



**“COMPARISON OF SURGICAL OUTCOMES BETWEEN VICRYL RAPIDE
AND PROLENE IN SKIN CLOSURE FOR CLEFT LIP PATIENTS – A
PROSPECTIVE STUDY”**

by

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ABSTRACT

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

The aims and objectives of this study was to compare the surgical outcome of Vicryl Rapide and Prolene sutures in skin closure of patients operated for unilateral and bilateral cleft lip in SDM Craniofacial Unit and Research centre, Dharwad from November 2013 to October 2015.

METHODOLOGY:

A total of 100 patients were included in the study and they were randomly divided into Vicryl rapide group (n= 50) and prolene group (n= 50).

Clinical assessment was done for inflammation, infection, dehiscence, scarring and esthetic outcome. Also the duration of hospital stay, need for general anesthesia for suture removal and expenditure of the surgery were considered.

A subjective assessment was done based on patient observer scar assessment scale (POSAS) to evaluate itchiness, colour, thickness, stiffness and irregularity by the patient. Vascularity, pigmentation, surface area, thickness and pliability were assessed by blinded observer using POSAS.

All the parameters were assessed at 1 week, 1 month, 3 months and 6 months post operatively.

RESULTS:

The results suggested that the subjects were closely matched in terms of age, sex and types of cleft lip. Vicryl rapide is as good as prolene as a suture material of choice in cleft lip repair in terms of post operative complications, but prolene group showed minimal scarring than vicryl rapide group. On the other hand, patients in vicryl rapide group did not require suture removal, eliminating the need for second anaesthesia for suture removal, reduced hospital stay and thus overall cost was relatively less than in prolene group.

CONCLUSION:

Prolene group had better results than vicryl rapide group for the scar outcome, whereas on considering the expenditure and duration of hospital stay, vicryl rapide group had better results.

Thus, we can conclude that prolene and vicryl rapide have their own advantages and disadvantages and both these materials can be used equivalently in skin closure for cleft lip.

Keywords: Vicryl Rapide; Prolene; POSAS; Scar.