

P09 CLEFT LIP AND NOSE REPAIRS WITH BARBED SUTURE

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BACKGROUND: In December 2007 and 2008, I performed reconstructive plastic surgeries for impoverished children and adults with congenital facial deformities in Maharashtra, India. These included reconstruction of several cleft lip and nose deformities and thinning of bulbous cleft nose tips. Representative cases for each of these procedures are presented. In each case, a 2-0 PDO Quill SRS was used in the repair.

METHODS: In the case of a cleft lip repair, Quill SRS was used to close deep tissue and muscle of the lip. Quill SRS has a unique self locking property and as one takes tension off the suture in order to take the next bite, no tension is lost in the already engaged tissue. This feature was utilized in the case of a cleft nose deformity, Quill SRS was passed multiple times through the lower lateral nasal cartilages and obliquely through the upper lateral cartilage to balance a severe asymmetry. Quill SRS was used to thin a bulbous nose tip by tightening the lower lateral cartilage of the nose.

RESULTS: The Quill SRS enabled the repair of a cleft lip repair and, in the case of cleft nose repair, I was able to achieve better results than previously achieved with conventional sutures. In some cases, patients presented with bulbous nose tips that were successfully reduced using only Quill SRS.

CONCLUSIONS: As illustrated in this case series, the absorbable 2-0 PDO Quill SRS is an effective and time saving tool for repair and tissue approximation of cleft lip and nose congenital facial deformities.

