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Efficacy of bidirectional barbed polycaprolactone threads in repositioning of soft tissue in the neck

Introduction: Treatment of soft tissue laxity in the neck region has been a challenge in the field of non-surgical aesthetics. There are many different types of threads that are currently being used to reposition soft tissue in the neck, for example polydioxanone (PDO), poly-lactic acid and polycaprolactone. The efficacy and longevity of results vary according to the angle and spatial distribution of barbs and/or cones, resorption period, and collagen-stimulating ability of the threads as well as the direction(s) of the barbs/cones. This paper presents evidence of the efficacy of Happy Lift threads, which are bidirectional barbed polycaprolactone threads in repositioning soft tissues in the neck. These threads are inserted into the subdermal layer, which give an immediate repositioning of the tissue. It is a very safe procedure with little bleeding, discomfort or pain, and is done with local anesthetics. There is little or no down time, and most procedures take no longer than 1 hour.

Materials and Methods: Histological studies were carried out at specific time points up to 15 months post-procedure to determine the effects of Happy Lift threads placement on skin thickness and collagen levels.

Results: Histologically, it is shown that mast cells migrate to the area where the Happy Lift threads are inserted, and the formation of a homogeneous fibrous capsule around the threads that continues to assure tissue firmness. The dermis becomes thicker indicating the formation of new collagen and elastin. The procedure of introducing the thread into the tissue does not give an acute inflammatory response, and therefore the long lasting lifting effect is caused by the cutaneous reaction.

Conclusion: The Happy Lift threads are not resorbed by the tissue until at least 12 months, which contributes to a substantial production of new collagen, elastin, hyaluronic acid and also induces angiogenesis. This gives a gradual increasing lift and revitalization for the next 6-12 months post-procedure.

Biography

Vincent Wong is an established aesthetics doctor, trainer and author based in London. He is Save Face accredited and has won several awards for his work. As a Key Opinion Leader, he has headlined a number of national campaigns within the aesthetics industry and publishes scientific papers on a regular basis. Recognised as a pioneer in his field, Dr. Vincent has also been featured in popular press, radio and TV channels.

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