Spa Secrets

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SPA SECRETS

LONDON MEDICAL & AESTHTETIC CLINIC

TREATMENT BUZZ

Tried all the anti-wrinkle treatments and looking for something new? Look out for LaViv — a new proceduce that has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and could be available in the UK by the end of next year. It involves extracting fibroblasts (skin cells) from behind the patient's ear; cloning them in a lab over the following 90 days, and then re-injecting them. As fibroblasts are said to build collagen, the treatment is thought to provide gradual and natural-looking results. While currently only approved by the FDA to treat nasolabial fold wrinkles (smile lines), trials are underway in order to obtain a licence to treat the entire face, with prices expected to start at around £1,000. However, some doctors, such as Dr Ayoubi, medical director at the London Medical & Aesthetic Clinic, say the length of the procedure may put people off. He says: "My reservation about this technique is there is no proof fibroblasts will stimulate the body's own collagen. You are practically just using a filler. Only two products stimulate collagen fibroblasts, and they are Ellanse and Sculptra."

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