



Acne & PIH Treatment with PQX Laser in Darker Asian Skin

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Introduction:

Acne and post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation (PIH) or erythema (PIE) remain challenging treatments in Asian patients of darker skin types. The challenge is in finding the correct parameter and end point to reduce pigmentation safely without causing further darkening of the scars. In this case, the StarWalker PQX was used to reduce acne and PIH scars.

Laser	StarWalker PQX		
	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Wavelength	1064 nm	1064 nm	1064 nm
Handpiece	Black F5	Black	Black
Fluence	1.7 mJ/px	0.4J/cm ²	1.3J/cm ²
Pulse duration	300 ps	300 ps	300 ps
Frequency	10 Hz	7 Hz	10 Hz
Passes	2	2	2
Spot size	5x5 mm	8 mm	4 mm
Cooling	Yes	Yes	Yes



Jia Xi Chong received his MBBS degree from Manipal University and MRCS from the Royal College of Surgeons (Ireland). He is a certified medical aesthetic practitioner based in Penang island, Malaysia, specializing in all types of aesthetic injections, and is an experienced user of Fotona's StarWalker PQX and SP Dynamis laser systems. He actively performs minimally invasive procedures such as double-eyelid creation as well as laser surgeries to improve aesthetic concerns for his patients.

CLINICAL CASE:

A female patient with a history of acne wanted to reduce the acne and improve the PIH and PIE. The patient's skin type was FP IV. The above mentioned parameters were used with StarWalker PQX. The end point of treatment was slight erythema of the skin and mild darkening of pigmented areas. Post-treatment care included regular sunscreen and protection from sun exposure. The photographs taken four weeks after the treatment show improvement of PIH, as well as reduction of active acne. Patient satisfaction was good, as the downtime was minimal and highly tolerable, with mild erythema that lasted less than 24 hours. No complications developed were reported by the patient, so these parameters appear to be safe in darker skin types.



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