Novel COBLATION° TURBINATOR° wand significantly improved clinical outcomes following septoturbinoplasty for nasal obstruction, with no complications

The first clinical report with this device found that it was statistically equivalent to microdebrider

Study design

- A comparison of patients undergoing septoturbinoplasty for nasal obstruction caused by inferior turbinate hypertrophy using either TURBINATOR (22 patients; mean age, 45 years) or microdebrider turbinoplasty (22 patients; mean age, 47.3 years)
- The primary outcome measures were pre- and postoperative (12 weeks) changes in the Nasal Obstruction Symptoms Evaluation (NOSE) scale score and peak nasal inspiratory flow rate (PNIF)

Key results

- Mean NOSE score (Figure 1) and PNIF (Figure 2) improved significantly for both groups from pre- to postoperative measurements; scores were statistically similar between groups
- No intra-operative complication was encountered in this study, and all patients had uneventful surgeries
- All cases were completed as day-case procedures and although none of these patients were readmitted postoperatively, two patients in the microdebrider cohort required unilateral nasal packing

Conclusion

This is the first clinical study reporting the surgical outcomes of septoturbinoplasty using the novel COBLATION TURBINATOR wand. It reported significant improvement in both subjective (NOSE) and objective (PNIF) outcome measures, which were comparable to the microdebrider turbinoplasty technique. The authors noted that TURBINATOR offered potential for reduction in the number of surgical instruments and corresponding overall total procedure time.

Study citation