

Q

What is better to inject into wrinkles of the face, fat or products like Juvederm or Radiesse?

A

The advantage of Juvederm, Radiesse or any other filler is that the patient does not have to have an additional area of the body operated on for the donor tissue. However, the duration of the fill effect is limited to six months to a year.

In order for fat to be harvested from the patient's body for re-injection, special

equipment and precautions must be used. The usual liposuction procedure kills the fat cells as it aspirates them so different equipment and technique are required to preserve as many fat cells as possible. The cells must then be carefully injected so as to maximize the chance that new blood vessels will grow to them before they die from lack of oxygen and nutrients. The patient is advised to move the injected area **AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE** for 72 hours. Even with all these precautions only about 2/3 of patients will get satisfactory results the first time. Many patients will require a second and sometimes even a third fat injection procedure to obtain the result they want. In most cases the fat will be permanent but occasionally patients report that their fat has disappeared over a period of years. It therefore is hard to say which is better, fat or a synthetic injectable. Patients' needs and expectations vary so each person needs to look at the advantages and disadvantages and decide for herself/himself.

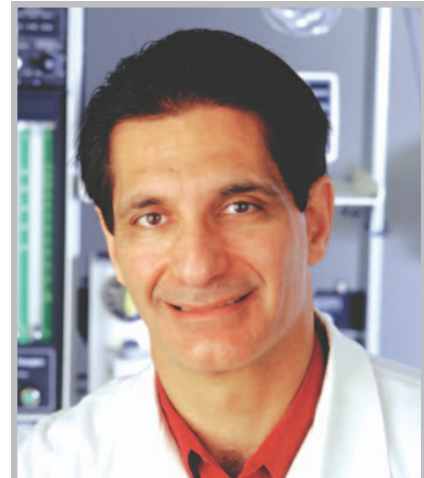
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