

## Patient Information Hyalase®

### What is Hyalase?

Hyalase® (hyaluronidase 1500 units) is a prescription only formulation, licensed and commonly used to boost absorption or dispersal of drugs injected into the skin and has an off license use in aesthetic medicine.

### How does it Work?

Hyaluronic Acid (HA) fillers are sterile gels consisting of non-animal stabilised hyaluronic acid for injection into the skin to correct facial lines, wrinkles and folds, for lip enhancement and for shaping facial contours. Hyaluronidase is an enzyme which breaks down hyaluronic acid. Hyaluronic acid is the component of dermal fillers, but is also naturally occurring in the skin and soft tissues.

### Used to Treat

Occasionally dermal fillers need to be dissolved when the treatment outcome is unacceptable, when an adverse reaction to the filler has occurred, or there is a possibility of vascular occlusion and/or impending necrosis (tissue death) which could lead to the compromise of healthy tissue.

### Am I Suitable for Treatment?

Not everyone is suitable for this treatment. The practitioner will take a detailed medical history to ensure you have no conditions that might increase risk of unwanted side effects, consultation is also important to discuss your expectations and whether or not this treatment is able to meet them.

A history of certain allergies may present an unacceptably high risk of serious allergic reaction to Hyalase®.

If you are unhappy with dermal filler treatment you have received elsewhere, it may not be appropriate for another practitioner to use Hyalase®, without a referral letter. It is important the risks do not outweigh the benefits and a good outcome is achievable.

### Does it Hurt?

The treatment is administered by injection, but topical anaesthetic can be used to numb the skin. Your practitioner will discuss options for your comfort at consultation.

### Before Treatment

All make up will need to be removed prior to treatment, so please come 'fresh faced' if possible. Alcohol, aspirin, Ibuprofen and a range of dietary supplements including; St. Johns Wort, fish oils, Ginkgo Biloba, Vitamins C and E may all contribute to bruising and are best avoided 24 hours before treatment. Treatment cannot be administered if there is an active skin infection, including acne or cold sores or if you are unwell, including colds, coughs, sore throats etc. Do contact the clinic to discuss any illness or new medicines prior to attending.

If you are receiving Hyalase® treatment to correct unsatisfactory results, you will be given a test dose (a small injection on your forearm) and observed for a minimum of 20 minutes, to identify any sensitivity which may indicate allergy to Hyalase®. If symptoms of sensitivity are observed then treatment cannot proceed.

### How Long will it Last?

Any over correction resulting from the loss of your own hyaluronic acid will usually be temporary and is expected to recover within a few days. The breakdown of the dermal filler will be permanent.

### Aftercare Advice

- Most people are able to continue with normal activities with immediate improvement in their appearance. Some will have some redness, pin prick marks, possibly swelling- particularly in the lips. Possibly bruising. Any swelling and bruising may be more apparent the next day.
- Make-up should not be worn for 12 hours
- You are advised to avoid alcohol, vigorous exercise, sun bathing, and extremes of heat or cold for 14 days post treatment. These activities have been found to increase and prolong swelling.
- Swelling may worsen in the first 24 hours, and then should settle within the first few days. Cold packs can be helpful in reducing swelling. As a consequence of swelling, and the action of the Hyalase® you may notice some asymmetry. The final result may be judged at 2 weeks.
- Bruising may take a few days to appear, arnica can be helpful in clearing bruising. It is advisable to avoid aspirin and alcohol for 12-48 hours after treatment. Tenderness should settle as swelling goes down.
- Please contact your practitioner if redness, tenderness, itching or swelling worsens after 3 days, rather than settling.
- Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns.
- Hyalase® is an enzyme which breaks down hyaluronic acid fillers, but it can also break down naturally occurring hyaluronic acid present in the body. The results can be unpredictable and the effect dramatic with possible loss of volume and some skin laxity. Although some of the effects can be immediate, it can take up to 2 weeks for the final results to be seen and the procedure may need to be repeated.
- Hyalase® administration can result in anaphylaxis (a severe allergic reaction) which in itself is life threatening and requires immediate medical attention. Symptoms of a severe allergic reaction can include shortness of breath, wheezing, coughing, difficulty swallowing, swelling of the tongue, eyelids, lips, hoarseness of the voice, stomach pain, nausea or diarrhoea. If you have any of the above symptoms please report to your nearest Accident and Emergency Department or call 999 for an ambulance.