

"A COMPARISON AND EVALUATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF DIFFERENT PALATOPLASTY TECHNIQUES IN CLEFT PALATE PATIENTS"

By

Dr APURVA

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Under the guidance of

DR ANIL KUMAR DESAI

PROFESSOR AND HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

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ABSTRACT

Background & Objectives:

This study aimed to compare the outcomes of four different palatoplasty techniques, namely Sommerlad, Furlow, Langenbeck, and Bardach, in patients with cleft palate who underwent surgery at the SDM Craniofacial Research Centre between 2015 and 2017. The primary objective was to compare the outcomes of cleft palate repair using the four techniques in terms of speech, while the secondary objectives include comparing the outcomes in terms of fistula and arch width.

Methods:

The study was conducted as a prospective cohort study involving 120 patients who had undergone cleft palate repair using one of four different techniques. Patients were evaluated for complications such as dehiscence, fistula size and incidence, and arch collapse using maxillary impressions to measure intercanine distance, intertuberosity distance, and sagittal arch length. Speech outcomes were evaluated using the Henningsson Universal Parameter Ratings for Reporting Speech Outcomes in Cleft Palate.

Results:

The study concluded that the choice of palatoplasty technique for cleft palate patients should be individualized based on several factors, including the patient's age, the severity of the cleft, and the surgeon's experience and preference. Each technique has its own advantages and disadvantages, and the choice of technique should be made based on the specific needs of the patient. Successful outcomes can be achieved with a variety of techniques, and the key to success lies in the surgeon's experience and ability to individualize the technique to the patient's needs.

Interpretation & Conclusion:

The study highlights the importance of selecting the appropriate palatoplasty technique for cleft palate patients to achieve optimal function and minimize adverse effects on growth. The benefits of each technique depend on the

type and anatomy of the cleft palate, and further research is needed to better understand the long-term outcomes of different techniques and improve the quality of life for cleft palate patients.

Keywords

Cleft palate, Cleft lip and palate, Palatoplasty, Unilateral Cleft Lip and Palate, Bilateral Cleft Lip and Palate