

PATIENT INFORMATION · CHECKLIST

How to verify an aesthetic clinic in Singapore

Aesthetic treatments in Singapore are medical procedures, and the rules that govern them exist to protect you. Before you book anything, a few minutes of checking tells you who will treat you, what will be used, what you are agreeing to, and what happens if something goes wrong. This checklist is neutral: it names no clinic and recommends none. Use it anywhere.

1. The doctor's registration

- Ask for the doctor's full name and look it up on the Singapore Medical Council's online register of medical practitioners.
- Check that the registration is current and note the registration type and any conditions listed.
- Ask which aesthetic procedures the doctor is certified to perform under the SMC Guidelines on Aesthetic Practices for Doctors.
- Be cautious if staff will not name the doctor, or if the name on the website differs from the name on the register.
- Qualifications on a wall or website are claims; the register is the record.

2. Who performs the treatment

- Ask directly: who will hold the handpiece or the syringe, and will the doctor be in the room throughout?
- Confirm that injectables and energy-based medical treatments are performed by a registered doctor, not delegated to a therapist or consultant.
- Ask whether the person assessing you is the person treating you, and whether that will change between visits.
- Ask how many of this exact procedure the doctor performs regularly, and listen for a plain answer rather than a slogan.

3. The device or product

- Ask for the exact name and model of the device or product, not a marketing label such as 4D, 7D or a nickname.
- Check that the device or product is listed on the Health Sciences Authority's medical device register, or that the injectable is HSA-registered.

- Ask to see the device and its cartridge or consumable, and whether the consumable is new and within date.
- Ask which generation the machine is and whether it is maintained under the manufacturer, since the same name can cover different versions.
- Treat vague answers about origin or registration as a reason to pause.

4. The quote and consent

- The quote should be written and itemised after assessment, naming the areas, the device or product, the quantity and any review visits.
- Singapore rules prevent clinics from advertising prices, so a figure quoted before anyone examines you describes a plan that does not yet exist.
- You should be given time to think; a cooling-off period between consultation and treatment is reasonable to ask for.
- No package or bundle should be pushed on the day of consultation, and a discount that expires before you leave is a pressure tactic.
- Consent should be a conversation covering what the treatment does, what it does not do, alternatives, risks and the option of no treatment, and you should sign only when you understand it.
- Ask whether the quote changes if the plan changes, and how that is agreed.

5. What to ask about complications

- Ask what the known complications of this treatment are, and how often the doctor has seen them.
- Ask who you call if something goes wrong after hours, and whether that number reaches a doctor or a receptionist.
- For filler, ask whether hyaluronidase is kept on site and whether the doctor is able to recognise and manage a vascular occlusion.
- Ask what the review arrangements are, and whether a review or a correction is included or charged separately.
- Ask what happens if you are not happy with the outcome, and how disagreements are handled.
- If a clinic cannot answer these questions clearly, it is telling you something useful.

This checklist is general information for patients in Singapore and does not replace a consultation with a registered medical practitioner. Free to share and reproduce with attribution: drsinyong.com/blog/how-to-read-aesthetic-clinic-reviews.html. Medically reviewed by Dr Sin Yong, 8 October 2026.