

Friedman Tongue Position – this is a modified Malampatti score. Assessment is made with the patient breathing quietly through the mouth with the tongue relaxed (cf Malampatti where tongue is protruded)



Fig 1. Friedman Palate Position I allows visualization of the entire uvula and tonsils/pillars.



Fig 2. Friedman Palate Position II allows visualization of the uvula but not the tonsils.



Fig 3. Friedman Palate Position III allows visualization of the soft palate but not the uvula.



Fig 4. Friedman Palate Position IV allows visualization of the hard palate only.



Fig 5. Tonsils, size 1, are hidden within the pillars.



Fig 6. Tonsils, size 2, extend to the pillars.



Fig 7. Tonsils, size 3, extend beyond the pillars but not to the midline.



Fig 8. Tonsils, size 4, extend to the midline.

Stage	Tonsil Size	FTP	BMI	% age Success
1	3 / 4	1 / 2	<40	88%
2	3 / 4 1 / 2	3 / 4 1 / 2	<40	55%
3	1 / 2	3 / 4	<40	8%
4	ANY	ANY	>40	0%

Friedman stage predicts success rates for palatal surgery for patients with mild / moderate sleep apnoea