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A new modified S-plasty for skin defect closure

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Background: Dog-ear, or standing cone deformity, is a common problem during surgical procedures. Multiple methods have been reported to correct the deformity but most create long scars or excessive normal skin loss.

Methods: We designed a simple and convenient procedure to remove small and medium-sized skin defects. Based on mathematical calculations, the procedure is an easily designed and practically manipulated surgical technique.

Results: All of our patients healed uneventfully with no significant complications. The procedure not only resulted in a shortened surgical incision and preserved a greater amount of healthy skin, but just left an “S-shaped” curvilinear scar with favorable aesthetic outcomes.

Conclusion: This novel modified S-plasty is a simple tool to successfully remove skin defects, with a low deformity risk.

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Low versus high fluence parameters in the treatment of facial laceration scars with a 1,550-nm fractional erbium-glass laser

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Objective: Facial laceration is one of the most common traumas in outpatient plastic surgery. Early postoperative fractional laser treatment has been used to reduce scarring in many institutions, but the most effective energy parameters have not yet been established. This study sought to determine effective parameters in the treatment of facial laceration scars.

Methods: From September 2012 to September 2013, 57 patients were enrolled according to the study. To compare the low and high fluence parameters of 1,550-nm fractional erbium-glass laser treatment, we virtually divided the scar of each individual patient in half, and each half was treated with a high and low fluence setting, respectively. A total of four treatment sessions were performed at one-month intervals using the same parameters and clinical photographs were taken at every visit.

Results: Results were assessed using the Vancouver Scar Scale(VSS) and global assessment of the two portions of each individual scar. Final evaluation revealed that the portions treated with high fluence parameter showed greater difference compared to pre-treatment VSS scores and global assessment values, indicating favorable cosmetic results.

Conclusion: Laser therapy is a promising method of scar treatment. Our institution compared the effects of high fluence and low fluence 1,550-nm fractional erbium-glass laser treatment for facial scarring in the early postoperative period and revealed that the high fluence parameter was more effective for scar management. Future studies should investigate the optimal number of sessions or protocols for scars in different locations.

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