





## About Skin Spa Pre- & Post-Laser Hair Removal Care Instructions

## What Should I Expect at My Appointment?

- Before your first appointment, please complete the new client intake forms & other required documents that may be emailed to you. Otherwise, please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment to allow time for you to complete the online paperwork.
- 2. Please arrive 5 minutes before your scheduled time to ensure maximum treatment time.
- Once in the treatment room, the esthetician will qualify your eligibility prior to each treatment by asking a series of
  questions about recent sun exposure, medication use, pregnancy status, hair growth, & other factors that could affect your
  eligibility & results.
- 4. For best results, follow your esthetician(s) recommendations including pre-treatment & post-treatment care instructions.
- 5. When treating intimate areas, you will be provided with a privacy drape for your comfort during the treatment.
- 6. During your treatment, you may experience slight discomfort, comparable to the sensation of a rubber band snapping on your skin. However, it's worth noting that some individuals may not feel any discomfort at all.
- 7. Following your treatment, you may experience slight redness, bumps, & swelling in the treated area for up to 72 hours.
- 8. We recommend using topical agents such as aloe vera, calamine, or over-the-counter hydrocortisone to be applied to the treatment area.
- 9. Allow a minimum of 7 to 14 days post-treatment for hair to "fall out" or shed from the skin. Gentle exfoliation (after symptoms have subsided) can help the shedding process & avoid ingrown hairs.
- 10. Be aware that sun exposure poses a significant risk with laser hair removal treatments. Be sure to follow your esthetician's recommendations/instructions & avoid the sun for at least 3 weeks before treatment & 2 weeks after treatment.
- 11. After your treatment, the treated area may be red or pink & feel like a sunburn. Common side effects also include itching, the development of hive-like bumps (histamine reaction), & tenderness. These side effects are usually self-limiting & should resolve between 24-48 hours post-treatment & continue to heal in the following days.

## **Pre-Treatment Care**

- 1. To keep skin healthy as well as eliminating bacteria, we recommend using topical agents such as aloe vera, calamine, or over-the-counter hydrocortisone to be applied to the treatment area.
- 2. The area of treatment should be shaved at least 12 hours prior to treatment.
- 3. Wear loose-fitting clothes on the day.
- 4. Arrive early prior so that you are relaxed.







- 5. Do not expose the skin to UV light (sunlight or sunbeds) or apply any self-tanning products for 8 weeks prior to treatment.
- 6. Avoid alcohol or smoking the night before and on the day of the treatment.
- 7. Avoid tanning beds & sunless tanning products to prevent adverse reactions.
- 8. Avoid applying any products on areas of treatment, keep it dry and clean prior to treatment.
- 9. Avoid sun exposure greater than 30 minutes (in the span of 3 weeks), even if you wear sunscreen.
- 10. The treatment area must be clean-shaven 12-24 hours before your treatment. Unshaved clients will be rescheduled & will be treated as a "No Show" under the Cancellation Policy. (Razors are not provided in the spa.)
- 11. Skin must be clean & free of makeup, lotions, moisturizers, oils, deodorant, sunless tanning products, numbing cream, etc. Products on the skin can increase the likelihood of adverse reactions from the laser.
- 12. Drink at least 1 liter of water the day before and the day of treatment this helps your body to regulate its temperature.
- 13. Avoid physical activities that increase body temperature for at least 2 hours before treatments.
- 14. Skin that is sunburned, hot to the touch, peeling, or otherwise damaged cannot be treated.

## **Post-Treatment Care**

- 1. Mild redness & swelling of the hair follicles may occur (histamine reaction). This is normal & should lessen with time. Avoid picking or scratching the skin. A cool cloth may be applied. Do NOT use ice.
- 2. Avoid sun exposure & other sources of UV light for 14 days after your treatment. Careful sun exposure of no more than 30 minutes may be resumed 14 days post-treatment with daily use of zinc oxide sunscreen (SPF 30+). Avoid tanning beds for 14 days after your appointment.
- 3. Avoid the application of perfumed products or bleaching cream for 48 hours.
- 4. Avoid scratching the treatment area if blistering or crusting occurs, as this can cause scarring.
- 5. Avoid waxing, tweezing and threading for the complete duration of the treatment course.
- 6. Avoid makeup on the treated area for at least 48 hours.
- 7. Do keep treated area clean and dry for 48 hours.
- 8. Avoid excessive scrubbing or applying pressure to the skin for 4-5 days. This is to allow the treated skin to recover and to prevent any infection.
- 9. Avoid scratching the treatment area if blistering or crusting occurs, as this can cause scarring.
- 10. Do drink plenty of water.
- 11. Avoid exercising for at least 48 hours.
- 12. Avoid heat treatments such as spas, steam rooms and saunas for 7 days.
- 13. Avoid shaving the treated area for 72 hours after treatment.
- 14. Do wear loose clothes to avoid friction on the treated area for 48 hours.
- 15. Avoid anything that involves chlorine (e.g. swimming) for 48 hours.
- 16. Do NOT apply an icepack to the treated area to reduce pain, discomfort or irritation.
- 17. Apply a zinc oxide sunscreen (SPF 50+) & use it daily throughout treatments & following treatments for at least 3 weeks.
- 18. To reduce heat retention, avoid tight clothing, boots, heated seats, saunas, hot baths, hot showers, etc. The body needs time to cool down after treatments to avoid complications.
- 19. Avoid heat treatments such as spas, steam rooms and saunas for 7 days.
- 20. Avoid hot baths and hot showers for 48 hours.
- 21. Avoid exposing skin to UV light (sunlight or sunbeds) or self-tan for at least 2 weeks after treatment. This is to minimize darkening of the skin (hyperpigmentation).







- 22. Avoid activities that increase body temperature for at least 2 hours after treatment, or longer if redness & bumps persist.
- 23. If redness, swelling, or itching continues, an over-the-counter cortisone cream &/or an oral antihistamine (Benadryl) may be used in addition to cool cloths or a cool compress & topical agents. Do not apply ice or an ice pack to the treated areas.

\*\*Although very rare, there may be possible adverse reactions immediately after the treatment, such as:

- Excessive pain.
- Excessive persistent erythema (redness of the skin caused by increased blood flow).
- Oedema (swelling caused by fluid retention). Certain sensitive areas may cause swelling (oedema).
- Blistering (raised portion of the skin that is filled with fluid).
- Bruising or marking of the skin in the shape of the crystal.
- Grey / ash color forming or the skin appears puckered.
- Skin appearing puckered.
- There may be further adverse reactions between 4 and 12 hours after treatment.
- The skin treated will be sensitive and fragile and therefore could tear when rubbed.
- There may be a small risk of scarring. Hyper/hypopigmentation and loss of some of the skin surface (epidermal erosion) may occur; however, the risk is minimized if sunscreen (SPF 50 or greater) with Zinc is used.
- Prolonged itching may occur but keep the area cool and apply aloe vera gel or calming creams.

