

Treatment of Facial Rhytides and Laxity

Using Multiple Treatments with Controlled Radio Frequency

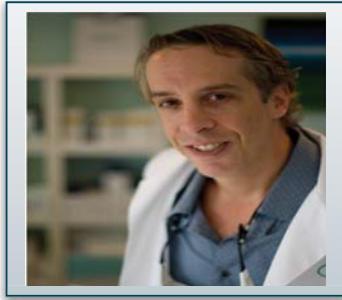
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PROFILE



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INTRODUCTION

Facial rhytides, or wrinkles, have been demonstrated to respond to treatment with a variety of laser and light based devices that deliver controlled amounts of energy to the skin. Recently a device utilizing radio frequency (RF) energy has become available (INFINI, Lutronic, Inc., Fremont, CA) that is capable of delivering specific and highly controlled amounts of RF energy through an array of microneedles into the skin, producing remarkable cosmetic results not only in facial wrinkles but also in reducing skin laxity that occurs with aging.

I have previously reported on results for facial wrinkles and laxity using a single RF treatment. This case study report describes a case in my practice that demonstrates the type of results that can be achieved using more than one treatment with little to no long-term side effects.

PATIENT DETAILS

This patient presented as a 66 y/o female with fair, type II skin and moderate to heavy wrinkles on the cheeks, jowl and neck, and demonstrating moderate laxity in the skin of the frontal and lateral neck. She had a facelift 2 years ago. CO₂ ablative laser resurfacing about 10 years ago. Sculptra, 6 vials, completed 1 year ago.

DEVICE DESCRIPTION

The INFINI device delivers bipolar RF energy through insulated microneedles at a frequency of 1 MHz to create coagulative thermal effects to the dermis while sparing the epidermis from unwanted side effects. The power is adjusted in steps from setting 1 (2.5W) to a maximum of 20 (50W), and the duration of each exposure is selectable from 10 ms to 1000 ms. The RF energy is delivered into the skin through a disposable tip containing an array of either 49 or 16 microneedles that penetrate into the skin at depths adjustable from 0.5 to 3.5 mm.

TREATMENT PROTOCOL

Prior to treatment the patient received 1000mg Tylenol and topical anesthesia using a 23% lidocaine/7% tetracaine ointment mix for approximately one hour, followed by a facial nerve block using 5 cc of lidocaine with epinephrine diluted with saline 50%. Anesthesia was then carefully removed using alcohol wipes and skin cleansed with Hibiclens[®] to reduce risk of infection. Two treatment sessions were administered, spaced one month apart. The first treatment consisted of two passes on the lower face and neck using the INFINI 49 tip set at power level 5, duration 150 ms, and microneedle depth of 3.0 mm. The lower face was then retreated with two passes using the same power and duration, but at a shallower microneedle depth of 2.25 mm. Power, duration and depth were then all lowered to 4, 140 ms, and 1.5 mm, respectively, and the lower face and the full neck received an additional two passes.

Post-treatment the face was cleaned, and TNS recovery complex and 1% clindamycin gel were applied. She was also given 1000 mg and 1 gm Valacyclovir p.o. q 12 hours x 3 doses. The appearance of the face immediately following treatment exhibited mild redness and swelling which resolved over a few days.

The patient was seen for her second treatment at one month with a similar anesthesia and pre-treatment protocol. Treatment settings were increased to power 6, 160 ms, and microneedle depth of 3.5 mm for two passes on the lower face and upper neck, followed by two passes on the lower face at level 5, 150ms and 2.25mm depth. The periorbital lines and lower face then were treated using power level 6, 60 ms at a depth of 1.0 mm; and finally the perioral and periorbital lines were treated using power level 4, 40 ms at a depth of 0.5 mm. Post-treatment again consisted of TNS recovery complex and 1% clindamycin gel.

RESULTS

The photographs below show this patient before treatment and one month following her second treatment with the INFINI system.

Date Taken: 1/20/14	Date Taken: 3/27/14
	
Before INFINI Treatment	One Month After Two INFINI Treatments

CONCLUSIONS

The INFINI treatments were well tolerated by the patient and she experienced minimal downtime, with full recovery occurring in less than a week.

PHYSICIAN QUOTE

“This patient is a high user of cosmetic procedures. These results show that moderate to severe wrinkles can be improved with the INFINI, as well as tightening along the jawl. The horizontal neck lines which are challenging to treat have also responded to INFINI.”

Steven Weiner, MD
The Aesthetic Clinique

PATIENT QUOTE

“The INFINI is my favorite cosmetic procedure. I’ve had lasers, facelift, fillers, but the INFINI has shown the most results. I have very little downtime. In fact, my third INFINI will be one week before I get married and go on a month long honeymoon. I’m confident that I will look great for my wedding.”

PHYSICIAN CONSENT

Physician Name: Steven F. Weiner, MD

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I certify that I have obtained the necessary patient consent to share the images included in this case study with Lutronic and understand that these images will be used in Lutronic marketing and education materials. The patients’ rights to privacy will always be protected and eyes will be blocked (as necessary) to ensure this privacy.

Signed: ___Signature On File_____

Steven F. Weiner, MD