

Semispinalis cervicis muscle

Semispinalis cervicis is a muscle of the back. Along with the semispinalis capitis and thoracis it comprises a long semispinalis muscle. This muscle belongs to the spinotransverse group of deep back muscles, along with the rotatores and multifidus muscles.

The preoperative CSA of the [Semispinalis cervicis muscle](#) (SC) has been reported to correlate with [loss of lordosis](#) (LL) after [laminoplasty](#), with a CSA <154.5 mm² associated with a 10 degrees LL.

Laminoplasty patients at the University of [California San Francisco](#) between 2009 and 2018 by 2 [spine surgeons](#) were retrospectively studied. Patients with previous [cervical spine surgery](#) or nondegenerative diagnoses were excluded. Measurements included the [C2-C7 angle](#), [T1 slope](#), and [cervical sagittal vertical axis](#). Preoperative DEM CSA was measured on [magnetic resonance imaging](#). Variables associated with lordosis were analyzed with [univariate](#) analysis and multivariate [logistic regression](#), and association between postoperative [Cervical spine alignment](#) and the musculature was evaluated.

Seventy-six patients with a mean age of 64 years were included. The average follow-up was 22.53 months. The overall average CSA of the DEM was 2274.55 mm² and that of the SC was 275.64 mm². Means of both CSAs were higher in men ($P < 0.001$). Linear regression showed no correlation between LL with CSA of the DEM or the SC ($r = 0.005$, $P = 0.119$; $r = 0.001$, $P = 0.095$). Univariate and multivariate regression showed no differences in the CSA of the DEM and SC between groups with and without LL ($P = 0.092$, 0.117 and 0.163 , 0.292). There was no correlation in LL with sex or body mass index ($P > 0.05$).

Preoperative CSA of the [deep neck extensors](#) may not predict [lordosis](#) after [cervical laminoplasty](#). The correlation between the preoperative SC CSA and postoperative [Cervical spine alignment](#) may not be as strong as previously reported ¹⁾.

1)

Liu J, Xie R, Ruan H, Rivera J, Li B, Mahmood B, Lee J, Guizar R 3rd, Mahmoudieh Y, Mummaneni PV, Chou D. The [Preoperative Cross-sectional Area](#) of the Deep Cervical Extensor Muscles Does Not Predict Loss of [Lordosis](#) After [Cervical Laminoplasty](#). Clin Spine Surg. 2021 May 24. doi: 10.1097/BSD.0000000000001199. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 34029263.

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