Systematic Review of Laryngeal Reinnervation Techniques

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OBJECTIVES: To systematically review outcomes of reinnervation techniques for the management of unilateral vocal fold paralysis (UVFP), emphasizing the value of laryngeal reinnervation via the ansa cervicalis.

METHODS: A systematic, database search was conducted using Medline and Cochrane databases and additional hand searches for relevant studies. The search was limited to English language and human studies. The analysis was performed using a standardized approach.

RESULTS: Of 977 citations screened, 43 were eligible for full-text review, of which 39 studies met our inclusion criteria. The most common techniques included: injection laryngoplasty, medialization thyroplasty, and laryngeal reinnervation (LR). Results showed that LR was associated with improved phonation efficiency compared to other techniques. However, the heterogeneity of the included studies limited the ability to draw definitive conclusions.

CONCLUSIONS: Laryngeal reinnervation techniques offer potential advantages over other modalities, particularly in terms of immediate restoration of nerve function. Further research is needed to identify the most effective technique for individual patient scenarios.

REFERENCES:


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