



## Calcium hydroxyapatite based filler for facial soft tissue augmentation

Interview with K. Konfino, Tel Aviv (Israel)

**Dr. Konstantin Konfino, MD, PhD, is a Dermatologist with a PhD in skin virology and dermatology. He owns a successful private clinic in Tel Aviv and works for the Maccabi Health Care Services in Tel Aviv, Israel. We spoke to Dr. Konfino about a new calcium hydroxyapatite based filler (Crystallys) which is used in sub-dermal or deep-dermal injections for facial soft tissue augmentation.**

### **Aesthetic Dermatology:**

***Dr. Konfino, for how many years have you been practicing aesthetic medicine and since when are you working with this new calcium hydroxyapatite based filler?***

### **Dr. Konfino:**

I have been in the aesthetic medicine field for the last 20 years, and worked with every leading brand on the market. I have worked with Crystallys for the last 3 years, and I am satisfied with this product. This product gives excellent results. I did not encounter any severe side effects, only minor adverse events, which occur in any facial injection.

### **Aesthetic Dermatology:**

***What would you say are the advantages of this type of filler?***

### **Dr. Konfino:**

Well, first of all, the product gives fantastic results. The results are much better than the ones that can be achieved when using hyaluronic acids, both in the duration of the effect and the lifting and volumizing effect. My clients are happy with the results, and recommend the treatment to others. Second, this product is safe. The clinical results, and my personal experience of over 1.000 syringes injected, show that this product is safe to use. Third, the price is very attractive for this product, when compared to the most dermal fillers. I can offer my clients a full treatment at competitive prices, and with other products, this is not always the case. If a patient needs 3-4 ml to achieve optimal results, in this product, there will not be any hesitation, as the price is very affordable.

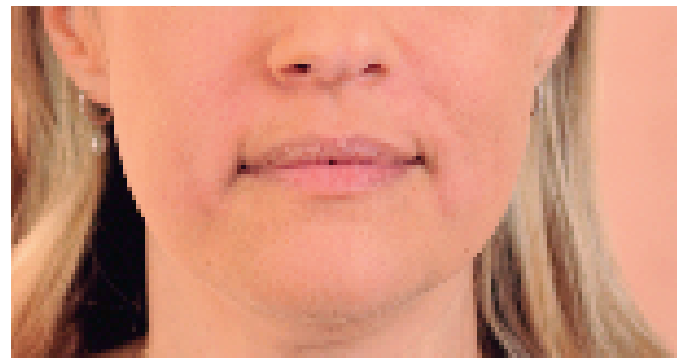
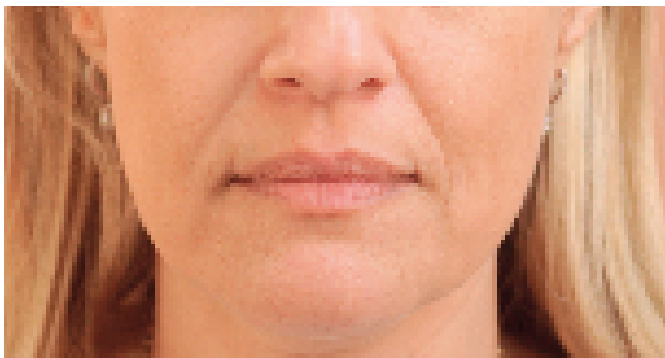


Fig. 1a-b: Visual appearance before (l.) and after (r.) treatment with a calcium hydroxyapatite based filler (Crystallys).

## Aesthetic Dermatology:

### What is the mechanism of action?

#### Dr. Konfino:

This product has a dual effect. Immediately after injection, the patient can see the filling and lifting effect. Over time, the product enables the generation of new collagen fibers, which gives the long term effect, of up to 2 years. The generation of neo-collagen is the main difference from a hyaluronic acid injection that does not generate this robust effect.

## Aesthetic Dermatology:

### Can you elaborate on the properties of Crystalys?

#### Dr. Konfino:

Crystalys is a calcium hydroxyapatite based dermal filler. It is composed of calcium hydroxyapatite microspheres, 25-45 microns in diameter, which are suspended in a gel carrier that consists primarily of phosphate buffer and glycerin. The gel structure is formed by the addition of a small amount of carboxymethylcellulose. The morphology of the spheres, round, uniform, non-porous and smooth, enables easy extrusion and provides minimum risk for particle migration.

## Aesthetic Dermatology:

### Can you tell us some facts about the company that produces this filler?

#### Dr. Konfino:

Luminera is a member of a group of 4 companies that are in the Israeli pharmaceutical-medical devices market for the last 30 years.

## Aesthetic Dermatology:

### All things considered, would you recommend using a calcium hydroxyapatite based filler?

#### Dr. Konfino:

Yes, of course. These products are excellent, and give an extraordinary cost to benefit ratio, for both the doctor and the patient.

## Aesthetic Dermatology:

### Dear Dr. Konfino, thank you very much for taking the time to talk to us!

The interview was conducted by F. Höppner.



## Clinical Data

### Data collected from 218 patients demonstrated an excellent safety profile and superb performance results for Crystalys.

A postmarketing study of 218 patients assessed safety and performance parameters associated with Crystalys treatment [1]. Medical files were retrospectively analyzed and "post-treatment" photos were obtained and scored by a trained practitioner by means of validated clinical scales [Lemperle Rating Scale (LRS) and The Global Aesthetic Improvement Scale (GAIS)]. Patients also filled a satisfaction questionnaire. The results are shown in Fig. 2 and 3.

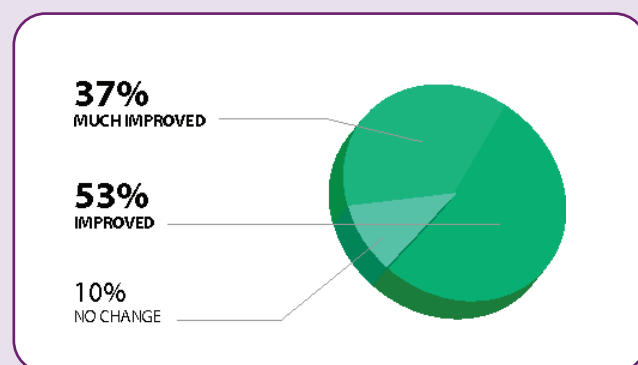


Fig. 2: Improvement in patients appearance after treatment.

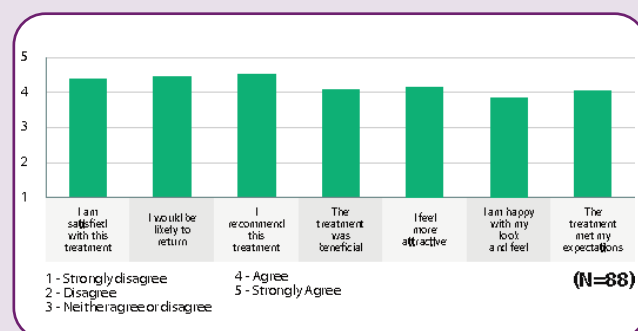


Fig. 3: User satisfaction following treatment.

## Reference

1. Tsvi Segal, MD<sup>1</sup>; Ana Schwartz, MD<sup>2</sup>; Konstantin Konfino, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>: Post Marketing Study of Safety and Efficacy of Crystalys, a Calcium Hydroxyapatite Based Filler for Facial Soft Tissue Augmentation.

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