

Facial Volume Restoration and Age Study

We recently completed this study and have sent the results of this study as a late breaking abstract for American Society for Dermatologic Surgery (ASDS) annual meeting in October.

Abstract:

Hyaluronic acid fillers are used primarily for the reduction of wrinkles and age-related volume deficits. It has been noted recently by many practitioners that significantly enhanced results can be obtained with multi-syringe usage focusing more on volume replacement than reduction of specific wrinkles. This technique, alternatively called “global fillers, liquid face-lift, or volume enhancement,” is still relatively new in the anti-aging panoply of available options. While many people still focus on lifting procedures, it seems somewhat counter-intuitive that volume replacement will yield a younger appearance. Some experienced in this area now anecdotally claim that volume replacement does more to recreate a youthful visage than lifting or tightening. Most people advocating this approach semi-permanent filling agents (calcium hydroxylapatite, poly-l-lactic acid, fat transfer).

This study was undertaken to evaluate the apparent age reduction with multi-syringe volume replacement with a temporary filler, hyaluronic acid.

6-8 syringes of hyaluronic acid were injected in each of 10 women with moderate to severe aging in the following areas: tear trough and



(left) Before treatment, (right) After treatment

suborbital depression, cheek/malar, nasolabial fold/cheek junction, marionette line/chin, pre-jowl sulcus and lips. Before, 2 weeks after, and 1 month after, high resolution photographs from multiple angles were taken in identical lighting and position with the VISIA CR. 3 blinded dermatologists rated the patient’s age from the photographs. The patients also rated their apparent age before and after the procedure.

Results:

What we found was that on average, the fillers made these women look 5 years younger. I was pleased with this outcome because I believe you cannot really look more than 10 years younger than your actual age without beginning to look unnatural.