



Thyroidectomy in patients with a high BMI: a safe surgery?

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Résumé en anglais	<p>OBJECTIVE: To study and compare the specific postoperative complications of thyroidectomy in a population with a BMI ≥ 25 with a population having a BMI below 25.</p> <p>DESIGN: A prospective study was carried out from September 2010 to January 2013.</p> <p>METHODS: Postoperative calcemia, laryngeal mobility, bleeding or infectious complications, postoperative hospital stay, and operation time were studied and compared statistically by a χ^2-test or Student's t-test.</p> <p>RESULTS: A total of 240 patients underwent total thyroidectomy and 126 underwent a partial thyroidectomy. Of them, 168 patients had a BMI below 25 and 198 patients had a BMI ≥ 25. There was no statistically significant difference in the occurrence of early or permanent hypoparathyroidism, recurrent laryngeal nerve palsy, bleeding complications, or postoperative duration of hospital stay. There was, however, a significant operative time in patients with a BMI ≥ 25.</p> <p>CONCLUSION: Despite the longer operative time, thyroidectomy (total or partial) can be performed safely in patients with a BMI ≥ 25.</p>
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