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Facial resurfacing: Tissue expansion as an aesthetic alternative

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Statement of the Problem: The visibility, vulnerability and social stigmata of facial injury whether by burn, scar or trauma can be compelling for the patient as well as challenging for the Surgeon. Restoration to normal requires tissue replacement which has good colour and texture match and produce minimal visible scarring. Challenge is to bring the patient back in the mainstream. Although many options are available for a given defect such as serial excision, local or locoregional flaps and free flaps. Tissue expansion offers the best alternative which meets almost all criteria of an ideal flap.

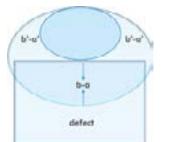
Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: 92 patients with deformities over various facial subunits were operated and expanders inserted over locoregional areas. Prior planning, accurate measurement and choice of ideal expander is extremely important. A precise and practical method of calculation for determination of amount and duration of expander was used. The actual amount of tissue realized was only 35% of the mathematically expected increase in surface area. Any secondary deformity to adjoining vital structures is best avoided.

Findings: Results were meticulously and critically analysed. Different shapes, dimensions and volume of expanders were used depending on the anatomical site which was to be expanded. Patient satisfaction was evaluated as well.

Conclusion & Significance: The presentation underlines the clinical application as well as shortcomings of tissue expansion.

Recent Publications

- 1. Omranifard M, Heidari M, Farajzadegan Z (2014) The volume of fluid injected into the tissue expander and the tissue expansion. J Res Med Sci 19:1163-6.
- 2. Wagh MS, Dixit V (2013) Tissue expansion: Concepts, techniques and unfavourable results. Indian J Plast Surg 46(2): 333-348.
- Tan O (2011) A practical calculation method for predetermination of amount and duration of expander application 3 Turk J Med Sci 41 (6): 1107-1109
- Bhandari PS (2009) Mathematical calculations in a spherical tissue expander Ann Plast Surg 62:200-4. 4.
- 5. Adler N, Dorafshar AH, Bauer BS, Hoadley S, Tournell M (2009) Tissue expander infections in pediatric patients: management and outcomes Plast Reconstr Surg.124(2):484-9



A practical calculation method for predetermination of amount and duration of expander application

Biography

Neeraj Kant Agrawal, a 2005 MCh from prestigious King George Medical University, is currently Associate Professor in the department of Plastic Surgery, Varanasi. Being a part of active and updated academics N K Agrawal keeps himself in touch with the latest. He is actively involved in intradepartmental and interdepartmental research and has numerous national and international publications to his credit. He has distinguished interest in aesthetic surgery which are increasingly on demand. Tissue expansion and local flaps especially in head and neck reproduces exceptional results in properly selected patients. Liposuction, rhinoplasty, blepharoplasty and botox form the bulk of surgeries next to tissue expansion. He uses tissue expansion very frequently for aesthetic reconstruction of head and neck.

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