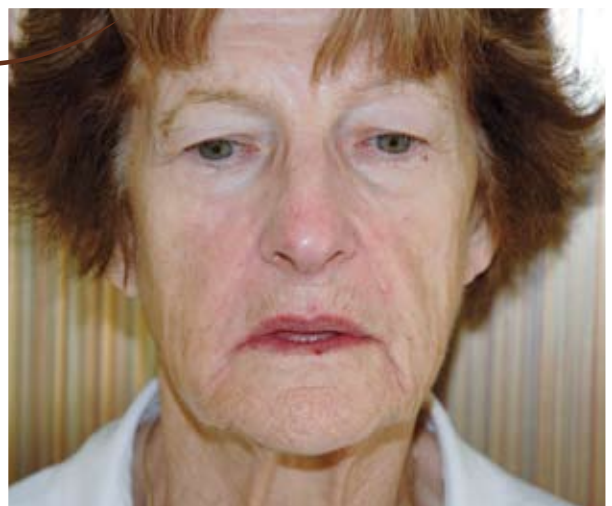




Liquid assets

KIRSTY DOOLAN GETS THE LOWDOWN FROM DR JOSEPH HKEIK ON THE LIQUID FACELIFT, A COMBINATION OF COSMETIC INJECTABLES TO HELP TURN BACK THE CLOCK AND CREATE A YOUNGER LOOKING APPEARANCE.



BEFORE

Q: What is a 'liquid' facelift?

A: A liquid facelift is a combination of non-surgical procedures, including dermal fillers and botulinum toxin injections, such as Botox or Dysport, to reshape and resculpt the face.

'Cosmetic injectables can be used for a wide variety of reasons, such as to add volume to the face, fill in lines and wrinkles, contour the cheeks and chin, lift the eyebrows, fill the under-eye area, smooth out lines on the forehead and even achieve a "lift" to the neck,' says Sydney cosmetic physician Dr Joseph Hkeik.

'When performing a liquid facelift I first address what areas of the patient's face has aged and then tailor a liquid facelift for them, addressing what areas they want rejuvenated. As everyone is different, each individual patient will have different needs,' he explains.



AFTER liquid facelift by Dr Hkeik

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Q: How long will the results of a liquid facelift typically last?

A: 'The longevity of the results depends on the cosmetic injectables used and the individual patient, but as a guide botulinum toxin injections usually last between three and six months, while the fillers can last anywhere between several months and several years. The patient may need to come in for touch-ups during this time to keep the results looking fresh,' says Dr Hkeik.

'I tend to see the patient one week after they have undergone a liquid facelift to assess the results, after which I usually see them every three to six months, depending on what type of procedures they have had performed.'

Q: I've noticed gravity is taking its toll on my face. Am I a good candidate for a liquid facelift as opposed to other more invasive procedures?

A: If gravity is taking its toll, a liquid facelift can offer an effective remedy, says Dr Hkeik. Ageing causes a loss of facial volume and loss of elasticity in the skin. Jowls are one effect of gravity taking its toll, causing the skin around the jaw line to sag and lose its youthful definition.

'A liquid facelift can replace lost volume and lift the jowls by augmenting the cheeks. To address lost elasticity in the skin, rejuvenating treatments such as laser skin resurfacing and dermal thickeners can be used,' he says.

'A liquid facelift can replace lost volume and lift the jowls by augmenting the cheeks'

'There's such a vast range of fillers available now I believe there's very little that can't be addressed with non-surgical methods,' he continues. 'For suitable patients a liquid facelift can be preferable over a surgical facelift because the whole procedure can be performed within one to two hours and under local anaesthesia. A liquid facelift can address the visible signs of facial ageing with no downtime, minimal discomfort and no scarring – and can achieve a natural-looking, rejuvenated appearance without the need for invasive surgery. **bella**



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