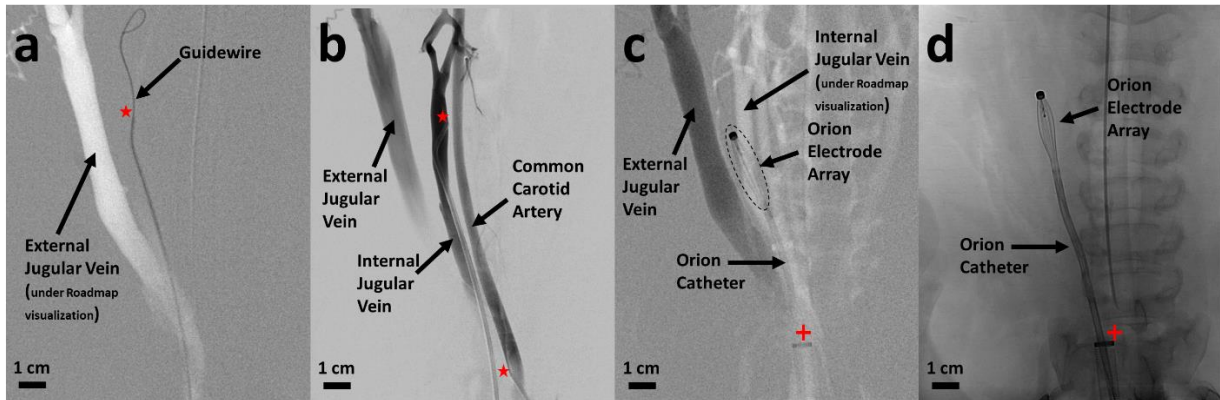


1 **Vagus nerve stimulation using an endovascular electrode array (Supplement)**

2 Evan N Nicolai, Jorge Arturo Larco, Sarosh I Madhani, Samuel J Asirvatham, Su-youne Chang, Kip A Ludwig,

3 Luis E Savastano, Gregory A Worrell

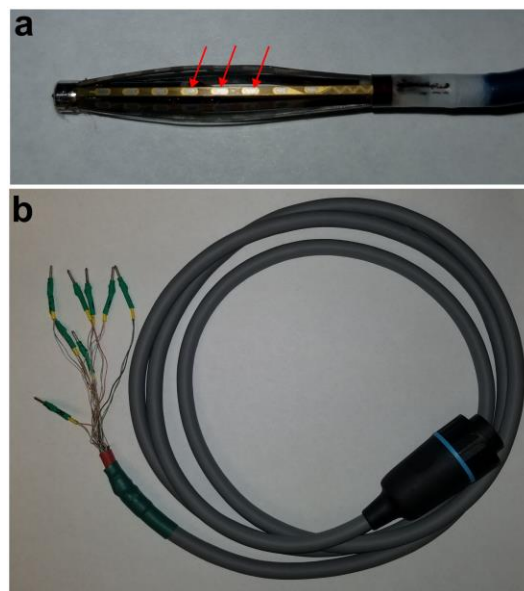
4 **Supplementary Figures**



5  
6 **Supplementary Figure 1:** Verification of electrode position within the internal jugular vein via series of  
7 angiograms/venograms. **a)** A retrograde roadmap venogram is produced during injection of Omnipaque  
8 contrast into the ear vein, which empties into the external jugular vein. The hyperintense vessel is  
9 therefore assumed to be the external jugular vein, and the guidewire (0.035" diameter microwire) within  
10 a 5Fr vertebral sheath (tip marked with red star) is placed medially to where the internal jugular vein is  
11 assumed to be positioned. The fluroscopic image shown was then captured. **b)** The guidewire is removed.  
12 The fluroscopic image shown was captured during simultaneous injection of contrast into the ear vein  
13 (catheter outside image window, to highlight the external jugular vein), injection of contrast into the 5Fr  
14 vertebral catheter from **a** (tip marked with red star, to highlight the internal jugular vein), and injection of  
15 contrast into the 5Fr sofia catheter (tip marked with red star, to highlight the common carotid artery). **c)**  
16 A roadmap visualization is produced during injection of contrast into the 5Fr sofia catheter (to highlight  
17 the internal jugular vein). The 5Fr vertebral catheter is removed, then replaced with an 18Fr sheath (tip  
18 marked with red cross). The Orion catheter is placed inside the 18Fr sheath and positioned via roadmap

19 visualization. The electrode array on the Orion catheter is highlighted with a dotted oval. The fluroscopic  
20 image shown was then captured during injection of contrast into the ear vein to demonstrate that the  
21 Orion is outside the external jugular vein and is consistent with the position of the internal jugular vein  
22 roadmap visualization. **d)** The fluroscopic image shown was captured without injection of contrast and  
23 the Orion in final position before starting stimulation and recording experiments.

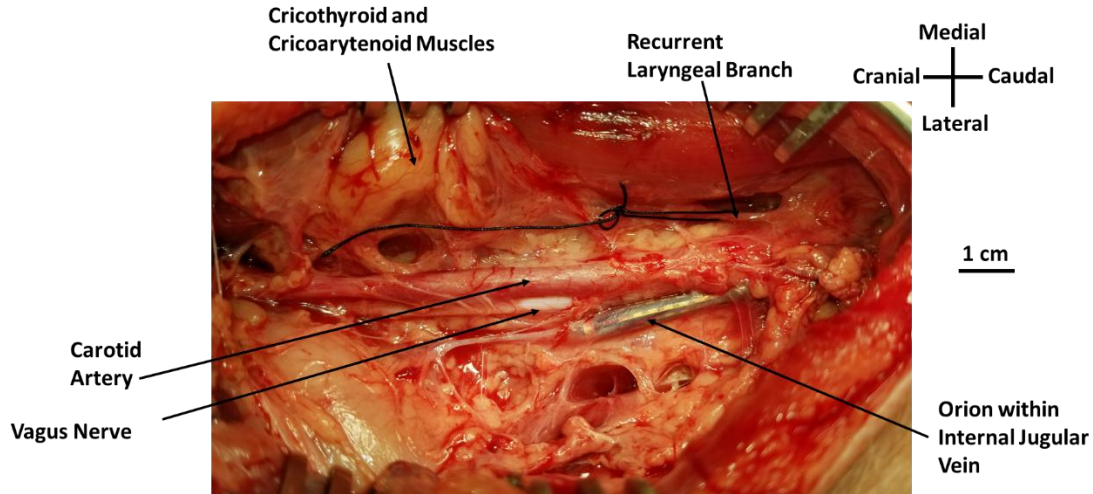
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25

26 **Supplementary Figure 2:** Modification of Orion Umbilical Cable to connect multiple contacts on Orion  
27 catheter to increase electrode surface area. **a)** Photo of the Orion, showing multiple electrode contacts  
28 on one strut. Arrows show the three contacts that were combined – via modification of the umbilical cable  
29 in **b)** – to form the electrode contact used for the experiments in this study. This process was repeated for  
30 each of the 8 Orion struts to form a ring of 8 electrodes. **b)** Photo of the modified umbilical cable. One of  
31 the proprietary connectors was cut off and individual lead wires were isolated. A multimeter was used to  
32 map each of the wires to individual contacts on the Orion. The wires leading to each set of three contacts

33 were soldered together and fitted with a gold pin that was connected to the stimulator during  
 34 experiments for each contact.



35  
 36 **Supplementary Figure 3:** Postmortem dissection to determine location of the stimulation electrode with  
 37 respect to the vagus nerve. After experiments stimulating the nerve using the Orion at a location that was  
 38 fully intact with no dissection, careful dissection was performed down to the level of the carotid sheath.  
 39 Markers placed on the Orion were used to determine position of the Orion with respect to the vagus  
 40 nerve, which is possible given the transparency of the vein.

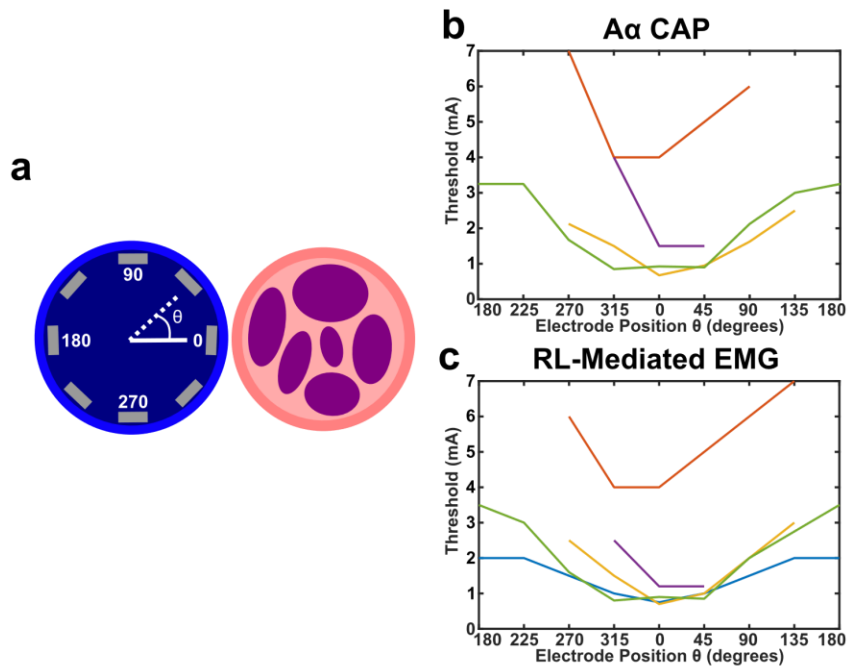
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Stimulation Time (sec)	# Evoked Signals	Mean $\pm$ Std Dev ( $\mu$ V)
0.2	5	21.1 $\pm$ 2.6 $\mu$ V
0.4	10	20.2 $\pm$ 2.7 $\mu$ V
0.6	15	20.8 $\pm$ 3.0 $\mu$ V
0.8	20	21.1 $\pm$ 2.8 $\mu$ V
1	25	21.4 $\pm$ 2.6 $\mu$ V
2	50	22.0 $\pm$ 2.4 $\mu$ V
3	75	21.9 $\pm$ 2.7 $\mu$ V
4	100	21.8 $\pm$ 2.9 $\mu$ V
5	125	21.9 $\pm$ 2.9 $\mu$ V

42

43 Supplementary Table 1: For one animal, at one stimulation amplitude that resulted in a maximal (or  
44 saturated) compound action potential (CAP) that was representative of the data collected for the cohort  
45 of animals, we measured the peak to peak value (maximum minus minimum for a time window that holds  
46 the entire CAP signal) of 125 evoked CAPs (5 seconds of 25 Hz stimulation), then computed the mean and  
47 standard deviation for different numbers of applied pulses. Stimulation Time means the length of the  
48 stimulation pulse train in seconds (sec). # Evoked Signals means the number of evoked signals used to  
49 compute the mean and standard deviation (std dev).

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51  
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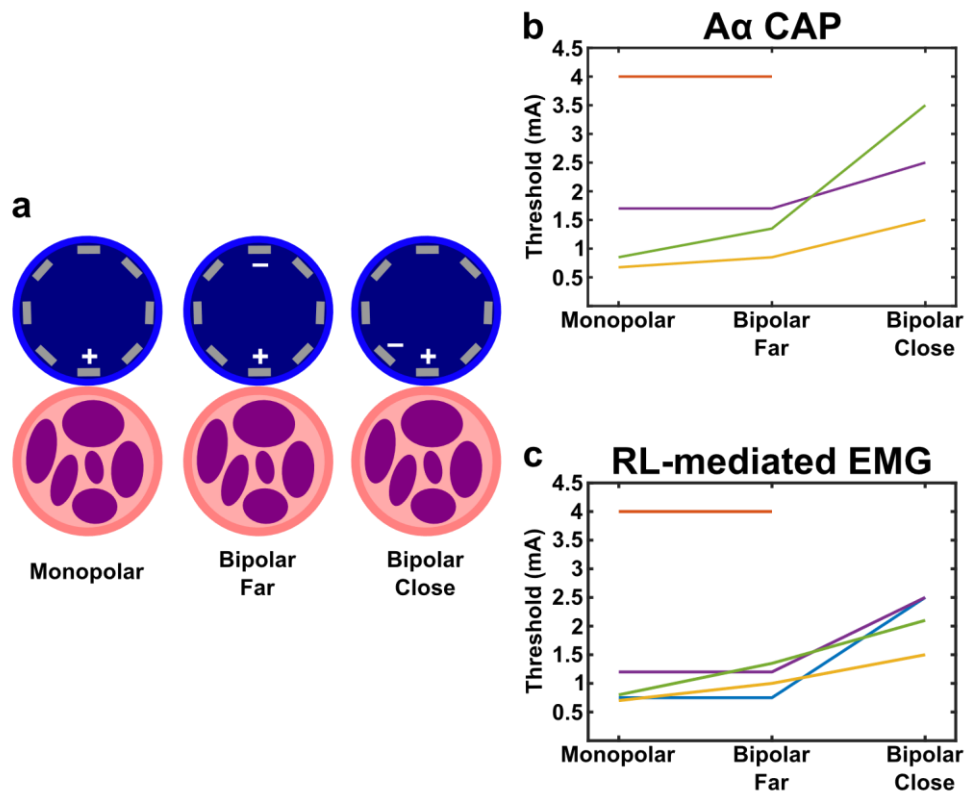


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54 **Supplementary Figure 4:** Summary of thresholds in response to monopolar stimulation around the vein  
55 circumference across animals. **a)** Cartoon shows the internal jugular vein as the blue circle (left), vagus  
56 nerve trunk as the pink circle (right), and the 8 electrode contacts as the gray rectangles. Position of

57 stimulation electrode contact numbers were verified with postmortem dissection, and data from each  
 58 animal was binned such that the electrode closest to the VN were labeled as  $\theta = 0$ . **b)** Mean thresholds  
 59 for activation of the A $\alpha$  CAP in response to monopolar stimulation at each of the 8 contacts in all animals  
 60 ( $n = 4$  pigs, different colored lines are different animals). **c)** Same as b, but for RL-mediated EMG ( $n = 5$   
 61 pigs, different colored lines are different animals). For electrode positions in **b** and **c** that do not show  
 62 data points, no response was observed up to 5.5 mA for the blue, green, yellow, and purple animals, and  
 63 no response was observed up to 7 mA for the red animal potentially indicating a higher, but untested  
 64 threshold.

65



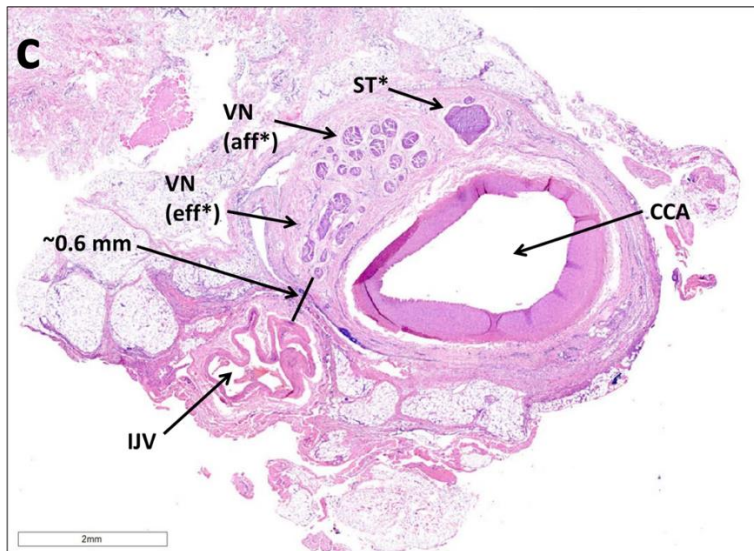
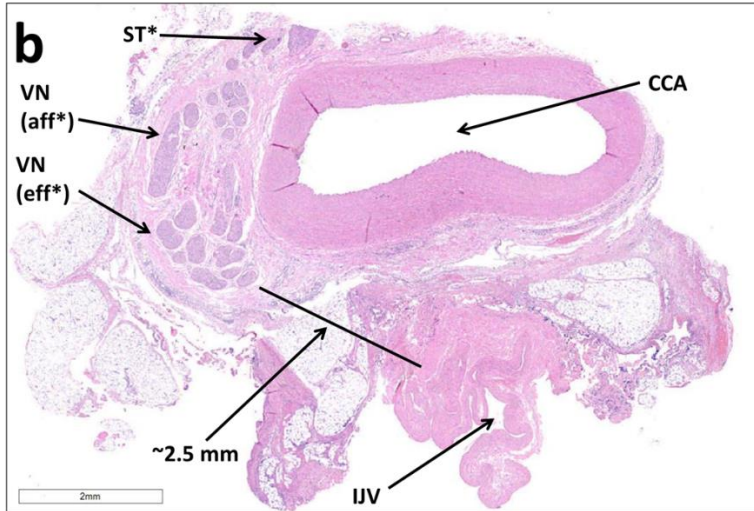
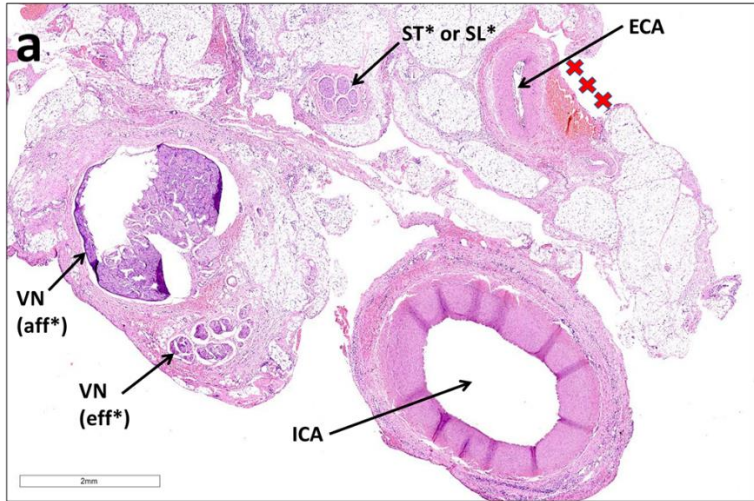
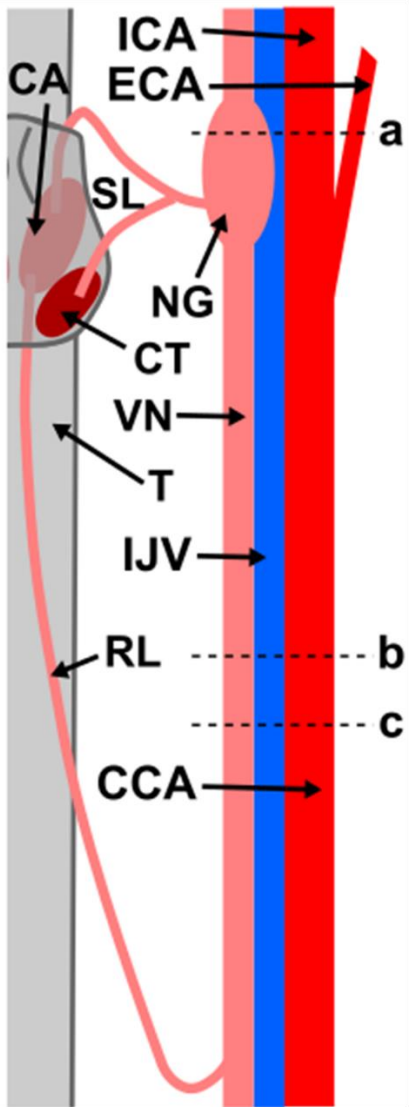
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67 **Supplementary Figure 5: Monopolar vs bipolar stimulation configurations across animals. a)** Cartoons of  
 68 vagus nerve (bottom circle) and internal jugular vein (top circle) showing the position of the electrodes

69 for each monopolar and bipolar electrode configuration. Left cartoon is monopolar where the electrode  
70 closest to the nerve is being stimulated (+) and the return electrode is a needle in the left forelimb of the  
71 pig. Middle cartoon is bipolar "far" where the stimulated electrode (+) has a return at the electrode  
72 furthest away marked (-). Right cartoon is bipolar "close" where the stimulated electrode (+) has a return  
73 at the nearest electrode marked (-). **b)** Threshold for the A $\alpha$  CAP in response to each configuration in all  
74 animals (n = 4 pigs, different colored lines are different animals). **c)** Threshold for the RL-mediated EMG  
75 in response to each configuration in all animals (n = 5 pigs, different colored lines are different animals).  
76 The animal with no response to bipolar close was stimulated up to 7 mA in that configuration and showed  
77 no response potentially indicating a higher, but untested threshold.

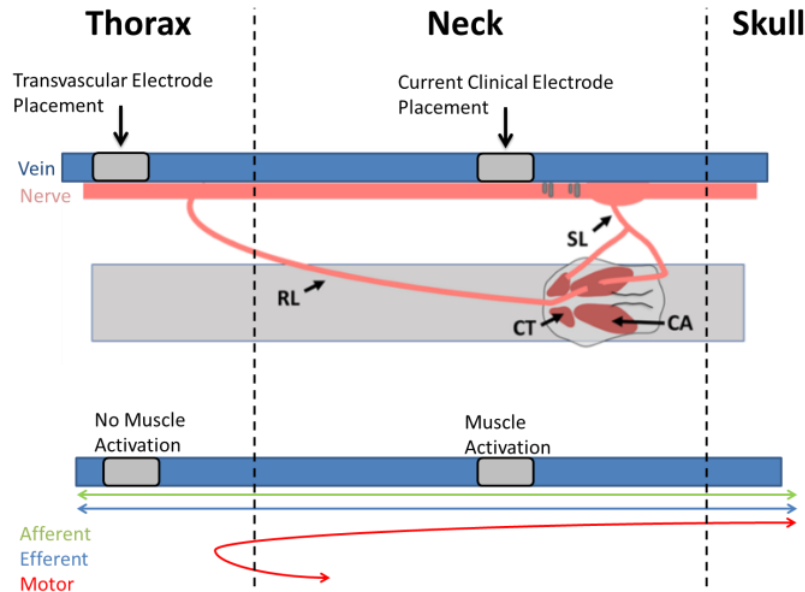
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81 **Supplementary Figure 6:** Histology of the carotid sheath from one pig. **Left)** Cartoon of carotid sheath  
82 and surrounding anatomy. Dotted horizontal lines labeled with lowercase letters refer to where  
83 histology slides on right were approximately obtained. **Right)** Histology slides stained with hematoxylin  
84 and eosin (H&E). Relevant anatomy is labeled. Labels marked with an asterisk (\*) indicate assumptions  
85 made by based on findings of Settell et al 2020 where internal vagus nerve (VN) organization of afferent  
86 (aff) and efferent (eff) fibers could be traced based on the position of the pseudounipolar cells of the  
87 nodose ganglion (NG) (see panel **a**, marked VN (aff)). That study also demonstrated that the sympathetic  
88 trunk (ST) may merge with the VN, thus the distinct third grouping of fascicles (or mode) near the VN  
89 might be the ST (marked with asterisk to highlight assumptions made). The Orion electrode array for this  
90 animal was placed near the histology shown in panels **b** and **c**. Note the 4x difference in distance  
91 between the VN and internal jugular vein (IJV) for panels **b** and **c** (2.5 mm vs 0.6 mm, respectively). Red  
92 crosses in **a** highlight hemorrhage likely associated with surgical cutdown for placement of longitudinal  
93 intrafascicular electrodes for nerve recording. Signs of hemorrhage could not be found for locations near  
94 the placement of the Orion electrode. Vagus nerve (VN), internal jugular vein (IJV), common carotid  
95 artery (CCA), internal carotid artery (ICA), external carotid artery (ECA), nodose ganglion (NG), trachea  
96 (T), recurrent laryngeal (RL), superior laryngeal (SL), cricoarytenoid muscle (CA), cricothyroid muscle  
97 (CT), sympathetic trunk (ST), afferent nerve fibers (aff), efferent nerve fibers (eff).





98

99 **Supplementary Figure 7:** Envisioned methodology to avoid activation of neck muscles using vagus nerve  
 100 stimulation at an endovascular electrode. Top cartoon shows relevant anatomy and bottom cartoon  
 101 shows wiring diagram of vagus nerve fibers. The surgically placed electrode in the clinic are be placed in  
 102 the cervical region as the surgery is much less invasive than a craniotomy or thoracotomy. The fibers of  
 103 the recurrent laryngeal nerve are located within the vagus trunk at all points along the cranial/caudal axis  
 104 of the cervical vagus. Using an endovascular approach, the electrodes could be placed caudal to the  
 105 recurrent laryngeal branching point on the vagus nerve in the thorax and activation of the motor efferents  
 106 could be avoided.