



Supracricoid partial laryngectomy

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Background:

Supracricoid partial laryngectomy (SCPL) is a procedure invented in 1959, since then it hasn't been used very often. SCPL is an organ preservation surgical technique alternative to total laryngectomy for selected laryngeal malignant neoplasms. It has the advantage of preserving larynx phonatory function, lung-powered speech and swallowing function, without a permanent stoma. Our question is: What is the quality of life after SCPL and does it provide more benefits than total laryngectomy?

Case presentation:

In our case report we present a 56-year-old male patient, who had dysphonia for the last six months. He had no respiratory or swallowing problems. Due to these symptoms, an extensive diagnosis was made with fiber optic endoscopy, laryngomicroscopy and biopsy. The patient was diagnosed with planocellular (PCC) laryngeal carcinoma, located in the anterior half of the right vocal cord, anterior commissure and anterior third of the left vocal cords at stage T2N0. He was a smoker for about 20 years and has 30 pack years. He stopped smoking 3 months ago. The chosen surgical procedure was SCPL. An unilateral dissection of the neck was performed in the II-IV regions on the right side. Tracheotomy was also performed and a temporary tracheostoma was placed. After rehabilitation, the patient showed a remarkable recovery of speech and swallowing.

Conclusion:

SCPL achieves the functional goals of speech and swallowing rehabilitation. The speech recovery process is quite natural, and tracheostomy is temporary, which is the main detriment to the quality of life. On the other hand, swallowing rehabilitation requires more work. In conclusion, SCLP shows many benefits in the rehabilitation process and should be considered as a treatment alternative to non-surgical treatment or total laryngectomy.

Keywords:

Laryngeal carcinoma, partial laryngectomy, supracricoid