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# The Medical Letter®

## On Drugs and Therapeutics

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### ADDENDUM

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#### **Dermal Fillers**

Some Medical Letter consultants have suggested that our recent article on dermal fillers ([Med Lett Drugs Ther 2007; 49:39](#)) should have included stronger warnings about the risk of fillers that are not biodegradable, such as *Artefill*. The polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA, the same material that makes up *Plexiglas*) beads in *Artefill* can over time, even with the best technique, cause foreign-body granulomas and hypertrophic scarring, which may require surgical removal. Granulomas and nodules have been especially frequent when *Artefill* was injected into the lips. Complications are less likely with hyaluronic acid products such as *Hylaform*, *Juvéderm* or *Restylane*.

**Coming Soon in *The Medical Letter*:**

Reducing Intake of Trans Fatty Acids  
*Lybrel* — A New Contraceptive Pill  
Lapatinib (*Tykerb*) for Breast Cancer

**Coming Soon in *Treatment Guidelines*:**

Drugs for Allergic Disorders — August 2007  
Drugs for Sexually Transmitted Infections —  
September 2007  
Drugs for COPD — October 2007

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On Drugs and Therapeutics

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