

# Review of: "Low Donor Site Morbidity Supports the Use of Infraumbilical Flaps for Head and Neck Reconstruction: A Retrospective Cohort Study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This manuscript is very well written and presented. The quality of the photos is outstanding.

I do, however, have concerns about this study. A 77% free flap success rate is unacceptable for a H&N unit; 95% is the accepted average with great units achieving 97-98%.

In addition, the number of patients is fairly small, but enough to allow safe conclusions.

My go-to free flap for H&N defects is either an ALT or a LD/scapula system. These flaps are reliable, reproducible, easy to harvest and carry very low morbidity. As such, I fail to see the point of the periumbilical flaps for H&N reconstruction.