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A Review on Achalasia Cardia

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Abstract: Achalasia cardia is a rare esophageal motility disorder characterized by the failure of the lower esophageal sphincter to relax properly and the absence of peristalsis in the esophageal body. This condition leads to difficulty in swallowing (dysphagia), regurgitation of undigested food, and chest pain. The exact cause of achalasia remains unclear, but it is believed to involve degeneration of the ganglion cells in the esophageal wall, possibly due to an autoimmune process or viral infection. Patients with achalasia often present with symptoms that can mimic other gastrointestinal disorders, making diagnosis challenging. Diagnosis is typically confirmed through esophageal manometry, which reveals the characteristic elevated resting lower esophageal sphincter pressure and absent peristalsis. Imaging studies, such as barium swallow, may also be used to visualize the dilated esophagus. Treatment options for achalasia aim to relieve symptoms and improve esophageal function. These include pneumatic dilation, surgical myotomy, and the use of medications such as nitrates or calcium channel blockers. Each treatment has its own indications, risks, and benefits, and the choice of therapy depends on the severity of symptoms and the patient's overall health. In summary, achalasia cardia is a significant esophageal disorder that careful diagnosis and management to alleviate symptoms and improve the quality of life for affected individuals.

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