

Voice Therapy and COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Editor,

I would like to share ideas on the publication on “Voice Therapy in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Guidelines for Clinical Practice.”¹ Castillo-Allendes et al. noted that “each clinician must attempt to mitigate the risk of infection and achieve the best therapeutic results taking into account the patient's particular reality.”¹ I agree for the general recommendations. However, whether it is possible to have a good appropriate practice during the crisis is a challenge. In the resource limited setting such as India and Southeast Asia, it is usually difficult to find a proper instrument and space for clinical practice. The risk of infection is a big problem. The unnecessary and nonemergency therapy is postponed. Finally, it is necessary to carefully interpret the examination result if a necessary voice examination has to be done. With many protective device against COVID-19, the change of voice quality might occur.²

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

Viroj Wiwanitkit

Department of Community Medicine, Dr DY Patil
University, Pune, India

E-mail: wviroj@yahoo.com

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvoice.2020.12.006>

REFERENCES

1. Castillo-Allendes A, Contreras-Ruston F, Cantor-Cutiva LC, et al. Voice therapy in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic: guidelines for clinical practice. *J Voice*. 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvoice.2020.08.001>. S0892-1997(20)30287-3. Online ahead of print.
2. Hampton T, Crunkhorn R, Lowe N, et al. The negative impact of wearing personal protective equipment on communication during coronavirus disease 2019. *J Laryngol Otol*. 2020;134:577–581.