

Approach of Lift 6® in the aesthetic treatment of décolleté

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As many *in vitro* studies have previously demonstrated, mechanical stimulation of fibroblasts induces a remodeling of the extracellular matrix and particularly a neo-synthesis of collagen (1,2). This effect has been observed *in vivo* in animals (3) and humans (4) with the tissue mobilizing medical device, the CelluM6® (LPG® Systems). Another mechanical stimulation device adapted to facial care, the Lift6® (LPG® Systems), induces a tangential stimulation of the skin with the combination of a suction and rhythmic beating of treatment heads flaps. A study conducted with the Lift 6® outlined an effect on collagen and elastin production and a firming up and also a restructuring effect (5).

According to the results obtained with the Lift6® in facial skin ageing (5) we wanted to measure the effects on other delicate areas subject to cutaneous loosening such as décolleté and breast. The main objective was to study the firming and restructuring effect of the Lift6® on these new application areas. The secondary objective was to evaluate tolerance and subject satisfaction.

1 MATERIAL AND METHODS

19 women, healthy volunteers of caucasian origin, were evaluated 4 times over 6 weeks : a first evaluation before treatment (W0), an evaluation after 2 and 4 weeks (W2 and W4 respectively) of treatment and a final evaluation 2 weeks after the end of treatment (W6). They were 34.6 ± 9.0 years old on average (minimum=21.0 and maximum=55.0), with healthy skin on décolleté and breast and a bra size ≤ 90 .

Volunteers were treated 20 minutes according to a protocol established by the manufacturer, 3 times/week during 4 weeks, on the décolleté and breast.

Evaluation criteria included clinical examinations with different measurement, digital photographs front and profile, a self-questionnaire related to efficacy and acceptability of treatment (effect on skin quality, on breast firmness and their sagging characteristics, pleasant nature, satisfaction, local tolerance).

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(Lift 6® is a trade mark of LPG®)

Approach of Lift 6®

In the aesthetic treatment of décolleté

2 RESULTS

Objective measurements outline a tendency in favour of a lifting effect observed at W4 (end of treatment): decrease of the distance « hemi-clavicle- nipple » (Figure 1) and the distance « sub sternum dimple- nipple » (Figure 2). This effect is confirmed by photographs (Cf original version). Self-questionnaires show an improvement of breast firmness at W2 and principally W4 with 89.5% of the subjects who find their breast firm (Figure 4) along with good or very good improvement of skin quality (Figure 5).

A significant lifting effect or reasonable effect observed on 8 subjects (42.1%) 2 weeks after the treatment period. Furthermore, 10 subjects (52.6%) consider that the improvement is quiet good at W6.

During evaluation of treatment acceptability (W2 and W4), 12 subjects (63.2%) consider the treatment very pleasant, 7 subjects (36.8%) consider it fairly pleasant.

After 2 weeks of treatment, 6 subjects (31.6%) were very satisfied and 11 subjects were fairly satisfied (57.9%). 2 weeks after the end of treatment, 4 subjects (21.1%) were very satisfied of the treatment and 10 subjects (52.6%) fairly satisfied.

Local tolerance was judged optimal by 11 subjects (57.9%) after 2 weeks of treatment and by 9 subjects (47.4%) after 4 weeks of treatment. It was judged good by 7 patients (36.8%) after 2 weeks of treatment and by 9 subjects (47.4%) after 4 weeks of treatment. Finally, 17 subjects (89.5%) were motivated to have Lift-6® treatment again.

Fig.1.
Distance hemi
clavicle-nipple

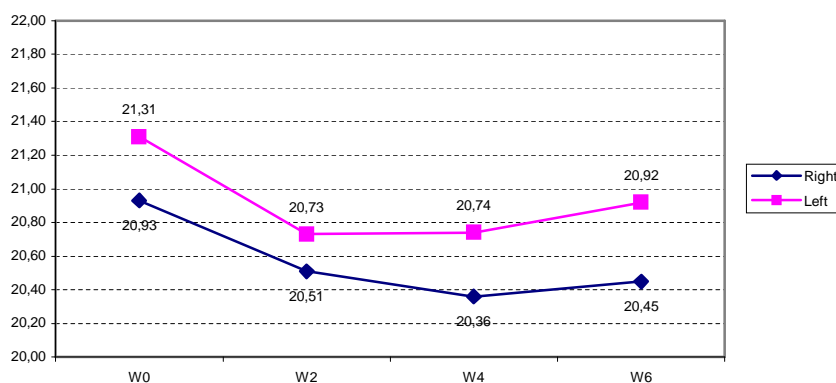
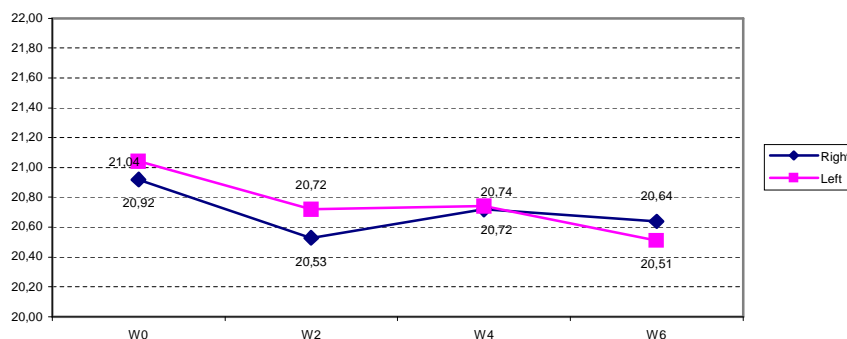


Fig.2.
Distance sub
sternum dimple-
nipple



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3 CONCLUSION

Results observed either with objective measurements or self-questionnaire are all directed at the same object than results obtained on face (5) and confirm the firming effect of the Lift6®. By the improvement it induces, the global satisfaction felt by the subjects and by its excellent tolerance, this device can be proposed for the aesthetic treatment of décolleté and breast.

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Fig.4.
Breast firmness

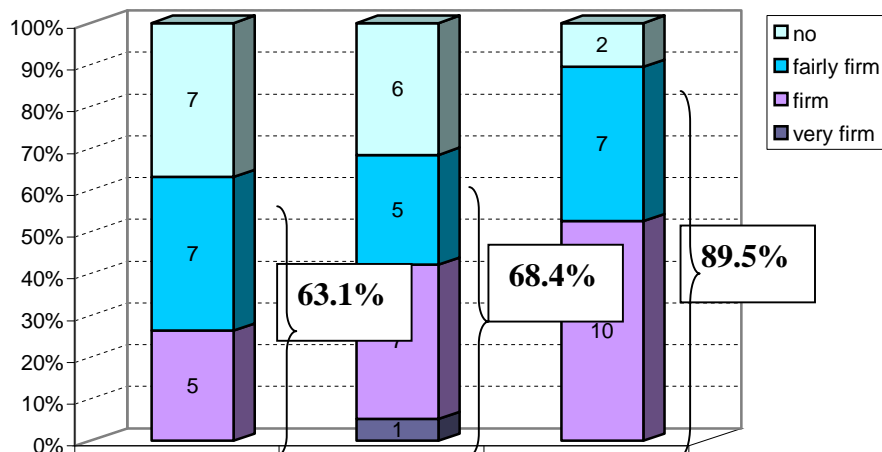


Fig.5.
Skin quality
improvement

