

Lotus Pain Clinic

CONSENT FOR COSMETIC ACUPUNCTURE

PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY. INITIAL EACH PAGE INDICATING THAT YOU HAVE READ THE PAGE. YOUR SIGNATURE ON THE LAST PAGE INDICATES THAT YOU HAVE READ THE DOCUMENT, HAD YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED, UNDERSTAND THE EXPECTATIONS AND RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH COSMETIC ACUPUNCTURE, AND CONSENT TO TREATMENT.

This is an informed consent that explains the expectations and risks associated with the Mei Zen Cosmetic Acupuncture system. Please be advised that this treatment is not a surgical procedure.

The purpose of Cosmetic Acupuncture is to create a younger and more vibrant appearance. A Cosmetic Acupuncture treatment involves the insertion of acupuncture needles to the face, neck and body in order to reduce the visible signs of aging. According to the theory of Traditional Chinese Medicine there are meridians or pathways of Qi (energy) that flow throughout the entire body. Therefore, it is possible for Cosmetic Acupuncture to address the energy of the entire body making it not merely a "cosmetic" treatment. Your complexion reflects the result of the state of Qi in your entire body.

As with all Traditional Chinese Medicine treatments, like acupuncture, the Mei Zen Cosmetic Acupuncture system involves the patient in a gradual, healthful process that I, Arina Goldfine L.Ac., customize for each individual. Your treatments may include other modalities in conjunction with the acupuncture and will be explained if they are required for your care. The Mei Zen Cosmetic Acupuncture system is in no way analogous or a substitute for a surgical facelift. In receiving cosmetic facial acupuncture, you may experience some of the following changes:

- Improved muscle tone
- Decreased puffiness around the eyes
- Firming of sagging skin
- Elimination or reduction of fine wrinkles
- Even skin tone and improved lustre of complexion

ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS:

Treatment for sagging skin of the jowl and neck, wrinkles, excess skin above and below the eyes, and excess puffiness under the eyes may be corrected by various methods including, but not limited to, surgical facelift, chemical peels, liposuction, injections, surgical threading, and laser treatments. Risks and potential complications including death, severe scarring, nerve damage, sloughing of skin, lumpiness, swelling, allergic reaction, and permanent discoloration are associated with these alternative forms of treatment.

RISKS OF COSMETIC ACUPUNCTURE:

In undertaking any procedure, it is important that you understand the risks involved with receiving the Mei Zen Cosmetic Acupuncture system. Although most patients who receive this technique do not experience complications, the potential side effects or risks are listed below:

a. BLEEDING AND BRUISING -As with acupuncture in general, when a needle is removed some minor bleeding may occur. This is normal and usually will not leave a bruise. Occasionally, a bruise or hematoma may appear. With bruising, it is important that you wear sunscreen when going outside. Topical and internal remedies will be discussed to address bruising. If swelling persists, call me immediately.

b. INFECTION – Infection at the needle site is very rare after an acupuncture treatment because the needles are sterile. If you suspect infection at the needling site (i.e. redness, swelling or warm to touch), call me. Additional treatment or referral to your M.D. may be necessary.

c. DAMAGE TO DEEPER STRUCTURES – In certain systems, deeper structures such as blood vessels, nerves and muscles are rarely damaged during the course of a facial acupuncture treatment. If this does occur, the injury may be temporary or permanent.

d. ASYMMETRY – All facial structures are naturally asymmetrical. Results may vary from side to side due to the natural asymmetry, previous injuries on one side of the body, or severity of symptoms from one side or the other.

e. NERVE INJURY –Injury to the motor or sensory nerve very rarely results from facial acupuncture treatments. Nerve injuries may cause temporary or permanent loss of facial movements and feeling. Such injuries may improve over time. Injury to the sensory nerves of the face, neck and ear regions may cause temporary or, more rarely, permanent numbness. Painful nerve scarring is extremely rare.

f. NEEDLE SHOCK – Needle shock is a rare complication that can happen during any acupuncture treatment. If you feel faint or shaky during the treatment, please let me know immediately.

g. ALLERGIC REACTION – In rare cases, local allergies to topical preparations have been reported. Systemic reactions that are more serious may occur to herbs used during an acupuncture treatment. Skin testing is done prior to application of any herbal preparations. Allergic reactions may require additional treatment or discontinuation of treatment.

h. DELAYED HEALING – Delayed healing is a rare complication. Smoking and certain health conditions such as diabetes, chronic fatigue syndrome, to name a few may delay the healing response of any of the aforementioned risks.

