



Reflection: The Web of Repentance

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Currently, the dental surgeon's performance at the aesthetic-facial level, and not only the health-based one, is notorious, even though the definition of health of the World Health Organization as "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not only absence of affections and diseases" contemplates aesthetics as part of health. In this perspective, for some time, the dental surgeon - particularly in Latin America and some European countries - has been expanding his range of facial aesthetics interventions using a large variety of techniques and biomaterials: botulinum toxin, facial fillers, bichectomy, lifting and submandibular papillary liposuction, laser in facial region, administration of hormones, in short, a huge range of aesthetic procedures that were once single and exclusive performance of dermatologists and plastic surgeons [1].

Unfortunately, the dental surgeon in Brazil is wrongly based on Law No. 5,081 of August 24, 1966 - the Magna Law of Dentistry - which regulates professional practice. In its article 6, section II, it states: "prescribe and apply pharmaceutical specialties for internal and external use, indicated in Dentistry". Thus, it is postulated that, for example, botulinum toxin may be used by the dental surgeon because it is a drug, while facial fillers are classified as cosmeceutical, and are therefore excluded from our Brazilian Law [1-3].

In addition, the dental surgeon does not foresee possible complications due to the fillers technique, which complications will probably be treated by the plastic surgeon. Even following the precepts of biosafety, when injecting a dense gel - the filler - inside the tissues, it is possible the inoculation of microorganisms and the development of biofilm; the biofilm can proliferate and generate infectious process; the infection will be contained by the body

(patient) that encapsulates the tissue, forming the granulation tissue, which perpetuates itself as a foreign body; the foreign body, when compressing nerves, causes neuralgia (pain); and by compressing blood vessels, generates embolism, and, if persistent, causes tissue necrosis; tissue necrosis is clinically observed as deformities and asymmetries. So far, pure biology!

And the patient? Let us reflect on the judicial sphere: The patient enters the office and the dental surgeon indicates and uses a filler*... The patient is middle class, because the "less favored" does not use and the "most favored" has the "Pope" of Dermatology or Plastic Surgery... This middle class is made up of hardworking people to acquire wealth and status; many are professionals or entrepreneurs with flourishing business... Business expectations and promotions fall apart in front of a face deformed by the filler.

Disharmony takes over the face. Months to repair damage, which can range from inflammation, infection, hardening, shape change, and even deformity, and may occur at the time of application of the substance or months after its application[†]. Treatment is necessary, some fast recovery, others slow, others permanent...

Socially, the patient has problems in her work, loses business, sales, promotion... The patient may suffer jokes that humiliate her like using counterfeit or cheap products, such as injecting

*The filler can be of various types: hyaluronic acid, PMMA, polyamide, etc.

†The complications arising from the use of fillers are dependent on the type of material used.

liquid silicone into breasts or buttocks... suffer psychological humiliation... In addition, the husband saying that she was idiot, cheated, stolen by the treatment...

The immediate result is a lawsuit for compensation for loss of profits (loss of business due to dispense of commissioned service - broker, seller, commercial representative, etc.) and damages, ranging from the return of the value of all treatment with complications, additional payment of the treatment to recover the previous situation, moral damages for the pains, shame of presenting in public, low self-esteem, plus partial or total cosmetic damages, transient or permanent.

If the patient is a model, for example, she will be losing contracts for the time of aesthetic damage, loss of parades and events during recovery treatment, etc.

In Brazil, a case lasts an average of 5 to 8 years: judgment by the court, judgment by the Court of Justice, judgment by the Superior Court of Justice and intermediate remedies of the judges' decisions (indictment, declaration of seizure).

The dental surgeon pays his attorney's fees... Certainly, he will have an Expertise and Damage Assessment Report... He will be responsible for the payment of expert and expert witness to assess the technical responsibility for damages and their extension: Losing, you will have to pay all the convictions you suffer, in addition to the total costs of the expert (examinations made, in addition to your fees), you will have to pay your lawyer (none of them works for free!), plus the arbitrated fee lawyer for the patient who won the lawsuit.

But the patient - who is middle class - also has her inner revolt! And probably not just her, but her family will go on to tell as many as they can what the incompetent dental surgeon did... Who certainly used spoiled or false filler... unscrupulous... inconsequential mercenary... and here it goes. It is easy to accept that the patient shares, and your partner / husband also... if you have children of age already increase the initial sharers...

The patient and one other, the husband... It is reasonable to think that each one divulges to their relatives (two families), their co-workers (likely to have different incomes, and therefore also colleagues...), their close friends or not so much... School children... Market and other establishments that attend with assiduity... In

this perspective, it is reasonable to think of 20 people for each... There would then be 40 people to hear from them about the incompetent dental surgeon.

Within this group of 40 people who are familiar with the patient and companion version of the case, it is reasonable to think that half talk at home, at parties for relatives and friends, etc. So it would be 20 speaking to third parties... And it would be reasonable for another 20 to hear from each of those 20 about the incompetent dental surgeon... So, from a single patient, it is reasonable to understand that the comments are around 421 people.

If within this patient universe and more than 421 people, there is someone who works in the media or as a representative of the neighborhood community, etc., how many more will hear the story where the deformed face is the indelible proof of error?

The dental surgeon will never know how many have heard the story, how many have stopped looking for him professionally, how many have advised others to never seek treatment with the so-and-so dentist... and if it is in a small town, much worse!

But what if we still have the legal process going on? How many employees work in the Judicial Court where the action is taking place? Judge, Promoter, employees... How many will be commenting and with how many others?

The Judicial Expert and Expert Assistants hired by the parties...

And the patient may decide to go to the Coroner's Exam and try to harm the dentist by filing a criminal lawsuit for bodily injury... at least more costs with a lawyer to defend himself against the charges.

And we still have the Federal Council of Dentistry at Brazil (ADA, at US)... Process in the Ethics Commission... Shame before colleagues who will be discreet or not... More colleagues knowing the situation, some pitying the bad luck of the colleague, others using as a negative example and still giving the name to his friends, relatives, students, teachers...

After 5 to 8 years of torture, the verdict is determined... The final result of the condemnation of the dentist: In criminal: pays community services and loses the primary... a fight in the bar, running over, etc. What, unfortunately, anyone can suffer someday... and goes straight to jail...

In the civil: pays a small fortune in various indemnities, which is being listed by the costs seen since the beginning of this unfortunate chronicle...

And by the Ethics Commission, you can be convicted and suffer sanctions: confidential warning, confidential or public censorship, suspension (up to 30 days) or cancellation of the professional exercise.

And all by the use of facial fillers by the dental surgeon...

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