MRI scan showed AV malformations at thoracic level, with ischemia of distal part of spinal cord. Urodynamics showed detrusor sphincter disnergia. Her intellectual and cognitive abilities were normal. After program of physical therapy and rehabilitation she was discharged as paraplegia trained for (self) intermittent catheterization and independently performing activities of daily living. Paraplegia is one of the most serious complications of congenital AV malformation in MRKH syndrome.

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Training for emergency situations with ventilator patients: Pertinence of educational movie

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Introduction.– Patients with severe neurological handicap requiring tracheotomy and long-term mechanical respiratory assistance create a care burden for rehabilitation units and nursing institutions. Continuous direct (visual) or indirect (audible alarm) human monitoring is necessary to guarantee their respiratory safety. This situation generates important mental effects for caregivers and family, especially if the respiratory assistance is permanent (Douglas SL 200).

Case report.– To improve safety of care and monitoring, the greatest possible number of professionals in contact with these patients daily should be able to provide assistance in the event of an acute situation of respiratory distress. Broadening the number of qualified people is all the more important in light of progress made in medical rehabilitation; certain people on respiratory assistance are able to move about autonomously using an electric wheel chair in their close environment, in establishment or in their residence (Gonzales J 2004). To be as effective as possible, emergency situation training should be carried out using practical simulations of respiratory distress. Indeed, competences of self-control and of procedural memory are necessary to guarantee effective assistance in the event of a real urgency. A film simulating the principal situations likely to occur in everyday life or during the duration of care is a relevant teaching support.

Conclusion.– The object of this communication is to present a one 7-minute film prepared by the paediatric rehabilitation unit of the Kerpace center which has 15 years experience caring for children and teenagers with tracheotomy on respiratory assistance.