

Ethical, Social and Legal Intricacies on Facial Transplant

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ABSTRACT Facial tissue has become a clinical reality and is gaining popularity as the preferred surgical option for patients with devastating facial deformities due to disease, trauma or congenital malformation. Conventional facial reconstruction method can be lengthy, laborious, inflicting unbearable pain and may require prolonged hospitalization. On the contrary, restoration of aesthetics and functionality by facial tissue allotransplant is superior and has minimized all of those undesirable affects mentioned above. Nevertheless, these surgical options are associated with complex social, ethical and legal aspects. The primary objective of this review is to provide a glimpse of the history of facial transplantation and discuss the critical issues related to facial transplant.