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E-BABE-The use of free flaps in children with head and neck tumors – 33 clinical cases.

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Experience of 33 surgical operations with free-flap microsurgical reconstructions in children between 4 and 18 Experience of and neck malignant and benign tumors was obtained in department of pediatric surgery and oncology in D. Rogachev National Research Center of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology, and Immunology in 2015-2019 years.

33 surgical operations were performed in patients with benign (17) or malignant (16) tumors of upper (8), lower (23) jaws or temporal soft tissues (2) with simultaneous (28) or delayed (5) reconstruction with fibula (27) or ileac crest (4) osteomuscular or soft-tissue radial (2) free flaps. Operations were planed using 3D-modeling with building stereolithographic models and resection limiters, fixing orthodontic devices were used to save occlusion in most cases of jaw resections. Also in all cases intact nerves (especial facial nerve with branches) and main vessels were preserved using microsurgical technics.

In all cases the anastomoses were functional, the flaps were viable, good aesthetic and functional results were achieved. Stage-by-stage rehabilitation treatment of patients after reconstruction of the upper and lower jaws includes teeth implantation at the age of 14-18 after bone consolidation and recurrence-free period. On current in 3 cases dental implants with dental prosthetics were installed.

The use of free flaps in children with head and neck tumours seems appropriate and feasible since it makes it possible to close extensive mixed defects of head and neck contributing to the rapid rehabilitation and social adaptation of patients, which is especially important during the growth period of patients.

Biography

Grachev Nikolai Sergeevich has completed his PhD at the age of 35 from D. Rogachev National Research Center for Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Immunology. He is the head of the Head and Neck Surgery department with reconstructive plastic surgery of this center. He has published over 35 articles in reputed journals and is a member of the editorial board of 2 Russian journals.

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