

EYE CONTOUR: ACTUAL POSSIBILITIES OF RECOVERY CONTORNO OCCHI: LE POSSIBILITA ATTUALI DI RESTAURO

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The aging of the periorcular region is probably what has most worried men and women from the beginning of the century.

The skin in this anatomical region is thin, sensitive and susceptible to pigmentation. The subcutaneous cellular tissue is very rare and all of this group of skin and subcutaneous cellular tissue is supported over a muscle which is a very delicate periorbital orbicular muscle. Another part of the anatomy is fatty bags that help to support the eyeball (bulbus oculi)

For many years, plastic surgery was the only treatment used in the aging of the eye contours. This treatment, on its own, brings good results in the short term, from the point of view of the removal of excess skin and baggy eye lids. In the medium and long term the quality of the skin becomes important and other complementary treatments could be needed for a perfect recovery of the structure of the eye contour.

Blepharoplasty took on a new direction after the introduction of the laser as a surgical tool. The final quality of the skin is far superior after treatment by laser skin resurfacing. Bleeding almost does never occurs and the recovery time is vastly reduced.

For younger patients, with a lesser degree of age damage, there are different techniques that can adequately repair this anatomical area without the need for surgery. By way of a chemical, non exfoliating, stimulation program, it is possible to develop a large amount of a structural protein called glycosaminoglycans (GAG's) which are responsible for the retaining the intradermal water, which is fundamental to keep the skin turgid, flexible and having an attractive sheen. This procedure should be repeated every 15 days, because of the life cycle of the GAG's and between each non exfoliating stimulation the skin should receive daily antioxidant treatment, having a low renewal capacity of the superficial stratum corneum.

When there is a large activity of the orbicular muscle and this leads to the formation of wrinkles which are increased upon muscular contraction (Dynamic Wrinkles), the best treatment is the apply botulinum toxin, which is injected into the muscle, to allow temporarily relaxation of the muscle. This treatment is very popular at the moment, but its cost, and the trauma caused by the needle, scares a lot of people away.

A new, revolutionary, product was released in the US in the past few months. The topical use of a hexapeptide, containing 6 amino acids, (SKIN RENU® INTENSIVE SERUM W) which is capable of penetrating the skin. This also relaxes the muscle, similar to the effect obtained with the botulinum toxin. Together with this effect, the hexapeptide proposal also restores the lipidic layer. This recovery is very important in maintaining the quality of the skin, as the skin has suffers a lot, over a the years, by the loss of this group of natural lipids, which are found in young skin.