

Non-Surgical Cosmetic Procedures

1. The use of botulinum toxins and dermal fillers

- A** It is the view of the Dental Council that the use botulinum toxins and dermal fillers for cosmetic treatments is not the practice of dentistry.
- B** The Dental Council acknowledges that the use of botulinum toxins or dermal fillers may be justified in exceptional circumstances, for example in the treatment of temporomandibular joint disorder/dysfunction or the management of chronic pain. It is expected that in this context the treatment will only be undertaken by dentists with the appropriate education, training and competence; and the treatment must be for an anticipated health gain.
- C** Only products authorised by the Irish Medicines Board can be used, even if the indication for which they are to be used is not authorised. The general conditions of use set out in the Summary of Product Characteristics including contraindications, warnings, precautions, and monitoring requirements should be complied with in so far as they are relevant to the proposed use.

2. Obligations on Registered Dentists

As a registered dentist you have the following obligations if you choose to use botulinum toxins and dermal fillers for cosmetic treatments:

- i** You must only provide these treatments if you have undertaken additional education and training, and attained the necessary competence
- ii** You must ensure that you are competent to reliably obtain written, valid and informed consent for cosmetic treatments. The patient must sign and be provided with a copy of this Code of Practice as part of the consent process
- iii** You must be aware of the conditions for the authorisation of products you use and the advice that different preparations of botulinum toxin are not interchangeable
- iv** You must have appropriate indemnity insurance cover
- v** You must not in any way promote, market or associate these procedures with the promotion or marketing of your practice as a dentist
- vi** You must display a copy of this Code of Practice prominently in your practice and it must be situated in a place where the patient could reasonably be expected to see it before treatment.

Promoting transparency and enhancing public confidence in the dental profession