The purpose of this review is to provide a summary of the cleft lip or palate procedure with a focus on human anatomy and physiology. Cleft lip and palate are the most common facial malformations and occur in 1 newborn in 2500 live births. Through a thorough analysis of journal articles and viable sources one can grasp an introductory understanding of cleft palate including the history, anatomy, causes, procedure, and post-operation lifestyle with cleft palate. Although the problem is genetic and embryological in nature, anatomy is relevant as the complications stem from oropharyngeal muscles inserting on structural bones, impacting neurovascular areas of the mouth, leading to a complex deformity. The topic was subdivided to cover all areas relevant to the review. The sources used were primarily from journal articles such as PubMed, books, and other online published data. Overall the topic is closely related to medicine and dentistry while incorporating basic anatomical concepts.

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