HOW I DO IT  Lengthening Temporalis Myoplasty for Facial Paralysis Reanimation: Restoring the Smile - A. Rahal, Montreal, QC

Learning Objectives: At the end of this presentation, the participants will be able to describe the different dynamic options for reanimation of the middle third of the face. At the end of this session, the participants will become familiar with a new technique of dynamic reanimation using the temporalis tendon and muscle.

Objective: To present our experience with a technique of dynamic reanimation for patients with peripheral facial paralysis. Methods: First Canadian prospective case series of patients with permanent facial paralysis who were evaluated and treated at our institution in the last 4 years using the lengthening temporalis myoplasty technique. The surgical technique will be presented in details as well as the indications, results, complications and postoperative rehabilitation. Results: Preoperative and postoperative photos and videos will be presented to illustrate the results obtained with the technique. This technique restores facial symmetry at rest and most importantly facial animation and smile. Conclusion: The results obtained with this technique are highly satisfactory and should be offered to rehabilitate the face of patients who suffer from permanent peripheral facial paralysis.

HOW I DO IT  Postoperative Rehabilitation of the Smile After Temporalis Myoplasty - A. Rahal, S. Martineau, Montreal, QC

Learning Objectives: Understand the principles behind postoperative rehabilitation of patients who undergo a temporalis myoplasty. Explain the steps of smile rehabilitation in these patients and the tools that we use to make them progress successfully through therapy.

Lengthening temporalis myoplasty is a surgical technique that is used to restore facial symmetry and smile in patients with permanent peripheral facial paralysis. Postoperative rehabilitation with a speech therapist is essential in order to restore the smile. In this presentation, we will present our smile rehabilitation protocol and the approach we use in order to help patients recover facial movement. Two clinical cases will be presented.

HOW I DO IT  Use of Vacuum-Assisted Closure Therapy on Skin Grafts: Blinded, Randomized Control Trial - R. Varshney, A. Mlynarek, Montreal, QC

Introduction: A proposed mechanism to improve cosmetic outcomes of skin grafts is vacuum-assisted closure (VAC) therapy. Although it is expensive, there is minimal data about its utility for skin grafts. Objective: Our study aims to assess skin graft outcomes with VAC therapy. Methods: Patients were randomized to either VAC or standard dressing for skin grafts after forearm free flap surgery. Functional outcomes were assessed using the Michigan hand questionnaire (MHQ) and physiotherapy assessments of mobility and strength pre- and post-operatively. Cosmetic outcomes were assessed 7 days post-operatively and at 3 months by the patient and two blinded surgeons using the Patient and Observer Scar Assessment Scale (POSAS). Preliminary Results: With 10 patients in each group, there was a trend for better outcomes on the MHQ, the POSAS and the physiotherapy results in the VAC group. The study is ongoing. Conclusion: Initial results demonstrate the benefit of VAC therapy.