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Preface



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The demand for effective and durable soft tissue fillers has grown dramatically in the last 5 years. As always, plastic surgeons now must compete with many different disciplines for this emerging patient population. This new environment has changed the style, content, and breadth of our plastic surgery practices. We must continuously educate ourselves and our patients on the safe, effective, and durable alternatives in facial rejuvenation.

My own soft tissue journey began in earnest 6 years ago; I began looking for anything that would last longer and perform better than the collagens available. This journey continues with this issue of the *Clinics in Plastic Surgery*.

I have asked the most experienced and published experts across all disciplines to educate both the novice and seasoned injector. Each author was

challenged to explain the science behind each filler and give us their precise treatment recommendations and technical pearls for specific areas of the face. Most authors excelled in this request!

There are two articles that delve into the murky medical/legal and ethical waters of facial filler use. Plastic surgeons must combine the scientific, artistic, and ethical elements of each filler to properly educate and treat our patients.

I will be surprised if this issue is not outdated within the next 5 years as the parade of newer and better fillers continues as we go to print. Nevertheless, the principles of filler use outlined in this issue will remain relevant into the future.

It has been an honor to edit this issue of the *Clinics in Plastic Surgery*, and I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Ruth Owens and Deborah Bordenave for their unending support.