

TOUCH-UPS

Non-surgical cosmetic treatments are the latest in skin care

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For the Journal * Boomer, July 2007



Sheree Shaw, a nurse for Dr. Daniel Ronel, gets a treatment of Radiesse, a filler for lines and wrinkles. Radiesse lasts for two years.

Because the latest cosmetic skin care practices put medicine exactly where it's needed, physicians are able to provide patients with the safest and most effective treatments to reduce the signs of aging.

Beyond Botox

Albuquerque and Santa Fe plastic surgeon Dr. Daniel Ronel still uses Botox to treat superficial lines on the face, but he likes the FDA-approved Radiesse and Juvéderm injectable gel treatments to lessen deeper lines around the nose, the corner of the mouth and from the mouth to the chin.

“Radiesse and Juvéderm are part of the latest generation of fillers, but they have fewer side effects than products in the older generation of fillers such as Restylane and collagen,” Ronel says. “They’re safer and more popular. Juvéderm, especially used in lip augmentation, makes the lips feel soft, plump and fantastic.”

Juvéderm is administered as a one-injection treatment that lasts eight months. Three injections over six months are needed for Radiesse treatments. Once the series is completed, Ronel says the treatment is effective for two years.

“Generally, Radiesse is used for deeper wrinkles,” Ronel adds. “There’s also more swelling with Radiesse. However, unlike Juvéderm, which is sold as a one-application treatment, Radiesse can be administered repeatedly during the initial six-month period of time without additional product cost to the patient.”

Ronel’s two offices in Albuquerque and one office in Santa Fe charge \$600 for each Juvéderm treatment and \$1,200 for a six-month regimen of Radiesse treatments.



Dr. Daniel Ronel uses Radiesse and Juvéderm injectable gel treatments to treat lines on the face. Ronel says they “are part of the latest generation of fillers.”

Spot removal

In microdermabrasion, the effects of sun-damaged skin, scars and brown “age” spots can be minimized or removed for around \$100 per half-hour treatment.

At The Spa at Western Dermatology Consultants in Albuquerque a wand containing yellow diamond chips is sprayed across the face to remove dead and old skin cells. The face is washed before the treatment and moisturized after it.

For patients with very sensitive skin, spas and medical offices often use glycolic acid chemical peels to remove a micro-thin top layer of skin. Chemical peels, which cost around \$50 a treatment, can be performed on the face, neck, chest, back, arms and legs. It may take repeated peels to get the best results.

Before doing any elective surgical or non-surgical procedure, it’s best to speak with your primary care doctor.