

Surgeon's facelift breakthrough

You don't have to go under the knife to look good. Pioneering nonsurgical treatments are helping people look years younger.

And leading the way in administering facial aesthetic procedures is Owen Judd, a consultant ear, nose and throat surgeon at the Royal Derby Hospital. Owen has jointly pioneered a new nonsurgical facelift procedure in the UK called TimeNet. He also delivers a full range of nonsurgical facial rejuvenation treatments at Derby Private Health at the Royal Derby Hospital through Visage Surgical Aesthetics. Owen (below) answers key questions.

Q What are facial aesthetic procedures?

A They can start with simple surface treatments such as lotions at the bottom rung of the ladder, advancing up to invasive surgical procedures such as facelifts and nose jobs at the top end. There are, however, a myriad of nonsurgical alternatives in between. These range from minimally invasive procedures such as microdermabrasion and skin peels, designed to remove the top dead layers of the skin to brighten the face, through to injectable products, such as Botox.

Derby consultant surgeon Owen Judd has jointly pioneered a new nonsurgical facelift – which has got him noticed nationally.

Q Tell us more about fillers and Botox.

A The fillers we tend to use now are hyaluronic acid products which is a natural substance already present in the skin. It is available in varying thickness gels that can be injected into lines to smooth them out, or for advanced treatment, placed in certain points of the face to give a natural lift. Botox is Botulinum Toxin, a bacterial toxin that when carefully injected into target muscles weakens their action of pulling on the skin and so softens expression lines. It is very safe in the right hands.



Q What is collagen?

A It's an abundant protein in all animals and is present as structural fibres in our skin. It is produced by stem cells in the skin called fibroblasts and acts as the main source of support and strength of the skin. As we age, we lose collagen and skin becomes lax.

Q How does the TimeNet facelift work?

A TimeNet is a safe and effective method of stimulating collagen production. It combines a lifting effect to give an impressive alternative to a surgical facelift. The more traditional techniques such as medical needling and radiofrequency cause short-term collagen stimulation by mechanically stimulating the fibroblast cells, whereas TimeNet both mechanically and chemically stimulates collagen production over a longer period of time, therefore giving a better more long-lasting result. The procedure involves many ultra-fine stylets being inserted into the skin stimulating collagen. When the stylets are withdrawn, they leave behind a micro-filament which stays within the skin giving instant lift, while continuing to stimulate collagen production. It reconstitutes the natural layer of collagen support within the skin and so tightens and lifts. The results may last for years.

■ To find out more, call 01283 529129, email info@visagesurgicalaesthetics.co.uk or visit www.visagesurgicalaesthetics.co.uk