

# E.N.T. HEAD & NECK DEPT TOPICAL PRESENTATION

# **EPISTAXIS**

PRESENTERS: DR. OSISI

**DR. AKPALABA**

DR. EDIALE

# OUTLINE

- CASE PRESENTATION
- INTRODUCTION
- ANATOMY
- EPIDEMIOLOGY
- CLASSIFICATION
- CLINICAL FEATURES
- MANAGEMENT
- PROGNOSIS
- CONCLUSION

# Case 1

- Mr. O. S.
- 57yr old Business man
- Resides in Benin city
- Christian
- Bini

- P.C – Lt Nasal Recurrent bleeding x 1/12

- HPC

- Bleeding was spontaneous.

- Had about ten episodes, EBL - 50mls/Episode.

- No bleeding from other parts of the body

- No dizziness or fainting attacks.

- No hx of trauma, nasal discharge or blockage
- No otologic symptoms
- Takes Ibuprofen periodically every other week.
- No neck mass, or abdominal swelling
- Recently diagnosed hypertensive on Nifedipine and Moduretic

-No family hx of Epistaxis

-Does not take alcohol

- **O/E** – Middle age man, calm, afebrile, not pale, anicteric, not dehydrated, no pedal edema.

## **CVS**

- PR 80bpm, regular, good volume
- BP 130/80 mmHg

## **NOSE**

- Blood clot, Lt nasal cavity
- Active bleeding



## ORAL CAVITY/OROPHARYNX

-Streaks of blood in posterior pharyngeal wall.

## NECK

-No palpable mass

## EAR

-Appeared normal

- DIAGNOSIS – Recurrent Lt Nasal Epistaxis? cause

-FBC, Blood film

-Clotting profile

-E/U/Cr

-Xray Paranasal sinuses

-Anterior nasal packing

-Tabs dicynone 250mg tds

-Tabs ciprofloxacin 500mg bd

-Presently on Follow-up

# Case 2

- Mr E. O.
- 35yr old Bricklayer/Welder
- Resides in Benin city
- Christian
- Esan

- P.C. – Recurrent Lt nasal bleeding x 4/7
  
- HPC-
  - Bleeding was spontaneous.
  - Had about two episodes, EBL – 1.8litres.
  - Similar episode 3yrs ago
  - No bleeding from other parts of the body

- Assoc dizziness, but no fainting attacks.
- No hx of trauma, nasal discharge or blockage
- No ear or throat symptoms
- Hx of prolonged bleeding from minor injuries.
- Positive family hx of epistaxis
-

- Takes alcohol, 1 bottle/day for 15years
- No use of NSAIDs or Anticoagulant
- Not a known hypertensive
- Initially presented at Central Hosp B/city,
- Had nasal packing done
- Transfused with a unit of blood.

-PMH-

Not a known DM, PUDx

-FSH

Married with 3 children, monogamous setting

Does not smoke cigarette

-Drug Hx-

Nil hx of drug allergy.



- O/E-

Young man, anxious, febrile (38.3c), pale, anicteric, not dehydrated, no pedal edema.

CVS – P.R 120bpm, regular, good volume  
B.P 140/90.

- NOSE

- Patent bilaterally

- No petechial hemorrhages

- Hyperaemic spot on the septum

- Engorged inferior turbinates

- ORAL CAVITY/OROPHARYNX

- Minimal streaks of blood in the posterior pharyngeal wall

NECK- No neck mass palpable

EAR – Appeared normal

OTHER SYSTEMS – Appeared normal

DIAGNOSIS – Epistaxis ? Cause  
r/o Bleeding Diathesis

- Urgent PCV – 17%
- GXM 3 units of blood
- Crude Clotting time – 2minutes
- FBC – Platelets 158,000, WBC 6,500

-E/U/Cr - Ur 66mg/dl, others normal

-PT, PTTK - Normal

-LFT – Normal

-RVS - Negative

-Xray Paranasal sinuses

-Hematologist reviewed- Lassa fever screening  
(Negative)

-IVF 5% Dext. Saline

-IV Dicynone 250mg bd

-Tabs Ciprofloxacin 500mg bd

-Tabs Flagyl 400mg tds

- Haematinics

## 2<sup>nd</sup> DOA

- P.R 112bpm
- B.P -170/110mmHg
  
- Medical review
- commenced anti-Hypertensive.

- Had Silver nitrate cauterization on 4<sup>th</sup> Day
- Bilateral Anterior nasal packing done on 5<sup>th</sup> Day
- Posterior nasal packing on same day
- Emergency Left External carotid artery ligation done on 10<sup>th</sup> Day.



Emergency EUA Nose, Nasopharynx with Bellocq  
Posterior nasal packing on 11<sup>th</sup> DOA.

### **Findings at surgery:**

-Multiple mucosal hemorrhages on the septum and lateral nasal walls.

-Diffuse oozing of blood from the posterior wall of the nasopharynx

- Bleeding subsided after surgery

- Blood transfusion

Had 13 units of blood transfused

- Discharged home on Anti-Hypertensives on 21<sup>st</sup>

DOA

# INTRODUCTION

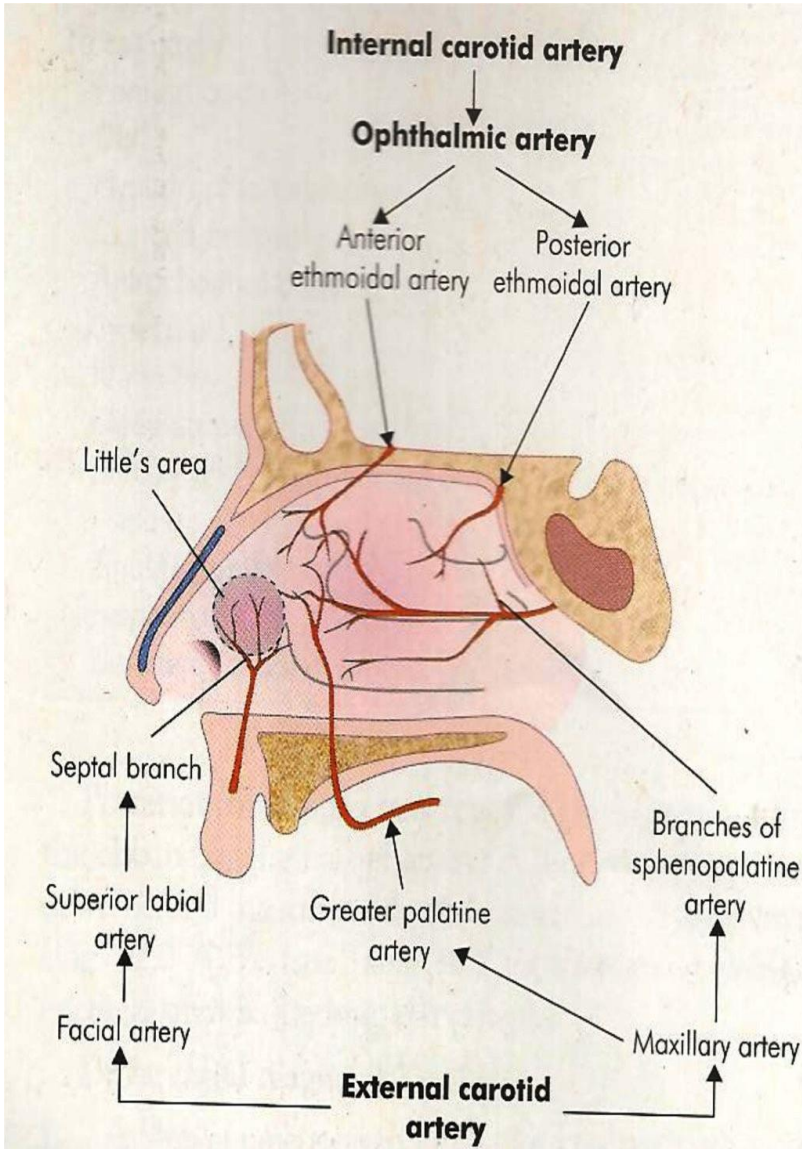
- Bleeding from the Nasal cavity
- Commonest otolaryngological emergency.
- Affects up to 14% of the population in their lifetime.
- 6% of cases requiring medical attention.

- The management include-
  - resuscitation,
  - through direct visualization and cautery,
  - nasal packing,
  - and surgery (both endoscopic and external)
  - to embolization.

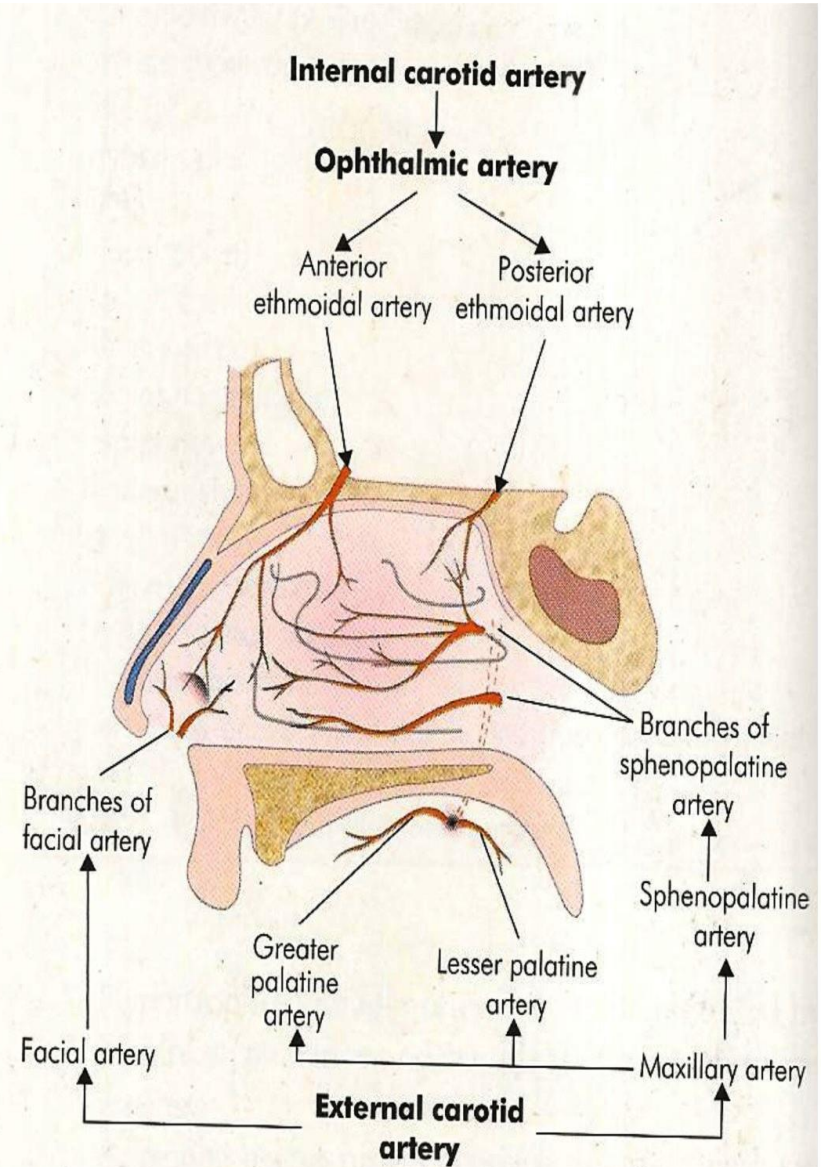
# RELEVANT ANATOMY

- Nasal cavity
- Vascular supply





**Fig. 33.1** Blood supply of nasal septum.



**Fig. 33.2** Blood supply of lateral wall of nose.

# BLOOD SUPPLY

- **External Carotid Artery**
- **-Sphenopalatine artery**
- **-Superior Labial artery**
- **-Greater palatine artery**
- **-Ascending palatine artery**
- **-Posterior nasal artery**
  
- **Internal Carotid Artery**
- **-Anterior Ethmoidal artery**
- **-Posterior Ethmoidal artery**

# VENOUS DRAINAGE

- Pterygoid plexus
- Facial vein
- Ophthalmic veins
- Emissary vein → superior sagittal sinus



# SITES OF EPISTAXIS

- **Kiesselbach's Plexus/Little's Area:**
- **Above middle turbinate**
- **Below middle turbinate**
- **Posterior part of nasal cavity**
- **Diffuse**
- **Nasopharynx**

# CLASSIFICATION OF EPISTAXIS

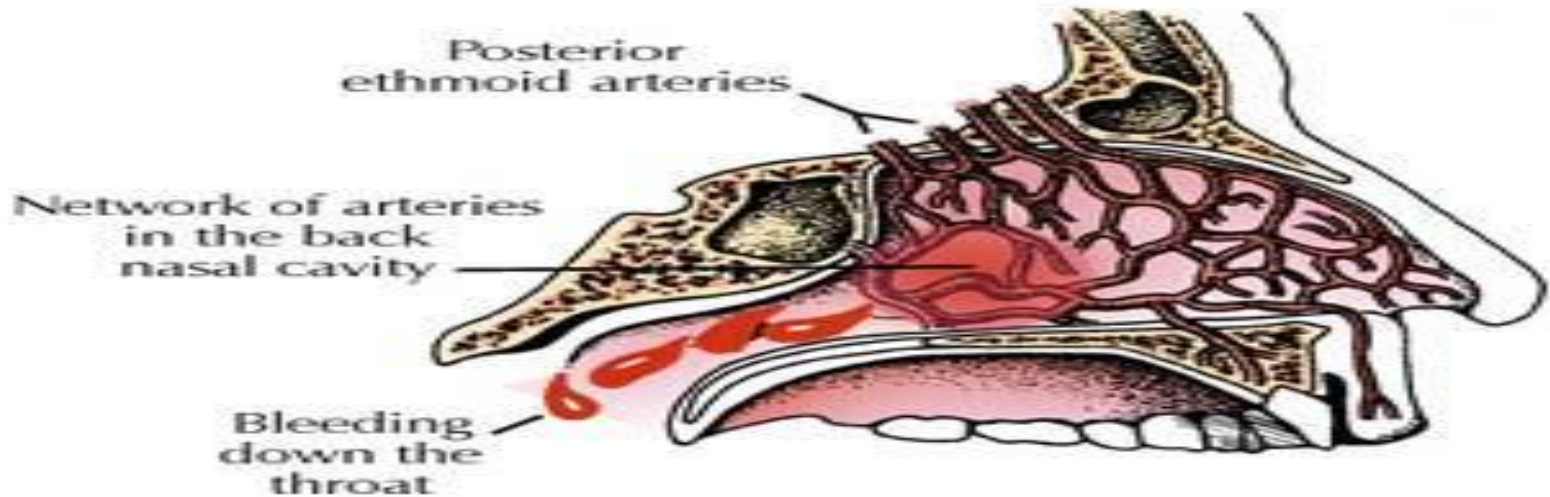
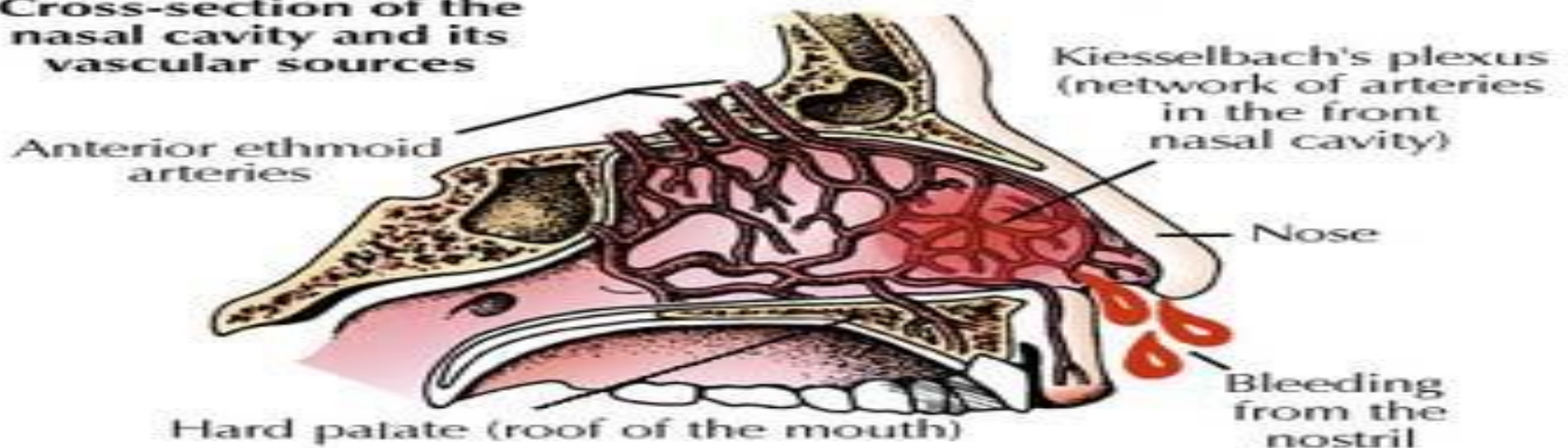
- PRIMARY OR SECONDARY
- CHILDHOOD OR ADULT
- ANTERIOR OR POSTERIOR

# CLASSIFICATION OF EPISTAXIS

- PRIMARY—IDIOPATHIC
- SECONDARY-KNOWN CAUSAL FACTOR
- CHILDHOOD-- <16yrs
- ADULT-- >16yrs
- ANTERIOR- anterior to piriform aperture
- POSTERIOR— posterior to piriform aperture

# CLASSIFICATION OF EPISTAXIS

**Cross-section of the nasal cavity and its vascular sources**



# EPIDEMIOLOGY

- 2<sup>nd</sup> common cause of mortality
- All age groups
- Bimodal – childhood (common)  
-- 6<sup>th</sup> decade (peak)
- 7- 14 % of population
- M:F = 1.25 : 1

# AETIOLOGY

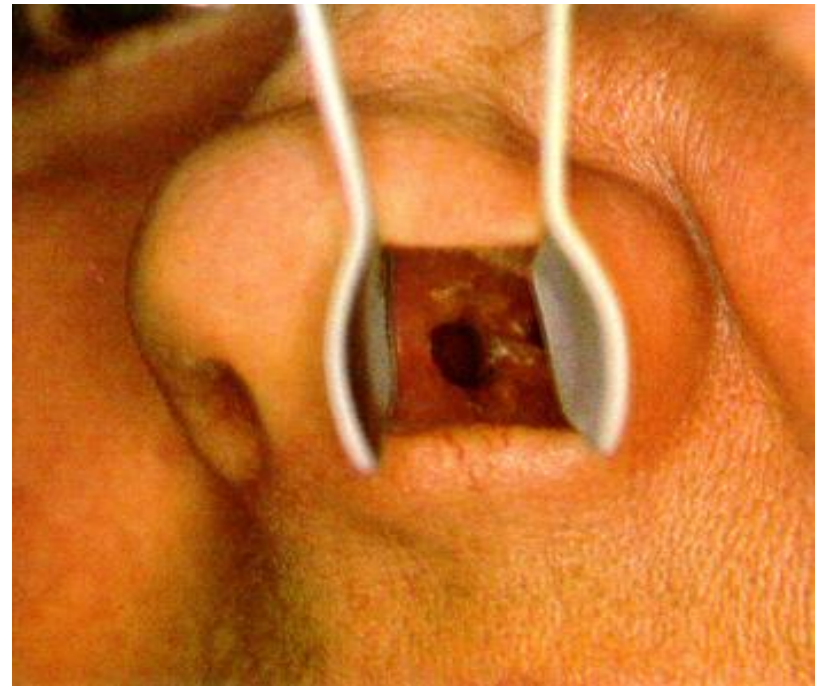
- IDIOPATHIC (Most common)
- LOCAL
- GENERAL/SYSTEMIC

# AETIOLOGY

- Local factors
  - Trauma
  - Infectious/Inflammatory
  - Iatrogenic
  - Neoplasm
  - Foreign Bodies
  - Vascular
  - Dessication
  - Deviated nasal septum

# LOCAL FACTOR - TRAUMA

- Nose picking
- Nose blowing/sneezing
- Nasal fracture
- Nasogastric/nasotracheal intubation
- Trauma to sinuses, orbits, middle ear, base of skull
- Barotrauma





# Local Factors - Infection/Inflammation

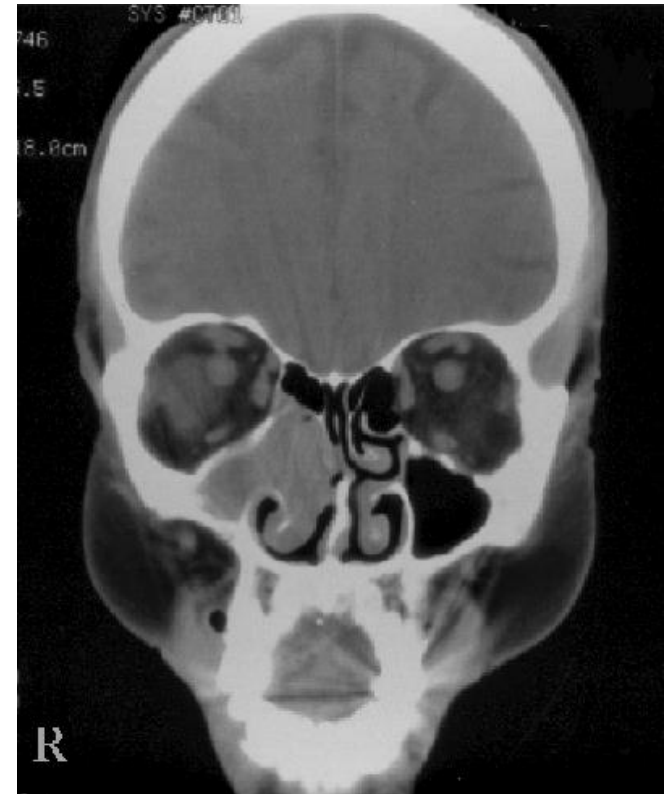
- Rhinitis/Sinusitis
  - Allergic
  - Bacterial
  - Fungal
  - Viral

# Local Factors - Iatrogenic nasal injury

- Functional endoscopic sinus surgery
- Rhinoplasty
- Nasal reconstruction

# Local Factors - Neoplasm

- Juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma
- Nasopharyngeal carcinoma
- Inverted papilloma
- SCCA
- Adenocarcinoma
- Melanoma
- Esthesioneuroblastoma
- Lymphoma



# Local Factors – Dessication

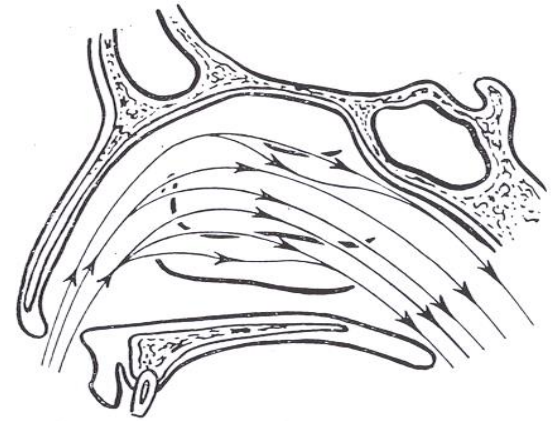
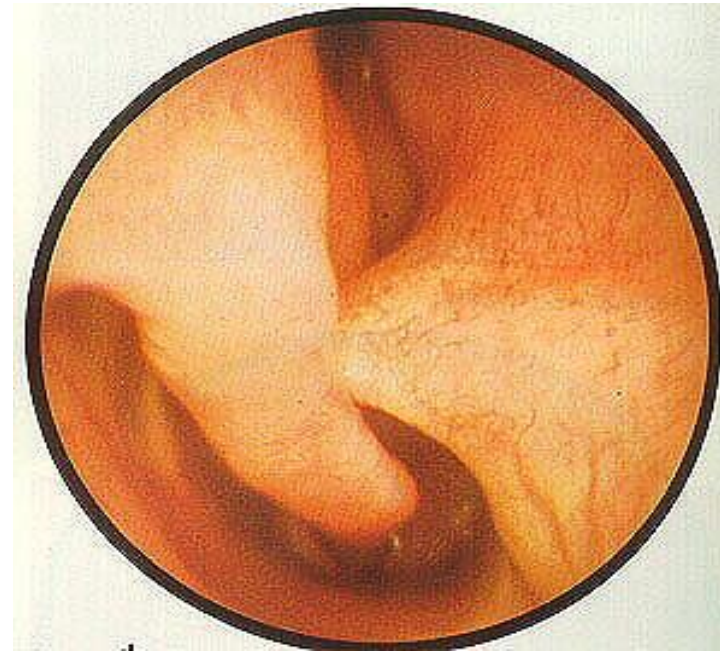
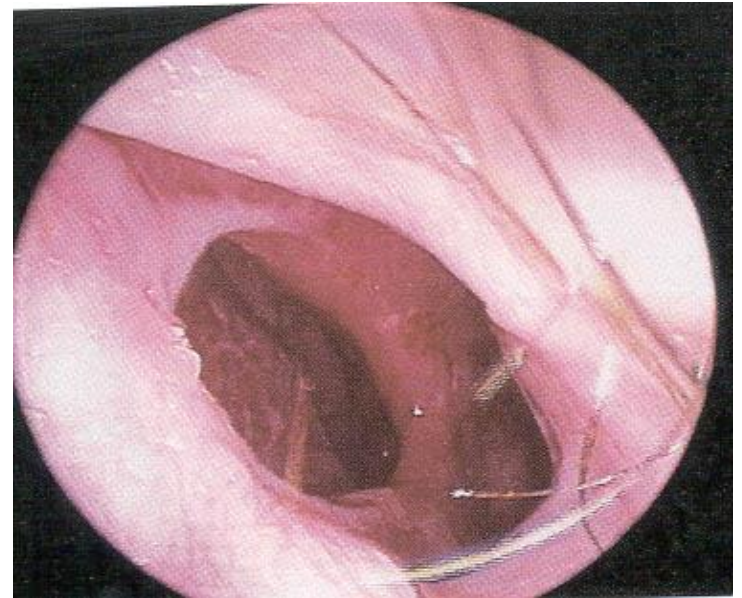


Figure 6.2 Diagram of inspiratory air currents

- Cold, dry air—more common in wintertime
- Dry heat
- Nasal oxygen
- Anatomic abnormalities
- Atrophic rhinitis



# Local Factors - Others



- Self-inflicted (pedi) vs. traumatic foreign bodies
- Intranasal parasites
- Septal perforation
- Chemicals (cocaine, nasal sprays, ammonia, etc.)

# AETIOLOGY- CONT'D

- Systemic factors
  - Vascular
  - Infection/Inflammation
  - Coagulopathy
  - Liver disease
  - Kidney disease
  - Drugs
  - Vicarious menstruation
    - IDIOPATHIC-80%

# Systemic Factors -- Vascular

- Hypertension/Arteriosclerosis
- Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasias (OHR)



# Systemic Factors – Infection/Inflammation

- Tuberculosis
- Syphilis
- Wegener's Granulomatosis
- Periarteritis nodosa
- SLE



# Systemic Factors – Coagulopathies

## Thrombocytopenia

- **Platelet dysfunction**
  - Systemic disease (Uremia)
  - drug-induced
    - NSAIDs/anticoagulants
    - Alcohol
    - Tobacco
    - Cocaine
- **Clotting Factor Deficiencies**
  - Haemophilia
  - Von Willebrand's disease
  - Hepatic failure
- **Haematologic malignancies**

# CLINICAL PRESENTATION

- Spontaneous
- Provoked
- Recurrent
- Scanty
- Profuse
- Post-nasal drip
- vicarious menstruation
- Haematemesis
- Fever / sore throat
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Syncope
- Pale
- Shock
- Features of liver disease, malignancy, Kidney disease

Management

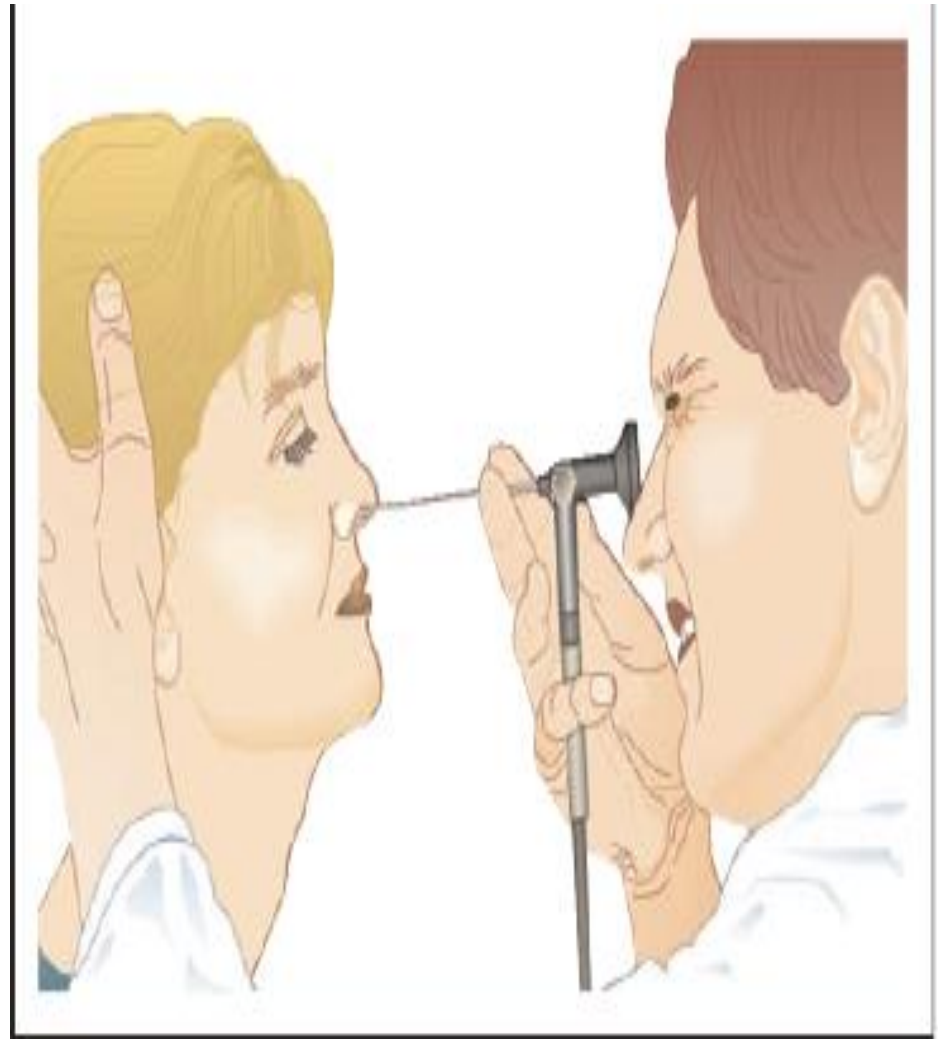
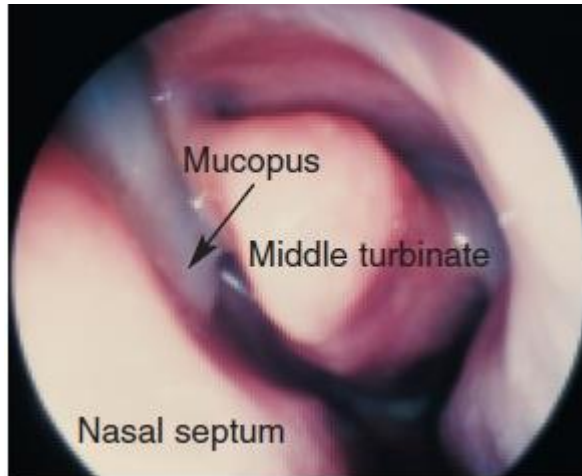


- History
  - Onset, frequency, volume, Laterality
  - Possible risk factors
  
- Examination
  - P/E : Anxious
    - Pallor +/- , dehydration
    - Tachycardia
    - Blood pressure

- Anterior rhinoscopy



## - Nasal endoscopy



- Oropharynx:
- Neck:
- Ears:
- Other systems: Chest, Abdomen



# Investigations

- Haematology: Hb, Fbc & platelets, Gxm
  - EUCr
  - CCT, PT/PTTK
  - VIII / IX assay
  - LFT
  - RVS , PCR (Lassa Fever)
- Radiology: - X-ray Paranasal sinuses
  - CT-scan
  - MRI
  - Angiography

# X-ray paranasal sinuses



# CT-Scan Paranasal sinuses



# Investigation cont'd

- EUA nose & nasopharynx +/- biopsy

# Treatment

- Principles
  1. Establish site of bleeding
  2. Stop bleeding
  3. Treat cause

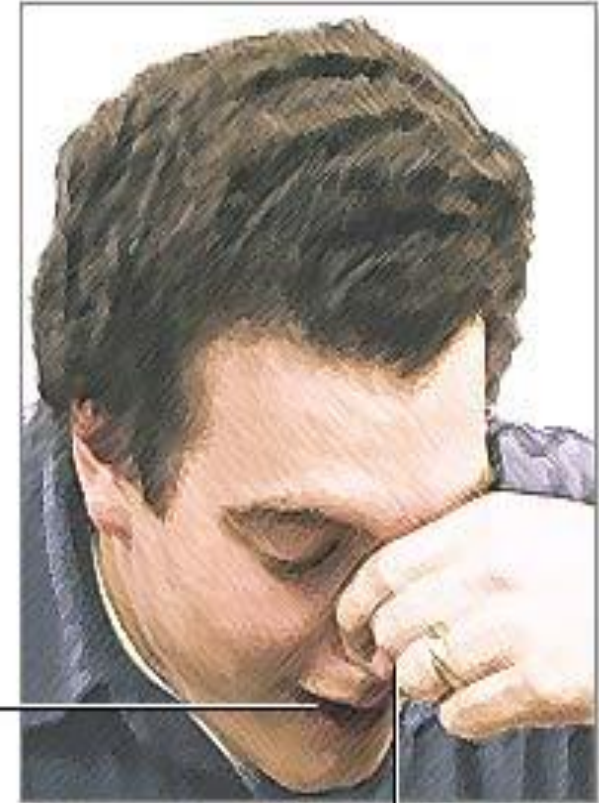
# First Aid

## A. Hippocrates Technique



- Trotters Method

Sentarse e inclinarse  
levemente hacia  
adelante



Respirar  
por la boca

Taparse las fosas  
nasales con los dedos

- Modalities

- A. Resuscitation(active/profuse bleed)

- Venous access

- Anterior rhinoscopy

- Suction toileting

- Topical decongestant/anaesthetic

- B. Cauterization

- Chemical- silver nitrate

- Electrical- bipolar diathermy



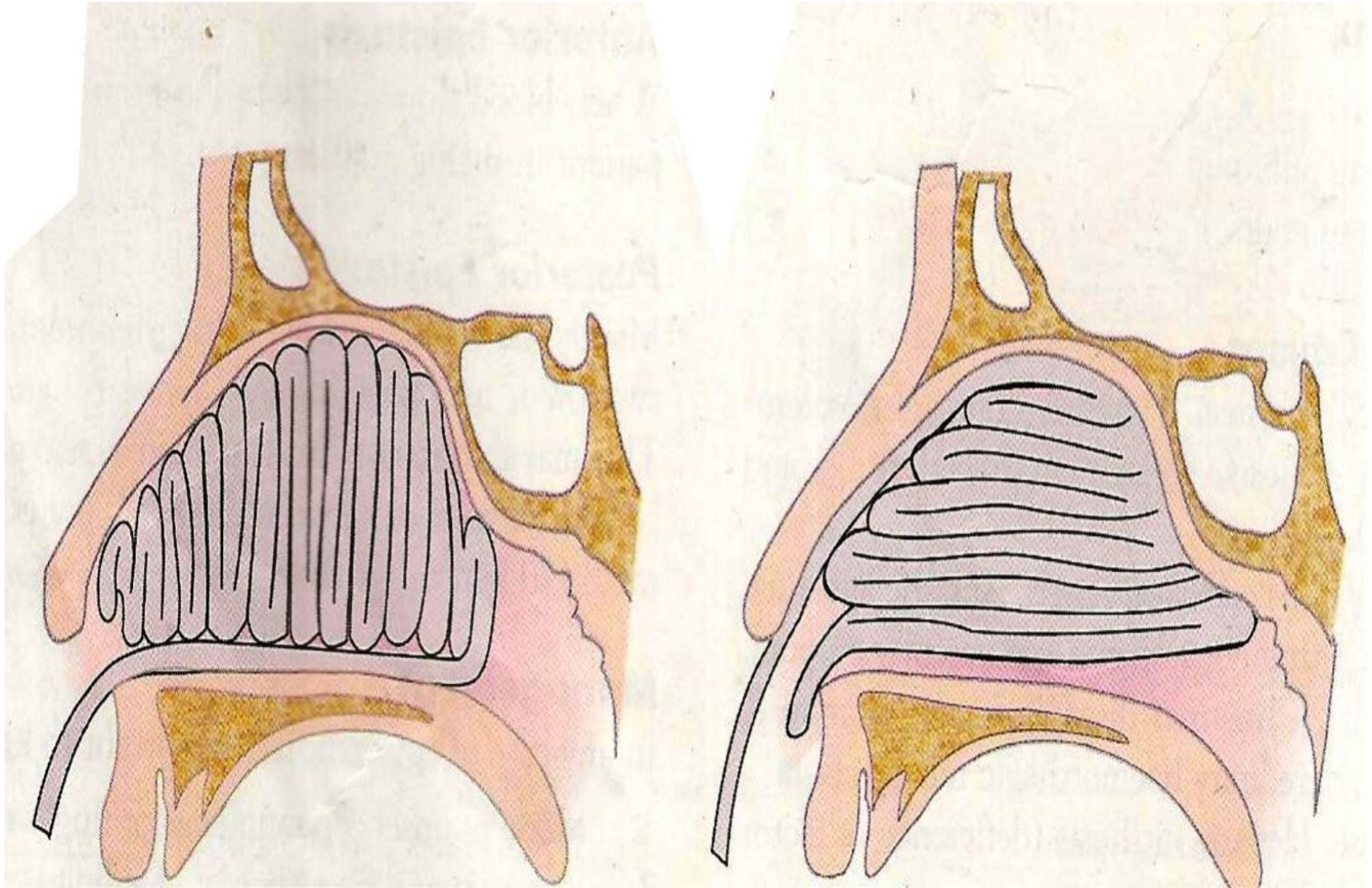
## C. Nasal Packing

### 1. Anterior

- Ribbon gauze/BIPP, Gloved finger
- Bilateral



# Vertical/Horiz. Antr. Nasal packing

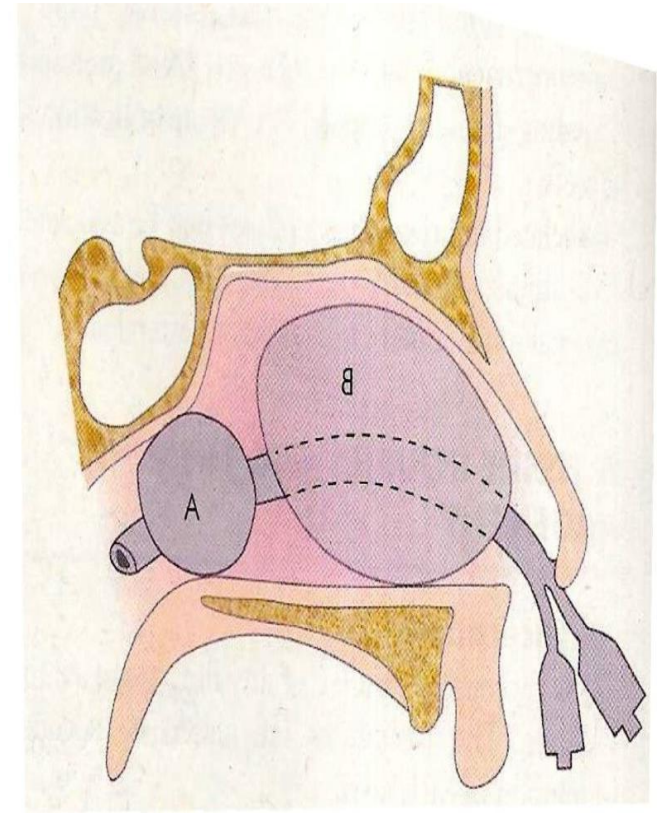


## 2. Posterior Nasal Packing

- Bellocq (rolled gauze pack)



- Inflatable balloons:
  - I. Brighton



## II. Foley's catheter



## D. Surgery

I. EUA +/- cautery or packing or septoplasty

II. Ethmoidal Artery Ligation

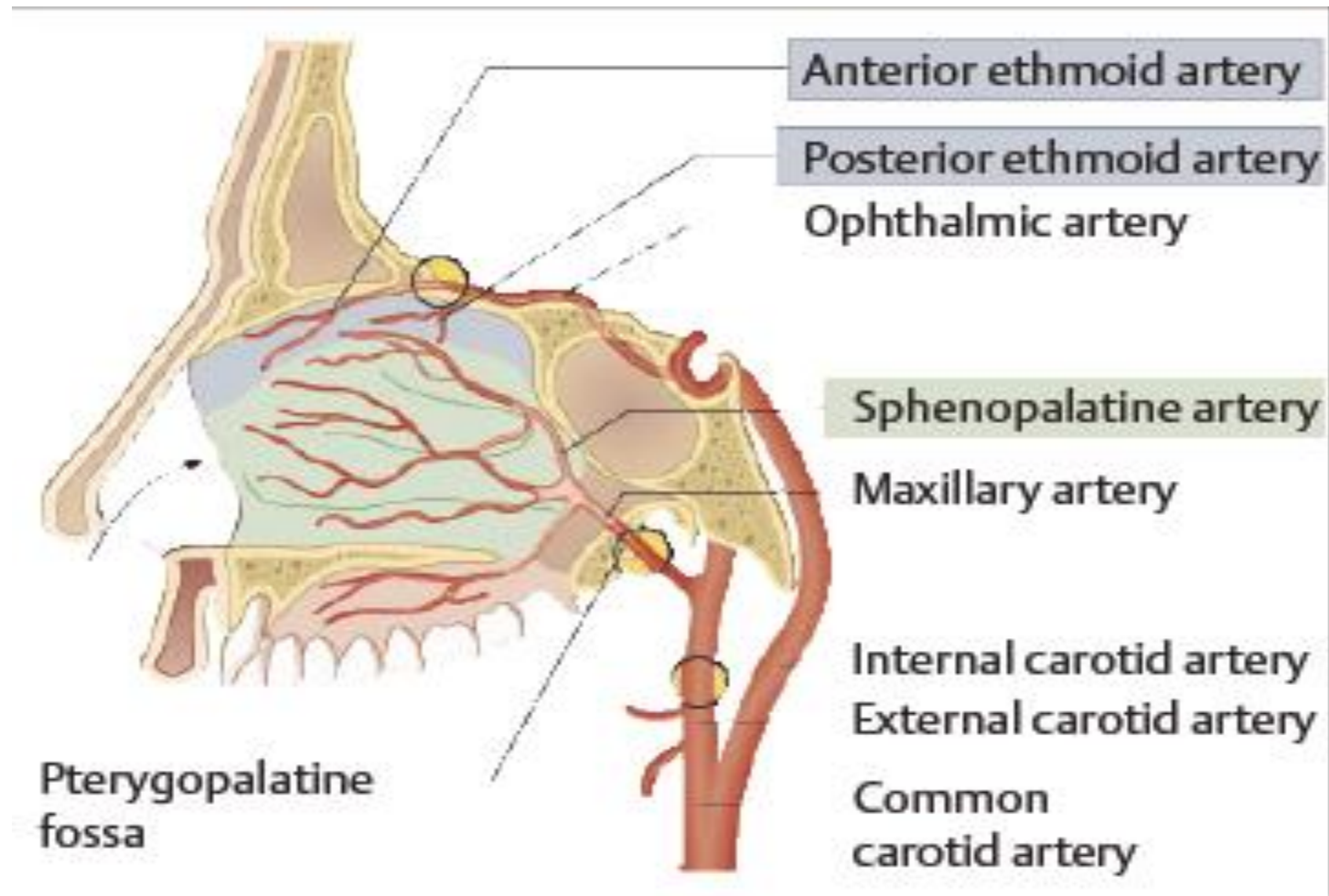
III. Endoscopic Sphenopalatine Artery Ligation

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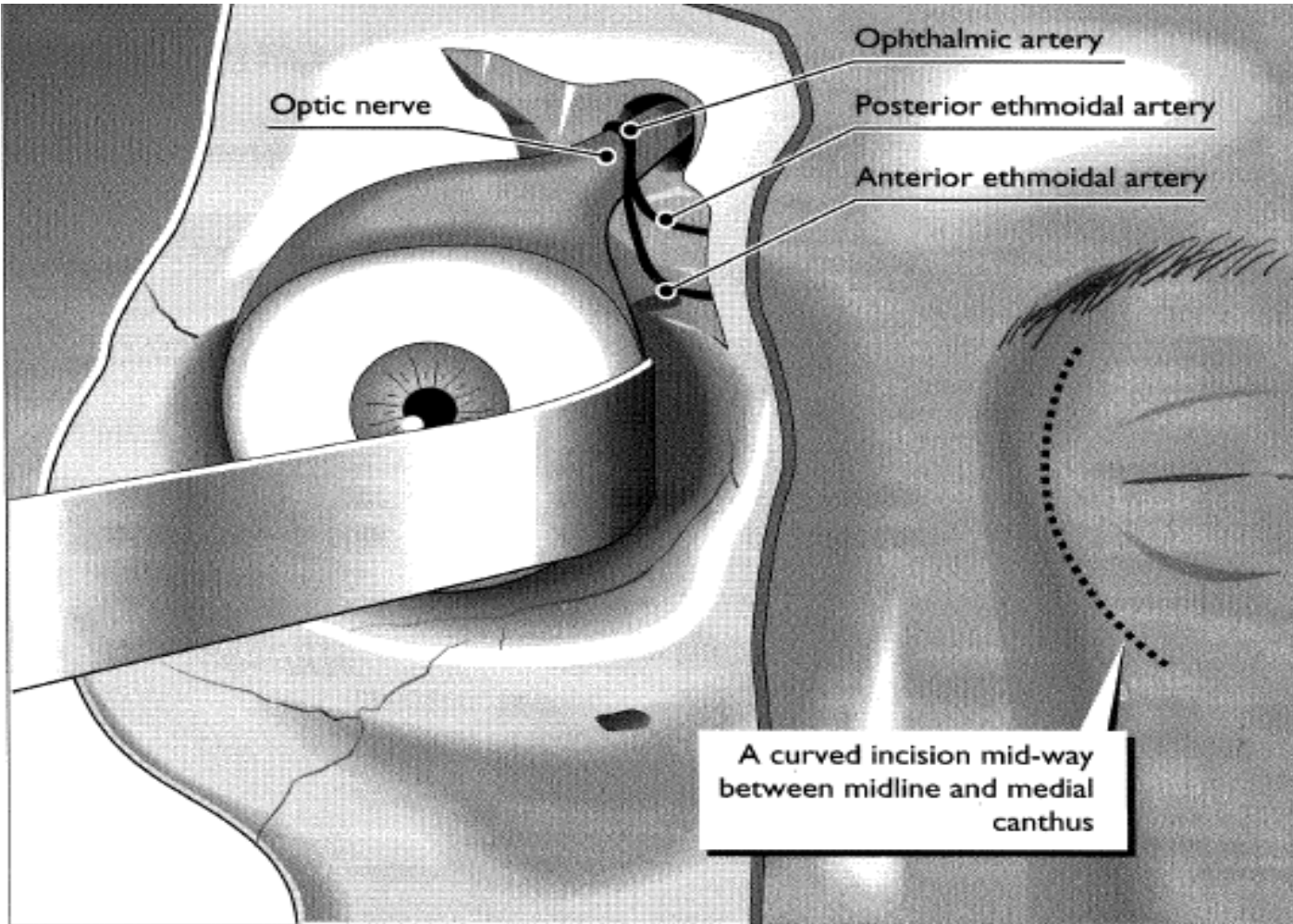
IV. Maxillary Artery Ligation

V. External Carotid Artery Ligation

# Arterial Ligation



# Ethmoidal Artery Ligation





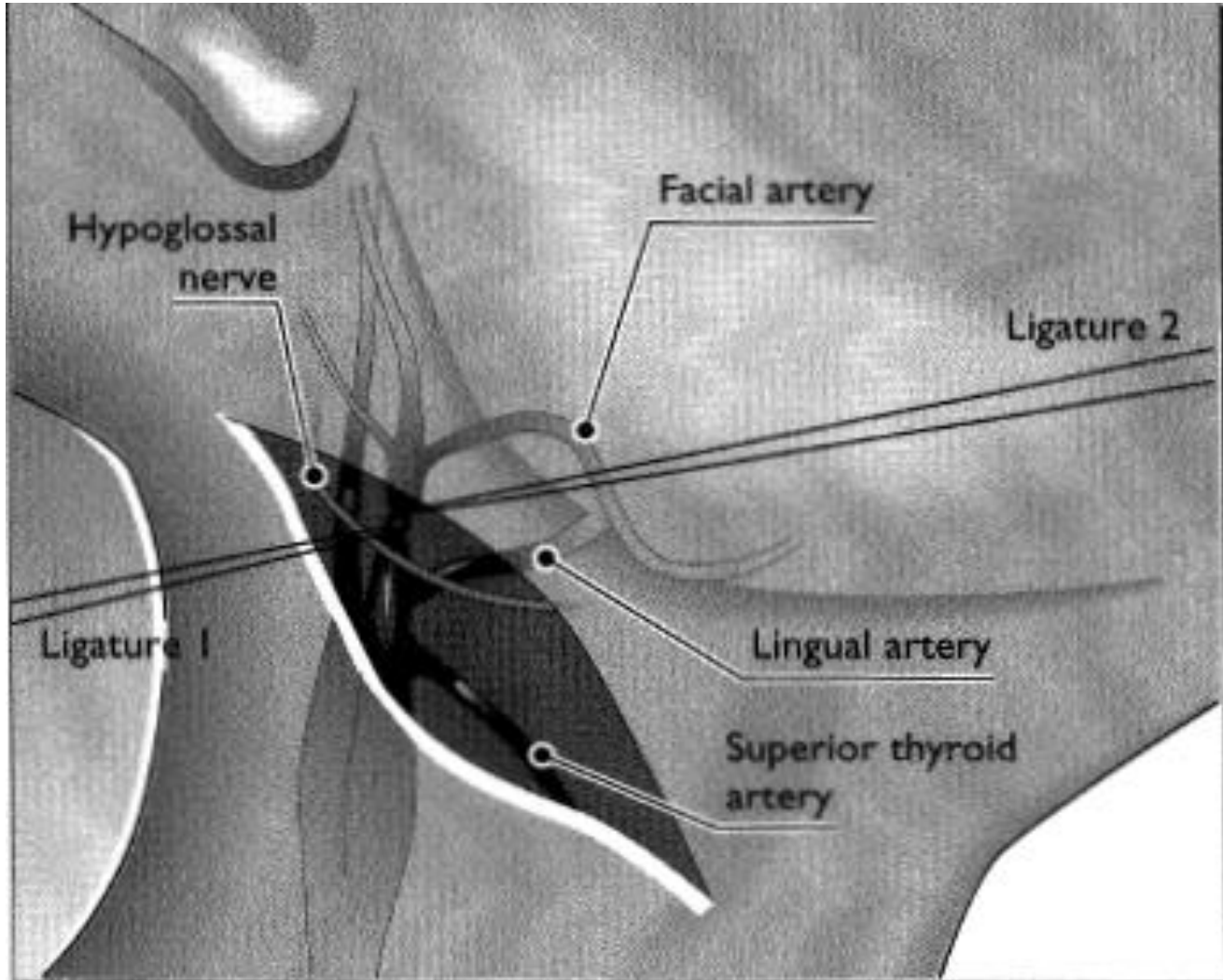
# Sphenopalatine Artery Ligation



# Transantral approach –Maxillary Artery Ligation



# External Carotid Artery Ligation



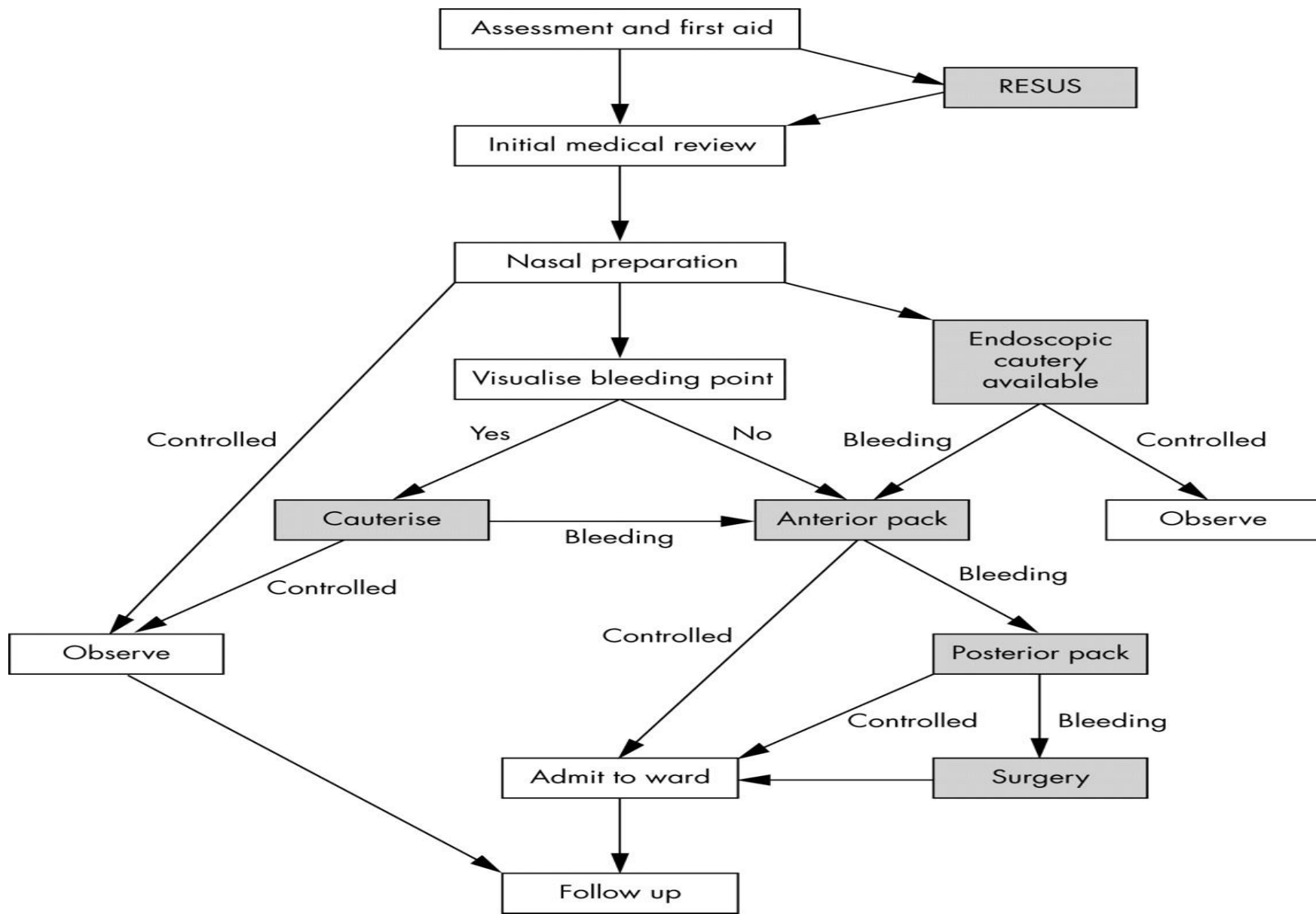
## E. Embolization

- Angiography
- Polyvinyl alcohol, tungsten or steel microcoil used to embolise vessels.

## F. Laser Coagulation – Hereditary Haemorrhagic Telangiectasia

- Supportive measures
  - Pharmacological Agents
  - Blood Products : FFP/ Platelet concentrates
- Aetiological factors identified & Treated

# Algorithm in the mgt of Epistaxis



- Prognosis- Good:
- Prevention & Follow- up:

❖ Local Experience: Jan 2010 - Dec 2011  
( U.B.T.H)

- Total Cases= 57
  - Age: 23mths – 85years
  - Mean Age= 42years
  - M=29 , F=28: 1 : 1
  - 17- Admissions
  - 1 had ECAL



- Aetiology:

Idiopathic	- 24	(42%)
Infection	- 18	(32%)
Atherosclerosis	- 11	(19%)
Trauma	- 3	( 5%)
Bleeding diathesis	- 1	( 2%)

Total = 57 Patients

# Conclusion

- Epistaxis is a symptom and sign
- A cause of morbidity
- Evaluation - control bleeding & treat cause



THANK YOU