

# Innovative Technique of Ear Lobe Repair in Elongated Ear Lobules with Preservation of the Earring Orifice

Hardik Dodia, Harsh Amin, Karnadev Solanki

**Abstract:** Background: Ear piercing and ear ornament wearing is an age old tradition. Elongated ear lobe and torn earlobe usually results from sudden stretch or continuous use of heavy earrings. Various surgical techniques have been described in literature. Each procedure has its own pros and cons. The choice will depend on individual preferences and the defect, partial or total, and should offer a lower chance of recurrence. The corrections can be made with or without preservation of the earring orifice. The innovative technique that I am describing focuses on treatment of elongated ear lobules with preservation of earring orifice and bilateral ear lobule repair. Method: This technique was applied on 3 patients and 6 months follow up was noted. Study carried out in year 2018 at Adorn Cosmetic Center, Ahmedabad. Results: Good post-operative results were achieved in all 3 patients with maintained ear lobe thickness and good shape and a good orifice. Conclusions: Our technique has an advantage of maintaining the normal ear lobe thickness, good earlobe shape and good orifice size. Above all it has advantage of very easy repair technique.

**Keywords:** Ear, Skin flap, Ear lobe repair, Neo-piercing, Dilated ear lobe, Elongated ear lobes

## 1. Introduction

Ear piercing and ear ornament wearing is an age old tradition. Elongated ear lobe and torn earlobe usually results from sudden stretch or continuous use of heavy earrings. Various surgical techniques have been described in literature. Each procedure has its own pros and cons. The choice will depend on individual preferences and the defect, partial or total, and should offer a lower chance of recurrence. The corrections can be made with or without preservation of the earring orifice. The innovative technique that I am describing focuses on treatment of elongated ear

lobules with preservation of earring orifice. This is particularly suitable in old age patients with lax skin.

## 2. Method

The lateral margin of existing orifice is used for construction of new orifice. Medial wall is excised and new orifice is formed by lateral margin. It can be also be done vice versa depending on location of piercing. Detailed explanation of technique will be seen in pictorial representation.

## 3. Pictorial Representation



**Figure 1:** Ideal patient with elongated ear orifice and long lax lobule



**Figure 2:** Marking of ear lobule to be excised, Medial wall to be excised



**Figure 3:** Intra operative picture



**Figure 4:** Final Picture after closure.



**Figure 5:** Late follow up. Lobules shortened a little bit and more asthetic appearance with ear hole in situ.

#### 4. Conclusion

With this new method Long lax ear lobule requiring bilateral ear lobe repair can be treated with ease.

#### References

- [1] *Surgical Repair Of The Torn Ear Lobe.* K Ramakrishnan. The Internet Journal of Family Practice. 2002 Volume 2 Number 2.
- [2] K Ramakrishnan. *Surgical Repair Of The Torn Ear Lobe.* The Internet Journal of Family Practice. 2002 Volume 2 Number 2.
- [3] R. Sharma, S. Krishnan, S. Kumar, M. Verma Erratum to “Rotation flap lobuloplasty: technique and experience with 24 partially torn earlobes” [Int. J. Oral Maxillofac. Surg. 43 (2014) 1206–1210]
- [4] International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Volume 44, Issue 5, May 2015, Pages e2
- [5] An Bras Dermatol. Earlobe reconstruction by the Gavello technique and bilobed flap\*. 2013 Mar-Apr; 88(2): 272–275.
- [6] R Kalimuthu, B J Larson, N Lewis Earlobe Repair: A New Technique Plastic reconstruc. Surgery 1984 Aug; 74(2): 299-300