[Comparative studies of the stability of nerve anastomoses using CO2 laser adaptation compared with conventional technics].

[German]

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Publication Date: 1990

Abstract:

Despite sophisticated microsurgical techniques for nerve repair, neural anastomoses often dehisce,

especially under pronounced traction on the nerve endings. We investigated the resistance to

traction of several neural anastomoses made by different techniques, including the laser. Neural

anastomoses constructed or fixed by a CO2 laser beam were considered with special interest. The

forces required to disrupt the different anastomoses were monitored by a dynamometer, and the

whole procedure was recorded in slow motion on video. Improved results cannot be achieved with

the laser techniques available today: indeed neural anastomoses were less resistant to traction after

CO2 laser coagulation. Anastomoses constructed by means of epineural sutures showed much the

best resistance to traction.