

# Lingual Thyroid

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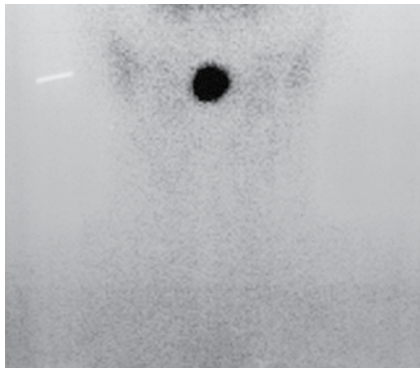
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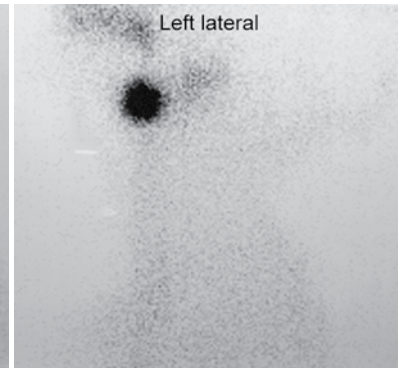
**Conflict of interest:** None



**Fig. 1:** Lingual thyroid at base of tongue



**Fig. 2:** <sup>99m</sup>Tc-pertechnetate scan: anterior view



**Fig. 3:** <sup>99m</sup>Tc-pertechnetate scan: lateral view

We report a case of a 12 years old girl referred to us with complaints of dysphagia, dysphonia and choking due to a growth over base of tongue. On examination, there was a pinkish, vascular, smooth surfaced growth on the base of tongue which was fixed to tongue (Fig. 1). Hormonal investigations were compatible with subclinical hypothyroidism TSH 8.7 mU/l, (0.4-5.0) and free T4 12.2 pmol/l (11.0-23.0). Antithyroid antibodies (antiperoxidase and antithyroglobulin) were negative. Thyroid ultrasound confirmed the

absence of orthotopic thyroid tissue. Cervical <sup>99m</sup>Tc-pertechnetate scan was consistent with the presence of functioning thyroid tissue located at the base of tongue (Figs 2 and 3). A diagnosis of lingual thyroid was made.

As the patient was young, medical treatment based on a thyroid suppression therapy with thyroxin in a dose of 75 µg was initiated. The lingual thyroid gland regressed in size and the patient is on follow-up since 2 years with no complaints.

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