

Level 7 Diploma in Aesthetic Practice (Qualifi)

- **Scope and Purpose:** Designed to prepare practitioners for independent, safe, and effective practice in non-surgical aesthetics. It focuses on advanced clinical knowledge, critical thinking, and evidence-based decision-making.
- **Structure:** The qualification typically carries **120 credits** (equivalent to a Master's level PGDip) and is mapped to the **RQF (Regulated Qualifications Framework)** at Level 7.
- **Core Units** include:
 - Principles and Practice of Aesthetic Therapies
 - Advanced Consultation and Client Assessment
 - Facial Anatomy and Ageing Science
 - Advanced Aesthetic Procedures (e.g. botulinum toxins, dermal fillers)
 - Managing Complications and Adverse Events
 - Professional Standards, Governance, and Ethics
- **Clinical Requirements:**
 - Extensive supervised clinical practice with live models.
 - Demonstrated competence in a range of injectable procedures under assessment conditions.
 - Robust focus on managing complications and referral pathways.
- **Assessment:**
 - Combination of written assignments, case studies, practical examinations, and viva assessments.
 - Emphasis on critical evaluation and reflective practice.
- **Industry Alignment:** Developed in consultation with industry leaders, medical professionals, and awarding bodies to align with **HEE guidelines (2016)**, **PSA standards**, and international patient safety benchmarks.

Level 6 Diploma in Aesthetic Practice

- **Scope:** Provides advanced skills beyond entry-level, preparing practitioners to transition into injectables and more complex procedures.
- **Learning Outcomes:**
 - In-depth understanding of skin science and ageing.
 - Safe delivery of a defined range of aesthetic procedures.
 - Enhanced consultation and clinical assessment skills.
- **Assessment:** Competency-based, including both theory and supervised practical work.

Level 5 Diploma in Aesthetic Practice

- **Scope:** Entry-level qualification forming the foundation for safe clinical aesthetics practice.
- **Focus Areas:**
 - Professional standards and legal frameworks.
 - Anatomy and physiology relevant to aesthetics.
 - Basic non-invasive aesthetic procedures (e.g. chemical peels, microneedling, skin rejuvenation).
- **Assessment:** Practical demonstrations, written assignments, and clinical observations.

Supporting Evidence

- These qualifications are regulated by **Ofqual** and delivered by **Qualifi**, an internationally recognised awarding organisation.
- The framework ensures consistency, progression, and clinical rigour across Levels 5–7.

- Independent external quality assurance guarantees standards are upheld across all centres delivering the qualifications.
- Graduates demonstrate not only technical competence but also the ability to critically evaluate treatment plans, manage risks, and uphold professional governance – essential skills for safe, independent practice.

Appendix: Mapping of Qualifi Level 7 Certificate in Aesthetic Practice to HEE Guidance & HABIA NOS

Qualifi Unit (Level 7)	HEE Guidance Requirement	Relevant NOS (HABIA / UK NOS Repository)
AP701: Facial Aesthetics Consultation	Structured face-to-face consultation; full medical/social history; informed consent; suitability assessment	SKANSC2 – Consult, assess, plan and prepare for elective non-surgical cosmetic procedures
AP702: Psychology of Facial Aesthetics	Psychological screening; managing expectations; referral where psychological risk identified	SKANSC5 – Assess the psychological and social factors impacting suitability for procedures
AP703: Botulinum Toxin Injections	Competence in administration of prescription medicines; anatomy and physiology; dosing and technique; recognition of adverse reactions	SKANSC12 – Administer botulinum toxin injections safely and effectively
AP704: Temporary & Reversible Dermal Fillers	Injectable device competence; knowledge of tissue planes; aseptic technique; infection control; escalation for vascular occlusion	SKANSC13 – Administer dermal filler procedures; SKANSC1 – Safe, hygienic and effective working practices
AP705: Management of Complications & Medical Emergencies	Recognition and immediate management of complications; escalation/referral pathways; adverse incident reporting	SKANSC15 – Manage complications and adverse events during non-surgical cosmetic procedures
Cross-cutting content (Professional Standards, Governance & Reflective Practice)	Clinical governance; audit; legal/ethical standards; CPD; reflective logs	SKANSC3 – Maintain professional accountability and governance standards in aesthetics practice

Notes on Levels 5 & 6 (Pathway)

- **Level 5** provides foundations (anatomy, legal/ethical frameworks, infection control, skin treatments) aligning with HEE's entry-level safety requirements and NOS units such as **SKANSF1** (maintain

infection prevention and control in aesthetics).

- **Level 6** builds on this with advanced skin science, enhanced consultation, and supervised practical treatments — consistent with HEE's staged progression model (foundation → supervised practice → independent competence).

Footnotes

1. **Qualifi Specification:** *Qualifi Level 7 Certificate in Aesthetic Practice* (unit descriptors, credit values, assessment structure).
2. **Health Education England (2016):** *Guidelines on qualifications for practitioners undertaking cosmetic procedures (non-surgical)* — core requirements: consultation, psychology, safe prescribing, complications, governance.
3. **HABIA:** Standard Setting Body for hair, beauty, aesthetics and related industries; custodian of National Occupational Standards (NOS).
4. **UK NOS Repository:** SKANSC family of standards for non-surgical cosmetic procedures (e.g. SKANSC1 – safe working, SKANSC2 – consultation, SKANSC12–15 – injectables & complications).