



Injectables and Fillers

Wrinkles, Lines, and Volume

By Becky Wiese

Surgery isn't the only option for those who want to refine their facial features. Softening wrinkles and fine lines and/or plumping up cheeks and lips through injectables and fillers is a great option that gets great results.

Two types of options exist, both having a specific purpose and method of working to create a younger, fresher look. The first is Botox®, which has been used to reduce facial wrinkles for twenty years. A purified form of the botulinum toxin, Botox works by paralyzing the muscle, thereby preventing it from contracting—in other words, the muscle relaxes. And a relaxed muscle can no longer create a wrinkle.

“We primarily use Botox products in the upper half of the face,” explains Dr. Chad Tattini of Chad Tattini MD Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery. Elizabeth Riddle, RN BSN, Nurse Injector, adds, “This is a great option for fine lines, such as crow’s feet, forehead lines, and the area between the eyebrows called the glabella (“angry lines”).

Another benefit to Botox injectables is that they are quick and easy and virtually painless as far as the actual procedure goes. There’s really no downtime and they take less than an hour to administer. Full results are achieved after a few days to two weeks, and they last about four months or so. As a benefit to patients, Dr. Tattini offers a special Botox pre-payment plan in which patients pay for their three sessions up front and receive a discount for doing so. The plan makes it easier to have procedures set up for the year.

The other type of injectable uses hyaluronic acid, a substance naturally produced in and throughout the body, especially in the eyes, joints, and skin. Hyaluronic acid helps joints move smoothly, keeps things hydrated, and helps skin stay flexible. As a substance that helps smooth, hydrate, and improve flexibility, it’s also an excellent option for reducing wrinkles, creases, and plumping.

As an injectable filler, hyaluronic acid products are most often used in the lower part of the face (below the eyes) and typically come in three thicknesses to volumize and fill in natural creases. A thick filler is useful for plumping up cheeks, for example. A thinner injectable works for superficial lines such as smoker's lines around the mouth. The intermediate thickness is versatile for just about anywhere around the nose and mouth—the nasolabial folds and lips, smile “parentheses,” or “marionette lines.”

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Hyaluronic acid injectables and fillers provide instant results and last longer—12 to 18 months depending on the area (or even up to two years for a deep injectable to the cheeks). Eventually the fillers absorb into the body, and they can be re-done as needed. Each procedure takes up to an hour or so to do in the office. The fillers involve a little more down time, as the location that is injected may be red and swollen for a day or so. Injectables that add volume to lips can cause swelling for up to a week, so that option should be planned for more carefully.

Along with the aesthetic benefits of the injectables and fillers is the fact that Elizabeth is a medical professional who has specifically trained

to know which products are best for different areas and problems, as well as how to properly administer them.

“Liz has taken courses to specialize in the application of injectables and fillers, has been trained in our office by the product representatives, and has had hands-on training under my supervision,” says Dr. Tattini. “She is highly qualified and trained to perform these procedures with an excellent level of proficiency.” He encourages patients to do the due diligence about educating themselves regarding who administers these types of products—read the reviews, talk to other people, check out the qualifications of the person who will be performing the procedure. He is confident that Liz is one of the best trained in the area.

Additionally, because of the other types of procedures and surgeries Dr. Tattini performs, there is often a longer waiting period to get an appointment with him for injectables and fillers. “Liz can accommodate more patients, and they can get in much sooner,” he adds.

For those who are interested in investigating the possibilities and benefits of injectables and fillers, Dr. Tattini and Liz Riddle are available for consultation appointments to discuss which might options work best, as well as the risks and benefits of each. Often patients combine the consultation appointment with the injection—and it usually lasts less than an hour.

Whether you want to “erase” the wrinkles in your forehead or have thicker, fuller lips, or a variety of other facial refinements, injectables and fillers offer a great non-surgical option to get the look you want. “Whatever bothers you, we can treat,” says Riddle.

For more information about injectables and fillers or to make a consultation appointment, contact Dr. Tattini's office at chadtattinimd.com or 309.664.1007. His office is located at 902 N. Hershey Rd. in Bloomington.

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