Pierwotne zaopatrzenie ran kąsanych nosa
The primary closure approach of dog bite injuries of the nose

Tomasz Zieliński

SUMMARY
Introduction: Biting of humans by domestic animals, especially by dogs, is common injury which causes suffering and pain, might be a cause of disability or even death. It is associated with high risk of bacterial infection of the wounds or even transfection of rabies virus. Bites are usually to the upper and lower limbs, while the face is third in a raw localization of bites. Within the face, the nose and lips are injured the most often. The goal of this paper is presentation selected methods and obtained results of primary closure of dog bite injuries of the nose.

Material and methods: There were 16 patients with dog bites injuries of the nose treated in the Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery of the Medical University of Łódź in the years 2003-2008. The patients were 11 to 46 years old. Bites caused either superficial laceration of the skin, tearing of the nostril wing or even major defects of the tissues.

Results: In 7 patients superficial wounds a direct closure was done and antibiotic ointment was applied. In 7 patients a defect of the skin was covered with a skin graft taken from retroauricular area, but in 2 of the patients of this group repair of mucosa and alar cartilage was done. In two persons with full thickness defects of the nose reconstruction was performed with the use of a pedicled nosolabial flap. Complications occurred only in 1 patient who developed infection in the wound. In all other patients there were no complications. Good aesthetic results were obtained.

Conclusions: Primary closure approach of bite injuries with tissue defect is not associated with larger risk than in the case in secondary such approach, and should be implemented always whenever it is possible in order to avoid risk of wound and scars which require further reconstructive procedures in future.

Hasła indeksowe: rana kąsana, nos, rekonstrukcja
Key words: dog bite, nose, reconstruction