 10 Are dysphagia and milk allergy related? | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 11 Does dysphagia cause failure to gain weight? | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 12 Are dysphagia and reflux related? | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 13 Does the pediatrician take care of dysphagia? | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 14 How is dysphagia diagnosed? | 5 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 15 Which doctor should I see for dysphagia? | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 16 What tests are performed for dysphagia? | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 17 What are the tools used in the treatment of dysphagia? | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 18 How long does dysphagia last in babies? | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| 19 How to treat dysphagia in babies? | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 20 How long does it take to treat dysphagia in children? | 5 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 21 Can a child with dysphagia go to school? | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| 22 Can a child with dysphagia play sports? | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 23 What is the role of families in the treatment of dysphagia? | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 24 Is there a link between premature birth and dysphagia? | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| 25 What is important to know about dysphagia? | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |



Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools for Parental Education in Pediatric Dysphagia: A Comparative Analysis

Parents increasingly rely on AI tools for pediatric dysphagia information, yet the quality and clarity of these AI responses remain uncertain



25 frequently asked questions on pediatric dysphagia (Google Trends) → LLMs tested: ChatGPT-4, Copilot, and Gemini

Evaluations

- Accuracy: 5-point Likert scale
- Reliability: EQIP and DISCERN scales
- Readability: FKGL scores and FRE scores

LLMs: Large language models; EQIP: Ensuring quality information for patients; FKGL: Flesch-Kincaid grade level; FRE: Flesch reading ease; DISCERN: Determining information sources critically evaluated, related to new and evolving issues or non-evidence-based new information



August–October 2024



Expert review and assessment

| Evaluation metric ($p < 0.05$) | ChatGPT-4 | Copilot | Gemini |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Accuracy | 4.1 ± 0.7 (best) | 3.1 ± 0.7 | 3.8 ± 0.8 |
| Reliability | High | Lower | High |
| Readability | Moderate | Moderate | Best |

ChatGPT-4 leads in accuracy and reliability, while Gemini excels in readability. AI tools can help educate parents, but refinement is essential for improved quality and safe use

Alyanak, et al. Parental education in pediatric dysphagia: A comparative analysis of three large language models. J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr. (2025)

JPGN
Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition

JPGN. 2025. 81: 18-26

My Aero ChatGPT inquiry

what's new in pediatric aerodigestive disorders in the last year

In Summary

This past year has seen meaningful progress across diagnostics, AI, imaging, pharmacotherapy, and care delivery for pediatric aerodigestive disorders. Are you interested in diving deeper into any specific area—such as AI diagnostics, feeding programs in your region, or medication management?

Let me know, and I'd be happy to explore further!



Thank you!

