

Trigeminal Nerve Injury Diagnosis and Management

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Outline

1. Overview

2. Incidence

3. Classification

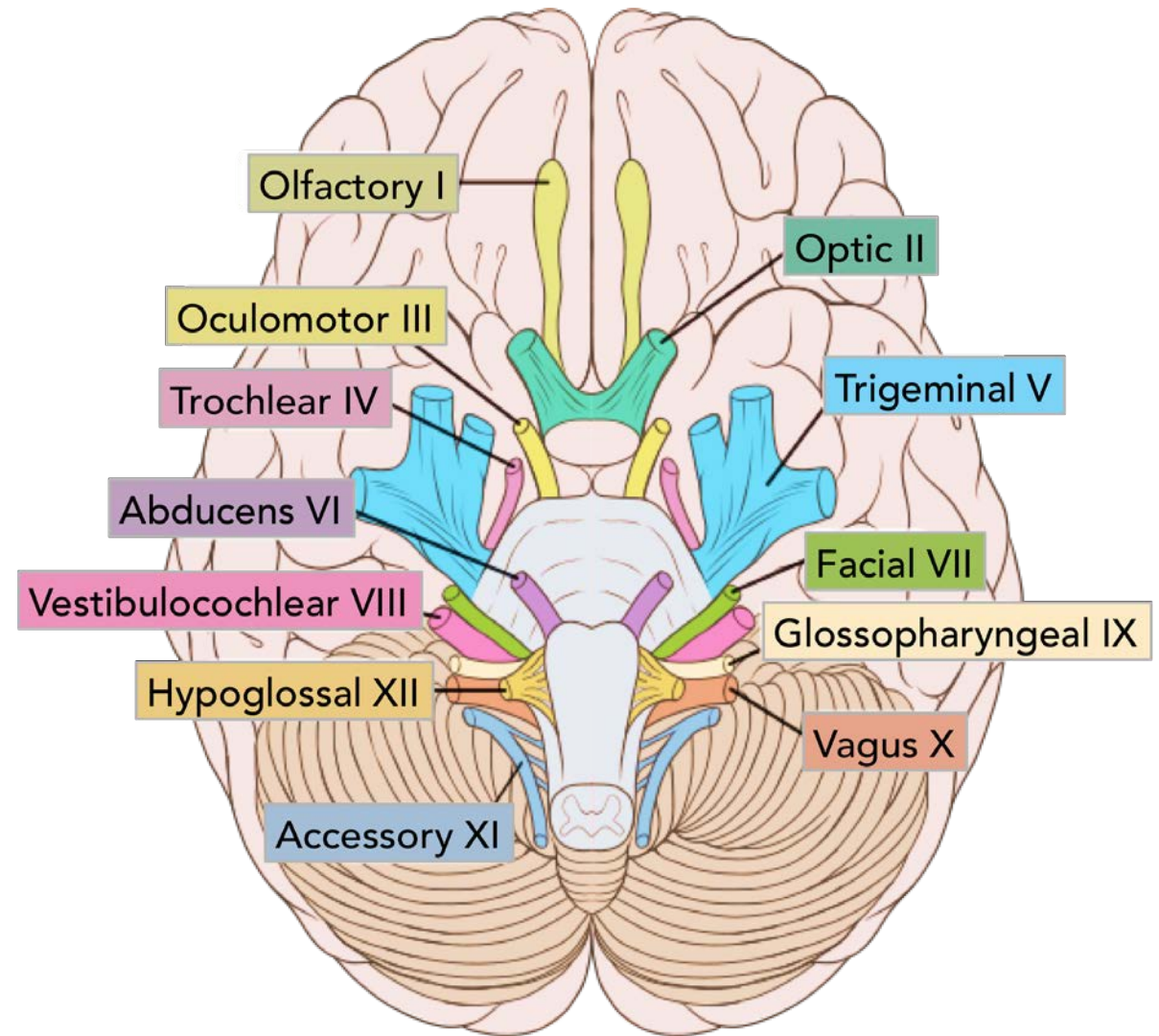
4. Management

- Current concepts for improving outcomes
- Anatomy of nerves
- Case studies by nerve type and injury type

5. Clinical Cases

Overview

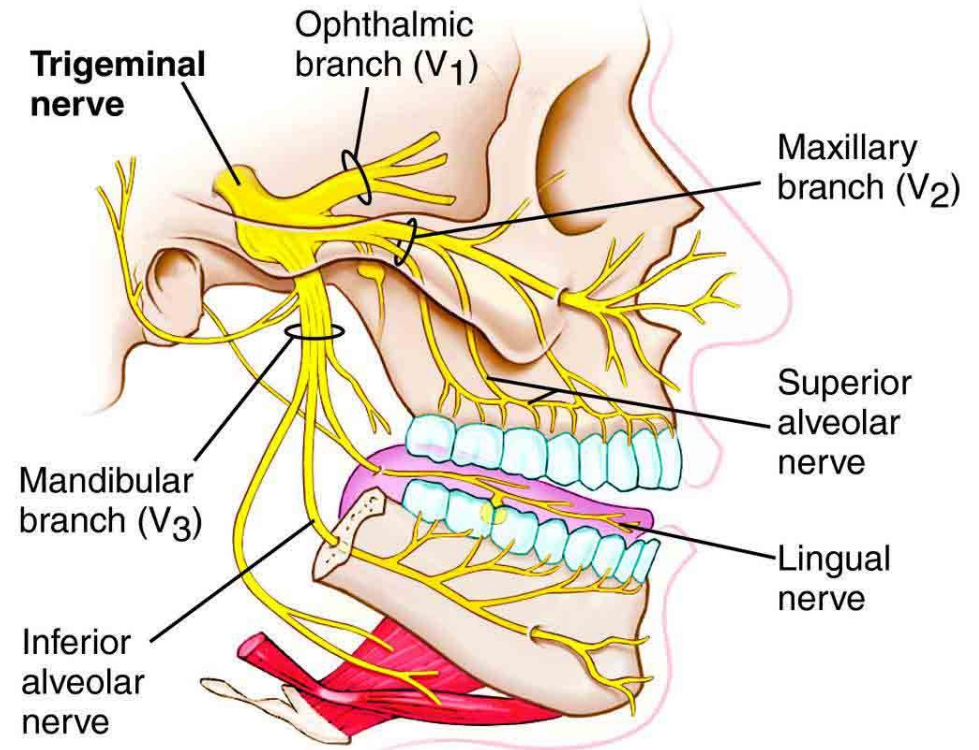
- All cranial nerves can be injured
- Cranial nerves with potential Risk:
 - II, V, VII, X, XI, XII
- Focus on V



Trigeminal Nerve Injury

Nerves that can be injured:

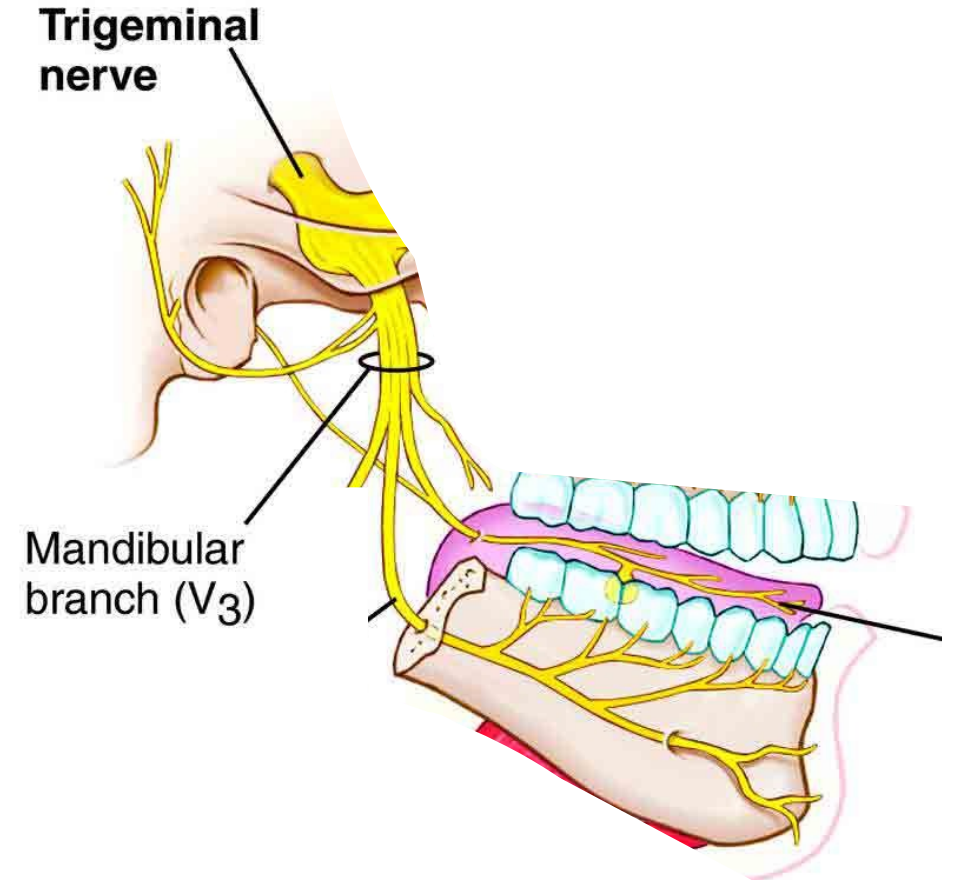
- V1
 - Supraorbital
- V2
 - Infraorbital
 - Greater palatine
 - Incisal
- V3
 - Inferior alveolar
 - Mental
 - Incisive
 - Lingual



Trigeminal Nerve Injury

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- V3
 - Inferior alveolar
 - Mental
 - Incisive
 - Lingual



Trigeminal Nerve Injury

- Iatrogenic or planned resection during ablative surgery
- Potential to impact nearly every social interaction we take for granted
- May cause altered sensation, pain and may interfere with speaking, eating, drinking, tooth brushing, shaving, and smiling

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1. Clinical Cases

Incidence and Etiology

ETIOLOGY OF TRIGEMINAL NERVE INJURIES		
Procedure	Nerves Affected	MOI
Local Anesthetic Injury	Inferior Alveolar Nerve (IAN), LN	Direct needle trauma, toxic effect of anesthetic, bleeding, hematoma
M3 Removal	IAN, LN, Long Buccal Nerve (LBN)	Incision, flap retraction, rotating bur, osteotome, compression, suturing, socket medication
Orthognathic Surgery	Infraorbital Nerve (IFN), IAN, LN	Drill, osteotome, saw, internal fixation, nerve retraction, nerve compression
Ablative Surgery (pathology)	IAN, LN, MN	Unintentional nerve injury, intentional nerve resection
Trauma	Supraorbital Nerve(SON), IFN, IAN, Mental Nerve (MN)	Compression, severance, avulsion, internal fixation
Preprosthetic Surgery	IAN, LN, MN	Chemical burn, compression, suture, compartment syndrome, rotating bur
Endodontic Treatments	IAN, MN	Overinstrumentation, compression, chemical burn

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5. Closed Cases

NERVE INJURY CLASSIFICATION

- Provides a means of obtaining a prognosis based on the type of injury, etiological cause and length of time since the injury
- One must also take into consideration subjective data in addressing needs of the patient

NERVE INJURY CLASSIFICATION

- Seddon (1943)—Separates injuries into three categories:
 - Neuropraxia
 - Axonotmesis
 - Neurotmesis
- Sunderland (1973) expanded upon this idea, subdividing Axonotmesis into three additional grades.

Classification of Nerve Injury

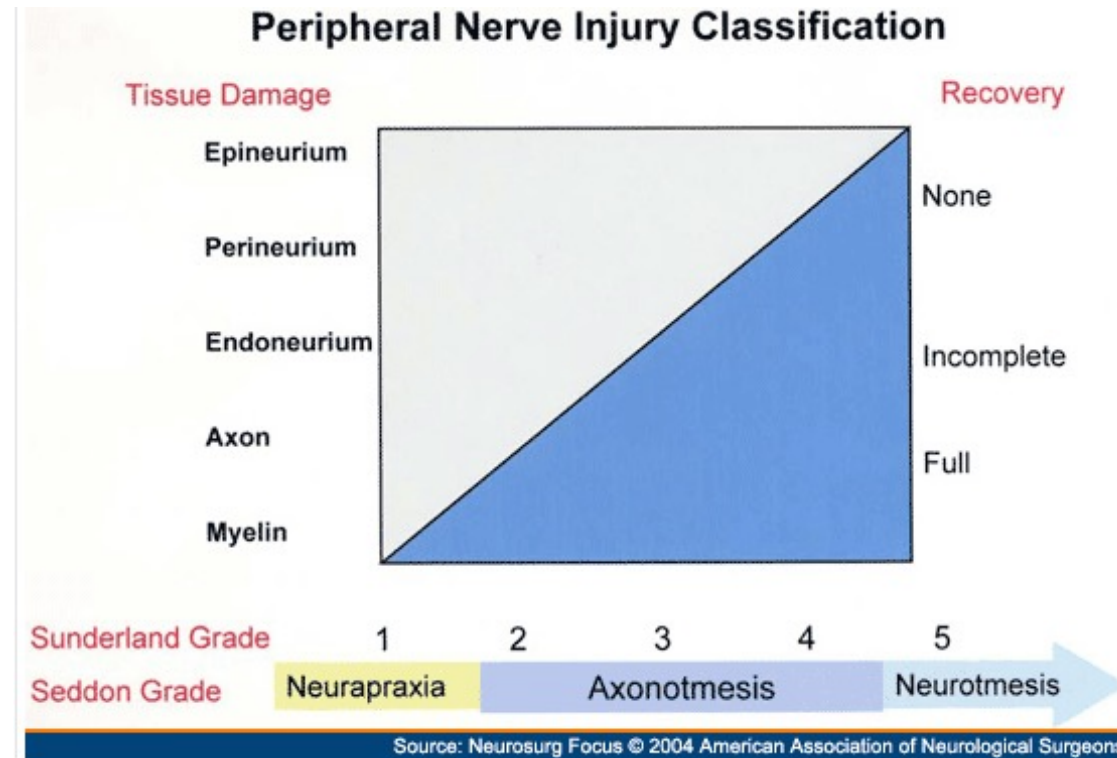
Degree of Injury	Histopathologic Changes					Tinel Sign	
	Myelin	Axon	Endoneurium	Perineurium	Epineurium	Present	Progresses Distally
I Neurapraxia	+ /-					-	-
II Axonotmesis	+	+				+	+
III	+	+	+			+	+
IV	+	+	+	+		+	-
V Neurotmesis	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
VI	Various fibers and fascicles demonstrate various pathologic changes					+	+ /-

NERVE INJURY CLASSIFICATION: RATE OF RECOVERY

Sunderland	Recovery Pattern	Rate of Recovery	Need for Surgery
1 st degree	Complete	Fast (days-weeks)	no
2 nd degree	Complete	Slow (weeks)	possible
3 rd degree	Variable	Slow (weeks-months)	possible
4 th degree	Poor	Little/none	yes
5 th degree	None	none	yes

Why classify injury?

Predict recovery

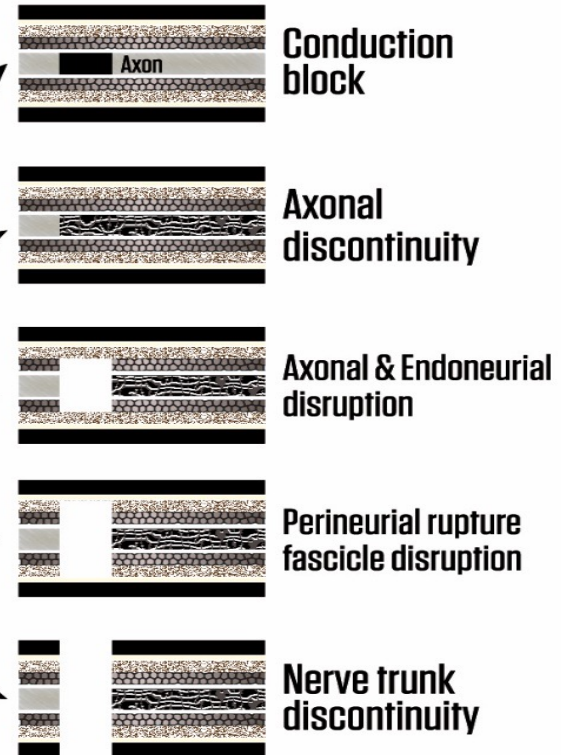


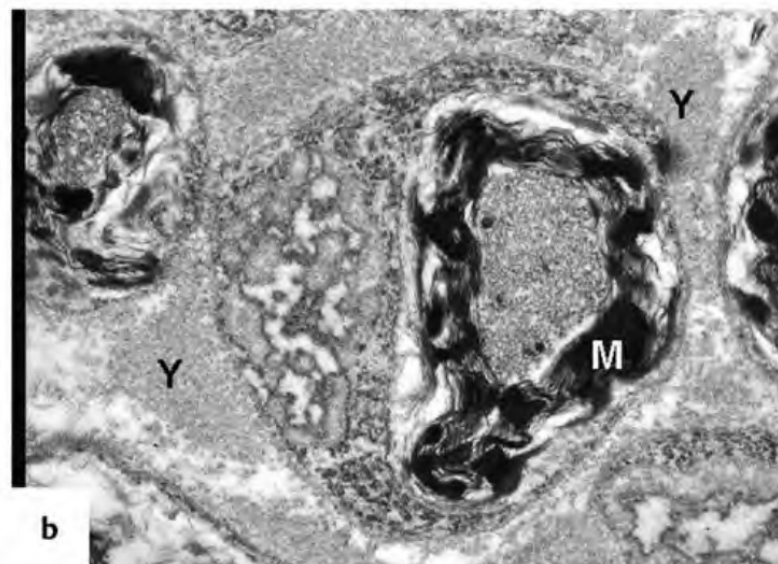
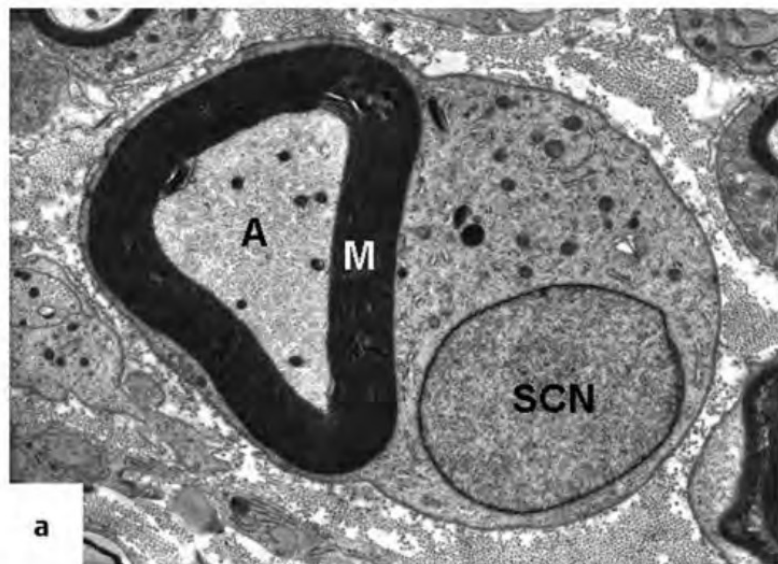
MACKINNON DIAGRAM

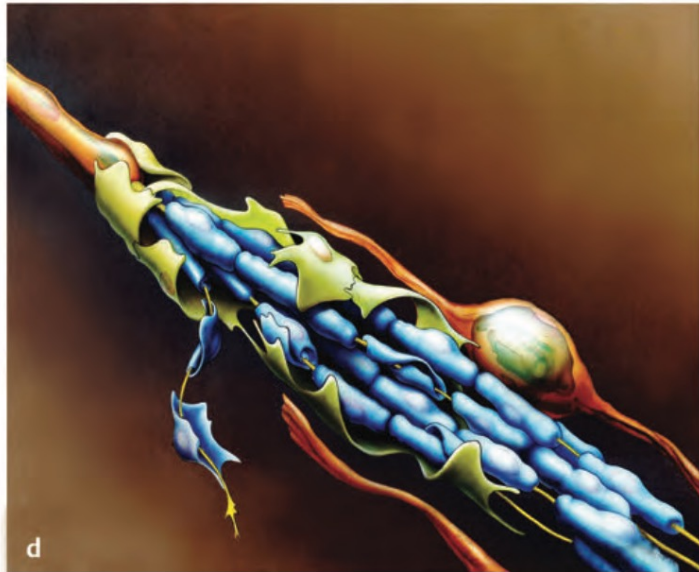
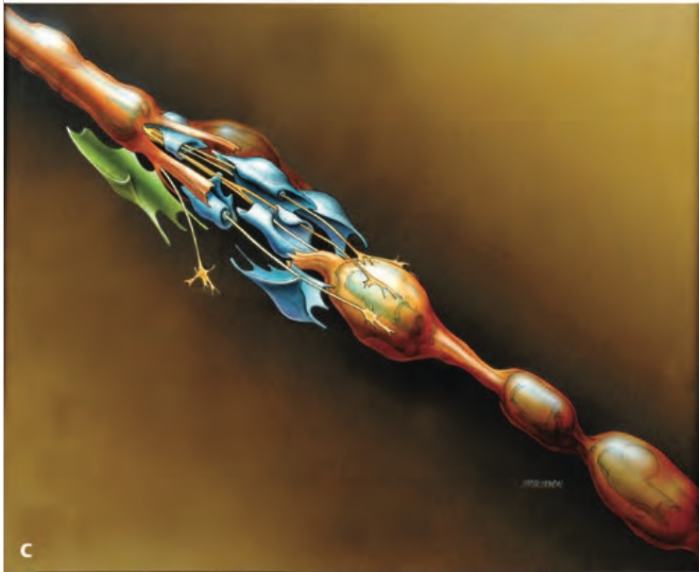
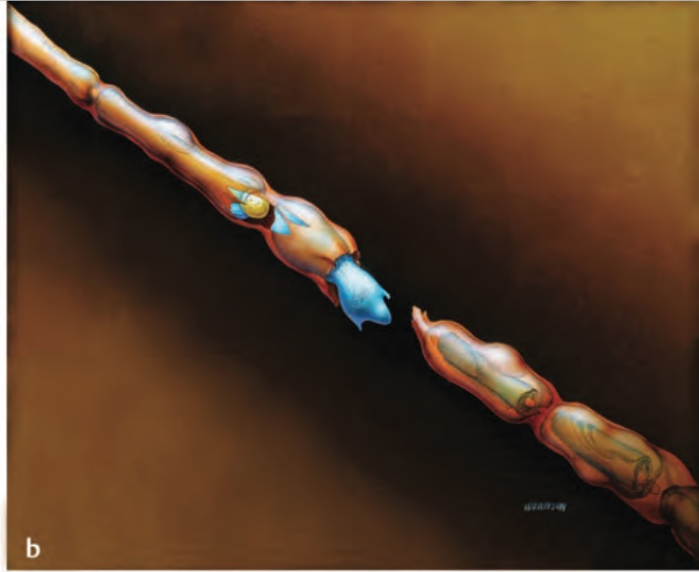
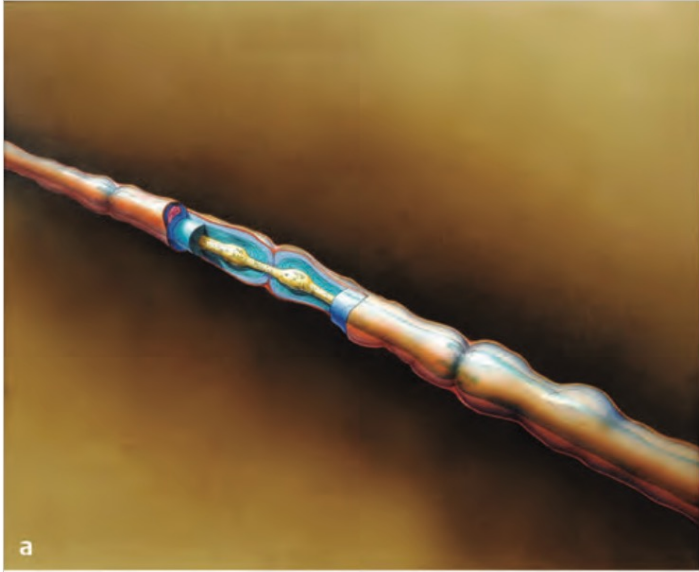
Source: Surgery of the Peripheral Nerve, Susan E. Mackinnon, Arnold Lee Dellon, Thieme Verlag, 1988

Classification of Nerve Injury	
<i>Seddon</i>	<i>Sunderland</i>
Neurapraxia	I
Axonotmesis	II
—	III
—	IV
Neurotmesis	V

Wallerian degeneration = 







DESPITE BEST OF CARE PRACTICES

- Peripheral trigeminal nerve injuries (CN V) are a known risk of and oral surgical treatments
 - Injuries occur, and in some cases, may be unavoidable
- Recovery occurs in most, **but not all patients**

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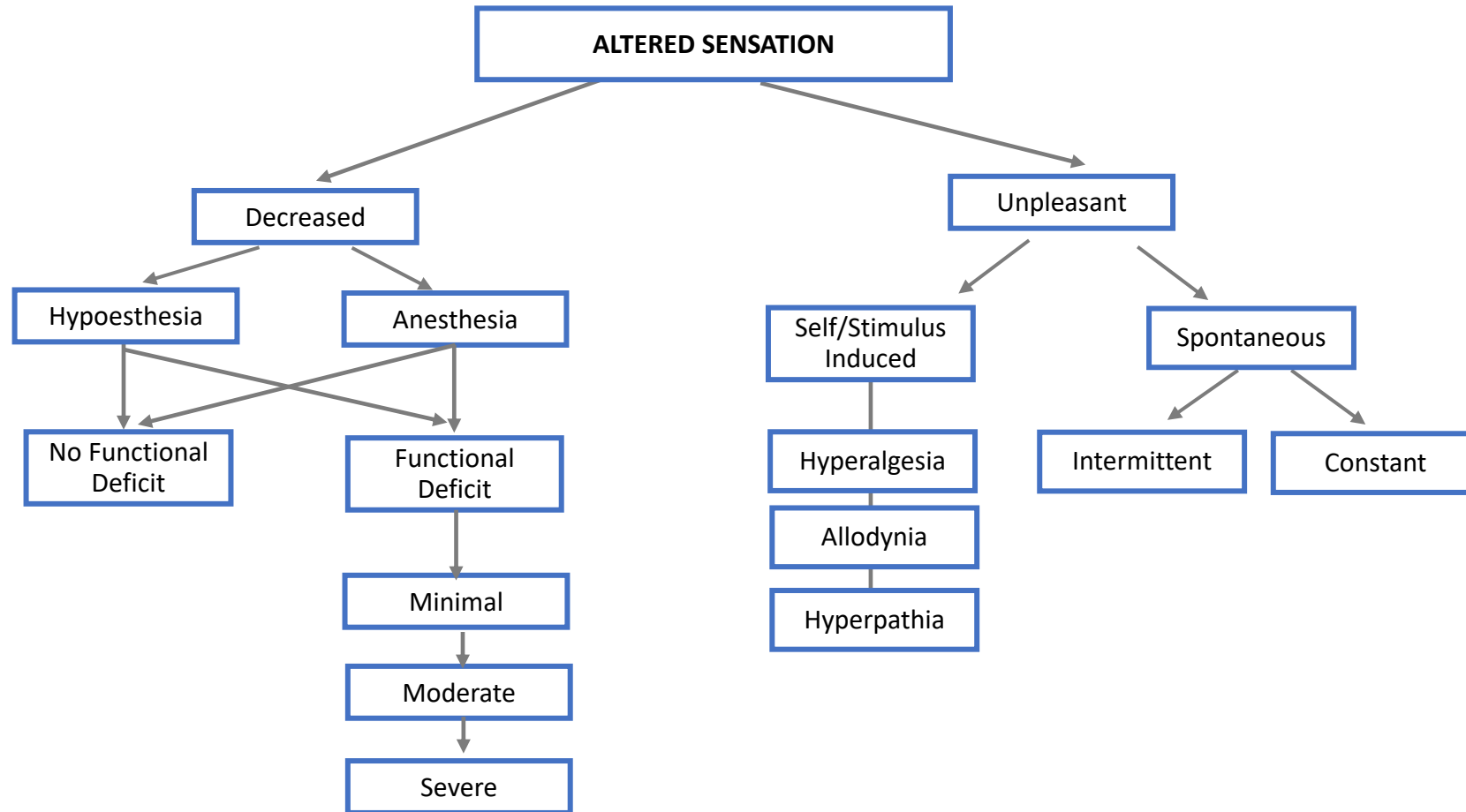
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History

- Etiology
- Onset, Progression
- Any treatment
- Present complaints

PATIENT INTERVIEW



Examination

- Neurosensory test
- Radiographs – rule out foreign body, roots
- Tinel's sign
- Atrophic papillae
- Taste abnormality

Neurosensory Testing

- Level A:
 - Two point discrimination
 - Brush stroke directional perception
- Level B
 - Contact detection (light touch)
- Level C
 - Pain and temperature

Level A

Brush stroke direction

- Right to left/ left to right
- Number correct out of 10 -> normal 80%
- Alternate with control side



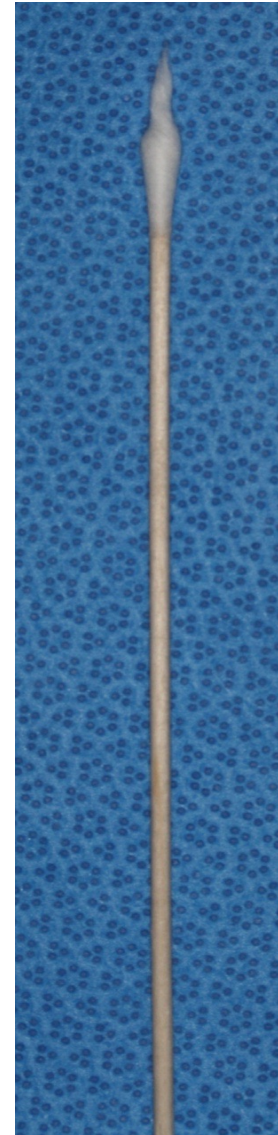
Two point discrimination

- Closest distance to discern 2 points
- Compare to control side
- Use blunt tips
- Normal:
 - Tongue 2-5 mm
 - Lip 4-5 mm
 - Chin 8-10 mm



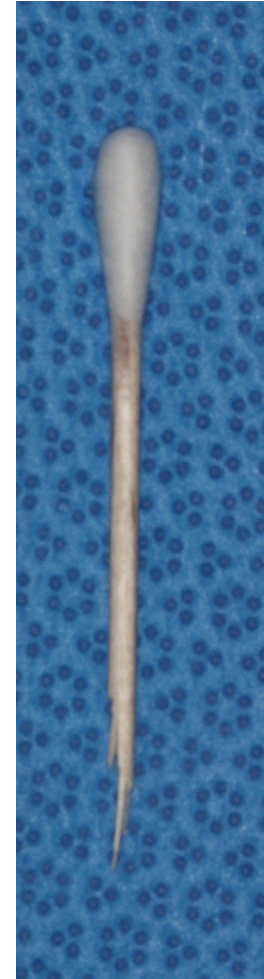
Level B

- Contact detection
 - Wisp of cotton tip applicator
 - Von Frey hairs

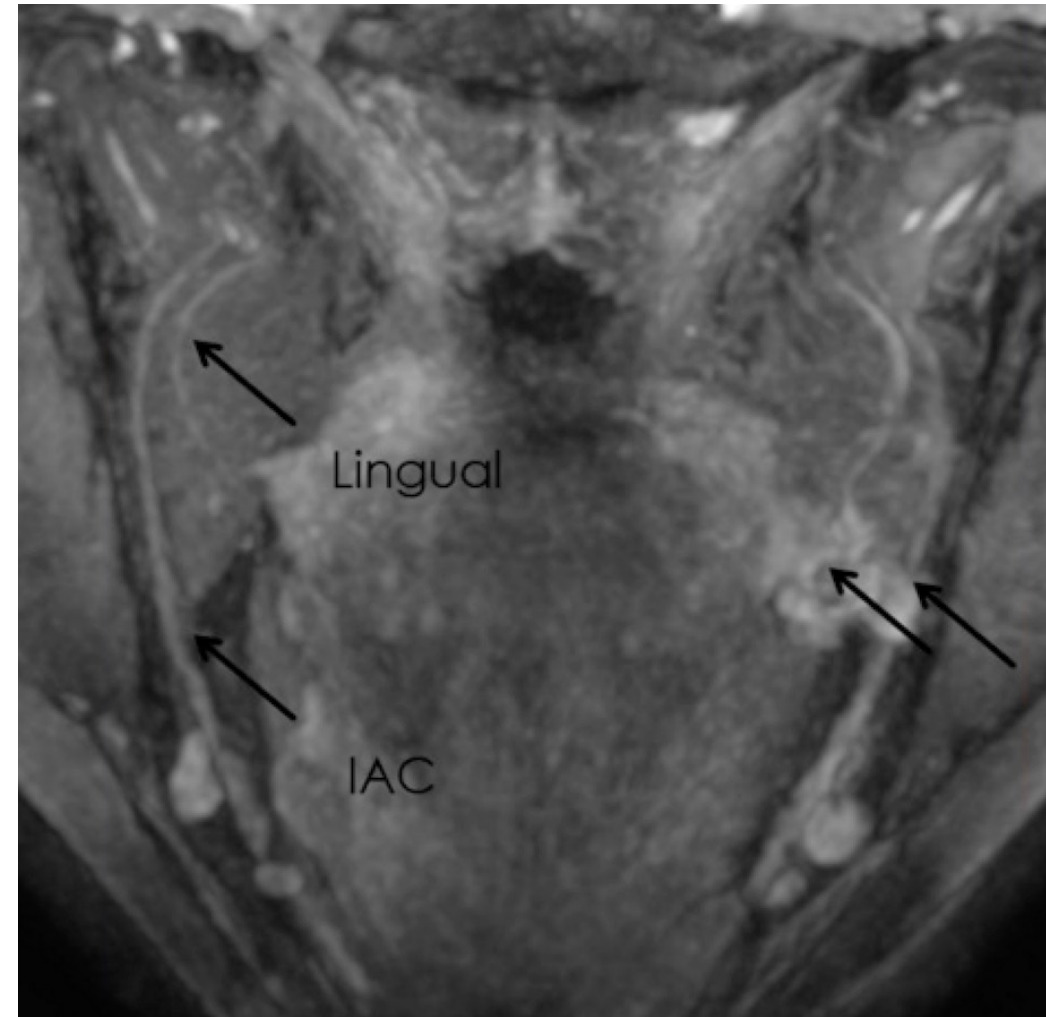
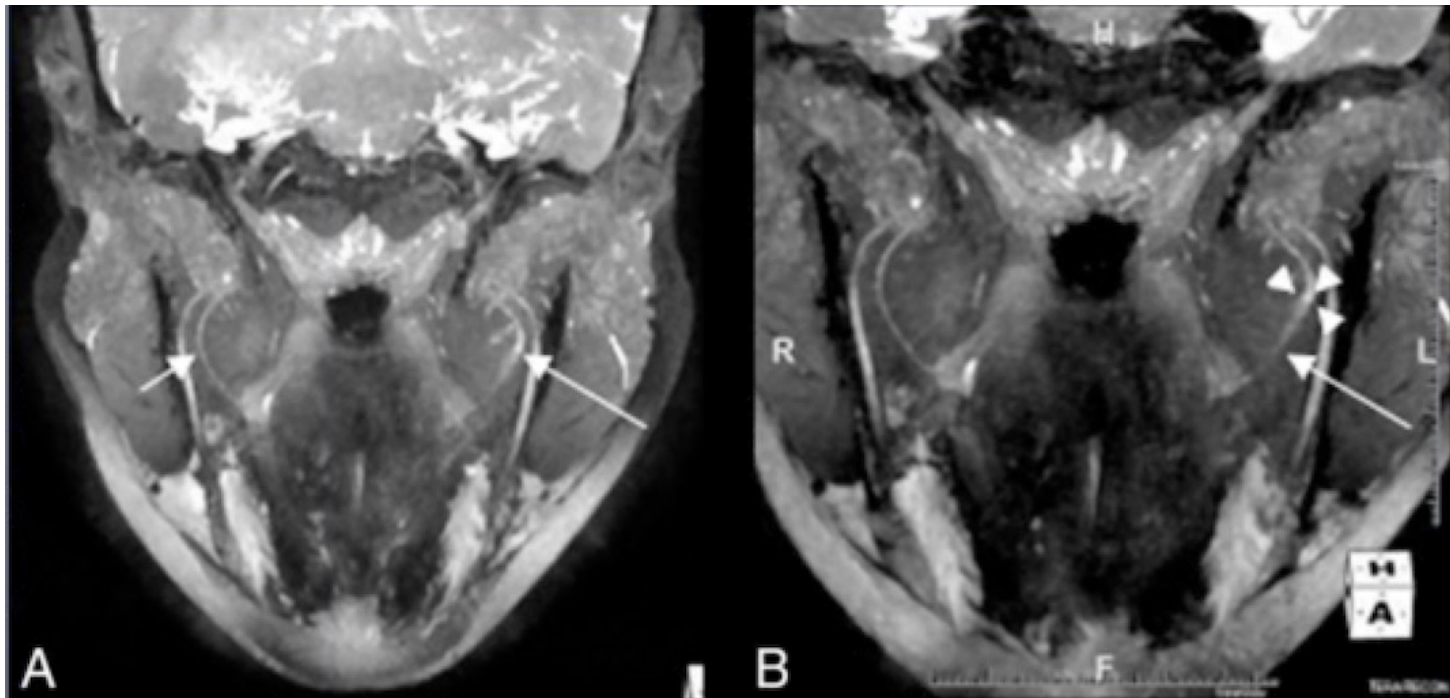


Level C

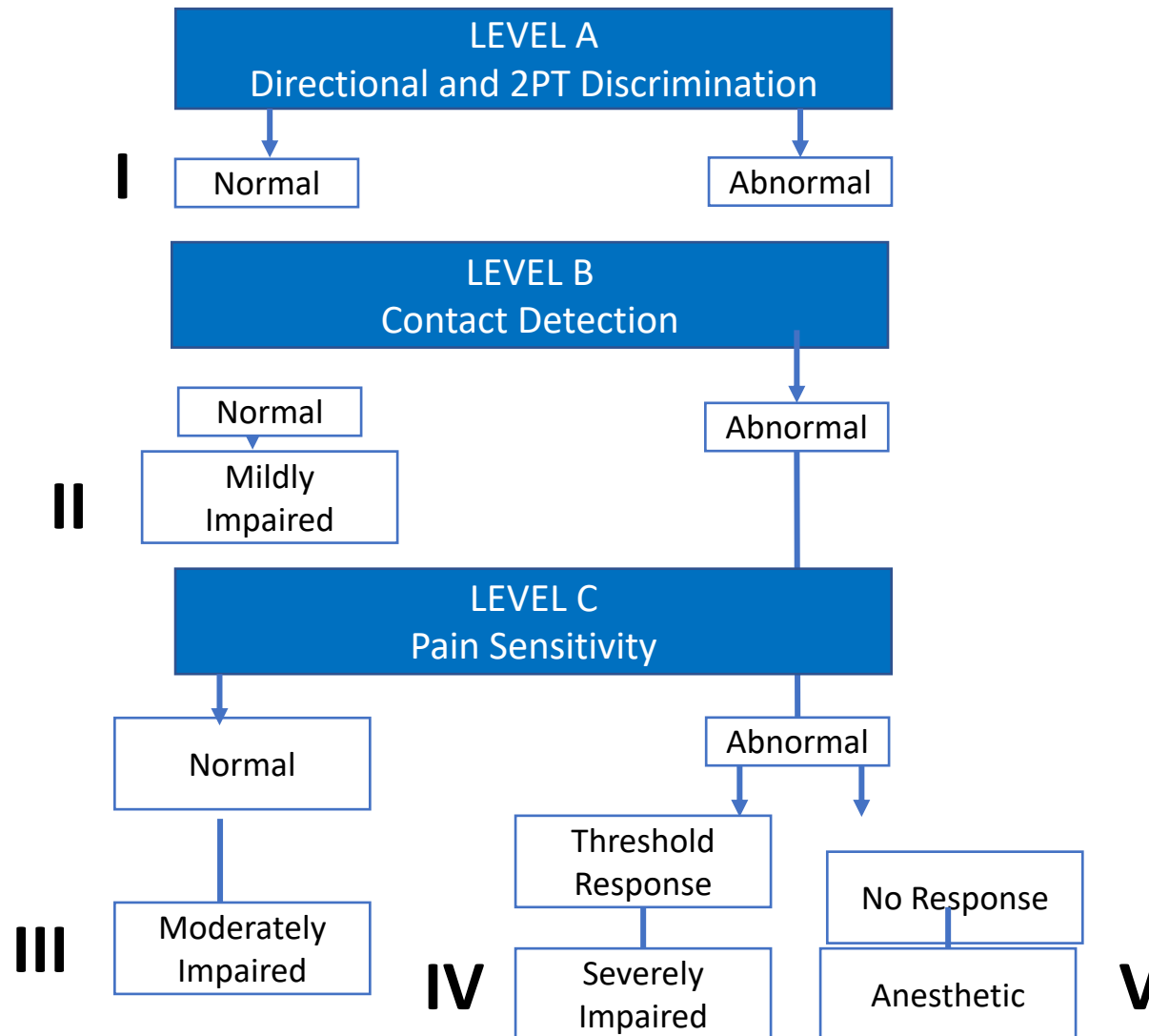
- Temperature
 - Water
 - Cold mirror
- Pain
 - Sharp broken cotton tip applicator
 - 30g needle



MRN



CLINICAL NST



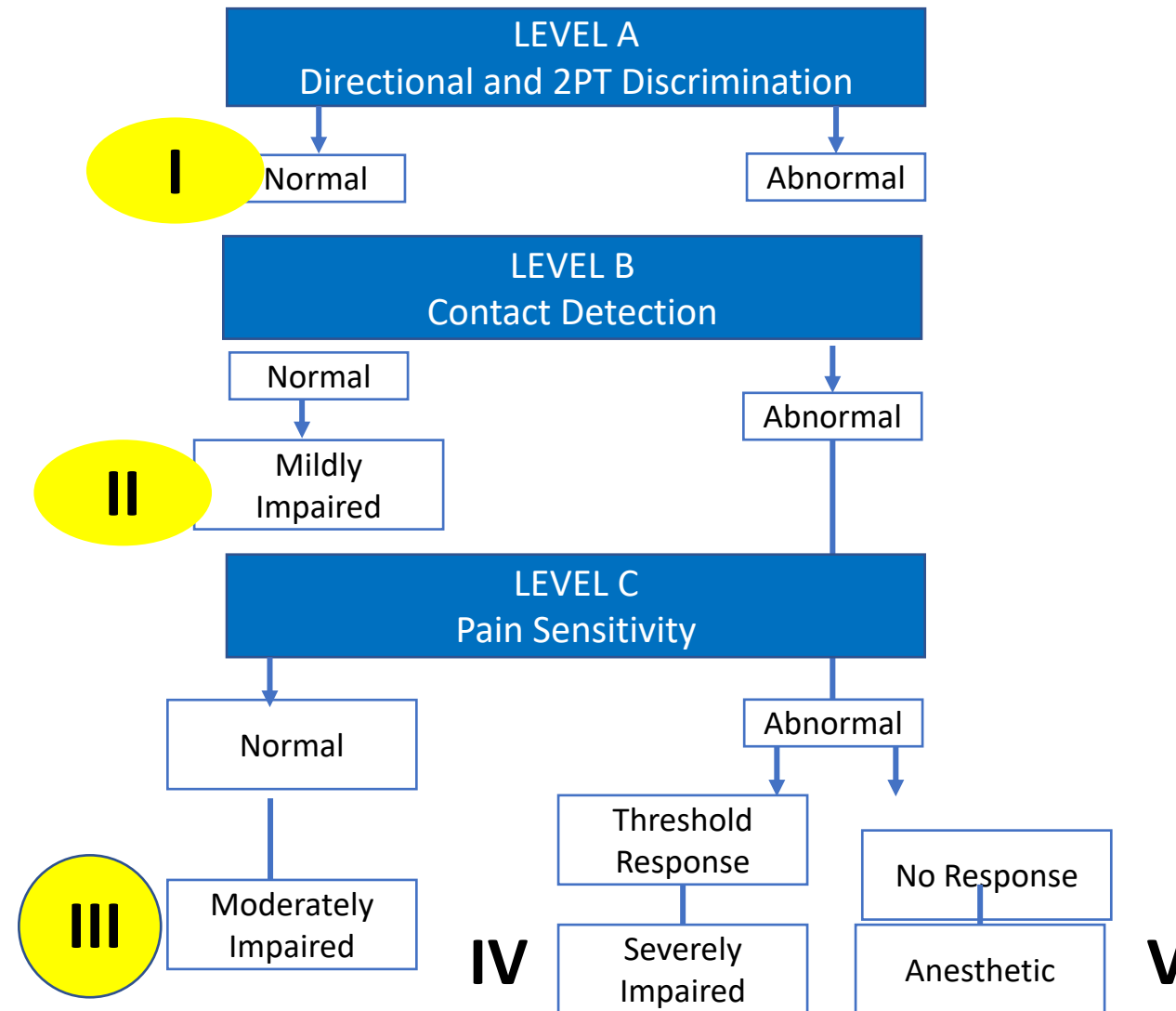
Non-Surgical

- Class I
- Class II
- Class III

Surgical

- Class IV
- Class V

CLINICAL NST



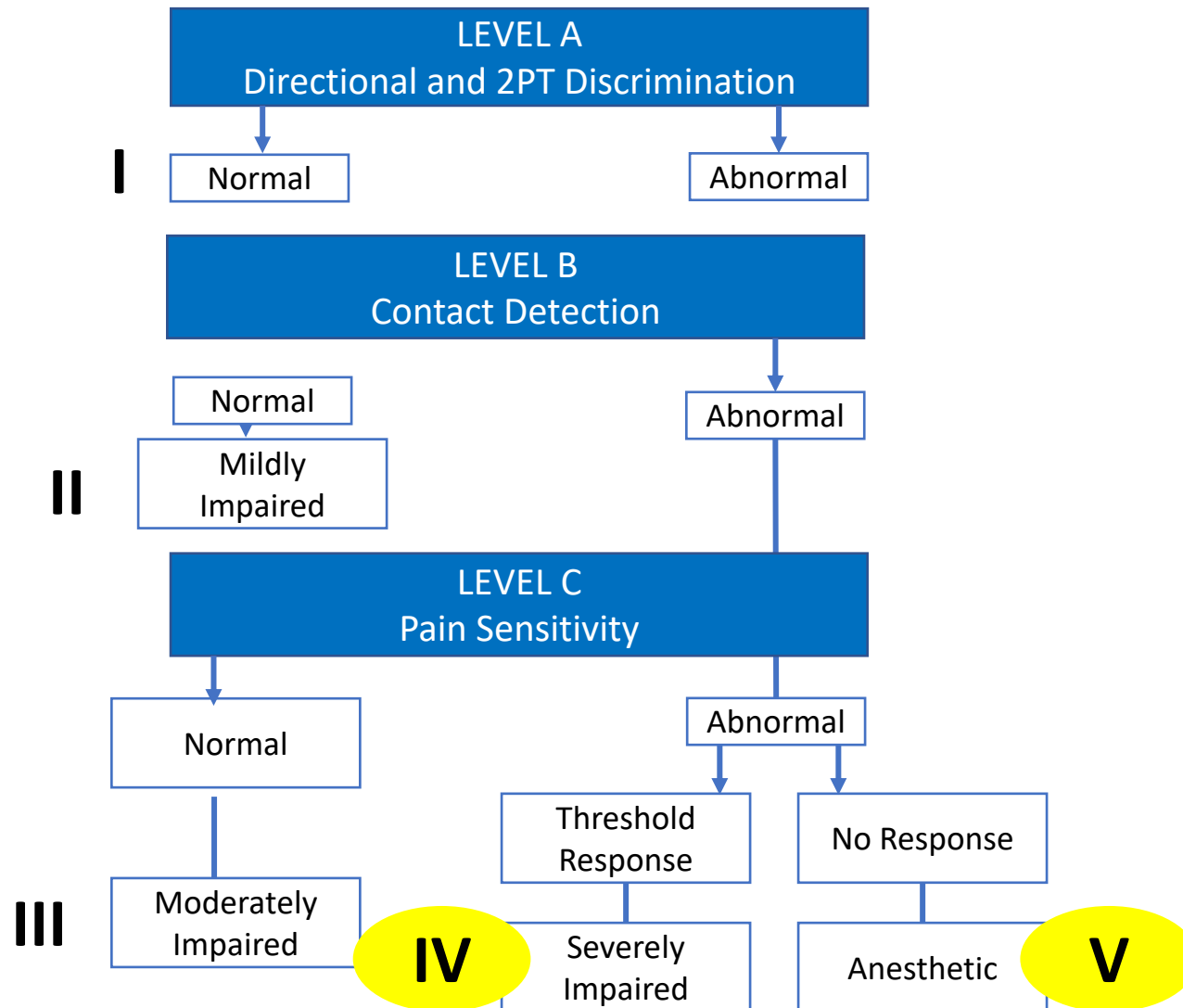
Non-Surgical

- Class I
- Class II
- Class III

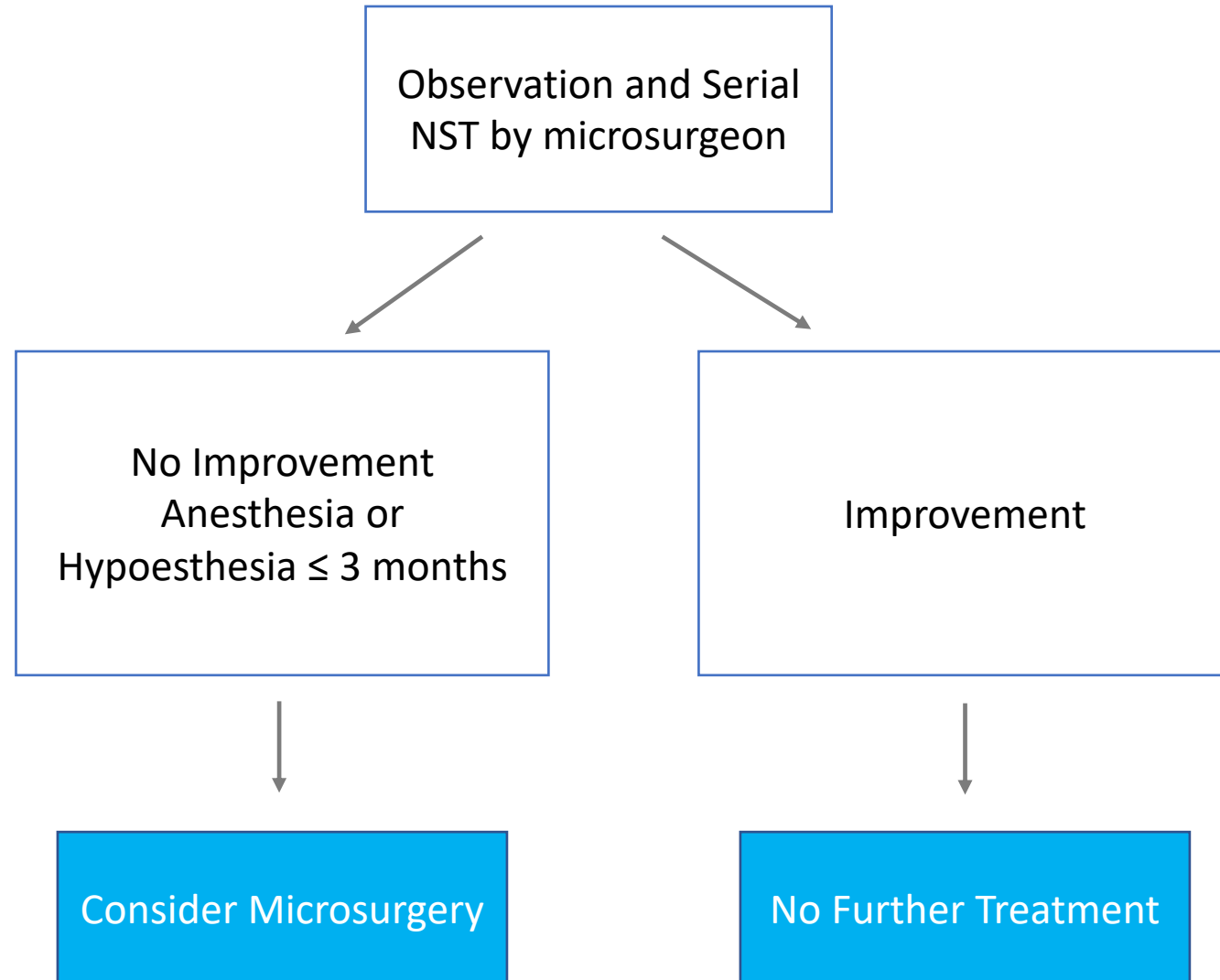
Surgical

- Class IV
- Class V

CLINICAL NST



SURGICAL DECISION ALGORITHM



Functional Sensory Recovery

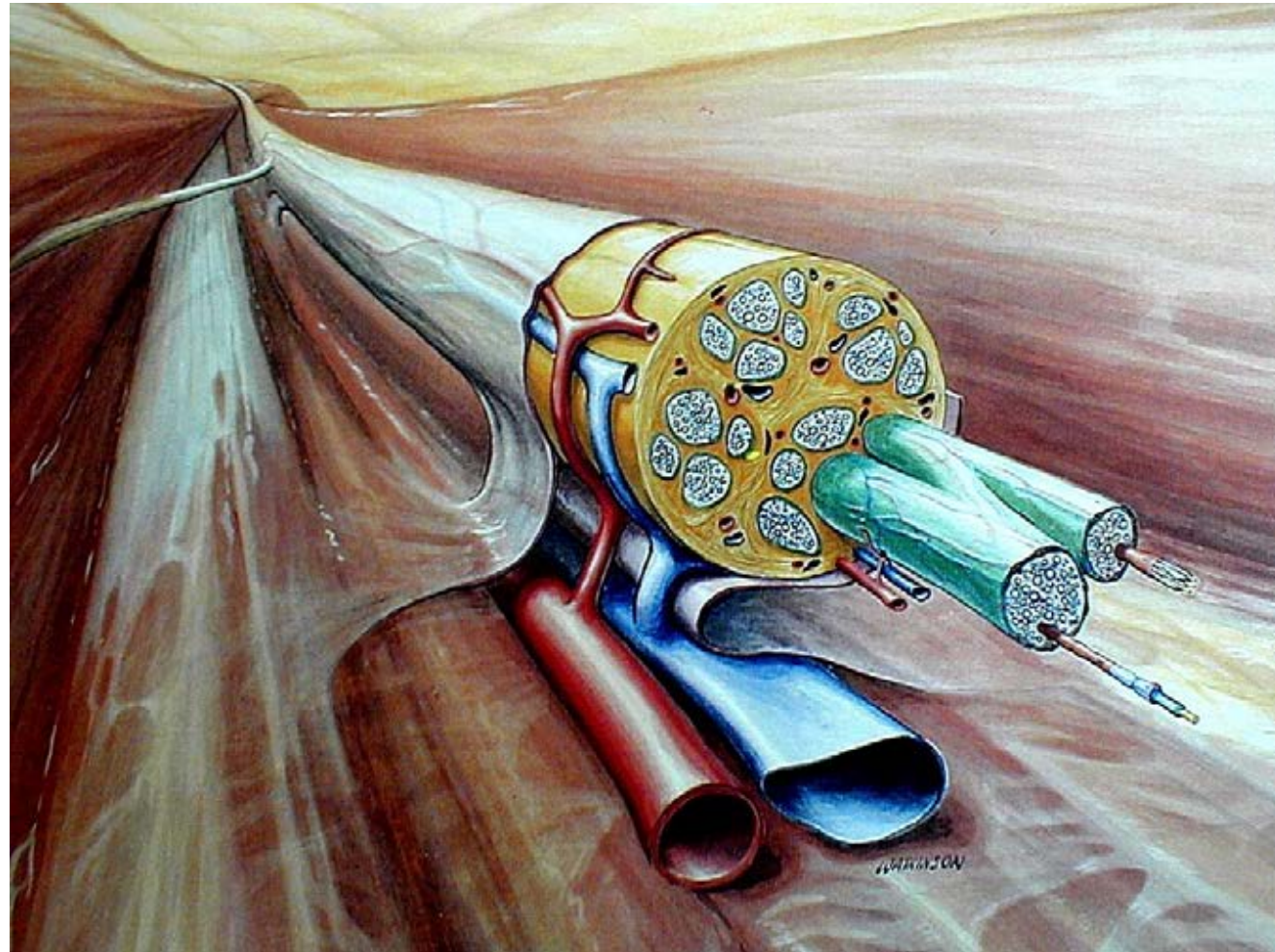
Table 1
Medical Research Council Scale for grading sensory function of peripheral nerves as applied to the trigeminal nerve

Grade	Description
S0	No sensation
S1	Deep cutaneous pain in an autonomous zone
S2	Some superficial pain and touch sensation
S2+	Pain and touch sensation with hyperesthesia
S3	Pain and touch sensation without hyperesthesia; static 2pd >15 mm
S3+	Same as S3 with good stimulus localization and static 2pd 7–15 mm
S4	Normal sensation

MICRONEUROSURGERY INDICATIONS

- Complete anesthesia (0%)
- < 50% residual sensation
 - Sunderland III, IV, V
- Observed nerve transection
- Early dysesthesia (may indicate neuroma formation)

Current Concepts for Improving Outcomes in Peripheral Nerve Repair



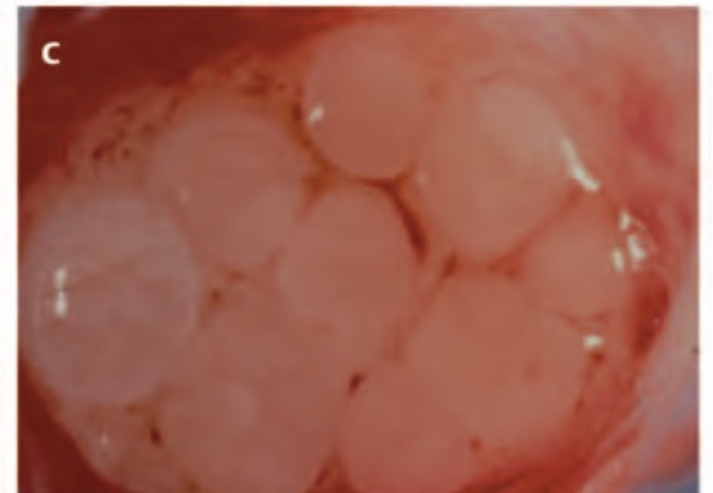
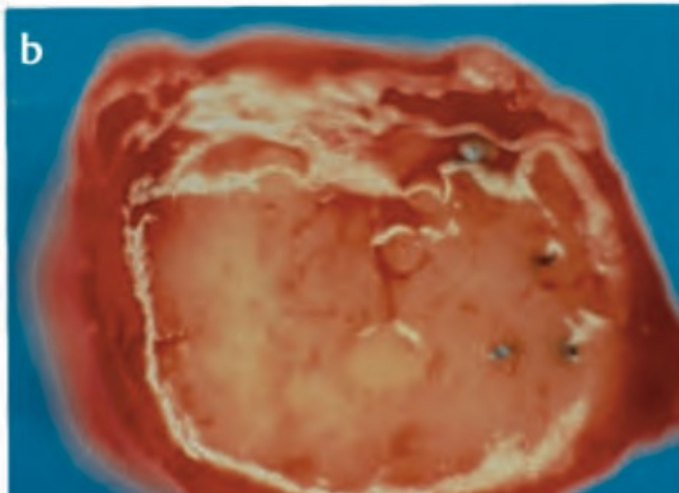
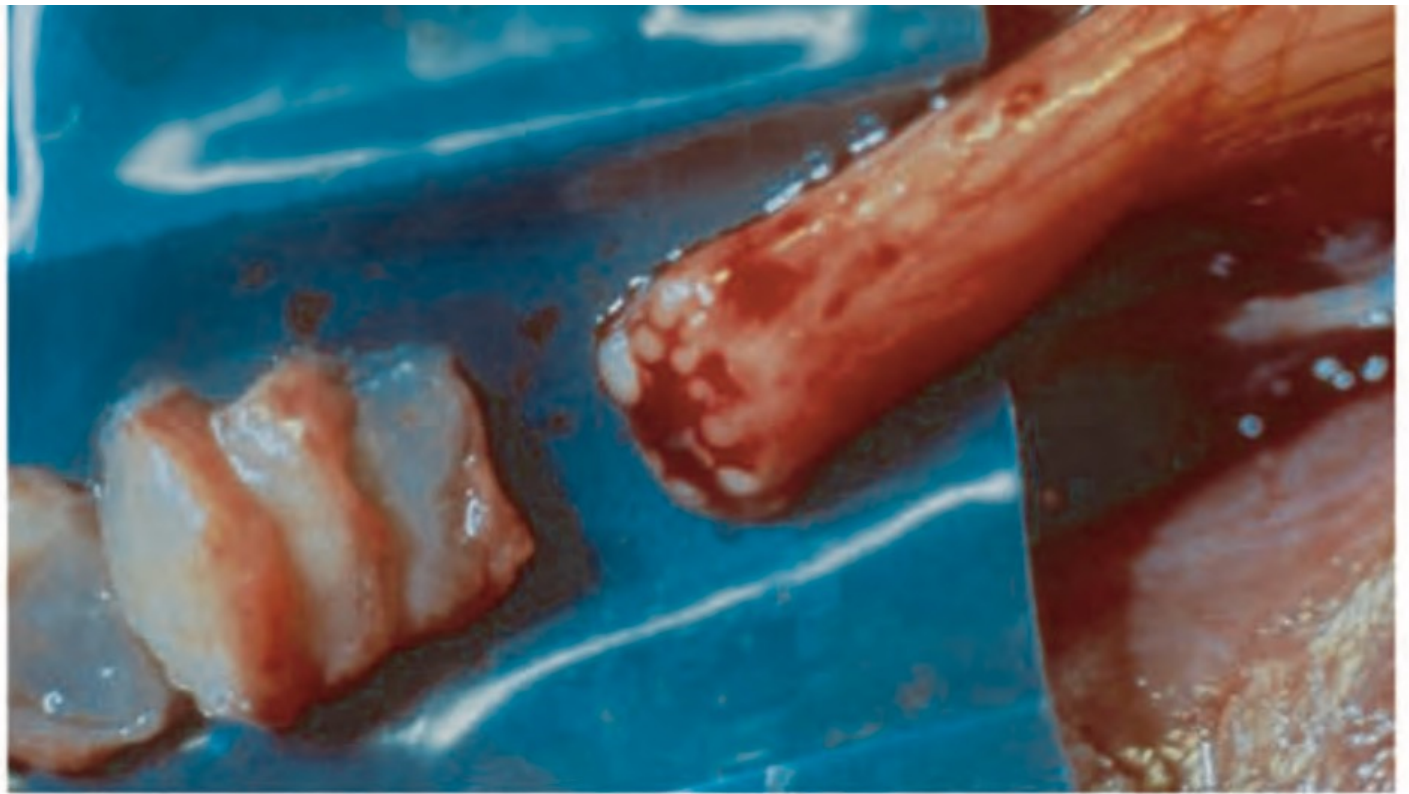
Clinical Challenges

- Patient Age
- Patient Health Status
- Age of Injury
- Mechanism of Injury
- Extent of Nerve Tissue Damage
- Finding Healthy Nerve Ends
- Tension at the Repair Site
- Bridging the Gap
- Barriers to Control Axonal Escape
- Scarring and Entrapment
- Vascularity of the Nerve and Surrounding Tissue Bed



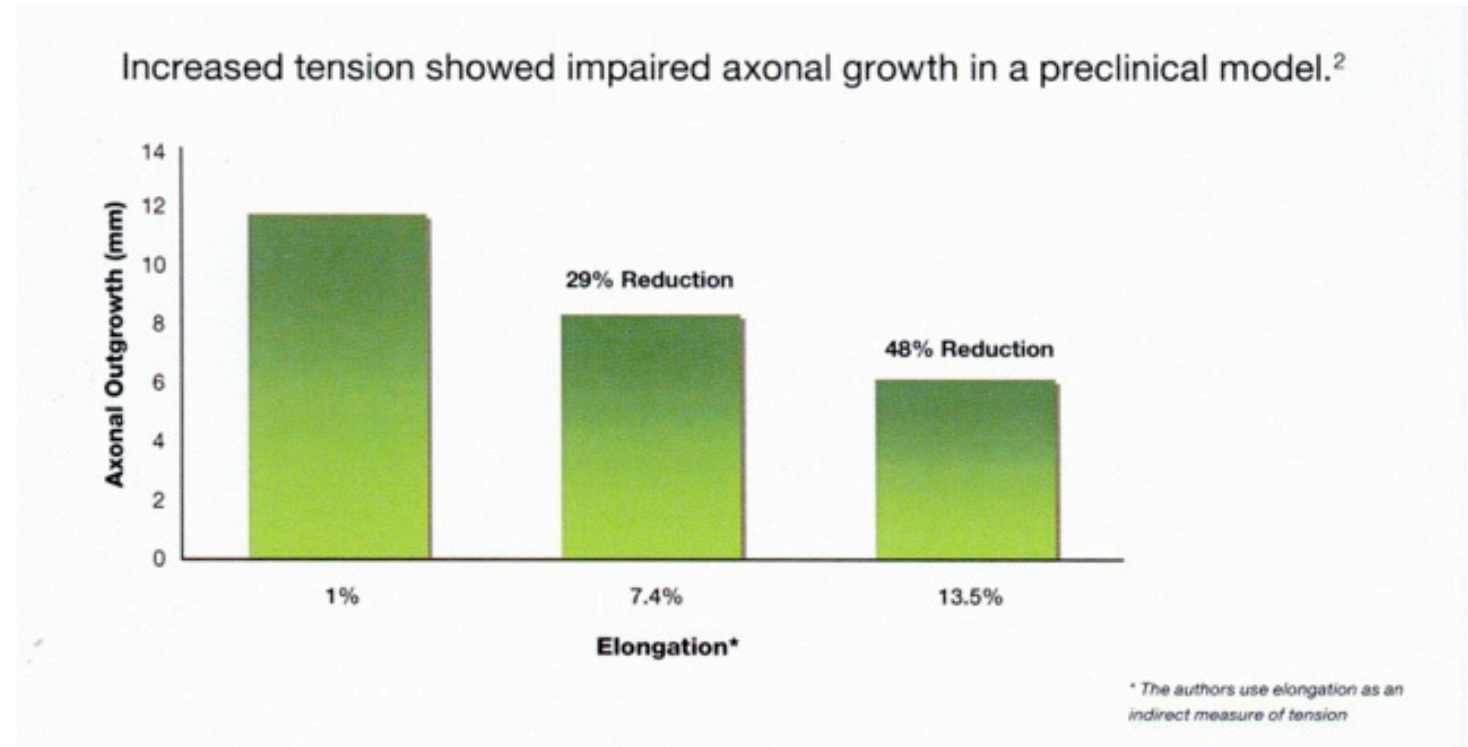
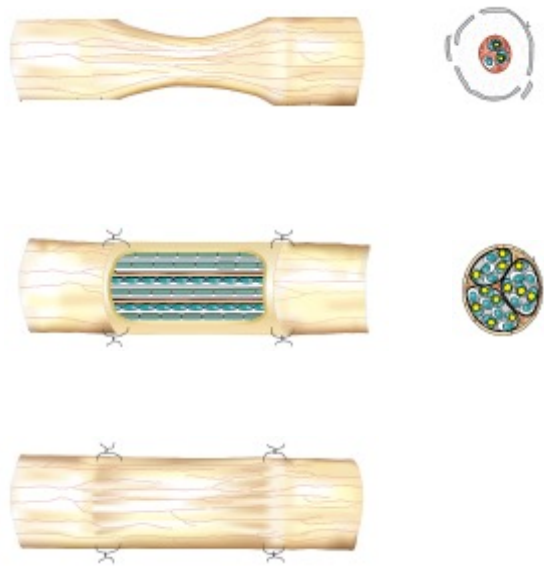
Allografts and
Conduits

Viabile Nerve Tissue

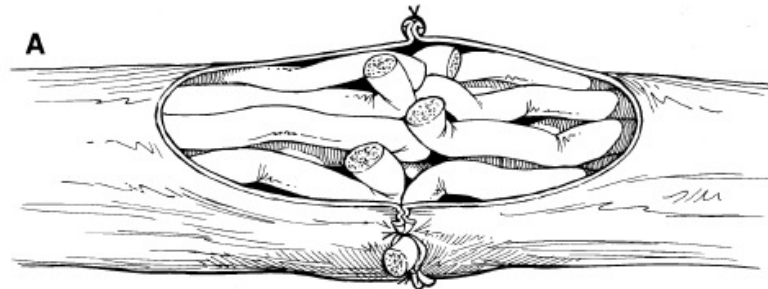


Tension at the Repair Site

- Tension may compromise the nerve repair and lead to ischemia within the nerve

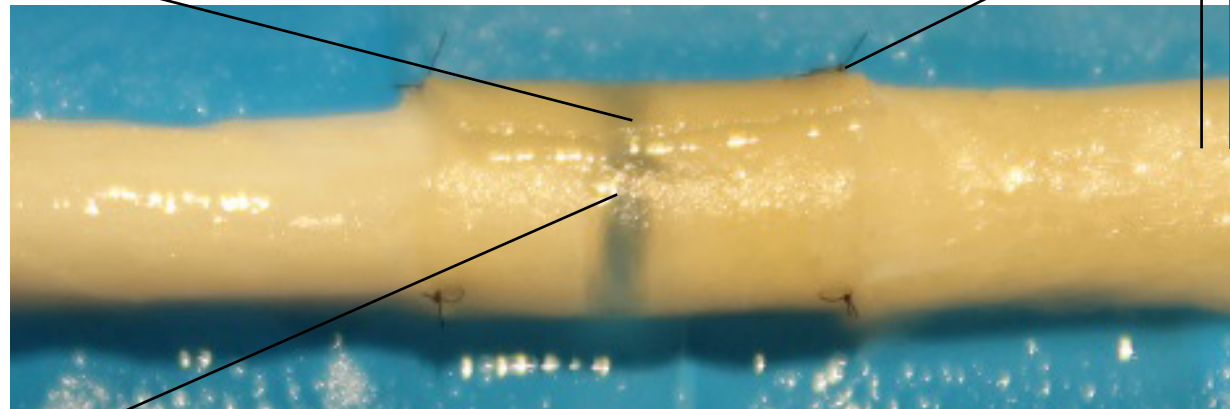


Connector Assisted Coaptation: Providing Alignment and Avoiding Tension and the Coaptation



Source: <http://doctorlib.info/surgery/plastic/9.html>

Barrier to Axonal Escape, Scarring and Inflammatory Infiltration

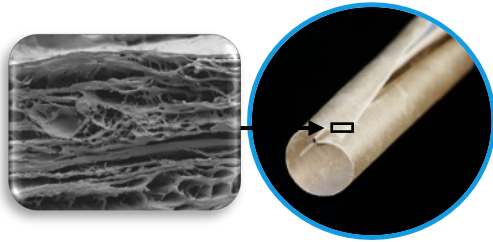


Sutures moved away from Coaptation Site

No forced mismatch from overly tight repair

Minimally Processed Porcine ECM

AxoGuard[®]
NerveProtector



Protects repair site from surrounding tissue

- Minimizes soft tissue attachments
- Allows for diffusion of nutrients through the material

Allows nerve gliding

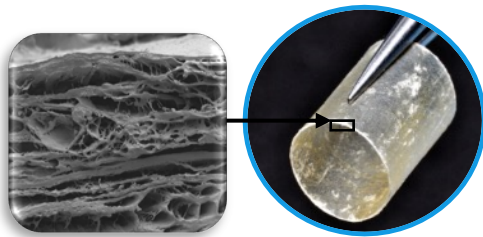
- Minimizes risk of entrapment
- Creates a barrier between repair and surrounding tissue bed

ECM Revascularizes and remodels into patient's own tissue

Easy to use

- Semi-translucent to allow visualization of underlying nerve
- Conforms to nerve

AxoGuard[®]
NerveConnector



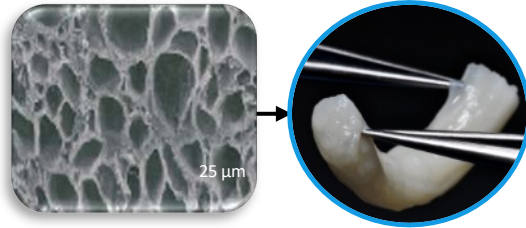
Alternative to direct suture repair

- May reduce surgery time by as much as 40%
- Reduces the risk of forced fascicular mismatch

Alleviates tension at critical zone of regeneration

- Disperses tension across repair site
- Moves suture inflammation away from coaptation face

Avance Nerve Graft



Processed human nerve allograft for bridging nerve gaps

Clinically studied off-the-shelf alternative

- 87% meaningful recovery in sensory, mixed and motor nerve gaps in multi-center study
- Eliminates need for an additional surgical site and risks of donor nerve harvest⁷
- May reduce OR time

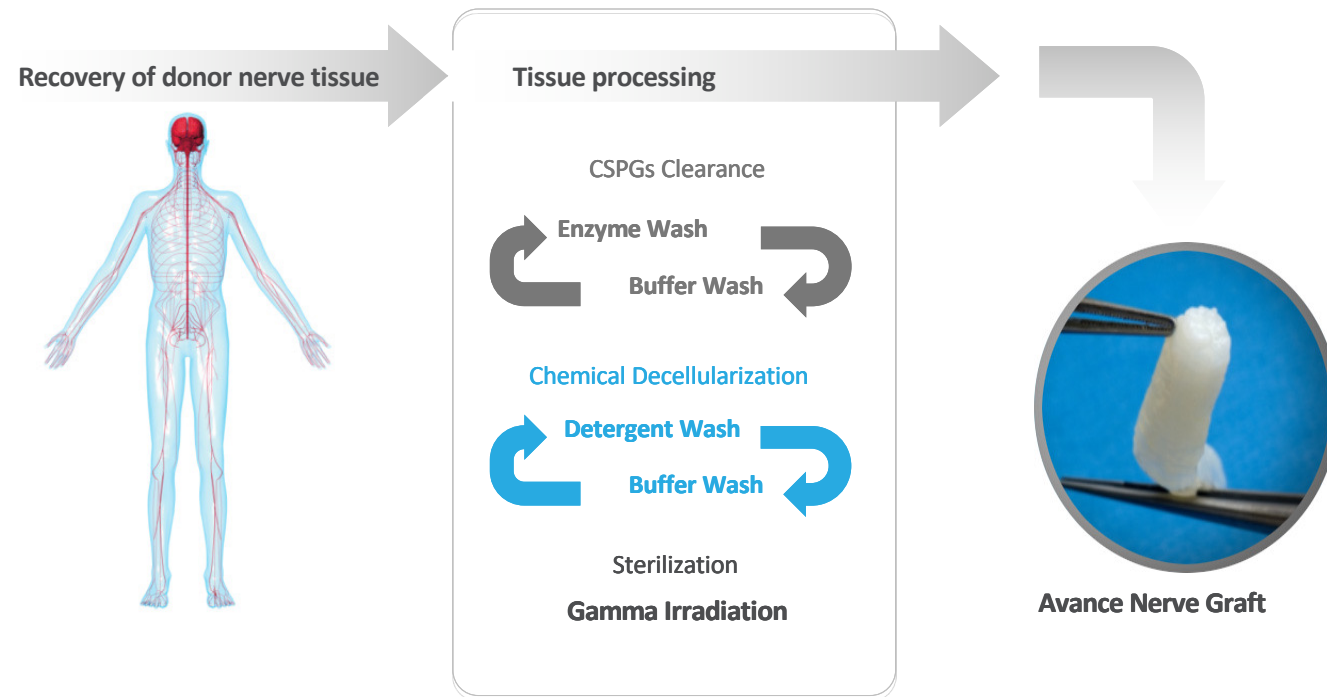
Structural support for regenerating axons

- Cleansed and decellularized extracellular matrix (ECM)
- Offers the benefits of human peripheral nerve micro-architecture and handling

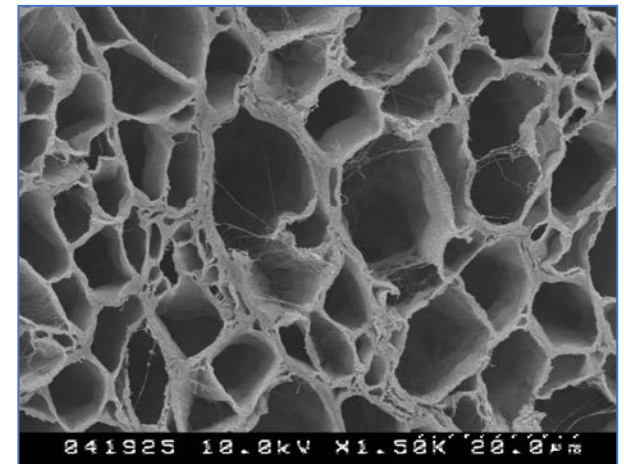
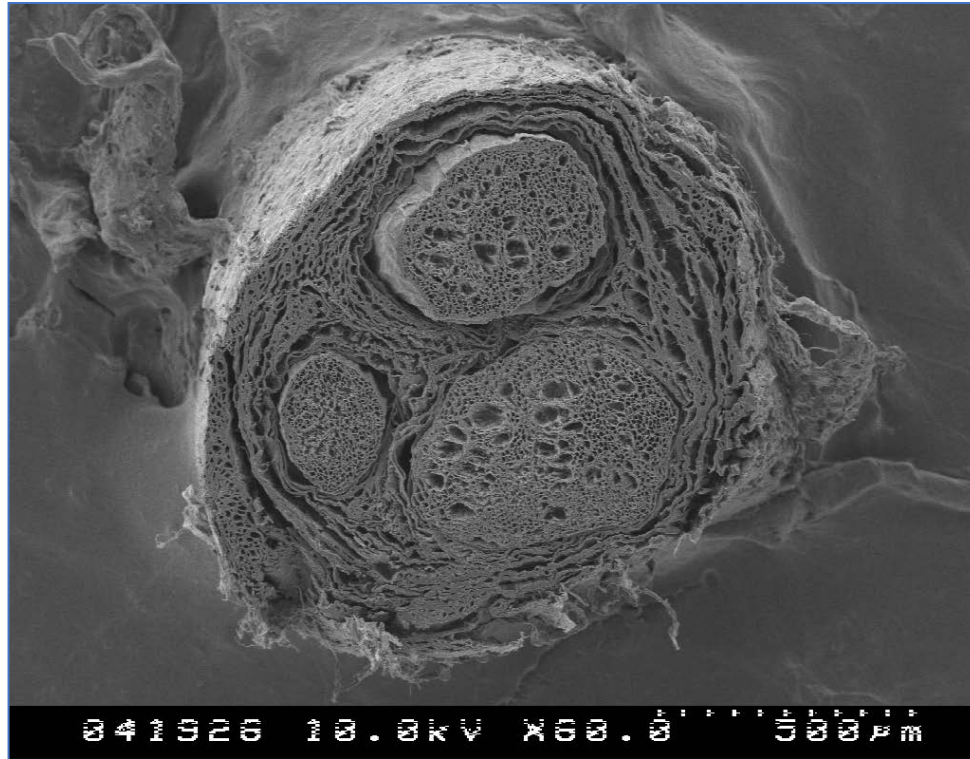
Revascularizes and remodels into patient's own tissue similar to autologous nerve

16 Size options in a variety of lengths (up to 70mm) and diameters (up to 5mm)

Avance Nerve Graft Tissue Processing



ECM Scaffolding



**Sensory Outcomes After Reconstruction
of Lingual and Inferior Alveolar Nerve
Discontinuities Using Processed Nerve
Allograft—A Case Series**

*John R. Zuniga, DMD, MS, PhD**

Methods / Surgical Technique

Patient Selection:

- 2007 to 2013
- Total Population: 26 patients with 28 nerve injuries
- Sunderland IV or V degree of injury prior to reconstruction (axonal transection)
- Outcomes Population: 21 patients with 23 nerve injuries

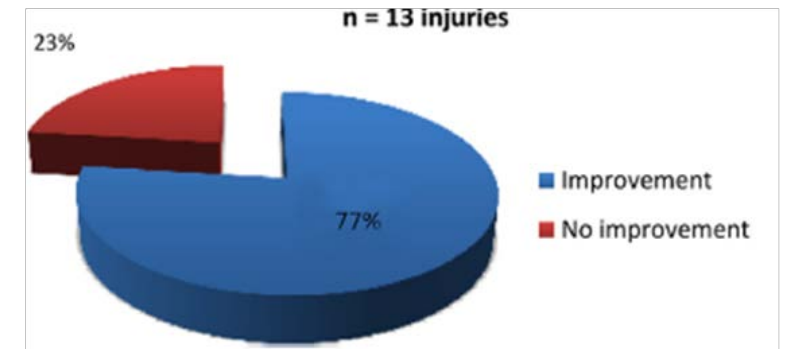
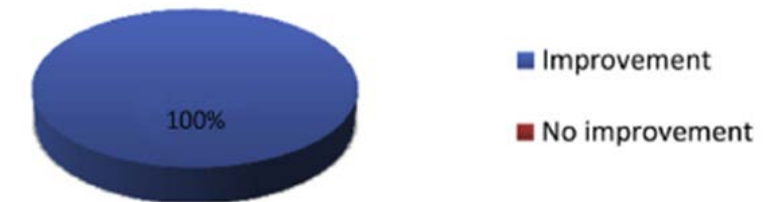
Table 1. DEMOGRAPHICS OF TOTAL AND OUTCOMES POPULATIONS

Variable	Total Population	Outcomes Population
Gender		
Male	14 (54)	11 (52)
Female	12 (46)	10 (48)
Age (yr)		
Mean \pm SD	36.5 \pm 18.3	33.3 \pm 17.0
Range	9-82	9-67
Interval to repair (days)		
Mean \pm SD	152 \pm 160	148 \pm 160
Range	0-518	0-518
Repair within 90 days	12 (43)	10 (43)
Repair after 90 days	16 (57)	13 (57)
Etiology		
Third molar	17 (61)	13 (57)
Implant	3 (11)	2 (8.5)
Oncologic	6 (21)	6 (26)
BSSO	2 (7)	2 (8.5)
Nerve location		
Lingual	17 (61)	15 (65)
Inferior alveolar	11 (39)	8 (35)
Gap length (mm)		
Mean \pm SD	32.4 \pm 24.1	34.2 \pm 25.5
Range	8-70	8-70

Results

- 87% had improved neurosensory scores with no reported adverse experiences
- 87% for the LNs
- 88% for the IANs
- 100% sensory improvement in injuries repaired within 90 days of the injury
- 77% sensory improvement in injuries repaired after 90 days

NST scores by time to repair: 90 days or less
26.9 \pm 36.9 days (0,80)
n = 10 injuries

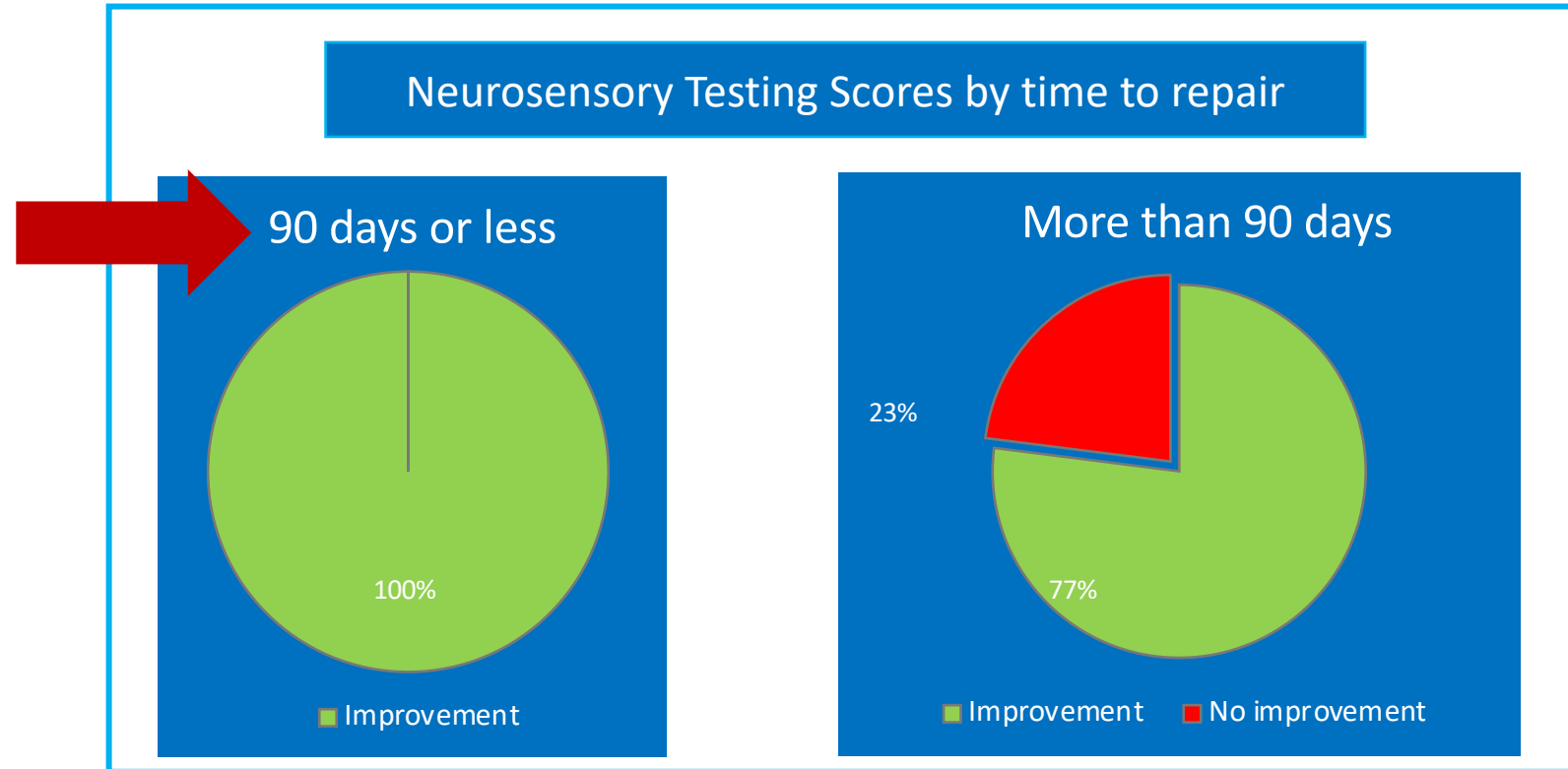


Sensory Outcomes After Reconstruction of LN and IAN Nerve Discontinuities Using Processed Nerve Allograft.

Zuniga, JR Oral

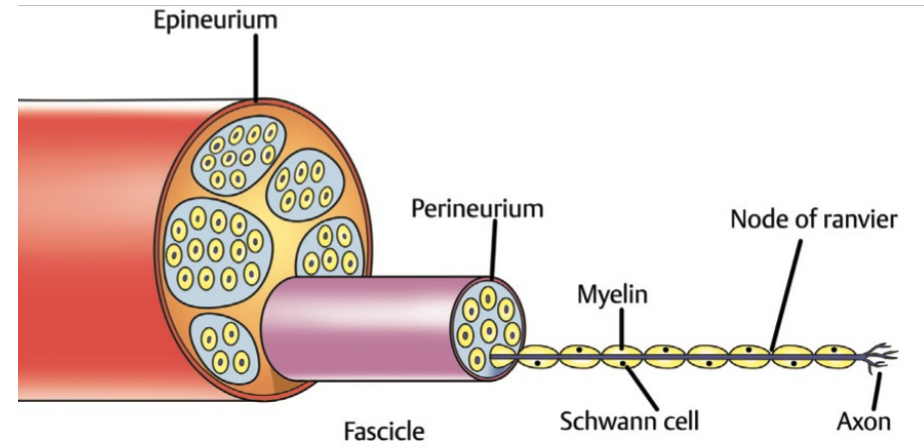
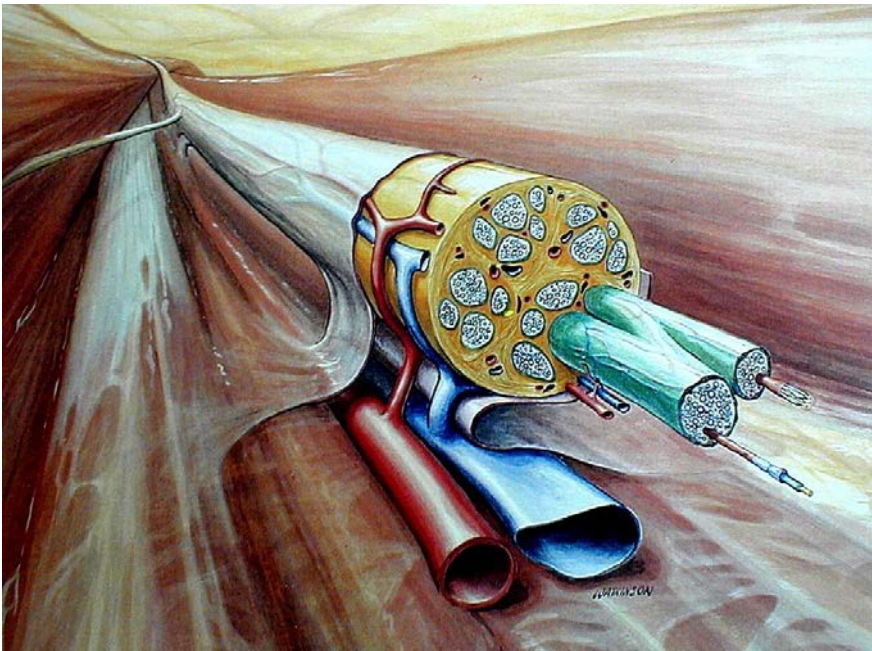
Maxillo Fac. 2015 Apr: 734-744

SHORTER DELAY=IMPROVED OUTCOME

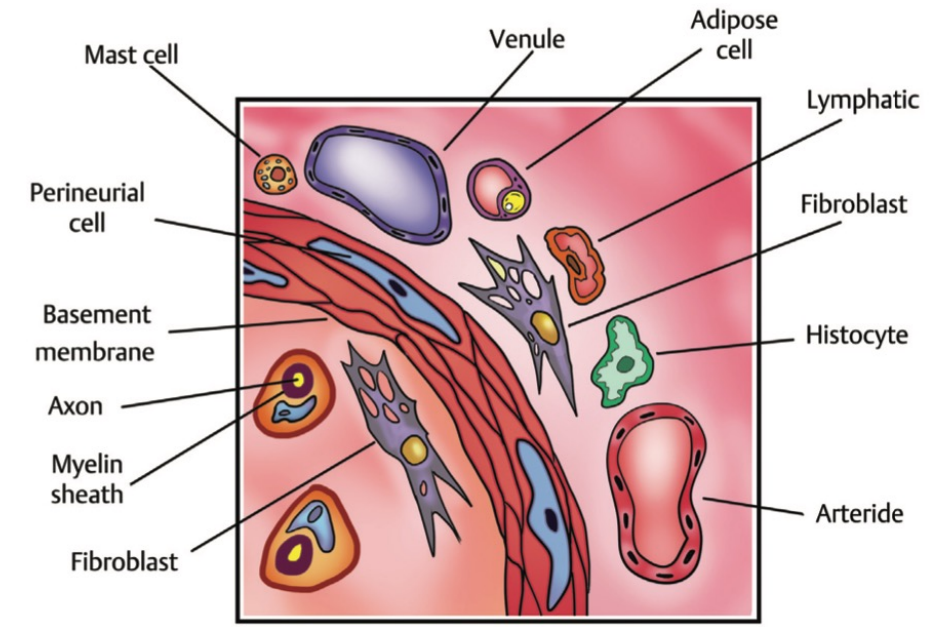
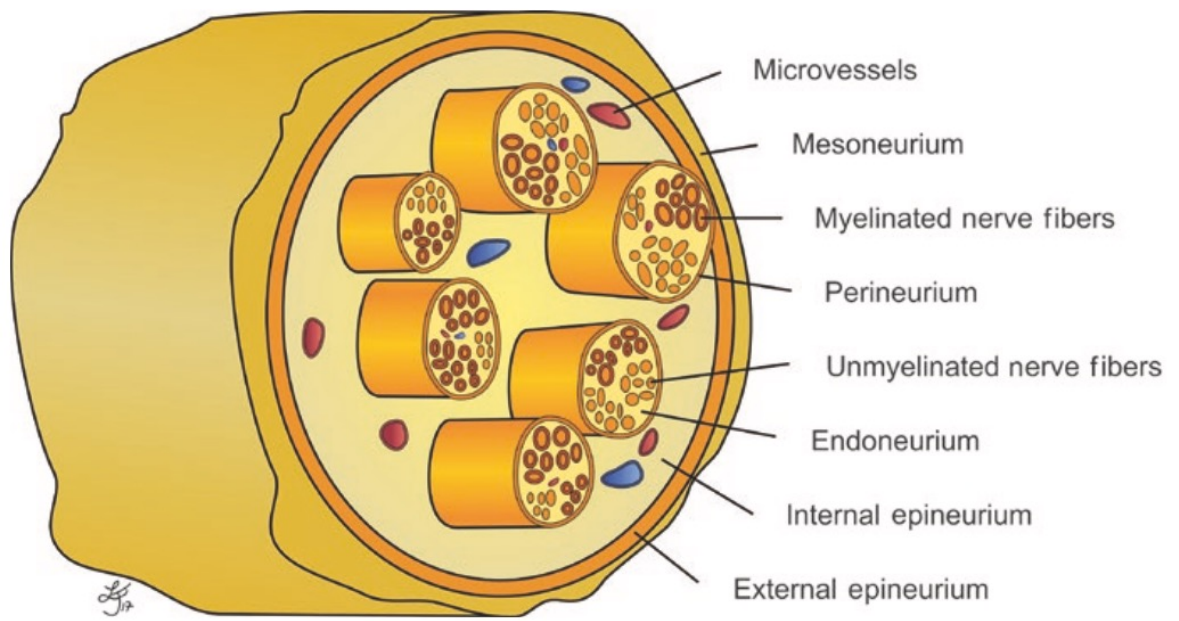


Conclusion

- Outcomes comparable to those using processed nerve allograft for non-trigeminal nerve repairs
- Outcomes similar to trigeminal repair with autograft
- Processed nerve allograft can be safely and effectively used to reconstruct LN and IAN defect up to 70mm
- Benefit of nerve wrapping
 - Seems to have a complementary effect



(a) Main trunk



(b) Endoneurium - Perineurium - Epineurium

Fiber types

A alpha (myelin) 12-20 microns 70-120 m/s

- Position/Fine touch

A beta (myelin) 6-12 microns 35-170m/s

- Proprioception

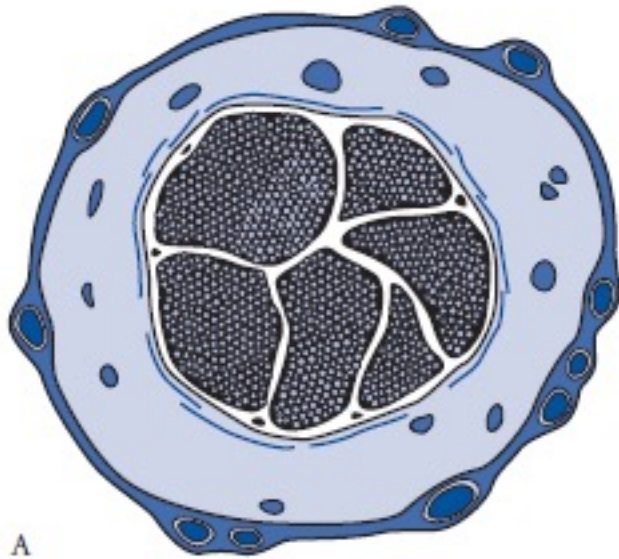
A delta (thin myelin) 1-6 microns 2.5-3.5m/s

- Superficial pain and temp

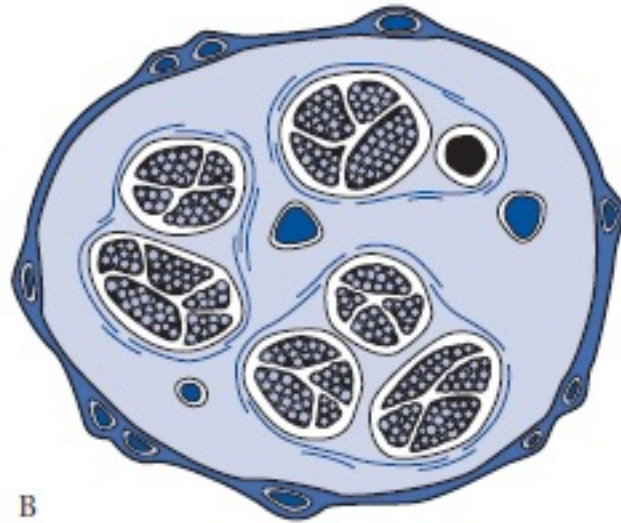
C (unmyelinated) 0.5-1microns 0.7-1.5m/s

- Deep pain and temp

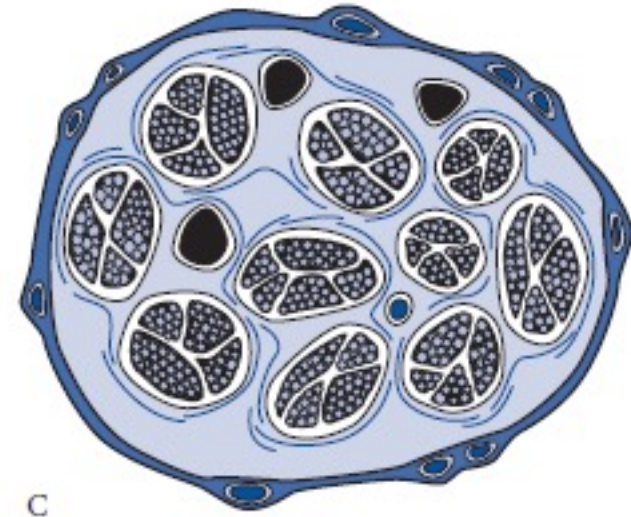
Fascicular patterns



A
Monofascicular 1 fascicle



B
Oligofascicular 2-10 fascicles



C
Polyfascicular >10 fascicles

Indications for surgery

- Open injury
- Unobserved injury:
 - Persistent unacceptable diminished sensation
 - Complete loss of sensation
 - Interference with orofacial functions
 - Unremitting pain relieved by local anesthetic block

Observation

- “Watch and wait”
- Serial NST examinations
- Record results

Will observation work?

- Most injuries resolve in 3-9 months, but only if improvement began before 3 months
- Deficit >1 month indicates high grade injury with uncertain recovery
- Follow continued improvement, but if it stops-> doesn't usually start again

Medications

- All patients
 - Medrol dose pak
 - B complex vitamins (B1, B6, B12)
 - anti-inflammatories

- Dysethestic patient
 - Management of neuropathic pain
 - Antidepressants, anticonvulsants
 - Muscle relaxants, benzodiazepines, gabapentin, pregabalin
 - Topical agents

Timing of surgery

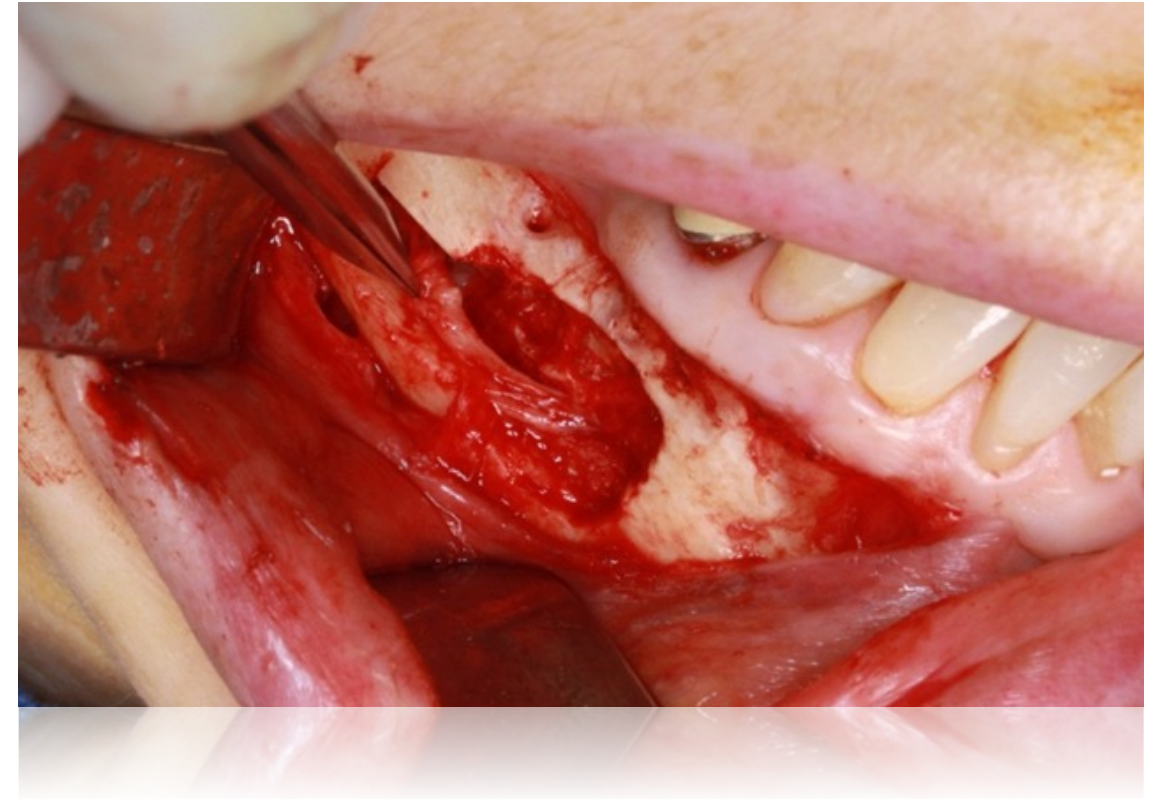
- Open injuries:
 - At time of injury or as soon as possible
- Closed injuries:
 - IAN – 6 months after injury
 - LN – 3 months after injury

Surgical options

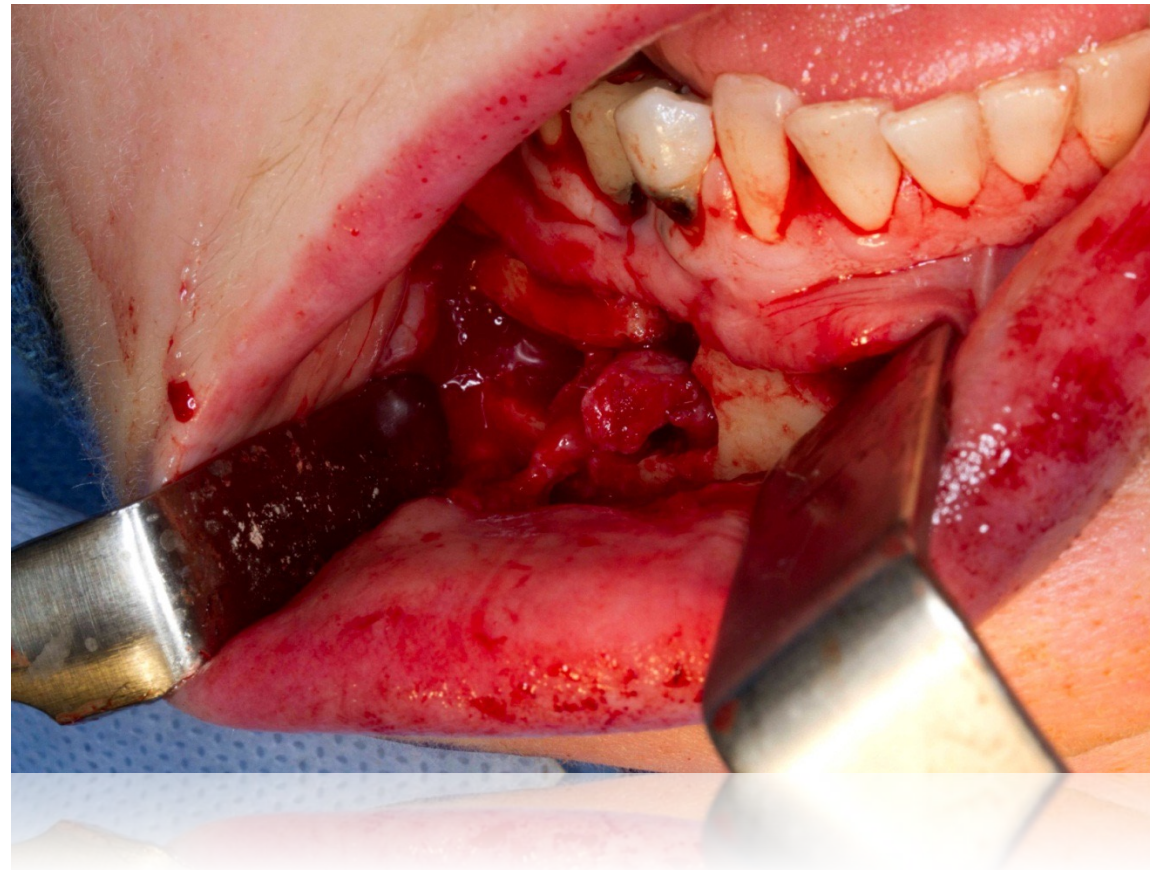
1. External neurolysis
2. Internal neurolysis
3. Neuroma excision
4. Direct approximation (coaptation)
5. Indirect approximation (grafting)
 - Autogenous
 - Allograft
 - Conduits

External Neurolysis

- “freeing up the nerve”
- Definitive tx if:
 1. compression is <25% of normal diameter
 2. paresthesia of short duration (<6mo)
 3. No evidence of neuroma formation

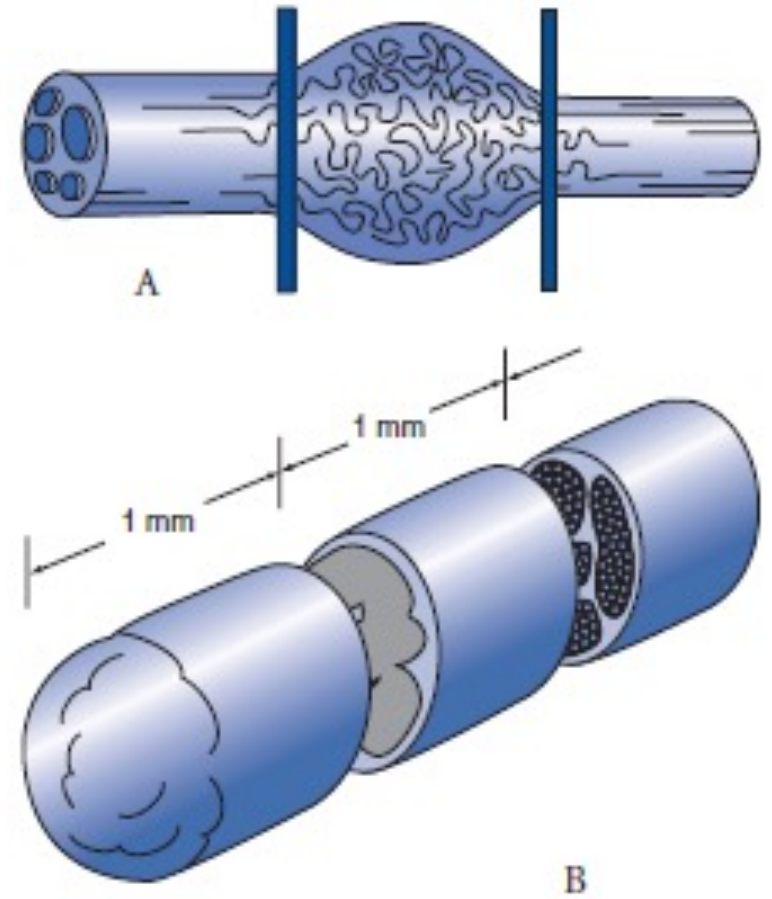


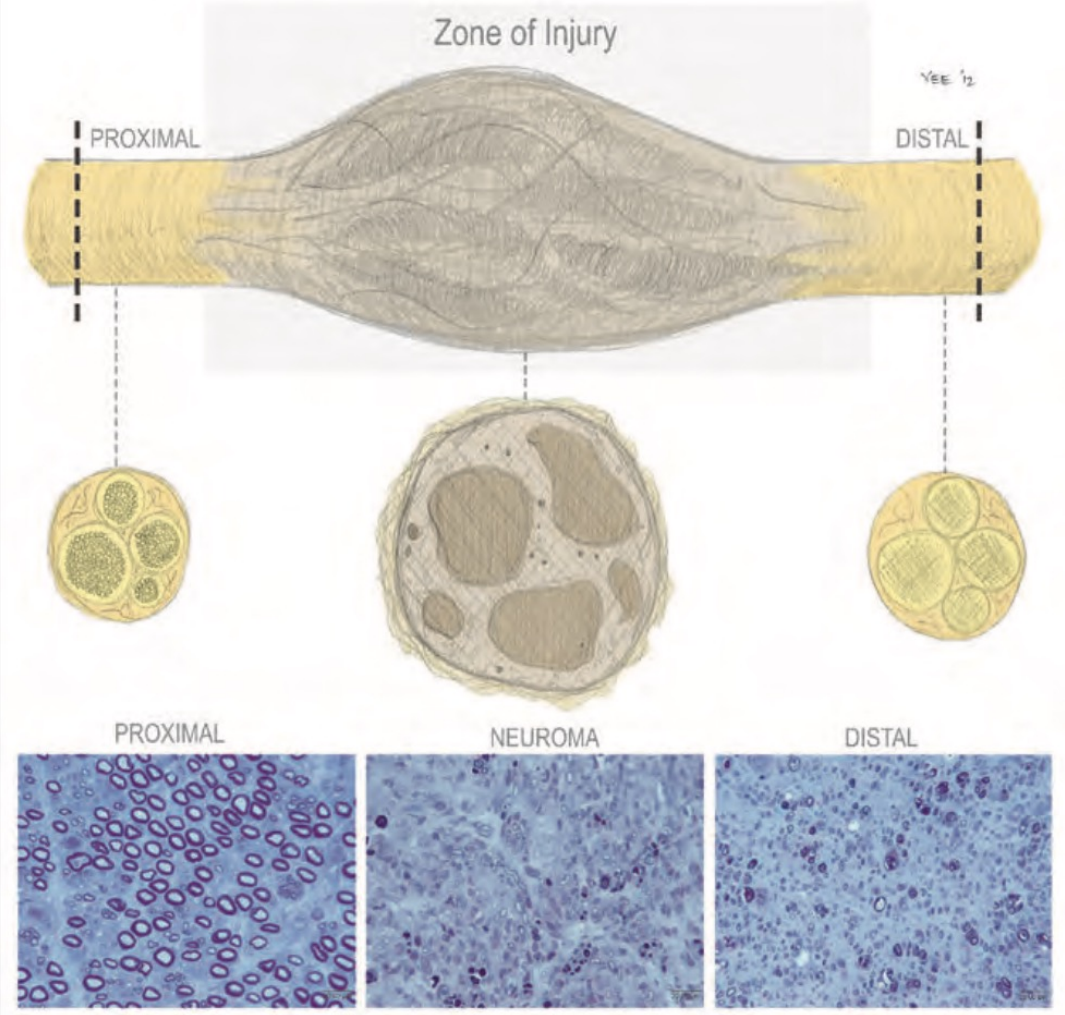
Neuroma excision



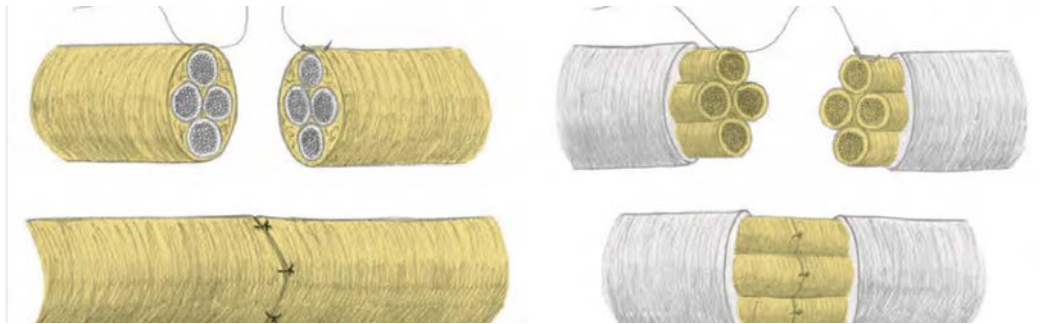
Nerve stump preparation

- Remove neuroma to glistening white fascicles

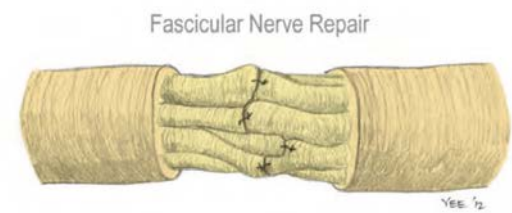
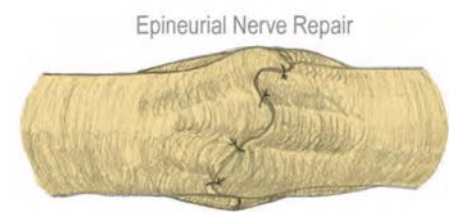
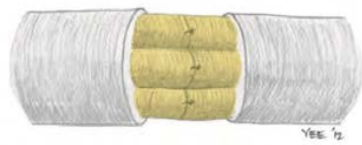




Direct Approximation



- Tension free closure
- Lingual nerve gaps <1cm
- IAN gaps <5mm



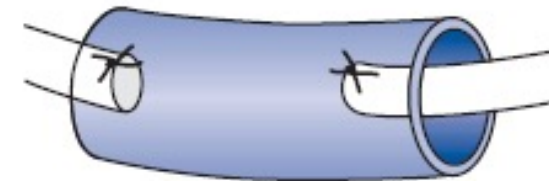
Indirect Approximation

- Grafting:
 1. Conduits
 - Vein
 - Gortex
 - Collagen
 - Sheaths
 2. Autogenous
 - Greater auricular nerve
 - Sural nerve
 3. Allogenic
 - Cadaver

Table 41-11 Materials for Entubulation (Conduit) Repair

Autogenous materials
 Collagen
 Muscle
 Fascia
 Vein

Alloplastic materials
 Polyglycolic acid
 Polyester
 Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)
 Expanded PTFE
 Silicone, polymeric silicone



Injured Nerve	Donor Nerve		
	Sural (2.1 mm)	Greater Auricular (1.5 mm)	Greater Auricular Cable (3.0 mm)
Inferior alveolar (2.4 mm)	88%	63%	125%
Lingual (3.2 mm)	66%	47%	94%

Adapted from Brammer JP and Epker BN.⁶⁸

Inferior alveolar nerve anatomy

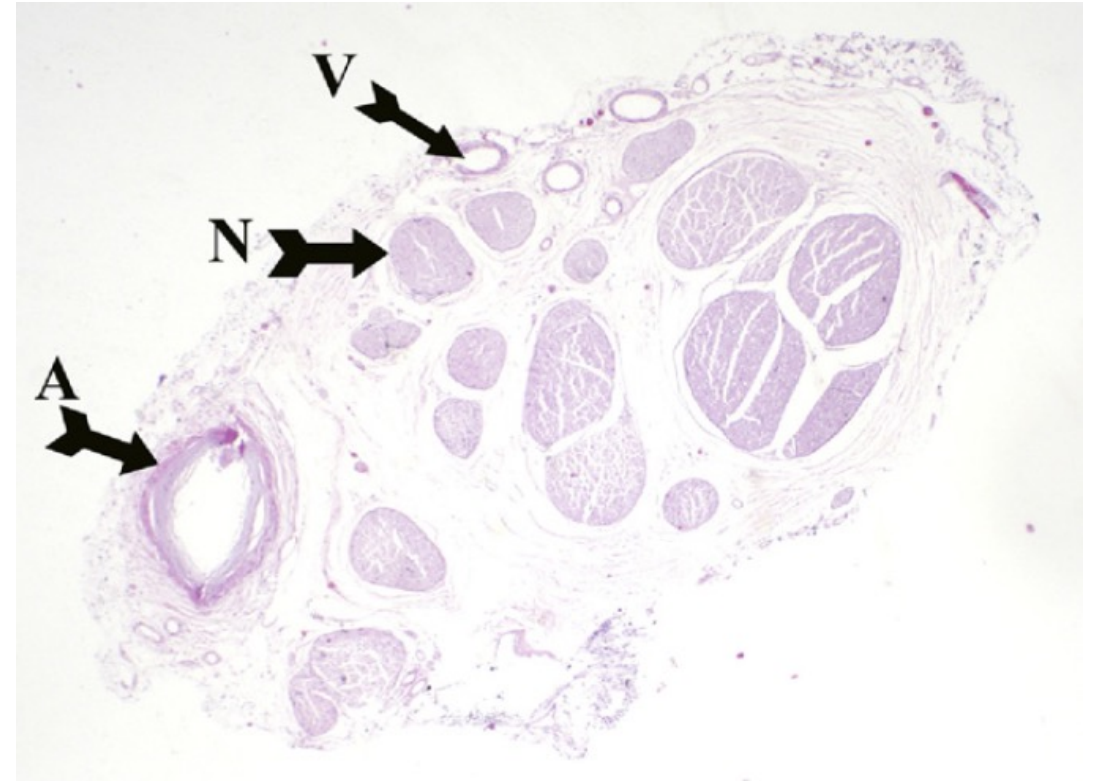
- Polyfascicular
- Within bony cavity
- 2.4mm diameter

The Anatomic Structure of the Inferior Alveolar Neurovascular Bundle in the Third Molar Region

*M. Anthony Pogrel, DDS, MD, FRCS,**

David Dorfman, DDS, MD,† and Heshaam Fallah, DDS, MD‡

- Vein lies superior to nerve
- Often multiple veins
- Artery lingual aspect of canal



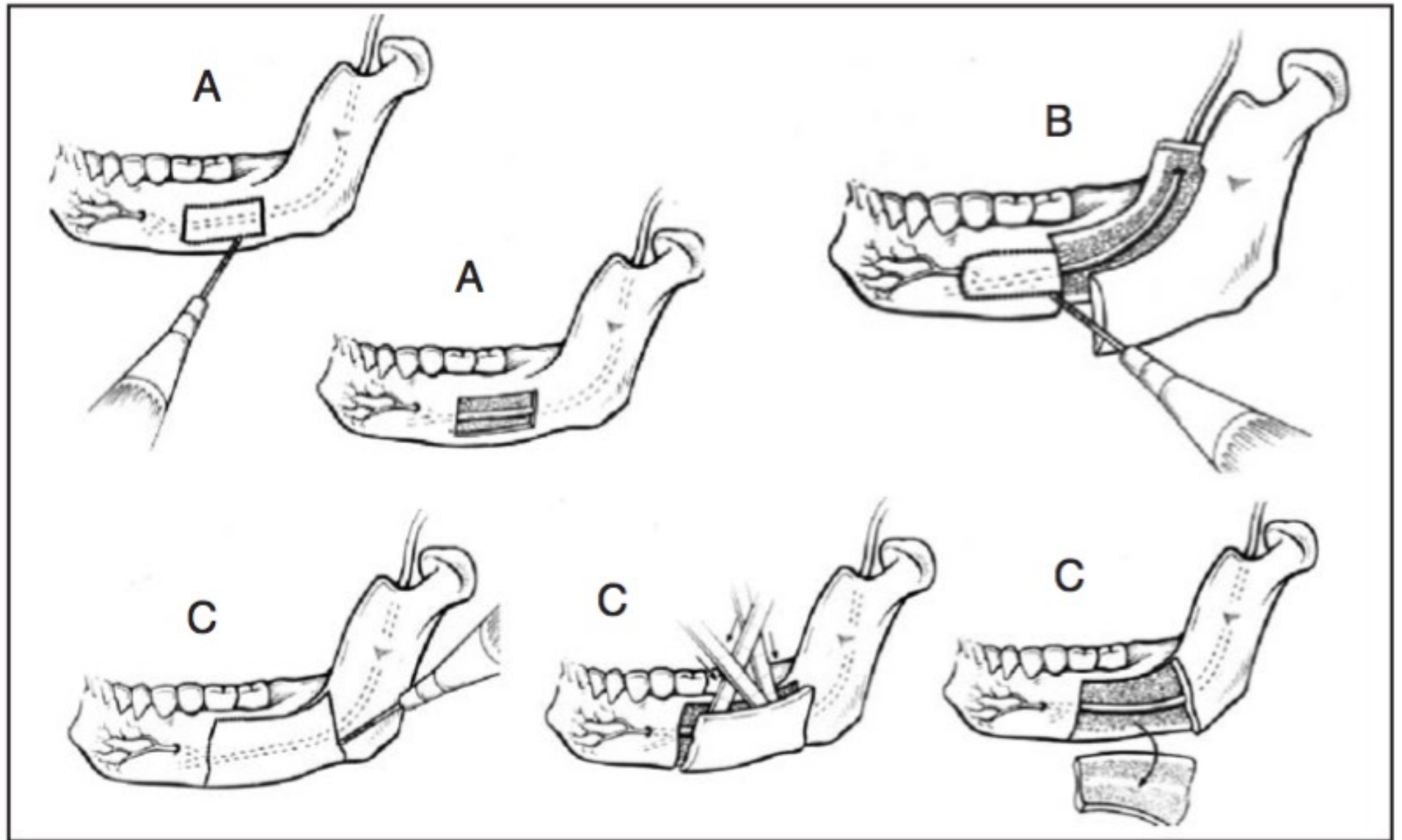
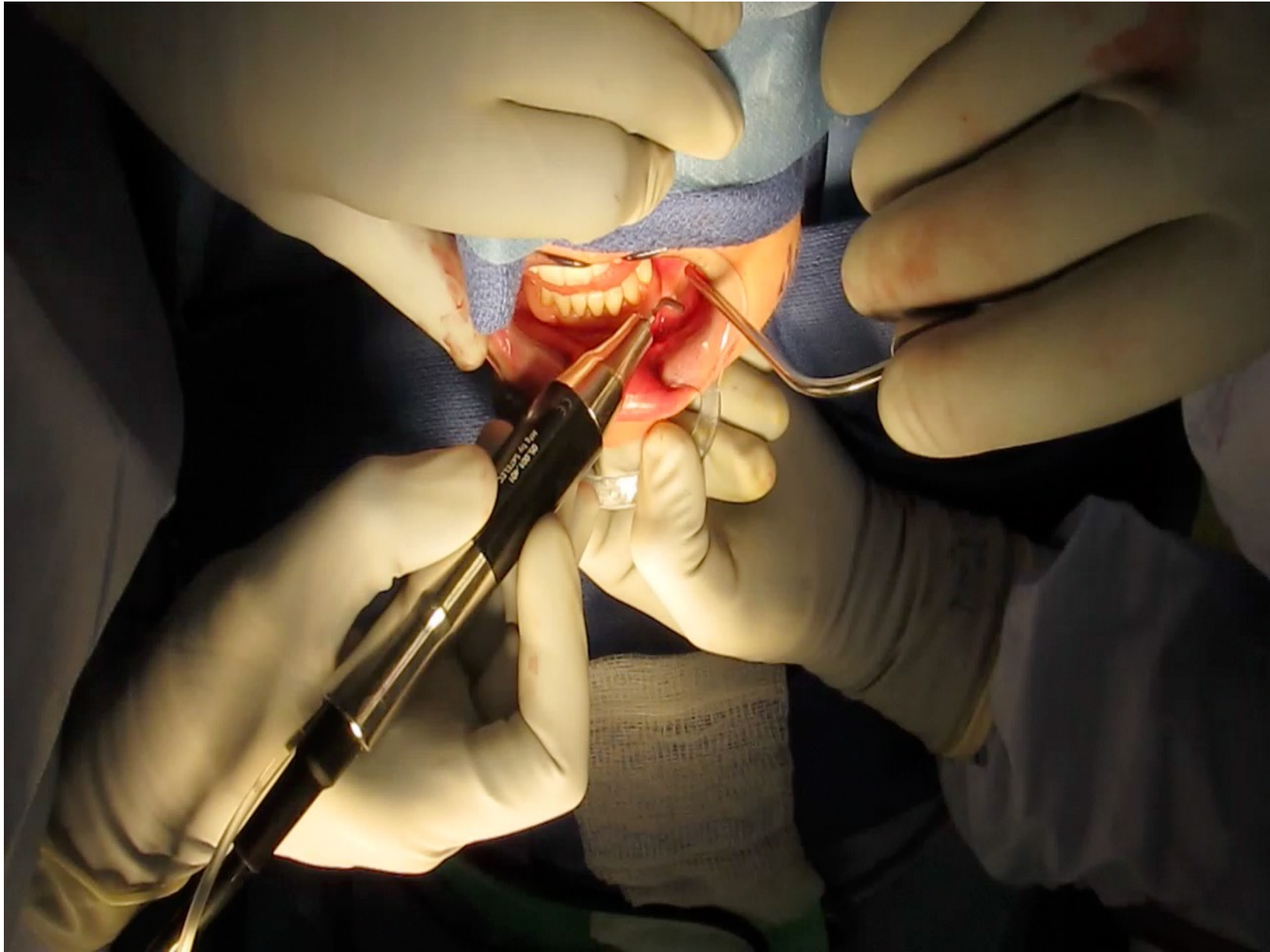
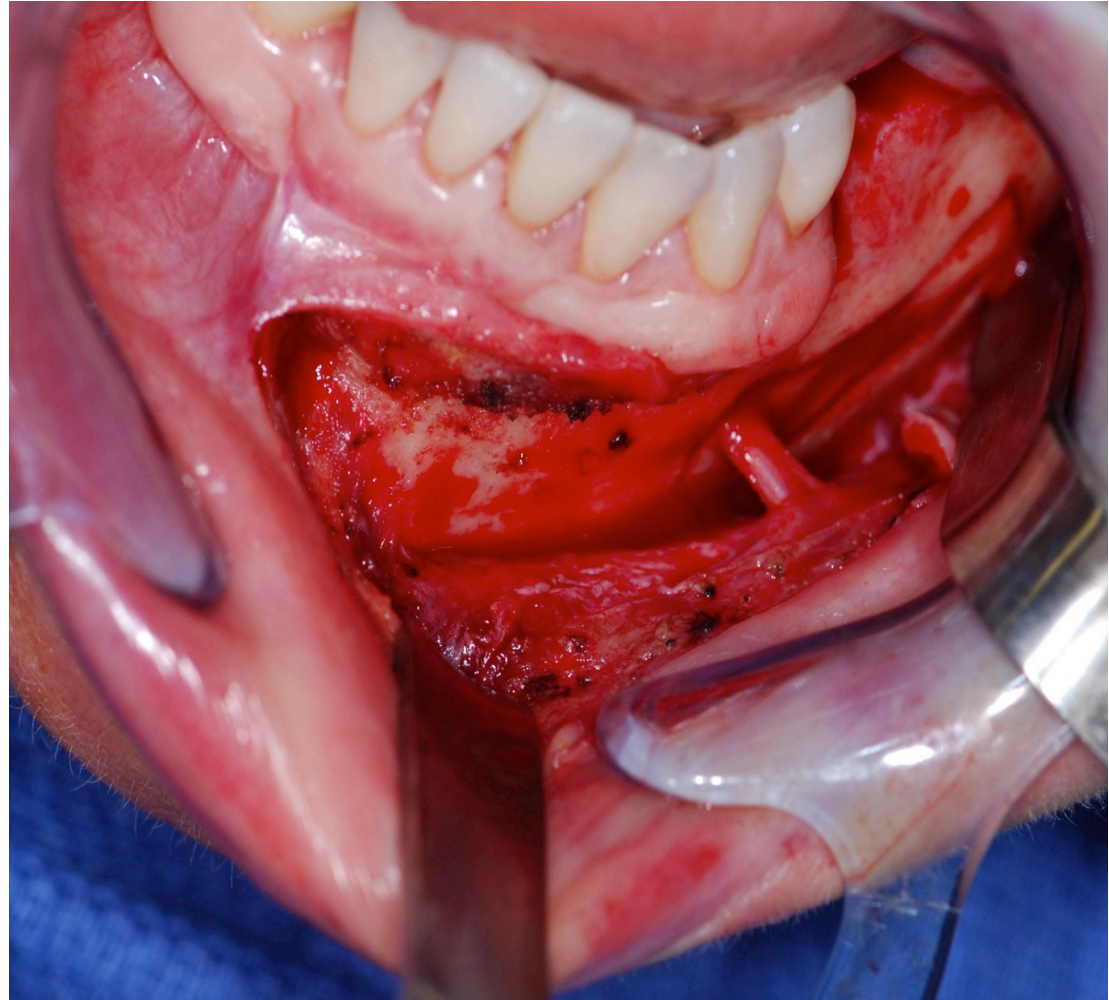


Fig 4.—Exposure techniques for the IAN. A. Lateral corticotomy. B. Sagittal split ramus osteotomy. C. Modified buccal corticotomy.

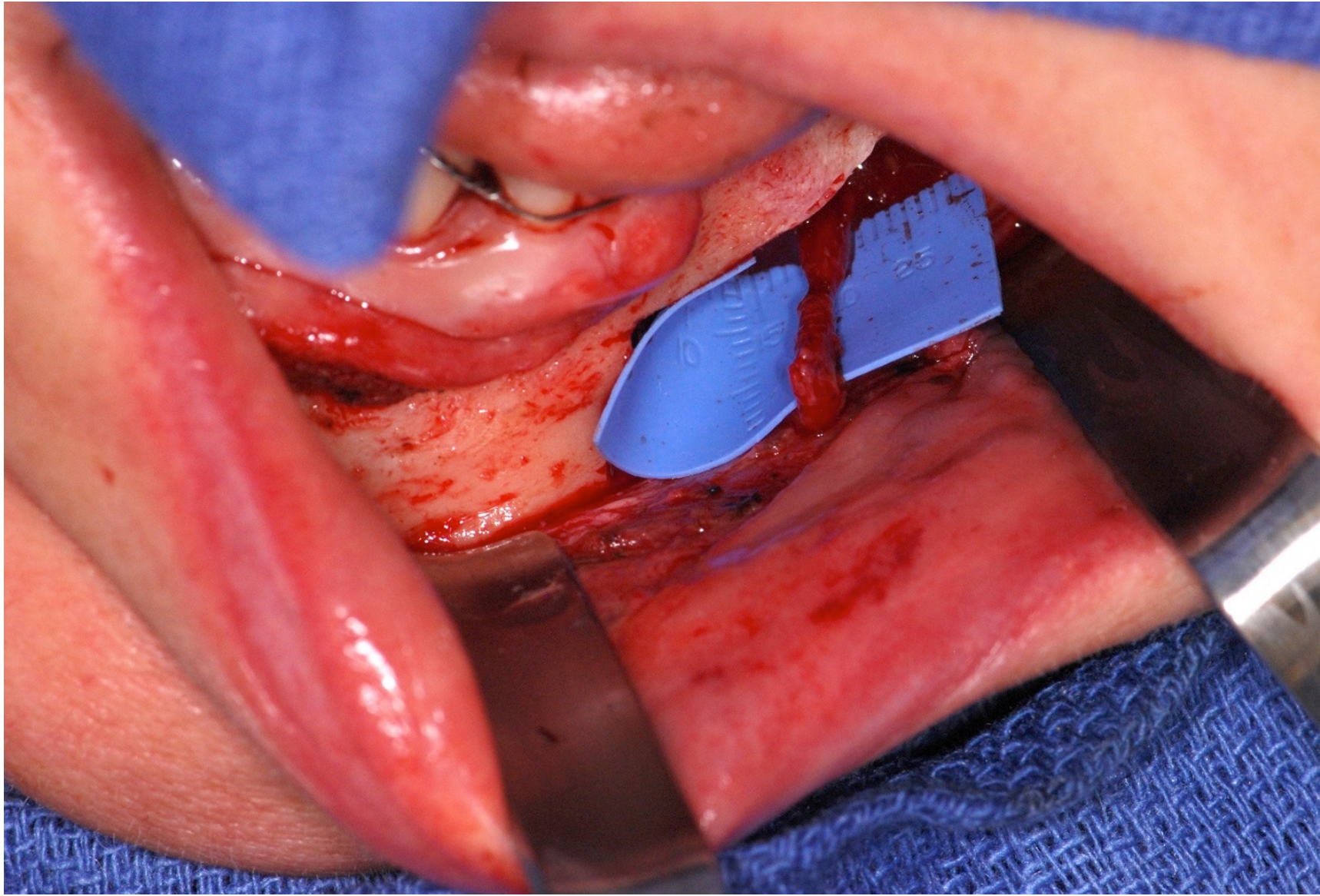


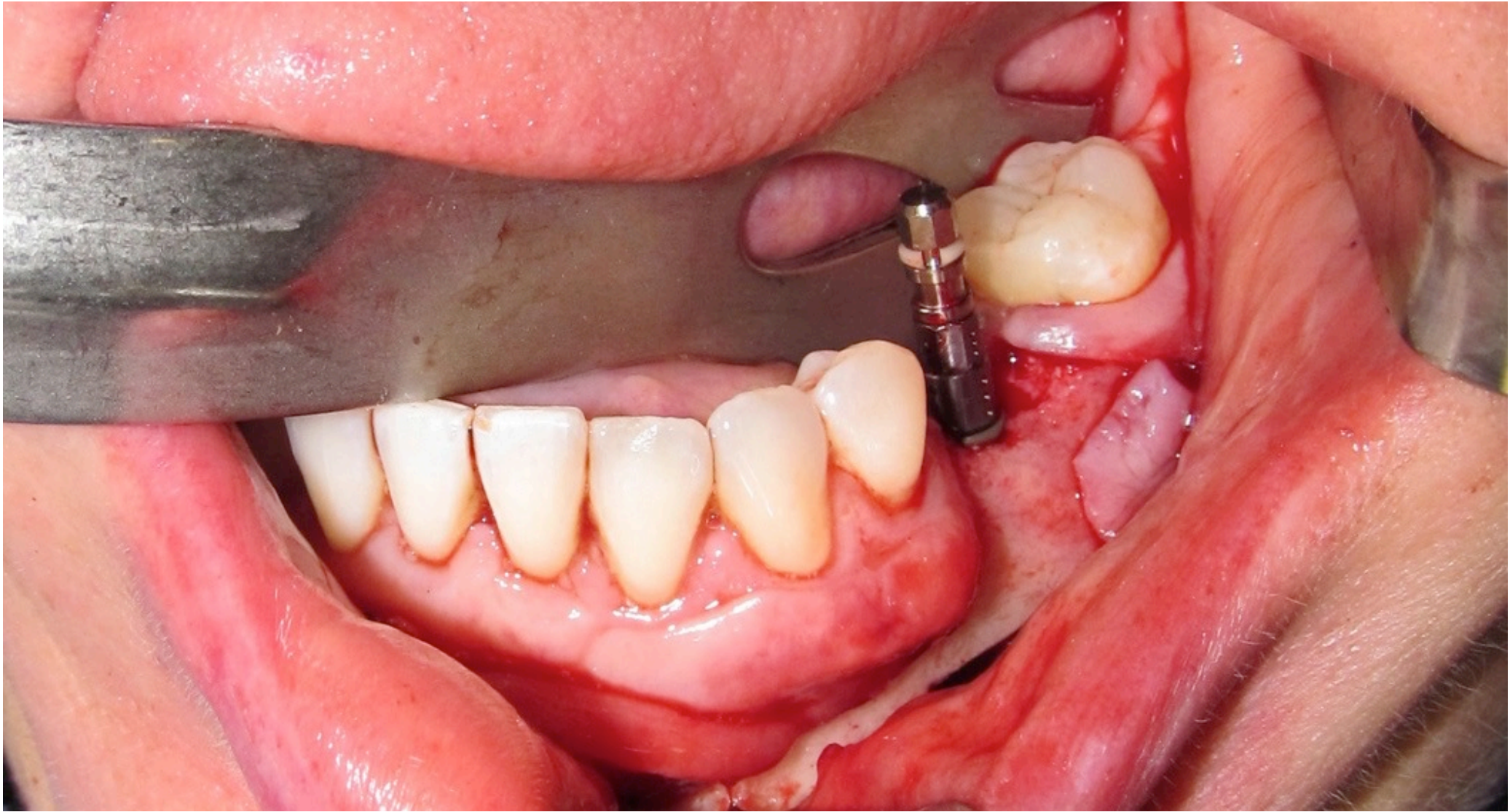
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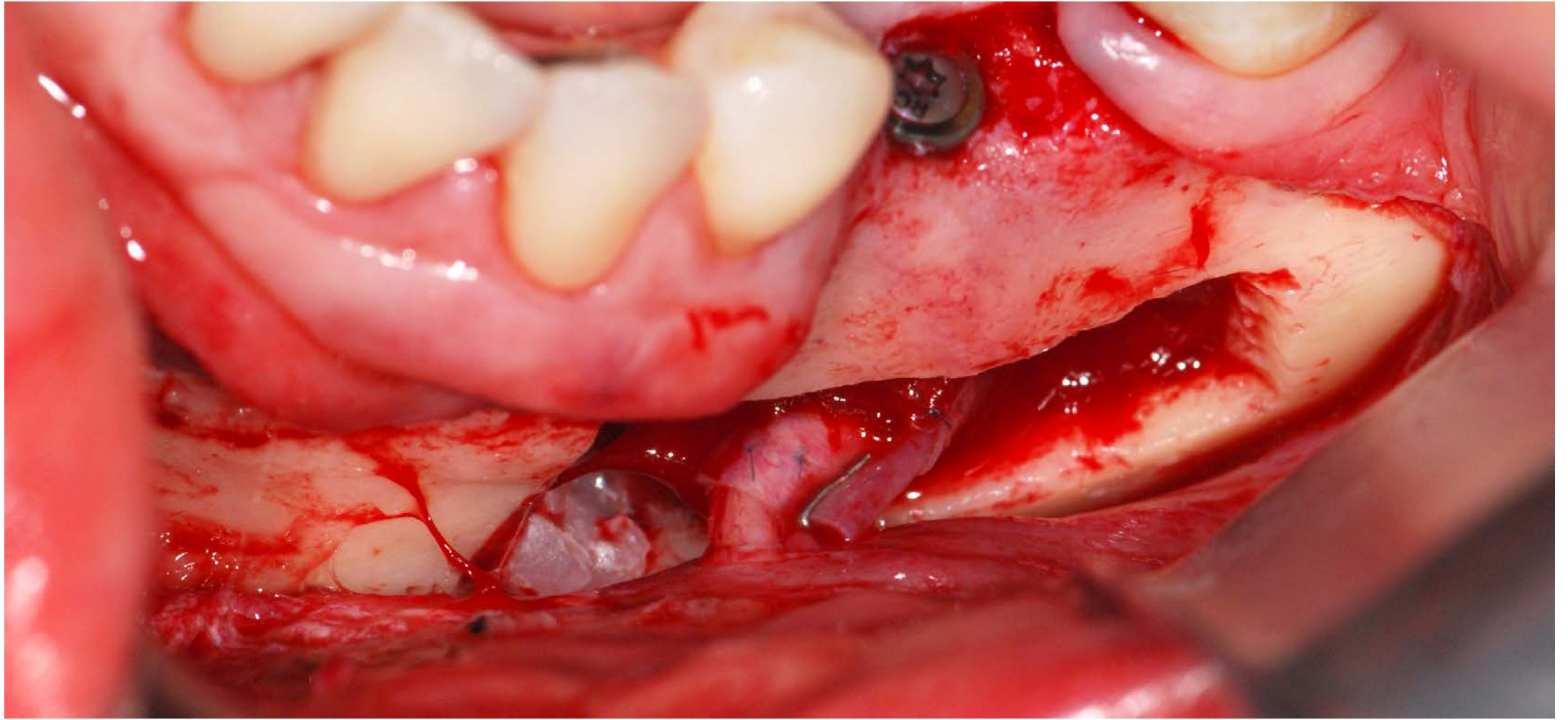




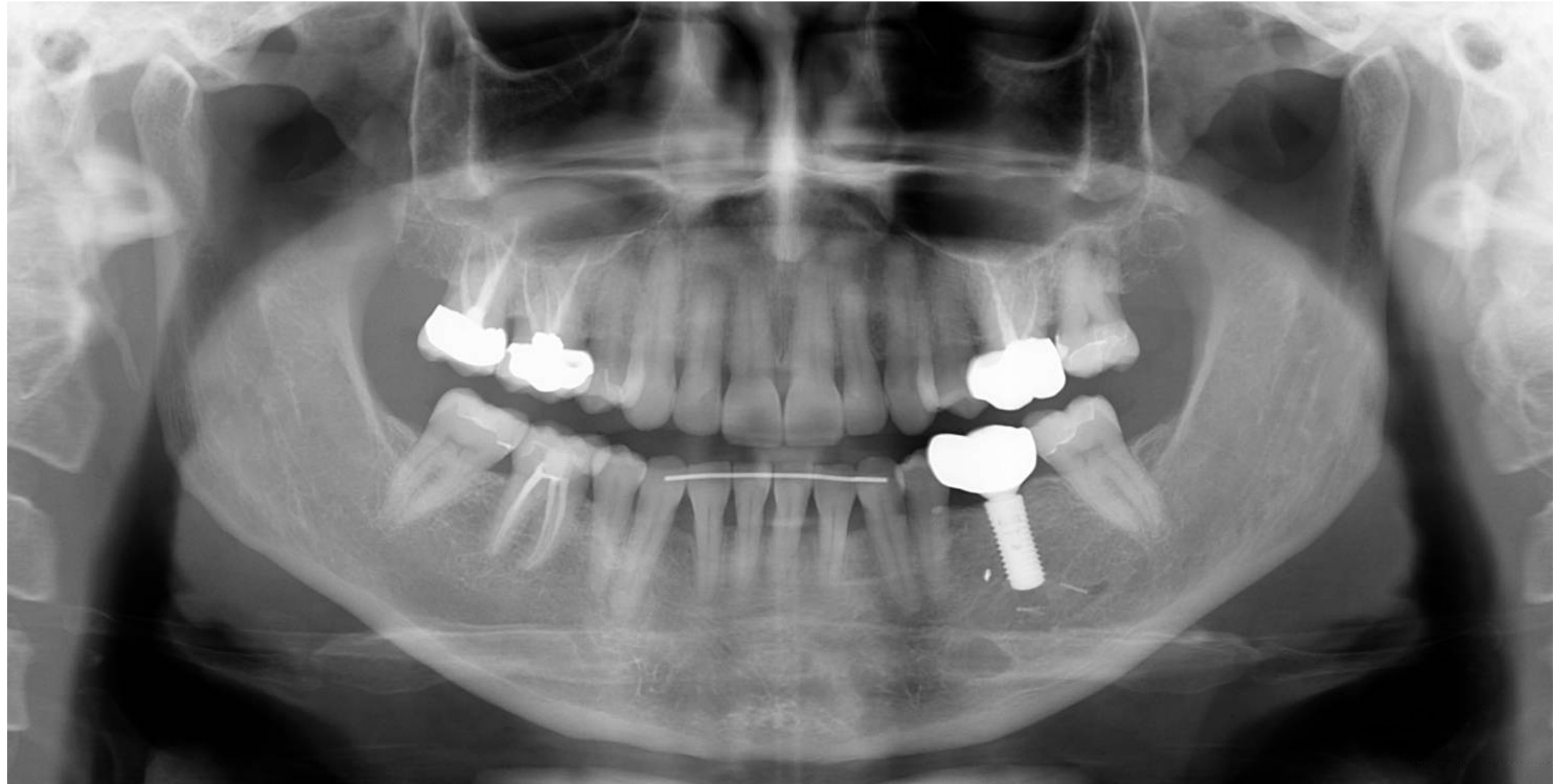






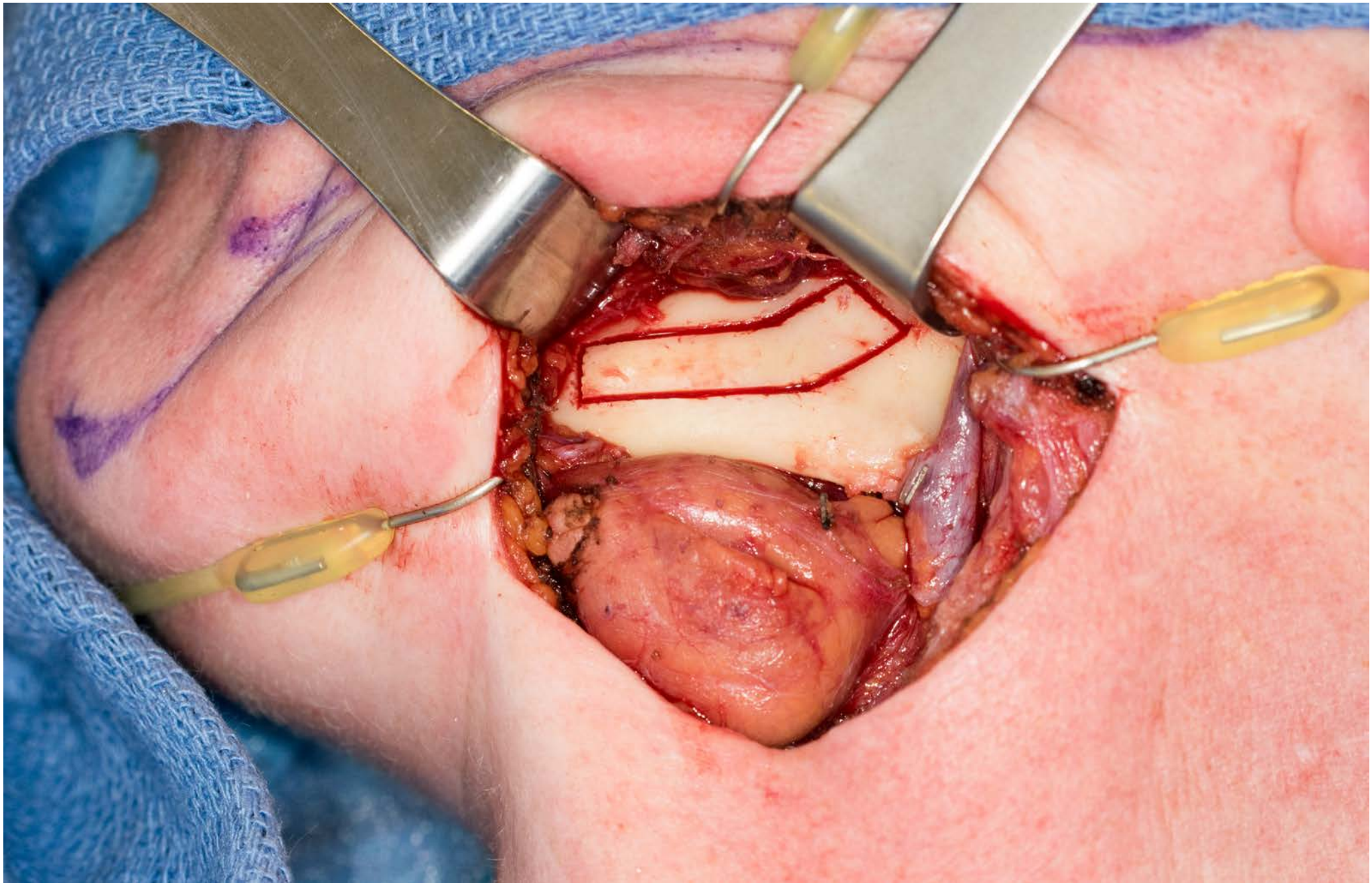


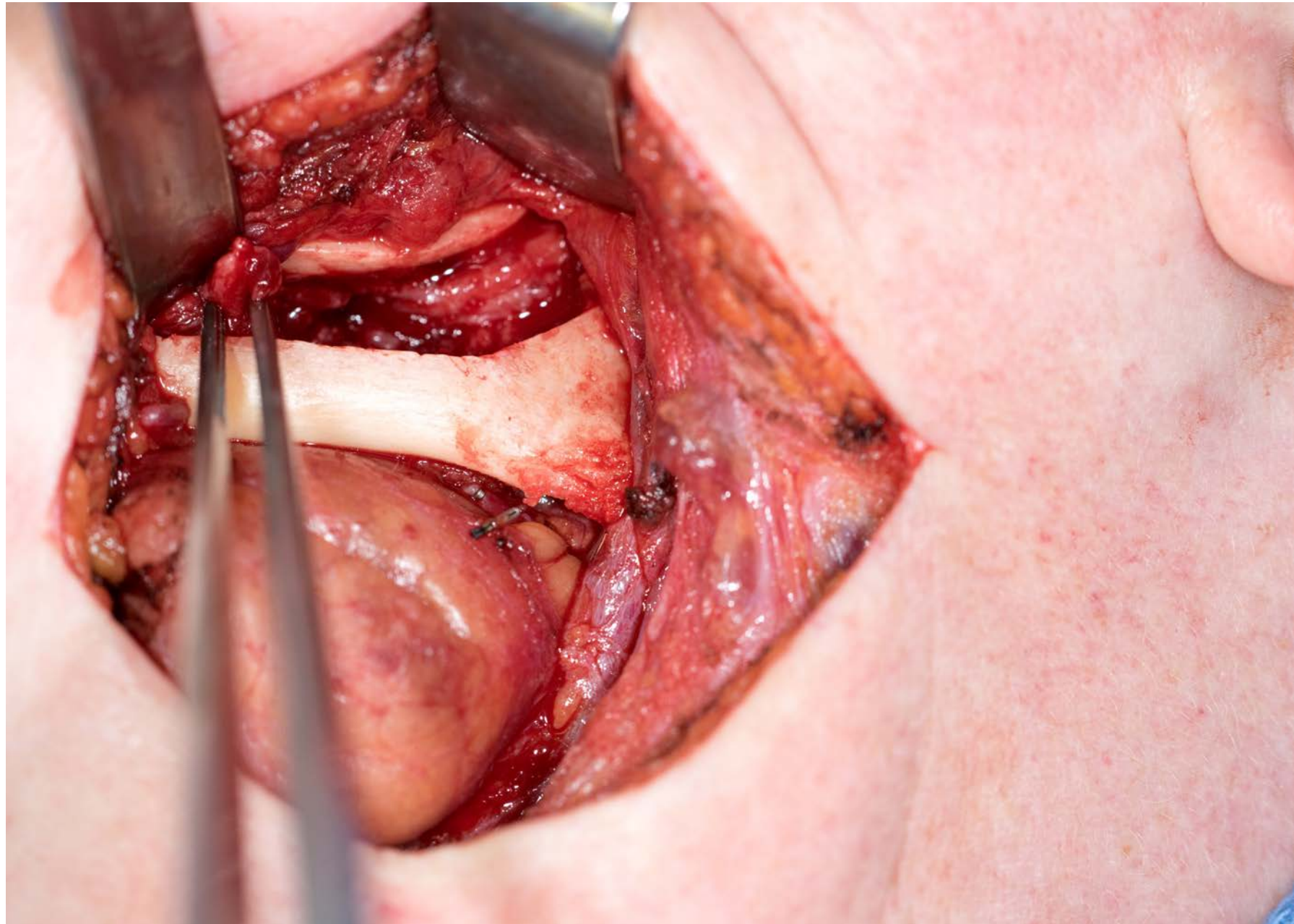


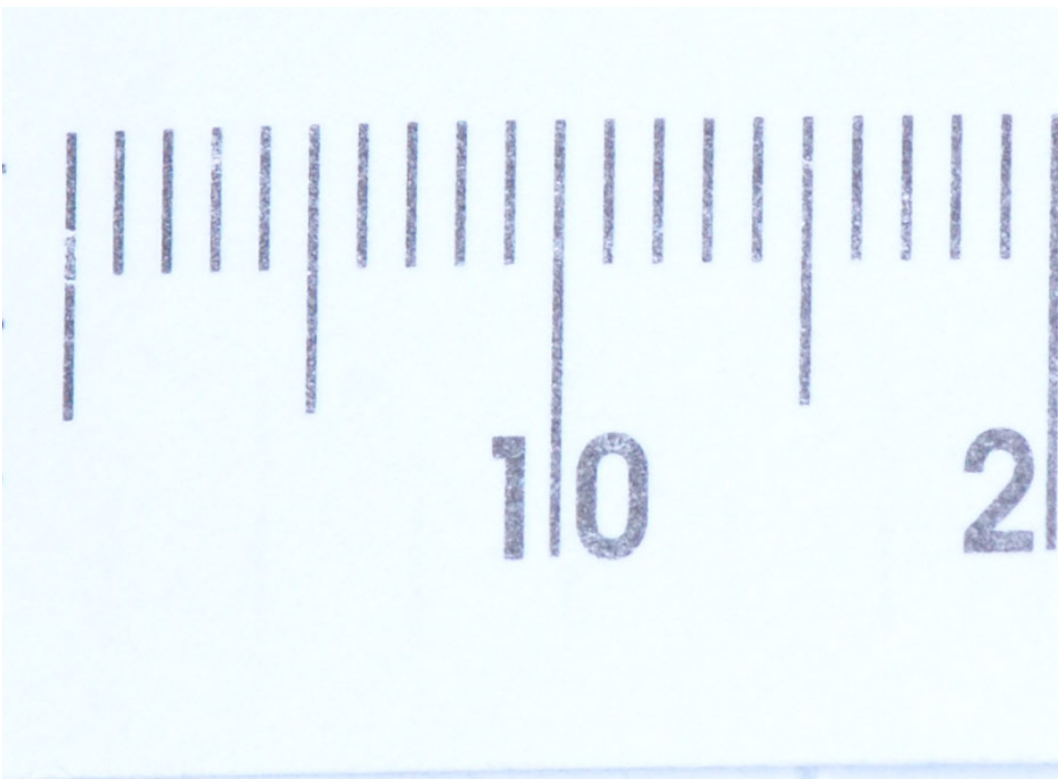


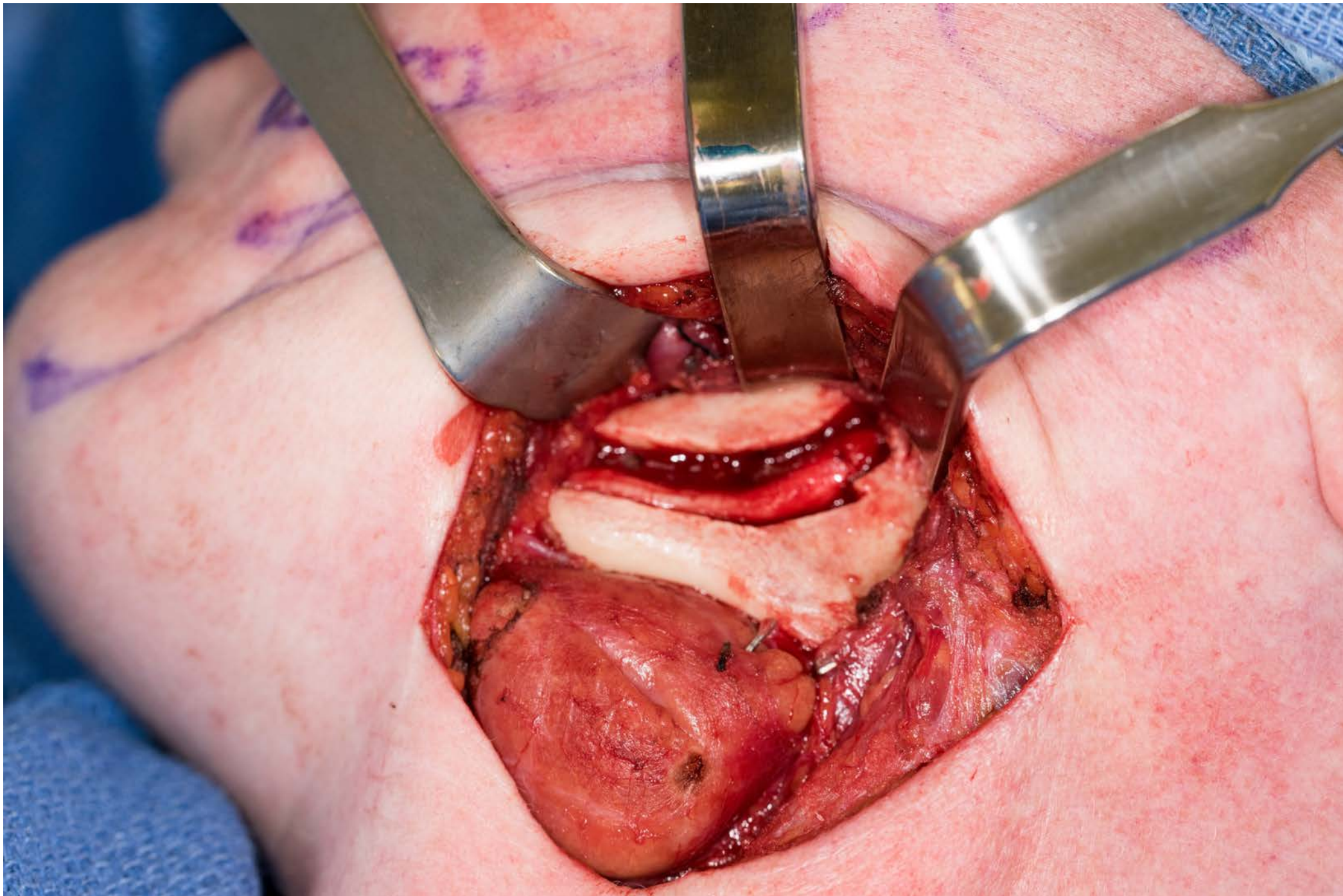
2 years postoperative NST

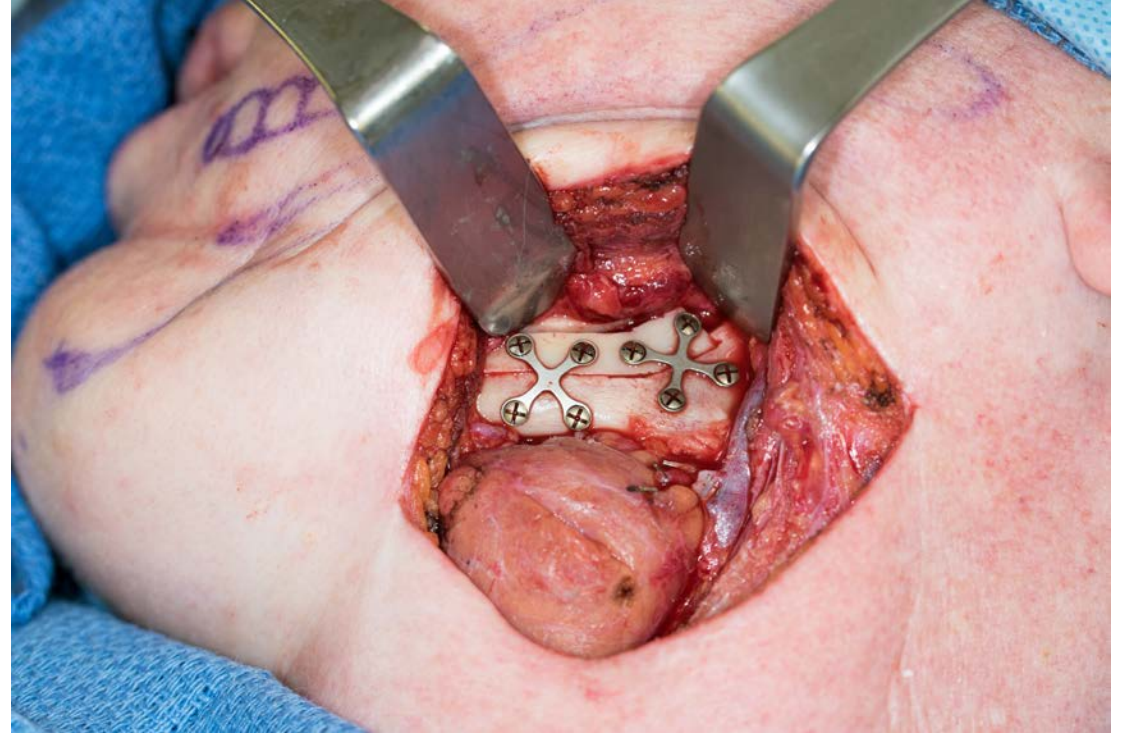
	Right	Left
Light touch	intact	Directional intact (tingling sensation, but intact)
Coarse touch	intact	intact
Pain	intact	Good pain sensation
Two point discrimination	10mm	11mm

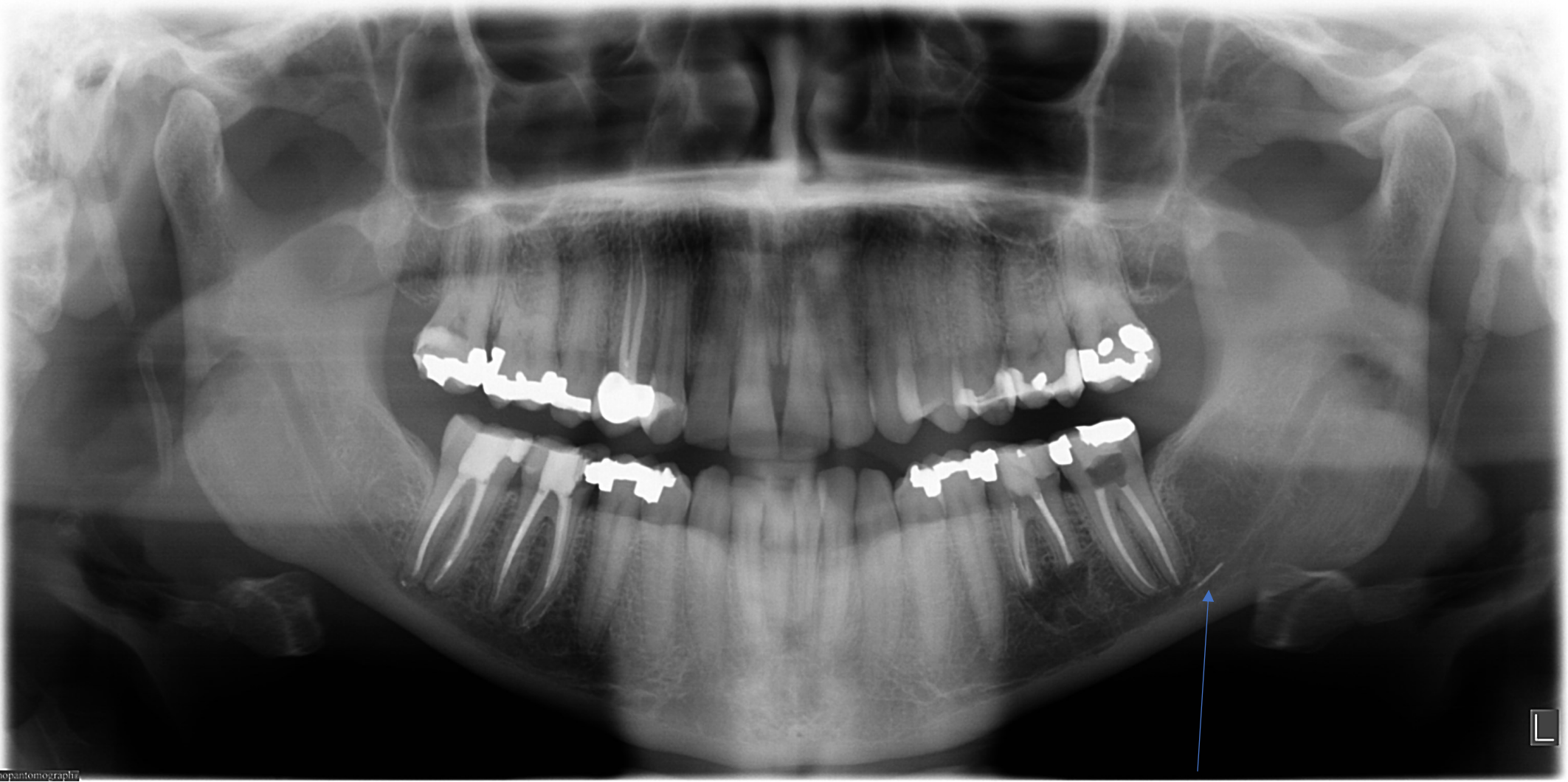






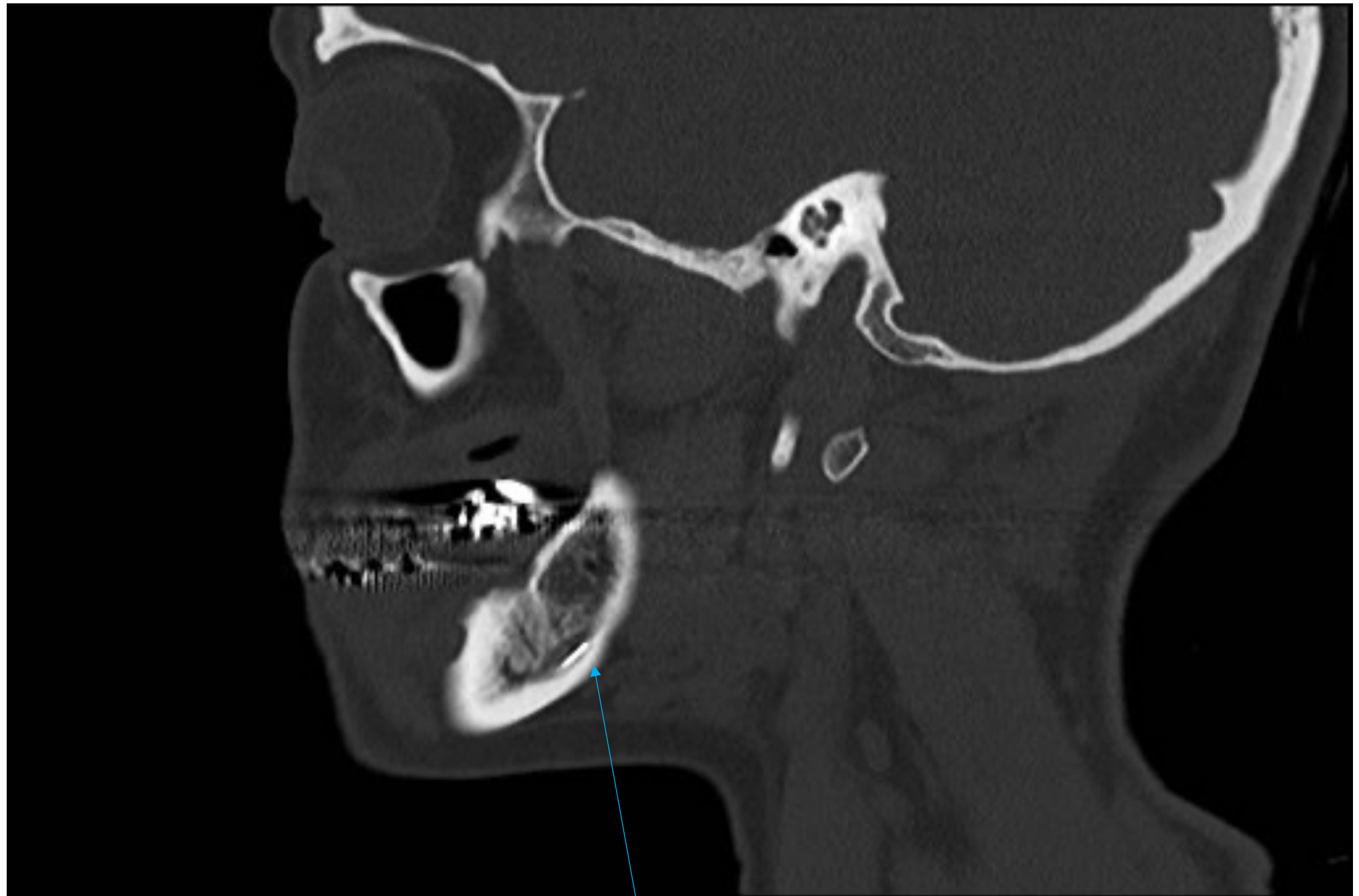




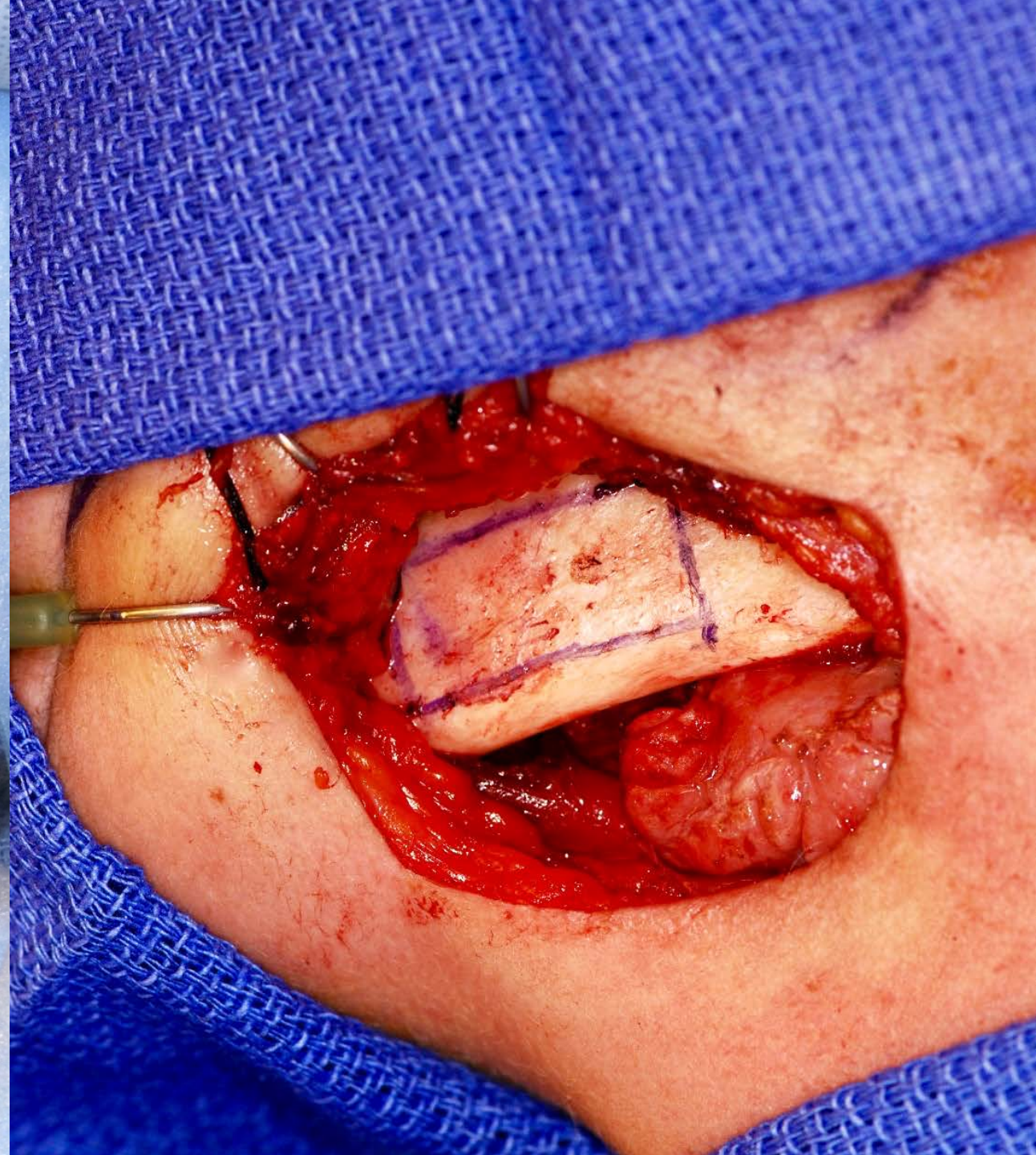


Orthopantomograph

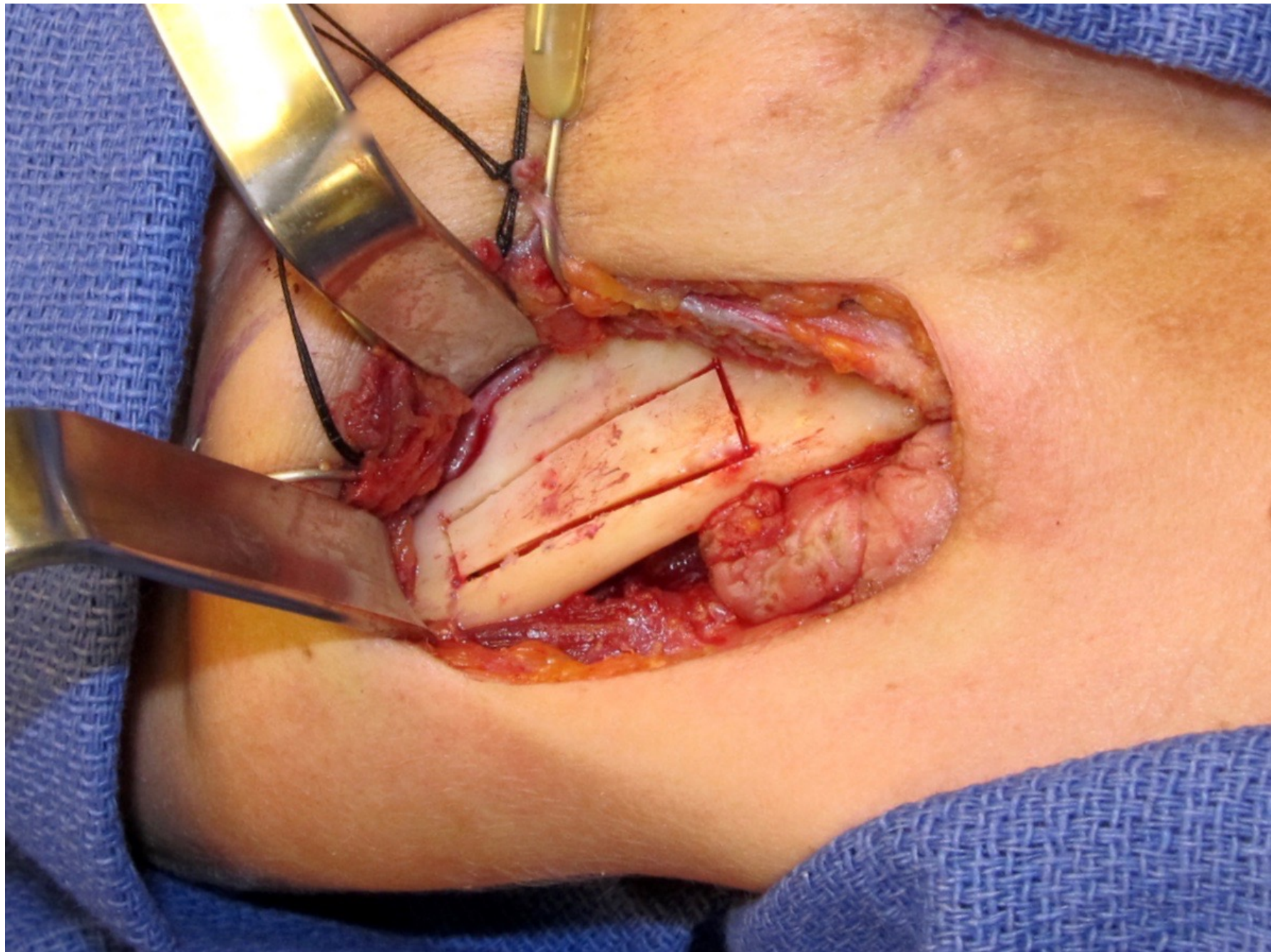
Foreign Body In IAN Canal

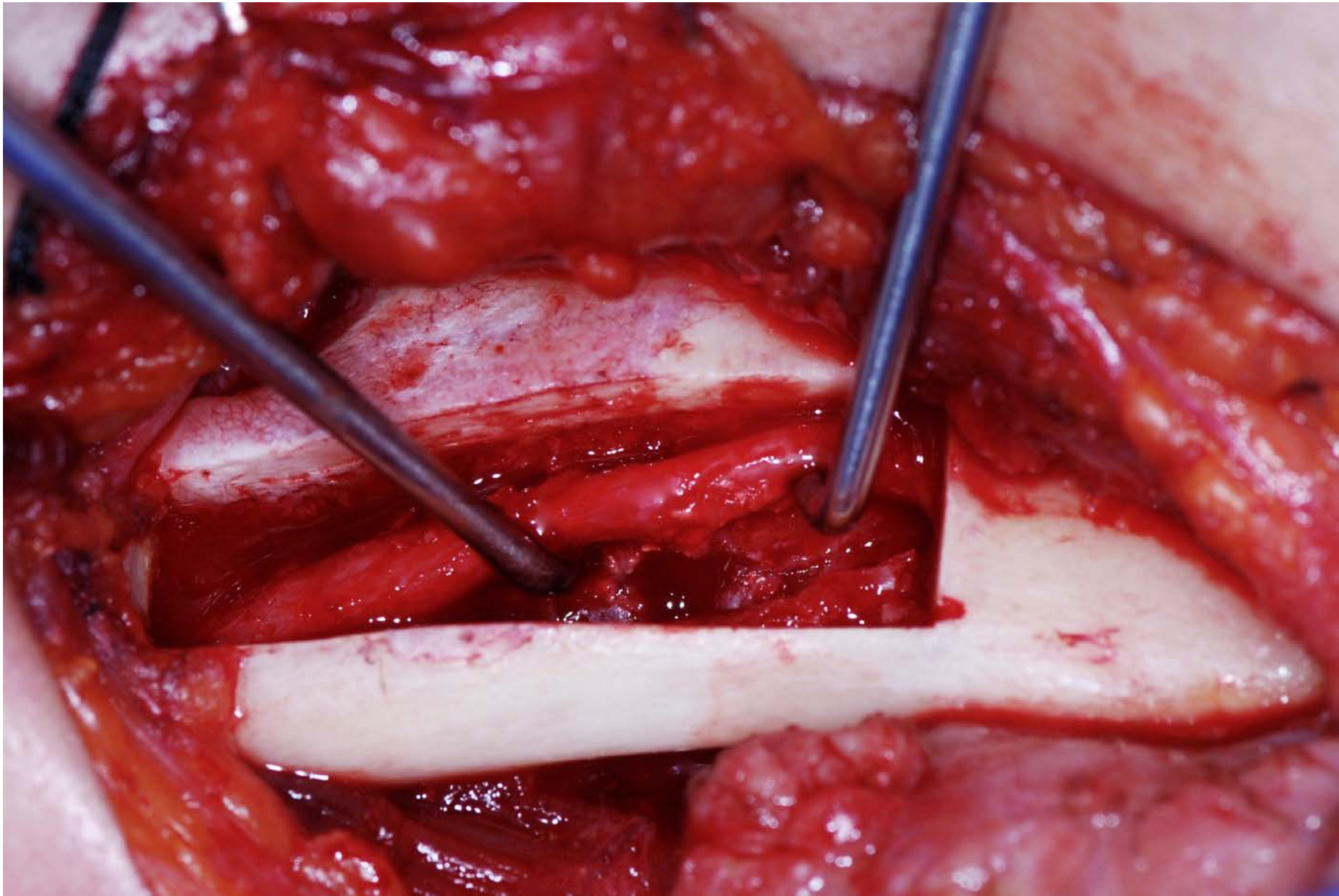


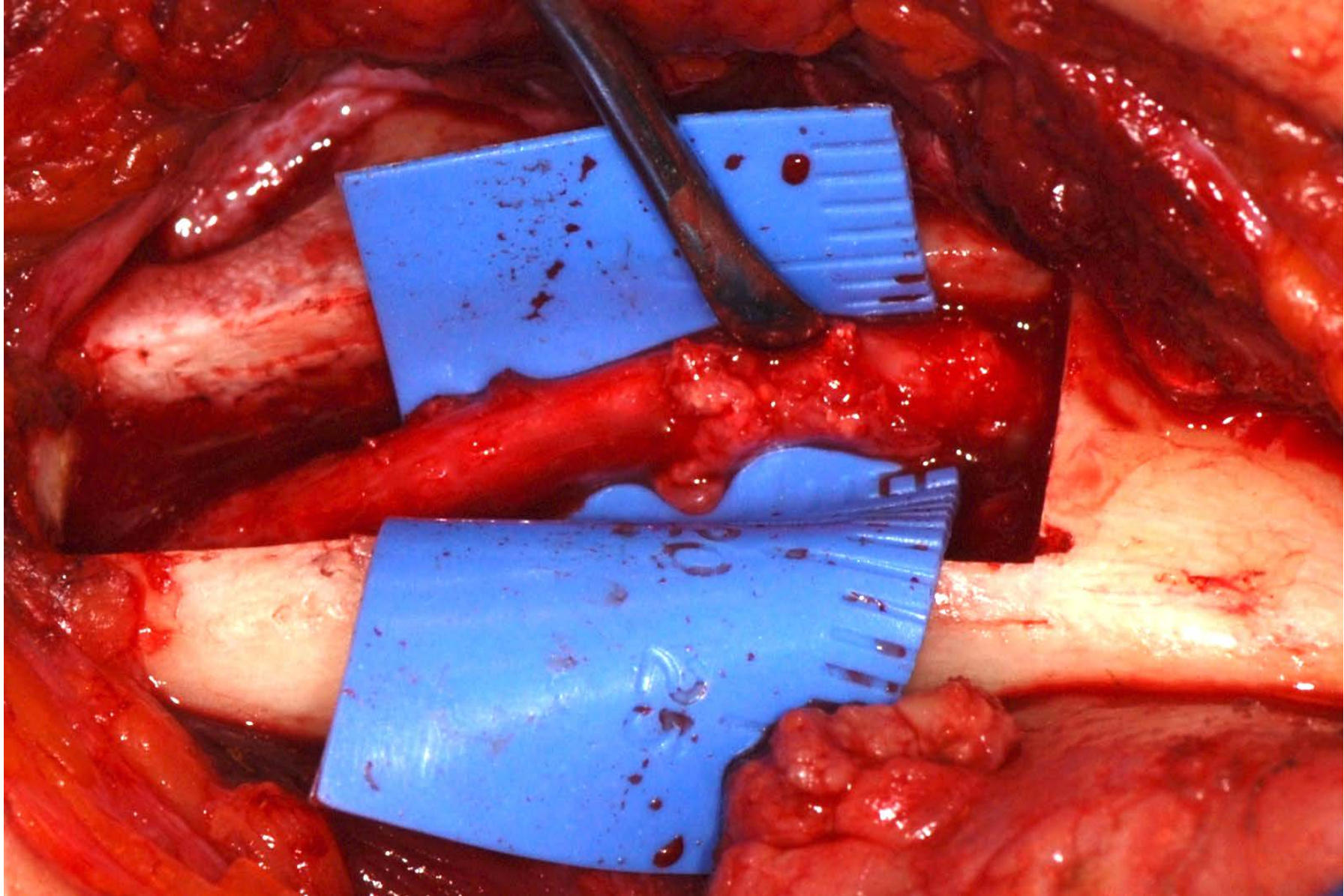
Foreign Body In IAN Canal

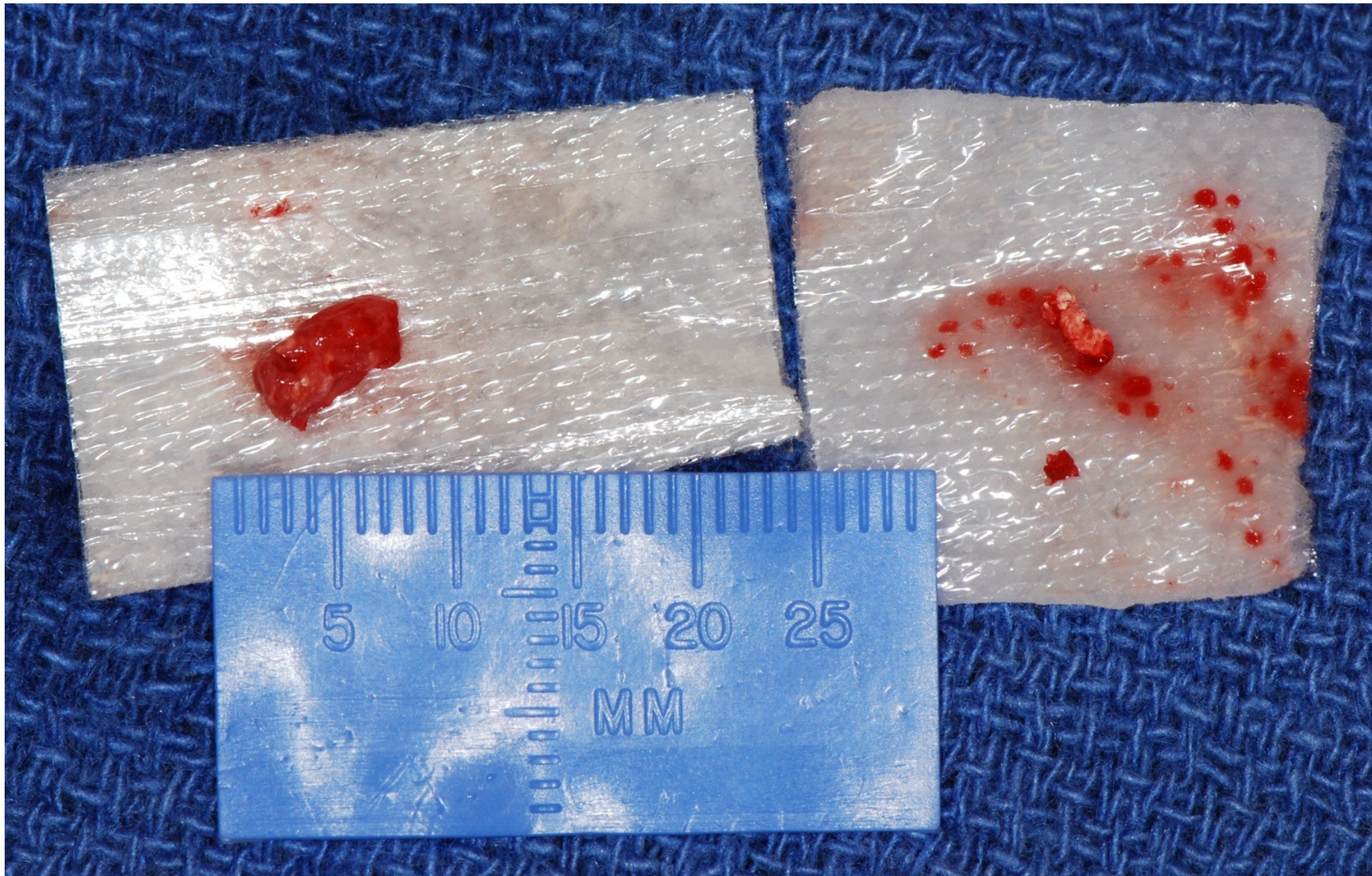


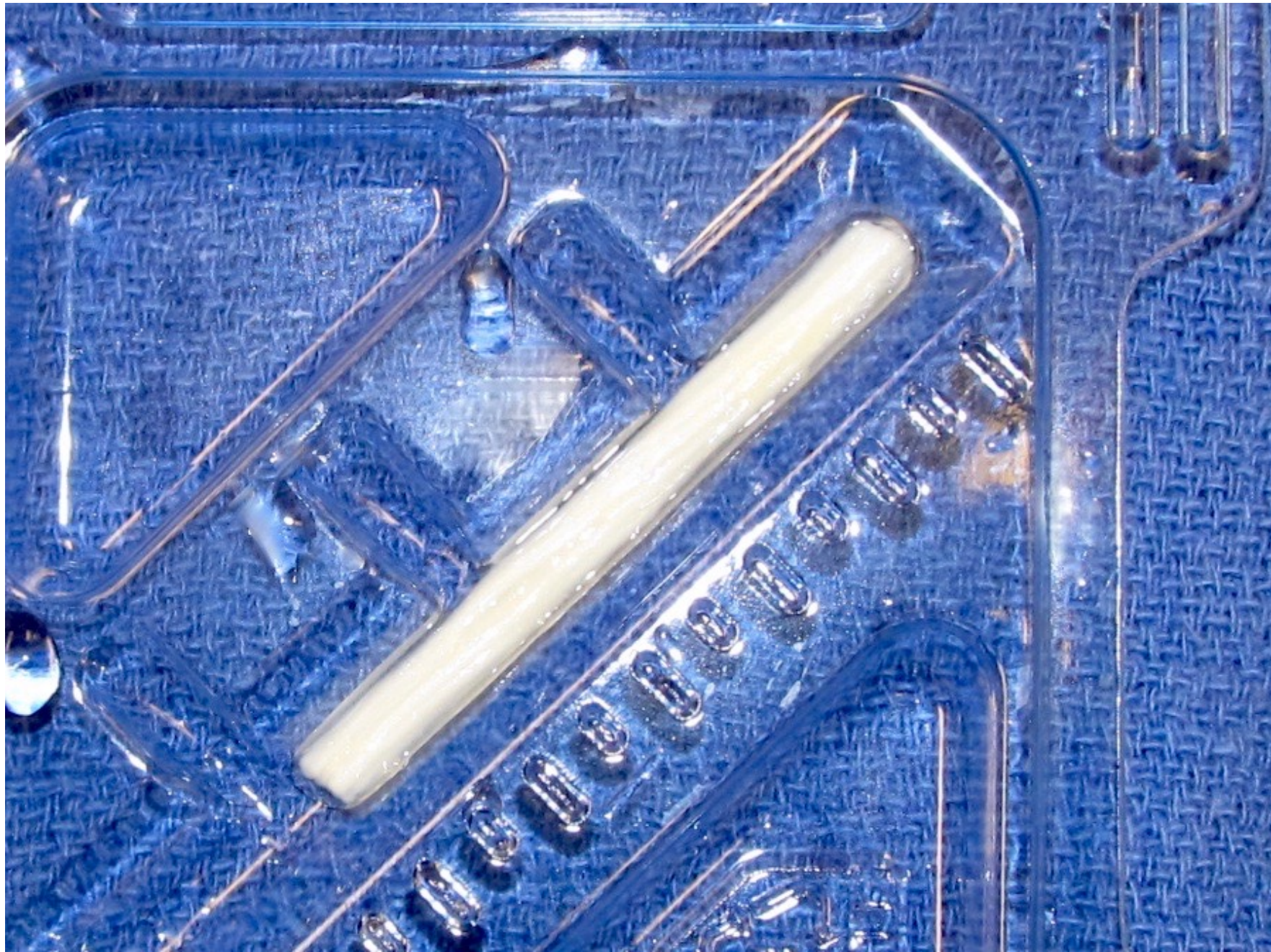













REF 311250

DIAMETER	3-4 mm
LENGTH	50 mm

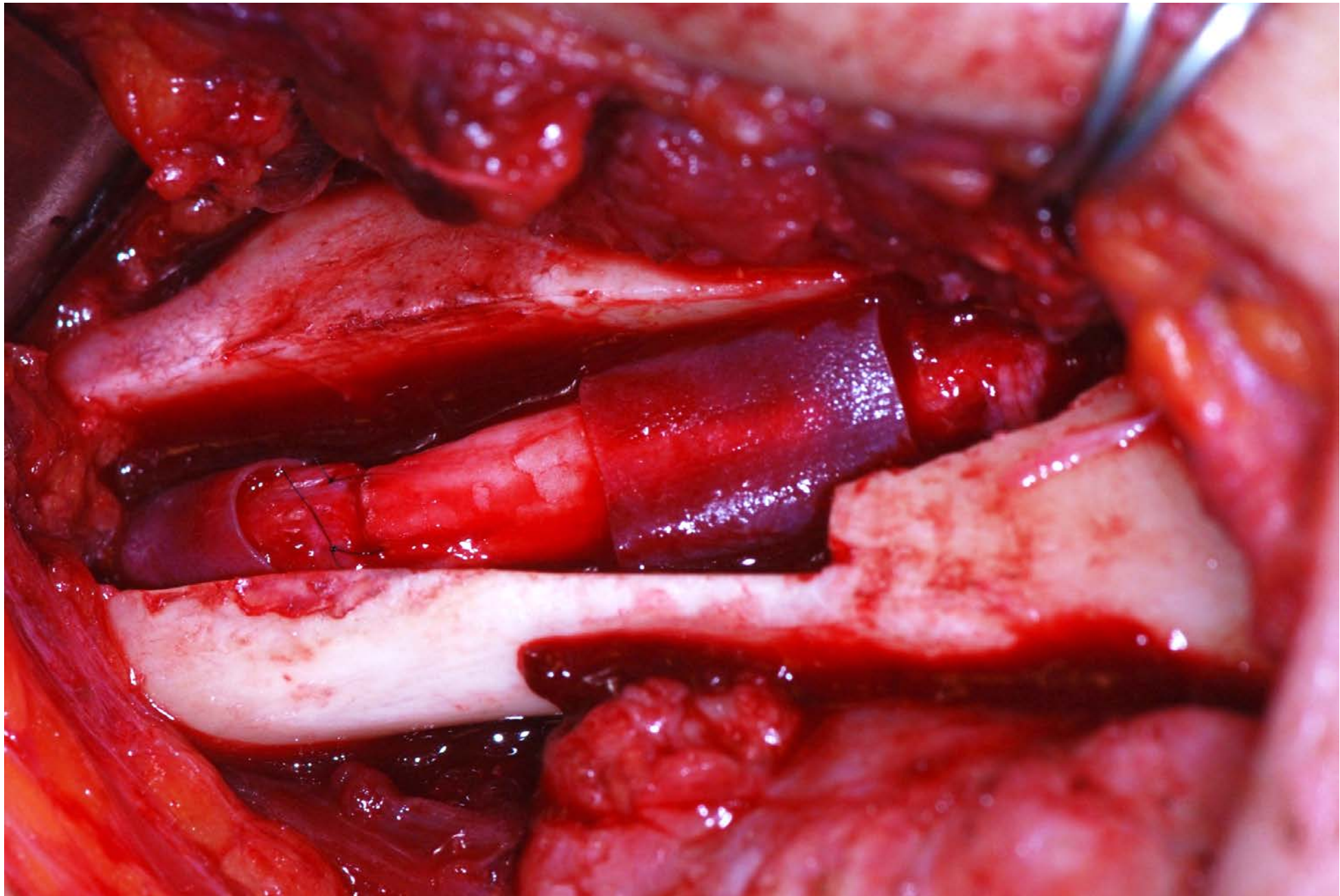
All dimensions approximate

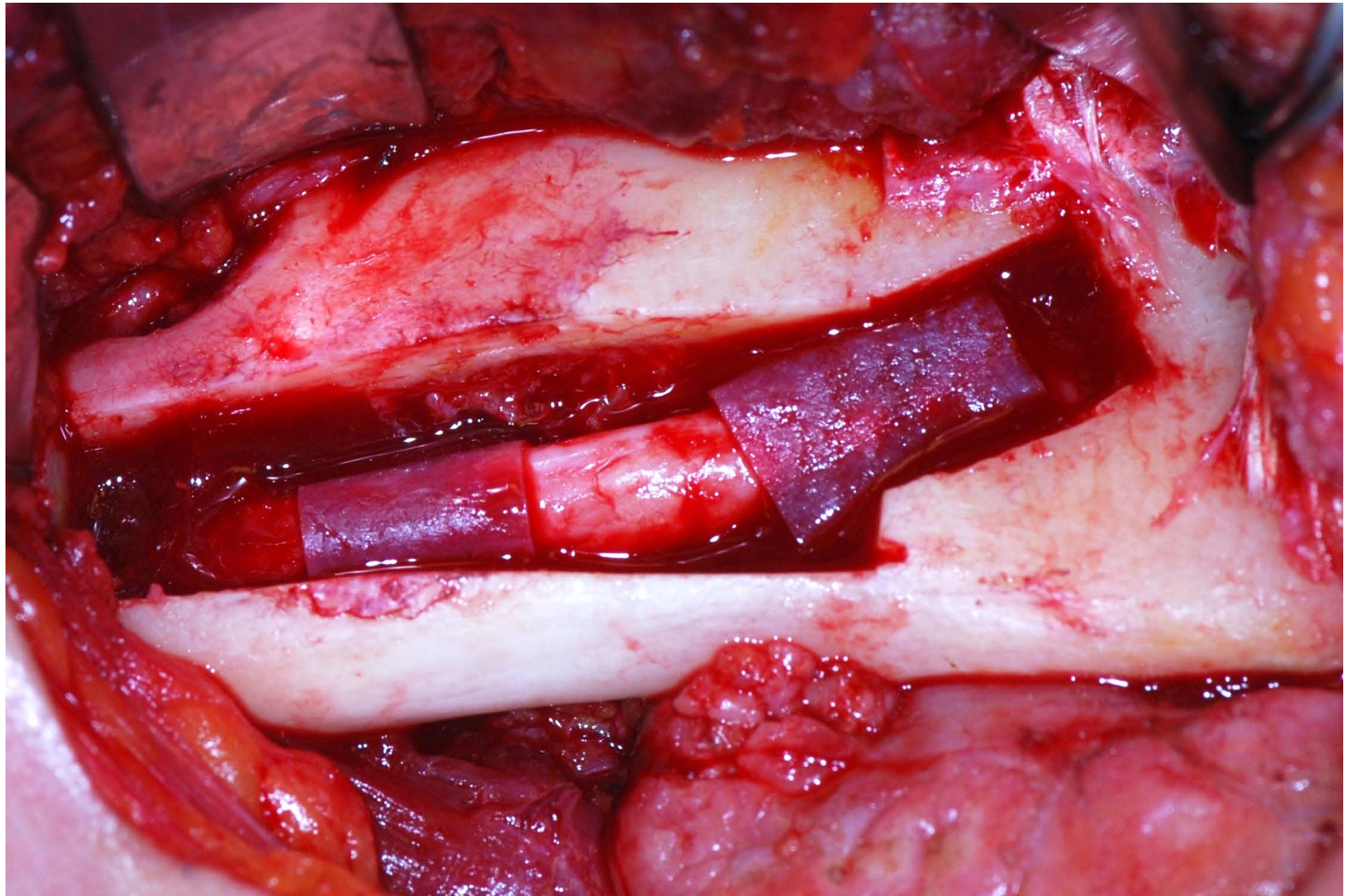
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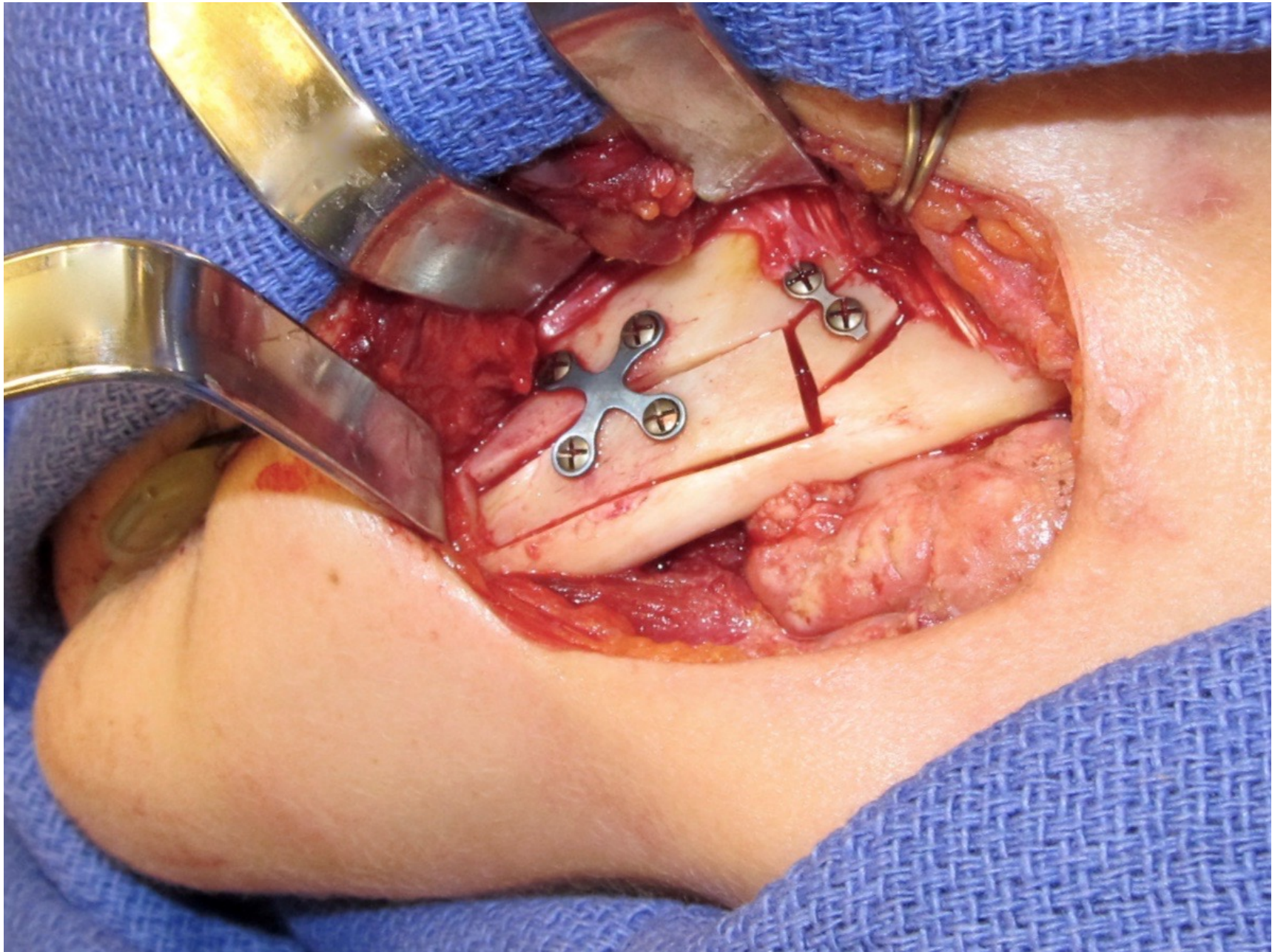
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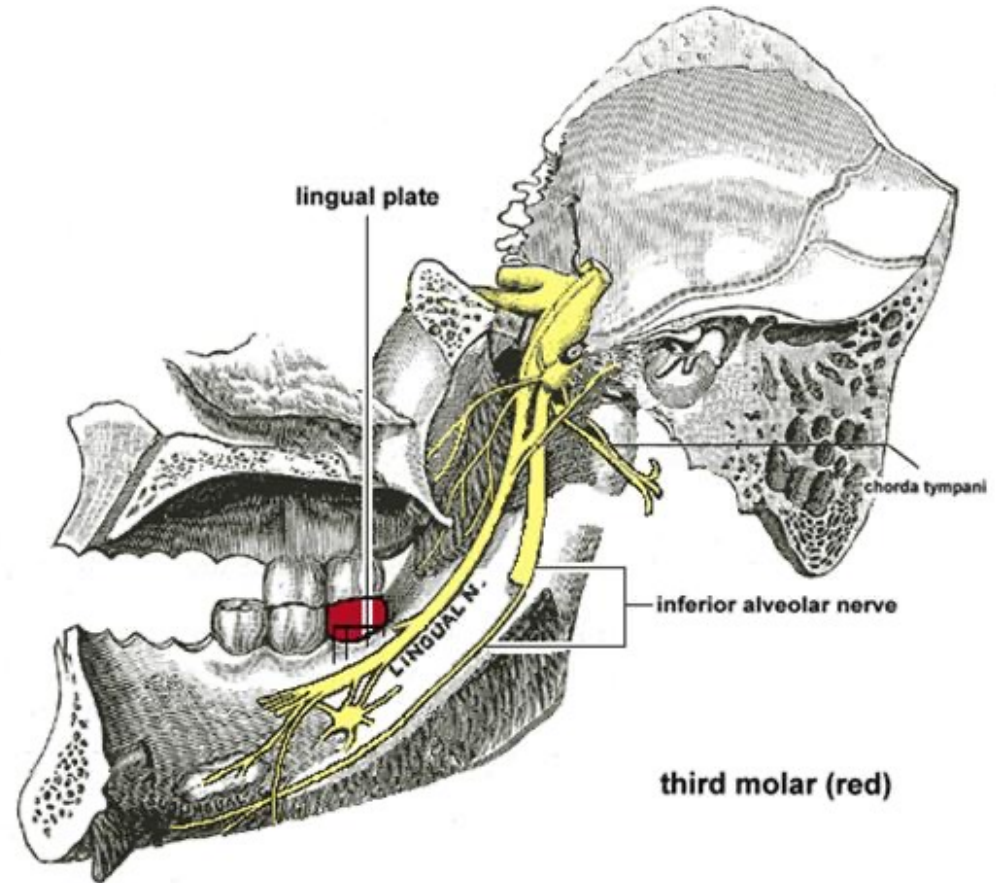


Orthopantomograph



Lingual nerve anatomy

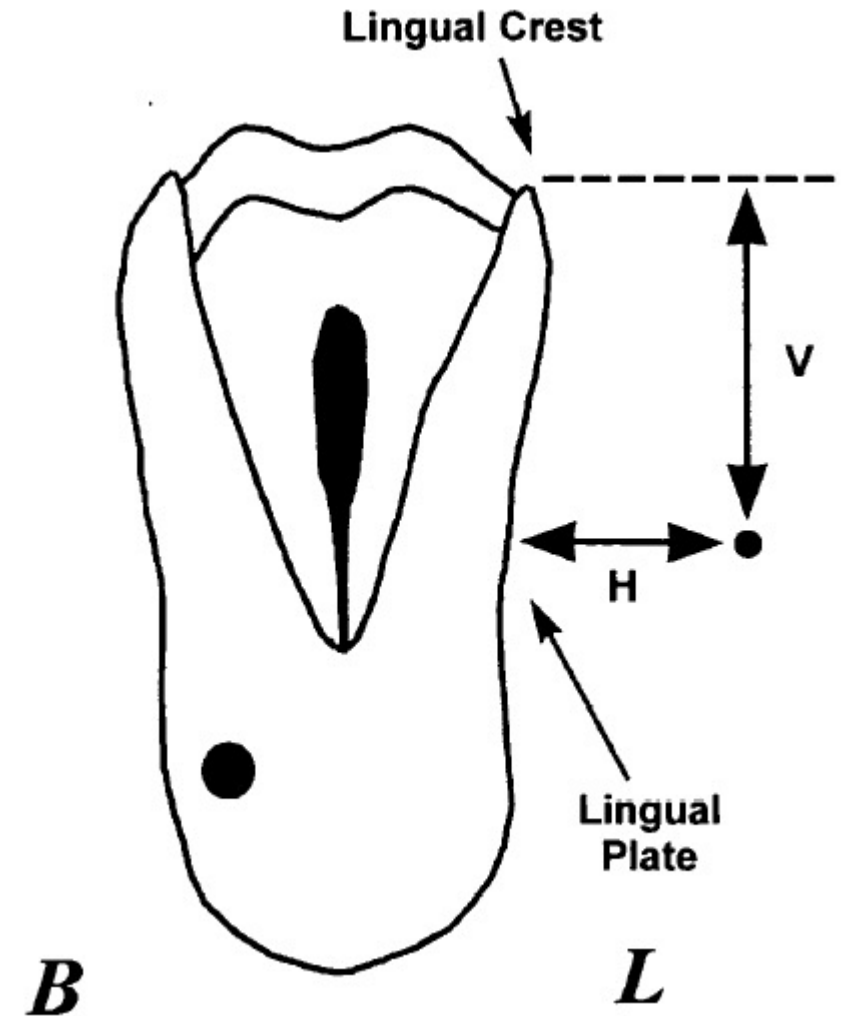
- Within soft tissue
- Variable position
- Oligofascicular
- 3.2mm

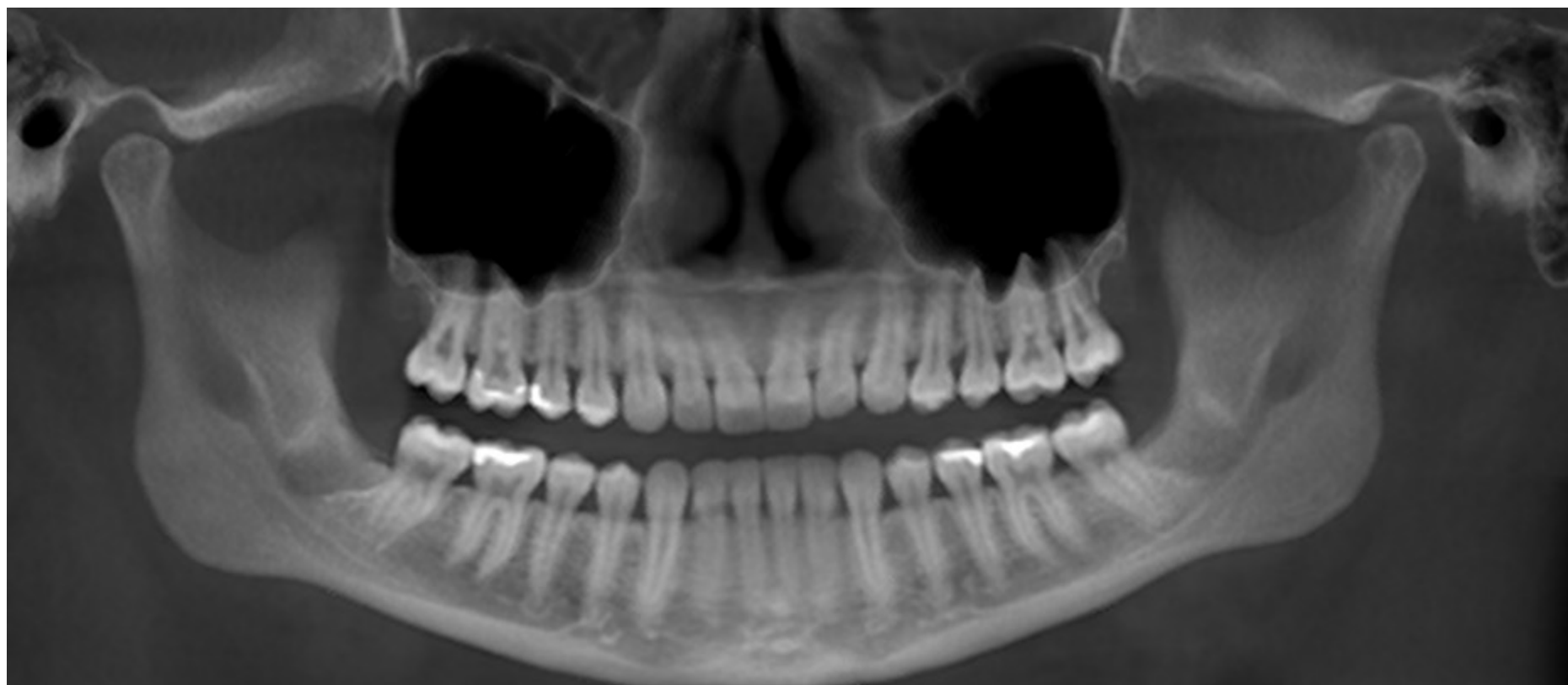


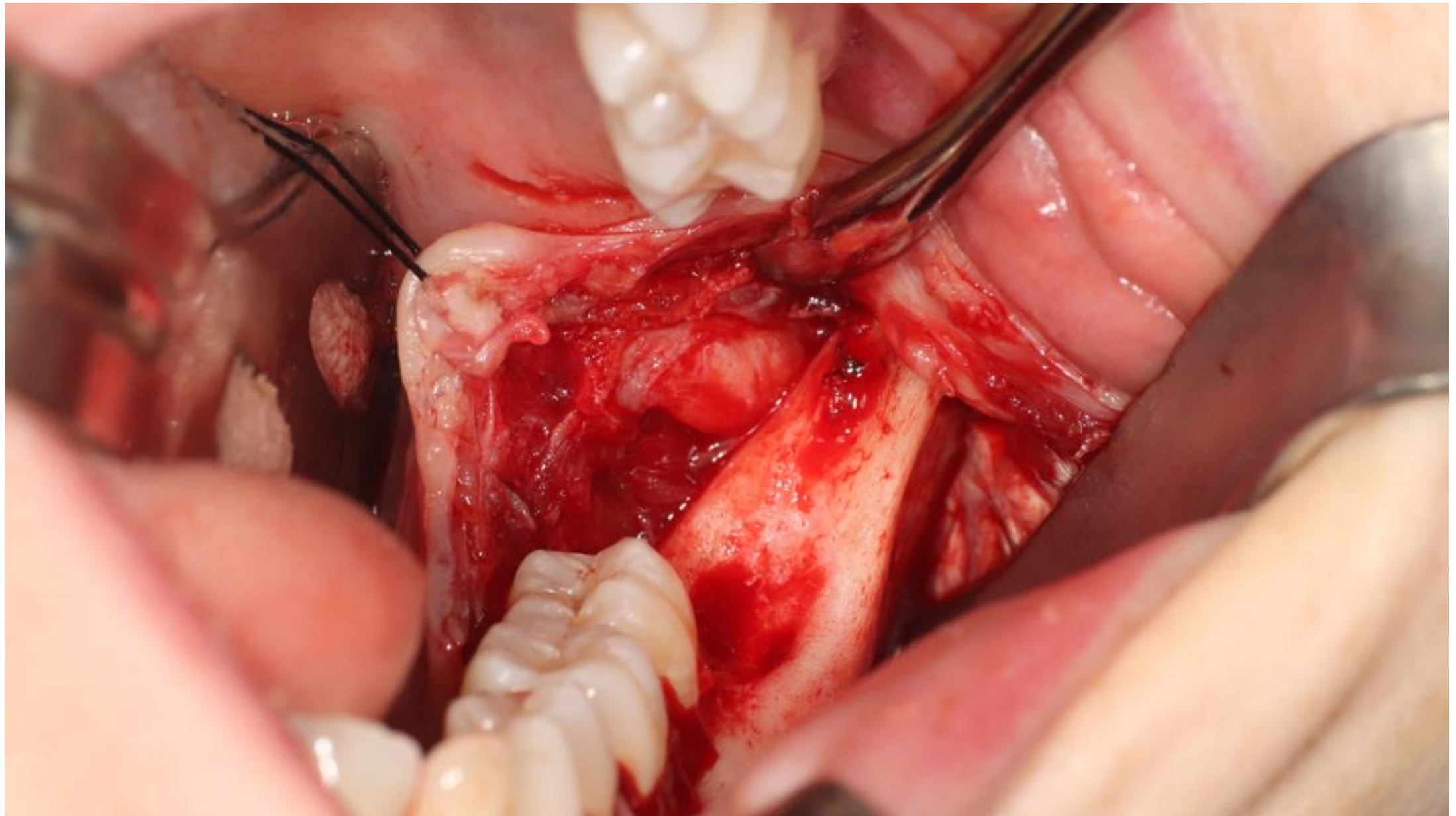
An Anatomic Study of the Lingual Nerve in the Third Molar Region

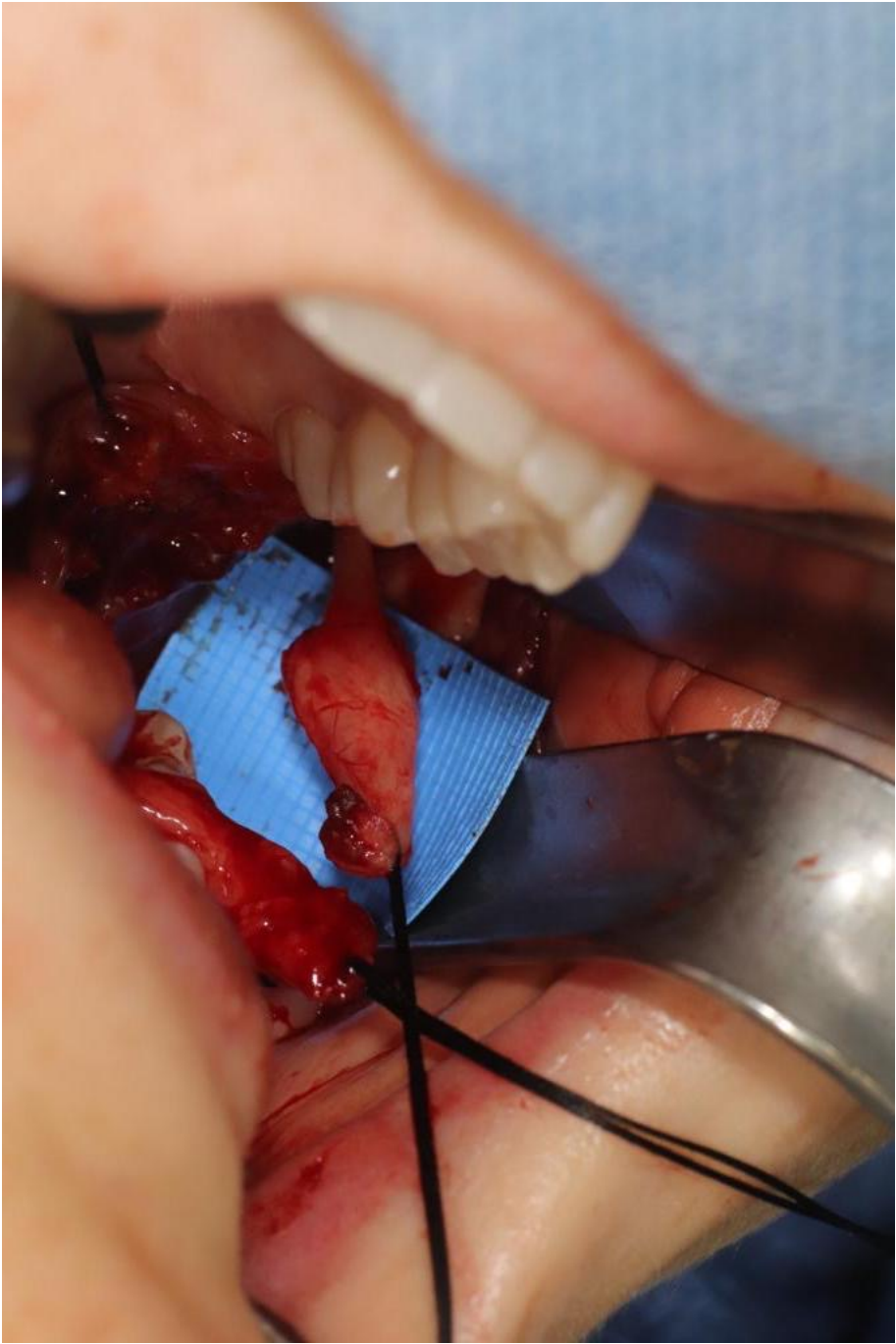
Hossein Behnia, DMD, Arash Kheradvar, MD,†
and Mahmoud Shabrokhi‡*

- In third molar region, nerve lies 2.06 mm (+- 1.10) **medial** to lingual plate and 3.01 mm (+- 0.42) **inferior** to lingual crest
- May be in **direct contact** with plate in **25%** of people
- May lie **above the crest** in **10-15%** of people

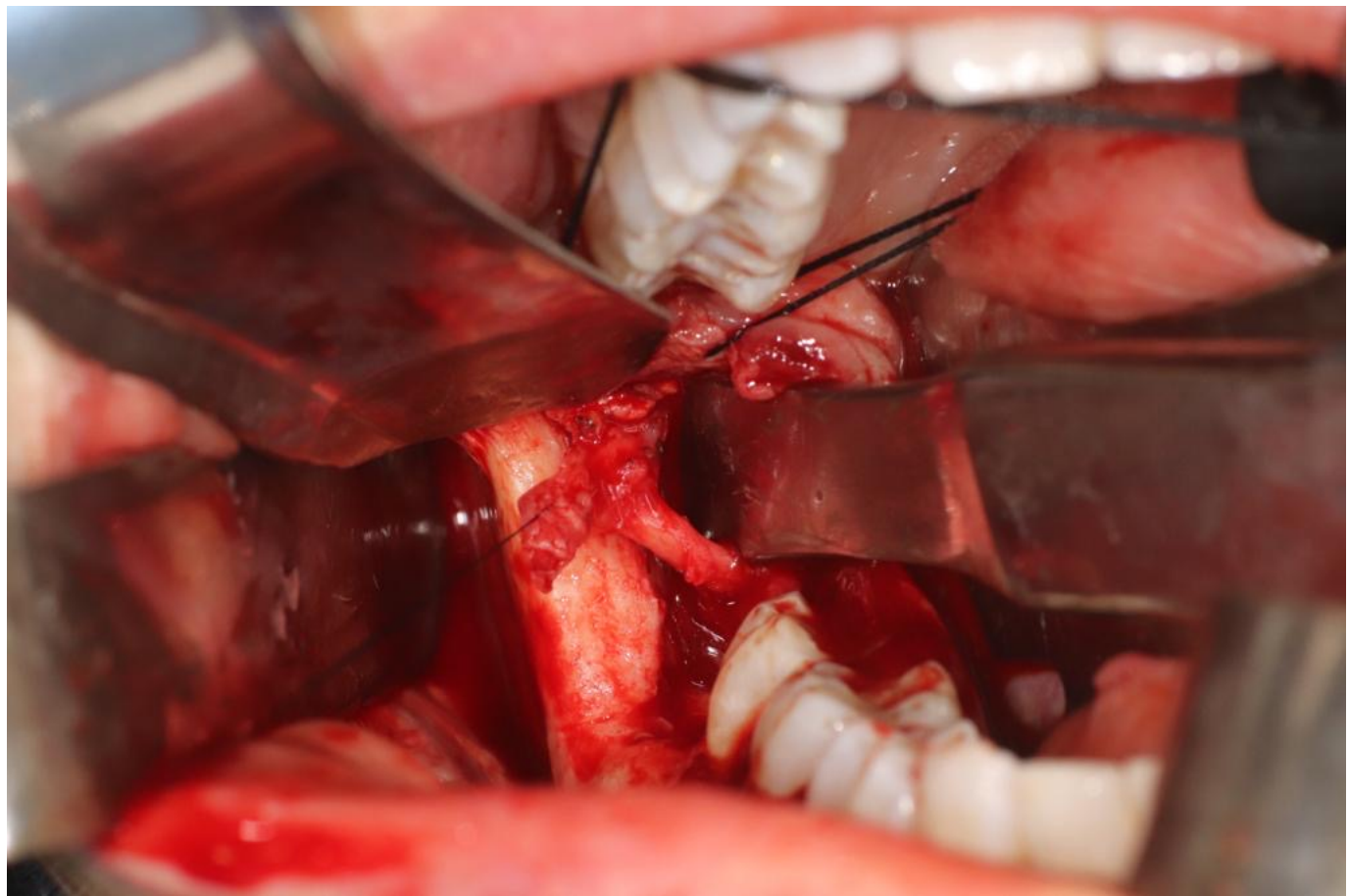




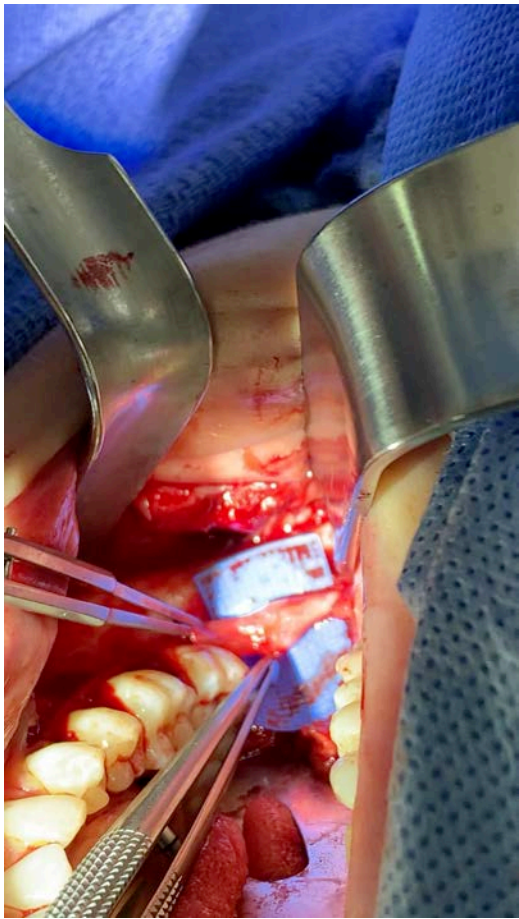


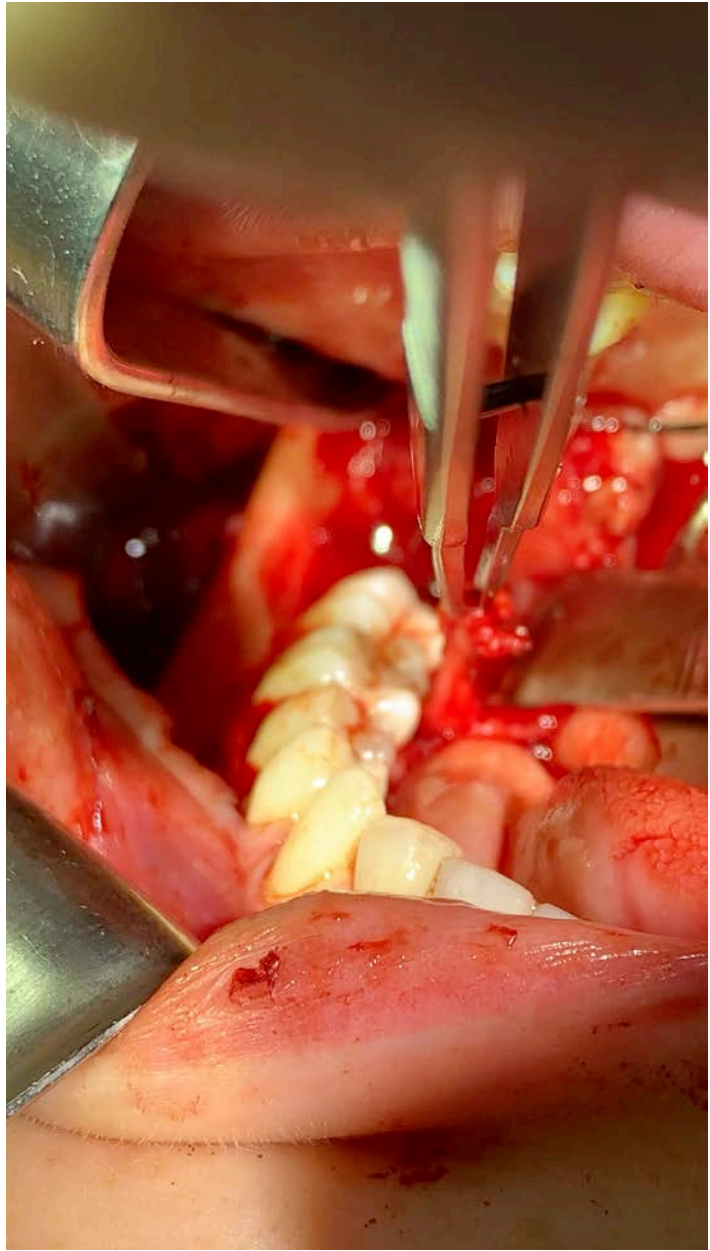




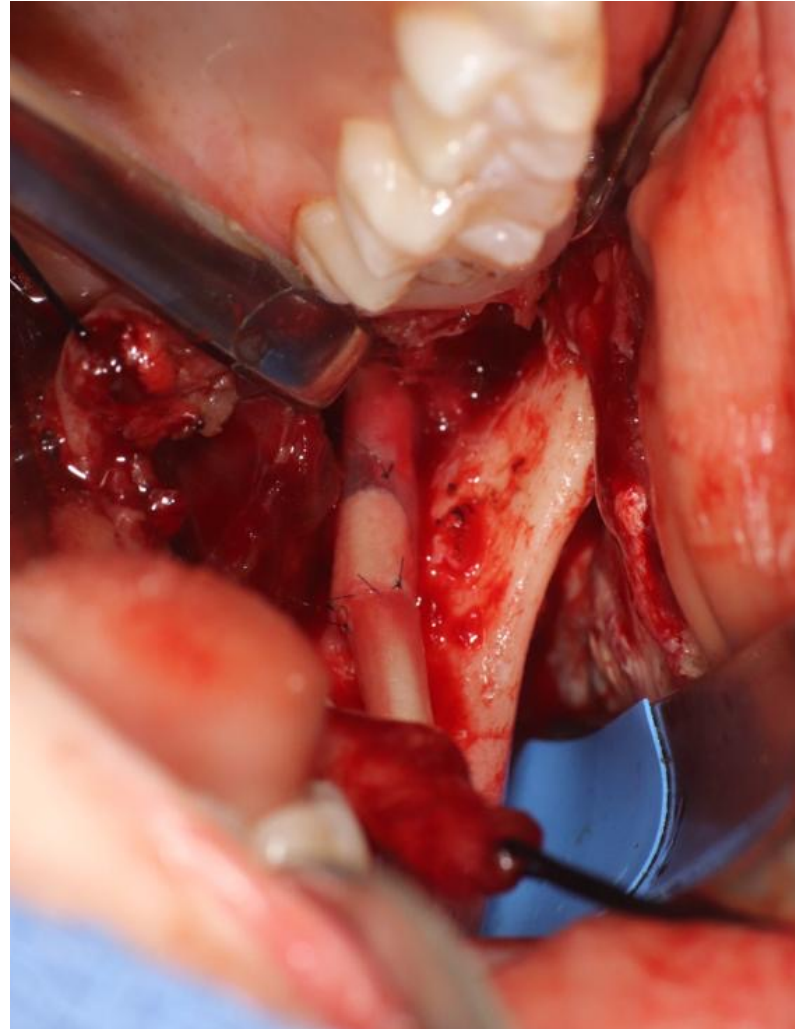
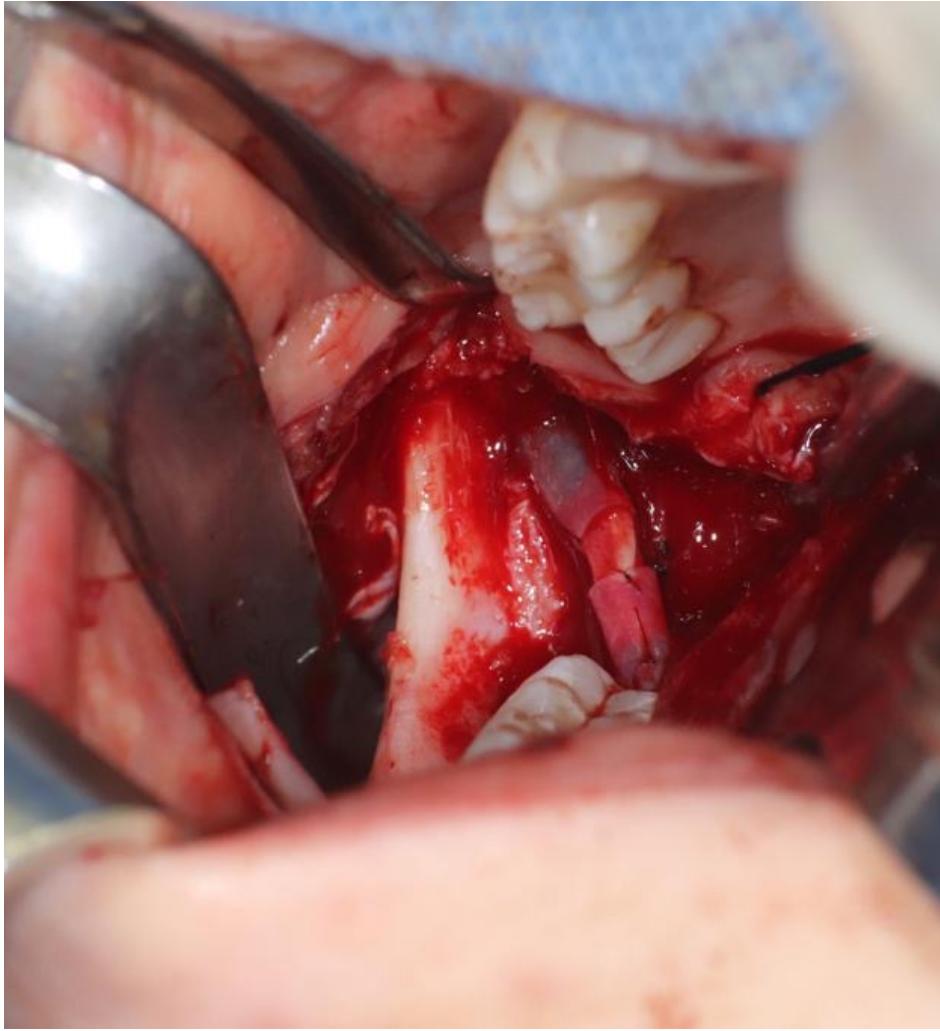












PATHOLOGY AND ABLATIVE SURGERY

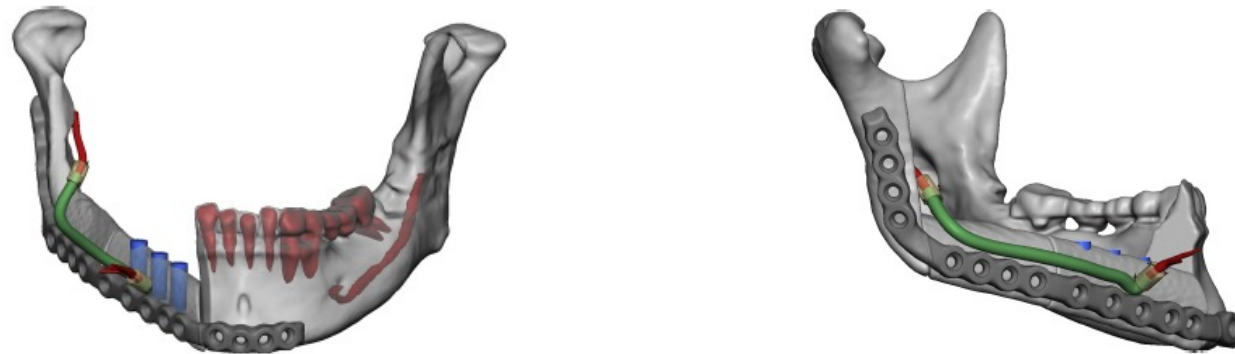
- Ablative surgery can create sizeable defects
- The most common nerve affected in ablative surgery is the IAN.

**A Case-and-Control, Multisite, Positive
Controlled, Prospective Study of the
Safety and Effectiveness of Immediate
Inferior Alveolar Nerve Processed
Nerve Allograft Reconstruction With
Ablation of the Mandible for Benign
Pathology**

*John R. Zuniga, DMD, MS, PhD, *Fayette Williams, DDS, MD,†
and Daniel Petrisor, DMD, MD‡*

Overview

- Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, 2017
- Purpose: This study determined whether immediate reconstruction of the inferior alveolar nerve with a long (>4.5 cm) processed nerve allograft (PNA) in conjunction with simultaneous ablation and reconstruction of the mandible would be effective in safely restoring subjective sensation and achieving functional sensory recovery.



Materials and Methods

- Study Design and Sample
 - A case-and-control, prospective, multisite, multi-surgeon study
- Patient Selection
 - 2010-2015



Table 1. INCLUSION AND EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Inclusion

1. Age 5-70 yr, any gender, any race
2. Benign mandibular pathology that will require resection of ≥ 4.5 cm of the mandible, which includes the IAN
3. Normal sensation of lip and chin before surgery
4. Consents to have immediate reconstruction of 4.5- to 7.0-cm gap of the IAN with AVANCE after ablation of the mandible with or without simultaneous bone, soft tissue, or dental reconstruction without using BMP

Exclusion

1. History of IAN injury
2. Acute infection at time of surgery
3. History of radiation therapy to head or neck
4. Past or current history of malignancy
5. Past or current history of MRONJ
6. Uncontrolled hypertension, diabetes, or currently smoking

Materials and Methods

Table 2. DEMOGRAPHICS BY AGE, GENDER, PATHOLOGY, IAN GAP, PNA GRAFT LENGTH, AND USE OF AXOGUARD

Patient Number	Age (yr)	Gender	Pathology	IAN Gap (mm)	PNA Graft Length (mm)	AxoGuard
101	35	Male	Ameloblastoma	70	70	2
102	11	Male	Ossifying fibroma	70	70	2
103	37	Male	Ameloblastoma	70	70	2
104	29	Male	Ameloblastoma	55	60	2
105	68	Female	Keratocyst			
106 (no graft placed)*	23	Female	Ameloblastoma			
107	28	Female	Ameloblastoma	60	70	2
108 (no graft placed)†	23	Female	Ameloblastoma			
109	36	Female	Ameloblastoma	60	65	3
110	28	Female	Ameloblastoma	50	55	3
111	22	Female	Myxoma	70	70	3
112 (no graft placed)‡	14	Female	Ameloblastoma			
113	10	Female	Ossifying fibroma	60	60	3
114	60	Female	Sclerosing osteomyelitis	50	60	3
115	12	Female	Ameloblastoma	47	50	2
116	25	Male	Ossifying fibroma	45/70	50/70	3/3
117	18	Female	Ameloblastoma	45	45	4
118	14	Female	Ameloblastoma	45/45	45/45	3/3
119	18	Female	Ameloblastoma	70/70	70/70	3/3
120	64	Female	Ameloblastoma	70	70	3
121	25	Male	OKC	70	70	3
122	12	Male	Myxoma	60	70	3

Results

- 18 patients with 20 nerve injuries in the outcomes population
- Progressive sensory recovery over time
- Functional sensory recovery (grades S3, S3+, and S4):
 - 44% at 3 months
 - 84% at 6 months
 - **90% at 12 months**
- Neither positive control achieved functional sensory recovery

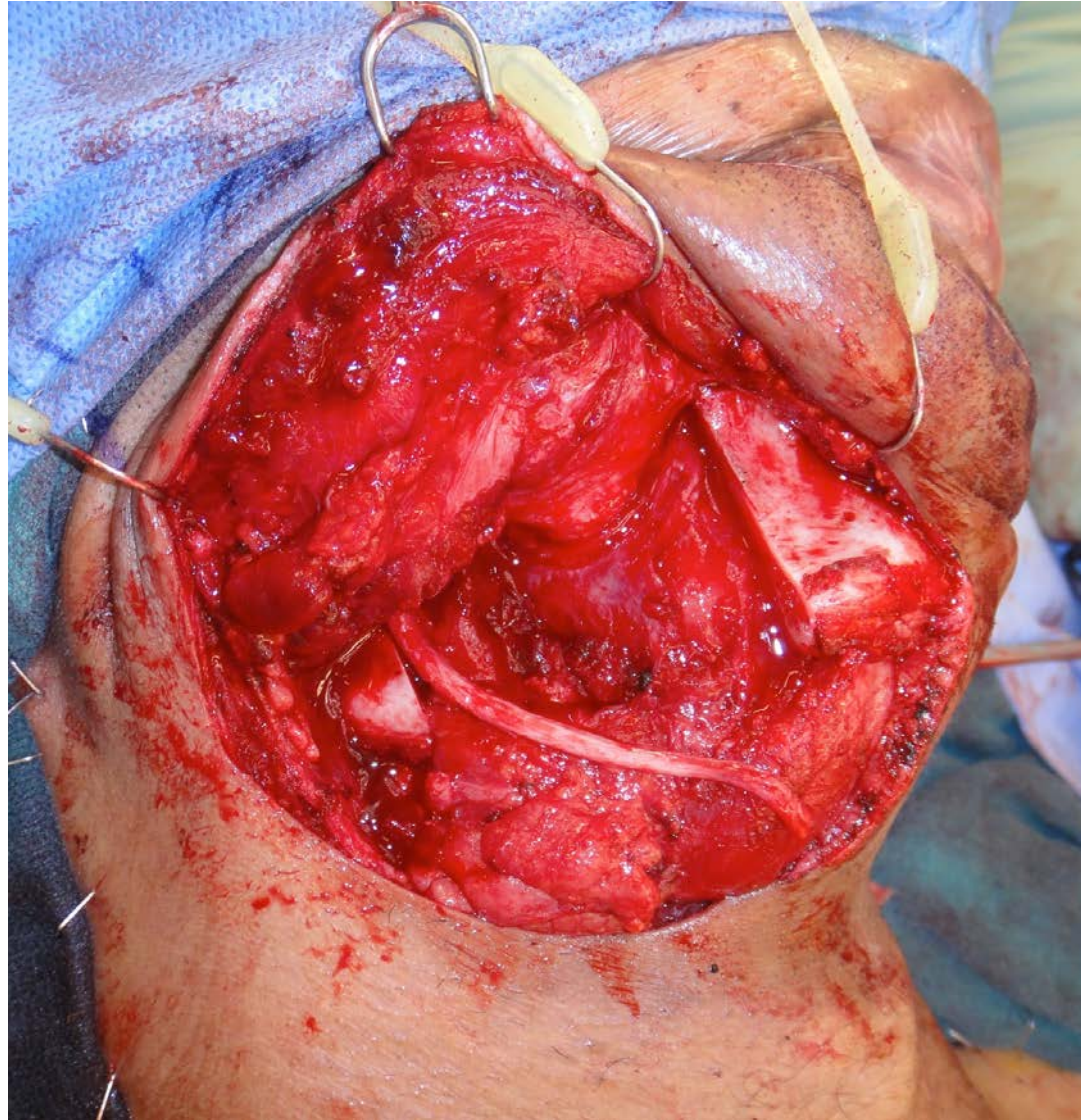
Table 2. CLASSIFICATION OF SENSORY RECOVERY (MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL SYSTEM)

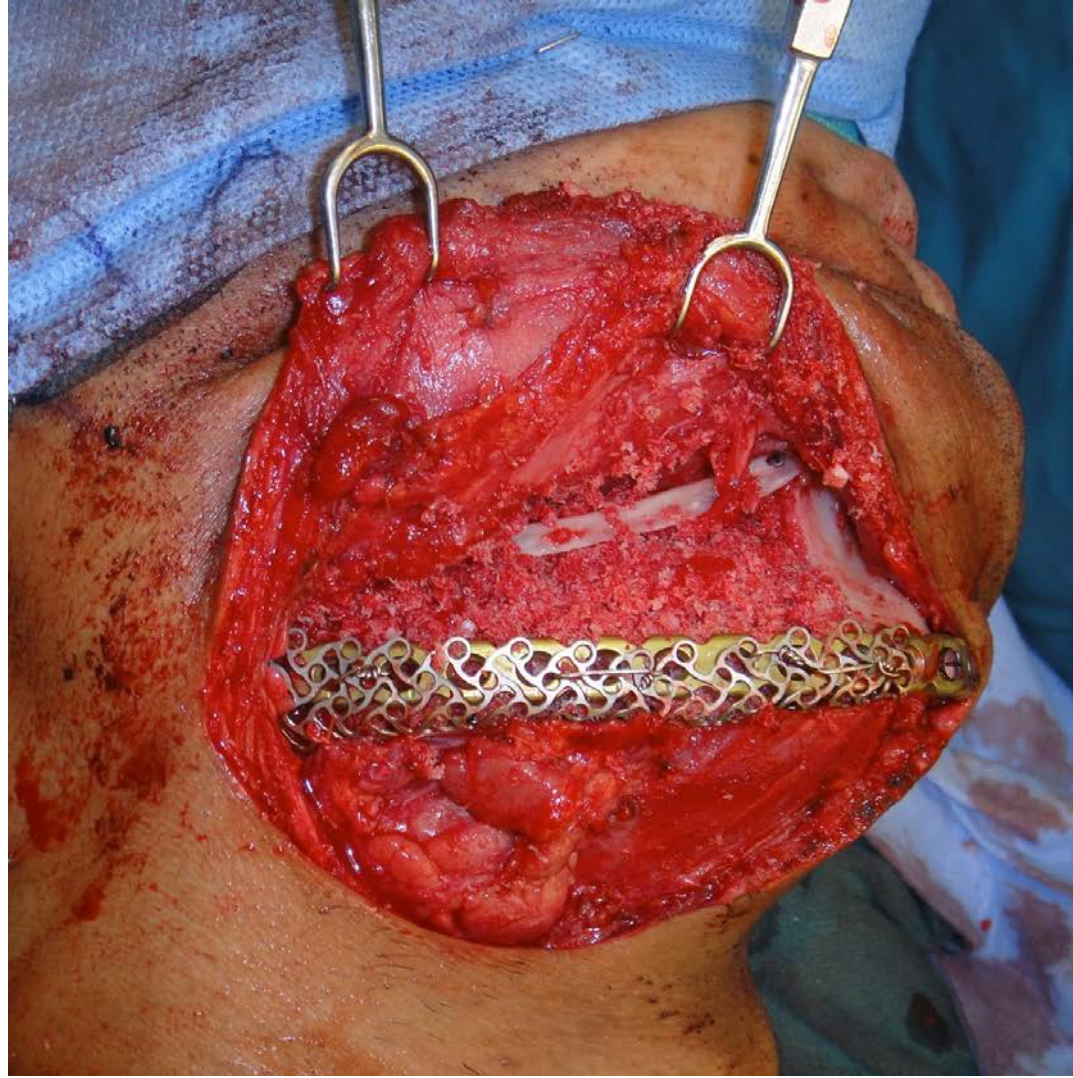
Grade (Stage)	Recovery of Sensibility
S0	No recovery
S1	Recovery of deep cutaneous pain
S1+	Recovery of some superficial pain
S2	Return of some superficial pain and tactile sensation
S2+	S2 with over-response
S3*	Return of some superficial pain and tactile sensation without over-response; 2-point discrimination >15 mm
S3+	S3 with good stimulus localization; 2-point discrimination = 7-15 mm
S4	Complete recovery; S3+; 2-point discrimination = 2-6 mm

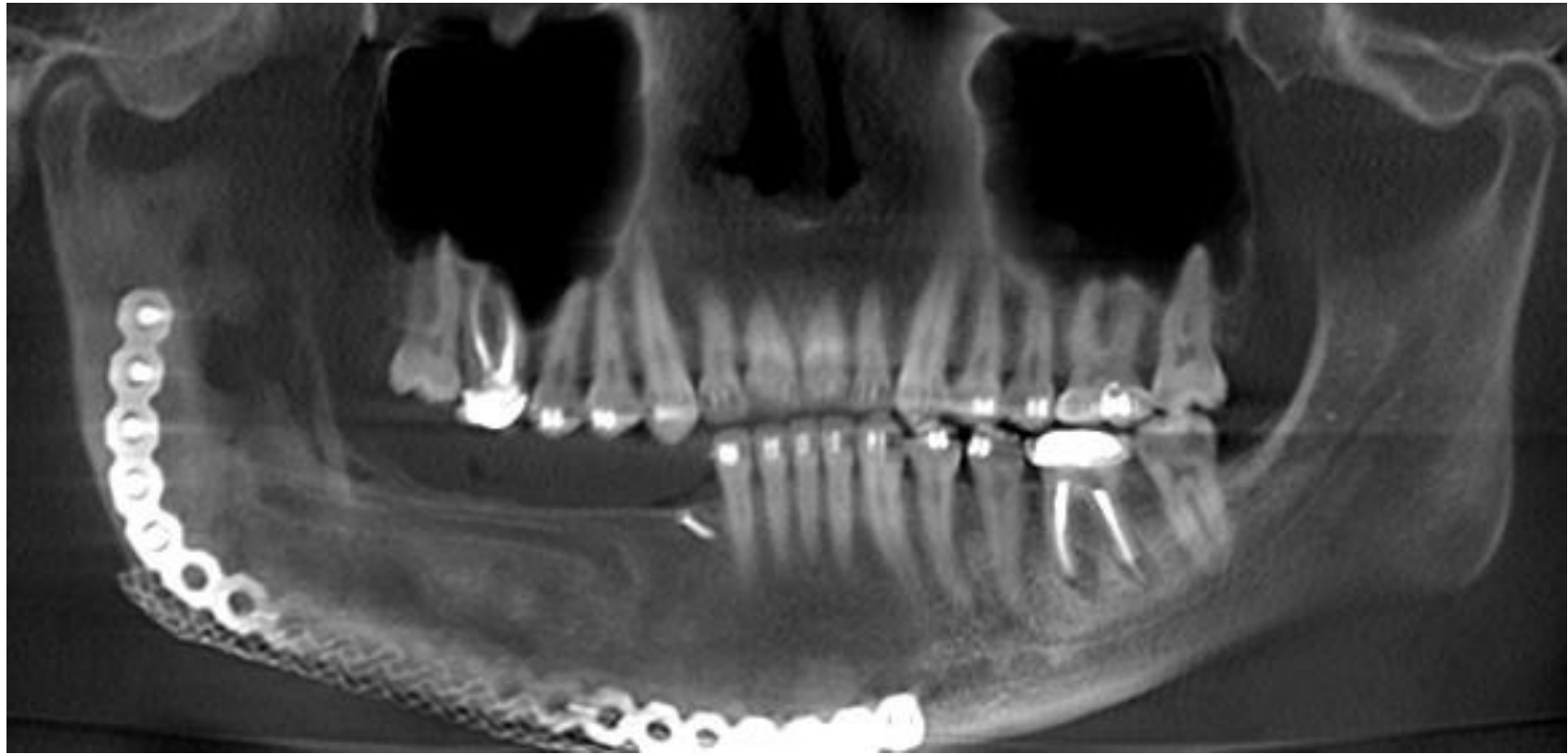
Conclusion

- Provides level III evidence to support the safety and effectiveness of PNA for the immediate reconstruction of the IAN simultaneous with the ablation and reconstruction of the mandible for benign pathology
- Confirms the previously published data on IAN reconstructions during mandibular resections
- Functional sensory recovery in most patients (90%) compared with no repair in the present study or those reported in the historical literature

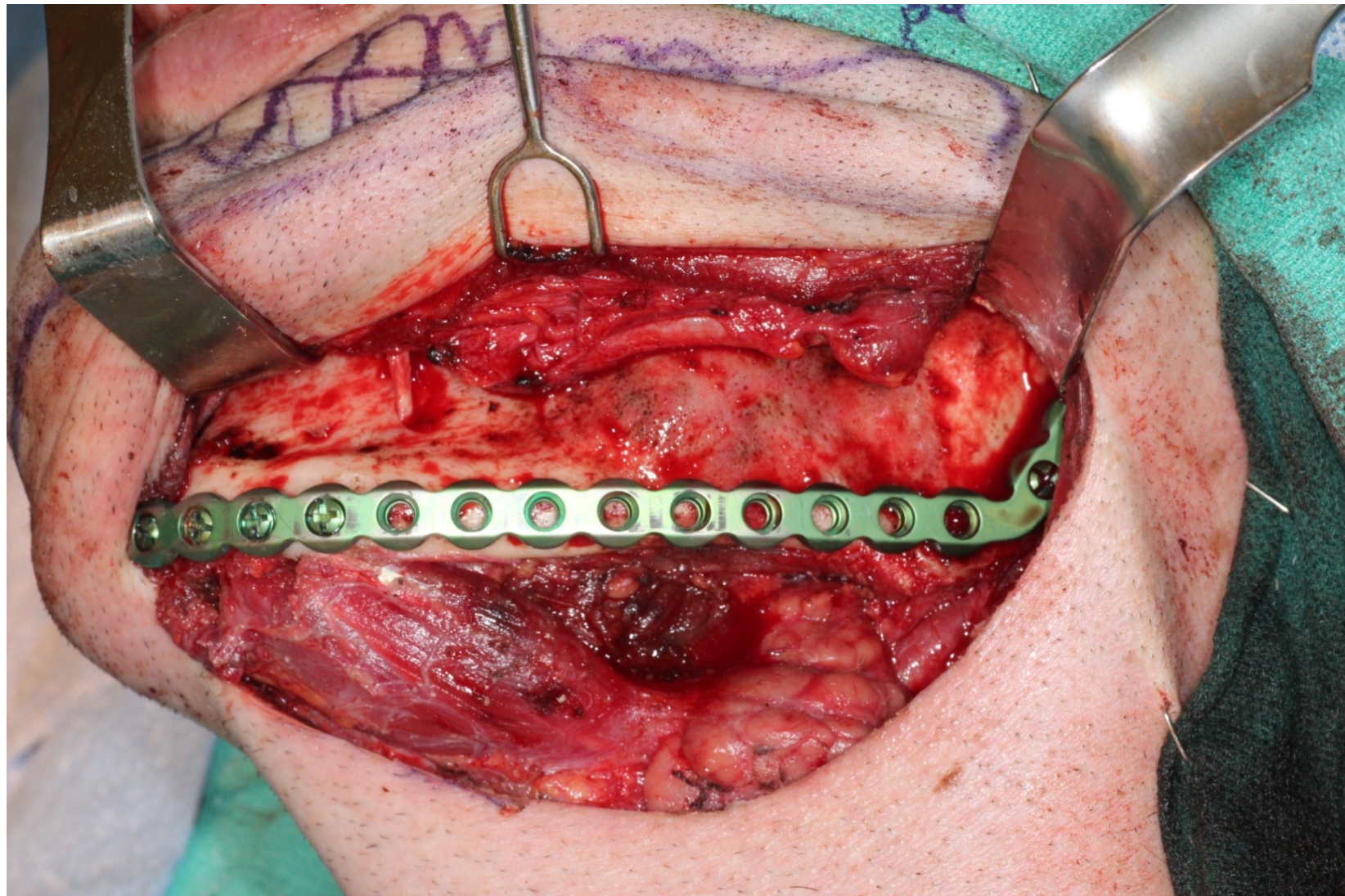




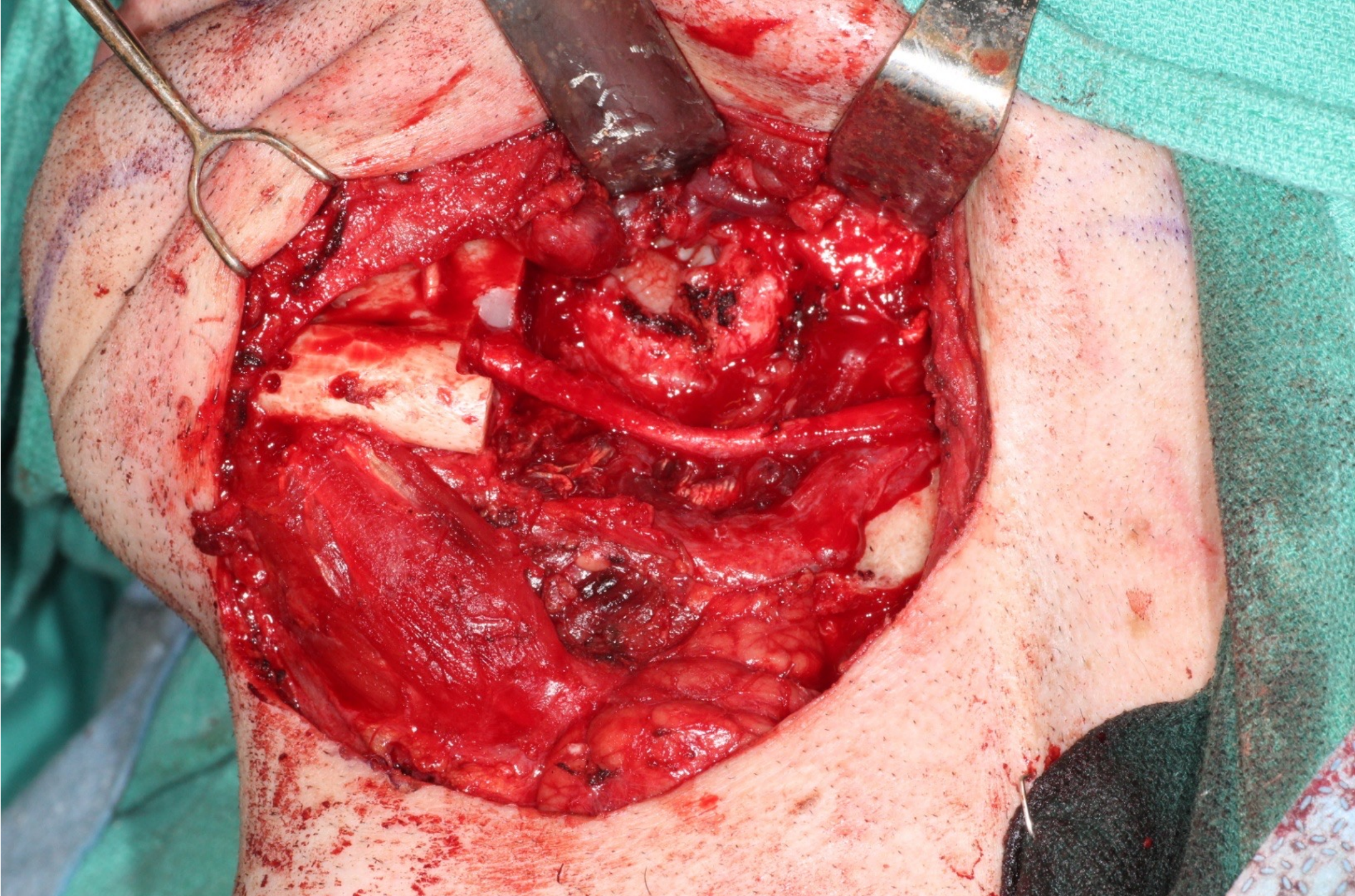


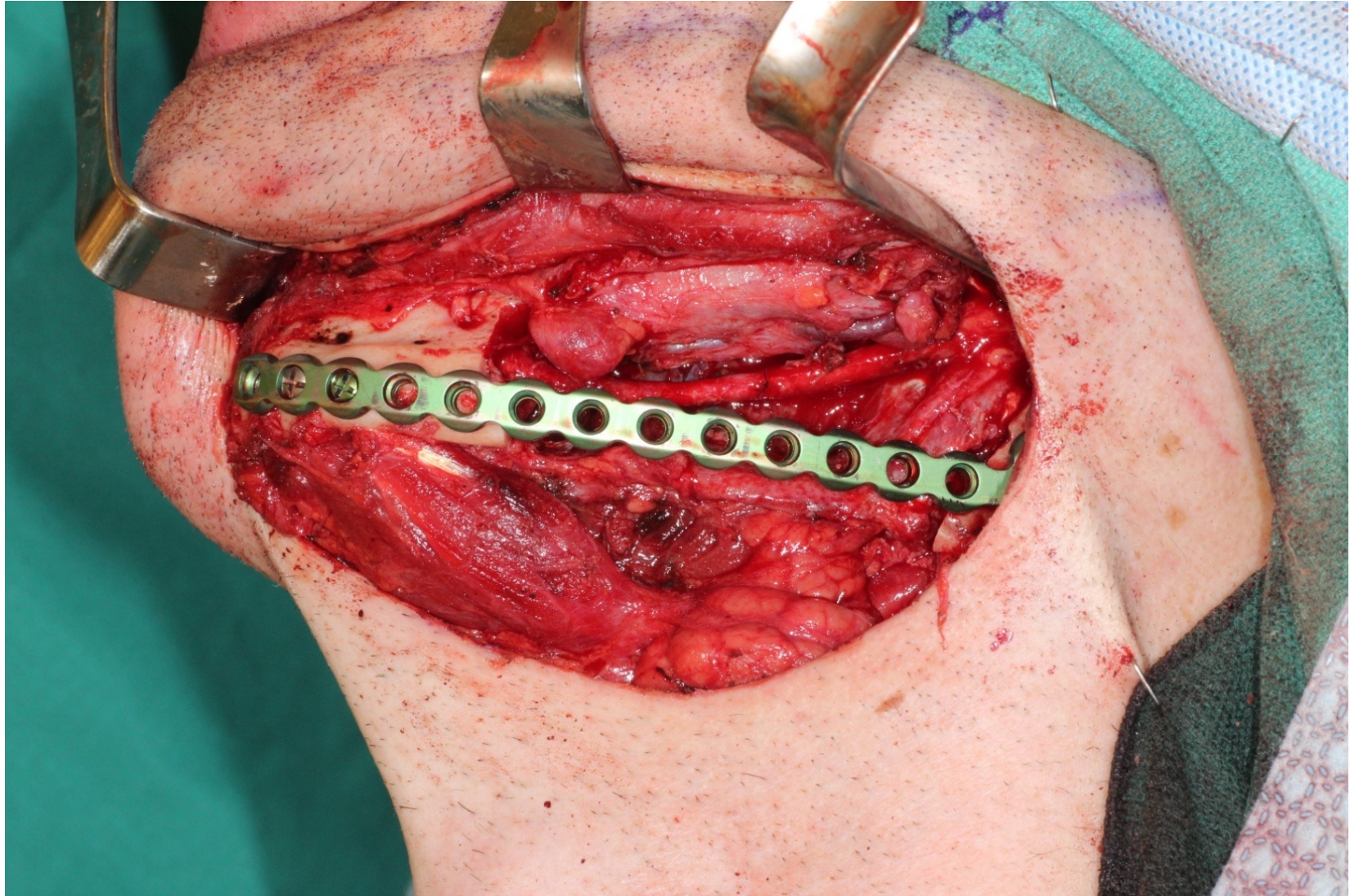


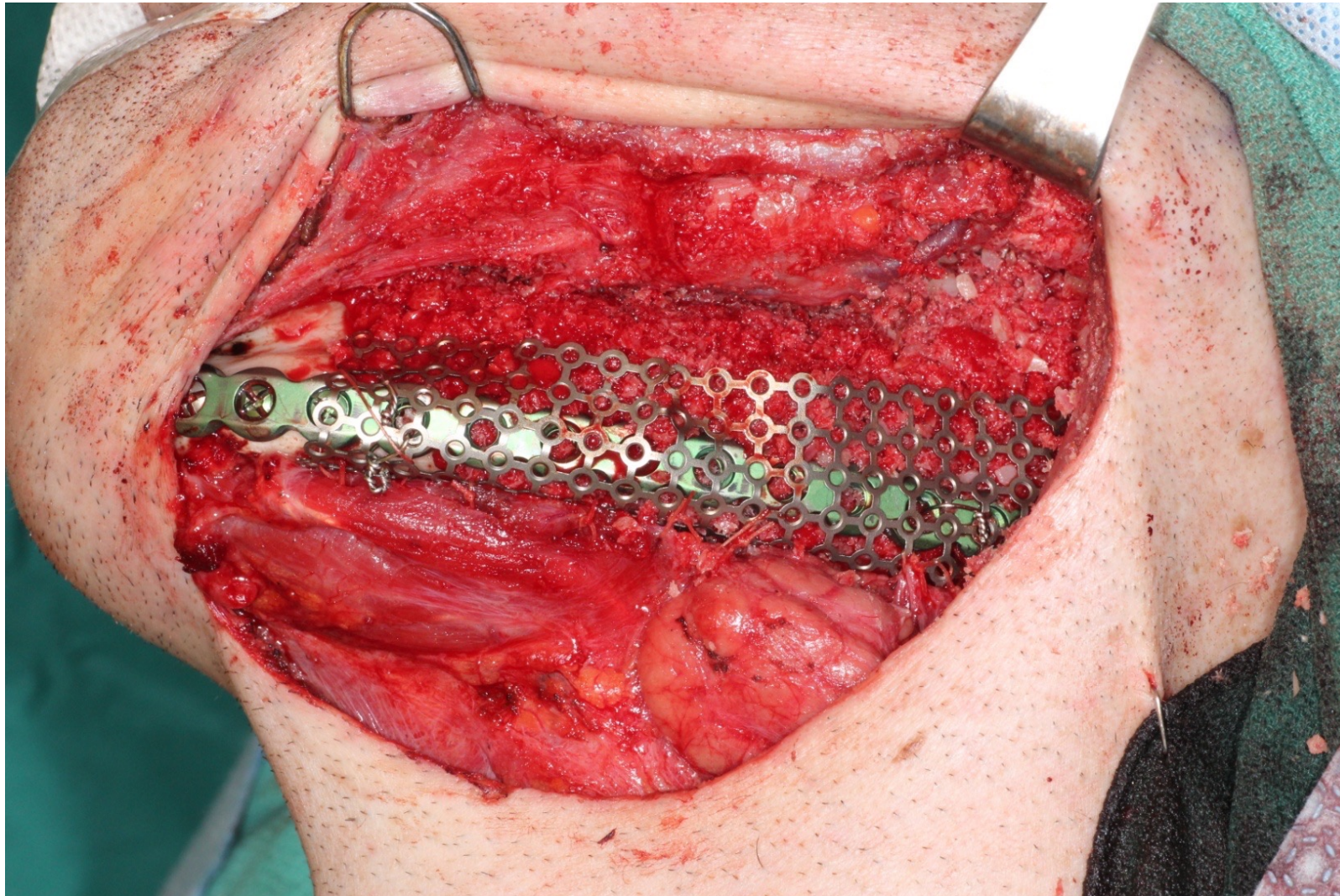


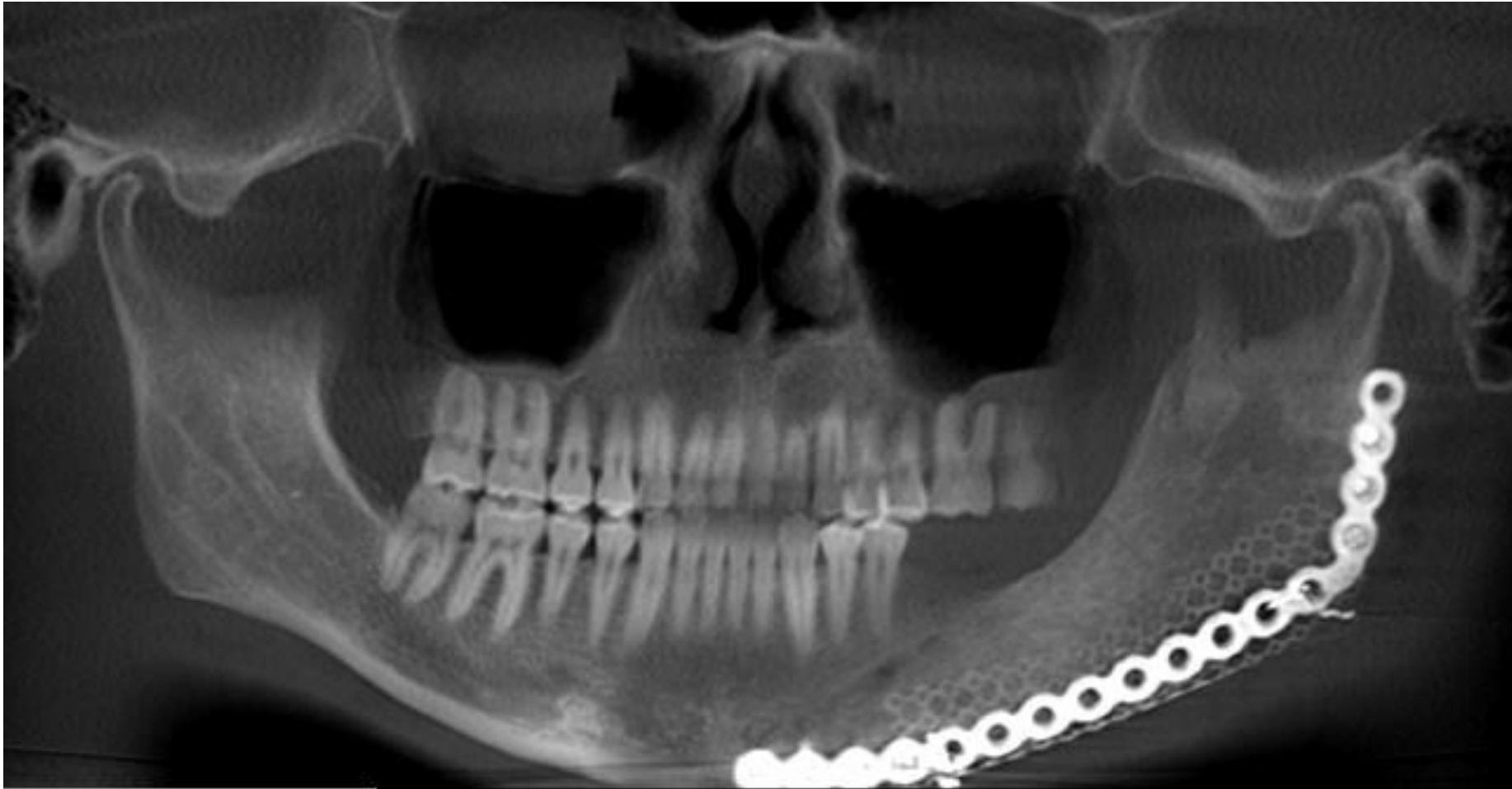


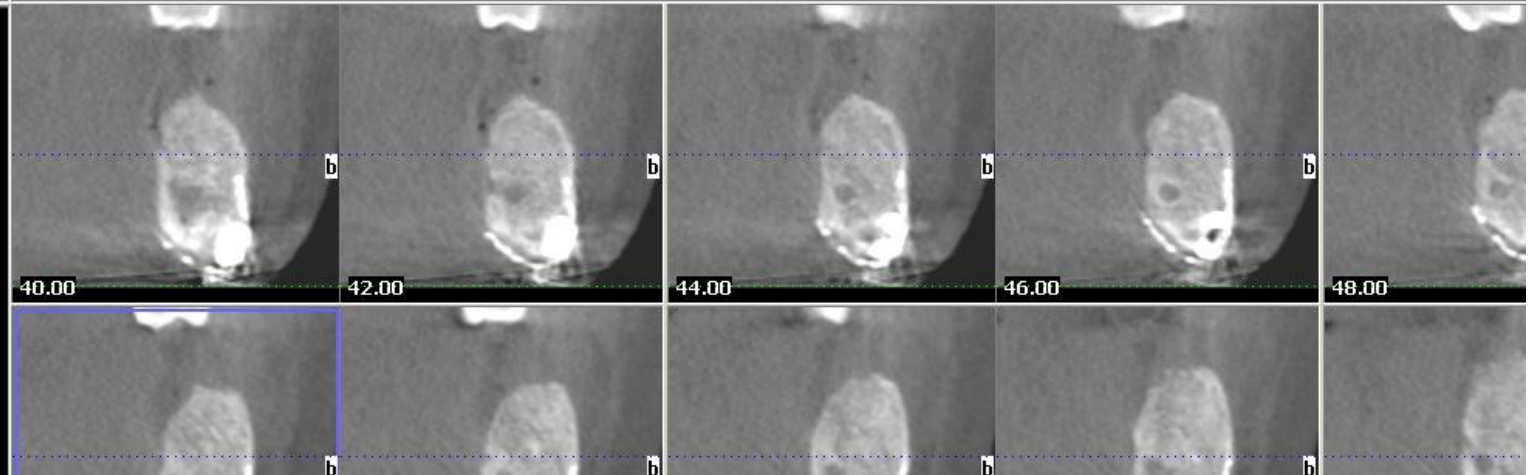
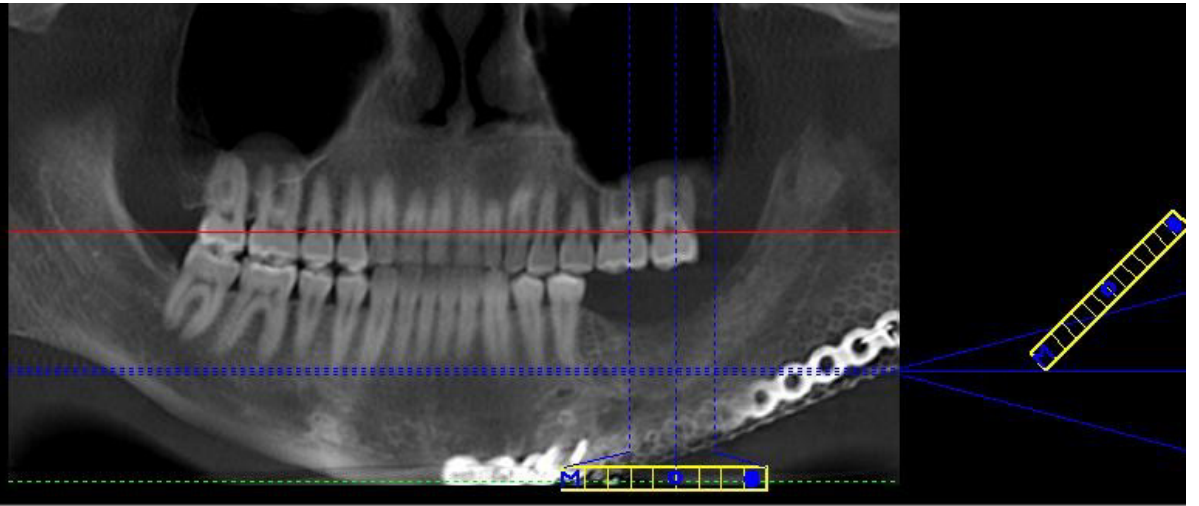
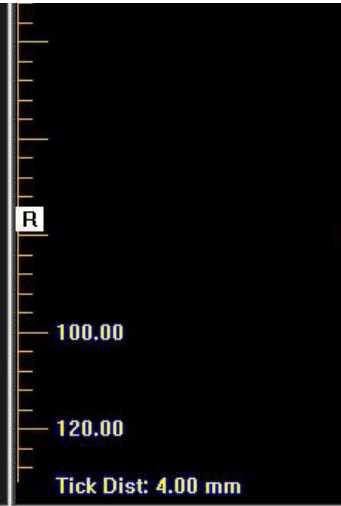
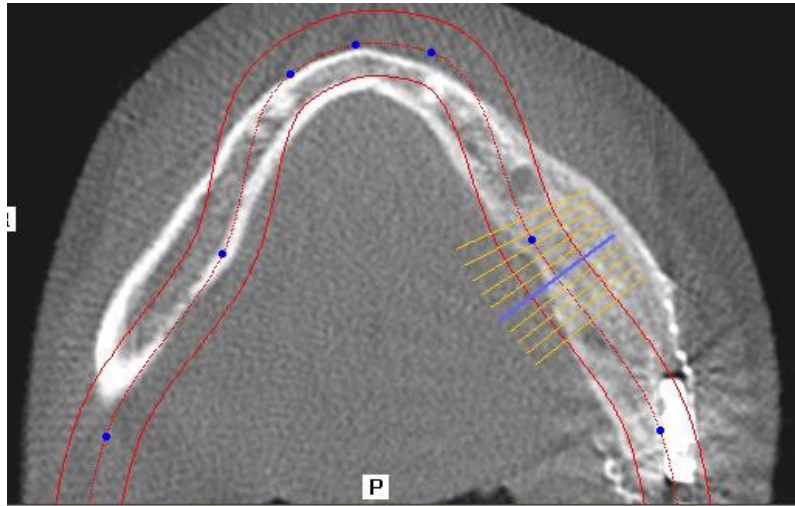




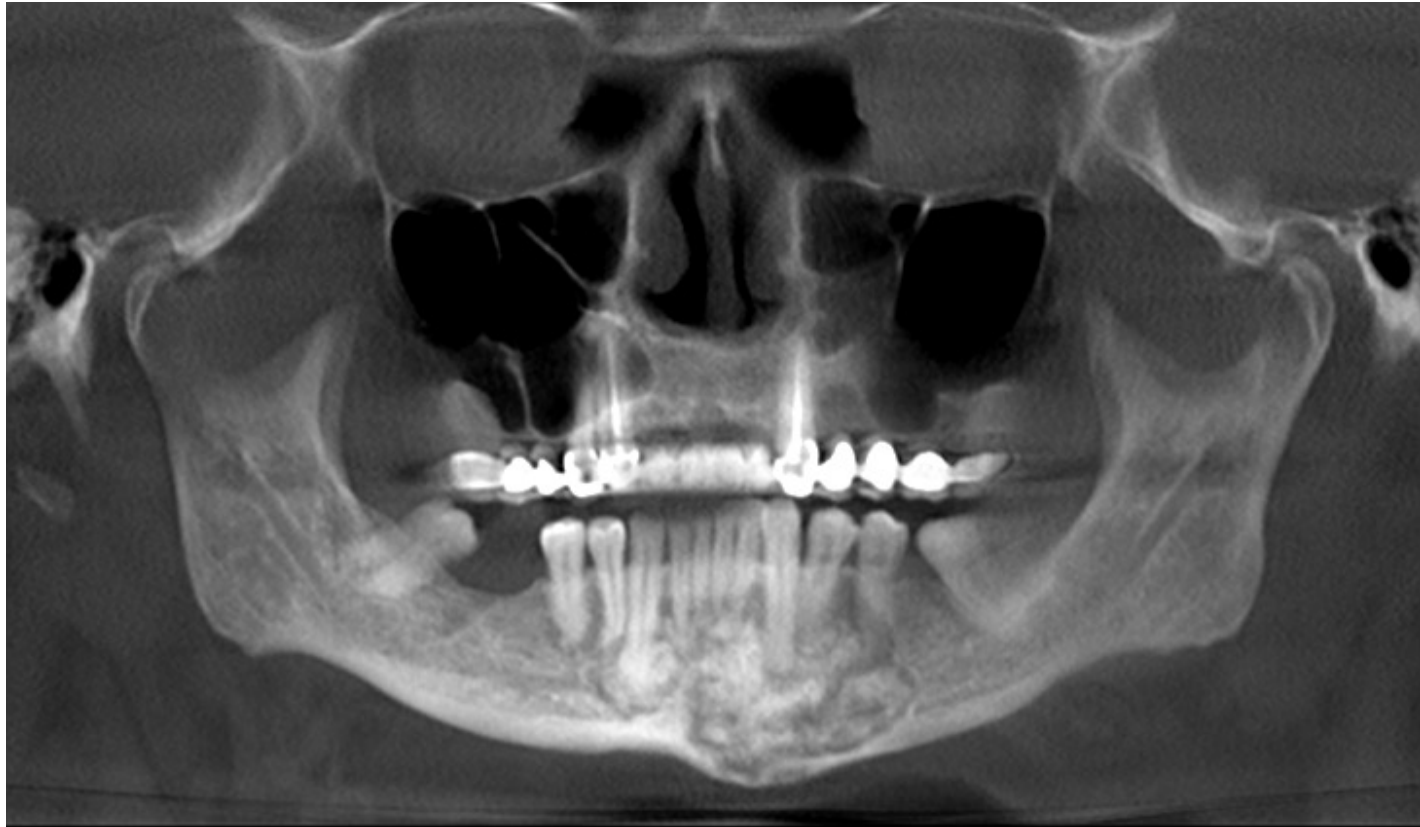


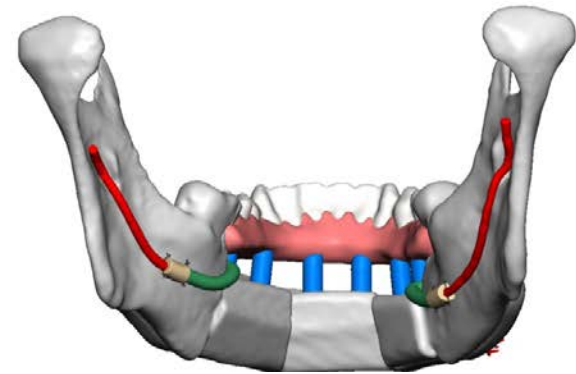
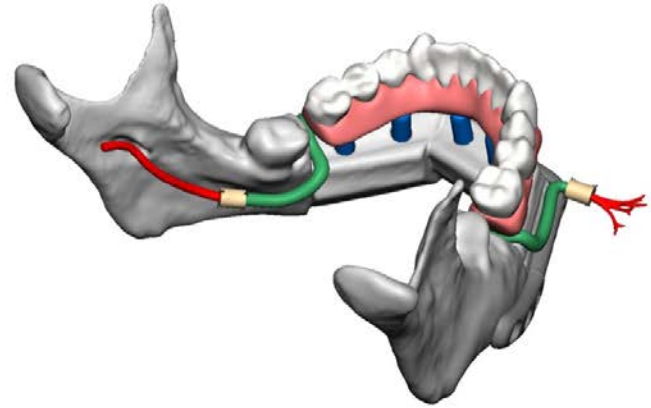
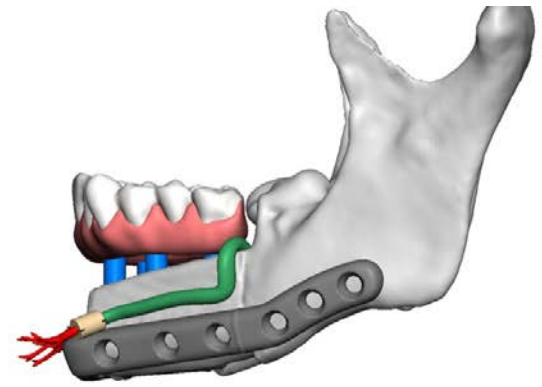
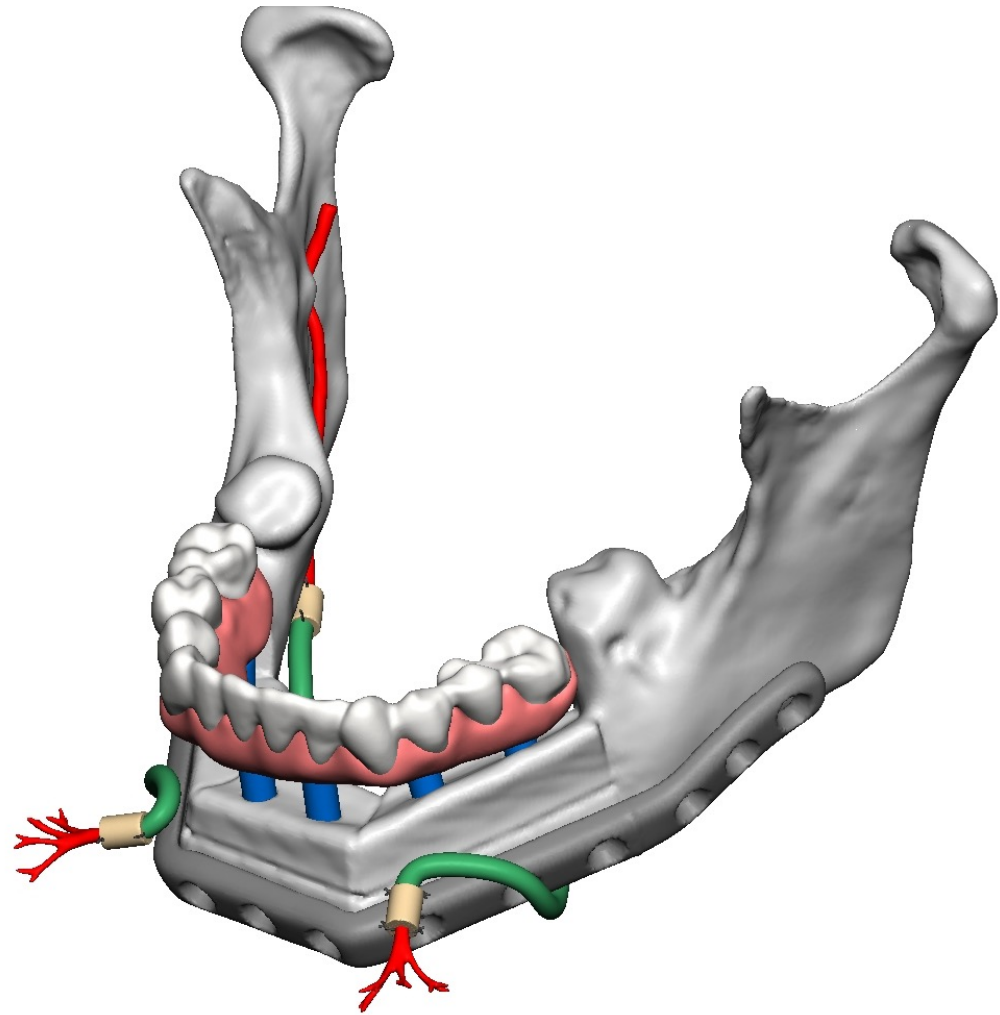


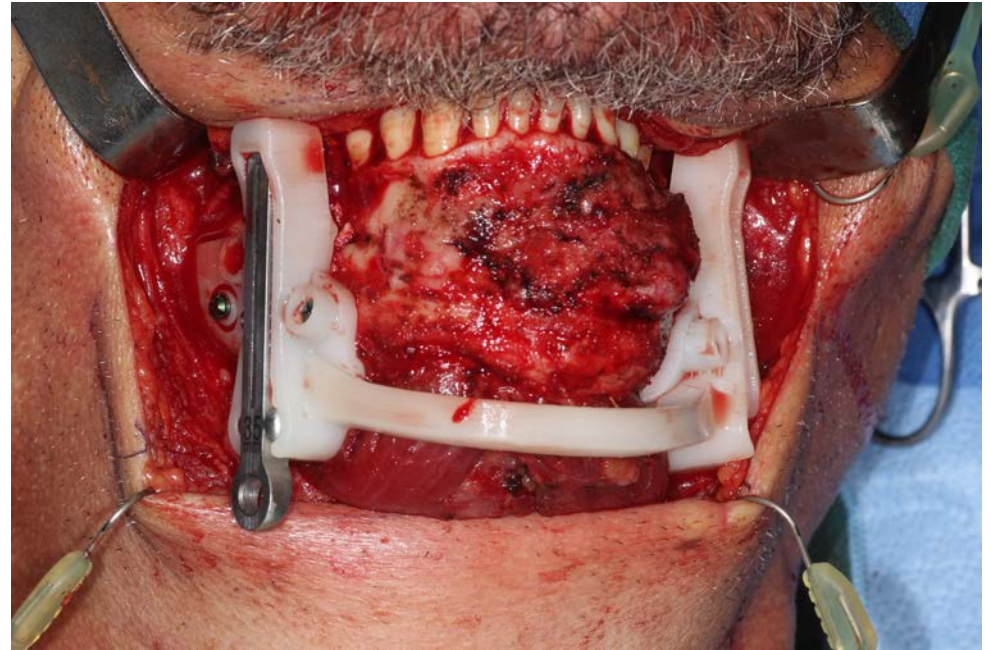
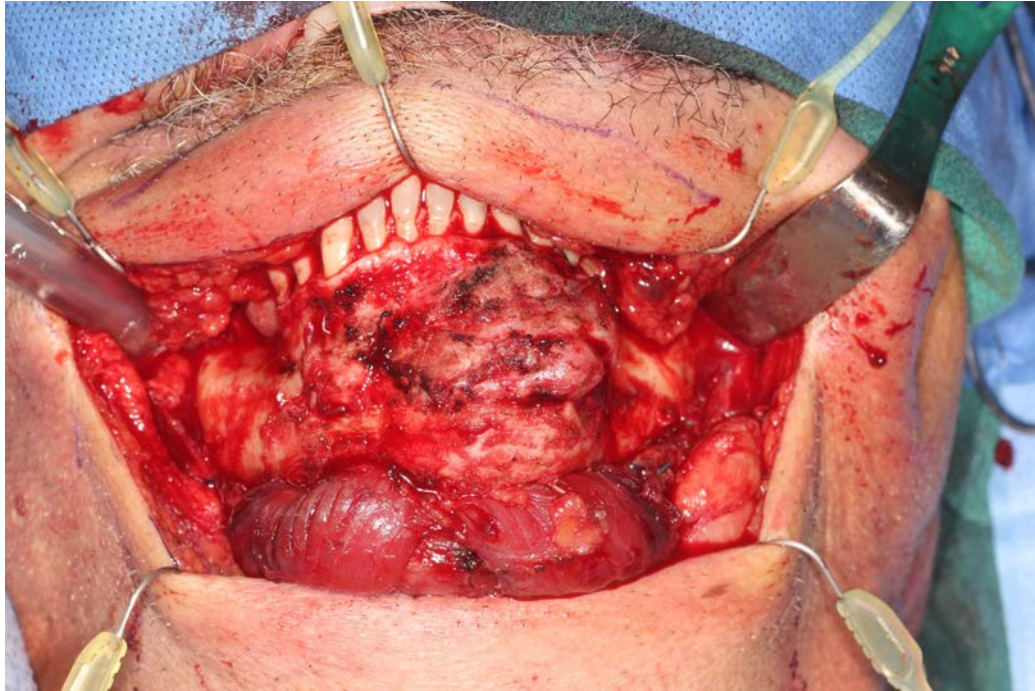




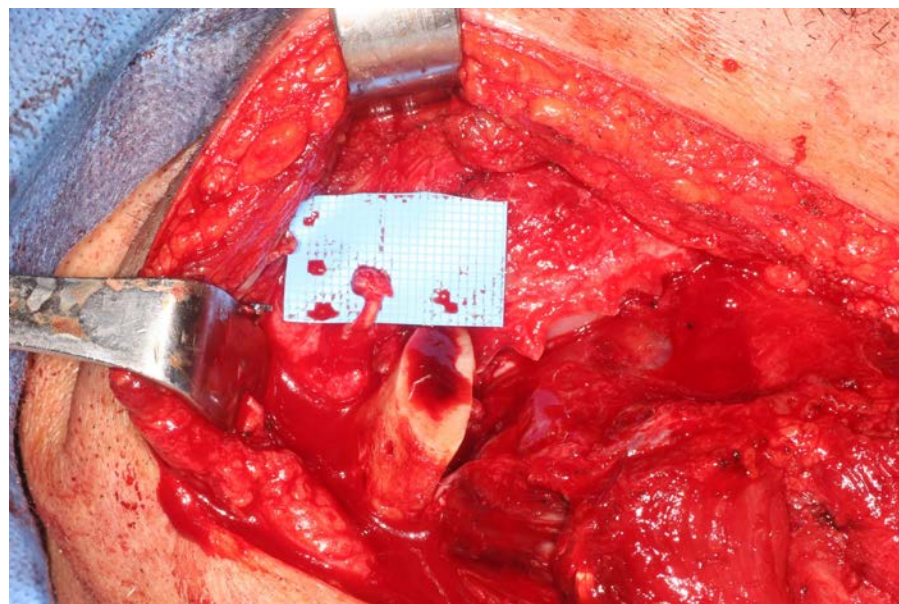
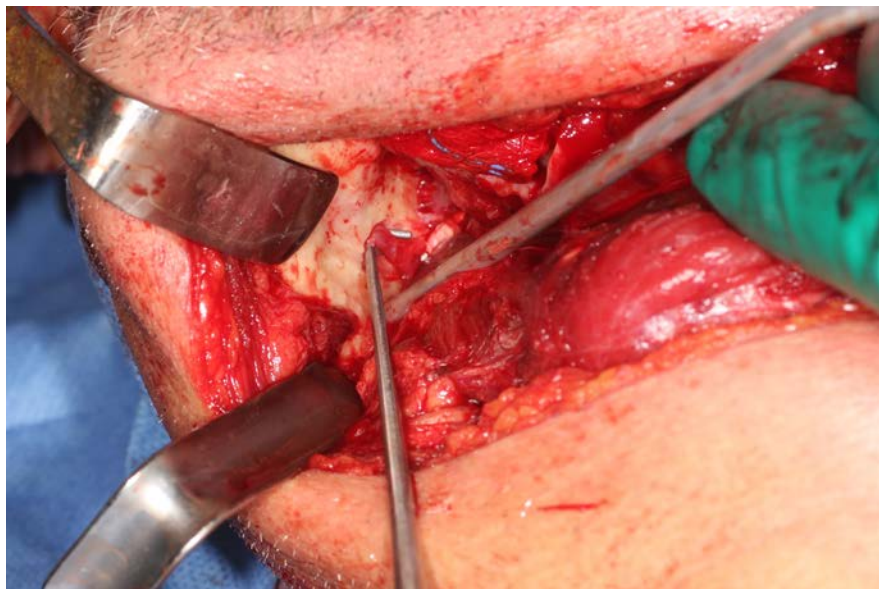


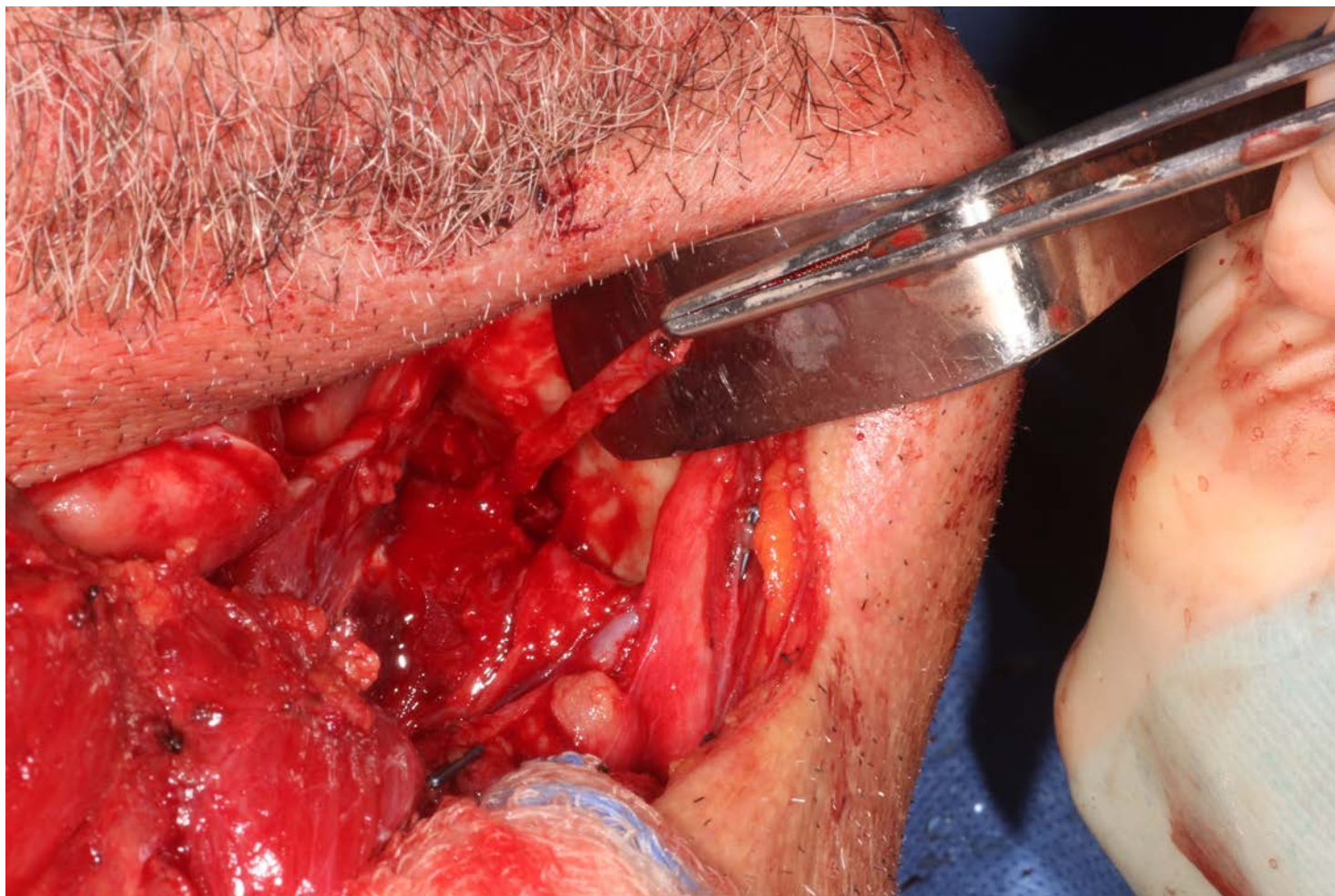


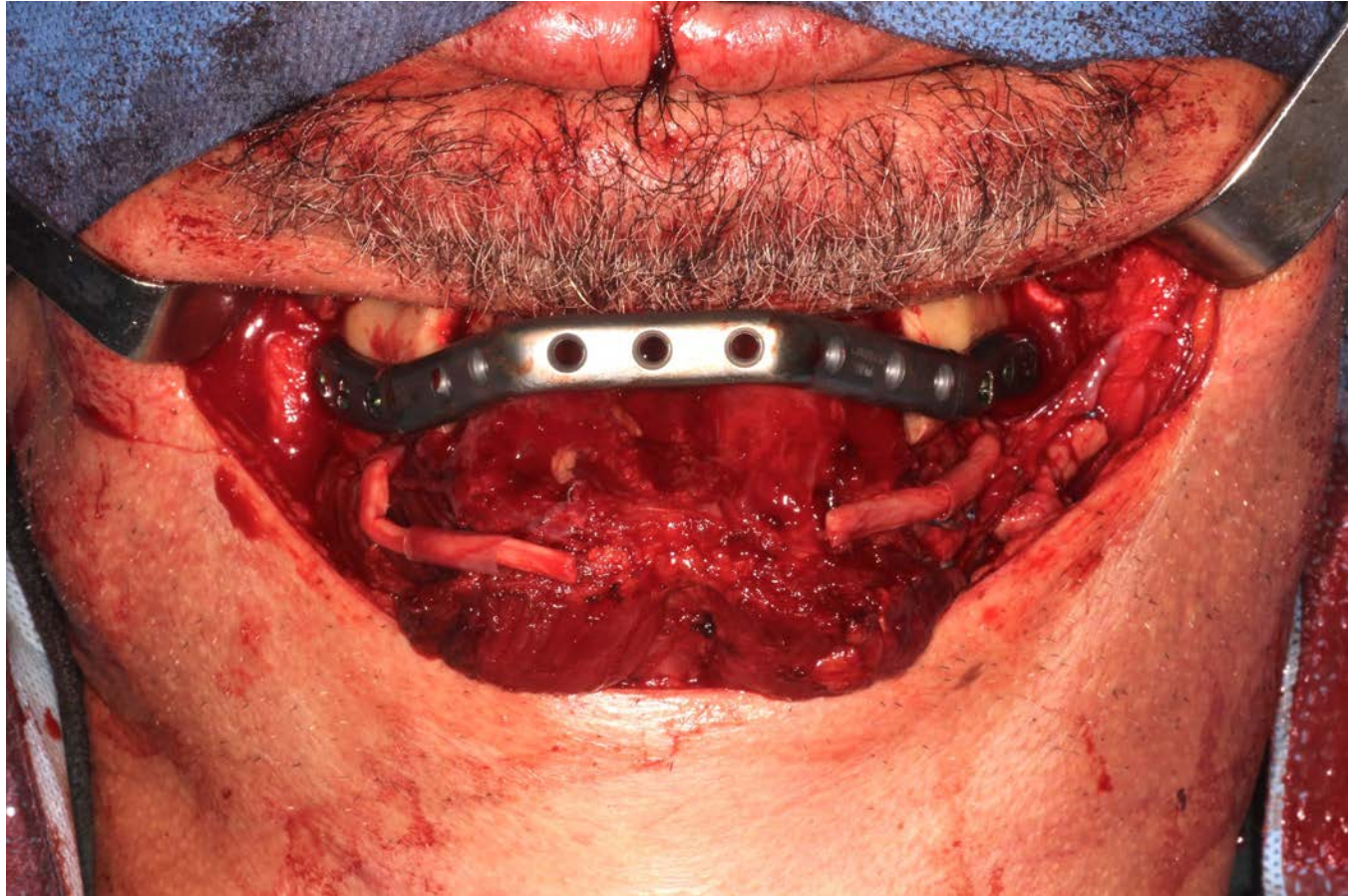


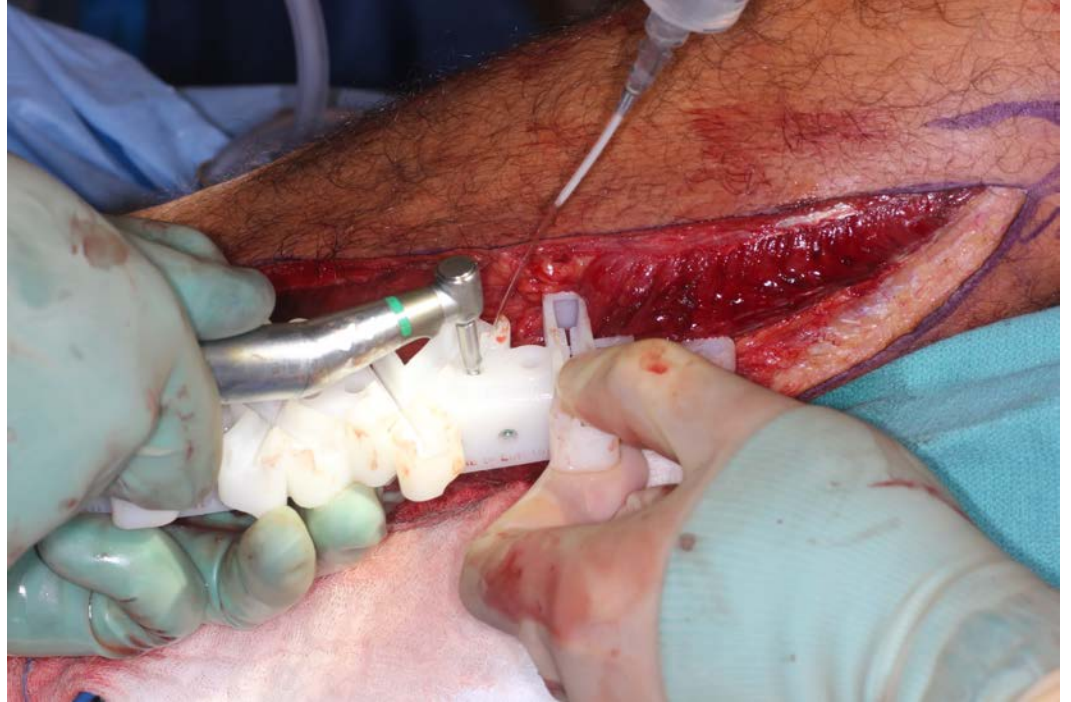


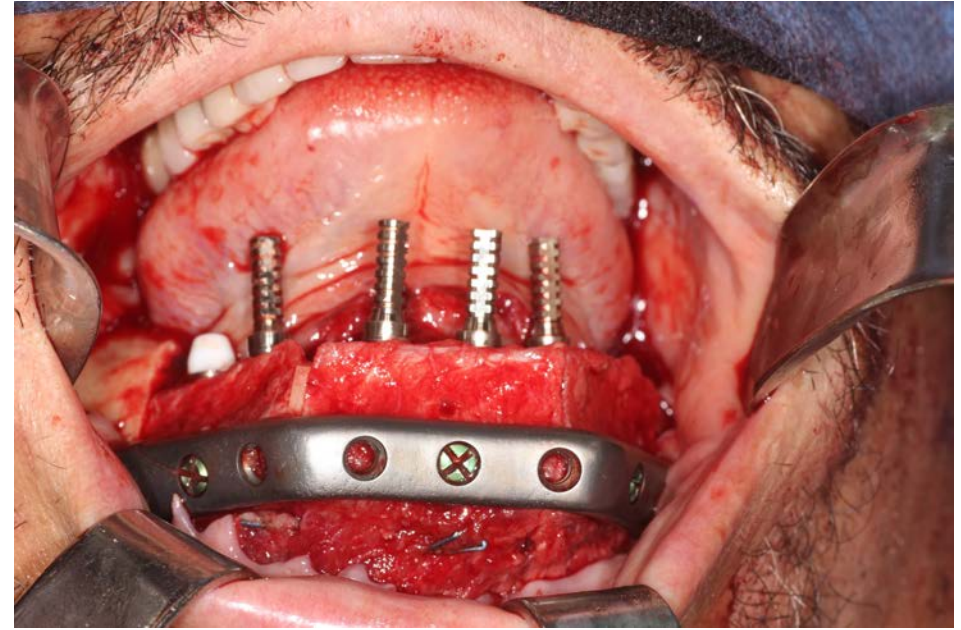
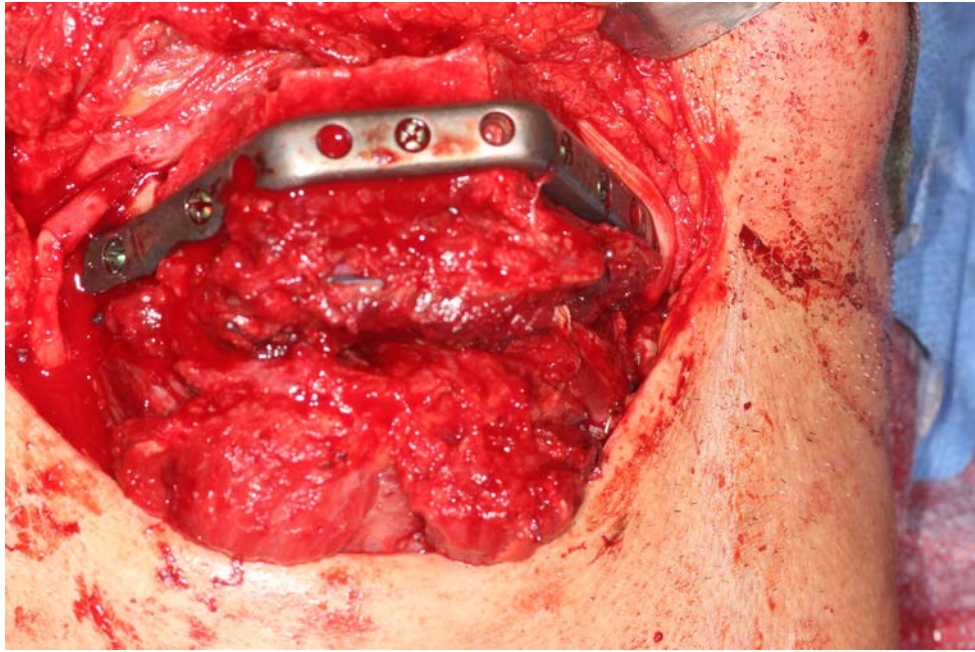


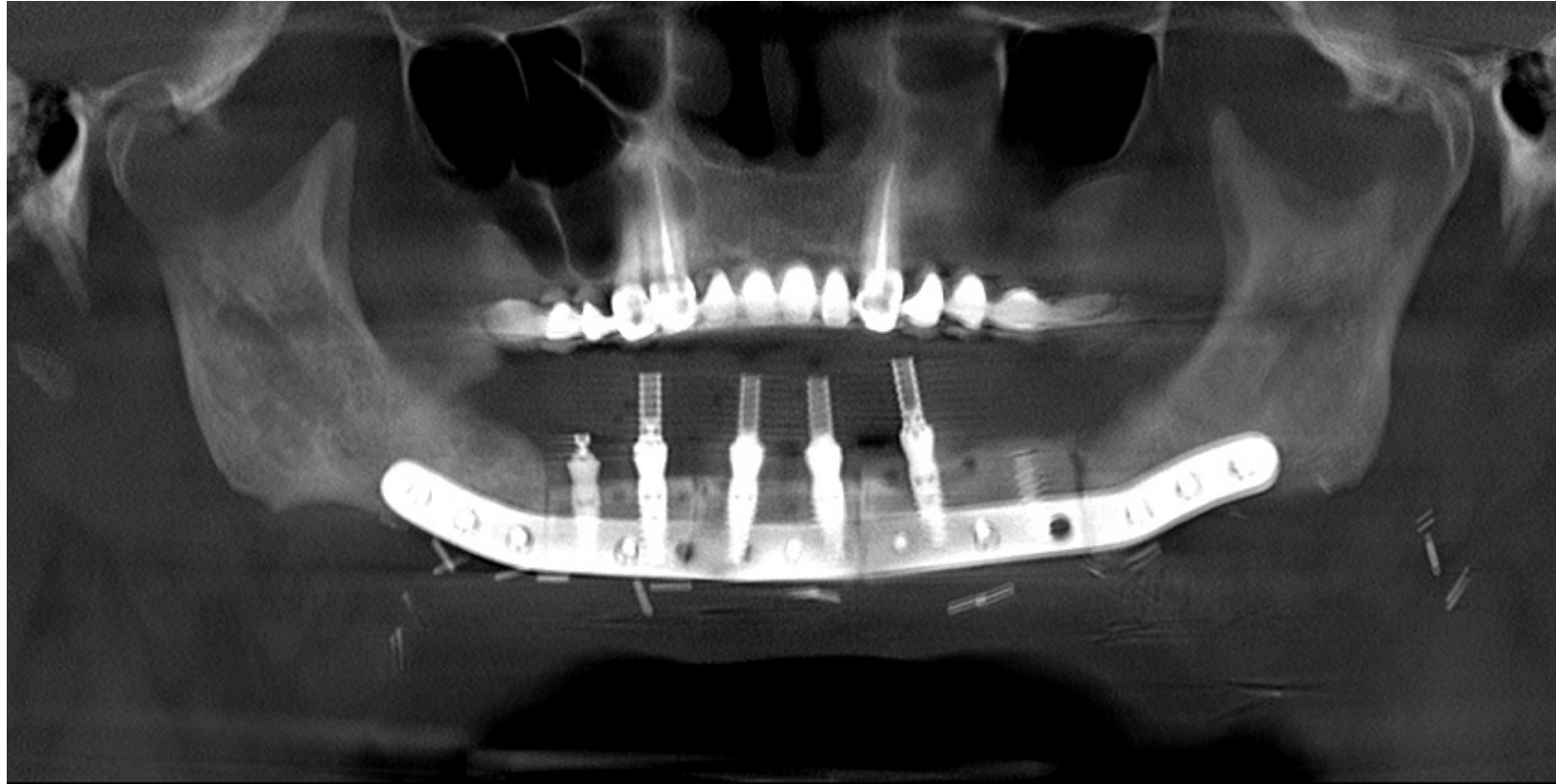


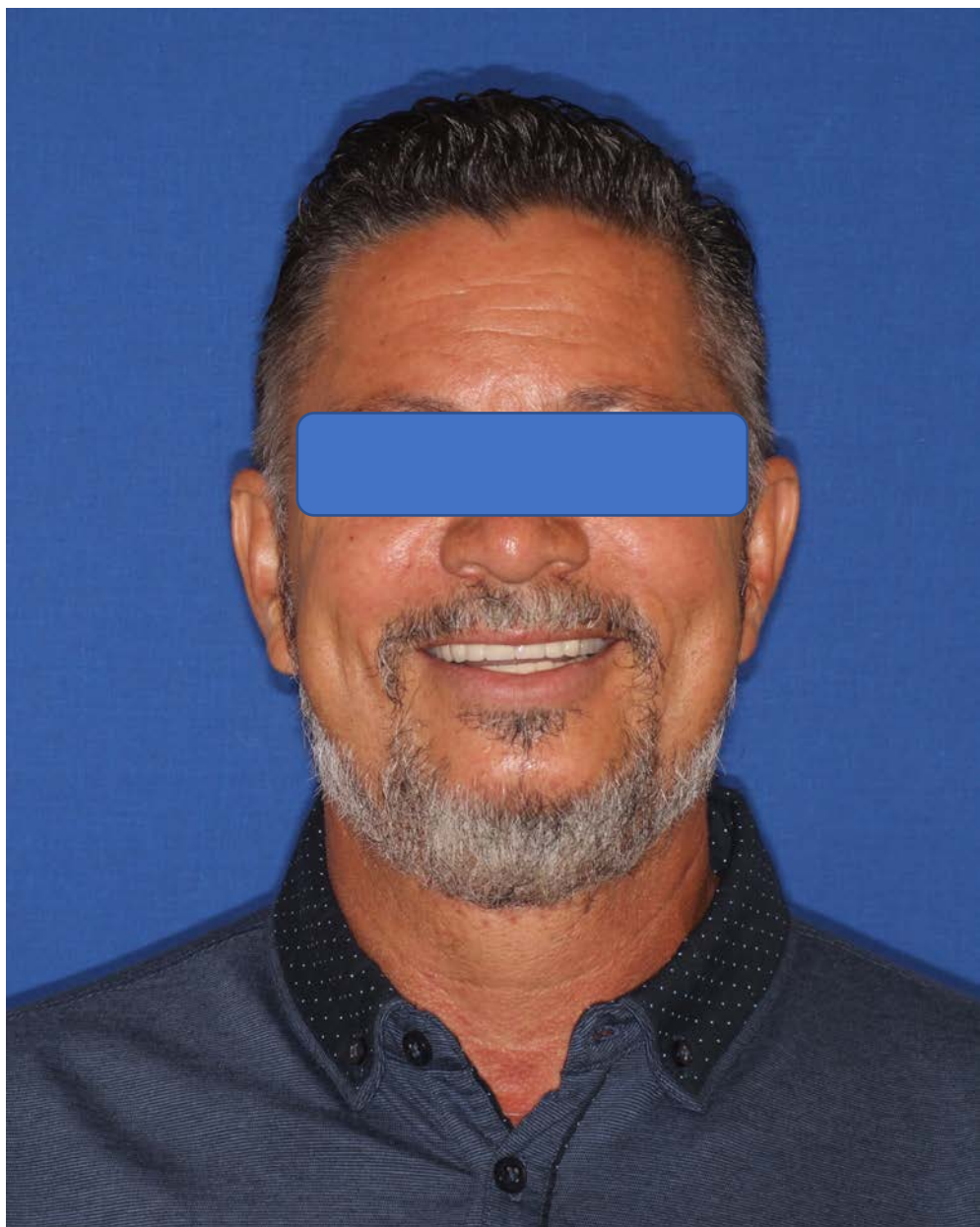


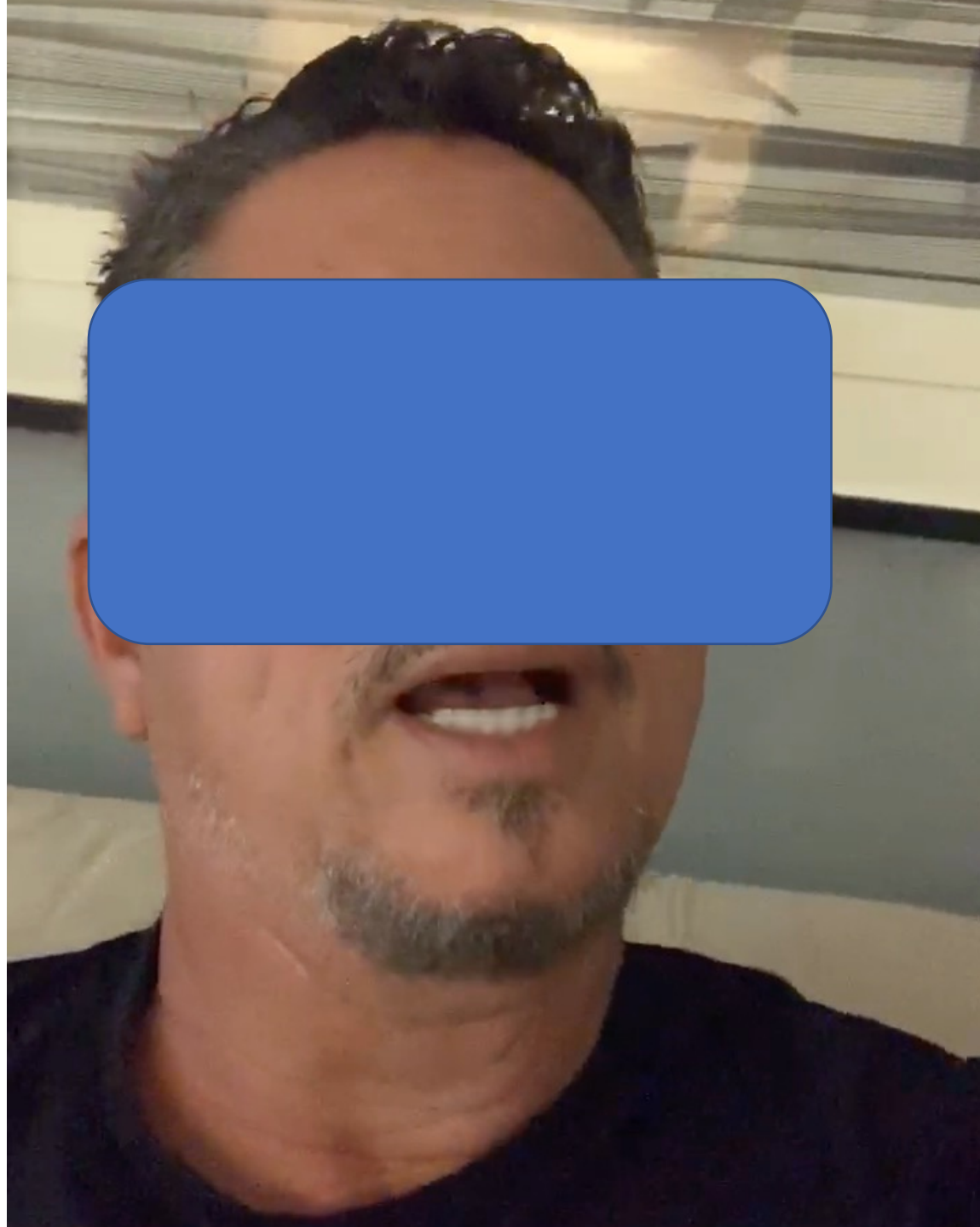


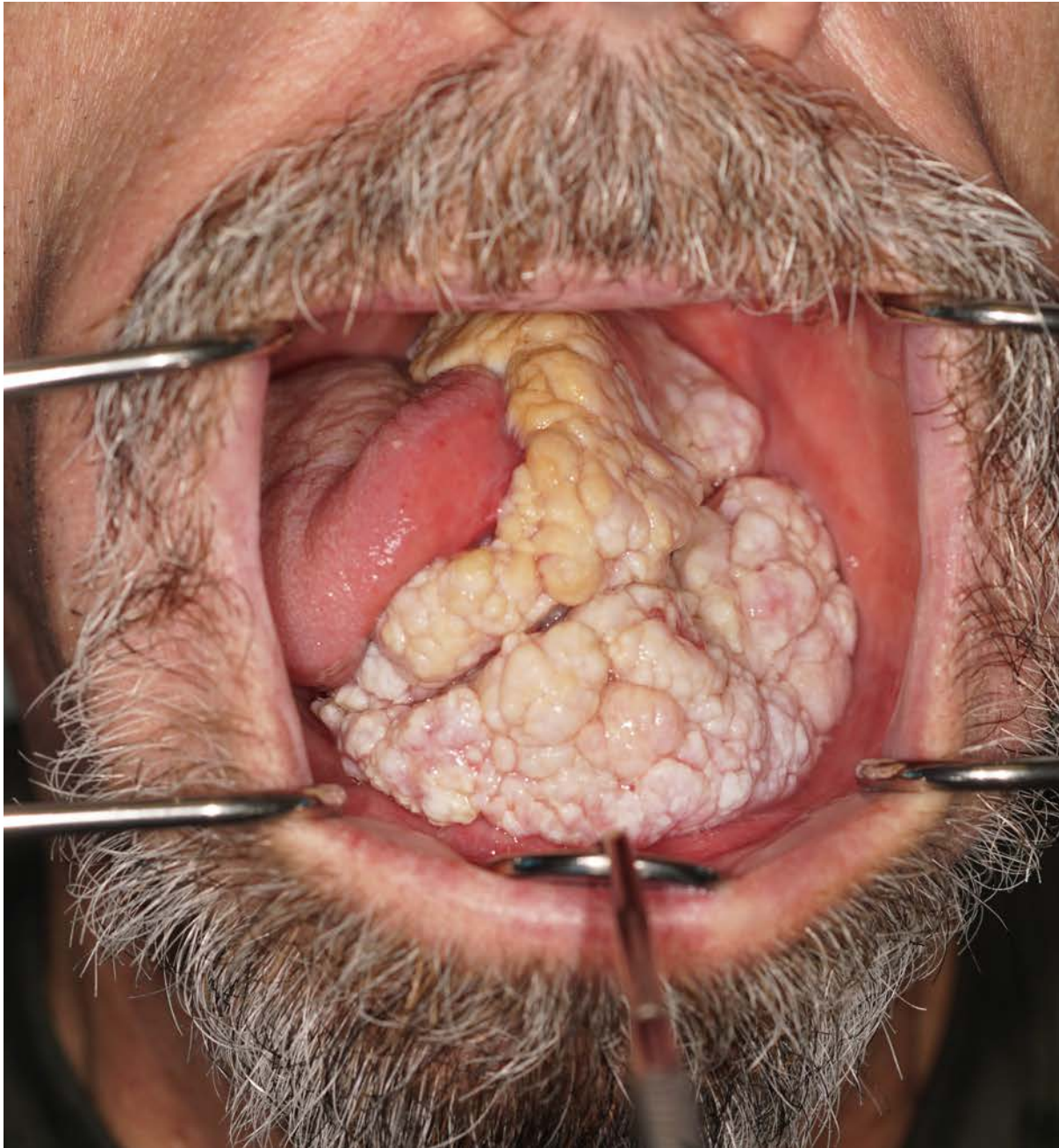




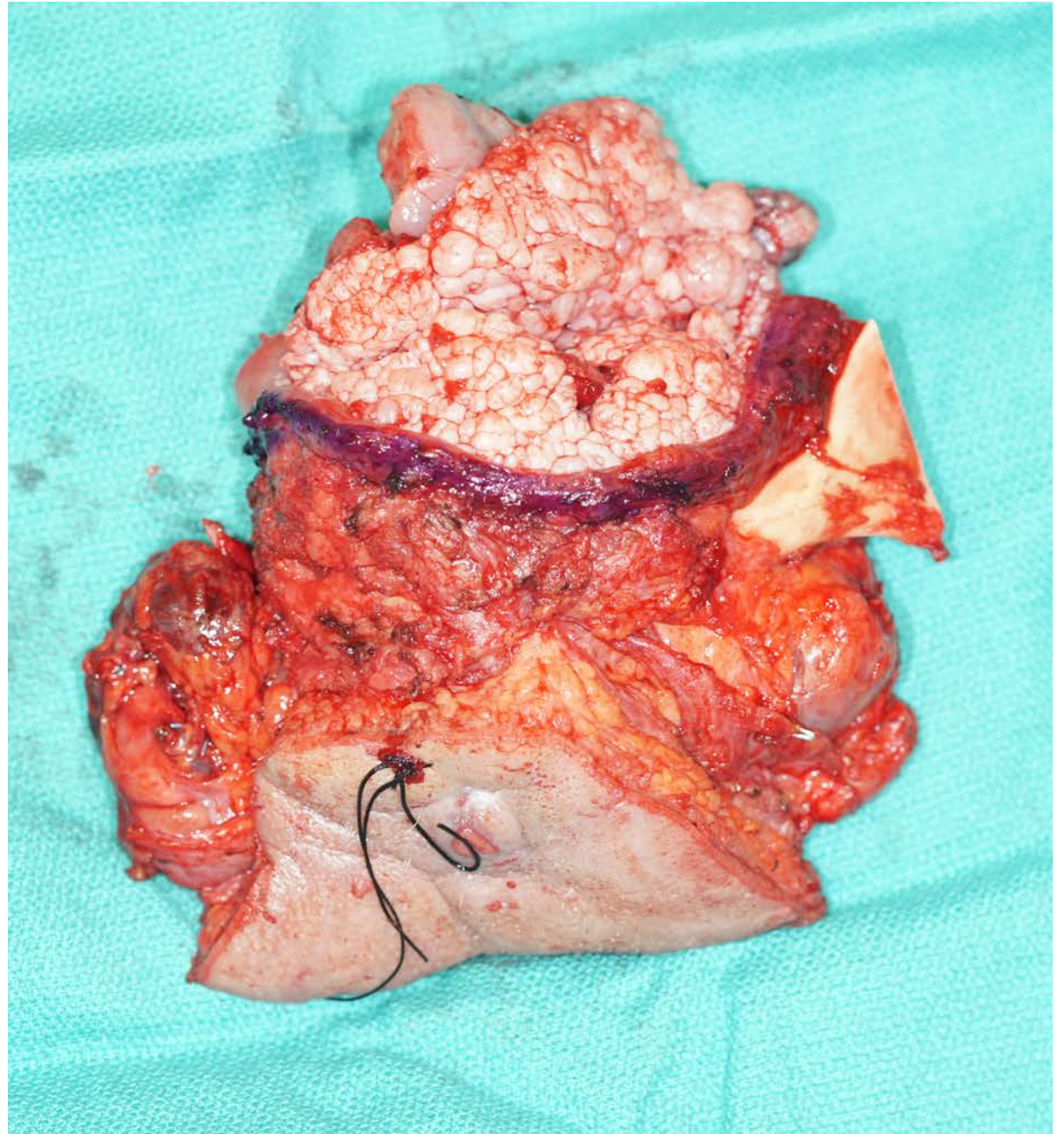
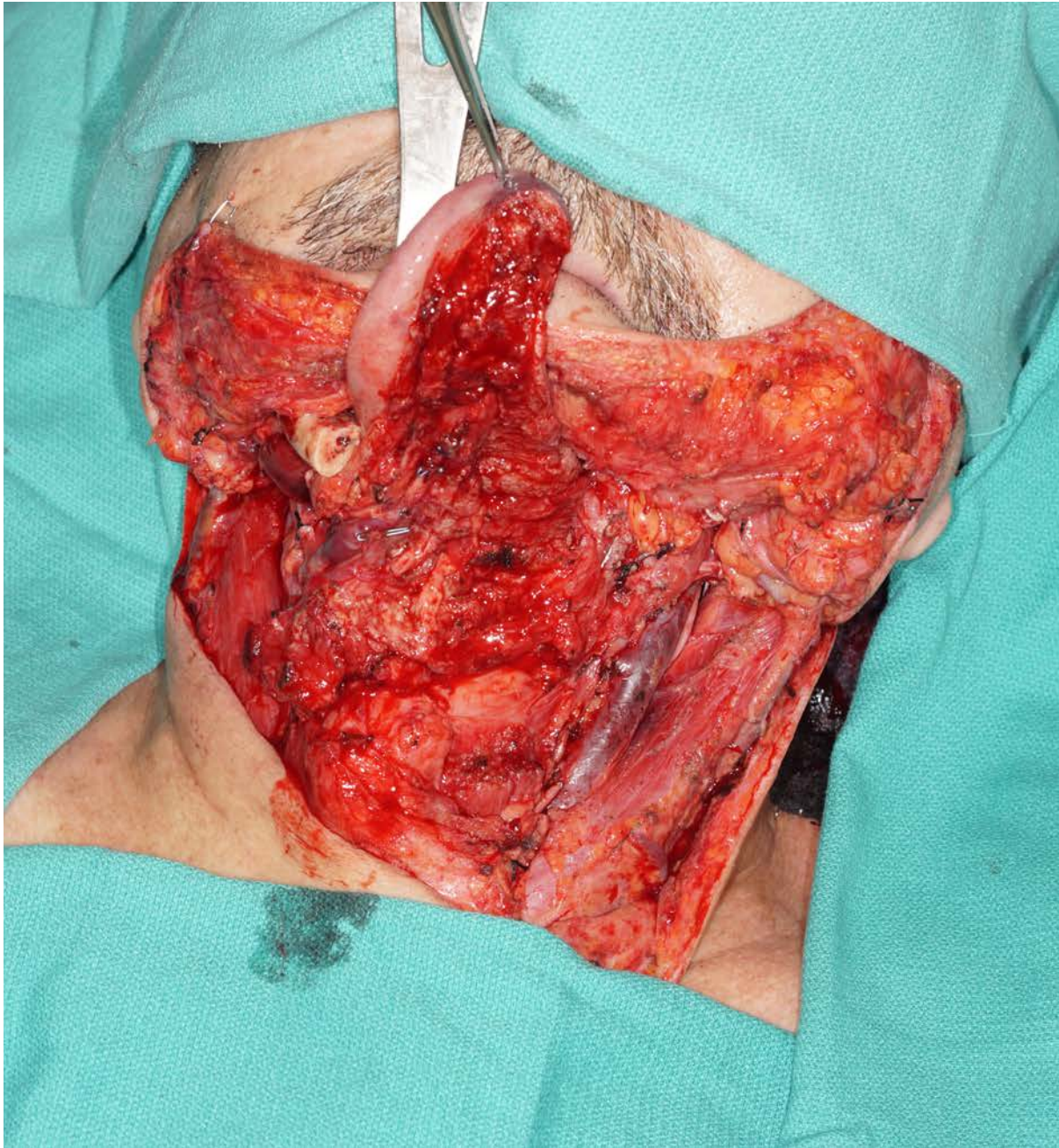




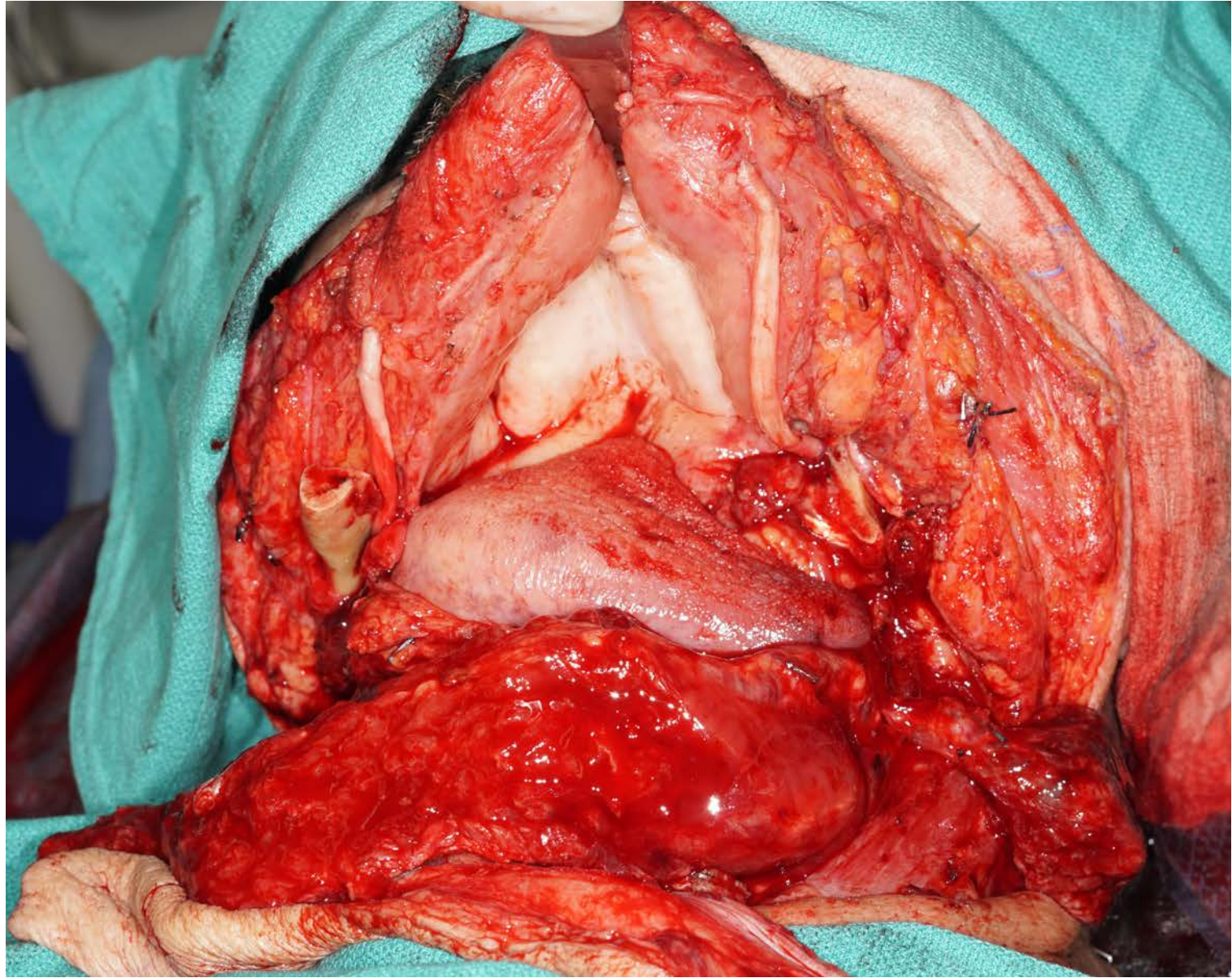


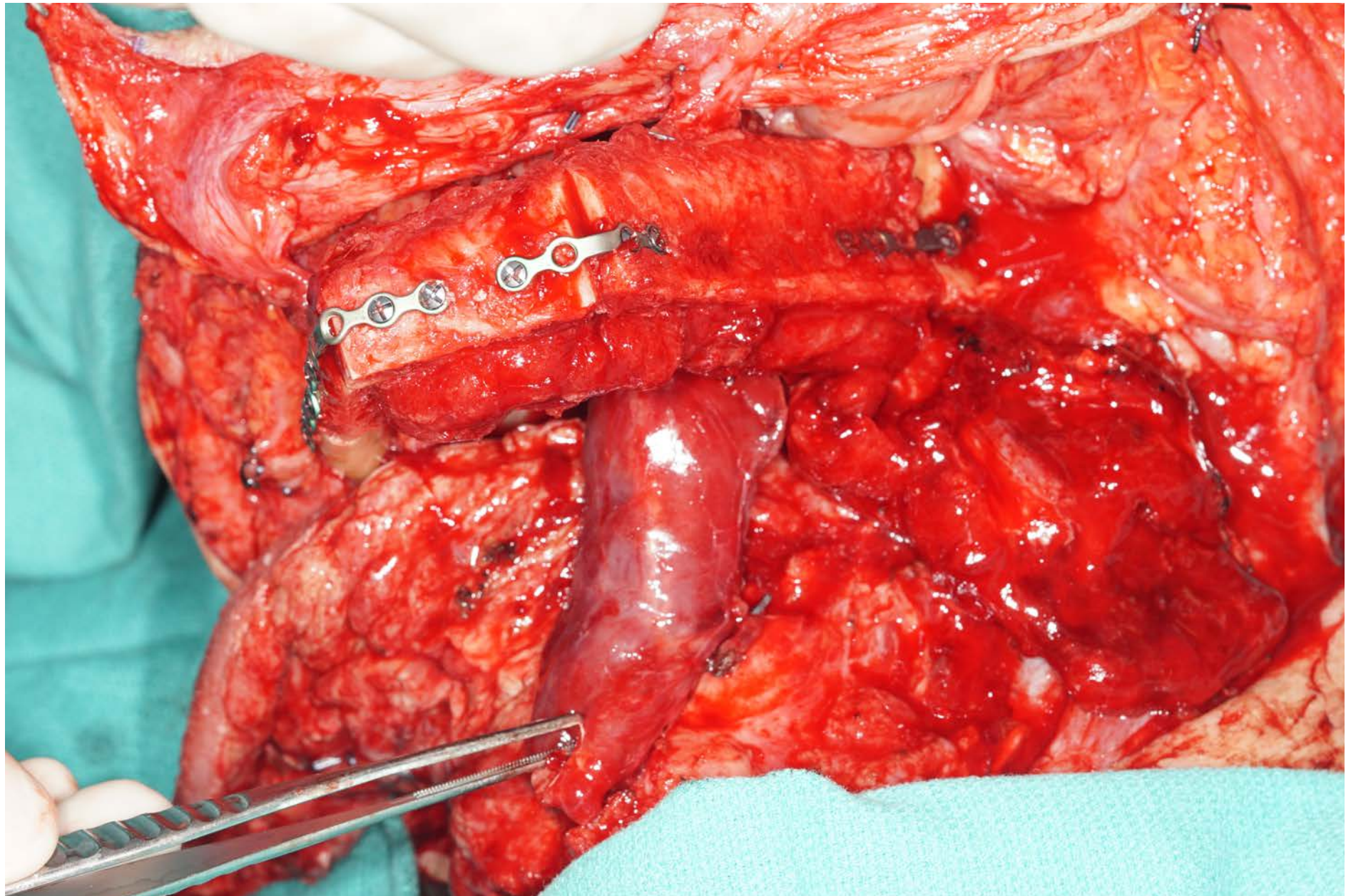


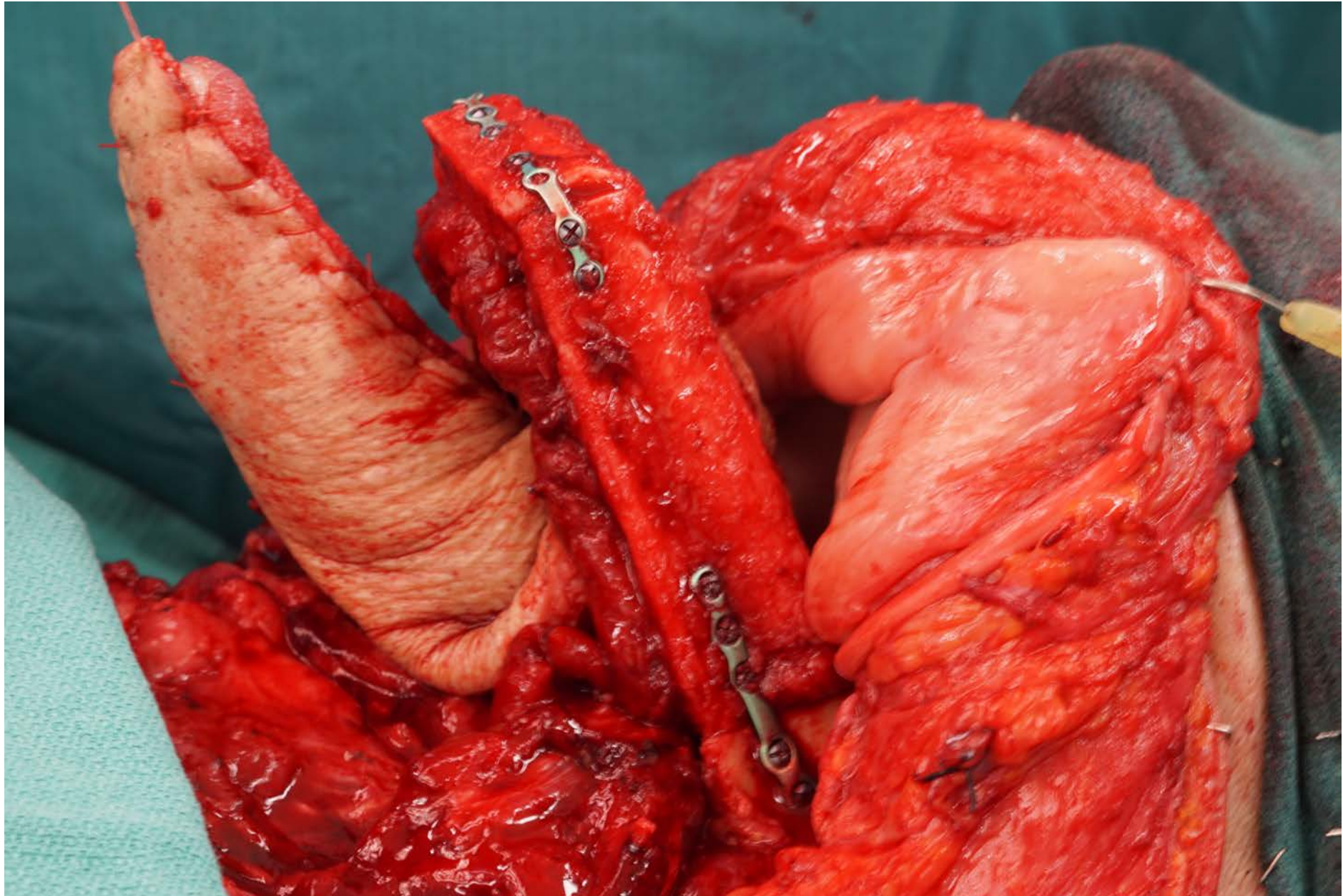


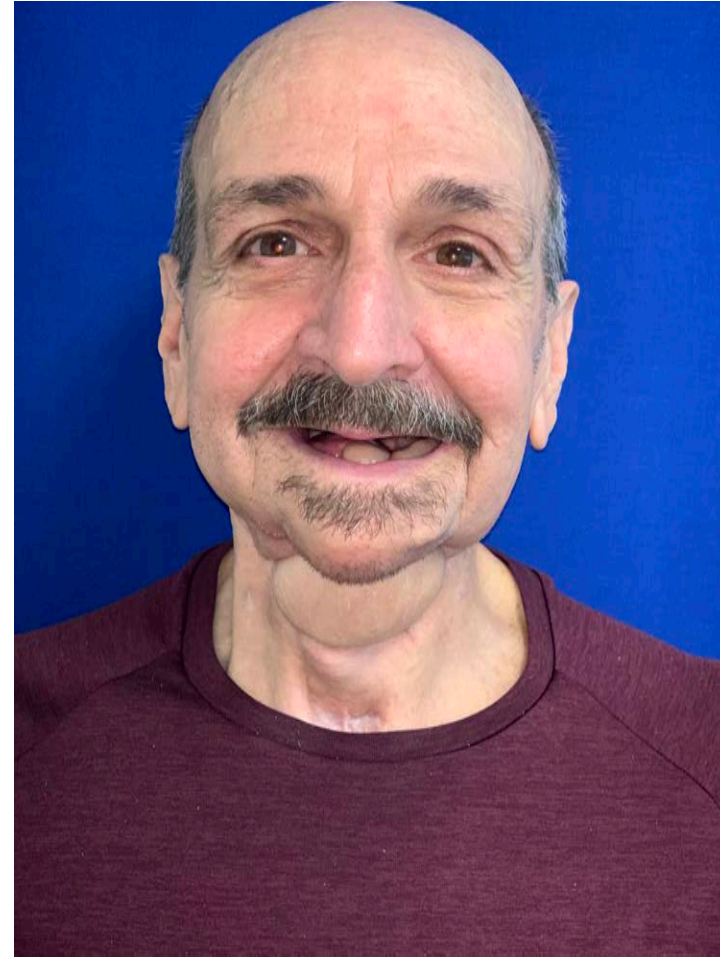
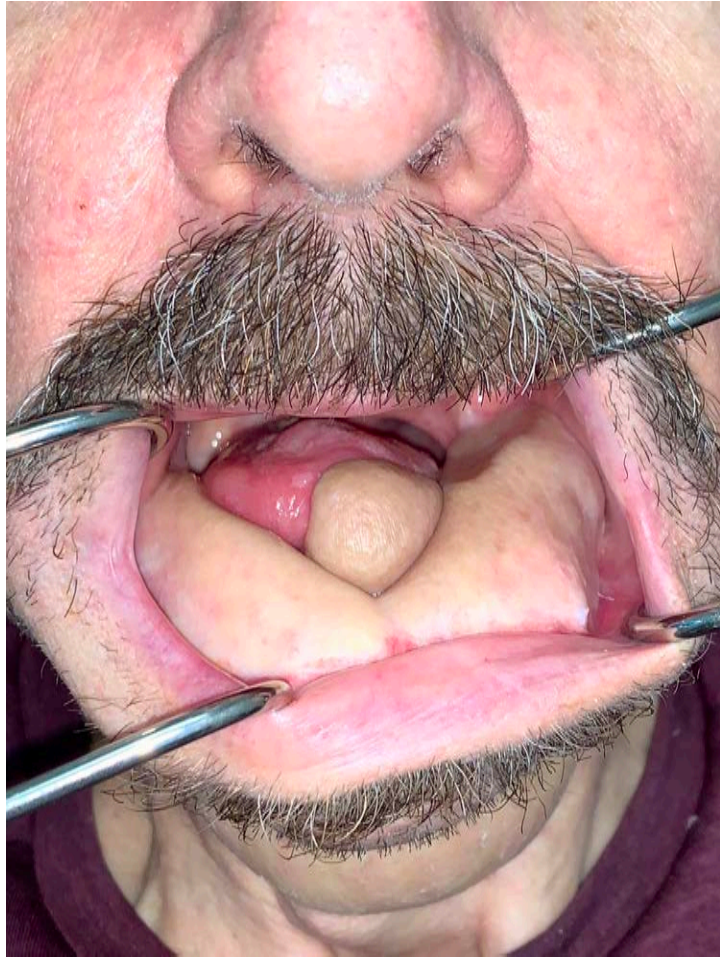


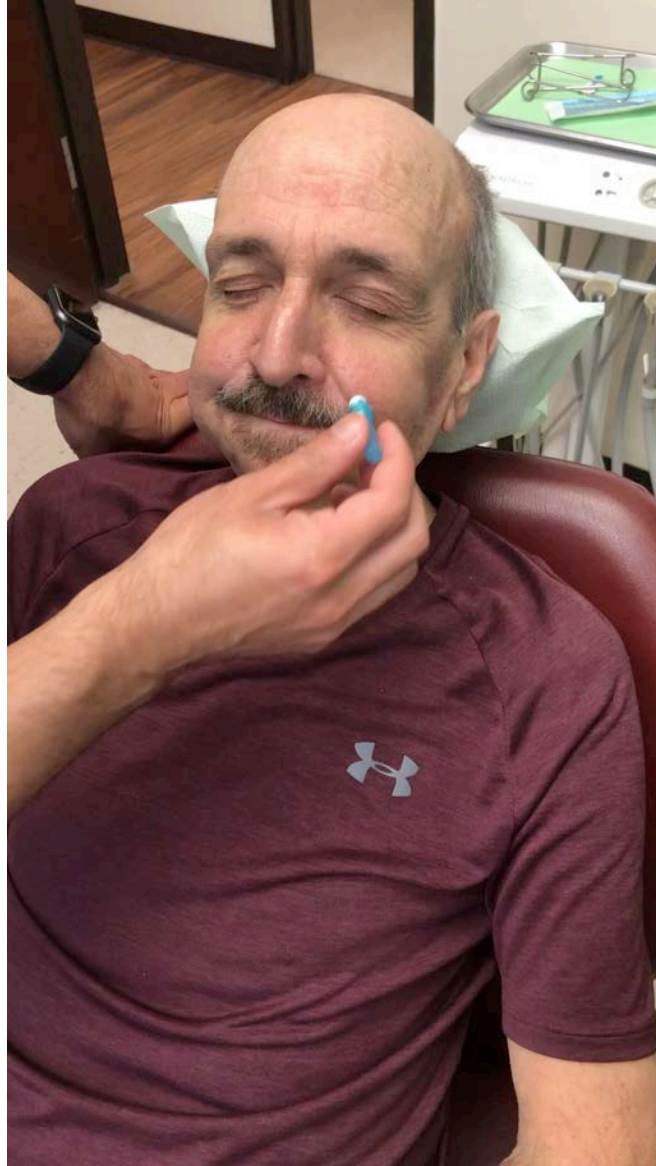












Thank You

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Which Nerve fibers are responsible for fine touch?

1. C Fibers
2. A Beta
3. A Delta
4. A Alpha

The **A alpha** fibers are the largest myelinated fibers with the fastest conduction velocity; they mediate position and fine touch through muscle spindle afferents and skeletal muscle afferents.

The **A beta** fibers mediate proprioception.

The smallest myelinated fibers are the **A delta** fibers that carry pain (“first” or “fast” pain) and temperature information.

The smaller diameter and slower-conducting **unmyelinated C fibers** mediate “second” or “slow” pain and temperature sensations.

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