

The CHIN Makeover

The chin is a symbol of sensuality in the female and masculinity in the male, playing a pivotal role in facial aesthetics. Despite this however, it's a feature that's often neglected.

DR VERNON CHING discusses the latest non-surgical techniques to beautify the chin.

It is well known that surgery is the gold standard used to measure all non-invasive procedures. Although, this is narrowing significantly due to innovative, advanced injection techniques - using new fillers with enhanced properties that support, lift and contour facial structures and skin. These techniques have been pioneered by Dr Mauricio de Maio, a Brazilian plastic surgeon using the MD Codes and Allergan fillers.

Non-surgical aesthetic rejuvenation of the face has evolved from the simple removal of a single crease, to our ability to now abolish the negative messages of facial expression conveyed by the natural ageing process or poor genetics. According to Dr de Maio, "Beautiful young women are accidents of nature, but beautiful old women are works of art."

About Face

The facial muscles used for expression and non-verbal language have evolved over thousands of years to enhance social communication. Negative facial messages are those that convey feelings of age, sadness, anger, fatigue or displeasure. Unfortunately, these emotions may be incorrectly projected by the natural ageing process and interpreted at "face value".

For instance, the unfriendly receptionist that always appears to be in a bad mood may only be ageing in a way that projects a negative message - and is not really ill-tempered but rather 'maturing angrily'.

Therefore, the modern approach to facial rejuvenation is to examine the face from all sides to carefully assess if any negative emotional messages are being projected.

Does the patient look tired, angry, sad, tense or worried?

Check with the patient what their better photographic side is and use this to evaluate overall form, balance, contour, symmetry and ratios to enhance overall attractiveness by matching the sides. Often patients focus on a limited perception of themselves - seeing a fine line on the upper lip when

they actually need a more extensive cosmetic makeover.

Chin Up

In the same way, the chin is an often neglected facial feature that plays a pivotal role in facial aesthetics, as the chin is the

fulcrum upon which all facial symmetry, proportion and shape is balanced. It is also the keystone that connects the face to the neck.

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The chin is a symbol of sensuality in the female and masculinity in the male. Women need a delicate chin with less fullness in the central part while men with masculine features need a stronger looking chin.

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The majority of patients today are prepared to forego a surgical operation of the chin for a minor procedure with a lesser, time-limited result using fillers.

In my practice, I routinely use the VectraXT from Canfield Medical Systems. This is to evaluate and show the patient a 3D simulation of how they would appear with a non-invasive, aesthetic rejuvenation procedure of the chin.

It's a very useful tool as it helps to exclude patients with unrealistic expectations. Patients need careful evaluation of occlusion, as well as dental and bony relationships before being augmented with fillers.

In particular cases, limitations and the possibility of multiple sessions involved need to be discussed before a good result

is obtained. As all patients are different and no one shoe fits all - a unique individual approach is required for each patient. Once assessed, advanced injection techniques using a blunt canula are then used to decrease tissue damage and prevent bruising of the chin.

The correct filler volume, placed accurately can adjust the height, width and projection of the chin. This changes the shape of the



FAQS

How long does the procedure take?
If only the chin is treated, the average time needed for treatment is half an hour.

How long does the effect last?
By using the correct filler, the effect should last from 18 to 24 months.

What is the cost of this procedure?
The cost is dependant on the amount of filler used, but on average if only the chin is treated the cost varies from R4000-R6000

face, balances nasal projection and improves overall attractiveness - all of which contributes to a 'wow' effect, with longer lasting natural results.

Combining the perfect filler with skill, knowledge and insight, we can rejuvenate as well as rejuvenate our patients. We are now able to change the negative messages projected by age or genes to make our patients look happier, younger and more attractive. 



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