

Surgical versus non-surgical interventions for vocal cord nodules.

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Abstract:

Background: **Vocal cord nodules** are bilateral swellings of the mid-portion of the membranous **vocal** folds. They are of variable size and are characterised histologically by thickening of the epithelium with a variable degree of inflammatory action in the underlying superficial lamina propria. They characteristically produce hoarseness. Treatment of **vocal cord nodules** aims to eliminate or reduce this hoarseness.

Objectives: To assess the effectiveness of surgery **versus non-surgical interventions** for **vocal cord nodules**.

Search Strategy: We searched the Cochrane Controlled Trials Register (CCTR) and Medline (1966-2000), Embase (1974-2000), Biological Abstracts (1970-2000), Biological Abstracts RRM (Reports, Reviews and Meetings) on CD-ROM (1989-2000) and review articles.

Selection Criteria: Randomised and quasi-randomised trials comparing any **surgical intervention** for **vocal cord nodules** with **non-surgical** treatment or no treatment.

Data Collection and Analysis: No suitable trials were identified.

Main Results: No studies fulfilled the inclusion criteria.

Reviewer's Conclusions: There is a need for high quality randomised controlled trials to evaluate the effectiveness of **surgical** and **non-surgical** treatment of **vocal cord nodules**.

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39

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