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From Groundbreaking Cellulite Treatments to New Injectables, These Are the 2021 Launches Doctors Are Buzzing About

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As desperate as we are to have this infamous year fade into the rearview, we're perfectly clear-eyed about 2021. A simple calendar flip can't bridge chasmic divides or dash a pandemic. What it can do is usher in some pretty miraculous breakthroughs—the most monumental, of course, being the freshly approved COVID-19 vaccine.

While, clearly, nothing compares to this humanity-saving shot, there have been some exciting advancements in the aesthetics realm of late. Over the past several months, in between monitoring case counts and watching poll numbers, we've been tracking the status of hotly anticipated injectables and devices—those that have either very recently won FDA approval or are on the cusp of earning that distinction. From game-changing cellulite busters to the neurotoxin we've all been waiting for, we present nine bright spots on the beauty horizon.

2. **Renuva**: a fat-building injectable

Liposuction has always been a prerequisite for fat transfer—but a new injectable is poised to disrupt that paradigm come January. Meet Renuva: “Made from donated human tissue that’s been screened, processed, and purified, it contains the same collagens, growth factors, and proteins as human fat,” explains board-certified Dallas plastic surgeon Dr. Rod Rohrich. “When injected, it acts as a scaffold, allowing the body to recruit fat cells to attach to it, and over the course of 12 to 16 weeks, the material is gradually replaced by your own fat.” It can be injected anywhere fat lives naturally—including the cheeks, temples, chin, nasolabial folds, marionette lines, and backs of the hands. “The [cadaver] sourcing can take a bit of discussion with some patients,” notes Dr. Sundaram. “It’s essential that they feel comfortable with this.” Assuming they’re on board, she adds, “the technology offers the potential for predictable and durable volumizing results and expands the options for patients who aren’t good candidates for autologous fat grafting.” Doctors predict Renuva will cost more than traditional fillers but expect its volumizing effects to last years longer.

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