Fotona4Glow™: A Multimodal Laser Protocol for the Treatment of Photodamaged Skin

Ivana Bogataj Tancer, MD and Neja Gerdovič, BSc Cosmetics

Introduction:

Cutaneous aging has long represented a significant clinical and aesthetic concern across generations. Individuals exposed to high levels of ultraviolet radiation increasingly present signs of photoaging. These manifestations commonly include photodamaged skin, ephelides, and solar lentigines. Chronic UV exposure also accelerates collagen degradation and disrupts the integrity of the dermal extracellular matrix, leading to reduced skin elasticity, fine lines, and progressive tissue laxity.

The Fotona4Glow™ treatment is an advanced, multimodal laser protocol designed to comprehensively address the key clinical features of photodamaged and aging skin. It integrates the Q-Switched capabilities of the StarWalker® Pico PRO with the long-pulse photothermal effects of the Dynamis® Max, enabling a synergistic approach to skin revitalization and regeneration.

Laser	StarWalker® Pico PRO	Dynamis® Max	Dynamis® Max	StarWalker® Pico PRO
	Step 1	**Step 2**	**Step 3**	**Step 4**
Wavelength	1064 nm (Nd:YAG)	1064 nm (Nd:YAG)	1064 nm (Nd:YAG)	1064 nm (Nd:YAG)
Handpiece	Black Beam	R-35 Nx	R-35 Nx	Black F9
Spot size	8 mm	4 mm	9 mm	9x9 mm
Mode	PICO	FRAC3	PIANO	PICO
Pulse duration	300 ps	0.6 ms	5 s	300 ps
Fluence	1.2 J/cm²	30 J/cm²	200 J/cm²	3 mJ/px
Frequency	10 Hz	5 Hz	/	2 Hz
Cooling	yes	yes	no	yes
Sessions	3 sessions, spaced 4 weeks apart			

Dr. Ivana Bogataj Tancer is an aesthetic doctor specialized in ENT and cervicofacial surgery, with a strong focus on advanced laser technologies. She currently works with select clinics throughout Slovenia and serves as an international trainer and expert lecturer for Fotona, educating physicians worldwide in state-of-the-art laser treatments.

Neja Gerdovič holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Cosmetics. During her studies, she gained practical experience with various laser systems for hair reduction and aesthetics. Currently, she is employed at the LA&HA Institute as a laser therapist and assistant, specializing in laser treatments. She also contributes to research projects involving Fotona lasers, further developing her expertise in aesthetic laser procedures.

CLINICAL CASE:

This case involves a 54-year-old female patient seeking rejuvenation because of a wide range of aging-related skin concerns.

The treatment protocol was performed in four sequential steps. We first applied Nd:YAG using the Pico PRO with the full-spot Black Beam handpiece, a spot size of 8 mm, and an ultra-short pulse duration of 300 ps. The applied fluence was 1.2 J/cm² and the brushing of the whole face with 10 Hz was executed. In the second step, we used FRAC3 Nd:YAG with the Dynamis® Max using a spot size of 4 mm, pulse duration of 0.6 ms, fluence of 30 J/cm² and frequency of 5 Hz. In the third step, we used an ultra-long-pulse Nd:YAG PIANO modality with a pulse duration of 5 seconds, spot size of 9 mm, and fluence of 200 J/cm², performing a brushing of the whole face until the superficial temperature reached 42°C. Finally, we applied a fractional Q-switched laser technique to resurface and remodel the epidermis using Pico PRO Nd:YAG with the Black F9 handpiece and an intensity of 3 mJ/px. The endpoint was mild redness with some pinpoint bleeding.

We performed three treatments, spaced 4 weeks apart.

By integrating these four steps into a single protocol, the Fotona4Glow™ treatment effectively addresses a wide range of aging-related skin concerns, including pigmentation, textural irregularities, loss of firmness, and dullness. The result is visibly rejuvenated skin with improved texture, tone, and the characteristic “glow” that gives the treatment its name.

The procedure was well tolerated, with minimal discomfort. No anesthesia was needed, cooling with cold air (Zimmer, level 2) was used for patient comfort with all steps, except with PIANO. Aftercare consisted of an epidermal repair balm (Cicaplast, LRP). After the procedure, the patient reported mild redness that lasted for one day.

Before	1 month after the 3rd treatment	Before	1 month after the 3rd treatment