

# Hair Removal





# How does light-assisted hair removal work?

Light is selectively absorbed by melanin, the pigment in the hair follicle. The light energy heats the pigment and effectively destroys the hair follicle without damaging the surrounding cells.

# How is treatment carried out?

The applicator is placed on the skin and a short pulse of light is released, which targets many follicles simultaneously. The applicator is then moved to the neighbouring area of skin and the process is repeated until the entire area is treated.

### Am I suitable for treatment?

Most people are suitable for treatment. Best results are often achieved with clients who have fair skin and dark hair. Dark hair is more easily treated as it has a high concentration of melanin. Fair hair, however, contains less melanin and is harder to treat. We recommend a consultation with your clinician to ascertain if the treatment will be successful for you. Grey/white hair has no melanin so is not suitable for treatment.

# How does the treatment feel?

Treatment sensation varies but is often described as "a flick of an elastic band". Typically no anaesthesia is required and most clients describe the discomfort as moderate and tolerable.

# What will I see after the treatment?

The hair follicles are damaged by heat but the hairs remain in the follicles. The dead hairs shed after 1 – 3 weeks as the epidermis renews. During this period the hairs will seem to 'grow' as they are pushed out by the new epidermis.

# How long does each treatment take?

Treatments can take as little as 10 minutes to an hour, depending on the size of the treatment area.

# Are there any side effects?

The skin may be red immediately after treatment and the hair follicles may be swollen and bumpy but this usually subsides within a few hours. Unwanted reactions are rare but may include a small blister or temporary lightening or darkening of the skin.

# How many treatments are necessary?

Only hair that is actively growing is affected, therefore multiple treatments are needed. Treatment is conducted every 4 - 8 weeks, depending on the area treated, until a satisfactory result is seen. The required number of treatments varies, but typically 6 or more treatments are needed for optimum results.

### Case studies

Hair removal after 4 sessions, courtesy of Loretta Redding, Erazer Clinic



#### Courtesy of Withington hospital



# **Consultation Procedure**

Prior to treatment, a consultation is conducted in which a medical history is taken to confirm suitability for treatment. This is also a good opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have. Before treatment commences you must provide written consent and a small test patch will be carried out.

#### Courtesy of the Iranian Laser Centre



#### Courtesy of Lynton Lasers



