

Pfeifer's technique of Bilateral cleft lip repair – A forgotten technique

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Introduction- The **Wave Line Incision Method** of cleft lip repair by Prof. Dr.Pfeifer (Germany and Austria ,1960) is not new, but less commonly known and practiced This technique involves changing the lip skin incision to a wavy line using the concept of “morphological order” i.e. a skin incision between two points can be lengthened if both points are joined in a curve or wavelike manner(Fig 1)

Discussion : Almost 70% of the patients showed significant improvement in lip and nose parameters and 20 -30% of cases showed average results. Advantages are many with Clinical and statistical improvement in lip and nasal parameters..

Conclusion: The technique is versatile and applicable to varieties of clefts including Tessier clefts 0 and cleft palate repair with promising results. The disadvantage is that there will be temporary postoperative shortening of the lip scar, which spontaneously improves within a few months by the regained function of the muscles of the lip. A large study with multicentre studies are required for future evaluation.

Results

Parameter assessed	Pre.op.	Post .op.	
	poor	Average	good
White roll match	43 (100 %)	11 (25.5 %)	32 (74.1 %)
Vermillion match	43 (100 %)	13 (30.2 %)	30 (69.7 %)
Cupid's bow	43 (100 %)	8 (18.6 %)	35 (81.3 %)
Nostril symmetry	43 (100 %)	5 (11.6 %)	38 (88.3 %)
Alar dome	43 (100 %)	6 (13.9 %)	37 (86.1 %)
Alar base	43 (100 %)	6 (13.9 %)	37 (86.1 %)

Fig 1



Case 1



Case 2



Case 3



Case 4

