

## **Bogus Botox & Fake Fillers**

### **How do you know you're getting the real thing?**

From: Dore J. Gilbert, MD, Laser Dermatologist & Physician's Instructor

You've no doubt heard about it. According to TMZ, "Several women, including Shawn King, Larry's wife, and Diane Richie, Lionel's former wife, held injection parties in their homes, with 'Dr.' Daniel Serrano needling them with the non-FDA approved drug that he had smuggled in to the U.S. Shawn King ended up with a lump in her lip that made it difficult to speak and drink. In fact, Serrano was injecting industrial, low-grade silicone similar to what's used to lubricate auto parts in Argentina, into the faces of these women for between \$300 and \$500 a pop." And how about Prisella Presley?

Unfortunately, Daniel Serrano is only one of many unscrupulous individuals making their living permanently deforming trusting victims.

The truth is that Botox® Cosmetic, and many of the known, pharmaceutical grade fillers, are a terrific, tried and true, means of fighting visible signs of aging. However, if you are not taking the time to tap into some of the wisdom that came along with those lines, you may be at best wasting your money, and at worst permanently disfiguring yourself. So, protect yourself.

When seeking a provider of these types of services, please be sure to:

- See only a Board Certified Physicians – preferably a dermatologist or cosmetic surgeon with a great deal of experience in administering Botox® and fillers. The web address for the Medical Board of California is [www.medbd.ca.gov](http://www.medbd.ca.gov) or call (916) 263-2382.
- Do your homework. Confirm the providing physician is receiving his/her Botox® from Allergan Pharmaceuticals– makers of Botox® Cosmetic. Allergan has a physician referral page. [www.BOTOXcosmetic.com](http://www.BOTOXcosmetic.com) or call (800) 433-8871.
- Confirm the providing physician is receiving his/her filler from the pharmaceutical company that produces it. All the major pharmaceutical companies have local representatives that service physicians, and websites with a referring physicians page. Radiesse® info can be found at [www.radiesse.com](http://www.radiesse.com) or by calling (866) 862-1211.

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