



Melasma Treatment with 3 Sessions of Fotona StarWalker

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Introduction:

Melasma is an acquired, chronic pigmentary disorder predominantly affecting women. There are many factors involved in the pathogenesis of this inflammatory skin disorder such as hormonal changes during pregnancy, the use of oral contraceptives, solar UV-exposure, chronic stress involvement as well as others. Multiple treatments for melasma are available, with mixed, partial and temporary results.

Laser	StarWalker MaQX		
	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Wavelength	1064 nm	1064 nm	1064 nm
Handpiece	R28d	R28d	FS20A
Fluence	15 J/cm ²	1.8–2.0 J/cm ²	9 mJ/pixel
Mode	FRAC3	MaQX-1	MaQX-2
Frequency	99 Hz	99 Hz	9 Hz
Passes	6 complete passes	4 cross passes	2 passes
Spot size	6 mm	8 mm	9x9 mm
Sessions	3 sessions–45 days interval		



Dr. Soraya Rossetti completed her medical degree in Sao Paulo, Brazil in 1992. In 1996 she specialized in Dermatology. She is a member of Brazilian Society of Dermatology and member of Brazilian Society of Surgical Dermatology. She has been also member of American Academy of Dermatology. In past 10 years she is also experienced practice with Fotona technologies, and she uses them in her practice.

CLINICAL CASE:

This is a case of a 49-year-old female presenting with a whole-face distribution of melasma. She had been treating this inflammatory lesion using dermocosmetics such as topical tretinoin with hydroquinone formulation, without positive results and no signs of depigmentation. She was informed that we were not certain about how many laser sessions would be required for the complete clearing results. She began her treatment in April, 2021 and was treated by 3 Fotona StarWalker laser sessions until September 2021. The interval between sessions was 45 days and the protocol applied was based the melasma protocol by Drs. Velez. We can also observe the improvement of the skin quality and the tightening of the skin in the lateral areas of the jawline and cheeks, even though the main protocol had mainly been done for pigmentation. After good results, the patient was treated with oral antioxidants formulation, vitamin C and photoprotection FPS 99 ISDIN in the mornings and Kligman's Formula (tretinoin 0.05%, hydroquinone 4%, triamcinolone 0.05% cream) - 3 days per week and retinaldehyde/SabiWhite cream (Pigment Controller, Lab. Neostrata) at night.



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