

Comprehensive Surgical Treatment of Visual Field Obstruction Due to Brow Ptosis: A Treatment Algorithm



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Introduction

- **Brow ptosis** is a common aesthetic complaint which can also contribute to significant visual field obstruction^{1,2}.
- To our knowledge, there is no currently published algorithm for the surgical treatment of brow ptosis causing visual field obstruction.

Purpose

- Based on review of the literature to date and institutional experience, the authors sought to develop a surgical treatment algorithm for **brow ptosis** that addresses associated **visual field obstruction** while yielding an **aesthetic result**.

Methods

- A **review** of the literature was performed.
- **Inclusion** criteria included:
 - >21 years of age
 - presence of brow ptosis
 - description of the surgical technique(s) used
 - outcome data was reported
 - complete article text available in English

Methods

- **Exclusion** criteria included:
 - pediatric or congenital ptosis
 - preoperative facial paralysis (unilateral or bilateral)
 - revisionary or secondary brow lift procedures
 - complete article text was unavailable or not in English.

Results

- The initial literature search yielded 174 articles.
- There were **29 articles** that met the inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Results

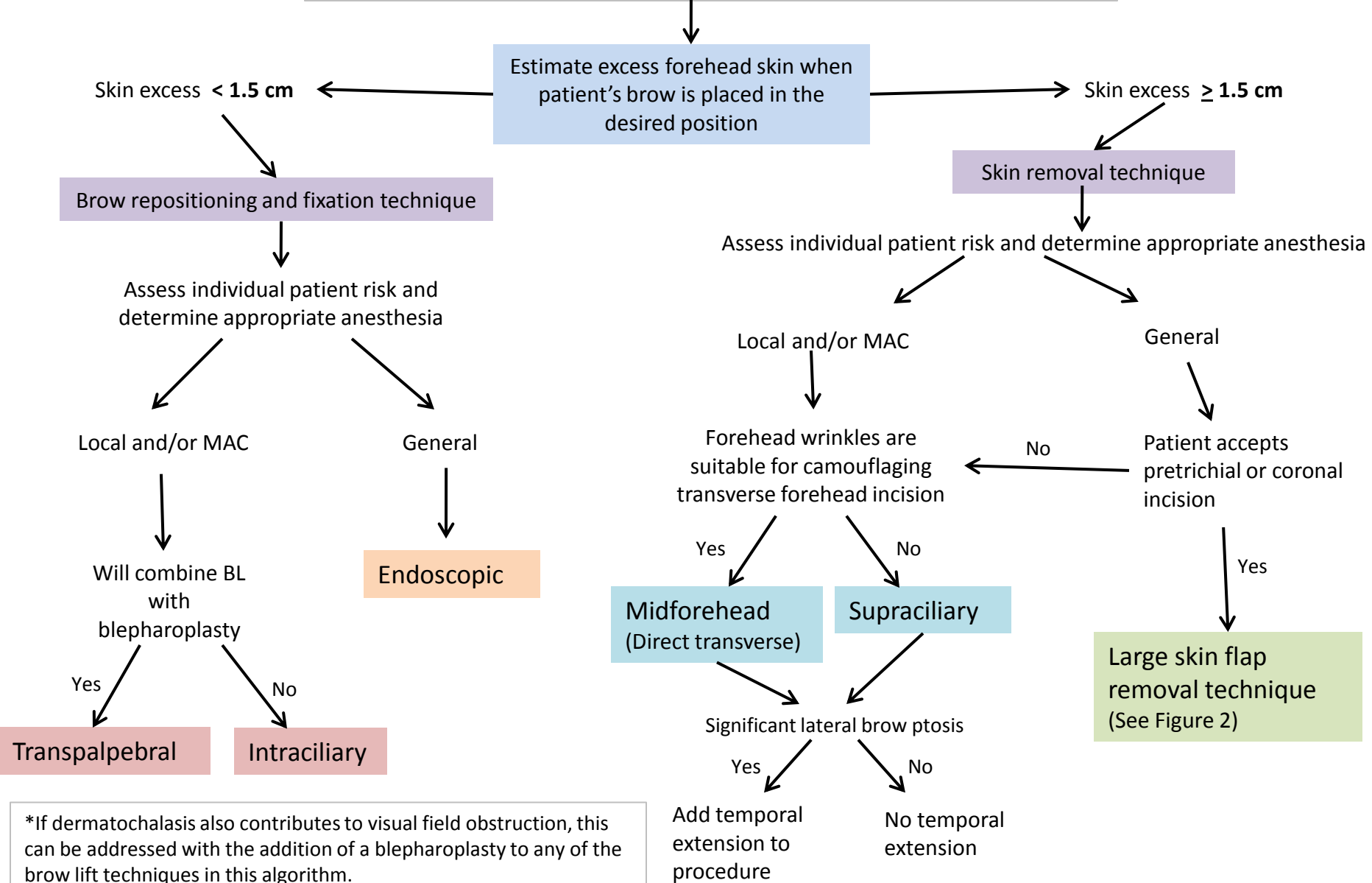
- A wide spectrum of reported techniques and outcome data exist.
- Thus, few findings were directly comparable, but they did prove useful in overall treatment guidance.

Results

- The outcomes reported in the reviewed publications were combined with our institution's experience to construct a **comprehensive surgical treatment algorithm** (Figures 1 and 2).

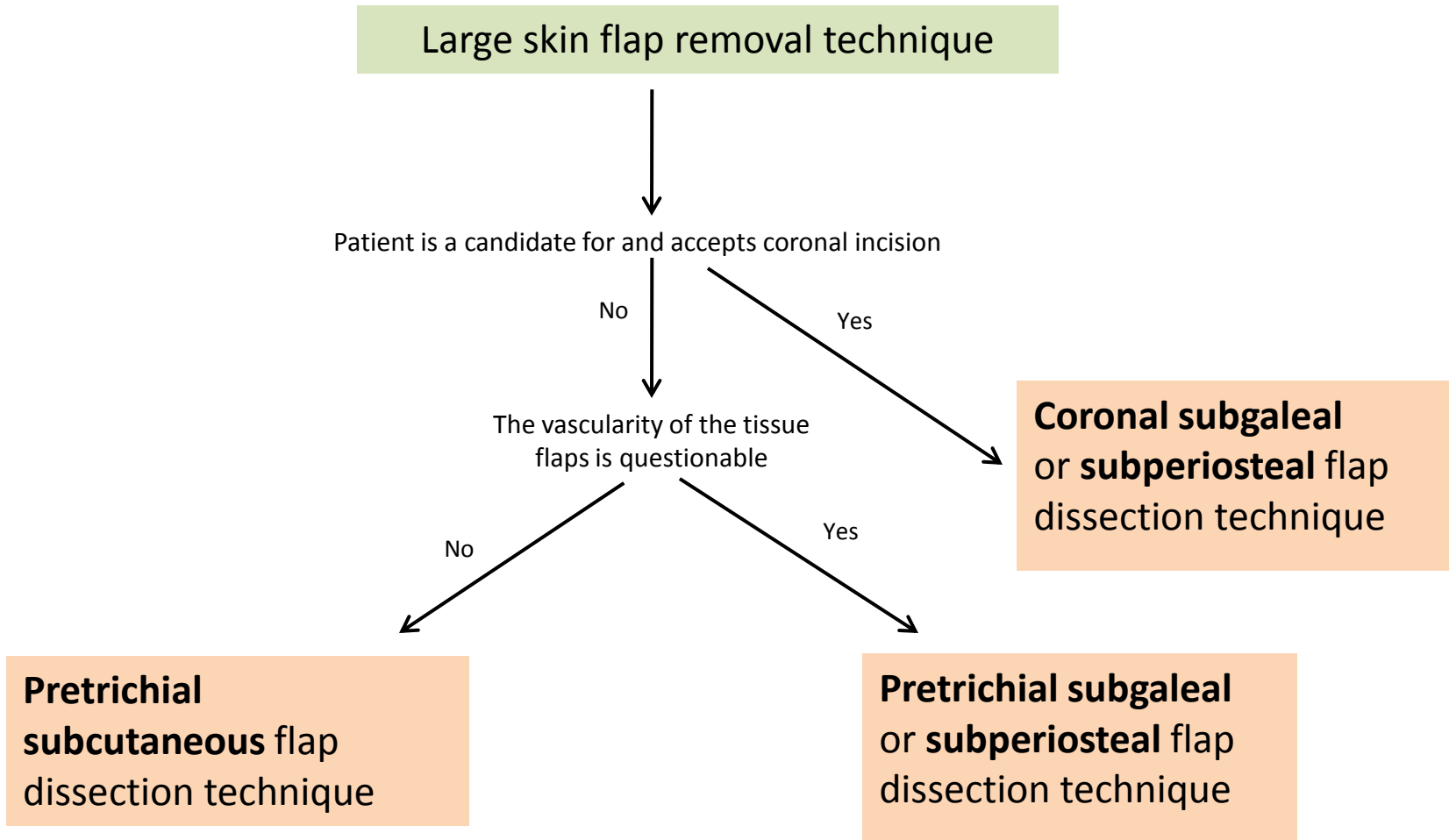
FIGURE 1

Institutional criteria for brow lift (BL) are met:
1. Brow ptosis present
2. Appropriate documentation indicating visual obstruction will likely be improved with BL (i.e. specialty consults, visual field testing, etc.)



*If dermatochalasis also contributes to visual field obstruction, this can be addressed with the addition of a blepharoplasty to any of the brow lift techniques in this algorithm.

FIGURE 2



*If dermatochalasis also contributes to visual field obstruction, this can be addressed with the addition of a blepharoplasty to any of the brow lift techniques in this algorithm.

Conclusion

- Utilizing available literature on brow ptosis and our institution's experience, the authors describe a comprehensive treatment algorithm that effectively addresses the functional *and* aesthetic issues of visual obstruction due to brow ptosis.

References

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