Surgery/Trauma/Skin Grafts

Composite grafting and Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in pediatric nasal tip reconstruction after avulsive dog-bite injury.

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It is estimated that more than four million people are bitten by dogs in the United States each year. The majority of such injuries are minor, and their treatment does not usually require surgical consultation. However, the authors report a case in which a Rottweiler inflicted a mutilating nasal tip/alar rim avulsion on a 5-year-old boy. They report their experience with immediate reconstruction of the nasal defect using a large ipsilateral auricular cartilage composite graft (crus helix).

Adjunctive hyperbaric oxygen therapy (without sedation or anesthesia) was used to maximize the stimulus for graft revascularization. Reconstructive goals were achieved while avoiding the need for a central facial donor site defect.

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