Letter on a Prospective Study of the Efficacy of Cell-Assisted Lipotransfer with Stromal Vascular Fraction to Correct Contour Deformities of the Autologous Reconstructed Breast

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Sir,

We read with great interest the article entitled “A Prospective Study of the Efficacy of Cell-Assisted Lipotransfer with Stromal Vascular Fraction to Correct Contour Deformities of the Autologous Reconstructed Breast” by Jeon et al. [1] in *Aesthetic Plastic Surgery*. In this article, the authors conducted a 12-month prospective study on the efficacy of stromal vascular fraction (SVF)-assisted fat grafting on the volume deficit following autologous breast reconstruction using a transverse rectus abdominis myocutaneous flap or latissimus dorsi flap after total mastectomy. This study showed that the cell-assisted lipotransfer (CAL) with SVF is superior to CAL alone in terms of volume augmentation and patient satisfaction. The authors’ work provided a new idea for the treatment of contour deformities after flap surgery and will encourage more exploration from the scientific community.

In this study, the total sample size was 20. The conclusion obtained resulting from the small sample size is

less convincing. We suggest that the sample size should be increased to reduce bias.

For the SVF isolation, the authors used collagenase. After transplantation, residual collagenase has a potential risk of altering microenvironment in the recipient area. Unlike a single-cell SVF [cellular SVF (cSVF)] isolated by collagenase, the nonenzymatic isolation procedures, called mechanical dissociation, result in tissue SVF (tSVF). [2] The tSVF may be safer and more effective than cSVF due to the avoidance of collagenase and with intact cell–cell communications. Thus, the use of tSVF for volume augmentation may have more potential for regenerative purposes.

Compliance with Ethical Standards

Conflict of Interest The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

Human and Animals Rights This article does not contain any studies with human participants or animals performed by any of the authors.

Informed Consent For this type of study informed consent is not required.

References

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