

Multisite Handle vs. Single Blade Handle (Comparative Study)

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to explore and describe the ability of three blades "Smart Multisite Handle" in terms of its use and to measure its efficiency in comparison to conventional single blade handle.

Keywords: Follicular grafts; Multisite handle; Single blade handle

Creation of Recipient Sites

Only recently, as the awareness grew with respect to avoiding unnecessary surgical trauma as well as opt for maximum possible density of hair, physicians now prefer to create recipient sites which are considerably smaller in size; 0.4-5 mm to 0.7-8 mm, but in larger numbers; around 3000-4000, to accommodate same number of follicular grafts.

Making of large number of comparatively smaller recipient sites, however, is quite a crucial task which needs to be completed within a specific time, keeping in view the graft survival time. Similarly, to maintain the uniformity of distance between the sites as well as controlling the depth and angle of individual sites is another factor, to be considered, for optimum quality results, in hair transplant procedures.

Introduction

The addition of new instrument is developed and designed solely by Aesthetic Instruments with technical guidance of Dr. Ahsen Farooque and his technical team. The instrument, named Smart Multisite Handle, is used to create three recipient sites of equal depth, angle and distance between them, simultaneously, thereby to cut short half the time and labor on the part of physician, besides achieving other advantages in hair transplant procedure.

Objective

The purpose of this study is to explore and describe the ability of three blades Smart Multisite Handle in terms of its use and to measure its efficiency in comparison to conventional single blade handle.

Comparative study of time measure between three blade Smart Multisite Handle and conventional single blade handle, during creation of recipient sites

Comparative study of three blade, Smart Multisite Handle with that of single blade handle was conducted at Dr Ahsen's private clinic in Lahore on two different patients, selected for mega sessions of 3000 grafts, each, to evaluate time consumption during creation of recipient sites for both the procedures. Instruments used for patient A was

smart multisite handle (small 0.7 mm and medium 0.9 mm sizes) and single blade conventional handle was used for patient B. However, large multisite handle (1.2 mm) was not used, as mini-grafts or couples were not opted, in both the cases. Time duration for each type of handle was noted down for respective number of sites created. While total time consumption in both the cases included the time required for relative siting logistics, ie (oozing management etc. Comparative study of 3 blade handle vs. single blade handle) (Tables 1-4).

Blade size (mm)	Number of sites created	Time Duration
0.7 (single)	155 (one hair for zigzag margin)	4
0.7 (3-blades)	162+1750=1912 (for one & 2 hair)	12
0.9 (3-blades)	850 (for three and four hair)	7
-	Total time consumption=Total sites created=2917	23 minutes
-	Average no. of sites/minute=126.8	

Table 1: The time check for three blade handle (Smart Multisite Handle). *All above sites were made using two multisite handles (small and medium) One hair sites for zig-zag pattern (along hair line margin) were also made with smart multisite handle by using one blade only.

Blade size (mm)	Number of sites created	Time Duration
0.7	161 (one hair for zig- zag margin)	4
0.7	195+1832=2027 (one & two hair)	38
0.9	910 (for three and four hair)	18
-	Total time consumption=	60
-	Total sites created=3098	
-	Average no. of sites/minute= 61.96	

Table 2: The time check for single blade handle. *All above sites were made using two conventional single blade handles, each containing 0.7 mm and 0.9 mm blades, respectively.

Blade sizes (mm)	Number of sites created	Time duration (minutes)
0.7 (single blade)	162 (1 hair grafts)	5
0.7 (3 blade)	2700 (1+2 hair (zigzag))	18
0.9 mm (3 blade)	50 (3 and 4 hair)	9
-	Total sites create: 3812	-
-	Total time taken: 3 2	-

Table 3: Time check study of 3 blade handle on patient #4 for creation of 3812 recipients sites.

Blade sizes (mm)	Number of sites created	Time duration (minutes)
0.7 (single blade)	130 (1 hair grafts)	4
0.9 (3 blade handle)	1680 (2&3 hair grafts)	13
-	Total sites create: 1810	-
-	Total time taken: 17	-

Table 4: Time check study of 3 blade handle on patient #5 for creation of 1810 recipients sites (FUE mega session).

Results

- Single blade handle took more than twice as much time as was taken by three blade handle.

- Time taken for the assembly and adjustment of blades in three blade handle was just a minute more than the conventional single blade handle.

Observation for special features

- All three blades remained intact, firmly, into blade slots.
- Removal and placing of blades into the handle was quite easy.
- The blade length adjustment option with just a push of finger to a precision of millimeter (1 mm to maximum 4.5 mm) is also a noteworthy advantage of three blade handle.
- Less efforts and concentration was required to maintain the angle and inter-site distance, compared to single blade handle.
- Despite comparatively larger in size, the light and smooth feel of handle, made from titanium, provided firm and comfortable grip throughout the procedure.

Conclusion

The above study has shown significant superiority and efficiency of new instrument of three blade handle, over the conventional single blade handle. This could innovatively reduce the time for creation of quality recipient sites, shortening the time of procedure and therefore, improve the overall quality of work in hair transplant procedure. The instrument is available at this conference for the physicians to inspect.