

DESIGN CONSTRAINTS	LEVER		INSTRUMENT STAND		LARYNGOSCOPE CROSSWIRES		
C: Must not fall apart during surgery		y		y		y	
C: Noncorrosive materials		y		y		y	
C: Must withstand medical sterilization procedures (autoclave, enzymatic, bleach, etc.)		y		y		y	
C: Cannot get in the way of surgical instruments		y		y		y	
C: Cannot block the view of vocal cords		y		y		y	
C: Materials must be compatible with human body		y		y		y	
C: Must be easy to clean with conventional means (scrub brush, water jet, soaking, etc.)		y		y		y	
C: Cannot cost more than \$5,000		y		y		y	
DESIGN OBJECTIVES	Weight (%)	Score	Weighted Score	Score	Weighted Score	Score	Weighted Score
O: Structurally sound	15	0.75	11.25	0.85	12.75	0.80	12.00
O: Strong materials	11	0.85	9.35	0.9	9.9	0.85	9.35
O: Minimum obstruction of vocal cords	29	1	29	1	29	0.65	18.85
O: Minimum obstruction between patient and surgeon/nurse	9	0.65	5.85	0.7	6.3	1	9
O: Simple design	2	0.6	1.2	0.7	1.4	0.9	1.8
O: Minimum cost	2	0.5	1	0.7	1.4	0.55	1.1
O: Compatible with existing instruments	10	0.3	3	0.8	8	0.5	5
O: Minimal alteration of existing surgical procedures	8	0.45	3.6	0.8	6.4	0.7	5.6
O: Compatible with existing instruments	8	0.3	2.4	0.85	6.8	0.8	6.4
O: Simple mechanism	6	0.7	4.2	0.6	3.6	0.95	5.7
TOTAL	100		59.6		72.8		62.8

FIGURE 2.8 A decision or selection matrix used by one of the student teams that worked on the microlaryngeal stabilization device to select a final design. The decision matrix, whose numbers should be taken with caution, suggests which designs are preferred. Adapted from (Chan et al., 2000).