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Non-conventional use of botulinum toxin in cosmetic dermatology

Botulinum toxin type A (BoNT-A) has been used for many dermatological conditions, apart from aesthetic treatments and focal hyperhidrosis. In keloids and hypertrofic scars, botulinum toxin may alleviate tension on wound edges, resulting in superior cosmetic outcome. Lower sebum production and decreased pores size were observed after intradermal BoNT-A facial applications. BoNT –A inhibits nerve-derived release of calcitonin gene-related peptide and substance P, resulting in psoriasis remission. In androgenetic alopecia, BoNT-A reduces pressure on vasculature and increases blood flow, which results in the reduction of the enzymatic conversion of testosterone to dihydrotestosterone. Patients with Raynaud phenomenon experienced resolution of pain and healing of digital ulcers. The reduction on sweat production can diminish skin flora and its

proinflammatory effect in cases of hidradenitis suppurativa and Hailey-Hailey Disease. Improvement of pruritus and vesiculation confirmed efficacy of BoNT-A in dyshidrotic eczema. The injection of botulin toxin may reduce various substances that sensitize nociceptors, thus having an analgesic role on neuropatic pain, such as postherpetic neuralgia. Improvement in pruritus was also seen in notalgia paresthetica.

Speaker Biography

Renata Indelicato Zac is a Brazilian Dermatologist and has her expertise in clinical and cosmetic dermatology and is pursuing her Master's degree in Health Science. She is the Director of Clinica Attento, Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil, and Mentor in dermatology training at Minas Gerais' Military Hospital.

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