



## Beauty: Best Face Forward

*Facials these days are fit for all fancies, with many different experiences on offer.*

### **Oxygen effect**

Make like Madonna with an oxygen facial. The singer owns three machines and takes one on tour to plump up pre-show.

This **Intra**ceuticals treatment starts with a traditional cleanse with the Australian firm's products, but the main event is the curious sensation of what feels like suction, but is actually infusion. A little nozzle works



over one side of my face and neck, pushing out an appropriate infusion.

Hyperbaric (above atmosphere pressure) oxygen adds a cooling, calming effect and generates a pressure bubble to help saturate skin tissue with what in my case is the pigmentation-targeting **Opulence infusion**, containing hyaluronic acid for moisture retention, to brighten and lighten. (There are anti-ageing and clarity options also). I inspect what therapist Liza has done, and, yes, the treated side looks and feels fuller, with frown lines somewhat reduced. I'm evened up, and a friend later remarks how fresh my skin looks. I agree and am impressed that the improvement lasts more than a facial's usual day or two.

Repeat dousings are recommended, with visible results said to extend over time, but the oxygen facial also works as a one-off treatment for special occasions. (As with any treatment before a big event, a trial is a good idea, although this facial has a lower risk of breakouts than other richer or aggressive ones.)

If I was a Material Girl with assistants to spray my furrows away, I'd buy into this regularly.

\* An **Intra**ceuticals oxygen facial costs from \$140, depending on salon provider. Courses of six facials, with at-home skincare packs cost around \$950. (We went to the Beauty Lounge, 408 Lake Rd, Takapuna, ph (09) 488 0498 Ph 0800 725 660 or see [intra\*\*ceuticals\*\*.com](http://intra<b>ceuticals</b>.com) for a salon in your area.