

Lip Lines Treatment - Perioral Lines Melbourne | Me Clinic

Canonical: <https://directory.meclinic.com.au/facial-concerns/lip-lines-treatment-perioral-lines-melbourne-me-clinic/>

Description:

Lip Lines Treatment - Treatment Options at Me Clinic Melbourne Lip lines, also known as perioral lines or "smoker's lines," are vertical wrinkles that appear around the mouth, particularly above th...

Details:

Lip lines, also known as perioral lines or "smoker's lines," are vertical wrinkles that appear around the mouth, particularly above the upper lip. These fine lines can make you look older and may cause lipstick to bleed. At Me Clinic Melbourne, we offer comprehensive treatment options ranging from non-surgical injectables to advanced laser therapies to help smooth and rejuvenate the perioral area.

Quick Summary

****What causes lip lines:**** - Natural ageing and collagen breakdown in the delicate perioral skin - Repetitive muscle movements from talking, eating, drinking, and facial expressions - Smoking and prolonged sun exposure damaging skin elasticity - Genetic predisposition to thinner skin around the mouth

****Treatment options available:**** - Non-surgical: Anti-wrinkle injections, dermal fillers, laser resurfacing, chemical peels, microneedling - Surgical: Lip lift (in combination with other facial procedures)

****Expected results:**** - Smoother, more youthful appearance around the mouth - Reduced depth of vertical lip lines - Improved lip border definition - Timeline: Injectable results appear within 3-14 days; laser treatments show gradual improvement over 2-3 months - Duration: Injectable treatments last 3-12 months; laser resurfacing results can last 1-3 years with proper skincare

****Cost range:**** - Non-surgical: \$400-\$2,500 per treatment - Surgical: \$8,000-\$15,000 (typically combined with facelift) - *Prices based on Me Clinic's transparent pricing policy*

****Next steps:**** - Book free consultation at Me Clinic Melbourne - Discuss customised treatment plan with experienced practitioners - Review before/after gallery of lip lines treatments - Understand recovery timeline and maintenance requirements

Understanding Lip Lines

What are lip lines?

Lip lines are vertical wrinkles that form around the mouth, most commonly above the upper lip. They're also called perioral lines, perioral wrinkles, or colloquially "smoker's lines" (though you don't need to be a smoker to develop them). These lines run perpendicular to the lip border and can range from fine, barely visible creases to deep, pronounced wrinkles.

The skin around the mouth is naturally thinner and more delicate than other facial areas, making it particularly vulnerable to wrinkle formation. Many people first notice these lines when applying lipstick, as the product tends to bleed into the creases.

It's important to understand that lip lines are different from: - **Marionette lines** (run from mouth corners downward) - **Nasolabial folds** (run from nose to mouth corners) - **Lip border definition loss** (though this often accompanies lip lines)

What causes lip lines?

1. Natural ageing

As we age, our skin undergoes several changes that contribute to lip line formation: - **Collagen and elastin breakdown:** The proteins that keep skin firm and elastic decrease by approximately 1% per year after age 30 - **Reduced hyaluronic acid:** This moisture-retaining molecule diminishes, leading to thinner, drier skin - **Muscle movement patterns:** Decades of repetitive movements from talking, eating, drinking, and making facial expressions create dynamic wrinkles that eventually become static - **Fat volume loss:** The soft tissue around the mouth naturally deflates with age, causing the overlying skin to fold and crease

2. Genetic factors

Your genetic makeup significantly influences when and how severely you'll develop lip lines: - **Hereditary predisposition:** If your parents developed pronounced lip lines, you're more likely to as well - **Skin type considerations:** Those with fair skin typically show signs of ageing earlier than those with darker skin tones - **Bone structure:** The shape of your maxilla (upper jaw) and overall facial architecture affects how skin drapes around the mouth

3. Lifestyle factors

Environmental and behavioural factors accelerate lip line development:

- **Smoking:** The repetitive pursing motion combined with the harmful chemicals in cigarettes dramatically accelerate perioral wrinkles. Smoking reduces blood flow to the skin, depletes vitamin C (essential for collagen production), and introduces free radicals that damage skin cells.
- **Sun exposure:** UV radiation is the leading cause of premature skin ageing. The delicate lip area often receives less sun protection than the rest of the face, leading to photoageing and collagen breakdown.
- **Weight fluctuations:** Repeated weight gain and loss can stretch the skin around the mouth, reducing its ability to bounce back.
- **Sleep position:** Consistently sleeping on your stomach or side can compress the face against the pillow, creating and deepening lines over time.
- **Dehydration:** Chronic dehydration makes skin less plump and more prone to creasing.
- **Straw use:** Similar to smoking, frequent use of straws involves repetitive pursing that can contribute to line formation.

Who experiences lip lines?

Lip lines affect people across a broad demographic:

- **Typical age range:** Most people begin noticing fine lip lines in their 40s and 50s, though some may see early signs in their late 30s - **Gender prevalence:** Women tend to be more concerned about lip lines, partly due to lipstick bleeding and partly due to societal pressures, but men develop them equally
- **Accelerated timeline for smokers:** Smokers often develop pronounced lip lines 10-15 years earlier than non-smokers - **Fair-skinned individuals:** Those of Northern European descent typically notice lip lines earlier than those with naturally darker, thicker skin

Why it matters

While lip lines are a natural part of ageing, they can significantly impact appearance and self-confidence:

****Aesthetic concerns:**** - Creates an aged appearance, even when the rest of the face looks youthful - Causes lipstick and lip liner to bleed into the fine lines - Can make the mouth area look pursed or drawn - May contribute to an overall tired or stern expression

****Psychological considerations:**** - Many people feel self-conscious about pronounced lip lines - The visible ageing signs can affect confidence in professional and social settings - Some individuals avoid wearing lipstick due to bleeding concerns

****When to seek treatment:**** - When lip lines become noticeable in photos or mirrors - When lipstick consistently bleeds into the lines - When the lines are present at rest (static wrinkles), not just when making expressions - When you're bothered by the aged appearance they create

The good news is that multiple effective treatments exist to address lip lines at various stages of development.

Treatment Options Comparison

Non-Surgical Treatments

1. Injectable Treatments

****Anti-Wrinkle Injections (Botox/Dysport)****

Anti-wrinkle injections work by temporarily relaxing the orbicularis oris muscle—the circular muscle around the mouth responsible for lip movement and pursing.

- ****How it works:**** Botulinum toxin type A blocks nerve signals to specific muscles, reducing their contraction and preventing the repetitive movements that deepen lip lines - ****Best for:**** Dynamic lip lines (visible when making expressions) and preventing static lines from worsening - ****Procedure time:**** 10-15 minutes - ****Downtime:**** None to minimal; some patients experience slight bruising - ****Results appear:**** 3-7 days, with full effect at 2 weeks - ****Results last:**** 3-4 months typically - ****Cost range:**** \$400-\$600 per treatment area - ****Pros:**** Quick procedure, no downtime, reversible, prevents worsening of lines - ****Cons:**** Temporary results requiring maintenance every 3-4 months, requires precise technique to avoid affecting lip movement or speech

****Important note:**** Anti-wrinkle treatment around the mouth requires an experienced injector, as improper technique can affect your ability to purse your lips, drink through a straw, or pronounce certain sounds clearly. At Me Clinic, our practitioners use conservative dosing to maintain natural lip function while smoothing lines.

****Dermal Fillers****

Dermal fillers physically plump the skin from beneath, filling in static wrinkles and restoring lost volume.

- ****How it works:**** Hyaluronic acid-based fillers (such as Juvéderm, Restylane) are injected directly into the lip lines and potentially the lips themselves to add volume, smooth creases, and improve lip border definition - ****Best for:**** Static lip lines (visible at rest), volume loss in the lips, loss of lip border definition - ****Procedure time:**** 20-30 minutes - ****Downtime:**** Minor swelling and possible bruising for 1-3 days - ****Results appear:**** Immediate, though final settling occurs over 2 weeks - ****Results last:**** 6-12 months depending on the product used and individual metabolism - ****Cost range:**** \$650-\$1,200 per syringe (typically 1-2 syringes needed) - ****Pros:**** Immediate visible improvement, natural-looking when done conservatively, can simultaneously enhance lip shape and volume - ****Cons:**** Temporary results, potential for swelling and bruising, requires skill to avoid overfilling or unnatural appearance

****Combination approach:**** Many patients achieve optimal results by combining anti-wrinkle injections (to relax the muscle and prevent dynamic wrinkling) with dermal fillers (to fill existing static lines). This comprehensive approach addresses both the muscle activity and volume loss contributing to lip lines.

2. Energy-Based Treatments

****Laser Resurfacing****

Laser therapy treats lip lines by removing damaged surface skin and stimulating collagen production in the deeper layers.

- ****Types:**** Fractional CO2 laser, Erbium laser, and non-ablative fractional lasers - ****How it works:**** Laser energy creates controlled micro-injuries in the skin, triggering the body's healing response and collagen remodelling. The heat also contracts existing collagen fibres for immediate tightening - ****Best for:**** Moderate to severe static lip lines, skin texture improvement, sun damage, overall perioral rejuvenation - ****Treatment sessions:**** Typically 1-3 sessions depending on severity and laser type - ****Downtime:**** - Ablative (CO2/Erbium): 7-14 days of redness, peeling, and social downtime - Non-ablative: 1-3 days of mild redness - ****Results appear:**** Gradual improvement over 2-3 months as collagen regenerates - ****Results last:**** 1-3 years with proper sun protection and skincare - ****Cost range:**** \$1,500-\$3,500 per session - ****Pros:**** Addresses multiple concerns simultaneously (lines, texture, pigmentation), long-lasting results, stimulates natural collagen production - ****Cons:**** Significant downtime for ablative treatments, sun sensitivity during healing, requires commitment to post-treatment skincare

****Ultrasound Therapy (Ultherapy)****

While less commonly used specifically for lip lines, ultrasound can provide mild improvement as part of a lower face lifting treatment.

- ****How it works:**** Focused ultrasound energy heats tissue in the deeper layers of skin (SMAS layer), stimulating collagen production and creating a subtle lifting effect - ****Best for:**** Mild lip lines combined with general lower face laxity - ****Treatment sessions:**** Usually 1 treatment - ****Downtime:**** None to minimal - ****Results appear:**** Gradual over 2-3 months - ****Results last:**** 1-2 years - ****Cost range:**** \$2,000-\$4,000 for lower face treatment - ****Pros:**** No downtime, natural-looking gradual improvement - ****Cons:**** Mild improvement only, not ideal as standalone treatment for pronounced lip lines, can be uncomfortable during treatment

3. Skin Resurfacing Treatments

****Chemical Peels****

Chemical peels use acid solutions to exfoliate damaged skin layers and stimulate regeneration.

- ****Depth options:**** - ****Light peels**** (glycolic acid, lactic acid): Minimal improvement for very fine lines - ****Medium peels**** (TCA): Moderate improvement for fine to moderate lines - ****Deep peels**** (phenol): Significant improvement for deep lines (rarely performed around the mouth due to healing risks) - ****Best for:**** Fine to moderate lip lines, sun damage, skin texture improvement - ****Downtime:**** - Light: 1-3 days of mild peeling - Medium: 5-7 days of peeling and redness - Deep: 2+ weeks (rarely recommended for perioral area) - ****Results last:**** 3-6 months for light peels; 1-2 years for medium peels - ****Cost range:**** \$200-\$500 per light peel; \$800-\$1,500 per medium peel - ****Pros:**** Less expensive than laser, multiple intensity options, can be combined with other treatments - ****Cons:**** Multiple sessions needed for optimal results, temporary results, sun sensitivity during healing

****Microneedling****

Microneedling creates controlled micro-injuries using fine needles to trigger collagen production.

- ****How it works:**** A device with tiny needles creates microscopic punctures in the skin, stimulating the body's wound healing process and collagen production. Often combined with radiofrequency (RF microneedling) for enhanced results. - ****Best for:**** Fine to moderate lip lines, skin texture, overall rejuvenation - ****Sessions needed:**** 3-6 treatments spaced 4-6 weeks apart - ****Downtime:**** 1-3 days of redness and mild swelling - ****Results appear:**** Gradual improvement over several months - ****Results last:**** 6-12 months; longer with maintenance sessions - ****Cost range:**** \$400-\$800 per session; \$1,200-\$2,000 for RF microneedling per session - ****Pros:**** Minimal downtime, suitable for all skin types, natural-looking gradual improvement - ****Cons:**** Multiple sessions required, gradual results, requires discipline to complete treatment series

Surgical Treatments

****Lip Lift (Upper Lip Lift)****

While not typically performed solely to address lip lines, a lip lift can complement other treatments by shortening the distance between the nose and upper lip, rolling the pink part of the lip slightly outward.

- ****What it is:**** A surgical procedure that removes a small amount of skin just beneath the nose, lifting the upper lip and creating a more youthful appearance - ****Best for:**** Elongated upper lip, loss of pink lip show, moderate to severe lip lines when combined with laser resurfacing or dermabrasion - ****Procedure time:**** 1-2 hours - ****Anaesthesia:**** Local anaesthesia with sedation or general anaesthesia - ****Hospital stay:**** Day surgery (outpatient) - ****Recovery time:**** Sutures removed at 5-7 days; social downtime 1-2 weeks; final results visible at 3-6 months - ****Results appear:**** Immediate lift, though swelling masks final result initially - ****Results last:**** Permanent, though natural ageing continues - ****Cost range:**** \$6,000-\$10,000 (often combined with other facial procedures) - ****Pros:**** Permanent improvement to upper lip position, can be combined with laser resurfacing for comprehensive rejuvenation - ****Cons:**** Invasive surgery with permanent scarring (though typically well-hidden beneath the nose), recovery period, higher cost, doesn't directly address the vertical wrinkles themselves

****Note:**** At Me Clinic, lip lifts are rarely performed as a standalone procedure for lip lines. More commonly, we recommend a combination of non-surgical treatments or, for patients undergoing facelift surgery, adding perioral laser resurfacing to comprehensively address the lower face.

Choosing the Right Treatment - Decision Guide

Consider non-surgical treatments if:

✓ You have mild to moderate lip lines ✓ You prefer minimal to no downtime ✓ You want to try treatments gradually and assess results before committing to more invasive options ✓ You're not ready for surgery or don't want permanent scars ✓ Budget is a primary concern and you prefer spreading costs over time ✓ You want reversible or adjustable options ✓ You're willing to commit to maintenance treatments

Consider surgical treatment (lip lift) if:

✓ You have an elongated upper lip with very little pink lip showing ✓ You want permanent improvement to lip position ✓ You're already considering or undergoing other facial surgery (e.g., facelift) ✓ You can accommodate 1-2 weeks of recovery time ✓ You're willing to invest in a comprehensive, long-term solution ✓ You understand that lip lift doesn't directly smooth vertical wrinkles (these typically require laser or filler)

Combination approach:

Most patients at Me Clinic achieve optimal lip line improvement through strategic combinations:

****Common effective combinations:****

1. ****Anti-wrinkle injections + dermal fillers**** - Relaxes the muscle to prevent dynamic wrinkling - Fills existing static lines and adds lip volume - Duration: 3-6 months before touch-ups needed - Cost: \$1,050-\$1,800 initially
2. ****Laser resurfacing + dermal fillers**** - Laser resurfaces skin, improves texture, and stimulates collagen - Fillers immediately smooth remaining lines during healing phase - Duration: Laser results last 1-3 years; fillers need refresh at 6-12 months - Cost: \$2,150-\$4,700 initially
3. ****Microneedling series + anti-wrinkle injections**** - Microneedling gradually builds collagen over 3-6 sessions - Anti-wrinkle injections prevent muscle movements from deepening lines during treatment course - Duration: Cumulative improvement over 6 months - Cost: \$1,600-\$3,400 for full series
4. ****Chemical peel series + skincare regimen**** - Peels exfoliate damaged skin and stimulate turnover - Medical-grade retinol or vitamin C serum maintains results - Duration: Ongoing with regular maintenance - Cost: \$600-\$1,500 for initial series

Your Me Clinic practitioner will assess your specific concerns, skin quality, lifestyle, and budget during your free consultation to recommend the optimal approach for your situation.

What to Expect at Me Clinic

1. Initial Consultation (Free)

Your journey begins with a comprehensive consultation at our Malvern East clinic:

- ****Thorough assessment:**** Your practitioner examines your perioral area, assessing the depth of lip lines, skin quality, muscle activity, volume loss, and overall facial structure - ****Discussion of concerns and goals:**** We listen to what bothers you about your lip lines and what results you're hoping to achieve - ****Medical history review:**** We discuss your health status, medications, previous cosmetic treatments, allergies, and lifestyle factors (smoking, sun exposure) - ****Treatment options explained:**** Based on your assessment, we explain which treatments are most suitable and why - ****Realistic expectations set:**** We show you before/after photos of similar cases and explain what's achievable for your specific situation - ****Transparent pricing provided:**** You receive detailed cost breakdowns for recommended treatments with no hidden fees - ****Questions answered:**** We ensure you fully understand the procedures, recovery, risks, and expected outcomes before making any decisions

2. Treatment Planning

Once you decide to proceed, we create a customised treatment plan:

- ****Customised approach designed:**** Your specific treatment protocol is documented, including product types, injection points or laser settings, and treatment sequencing if combining modalities - ****Timeline and sessions explained:**** You'll know exactly how many treatments you'll need and when to schedule them - ****Pre-treatment instructions:**** We provide specific guidelines (e.g., avoiding blood thinners, staying hydrated, arriving with clean skin) - ****Cost breakdown provided:**** Transparent itemised pricing for all planned treatments - ****Questions answered:**** You have multiple opportunities to ask questions before, during, and after treatment

3. The Me Clinic Difference

****Responsible Cosmetic Medicine™****

At Me Clinic, our approach to lip lines treatment is guided by our Responsible Cosmetic Medicine™ philosophy:

- ****Evidence-based treatments only:**** We only offer procedures with proven safety and efficacy in peer-reviewed literature - ****Ethical patient selection:**** Not everyone is a suitable candidate for every treatment. We'll tell you honestly if your expectations can't be safely met - ****Natural-looking results**

prioritised:** Our goal is to make you look like a refreshed version of yourself, not overdone or obviously treated - **Conservative approach first:** We typically start with less invasive options and work up to more aggressive treatments only if necessary - **Comprehensive aftercare:** Your relationship with Me Clinic doesn't end when you leave the treatment room

****Experienced Practitioners****

Your lip lines treatment will be performed by highly qualified professionals:

- **FRACS-qualified plastic surgeons** for surgical procedures and complex cases - **Specialist cosmetic physicians** with extensive training in injectables and energy-based devices - **Registered nurses** under medical supervision for certain treatments - **Combined experience:** Me Clinic practitioners have performed over 25,000 surgical procedures and 60,000+ non-surgical treatments - **Ongoing training:** Our team regularly attends national and international conferences to stay current with the latest techniques and technologies

****Transparent Pricing****

We believe you deserve to know exactly what treatments cost before committing:

- **Published price ranges:** Our website provides general pricing guidance for all treatments - **Detailed consultation quotes:** You receive specific pricing during your consultation with no hidden fees - **No pressure sales:** You're never pressured to proceed on the day of consultation - **Payment plans available:** We offer flexible payment options through third-party providers - **Medicare rebates explained:** While most cosmetic treatments aren't covered, we'll clarify if any rebates apply to your situation

Frequently Asked Questions

How much does lip lines treatment cost in Melbourne?

Treatment costs vary significantly based on the approach and severity of your lip lines:

****Non-surgical options:**** - Anti-wrinkle injections: \$400-\$600 per treatment (needed every 3-4 months) - Dermal fillers: \$650-\$1,200 per syringe (typically 1-2 syringes needed, lasting 6-12 months) - Laser resurfacing: \$1,500-\$3,500 per session (1-3 sessions typically needed) - Chemical peels: \$200-\$1,500 per session (series of 3-6 often recommended) - Microneedling: \$400-\$800 per session (3-6 sessions for optimal results)

****Surgical options:**** - Lip lift: \$6,000-\$10,000 (often combined with other procedures)

At Me Clinic, we provide transparent, itemised pricing during your free consultation with absolutely no hidden fees. The cost of your specific treatment plan depends on the severity of your lip lines, the combination of treatments recommended, and the amount of product or number of sessions required.

How long do results last?

Results duration varies by treatment modality:

****Injectable treatments:**** - Anti-wrinkle injections: 3-4 months before muscle activity returns and touch-ups are needed - Dermal fillers: 6-12 months depending on the specific product used and your metabolism (faster metabolisers may see shorter duration)

****Energy-based treatments:**** - Laser resurfacing: 1-3 years, though results are influenced by sun protection, skincare routine, and continued ageing - Ultrasound therapy: 1-2 years

****Resurfacing treatments:**** - Chemical peels: 3-6 months for light peels; 1-2 years for medium peels - Microneedling: 6-12 months, longer with maintenance sessions

****Surgical treatments:**** - Lip lift: Permanent change to lip position, though natural ageing continues

Remember that all treatments are subject to ongoing ageing. Maintenance treatments, good skincare, sun protection, and healthy lifestyle choices help extend your results.

Is there any downtime?

Downtime varies considerably by treatment type:

****Minimal to no downtime:**** - Anti-wrinkle injections: None; possibly minor bruising for 1-2 days - Dermal fillers: Minor swelling for 1-3 days; possible bruising - Microneedling: 1-3 days of redness

****Moderate downtime:**** - Light chemical peels: 1-3 days of mild peeling - Medium chemical peels: 5-7 days of peeling and redness - Non-ablative laser: 1-3 days of mild redness

****Significant downtime:**** - Ablative laser resurfacing (CO2/Erbium): 7-14 days of redness, peeling, and social downtime; complete healing 2-4 weeks - Lip lift surgery: Sutures removed 5-7 days; social downtime 1-2 weeks; residual swelling 4-6 weeks

Your practitioner will provide specific downtime expectations based on your chosen treatment and individual healing factors during your consultation.

Will it look natural?

Natural-looking results are a cornerstone of Me Clinic's Responsible Cosmetic Medicine™ approach. We achieve natural outcomes through:

- ****Conservative treatment philosophy:**** We avoid overdone or obvious treatments, preferring gradual improvement - ****Customised dosing:**** Injectable amounts are tailored to your facial anatomy and muscle strength - ****Experienced technique:**** Our practitioners have performed tens of thousands of treatments and understand the nuances of perioral anatomy - ****Patient education:**** We set realistic expectations and show you examples of natural-looking results during consultation - ****Gradual approach:**** For first-time patients, we often start conservatively and offer adjustments at follow-up

The most natural results typically come from addressing multiple contributing factors (muscle activity, volume loss, skin quality) with combination treatments rather than relying on a single modality.

Am I too young or too old for treatment?

There's no universal age limit for lip lines treatment. Suitability depends on individual factors:

****Younger patients (30s-40s):**** - Early intervention with anti-wrinkle injections can prevent dynamic lines from becoming static - Treatment is appropriate when lines bother you, regardless of age - Prevention is often easier than correction

****Older patients (60s-70s+):**** - Age alone doesn't preclude treatment - Skin quality, overall health, and realistic expectations matter more than chronological age - Combination treatments may be needed for more pronounced changes

During consultation, we assess: - Skin condition and elasticity - Overall health and medical history - Realistic expectations - Lifestyle factors (smoking, sun exposure) - Motivation for treatment

If we feel treatment won't safely achieve your goals, we'll tell you honestly.

Does Medicare cover any treatments?

Unfortunately, lip lines treatments are considered cosmetic and are not covered by Medicare or most private health insurance policies.

****What's not covered:**** - Injectable treatments (anti-wrinkle injections, dermal fillers) - Laser resurfacing when performed for cosmetic purposes - Chemical peels for cosmetic improvement - Microneedling for aesthetics - Lip lifts performed solely for cosmetic enhancement

****Rare exceptions:**** In very unusual cases where there's a functional component (e.g., severe scarring from trauma or burns affecting lip function), a portion of treatment costs may be eligible for Medicare rebates. We'll assess your situation during consultation and clarify any potential rebates.

Most patients self-fund cosmetic treatments, and Me Clinic offers payment plans through third-party providers to help spread costs.

What are the risks?

All treatments carry some degree of risk, though serious complications are rare when performed by experienced practitioners in appropriate settings.

****Injectable treatments (anti-wrinkle injections and fillers):**** - Common: Bruising, swelling, redness at injection sites (resolves within days) - Occasional: Temporary asymmetry, lumps (can be massaged or dissolved) - Rare: Infection, allergic reaction, prolonged muscle weakness, vascular occlusion (filler blocking blood vessel - medical emergency)

****Laser resurfacing:**** - Common: Redness, swelling, skin sensitivity, peeling - Occasional: Hyperpigmentation or hypopigmentation (darker or lighter skin patches) - Rare: Infection, scarring, prolonged redness (months)

****Chemical peels:**** - Common: Redness, peeling, skin sensitivity - Occasional: Hyperpigmentation, especially in darker skin tones - Rare: Infection, scarring

****Microneedling:**** - Common: Redness, mild swelling (1-3 days) - Occasional: Bruising, skin sensitivity - Rare: Infection, post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation

****Surgical procedures (lip lift):**** - Common: Swelling, bruising, temporary numbness, visible scar (usually well-hidden) - Occasional: Asymmetry, prolonged swelling - Rare: Infection, poor scarring, nerve damage, anaesthesia risks

Your practitioner will discuss specific risks relevant to your chosen treatment during consultation and provide detailed pre- and post-treatment instructions to minimise complications.

Can I see before and after photos?

Absolutely. During your consultation, we'll show you our extensive before-and-after gallery with cases relevant to your concerns. We have photos demonstrating results from:

- Anti-wrinkle injection treatment of perioral lines - Dermal filler correction of lip lines with and without lip augmentation - Laser resurfacing results for moderate to severe perioral wrinkles - Combination treatment outcomes

These photos help set realistic expectations for what's achievable based on your starting point, chosen treatment, and individual healing capacity.

****Important note:**** Results vary between individuals due to factors like skin quality, age, severity of lines, lifestyle, and adherence to aftercare protocols. The photos demonstrate possibilities, not guarantees.

How do I prepare for treatment?

Preparation varies by treatment type. General guidelines include:

****For injectable treatments:**** - Avoid blood-thinning medications and supplements (aspirin, ibuprofen, vitamin E, fish oil, ginkgo biloba) for 7 days before treatment if medically safe - Avoid alcohol for 24 hours before treatment - Arrive with clean skin (no makeup on treatment area) - Eat before your appointment to prevent lightheadedness - Inform us of any cold sores history (anti-viral medication may be prescribed)

****For laser treatments:**** - Avoid sun exposure and tanning for 4 weeks before treatment - Discontinue retinoid products 5-7 days before treatment - Arrive with clean skin - Arrange transport home if sedation is used - Fill any prescribed anti-viral medication if you have cold sores history

****For chemical peels:**** - Follow any prescribed pre-treatment skincare regimen - Avoid exfoliating treatments for 1 week before - Arrive with clean skin

****For surgical procedures:**** - Complete pre-operative medical assessment - Stop smoking for at least 2 weeks before and after surgery - Arrange transport home and a responsible adult to stay with you for 24 hours - Follow specific fasting guidelines if general anaesthesia is used - Fill any prescribed medications before surgery

Your practitioner will provide detailed, personalised pre-treatment instructions specific to your procedure.

When will I see results?

Results timing varies significantly by treatment:

****Immediate results:**** - Dermal fillers: Visible immediately, though final settling takes 2 weeks - Some swelling can mask immediate results initially

****Quick results (within days):**** - Anti-wrinkle injections: Initial effects at 3-4 days; full effect at 10-14 days - Chemical peels: Fresh skin revealed as peeling completes (5-10 days)

****Gradual results (weeks to months):**** - Microneedling: Subtle improvement begins at 4-6 weeks; optimal results after completing series (3-6 months) - Laser resurfacing: Progressive collagen remodelling over 2-6 months - Ultrasound therapy: Gradual tightening over 2-3 months

****Surgical results:**** - Lip lift: Immediate change in lip position, though swelling masks final result initially; final results visible at 3-6 months once all swelling resolves

****Combination treatments:**** When combining treatments (e.g., laser with fillers), you may see some immediate improvement from one modality while waiting for gradual results from the other.

Patience is important, especially with collagen-stimulating treatments. The gradual nature of improvement often yields the most natural-looking outcomes.

How painful are the treatments?

Pain tolerance varies individually, but here's what most patients experience:

****Injectable treatments:**** - Anti-wrinkle injections: Mild stinging sensation; quick procedure; most describe it as 2-3/10 on pain scale - Dermal fillers: Slightly more uncomfortable due to needle size and volume injected; numbing cream and ice reduce discomfort; most describe it as 3-4/10

****Laser resurfacing:**** - Non-ablative: Warming sensation, tolerable without anaesthesia; 3-4/10 - Ablative: More intense heat sensation; topical numbing and cooling systems used; with anaesthesia 4-5/10

****Chemical peels:**** - Light to medium: Stinging/burning sensation during application, subsides after neutralisation; 3-5/10 - Well-tolerated with cooling fan

****Microneedling:**** - Topical numbing cream applied first; sensation of vibration and mild scratching; 2-4/10

****Surgical procedures:**** - Lip lift: Performed under local anaesthesia with sedation or general anaesthesia; no pain during procedure; post-operative discomfort managed with prescribed pain medication

At Me Clinic, we prioritise your comfort with appropriate numbing, ice, and in some cases, oral anxiolytic medication to help nervous patients relax.

Can I combine lip lines treatment with other procedures?

Absolutely. Many patients address multiple concerns in one treatment plan:

****Common combinations:**** - Lip lines + nasolabial folds + marionette lines (comprehensive lower face rejuvenation) - Lip lines + lip augmentation (volume and line smoothing) - Lip lines + forehead lines + crow's feet (full face anti-wrinkle treatment) - Lip lines treatment + laser for full face resurfacing - Lip lines treatment during facelift recovery (comprehensive facial rejuvenation)

Combining treatments can be more cost-effective and reduce the total number of appointments and recovery periods needed. Your Me Clinic practitioner will design a comprehensive treatment plan if you have multiple concerns.

What happens if I don't like the results?

Your satisfaction is important to us. Here's how we handle concerns:

****For injectable treatments:**** - ****Anti-wrinkle injections:**** Effects are temporary (3-4 months) and will naturally wear off - ****Dermal fillers:**** Hyaluronic acid fillers can be dissolved with hyaluronidase enzyme if you're unhappy with the result - ****Follow-up appointments:**** We typically schedule a 2-week review to assess results and make any necessary adjustments

****For laser and resurfacing treatments:**** - Results are permanent changes to skin, so thorough consultation beforehand is crucial - Realistic expectations and before/after photo review helps prevent dissatisfaction - Further treatments can sometimes improve suboptimal results

****For surgical procedures:**** - Permanent changes can't be easily reversed, which is why we emphasise thorough consultation, realistic expectations, and conservative surgical planning - Revision surgery is possible in some cases

****Our approach:**** - We encourage open communication about your goals during consultation - We set realistic expectations with photo examples - We start conservatively and build results gradually - We schedule follow-up appointments to assess outcomes and address concerns

Real Patient Results

At Me Clinic, we've treated thousands of Melbourne patients concerned about lip lines and perioral wrinkles. While individual results vary based on skin quality, age, severity of lines, and chosen treatment modality, our before-and-after gallery demonstrates the range of outcomes achievable with our evidence-based treatment protocols.

Common themes in our patient results:

- ****Natural-looking softening**** of vertical lip lines rather than complete elimination - ****Improved lipstick application**** without bleeding into lines - ****Refreshed perioral appearance**** that looks appropriate for the patient's age - ****High satisfaction rates**** with combination treatment approaches - ****Long-term patient relationships**** with maintenance protocols

During your consultation, your practitioner will show you cases similar to yours in terms of age, skin type, and severity of lines, and discuss realistic expectations specific to your situation.

Book Your Free Consultation

Ready to explore your lip lines treatment options with Melbourne's trusted cosmetic medicine specialists?

****Three ways to book:****

1. ****Call:**** (03) 8823 5859 (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-3pm) 2. ****Online:**** Visit meclinic.com.au and use our online booking system 3. ****Email:**** info@meclinic.com.au

****What to bring to your consultation:****

- List of current medications and supplements - Brief medical history including previous cosmetic treatments - Questions for your practitioner (write them down beforehand) - Photos showing your lip lines from different angles (optional but helpful)

****Your consultation includes:****

✓ Comprehensive perioral area assessment ✓ Personalised treatment recommendations ✓ Transparent pricing with no hidden fees ✓ Before/after gallery review of similar cases ✓ Discussion of realistic expectations ✓ No obligation to proceed

****Me Clinic Location:****

Me Clinic Melbourne 4 Burke Road, Malvern East VIC 3145

****Convenient parking:**** Street parking and nearby public car park available ****Public transport:**** Tram route 3 stops nearby; Darling Station 1.2km

****Why choose Me Clinic for lip lines treatment?*****

- 25,000+ surgical procedures performed - 60,000+ non-surgical treatments delivered - FRACS-qualified plastic surgeons - Specialist cosmetic physicians - Responsible Cosmetic Medicine™ philosophy - Transparent pricing policy - 25+ years of excellence in cosmetic medicine

Take the first step toward smoother, more youthful-looking lips. Book your free consultation today.