

Dermal Fillers

Q Why do we get wrinkles?

A Wrinkles and facial lines result from ageing, muscle activity and your genetic predisposition. In addition, sun exposure, alcohol consumption and smoking can also increase the evidence of wrinkles.

Use of the facial muscles creases the skin when we frown, smile or raise our eyebrows. As we get older, these creases become deeper and more pronounced through constant use.

Q What are Dermal Fillers?

A Dermal Fillers are non-surgical treatments which restore volume and fullness to the face and lips. They reduce or eliminate lines, wrinkles and folds in the skin's surface.

There are various types of Dermal Filler which are made from either natural or man-made substances:

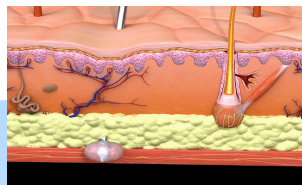
Hyaluronic Acid (HA) is found naturally in our skin, bones, joints etc. It attracts and stores water and is the body's natural lubricant. HA fillers are usually produced from a bacterial source, not from animal or human sources.

Collagen fillers are produced from purified animal collagen. The effect of these fillers does not last as long as some of the other types.

Synthetic fillers have the same effect as other Dermal Fillers and some can also encourage collagen production to help increase the skin's volume.

Q How do Dermal Fillers work?

A Dermal Fillers are injected into the skin below the crease or wrinkle and have the effect of 'plumping up' the skin to reduce the visibility of the wrinkle.



Q What can Dermal Fillers be used for?

A They can be used where creases or wrinkles have become permanent i.e. not just visible when the face muscles are tensed. Dermal Fillers can be used around the eyes (crows feet), lips, chin, frown line and cheeks.

Q Who is Dermal Filler treatment suitable for?

A Subject to initial medical screening, both men and women of any age can benefit from the treatment.

You should NOT have treatment if you are pregnant, breast-feeding, have an infection or serious illness or a skin disorder.

Q What happens during the treatment?

A A very small amount of Dermal Filler is injected into the wrinkle using a small needle. Depending on the area being treated, there may be a series of injections.



Before



After

Q How long does the treatment take?

A In most cases, the treatment will take between 10 and 20 minutes for a single area.

Q Is it painful?

A A local anaesthetic cream can be applied to the area to make the treatment as comfortable as possible. For treatments around particularly sensitive areas such as the mouth, a local anaesthetic injection can be given to numb the area.

Q When will I notice a difference?

A The effect of Dermal Fillers is immediate.

Q How long will the effects last?

A It depends on the type of filler used and the area injected. Collagen Fillers generally last about 3-12 months, Hyaluronic Acid Fillers will last on average 6-12 months, whereas Synthetic Fillers will last up to 18 months.

Over time the substances are broken down by the body's enzyme systems and pass out of the body in the natural way.

Q **How many times can I be treated with Dermal Fillers?**

A Treatment with Dermal Fillers can typically be carried out and topped up indefinitely.

Q **What happens pre and post-treatment?**

A You will need to complete a medical questionnaire to ensure there are no reasons why you cannot receive treatment. After your treatment you will be given an after-care leaflet which tells you what to do in the first few hours after treatment.

You will normally be able to return to your usual daily activities after treatment.

Q **Are there any adverse effects?**

A As the treatment involves injections, you may experience some localised bruising, slight swelling or redness at the site of the injections. This usually disappears within a few hours. If you have treatment on the lips, you may experience some swelling for a few days.

Q **Do the effects of this treatment look artificial?**

A No. Unlike some surgical procedures, this treatment works on specific wrinkles. All muscles and face tissue are unaffected.