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DISCLOSURE

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A Simple Way to Reduce Surgical-Site Infections in Body Contouring Surgery

Sir:

We had the great pleasure of reading the interesting article entitled “Seasonal Impact on Surgical-Site Infections in Body Contouring Surgery: A Retrospective Cohort Study of 602 Patients over a Period of 6 Years” by Duscher et al.¹ Body contouring surgery has increased a lot in recent years, because of the increase in bariatric surgery. Unfortunately, there are many complications that occur in body contouring surgery. We would like to congratulate the authors for the research that relate an increased rate of surgical-site infection, which is one of the most frequent complications during the summer season after body contouring surgery.

Body contouring operations, as the authors have clearly highlighted, are elective procedures; very careful preoperative planning would be required to reduce the risks and complications that may occur as a result of the surgery itself. Furthermore, in our experience, and as reported in the literature, smokers and those with a high body mass index and comorbid conditions such as diabetes are more at risk of postoperative complications.²

In our experience, postoperative infections after body contouring surgery are severe complications, in both winter and summer months. Even in our cases, we found an increase in the rate of infections and wound

dehiscence when the temperature is higher, as in the summer months.

In our opinion, a valid means of stabilizing wound closures is cyanoacrylate skin adhesive.³ Glues are frequently used for skin closure to obtain physical isolation of the surgical site, lowering the risk of infection. We currently use octyl-2-cyanoacrylate by means of a linear application along the wound in association with subcutaneous and intradermic sutures.⁴ As far as we are concerned, we can say that the use of tissue glue has reduced the risk of surgical-site infections in both the summer and the winter months, with a decrease in the rate of wound dehiscence after body contouring surgery.

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Reply: Seasonal Impact on Surgical-Site Infections in Body Contouring Surgery: A Retrospective Cohort Study of 602 Patients over a Period of 6 Years

Sir:

We appreciate the comments by Pierazzi et al. regarding our study demonstrating the seasonal