

Complex nasal reconstruction using free SCIA-SB / SIEA flaps and exteriorized skingrafted pedicles

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Background:

Reconstruction of extensive nasal defects is technically challenging due to the nose's aesthetic importance and intricate three-dimensional structure. In cases where conventional reconstructive options are unavailable or undesirable, innovative approaches, like in our case, may be considered.



Figure 1



Figure 4

Case description:

Due to an extensive recurrent basal cell carcinoma (BCC), the 79-year-old female patient lost most of her nose. A reconstructive attempt had previously been performed using a galea flap which unfortunately, underwent necrosis, rendering the frontal flaps unusable for subsequent reconstructions (Figure 1).

At this point, nasal reconstruction was carried out with abdominal flaps (SCIP-SIEA, Figure 2).

The long and bulky pedicle was kept externalized in order to minimize damage to the facial tissues and to facilitate flap inseting. The pedicle was covered with split-thickness skin grafts (STSGs) harvested from the abdomen itself (Figure 3).

After 12 days, the externalized pedicle was removed and the new nose was reshaped to achieve a better contour. Figure 4 shows the result four months after the last procedure, and



Figure 3



Figure 2



Figure 5

Conclusion:

Abdominal flaps (SCIP-SIEA) represent a promising donor site for flaps in the reconstruction of complex nasal defects. This approach achieved nasal reconstruction with satisfactory aesthetic and functional outcomes by utilizing redundant abdominal skin, while avoiding the use of large local facial flaps that could have resulted in additional tissue injury and distortion.