

Correction Of Pincer-Nail Deformity Using Autologous Full Thickness Skin Graft: A Case Report

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INTRODUCTION:

Pincer-nail deformity is characterized by extreme transverse over curvature of the nail. It is a disturbing deformity especially in the finger nails. It affects not only the appearance but also the function besides being painful. Somehow, in our region, it is always overlooked and rarely do people go for surgical correction. We report the first case of pincer-nail deformity correction using autologous full thickness skin graft in our centre.

MATERIALS & METHODS:

Under digital block anaesthesia and finger tourniquet, the deformed nail plate is removed. A small incision is made on each side of the hyponychium. A needle is introduced through the incisions directed proximally to exit proximal to the eponychial fold to create a tunnel between the distal phalanx and the paronychia, parallel to the latter on each side. A nylon suture is passed through the needle hole. The full thickness skin graft is rolled and tied to the suture. The suture is pulled and the graft is drawn into the tunnel thus elevating the paronychia fold and correcting the transverse over curvature.

RESULTS:

This method gives immediate correction of the pincer deformity of the nail bed with relief of pain. The future nail would regenerate in this new normal transverse curvature of the nail bed.

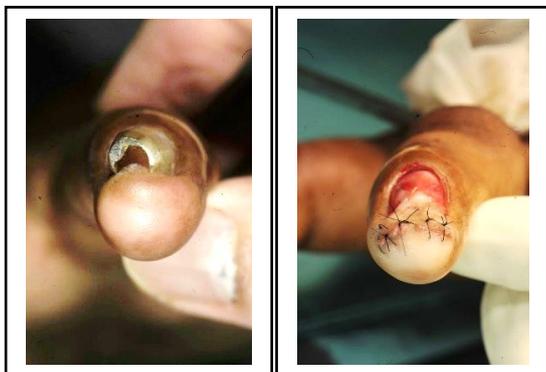


Figure 1:
The pincer deformity prior to surgery

Figure 2:
Immediately after surgery

DISCUSSIONS:

Correction of pincer-nail deformity with autograft dermis is a simple and short procedure and has been shown to be effective in correcting the deformity and relief of pain.

CONCLUSION:

Pincer-nail deformity should be picked up and treated. Surgical correction with full thickness skin graft offers promising results.

REFERENCES:

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