

Peer Review

Review of: "Evaluation of Ozonized Fibrin-Rich Plasma as a Therapy for Facial Rejuvenation: A Clinical Case Study"

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Editorial Evaluation

Title:

Evaluation of Ozonized Fibrin-Rich Plasma as a Therapy for Facial Rejuvenation: A Clinical Case Study

Manuscript Type: Case Report / Observational Case Series

Authors: Nathalia Assolini Crestani et al.

Institution: Department of Restorative Dentistry, UNIOESTE, Brazil

1. General Overview

The manuscript presents an observational clinical case series evaluating the use of ozonized injectable platelet-rich fibrin (I-PRF) for facial rejuvenation in five patients. The topic is innovative and relevant to the growing field of regenerative and aesthetic medicine. The combination of I-PRF and ozone therapy is particularly interesting and may represent a novel strategy for non-invasive facial biostimulation. However, some critical aspects need improvement to meet the standards of peer-reviewed indexed journals.

2. Strengths

Innovative topic: The combination of I-PRF and ozone for facial rejuvenation is a relatively unexplored area with clinical relevance.

Ethical approval: The study was approved by an ethics committee, and patients provided informed consent, including for image use.

Comprehensive documentation: The photographic documentation and follow-up are well illustrated.

Multidisciplinary relevance: The manuscript may interest professionals in aesthetic medicine, dermatology, oral medicine, and regenerative therapies.

3. Weaknesses and Editorial Concerns

a. Scientific Rigor and Methodology

Lack of control group: The absence of a control or comparator group significantly limits the ability to attribute the observed effects exclusively to ozonized I-PRF.

Sample size and design limitations: Reporting on only five patients as a case series weakens the statistical and generalizable value. Although acceptable in case studies, clearer justification and framing as a preliminary exploratory report would help.

Subjective evaluation: The study lacks objective measurements (e.g., elastometry, validated wrinkle severity scales, or skin hydration metrics). The conclusions are based primarily on visual inspection and patient-reported outcomes.

Statistical analysis: There is no statistical analysis or quantified data (e.g., pre/post differences), which undermines the ability to validate clinical outcomes beyond anecdotal observation.

b. Structure and Writing

Redundancy in Introduction and Discussion: There is repetition of the same concepts (e.g., I-PRF properties, growth factors, and ozone mechanisms) across sections.

Language and grammar issues: The manuscript contains minor English language inconsistencies and awkward phrasing that would benefit from native-level proofreading.

Lack of focus in Discussion: The discussion, although comprehensive, should be better structured around the results of the current study rather than largely reviewing external literature.

Figures and legends: Figures are referred to but lack standardized formatting. Ensure figure captions are embedded in the main document, with high-quality resolution and appropriate labeling.

c. Referencing

References are mixed in formatting and sources: Some references are from preprints, local Brazilian journals, or case reports. Although relevant, greater inclusion of high-impact, indexed articles (e.g., PubMed, Scopus, WoS) would strengthen the scientific background.

Missing recent reviews/meta-analyses: The article would benefit from citing recent systematic reviews on PRF or ozone therapy in aesthetics to contextualize the findings.

4. Ethical and Scientific Integrity

The authors correctly disclosed ethical approval and consent.

There is no mention of potential conflicts of interest or funding beyond a generic declaration, which is adequate for this type of study.

The use of patient photographs is appropriate but must ensure continued alignment with data protection and publication ethics.

5. Recommendations for Improvement

Reframe the study as an exploratory, hypothesis-generating case series.

Include quantifiable outcomes or validated scales in future versions or follow-up studies.

Revise the manuscript for linguistic clarity and conciseness.

Reduce redundancy across sections and focus the discussion on correlating your findings with prior evidence.

Consider submitting the study to a journal specializing in aesthetic medicine, regenerative dentistry, or facial rejuvenation with a scope for translational or preliminary clinical findings.

Final Editorial Verdict:

Recommendation: Major Revisions Required Before Acceptance

This article presents a potentially impactful and novel application of a biologically active material in aesthetic therapy. However, to be considered for publication in a reputable indexed journal, it requires

substantial methodological and editorial refinement.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.