

- Phoniatrics -

❖ **Definitions:** **Voice** is the laryngeal sound produced by vibrations of the vocal folds modulated and resonated to form **speech**. **Language** is pairing of words to things or acts

❖ **Disorders:**

A. Voice disorders:

1. Dysphonia:

- Organic dysphonia: all causes of hoarseness of voice
- Functional dysphonia: Mutational (dysphonia with mutation), habitual (due to incorrect use of voice) or psychogenic (hysterical aphonia)

2. Change of voice resonators

B. Speech disorders:

1. Dysarthria: is difficulty in articulation due to neurological causes as parkinsonism
2. Dyslalia: Reticism (R) or Sigmatism (S)
3. Stuttering: is repetition or prolongation of syllables

C. Language disorders: occurs in children due to hearing impairment and in adults due to neurological disorders

❖ **Indications of voice therapy:**

1. Chronic laryngitis
2. Postoperative after removal of polyp and nodules
3. Functional dysphonia: mutational, habitual or psychological
4. Post laryngectomy rehabilitation

Pearls in bullets:

- Causes of left vocal paralysis are carcinoma of the bronchus, carcinoma of esophagus, malignant mediastinal nodes, aortic aneurysm and cardiac and esophageal surgery, in addition to thyroid gland causes.
- Causes of right vocal paralysis are thyroid surgery, thyroid cancer, hypopharyngeal cancer, right apical pulmonary TB, and cervical spine surgery.
- Causes of bilateral vocal paralysis are thyroid surgery, malignant thyroid and pseudo bulbar palsy.