

How does Skin age?

The skin is the largest organ of our body. Its main function is to act as a barrier against environmental adverse effects. Skin aging is the result of several factors, such as:

- ⦿ Degradation of collagen and elastin fibers
- ⦿ Free radicals
- ⦿ Reduced cellular activity
- ⦿ External aggressions such as smoking, air conditioning, cold, stress and inadequate diet
- ⦿ Natural aging
- ⦿ DNA modification

These factors, together with an individual's predisposition to aging, will harm skin structure. Blood flow in the peripheral regions of the body becomes deficient and consequently the skin loses its shine and pinkish color.

Since production of the elastic fibers and other components of the conjunctive tissue are decreased, elasticity also is affected. With time, the moisture of the lower layers of the skin becomes insufficient. Merciless flaking and dryness set in, and differences in the pigmentation might occur along with spots and freckles.

The desire and pursuit of eternal youth and beauty is inherently human. In ancient Greece the average life expectancy was 25 years old, and in the Middle Ages, 35 years old. With the development of science and medicine, modern man has managed to conquer many health problems. In developed countries, the average life expectancy is 75 to 80 years. With this increase in life expectancy comes the human desire for products that soften the effects of time. Facial appearance has become tied to physical well-being.