



How to Avoid or Prevent Secondary Post -Tonsillectomy Haemorrhage?

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Secondary post-tonsillectomy bleeding is a nightmare for all E.N.T. specialists as it may occur at an inappropriate and unexpected time. I could avoid this situation by revising the patient on the 5th. day post-operatively. The aim of that revision is to remove the ligatures, stitches and tonsillar remnants off the tonsillar bed. This procedure has three goals:

- (1) To prevent secondary haemorrhage before it occurs on the sixth or seventh post-operative days due to erosion of the ends of the blood vessels by the anaerobic bacteria (fusiform bacilli).
- (2) Relief of post-operative pain by removal of the necrotized tissues which are very irritable to the healthy neighbouring tissues.
- (3) Avoid leaving tonsillar tissues which may grow to a considerable size.

This procedure is achieved by Luck's forceps without anaesthesia.

The bleeding occurring during this procedure is self-limited.

I've never seen any case of that haemorrhage over more than twenty years (about 7000 cases)