



Canadian Society of Otolaryngology-  
Head & Neck Surgery

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# 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Niagara Falls, ON

*May 23 – 25, 2010 – SHERATON ON THE FALLS HOTEL*

*"Technology Transforming Patient Care"*

## **Overall Learning Objectives**

This meeting offers delegates the unique opportunity to learn from experts (academic and community) and share their own professional experience in various areas of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery. Participants are encouraged to critically investigate and challenge how technologies can transform patient care.

- To offer podium and poster presentations of up-to-date clinical and scientific material with special focus on technological advancement in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery.
- To present a variety of workshops, panels and subspecialty sessions to provide more focused subject matter in an interactive setting.
- To provide a platform for constructive discussions on general otolaryngology as well as subspecialty areas including head / neck oncology, laryngology, rhinology, otology, neurotology, pediatric otolaryngology, facial cosmetic reconstructive surgery and medical education.
- To promote an atmosphere of academic, professional and social interaction among Society members, allied health providers and honored guests and corporate partners.

***Healing Time of Radial Forearm Free Flap Donor Sites After Pre-operative Tissue Expansion:  
A Randomized Controlled Trial***

- P. Bonaparte, M. Corsten, M. Allen, University of Ottawa, OTTAWA, ON

**ABSTRACT**

**OBJECTIVE:** To test the hypothesis that pre-operative tissue expansion of the radial forearm free flap donor site will result in a significant reduction in healing time compared to the conventional method of using a split thickness skin graft. Secondary objectives assessed for reductions in post-operative pain and economic cost.

**METHODS:** 25 patients were randomized to either the treatment (Tissue pre-expansion) or control (STSG) groups. An intention to treat analysis was utilized. Healing time was recorded for all patients. The Short Form McGill Pain Questionnaire was used to assess surgical pain 1-week post-op.

**RESULTS:** Mean (95% C.I.) healing time was 4.8 (3.2-6.4) days for the Treatment Group and 32.8 (12.7-53.0) days for the Control Group ( $p < 0.001$ ). Overall surgical pain ( $p < 0.001$ ) and estimated economic cost ( $p < 0.001$ ) was significantly lower in the treatment group.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Using a simple, non-invasive method of pre-operative tissue expansion results in both clinically and statistically significant reductions in healing time, post-operative pain and economic cost.