

INFORMED CONSENT – SOFT TISSUE FILLER INJECTION

INSTRUCTIONS

This informed-consent document has been prepared to help inform you about

_____ Hylaform® (*animal-origin, stabilized hyaluronic acid, INAMED*) tissue-filler injection therapy

_____ Restylane® (*Non-Animal Stabilized Hyaluronic Acid, Medicis Aesthetics*) tissue filler injection therapy,

_____ Juvederm (*non-animal stabilized hyaluronic acid, Allergan*) tissue filler injection therapy,

as well as its risks, and alternative treatments.

It is important that you read this information carefully and completely. Please initial each page, indicating that you have read the page and sign the consent for this procedure as proposed by your plastic surgeon and agreed upon by you.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Hyaluronic acid is a naturally occurring sugar that is found within all mammals. It is a material that is contained in various soft tissues. Hyaluronic acid can be synthetically produced from animal tissues, chemically stabilized, and purified for use as an injectable soft tissue filler (Hylaform=*animal-origin, stabilized hyaluronic acid, INAMED*; Restylane® and Juvederm®=*non-animal origin stabilized hyaluronic acid*). Hylaform®, Juvederm®, and Restylane® have all been FDA approved to treat areas of facial wrinkling and soft tissue depressions.

Soft tissue filler injections are customized for every patient, depending on his or her particular needs. Soft tissue fillers cannot stop the process of aging. Fillers can, however, temporarily diminish the appearance of wrinkles and soft tissue depressions. Soft tissue filler injections may be performed as a singular procedure, in combination with other treatments such as BOTOX®, or as an adjunct to a surgical procedure. Soft tissue filler injections require regional nerve blocks or local anesthetic injections to diminish discomfort. Soft tissue fillers, including Hylaform®, Restylane®, and Juvederm® produce temporary swelling, redness, and needle marks, which resolve after a few days time.

Continuing treatments are necessary in order to maintain the effect of your soft tissue filler over time. The fillers, once injected, will be slowly absorbed by the body. The length of effect for soft tissue filler injections is variable.

ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS

Alternative forms of management include not treating the skin wrinkles or soft tissue depressions by any means. Improvement of skin wrinkles and soft tissue depressions may be accomplished by other treatments: laser treatments, chemical skin-peels, other skin procedures, or dermabrasion, alternative types of tissue fillers, or surgery such as a blepharoplasty, face or brow lift when indicated. Risks and potential complications are associated with alternative forms of medical or surgical treatment.

RISKS OF SOFT TISSUE FILLER INJECTIONS

Every procedure to inject soft tissue filler materials involves a certain amount of risk, and it is important that you understand the risks involved. An individual's choice to undergo this procedure is based on the comparison of the risk to potential benefit. Although the majority of patients do not experience the following, you should discuss each of them with your physician to make sure you understand the risks, potential complications, limitations, and consequences of soft tissue filler injections. Additional information concerning Hylaform® may be obtained from the package-insert sheets supplied by INAMED. Additional information concerning Restylane® may be obtained from the package-insert sheets supplied by Medicis. Additional information concerning Juvederm® may be obtained from the package-insert sheets supplied by Allergan.

Problems associated with the use of tissue fillers can relate to normal occurrences following tissue filler injections, or potential complications following tissue filler injections, including Hylaform®, Restylane®, and Juvederm®. Additional advisory information should be reviewed by patients considering tissue filler treatments that involve Hylaform®, Restylane®, and Juvederm®. .

NORMAL OCCURRENCES DURING TISSUE FILLER INJECTIONS

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Bleeding and Bruising- It is possible, though unusual, to have a bleeding episode from a soft tissue filler injection or local anesthesia used during the procedure. Bruising in soft tissues may occur. Should you develop severe post-injection bleeding, it may require emergency treatment or surgery. Aspirin, anti-inflammatory medications, platelet inhibitors, anticoagulants, Vitamin E, ginkgo biloba and other “herbs / homeopathic remedies” may contribute to a greater risk of a bleeding problem. Do not take any of these for seven days before or after soft tissue filler injections.

Swelling- Swelling (edema) is a normal occurrence following the injections. It decreases after a few days. If swelling is slow to resolve, medical treatment may be necessary.

Erythema (Skin Redness)- Erythema in the skin occurs after injections. It can be present for a few days after the procedure.

Needle Marks- Visible needle marks from the injections occur normally and resolve in a few days.

Acne-Like Skin Eruptions- Acneiform skin eruptions can occur following the injection of tissue fillers. This generally resolves within a few days.

Skin Lumpiness- Lumpiness can occur following the injection of soft tissue fillers. This tends to smooth out over time. In some situations, it may be possible to feel the injected tissue filler material for long periods of time.

Visible Tissue Filler Material- It may be possible to see any type of tissue filler material that was injected in areas where the skin is thin.

Asymmetry- The human face and eyelid region is normally asymmetrical in its appearance and anatomy. It may not be possible to achieve or maintain exact symmetry with tissue filler injections. There can be a variation from one side to the other in terms of the response to soft tissue filler injections. This may require additional injections

Pain- Discomfort associated with soft tissue filler injections is normal and usually of a short duration.

Skin Sensitivity- Skin rash, itching, tenderness and swelling may occur following soft tissue filler injections. After treatment, you should minimize exposure of the treated area to excessive sun or UV lamp exposure and extreme cold weather until any initial swelling or redness has gone away. If you are considering laser treatment, chemical skin peeling or any other procedure based on a skin response after a soft tissue filler treatment, or you have recently had such treatments and the skin has not healed completely, there is a possible risk of an inflammatory reaction at the implant site.

RISKS OF SOFT TISSUE FILLER INJECTIONS

Infection- Although infection following injection of tissue fillers is unusual, bacterial, fungal, and viral infections can occur. **Herpes simplex virus** infections around the mouth can occur following a tissue filler treatment. This applies to both individuals with a past history of Herpes simplex virus infections and individuals with no known history of Herpes simplex virus infections in the mouth area. Specific medications must be prescribed and taken both prior to and following the treatment procedure in order to suppress an infection from this virus. Should any type of skin infection occur, additional treatment including antibiotics may be necessary.

Damage to Deeper Structures- Deeper structures such as nerves and blood vessels and the soft tissues may be damaged during the course of injection. Injury to deeper structures may be temporary or permanent.

Skin Necrosis- It is very unusual to experience death of skin and deeper soft tissues after soft tissue filler injections. Skin necrosis can produce unacceptable scarring. Should this rare complication occur, additional treatments, or surgery may be necessary.

Granulomas- Painful masses in the skin and deeper tissues after a soft tissue filler injection are extremely rare. Should these occur, additional treatments including surgery may be necessary.

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Allergic Reactions and Hypersensitivity- As with all biologic products, allergic reactions and systemic anaphylactic reactions may occur. Hylaform® is extracted from chicken tissues. Hylaform® should not be used in individuals with a history of allergic reactions to chicken (avian protein) materials as local and systemic reactions can occur. Allergic reactions may require additional treatment. Restylane® and Juvederm® are not animal-derived, so there is little risk of animal-based disease transmission or allergic reaction.

Scarring- Soft tissue fillers should not be used in patients with known susceptibility to keloid formation, hypertrophic scarring or pigmentation disorders.

Granulomas- Painful masses in the skin and deeper tissues after a soft tissue filler injection are extremely rare. Should these occur, additional treatments including surgery may be necessary.

Skin Disorders- Soft tissue fillers must not be injected into areas with active inflammation or infections (e.g., cysts, pimples, rashes or hives).

Antibodies to Soft Tissue Fillers - Presence of antibodies to hyaluronic acid tissue fillers (Juvederm®, Restylane®) may reduce the effectiveness of this material or produce a reaction in subsequent injections. The health significance of antibodies to hyaluronic acid tissue fillers is unknown.

Accidental Intra-Arterial Injection- It is extremely rare that during the course of injection, a soft tissue filler could be accidentally injected into arterial structures and produce a blockage of blood flow. This may produce skin necrosis in facial structures or damage blood flow to the eye, resulting in loss of vision. The risk and consequences of accidental intravascular injection of a soft tissue filler is unknown and not predictable.

Under / Over Correction- The injection of soft tissue fillers to correct wrinkles and soft tissue contour deficiencies may not achieve the desired outcome. The amount of correction may be inadequate or excessive. It may not be possible to control the process of injection of tissue fillers due to factors attributable to each patient's situation. If under correction occurs, you may be advised to consider additional injections of tissue filler materials.

Migration of Soft Tissue Fillers – Soft tissue fillers may migrate from its original injection site and produce visible fullness in adjacent tissue or other unintended effects.

Drug and Local Anesthetic Reactions- There is the possibility that a systemic reaction could occur from either the local anesthetic or epinephrine used for sensory nerve block anesthesia when tissue filler injections are performed. This would include the possibility of light-headedness, rapid heart beat (tachycardia), and fainting. Medical treatment of these conditions may be necessary.

ADDITIONAL ADVISORIES

Unsatisfactory Result- Soft tissue filler injections alone may not produce an outcome that meets your expectations for improvement in wrinkles or soft tissue depressions. There is the possibility of a poor or inadequate response from soft tissue filler injection(s). Additional soft tissue filler injections may be necessary. Surgical procedures or other treatments may be recommended in addition to soft tissue filler treatments.

Unknown Risks- There is the possibility that additional risks and complications attributable to the use of soft tissue fillers as a soft tissue filler material may be discovered.

Combination of Procedures- In some situations, BOTOX® injections or other types of tissue filler materials may be used in addition to soft tissue fillers in order to specifically treat areas of the face or to enhance the outcome from tissue filler therapy. The effect of other forms of external skin treatments (laser and other light therapies, microdermabrasion, dermabrasion, or chemical peels) on skin that has been treated with soft tissue fillers is unknown.

Pregnancy and Nursing Mothers- Animal reproduction studies have not been performed to determine if soft tissue fillers could produce fetal harm. It is not known if soft tissue fillers or their breakdown products can be

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excreted in human milk. It is not recommended that pregnant women or nursing mothers receive soft tissue filler treatments.

Drug Interactions- It is not known if soft tissue fillers react with other drugs within the body.

Long-Term Effects- Soft tissue filler injections should not be considered as a permanent treatment for the correction of wrinkles and soft tissue depressions. Over time, the soft tissue filler material is slowly absorbed by the body and wrinkles or soft tissue depressions will reappear. Continuing soft tissue filler injections are necessary in order to maintain the effect of the fillers. Subsequent alterations in face and eyelid appearance may occur as the result of aging, weight loss or gain, sun exposure, or other circumstances not related to soft tissue filler injections. Future surgery or other treatments may be necessary. Soft tissue filler injections does not arrest the aging process or produce permanent tightening of the skin or improvement in wrinkles. .

HEALTH INSURANCE

Most health insurance companies exclude coverage for cosmetic surgical procedures and treatments or any complications that might occur from the same. Health insurance companies may not pay for soft tissue filler injections used to treat medical conditions. Please carefully review your health insurance subscriber information pamphlet.

ADDITIONAL TREATMENT NECESSARY

There are many variable conditions in addition to risk and potential complications that may influence the long-term result of soft tissue filler injections. Even though risks and complications occur infrequently, the risks cited are the ones that are particularly associated with soft tissue filler injections. Other complications and risks can occur but are even more uncommon. Should complications occur, additional surgery or other treatments may be necessary. The practice of medicine and surgery is not an exact science. Although good results are expected, there is no guarantee or warranty expressed or implied, on the results that may be obtained with the use of soft tissue filler injections.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

This treatment provides a defined amount of soft tissue filler for the treatment of wrinkles and other conditions. If additional interim injections of a soft tissue filler are needed in order to maintain or improve results, you will be responsible for these costs in addition to the cost of this treatment session. It is unlikely that soft tissue filler injections to treat cosmetic problems would be covered by your health insurance. Additional costs of medical treatment would be your responsibility should complications develop from any soft tissue filler injections. You would also be responsible for additional forms of treatments or surgery recommended to improve the appearance of facial wrinkles and soft tissue depressions. **In signing the consent for this surgery/procedure, you acknowledge that you have been informed about its risk and consequences and accept responsibility for the clinical decisions that were made along with the financial costs of all future treatments.**

DISCLAIMER

Informed-consent documents are used to communicate information about the proposed surgical treatment of a disease or condition along with disclosure of risks and alternative forms of treatment(s). The informed-consent process attempts to define principles of risk disclosure that should generally meet the needs of most patients in most circumstances.

However, informed consent documents should not be considered all-inclusive in defining other methods of care and risks encountered. Your physician may provide you with additional or different information which is based on all of the facts pertaining to your particular case and the current state of medical knowledge.

Informed-consent documents are not intended to define or serve as the standard of medical care. Standards of medical care are determined on the basis of all of the facts involved in an individual case and are subject to change as scientific knowledge and technology advance and as practice patterns evolve.

It is important that you read the above information carefully and have all of your questions answered before signing the consent on the next page.

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CONSENT FOR SURGERY/ PROCEDURE or TREATMENT

1. I hereby authorize Dr.Kavali, Nancy McLaughlin, PA and/or such assistants as may be selected to perform the following procedure or treatment:

Soft tissue filler injection to _____ using (circle one):
Restylane Juvederm Hylaform

I have received the following information sheet:

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2. I recognize that during the course of the procedure and medical treatment or anesthesia, unforeseen conditions may necessitate different procedures than those above. I therefore authorize the above physician and assistants or designees to perform such other procedures that are in the exercise of his or her professional judgment necessary and desirable. The authority granted under this paragraph shall include all conditions that require treatment and are not known to my physician at the time the procedure is begun.
3. I consent to the administration of such anesthetics considered necessary or advisable. I understand that all forms of anesthesia involve risk and the possibility of complications, injury, and sometimes death.
4. I acknowledge that no guarantee or representation has been given by anyone as to the results that may be obtained.
5. I consent to be photographed or televised before, during, and after the operation(s) or procedure(s) to be performed, including appropriate portions of my body, for medical, scientific or educational purposes, provided my identity is not revealed by the pictures.
6. For purposes of advancing medical education, I consent to the admittance of observers to the treatment room.
7. I authorize the release of my Social Security number to appropriate agencies for legal reporting and medical-device registration, if applicable.
8. I understand that the surgeons' fees are separate from the anesthesia and hospital charges, and the fees are agreeable to me. If a secondary procedure is necessary, further expenditure will be required.
9. I realize that not having the procedure is an option.
10. IT HAS BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME IN A WAY THAT I UNDERSTAND:
 - a. THE ABOVE TREATMENT OR PROCEDURE TO BE UNDERTAKEN
 - b. THERE MAY BE ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES OR METHODS OF TREATMENT
 - c. THERE ARE RISKS TO THE PROCEDURE OR TREATMENT PROPOSED
 - d. THAT I ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CLINICAL DECISIONS MADE ALONG WITH THE FINANCIAL COSTS OF ALL FUTURE TREATMENTS TO REVISE, OPTIMIZE OR IMPROVE OUTCOMES.

I CONSENT TO THE TREATMENT OR PROCEDURE AND THE ABOVE LISTED ITEMS (1-10). I AM SATISFIED WITH THE EXPLANATION.

Patient or Person Authorized to Sign for Patient

Date _____ Witness _____