
IMAGES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE



Picture showing lingual thyroid.

LINGUAL THYROID

Early in embryonic development, the thyroid gland forms at the base of the tongue, and subsequently descends into the neck, typically by the 7th week. The thyroglossal duct temporarily connects the descending thyroid gland to the base of the tongue. If descent does not occur, a lingual thyroid may result.

Picture shows lingual thyroid in a 10 years old girl. Approximately 70% cases with heterotropic thyroid tissue do not have normal thyroid, and may cause hypothyroidism after excision. Therefore clinical observation is advised after surgery.

Dr. Kamran Iqbal

Assistant Professor

ENT, Gomal Medical College

Dera Ismail Khan, Pakistan

E-mail: Kamran.Iqbal10@yahoo.com