

An innovative syringe barrel holder of halved razor blade for shave surgery as dermablade

Problem

A razor blade is often used for shave excision surgery because of its sharpness, low cost, and ease of availability.¹ However, holding the blade is difficult due to its elasticity and poor finger grip, and there is a risk of finger damage. Several adaptations and devices for better blade handling have been reported.^{2,3} All of these, however, are time-consuming and expensive. Dermablade is a safer option that has a better grip, although it is more costly and less readily available.⁴

Solution

We developed a new, low-cost blade holder to get a curved cutting edge similar to that of a dermablade. The blade is cut in half, and the connecting segment on both sides is removed. The blade's breadth is measured. The distal end of a syringe barrel (3 mL, 5 mL, or more, depending on the need of the cutting edge) is cut 2–3 mm shorter in length than the width of the halved blade. The blade is then cut to

fit the diameter (or a bit more, up to half the circumference for simple adjustability) of the cut syringe barrel. Using forceps or fingers, the cutter blade is placed in the centre or rim of the barrel, then compressed and fixed against the barrel's wall [Fig.1a–d]. Following that, it has a curved blade edge, similar to a dermablade. With this blade holder, shave operations may be performed securely and without risk of finger injuries [Video 1]. Due to its sharpness as compared to a curette, this dermablade may be used for saucerisation, scooping of benign skin lesions, including seborrheic keratosis and shave biopsies. To avoid finger injury while securing the blade in the barrel, the lateral cutting edge of the blade can be trimmed prior to securing the blade in the barrel.

Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent.

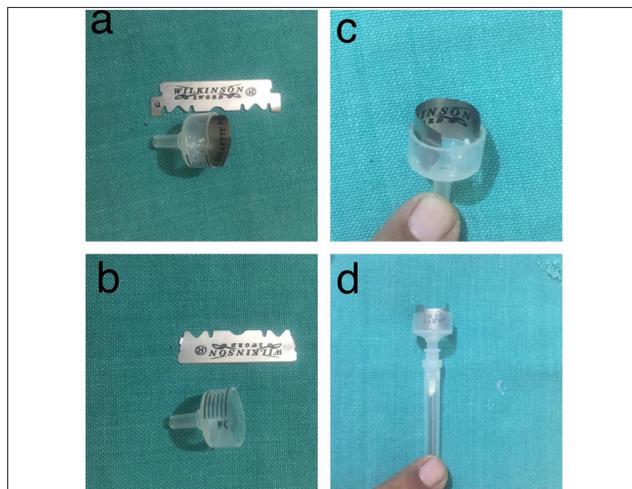


Fig.1a–d: The modified razor blade is fixed into its syringe barrel holder



Multimedia_1: Video 1: A seborrheic keratosis is shaved with a customised blade with a syringe barrel holder

How to cite this article: Mukhtar M. An innovative syringe barrel holder of halved razor blade for shave surgery as dermablade. *Indian J Dermatol Venereol Leprol* 2023;89:925-6.

Received: August, 2022 **Accepted:** December, 2022 **Epub Ahead of Print:** March 2023 **Published:** October, 2023

DOI: 10.25259/IJDVL_719_2022 **PMID:** 37067124 **Video available on:** https://doi.org/10.25259/IJDVL_719_2022

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-Share Alike 4.0 License, which allows others to remix, transform, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as the author is credited and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.

Financial support and sponsorship
Nil.

Centre, Katihar Medical College Road, Katihar, Bihar, India
drmmukhtar20@gmail.com

Conflict of interest
There are no conflicts of interest.

Muhammed Mukhtar

Department of Dermatology,
Mukhtar Skin Centre, Katihar, Bihar, India.

Corresponding author:

Dr. Muhammed Mukhtar,
Consultant Dermatologist, Department of Dermatology, Mukhtar Skin

References

1. Awadalla F, Hexsel C, Goldberg LH. The sharpness of blades used in dermatologic surgery. *Dermatol Surg* 2016;42:105–7.
2. Lum D, Lum RS. Razor blade surgery: Use of the Castroviejo blade breaker and holder. *Dermatol Surg* 1999;25:143–4.
3. Yang SH, Qi J, Esandrio J, Leung S, Taube JM, Garza LA, *et al.* Efficacy and tolerability of a novel biopsy device for removing benign epidermal skin lesions. *Dermatol Surg* 2015;41:1264–73.
4. Peterson AJ, Peterson SR, Jensen KJ. Surgical pearl: The DermaBlade as curette. *J Am Acad Dermatol* 2006;54:518–9.