Sculptra Information and Consent Form

Name of Patient: ___________________________ Date: ________________

Treatment Area_________________________________________________________

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**Sculptra** – Sculptra is a safe, synthetic, and biocompatible material that is injected below the surface of the skin. It’s made up of microspheres (a spherical shell that is usually made of a biodegradable or resorbable plastic polymer, that has a very small diameter usually in the micrometer or nanometer range, and that is often filled with a substance, as a drug or antibody, for release as the shell is degraded) of poly-L-lactic acid. Because poly-L-lactic acid is the main ingredient in Sculptra, patients don’t require allergy testing.

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Sculptra is approved to treat lipoatrophy, the progressive facial decomposition seen in many HIV patients, but it is used “off-label” for cosmetic purposes.

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**The results of Sculptra are not immediate.** At your first treatment visit, it may appear that Sculptra worked immediately because of swelling from the injections and the water used to dilute Sculptra. A few days following the treatment, when the swelling goes down and the water is absorbed by your body, you may look as you did before your treatment. Sculptra takes time to gradually correct the depression in your skin. Your doctor will decide the appropriate number of treatment sessions and the amount of Sculptra you will need at each session. Multiple sessions are often required and patients with severe facial fat loss may require 3 to 6 treatment sessions.

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Sculptra should improve the appearance of facial fat loss by increasing skin thickness in the treated area but will not correct the underlying cause.

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There are no promises or guarantees regarding the degree of improvement when using Sculptra or the duration of the results.

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**Side Effects** – Possible side effects can include but are not limited to: Allergic reaction or infection, bleeding, tenderness or pain, redness, bruising or swelling at injection site, which can last from 3-17 days. Delayed side effects can include small bumps under the skin in the treated area. These bumps may not be visible and may only be noticed when you press on the treated skin. Bumps tend to occur within the first 6-12 months after the first treatment and may go away on their own.

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**Postoperative Care** –

- Ice packs may be used during the first 24 hours- 10 minutes on, 10 minutes off.
- Massage the injected site vigorously twice daily for the first week.
- Elevate the head with two pillows while sleeping during the first few days to minimize swelling.
- Aspirin, NSAIDs, and alcohol should be avoided for the first few days after treatment.
- Tylenol may be used for pain control.
- Exaggerated movements of the areas augmented should be avoided for the first several days.
- Avoid hot foods or gum chewing for the first several hours as mouth trauma may occur in the anesthetized areas.

Notify the physician for significant swelling, bleeding, eye pain, vision loss, dusky discoloration, excessive pain, or fever.

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**I have read and understand the Post treatment instructions.** I agree to follow these instructions carefully. I understand that compliance with recommended post procedure guidelines are crucial for healing, prevention of side effects and complications as listed above.
**Drugs, Pregnancy and Allergies** – You should not be pregnant, nursing an infant, have a history of a bleeding disorder, abnormal scarring or autoimmune disease. You should not be taking any of the following medications: immunosuppressants or blood thinners. Also, you should have told your physician if you have a history of oral herpes simplex (cold sores).

**Alternatives** – As explained, not all wrinkles will respond to soft Sculptra™. Other alternatives are dermabrasion; chemical peeling; laser resurfacing; face-lifting, browlifting, necklifting, and other surgical resecting of the frown muscles of the frown muscles of the brow; treatments with Retin-A or Renova or alpha hydroxy acids may also produce some benefits.

**Photography** – I hereby give my permission to Nizar Merheb, M.D. and staff to take photographs of all treated sites for diagnostic purposes and to accurately document the medical record in the usual and customary manner. I agree that these photographs are the property of Facial Cosmetic Surgery and my photographs can be used for teaching purposes, to illustrate scientific papers, books or for use in general lectures. It is specifically understood that in any such publication or use, I shall not be identified by name.

**Follow-Up Suggested by the Doctor** – I agree to follow up with my doctor 4-6 weeks following my treatment and at reasonable intervals to assess my status

**Consent** –

I voluntarily request treatment by Nizar Merheb, MD using Sculptra which has been explained to me, and my questions regarding such treatment, its alternative, its complications and risk have been answered by the doctor, his staff, and/ or written information. The information which I have been given has been in terms clear to me and I understand the risks and complications of the treatments. My questions have been fully and completely answered for me and I have read this document and understand its contents. I hereby give my unrestricted informed consent for the procedure.

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