Shock Waves – Enhancing Laser Tattoo Removal?

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Since the advent of laser technology in the field of dermatology, the standard modality for tattoo removal has been the removal of pigments using Q-switched lasers. For many years multiple sessions spaced over a period of time have been the protocol for laser tattoo removal. The limitations of this standard protocol include: incomplete clearance, long total treatment durations with large intervals between sessions, ink retention despite multiple sessions, and treatment-associated side effects (scarring, hypopigmentation).

Newer strategies using combination laser treatments (ablative fractional laser in combination with QS-laser), multi-pass treatments (R20 protocol), and picosecond lasers offer promising results. Recently, an acoustic shockwave device has been used to assist in laser tattoo removal. Studies claim that tattoos can be removed in as little as two to three sessions, accompanied by less oedema, erythema and epidermal crusting.

All of these methods help in faster, less painful and safer tattoo removal.

Selected Cases Treated with Fotona Lasers

Ashraf Badawi

Over the past 5 years I have been using Fotona lasers in many applications with very satisfactory results. The flexibility in selecting different settings with Fotona lasers gave me the opportunity to achieve very good results that were not possible with other laser machines. A short oral presentation will take you on a journey demonstrating a few selected cases treated with different Fotona lasers resulting in outstanding success. An explanation of the rationale for selecting the parameters used as well the treatment protocols will be carried out during the presentation.

Treatment of a Variety of Dermatological Diseases and ENT Problems with Er:YAG and Nd:YAG Laser

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This abstract is an overview of applications for the SP Dynamis laser (Fotona, Slovenia) used in the dermatology and ENT departments of ReMedika hospital in Skopje, Macedonia. The Combination of the laser's Er:YAG and Nd:YAG wavelengths is used to treat aesthetic, dermatological, as well as ENT problems.

In our practice we use the laser for the treatment of ENT problems such as papilloma, aphthae, frenectomy, sleep apnea, herpes simplex infection, vascular problems, and rhinophyma.

It is also used for the treatment of various dermatological problems such as senile keratosis, nevi, xanthelasma, keloids, scars, venous lakes, lymphangiomas, leg reticular varicose veins and telangiectasia, plantar and genital warts, rosacea, onychomycosis, active acne treatments, hydarentis suppurativa, lichen sclerosus, etc.

In our report, the treatment of a variety of dermatological diseases as well as ear, nose and throat problems using the laser is safe and with better outcomes for the patients.

Keywords: laser, sleep apnea, keloids, scars, venous lakes, lymphangiomas, leg reticular varicose veins and telangiectasia, plantar and genital warts, rosacea, onychomycosis, active acne treatments, hidradenitis suppurativa, lichen sclerosus.