



## Transoral Neck Surgery

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**No disclosures**

## Outline

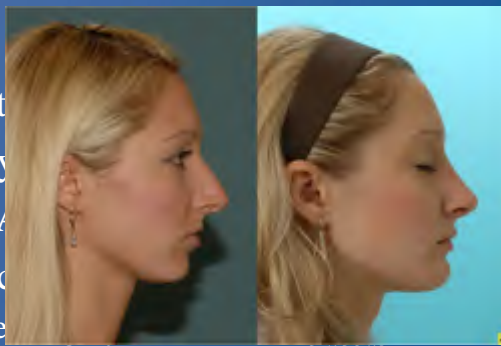


- Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery
- Transoral Neck Surgery (TONS)
  - What?
  - Why?
  - How?
- Challenges with TONS

## Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery



- “Ear, Nose, Throat”
- Pediatric Otolaryngology
- Neurotology
- Rhinology/Allergy & Immunology
- Head & Neck Surgery
  - Endocrine
- Facial Plastics & Reconstructive Surgery
- Laryngology/Professional Voice/ Airway Surgery



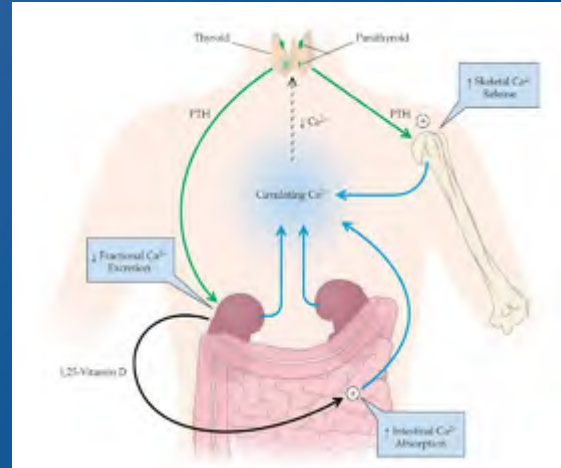
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## Parathyroidectomy- Why?



- Hypercalcemia
  - “Bones, groans, psychiatric overtones”
  - Pain; abdominal, extremity/muscular
  - Constipation
  - Confusion
- PTH elevated
  - Imaging identifies parathyroid adenoma



<http://what-when-how.com/acp-medicine/diseases-of-calcium-metabolism-and-metabolic-bone-disease-part-1/>

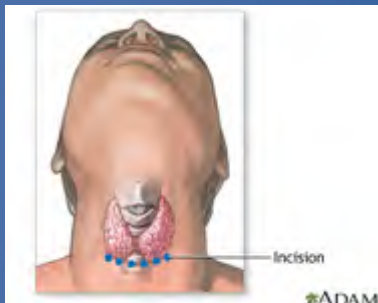
## Thyroidectomy/Parathyroidectomy- How?



- Transcervical
  - First described by Theodor Kocher in 1880s
- Direct route, technique perfected
- Can lead to unsightly neck scarring



[https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/medicine/laureates/1909/kocher-bio.htm](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/medicine/laureates/1909/kocher-bio.htm)



<http://www.unm.edu/~media/ADAM/Images/en/14062.adx>



<http://people.com/celebrity/brooke-burke-charvet-reveals-surgery-scar/>

## Impact of Postthyroidectomy Scar on the Quality of Life of Thyroid Cancer Patients

Yun Choi, Ji Hye Lee, Yeon Hee Kim, Yong Sang Lee<sup>1</sup>, Hang-Seok Chang<sup>2</sup>, Chonggi Seo Park<sup>3</sup>, Mi Ryung Roh



“The QoL does not seem to be associated with the severity or type of the scar, but rather with the presence of the scar itself....

Thus, all patients with postthyroidectomy scars may be affected by decreased QoL regardless of the characteristics of the scar or their own status....

Our finding suggest that the QoL of patients with postthyroidectomy scars is impaired after traditional thyroidectomy as much as that of patients with other chronic skin diseases, such as psoriasis, vitiligo, and severe atopic dermatitis.”

9

Ann Dermatol - Vol. 26 No. 6, 2014

What you may

The New York Times

Debate Over Early  
More researchers suggest 'active'...

Study P...

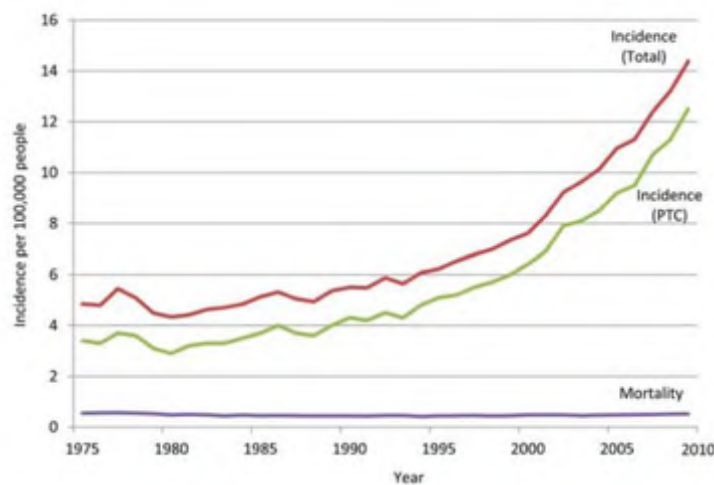
Op-Ed We sh...

Overdiagnosis in Th...

Overdiagnosis in Th...

## An Epidemic of Thyroid Cancer?

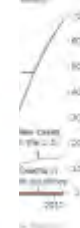
Figure 1



### Screening for Thyroid Cancer

Screening for thyroid cancer is controversial. Screening in 1998 showed cancer has become the most diagnosed cancer in the country. But if...

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MEDICINE



### Most Should Be Left Alone.



### Overdiagnosing Thyroid Cancer

Unnecessary and often costly tests create small thyroid lesions many of which would never progress if left alone. Aggressive treatment to remove the thyroid has strong consequences and has not reduced the death rate, a sign that thyroid cancer is being overdiagnosed.

## American Thyroid Association Statement on Remote-Access Thyroid Surgery

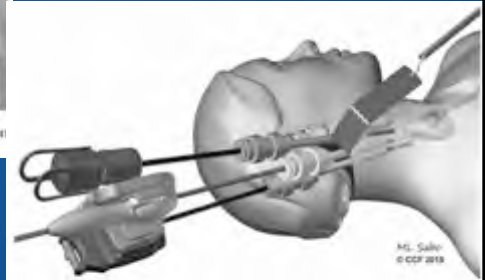
Eren Berber,<sup>1</sup> Victor Bernet,<sup>2</sup> Thomas J. Fahey III,<sup>3</sup> Electron Kebebew,<sup>4</sup> Ashok Shaha,<sup>5</sup>  
Brendan C. Stack, Jr.,<sup>6</sup> Michael Stang,<sup>7</sup> David L. Steward,<sup>8</sup> and David J. Terris<sup>9</sup>  
for the American Thyroid Association Surgical Affairs Committee



**FIG. 1.** Illustration showing the bilateral axillary breast approach.



**FIG. 2.** Illustration showing the setup and instrumentation for a transaxillary thyroidectomy.

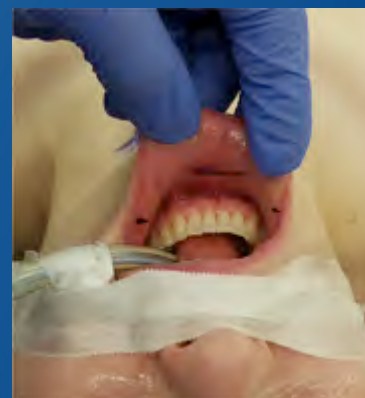


**FIG. 3.** Illustration demonstrating the technique for the facelift approach for thyroidectomy.

## TONS



- Transoral Neck Surgery
  - Thyroidectomy
  - Parathyroidectomy
  - Central Neck Dissection
- Robotically or Endoscopically





# TONS – Robotic



**Table 2** Surgical outcomes of transoral robotic thyroidectomy and comparison during period A (initial 12 cases) and period B (latter 12 cases)

Variables	Total (n = 24)	Period A (n = 12)	Period B (n = 12)	P value*
Age, years	39.6 ± 11.6	38.3 ± 11.0	41.0 ± 12.5	0.684
Body mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	22.4 ± 2.6	22.0 ± 3.0	22.7 ± 2.1	0.684
Operation time (min)	232 ± 41	234 ± 54	230 ± 24	0.100
Hospital stay (days)	3.3 ± 0.8	3.2 ± 0.4	3.5 ± 1.0	0.640
No. of retrieved CLN in PTC patients	4.7 ± 3.2	5.0 ± 3.2	4.5 ± 3.6	0.370
Vocal cord palsy				
Transient	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	n.a
Permanent	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
Mental nerve injury		9 (75.0)	0 (0)	<0.001
Transient/permanent†		6/3	0/0	
Bruise over zygomatic region	2 (8.3)	0 (0)	2 (16.7)	0.478
Perforation of chin flap	1 (4.2)	0 (0)	1 (8.3)	1.000
Tearing of commissure of lips	1 (4.2)	0 (0)	1 (8.3)	1.000
Median follow-up (range) (months)	24.2 (6, 52)	46.3 (39, 52)	7.9 (6, 9)	

Transoral robotic thyroidectomy: lessons learned from an initial consecutive series of 24 patients

Bhoo Yuh Kim<sup>1</sup> · Young Jun Cha<sup>2</sup> · Gwanseon Doo<sup>3</sup> · Angkoon Amwong<sup>4</sup> · Jeremy D. Richman<sup>5</sup>

Complications	Number (rate)	
Hypoparathyroidism		
Temporary	3 (5 %)	
Permanent	0	
Recurrent laryngeal injury		
Temporary	2 (3.33 %)	
Permanent	0	
Mental nerve injury	0	
Hematoma	1 (1.67 %)	
Infection	0	
Subcutaneous emphysema	0	
Pneumomediastinum	0	
Tracheal injury	0	
Esophageal injury	0	

Details	Value
Operation (n = 60)	
Hemithyroidectomy	34 (56.67 %)
Bilateral thyroidectomy	26 (43.33 %)
Operative time (median, mins)	115.5 (75–300)
Hemithyroidectomy	90 (75–180)
Bilateral thyroidectomy	135.5 (105–300)
Blood loss (median, mL)	30 (8–130)
Drainage volume (average, mL)	74.76 (33–250)
Drainage removal (average, days)	3 (2–4)
Hospital stay after surgery (mean, days)	3.6 (2–7)

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## Operative details

Operation (N = 32 procedures on 30 patients\*)

Lobectomy	23
Total Thyroidectomy	3
<u>Sistrunk</u>	1
Parathyroidectomy	5
Robotic	6
Endoscopic	25
BMI (Median, Range)	28 (19.9-44)
Operative time (Median, Range, <u>mins</u> )	260 (117-480)
Estimated Blood Loss (median, range)	10 (5-500mL)
Drains	3
Hospital Stay After Surgery (mean, days)	0.9

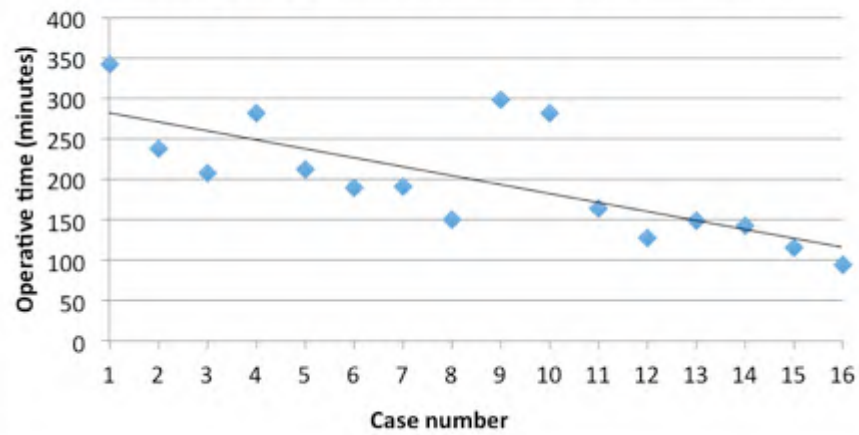
\*One patient converted from robotic to endoscopic, one patient had parathyroidectomy and lobectomy, and one patient had lobectomy and Sistrunk procedure

## Complications N (%)

Hypoparathyroidism	
Temporary	0
Permanent	0
Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve Injury	
Temporary	1 (3.3%)
Permanent	0
Mental Nerve Injury	0
Skin Burn	2 (6.7%)
Syncope	2(6.7%)
Hematoma	0
Infection	0
Esophageal Injury	0
<u>Pneumomediastinum</u>	0

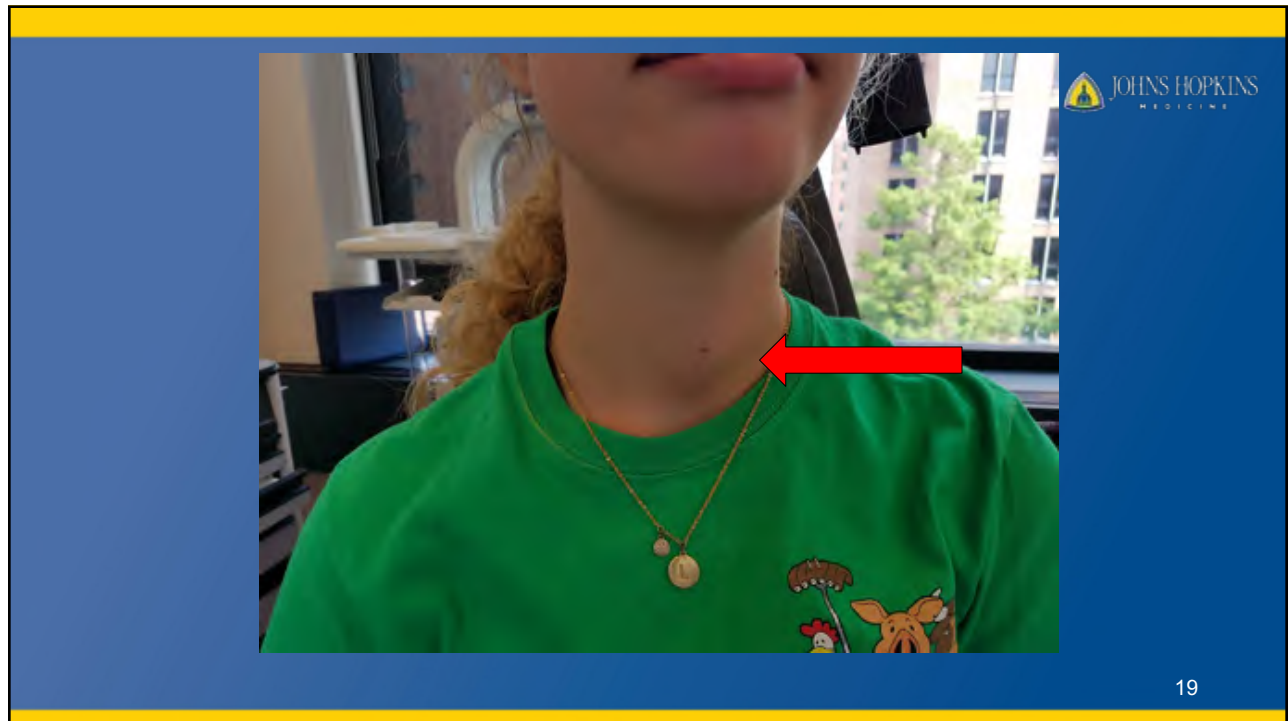


### Endoscopic Operative Time Vs. Case Number



## Case Presentation







## TONS – Challenges



1. Robotic – arm positioning, instrumentation
2. Endoscopic – camera operator, instrumentation  
Limited DOF, nerve dissection
3. Developing the operative field/pocket
4. Maintaining a view – insufflation/camera debris
5. Blind port placement

# Questions ?



23