Presurgical nasoalveolar molding for cleft lip and palate repair in children

Record Status
This is a bibliographic record of a published health technology assessment. No evaluation of the quality of this assessment has been made for the HTA database.

Citation

Authors’ conclusions
Cleft lip and cleft palate are birth defects affecting the upper lip and the roof of the mouth. A cleft or gap forms when the developing facial structures do not join (fuse) fully during gestation. Cleft lip affects the top lip and may present as a small gap or larger gap that extends into the nose on one or both sides. Cleft palate affects the roof of the mouth, usually the soft palate, but may also involve the hard palate and jaw. Complications arising from cleft lip or palate include feeding difficulty, failure to gain weight, poor growth, conductive hearing deficits, and speech difficulties. One of the most common major birth defects in the United States is cleft lip and/or cleft palate, occurring in about 1 of every 600 births annually. Surgical correction is often indicated for functional and cosmetic restoration.

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