

Corrective Rhinoplasty Post Herbal Induced Ulceration: A Case Report.

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Abstract:

Introduction: Rhinoplasty is done for correcting, reconstructing the form, restoring function, and aesthetically enhancing the sharp of the nose. Rhinoplasty is not commonly undertaken in our environment. This case is reported due to (lack of) paucity of information on the subject and to show that Rhinoplasty can be done successfully to the benefit of the patient in our environment.

Case presentation: We present a 23yr old female undergraduate with a necrotic ulcer on the dorsum of her nose following the application of a local concoction from a traditional healer in order to remove a warty growth on the dorsum of her nose. Debridement and dressing of the wound until healing was achieved at presentation and then repair was undertaken with good results.

Conclusion: Though Rhinoplasty is not common in our environment, this case has shown that it can be done for the benefit of the patient with adequate enlightenment.

Keywords: Warty growth; Herbal Corrosive Ulceration; Corrective Rhinoplasty.

I. Introduction

Corrective Rhinoplasty is a type of plastic surgery for correcting, reconstructing the form, restoring the functions, and aesthetically enhancing the shape of the nose^{2,3,7}. Corrective Rhinoplasty has been performed on patients who have had cleft lip and palate repair in order to correct the airway compromise and to also reposition the alar cartilage⁵. It is also undertaken as a revision procedure during or after the formal healing following a normal Rhinoplasty procedure^{1,2}. In our environment, trauma is known to cause a lot of facial defects including deformity of the nose but it is not usual that rhinoplasty is undertaken due to unknown reasons. This case is therefore presented due to paucity of information on the subject matter and also to show that Rhinoplasty can be undertaken in our environment.

Case Presentation

We present a case of a 23yr old female undergraduate of the Ibo ethnic group of Nigeria. She presented with a necrotic ulcer on the dorsum of the nose following the application of herbal concoction from a traditional healer on a warty growth on the dorsum of her nose that has been there since birth. The concoction was collected and applied by her father believing it would clear or remove the growth (i.e. for esthetics) fig:-1. The concoction however caused irritation, pain, and darkening of the skin which subsequently ulcerated within five days with necrosis of the skin and the subcutaneous tissue fig:-2. Examination at presentation revealed necrotic skin and subcutaneous tissue without the involvement of the underlying cartilage. Debridement was done on presentation after a swab was taken for microscopy, culture, and sensitivity followed by broad spectrum antibiotic administration for one week and continuous dressing of the wound until healing was achieved within two weeks fig:-3.

The patient was followed up for about twelve weeks to allow for a proper maturation of the scar; then prepared for the repair of the defect on the dorsum of the nose. The scar tissue was excised, skin flap raised and then repair undertaken under local anaesthesia without vasoconstrictive agent in a single stage procedure. The visco-elastic property of the skin enables an extra amount of skin yield when the skin flap was raised for the procedure efficiently^{4,6}. The patient was then discharged home on analgesics and antibiotic cover. The patient was seen after seven days for a follow-up and a good result was noted, which was acceptable and appreciated by the patient and the physician fig:-4.

II. Discussion

Rhinoplasty is usually undertaken for correcting, reconstructing the form, restoring function and aesthetically enhancing the shape of the nose, usually as a result of trauma, tumor, and impaired function or just for aesthetics^{2,3,7}. In this case, the patient had an aesthetic repair due to an injury on the dorsum of the nose caused by a local concoction from a traditional healer applied on a warty growth on the dorsum of her nose with the aim of removing the growth, resulting in a necrotic ulcer on the dorsum of the nose. The necrotic tissue was debrided and dressed until healing was achieved, then a single stage repair was undertaken for the patient under

local anaesthesia. The result was aesthetically acceptable and appreciated by the patient. The Patient has been followed-up for about 8 months with good results.

In our environment however, Rhinoplasty is not usually undertaken for any reason, due to patient's refusal, lack of funds and also lack of enlightenment, but this case has shown that with adequate patient's education and enlightenment, it can be undertaken effectively with good results and should be done more frequently. In this patient, it was undertaken for aesthetics due to a deformity resulting from an injury that was caused by the application of herbal concoction that was meant to remove a warty growth on the dorsum of the nose. At presentation, debridement and continuous wound dressing was undertaken until healing was achieved. A period of twelve weeks was allowed for the maturation of the scar and then the patient was prepared for repair. A single stage repair was undertaken for this patient under local anesthesia with good and acceptable results by the patient, but a second stage could have been offered if the result of the first stage was not adequate and acceptable. Steroids could have been used either intra-operatively or post-operatively to check scarring or otherwise that could have rendered the result not acceptable, but it was done without it and the result was still good and acceptable. The patient needed to be very understanding and patient to allow proper debridement and healing before repair to achieve good and acceptable results without complications as in this case. The visco-elastic property of the skin enables the repair in this patient to be carried out without recourse to a flap from any other source^{3, 5}. Rhinoplasty for whatever reason can be performed in our environment for the benefit of the patient with adequate patient education and enlightenment. The surgeons have to be well trained to achieve success and keep records of Rhinoplasty in our environment in publications as there is paucity of information regarding this subject matter.

III. Conclusion

Corrective rhinoplasty can be performed in our environment as in this index case and for other cases like trauma, congenital malformations e.g. cleft lip and palate repair with airway compromise to achieve aesthetic and function.

Figures

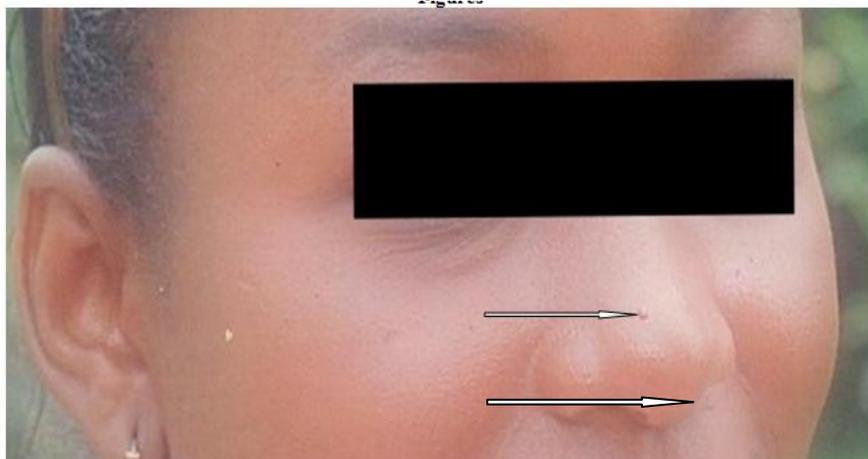


Fig:-1

Warty growth on the dorsum of the nose (arrowed).



Fig:-2

Necrotic wound caused by application of a local concoction.

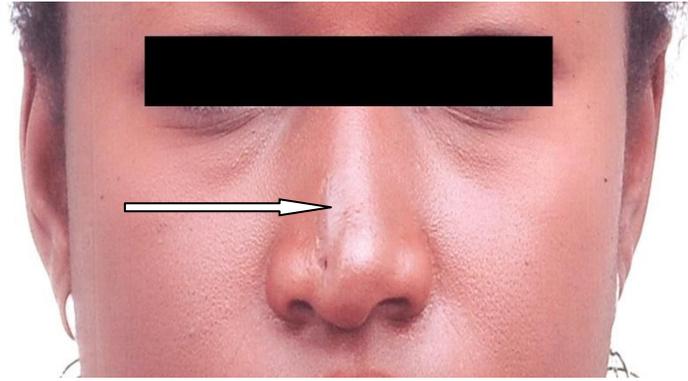


Fig:-3

Scar left after debridement and dressing.

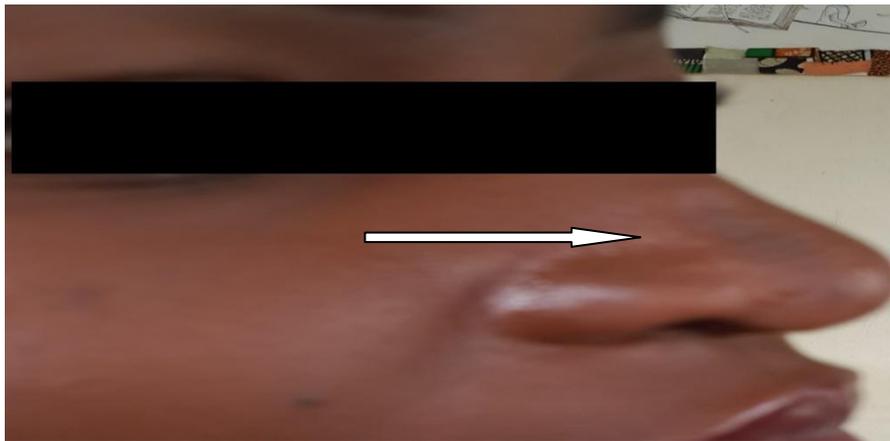


Fig:-4

Final appearance after repair.

Competing interest

The Authors declare that they do not have any competing interest.

Contributions

NLT is the principal surgeon; he also carried out literature search and prepared the manuscript. A M is an ENT nurse who assisted in the patient management (wound dressing and surgery).

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