

Novel COBLATION® TURBINATOR® Wand significantly improved clinical outcomes following septoturbinoplasty for nasal obstruction, with no complications

The first clinical report with this device found that it was statistically equivalent to microdebrider



Study design

- A comparison of patients undergoing septoturbinoplasty for nasal obstruction caused by inferior turbinate hypertrophy using either TURBINATOR Wand (22 patients; mean age, 45 years) or microdebrider turbinoplasty (22 patients; mean age, 47.3 years)
- The primary outcome measures were pre- and postoperative (12 weeks) changes in the Nasal Obstruction Symptoms Evaluation (NOSE) scale score and peak nasal inspiratory flow rate (PNIF)



Key results

- Mean NOSE score (Figure 1) and PNIF (Figure 2) improved significantly for both groups from pre- to postoperative measurements; scores were statistically similar between groups
- No intra-operative complication was encountered in this study; the microdebrider cohort required unilateral nasal packing (2 patients) and bolster changes (median of 2; range, 0-4) prior to hospital discharge, but none were required in the TURBINATOR group
- All cases were completed as day-case procedures and although none of these patients were readmitted postoperatively, two patients in the microdebrider cohort required unilateral nasal packing

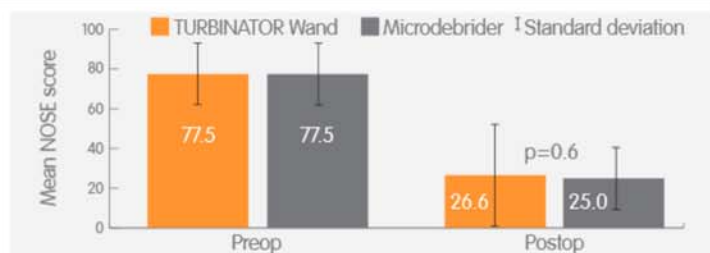


Figure 1. Change in mean NOSE score from pre- to postoperative period

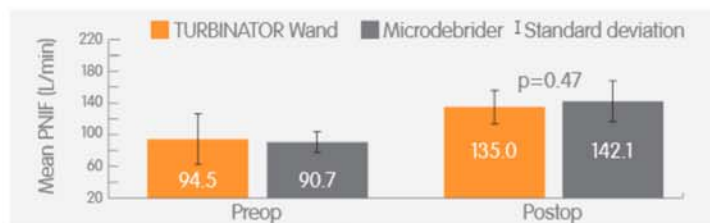


Figure 2. Change in mean PNIF (L/min) from pre- to postoperative period



Conclusion

This is the first clinical study reporting the surgical outcomes of septoturbinoplasty using the novel COBLATION TURBINATOR Wand. It reported significant improvement in both subjective (NOSE) and objective (PNIF) outcome measures, which were comparable to the microdebrider turbinoplasty technique. The authors noted that TURBINATOR Wand offered potential for reduction in the number of surgical instruments and corresponding overall total procedure time.



Study citation

*Khong GC, Lazarova L, Bartolo A, Leong SC. Introducing the new Coblation™ Turbinator™ turbinate reduction wand: Our initial experience of twenty-two patients requiring surgery for nasal obstruction. *Clin Otolaryngol*. 2018;43:382-385.