

## INTRODUCTION

- The labiomental fold is the horizontal depression between the lower lip and soft tissue chin pad and is an important feature to consider in genioplasty.
- Alloplastic augmentation genioplasty aims to augment the sagittally deficient chin but poses the risk of deepening the labiomental groove, especially in patients with vertical deficiency and an already prominent labiomental fold.

## PURPOSE

- To illustrate soft tissue manipulation via mentalis redraping to mitigate the risk of a deepened labiomental fold in alloplastic augmentation genioplasty.

## METHODS

- This is a retrospective review of six consecutive patients who underwent mentalis redraping with alloplastic silicone implant augmentation genioplasty with a single surgeon (TN).
- Preoperative and postoperative photos were reviewed, with attention to the depth of the labiomental groove.
- Outcomes included labiomental fold depth, incidence of complication or need for revision surgery, and patient satisfaction.

## SURGICAL TECHNIQUE

- A submental incision was made and subperiosteal dissection was performed along the chin, extending rostrally to the alveolar process.
- The submental periosteum was fragmented via vertical spreading with a sharp tenotomy scissors, and similarly, the muscle belly was stretched longitudinally.
- The silicone implant was placed in a subperiosteal plane in standard fashion and secured to the periosteum using nonabsorbable suture.
- The edge of freed periosteum and overlying soft tissue of the dissected chin pad were then engaged with nonabsorbable suture and secured to the intact periosteum, creating downward and posterior distraction of the mental soft tissue.
- The incision was then closed in a layered fashion without tension .

## RESULTS

- Mentalis distraction resulted in stable (+/- 1mm from preoperative measurements) labiomental fold depth in all patients.
- There were no cases of lower lip incompetence, increased mandibular incisor show, facial nerve injury, sensory injury, implant displacement, or chin ptosis. No patients required revision surgery.
- All patients were satisfied with the aesthetic results.



Figure 1. Photograph demonstrating a prominent labiomental fold pre-operatively (*top*) and a softened labiomental fold at five months post-operatively (*bottom*).

## CONCLUSION

- Mentalis distraction is a simple technique to help mitigate the risk of deepening of the labiomental sulcus in select patients undergoing augmentation genioplasty.

## DISCLOSURES

Tanuj Nakra, MD is a shareholder of AVYA Skincare, LLC. The authors have no other financial disclosures.

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