



New York PULSE

The shocking things women are asking their doctors

By ORLA HEALY
Post Fashion Editor

DR. Paul Jarrod Frank thought he'd seen it all. But the normally unflappable 36-year-old Upper East Side nip-tuck whiz was stunned when a female patient asked for Botox on a super-sensitive spot where most women would outlaw needles.

"She had a friend who had gotten underarm Botox injections to help with a perspiration problem," Frank says of his 29-year-old patient.

"Because her friend's treatment was so successful, my patient thought it would be the perfect solution to her problem — which was similar in nature, but different in location."

Frank passed on performing that particular procedure, but Park Avenue Mesotherapist Dr.

Robert Pitera has done such delicate jobs.

"It's... well, it's a little strange," he says of the prickly process. "But Botox treatments work on any part of the body where there are sweat glands."

In a phenomenon that even makes cosmetic doctors wince, New York women are requesting — and sometimes receiving — treatments that push the definition of traditional practices.

Manhattan cosmetic doctors report requests for Botox on calves and jawlines, under the bustline and on the soles of the feet.

"We can do brow, butt and breast lifts with Botox," says Dr. Fredric Brandt. "We can even lift the tip of the nose with Botox."

What doctors can't do, says Dr. Steve R. Fallick, is live up to

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You want Botox where?

Liz Sullivan

Dr. Paul Jarrod Frank is shocked by the places women are asking for Botox injections.

What women want is nip & tuck (& scary)

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patients' increasingly bizarre demands. "You don't just walk into a doctor's office and the next thing you know, you're beautiful. It is surgery. It's not a quick fix," says Fallek, who admits he's often flabbergasted by what women ask him to do.

"I get a lot of requests for things I can't actually do. Like, 'I want to be on the Hamptons Jitney on Friday and on the beach by Saturday; can I have breast implants on Friday morning?' Or 'I'm on vacation and I have two days. Can I have a facelift done?'"

Frank places the blame for such unrealistic requests squarely on the shoulders of beauty magazines.

"Women come to me with the most ridiculous notions. They've read a story about a certain procedure and suddenly they're a scientist asking me to experiment on their bodies." One of Frank's patients wanted "breast lipo,"

while another asked for laser hair-removal on the entire body.

"I've also been asked to take fat out of a woman's buttocks and put it in her breasts," he says. "And there was a woman who wanted a thread-lift — a facial lifting and tightening technique — on her butt."

"Nothing shocks me anymore." In a city where no beauty woe needs go unattended, summer appears to bring out the most extreme insecurities.

Dr. Fran Cook Bolden, a cosmetic surgeon at the Skin Specialty Center, says she sees patients undergo aggressive chemical peels and microdermabrasion to eliminate wrinkles... on their feet.

And dark blemishes... under their arms.

New Yorkers "are focusing on such minutiae now, even a little loose skin above the knee can be the source of aesthetic obsession," says Mary Brady, co-

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owner of the Re New Skin Health & Wellness Clinic on the Upper East Side.

Even though her livelihood consists of providing services like cellulite-zapping treatments, Brady says it sometimes makes

her squirm to see how addicted women become once they start exploring the business of looking better.

"Most of the clients I see are drop-dead gorgeous," says Brady. "But they always find something — some cellulite on their arms or on the back of their legs — they think can be improved."

Cosmetic surgeons and beauticians can solve many problems — but not psychological ones, some patients fail to realize.

"We're careful to always act in the best interest of the patient," says Dr. Paul Lorenc. But, he adds, there's very little any of us can do to help the woman who "thinks she needs a nipple enlargement. Or the woman who asks for a labia reduction," he adds dryly.

"The only thing I can do when I hear these requests is nod my head and try not to scream: Why?"

Beautician Janis Chakleer still wakes up squirming about her most unnerving experience two weeks ago with a client who wanted a skin-smoothing treatment in an area that's supposed to have wrinkles.

"I was giving a woman in her late 40s a Brazilian wax," says Chakleer, a beauty technician with the Upper West Side Restore Spa.

"And she was telling me how excited she was about a date she was going on with a younger guy later that day. Everything was OK until I finished the wax and she asked me to give her a glycolic peel — down there."

Gob-smacked, Chakleer refused to carry out the procedure.

"She told me she wanted to look 'younger,' 'fresher,' down there. It was completely insane. 'Sad, but mad.'"

—Additional reporting by Danica Lo

Botox is conventionally used as a muscle relaxer to reduce wrinkles, especially in the forehead region.



Need a chin lift? Botox can tighten and lift the tip of your chin.



Strategically injected in the hands, Botox can be used to alleviate hyperhidrosis — otherwise known as sweaty palms.



Injected in hotspots in the skin, Botox prevents excessive sweating in the patient's underarms.



Bikini-line perspiration can be alleviated with localized Botox injections.



Botox can define and lift your calf muscles to look more shapely in summer sandals.



Stiletto aficionados can elect to have Botox in the ball of the foot to prevent foot pain.

