Plasma in cosmetic applications: possibilities and boundary conditions

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Application of cold atmospheric plasma (CAP) inwound healing has reached the state of clinical application. Its effectivityparticularly in reconstitution of healing processes of chronic wounds is basedon its ability both to inactivate wound contaminating microorganisms and tostimulate tissue regeneration processes directly and based on non-thermal modesof action. With reference to this successful implementation of CAP application aboveall in dermatology, more and more plasma applications for cosmetic purposes areoffered. Beside the fact that an undisturbed wound healing under certaincircumstances can also include cosmetic aspects, cosmetic plasma applicationsare mostly directed at skinrejuvenation, wrinkle reduction etc. Due to the actual state of knowledge, suchplasma effects on skin are at least partially caused by thermal plasma action. Consequently, any reference to the actual knowledge on medical CAP applicationand its well-investigated safety which is published in textbooks yet (see e.g.[1]), does not appear readily allowable.

In order to develop the promising potential ofplasma application in cosmetics, too, similar to the medical plasma application, some basic criteria for plasma device characterization should be defined. Atransparent documentation of such characteristics will improve the acceptanceof plasma application in cosmetics and will improve the safety of clients using such offers. To define such basic characterizations, the German pre-standard DIN SPEC 91315 "General requirements for plasma sources in medicine" [2,3]could serve as a model.

References:

[1] H.-R. Metelmann, Th. von Woedtke, K.-D. Weltmann (eds.). Comprehensive Clinical PlasmaMedicine. Cold Physical Plasma for Medical Application. Springer, 1st ed.2018

[2] DINSPEC 91315:2014-06, General requirements for plasma sources in medicine. DINDeutsches Institut für Normung e.V., Beuth Verlag Berlin 2014 (in German).

[3] M.S. Mann, R. Tiede, K. Gavenis, G. Daeschlein, R.Bussiahn, K.-D. Weltmann, S. Emmert, Th. von Woedtke, R. Ahmed. Introduction to DIN-specification91315 based on the characterization of the plasma jet kINPen® MED. ClinicalPlasma Medicine 4 (2016) 35-45.

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