

Experiencia con colgajo nasolabial para cobertura de defectos de labio superior

Nombres y apellidos

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RESUMEN

La reconstrucción del labio superior representa un reto quirúrgico debido a la necesidad de restaurar simultáneamente función, estética y simetría. Entre las alternativas existentes, el colgajo nasolabial se ha posicionado como una técnica segura, eficaz y estéticamente favorable, particularmente útil en defectos residuales causados por trauma o resecciones oncológicas. A pesar de su uso frecuente, existe escasa documentación sistemática en la literatura nacional que respalde su efectividad y complicaciones.

Objetivo: Describir los resultados clínicos y estéticos obtenidos mediante el uso del colgajo nasolabial para la cobertura de defectos del labio superior en una serie de casos tratados en un hospital universitario de Pereira, durante 2023 y 2024.

Material y método: Se diseñó un estudio retrospectivo, observacional y descriptivo en forma de serie de casos. Se incluyeron pacientes tratados con colgajo nasolabial bilateral para reconstrucción de defectos del labio superior. Se evaluaron variables clínicas, demográficas, técnicas quirúrgicas utilizadas, así como resultados

funcionales, estéticos y complicaciones postoperatorias. Los datos fueron recolectados de historias clínicas y fotografías clínicas, con seguimiento a corto y mediano plazo.

Resultados: Se documentaron tres casos clínicos con diferentes características demográficas y etiológicas (trauma automovilístico y mordedura canina). En todos los pacientes se utilizó el colgajo nasolabial con adecuada integración a la anatomía facial, logrando cierre completo del defecto sin dehiscencia ni pérdida funcional significativa. Las complicaciones reportadas fueron menores (hipertrofia cicatricial y abultamiento leve en un caso). Se obtuvieron resultados satisfactorios en términos de simetría, competencia oral y satisfacción del paciente.

Conclusiones: El colgajo nasolabial demostró ser una opción quirúrgica segura, replicable y funcionalmente efectiva para la reconstrucción del labio superior. Su versatilidad permite adaptarse a distintos tipos de defectos y condiciones clínicas, con un bajo índice de complicaciones. La sistematización de esta experiencia contribuye a fortalecer la práctica quirúrgica local, ofreciendo una alternativa viable para defectos moderados en la región perioral.

Palabras clave: Colgajo nasolabial, reconstrucción labial, cirugía plástica facial, defectos del labio superior, trauma facial, mordedura canina facial.

ABSTRACT

Reconstruction of the upper lip presents a surgical challenge due to the need to simultaneously restore function, aesthetics, and facial symmetry. Among the available options, the nasolabial flap has emerged as a safe, effective, and aesthetically favorable technique, particularly useful for moderate defects caused by trauma or oncologic resections. Despite its frequent use, there is limited systematic documentation in the national literature regarding its effectiveness and potential complications.

Objective: To describe the clinical and aesthetic outcomes obtained using the nasolabial flap for coverage of upper lip defects in a series of cases treated at a university hospital in Pereira during 2023 and 2024.

Materials and Methods: A retrospective, observational, and descriptive case series study was conducted. Patients who underwent bilateral nasolabial flap reconstruction for upper lip defects were included. Clinical and demographic variables, surgical techniques employed, as well as functional, aesthetic outcomes, and postoperative complications were assessed. Data were collected from medical records and clinical photographs, with short- and mid-term follow-up.

Results: Three clinical cases with varying demographic and etiological characteristics (automobile trauma and dog bite) were documented. In all patients, the nasolabial flap was used with adequate integration into the facial anatomy, achieving complete defect closure without dehiscence or significant functional loss. The reported complications were minor (hypertrophic scarring and mild bulging in one case). Satisfactory outcomes were achieved in terms of symmetry, oral competence, and patient satisfaction.

Conclusions: The nasolabial flap proved to be a safe, reproducible, and functionally effective surgical option for upper lip reconstruction. Its versatility allows adaptation to various defect types and clinical conditions, with a low complication rate. Systematizing this experience contributes to enhancing local surgical practice, offering a viable alternative for moderate defects in the perioral region.

Keywords: Nasolabial flap, lip reconstruction, facial plastic surgery, upper lip defects, facial trauma, dog facial bite.

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