

Dr. Franklin's Laser Center

Patient Instructions for Wrinkle Reduction and Skin Tightening

Pretreatment Instructions

1. AVOID the sun 1-2 weeks before and after treatment.
2. You should stop any topical medications (retin-A) or other skin care products 3-5 days prior to treatment.
3. If you have a history of perioral herpes simplex virus, we may recommend prophylactic antiviral therapy. Follow the directions for your particular anti-viral medication.
4. If you are tanned or have a darker skin type, a bleaching regimen may be started 4-6 weeks prior to treatment.
5. RECENTLY TANNED SKIN should not be treated! Treatment within 2 weeks of active tanning (natural sunlight or tanning booth) may result in hypopigmentation (white spots) that may not clear for several months.

Intraoperative Care Instructions

1. A topical anesthetic may be used: however the skin must be "squeaky clean" prior to treatment.

Post-Operative Treatment Care Instructions

1. Immediately after treatment, there should be a mild erythema (redness) and mild edema (swelling) in the treatment areas, which may last up to 2 hours or longer. The erythema may last up to 2-3 days. The treated area will feel like sunburn for a few hours after treatment. Some patients note that their skin will feel pleasantly warm after treatment.
2. Makeup may be used after treatment as long as the skin is not irritated.
3. AVOID sun exposure to reduce the chance of hyperpigmentation (darker pigmentation)
4. Avoid picking or scratching the treated skin.
5. There are no restrictions on bathing except to treat the skin gently, as if you had a sunburn, for the first 24 hours.
6. The laser treatment is often performed 4-5 times at monthly intervals for best results. You may notice immediate as well as longer term improvements in your skin.
7. If you have any questions or concerns, please call our office.