

CO₂ Insufflation Touted for Eyelid Rejuvenation

BY DAMIAN McNAMARA
Miami Bureau

LAS VEGAS — Carbon dioxide insufflation of the eyelids provides patients with an improved cosmetic appearance and is the only effective treatment option for vascular pooling, according to a presentation at an international symposium on cosmetic and laser surgery.

"After four or five treatments, we have seen marked improvement in eyelid texture, rhytidosis, hyperpigmentation, vascular pooling, fatty prolapse, and tissue luminosity," Dr. Stephen Bosniak said. "This is a unique treatment for vascular pooling. A lot of people have this shadowing of the skin below the eye, and we have not had a treatment for this prior to this."

Using what is called the CO₂Cellular technique, the lower eyelid is insufflated with carbon dioxide through a 30-gauge needle at 20 mm/minute. The targeted delivery of carbon dioxide gas increases

blood flow and oxygenation, leading to improvements in skin irregularities and elasticity, according to studies done by Dr. Bosniak and his colleague, Dr. Marian Cantisano-Zikha of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The theory is that local insufflation of carbon dioxide gas tricks the body into thinking there is not enough oxygen and it responds, said Dr. Bosniak, ophthalmology surgeon, Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, New York.

Each treatment session takes about 10

minutes with no downtime. Dr. Bosniak's technique is safe to use in combination with other skin improvement therapies. Some swelling and erythema are possible immediately after treatment, but these effects are transient, he said. Some patients might be alarmed by the bulging area of insufflation below their eye, he added, but it disappears in 3-5 minutes. "We don't let them look in the mirror while this is happening."

Improvements in rhytidosis and luminosity occur in patients regardless of skin type, Dr. Bosniak said. Some lightening of hyperpigmentation in darker skin types he has observed could be an effect of carbon dioxide on melanin, he added.

Clinical improvements tend to level off after five treatments. "For some patients, the changes appear to be permanent. Others need to return for retreatment in 6-9 months," he said. ■

BRIEF SUMMARY

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use ZIANA Gel safely and effectively. See Full Prescribing Information for ZIANA Gel at www.Ziana.com.

ZIANA™

(clindamycin phosphate 1.2% and tretinoin 0.025%) Gel

Rx Only

For topical use only

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ZIANA Gel is indicated for the topical treatment of acne vulgaris in patients 12 years or older.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

ZIANA Gel is contraindicated in patients with regional enteritis, ulcerative colitis, or history of antibiotic-associated colitis.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- Colitis: Clindamycin can cause severe colitis, which may result in death. Diarrhea, bloody diarrhea, and colitis (including pseudomembranous colitis) have been reported with the use of clindamycin. ZIANA Gel should be discontinued if significant diarrhea occurs.
- Ultraviolet Light and Environmental Exposures: Avoid exposure to sunlight and sunlamps. Wear sunscreen daily.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Observed local adverse reactions in patients treated with ZIANA Gel were skin erythema, scaling, itching, burning, and stinging. Other most commonly reported adverse events ($\geq 1\%$ in patients treated with ZIANA Gel) were nasopharyngitis, pharyngolaryngeal pain, dry skin, cough, and sinusitis.

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Medicis, The Dermatology Company at 1-800-900-6389 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch

DRUG INTERACTIONS

Concomitant use of topical medications with a strong drying effect can increase skin irritation. Use with caution.

- ZIANA Gel should not be used in combination with erythromycin-containing products because of its clindamycin component.

Manufactured for:
Medicis, The Dermatology Company®
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Revised: 11/2006

300-13B/HL

New Fraxel Laser Tip Improves Eyelid Wrinkles

LAS VEGAS — Fine wrinkling of the eyelids seemed to respond "quite nicely" to fractional laser resurfacing with a specially designed tip, Dr. Brian S. Biesman said at the annual meeting of the American Society of Cosmetic Dermatology and Aesthetic Surgery.

The new 0.25-cm² tip for the Fraxel laser extends away from the device housing to permit use on the eyelids.

This innovative approach is "not quite" a lunchtime procedure, requiring an hour for topical anesthetic application prior to each of four sessions and several days of downtime while swelling and erythema subside, he said.

The preliminary results, however, have been "very impressive," Dr. Biesman said following the meeting.

In his study, Dr. Biesman enrolled 20 patients, aged 38-70 years (average age 49), to receive four treatments at intervals of 9-28 days (average interval 14 days). At the time of his meeting presentation, 15 of the 20 patients had completed all four sessions and a 1-month follow-up was available on nine patients. Preliminary results suggest that patients tolerated the procedure well, despite mild to moderate erythema and edema lasting 3-4 days.

"Patients typically returned to their activities in 2-3 days," he said.

For the first patients to complete the treatment and follow-up, improvements in texture and the appearance of wrinkling were rated 2.14 and 1.74, respectively, on a 0-4 scale. Dr. Biesman emphasized that not all patients in the study have completed the follow-up examinations.

"There's definitely something there," he said in an interview. "We're not seeing any regression [in improvement] over time."

Dr. Biesman disclosed that he has received grant and research support from, and is a paid consultant to, Reliant Technologies, manufacturer of the Fraxel laser.

—Betsy Bates

