

INTRODUCTION

In the context of developing a treatment plan for a patient, it is crucial to analyze intra and extraoral factors, encompassing the examination of hard and soft tissues. Even in cases where the patient's orthodontic condition is satisfactory, if they express a desire for facial rejuvenation, it becomes essential to assess the quality of their smile. The appearance of the lips has significant importance as it constitutes the central feature of the lower third of the face. To achieve a balanced smile, several key parameters should be considered, including the length of the upper lip, lip contour, smile arch, curvature of the upper lip, negative lateral space, smile symmetry, frontal occlusal plane, and commissure height. Incorporating facial harmony in the treatment approach becomes crucial, particularly in addressing the downturned corners of the mouth resulting from the natural aging process.

CASE REPORT

A 50-year-old white female patient was admitted for clinical evaluation with the main complaint of downturned corners, skin laxity, and deep dark circles beneath the eyes.

After a thorough discussion with the patient, an individualized treatment plan was developed with two main focuses: facial restructuring, contour enhancement, and volume addition to the medial portion of the face using Defyne and Volyme; and tissue firmness and repositioning with Sculptra. Restylane Lyft was administered bilaterally in specific areas, including the malar eminence (0.8ml), zygomatic arch (1ml), piriform fossa (0.4ml), gonial angle (1.8ml), and pre-jowl area (1ml). Subcutaneous injections of Restylane Volyme were also performed bilaterally, targeting the medial malar region (1ml) and the marginal lip groove (1ml). Additionally, Restylane Defyne was used subcutaneously in the pre-jowl-ment area (0.8ml) and the oral sub-commissure (0.2ml), both administered bilaterally. Sculptra was administered bilaterally in the temporal region (0.6ml) at the bone level, subdermally in the "Angel Wings" of the temple (1.2ml), and subcutaneously in the interfascial temple area (2.4ml), masseteric area (2.4ml), and neck area (2.4ml).

A standardized photographic protocol followed to document the results obtained from the therapeutic approach. The initial phase, called T0, referred to the pre-procedure stage, while T9 represented the results observed one year after the procedure. Immediate post-procedure and post-16 days images were also captured. All stages of treatment were closely monitored using Quantificare LifeViz, for a comprehensive analysis.

RESULTS

In Image 1, it's evident that successful tissue repositioning occurred, with notable Lyft effects observed across the face, particularly in the frontal region and temporal fossa. This repositioning continues to improve over time as collagen deposition increases, facilitated by the products used in this particular case. In Image 2, a noticeable change in the pattern of facial volumization is observed. There's an increase in volume mainly in the zygomatic bone region, accompanied by a reduction in volume in the suborbital region, chin, and neck.

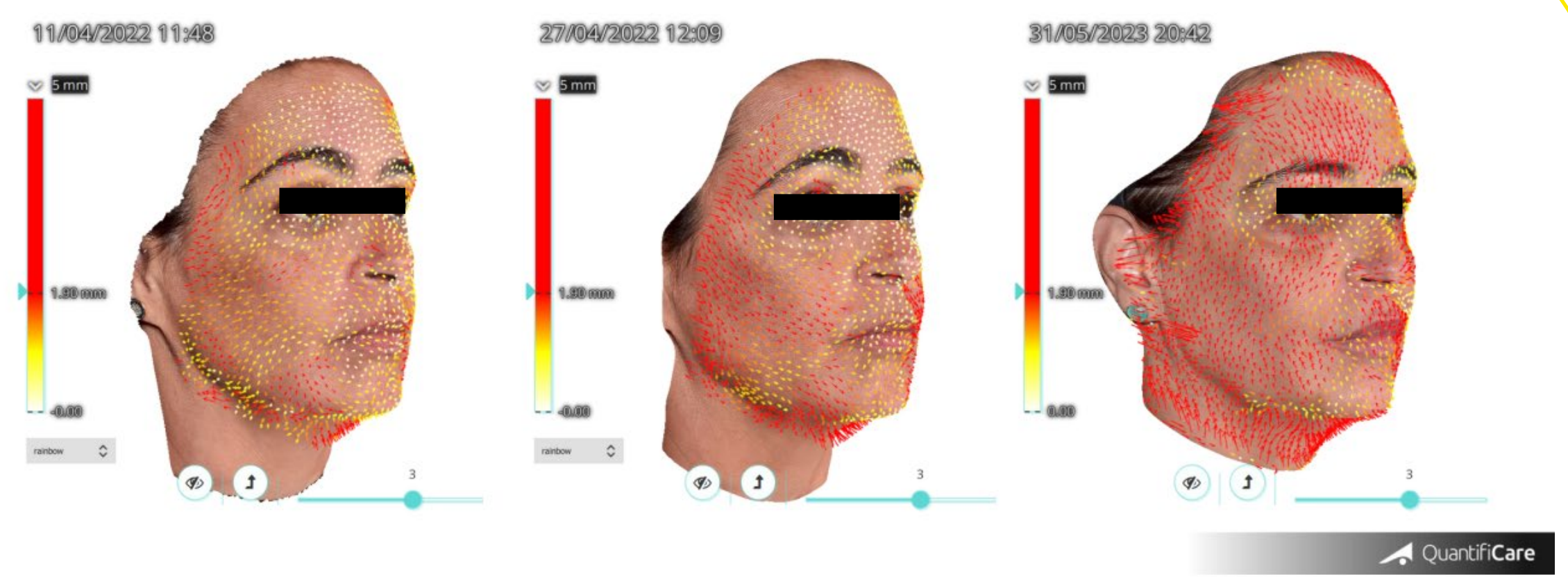


Image 1: Monitoring of the tissue repositioning process (T1, T2 and T9)

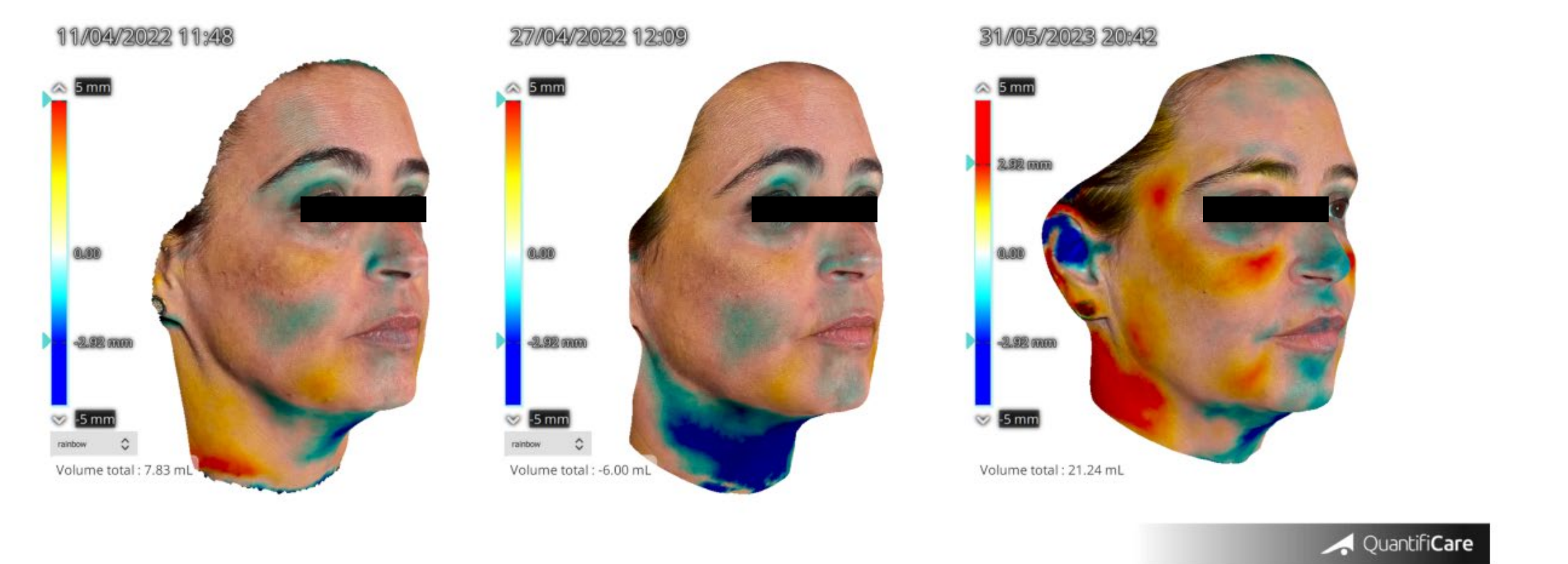


Image 2: Monitoring of the pattern change in the face volumetric distribution (T1, T2 and T9)

As a result, it's clear that the patient's primary concern, the downturned corners, was satisfactorily addressed. A comparison between the initial and final frontal photographs (Image 3) and the profile view (Image 4) undeniably shows the elevation of the commissure, resulting in a more friendly expression for the patient, even in a relaxed state.



Image 3: Front view of the patient (T0 to T9)



Image 4: Right profile view of the patient (T0 to T9)

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the interdependence of intraoral and extraoral dentistry is paramount when seeking to provide comprehensive solutions that effectively address patients' complaints. The presence of downturned corners not only contributes to an aged appearance but can also be socially interpreted as a hostile sign. Through meticulous planning and the use of appropriate products and techniques, it's possible to achieve natural and successful results, minimizing excessive intervention. By understanding the significance of this integrated approach, dental professionals can offer optimal results that enhance aesthetics and patient satisfaction.

REFERENCES

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