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Technique Removes Moles with Minimal Scarring

[Rosemont, IL, June 1, 2014] Patients frequently see a surgeon for the removal of moles and related lesions from the face and neck. Numerous ways have been used to remove facial moles.

Unfortunately, past treatment methods share the same drawback: all too often, they result in pronounced and unsightly scarring. Many patients decide to live with these bothersome skin blemishes because they have been misinformed that the resulting scars will look worse than the lesions themselves.

In an article in the June issue of the *Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery* Virginia oral-maxillofacial surgeon, Dr. Joe Niamtu III, describes, in detail, a procedure the author has been using successfully for more than 30 years for the removal of unsightly moles and other lesions from the faces and necks of thousands of patients with minimal or imperceptible scarring. In the article, “Esthetic Removal of Head and Neck Nevi and Lesions with 4.0-MHz Radio-Wave Surgery: A 30-Year Experience,” Dr. Niamtu compares the radio-wave surgery protocol with that of traditional electrosurgery. Although both methods rely on the use of electrodes, he points out that the radio-wave surgery operates at a much higher frequency, described as “tissue-friendly.” Electrosurgery, by contrast, operates at a lower frequency and, according to Dr. Niamtu, the lower the frequency, the greater the tissue damage and consequent scarring.

Since surgeons see patients with facial moles on a daily basis, Dr. Niamtu concludes, even those who do not offer radio-wave surgery as a treatment option should be aware of its existence and inform their patients of its availability.

Read the complete study findings at *J Oral Maxillofac Surg* 72:1139-1150, 2014

The Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery is published monthly by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons to present to the dental and medical communities comprehensive coverage of new techniques, important developments and innovative ideas in oral and maxillofacial surgery. Practice-applicable articles help develop the methods used to handle dentoalveolar surgery, facial injuries and deformities, TMJ disorders, oral cancer, jaw reconstruction, anesthesia and analgesia. The journal also includes specifics on new instruments and diagnostic equipment and modern therapeutic drugs and devices.

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