FUTUROLOGY: POTENTIALS AND PROBABILITIES IN COSMETIC PROCEDURES

THE FUTURE

Science and medicine have come a long way in the last few decades and one area that has seen, not only exponential growth in terms of its value, but also the development of ground breaking technologies and techniques, is the cosmetic enhancement market. Finding a ‘cure’ for ageing has become the Holy Grail and with the possibilities for how we turn back the clock becoming ever more rapid and varied, Gert Gaudy looks at what the future of the industry holds.

Culture critics have long said that, for the most part, fashion has not changed in about 20 years, yet our view on ageing and what constitutes beauty have changed dramatically in that time. Two decades ago cosmetic surgery was a little talked about taboo, seen as something the rich and famous, not the man or woman on the street, would do. But fast forward to today and it is not just celebrities who are undergoing the latest or visiting a cosmetic practitioner for sensible, beauty treatments. Dr Mauricio de la Mora, leading plastic surgeon in Brazil and author of The Main Fat Bombs in Aesthetic Medicine, has a bold stand: “We can make people look younger”, meaning that people can have the same face in their twenties, thirties, and forties that they had in their twenties and thirties.

Combine that with British gynaecologist Dr Andrew de Grey’s assertion that we are testing on the brink of extending life to 150, then looking youthful in our sixties will seem looking good in your midle ages – not such a far-fetched idea.

Furthermore, breakthroughs in science, the present world population has never before had such a high percentage of people aged 50 and over, and that number will only grow larger in the coming years. This segment of the population has been called “Zoomers”, who, now more than ever, are ready, want their outward appearance to reflect their inner self.

So what does the future hold in terms of cosmetic innovation? Consultant plastic surgeon Dr James Caporossi sees the advent of new, “smart fillers”, as the next big development, and says that injectables will also have “a rejuvenating effect over and above adding volume due to their biological action on stimulating skin.” Procedures such as “Biofactors” have been shown to do this already and Mr Groves believes this approach will be further developed.

New York ophthalmologist Dr Z Fun Lorenc agrees that the “least invasive” or “Fame石化al” technologies, including Laser, Ultrasound, Sculptra™, and Artellis. These products, he says, “are unique in that they have been shown to stimulate new collagen production over time, creating lasting anti-ageing benefits.”

The use of fat transfer to address this will also continue to increase, says Mr Groves, utilizing stem cells for their ability to improve skin. “The transfer of fat is now revolutionised by the work of Sydney Coleman. Previously, fat transfer was unreliable, but he developed a method of improving the harvest, purification, and injection of fat to the face, which makes the results more predictable. More recently, we have discovered that fat transfer from one part of the body can contain stem cells, which are not fat. These have the ability to stimulate skin regeneration: helping collagen synthesis and skin barrier function. So this means that transferred fat not only adds volume but has the biological effect of retaining skin quality.”

Autologous treatments, too, may benefit from fat transfer technology since patients, now, can be screened for cancer, allowing them to determine the mantle, protocols, and implants that will reduce the incidence of relapse.

Volume reduction is a concern as well, particularly when it comes to nose jobs. New York facial plastic surgeon Dr, John Wais, has an increasingly wider range of ethnic rhinoplasty patients, particularly from the Middle East and Southeast Asia. The specific characteristics of these patients prompted him to develop

Autologous and biologic materials will play an even greater role in the future.
SURGICAL IMPROVEMENTS

VASER 4D BODY SCULPTING

Vaser has been a long one of the latest innovations in body sculpting in recent years. By utilizing the ultrasound technology, it allows physicians to contour and reshape different areas of the body simultaneously. The procedure is minimally invasive, resulting in minimal downtime and less scarring. It is particularly effective for treating areas such as the abdomen, thighs, and buttocks. The Vaser procedure is performed under general anesthesia, and patients can expect to see results within 6-12 weeks.

IMPLANTS

HAIR TRANSPLANTATION

Hair transplantation is a surgical procedure used to treat hair loss in men and women. During the procedure, hair is harvested from a donor area on the side or back of the head, and then transplanted to a bald or thinning area. The technique is typically performed under local anesthesia and can result in permanent hair growth. Recovery time varies depending on the extent of the procedure, but patients can usually return to normal activities within a few days.

Laser hair removal

Laser hair removal is a non-invasive treatment that uses a laser to destroy hair follicles. A beam of targeted light is directed at the hair follicle, causing the hair to be destroyed at the root. This process is repeated several times to achieve the desired results. Laser hair removal is effective for removing hair from various parts of the body, including the face, arms, legs, and underarms. It is a safe and effective treatment with minimal side effects. The procedure is typically performed under local anesthesia, and results can last for several months to years depending on the individual.

BLUE LIGHT THERAPY

Blue light therapy is a non-invasive treatment that uses specific types of light therapy to stimulate the production of collagen and elastin in the skin. This helps to improve the appearance of wrinkles, fine lines, and skin texture. Blue light therapy is often used in combination with other treatments such as chemical peels or laser treatments. The procedure is relatively painless and can be performed in a dermatologist’s office. Results can vary depending on the individual’s skin type and the severity of their skin concerns, but most patients see improvement in skin texture and appearance within a few weeks to months.

FIBROBLASTS

Fibroblasts are cells that are responsible for producing collagen, which is a protein that helps to give skin its structure and elasticity. As we age, the number of fibroblasts in the skin decreases, leading to skin that is less firm and less plump. Fibroblast treatments are designed to stimulate the production of new collagen in the skin, resulting in a firmer, more youthful appearance.

BUZZ WORDS

DNA repair

Many aesthetic treatments are designed to encourage collagen and elastin production in the skin. These treatments work by targeting the DNA repair process and encouraging the production of new collagen and elastin. Many of these treatments use growth factors to stimulate the growth of new collagen and elastin. Examples include platelet-rich plasma (PRP), microneedling, and cryolipolysis.

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VOLUMINIZING FILLERS

Dermalfillers are products injected into the skin to achieve a desired effect. They are used to add volume to the skin, particularly in areas where volume has been lost due to aging, sun damage, or other factors. There are a variety of different dermal fillers available, each with its own unique properties and benefits. Some of the most popular dermal fillers include hyaluronic acid, calcium hydroxylapatite, and collagen.

BABY BOTOX

Baby Botox is a term used to describe the use of Botox injections in children and young adults. These injections are used to treat a variety of conditions, including strabismus (crossed eyes), hemifacial microsomia, and other conditions that affect the appearance or function of the face. Baby Botox injections are typically performed by pediatric plastic surgeons and are designed to improve the appearance of the face and to enhance function.

VAMPIRE THERAPY

Vampire therapy is a non-invasive treatment that uses blood platelets to stimulate the growth of new collagen and elastin in the skin. This treatment is commonly referred to as “the brunch of young stem cells.” Vampire therapy is performed by drawing blood from the patient’s arm, activating the blood platelets, and then injecting the activated platelets into the skin. The result is a skin that is firmer, more youthful, and more plump.