

Occipitocervical fusion Complications

Data confirm that including bicortical occipital screw placement in occipitocervical constructs in children may result in a high fusion rate but at the cost of a notable complication rate ¹⁾.

The complication rate can be quite high when performing OCF in patients with cerebral palsy, rheumatoid arthritis. Much precaution should be taken when performing this procedure on high risk patients ²⁾.

Complications included deep wound infections (n = 2), pseudoarthrosis (n = 2), and deaths (n = 4) ³⁾.

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Choi SH, Lee SG, Park CW, Kim WK, Yoo CJ, Son S. Surgical outcomes and complications after occipitocervical fusion using the screw-rod system in craniocervical instability. J Korean Neurosurg Soc. 2013 Apr;53(4):223-7. doi: 10.3340/jkns.2013.53.4.223. Epub 2013 Apr 30. PubMed PMID: 23826478; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3698232.

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