Pearl™

The latest *laser technology* for skin rejuvenation.

There is growing demand among patients and practitioners for a more aggressive treatment to address wrinkles and uneven texture while minimising the recovery time experienced from other aggressive, ablative technologies. Granted FDA approval in April 2007, the Pearl™ laser provides a technology to meet market demands – maximising the ratio of cosmetic benefit versus patient downtime.

The Pearl™ technology significantly advances aesthetic treatments as it optimises the benefits of an aggressive procedure while minimising downtime, without sedation or wound care. Pearl™'s advantage is its ability to denature a controlled depth of epidermis with minimal immediate tissue removal at the skin's surface. The resulting coagulation in the epidermis creates a natural protective dressing on the skin that remains intact during the restorative process. It is non-ablative, meaning that the epidermis is not damaged in any way.

What skin problems does the Pearl™ laser treat?
The pearl™ is an effective treatment to address fine lines, uneven texture, discoloration due to photo damage and mild acne scarring.

How long is the treatment?
The treatment takes approximately 10 to 20 minutes for a full face rejuvenation.

Is the treatment painful?
A topical numbing cream such as Emla is applied for 30 to 45 minutes before the treatment to minimise pain. No sedation is necessary.

How much downtime is there?
There is a minimal recovery period of two to three days depending on the energy used.

How does one look after the treatment?
The skin takes on a pinkish colour for 2 to 3 days after the treatment.

How many treatments are needed?
Depending on the degree of sun damage, one to two treatments are necessary.

How does the Pearl ™ technology work?
The Pearl™ laser targets water as the chromophore and uses the YSGG crystal absorption wavelength that leads to controlled ablation, collagen remodelling and stimulation.

What differentiates Pearl™ from traditional resurfacing products?
During treatment, Pearl™ removes a portion of the epidermis with a controlled thermal effect. This thermal effect creates a natural protective dressing on the skin to minimise downtime to two to three days.

Is there another way to get the same effect?
There are other newer laser technologies such as Fraxel, Pixel, Affirm, Micropeel and Lux 1540 which offer similar results as the Pearl™ Laser.

Before Pearl™ Treatment

6 Days post second Pearl™ Treatment.

Before Pearl™ Treatment

6 Days post second Pearl™ Treatment.

and Erbium lasers, Dermabrasion and Deep Chemical Peels are some of the alternative choices. There are also newer laser technologies such as Fraxel, Cutera's Pearl, Active X, Portrait PSR and Lux 1540 which offer similar results without the lengthy downtime of the traditional lasers mentioned above.

What are the advantages CIT over other resurfacing procedures?

The traditional lasers mentioned above need some form of anaesthesia pre-treatment and they also destroy the important skin-protecting epidermis, resulting in prolonged downtime. The advantage of CIT is that the epidermis remains intact, resulting in no downtime, no post-procedural sun sensitivity and significantly reduced risk of infections, no post-operative pain and no pigment problems, as the melanocytes remain intact.

Can this be combined with other procedures?

CIT can be combined at a later stage with other non-invasive procedures such as Botox, Fillers, superficial peels, IPL and other non-ablative laser procedures. These other procedures usually address different problems of ageing such as dull complexion, pores, pigmentation, sagging of the jowls and forehead and flabby necks. Combined procedures usually give superior results.

What is the cost of the procedure?

The procedure costs approximately R2 600 for the initial treatment. Subsequent treatments cost from R1 000 per session.

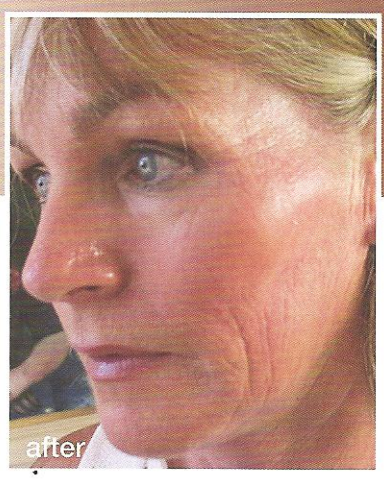

Photo: Skin Renewal