

TITLE OF THE ABSTRACT :

Is rehabilitation of Olfaction necessary in patients undergoing total laryngectomy.

DEPARTMENT : ENT (OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY)

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DEGREE AND SUBJECT : M.S (ENT)

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OBJECTIVES:

- To compare the olfactory acuity of patients prior to and after total laryngectomy
- Assess effectiveness of nasal airflow inducing maneuver technique for olfaction and the quality of life in laryngectomised patients

METHODS:

A prospective study was done recruiting patients who were planned for total laryngectomy from September 2014 to July 2015. They were subjected to olfaction testing prior to surgery. Olfaction testing was done using Butanol threshold test and Odour identification test. Composite score was calculated which gave the olfaction score. Patient was followed up 2 weeks after surgery when a quality of life assessment was done using Appetite, Hunger and Sensory Perception (AHSP) questionnaire and repeat olfaction testing was done. Following this polite yawn technique was taught to the patient and the olfaction testing was repeated with the maneuver.

RESULTS:

Twenty eight patients were recruited in this study. There was significant loss in sense of smell in all the 28 patients following total laryngectomy. After a therapy session for polite yawn technique the olfaction score showed a significant improvement in the olfaction score of all the 28 patients.

Quality of life assessment was done using AHSP questionnaire. The internal coefficient of this questionnaire was high in all the five domains and hence can be used as an effective questionnaire for quality of life assessment in total laryngectomy patients.