

Full thickness skin graft in repair of cicatricial eyelid disfigurement

Thesis

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MS. Degree in Ophthalmology

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Introduction



Introduction

Normal lid anatomy and closure are critical to prevent evaporation of the normal tear film. Wettability of the corneal epithelial surface and properties of tear fluids have been regarded as principal factors in the determination of precorneal tear film stability. The inability to blink and effectively close the eyes leads to corneal exposure and excessive evaporation of the tear film.⁽¹⁾

Ectropion is characterized by eversion of the lid margin and exposure of the conjunctiva and cornea.⁽²⁾

Cicatricial ectropion is caused by cicatricial changes of the anterior lamella (skin and orbicularis muscle).⁽²⁾

Causes of cicatrization include thermal burn, chemical burn, trauma, laser resurfacing, chemical peels, surgery, inflammation due to dermatitis and infections such as herpes zoster. Long standing ectropion from other causes may predispose to secondary contracture of the anterior lamella, resulting in complex ectropion.⁽³⁾

Lagophthalmos may result from cicatricial disease altering the eyelid configuration, such as Stevens-Johnson syndrome, ocular pemphigoid, traumatic injury or chemical burn that retracts the eyelid as a result of adhesion or symblepharon formation between the eyelid and the globe.⁽⁴⁾

Eyelid malposition result in tearing, exposure keratopathy, corneal decompensation, keratoconjunctivitis and keratinization with cicatricial changes of palpebral conjunctiva of the eyelid.⁽⁵⁾

Depending on the etiology and the predominant location of ectropion, a variety of surgical techniques are available for its correction.⁽⁶⁾

Free skin grafting is one of the most common techniques.^(7) To replace the vertical skin deficiency.⁽⁸⁾

As an autologous tissue, these grafts share excellent recipient tolerance; however, the surgeon is often limited by graft architecture, extrusion, difficulty with placement, donor site morbidity, and tissue availability.⁽⁹⁾

The usual donor sites for harvesting full thickness skin graft for the periocular area are upper eyelid, preauricular, postauricular, neck, clavicular, supraclavicular, and inner brachial area.⁽¹⁰⁾



Aim of the work



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We evaluated and described the outcomes of the use of full thickness skin grafting in repair of eyelid cicatrization causing ectropion.



Review of literature





Cicatricial ectropion

