



TEXAS MEDICAL BOARD RULES ON MEDICAL COSMETIC TREATMENTS

At U.S. Dermatology Partners, we are dedicated to providing our patients high-quality, safe and effective care. In order to meet that standard we follow the guidelines set forth by the Texas Medical Board.

As you are aware, cosmetic procedures are found in a number of settings across our community, begging the question: **“WHAT SETS MEDICAL SPAS APART?”**

At a medical spa, providers such as registered nurses, nurse practitioners, certified physician assistants or licensed aestheticians operate under the care and supervision of a licensed health care professional, such as a Board-Certified Dermatologist. This supervision is important because medical spas offer treatments and services that are generally more powerful or invasive than those offered at day spas. Medical spa treatments often have a higher risk of undesirable side effects if they are performed by a non-medically trained provider.

For this reason, Texas now requires additional oversight of cosmetic procedures for providers and an increase of operational licenses for facilities.

In Texas ([per Texas Medical Board Rule §193.17](#)), a patient who is seeking a non-surgical medical cosmetic procedure, including the injection of medicines (such as Botox or dermal fillers) or the use of an FDA approved device (such as Fraxel, photofacial, or CoolSculpting) must first [be evaluated in person by a physician or other provider with prescriptive authority](#) (i.e., Certified Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner) [before being treated by a registered nurse, aesthetician or other service provider](#). Regardless of who the physician delegates to perform the procedure, the physician is ultimately responsible for the safety of the patient and all aspects of the procedures offered. [\[Note that laser hair removal treatments are specifically excluded from this rule.\]](#)

In Texas, it is not permitted for patients to be treated with Botox, fillers, or any medical device (excluding laser hair removal) without first meeting with a physician, Certified Physician Assistant, or Nurse Practitioner. Patients are encouraged to report any med-spas performing these treatments without proper supervision to the Texas Medical Board.