

Face and neck lifts using barbed sutures (Quill): Technology demonstrator

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Aim: Barbed sutures have recently been adapted for use in facial rejuvenation. Though international experience is limited, techniques are constantly being developed and refined. In the absence of published surgical methodology and guidelines we endeavour to contribute and present our techniques in a visual format.

Methods and Materials: We present our experience with four patients encompassing all types of facial rejuvenation, namely Brow lift, Midface & Neck lift and modified MACS lift using the barbed suture (Quill) system. The surgical technique is elaborated in a step by step fashion.

Results: All patients demonstrated improvement and were satisfied with their result. Long term results are awaited. The limited experience has been encouraging in terms of patient satisfaction and tolerance, recovery time and cost effectiveness.

Conclusion: Traditional surgical face and neck lift techniques remain the gold standard. Barbed suture (Quill) system represents a minimally invasive, quick, easily reproducible and effective alternative with diminished adverse events and promising early results. Patients for the same should be carefully selected understanding the limitations involved.

Biography

Salil Bharadwaj finished his General Surgery Post Graduate Degree from Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, India, followed by Plastic Surgery specialisation Degree (MCh) from Bangalore Medical College, India. He then worked as a Consultant Plastic Surgeon at several of the leading corporate hospitals in Bangalore, India. During this period he was on the teaching panel for Post Graduate General Surgery and Plastic Surgery students. He is a regular presenter in various Conferences and has several published articles in reputed Journals. He at present heads the Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Department in the International Hospital of Bahrain, Bahrain.

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