Transplants and Burn Injury Treatment

Face Transplants to Address Catastrophic Tissue Loss in the Face

Brigham and Women's Hospital performed the fifth and sixth face transplants under the Biomedical Translational Initiative contract, and Cleveland Clinic performed the first face transplant under the AFIRM I cooperative agreement. Face transplants offer the possibility of restored function—chewing, swallowing, nasal breathing, oral competence, intelligible speech—and appearance, which could not be accomplished with conventional reconstructive surgery, to those wounded Service Members who have suffered catastrophic facial injuries.