

**J**awlines lifted, necks tightened, eye bags smoothed and redness calmed... there's now so much smart new non-invasive action at the skin clinics.

**Shouldn't you be getting a piece of it?**

It's true – new non- or minimally-invasive treatments and techniques mean that pretty much any skin glitch or ageing problem can be solved. Even knife-loving, “keen as mustard” plastic surgeons are adding them to their menu because they know it's what we want – less invasion, less downtime and a more natural effect. Our experts give you the news on effects, cost and ouch factor!

**Q** It's that bit just under my chin. It's not exactly double – more a filling in of a once tight jawline.

**A** There isn't a cream that will tighten sagging there but Smartlipo – a new and more refined take on liposuction – could restore a neat outline. French surgeon Dr Christian Ferlaud has a gift for it. “I call it velvet surgery because there's no bleeding, no general anaesthetic, no trauma and less risk of infection. The anaesthetic is local so patients can sit up occasionally to help me judge that enough has been done,” he says.

**HOW DOES IT WORK?** Light from a fibre-optic laser inserted through a small incision in the skin liquefies the fat cells and, unlike liposuction where fat is sucked out, the fat cells are naturally excreted over time.

**DOES IT HURT?** Not while it's being done, but expect some bruising for a few days.

**DOWNTIME?** You'll need to wear a special collar for at least two weeks, which along with the slow, natural excretion of fat cells means you're less likely to be left with loose skin. The good news? Effects are permanent.

**COST?** From £1,800, but prices vary with location. Dr Ferlaud is at Skin Health Spa at Selfridges, London. Call 0800-0371090 for appointments and other salons.

**W&H TIP** Smartlipo works well on the little lemon-shaped wedge of fat under the bottom, on arms and inside knees.

**Q** My eyes are baggy with crescent-shaped puffs. Eye gels and creams don't work – is it time for surgery?

**A** Hold on! Take a good look at your bags – is there a hollow trough between the base of the puff and the top of your cheek? If so, then a smart new technique could be perfect for you. “Surgery to address tear-trough hollows is not always appropriate,” says ocular plastic surgeon Raman Malhotra. “But tear-trough rejuvenation brings back youthful volume and contours the lower eyelids in a safe and minimally invasive way.”

**WHAT HAPPENS?** You'll have a series of micro-injections along the line of the hollow using Restylane Perlane – a hyaluronic gel filler – followed by a little gentle massage to distribute the gel evenly.

**DOES IT HURT?** New devotees say there's only minimal discomfort. But it's best to seek out an expert doctor, dermatologist or ocular plastic surgeon to carry out the treatment.

**DOWNTIME?** There could be a little swelling and eyes are easily bruised, but they soon settle. You'll see the results instantly and the effects last around six to nine months.

**COST?** In the region of £600, but prices vary according to location. To contact Dr Malhotra, call 01883-712888. Alternatively, call 0800-0155548 or email [info.uk@q-med.com](mailto:info.uk@q-med.com) for practitioners in your area.

**Q** My skin has lost its firmness and looks dull. Facials just aren't enough!

**A** Actually, a results-driven facial could do lots for you. We've just test-driven a cracking Bio Combination Facial that's like a three-in-one treatment – without the cost!

**WHAT'S THE ROUTINE?** This brand-new treatment is exciting everyone who uses it. Linda Palcic, senior beauty therapist at Paul Edmonds salon, loves the results. “It's versatile, suits everyone and leaves skin tighter, younger and fresher,” she says. It starts with microdermabrasion using fine crystals to polish away surface debris. Next, micro-current treatment using probes tone muscles. Finally, oxygen is pumped over skin to push in products that hydrate and plump.

**DOES IT HURT?** This isn't a relaxing hands-on facial but it works. “It's very good at encouraging lymphatic drainage and reviving lifeless and neglected skin,” says Linda.

“It even plumps lips – temporarily, for sure – but enough for a party!”

**DOWNTIME?** None – skin is good to go.

**COST?** The bT Ceuticals Combination Facial costs £105 for 90 minutes at Paul Edmonds, call (020) 7589 5958. Call 01788-550440 or visit [www.lookyoungerwithouturgery.com](http://www.lookyoungerwithouturgery.com) for a salon near you.

**Q** I'm 59 and disappearing! My brows are okay but my lashes are sparse and eye colour seems to be fading. Is semi-permanent make-up too mutton dressed as lamb?

**A** No way! If it's subtle, it can be an amazing youth fix. “Age is definitely no limit,” says semi-permanent make-up suprema Debra Robson Lawrence. “My youngest client is in her twenties, my eldest is 86. A subtle shaded liner gives definition to the lashes, softly defines your eyes, enhances colour and gives you a youthful sparkle.”

**WHAT HAPPENS?** This is a totally bespoke treatment. After deciding how subtle, smoky or defined you want eyes to be, custom-blended pigment – anything from soft taupes to browns or black – is carefully and gently sketched into the skin using a very fine needle.

**DOES IT HURT?** Anaesthetic cream minimises discomfort and, thankfully, Debra is quick!

**COST?** Prices start from £375 with a senior consultant and £475 with Debra herself. As it's semi-permanent, you'll need to return annually to have the colour refreshed. Call 0845-2302021 or visit [www.permanent-make-up.com](http://www.permanent-make-up.com) for more details.

**W&H TIP** Frances Furlong at Skin Health Spa recommends injecting just a little Restylane filler at the end of brows. “It gives them a nice lift,” she says. >>