The new method of narrow band imaging (NBI), particularly combined with a high resolution (e.g. HD-TV), can provide a more detailed and higher contrasted visualization of visible blood vessels than previous endoscopic procedures. Before vocal sound or vocal capabilities deteriorate, i.e. before patients contract dysphonia, NBI can be routinely used to determine early changes to the vessels of the vocal folds, which can also be quantitatively and qualitatively classified.

1. Healthy vocal folds, showing no irregularities, are displayed with a higher contrast in the NBI image.
2. Vascular ectasia and vascular convolute with a polyp in statu nascendi on the left vocal fold.
3. Mild vocal cord edema with epidermization in the region of the medial vocal fold edge with cervicogenic dysphonia: degree of ectasia and change in the course of the vessels different on each side.
4. Vocal fold scars on both sides with changes in course direction and marked branching of the vessels.
5. Recurrent papilloma with intraepithelial papillary vascular loops in the anterior commissure with mild synechia.
6. Leukoplakia of the left vocal fold, vascular dilation and epithelial swelling on both sides.
7. Keratinizing squamous-cell carcinoma of the right vocal fold with atypical vessels (Extent is clearly more visible in the NBI image).

Further information can be obtained at www.olympus-europa.com

E0492142 · 200 · 12/13 · PR