



TALLAHASSEE EAR, NOSE & THROAT - HEAD & NECK SURGERY, P.A.



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INJECTION SNOREPLASTY

Your physician has recommended to you the operative procedure known as an injection snoreplasty. The injection snoreplasty is an innovative, safe, and effective palatal snoring procedure with less cost than other surgical alternatives and typically less discomfort to the patient.

The objective of the surgery is to achieve a scarring of the palate by injecting a sclerosing agent similar to those used to sclerose varicose veins. The solution that we use here at Tallahassee Ear, Nose & Throat is a solution called sodium morrhuate. Approximately 1-2cc of sodium morrhuate are injected into the palate at the base of the uvula under topical anesthesia. The palate is coated with Benzocain gel in the area of the injection, and after this becomes numb the sodium morrhuate is injected with minimal patient discomfort. The area that is injected will turn somewhat purplish and swell over a period of a few days, with decreasing swelling over the first week. Most patients experience a sore throat that would be similar to a viral sore throat, and it lasts for up to one week. We do instruct patients to sleep with their head elevated in a lounge chair for the first night or two, in order to decrease the swelling and also to make sure their airway remains open while they sleep. We give pain medicine as needed in the postoperative period, but frequently none is required beyond Motrin or Tylenol.

Most patients require one to two treatments separated by six to eight weeks in order to achieve adequate results. Initial response to the procedure is greater than 90% of patients who achieve significant reduction in their snoring volume. However, the two year follow up information reflects that the success rate drops down to approximately 75% of the patients continuing to have significant reduction in their snoring.

The procedure is charged “per injection”, and as this is considered a non-medical problem and more of a social problem, it is typically not covered by insurance. We will be glad to discuss the fees with you prior to the procedure.

If you have any further questions regarding the injection snoreplasty, additional information can be found online at the Academy of Otolaryngology website, which is www.entlink.org. You can also ask any of the physicians in the practice and they will be happy to answer your questions.