Flaps selection and functional outcomes in patients with oncologic oral and maxillofacial surgery – our 7 years experience

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Abstract

Background: There are many different ways to reconstruct of the oral and maxillofacial region. The post surgical oncology defects can be classified according to location and extent, as well as involvement of the mandible and maxillary including mucosa, skin, and tongue.

Objectives: State of the art reconstruction aim to restore function and improve cosmetics. We described the techniques used in patients treated and to answer the more common questions associated with the reconstructive techniques.

Methods: A review of reconstruction techniques by our team over the 7 years. A total of 52 patients with various techniques of reconstruction gained from our experience in treating patients with resection of benign or malignant lesions and osteoradionecrosis are documented. There is a variety of techniques including regional pedicle flaps, myocutaneous flaps, fasciocutaneous and osteocutaneous flaps. Osseointegrated dental implants may also be used for dental rehabilitation.

Findings: Reconstruction was successful in 94% of cases. Total flap necrosis occurred in 3 cases, oral function and deglutition were satisfactory in all patients.

Conclusions: The surgeon must evaluate which components of the hard and soft tissue are missing in selecting a method of reconstruction. The tissue transfer provide a wide array of reconstructive options that can be tailored to patient's specific needs.

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