

# Elective Reversal Protocol

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## Hyaluronic Acid Dermal Fillers

Advice is based on expert opinion. It is recommended you keep updating your knowledge as evidence emerges and seek colleague support as required.

### Indications:

Water attraction causing increased volume and lost definition

Asymmetry

Patient dissatisfaction despite technically good result

Lumpiness due to poor injection technique

Reactions, infections, inflammatory lumps.

### 1 Define the indication for reversal

### 2 Explore the other options and their risks

Firm massaging by practitioner, regular massaging at home and waiting are all options that may degrade filler lumps and asymmetries and have no additional risk which should be contrasted with the risks and benefits of immediate reversal.

### 3 Seek informed consent.

The risk of reversal is a 1/2000 risk of allergic reaction which is relatively high. This risk is higher if they are allergic to bees or wasp stings which contain hyaluronidases. All dermal filler in the area should be considered vulnerable as hyaluronidase permeates very easily. Reversing very specific amounts is not possible. Endogenous hyaluronic acid is also going to be degraded which causes a temporary loss of pre-existing volume that may be apparent for up to a week.

### 4 Prepare hyaluronidase solution.

Create a solution of 1500 IU of Hyalase in 15mls of normal or bacteriostatic saline. This solution will dissolve approximately the same volume of hyaluronic acid- so inject 1ml of hyalase solution for each millilitre of dermal filler you wish to dissolve.



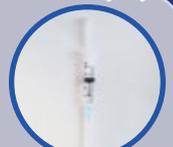
1500 IU HYALASE

+



15ml Saline

=



100IU/1ml

### 5 Inject a tiny intradermal bleb of the hyalase, 0.01mls using a BD/Insulin syringe commonly used for botulinum toxin treatments. Place a similar amount of saline as a control, so that you can see if redness is due to the needle or due to an allergic reaction.

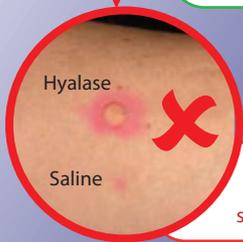


Hyalase  
Saline



Hyalase  
Saline

Risk of anaphylaxis is low, proceed with injecting the solution.



Hyalase  
Saline

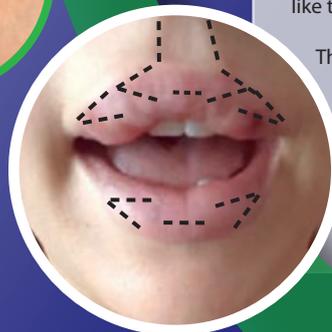
**HIGH RISK!**  
Raised pale itchy papule surrounded by erythema

### 6 Inject hyalase into each area affected. Use an equal volume of hyalase solution as the volume of HA you would like to dissolve.

Then you want a total reversal, inject more than is theoretically required to reduce the risk of needing multiple exposures to hyalase.

Place the reversal agent at the same depth and position as the filler. It takes ~24hrs to dissolve.

**Do not retreat for 14 days**



24hrs



Photos Courtesy of Sarah Murphy RNC  
antiageingaesthetics

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