

# Vagus nerve section

León et al. presented in 2003 the consequences corresponding to a bilateral section of the main trunk of [vagus nerve](#) at cervical level in a patient with an oropharyngeal carcinoma with bilateral neck nodes. As a consequence of the bilateral resection of both vagus nerves during neck dissections, as well as motor and sensitive damage of the larynx and pharynx, they could observe affection of the normal tone of the oesophagus, stomach and duodenum which forced to enteral nutrition by direct jejunal access, and a disorder of the cardiac rhythm due to loss of the parasympathetic innervation appeared <sup>1)</sup>.

In a intracranial approach when a section for [glossopharyngeal neuralgia](#) is performed initial post-op dysphagia usually resolves.

Cardiovascular complications following [vagus nerve](#) section have been reported, warrants close monitoring x 24 h.

<sup>1)</sup>

León X, Orús C, López M, Sainz S, Quer M. [Consequences of the bilateral vagus nerve section at a cervical level]. Acta Otorrinolaringol Esp. 2003 Feb;54(2):157-60. Spanish. PubMed PMID: 12802993.

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