

Professional Voice and Voice Disorders in Professional Chanters

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The vocal demands for byzantine music chanters are big and vocal disorders are observed very often due to this traditional chanting activity. The aim of this presentation is to describe in summary and picturesquely the voice disorders and to suggest the treatment which varies according to each particular cause. Primarily, terms, such as professional voice and its characteristics are defined. The vocal demands are classified in a specific scale by Koufman Blalock (1991) according to the qualifications of the works (e.g. opera singer, actor, byzantine music chanter et al) and a comprehensive description of 4 basic vocal demand levels is presents as well. The byzantine music chanter (ieropsaltes)) are classified according to the aforementioned scale. Furthermore the behavioral and organic causes of the voice disorders are described and classified with the presentation of a special analysis for the vocal fatigue and the common symptoms and manifestations caused during the byzantine chant activity. Finally the proper treatment for the above mentioned problems is suggested as well.

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- *E.N.T. Doctor Ioannis Sampsakis is graduated from Faculty of Medicine of the University of Athens. He was graduated in ENT from University Hospital of Heraclion, Krete. He worked in British Hospitals and was specialized in Voice Pathology in UCL, UK. He has a special interest in Voice Pathology as he is a baryton who worked in National Opera of Athens and with other professional choruses. He also took elocution lessons.*