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INNOVATIONS

in beauty

HERE'S A ROUNDUP OF THE LATEST BEAUTY HAPPENINGS IN TERMS OF RESEARCH AS WELL AS INNOVATIVE NEW PRODUCTS AND PROCEDURES.

REMOVABLE TATTOOS

Tattoo removal usually requires a series of multiple laser treatments as well as thousands of dollars, and possibly residual ink deposits, permanent pigment changes and scarring. But this year marks the release of **Freedom-2, the first tattoo and permanent cosmetic ink** that is formulated for safe and easy removal.

HOW IT WORKS This new ink contains biodegradable and bioabsorbable dyes that are encapsulated in a polymer bead. These inks are used in the same fashion as their predecessors, but claim to be easily removed with just one laser treatment. The laser light breaks the polymer bead and the dyes are then naturally expelled from the body without scarring or lingering pigment. But it's important to remember that scarring can result from the act of tattooing itself, so although the color from the pigment may be gone, you may still be left with skin irregularities.

While this may be an attractive option for some, don't expect this innovation to affect permanent cosmetics. "We expect little interest from our industry as a whole, since our clients are really looking for permanency," says permanent cosmetic professional Melany Whitney, CPCP, FAAM, CMI, who adds that "time will tell."

AVAILABILITY As of press time, studies are still underway both in the U.S. and Europe, but Freedom-2 is slated to be available this year. Look to DailyBeauty.com and future issues of NewBeauty for updates.



SALINE IMPLANTS FOR YOUR LIPS

Breast implants have long delivered the boost in breast size that women desire, and a new innovation is taking this concept to the lips. Available in two sizes (with more on the way to offer various degrees of augmentation), **FulFil is a small implant that is inserted into the lip** through a single incision about four millimeters long that only requires one or two sutures to close," says Atlanta plastic surgeon Miles Graivier, MD.

A similar implant for deep nasolabial folds is currently in development, as are continuing improvements in implant design, specifically making the edges of the implants less palpable