

Use of Dermal Fillers and Injectables

The American Society for Dermatologic Surgery has become increasingly concerned about the proliferation of non-physicians practicing medicine and its impact on patient safety. Recent studies conducted by the ASDS have shown an increase in patient complications resulting from this trend. As implantable devices, dermal fillers and botulinum toxins require extensive specialized physician knowledge to ensure the highest level of care. The precise placement of a needle for a botulinum toxin injection or the exact depth of administration of a filler is a specialized type of injection. Problems inherent with the technique are primarily problems encountered with the materials. Additionally, the tolerance for adverse events for these specialized injections of implantable devices is comparatively low to that of typical injections. As such, it is the position of the Society that only properly trained physicians should be injecting dermal fillers and botulinum toxins. Training should include an extensive understanding of cutaneous medicine and the aging face, knowledge of the various FDA-approved injectable products and their indications, experience in injection techniques appropriate to the products, and the pre- and post-procedure care involved in treatment.

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