



CFAO GRADUATE STUDENT POSTERBOARD ABSTRACTS

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Long-term effects of nasoalveolar molding in patients with complete unilateral CLP

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Background

Nasoalveolar molding (NAM) is a popular approach of infant orthopedics, the effects of which have not been adequately studied.

Purpose

To investigate the long-term nasolabial esthetic outcome of NAM in comparison to traditional infant orthopedics (TIO) and to no IO for patients with complete unilateral cleft lip and palate (CUCLP) between the ages of 10 and 14 years.

Research Design

Three samples were retrospectively collected, each having been treated with a different infant protocol, namely NAM (n=37), TIO (n=39), and no-IO (n=33). Nasolabial esthetics were assessed based on photographs using the Q-Sort modification of the Asher-McDade method. The Kruskal-Wallis test was used for statistical analysis.

Results

NAM and TIO resulted in significantly superior results in vermilion border and frontal nasal form when compared to no IO. TIO led to significantly more esthetic nasal profiles compared to NAM or no IO.

Conclusions

IO may have long-term benefits for patients with CLP.