

Mental nerve and sensory disturbances – what are the bases for recovery?

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Résumé

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Introduction:

Sensorineural disorders of the lower lip are a common and detrimental complication for patients.

They represent a major forensic problem in surgical procedures on the lower 1/3 of the face.

The evolution of these neurosensory disorders is variable. Recovery is variable. The objective of this study was to analyze the distribution of mental nerves in the lower lip in order to deduce the anatomical types favorable to the recovery of sensitivity.

Material and methods: 30 lips (60 mental nerves) were studied - 25 studied in situ including 5 with an arterial injection with latex and 5 were removed and studied according to the Sihler method.

Results: we objectified 3 types of innervation: 1) absence of connection between the terminal branches of the 2 nerves 2) contiguity of the terminal branches 3) connection between the terminal branches.

Discussion: This study made it possible to illustrate, for the first time to our knowledge, the different types of nerve connections inside the lip. And to deduce the cases favorable to recovery in the event of lesion of the inferior alveolar nerve.

Conclusion: Type 3 was the most favorable for recovery of lower lip tenderness.

Key words : lower third of the face – inferior alveolar nerve –mental nerve - neuro sensory disorders – recovery