Letter to the Editor

In Response to Are Routine Dissolvable Nasal Dressings Necessary following Endoscopic Sinus Surgery?

In Reply,

Dr. Rotenbery has highlighted a very important potential benefit of dissolvable nasal dressings, which have been used for many years in the delivery of medications to the sinus cavities following endoscopic sinus surgery (ESS). However, our department previously investigated the effect of prednisolone-impregnated hyaluronic acid versus hyaluronic acid alone in the sheep model, and found no difference in wound healing parameters. Despite the anecdotal benefits of steroid deposition into nasal packs, at the time of writing our review of the literature there were no published human studies that investigated dissolvable packing-based delivery of nasal steroids following ESS.

Since the time of our article’s acceptance, Cote and Wright have performed a well-designed study involving 19 patients that investigated the effects of triamcinolone-impregnated nasal packing in the postoperative setting. This double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial has shown a statistically significant improvement in short-term validated outcome measures of postoperative healing. This evidence suggests that there may be a role for dissolvable nasal dressing in the delivery of medical therapy in the early postoperative period; however, more research is required.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY