



Standard Operating Procedure:

Minimum Experience Requirements for High-Risk Areas

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Name	Minimum Experience Requirements for High-Risk Areas: Standard Operating Procedure		
Version #	1.1	Next review due	1 July 2026
Implementation Date	1 July 2025	Approved date	1 July 2025
Approved by	Nicole Schmid-Sanele	Approval status	Approved

1. OVERVIEW

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to safeguard patient wellbeing and support the legal and professional responsibilities of Juv'ae nurses, this policy outlines minimum experience requirements for performing cosmetic procedures in high-risk anatomical zones, including but not limited to the nasolabial fold.

2. BACKGROUND

Certain facial regions, such as the nasolabial fold, pose elevated risk due to complex vascular anatomy and proximity to critical structures like the angular artery. Complications may include intravascular injection and, in rare but serious cases, blindness. The article by Goodman GJ, *A Consensus on Minimising the Risk of Hyaluronic Acid Embolic Visual Loss*, supports restricting these procedures to highly experienced injectors.

3. ELIGIBILITY TO PERFORM HIGH-RISK DERMAL FILLER PROCEDURES

To perform dermal filler treatments in high-risk zones (classified as H risk in the Juv'ae Scope of Practice), such as:

- Nasolabial folds
- Tear trough
- Buccal hollowing
- Temples

Nurses must meet the following minimum requirements:

- A minimum of 24 months full-time equivalent (FTE) experience as a cosmetic injector¹
- Documented use of cannula over a sustained period

- Consistent independent practice in low and moderate risk areas
- Completion of supervised upskilling and internal assessment where relevant

¹ FTE experience accounts for actual clinical injecting hours. For example, a nurse working 2 days per week would require approximately 4 years to reach 2 years of FTE experience.

4. PREVIOUS TRAINING

Completing a training course that includes treatment of high-risk areas does not constitute readiness for independent practice in those areas.

The Juv'ae Scope of Practice defines appropriate procedures for each stage of experience.

Nurses must adhere strictly to their personal scope of practice and should not be encouraged or permitted to undertake procedures beyond their level of competency.

5. PROGRESSION PATHWAY

Progression is supported through:

- Ongoing mentorship
- Documented hands-on experience
- Regular assessment and clinical trainer sign-off
- Adherence to the Juv'ae training and SOP pathways

6. EXCEPTIONS

Juv'ae recognises that in some circumstances, a nurse may develop advanced skills and competency in high-risk areas earlier than the standard 24 months of full-time equivalent experience. In these cases, an exception may be requested.

Nurses may submit a formal application for early approval to perform treatments in high-risk areas. Submissions must be made in writing to:

- nicole@juvae.com.au
- jacinta@juvae.com.au

The submission must include:

- A summary of total hours worked as a cosmetic nurse
- A list of relevant training undertaken specific to high-risk areas
- De-identified clinical notes for each instance the treatment has been performed, including:
 - Technique used
 - Product name
 - Lot number
 - Expiry date

Patient names must not be included.

All requests will be reviewed by the Juv'ae Clinical Governance Committee. The approval process may take up to four weeks from the date of submission. Approval is not guaranteed and will be based on the level of demonstrated competency, safety, and clinical judgment.

7. ENFORCEMENT AND REPORTING

Nurses are expected to strictly follow their approved scope of practice. If a nurse performs high-risk procedures outside this scope, the matter will be reviewed, and appropriate steps will be taken to support safety, learning, and accountability.

6. LIST OF REFERENCES

1. Goodman, G. J., Magnusson, M. R., Callan, P., Roberts, S., Hart, S., McDonald, C. B., Clague, M., Rudd, A., Bekhor, P. S., Liew, S., Molton, M., Wallace, K., Corduff, N., Arendse, S., Manoharan, S., Shamban, A., Heydenrych, I., Bhatia, A. C., Peng, P., ... Kosenko, D. E. (2020). A consensus on minimizing the risk of hyaluronic acid embolic visual loss and suggestions for immediate bedside management. *Aesthetic Surgery Journal*, 40(9), 1009–1021. <https://doi.org/10.1093/asj/sjz333>
2. Juv'ae Scope of Practice Progression:
https://d34ery7y7ckzql.cloudfront.net/10415f52-788d-4c85-a813-1d097733c4cf/Public/Resources/Scope%20of%20Practice_JAN%202024.pdf

7. DOCUMENT REVISION AND APPROVAL

This SOP shall be reviewed annually and updated as needed to reflect changes in clinic policies, regulations, or best practices.

Version	Reviewed by	Approved by	Approved date	Changes made
1.1	Jacinta King	Nicole Schmid-Sanele	1 July 2025	Document created