

## INFORMED CONSENT – DERMAL FILLERS

As our skin ages, the dermis gradually loses its major constituents: collagen, elastin and hyaluronic acid. Collagen acts as the major support protein for our skin; elastin allows our skin to stay firm and resist wrinkles; hyaluronic acid helps to trap water and add volume and shape to our skin. Dermal fillers are products that are injected underneath the surface of the skin to restore volume and fullness to the skin and to correct moderate to severe facial wrinkles and folds. They include: hyaluronic acid based fillers (i.e. *Restylane, Perlane, Juvederm*) and calcium hydroxyl apatite fillers (i.e. *Radiesse*).

### RISKS OF INJECTION OF DERMAL FILLERS

Every procedure involves a certain amount of risk, and it is important that you understand the risks involved. Although the majority of patients do not experience these complications, you should discuss each of them with your plastic surgeon to make sure you understand the risks and potential complications.

**BRUISING** – Patients who are using substances that reduce coagulation, such as aspirin and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (Ibuprofen) may, as with any injection, experience increased bruising or bleeding at injection sites. However, even if you are not using any of these medications, you may still experience some degree of bruising. The degree will depend on the areas treated and they will vary from person to person. Bruising will usually last approx 4-5 days.

**REDNESS** – Redness at the treatment site is usually a result of the injection itself and should resolve in 24 hours.

**SWELLING** – Swelling is a normal body response to any type of injection into the skin. Swelling can be minimized by using ice packs and sleeping with your head elevated for a few days following your treatment. Swelling usually lasts from 2-4 days following your treatment and the amount will vary depending on the area treated and from person to person. Excessive sun and UV lamp exposure and extreme cold weather exposure should be minimized until any initial swelling and redness has resolved.

**PAIN** – Pain at the treatment site is rare and should be reported to your physician.

**TENDERNESS** – Tenderness at the treatment site for 1-2 days following your treatment is a normal response to the injections of the dermal fillers. You may use Tylenol or Ibuprofen to help minimize any discomfort.

**ITCHING** - Itching at the treatment site is rare. It is usually due to the healing process of the skin.

**ALLERGIC REACTIONS** – Allergic reactions are extremely rare with most dermal fillers and no allergy test is indicated.

***Dermal filler injections are contraindicated for patients with severe allergies manifested by a history of anaphylaxis, or a history or presence of multiple severe allergies.***

***The safety of dermal filler injections in pregnant or nursing mothers has not been established.***

I CONSENT TO THE TREATMENT ABOVE AND I AM SATISFIED WITH THE EXPLANATION OF THE INFORMED CONSENT.

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Patient or Person Authorized to Sign for the Patient

Date \_\_\_\_\_