



Latest Innovations

Procedure of the Month—Evolence

There is a new contender on the facial filler market and it is the remake of an old player. Evolence® is a collagen which can be injected and is said to last between 6 months to a year. Early facial fillers were collagen but required skin testing and the results, while very good, were not long lasting. Evolence®, in use in Europe since 2004, has recently been approved for use in the United States by the US FDA. The product is a purified porcine collagen which is cross linked with the sugar ribose. Unlike previous collagen injectibles, this product does not require skin testing. In addition, the manufacturer has studies which show efficacy of the product up to a year, though individual results do vary.

According to the product insert: Evolence® Collagen Filler is an injectable product indicated for the correction of moderate to deep facial wrinkles and folds such as nasolabial folds. The most common adverse reactions were local skin reactions consisting of redness, swelling, bruising, pain, itching, and induration. These reactions are around the injection sites and almost all resolved in less than a week. If you have a previous history of adverse reactions to collagen fillers, you should avoid using Evolence.

Evolence is approved for use in facial wrinkles, mostly the nasolabial folds (lines between the corner of the nose and mouth) in the United States. There is a formulation of Evolence used in Europe for injection in the lips but as of now is not available in the United States.

Collagen facial fillers work differently from hyaluronic acid fillers. Hyaluronic acid fillers rely not only on their volume but also influx of water into the molecule to create the desired result. Collagen on the other hand does not rely on the influx of water but solely on deposition of the substance into the skin. Collagen is also a hemostatic agent and as such there is less reported bruising with collagen injectibles than hyaluronic acid injectibles.

Determining if Evolence is right for you requires consultation with an experienced and trained physician. For more information, please contact Dr. Verret for a complimentary cosmetic consultation at 972.608.0100.

Scar Revision Treatments

Facial scarring either from accidents or acne can not only be physical but also emotional. Removing or minimizing the scars can remove stigma and long held memories. Fortunately with today's technology there are many different options to help treat scarring.

Acne Scar Treatments

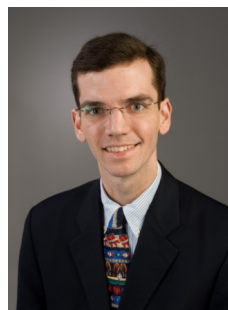
The first step in treating acne scars is to control the acne outbreaks. Without control of the outbreaks, scar revision would be pointless. Once the acne outbreaks are controlled, scar revision can be undertaken. Procedures such as subcision, facial fillers, dermabrasion, ablative laser treatments, dermaroller, and dermasanding can all be undertaken to help lessen the visible signs of acne. In some patients, multiple treatments must be combined to get the best results. For patients with deep 'ice-pick' scars, treatment is a multiple stage process that generally combines multiple treatment options for optimal results. The treatments may take several months to finish and results are sometimes slow in the making. Final results though are often quite remarkable.

Trauma scar revision

Anytime that the skin is broken, a scar will result. In plastic surgery, surgeons are taught to make skin incisions in areas that will hide the scar. Unfortunately when a break in the skin is due to an accidental trauma, skin incisions are not often made in areas which easily hide the scars. At times, additional procedures are necessary to produce optimal results. For some scars, revision surgery is necessary to make the scar irregular. The eye is drawn to straight scars in some areas and by making the scar irregular, the scar is less noticeable. In other cases, skin resurfacing is a good option to make the scar less perceptible. In cases where a keloid has formed, additional surgery and treatments may be necessary to ensure that the scar is as minimal as possible.

Consulting with an experienced and trained physician is always necessary to obtain the optimal results. Physicians who deal with skin cancer reconstruction and trauma cases can be especially good at obtaining scar revision results which are as minimal as possible. While it is generally impossible to remove the scar completely, by utilizing a large armamentarium of techniques, a well trained surgeon can create scars which are difficult to notice.

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Ask the Doctor

What is the best filler for me?

There are many different facial fillers on the market today. Some are not approved for use in the United States and several have the same basic building blocks. The biggest difference in the types of fillers, besides their make up, is going to be how long they last. Not all facial fillers can be used in the same areas as well. As always consultation with a trained and qualified physician is essential to determining which filler is right for you. Be sure to make your desires clear and do a little research before going to your appointment. Each company has a website with information about indications for the filler and realself.com is a great resource of physician answers and patient stories—both good and bad.

-D.J. Verret, MD
Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

Events and Specials

October 2008

Catch Dr. Verret in D Magazine's 2008 Best Doctors in Dallas Edition. Dr. Verret was selected to the Best Cosmetic Surgery Doctors Category.

November 6, 2008

Come join us for our Evolence coming out party. As part of the festivities we are giving away two free vials of Evolence to patients undergoing treatment as well as offering \$100 off each syringe of Evolence and \$10/unit Botox Cosmetic for everyone else.

Blog—Get your questions answered

Check out <http://dallascosmeticsurgeryblog.com> for more information about cosmetic surgery.