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REVIEW ARTICLES

325 Thyroid Hormone Dependent Regulation of Target Genes and Their Physiological Significance

Ya-Hui Huang, PhD; Ming-Ming Tsai, MS; Kwang-Huei Lin, PhD

Thyroid hormone (T_3) regulates growth, development and differentiation. These activities are mediated by nuclear thyroid receptors (TRs). To study the mechanism of target gene regulation, microarrays were performed. Several T_3 target genes including fibrinogen, transferrin, fibronectin, androgen receptor (AR)-associated protein 70, and dehydroepiandrosterone sulfotransferase family 1A member 2 were demonstrated. These results indicate that T_3 might play an important role in blood coagulation, inflammation, metabolism and cell proliferation. This may help to explain the association between thyroid diseases and the mis-regulation of the inflammatory and clotting profiles evident in the circulatory systems of these patients.

335 Palatoplasty: Evolution and Controversies

Aik-Ming Leow, MD; Lun-Jou Lo, MD

Treatment of cleft palate has evolved over a long period of time. This article reviews the history of cleft palate surgery from its beginnings to modern-day palatoplasty, and describes various palatoplasty techniques and commonly used modifications. Current controversial issues on the timing of cleft palate repair, and the effects on speech and maxillofacial growth are also discussed.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

346 Dental and Skeletal Changes Following Surgically Assisted Rapid Maxillary Anteriorposterior Expansion

Cheng-Ting Ho, DDS, MS; Lun-Jou Lo, MD; Eric JW Liou, DDS, MS;

Chiung Shing Huang, DDS, PhD

The purpose of this study was to assess dental and skeletal changes in the maxilla for correction of maxillary deficiency associated with a retruded maxillary arch using a surgically assisted rapid maxillary anterior-posterior expansion appliance. The retruded dental arch and dental crowding were successfully corrected with a maxillary anterior segmental oeteotomy and distraction osteogenesis. An overcorrection in this interdental distraction osteogenesis could be a good treatment option for patients with maxillary deficiency associated with a retruded maxillary arch without mandibular prognathism.

Correlation between the Iron, Magnesium, Potassium and Zinc Content in Adolescent Girls' Hair and Their Academic Records

Chin-Thin Wang, PhD; Yingjeng James Li, PhD; Fu-Jin Wang, PhD; Yi-Min Shi, BS; Bee-Tsu Lee, MS

The aim of this study is to investigate the correlation between school academic records and the iron, magnesium, potassium, and zinc content in adolescent girls' hair. In this study, we found that the academic records had a positive correlation with the magnesium (r = 0.20; p = 0.016), and zinc (r = 0.31; p = 0.001) content in their hair. Conversely, the academic records had an inverse correlation with the potassium (r = -0.23; p = 0.019) content. We conclude that the magnesium, potassium, and zinc content in hair has a certain correlation with the learning performance of adolescent girls.

Postoperative Residual Curarization: Clinical Observation in the Post-anesthesia Care Unit Chih-Chung Tsai, MD; Ham-See Chung, MD; Po-Liang Chen, MD; Chong-Ming Yu, MD; Ming-Shan Chen, MD; Chian-Lang Hong, MD

Neuromuscular blocking agents (NMBAs) are used during anesthesia induction and maintenance. Train-of-four (TOF) stimulation can quantify the degree of neuromuscular blockade. The aim of this study was to survey the postoperative residual curarization (PORC) in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU). A total of 308 patients who underwent general anesthesia with NMBAs were enrolled. TOF ratios less than 0.7 and 0.9 were observed in 15 (5%), and 97 (31%) patients, respectively. The differences of TOF ratios between the male and female patients, and the weight differences between the > 0.9 and ≤ 0.9 groups were significant. PORC still occurs in the modern PACU. Objective neuromuscular monitoring needs to be performed to ensure patient safety.

Comparing the Use of the Taiwanese Depression Questionnaire and Beck Depression Inventory for Screening Depression in Patients with Chronic Pain

Yu Lee, MD; Pao-Yen Lin, MD, PhD; Su-Ting Hsu, MD, ScD; Yu Cing-Chi, EdD;