

Case Method—Croup (Acute Epiglottitis)

A father brings his 3-year-old daughter to the emergency department. She complains of a sore throat stating, “It hurts to swallow.” Her father states she has been drooling a lot, which is unusual for her. On assessment she is agitated, sits up leaning over to breathe, and has fever of 39°.

1. What are the possible diagnoses for this patient?
2. What additional assessment data would provide evidence to draw conclusions about the patient’s condition at this time?

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