

## An unusual pharyngeal pouch

T. MEEHAN, M.B., BCh. B.A.O., R. R. HENEIN, F.R.C.S. ED. (Wakefield)

### Abstract

The third case of a double pharyngeal pouch is reported. It was excised and the patient made an uneventful recovery.

### Introduction

This is the third reported case of a double pharyngeal pouch. Jesberg in 1954 described a pouch with a bilobed fundus and a single neck. The second reported case, by Stafford and Frootko in 1987, described two distinct sacs with two separate necks. The present case is that of a double sac with an intervening septum and two separate lumens (Fig. 1).

### Case report

A 56-year-old man presented with a 12 month history of dysphagia for solids. He also complained of regurgitation of food and of gurgling noises precipitated by swallowing. There was no evidence of any pulmonary complications. A barium swallow revealed a double posterior diverticulum (Figs. 2 & 3). Endoscopy performed prior to excision showed three distinct orifices set in a triangular fashion, with the uppermost being the oesophageal lumen and the lower two, the separate orifices of the pouches.

The diverticulum was excised and the oesophagus repaired using a stapling gun. A cricopharyngeal myotomy was performed. The following day oral feeding was recommenced and he made a rapid and uneventful recovery.

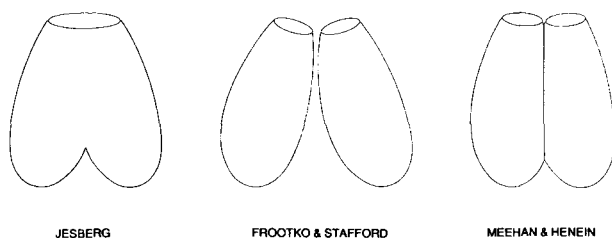


FIG. 1

Unusual pharyngeal pouches.

### Discussion

To date three distinctive varieties of double pharyngeal pouch have been described. Jesberg (1954) described a bilobed pouch with a single opening. The lateral view of the barium swallow showed one sac. Stafford and Frootko (1987) described two distinct separate pouches with two necks. The lateral view of the barium swallow showed separation of the two pouches up to the level of their necks. In the present case the lateral view fails to show two sacs but endoscopy showed two separate necks leading to a double pouch with a dividing mid-line septum as is demonstrated in the barium swallow antero-posterior projection.

### Acknowledgements

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### References

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Address for correspondence:  
Mr R. R. Henein, F.R.C.S.,  
Department of Otolaryngology,  
Clayton Hospital,  
Northgate,  
Wakefield,  
W. Yorkshire WF1 3JS.

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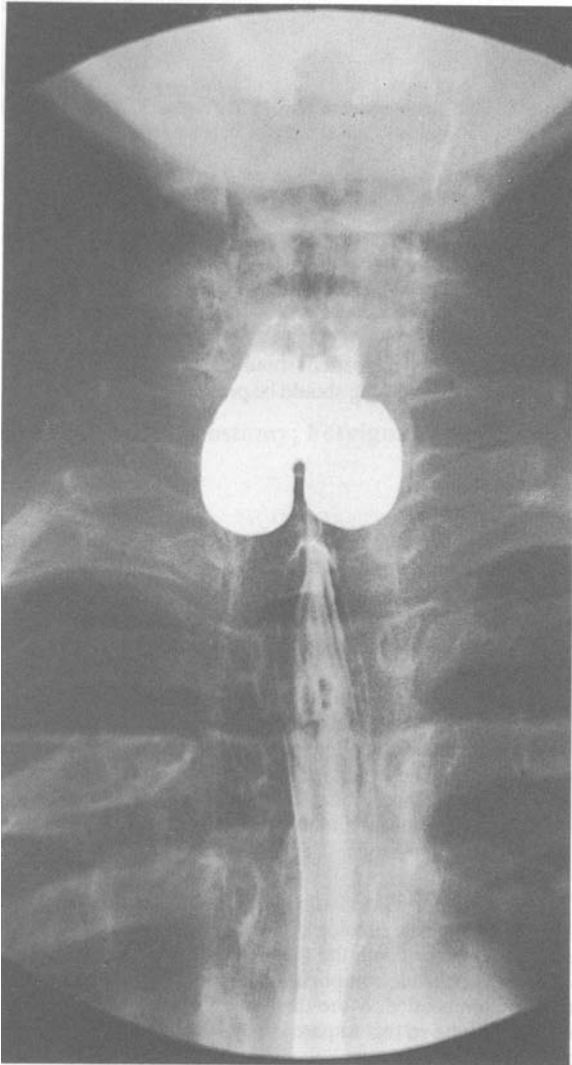


FIG. 2

AP barium swallow X-ray showing double pouch with dividing mid-line septum.

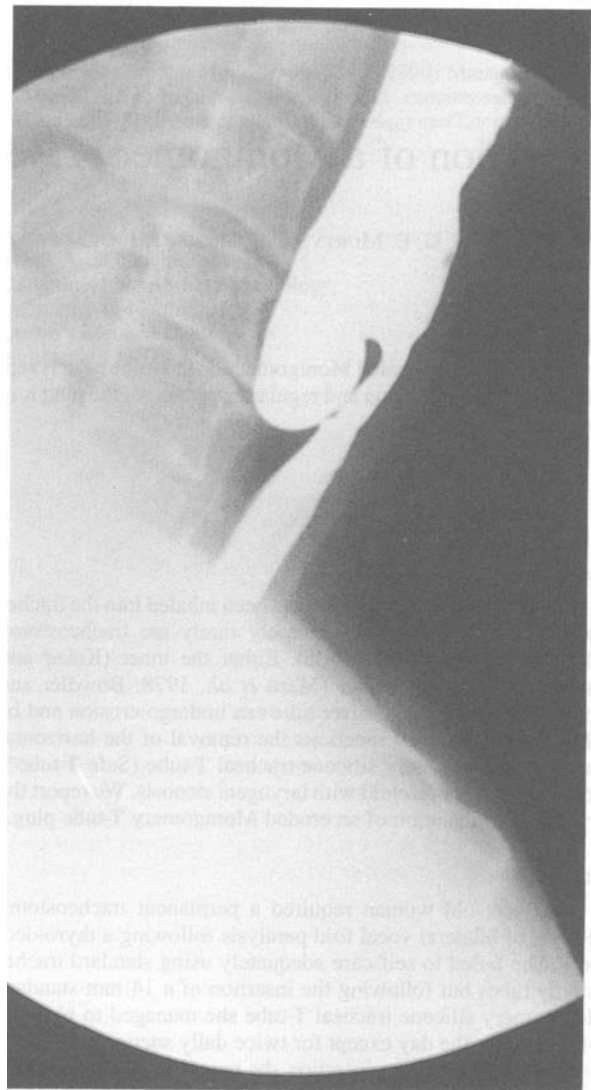


FIG. 3

Lateral barium swallow X-ray fails to show two sacs.