



Procedure Information Sheet

Introduction

Fractional laser is a type of laser used in skin resurfacing for conditions such as scars and photoaging. Unlike traditional skin resurfacing where the whole upper layers of the skin are vapourized by laser or dermabrasion, fractional laser produces multiple columns of thermal injury in the skin, leaving the surrounding skin intact. This stimulates collagen formation in the skin and reorganization of collagen in scar tissues. The surrounding unwounded skin enables rapid healing. Therefore, it has the benefits of traditional skin resurfacing with less complications.

Indications

1. Acne scars or other depressed scars
2. Hypertrophic scars
3. Wrinkle and photoaging
4. Enlarged pores

Contradictions

1. Pregnancy, photosensitive conditions such as systemic lupus erythematosus, porphoria and medications that induce photosensitivity.
2. Patient with recent sun exposure and keloid tendency should use the laser with caution.

Before the Operation / Procedure

1. Local anaesthesia may be required.
2. Multiple treatments are usually required for improvement and total clearance may not be possible.
3. Clinical results vary and there is no guarantee to the final outcome of the treatment.
4. Recurrence is possible.
5. Photographs will be taken before and after the procedure.

After the Operation / Procedure

1. The treated areas will become red and swollen, ice pack will be applied to reduce pain, redness and swelling. Redness usually last for 1-4 weeks.
2. There may be pin point bleeding. Scabs might be formed and it will take about a week to come off.
3. Bronzing may develop and it may last for 1-6 months or more.
4. Routine skin care products and makeup may be used after the scabs have come off.
5. Apply sunscreen and avoid exposure to sunlight.

Risks and Complications

1. Redness, swelling, pain, transient bleeding, itchiness.
2. Blistering, skin infection, scarring, hyperpigmentation.

Patient's Label

Patient Name: _____
Hospital No: _____
Adm No/Episode No: _____

Disclaimer

This leaflet only provides general information pertaining to this operation / procedure. While common risks and complications are described, the list is not exhaustive, and the degree of risk could also vary between patients. Please contact your doctor for detailed information and specific enquiry.

Reference

1. H Kavoussi et al. Revision of a depressed scar across a relaxed skin tension line by punch elevation, filler injection and fractional CO2 laser. Acta Dermatovenereol 2019;28:129-130
2. P Chitgopeker et al. 1550-nm Nonablative fractional laser versus 10,600-nm ablative fractional laser in the treatment of surgical and traumatic scars: A comparison study on efficacy and treatment regimen. Derm Surg 23 Sep 2019 epub ahead of print
3. A Issler-Fisher et al. Laser modulation of hypertrophic scars, technique and practice. Clin Plast Surg 2017;44(4):757-766

Patient's Signature: _____ Date: _____