

syringe of youth



Iris Gin, M.D.

Board-Certified Dermatologist
Kalia Dermatology
and Laser Center
15055 Los Gatos Boulevard
Suite 100
Los Gatos, CA 95032
408.356.1000
www.KaliaSkinCare.com



Think of a baby's face: bright, round eyes, soft, full cheeks, plump, pink lips—these are the signs of youth. As we age, soft tissue in the face degenerates, resulting in thinning of the skin and loss of firmness, plumpness, and elasticity. This leads to sagging, sinking, and general flattening of facial features. The aging process can vary from person to person, but with marked advances in nonsurgical facial rejuvenation, there is no reason to look older on the outside than you feel on the inside.

The latest trend in cosmetic dermatology is to restore volume to the face. Traditional surgical procedures involve pulling of excess skin that can sometimes lead to increased hollowness of facial contours. "The newer approach to facial rejuvenation involves techniques that are less invasive, allow for great aesthetic control, and have minimal downtime and discomfort," says Dr. Iris Gin, a board-certified dermatologist, dermatologic surgeon, and a member of the American Society of Dermatologic Surgery.

Fine lines, deep, expression-related creases, bags under the eyes, drooping skin, and an overall tired appearance are some of the inevitable signs of aging. Injectable fillers can fill in depressions and smooth out wrinkles and folds in the skin. There are many locations on the face where fillers can be used, such as "crow's feet" wrinkles around the eyes, the grooves between the lip and the nose (nasolabial folds), underneath the eyes, and the lips. There are many different types of fillers on the market, and an experienced dermatologist can help you decide which ones can give you the best cosmetic result. Two of the most common areas that fillers are used, with dramatic results and little downtime, are around the mouth and eyes.

Nonsurgical lower eyelid lift

A common concern is dark circles under the eyes. Not only can they occur as a result of aging, sun damage, and discoloration from broken capillaries, they can also be inherited and appear as early as the teenage years. The darkness of the circles can be exaggerated by the sunken area just below the eyes, which is created by sagging of the cheek muscles from aging and gravity. This is poetically called the "tear trough," because the indentation can cause tears to collect under your eyes rather than run down your cheeks.

Restylane, a long-lasting hyaluronic acid-based filler, can reduce dark circles and restore the lower eyelid padding. Hyaluronic acid is a sugar-like molecule that is naturally present in the skin and diminishes with age. This loss results in thinner skin under the eyes, which allows the bluish hue from blood vessels to show through and creates the appearance of "dark circles."

Restylane treatment restores the skin volume present in younger skin by creating a cushion between the thin skin and the underlying facial veins, and reducing the hollows that create under-eye shadows. This safe and effective treatment only requires an anesthetic cream prior to treatment, and takes just a few minutes to administer. The crystal-clear gel fills in wrinkles and depressions, plumps them with natural volume, and brings a rebirth of smoothness to the skin surface. Mild swelling can occur for 48 hours, and minimal bruising can sometimes result. The correction typically lasts six to eight months, and longer for some patients. "It is the perfect solution for patients who don't want to undergo invasive surgery, or want a preview of their post-surgical look," says Dr. Gin, who has more than 10 years of experience in injectable fillers.



After

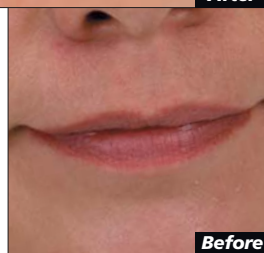
A prettier pout

Soft, plump lips are an aesthetic ideal at any age. They are a sign of youth and an icon of sensuality. Unfortunately, aging and gravity take their toll. Lips become thinner, vertical lip lines appear, and the corners of the mouth take a downward turn. Whether you have always had thin lips, or you want to return your lips to the shape and fullness they had when you were younger, lip augmentation with soft tissue fillers can provide you with the look you want. Dr. Gin states, "The goal of an experienced dermatologist is to give you the most natural and pretty look possible, rather than the exaggerated look of some celebrities. We often use a combination of Restylane, Captique, and Collagen to achieve the best results."

Fillers can also be used to define the edge of the lip to give a crisper line or "white roll," to reduce vertical lip lines, and to help reduce the feathering of

lipstick onto the skin. Since fillers can be accurately placed within these areas, a customized lip can be created with either a central pout or more fullness along the sides, depending on your preference. For lips whose corners have taken a downward turn into a permanent frown, fillers can "turn up" these corners to brighten and vitalize your smile. This part of aesthetic dermatology is an art just as much as a science—and that's why the result can vary so much between practitioners.

Dermatologists have been using injectable fillers for the past 25 years, but it is only recently, with the introduction of newer and safer fillers, that injectables have become mainstream. The nonsurgical facelift can help patients look five to 10 years younger with little to no downtime. "Combining Botox, fillers, lasers, and light treatment is the ultimate in nonsurgical facial rejuvenation," Dr. Gin says.



Before