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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Otorhinolaryngology

ESPS manuscript NO: 14307

Title: Vessel Selection and Free Flap Monitoring in Head and Neck Microvascular Reconstruction

Reviewer code: 00503695

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2014-09-28 11:18

Date reviewed: 2014-10-25 16:17

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript summarizes some relevant and interesting aspects of vessel selection and free flap monitoring in head and neck microvascular reconstruction. It is well written. But the manuscript is more suitable for a book chapter than for a scientific Journal. Major considerations for the authors: 1. The necessity of preoperative vessel testing is not discussed at all, e.g. in free forearm flap selection. 2. A table should be added describing the pre-, intra-, and postoperative methods for selection and monitoring, their characteristics and their results (with data of statistical measures). Minor Points: 1. Reference 43: Please check the author list. 2. Page 5, last paragraph: Change to ... affording its protection ...



ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Otorhinolaryngology

ESPS manuscript NO: 14307

Title: Vessel Selection and Free Flap Monitoring in Head and Neck Microvascular Reconstruction

Reviewer code: 00503729

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2014-09-28 11:18

Date reviewed: 2014-10-14 03:48

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a well written review. Some changes are required before possible publication. Subheading: Patient characteristics. Universally validated contraindications for microvascular procedures are missing. Nevertheless, in some very limited cases, free flaps are not always the best option. Authors should mention that a thoughtful consideration of alternative pedicled reconstructive options (submental flap, infrahyoid flap, supraclavicular flap etc.) is advisable before choosing a microvascular reconstruction in elderly patients with severe general comorbidities or embarking in complex techniques for providing adequate donor vessels in previously operated and chemo-radiated patients. Subheading: Donor site selection. This part should be entirely erased since it is not very informative and somehow it falls beyond the purposes of the paper. Subheading: Anastomosis consideration. Authors should discuss the results and state of the art concerning microvascular couplers. Subheading: Post Operative Monitoring Please discuss also Microdialysis and CEUS (contrast enhanced ultrasound)