



May dermal fillers be an effective application in correcting lip asymmetries?

Dudak asimetrisinin düzeltilmesinde dolgu etkili bir uygulama olabilir mi?

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Dermal fillers have been increasingly used in minimally invasive facial esthetic procedures¹. Facial asymmetry is usually present in all individuals and mostly does not require treatment. Sometimes the asymmetry may be noticed when the physician informs the patient during the dermal filler procedures. However, asymmetry, particularly central asymmetry such as may be seen in the lip, might be remarkable. In some cases, even minor asymmetries may have psychosocial impact. Dermal fillers are an effective tool in the correction of lip asymmetries. However, by wrong dermal filler injections may be the cause of lip asymmetries. Although there are some well-defined injection techniques in dermal filler applications, it should be kept in mind that every patient has different facial features and needs personalized filler injection techniques, and every injection point, every injection amount should be modified according to the patient^{2,3}.

Hyaluronic acid (HA) based fillers are commonly used in lip procedures. Enhancement of lip volume, correction of the Cupid's bow, and improvement of the vermillion border are frequent indications for the application of HA into the lips.

It is important to evaluate the facial asymmetry together with the patient by a mirror before the procedure, and give realistic information about the correction of the asymmetry. It is necessary to take pictures of the patient and obtain informed consent form before the procedure.

Here, we report two cases of lip asymmetry, one is the result of a wrong dermal filler injection, one is congenital, which were improved by HA dermal filler⁴.

Case 1

A 35-year-old woman was referred to our clinic with the complaint of lip asymmetry which developed after dermal filler application to the lips. She gave the information of the injection material was HA and the amount of the material



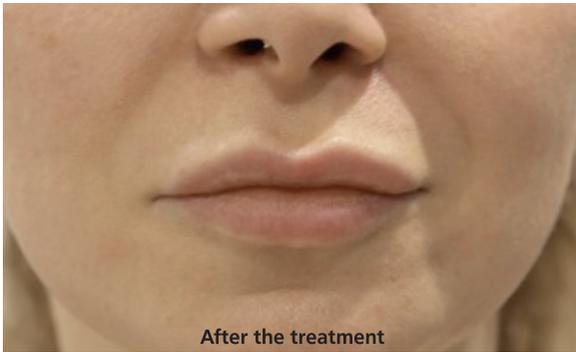
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was 1 mL. On dermatological examination, there was a significant asymmetry between right and left sides of both upper and lower lips. We assumed the unequal amount of filler injection was the reason of this asymmetry. To maximize symmetry of the right side and left side of the lips, it was decided that HA fillers should be used. 0.5 mL HA (17.5 mg/mL) injections was applied. At 1 month follow up the patient was satisfied with the appearance of her lips.

Case 2

A 40-year old woman presented with the complaint of asymmetry of her face and lips. The asymmetry had been present since birth, and she was not happy with the way she looks. Dermatologic examination revealed slight deflation of the Cupid's bow on the left side of the lip, and an appearance of an inclined upper lip to the right and an inclined and deflated lower lip to the left. A total of 1 mL (17.5 mg/mL) HA dermal filler was used for the correction of her defect. Symmetrical lips were achieved and the patient was satisfied with the final outcome.



Although fillers for dermal augmentation are a popular procedure worldwide for enhancement of facial features, the correction of lip asymmetries with dermal fillers has not been discussed in detail⁴. HA fillers are considered to be gold standard treatment for congenital, acquired, and postsurgical asymmetries.

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