AESTHETIC AND ANTHROPOMETRIC EVALUATION IN POST NASAL COLUMNELLA LENGTHENING SURGERY IN PATIENTS WITH COMPLETE BILATERAL CLEFT LIP/PALATE

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OBJECTIVE: Complete bilateral cleft lip and palate (CBCLP) are the most severe cleft lip and palate, requiring esthetic and functional surgery, such as columnella lengthening surgery (CLS) which do not always succeed. Thus, this study evaluates the quality of CLS in CBCLP patients of HRAC hospital.

METHODS: 62 CBCLP patients (6-12 years old), operated by two techniques of CLS (Cronin and Millard) were evaluated by four anthropometric measurements: nasal tip projection (AL-AL), nasal width (SN-PRN), length of columnella (SN-C) and width of the columnella (Sn-Sn), and compared with the control group without cleft (n = 31). In addition, shape of nostrils was performed by Topinard’s classification.

RESULTS: CBCLP patients presented AL-AL measure (37.11 mm ± 0.4412) higher than C group (30.44 ± 0.3777; p<0.05) and smaller SN-PRN (CBCLP =13.92 ± 0.2937; C = 12.56 ± 0.2938; p<0.05) and SN-C measure (CBCLP =8.503 ± 0.2365; C = 7.201 ± 0.2210; p<0.05). In addition, Cronin technique showed anthropometrics measures more similar to C group when compared with Millard technique. Relative shape of nostrils, 90% of CBCLP patients presented 5-6 Topinard’s scores, which represents a wide nose with short columnella. This percentage decrease after the CLS to 33.3%. In C group we got only noses representatives of 1-4 Topinard’s scores, which show a long columnella.

CONCLUSION: columnella lengthening surgery improve the shape and the anthropometric measurements in complete bilateral cleft lip and palate patients, but not like the C group. Since the Cronin technique presented better results when compared with Millard technique.

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