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Awareness, Attitudes and Usage of Botox and Dermal Fillers Among Al Quds University Students

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Background: The world in all its aspects is constantly evolving and progressing, and so is the cosmetic world. Based on research, the use of Botox and filler injections is currently number one in the world for anti-aging cosmetic surgery. In Palestine, the use as well as the pros and cons of these cosmetics is still unveiled.

Objectives:

1. Exploring the awareness and knowledge of the students at Al-Quds University concerning the use of Botox and Filler injections.
2. Assessing the safety of used cosmetic products in east Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

Methods: A random sample of participants (n= 250) constituting from both men and women, was selected among students in Al-Quds university. Paper based questionnaires were distributed during March, 2022. Another group (n=20) was selected from plastic surgery practitioners in east Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

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Results: Most of the sample was composed of women (63%). 56% of the participants ignore the difference between Botox and fillers injections in general. Approximately, half of the participants have no idea about their active ingredients. About 70% don't support the idea of using Botox and fillers. A good percentage of participants (40%) recognize the cosmetic use only of Botox and dermal filler injections.

Among 20 practitioners, the results showed that only women headed towards Botox and filler injections aging between 20 and 39. Dentists constitute the majority of practitioners and the substances used were majorly Hyaluronic acid and partly, Calcium hydroxyapatite as dermal fillers.

Conclusion: Although the largest part of the student sample was from medical specialties, the results showed little awareness and knowledge about Botox and Fillers compared to their prevalence locally recently. Most of the practitioners are dentists, in part due to their deeper knowledge of facial anatomy. Used products are approved by the FDA. Hyaluronic acid was most commonly used due to its' preferred safety profile compared to other chemicals used in dermal filler injections.

Research Keywords: Botox, dermal filler, awareness and knowledge, Al-Quds University.