

ORIGINAL PAPER

Nonsurgical blepharoplasty

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Abstract

The eyes are an important component of facial aesthetics. They are in the center of an anatomical area of the face very important for rejuvenation procedures, the so-called “periorbital region.” The appearance of the eyes therefore decisively influences the perception of the aesthetics and aging of the entire face. In juvenile age, the skin of the periorbital area is elastic and tonic, without sun damage; the eyebrow is full, well defined, and not descending; there is a clear and visible fold of the upper eyelid, with minimal dermatochalasis; the lower eyelid is tense and well positioned. The aim of this preliminary study is to define a protocol for the use of plasma technology in the treatment of aging signs of the periorbital region. The protocol is aimed to provide predictable, constant, and safe results.

KEYWORDS

blepharoplasty, eyes, plasma

1 | INTRODUCTION

The eyes are an important component of facial aesthetics. They are in the center of an anatomical area of the face very important for rejuvenation procedures, the so-called “periorbital region” (Castro & Foster, 1999; Naik, 2013; Pilkington, Belden, & Miller, 2015). The appearance of the eyes therefore decisively influences the perception of the aesthetics and aging of the entire face (Balin & Pratt, 1989; Naik, 2013). In juvenile age, the skin of the periorbital area is elastic and tonic, without sun damage; the eyebrow is full, well defined and not descending; there is a clear and visible fold of the upper eyelid, with minimal dermatochalasis; the lower eyelid is tense and well positioned (Lee & Yen, 2017).

The appearance of dark circles, “crow's feet” wrinkles, eyelid bags, dermatochalasis (that means skin redundancy of the upper eyelids), and the thinning and drying of the skin, are the main characteristics of aging of the upper part of the face (Kahn & Shaw Jr., 2008; Pilkington et al., 2015). The loss of volume, with deflation and emptying of the upper eyelid, and the sunken appearance of the eye, with a deep furrow at the top, are other manifestations of aging (Kahn & Shaw Jr., 2008).

Once, the only possible treatment for the aging of periorbital area was surgical (blepharoplasty), or laser assisted or by injecting fillers (Lee & Yen, 2017; Naik, 2013). Since about a decade, a noninvasive plasma technology is available to treat dermatochalasis and crow's feet.

The aim of this preliminary study is to define a protocol for the use of plasma technology in the treatment of aging signs of the periorbital region. The protocol is aimed to provide predictable, constant and safe results.

2 | MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ten female patients, aged between 40 and 65 years, were enrolled; none of them had concomitant diseases.

The area to be treated was cleaned and disinfected with benzalkonium chloride 0.125%. Local anesthesia with a cream based on lidocaine 2.5% and prilocaine 2.5%, was applied. Each patient thus underwent a nonsurgical “blepharoplasty” session with an Italian fractional plasma generator (Plasmage[®], by Brera Medical Technologies Srl, Italy). The device is used according to a spot technique, by drawing triangles with bases aligned to the skin fold to be flattened, and