

# Contents

|          |                                                                          |           |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>■</b> | <b>Introduction</b>                                                      | <b>13</b> |
| 1.1.     | Epidemiology.....                                                        | 13        |
| 1.2.     | Treatment approaches in laryngeal cancer.....                            | 13        |
| 1.3.     | History of laryngectomy.....                                             | 13        |
| 1.4.     | Consequences of laryngectomy for the patient.....                        | 13        |
| 1.4.1.   | Loss of voice.....                                                       | 14        |
| 1.4.2.   | Loss of conditioning of inspired air.....                                | 14        |
| 1.4.3.   | Loss of the sense of smell.....                                          | 14        |
| 1.5.     | Possibilities for voice rehabilitation.....                              | 14        |
| 1.5.1.   | Oesophageal voice.....                                                   | 14        |
| 1.5.2.   | Electronic speaking aids.....                                            | 15        |
| 1.5.3.   | Surgical techniques for voice rehabilitation.....                        | 15        |
| 1.6.     | Value of voice rehabilitation with voice prostheses.....                 | 16        |
| 1.6.1.   | Prosthesis technique.....                                                | 17        |
| 1.6.2.   | Indwelling/non-indwelling prostheses.....                                | 18        |
| <b>■</b> | <b>Physiology of voice production after laryngectomy</b>                 | <b>22</b> |
| 2.1.     | Conservative methods for voice rehabilitation.....                       | 22        |
| 2.2.     | Voice-producing segment.....                                             | 23        |
| 2.3.     | Possibilities for the differential diagnosis.....                        | 27        |
| <b>■</b> | <b>Change of voice prosthesis</b>                                        | <b>30</b> |
| 3.1.     | Operation technique.....                                                 | 30        |
| 3.1.1.   | Primary puncture and placement of a voice prosthesis.....                | 30        |
| 3.1.2.   | Secondary placement of a voice prosthesis.....                           | 31        |
| 3.2.     | Changing the voice prosthesis.....                                       | 33        |
| 3.2.1.   | Retrograde voice prosthesis replacement.....                             | 33        |
| 3.2.2.   | Antegrade voice prosthesis replacement.....                              | 34        |
| 3.2.3.   | Non-indwelling prostheses.....                                           | 36        |
| 3.2.4.   | Practical procedure.....                                                 | 37        |
| <b>■</b> | <b>Complications after insertion of a voice prosthesis</b>               | <b>40</b> |
| 4.1.     | Major complications.....                                                 | 40        |
| 4.2.     | Minor complications.....                                                 | 40        |
| 4.3.     | Leaks.....                                                               | 41        |
| 4.3.1.   | Transprosthetic leakage.....                                             | 41        |
| 4.3.1.1. | Prosthesis-related problems.....                                         | 42        |
| 4.3.1.2. | Puncture-associated problems.....                                        | 43        |
| 4.3.1.3. | Phenomenon of negative thoracic pressure.....                            | 44        |
| 4.3.2.   | Periprosthetic leakage and tracheo-oesophageal puncture enlargement..... | 44        |
| 4.3.2.1. | Incidence of periprosthetic leakage.....                                 | 46        |
| 4.3.2.2. | Pathology of the tracheo-oesophageal puncture.....                       | 46        |
| 4.3.2.3. | Aetiology of periprosthetic leakage.....                                 | 46        |
| 4.3.2.4. | Leakage and prosthesis diameter.....                                     | 47        |
| 4.3.2.5. | Primary and secondary voice prosthesis placement.....                    | 48        |
| 4.3.2.6. | Leakage and pharyngo-oesophageal stenosis/strictures.....                | 48        |
| 4.3.2.7. | Leakage and irradiation.....                                             | 48        |

|        |                                                                                                                                         |           |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
|        | <b>Importance of gastro-oesophageal reflux as a risk factor for enlargement of the tracheo-oesophageal puncture</b>                     | <b>57</b> |
| 5.1.   | Molecular biology causes of reflux-induced enlargement of the tracheo-oesophageal puncture .....                                        | 60        |
| 5.2.   | Other risk factors.....                                                                                                                 | 61        |
|        | <b>Treatment of periprosthetic leakage</b>                                                                                              | <b>64</b> |
| 6.1.   | Supportive measures .....                                                                                                               | 64        |
| 6.1.1. | Prophylaxis of aspiration .....                                                                                                         | 64        |
| 6.1.2. | Ensuring food intake .....                                                                                                              | 64        |
| 6.1.3. | Drug treatment .....                                                                                                                    | 65        |
| 6.1.4. | Management of enlargement of the tracheo-oesophageal puncture and periprosthetic leakage using pharmacological antireflux therapy ..... | 65        |
| 6.2.   | Conservative measures .....                                                                                                             | 66        |
| 6.2.1. | Downsizing .....                                                                                                                        | 66        |
| 6.2.2. | Silicon washers.....                                                                                                                    | 67        |
| 6.2.3. | Shrinking of the puncture .....                                                                                                         | 70        |
| 6.2.4. | Puncture augmentation (injection treatment) .....                                                                                       | 71        |
| 6.2.5. | Botulinum toxin injections.....                                                                                                         | 73        |
| 6.3.   | Surgical measures .....                                                                                                                 | 74        |
| 6.3.1. | Surgical closure techniques.....                                                                                                        | 74        |
| 6.3.2. | Stents and epitheses .....                                                                                                              | 79        |
|        | <b>Special prostheses</b>                                                                                                               | <b>85</b> |
| 7.1.   | Biofilm colonisation.....                                                                                                               | 85        |
| 7.2.   | Material fatigue.....                                                                                                                   | 86        |
| 7.3.   | Periprosthetic leakage .....                                                                                                            | 86        |
|        | <b>Epitheses to cover defects and epitheses for tracheostomas</b>                                                                       | <b>90</b> |
| 8.1.   | Background .....                                                                                                                        | 90        |
| 8.2.   | Clinical features and reduction in quality of life .....                                                                                | 90        |
| 8.3.   | Treatment approach using individually fitted fistula epitheses.....                                                                     | 90        |
| 8.4.   | Anatomical types of pharyngotracheal/oesophagotracheal fistulae.....                                                                    | 91        |
| 8.5.   | Functional results, complications and long-term outcomes.....                                                                           | 93        |
|        | <b>Diagnosis and therapy of phonation problems in voice prosthesis users</b>                                                            | <b>95</b> |
| 9.1.   | Tracheo-oesophageal speech .....                                                                                                        | 95        |
| 9.2.   | Role of the voice prosthesis .....                                                                                                      | 95        |
| 9.3.   | Prevention of phonation problems .....                                                                                                  | 95        |
| 9.3.1. | Tracheostoma.....                                                                                                                       | 95        |
| 9.3.2. | Tonicity of the neoglottis .....                                                                                                        | 96        |
| 9.3.3. | Voice and speech rehabilitation.....                                                                                                    | 96        |
| 9.3.4. | Patient education .....                                                                                                                 | 96        |
| 9.3.5. | Timing of TE puncture .....                                                                                                             | 97        |
| 9.4.   | Voice rehabilitation .....                                                                                                              | 97        |
| 9.4.1. | Patient selection .....                                                                                                                 | 97        |
| 9.4.2. | Preoperative counselling .....                                                                                                          | 97        |
| 9.4.3. | Patient education .....                                                                                                                 | 97        |

|                                                                                    |                                                                              |            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 9.4.4.                                                                             | Postoperative voice and speech training .....                                | 97         |
| 9.4.5.                                                                             | Further optimisation .....                                                   | 99         |
| 9.4.6.                                                                             | Problem solving.....                                                         | 103        |
|    | <b>Speech therapy</b>                                                        | <b>110</b> |
| 10.1.                                                                              | Communication – the overriding goal .....                                    | 110        |
| 10.2.                                                                              | The route towards voice function .....                                       | 110        |
| 10.2.1.                                                                            | Information, counselling .....                                               | 110        |
| 10.2.2.                                                                            | Pseudo-whispering as the first possibility for verbal communication.....     | 111        |
| 10.2.3.                                                                            | Work on basic functions.....                                                 | 111        |
| 10.2.4.                                                                            | Starting to produce a voice.....                                             | 112        |
| 10.3.                                                                              | Treatment focus at different time points of the rehabilitation process ..... | 114        |
| 10.3.1.                                                                            | Loudness/blowing pressure .....                                              | 114        |
| 10.3.2.                                                                            | Sound duration and phrase length .....                                       | 114        |
| 10.3.3.                                                                            | Pitch and modulation .....                                                   | 115        |
| 10.4.                                                                              | Treatment options in phonation deficit – problems and solutions .....        | 115        |
| 10.4.1.                                                                            | Unfavourable tone in the region of the PE segment .....                      | 115        |
| 10.4.2.                                                                            | Oedema .....                                                                 | 116        |
| 10.4.3.                                                                            | Poor sealing of the tracheostoma.....                                        | 116        |
| 10.4.4.                                                                            | Dried secretions, mucus plug, <i>Candida</i> colonisation .....              | 116        |
| 10.4.5.                                                                            | Classic oesophageal speech .....                                             | 116        |
|    | <b>Provision of aids, tubes, creation of a tracheostoma</b>                  | <b>119</b> |
| 11.1.                                                                              | Pulmonary rehabilitation .....                                               | 119        |
| 11.2.                                                                              | How the use of an HME impacts on voice quality.....                          | 120        |
| 11.3.                                                                              | New HMEs.....                                                                | 121        |
| 11.4.                                                                              | Fixation of aids at the tracheostoma.....                                    | 121        |
| 11.5.                                                                              | Tracheostomy surgery .....                                                   | 122        |
| 11.6.                                                                              | Treatment of haemorrhagic tracheitis .....                                   | 125        |
|  | <b>Quality of life and voice prostheses</b>                                  | <b>128</b> |
|  | <b>Pre-treatment counselling of cancer patients</b>                          | <b>134</b> |
|  | <b>Index</b>                                                                 | <b>138</b> |