HEAD POST-BURN DEFORMITIES: OUR EXPERIENCE IN DEPARTMENT OF PLASTIC SURGERY OF PRISTINA (P023)

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**Introduction:** Burn injuries are very frequent in Kosovo, leading to long-lasting physical, functional, aesthetic, psychological and social consequences directly proportional to the time of healing; the longer it takes for the burn wound to heal the more serious are the sequelae. The objectives of this retrospective study are to review the epidemiological, clinical and therapeutic aspects of burn patients presenting with head post-burn deformities.

**Methods:** A total number of 28 patients with head post-burn deformities are included in this study treated at the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Pristina, Kosovo, from January 2005 until December 2013. The following variables were considered are: age, sex, anatomical location, pathological types, surgical procedure.

**Results:** From all patients with head post-burn deformities were 17 female (60.7%) and 11 male (39.3%), ranging in age from 3 to 64 years (mean age 30.5 year), most of the patients were adults in 15 (53.6%) cases, and children in 13 (46.4%) of cases. Scarring alopecia were in 12 patients, ectropion in 9, hypertrophic scars in 4, lip deformity in 2 and ear deformity in a patients. To correct the deformities we used more often tissue expansion, full thickness skin graft, z-plasty, split thickness skin graft and local skin flaps.

**Conclusions:** Timely wound closure and the development of an individual programme for surgical treatment of burns sequelae are crucial for optimal outcomes in patients with burns.