

What will the laser treatments involve?

The first treatment is laser hair removal as there's obviously a big market for this. We will offer treatment of vascular lesions, pigmentation treatments and acne treatment with laser. There will be an advanced version of dermal roller with laser face lifts and laser resurfacing which is very popular at the minute. Overall I think it will be a really exciting and amazing addition to the clinic.

You have previously mentioned your reluctance to provide treatments for teenagers. Will you re-address this stance with the introduction of laser treatment for acne?

That's a good point. Anti-ageing treatment is not relevant to that age group whereas acne treatment is certainly more relevant. Obviously teenagers do have acne and we do want to help those individuals but you have also got to think of it from an insurance point of view as well, as there have been various issues with informed consent for under-18s. I need to sit down and have a talk with my legal team before making a decision at the clinic.

Despite not being aimed towards teenagers there still seems to be a rise in those looking to receive Botox and anti-ageing treatments. What are the main dangers or long term effects of having these procedures at such an early age?

From our point of view there are psychological impli-

cations. Again there's also the issue of informed consent for under-18s where you'd be looking for guardian approval from a legal stance. But to me it's an issue with ethics. How can clinicians justify administering the prescription of medication to someone who I don't believe currently justifies the treatment? It is very rare for teenagers to demonstrate lines and wrinkles that warrant treatment with botulinum toxin. In fact, I have refused treatment to a few people in their late twenties and early thirties for the same reason. It's not age specific; it's about whether you can justify after consultation and examination that treatment is justified.

How would you determine whether you can justify treatment?

Every case is individually assessed after consultation and examination. We determine the criteria case-by-case at the discretion of the treating doctor. I can't see every single patient that we treat but I have doctors that work for me who have had the same training as me and understand what benefit you are going to get from Botox when it is indicated and will treat accordingly.

Why do you think we have had a significant rise in Botox and plastic surgery?

We tend to follow the US trends. We're a bit behind and I think we tend to replicate their pattern. They've obviously seen an increase in cosmetic procedures and I think society as a whole has become more image