

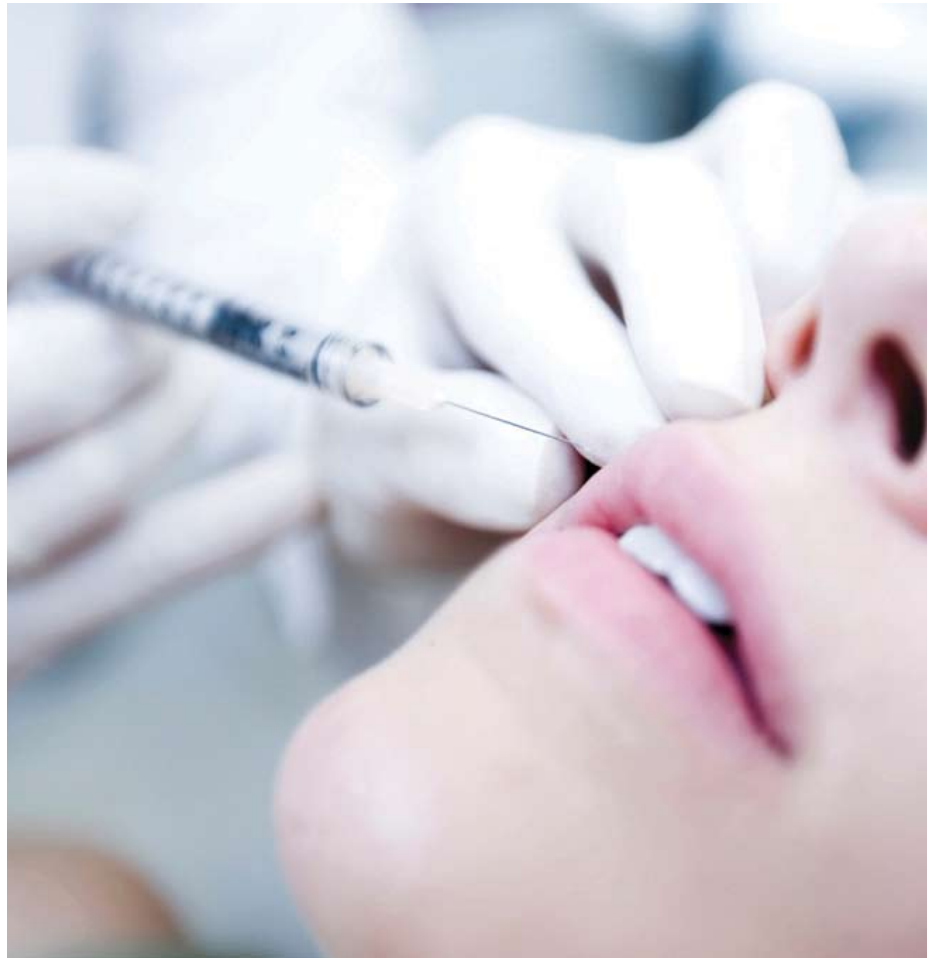
# An alternative route to CPD

It wasn't that long ago that the GDC made continuous professional development (CPD) mandatory for all dentists on the UK register believing that they had an ethical responsibility to continue to undertake appropriate continuous education. Since that time the number of course providers has grown enormously as too have the variety of topics covered. One area that has recently started to arouse interest is facial aesthetics, and there are courses to cover these treatments too.

In the UK there is still much mystery surrounding facial aesthetics, however, Lindsay Woolf, Training Manager for Med-fx Training sets out to dispel some of the myths. 'Dentists are ideally placed to carry out facial aesthetic procedures' she comments. 'They're experts in the facial region and more importantly already have a patient base to which they can market their new skills. Given a choice of going to an unknown treatment centre or the 'family dentist' most people would naturally chose the latter. For the dentist, the transition is an easy one since their practice is already the ideal environment to carry out clinical procedures meaning there are no additional start-up costs. The only investment is in training, which must be completed in order to gain the insurance necessary to practice'.

Heather Muir, a dentist from Scotland, was an early convert to facial aesthetics. 'Dentistry has evolved enormously in the last few years and cosmetic procedures are driving those changes. Although I still keep my traditional dental skills up to date I've found facial aesthetics a natural adjunct to such treatments and have specialised in facial aesthetics over the last five years. I am even a certified trainer for Med-fx Training and am grateful that I can now pass on my experience and clinical skills in this treatment area to others wishing to expand their services'.

So what advice would Heather offer fellow practitioners? Well, like any new skill she advocates good training. 'You need to be taught by people who understand the business of dentistry and how facial aesthetic procedures can be used to enhance a practice's profile. As soon as you've completed your course



and have gained all the necessary insurance, I would also urge dentists to start treating patients immediately whilst the knowledge is fresh in their mind and their confidence high. In my experience, the more education an individual takes, the better the result. I regularly go on CPD courses to enhance my dental clinical skills, so it stands to reason, that if you want to practice facial aesthetics you need to invest in your education in this area too'.

Lindsay Woolf, Training Manager for Med-fx Training commented, 'If you're getting tired of revisiting the usual topics covered in CPD tutorials and seminars why not 'step outside the box' and consider a course on facial aesthetics? We offer both beginner and advanced courses'.



In order to register for a course, or simply to get more information, please log onto [www.medfxtraining.co.uk](http://www.medfxtraining.co.uk) or call a member of the team on 01376 532832.