Excision and repair of cutaneous cancers of the head and face are performed in office-based setting under local anesthesia.

Study evaluated the total time taken for local anesthesia to take effect in different head and neck regions in 102 patients undergoing head and neck cutaneous cancer resection.

Upper face and scalp take significantly longer to anesthetize than lower face for same local anesthetic and concentration.

Mean time for anesthesia to take effect:
- Upper face and scalp: 153.54 seconds
- Lower face: 69.37 seconds

Understanding the efficacy of local anesthesia helps surgeons tailor its use to improve patient satisfaction and operative flow.

Numbing effect: Efficacy of local anesthesia on face and scalp

Safran et al. (2019)  DOI: 10.1097/GOX.0000000000002243

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