



Neck Muscle Replacing Collagen in Lip Implants



Neck muscle grafts could soon replace collagen implants in cosmetic lip surgery.

This new technique was tried by surgeons of the Aesthetic Surgery Centre in Naples, Florida, and their findings have been published in the Archives of Facial Plastic Surgery.

Dr. Anurag Aggarwal and his colleagues claim that they achieved successful results in 25 patients. In this procedure, a graft of sternocleidomastoid muscle that runs along the side of the neck, and connective tissue that overlies it, is implanted in the patient's lips. This gives the lips a plumper and fuller appearance.

According to Dr. Aggarwal, patients seemed to prefer neck grafts to artificial implants. He says, "Our patients have been thrilled with the natural feel and appearance, without the need for an artificial filler or implant".

Researchers also say that the surgery is simple and post operative care and recuperation has minimum complications. This could be another reason for its popularity among patients.

They also claim that the effects of the surgery can be seen to last for at least two years.

However, Dr. Douglas McGeorge, former President of the British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons, concedes that this procedure is just another way of enhancing the volume and appearance of lips. It may give more permanent results but it may not necessarily be the better method.