



Influence of the Nantes School on the management of cleft lip and palate in Chile

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Abstract :

In this presentation, we give account of the importance of the changes in the Chilean public health in the primary surgical treatment of cleft lip and palate after receiving theoretical and practical training from Prof. Jean DELAIRE and Prof. Jacques MERCIER of the Nantes University Hospital, to whom this work is dedicated.

The changes covered various aspects in the way that pediatric surgeons went into primary surgery. We questioned pre-surgical orthopedics, the operative sequence, the timing and even the surgical techniques under the solidity of Delaire's concepts, based on a profound knowledge of the normal processes of maxillary and facial growth and morphogenesis, and backed by the quality of the results published, following the Nantes School's philosophy and strategy.

We shall show some of our primary surgery results while pointing out the methodological differences, results that, following an important public health reform due to the high cleft palate rate in Chile (1:650 live births), led us to be acknowledged by the Health Ministry as a Reference Center for the primary surgical treatment of cleft lip and palate cleft palates. In 2017, we created a secondary specialization program in the University of Chile for the surgical treatment of cleft palates, from which surgeons trained in the Nantes School have already graduated and are providing services in remote provinces: A precious contribution from France to Chile