

CORRUGATOR SUPERCILII RESECTION FOR HEADACHE EMANATING FROM THE FRONTAL REGION

A. de Ru¹, P. Schellekens², P. Lohuis³

*Otorhinolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery, Central Military Hospital, Utrecht*¹; *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, University Medical Centre Utrecht*² & *Otorhinolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery, Diaconessenhuis Zeist*³, The Netherlands

j.a.deru@planet.nl

Chronic daily headache located in the frontal region is a common problem. We have previously described positive results achieved with botulinum toxin injections in the m. corrugator supercilii for this disorder. Nowadays, we offer resection of this muscle to patients following a minimum of two botulinum toxin injections, provided these injections result in a significant reduction of pain. To assess the effect of resection we have prospectively evaluated all consecutive patients. Treatment was successful in 90% (n = 10) of these patients. Prior to treatment the mean pain score in the nine successfully treated patients was 8.1 (range 6-9), after resection this had been reduced to 0.8 (range 0 – 3). All of these successfully treated patients ceased using pain relief medication post-operatively. Moreover, they stated that they would undergo surgery again if they were to find themselves in the same situation. We conclude that resection of the m. corrugator supercilii is an efficient and successful procedure for a carefully selected group of patients suffering from chronic daily headache in the frontal region.