

Orbicularis Oculi Myectomy Via Facelift or Blepharoplasty to Crow Feet Wrinkles Definitive Treatment and Facial Palsy Symmetrization.

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Abstract

Background: Crow feet wrinkles are common complains in patients with Facial Palsy (at the non-paralyzed side) and in patients looking for facial rejuvenation. The botulin toxin substantially reduces these wrinkles but it is temporary. The vertical lateral myectomy of the orbicularis oculi muscle is a definitive treatment for those eyelid lines, via facelift or blepharoplasty. We present 165 cases operated in the last 12 years.

Methods: Surgical methods include exposure of the lateral border of the orbicularis oculi muscle, splayed out and sutured in this spread position, split laterally and the cut ends sutured separately. We operated 165 patients between 28 and 76 years old (average 52.2 ± 10.5). The myectomy was made via temporal region facelift or via blepharoplasty. The number of patients that underwent to facelift were 132 patients, between 33 and 76 years old (average 52.7 ± 8.9) and blepharoplasty were 33 patients, between 28 and 76 years old (average 48.16 ± 9.7). During face lifting, we elevated the skin in the temple and at the orbit. A vertical rectangle strip of approximately 1 to 5.5 cm (average 3.78) by 0.8 to 2.5 cm (average 1.52) was removed in the lateral part of the orbicular muscle. During upper or lower blepharoplasty, the para-orbital skin is elevated and the vertical rectangle strip removed. The resultant depression area is fat grafted. 12 patients presented facial palsy and were submitted to this procedure in the healthy side.

Results: Even via facelift or blepharoplasty the improvement was immediate and all cases have not shown relapse to date. No related complication has been observed. No major problems were observed, even in the immediately post-op days. In both cases, the patient satisfaction and effectiveness of the method are promising. **Conclusion:** Vertical lateral orbicularis oculi myectomy effectively and definitively reduces crow feet wrinkles.

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