

Fibrin glue-reinforced closure of postlaryngectomy pharyngocutaneous fistula.

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Abstract:

Pharyngocutaneous fistulization is a dreaded and devastating complication of laryngectomy. Although the specific risk factors are controversial, a history of prior radiation therapy has generally been accepted to be a major risk factor for developing this complication. We present a case of a postlaryngectomy pharyngocutaneous fistula developing in a previously irradiated patient that was successfully managed by incorporating fibrin glue into the surgical closure. We also discuss the underlying theoretical basis for this approach by reviewing the relevant literature. Copyright 2002, Elsevier Science (USA). All rights reserved.