

CLINICAL NOTE

REPAIR FOR PARTIAL LOSS OF THE AURICLE

DEAR SIR,—I enclose a photograph showing a method for applying a tube flap to repair the loss of the helix of the auricle. This patient had a motor cycle accident in which the upper part of his auricle down to the level of the root of the zygoma was wiped off on the road surface.



It is well known that the reconstruction of this part of the body is extremely difficult.

I made a tube flap of the requisite length on the inner side of the corresponding upper arm, and applied one end to the edge of the wound area of the auricle, where it “took” successfully, and after severance there was no loss from death of tissue.

Unfortunately I was prevented from doing the second stage of the operation because the patient insisted on returning to work.

Clinical Note

I should have inserted into the flap a suitably shaped piece of rib cartilage.

It is particularly noteworthy that the patient is not distressed by the position, which actually is not at all an uncomfortable one. A wider attachment to the head was used most of the time.

Yours faithfully,

C. HAMBLÉN-THOMAS.