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## **COSMETIC TATTOOS, WHO, WHY, WHERE AND WHEN? TECHNIQUE AND COMPLICATIONS**

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Facial cosmetic tattoos, simulating make-up, have become very popular in the last decades. Blepharo pigmentation (permanent eyeliner), eyebrow tattoos and lip liner tattoos are common nowadays. The dyes used are relatively inert and usually well tolerated. The procedure causes little discomfort and complications are rare. However, side effects can occur; infection, allergic reactions, granuloma formation and scarring have been reported. The most common complications and patient dissatisfaction result from misapplication of the dyes, pigment migration and pigment fanning. Attempts to cover unwanted tattoos with flesh tones seldom give satisfactory cosmetic results. Lasers offer the best cosmetic result for removal of unwanted tattoos. However some flesh tone and red tattoos containing ferric oxide will change into black color when treated with laser.