

Vocal Cord Palsy in Children With Cancer: A 10-Year Analysis of UK Pediatric Intensive Care Admissions.

[Capsomidis A¹](#), [Hall A](#), [Daya H](#), [Round J](#), [Lancaster D](#), [Bate J](#).

Abstract

Vocal cord palsy (VCP) is a rare but potentially life-threatening complication in children with cancer. This study reviews UK Intensive Care admissions for children with cancer and VCP using data obtained from the Pediatric Intensive Care Audit Network (PICANet) database. 26 children with cancer and VCP were admitted to intensive care from 2002 to 2012. The majority of admissions (23/26) required respiratory intervention (17 invasive ventilation, 8 noninvasive ventilation, and 5 tracheostomy). VCP should be considered early in children with cancer who present with signs of upper airway obstruction, especially in those receiving vinca-alkaloids as VCP is likely to be reversible.

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