

Acu Forecast

Alternative medicine's favorite Eastern import is the beauty world's latest rising star.

Though there's no limit to what a resourceful New Yorker will do in the name of rejuvenation, sometimes it seems as if we're running out of options. You've already had your face smeared with avocado, cucumber, and caviar and your pores jolted with alternating current. Fortunately, a plausible new treatment has arrived that doesn't leave you smelling like a salad: the acupuncture facial (\$900) from Dr. David Colbert, a consulting dermatologist for Soho House. As with all acupuncture, the needles lower blood pressure and speed circulation, which means firmness, radiance, and fewer stress lines. "Blood flow is increased where the needles are inserted," Colbert explains. "And muscles are stimulated to decrease sagging." Advocates are sold on results that are immediate—and discreet. "I was considering a face-lift," one client says, "but now my skin is more elastic and younger-looking. Even my friends see a difference. I'm keeping it my little secret."

DR. DAVID COLBERT, NEW YORK DERMATOLOGY GROUP, 119 FIFTH AVE., 4TH FLOOR, 212-533-8888.

