Perioral Wrinkle Treatment Using Radio Frequency Energy

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INTRODUCTION

Treatment of facial wrinkles is one of the most commonly requested cosmetic procedures and can be addressed using a variety of techniques. I have recently begun offering in my practice a treatment using controlled radio frequency (RF) energy (INFINI, Lutronic, Inc., Fremont, CA) that is delivered into the skin through arrays of microneedles that can produce good cosmetic results for facial wrinkles. This case study report describes one such case in my practice that demonstrates the type of results that I can achieve.

DEVICE DESCRIPTION

The INFINI device delivers bipolar RF energy through a disposable tip of 200 micron diameter microneedles that are arranged in a 7 X 7 array (49 microneedles) that penetrate up to 3.5 mm into the skin to create thermal coagulative effects in the dermis while sparing the epidermis from undesired damage. The RF energy can be adjusted from power setting 1 (2.5 W) to a maximum of setting 20 (50 W) with an exposure time adjustable from 10 ms to 1 second.

PATIENT DETAILS

This patient presented as a 53 y/o female with type III skin seeking treatment for moderate wrinkles on the cheeks and perioral region. She received a total of three INFINI treatments spaced four to eight weeks apart.

TREATMENT PROTOCOL

Prior to each treatment, make up was removed and a topical anesthesia cream was applied consisting of 20% Benzocaine, 8% Lidocaine and 4% Tetracaine (BLT) for 30 minutes. The cream was removed with dry gauze, and then the entire face was double-cleansed with an Obagi® foaming facial cleanser. Finally the skin was sanitized with alcohol wipes. For her first treatment we used a power setting of 8, exposure time of 120 ms and a microneedle depth of 0.5 mm on the forehead and nose; and then three passes to the cheeks and perioral region at power settings from 4 to 6, exposure 120 to 140 ms, and depth of 1.0 to 2.75 mm, always beginning with highest, longest and deepest settings for the first pass and then decreasing slightly for subsequent passes. Similar techniques were used for her second treatment eight weeks later, and third treatment four weeks after that, although power settings were increased up to setting 8 for the whole face as the procedure was well tolerated by the patient.

Following each treatment, the face was gently cleaned, but no antibiotics or pain management medications were needed. Mild erythema resolved by 24 hours. The patient was seen again at seven months following her third treatment.
RESULTS

The photographs below show this patient before treatment and seven months following her third INFINI treatments.

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<tr>
<th>Date Taken: 11/20/2013</th>
<th>Date Taken: 9/26/2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before INFINI Treatment</td>
<td>Seven Months After Three INFINI Treatments</td>
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CONCLUSIONS

Noticeable and long lasting improvement in the appearance of this patient’s facial wrinkles, particularly in the nasolabial folds and perioral regions, were demonstrated following her INFINI treatments.

PHYSICIAN COMMENTS

“The INFINI treatments were very well tolerated by this patient with little post-treatment downtime, and the results on her wrinkles, particularly in the perioral region were impressive. INFINI has now become of my favorite treatments that I offer my patients.”

Amy Miller, MD
Saint Louis Skin Solutions

PATIENT COMMENTS

“After my first treatment I really didn’t notice anything but my sister asked what I was doing to my skin, after my second treatment my co-workers and friends started asking what I was doing to my skin and by the third treatment I could see the improvement. I love it.”
PHYSICIAN CONSENT

Physician Name: Amy Miller, MD
Clinic Name: Saint Louis Skin Solutions
Contact Number: 314.543.4015

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________
Amy Miller, MD