

## An intermediate step, non-living model (ox tongue) for microvascular training

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**Background:** This study aimed to introduce a nonliving microvascular training model based on vessels diameter and feasibility.

**Methods:** We dissected ten oxen tongues, and divided the pedicles into three-thirds: proximal, medial and distal. We measured the external vessels diameter in all regions. We performed a descriptive statistical analysis.

**Results:** We dissected all oxen tongues, each tongue showed two parallel pedicles. Each pedicle was located at 1.5 – 2.0 cm from the midline. Proximal median artery and vein diameter were  $3.9 \pm 0.7$ , and  $5.04 \pm 1.44$ mm, respectively. In the medial third, the mean artery diameter was  $3.3 \pm 0.4$ mm, and the vein diameter was  $3.5 \pm 0.9$ mm. The distal third showed a mean artery diameter of  $2.0 \pm 0.42$ mm, and a vein diameter of  $2.4 \pm 0.82$ mm.

**Conclusion:** This study suggested a feasible non animal model for microsurgical training process for beginners and intermediate trainees.

**Keywords:** Microsurgery; Surgical anastomosis; Ethical; Medical education.