

INTRODUCTION

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Tonsillectomy has the reputation of being extremely uncomfortable in the first few days of the post-operative period. The pain following tonsillectomy is intense and has a burning character. It increase on swallowing and otalgia (referred pain) is frequently present. A reduction in the ability to open the mouth (trismus) and a considerable inflammatory reaction in the pharynx, soft palate and uvula are often observed (*Weligodapola, 1983*).

The new non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID) have proved to be effective in pain relief after oral surgery such as tonsillectomy probably due to the effect on post-operative inflammatory reaction (*Sacchett et al., 1978*).

Most surgeons now prescribe either ASA or Paracetamol for analgesia supplementing this with codeine. (*Ruedy, 1973*).