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기저세포암의 광범위 절제술 후 불  
점막 전층 피부 이식을 이용한  
상순 재건술: 증례 보고

Upper Lip Reconstruction Using Buccal  
Mucosal Full-Thickness Skin Graft After  
Wide Excision of Basal Cell Carcinoma: A  
Case Report



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**Purpose:** The upper lip plays a critical role in facial aesthetics, speech, and oral competence. Reconstruction of upper lip defects following oncologic resection requires careful consideration of both functional and cosmetic outcomes. We report a case of upper lip reconstruction using a buccal mucosal full-thickness skin graft (FTSG) after wide excision of basal cell carcinoma.

**Methods:** An 83-year-old male patient presented with a 2 × 1.2 cm black pigmented lesion on the upper lip that had been present for three years (Fig.1). A punch biopsy confirmed basal cell carcinoma. Wide excision was performed, resulting in a 3 × 1.5 cm defect of the upper lip. Reconstruction was achieved using a full-thickness graft harvested from the left buccal mucosa (Fig.2).



Fig.1 Clinical photograph showing a 2 × 1.2 cm basal cell carcinoma on the upper lip and the surgical defect after wide excision.



Fig.2 Coverage of the defect using a left buccal mucosal graft.

**Results:** The graft survived completely without postoperative complications, including infection, hematoma, or partial necrosis. The donor site healed uneventfully. Functional outcomes, including oral competence and speech, were preserved, and satisfactory aesthetic results were achieved (Fig.3).

**Conclusion:** Buccal mucosal grafting is a reliable and effective option for reconstruction of partial-thickness upper lip defects following tumor excision. Given its similar texture and color to lip mucosa, concealed donor site, and minimal morbidity, it represents a valuable reconstructive option, particularly in elderly patients.



Fig.3 Excellent esthetic outcome observed at the 10-day postoperative follow-up.