



DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

DERMAL SUBSTITUTES (INTEGRA) FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF DEEP AND EXTENDED TISSUE DEFECT OF THE SCALP

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Background: The extensive loss of tissues in the scalp presents considerable difficulties in the reconstructive phase. We describe a patient with a large scalp burn in which the damage of the close skin did not allow the use of the common reconstructive surgical techniques.

We have used a dermal substitute in the reconstruction of the scalp's integrity.

Observation: The engrafting of a skin graft requires an adequately vascularized primer.

We used a dermal substitute (Integra) in order to create an appropriate wound bottom onto which applying the autologous skin.

To allow the blood perfusion of the dermal substitute, holes were made on the external skull. After 3 weeks the dermal substitute was adequately vascularized, from the underlying spongy bone tissue, to allow the intake of the autologous thin skin graft.

Key message: Dermal substitutes can be a valid alternative to traditional surgical reconstructive techniques in extended tissue defect.

