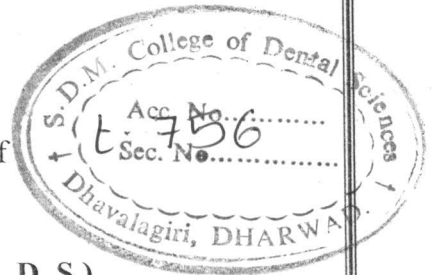


**EVALUATION OF ESTHETIC AND FUNCTIONAL OUTCOME
FOLLOWING RECONSTRUCTION OF PERIORAL DEFECTS - A
PROSPECTIVE AND RETROSPECTIVE STUDY**

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ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVES: The purpose of this study is to review and evaluate various flaps and techniques employed for the reconstruction of complex perioral defects following resection for oral squamous cell carcinoma with particular emphasis on cosmetic and functional outcomes.

MATERIAL AND METHODS: 19 patients who underwent any perioral defect reconstruction from January 2008 to December 2009 were examined after 1 month, 3 months and 6 months postoperatively for prospective study and 35 patients who were operated prior to December 2007 at Craniofacial Surgery and Research Centre, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, S. D. M. College of Dental Sciences and Hospital, Dharwad were included for the retrospective study. Evaluation of both prospective and retrospective study patients were done based on aesthetic, functional and subjective criteria.

RESULTS: Of all the reconstructive techniques used for perioral defects in the study it was found that the use of pectoralis major myocutaneous flap for cheek defects and Abbe- Estlander for lip defects were found to be accepted by the patients aesthetically and functionally and no statistically significant difference was found in the aesthetic or functional outcome after reconstruction of cheek or lip defect.

CONCLUSION: The study suggests that reconstructive method varies for each individual patients undergoing tumor resection taking into consideration other factors like the patients' age, gender, past medical history, treatment of the primary lesion, site and size of defect, surgeons skill and comfort with the technique, patients compliance.