

Cosmetic Surgery Times®

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Face transplants spark firestorm of heated debate

Ethics, psychological considerations color feasibility questions

By **Jamie J. Gooch**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

National Report — Face transplants are possible with current surgical techniques, according to at least two surgeons.

John Barker M.D., director of plastic surgery research at the University of Louisville, Ky., announced in London, England, that the surgical hurdles to face transplanting were cleared.

But Barker wasn't the first to make such a claim. Early in 2002, Peter Butler, M.D. from London's Royal Free Hospital, said surgical techniques would allow face transplanting within nine months, setting off a firestorm of debate over ethics of the procedure.

Mainstream media outlets pounced on the idea of face transplants. But many cosmetic surgeons aren't so quick to accept claims that the surgical techniques needed to transplant a face from a cadaver to a patient are ready to be attempted.

"A human face has more than 40 mus-

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HISTORY: PART III OF III



Cosmetic procedures have proliferated over the last 50 years, restoring faces and bodies to youthful appearances. (Sketch courtesy of contributor Jerry Harston).

Cultural turn, turn, turn

During tumultuous '60s, cosmetic surgery evolves as stigma fades; techniques are refined

By **Michelle Tackla**

SENIOR EDITOR

When vaudeville actress and comedian Fanny Brice had her nose "bobbed" in 1923, it was considered a publicity stunt performed in a hotel room by a traveling quack, according to Elizabeth Haiken, author of *Venus Envy, A History of Cosmetic Surgery*. "Cosmetic surgery was

viewed with suspicion if not outright disapproval," she said. However, by the time Barbara Streisand was around in 1960, rhinoplasty had become "safe, sterile, predictable, and even routine — simply one of the many wonders of postwar medicine," she added.

Certainly, over the last 50 years, it has become more socially acceptable for people to pursue cosmetic surgery as a means

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Protects hands

Montrose, CA — Gloves In A Bottle is designed to protect the outer layer of skin due to frequent hand washings and to protect against reactions to hard coats, solvents, latex, latex powders, and other irritating substances found in some disposable gloves. Unlike artificial moisturizers, this product is formulated to bond with the outer layer of skin to turn it into what works like an invisible pair of gloves to help keep out moisture-robbing irritants.

For more information, contact Gloves In A Bottle, PH: (800) 600-1881; FAX: (818) 248-8991; or visit www.glovesinabottle.com.

Post-treatment supplies

Lake Forest, CA — At-home products designed for post-treatments such as laser, dermabrasion and microdermabrasion, TCA, and other chemical

peels, provides essential ingredients to benefit patient's recovery time. The Aftercare Kit contains Essential Lipids, Hyaluronic Moisturizer, Pure Squalane, and Silicone Spray. The products are formulated to be nonirritating to promote wound healing and new skin generation.

For more information, contact Benev Company Inc., PH: (949) 457-2222; FAX: (949) 457-2221; or go online at www.benev.com

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For more information, contact Stronger Medical Instruments/Berson & Associations; PH: (408) 776-3772; FAX: (408) 778-0460; or go online at www.stronger.berson.com

For anti-aging

Newton Square, PA — Sessa skin therapy includes the new Optimum A.C.E. Plus cream/emulsion containing antioxidants and bio-available Peptide, reports the manufacturer. The product is formulated to nourish skin and protect it against free radical damage.

For more information contact Conrex Pharmaceutical Corp.; PH:

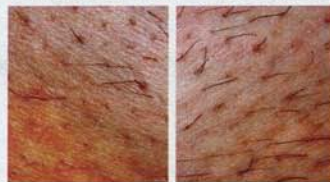
(610) 355-2454; FAX: (610) 355-2453; www.aceskin.com

Heals wounds

Woburn, Mass. — AlgiMed, a new line of moist wound dressings, is designed to absorb wound exude quickly and to control minor bleeding. The product is a sterile wound dressing made of calcium alginate, which assists in stopping bleeding. It is expected to begin sales this month.

For more information contact CardioTech International, Woburn, Mass.; PH: (781) 933-4772; FAX: (781) 933-3933; www.cardiotech-inc.com

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For more information, contact PRESCRIBEDsolutions, 313 W. 14th St., New York, NY 10014; (212) 929-9915; www.prescribedsolutions.com