

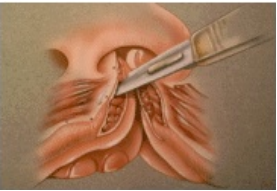
+ Cleft Lip Repair

A typical cleft Lip repair is performed around 2-6 months of age. If it is an isolated cleft lip, or relatively narrow cleft lip, a formal repair is usually done at this time. However, on occasion, a lip adhesion is more appropriate management at this time. The purpose of the lip adhesion is to get the dental arch in more proper alignment and to release skin tension on the lip so better results can be obtained at the time of a formal repair.



Planning Stage

- Landmarks are identified and marked
- Margins are dissected
- Skin, Muscle and Mucosa are identified



The Operation

- The layers of skin, muscle, and mucosa are separated
- A formal repair may involve additional cuts around the base of nose and along vermilion border of lip to achieve proper alignment of landmarks



Putting it together

- The oral Mucosa is repaired first with one layer of dissolvable sutures



Finishing touches

- The muscle layer is repaired next
- The skin layer is closed last with black nylon sutures that will need to be removed one week later

+ Post-operatively

Your child will go home the same day as surgery. They will be able to bottle feed with whatever special nipple you are using shortly after surgery.

In an effort to not disrupt the outcome your child will wear elbow restraints for a week and we would like them to also refrain from using a pacifier.

Your child will return to the OR one week after surgery to have sutures removed.



Pre-Op



Post-Op