BODY ISSUE SPECIAL...

'I had 300 injections in my face

-to look TEN years younger'

'I'm not that saggy-eyed woman any more'

HAVING FAT TAKEN FROM YOUR BOTTOM AND INJECTED INTO YOUR FACE SOUNDS LIKE SCARY STUFF - BUT IT WORKED FOR THESE TWO WOMEN.

CLAIE WILSON REPORTS

Carmen before treatment

Studying her reflection in the mirror, a bemused look spreads across Carmen Olmedo's face.

"It's me – but it isn't!" she laughs. "I look like I did 10 years ago, only better."

Carmen was worried about her maturing skin as she approached 40. She'd tried all the latest anti-ageing products, but the fine lines on her face kept on coming, and the bags under her eyes just got worse.

"I really started to age once I got to 36," says Carmen, who works as a translator. "My eyelids were so droopy, I looked constantly shattered. Getting more sleep didn't help. My husband David told me I was beautiful, but I didn't feel it."

Her body was a youthful size 10 thanks to a healthy diet and regular gym workouts, but Carmen's face told a different story.

"I felt so unattractive it affected my confidence to the point where I didn't really like myself," she explains. "I wondered if friends were looking at me thinking how badly I was ageing. I felt they couldn't stop staring at my saggy eyes."

After seeing her reflection in a mirror in November 2006, Carmen burst into tears. Determined to take action, she searched the internet that night for ways to fight the wrinkles and discovered the Facial Autograft Muscle Injection (FAMI), which uses your own stem cells to rejuvenate your face.

"I found out it could be done under local anaesthetic," says Carmen, now 41. "That made a massive difference."

FAMI was developed 11 years ago in Marbella – Carmen's home for six years – by cosmetic surgeon Dr Amar. The procedure rebuilds the muscle and bone structure of the face by injecting cells taken from fat in flabbier parts of the body such as the bottom and hips. Currently available in France, Spain and the US, FAMI hits Britain this summer with the opening of a UK branch of Dr Amar's clinic.

British-born Carmen had a consultation with him in January 2007.

"Knowing I was having something from my own body put back into my face rather