

# 1+1= Fabulous!

## COMBINATION TREATMENT: eMatrix and hyaluronic filler

by Inna Prokopenko, R.N.

**As we age, the quality of our skin changes.** Collagen and elastic fibers degrade and our skin's hyaluronic acid is reduced. The result is an increase in skin roughness, dryness, and wrinkles, as well as a loss of tone and texture. This change occurs not only because our biological clocks keep on ticking, but also because of our lifestyles—exposure to sun, diet, and skin care regimen (or lack of one). As a result, patients are seeking skin rejuvenation treatments that offer noticeable results, but with minimal downtime.

A treatment that's been very effective at the Gateway Laser Center is a combination of the eMatrix™ and hyaluronic filler.



**What is the eMatrix?** It's a unique subablative rejuvenation treatment that goes beyond typical fractional laser treatments for skin resurfacing. Unlike fractional treatments that use a laser to remove microscopic bits of skin (a process called ablation), the eMatrix uses bipolar radio frequency energy to heat and ablate beneath the skin's surface. The key to the treatment's success is the eMatrix's ergonomic applicator which delivers its bipolar energy below the skin via a matrix of 64 electrodes in a disposable applicator tip.

After treatment with the eMatrix, we rejuvenate the area by injecting small amounts of stabilized hyaluronic acid. In Europe this treatment is called Restylane Vital and is considered the latest development in skin rejuvenation.

Stabilized hyaluronic acid improves the hydro-balance and elasticity of the skin, helping it to look and feel smoother. It is perfect for difficult-to-treat areas, such as the backs of hands, the neck or décolletage, and the face.

The benefits of hyaluronic filler generally last for several months and can be maintained by repeated treatments as needed. Best of all, treatment only takes about 30 minutes and there is minimal downtime.

Hyaluronic filler is natural and safe with a low risk of adverse effects. It's free of additives and is produced from a non-animal source. In fact, it's been used safely in over 10 million treatments worldwide. Research at the University of Hamburg, Germany, showed that Restylane Vital, a hyaluronic filler sold in Europe, visibly reduced several signs of skin aging, as well as improved elasticity. All participants in the study reported that their expectations were met.

With the combination of eMatrix and hyaluronic filler, you will get skin that not only looks great, but feels great. As separate treatments, the eMatrix and hyaluronic filler are good. Together, as a combined treatment, they are *fabulous*.

**Inna Prokopenko, R.N.,** joined Gateway Aesthetic in 2001 after working for seven years as chief nurse of the American Medical Center in Kiev, Ukraine. She has published many studies and has been honored by several laser companies as a skilled expert in the field. Inna specializes in skin rejuvenation procedures, including filler, Dysport®, and skin tightening.

