



DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

MODIFIED S-PLASTY (ITALIC-S PLASTY) WITH PREVENTIVE DOG EAR CORRECTION.

P. Boggio⁽¹⁾ - E. Cammarata⁽¹⁾ - V. Tarantino⁽²⁾

*Università Piemonte Orientale, Aou Maggiore Carità, Clinica Dermatologica, Novara, Italy⁽¹⁾
- Università Piemonte Orientale, Aou Maggiore Carità, Clinica Dermatologica, Nonara, Italy⁽²⁾*

BACKGROUND: The conventional S-plasty distributes the vectors of tension in two different directions at the apexes and in the central part. The traction on the suture line is reduced, facilitating wound healing, but the suture is longer than the simple fusiform excision. A new method to shorten this length is herein presented with a modification of the S-plasty, obtained by eliminating asymmetrically, from the drawing of an M-shaped plastic, a tail at opposite ends, thus causing a flat S-shaped wound (Italic-S). This solution can give a shorter scar associated to a better wound healing due to a better distribution of tension along the suture line. However the apexes shortening i may result in dog-ears or standing cones at one or both ends, which can be quite noticeable and distracting deformity, even when small.

METHODS: A modified S-plasty was applied on 50 patients from July 2017 to September 2018. Data of these patients were collected with computerized prospective database forms during a perioperative period and via telephone interview for the follow up. Several techniques have been described to correct dog-ears deformity, but most create long scar or excessive normal skin loss. Our technique is aimed to remove tissue redundancy by applying a modified conic ablation of dermal tissue at the apexes.

RESULTS: All of our patients healed uneventfully with no significant complications. The procedure not only resulted in a shortened surgical incision and preserved a greater amount of healthy skin, but also left a simple "S-shaped" curvilinear scar with favorable esthetic outcomes without standing cones.

CONCLUSION: The proposed S-plasty reconstruction can represent a valid alternative to elliptical excision and to traditional S-plasty if the lesion to be removed is sufficiently large and when a shorter and curved suture line is preferable.

