

Intranasal hemostatic pressure technique



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SURGICAL CHALLENGE

Excision of skin lesions on the ala nasi can be hampered due to excessive bleeding. Visualization is important for accurate dissection. Gauze, absorption sticks, or suction tubes can be used. Disadvantages in the use of these methods can be impaired visibility during dissection, which can cause prolonged duration of the procedure and a less accurate excision.

THE SOLUTION

A method where intranasal pressure is applied can resolve this problem. We use a gauze rolled on the end/back of an anatomic forceps (another blunt, broad instrument can be used), place this in the nasal antrum, and apply pressure from inside out (Figs 1 and 2). Hereby the skin is tensioned, which provides an excellent view of the dissection field, blood vessels are compromised, and dissection can take place in a bloodless area.

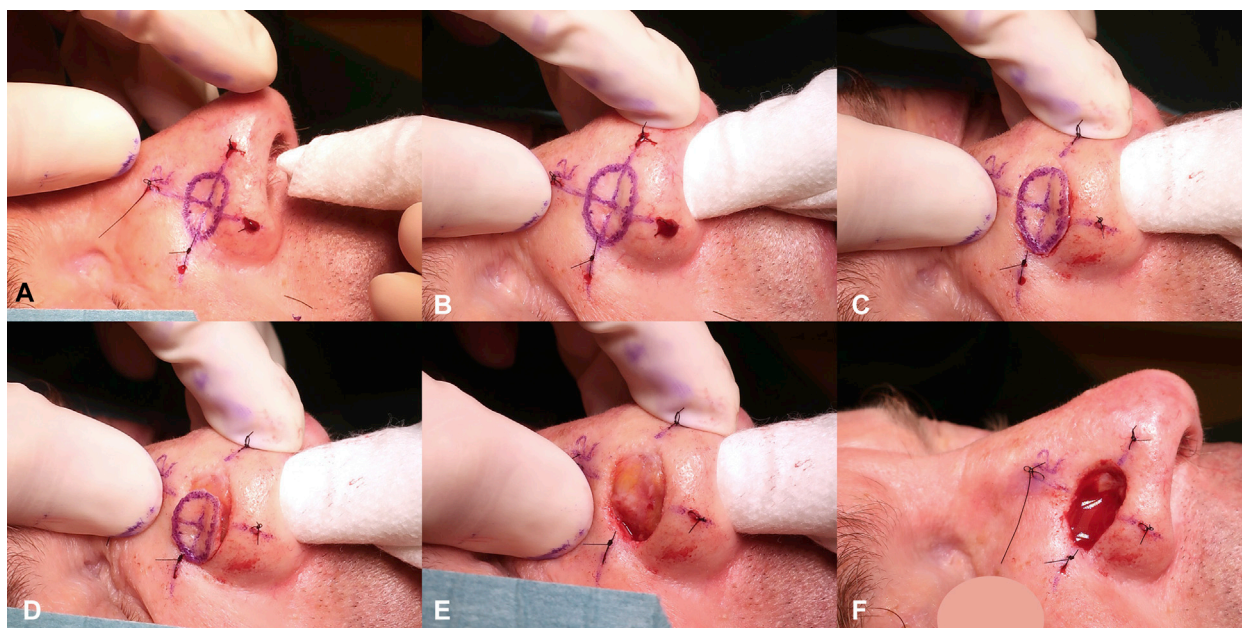


Fig 1. **A**, Insertion of the gauze rolled forceps into the nasal antrum. **B**, Adequate positioning of the forceps. **C**, Applying pressure during the first incision. **D**, Bloodless dissection and tissue stabilization due to intranasal pressure of the forceps. **E**, Adequate visualization of the operative field due to the intranasal forceps. **F**, Compromised visualization of the tissue due to bleeding because of the lack of intranasal hemostatic pressure.

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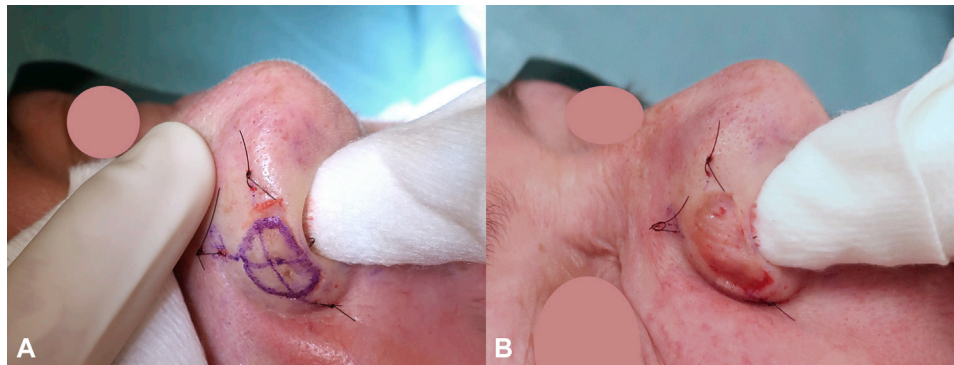


Fig 2. **A**, Detailed visualization of the tissue stabilization and the effects of the intranasal pressure with compressed vessels with the pale-looking skin. **B**, Detailed view of the adequate hemostatic effects of the intranasal pressure after excision of the skin lesion with clear vision of the tissue.

Compared with the standard absorption/suction techniques to remove blood during the operation, this technique has 2 main advantages. First, there is optimal visualization of tissue during the dissection. Second, because of this anatomic location over a cavity, the pressure obtained from the bottom of the dissection plane makes the dissection more easily in a straight horizontal plane and provides tissue stabilization allowing precise excision. This technique is inexpensive and effective for this challenging surgical area.