



Skin Surgery Skills Workshop

**GPCME Meeting
Dunedin July 28th 2011**

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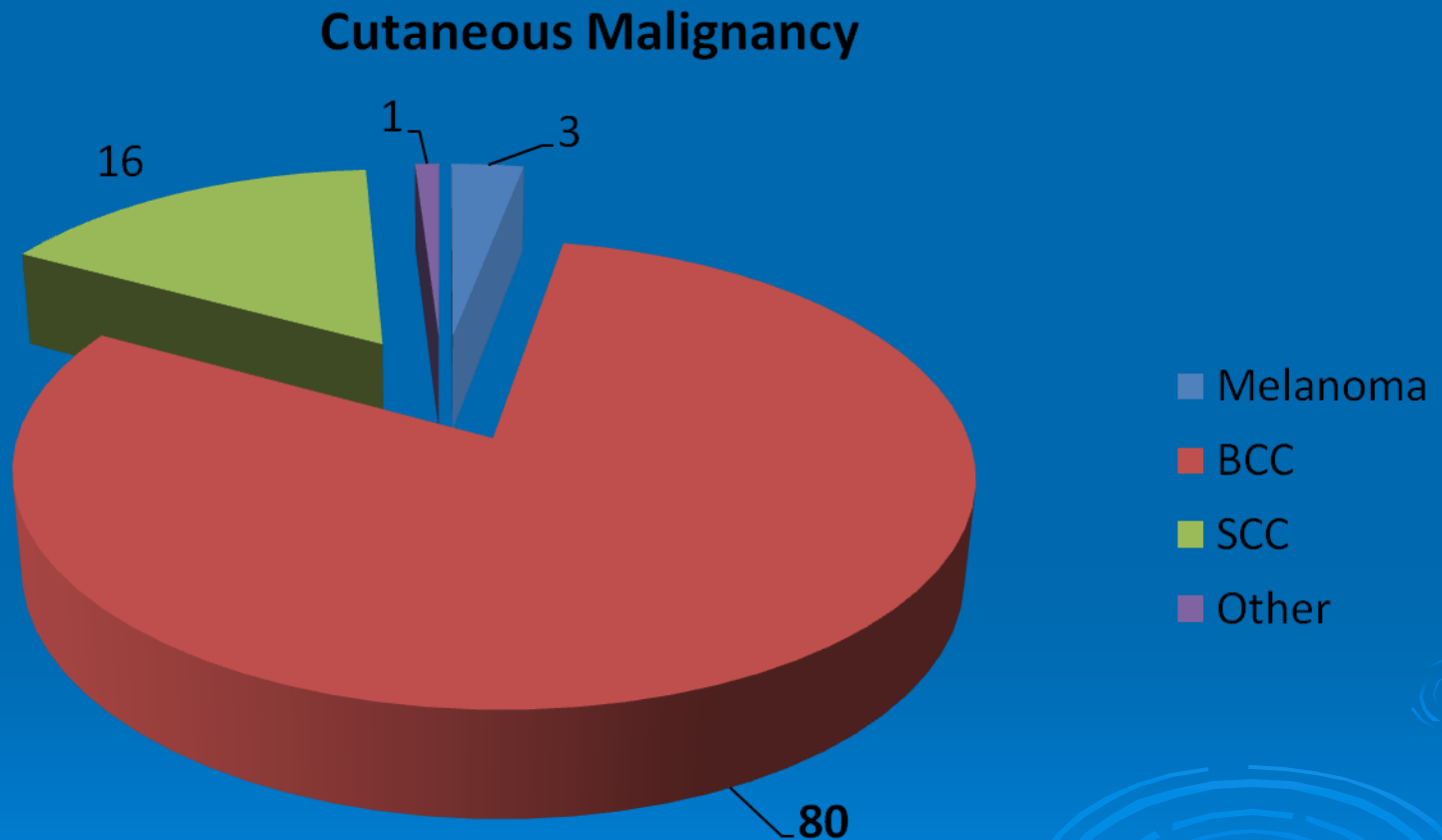
Peter Chapman-Smith

Incidence – non melanomatous

- 67,000 new cases per year
- Approx \$33.4 million cost per year

The Costs of Skin Cancer to New Zealand. Des O'Dea; *Cancer Update in Practice*;
Issue 2 2000

Cutaneous Malignancies



Risk factors

- Ultraviolet light
 - Sunlight
 - PUVA
- Age > 40yrs
- Male > Female
- Skin type
- HPV (36)
- Precursor lesions/ Previous NMSC
- Lowered Immunity
- Trauma and burns
- Arsenic exposure
- Rare:
 - Recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa
 - Basal cell naevus syndrome (Gorlin Syndrome)
 - Xeroderma Pigmentosum
 - Albinism

BCC

- Rodent ulcer
- Most common facial carcinoma
- Nodular
- Morphoeic
- Ulcerative
- Pigmented
- Very low metastatic potential



Squamous Cell Carcinoma In Situ



- Intra-epidermal SCC
- Bowen's Disease
- 5% progress to invasive SCC
- Cells with atypical nuclei (enlarged hyperchromatic) at all levels of epidermis

SCC

- Common
- Orderly metastatic potential
- Prognostic features
 - Perineural spread
 - Vascular invasion
 - Incomplete excision
 - Dedifferentiation
 - Large size >2cm
 - Depth >4-5mm
 - Recurrence
 - Site – ear, temple, scalp
 - Immunosuppressed
 - Rapid increase in size



Squamous cell carcinoma



Squamous cell carcinoma



Squamous cell carcinoma



Poor prognostic factors

- Large size >20mm
- Thick or deeply invasive lesion (>4-5mm)
- Incomplete excision
- Recurrent setting
- High grade or desmoplastic growth
- Presence of perineural invasion
- Presence of lymphovascular invasion
- Located near the parotid gland (eg ear, temple, forehead or anterior scalp)
- Immunosuppressed state (eg transplant recipient or haematological malignancy)
- Rapid growth

Melanoma



- Unpredictable
- NZ has highest rate in world
- Solar damage
- Subtypes
 - Nodular
 - Superficial spreading
 - Hutchinson's Freckle
 - Lentigo Maligna
 - Acral
- Prognostic factors
 - Breslow depth
 - Ulceration
 - Nodal status
- Sentinel Node biopsy

Merkel Cell Carcinoma



- Tumor of presumed mechanoreceptor origin arising in dermis
- Poorly differentiated histology
- High rate of recurrence and lymph node metastasis requires excisional surgery with adjuvant radiation and treatment of lymphatic drainage in most cases
- solitary erythematous to deep purple plaque or nodule of up to several centimeters in size

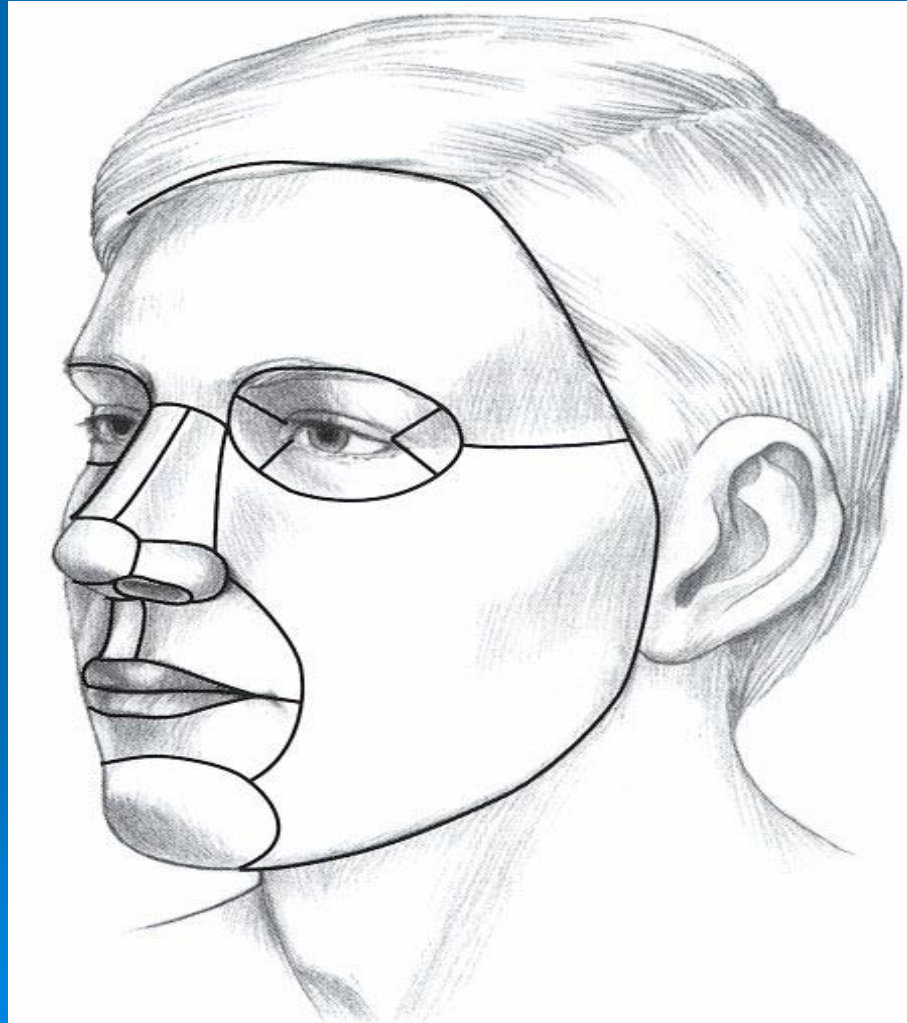
ASSESSMENT OF A LESION

- Site
 - Size of lesion
 - Condition of skin
 - Age patient
 - Previous surgery/XRT
 - Surgical expertise/ availability of operating equipment
 - Patients choice
- 
- Decorative graphic consisting of several concentric circles in the bottom right corner, resembling ripples in water.

EXCISION PRINCIPLES

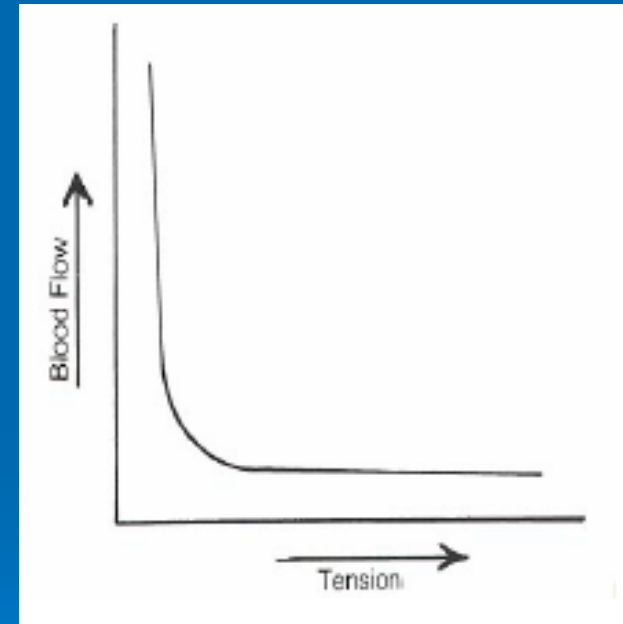
- Subunits
- Primary pathology dependent
 - Melanoma > SCC > BCC
- Margins -3mm or 4mm (non melanoma)

Facial Aesthetic Units



RECONSTRUCTIVE PRINCIPLES

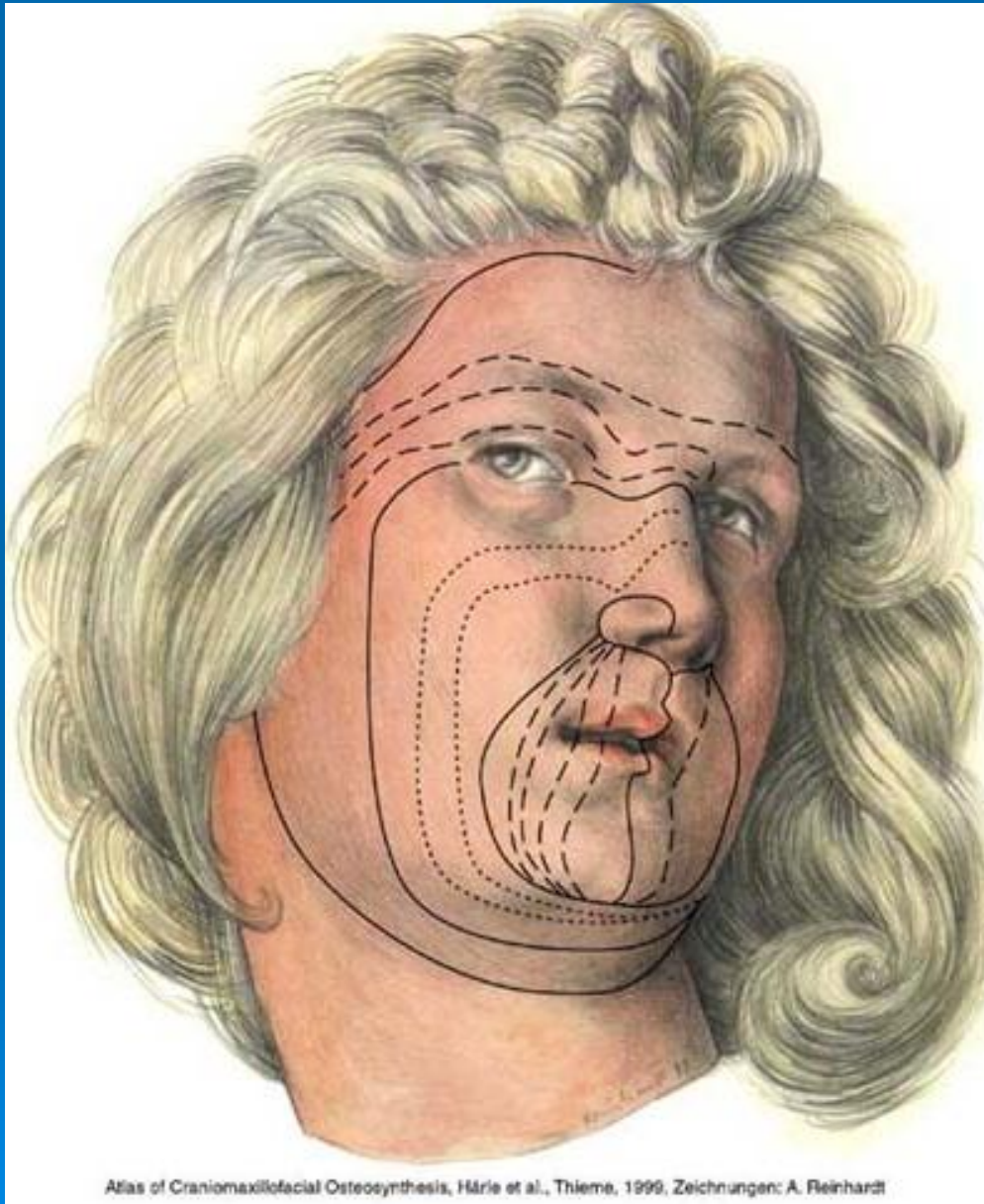
- Like with like
- Colour match
- No tension
- Good vascularity
- Not previously irradiated
- Local vs distal



Relaxed skin tension lines

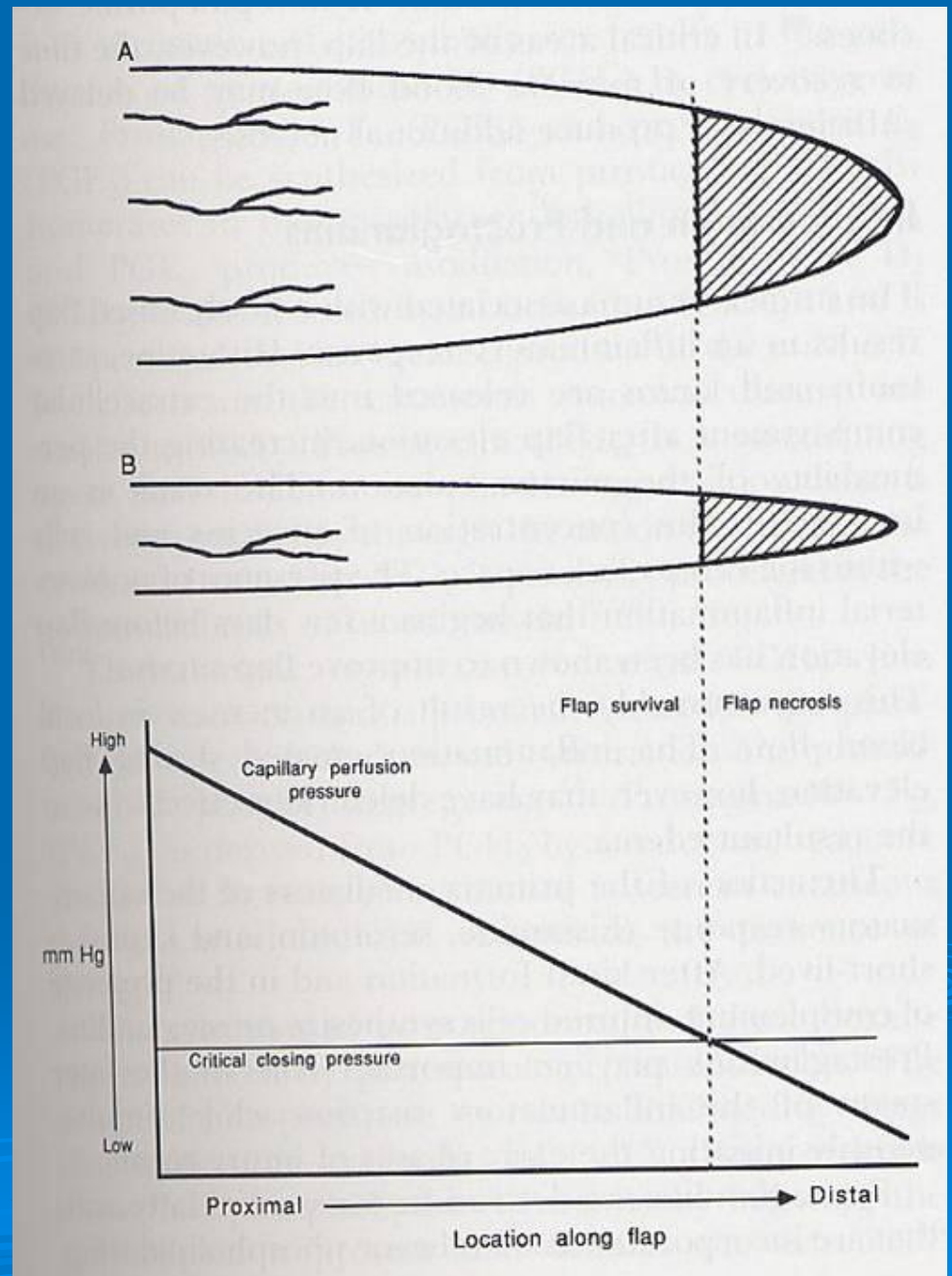
(Borges and Alexander)

- Skin tension lines followed during elective incision
 - Offers best cosmetic result
 - Most narrow and strongest scar line
- Parallel to dermal collagen bundles
- Perpendicular to muscle contraction

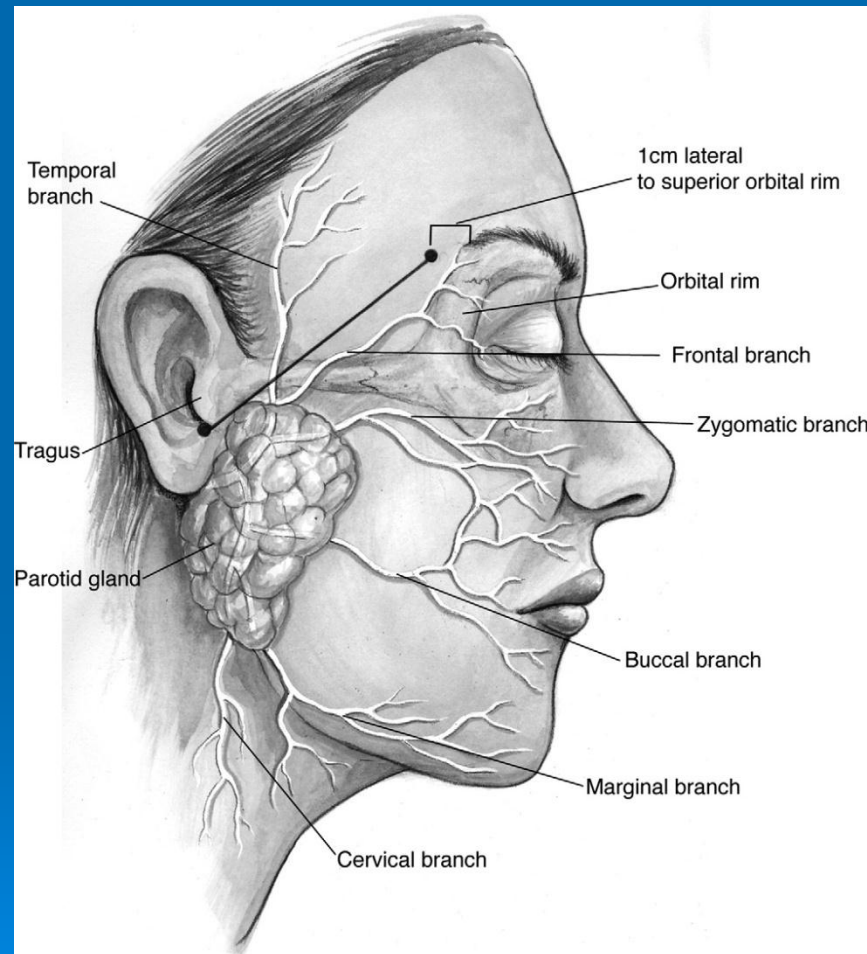


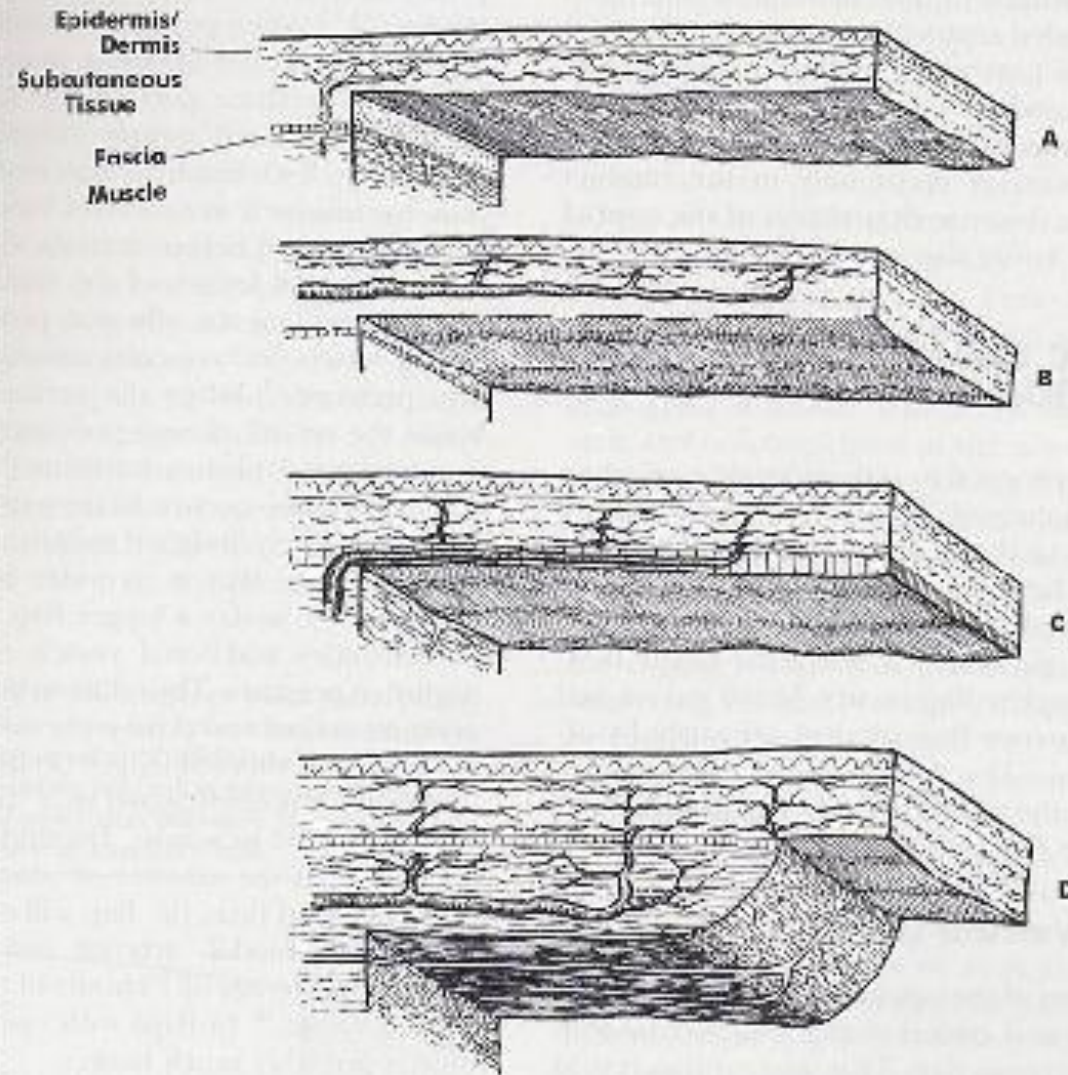
CRITICAL CLOSING PRESSURE

Length:Width ~3-4:1



Facial Nerve





Random pattern

Axial cutaneous

Fasciocutaneous

Myocutaneous

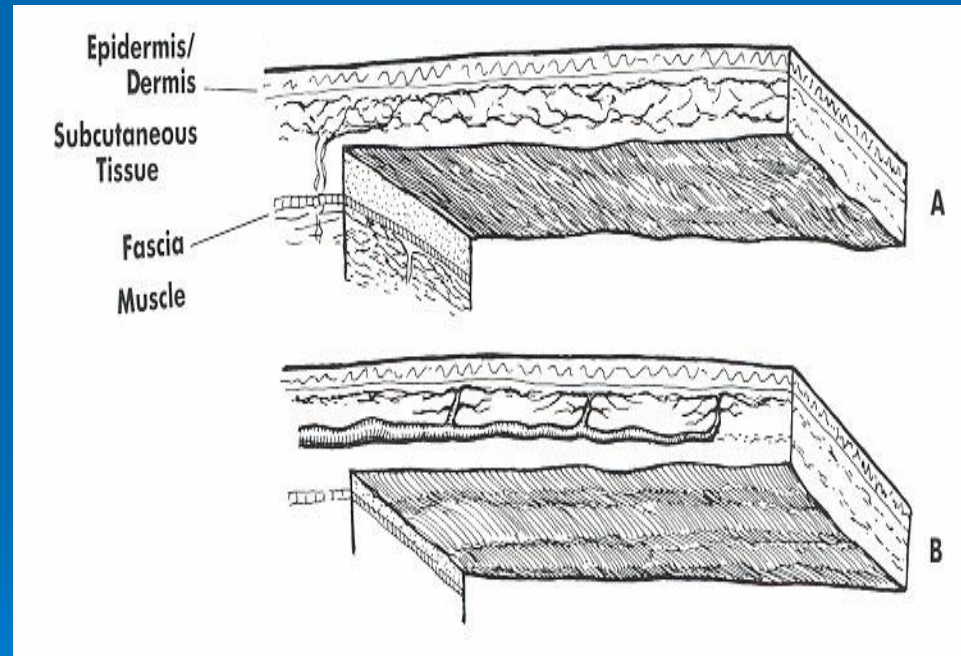
Local flaps - classification

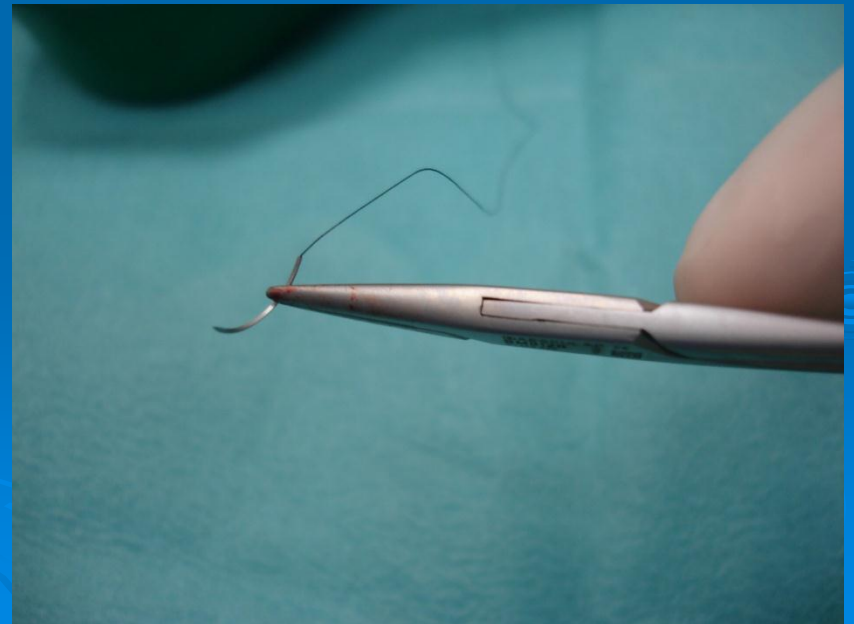
➤ Blood supply

- Random
 - Subdermal plexus
 - unpredictable
- axial

➤ Tissue movement

- rotation
- advancement
- transposition





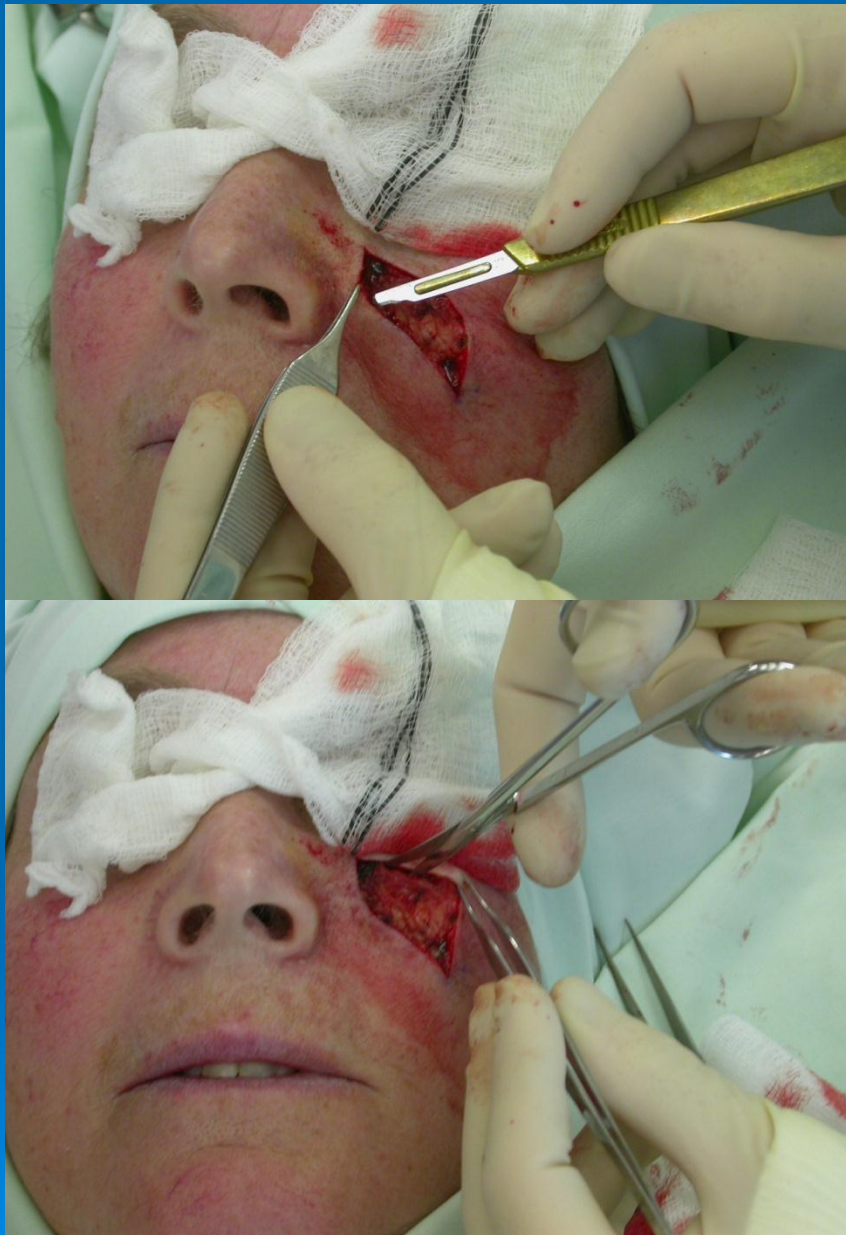
SURGICAL TECHNIQUE



- Scalpel blade at 90°
- Skin under tension



- **Excise the lesion**
- **Use diathermy to get haemostasis.**
- **This reduces the risk of haematoma, and failure of a full thickness skin graft**



- **Undermining the skin edge helps reduce skin tension at the closure**



- **Subcutaneous sutures may be used to allow better approximation of the skin edges.**

WEDGE EXCISION LIP



- Lesion marked
- Margin required then marked
- NB- buccal incision is not the same shape as external skin incision



➤ Wound closure

- 2-3 layers depending on thickness of excision
- 4-0 undyed vicryl
- 5-0 or 6-0 nylon to skin
- Vicryl to buccal mucosa

➤ NB – Importance of vermillion border alignment

SECONDARY INTENTION

- Pinna
- Medial Canthus



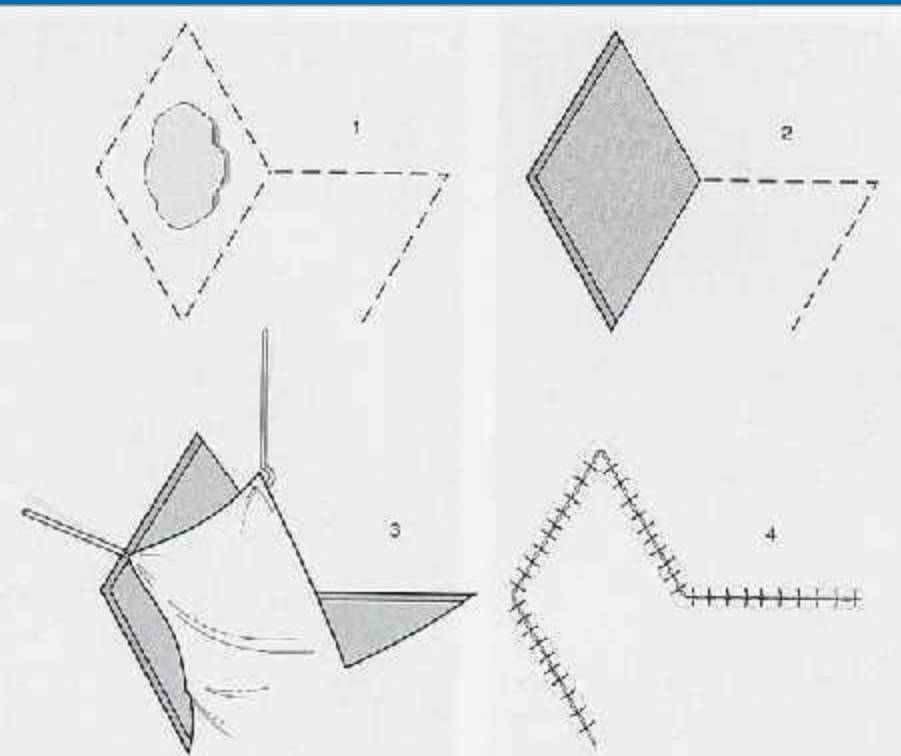
PRIMARY CLOSURE



FLAPS

- Transposition
- Bilobe
- Rhomboid
- Advancement
- V-Y
- Hatchett
- Nasal Dorsal

RHOMBOID FLAP



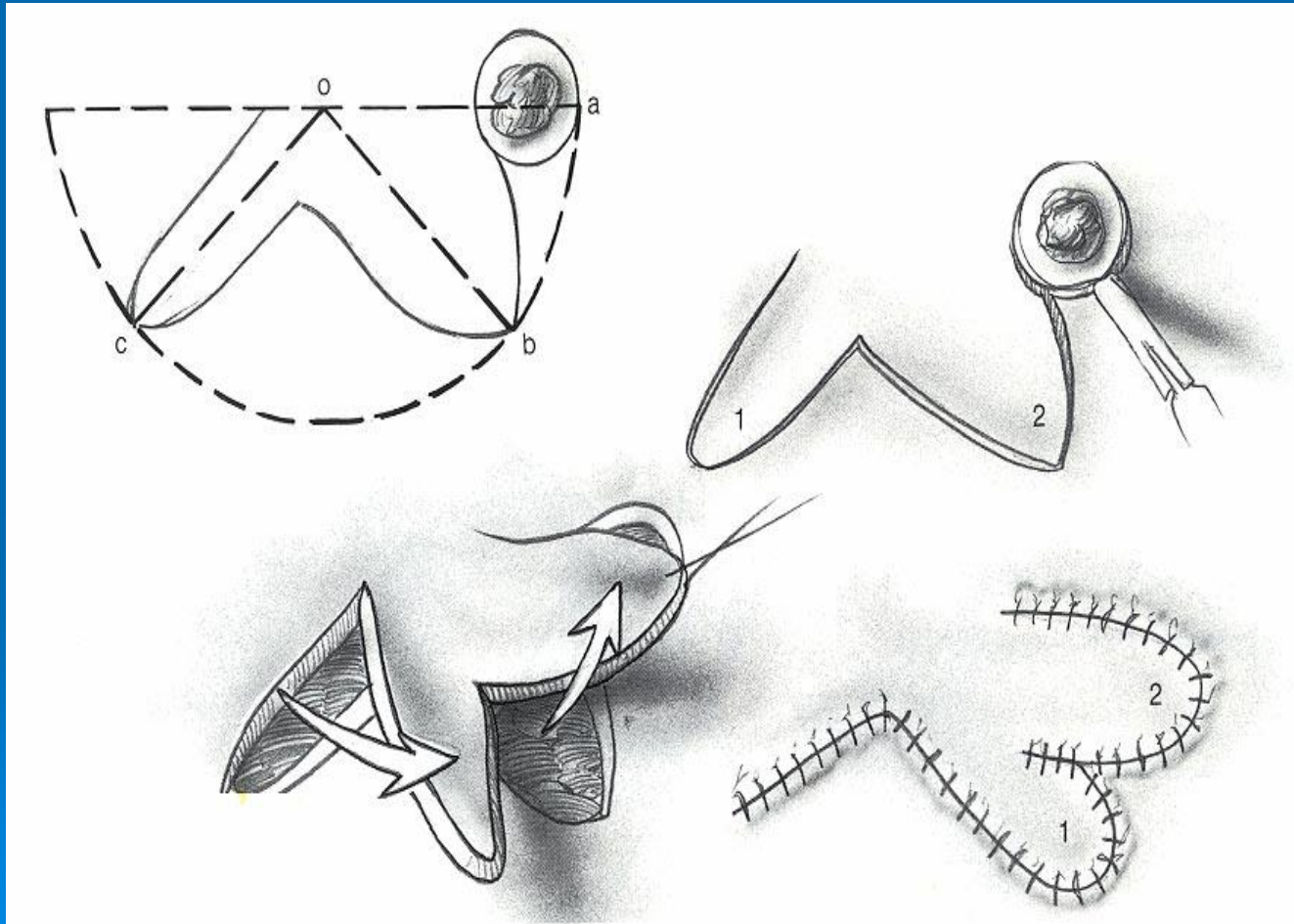




Bilobe Flap

- Double transposition flaps
- Arcs of 90 to 110 degrees preferable
- First lobe same size as defect, second slightly smaller
- Uses - lower third of nose; transfers tension onto dorsum

Bilobe Flap



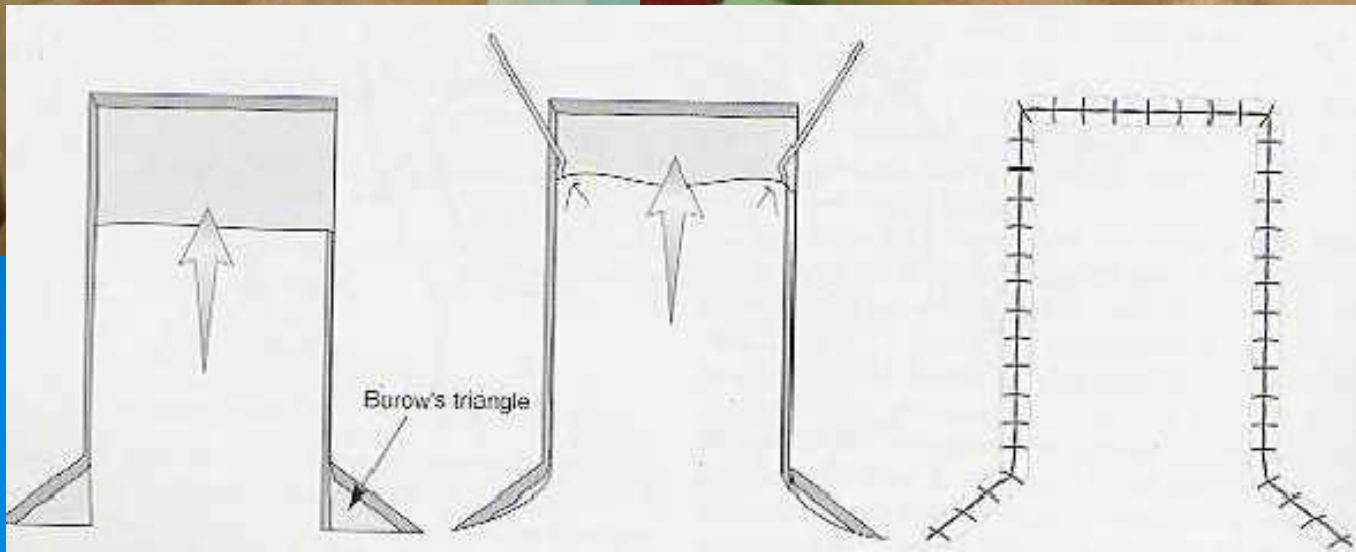
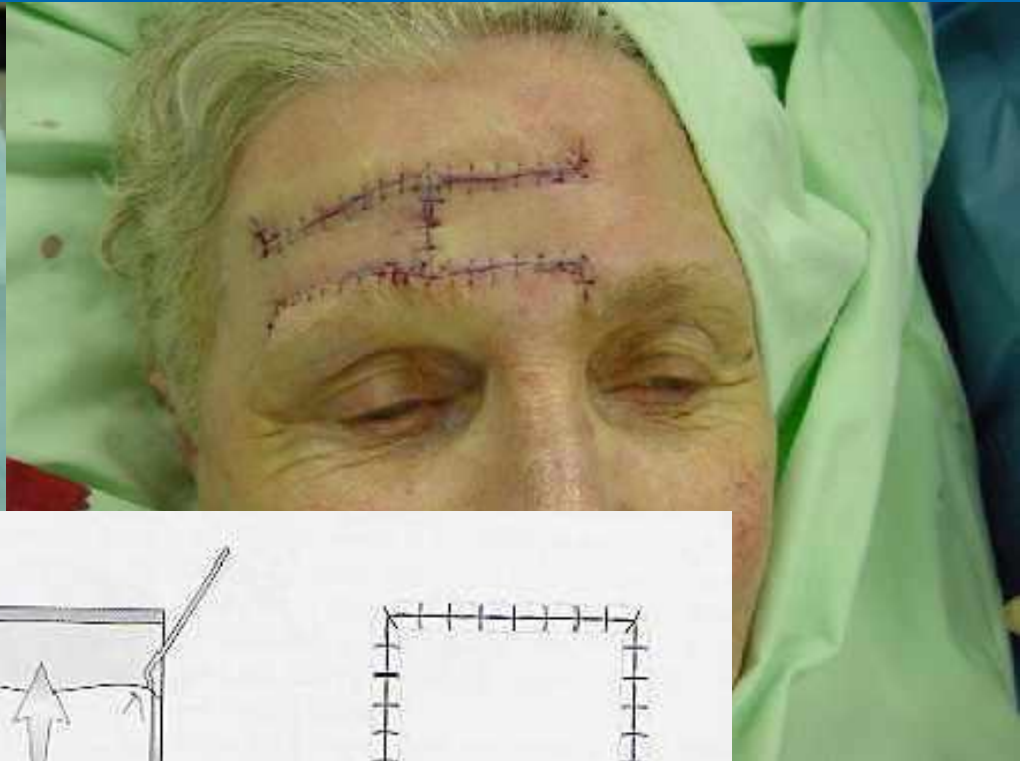
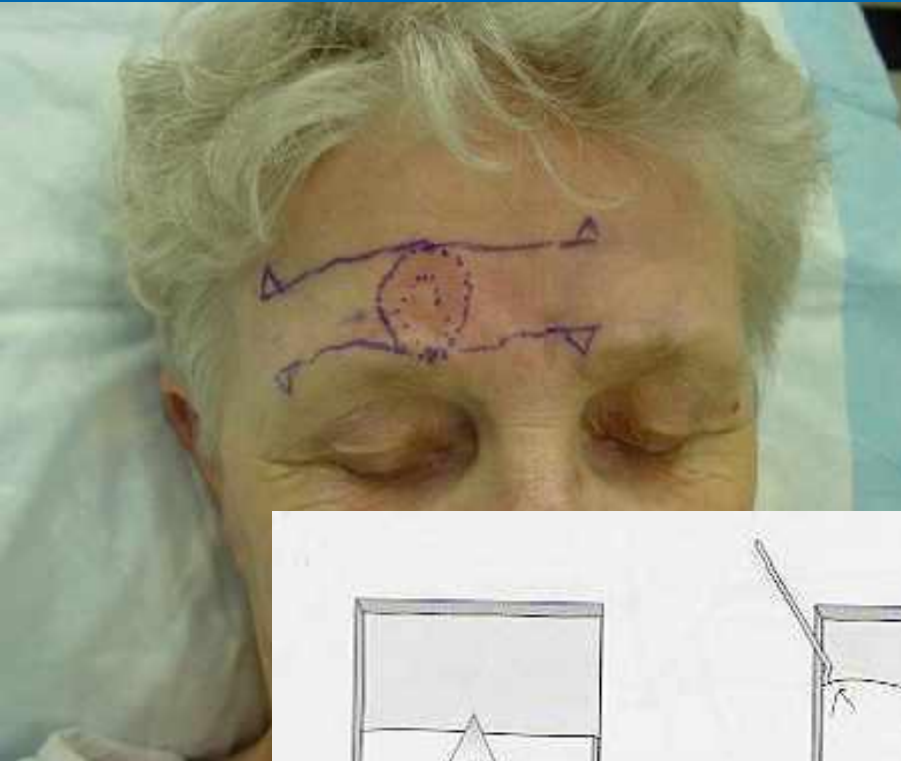




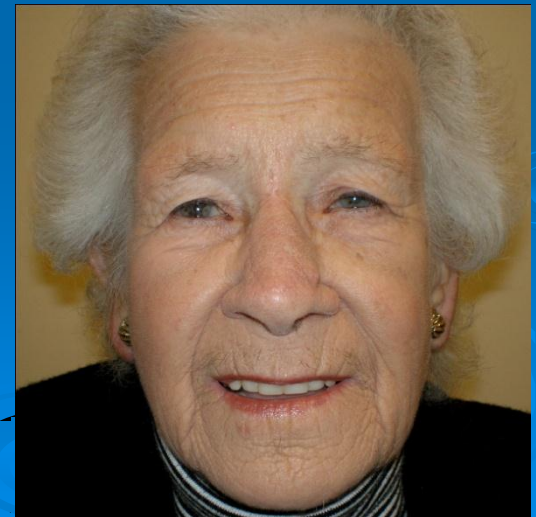
V-Y ADVANCEMENT



BILATERAL ADVANCEMENT FLAP



Nasal Dorsal Flap





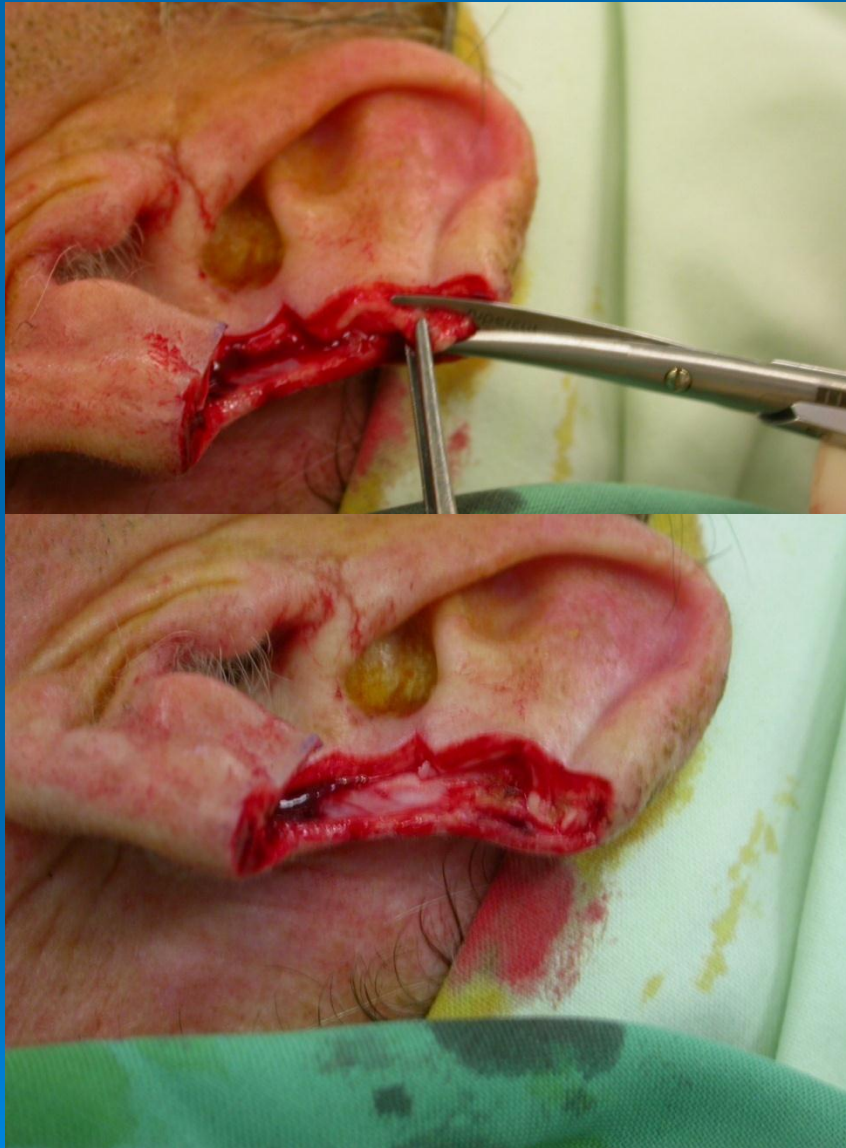
FULL THICKNESS SKIN GRAFT



WEDGE EXCISION OF THE PINNA

- Useful technique
- Pinna ends up shorter in height but same shape
- Difference often goes un-noticed





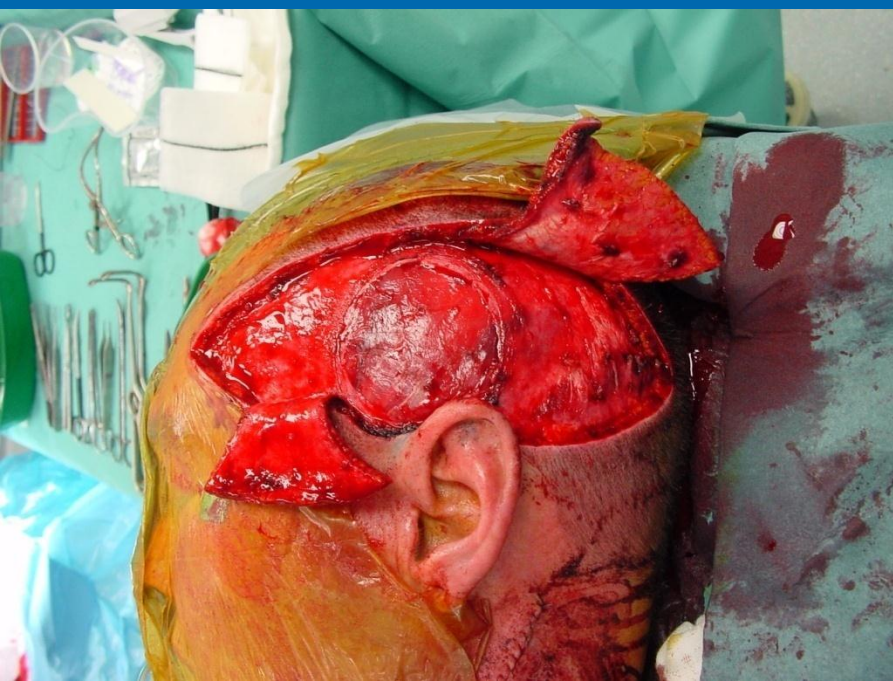
- **Cartilage is trimmed back to allow the skin edges to come together without tension**



- **Bring the cartilage and soft tissues together with subcutaneous vicryl**

Hatchett Flaps

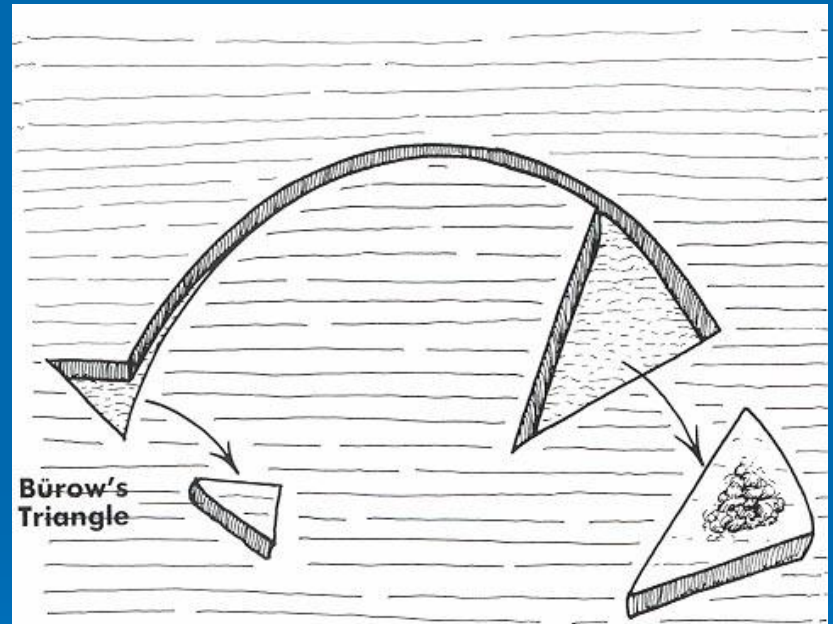
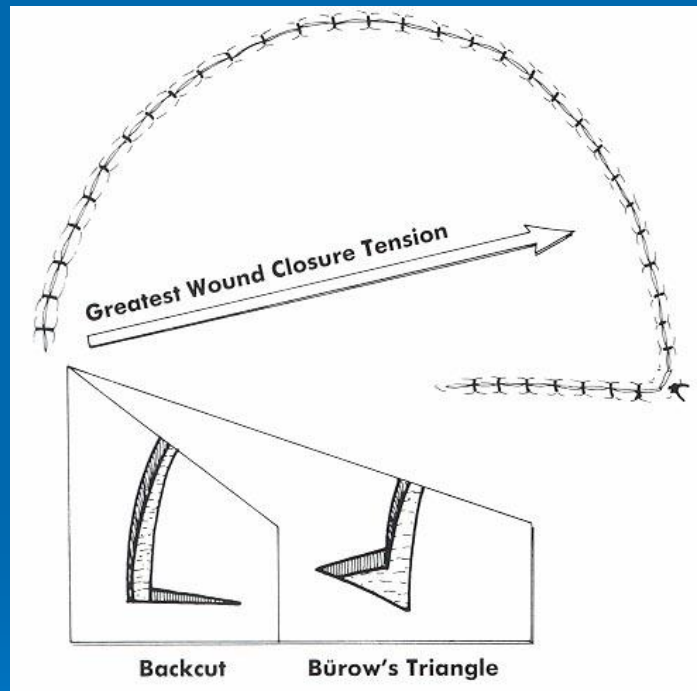




Hatchet Flaps - Scalp

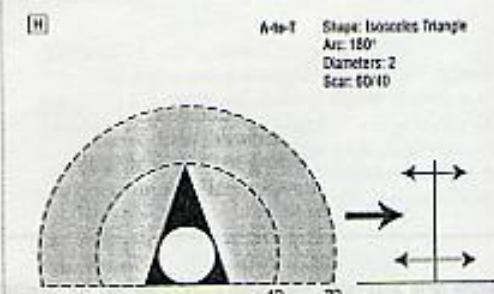
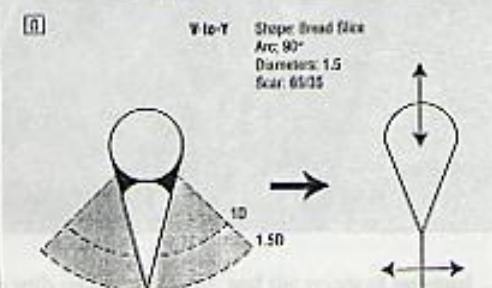
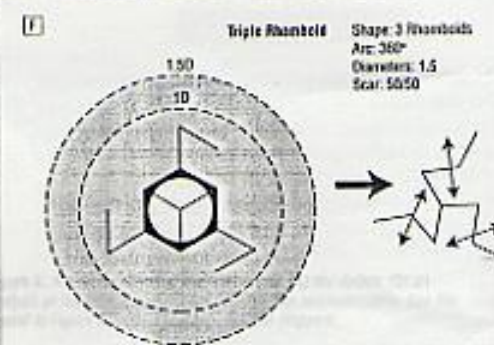
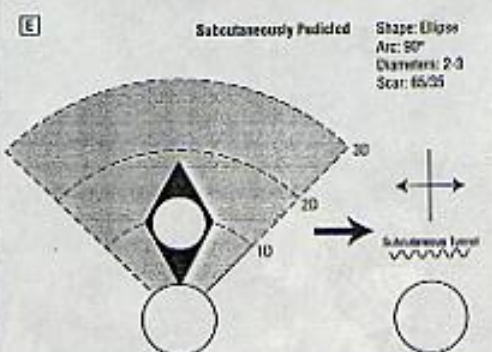
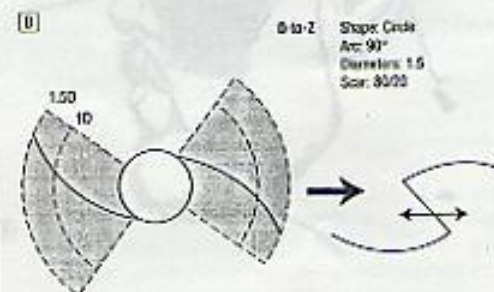
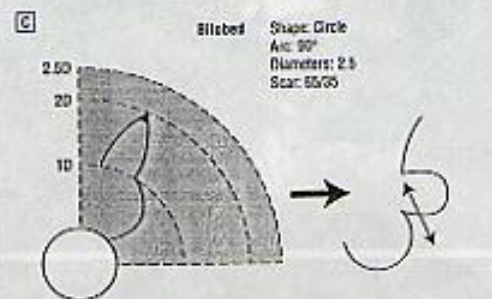
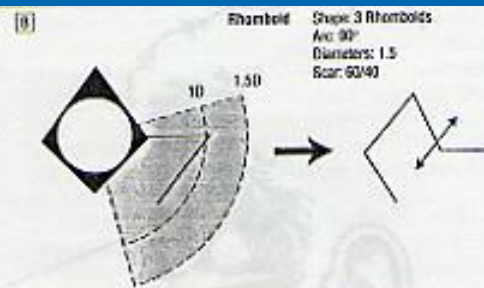
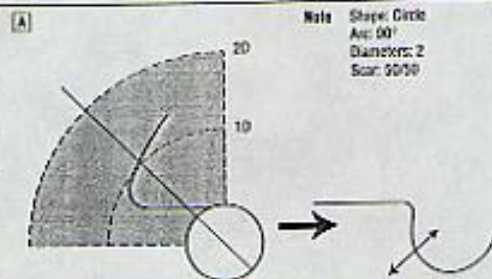


Rotation Flap



Scalp Rotation Flaps





Paramedian Forehead Flap

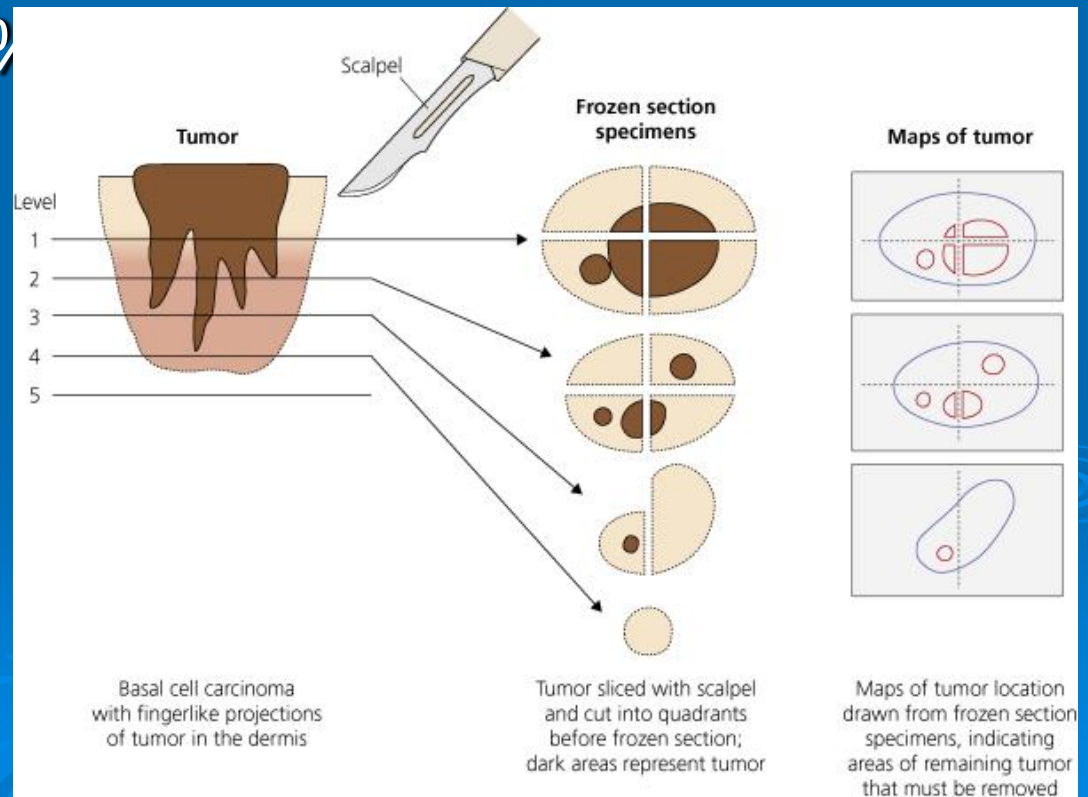






MOHS Micrographic surgery

- Described by Frederick Mohs in 1941
- Tissue sparing
- Cure rates 94-99%



CONCLUSIONS

- H&N is forgiving - vascularity
- Knowledge of anatomy - nerves and vessels
- Informed patient consent
- Keep options available for reconstruction



Imiquimod cream (Aldara)

- Immune response modifier
- Induces cytokines related to cell-mediated immunity including interferon- α , interferon- γ and interleukin-12
- 5-7 times per week for 6 weeks
- Initial clearance rate 95%, up to 20% recurrence
- Useful for HPV and Superficial BCC

5-Fluorouracil

- Antimetabolite antineoplastic agent
- 6% of dose is absorbed systemically
- Various stages of inflammation during treatment
- Superficial BCCs
- Actinic Keratosis, SCC in situ (Bowen's disease)

WOUND CARES



- **Chlorsig Ointment**
- **Suture Removal
5-7 days**
- **Keep Dry**