

as seen in



# restylane study in african-american patients shows promising results

The first exclusive study on the use of Restylane in African-American patients has been completed by Minneapolis dermatologist **Charles Crutchfield MD.**

**R**estylane is a hyaluronic acid gel. Hyaluronic acid is a substance that naturally exists in the human body and its most important function is to carry and bind water. It is found in the skin, joints, and eyes. Non-animal, stabilized hyaluronic acid (NASHA) does not contain any protein and does not require a skin test prior to treatment. Restylane is a form of NASHA.

Restylane is a filling substance designed for different purposes and effects, from reducing wrinkles and folds to enhancing facial contours and sculpting the lips. The use of filling agents such as Restylane and other hyaluronic acid products is the growing segment of the nonsurgical cosmetic procedure market. Restylane is produced by Q-Med of Sweden and distributed by Medicis in the US.

Prior studies have not completely addressed the unique issues encountered with the injection of filling substances and products into the skin of persons of color. This is the first study to focus exclusively on the results seen in persons of color when using the popular cosmetic medical product Restylane.

In this pilot study, 10 self-identified African-American patients had various facial areas treated with Restylane. The areas treated included the temples/

cheeks (acne scarring), glabella (between the eyebrows), nasolabial lines (cheeks along the nose to the corners of the mouth), lips, and the marionette lines (from the corners of the mouth to the chin). The patients were followed for 12 weeks. All patients reported they had good to excellent results. No patients had a history of abnormal scarring. Side effects included temporary swelling, bruising, and mild erythema (redness). These were seen in three of the 10 study patients. There were no lasting adverse reactions seen including keloidal scarring, abnormal scarring, skin discoloration (hypo or hyperpigmentation), and granuloma formation.

This is the first report that demonstrates that the non-animal, stabilized hyaluronic acid Restylane is a safe and effective product in African-American persons of color. 'We are proud to be involved in the first study to look exclusively at the results of Restylane treatments in African-American patients. The patients were thrilled with the results, and we observed no long-term side effects or complications. This should give other dermatologists the confidence to treat patients of color, of course with careful monitoring,' says Dr. Crutchfield, the director of the study. **cbm**



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## case 1



BEFORE



AFTER Restylane by Dr. Crutchfield

## case 2



BEFORE



AFTER Restylane by Dr. Crutchfield

## case 3



BEFORE



AFTER Restylane by Dr. Crutchfield