

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

DILEMMA OF PLATYSMAL BANDS

Dear Sir,

As each year goes by supposedly new techniques arise to be assessed, used and then discarded again until some point in the future. In platysmal surgery we tend to cut, tighten, suture, release and excise platysmal bands. As surgeons, we always try to have some form of empirical construct from which to base our decisions. If something like a scar is too tight, then operations are designed to release the scar. If something is too loose or has become detached then operations are designed to tighten or reinsert.

This brings me to the dilemma of the platysmal bands. Are bands too tight? Are bands too loose? It is a funny thing that we excise them, release them, suture them together and thereby cover for all bases! If you stand back from this wide array of treatments for platysmal bands and look at it critically, you can't help but conclude that we have yet to find the correct set of concepts that will bring us to the next generation of procedures.

*Dr Claudio de Lorenzi
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Readers are encouraged to submit letters on all aspects relating to plastic surgery, on the understanding that they may be subject to amendment at the Editor's discretion

Editor