Interested in the Botox Lip Flip? Here are 5 things you need to know.

Non-Surgical Treatments



Full, youthful lips are always in style—and lip plumping is one of our most popular uses for dermal fillers. However, not everyone who wants their lips to *look* fuller necessarily wants or needs fillers to achieve their desired effect. Perhaps you want a very subtle result, or you would prefer to try out a shorter-term option (fillers can last 9 to 12 months).

If you would like to enhance your lips but feel like fillers are not your style, you might consider Botox injections, in a quick procedure called a "lip flip." Our provider has been getting requests for this lip enhancement option at Smith County Family Medical, and patients who try it love their results.

The Botox lip flip can be an excellent alternative to fillers for patients who want a more subtle lip enhancement, as well as those who want to enhance the shape of their upper lip with minimal effort.

What is the Botox lip flip?

As the name implies, the Botox lip flip involves using <u>Botox to</u> <u>enhance the upper lip</u>. Just a few quick injections can help the upper lip relax and roll slightly upward, which allows more of the upper lip to be visible. It is an excellent alternative to fillers for patients who want a more subtle enhancement than fillers provide, or for those who want to enhance the shape of their upper lip with minimal effort.

How does the lip flip work?

To perform a Botox lip flip, the provider makes a series of injections just above the upper lip, into the orbicularis oris muscle, which encircles the mouth. Botox temporarily relaxes the part of the muscle over the upper lip, causing the lip to roll slightly upward so it appears more voluminous and defined. This muscle relaxation can also help smooth vertical lines around the lips.

Most patients notice the effects within a few days of treatment, with full results in about one week. The effects of Botox for lips lasts up to three to four months.

Be sure to choose a qualified provider who has plenty of experience performing the Botox lip flip. Overtreating is a real risk and can limit your ability to move your lips normally. It takes a high level of skill to achieve the right effect.

Botox lip flip vs. lip fillers

The Botox lip flip isn't a substitute for lip fillers. We perform both at our clinic, as we have patients who are better suited to one treatment or the other, or both. Our provider considers your natural lip anatomy, your desired outcome, and your personal preferences when deciding whether Botox or a dermal filler, is the best lip enhancement option for you.

You likely will be happy with the Botox lip flip if:

- You would like a subtly more prominent "pout" to your lips
- You feel your upper lip looks invisible when you smile
- You want fuller-looking lips but do not want additional volume
- You want a more temporary treatment (3-4 months)

Fillers are likely a better lip enhancement option if:

- You would like additional volume in the upper and/or lower lip
- You would like to address more severe vertical lip lines
- You would like to improve overall lip shape and symmetry

You want a longer-lasting lip enhancement (9-12 months)

In some cases, the best solution for a patient is to combine Botox with fillers. Using fillers to enhance lip volume *and* Botox to lift the upper lip slightly can achieve a beautiful effect for patients with very thin lips.

How much does the Botox lip flip cost?

The typical Botox lip flip costs \$150 per treatment. If you are surprised at how inexpensive this seems, consider that we only need a few units of Botox to achieve the desired "lip flip" effect.

It is important to keep in mind that the Botox lip flip only lasts three to four months, and you'll need to return for treatment about two to three times as often as you would for filler injections. That said, Botox can be a very cost-effective solution for patients desiring a subtle, but meaningful improvement in lip appearance.

How can I get a natural lip flip result?

While it may sound simple to get fuller looking lips with Botox, not every injector is qualified to perform a lip flip. It takes a very high level of skill and knowledge of anatomy to achieve the right effect, so be sure you choose a highly qualified specialist who has specific training and plenty of experience performing the Botox lip flip. Our provider, Mrs. Kim Gregory, FNP-BC, has been specifically trained on performing this service.

Overtreating is a real risk with inexperienced providers and can limit your ability to move your lips normally. For instance, you may not be able to whistle or use a straw until the Botox starts

to wear off if too much Botox is used or if it is injected into the wrong location.