

20 Things You Should Know Before Getting Lip Injections

Thinking about getting a fuller set of lips compared to the one your momma gave you? [David Colbert](#), MD, founder and head physician of New York Dermatology Group, [Francesca Fusco](#), MD, a New York-based medical and cosmetic dermatologist, and [Shereene Idriss](#), MD, board certified cosmetic dermatologist, share their insider tips on what you should know before getting lip injections.

- 1. Like an artist with paint, every doctor has a favorite formula they like to use.** Dr. Colbert and Dr. Fusco agree that the easiest and most natural temporary filler is hyaluronic acid (HA) such as Restylane. Dr. Idriss adds that Juvéderm Volbella, one of the newest HA fillers made specifically for the lips, is great for targeting both fine lines around the area and volume to the lips as well as leaving a natural sheen.
- 2. You can completely erase HA fillers if you don't like how your lips turn out for whatever reason.** Because HA is not permanent, your dermatologist can inject an eraser enzyme called hyaluronidase. The enzyme will dissolve the filler in five minutes if you're unhappy with the initial results. On the contrary, Dr. Idriss says that permanent and semi-permanent fillers, while tempting, are not reversible and little can be done to fix them.
- 3. It can cost anywhere from \$500 to \$2,000 to get your lips done, depending on the doctor and region you live in.** Either way, start saving your pennies.
- 4. HA fillers last about four to six months.** But if your body is on the thinner side, you'll metabolize the formula faster and the injections won't last as long.
- 5. You will see the results almost immediately.** Your lips will be a little swollen at first but you'll see the effects of the fillers pretty quickly. Give your lips 24 hours to settle and the swelling to calm. Then you'll be seeing your filled-out lips as they will be for the next few months.
- 6. If done correctly, lips with injections don't feel any different than real lips.** Not even when you're kissing.
- 7. At the beginning of the procedure, it feels like a pinch and then it stings as the filler is being injected.** Afterward, the doctor will massage your lips a little, ice them for 10 minutes, and then let you go about your day.
- 8. You can choose to have your lips numbed beforehand with a dental nerve block or a topical anesthetic.** The doctor can numb the area around your lips with an injection into your gums (just like a dentist would before a dental procedure) or you can opt for a numbing cream.
- 9. There's practically zero downtime.** The procedure takes about 15 to 20 minutes total and the numbing will start to wear off after about 15 minutes. You can go about your daily life afterward but shouldn't make any big plans (like a wedding or an important event) for at least three days in case you bruise.
- 10. You shouldn't exercise the day of the procedure.** You especially should avoid activities that increase blood flow to your face, like getting a massage or a facial.