



Arthroplasty with systematic uncuscectomy : Long-term results of restoration of cervical mobility

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Disclosures

- None



Introduction & Background

Cervical arthroplasty is a surgical technique more and more validated in literature. But nowadays, majority of spine center performs this surgery only for young patient with soft herniated disc. The other patients cannot benefit of the advantages of this new technology.

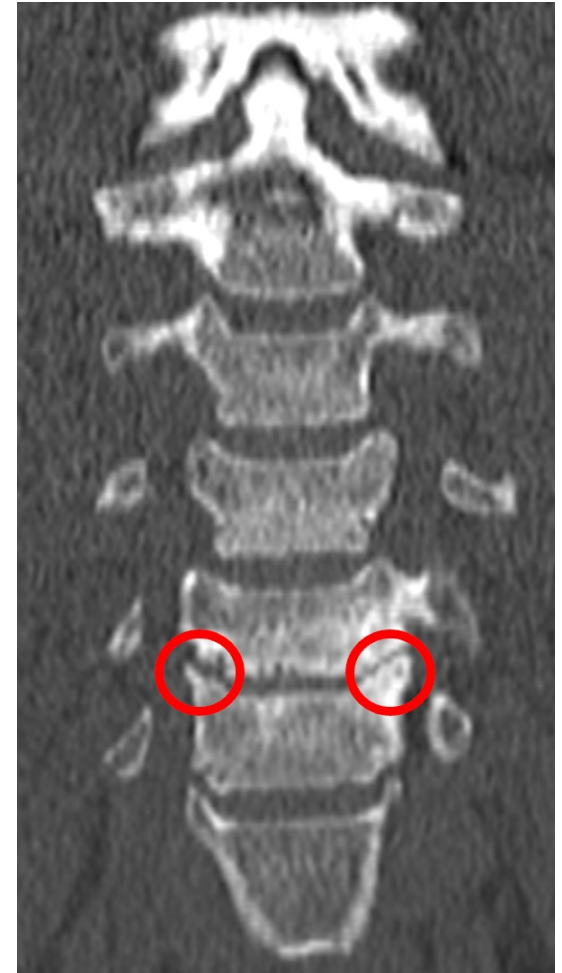
So we asked if is it possible to restore segmental cervical mobility in every patients when performing a cervical discectomy ?

Materials and Methods

We developed and practiced in our spine center a technique for 15 years to restore segmental cervical mobility in every patient when cervical discectomy is needed.

This surgical method consists in systematically milling the uncus before placing cervical disc prothesis. Uncarthrosis is not more a problem to restore mobility. Our only one limitation is facet arthrosis.

We reported cases operated between 7 and 13 years ago followed by cervical x-ray and analyzed preservation of mobility.



Results

We reported 60 patients operated between January 2007 and December 2013.

29 patients undergone one level arthroplasty

29 patients two levels arthroplasty

2 patients three levels arthroplasty

} total of 93 prothesis

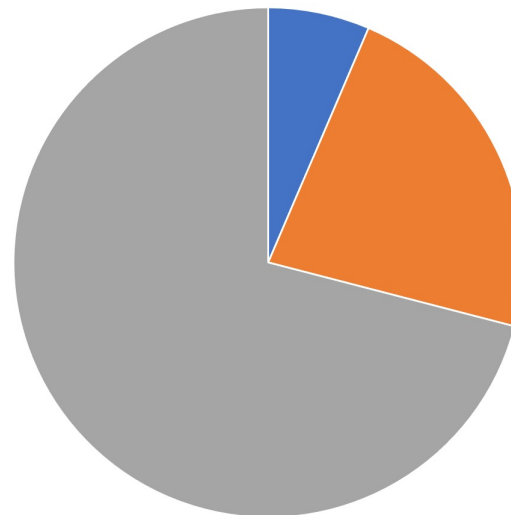
The exclusions to not perform an arthroplasty was facet arthrosis, cervical fracture and cervical tumor.

94% of prothesis has a preservation of mobility and **6% shows fusion**.

└─ 71 % : mobility as the first day

└─ 23 % : reduced mobility

No difference was showed depending of the years of follow-up, number of operated levels neither sex or patient's age.



Conclusion/discussion

We propose a new surgical technique to restore cervical mobility in every patient who needs a cervical discectomy and if facet arthrosis is not present.

Our retrospective study shows long term very good results for the preservation of the mobility.

Of course, more studies are needed to validate this surgical method and we propose to realize a prospective study.

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