FAQ’s – Scar Revision with LightPod Neo

Contraindications:

Patients that should not be treated include:

- those who are sunburned or have irritated skin in the sites to be treated
- those who are exhibiting unidentified skin conditions in the sites to be treated
- those who have healed poorly after other types of laser treatments
- patients prone to skin discoloration
- patients who are taking photosensitizing medication, such as Accutane, should discontinue the medication 6 months before treatment
- patients who are taking topical Retin-A, patients should wait 2 weeks before treatment
- don’t apply laser energy to any raised lesions, aside from purely red ones i.e. angiomas; other lesions should first be checked by a dermatologist

Patients who are sunburned should wait until the burn subsides. Herpes Simplex Labialis (fever blisters) can be activated by laser treatment, especially on the upper lip, and patients with a tendency for fever blistering can be started on antiviral medication before treatment.

Setting expectations:

Some patients may not respond as well as others. Typically, newer scars respond better than older ones due to the increased amount of vascularity or melanin present within the scar. While collagen will be remodeled to help with skin texture, it is important to let the patient know that laser therapy will diminish any melanin or vasculature within the scar, but will not remove the scar as an ablative laser, such as the LightPod Era, is needed to diminish scar tissue.

How many treatment sessions are required?

Typically, the more pigment or vasculature the scar contains the more treatment sessions may be needed. While there may be noticeable improvement after just one treatment, multiple treatment sessions may be needed to sufficiently eradicate the color.

Do I need to use topical anesthesia? What about gels?

No. Anesthetics and cooling gels are not needed with LightPod Neo, because MicroPulse-1064 makes it uniquely pain-free. However, some buildup of heat will be experienced, especially using higher fluences with the 2mm lens.
Is it painful?

There is a mild sensation of heat that is very tolerable, but a slight pinching feeling may occur when using higher fluences. This is one of the key technical breakthroughs of Aerolase technology! The LightPod Neo has set a new standard for virtually pain-free treatment, even on darker skin types, thanks to MicroPulse-1064 technology. This unique benefit saves time, cost and mess by eliminating gels and sprays required by other lasers that cool the skin during treatment. Also, this can increase revenues through a higher rate of client retention – with other lasers and IPL devices, clients often abandon treatment after just one or two treatments due to intolerable pain.

Is it ok to do multiple passes or pulse over the same area?

It is generally recommended that multiply passes are applied over the effected area to sufficiently heat the targeted source of pigmentation to help clear the color and improve skin texture.

What’s the spot size for scar revision?

The Neo typically utilizes a combination of lower and higher fluences with the 6mm and 5mm lenses. Typically, more power is needed for lighter spots, while lower fluence is required to get rid of darker spots. The handpiece does not need to touch the skin, but when treating one spot at a time it may be rested on top of the skin as to stabilize the handpiece, but the legs should never be pushed into the skin.

Can it be used on dark skin?

Actually, the LightPod Neo is the safest laser in the industry for darker skin types or tanned skin. This is because of MicroPulse-1064 technology, which essentially eliminates treatment pain while minimizing the chances of hyper and/or hypo-pigmentation. Patients with skin types IV-VI should be treated very cautiously, especially in the facial region, as they pose a higher risk of having hyper and/or hypo-pigmentations.

What happens after treatment and how soon can I expect results?

You may return to your normal activities immediately after treatment and should notice an improvement over the next 3-4 weeks. If not change occurs, the next treatment session will need to utilize a higher fluence for a more dramatic improvement.