

The First Step to a Smoother You

SPOTLIGHT ON: LASER VEIN TREATMENTS

Product Showcase

ELASTIderm™

SNAP - SNAP - SNAP - SNAP

What is SNAP? That is how patients are describing the difference they see and feel in the skin around their eyes. Since the body stops producing elastin around the age of 21, wrinkles can quickly appear. Elastin is a coil-like protein that provides the skin with its resiliency. Healthy elastin enables the skin to SNAP back into place. Elastin that has been damaged loses its elasticity. Collagen is also a major protein that makes up the connective tissue. Collagen provides the building platform in order for elastin to thrive. Both are necessary for the SNAP or the elasticity of the skin.

ELASTIderm™ is made by OBAGI®. This company has a proven track record for solid improvement in the look and feel of your skin. It uses a proprietary bi-mineral complex (Copper Zinc Malonate) that has been clinically proven to restore elasticity and build collagen production. This is not a moisturizer! Clients see improvement as soon as two weeks after using. Talk to us about improving the condition of fine lines and wrinkles around your eyes. Talk to us about getting the SNAP back in your complexion.



Laser Vein Therapy

For The Face & Body

Recent information shows that 40-55% of all American women and 40-45% of American men have problems with spider veins. There are many reasons for spider veins to form. Some of them occur because you have a family tendency towards them; born with weak valves in your leg veins. Large weight gains such as with pregnancy, and hormone changes can cause an increase in the amount of blood flow and this results in increase pressure of the blood flow in your legs. Spider veins can also occur on your face as a direct result of sun exposure.

How can you reduce or eliminate spider veins?

There are several ways to reduce or eliminate unsightly spider veins. Laser treatments have been found to be very effective in the reduction / removal of various size veins from tiny spider veins to deep blue large veins. However, our office does not treat varicose veins with laser therapy. Sclerotherapy is also an option although many patients find it to be more uncomfortable than laser.

Before



Photo courtesy of Debbie Cuddihy, Cuddihy's Laser & Electrolysis Clinic

5 weeks after 5th treatment

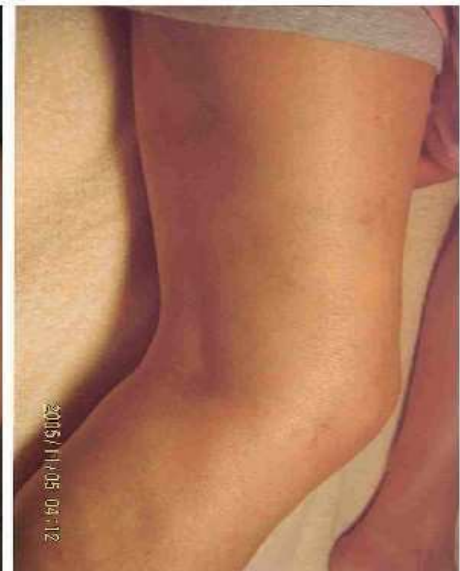


Photo courtesy of Debbie Cuddihy, Cuddihy's Laser & Electrolysis Clinic

How Does Laser Therapy Work?

Pulses of light energy are sent into the blood vessel. This causes the blood within the vein to become very sticky. The walls of the



Talk to your nurse at Smooth Reflections about this product.

Pulses of light energy are sent into the blood vessel. This causes the blood within the vein to become very sticky. The walls of the blood vessel stick together eventually stopping the flow of blood through the vessel. The vessel is collapsed and is later reabsorbed by your body. Blood flow will then be redirected to veins deeper below your skin's surface, where it should be.

Does the treatment hurt?

You will most likely feel a stinging sensation as the laser light touches the skin. This is a very brief sensation. The laser tip is extremely cold, quickly cooling the skin to minimize any discomfort.

What kind of side effects or down time should I expect?

Reddening and local swelling of the skin is the most common side effect. These effects typically last for about 24 hours. Some patients may experience bruising and, in rare instances, blistering may occur. We do want you to plan your treatment schedule to allow for some decrease in strenuous activity. Best results occur when exercise, alcohol, and anti-inflammatory medications are avoided for at least a week. Support hose are also a way to help ensure a better outcome, however, as they can be quite warm to wear, winter time treatments allow you to be more comfortable.

How many treatments will I need?

The number of treatments you will need depends upon the number, color, and size of the vessels needing treated. Often, patients find that one or two treatments are sufficient for general reduction. Every patient is different and the results will vary person to person. We will attempt to give you an estimate as to the number of treatments that will be needed but you must keep this in mind. We typically recommend annual treatment programs for patients that are at high risk for developing spider veins. Facial veins do not typically require as many sessions as leg veins.

When should I see improvement?

Most patients find that the majority of the treated veins have shown significant improvement within two to six weeks of treatment. However, your final results may not be apparent for several months. As new vessels can occur over time, maintenance is recommended.

Pseudofolliculitis barbae

Pseudofolliculitis barbae (PFB) is better known as razor bumps or razor rash. Razor bumps are not typically regarded as a serious medical problem, but it can cause significant frustration sometimes resulting in cosmetic disfigurement. Scarring, post inflammatory hyper pigmentation (darkening of the skin), secondary infections, and keloid formation (thick scar tissue growth) are some of the difficulties clients are left dealing with.

PFB typically occurs in people with kinky, curly hair. It is most common on the faces of men, especially men of color, but women may also have difficulty with their bikini area (pseudofolliculitis pubis) as this hair is coarse and curly as well. "Folliculitis" is a term used to describe irritation of the skin and follicle. In the case of PFB, it is not related to a bacterial infection, but to the regrowth of hair that causes a mechanical irritation. It is referred to as mechanical because as the hair grows it turns into the surrounding skin instead of out the end of the follicle. This mechanical irritation results in a red, inflamed papule or pimple-like bump. In true PFB, there is no bacterial involvement unless a secondary infection occurs (usually a result of picking at the bump!) it then becomes a pustule that must be treated with antibiotics.

Several methods of hair removal result in the hair shaft being cut below the surface of the skin causing PFB. These methods include pulling the skin taut while shaving, shaving against the grain, plucking hairs with tweezers, and using double- or triple-bladed razors. Frequent shaving in an attempt to increase skin smoothness aggravates PFB. Laser hair removal can generate the best "treatment" for PFB. If you are not interested in keeping hair in the treatment area, permanent hair reduction produced by laser hair removal will offer you smooth, unblemished skin. Depending on your skin type, our Prowave or ndYAG laser would be used to produce a SMOOTHER you!

This Month's Special

**SAVE 10%
On
Any Gift Certificate
Purchased during the month of December**

Valid through 31 December 2008
Special may not be combined with other discounts.

Did you know?

Doctors say many people spend extra money revamping their faces because it does more than lift lines; it also lifts your spirit!

Can we lift your spirit this holiday season?

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