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Use of AccuVein Technology in Aesthetic Procedures: Enhancing Safety and Precision in Botox, Dermal Fillers, and PDO Threads

Marielaina Perrone*

Private Practice, Henderson, DDS, NV, USA

Corresponding author: Marielaina Perrone, Private Practice, Henderson, DDS, NV, USA

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Abstract

The growing popularity of minimally invasive aesthetic procedures like Botox Cosmetic injections, Juvederm dermal fillers, and smooth PDO threads has raised awareness about the risks associated with inadvertent vascular injections. This clinical review evaluates the use of AccuVein, a handheld device that visualizes veins through near-infrared (NIR) technology, aiming to minimize bruising, vascular complications, and improve outcomes in aesthetic medicine. Clinical experiences, published studies, and practical applications highlight AccuVein's efficacy in enhancing injection accuracy, patient satisfaction, and treatment safety.

Keywords

AccuVein; Botox; Juvederm; Dermal Fillers; PDO Threads; Vein Visualization; Facial Aesthetics; Vascular Safety; Aesthetic Medicine.

Introduction

Minimally invasive facial aesthetic treatments have grown dramatically due to patient preferences for less invasive rejuvenation techniques. Procedures such as Botox Cosmetic injections, hyaluronic acid fillers like Juvederm, and smooth PDO (Polydioxanone) threads offer quick aesthetic enhancement with minimal downtime. Despite their safety profile, these procedures pose risks such as bruising, hematomas, and rare but severe complications like vascular occlusion and tissue necrosis [1,2].

AccuVein AV500, an innovative handheld vein visualization device employing near-infrared (NIR) technology, assists practitioners in identifying and avoiding superficial veins during injections. By illuminating veins directly on the skin, it enhances injection accuracy and mitigates risks associated with facial aesthetic procedures [3].

This review article examines the role of AccuVein technology in improving safety and patient outcomes across common aesthetic procedures.

Materials and methods

This article synthesizes data from existing peer-reviewed research, clinical guidelines, and the author's clinical experience. A systematic search was conducted across PubMed, Medline, and clinical reports to identify relevant studies. Key search terms included "AccuVein," "vascular complications," "Botox," "dermal fillers," and "PDO threads." The review includes articles published between 2018 and 2024. Selected studies emphasized clinical outcomes, complication reduction, and patient satisfaction in aesthetic procedures utilizing vein visualization technology.

Results and Discussion

AccuVein technology overview

AccuVein AV500 employs near-infrared imaging to visualize hemoglobin-rich superficial vasculature. It projects a real-time image of veins onto the skin, enabling the practitioner to avoid accidental vascular penetration during injection-based treatments. Its non-invasive, contactless application has been particularly beneficial in aesthetic medicine [3].

Clinical applications

Botox cosmetic

Botox treatments in facial areas (forehead, glabella, periocular regions) frequently result in minor bruising due to superficial vasculature. Incorporating AccuVein significantly reduces bruising frequency and severity by facilitating the identification and avoidance of superficial veins during injection [4].

Juvederm dermal fillers

Dermal fillers, particularly hyaluronic acid-based products like Juvederm, carry a risk of vascular occlusion. AccuVein effectively identifies veins in critical injection sites (nasolabial folds, lips, and infraorbital areas), significantly decreasing risks of severe vascular complications. Clinical trials showed a notable reduction in bruising and improved injector confidence when AccuVein was utilized [5].

Smooth PDO threads

Smooth PDO threads stimulate collagen and tighten skin. However, thread insertion may occasionally disrupt superficial veins causing bruising and discomfort. AccuVein mapping prior to PDO thread placement helps clinicians identify and avoid vessels, enhancing procedure comfort and reducing post-procedure bruising [6].

Clinical benefits

- **Reduction of Bruising and Complications:** Studies indicate that AccuVein visualization significantly lowers bruising incidence by approximately 35-40% [5,7].
- **Increased Injector Confidence:** Visualization technology boosts clinician assurance, particularly beneficial in high-risk areas [4].
- **Improved Patient Experience:** Real-time visualization is reassuring to patients, enhancing overall procedural satisfaction and trust [7].

Limitations

Despite its benefits, AccuVein technology has limitations:

- **Superficial Detection Only:** AccuVein predominantly visualizes superficial veins, with limited detection of deeper vessels [3].
- **Cost and Training:** Adoption requires investment in equipment and clinician training, potentially limiting widespread implementation in smaller aesthetic practices.

Conclusion

The integration of AccuVein AV500 in aesthetic medicine significantly enhances procedural safety and patient satisfaction in Botox Cosmetic injections, Juvederm dermal fillers, and PDO thread treatments. Vein visualization technology reduces risks of vascular complications, bruising, and discomfort, positioning AccuVein as an essential tool in modern aesthetic practice.

Continued research is warranted to further validate its universal application across various injectable aesthetic procedures.

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Conflicts of Interest

The author declares no conflicts of interest regarding this publication.





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Short Commentary | *Perrone M. Genesis J Surg Med. 2025, 4(1)-33. DOI:* <u>https://doi.org/10.52793/GJSM.2025.4(1)-33</u>

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