

Macrolane

Macrolane is the first body shaping treatment using hyaluronic acid.

About

Macrolane is the first body shaping treatment using hyaluronic acid based on *Q-Med's patented NASHA™* technology. The same technology has been used for years as fillers to treat wrinkles such as Restylane.

The Macrolane range of hyaluronic acid gels can be used to restore volume in a graceful, safe, natural-looking manner without the need for surgery.

Macrolane is available in two formulations, or volume restoration factors, **Macrolane VRF20** and **Macrolane VRF 30**. Each version has been specially designed to accommodate different levels of tissue support. Both restoration factors (i.e. VRF 20 and VRF 30) can be combined to ensure full correction of volume and smoothness of the skin surface.

How is Macrolane different from other HA fillers?

Macrolane is a much thicker hyaluronic acid gel than usual dermal fillers, designed for use in the body where larger areas of volume restoration are desired.

How does Macrolane compare to fat injection?

Treatment with Macrolane does not require any harvesting from other parts of the body thus saving time and trauma for the patient.

How long is the effect meant to last?

Macrolane gels are not permanent implants. The NASHA gel injected during treatment will gradually be biodegraded by the patient's body over time. While individuals naturally respond differently, effects are intended to last for at least a year. Current investigation suggests that lifestyle factors such as smoking, low weight and high metabolic rate may reduce the duration of the product.

Indications

Macrolane is an innovative product for both women and men indicated for

- *Minimally invasive volume enhancement*
- *Contouring of body surfaces*
- *Post-liposuction concavities*
- *Breast augmentation* - particularly for those women without sky-high expectations wishing fuller and rounder but not huge boobs; are reluctant to undergo a major surgery; do not like the idea of breast implants; or have medical contraindications for general anaesthesia.
- *Buttock enhancement* – for those men and women who do not wish to have permanent implants or require small volume restoration.

- *Calf augmentation*
- *Correction of body deformities*
- *Large indented and unsightly scars*
- *Male chest enhancement*
- *Penile enlargement*

Contra-indications

Macrolane treatment is not indicated for patients with:

- Positive findings in breasts on screening (e.g. mammogram)
- Family history of breast or ovarian cancer.
- Bleeding disorders or using blood thinning medication
- Tendency to develop keloid scarring

Macrolane should not be used in children, pregnant or breast feeding women.

Is Macrolane safe?

Macrolane is a stabilised hyaluronic acid-based gel of non-animal origin which has been proven to be a safe product based on preclinical and clinical studies. It is biodegradable containing approximately 2% hyaluronic acid and 98% water therefore it is not recognised by your body as foreign substance.

Can Macrolane cause breast cancer?

Macrolane consists of stabilized hyaluronic acid and is fully biocompatible. The hyaluronic acid molecules in the Macrolane gels are large polymeric chains similar to our skin's naturally occurring hyaluronic acid. These large polymers are not capable to induce mutations in the genetic material and therefore do not cause cancer.

Will Macrolane adversely affect the evaluation of mammograms?

Patients should comply with standard breast screening protocols as recommended by their local health authorities. Pre-Macrolane mammograms are highly recommended as they can facilitate post-treatment mammography evaluations. The Radiologist should be informed about the implanted Macrolane gel.

The presence of Macrolane may affect the diagnostic quality of parts of the mammograms performed for breast cancer screening purposes in patients with small breasts (cup size A or B). Ultrasound is the first option if complimentary examinations are needed.

Treatment Explained

The treatment consists of introducing a cannula through a small incision in the skin and injecting Macrolane in the desired areas.

Injecting **Macrolane** is similar to traditional fat injections. The whole procedure will take anything between 30-70 minutes depending on the volume restoration and the area to be treated.

With you standing up your doctor will do some marking as a guide during the procedure and take pre-op pictures from various angles.

A local anaesthetic will be used to numb the incision site following thorough cleaning of the area to be treated using aseptic techniques.

He will then make a small incision (1-2mm) in the skin as a point of entry of the **Macrolane** hyaluronic acid gel. **Macrolane** will be introduced through a relatively long and thick needle with a blunt tip called cannula.

(For breast augmentation **Macrolane** is usually injected above the pectoral muscle but in some patients the product may be placed underneath the pectoral muscle in order to achieve good results).

The appropriate VRF will be used depending on the size and depth of the volume restoration.

Once the desired volume is attained the treated area will be massaged until it is even and smooth.

Usually stitches are not required and a pressure dressing will be applied to the treated area.

You could go home right after the procedure.

Who performs Macrolane treatments?

Dr Foutsizoglou is one of the few UK doctors who have been trained in Sweden and certified by Q-Med to carry out procedures with **Macrolane**.

SFMedica makes sure that all involved doctors have satisfied strict criteria; that they have the appropriate clinical and surgical experience and meet the standards set out by the Care Quality Commission.

Aftercare

Following **Macrolane** treatment you may experience some swelling, redness, tenderness or bruising in or around the treated area. This is usually for a short period and does not cause great inconvenience. Non-prescription anti-inflammatory medication is usually sufficient to relieve the discomfort.

As with an injection, bleeding may occur at the puncture site but this can be readily treated.

Macrolane may feel firm for the first few days but usually within the first week or so it begins to soften acquiring similar properties to the surrounding soft tissue.

Very occasionally a capsule around the injected HA gel becomes contracted. In this case you will need to inform your doctor as he may need to 'break down' the capsular contracture.

Other less common adverse events include infection, leakage from the incision site, lumps and migration. However by using the right injection technique and a strict post-op protocol, these complications can be minimized.

The treated area should not be exposed to intense heat or cold until the swelling has subsided and the redness has disappeared.

For the first 2 weeks the patient should also avoid strenuous exercise and any activity that may exert consistent pressure on the treated area.

Patients should avoid massaging the treated area as this can distort the gel.

After a breast treatment, a supporting bra should be worn for 2–3 weeks.

The results following **Macrolane** injections are not permanent as the body will eventually metabolize the hyaluronic acid. Duration and aesthetic results vary and depend upon indication and patient.

It would be advisable to be seen by your doctor in 3–4 weeks after your treatment for evaluation of the result and post-op pictures.

For certain individuals, further adjustments may be needed.