## 〈一般論文〉

## 頬部たるみと毛穴形状の変化

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## Morphological Changes of Facial Pores on Cheek with Sagging

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## Abstract

It has been reported that aging causes an increase of pore areas and morphological changes in facial pores, from a round form to an elliptical form, along with sagging. These changes are supposed to occur with the formation of nasolabial folds and jawlines, and with loss of skin elasticity. Although there have been some reports about morphological changes of facial pores with aging, the underlying mechanisms remain unknown. We measured skin elasticity and some parameters related to facial pores such as pore areas, depth and aspect ratio (short axis/long axis) using skin replicas in the middle of the cheek in the sitting position, and also analyzed sagging scores such as the severity of nasolabial folds and jawlines by using photographs of 23 Japanese individuals in the twenties-to-sixties age group. We revealed that skin elasticity in the middle and lower cheeks decreased and pore depth increased significantly with aging. Aspect ratio and pore depth were found to be correlated with some parameters such as skin elasticity and sagging. In the dorsal position, pore areas and depth significantly decreased in the same region of the cheek compared to those in the sitting position. Similar results were obtained for both men and women because of the possibility of the decline in the effect by gravity downward of the face. Aspect ratio of some individuals increased in the dorsal position, while it decreased for others. Increase in aspect ratio was especially prevalent among women. Ratio of pore areas (dorsal position/sitting position) tended to decrease with aging. These results suggested that morphology of facial pores on cheek is possibly affected not only by aging and related parameters such as sagging and skin elasticity, but by change of posture.

Key words: facial pore, cheek, sagging, elasticity, aspect ratio.