Open Airway Reconstruction: Relating Frailty and Outcome

Laryngotracheal stenosis (LTS) provides a challenge for treating physicians. Airway obstruction and respiratory compromise lead to significant patient morbidity and mortality; thus, definitive treatment via reconstructive surgery is often pursued. Frailty has been described as the state resulting from decreased physiologic reserve. It is important to note that this factor is not necessarily proportional to a patient’s age, but progresses with changes in overall health and disability. Frailty has been identified as an independent factor for postoperative morbidity, mortality, and length of stay. To our knowledge, there are no studies examining the application of frailty to patients undergoing open airway reconstruction.

- **Aim 1**: The purpose of this study is to investigate frailty as a predictor of prosthesis dependence following such procedures.