

Large V-Y Island Facial Flap Reconstruction Left Temporal Defect

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Abstract

63-year-old male presents with a diagnosis of Basal Cell Carcinoma presents with concerns of his cosmetic appearance after surgery. Reconstruction was done for coverage of large temporal defect with the facial V-Y facial Island flap and rotation of the scalp flap in order to created symmetry to both sides of the face.

The patient is a 63-year-old male with ulcerated lesions of the left temporal and zygomatic areas for more than seven years. The patient had a biopsy done by a dermatologist previously, which showed Basel Cell Carcinoma and was concerned about the cosmetic appearance after surgery. The possibility of facial nerve damage during surgery and at the time of reconstruction was discussed pre-operatively.

On physical examination, he had three ulcerated lesions of the left zygomatic and temporal areas measuring about 5cm in diameter. There were no palpable cervical lymph nodes. X-Rays of the underlying bones were normal.

Under general anesthesia excision of the Basal Cell Carcinoma of the left temporal and zygomatic area were done. The defect measured about 7cm by 4 ½ cm in size. Immediate frozen section was done from the margins and also from the deepest portion of the specimen. All margins were negative. Diagnosis was Basal Cell Carcinoma. Reconstruction was done using a left temporal flap based on the superficial

temporal artery and a V-Y Island advancement from the left side of the face and primary closure of the donor site.

The post-operative course was smooth. In subsequent office visits and follow-up there was no evidence of facial weakness. The scars are healing well and are gradually fading. The patient is pleased with the results of surgery.

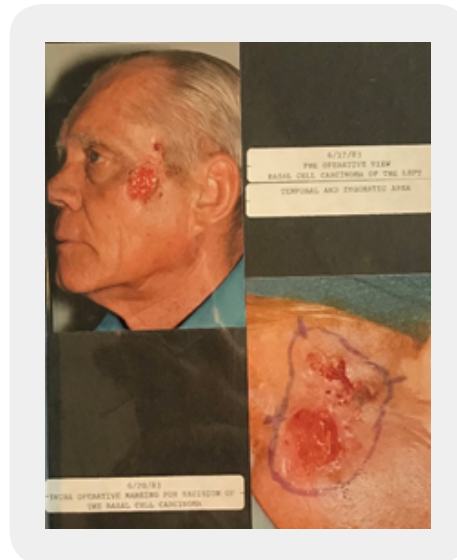


Figure 1: *Left - Pre-operative view Basal Cell Carcinoma of the left Temporal and Zygomatic area; Right - Intra Operative marking for excision of the Basal Cell Carcinoma area.*



Figure 2: *Left - Defect in the left Temporal and Zygomatic area after excision of the Basal Cell Carcinoma; Right - Microscopic demonstration of the tumor. H.E stain 25X. There are masses of various shapes and sizes composed of Basal Cell Epithelioma Cells*



Figure 3: *Intra Operative picture demonstrating V-Y Island Advancement from the left side of the face and left temporal flap.*



Figure 4: *Left - Intra operative picture after completion of the surgery and closure of the defects; Right - Post-operative view.*



Figure 5: Post-operative view comparing the operated side vs non-operated side.

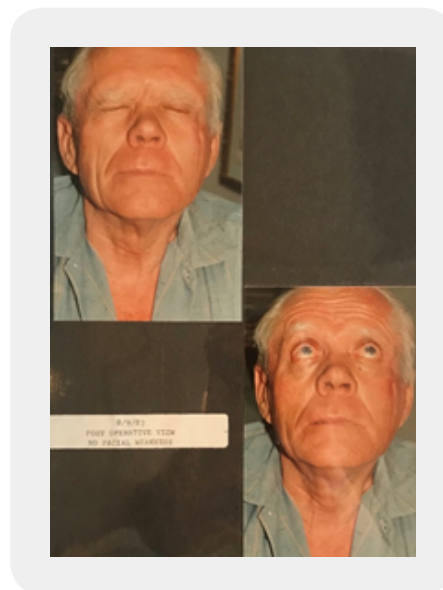


Figure 6: Post-operative view. No facial weakness.

Conclusion

Large facial V-Y Island flap when designed properly can cover large facial defect because of the perforating vessels without the use of the skin graft.

This type of flap cannot be done on the scalp or other parts of the body when there are not adequate perforating vessels.