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## Periorbital Rejuvenation Procedures in Facial Plastic Surgery

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## **Original Research Article**

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## Abstract: DOI:

Rejuvenation of the face is an important component of aesthetic plastic surgery practice. Periorbital aging contributes significantly to the overall facial aging. Therefore, periorbital rejuvenation is a big concern for aesthetic plastic surgeons. Various surgical and nonsurgical treatment procedures are available for correction of these signs of aging. The study was conducted in Cosmetic Surgery Centre and Bangladesh Specialized Hospital Ltd. The period of study was from December 2017 to December 2020. A total of 495 procedures were carried out in 121 patients who had signs of periorbital aging. 92 were females and 29 were males. Both surgical and nonsurgical procedures were done. Each of the procedure was evaluated in terms of their effectiveness and probability of complications. The overall results are very nice and pleasing. Complications were minimal. Well-chosen procedures, especially when done in combination, can provide gratifying results in patients undergoing periorbital rejuvenation.

*Keywords*: Plastic Surgery, aesthetic, Periorbital Rejuvenation Procedures.

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## **Introduction:**

Facial rejuvenation is an important component of aesthetic plastic in surgery practice. Appearance of wrinkles along with sagging and volume loss are the major changes that occurs with facial aging<sup>1</sup>. These changes typically involves the periorbital areas, in addition to the cheeks, jowls and neck. With advancing age periorbital changes often become the main cause behind a person looking old and "tired". But sometimes these aging factors, like wrinkles, sagging and volume depletion can start to appear prematurely. Periorbital aging is therefore a big concern for the aesthetic plastic surgeons.

A wide variety of surgical and nonsurgical procedures are available for correction of these signs of aging process. But it is vitally important for the surgeon to assess correctly and choose the right procedure or combination of procedures for that particular patient - in order to provide gratifying results<sup>2</sup>.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS:**

The study was conducted in Cosmetic Surgery Centre and Bangladesh Specialized Hospital Ltd. The period of study was from December 2017 to December 2020. Total of 495 procedures were carried out in 121 patients who had signs of periorbital aging. 92 were females and 29 were males.

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|-----------------|--------|------|--|--|--|
| No. of Patients | Female | Male |  |  |  |
| 121             | 92     | 29   |  |  |  |

The procedures included upper and lower Blepharoplasty, Lipoinjection, Eyebrow lift, Eyebrow transplant, Fractional CO2 Laser, Microneedling, Filler and Botox. Preoperative assessment and adequate counseling was done in all the patients. Majority of the patients were done under Local anesthesia (or none at all, eg in botox and fillers). But lower eyelid blepharoplasty and lipoinjections, specially when done in combination required general anesthesia.

Table-2: Number of Procedures among the 121 patients

| Procedure Name          | Numbers (n=495) |  |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Lower Blepharoplasty    | 24              |  |
| Upper Blepharoplasty    | 19              |  |
| Lipoinjection           | 28              |  |
| Eyebrow Hair transplant | 10              |  |
| Eyebrow Lift            | 18              |  |
| Microneedling           | 139             |  |
| Botox                   | 172             |  |
| Filler                  | 60              |  |
| Laser (CO2 Fractional)  | 25              |  |

#### Procedures -

Lower Eyelid Blepharoplasty: Is done for reshaping the lower eyelids. Here a transverse elliptical area of skin is removed and suborbicular fat compartments are opened<sup>3</sup>. Careful trimming of this excess fat is then done with the use of diathermy. Closure is attained with 6/0 vicryl.

Upper Eyelid Blepharoplasty: This is done mainly to remove the excess skin fold from the upper eyelids. But sometimes suborbicular fat trimming is also required.

Lipoinjection: Fat is harvested from the patient's abdomen, waist or medial thighs, using low suction pressure<sup>4</sup>. And after decantation of oil from the top and removal of RBC from below, lipoinjection is done to fill up the depressions.

Microneedling: It is a procedure where the skin is treated with multiple micro punctures done with a device containing fine needles. Dermaroller and Dermapen are both used commonly for microneedling.

Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP): this is injected into the periorbital skin for achieving rejuvenation, either singularly or in combination with lipoinjection<sup>5</sup>. PRP can also be used on the skin surface while doing microneedling.

Botox: This is one of the commonest procedures used for facial rejuvenation. Skin wrinkles and fine lines can easily be smoothened out by inject this neurotoxin<sup>6</sup>. The result starts to becomes evident after 5 to 7 days after the injection. And it's effect lasts for around six months. This treatment therefore needs to be repeated every six months or so.











Figure 1: Upper Blepharoplasty with Lipoinjection of Tear trough depressions

Figure 2: Before and after transconjunctival blepharoplasty for lower eyelids









Figure 4: Before and after Botox treatment for wrinkles at the corner of eyes (crows feet)

#### **RESULTS:**

Each of the procedure was evaluated in terms of their effectiveness and probability of complications. The overall results are very nice and pleasing. Complications were minimal.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Since periorbital aging is the result of a combination of skin wrinkling, gravity induced sagging and volume depletion, it is vitally important to assess the tissue changes accurately. It is only then that the surgeon can decide which combination of procedure will be best for the patient. Surgical procedures like blepharoplasty are often combined with nonsurgical procedures like Botox or lasers<sup>7</sup>.

Transcutaneous blepharoplasty utilizing external incisions for removal of excess skin from lower eyelid generally heals well, and the scar is hardly visible<sup>8</sup>. Recently we have started doing blepharoplasty through transcutaneous route. This obviates the need for an external incision, and there is no worry of any visible scar.

Volume loss in the Periorbital area can make a person look tired and aged. And this is addressed by injecting HA filler or autologous fat harvested from the patient's abdomen, waist or thighs. HA filler is safe; but reabsorbs completely within 6 months<sup>9,10</sup>. Whereas fat injection can give permanent result, if done properly. Improving the harvesting technique, along with careful processing and injection often give better graft survival. Another distinct advantage of fat grafting over HA filler, is that the skin quality improves over time due to its rejuvenating potential<sup>4</sup>. This is because of presence of ADRC (adipose derived regenerative cells) in the harvested fat.

Complications like bruising, excessive swelling, infection or ptosis can be treated accordingly, with a good outcome. But preoperative counseling along with reassurance is vitally important. Dreadful complications like blindness can very rarely happen when filler or fat is inadvertently injected intravascularly<sup>11</sup>. Blockage of Supra Orbital, Dorsal Nasal or Superior Labial arteries can ultimately occlude the Central Artery of Retina and cause intraoperative blindness. It is therefore important to adhere to the guidelines – such as avoiding sharp cannulas, injecting only while withdrawing the cannula, and never injecting more than 0.1 ml at any one given point. Of course, the surgeon must remember the detailed vascular anatomy of the face while injecting fat or filler in the face. Immediate recognition and injection of hyaluronidase can reverse the situation, in case of blindness after injection of HA (hyaluronic acid) filler. Dermal threads are also be known to be used in some patients for periorbital rejuvenation<sup>12</sup>.

In our experience, Periorbital rejuvenation is a complex area of treatment for aesthetic plastic surgeons. The results can be unrewarding if proper assessment and counseling is not done before the beginning of treatment.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Well chosen procedures especially when done in combination, can provide gratifying results in patients undergoing periorbital rejuvenation.

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