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Assessment of the efficiency of Botox and lip reposition in the correction of the gummy smile according to the patients' satisfaction

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This study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of both injection botulinum toxin type A (Botox) and surgical lip reposition in the correction of the gummy smile due to hyperactive upper lip based on the resulting smile and patients' satisfaction. This is done to devise a less damaging (to tissues) and more stable alternative in giving results with statistical importance and aesthetically satisfying results. The method was tested on 24 patients: 12 received the BTX-A injection and the remaining 12 underwent surgical lip reposition. The patients rated their satisfaction according to their gingival display that was defined as the difference between the lower margin of the upper lip and the superior margin of the right incisor. These patients were followed up at 2 weeks, 2 months and 6 months, post-injection and post-surgery with changes documented by photographs. Both groups answered a questionnaire addressing the overall appearance and they were asked to rate the improvement of their smile based on a 5-point aesthetic scale. BTX-A injection exhibits better results than those of surgery and had given safer and more satisfactory results than lip reposition. The patients rated the effects of BTX-A as highly favorable, if we take into consideration that BTX-A was temporarily effective but the surgical procedure (lip reposition) is 80% recurrent surgery as the lip reverted back to its original position with almost complete relapse after 6 months, containing all the dangers affiliated with the surgical procedures.

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