

Update in the Uses of Chalazion Clamp in Dermatological Procedure Revisited

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Abstract

Chalazion clamp has a distal tip with a flat oval plate; other side has a ring-like structure and forceps-like handle. Handle has a thumbscrew, which can be tightened and released so as to achieve the required pressure. Available in various sizes. Used mainly in ophthalmological procedures primarily. Used in dermatology by modifying its technique and creating an adequate hemostasis in various diagnostic and interventional procedures. In the previous article chalazion clamp was used for preparing SSS for ear lobule, so this article revisited the uses of chalazion clamp in dermatology and extended use in the preparation of adequate blanching while preparing SSS from the peripheral tissue site.

Keywords: Chalazion clamp, dermatology, SSS

INTRODUCTION

Slit Skin Smear from ear lobule and peripheral site from most infiltrated plaque is performed as routine OPD procedure, adequate smear can be obtained by pinching the ear lobule and pinching skin from the plaque which requires skill and manual power. Adequate blanching can be achieved by clamping the ear lobule and skin with chalazion clamp.

Chalazion clamps are either disposable or reusable. Available in three sizes, small (ring size 11 mm × 17 mm), medium (ring size 12 mm × 23 mm), and large (ring size 17 mm × 28 mm).^[1]

Chalazion clamp has a distal tip with flat oval plate; other side has a ring-like structure and forceps-like handle. Handle has a thumbscrew, which can be tightened and released so as to achieve the required pressure.

In the previous article chalazion clamp was used for preparing SSS for ear lobule, so in this article revisited the uses of chalazion clamp in dermatology and extended use in the preparation of adequate blanching while preparing SSS from peripheral tissue site.

Advantages of chalazion clamp over routine SSS preparation

1. Minimizes the bleeding and hence adequate smear is obtained.
2. Provides a firm immobile surface so that smear can be taken easily.
3. Achieve firm grip.
4. Screw clamp allows variability in the pressure applied compared to artery forceps

Uses of chalazion clamp

Ophthalmology: Chalazion surgery

Dermatology

Oral mucosal lesions	Oral mucosal biopsy Deroofing of mucocele Minor salivary gland biopsy ^[2] Mucosal derma abrasion in vitiligo surgery ^[3]
Ear lobe repair	
Scrotal surgery	
Nasal lesions on ala nasi ^[4]	

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Figure 1: Chalazion clamp small size



Figure 3: Slit skin smear over the plaque, creating a avascular zone by chalazion clamp



Figure 2: Use of chalazion clamp in slit skin smear sampling in ear lobule

In our case we used in preparing SSS and achieved an adequate smear by using reusable chalazion clamp.

As reported previously sponge holding forceps and artery forceps does not provide required pressure may result in tissue crushing and excessive pain, so modified in our case with chalazion clamp.

Procedure

After getting informed consent from the patient, Chalazion clamp (as per Figure 1) applied to ear lobule (Figure 2) is tightened until it blanches, similarly done on other areas (Figure 3) from where smear is taken. The SSS is taken using surgical blade no 23. A 5 mm length, 2 mm depth incision given. Turn the blade 90°, scrape out fragments of tissue and fluid on glass slide.^[5] A smear of 8–10 mm is prepared on glass slides. Chalazion clamp is released, skin cut is sealed with a small piece of cotton wool dipped in tincture of benzoin.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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