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Management of facial asymmetry associated with craniofacial microsomia

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Abstract :

Craniofacial microsomia (CFM) is the second most common facial malformation in human, characterized by mandibular hypoplasia, secondary maxillary deformity, and auricular malformation. Soft tissue atrophy and facial nerve palsy are associated to varying degrees with the mandibular deformity. The management is complex and multidisciplinary.

The objective of this communication is to present the surgical techniques available for mandibular ramus reconstruction, and their aesthetic and architectural results. In particular, we report on our experience with vertical ramus osteotomy technique

(Caldwell-Letterman technique) and chondro-costal grafting in 39 patients with MCF grades II and III (Pruzansky-Kaban). These techniques allow correction of the occlusal plane and chin position while restoring maxillomandibular growth potential. Nevertheless, a trend for long-term recurrence of the asymmetry should be expected and must be taken into account in the orthodontic-surgical management.

We will briefly discuss the principles of management of soft tissue atrophy, auricular atrophy and facial nerve palsy, according to the current recommendations (PNDS, November 2021).