



Dear Health Care Provider:

This is to inform you of a rare voice disorder that has a devastating affect on its victims. It is a neurological disorder that stems from the basal ganglia. Improper signals are sent to the vocal cords to spasm causing the voice to sound strained and strangled in abrupt spurts (ADductor Spasmodic Dysphonia). The signals can also signal the vocal cords to spasm open such that a breathy, soundless voice is produced (ABductor Spasmodic Dysphonia). We are hoping to alert you to this disorder as it often goes undiagnosed due to its rarity. It usually affects individuals of both genders in the 30-50 year old range but there are also cases noted in younger and older ages.

Treatments may include botulinum toxin injections, surgery, and voice therapy. If you should encounter any individuals exhibiting these symptoms, please recommend them to physicians who are aware of this condition as many health care professionals are yet uninformed. A source of information can be found at the National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association website www.dysphonia.org or you may e-mail the organization at [<nsda@dysphonia.org>](mailto:nsda@dysphonia.org)

The NSDA can provide patients with support, education and research information. Thank you for taking the time to read this and to help people with this disorder.

National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association
300 Park Boulevard, Suite 415
Itasca, IL 60143
Phone: 800-795-6732
Fax: 630-250-4505
NSDA@dysphonia.org
www.dysphonia.org