

1 Ingestion of Coins in Children in Pediatric Intensive Care Unit: 2 Our Experience in Emergency Care at EHU Oran

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5

6 **Abstract**

7 The ingestion of coins is an accident frequently encountered in children. In most cases, the
8 ingestion is asymptomatic but requires instrumental exploration. Aim: is to report the
9 experience of the pediatric resuscitation service in the management of these coins ingested at
10 the EHU Oran. Material-Methods: A prospective study from 01/01/2018 to 10/12/2019 was
11 performed in the pediatric resuscitation department. Any child who has ingested a coin is
12 referred to the ORL department for an endoscopic exploration.

13

14 **Index terms**— coin, child, digestive endoscopy.

15 **1 Introduction**

16 Ingestion of coins is an accidental situation frequently encountered in the pediatric population. In most cases, the
17 ingestion remains without clinical consequences and the extraction of the EC requires a rigid endoscopy.

18 **2 II.**

19 **3 Material -Methods**

20 We conducted a prospective study from 1/1/2018 to 10/12/2019. All children who have ingested a coin are referred
21 to the ORL service of EHU Oran, which calls the pediatric resuscitation anesthesia service for a instrumental
22 exploration, in an anesthetic environment. After having visualized the EC by a frontal and lateral cervical X-ray,
23 the children are then admitted to the emergency unit, after observing a fast before exploration and a consent
24 signed by the parents.

25 Sedation at the time of endoscopy is systematic in all children. Extraction is possible after halogenated
26 anesthesia with a facial mask, and sedation performed by injection of propofol 3 mg / kg, fentanyl 1 gamma/kg
27 (this attitude depends on the experience of the operator. The material used is a laryngoscope rigid, claw clips,
28 "crocodile" clips.

29 If endoscopic exploration does not visualize a foreign body, an uninhabited abdominal x-ray (ASP) is performed
30 in the recovery room.

31 The explored children are monitored 2 hours after the digestive endoscopy and then redirected to the ORL
32 department.

33 **4 III.**

34 **5 Results**

35 In one year we collected 35 cases of coin ingestion. Our children are divided into 19 boys (54,28%) and 16 girls
36 (45,7%).

37 The average age of the children is 25 months (extreme 7 months-120 months), with a peakage frequency
38 observed at 36 months and 5 years (fig. 1). Ingestion was asymptomatic in 30 cases. It was followed by a hyper
39 sialorrhea in 01 cases, a swallowing gene with vomiting in 2 cases and dysphagia in 2 cases.

40 **6 I**

41 The clinical examination was unremarkable in all children.

42 Front and side cervical radiography visualized the presence of a foreign body (coin) at the upper part of the
43 esophagus in 28 children (80%), at the middle part of the esophagus in 05 cases (14, 2%) and twice the foreign
44 body was in the distal esophagus. (Fig. 2 The part was extracted on the 1 st attempt in 80.6%, on the second
45 attempt in 11.3% and on the third attempt in 1.6% of the remaining cases. The median extraction time for
46 the coin was 1 minute, ranging from 35 to 80 seconds, the median duration of sedation was 10 minutes. No
47 complications related to endoscopic treatment were observed. Or even the anesthetic act. All the children were
48 monitored for 02 hours in the recovery room and redirected to the ENT service. The children whose EC was
49 viewed at the ASP had benefited from the control ASPs performed at the ENT service, remotely from the acute
50 episode and which showed the progression of the EC along the digestive tract until its expulsion by natural way.

51 **7 Discussion**

52 The ingestion of coins is a frequent accident in children, with banal clinical consequences [1] and easily removed
53 by endoscopy. [2] The coins represent the foreign body (CE) most often encountered in children. ??3 -4] with a
54 peak frequency between 6 months and 6 years old ??3.5]. In a series that analyzed 320 esophageal CEs, they were
55 coins in 83.8%. Ingestion occurred when children played in the presence of an adult in 85.3% of cases [6]. Almost
56 all of the ingestion in children under the age of 5 did not go unnoticed in our study. 76% of our children were
57 asymptomatic on admission, there was no significant difference between room size and clinical sign on admission
58 (p = 0.478).

59 The passage of CE of less than 2 cm in diameter is generally easy through the esophagus. On the other hand,
60 CE of 2 cm in diameter can be more easily impacted during their progression in the digestive tract with a risk of
61 obstruction and perforation which is then increased, which justifies their endoscopic extraction. Other blocking
62 sites are the pylorus, duodenum, Treitz angle, Meckel's diverticulum, ileocecal valve, appendix and recto-sigmoid
63 hinge. The EC located at the upper third and at the middle third of the esophagus must be removed as soon
64 as possible, because they are blocked, either at the cricopharyngeal ring or at the aortic arch, which are areas
65 at risk of complications. ??1] [6] In the event of a delayed diagnosis, several complications can arise such as:
66 esophageal ulcer, esophageal stenosis [7], esotracheal fistula [8].

67 The most frequent location (95%) is the cervical esophagus under the cricopharyngeal muscle [9,10], it was
68 observed in 81% in our study, and justifies instrumental extraction. Several attitudes have been described in the
69 literature to allow this extraction. This is the use of the Magill forceps [11][12][13], the use of the Foley probe
70 [14,15], flexible [16] or rigid esophagoscopy [17]. A review article discussed the management of coin ingestion
71 (published by Waltzman) [2] based on a retrospective study and a prospective randomized trial. With the use of
72 rigid esophagoscopy in symptomatic patients, On the other hand, children with localized EC of the lower third
73 can be monitored for 12 to 24 hours in the absence of functional signs, in the hope of expulsion which may prevent
74 the need for general anesthesia.

75 In our current practice, digestive endoscopy was performed in 100% of the cases. It is a digestive endoscopy
76 with a rigid tube due to the lack of availability of the flexible pediatric endoscope. And no complications
77 secondary to the endoscopic procedure were noted. Same technical procedure used by J.R. Benito Navarro et al.
78 [19]. However, it is important to remember that esophagoscopy, whether flexible or rigid, is associated with a
79 risk of esophageal perforation during the procedure evaluated between 5 and 10%.

80 As for the anesthetic protocol our attitude depends on the experienced operator or little, so the extraction
81 procedure was performed without intubation, under anesthesia sevoflurane, and in 20% of cases associated with
82 the injection of propofol spontaneous ventilation. This extraction was 100% successful. In the Cetinkursun et al
83 [12] series, the extraction was performed without intubation under sedation inhaled with sevoflurane. Similarly
84 in the series of Baralcoll [18], extraction was done in 21 children sedated by propofol in spontaneous ventilation
85 and without tracheal intubation. Janik E et al [13] mentioned the risk of respiratory complications in the absence
86 of tracheal intubation. Nevertheless, in our series, strictly respecting the rules of preoperative fasting, and as
87 elsewhere, laryngospasm or desaturation have not been recorded as in the literature Cetinkursun S, et al [12].

88 The post-exploration suites were favorable, the children are monitored for 2 hours post-exploration, then
89 handed over to the parents.

90 V.

91 **8 Conclusion**

92 The ingestion of coins is a frequent accident in children and the diagnosis is most often evident by a cervical
93 x-ray. Endoscopic exploration is easy with halogenated anesthesia and propofol sedation, after respecting the
94 preoperative youngster. But like any accidental situation, prevention requires good education for parents and
95 young children. ¹



Figure 1:



Figure 2: Fig. 1 :



Figure 3: Fig. 2 :

96 .1 Conflict of interest

97 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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