

Evidence Discussion of (Neck 7.1)¹⁻¹⁰

Evaluation of Idiopathic Unilateral Vocal Fold Paralysis/Immobility

- Idiopathic unilateral vocal fold immobility is a diagnosis of exclusion. When it is noted that a vocal cord is immobile on laryngoscopy, the etiology must be sought. If it is not apparent on history and laryngoscopy, this work-up involves imaging the entire pathway of the motor nerve supply to the involved side of the larynx—from the brain to the superior mediastinum.
- Generally, CT imaging does not have a significant diagnostic yield in the evaluation of idiopathic unilateral vocal fold paralysis/immobility and otherwise unnecessarily exposes patients to radiation.

References

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