

Presbyphonia & Hoarseness CASE STUDY

Provided by:

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Patient History:

A 67-year-old female patient presented with a primary complaint of vocal hoarseness following emergency heart surgery six years prior requiring intubation. In addition, age-related morphological changes to the larynx caused vocal fold bowing.

Testing:

A videostroboscopy test identified patterns of vocal fold movement, laryngeal function studies evaluated efficiency of voice and airflow, an oral motor assessment tested the movement of the muscles of the face and oral area, and acoustical perceptual properties described vocal attributes. Additionally, quality of life surveys determined the patient's perspective as it related to her well-being.



Videostroboscopy

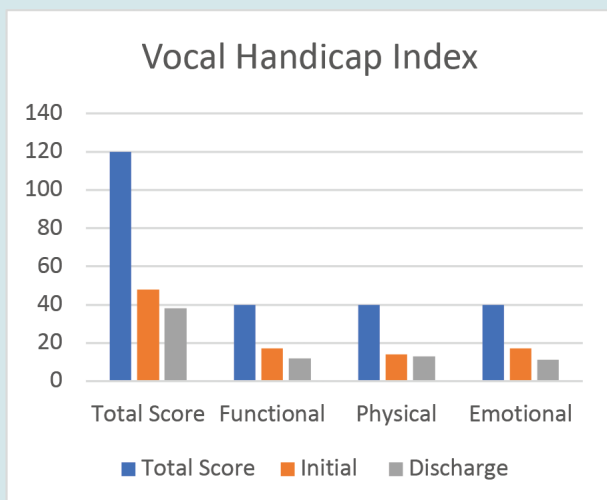
Incomplete closure of the vocal folds, caused by aging of the larynx (presbylarynx), decreased the efficiency of airflow.

Treatment:

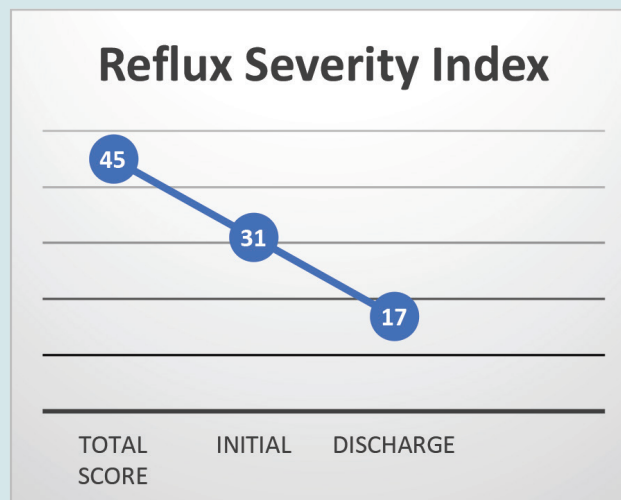
The patient was seen for seven treatment sessions focusing on vocal health, improving glottic efficiency, and vocal placement. This was achieved through education aimed at supporting healthy personal habits and voice use. Laryngeal relaxation targeted balancing the muscles of phonation and vocal placement trained the patient to resonate through the supraglottic vocal tract. A combination of treatment, home practice, and carry-over improved the patient's voice and helped her achieve a personal goal of playing her flute.

Results:

Pre and Post Quality of Life Surveys



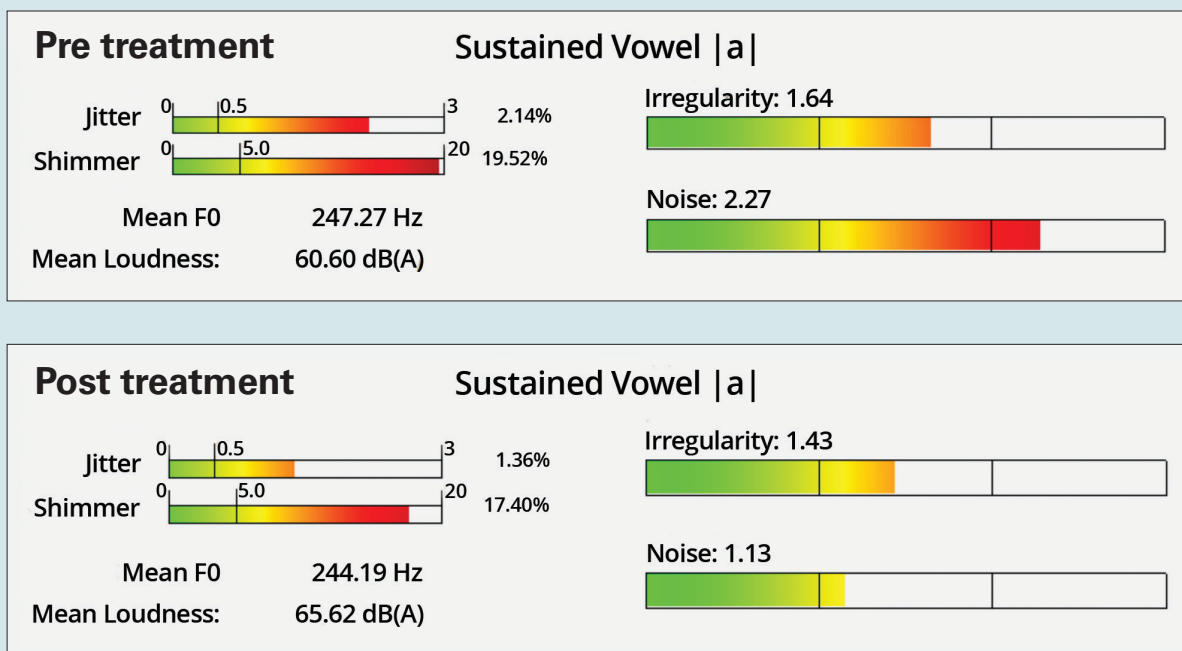
Reduced effects of voice change on everyday communication



Reduced reflux symptoms

Continued on reverse.

Laryngeal Function Studies:
Periodicity of vocal fold vibration (jitter), muscle tension (shimmer) and vocal turbulence (irregularity and noise) decreased.



ABOUT US

The Florida Center for Voice & Swallowing was established in order to offer state-of-the-art diagnosis, treatment, and management of voice problems. Our clinical staff has specialized training in the care of the professional and non-professional voice, and is dedicated to helping patients and interested persons understand more about voice function and health. Founding director Daniel A. Vincent, Jr., M.D. is a fellowship-trained Laryngologist and board certified Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) surgeon with expertise and experience in the treatment of a wide variety of problems that can affect the voice and the upper airway.

OUR PROVIDERS

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