

## NASAL EVALUATION AFTER COLUMELLA ELONGATION SURGERY AT COMPLETE BILATERAL CLEFT LIP AND PALATE

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**Objectives:** The purpose of this study was to evaluate the quality of nasal aesthetics after columella elongation surgery through objective and subjective analysis of face of the patients as of 4 years old. **Methods:** We evaluated 70 patients with complete bilateral cleft lip and palate after columella elongation surgery, showing current age to accomplish this work (6-12 years) and 60 patients without cleft lip and palate in the same age group (control group). The objective analysis was performed using 4 anthropometric measurements of the nose in patients with complete bilateral cleft lip and palate operated on and the control group. **Results:** It was observed that the measure AL-AL (nasal width) in patients with complete bilateral cleft lip and palate and higher compared to the control group ( $p < 0.05$ ); on the other hand, SN-PRN (nasal tip projection) and SN-C (length of the columella) shown to be lower ( $p < 0.05$ ). Only the measures Sn-Sn (width of columella) were similar in both groups ( $p > 0.05$ ). For qualitative analysis was used scores from 1 to 5 to evaluate the nasal form (nasal width), the nasal tip projection and the length of the columella in patients with complete bilateral cleft lip and palate before and after surgery. It was observed that the nasal improved appearance after surgery restoring the nose aesthetic harmony and in most patients. However, many patients continued with poor nasal appearance even after surgical repair. **Conclusions:** The columella elongation surgery improves nasal aesthetics, but in many patients it failed to restore completely the nasal form.