The combination of Rhytidoplasty & fractional CO₂ laser therapy in the treatment of facial aging

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Background: The facial aging is a natural biological process noticed by falling tissue, accenting lines, furrows, wrinkles, dyschromias and loss of facial volume. The rhytidectomy alone often fails to achieve patients expected goal. That's why there is a high demand for adjunct laser skin treatment.

Material & Methods: From January 2007 to February 2013, 80 treat patients skin types I to IV Fitzpatrick were underwent to large undermined cutaneous flap rhytidectomy and SMAS plicature plus hialuronic acid injection on nasolabial folds and lips and concomitant Lumenis UltraPulse CO₂ Active FX total ablation mode resurfacing on non undermined skin and fractional laser of skin on the undermined skin utilizing different energies concerning type of skin. The patients were evaluated at 5º, 10º, 15º, 30º, 60º and at 90º days' answers to a specific questionnaire about satisfaction.

Results: Complications included expansive haemathoms 5%, partial necrosis 1.25%, bacterial infection 1.25%, herpetic infection 1.25%, hypertrophic scar 1.25%, and spot hyper chromic 1.25%. 95% of patients declared extremely satisfied; 3.75% satisfied and only 1.25% unsatisfied.

Conclusion: The combination of subcutaneous flap rhytidectomy and SMAS plicature with fractional laser resurfacing plus hialuronic acid injection is a safe procedure with low incidence of major complications and improves patient satisfaction.

Level of Evidence: IV - Case series with pre/post test

Biography
Marcio Moreira has completed his PhD from Sao Paulo Federal University School of Medicine. He is the Director of Plasticlinica and Professor of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in the School of Medicine at Inga University / UNINGA - Maringa - PR - Brazil. He is a Full Member of the Brazilian Society of Plastic Surgery (SBCP) and of the International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ISAPS). He has published numerous papers in reputed journals and serving as an Editorial Board Member of repute.

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