

2009



LIPODYSTROPHY PROVIDERS



Nelson Vergel- Editor
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This is input provided my members of pozhealth at yahoogroups.com about providers they have used for facial lipoatrophy. If you want to add your experience, please visit:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dIXsY8Yluuh5f_2fMLZasLgA_3d_3d

COMMENTS ABOUT FACIAL LIPOATROPHY PROVIDERS (non edited):

1. Dr. Elisabet LaGlenne in Paris. She developed New Fill, now Sculptra.
2. PMMA to fill out face. Clinic Estetica-Tijuana. Dr. Casavantes did the first procedure; Dr. Gloria Morales did the second. It's been two years since my last visit, and I'm still pleased with the results. The clinic was as clean and modern as any doctor's office that I've visited in the U.S. You can arrange to have a van pick you up at the San Diego airport for \$25, so the logistics are actually very easy. I also had 5 sessions of Sculptra in San Francisco. The first three were with Dr. Echavez; the last two were with Dr. Marcus Conant. The results did not last long, which is why I subsequently had the PMMA filler at Clinic Estetica. I did not like the way Dr. Conant did the procedure. He had me sit on the edge of an exam table, and he jabbed the needle in my face way too many times. Dr. Echavez used far fewer needle jabs and the results were better (although they still didn't last long enough.)
3. Dr. Angermeir in providence Rhode Island, fantastic doctor and a godsend of a product, Sculptra
4. Peter Englehard, Miami FL, NewFill/Sculptra (OK experience but did not last) Luis Casavantes, Tijuana MX, Bio Alcamid (good experience but only OK cosmetic technique) Dr. Andrew Denton, Vancouver BC, Bio Alcamid (great experience and best cosmetic technique of any doc I've used).
5. Dr. Yves Hébert Médecine Esthétique Dr Yves Hébert 1832 Sherbrooke Street West, 2nd floor Montreal, Quebec H3H 1E4 Telephone: (514) 935-6616 Toll free: 1 800 935-6616 Email: info@drYvesHebert.com
6. Dr. Luis Casavantes Tijuana PMMA facial and gluteal Great "bedside manner". Product worked well.
7. Dr. Timothy Jochen, Palm Springs, Ca.
8. Dr. Gervais Frechette-an excellent practioner of Sculptra application. Happy with results. (Unfortunately , he passed away in 2008)
9. Dr. Douglas Mest - Los Angeles area New Fill - 16 sessions later and I'm back to square one.
10. Dr. Michael Eschavez, 490 Post St San Francisco, 415-392-9800. Dr. Eschavez is pleasant, professional and will answer any questions you may have regarding treatment options. We decided on Sculptra, 5 kits in 2003 prior to FDA approval. I was very pleased with the results. After 24 months, I needed Sculptra tune ups. 2 vials in 2005, 3 vials in 2006, one vial so far in 2008. I am now not pleased with Sculptra. Looking back it has been a very expensive ordeal with no long lasting results. I will now look at other options such as silicon microdroplets, PMMA, or Bio-Alchamid.

11. Gaetano Zanelli M.D.; 415-487-1846; Silicon Microdroplet Injections; I had excellent results with four treatments, and Dr. Zanelli explained everything in advance far more thoroughly than the other doctors I spoke with. I'd trust him completely.

12. Dr. Frechette, New York, NY 212-337-9663

13. 1) Westlake Dermatology in Austin, Texas. \$3K for "10 syringes" of Restylane and a little Radiesse. It was supposed to last "up to a year", but unfortunately the Restylane was very quickly absorbed and within two weeks it was all gone. 2) Silikon 1000 microdroplets by Dr. Michael Escobedo at Escobedo Skin Center in Austin, Texas. Excellent results so far, and should be permanent. \$4,500 one-time fee, plus minimal charge for materials.

14. Judith Breadon, MD 877.754.6480 Chicago Sculptra. Decent experience. Too expensive.

15. Dr. Andrew Denton, Vancouver BC (<http://www.doctordenton.com/>) provided Bio Alcamid, subsidized by the Face Forward Foundation. (<http://www.faceforward.ca/>) My experience was very very good, and Dr. Denton has a great eye for aesthetics. I also previously had Sculptra and the results were "fair", but it has since all dissolved. +

16. Dr. Verdi (now deceased), Louisville, Ky. I had Sculptra injected a total of 7 sessions (7 vials). My results were very minimal compared to a friend of same stats. I was very disappointed at the small hard bumps around my eyes that are still there after 5 years. The area I where I was injected below and at the "laugh line" areas. My cheeks never filled in.

17. NHS UK Mr Stewart St Johns Hospital Plastic Surgeon West Lothian Scotland. I started with PLA then fat transfer then Bio-Alcamid. All procedures were fine but did not work until I received Bio-Alcamid which has transformed my life.

18. Dr. Derek Jones in Beverly Hills, silicone injections. Very positive experience. I thought he was honest, and felt no pressure. He restored my face to 100% of what it was before the wasting. It's been a year since the last treatment, and no complications so far.

19. Dr Frechette in NYC. My impression was he was a pretentious money-hungry bragger. Sculptra cost did not warrant marginal temporary benefit. Sun,

20. Luis Casavantes, BioAlcamid with no problems and PMMA with great results

21. Sculptra, patient assistance program, Dr. Stacy Folk, Denver CO. Had moderate facial lipo. I had 5 treatments, first she used me as a training subject with no cost to me. Others were done by her PA Trish, she did a great job, no lumps or bumps and explained everything completely. I thought the price was high considering the PA was doing it and would only do 1 vile at a time, but based on the results, I do feel it was worth the money.

22. Dr Frechette in NYC in 2002 using Newfill (now Sculptra). 10 treatments with hardly any effect. Dr. Hebert in Montreal in 2005 using Bioalcamid. One treatment. Some improvement, but still left with hollows. Dr. Serra in Rio de Janeiro in 2007 using PMMA. One treatment. Much improved look, but still have s hollow under my eye. Considering another treatment with PMMA in the new year.

23. Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London

24. Dr Zoepelt, Freiburg, Germany Fri,

25. Implants by Dr. J Romano S.F. Ca. excellent results Sculptra by Dr. Michael Echaves S.F. Ca to round off the edges excellent results for two years then added out fast need to get more filler now to fill in where implants end.

26. My work was performed by Dr. Ramon Torres. I had many problems obtaining Sculptra, and never got enough to finish the job. It was a very positive experience. And although I still could use more treatments the results have changed my self image and my life in a very positive way.

27. Bioalcamid in face and buttocks (3 times) by Dr. Carmelo Protopapa in Italy in 2005. My case was really severe, so I look 100% better than I did before. However, now that time has passed, I'm not pleased with results: 1) the upper cheeks are too puffy; 2) the sides of the mouth need more filler; 3) the face is semi-lumpy and uneven; 4) the buttocks is lumpy and the change is not very noticeable, but sitting is much more comfortable.

28. Dr Echavez San Francisco 490 Post Street 542 415-392-9800

29. Dr. Blick Sculptra 2000-2001 Norfolk Ct. Good beginning experience 5 treatments Results diminished after 2 years Dr. Englehard Sculptra 2003-2005 Miami 3 Touch ups Did not last more than 6 mos. Dr. Cassavantes 2006-2006 PMMA Tijuana 2 treatments, one touch up. Added more volume immediately, looks natural and seems to be holding up well.

30. One year ago I had Pmma procedure by Dr.Casavantes in Tijuana. 2 sessions. The first with 14 cc of product. The 2nd in Jan 07 with 5 cc of product. Extremely happy with results one year later. No complications. Very easy "commute" from SFO, Ca. All done in one day each apt. Dr. Casavantes and his assistants are very caring and professional. His medical facilities are spotless. He is very good and I would give him the highest recommendation. I was very nervous beforehand about the procedure and what the results would be and put it off many times because of the fear of making a mistake. I am extremely happy with the results one year later. Would repeat again w/out a doubt.

31. Newfill precursor to Sculptra by Peter Englehard (deceased) Miami Beach Florida. 3/5 years ago with excellent results. Have appointment with plastic surgeon locally (out here in the "provinces")next week for a consult for a touch up. She has operated on me twice for lipo accumulation/hump and under the chin. Both operations were unpleasant and the hump and under chin accumulation have returned with a vengeance. who has

32. Dr. Steve Haston, ApexSouthFlorida. 2701 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Oakland Park, FL 33311. 954-484-0300. www.apexsouthflorida.com Excellent experience with Sculptra injections in my face.

33. I have NewFill/Sculptra, Bio Alcamid, and a little PMMA. Sculptra was with Dr. Peter Englehard (since deceased) during pre-FDA approval period. It was a waste of money and only lasted about a year before it started to dissolve. I would not recommend Sculptra to anybody unless they're willing to get many treatments and don't care about cost or permanence. Got Bio-Alcamid and a little PMMA with Dr. Casavantes in Tijuana while he was still at Clinic Estetica. I would rate this as good-to-very good. In retrospect it was not necessary to have both PMMA and Bio-Alcamid. Either one would have been fine by itself. After Bio-Alcamid approval in Canada, got more Bio-Alcamid with Dr. Andrew Denton in Vancouver, BC. (<http://www.doctordenton.com>) By far Dr. Denton was the most-skilled of all my filler docs in terms of artistry and end look. I have recommended him to several friends and they are all totally satisfied and delighted with the results. I got discounted services through the Face Forward Foundation (www.faceforward.ca)

34. Dr. Eschaves in San Francisco, Nu-Fill Dr. Mest in Los Angeles, more Nu-Fill Dr. Derick Jones, microdroplet silicon. The new fill needs to be redone regularly. The Silicon seems to be more permanent.

35. Derek Jones MD in LA. Outstanding experience. Very professional. Excellent esthetics. I began with severe facial wasting and now have a lean, symetric, "Lance Armstrong" look. Very expensive. Gradual. 13 treatments over 2 years. Durable response, last treatment more than a year ago. No complications, lumps, infections.

36. Dr. Gaetano Zanelli in San Francisco. Absolutely outstanding. Very happy with the silicon microdroplet treatment.

37. Dr. Ciro Martins at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. Outstanding results. Scheduling can be complicated - he allocates only 4 appointments 2 days a week. I don't have his phone number, but you can google him and everything will be right before your eyes!!

38. Experience pleasant, no complications, used juvederm and botox, good results

39. Sculptra by Dr. Pat McNamara - The Skin Renewal Center, Houston, TX 2005-6 All positive results, good manners, capable, very experienced with HIV as primary care physician; more new to sculptra as are most (about 4 years now, I believe) Unfortunately, sculptra last only about 18-20 months for me before I notice a major reduction in "fill". Also of note: I once spent a week climbing 14,000 foot peaks in Colorado during my series of treatments. The extensive exercise completely wiped out the benefits of at least two treatments, sucking my face back down. I severely ramp up my caloric intake during any excessive exercise, which seems to have worked. Previously, had several rounds of NewFill by Dr. Peter Engelhard in Miami, who, unfortunately, is no longer with us. What a beautiful man he was!

40. Sculptra (2 treatments), in San Francisco by Dr. Michael Echavez. Did a good job, but he does not communicate well. If you ask a question he answers it, but doesn't volunteer any information. His office seems to have a problem in returning phone calls. His web address is sfplasticsurgery.com
Sculptra (2 treatments) in San Francisco by Dr. Marcus Conant. I was not happy with his technique. I got the impression that he didn't take the trouble to really look at my face before starting the procedure. He sits you on the edge of an exam table and jabs you with needles. This procedure should be done in a chair similar to the kind that a dentist uses. I do not recommend him for Sculptra treatments. I did not feel that the two treatments by Dr. Conant improved my appearance after the two treatments by Dr. Echavez.
PMMA at the Clinic Estetica in Tijuana. First treatment was by Dr. Casavantes, second by Dr. Morales. I was extremely pleased with both doctors. Dr. Casavantes now operates his own clinic in Tijuana. The Clinic Estetica is a modern, well-run practice that caters primarily to Americans. Both doctors explained the procedure in great detail before starting the actual injections. Website: clinicestetica.com

41. Dr. Gervais Frechette Just moved! 37 Union Square West New York, NY 10003 Tel : 212.337.9663 One session - \$600 Dr. Gervais Frechette didn't use an anesthetic cream or shots, didn't listen and bruised me, likes to take photo of before and after but not showed me. I felt he just wanted my money.

42. Dr. Gervais Frechette, NYC, for Sculptra Dr. Marcio Serra, Rio de Janeiro, for PMMA Positive experiences with both doctors. The PMMA was much more effective, required fewer treatments, and was less expensive.

43. Dr. Marcus Conant 470 Castro St., Suite 204 San Francisco, CA 94114 415-575-7500 I am part of an ongoing Sculptra study so the treatments were free and I had a lot of product injected. Can't complain.

44. Marcus Conant, MD in San Francisco. Nice chairside manner and excellent technique. His assistant overmassaged one cheek and managed to break skin, so I couldn't continue massaging that week and have some small lumps present. Otherwise fine. Contact his scheduler, Dean Wise, 415-575-7501

45. Bio-alcamid. and co-polymer 5 Clinic estetica. Tijuana.. pos and neg. poor injection tech. caused a perm. red mark on my face below my eye PMMA Dr Cassavantes..Tijuana only positive 619 308-7268

46. Newfill (now Sculptra) - 10 sessions from March to Sept, 2002 with Dr. Frechette in NYC. Not very effective for my severe lipatrophy and too expensive. Bioalcamid - 1 session in June 2005 with Dr. Hebert in Montreal. Made some difference in my look, but not great. Can still feel and sometimes see bumps under skin. PMMA - 1 session on Face, legs and buttocks in April 2007 with Dr. Serra in Rio de Janeiro. Face still has hollow places, but overall looks better. Buttocks greatly improved, legs would definitely need a few treatments, according to the doctor. Disappointed that after all these treatments the face is still hollow under eyes/upper cheeks.

47. Dr Paul Campbell, 1855 1st Ave, Suite 200, San Diego, 619 339-3100 I had 3 sessions of Silikon 1000 in my cheeks. It was expensive(\$750/session) , but the result was fantastic.

48. I have had Sculptra injections in St. Louis which I am pleased with. My doctor is Dr. David Parks, 3960 Lindell Boulevard St. Louis, MO 63108 Phone: 314-652-0100

49. Timothy Jochen, MD Palm Springs, Ca. very happy with Silicone microdroplets, 3 treatments, ...need more but can't afford it

50. I have had fat transfer, New-Fill (aka Sculptra), and Bio-Alcamid and would not do any of these again, now that PMMA is available. Dr. Casavantes, then at Clinic Estetica in Tijuana, injected Bio-Alcamid and I would go back to him, now at his own clinic in Tijuana, to get PMMA.

51. 1. Bioalchamid. Anna Love's clinic, Tijuana, Mex. It was great. Did not need that much. They put a little too much in and they had to extract. It went ok. I have one small area where it is discolored-looks like a zit. 2. Silicone droplets. Dr. Chasen, La Jolla CA, 858-440-1555. Looks great.

52. Dr. Frechette San Francisco, CA (also NYC office but have since passed away) I had scuptra treatments about 18 months ago (6 in all). The results were generally good. Had a few "bumps" show up. The doctor and his staff were easy to work with and very kind. I am not sure the treatment was worth it though.

53. Dr. Senderoff, Park Ave Aesthetic Surgery, 461 Park Ave South, NYC (212) 481-3939 Radiesse in the cheeks. - touch up every 9 months or so; very happy.

54. Dr. Richard Sherman.....New Orleans, La.....actual experience not too bad, small discomfort.....did 6 vials (patient assist program)....cost \$3000.00 doctor fees....DID NOT LAST even 1 year!.....NOT worth the money

55. Colin Trout, MD Ironwood Dermatology 1735 E. Skyline Drive Tucson AZ 85718 520-618-1630 They are experienced in administering Radiesse treatments for HIV lipoatrophy, and are both caring and conscientious.

56. Dr. Yves Hebert Montreal, Canada www.endryveshebert.com Bio-Alcamid injections, reasonable price and great results. One year ago and still doing well.

57. David Orentreich 905 Fifth Ave Ny, NY 212 794 0800 silicone

58. I have had 4 treatments with micro-droplet Silicon. I and 3 friends have had this treatment performed for our facial wasting.. It has been over 3 yrs since last treatment and I am extremely happy with the results of restoring our faces ,as are my friends with this very experienced cosmetic dermatologist.The doctor name is GAETANO ZANELLI MD he is located here in San Francisco/ 45 castro st suite 215 telephone # 415-487-1846

59. Sorry, I can't disclose this information. It was not done at the hands of a licensed provider.

60. Anna Love in Tijuana Mexico

61. Harvey Abrams, Wilshire Aesthetics 5757 Wilshire Blvd. Promenade 2 Los Angeles, CA 90036 323-936-1245 Silikon 1000 My experience with this doctor was horrible. We had an agreed-on price for 4 sessions but after he numbed my face for the 4th session, he tried to charge me an extra \$600. I refused to pay more and he did the work, but he had a foul mood the entire time. His behavior during the treatments was hyperactive and erratic. He complained loudly to his assistant that I was a "sweater". He did good work, but he was totally unprofessional and even abusive. Avoid this doctor!!! There are better choices for silicone in Los Angeles.

62. Dr. Casavantes, Clinic Estetica, MX, Bioalcamid, Product surgically removed twice due to abscess: First surgery two years after application; second surgery four years after application. Cultures were positive for staphylococcus.

63. Ariana cosmetic surgery in las vegas,... it is listed on the sculptra web site... I had 4 sessions of sculptra i believe 2 kits. but the nurse practitioner who was injecting at the time moved to colorado and i never actually restored my face to what it should have been. but what i did have done was a dramatic difference. and at the time i was very pleased. Since then it has slowly gone away.. some still remains but i am considering PMMA .

64. Mark Illeman, FNP San Francisco, CA 415-292-5477 SCULPTRA Excellent!

65. Ben Bassichis, M.D. Dallas, Tx 972-774-1777 Sculptra injections Pos. exp: Skilled with Sculptra Neg. Exp: Injections were painful, even with lidocaine

66. Dr Serra in Rio. He is an artist, I have been to him twice.

67. Clinic Estetica in Tijuana, Mexico. First session by Anna Love. Second, third and fourth sessions by Dr. Casavantes. Only bio-alcamid 48 cc's total. Very pleased with the result, considering I looked like a skelton before starting. A little too much in he right cheek, but I can live with it.

68. PMMA Dr. Serra Rio De Janiero Brasil Great dr. Fast procedure it took 30-45 minutes to remove years of hollowing and it took care of the AIDS death mask look. Your heart will sing.

69. I had the procedure done on South Beach. Unfortunately, the doctor is now deceased.
70. Gervias Frechette, three and a half years ago. Signs of lipoatrophy just returning
71. Dr. Derek Jones in Los Angeles. I had a very positive experience with Silikon 1000. It took 5-6 sessions to complete, very painful immediately after the procedure, but well worth the transient discomfort.
72. Dr. Derek Jones. I thought he was WAY too commercial. My partner and I asked for consecutive appointments. He kept on coming in and out of the office saying "I'll be back in a moment". Once outside and after talking with my partner, we realized he had been treating us BOTH using the same time slot. Impressive degrees. AMAZINGLY poor bed manners. Don't trust him at all. Felt like he was in for all the money he could get.
73. Dr. Derek Jones, Beverly Hills, CA
74. Anna Love at Clinica Estetica in Tijuana Mexico. I paid \$4500 in cash over 3 separate visits in 2003. I was 2.5 out of 5 on a scale of severity with facial lipoatrophy. It was clear immediately that I was grossly overinjected with the 'body' form of BA on either side of my nose and upper cheeks while no improvement was seen in the temple areas. She used the 'lip' form of the BA in the temple area. My smile was very, very limited since my face just couldn't move very much. It also looked very lumpy. I went back twice to get some removed but they only had limited success with that. I've since had some silicone done with Dr. Orentreich and that was much better.

Buffalo Hump removal

1. Dr. Christopher Thompson, Capital Otolaryngology, Austin, Texas. (512) 997-9077. Removed 500ml of buffalo hump via liposuction before giving up (and I don't blame him at all). Followed-up with open-field surgery (removed approx. 1.5 lbs) with excellent result. He removed the ENTIRE layer of fat so there has been no regrowth. I'm very pleased, although I wish he had closed with sutures instead of a stapler, which left a significant scar. And he got insurance to cover both the liposuction and the surgery.
2. VAMC San Juan, PR.....Through Fee Basis, meaning, the VA paid a private physician to do the liposuction on my entire back, including the Buffalo Hump,...I had a negative experience since the procedure was done under local anesthesia and after a while all the fat came back..... and also had Abdominoplasty done with positive outcome.
3. Same as above
4. I made a Lipo to the Back (Buffalo Hump?), 4 years ago, in Lisbon (Hospital de Santa Maria) was well done but became again. Now I'm prepared to do the same and in the side under the stomach.
5. See answer to #2
6. I had \$8,000 worth of plastic surgery done to remove my "buffalo hump," with fairly good results -- at least it's less visible than prior to the surgery.

7. Dr. Kenneth Bermudez 525 Spruce St. San Francisco, CA 94118 415-668-2122
Recommended by my primary care physician. Brown & Toland medical group covered part of surgery to remove Buffalo hump. Great doc.

8. Buffalo Hump removed early this century. Dr. Michael Echavez. EXCELLENT!!! Great guy, comfy office and the procedure went quite well. 490 Post St. S.F. 415-392-9800

9. Dr. Senderoff, Park Ave Aesthetic Surgery, 461 Park Ave South , NYC (212)481-3939
Lipo on neck (front) & buffalo hump; no return; very happy

Thanks to Al Benson for helping to format this survey