

Are fillers for you?

1. What are fillers?

There are different kinds of fillers designed to help fill in the wrinkles between the nose and mouth, mouth and chin, as well as wrinkles around the corner of the mouth.

There are other off label uses that can be discussed by Dr. Ortenzi. The fillers are made from hyaluronic acid referred to as Juvaderm and Restylane, as well as a less expensive product called Radiesse made of calcium hydroxylapatite. Results are seen immediately and last approximately 9 to 12 months.

The advantage of Radiesse over other fillers is that it lasts longer and is less expensive. It stimulates your natural collagen after approximately six months, which is why it lasts as long as it does.

2. What are side effects?

Side effects include bruises, swelling, pain or aching at the injection site. These can be minimized by using an icepack or cold compress. You may feel firmness in the area of the injection for the first few days. This will soften and a natural look will result.

To help minimize discomfort during injection, local numbing medicine will be used.

3. What wrinkles are best treated with fillers?

The lower face wrinkles primarily, such as the nasal labial folds and the marionette lines, as well as other off label wrinkles.

4. What is the cost of Radiesse?

Since the fillers come in pre-filled syringes of .8cc and 1.5cc, we refer to it as moderate fill and maximum fill. The amount needed is determined by the size of the wrinkle, as well as the number of wrinkles needed to be treated. The cost of a moderate fill is \$400 and maximum fill \$600.

5. How do I prepare for the treatment?

- Stop all aspirin, Motrin, Ibuprofen, Aleve, Vitamin E, and all other herbs that may increase bleeding at least 7 days prior to the treatment.
- Remove all make-up in the area of the wrinkles prior to coming.
- Contraindications to using fillers include pregnancy, breastfeeding, history of facial nerve paralysis, sensitivity to the chemicals that make up the fillers and ongoing skin infections in the site of the wrinkles to be treated.

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