

Semilateral Position

The semilateral position, also known as the Jannetta position after the neurosurgeon who popularized its use for microvascular decompression of the fifth cranial nerve, is used for retromastoid access. It is achieved by lateral tilting of the table 10 to 20 degrees, combined with a generous shoulder roll. Again, extreme head rotation causing compression of the contralateral jugular vein by the chin should be avoided.

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