

The Use of Autologous Platelet-Gel as an Intranasal Dressing in Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery

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**Presented at the American Rhinologic Society Meeting
September 8, 2001, Denver, Colorado**

Abstract

The use of various packing materials in endoscopic paranasal sinus surgery has been described, yet few well controlled studies have been undertaken to assess the parameters of packing use. Furthermore, no study has described a packing material which may accelerate wound healing. The aim of this preliminary prospective, nonrandomized study was to assess the postoperative healing of patients undergoing functional endoscopic sinus surgery for chronic sinusitis using autologous platelet gel. 25 consecutive patients were enrolled from a community otolaryngology practice. Patients were examined weekly in the postoperative period for eight weeks, then at three months. Postoperative bleeding, time to onset of re-mucosalization, postoperative pain measurements, and synechiae formation were used as the main outcomes measures. There were no platelet gel-induced synechiae in any of the treated patients, time to onset of re-mucosalization appears to be reduced, as does postoperative bleeding and patient discomfort measures with the use of platelet gel. It appears in this initial phase study, platelet gel is a useful adjunct to endoscopic sinus surgery, as it may reduce postoperative bleeding complications, and accelerate mucosalization without inducing synechiae formation.

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