

## Laser Hair Removal: Patient Information

### **How many treatments does it take to clear an area?**

6-8

### **Should I expect to be hair free in the treated area after the series of treatments?**

No, most patients experience an 80-90 % reduction in the amount of hair.

### **Will my hair be gone immediately after the procedure?**

No, the hair will be shed for 1- 3 weeks.

### **What color hair can be treated?**

The laser works best on dark hair. It does not work well on blond, gray, red, or white hair because it does not absorb laser energy due to lack of pigment. We can attempt to treat light hair, however, we often recommend doing a test spot first.

### **Can dark hair and skin be treated?**

Yes. Our advanced laser technology allows us to treat any skin type safely and effectively.

### **Why must patients not bleach, wax, pluck, or use electrolysis for 6 weeks prior to treatment?**

The hair root must be present and pigmented for the laser to work.

### **Why must tanning be avoided for 6 weeks before and after treatment?**

We do not treat tanned skin. Increased melanin (pigment) in the skin decreases the effectiveness of treatment and also makes it more likely that the patient will experience hyperpigmentation, hypopigmentation, or blistering from the laser treatment. This includes sunless tanning products and sprays.

### **Should I shave before treatment?**

Yes, we request that you shave any areas you want treated the morning of or 24 hours before treatment. Surface hair increases the risk of a burn and uses laser energy that will then not go to the root of the hair follicle.

### **Can any area of the body be treated?**

Yes, with the exception of eyelashes due to the danger of eye injury.

### **Does the treatment hurt?**

There is a slight stinging sensation felt during treatment that many patients find comparable to the pain of waxing.

**How long will the actual treatment take?**

Underarms, back of the neck, and bikini areas are usually treated in approximately 5-10 minutes, while large areas like full legs or back can take up to an hour.

**What will the treated area look like immediately after treatment?**

The skin will have some erythema (redness), and the hair follicles will swell, looking like goose bumps for approximately 1-2 hours, and up to a couple of days in some patients.

**How long will it be before I see hair regrowth in the treated areas?**

It may be anywhere from 3 weeks to 4 months before any regrowth is observed. After each treatment some hair (approximately 20 -30 %) will not regrow.

**What are possible side effects of laser hair removal?**

Blistering, bruising, hyperpigmentation (darkening), or hypopigmentation (lightening) of the skin. We will assess your risks of these complications, and will perform a test spot at your first visit if we feel you are at any risk. In rare cases Paradoxical Hypertrichosis or stimulation of hair growth could occur, treating with subsequent treatment will help to reduce it.

**What is a “test spot”, and why is it performed?**

Test spots are small areas of skin that are treated at various laser energy levels prior to treatment of darker skin. They are done to determine the level of energy that is best for that individual. Test spots are re-evaluated in 2-4 weeks to determine if the patient is a laser candidate.

**Does insurance cover laser hair removal?**

No, your fee is payable on the day of treatment by cash, credit card, or check.

**What is the cost for laser hair removal?**

Charges are based on the area you want treated. We recommend scheduling a complimentary consultation with our aesthetician to determine the price and answer any other questions you may have. We offer laser hair removal packages or you may pay individually for each treatment.