

Sculptra[®], the most widely touted of skin fillers

Lisa Topham RN, PC, is excited to announce the addition of the cosmetic filler Sculptra[®], which works by stimulating the body to produce new collagen, creating a fuller, more youthful appearance.

Sculptra[®] is an injectable implant made from poly-L-lactic acid, which is both biocompatible and biodegradable. A major breakthrough with Sculptra[®] has been its ability to give long lasting correction of facial atrophy, and so Sculptra[®] was initially approved in 2004 for HIV associated facial volume loss. The use of Sculptra[®] for other purposes is considered "off label" currently, however its FDA approval for aesthetic use is expected during the spring of 2007.

Sculptra[®] refreshes the face by:

- Adding volume back into areas such as the mid face
- Adding fullness to the cheeks through the temples, which naturally begin to droop with age
- Improving a pouchy jawline
- Softening nasolabial folds
- Adding fullness to sunken lower lids.

Its most recent use is injections to the back of hands for hand rejuvenation. The appearance of skin on hands remains a frequent giveaway to age and

a bane to many women when asked what area they'd like most to correct. With Sculptra[®] injections, the appearance of years really can be injected away.

This innovative treatment has been available for many years on the European market. And to date Sculptra[®] has been used on over 150,000 patients in 30 countries worldwide.

An office procedure requiring only a topical anesthetic, the Sculptra[®] treatment is quick and very tolerable. Little down time is typically expected with the protocol, though it is recommended that no aspirin, Advil, alcohol, or vitamin E be used shortly prior to and after treatments. An oral and topical arnica are administered at each treatment to decrease swelling and bruising (these are herbal safe-proven products). The patient leaves the office with slight swelling to the treated area—which is actually constituted of water via which the poly-L-lactic acid is delivered.

This swelling can last for several days, and after six weeks the patient will notice approximately a 25% correction to treated areas. This is the time required for the patient's own natural collagen to be stimulated and form in response to the treatment. A second treatment is recommended

at this point, which will supply an additional 25% correction.

In the Norwalk offices of Lisa Topham, RN, PC, an evaluation is done after eight weeks to determine if future treatments are needed and recommended. The amount of correction needed or desired will determine the amount of additional treatments necessary. Results and treatment vary for individuals, and are discussed at a complimentary consultation.

Clinical studies have thus far shown that duration of Sculptra[®]'s fill effect is greater than two years post injection *without* a return to baseline. Initial treatment may require several injection sessions to obtain a desired result. And, based on an individual's own collagen production, touch-up sessions at the two-year time marker require fewer treatments.

Sculptra[®] has been proven to be safe and effective. Allergy testing is not required prior to injection.

For a complimentary consultation on facial rejuvenation using Sculptra[®] please contact Lisa Topham, RN, PC, at 91 East Avenue, Norwalk, or call to schedule your free consultation at (203) 831-8029.