

## American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery • CHICAGO • SEPT. 18-21

### PLASTIC SURGERY

# SmartLifting is an innovative tool for multiple rejuvenation procedures

AESTHETIC SURGERY  
& MEDICINE staff  
attended this  
meeting

SmartLifting – disrupting the soft tissues between the subcutaneous plane and the SMAS – using a pulsed 1064 nm Nd:YAG laser may be an effective method for a number of procedures, including rhytidectomy, forehead lifts, neck lifts and certain peri-orbital rejuvenation procedures.

According to Richard D. Gentile, MD, from the Northeastern Ohio University College of Medicine in Youngstown, Ohio, the laser is both innovative and useful for facial rejuvenation procedures due to its ability

to work with fatty tissue and cauterize subcutaneous blood vessels. It is FDA approved for subcutaneous use, and can be reduced in power for the treatment of small or extremely superficial areas.

In performing a vertical vector face lift, the laser will cauterize vessels prior to the elevation of the facial flap, resulting in a drier work area. Skin tightening through tissue coagulation also occurs concurrently with the tissue separation.

SmartLifting, according to Gentile, also permits flap separation in areas normally considered troublesome, such

as the nasal labial folds and the corner of the mouth.

The laser, developed in Italy and origi-

nally available for European doctors more than 7 years ago, is now the center of a highly competitive field, Gentile said. ■

### PERSPECTIVE:

SmartLifting is a promising technology which can be used adjunctively and might limit bleeding and postoperative bruising after facelift surgery. If SmartLifting can be shown to reduce bruising after facelifting (as seen in Dr. Gentile's patients), it may accelerate the patient's return to normal activities, and laser-induced skin tightening may improve overall results. Further research and prospective trials are necessary to determine if this technology provides sufficient long-term benefits to justify the additional equipment and expense.

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