

THE PEARL

DERMATOLOGY

QWO (kwoe) **(collagenase clostridium histolyticum-aes)**

QWO is a combination of collagenases indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe cellulite on the buttocks. It is the first and only FDA-approved injectable for cellulite. QWO is injected by your healthcare provider under each cellulite dimple, to disrupt the thick collagen bands found in cellulite. You may receive up to 12 injections per buttock. QWO injections are given 21 days (about 3 weeks) apart for 3 treatments. There is no down-time; however, bruising of the buttocks or injection sites can be significant.

Do not receive QWO if you:

1. Are allergic to any collagenase or to any of the ingredients in QWO
2. Have an active infection in the treatment area.
3. Have had an allergic reaction to a QWO injection in the past
4. Have a bleeding problem
5. Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
6. Are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed

Pre-Treatment Instructions

Tips to avoid bruising to follow 2 weeks prior to your treatment:

1. Avoid all anti-inflammatories and blood thinners, including prednisone, aspirin, naproxen, ibuprofen, etc. If you need these products for your health, please do not stop your medication without permission from your primary healthcare provider.
2. Avoid supplements that can increase bruising, some of which include alpha-lipoic acid, acetyl-L-carnitine, cinnamon, clove, CoQ10, chamomile, creatine, echinacea, ephedra, fish oil, garlic, ginger, ginkgo, ginseng, glucosamine, glutamine, goldenseal, L-carnosine, licorice, milk thistle, resveratrol, turmeric, St. John's wort & vitamin E.
3. Bruising may be partially prevented and may resolve faster with topical Arnica Montana solution and oral supplements that include Arnica Montana, bromelain, and antioxidants which can be found online or at WholeFoods. We carry the Clinicians Complex Post Injection Cream in office, that you can apply immediately following the procedure to help with minimizing bruising.

Treatment Day

1. Prior to each treatment, arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time to take photographs of the area prior to treatment.
2. We recommend that you wear comfortable clothes and a thong to your appointments, we may have you change into a disposable gown.
3. At checkout, you will schedule your next treatment, 21 days (about 3 weeks) out.

Post-Treatment Instructions

1. Wear compression garments (Spanx, biker shorts) for 2-4 days following treatment to improve comfort
2. Avoid strenuous exercise or straining for 48 hours (about 2 days) following treatment
3. Avoid medications and supplements that may increase the chance of bruising for 48 hours (about 2 days) following treatment
4. Use skincare and supplements to reduce severity of bruising as outlined below:

Possible Risks & Complications

Bruising is moderate to severe following QWO treatment. 84% of study patients experienced bruising following treatment with QWO. Bruising is often eggplant-purple and encompasses the entire buttock. Bruising typically resolves within 2-4 weeks. The first QWO treatment has the most significant bruising and bruising typically lessens in severity with repeated treatments. The chance of significant bruising can be lessened by avoiding medications and supplements listed above. Intense bruising can lead to hemosiderin staining of the skin, which can last several months. This staining is treatable. Although uncommon, any procedure that punctures or breaks the surface of the skin carries a risk of a secondary infection.

Soreness, discomfort, and pain/warmth is usually mild in nature and occurs during the first several days after treatment. Discomfort is typically not significant enough to interrupt daily activities. Soreness was not correlated with sometimes dramatic appearance of bruising. Extra strength Tylenol can be taken to lessen discomfort associated with QWO treatment.

Swelling or fullness is likely to occur following treatment. This is a normal side effect and can persist for up to 1-2 weeks following treatment.

Hypersensitivity reaction/serious hypersensitivity (allergic) reactions including anaphylaxis are extremely rare but have been reported following collagenase clostridium histolyticum use. If you experience shortness of breath, hives, swelling, enlarged lips, or other systemic symptoms, contact our office immediately. If your symptoms are severe, call 911.

Recommended Post-Procedure Products

1. Clinicians Complex Post Injection Cream