Role of microvascular reconstruction for head and neck cancers

Head and neck microvascular reconstruction represents a great challenge for Oral and Maxillofacial surgeons. This challenge is not only determined by the technical complexity of this type of surgery, but also by the patient's quality in the context of an oncological process. Many times, patients who undergo microsurgical procedures for head and neck reconstruction present with large tumors and need extensive and mutilating surgeries. Therefore, the objective of head and neck reconstructive surgery is to restore the function and give back an identity to these patients.

As it is happening for other areas of medicine, progress and new technologies are transforming and improving head and neck reconstructive surgery. Coupler system and its doppler monitoring system, virtual surgical planning and the improvement in imaging techniques are examples of the impact of new technologies in the field of reconstructive surgery. It is our duty to keep up with changes and continue to evolve continuously, without forgetting what has been learned from the past.

The main aim of this focused issue is to analyze the state of the art of head and neck reconstruction by the help of highly recognized authors with a great expertise in this field. Thanks to their contributions it will be possible to learn their tricks and tips and how they handle difficult situations in head and neck reconstruction.

Moreover, the impact of new technologies such as VSP will be also analyzed.

I firmly believe that this focused issue will significantly contribute to spreading greater knowledges in this field and will help many surgeons around the world to offer the best type of treatment to their patients. All this will contribute to improving the quality of life of many patients around the world.

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